

COVID infections decreasing WHS volleyball wins spot in state playoffs

The Columbia Press

COVID-19 infections are waning in Clatsop County, health officials said in a Wednesday morning press conference, but they stopped short of saying the end is near.

"It looks like COVID has just sort of come to a plateau for us," said Judy Geiger, vice president of patient care services at Columbia Memorial Hospital. "We're seeing two to four patients per day, and it doesn't seem to be going up or down much. We're not having a major surge anymore."

The hospital begins offering the Moderna booster to its employees today.

Clatsop County begins hosting evening booster clinics for qualifying residents at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds on Wednesday. The Moderna clinics are offered Wednesdays.

"We're pleased to see the decrease in new cases," said Margo Lalich, Clatsop County's interim public health director. "At our own testing site — held 9 to 12 Monday through Friday at Camp Rilea — most of the positives are in those who are unvaccinated."

The county is ready to provide the boosters for those who qualify, she said.

"Hopefully one day we can call the pandemic over," Lalich said. "I think when we look at the course of the pandemic, we're wise not to get too comfortable. ... I think that experience tells us it's not over till it's over. There could be a surprise."

Currently, the county is seeing a surge in respiratory infections that aren't related to COVID or the flu and the Public Health Department is monitoring them closely.

The majority of Clatsop County's COVID cases continue to be of the Delta variant.

Booster clinics

Drive-through Pfizer clinics are offered 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Camp Rilea.

Walk-through Moderna clinics are offered 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.

Both clinics are by appointment only and reservations must be made in advance.

Those eligible must be 65 or older, or age 18 and older with health issues or jobs or living environments that put them at increased risk of infection.

To schedule an appointment, call 503-325-8500 or go online to co.clatsop.or.us/publichealth.

"They don't sequence every single test. They can't," she said. "But it's Delta and we know a lot about that at this point in time."

ColumbiaMemorialisseeing a mix of patients, Geiger said. "Some are sick enough to be in the hospital, but they're not going into critical care but are needing to be on ventilators," Geiger said.

Those whose condition continues to deteriorate are sent to hospitals in Portland.

By Bruce Dustin

For The Columbia Press

Warrenton High School hosted the Coast Range League playoffs last Saturday, pitting the Clatskanie Tigers against the Rainier Columbians and then Rainier against the Warrenton Warriors volleyball team.

Rainier beat Clatskanie in the opening match; Clatskanie fought like the tigers they are, but Rainier won in five sets, finishing with a 15-13 squeaker.

The set brought the Columbians against the Warriors in the second and final match. No matter how hard Warrenton tried, Rainier stayed in it, and stayed within reach of a win. While Rainier never gave up, Warrenton won in three tough sets, 25-22, 25-23, and 25-20.

The teams were competing for Tuesday night's contest against the league champions, the Willamina Bulldogs, to establish seeding for the state tournament.

On Tuesday, Warrenton lost to Willamina in another hard-fought contest, which gives Warrenton a second seed. The Warriors play Horizon Christian on Saturday in the first round of the



Above: Avyree Miethe prepares to set up a spike in the playoffs against Willamina on Tuesday.

Right: Olivia Lyons bumps the ball as Aaliyah Watson looks on.

Photos by Rusty Rae
Courtesy News-Register

state playoffs.

Both Jamie Annat and Avyree Miethe were named first team all-league and the team as a whole was awarded the best sportsmanship trophy.



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