

County's weekly case count drops

Just five cases of COVID-19 were reported during the past seven days by Clatsop County Public Health Department.

All five individuals were recovering at home Wednesday. The county had recorded a total of 768 cases since the pandemic began. Eighteen people had been hospitalized and six had died.

Statewide, there had been a total of 151,257 cases and 2,143 deaths as of Wednesday.

Oregon had administered a cumulative total of 707,244 first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccines as of

Baby killed in Ecola crash

An infant was killed and her mother badly injured Monday in a vehicle crash in Cannon Beach.

The vehicle's driver was arrested on suspicion of manslaughter, assault, reckless driving and driving under the influence of intoxicants.

The three were in a Mazda MZ3 headed south on Ecola State Park Road about 6 p.m. Monday, according to Oregon State Police. Driver Rony Tomas-Garcia, 23, of Seaside

veered off the road and struck a tree, which caused the vehicle to flip onto its top.

The 3 1/2-month-old baby was fatally injured.

Her mother, Esperanza Martin-Ramirez, 20, of Roseburg, was taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria and later transferred to Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland.

Tomas-Garcia was treated for injuries at CMH and booked at Clatsop County Jail.



Tomas-Garcia

Wednesday.

BREAKTHROUGH CASES

Oregon Health Authority is investigating four "breakthrough" cases of coronavirus, cases in which people have tested positive for COVID at least 14 days after completing their vaccination series.

Two of the cases are in Yamhill County and two are in Lane County. OHA is working with local public health officials to investigate the origin. The symptoms have ranged from asymptomatic to mild.

Such cases are not unexpected. Clinical trials of both vaccines in use in Oregon included breakthrough cases. In those cases, symptoms were mild.

Fisher Poets '21 a virtual affair

The Fisher Poets Gathering will be held online this year and the annual event begins Thursday, Feb. 25 and runs through Saturday, Feb. 27.

There will be two 90-minute shows of poets, short performances, and original songs celebrating the commercial fishing industry.

The first show begins at 6 p.m. and is moderated by Jon Broderick or Cannon Beach.

High school football season finally opens

BY BRUCE DUSTIN

For The Columbia Press

Warrenton High School's football season begins March 5 with a home game against Corbett.

The idea of a home game might be enticing to some people, but, sorry to say, no spectators are allowed.

The game will be televised on the NFHS network, which broadcasts high school sports from across the country (go to nfhsnetwork.com).

It's the beginning of a shortened game season, due to the pandemic, head coach Ian O'Brien said.

Warrenton will play an away



Ethan Green



Hordie Bodden

game at Rainier March 12, home against Blanchet Catholic on March 19, home against Yamhill-Carlton on the 26th, and then finishing out the season, they'll play Clatskanie at home on April 2.

There will be no playoffs, and the concept of a bowl game at the end of the season is tenuous.

I had the opportunity to sit down and talk to a couple of the players.

Ethan Green is a high school senior and a starting running back for the team.

"This has been different than other years," he said. "We've had to take it a lot slower. In the past, we had daily dou-

bles and we got to know each other real well. This year it's only one practice and it's just much slower."

It's disappointing there will be no play-offs, he said, but a minimized season is better than no season.

"We're just as competitive as in the past," Ethan said. "Before, we were playing to get into the play-offs, now we're just playing to win the game. Yeah, it's different."

Hordie Bodden Bodden is a junior. He'll be the starting quarterback, but he's willing to play running back, receiver or anything required of him, he said.

"I'm just happy to get to play," Hordie said. "The shortened season bums us all out, but maybe, just maybe, there'll be a bowl game at the end."

"I've been hitting the weight room, watching videos, and working out on a regular basis. I'm ready for this season. Bring it on."

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