

COVID info

VACCINES

First or second doses of the Moderna vaccine are available to those 18 and older from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays at the Providence Seaside Clinic, 725 Wahanna Road. Make an appointment at 503-717-7060, Option 1.

PEDIATRIC VACCINES

Appointments are required by calling 503-717-7060, Option 1.

- Children 5-11: Doses of the Pfizer vaccine are available from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursdays at the Providence Warrenton Clinic, 171 Highway 101; and from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays at the Providence Seaside Clinic, 725 Wahanna Road.

- Children 12-17: Doses of the Pfizer vaccine are available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Providence Clinic in Warrenton, 171 S. Highway 101.

Providence also offers the vaccine for older children during those hours at its Seaside and Cannon Beach clinics.

BOOSTER SHOTS

Booster shots of Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are available at the Clatsop County Health Department's drive-through clinics from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays at Camp Rilea, 33168 Patriot Way, Warrenton.

Appointments are required. Sign up at co.clatsop.or.us or call 503-325-8500.

Boosters also are available from many local providers and pharmacies.

COVID TESTING

Clatsop County Public Health, in partnership with Columbia Memorial Hospital and Providence Seaside Hospital, offers drive-through testing at Camp Rilea.

Testing is offered 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, with appointments required. To schedule, call 503-325-8500.

Hwy 30 crash kills Rainier man

A portion of Highway 30 was closed for three hours Monday after a traffic accident that killed a Rainier man.

Austin Nash, 28, was headed east in a white Toyota Camry about 8:45 p.m. when he failed to negotiate a curve about two miles east of Clatskanie, according to Oregon State Police.

The vehicle slid into oncoming traffic, colliding head-on with a black Ford Explorer driven by Brendan Smith, 29, of Clatskanie.

Nash was pronounced dead at the scene. Smith was not seriously injured.

Alleged drunk driver causes pileup

A five-car pileup on the Astoria Megler Bridge on Jan. 6 injured one driver and prevented traffic from passing for several hours.

Norbel Lopez Sereno, 36, of Astoria was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving, and reckless endangerment.

Accident investigators said Sereno was headed south in

a Chevrolet Camaro when he crossed into northbound lanes and struck a vehicle head on.

A third vehicle struck the crashed cars and a semi-trailer, which then crashed into the Camaro, pushing it into another vehicle.

Sereno had to be extricated from the vehicle and was taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital with serious injuries.

WHS wrestlers do well at tourney

For The Columbia Press

The Warrenton boys and girls wrestling teams participated in the Dayton Invitational on Saturday; it had been three weeks since they last wrestled in competition.

The meet was big, with plenty of big schools. The majority of the 3A league was in attendance, so the tournament was a good measuring stick meet for the teams.

On the boys' side, the Warriors took fourth out of 19 teams and 300 wrestlers. The boys finished with seven wrestlers placing.

Many more contributed and were on the fringe of placing, Coach Corey Conant said.

"As a unit, we did some really great things and, in general, I felt like we showed healthy confidence and expected to win our matches."

The team also learned what they'll need to work on as they approach the Oregon Classic, set for today, Jan. 14, and Saturday in Redmond.

Individually, junior James Mickelson placed first at 170 pounds, seniors Austin Atwood (132) and Parker Greenawald (145) both placed second in their matches.

Freshmen Brayden Greenawald (132), Ryder Sturgell (152), and Josh Smith (220) all placed third. Max Smith (160), a sophomore, placed fifth.

Freshman Kaidynce Daniels was third in the 145 mixed group.

Conant said he was particularly impressed with James Mickelson's finals match.

"He wrestled a good wrestler from Camas and was taken down off of his own aggressive first shot," Conant said. "He battled back and won a tough 6-4 decision, reminding us that wrestling is a six-minute match that is won in the third period."

The girls, a younger and newer team, finished eighth out of 10 teams.

"They've shown a lot of resilience and continue to work hard," Conant said.

3% of workers quit jobs recently

Although the new year has begun, the Oregon Employment Department is still looking at 2021 in terms of labor market data.

January through November of 2021 showed strong recovery across most areas of the economy. Oregon employers added 100,000 jobs in the first 11 months of the year.

Strong hiring and ongoing high numbers of job openings also seem to be creating confidence for workers about their prospects to find another job.

A record 4.5 million U.S. workers (3 percent of the workforce) quit their jobs in November. Oregon has a similar rate of workers quitting jobs. The most recent state-level data show 3 percent of Oregon workers quit in October.

It's too soon for any data to reflect the impact of the latest wave of the pandemic. Any employment effects from the Omicron variant are unlikely to be reflected in Oregon's upcoming unemployment

rate and jobs numbers for December as case counts didn't start rising until the end of the month.

"We can anticipate that more COVID spread in our communities might have larger impacts on parts of the economy providing in-person services," State Employment Economist Gail Krumenaur said. "Some of these sectors – such as private health care, and both public and private education – were already struggling to regain or add jobs prior to the Omicron wave of COVID-19."

COVID-19 still poses a barrier to some Oregonians' ability to work. Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 13, the Census Household Pulse survey shows 46,000 adults in Oregon who weren't working said the main reason was fear of getting or spreading COVID. Nearly 34,000 Oregon adults said they weren't working because they either had COVID or were caring for someone with COVID or coronavirus symptoms.

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