



LESS EXPENSIVE, MORE EXPERIENCE. Ang Tshering Sherpa, owner of a Nepal-based mountaineering company, Asian Trekking, stands for the camera in Kathmandu, Nepal. Tshering's great-grandfather was among the workers who were part of the 1924 George Mallory and Andrew Irvine team that attempted to scale Everest from the Tibetan side. Once relegated to support staff, Nepalese climbers famous for their skills on the world's highest peaks are emerging out of the shadows of their western peers and now dominate the lucrative industry in the Himalayan nation. (AP Photo/Niranjan Shrestha)

Nepalese-owned operators take lead on world's highest peaks

By Binaj Gurubacharya
The Associated Press

KATHMANDU, Nepal — Once relegated to support staff, Nepalese climbers famous for their skills on the world's highest peaks are emerging out of the shadows of their western peers.

They now dominate the lucrative industry in the Himalayan nation. Sherpa-owned companies have lowered the cost of expeditions, leading to record numbers on the peaks but also a higher death toll.

Eleven people died in 2019, the largest toll in four years, some of whom suffered cardiac arrest while waiting to make the final summit to Everest. There were 1,136

climbers in Nepal last year, about 40% more than in 2013.

Since climbers began attempting to reach the summit of Mount Everest a century ago, the industry has been controlled by western companies relying upon Sherpas as guides and porters.

Mountaineering expert Ang Tshering's great-grandfather was among the workers who were part of the 1924 George Mallory and Andrew Irvine team that attempted to scale Everest from the Tibetan side.

In recent years, however, the tide has changed: Sherpa guides are now more educated, and have travelled farther than their predecessors, picking up business

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News page advertising deadlines for our next two issues are:

March 2, 2020 edition:
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April 6, 2020 edition:
Space reservations due: Wednesday, April 1 at 1:00pm
Artwork due: Thursday, April 2 at 1:00pm

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CLACKAMAS Beavercreek Clinic Free Food Market 110 Beavercreek Rd, Oregon City Tuesday, February 4, 2020 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	MULTNOMAH Rose Haven 627 NW 18th Ave, Portland Monday, February 3, 2020 2-4 p.m.	MULTNOMAH Department of Human Services: SE Malden Office 8129 SE Malden St, Portland Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:30-3:30 p.m.	MULTNOMAH Union Gospel Mission 3 NW Third Ave, Portland Tuesday, February 25, 2020 2-4 p.m.
Clackamas Service Center 8800 SE 80th Ave, Portland Tuesday, February 11, 2020 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Department of Human Services: Alberta Office 30 N Webster St, Portland Tuesday, February 4, 2020 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	CareOregon Open Hours 315 SW Fifth Ave, Portland Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	CareOregon Open Hours 315 SW Fifth Ave, Portland Wednesday, February 26, 2020 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Orchid Health 535 NE Sixth Ave, Estacada Friday, February 21, 2020 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	CareOregon Open Hours 315 SW Fifth Ave, Portland Wednesday, February 5, 2020 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Portland Rescue Mission: Burnside Shelter 111 W Burnside, Portland Thursday, February 13, 2020 8-10 a.m.	Total Care With Wallace Medical Concern 18139 NE Couch St, Portland Wednesday, February 26, 2020 1-5 p.m.
MULTNOMAH Tet Vietnamese New Year Celebration Holiday Inn, Portland Airport 8439 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland Saturday, February 1, 2020 9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Community Service Network Social Service Fair - Salvation Army 5325 N Williams Ave, Portland Friday, February 7, 2020 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	CareOregon Open Hours 315 SW Fifth Ave, Portland Wednesday, February 19, 2020 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	WASHINGTON Department of Human Services: Hillsboro Office 5300 NE Elam Young Pkwy, Hillsboro Thursday, February 6, 2020 9-11 a.m.
	Department of Human Services: East County Office 11826 NE Glisan St, Portland Friday, February 7, 2020 11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Department of Human Services: East County Office 11826 NE Glisan St, Portland Thursday, February 20, 2020 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Beaverton City Library 12375 SW Fifth St, Beaverton Thursday, February 6, 2020 12-3 p.m.

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