The World WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 **CLOUDS, RAIN 68 • 57** theworldlink.com **Follow us online: f** facebook.com/theworldnewspaper 🔰 twitter.com/TheWorldLink 🛛 🐻 instagram.com/theworldlink

Natural places wiped out by wildfires

DETROIT LAKE (AP) - Oregonians are grieving the loss of some of their most treasured natural places after wildfires wiped out campgrounds, hot springs and wooded retreats that have been touchstones for generations in a state known for its unspoiled beauty.

The flames that destroyed hundreds of homes and killed at least nine people also encroached on beloved state parks, scorched some of Oregon's best-known hiking trails and raged through a whitewater rafting mecca.

Nature IS the icon in Oregon. We have this collective grief and

some of that is (from) growing up here," said Eden Dawn, an editor at Portland Monthly magazine who wrote an essay about the wildfires. "We just didn't have New York City. We didn't have Hollywood. We didn't have these big fancy things, and Portland wasn't cool until a few years ago."

The fires damaged one of the nation's last low-elevation, oldgrowth forests, which includes Douglas fir trees up to 1,000 years old. A forest center built on the ruins of an old mining town that hosted thousands of Oregon children was largely reduced to

ashes.

"My memories of growing up are sitting in a river and looking at the fish go by and spotting osprey around you," Dawn said. "In this moment, when you're watching your state and your childhood burn, it's utter hopelessness. There's really nothing you can do — and that is the feeling we're all feeling.'

Detroit Lake, a state park south of Portland founded in the 1950s, sustained damage to its campground, and it's unclear if the tiny town along its shores will rebuild. Cedars Restaurant & Lounge, a famous stopping

point for people traveling to the high desert of central Oregon or for those returning from backpacking in the surrounding wilderness, is also gone.

"It's a life full of memories and history, gone. We used to ski and boat every single day after I got off work all through the summer," said Sandi Elwood, who was born and raised on Detroit Lake and worked for nearly a decade at the Cedars, from the age of 14. "I learned to swim in that lake all by myself with no swimming instructor."

Oregon State Parks said Monday that 900 acres (364 hectares)

within various parks had burned. The worst hit was Collier Memorial State Park near Klamath Falls, which lost 400 acres (162 hectares) of ponderosa pine and a historic cabin

A string of tiny towns along nearby Highway 22 provided a launching pad for hikers exploring the old-growth forests and for fishermen headed to prime destinations along the North Santiam River and its tributaries. Those communities have been largely reduced to ashes. Fisherman's Bend, a favorite fishing and recreation area, is gone too.

Please see **Wildfires**, Page 5

Late-stage study of first single-shot vaccine begins

(AP) Johnson & Johnson is beginning a huge final study to try to prove if a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine can protect against the virus.

The study starting Wednesday will be one of the world's largest coronavirus vaccine studies so far, testing the shot in 60,000 volunteers in the U.S., South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.

A handful of other vaccines in the U.S. - including shots made by Moderna Inc. and Pfizer Inc. — and others in other countries are already in final-stage testing. Hopes are high that answers about at least one candidate being tested in the U.S. could come by year's end, maybe sooner.

U.S. health officials insist the race for a vaccine isn't cutting corners.

"We want to do everything we can without sacrificing safety or efficacy — we're not going to do



Carol Ventgen, left, and Melanie Bloom, members of the League of Women Voters of Coos County, help community members register to vote Tuesday.

Zack Demars. The World

Tuesday is voter registration day

ZACK DEMARS The World

COOS BAY - Carol Ventgen and Melanie Bloom were busy Tuesday, sitting under a tent outside the Coos Bay Public Library. The two had done this before — but this year was different.

"I have not seen this amount of traffic," Bloom said.

Their white folding table was littered with items that have taken on a new importance in 2020: bottles of hand sanitizer, tubes of antibacterial wipes and voter registration cards. Those cards were the reason they'd come out in the first place.

The pair, both members of the executive board of League of Women Voters of Coos County, was out reminding residents to update their voter registrations in recognition of National Voter Registration Day. This year, that annual day of action by civic groups falls a month and a half ahead of the general election on Nov. 3, with offices from U.S. President to city councilors all on the ballot.

"There's more divisiveness surrounding the election," Ventgen said of the residents she'd spoken to Tuesday. "Emotions seem to be running high."

For many across the country, much of that emotion stems from the truly exceptional circumstances of this election. With a pandemic that's killed more that 200,000 Americans still raging, more people than ever before are planning to vote by mail.

In some states that could be cause for concern, as some on the national level spread misinformation about the process. But Coos County Clerk Debbie Heller says Oregon voters need not worry.

We don't forsee any postal issues whatsoever," Heller said. "We have a lot of conference calls between us and the post office."

The key to Oregon's success is experience, according to Heller. Oregon was the first state to expand to all-mail elections in 1998 and has been voting by mail ever since.

Misinformation about widespread voter fraud in vote-

Key dates in 2020 election

Oct. 13: Last day to register to vote. Check or update your registration at oregonvotes.gov/ myvote.

Oct. 15: Ballots mailed by Coos County elections officials.

Oct. 27: Last day the U.S. Postal Service recommends mailing your ballot. After this date, drop it in a drop box instead.

Nov. 3: Election Day. Your ballot must be received by 8 p.m., either by mail or in a drop box. Postmarks do not count.

The Coos County Elections division can be reached at 541-396-7610.

by-mail elections has never been supported by substantial evidence. Elections officials have safeguards in place, like comparing every signed ballot to a registered voter's signature, Heller said.

Voters just need to be aware of deadlines and watch the mail for their ballots, Heller said, adding that this September, during the special election in Bandon, ballots were taking about two days

to process through the mail. "Pay attention, watch for the ballot," Heller said.

The U.S. Postal Service recommends giving voted ballots seven days to get through the mail. Otherwise, the agency recommends placing completed ballots in drop boxes across the state.

The state also has options for people who might be displaced because of this month's wildfires. They can add a temporary mailing address to their voter registration, collect their mail at their local post office or call their county election official for more ballot pickup options.

Ventgen and Bloom have no concerns about voting by mail, either.

"Oregon's system really lends itself to both security and ease of voting," Ventgen said. "Oregon has had a lot of years to perfect it."

The first step — and one of the easiest — is to register, they said. The last day to do so is Oct. 13.

"Every vote matters. It really does," Ventgen said. "That way democracy works."

that — to make sure that we end up with vaccines that are going to save lives," Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health, told reporters.

But many vaccine specialists question whether the Food and Drug Administration will stick to that goal under intense pressure from the Trump administration. President Donald Trump has consistently presented a faster timeline for a new vaccine than experts say is adequate to fully test the candidates.

Trump on Wednesday tweeted the link to a news report about the Johnson & Johnson study and said the FDA "must move quickly!"

Meanwhile, testing of still another experimental vaccine, made by AstraZeneca, remains on hold in the U.S. as officials examine a safety question, even though studies have resumed in other countries.

Earlier this week, Vice President Mike Pence urged state governors to "do your part to build public confidence that it will be a safe and effective vaccine."

And Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, added in the call to governors that he is confident in "a tried and true process" that has checks and balances built in, including an independent board evaluating the progress of each vaccine trial, as well as "the integrity of the FDA.'

A recording of the call was provided to The Associated Press.

Senators were scheduled to question FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn, Fauci and other administration officials later Wednesday about the pandemic response.

Even if the FDA were to allow emergency use of a vaccine by year's end, supplies would be limited and given first to vulnerable groups such as health workers. Most Americans aren't likely to receive a vaccine until sometime next year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention wants states

Please see Vaccine, Page 5

Senate plans to vote on Supreme Court justice before Nov. 3 election WASHINGTON (AP) -

Votes in hand, Senate Republicans are charging ahead with plans to confirm President Donald Trump's pick to fill the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Supreme Court seat before the Nov. 3 election, launching a divisive fight over Democratic objections before a nominee is even announced.

Trump said Tuesday he will name his choice Saturday, confident of support. Democrats say it's too close to the election, and the winner of the presidency should name the new justice. But under GOP planning, the Senate could vote Oct. 29.

"I guess we have all the votes we're going to need," Trump told WJBX FOX 2 in Detroit. "I think it's going to happen."

Republicans believe the court fight will energize voters for Trump, boosting the party and potentially deflating Democrats who cannot stop the lifetime appointment for a conservative justice. The Senate is controlled by Republicans, 53-47, with a simple majority needed for confirmation. The one remaining possible Republican holdout,

Mitt Romney of Utah, said Tuesday he supports taking a vote.

Still, with early presidential voting already underway in several states, all sides are girding for a wrenching Senate battle over health care, abortion access and other big cases before the court and sure to further split the torn nation.

It is one of the quickest confirmation efforts in recent times. No court nominee in U.S. history has been considered so close to a presidential election. And it all comes as the nation is marking the grave milestone of 200,000

deaths from the coronavirus pandemic.

During a private lunch meeting Tuesday at Senate GOP campaign headquarters, several Republican senators spoke up in favor of voting before the election. None advocated a delay.

Elsewhere, as tributes poured in for Ginsburg with vigils and flowers at the court's steps, Democrats led by presidential nominee Joe Biden vowed a tough fight. The Senate Democratic leader, Chuck Schumer, said "we should honor her dying

Please see Vote, Page 5

CED Dition Man convicted of murder dies in custody

The World

SALEM — Jeffrey Ray Williams, an Oregon Department of Corrections adult in custody on death row who was convicted of a double-murder in Coos County in 1989, died the evening of Sept. 21, according to a press release from the DOC. He was 59 years old.

Williams, then 28, and David Lynn Simonsen, then 21, were convicted and sentenced to death on May 16, 1989 for the Sept.



Jeffrey Ray Williams

1, 1988 sexual assault and shotgun slayings of Unna Tuxen, 24, and Kathrin Reith, 22, German tourists who were hitchhiking up the West Coast near the Oregon-California border. The victims were found two days later in a

Oregon reports 328 new COVID-19 cases, 3 new deaths

The World

PORTLAND — COVID-19 has claimed three more lives in Oregon, raising the state's death toll to 532, the Oregon Health Authority reported Tuesday.

Oregon Health Authority also reported 328 new confirmed and presumptive cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday, bringing the state total to 31,313.

The new cases are in the following counties: Benton (6), Clackamas (31), Clatsop (2), Columbia (3), Coos (3), Crook (1), Curry (1), Deschutes (11), Douglas (10), Hood River (1), Jackson (12), Jefferson (1), Josephine (4), Klamath (2), Lane (32), Lincoln (1), Linn (10), Malheur (14), Marion (38), Multnomah (60), Polk (9), Umatilla (3), Wasco (25), Washington (42), and Yamhill (6).

Oregon's 530th COVID-19 death is a 73-year-old man in Marion County who tested positive on Sept.10 and died on Sept. 20, in his ing conditions. Oregon's 531st COVID-19 death is a 41-year-old man in Malheur County who tested positive on Sept. 15 and died on Sept. 20. Place of death is being confirmed. He had underlying conditions.

residence. He had underly-

Oregon's 532nd COVID-19 death is a 64-year-old woman in Malheur County who tested positive on Sept. 1 and died on Sept. 20, at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. She did not have underlying conditions.

Stay informed about COVID-19:

Oregon response: The Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Office of Emergency Management lead the state response.

United States response: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention leads the U.S. response.

Global response: The World Health Organization guides the global response. remote area near Coquille. Williams was arrested 10 days after the murder and entered DOC custody on May 4, 1989.

illiams remained on death row in the state of Oregon despite several appeals. Simonsen, now 52, remains on death row in Oregon. He has also filed several appeals.

Williams was incarcerated at the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem and passed away in the infirmary while on endof-life care, according to the DOC. The cause of his death was not released. As with all in-custody deaths, the Oregon State Police and next of kin have been notified.

Williams was one of 29 Oregon inmates with death sentences. The state hasn't executed anyone since 1997, when murderer Harry Charles Moore was killed by lethal injection.

The Department of Corrections is responsible for the care and custody of 14,000 individuals who are incarcerated in 14 institutions across the state. While crime information is public record, DOC elects to disclose only upon request out of respect for any family or victims.

The Oregon State Penitentiary is a multi-custody prison located in Salem that houses over 2,000 adults in custody. OSP is surrounded by a 25-foothigh wall with 10 towers. The facility has multiple special housing units including disciplinary segregation, behavioral health,

intermediate care housing, and an infirmary (with hospice) with 24-hour nursing care. OSP participates in prison industries with Oregon Corrections Enterprises including the furniture factory, laundry, metal shop, and contact center. It provides a range of correctional programs and services including education, work-based education, work crews, and pre-release services. OSP was established in 1866 and, until 1959, was Oregon's only prison.

Man shoots himself in checkout line

The World

LINCOLN CITY — On Sunday, Sept. 20, at about 7:36 p.m., Lincoln City Police officers responded to McKay's Market located at 801 S.W. Highway 101 in Lincoln City on a reported gunshot wound.

Upon arrival, it was discovered a male, identified as 29-year-old Nicholas J. Ellingford of Lincoln City, had sustained an accidental self-inflicted gunshot wound to his groin area and leg, according to the Lincoln City Police Department.

Investigation revealed that Ellingford was inside the store and as he was waiting in the checkout line, he un-holstered a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol from his waist band so that he could show it off to a friend. As Ellingford was placing the firearm back in the front of his pants near the zipper and button areas, he accidently pulled the trigger causing the firearm to discharge. The bullet entered into Ellingford's groin area before exiting out the lower thigh of his leg, narrowly missing his femoral artery.

Officers on scene immediately rendered first aid before medics from Pac-West Ambulance and North Lincoln Fire arrived to take over treatment. Ellingford was transported code-3 to Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital where he was immediately flown via Life Flight to Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland.

No one else was injured in this incident, however a criminal investigation is ongoing, as Ellingford did not have a concealed handgun license and his act was found to be reckless since it placed several people in danger.

If anyone has information about this case please contact Lincoln City Police Sr. Officer Jayne Johnson at 541-994-3636.

Cautions advised for social gatherings

DR. ERIC GLEASON

Coos Health & Wellness

SOUTH COAST — Indoor and outdoor gatherings can be a high-risk place for the spread of COVID 19. We tend to let our guard down around the people that we are closest to.

Recently, fitness guru Jillian Michael talked about her experience with COVID-19. She shared that she had let her guard down for just one hour with a close friend. "If you're not in a mask and that person is not in a mask, and they have COVID and have no idea — because, by the way, I had no idea that I had it for six days, my friend had no idea that she had it when she gave it to me — anticipate that you will likely get it in an environment like that," she said about the gym.

This is a reminder of how easily COVID-19 is passed to a close contact. Most of us are concerned about accidental exposures at the grocery store or the stranger passing us on the street. However, more cases of COVID 19 are caught from close contacts than any other source.

Gatherings, whether indoor or outdoor, for family functions, faith based activities and even a trip to the gym are important parts of our lives, but we need to be careful. We are often in close contact in these settings with the people we know and love. It is very important to continue practicing safeguards that help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Wearing your mask is the first method of defense against sharing or getting COVID-19. Cloth face masks prevent the water droplets from your respiratory system being shared with those close to you. Maintaining physical distancing in social gathers is also important as it also helps prevent sharing respiratory droplets that are released when we cough, sneeze, talk or sing.

Good hygiene continues to help reduce the spread of the disease also. Washing hands, frequently cleaning high touch surfaces and using hand sanitizer at times when you cannot wash your hands are effective ways to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Please remember that it is up to us, as a community, to be the best public health stewards we can be. If you have any questions regarding COVID-19, please visit our website for the most recent guidance, or email us at covid19.questions@chw. coos.or.us and we will work to respond to your question in a timely manner.

Prosto Know



<u><u><u>e</u>Edition</u></u> Police chase ends in Coos Bay on Monday

ZACK DEMARS The World

COOS BAY - A Portland vehicle theft and police chase ended with a blown tire and an arrest Monday night.

According to Oregon State Police, a white SUV had been reported stolen to Portland police earlier in the day, and the pursuit began with a report of reckless driving on westbound Highway 38.

The driver stopped for police on southbound U.S. Highway 101, but didn't provide identification. The driver continued south, weaving around vehicles

across the McCullough Bridge into North Bend, police say.

There, North Bend Police officers deployed Stop Sticks, which partially disabled the vehicle. Once in Coos Bay, the car hit a curb on Commercial Avenue, between Highway 101 north and south near Wells Fargo and the Coos Bay Visitor Information Center parking lot, where the driver lost control, ending the pursuit, according to OSP.

No injuries were reported from the incident, according to Captain Timothy Fox, an OSP spokesperson.

reported stolen to the Portland Police Bureau earlier in the day, and officers located marijuana and inhalants in the vehicle, OSP said.

William Tillman, 34 of Portland, was arrested and lodged at the Douglas County Jail on suspicion of reckless driving and unlawful use of a motor vehicle charges. He was also cited for two Multnomah County misdemeanor warrants and cited for a number of traffic and drug infractions.

Other charges will be referred to the Coos County District Attorney's office, OSP said.



A North Bend Police officer stands near an SUV that was pursued by police Monday.

Zack Demars, The World

at the trailhead. The

Orford.

27.

restrooms may be open at

Battle Rock Park in Port

Location and time

Mountain trail head at

9:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept.

Directions: Take the

Highway 101) south, past

Port Orford. The trail head

Remember to complete

is about 6 miles south of

Port Orford.

registration form.

Coast Highway (U.S.

Meet at the Humbug

The vehicle had been

Hike Humbug Mountain with South Coast Striders

The World

SOUTH COAST — South Coast Striders had to reschedule the Humbug Mountain hikes. The hikes are now scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 27.

Hike one of two trails at Historic Humbug Mountain. Hikes require pre-registration at http:// canopyweb.com/forms/index.html and are limited to 15 people, but if demand is high and there are enough leaders, the hike times can

be staggered. Also, there is a "short" hike option and some hikers may prefer that.

To volunteer to lead, send an email to hikes@ coostrails.com.

Hike description: There will be two hikes running at the same time.

Long hike: The hike itself is just over 5 miles long, but the elevation gain is significant (about 1,800 ft), which makes this a difficult hike. The group will hike up the east trail, which will give good views to the south as hikers near the top. The group will then return by the west trail, which provides good views of Port Orford as they descend.

Short hike: The "short" hike isn't really that much shorter, at just over 4 miles, but the highest elevation is only 434 feet. It follows along the old coast highway and offers good views of Humbug Mountain itself, Red Fish Rocks, and the town of

Port Orford. If there isn't a volunteer to lead one of the two hikes, the short hike may be self guided, but there is a detailed trail guide.

Humbug short trail guide: https://coostrails.files.wordpress. com/2020/08/humbugshort-trail-2.pdf

New hike guidelines 1. Hike groups will be limited to 15 people. 2. Hikers will be asked to complete a registration form so organizers can control the number.

3. Hikers will be asked to maintain social distance (as much as 10-12 feet) on the trail

4. Hikers will be asked to have face covering (like a bandana) that can be pulled up at tight spots on the trail

5. Hikers should step off the trail to let others pass

Other information

There are no restrooms

Facebook's hazard analysis to be independently reviewed

HILARY DORSEY Country Media

TIERRA DEL MAR — The Oregon Department of State Lands announced Friday, Sept. 11, that they have decided to have Facebook's hazard analysis, conducted by ERM-West, Inc. and peer reviewed by Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., independently reviewed. The analysis was prepared in response to the drill break that occurred on April 28, during the drilling operation for the Jupiter subsea cable system in Tierra Del Mar, southwest of Tillamook. "We don't yet know who will do that, so no ETA yet on when we may accept the analysis as final," DSL Communications Manager Ali Ryan Hansen said of the independent review. Edge Cable Holdings, LLC, a subcontractor of Facebook, notified the Oregon Department of State Lands on April 28 of the snapped drill pipe, which was being replaced at a depth that ranged from 50-70 feet. Approximately 1,100 feet of drill pipe, a drill tip, two tools for drill steering and tracking, and approximately 6,500 gallons of drilling fluid were abandoned in the ocean.

the economic, scenic and recreational values of the ocean shore.

After consulting with relevant state agencies, Tillamook County and the Army Corps of Engineers, Facebook commissioned an independent hazard study conducted by ERM-West, Inc. and peer reviewed by Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

Nikki Payne, from ERM, said the study was conducted and analyzed by a team, including a toxicologist and local geologist. The team anaand response, as well as a cable construction plan.

Edge Cable intends to submit an application for an encroachment easement, DSL added. An encroachment easement would allow the abandoned equipment to remain beneath the seafloor.

"When received, the application will be reviewed by DSL staff for completeness," DSL said. "If the application is determined to be complete, it will be circulated for review and comment."

Trevor Taylor, stew-

Volunteers welcome to National Public Lands Day project on North Spit

The World

COOS BAY — The Bureau of Land Management invites volunteers to help restore the North Spit of Coos Bay as part of a National Public Lands Day event from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday Sept. 26.

Volunteers will pull noxious weeds, collect native seed and pick up litter along the roadway and in the dunes. Those interested in volunteering should meet near the end of Transpacific Lane on the North Spit. BLM employees will be onsite to greet and direct

volunteers to the project location.

Precautions associated with COVID-19 prevention will be in place. Projects will be designed with social distancing in mind and there will be no tool sharing. Volunteers are welcome to bring their own tools. Per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Oregon state guidance, volunteers must wear a face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained. Volunteers should bring a face covering, water, sunscreen, hand sanitizer and wear appropri-

ate clothing and footwear. Those interested in volunteering are asked to RSVP to Eric Baxter at ebaxter@blm.gov or 541-751-4437.

Organized by the National Environmental Education Foundation, National Public Lands Day is the largest single-day volunteer public lands improvement event in the nation. Events are held the fourth Saturday in September every year and involve hundreds of thousands of volunteers nationwide who help clean up and restore public lands and recreation sites.

"It was a very unusual event," said Kevin Salvadori, director of Network Investments at Facebook.

Salvadori said when the incident occurred, the team recovered as much as they could.

DSL had requested that Edge Cable provide an analysis of potential health, safety and environmental impacts due to the presence of the equipment, as well as a geotechnical survey. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department also required Edge Cable to provide an independent hazard analysis, evaluating potential impacts to

lyzed the current situation.

According to the hazard analysis, "there are currently no adverse environmental, scenic, recreational or economic impacts resulting from the drill break or presence of remaining materials to the surrounding environment and result in future impacts."

Kevin Salvadori, director of Network Investments at Facebook, said in a previous article that when the incident occurred, the team recovered as much as they could.

In August, DSL notified Edge Cable Holdings LLC of actions needed to comply with the terms of their communications cable easement agreement. Abandonment of equipment following a drill pipe break resulted in Edge Cable effectively storing equipment under the Oregon seafloor, which was not allowed under their easement agreement.

DSL stated in an update that DSL and Edge Cable have agreed on an amendment to the easement agreement. The amendment includes: a \$250,000 payment to DSL; increasing the required surety bond from \$20,000 to \$100,000; notice requirement for any future breaks or accidents; and providing DSL with plans for drill break avoidance

ardship section manager for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, said during an OPRD commission meeting Wednesday, Sept. 16, that at this point, both DSL and OPRD are coordinating a response to the drill break. Edge Cable's permit with OPRD remains valid at this time.

Edge Cable is also requesting to drill a new bore hole, Taylor added.

"We're requesting updated plans that the new bore hole will be in a different location," Taylor said. "They're proposing it be directly below the existing bore hole."

Taylor said OPRD is preparing comments on Edge Cable's analysis, as they were some missing key elements. There is also a potential lawsuit Oregon Coast Alliance is pursuing under the Clean Waters Act.

"There is nothing rescinding our permit currently," Taylor said. "It's in place and there's nothing they've done that technically violates it, other than if there is a hazard associated with the project, we would need to respond to that, including the potential for a hazard."

OPRD will be working with Edge on that front, Taylor added.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net.

Coos Bay, North Bend lift burn bans

The World

SOUTH COAST — Fire officials have lifted bans on open burning within the Coos Bay and North Bend city limits, according to a release from the Coos Bay Fire Department.

Rainfall and increased moisture content have de-

creased fire risk in the area, following days of historic wildfires which swept the state.

Fire restrictions are still in place for areas of the county beyond city limits. The Coos Fire Protective Association says the risk level for the area is high, meaning debris burning, campfires outside of designated sites and other certain activities are prohibited.

The City of Coos Bay has more information on its burning regulations available online at http:// coosbay.org/departments/ fire-department#burning-regulations.

DEAR ABBY By Abigail Van Buren

Transgener playmate poses a challenge to girl's grandma

DEAR ABBY: My 7-year-old granddaughter, "Leyla," has a playmate who is a transgender girl. My fear is that she may find out the truth and feel betrayed by her playmate as well as me. Should I explain it to her?

It doesn't matter to me that her friend is transgender because I have always believed that a person's most important trait is having good morals. I'm an upfront and honest person. However, with respect to this subject, I feel that if I remain silent, it's as though I'm somehow betraying my granddaughter.

Leyla is very accepting of all people, and I don't believe it would change her relationship with the child as long as I explain everything to her about people who are trans. Any advice would be appreciated. -- PROGRESSIVE GRAN IN ARIZONA

DEAR GRAN: Do Leyla's parents know about the friendship? Assuming they do, have a chat with them, as well as the playmate's parents, to make sure you're all on the same page. I do not think you should "out" Leyla's playmate to her. But I DO think it is time you start talking to your granddaughter about gender and what makes a girl a girl and what makes a boy a boy.

At some point, her friend may feel comfortable enough about the friendship -- and herself -- to tell Leyla herself. When that happens, be prepared to answer any questions your granddaughter may have. PFLAG, an organization I have mentioned before in my column, is an excellent resource for LGBTQ issues and will be helpful to you if you reach out. Its website is pflag.org.

DEAR ABBY: My worst fear has come true. My daughter just became engaged to someone we do not approve of. They have been together for three years, and it has been three years of drama -- from not working because they have to be together 24/7 to domestic violence. Must I attend the wedding? Should I help her plan it? She is my first born and I adore her, but I feel she is making a huge mistake. -- RELUCTANT IN OHIO

DEAR RELUCTANT: I am going to assume that you have expressed your feelings and concerns to your daughter. If that's the case, then you must accept that she is an adult and capable of making her own decisions.

Should you help plan the wedding? Yes, as long as you are not paying for it. Should you attend even though you don't approve of her choice of husband? Absolutely! If he's a violent abuser, she is going to need family around her so she doesn't become isolated and totally under his control. Her life could depend on it.

DEAR ABBY: Sadly, my son passed away (suicide), leaving his two younger sisters. I am often asked how many children I have, and I'm never sure how to respond. I feel it would be disrespectful to my son's memory if I don't include him. However, if I do, it invariably leads to more questions than I care to answer. Any insight would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. --**REMEMBERING HIM**

DEAR REMEMBERING: I am sorry for your loss. While a question about children is a way people often use to establish a common bond, it can be an emotionally loaded one. Consider offering this response: "I have three children. One of them is in heaven." If you are pressed further, it would not be impolite to respond that the subject is painful and you would rather not discuss it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www. DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Board of Education adopts 'All Students Belong' rule

SALEM — On Friday, the Oregon Department of Education filed a temporary administrative rule with the Secretary of State, adopted Thursday by the State Board of Education, that focuses on the health and safety of our students and educators by creating a safer and more inclusive school climate.

During Thursday's Board of Education meeting, the board unanimously passed the All Students Belong temporary rule to prohibit the use of hate symbols in schools and

to establish requirements for anti-bias incidents at a district level.

Like similar initiatives currently in place in Oregon school districts, this effort was sparked by students as a response to the increasing number of incidents impacting their ability to access education in Oregon's schools.

"Our students called us out and into action," said Oregon Department of Education Director Colt Gill. "The Oregon Department of Education is committed to ensuring that Oregon's

schools are safe and inclusive for all students and staff, and the All Students Belong rule is an important step in that process. The noose, Confederate flag and swastika are being used to bully and harm students and staff, and this is particularly true for students of color. Students must feel like they are safe and belong in their own schools if they are to learn, work and grow to their fullest potential. It is our responsibility to make sure that all of our school communities feel safe and

welcomed, and we support youth to set a moral standard.'

The rule requires districts to adopt and implement policies and procedures that prohibit, at a minimum, the use or display of the noose, swastika, or Confederate flag in any program or school-sponsored activities except where used in teaching curriculum that is aligned with the Oregon State Standards. This applies to both in-person and distance learning environments. The rule will take

effect today, and districts will be asked to have policies in place by January 1, 2021. A permanent rule will be introduced in several months.

ODE will continue to support school districts in developing rules, policies, and procedures over the next several months by providing guidance, educational resources, and toolkits to support implementation of these policies. Most districts have existing nondiscrimination policies and procedures for addressing bias incidents that pose a threat to student, staff and/or community safety that can serve as a starting point for responding to incidents in which hate symbols or hate speech occur in both in-person and in distance learning situations.

"Our goal is to create stronger and safer school communities," Gill said. "Removing these symbols is an important step in making sure that Oregon schools are for everyone, no exceptions. All students belong."

Oregon's unemployment drops to 7.7% in August social assistance (-1,400).

The World

PORTLAND - Oregon's unemployment rate dropped to 7.7 percent in August from 10.4 percent in July, according to a press release from the Oregon Employment Department. The unemployment rate was more than double last year's rate of 3.6 percent in August 2019. Meanwhile, the U.S. unemployment rate dropped to 8.4 percent in August from 10.2 percent in July.

Oregon's total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 11,300 jobs in August, following a revised gain of 17,700 jobs in July. Over the past four months, employers added back 41 percent of the jobs that were cut in March and April, stated the release.

Over-the-month job gains in August were largest in leisure and hospitality (+4,200 jobs); retail trade (+3,300); construction (+3,200); and government (+3,000). Two industries cut a substantial number of jobs in August: wholesale trade (-1,400 jobs) and health care and

which includes restaurants, drinking establishments, hotels and recreational industries - has added back the most jobs of any of the major industries over the past four months. Despite adding 63,200 jobs during the past four months, leisure and hospitality is only a little over halfway back to its February 2020 peak employment level, prior to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Retail trade has bounced back closer to its recent peak employment level. It added 16,100 jobs over the past four months, which was nearly three-quarters of the jobs lost earlier in the year.

The third industry to add back more than half of its jobs lost, while also rebounding by more than 10,000 jobs, was health care and social assistance. This industry, despite a 1,400-job loss in August, added 18,000 jobs over the past four months, regaining nearly two-thirds of its March and

April job losses.

Not all industries have rebounded with substantial job growth over the past four months. In August, the following industries remained near their low point for the year: manufacturing, government, information, and professional and business services.

Wildfires impact

Devastating wildfires have ravaged workplaces, homes, communities, and more than 1 million acres of land across Oregon over the past couple of weeks. This release covers the Oregon employment situation in August. It does not capture the personal and economic disruption caused by these disasters.

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Tuesday, Sept. 22, and the next statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for September on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

Gov. Brown convenes first racial justice council meeting

"Today, we embark on a process to build an Oregon that we can all love. An Oregon where we can all be loved and respected."

The World

SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown convened the first meeting of the Racial Justice Council to address systemic racism in Oregon. In response to Oregonians' clarion call for racial justice, police accountability, and the recognition that Black Lives Matter, Gov. Brown formed the council to take action in advancing anti-racist policies for Oregon.

"This week, as we brace for the impacts of a once-in-a-lifetime wildfire season, we are amidst a global pandemic that has sickened and killed Black, Latino, Latina, Latinx, Pacific Islander and other communities of color at disproportionate

rates," said Governor Kate Brown. "Racism and racial disparities impact every part of our culture and our economy. The pandemic and the fires have further exacerbated these disparities. We know that most Oregonians are feeling the impacts of wind, fires, and the pandemic, but the effects are not felt equally."

Gov. Brown went on to recognize the contributions and advocacy of members of the council, as well as thousands of Oregonians who have raised their voices in pursuit of racial justice and criminal justice reform following the murder of George Floyd.

"In honor of the memory of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and too many others, we must center racial equity as we build the state budget and develop our 2021 legislative agenda," Gov. Brown added. "As we recruit and promote people in state agencies. And our boards

and commissions. In the very structures of state government."

"Today, we embark on a process to build an Oregon that we can all love. An Oregon where we can all be loved and respected. As we reshape our state budget, we must support the communities currently experiencing crisis. We must ensure a better future, by focusing necessary recovery measures around racial equity and inclusion."

The council is an advisory group to the Governor with subgroups focused on criminal justice reform and police accountability, health equity, economic opportunity, housing and homelessness, environmental equity and education. The council will provide principles and recommendations that center racial justice and economic recovery to the Governor to inform the 2021-2023 Governor's Recommended Budget and legislative agenda.

House passes stopgap bill to avoid shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP) - In a sweeping bipartisan vote that takes a

the rural safety net as low crop prices and Trump's own tariffs slam farm

debate that should ensure smooth sailing in the GOP-held Senate before

Stabenow of Michigan, the powerful top Democrat on the Agriculture Com- we also need additional

"We need to keep the government open but

30% of the federal government's day-to-day budget that goes to Cabinet

government shutdown off the table, the House passed a temporary government-wide funding bill Tuesday night, shortly after President Donald Trump prevailed in a behind-the-scenes fight over his farm bailout.

The stopgap measure will keep federal agencies fully up and running into December, giving lameduck lawmakers time to digest the election and decide whether to pass the annual government funding bills by then or kick them to the next administration. The budget year ends Sept. 30.

The 359-57 vote came after considerable behindthe-scenes battling over proposed add-ons. The final agreement gives the administration continued immediate authority to dole out Agriculture Department subsidies in the run-up to Election Day. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., retreated from an initial draft that sparked a furor with Republicans and farm-state Democrats, who said she was interfering with the routine implementation of

country.

"It's a big deal. This is cash flow to mom and pop businesses all over rural America," said Texas Rep. Michael Conaway, top Republican on the House Agriculture Committee. "They get them every year in October. They come like clockwork."

In talks Tuesday, Pelosi restored a farm aid funding patch sought by the administration, which has sparked the ire of Democrats who said it plays political favorites as it gives out bailout money to farmers and ranchers.

In return, Pelosi won COVID-related food aid for the poor, including an extension of a higher food benefit for families whose children are unable to receive free or reduced lunches because schools are closed over the coronavirus. Another add-on would permit states to remove hurdles to food stamps and nutrition aid to low-income mothers that are more difficult to clear during the pandemic.

The deal permitted the measure to speed through the House after a swift

next Wednesday's deadline. There's no appetite on either side for a government shutdown.

On Monday, Democrats released a version of the stopgap measure that did not contain the farm bailout provision, enraging Republicans and putting passage of the measure in doubt. It became apparent that Pelosi did not have the votes to pass it -Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., dismissed it as a "rough draft" - and negotiations continued.

Democrats complain that the Trump administration has favored southern states such as Georgia -— a key swing state and home of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue — and larger producers in distributing bailout funds. Farmers are suffering from low commodity prices and the effects of higher tariffs imposed by Trump. Trump announced a new \$13 billion allotment of bailout funding at a political rally in Wisconsin last week.

The administration's handling of farm subsidies had angered Sen. Debbie

mittee. She said that the Agriculture Department didn't need the special financing provision that sparked the furor and that the money would come in November at the latest anyway. But the financial fix had been passed before, and other Democrats, including endangered House incumbents in states like Iowa and Minnesota. pressed for it.

"Now is not the time to be playing politics with aid to farmers or the assistance needed to save our families and local economies from economic disaster,' said freshman Rep. Abby Finkenauer, D-Iowa.

The measure is the bare minimum accomplishment for Capitol Hill's powerful Appropriations committees, who pride themselves on their deal-making abilities despite gridlock in other corners of Congress. It came after bipartisan negotiations on a huge COVID-19 relief package imploded and appear unlikely to be rekindled especially since the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has upended U.S. politics.

COVID relief for the American people," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla.

The legislation — called a continuing resolution, or CR, in Washington-speak would keep every federal agency running at current funding levels through Dec. 11, which will keep the government afloat past an election that could reshuffle Washington's balance of power.

The measure also extends many programs whose funding or authorizations lapse on Sept. 30, including the federal flood insurance program, highway and transit programs, and a long set of extensions of various health programs, such as a provision to prevent Medicaid cuts to hospitals that serve many poor people.

It also finances the possible transition to a new administration if Joe Biden wins the White House and would stave off an unwelcome COVID-caused increase in Medicare Part B premiums for outpatient doctor visits.

The underlying stopgap measure deals with the

agency operations funded by Congress each year. The annual appropriations process broke down in the Senate this year and it's unclear but probably unlikely that the \$1.3 trillion in agency spending bills will be enacted this year, even in a post-election lame duck session, especially if Biden is elected to replace Trump.

In the past, both Democrats and Republicans have sought to use government funding deadlines and must-past temporary funding bills as leverage to try to win concessions elsewhere on Washington's agenda. Such efforts invariably fail.

Republicans in 2013 used it in a failed attempt to prevent implementation of the so-called Obamacare health law, and Senate Democrats returned the favor in 2018 in a futile effort to force debate on permitting immigrants brought into the country illegally as children to remain in the U.S.

Pelosi studiously avoided such a confrontation this time.

Chief Justice: Ginsburg was 'tough, brave, a fighter, a winner'

WASHINGTON (AP) ----Chief Justice John Roberts says the words that best describe the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg are "tough, brave, a fighter, a winner" but also "thoughtful, careful, compassionate, honest."

Roberts spoke Wednesday during a private ceremony in the Great Hall of the Supreme Court. After the ceremony, Ginsburg's flagdraped casket was placed at the top of the court's front steps so that the public can pay their respects to the second woman to serve on the Supreme Court in line with

public health guidance for the coronavirus pandemic.

Thousands of people are expected to pay their respects throughout the day to the women's rights champion, leader of the court's liberal bloc and feminist icon who died last week at 87.

"Her voice in court and in our conference room was soft, but when she spoke people listened," Roberts said

Ginsburg's flag-draped casket arrived at the court at 9:30 a.m. and was carried into the court's Great Hall, past her former law clerks who lined the steps.

Inside, the court's remaining eight justices, all of them wearing masks, were together for the first time since the building was closed in March and they resorted to meetings by telephone. Because of the pandemic, however, chairs for the justices were spaced apart.

Ginsburg will lie in repose for two days at the court where she served for 27 years and, before that, argued six cases for gender equality in the 1970s. Ginsburg's casket will be on public view from 11 a.m. to

10 p.m. Wednesday and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday.

Nearly 500 members of the public had gathered to pay their respects Wednesday morning.

Since her death Friday evening, people have been leaving flowers, notes, placards and all manner of Ginsburg paraphernalia outside the court in tribute to the woman who became known in her final years as the "Notorious RBG." Court workers cleared away the items and cleaned the court plaza and sidewalk in advance of Wednesday's

ceremony.

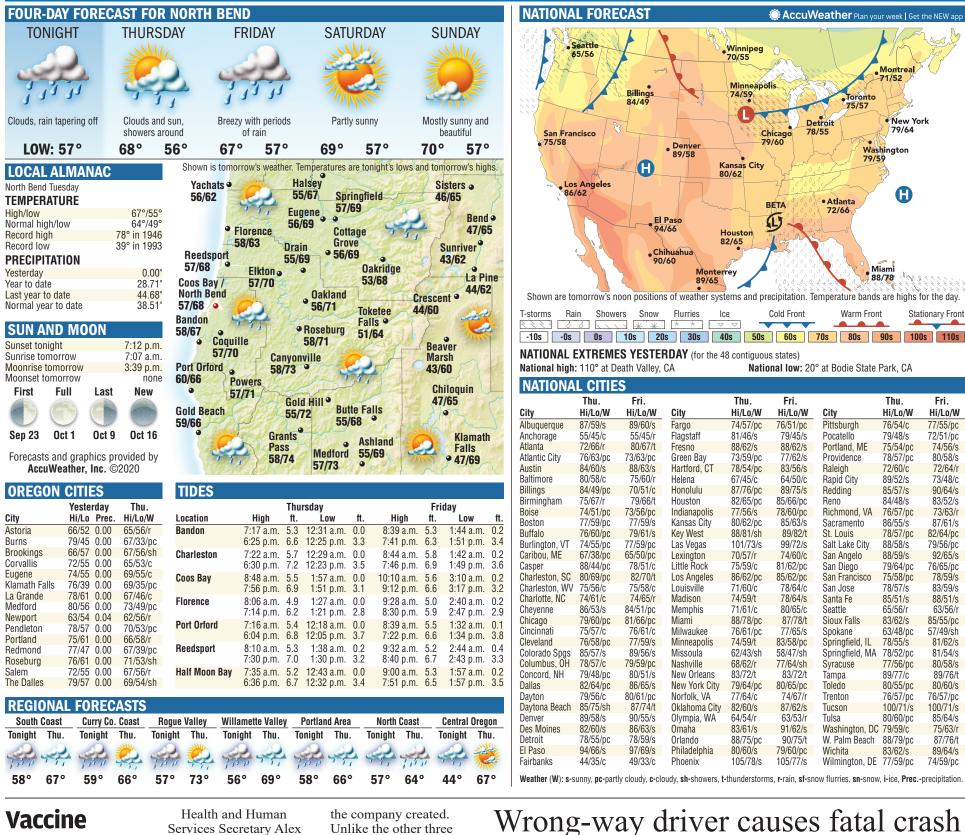
Inside, the entrance to the courtroom, along with Ginsburg's chair and place on the bench next to Roberts, have been draped in black, a longstanding court custom. These visual signs of mourning, which in years past have reinforced the sense of loss, will largely go unseen this year. The court begins its new term Oct. 5, but the justices will not be in the courtroom and instead will hear arguments by phone.

On Friday, Ginsburg will lie in state at the Capitol,

the first woman to do so and only the second Supreme Court justice after William Howard Taft. Taft had also been president. Rosa Parks, a private citizen as opposed to a government official, is the only woman who has lain in honor at the Capitol.

Ginsburg will be buried beside her husband, Martin, in a private ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery next week. Martin Ginsburg died in 2010. She is survived by a son and a daughter, four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

EEdition



Vaccine

From Page 1

to get ready now to roll out vaccinations, which will present enormous logistical challenges. On Wednesday the CDC was set to announce distribution of \$200 million in congressionally approved funds to help begin setting up operations.

Services Secretary Alex Azar said the COVID-19 vaccine campaign will build on longstanding cooperation between the federal government and the states on immunizations.

J&J's vaccine is made with slightly different technology than others in late-stage testing, modeled on an Ebola vaccine Unlike the other three vaccines that started latestage testing in the U.S., it requires only one shot, not two. Despite a later start to testing than some of its competitors, Dr. Paul Stoffels, J&J's chief scientific officer, told reporters that the study was large enough to yield answers possibly by early next year.

Authorities say a wrong-way driver was involved in a three-car crash on northbound Interstate 5 in Portland, Oregon, leaving one person dead, another injured and the highway closed for about two hours. KOIN reports the wrong-way driver was

a center right point of

reported around 3:45 a.m. Tuesday and as police were responding, there was a report of a crash First responders found three vehicles involved.

died at the scene. That driver was identified as 45-year-old Damian Asher Alexander of Vancouver,

ate vote before elections. Trump warned they would be "very badly hurt" by

Washington. The Portland Police Bureau said Tuesday afternoon that initial investigation shows Alexander was the wrongway driver.

Another driver was taken to a hospital for treatment and is expected to survive. The third driver wasn't hurt.

Trump's coming court challenge to the Affordable Care Act. "It's a time for

aide granted anonymity to discuss deliberations. After Trump met with

her political advantages of being Hispanic and hailing from the key political

view." At the private lunch,

One of the drivers

From Page 1

Vote

wish," which was that her seat not be filled until the man who wins the presidential election is installed, in January.

But that seemed no longer an option. So far, two Republicans have said they oppose taking up a nomination at this time, but no others are in sight. Under Senate rules, Vice President Mike Pence could break a tie vote.

While not all Republican senators have said they will support the eventual pick, few appear willing to stand in the way of a top party priority.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell made no scheduling announcements. But hearings could start as soon as Oct. 12 by the Senate Judiciary Committee, with a vote in the full Senate by Oct. 29, according to a GOP

conservative Judge Amy Coney Barrett at the White House on Monday he told reporters he would interview other candidates and might meet with Judge Barbara Lagoa when he travels to Florida later this week. Conversations in the White House and McConnell's office have been increasingly focused on Barrett and Lagoa, according to a person granted anonymity to discuss the

Barrett, 48, a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit, has long been favored by conservatives. Those familiar with the process said interest inside the White House seemed to be waning for Lagoa amid concerns she did not have a proven record as a conservative jurist. Lagoa has been pushed by Florida's governor, and aides tout

battleground state.

Democrats point to hypocrisy in Republicans trying to rush through a pick so close to the election after McConnell led the GOP in refusing to vote on a nominee of President Barack Obama in February 2016, long before that year's election.

Romney, the GOP's 2012 presidential nominee, dismissed that argument, saying "it was not unfair" for Republicans to refuse to consider Obama's choice of Merrick Garland.

The Utah Republican backed up his decision by saying it's not "written in the stars" that the court should have a liberal bent. He said Trump's pick will tip the court to become more conservative, and he said that is appropriate "for a nation which is, if you will, center right, to have a court which reflects

Sen. Mike Braun of Indiana said, senators advocating swift voting warned of "too many complications" if it's delayed until after the election - presumably if Biden wins the White House or Republicans lose the Senate.

Conservative groups pushing for swift approval also argue the election result could be disputed with legal battles dragging on for weeks.

Democrats say voters should speak first, on Election Day. Biden appealed to GOP senators to 'uphold your constitutional duty, your conscience" and wait until the president is chosen.

But few Republicans are willing to cross Trump. The president has criticized Republican Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska for opposing a Senvoters in November.

Collins went further Tuesday saying she would vote against Trump's pick, "not because I might not support that nominee under normal circumstances but we're simply too close to the election."

The parties braced for the fight ahead.

At an evening rally in Pittsburgh, Trump marveled at how important the Supreme Court is to some voters, and at his own opportunity to pick a third justice. "Can you imagine?" he asked.

"These sorts of fights bring Republicans together," said Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind., the party's Senate campaign chairman.

At a memorial on the National Mall marking the 200,000 COVID deaths, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi paid tribute to Ginsburg and warned against

and hot, with fierce winds

pushing burning embers a

mile ahead of the fire line,

that the forest's future is

"It's a special place.

It's a place that grabs you,

uncertain.

us to vote health," she said.

The mounting clash over the vacant seat injects new turbulence in the presidential campaign with the nation still reeling from the coronavirus pandemic and shattered economy, with millions unemployed and heightened partisan tensions and anger.

Ginsburg, 87, died Friday of metastatic pancreatic cancer. She will lie in state at the U.S. Capitol this week, the first woman accorded that honor. Her casket will be on view Wednesday and Thursday on the steps of the high court.

No nominee has won confirmation so quickly since Sandra Day O'Connor — with no opposition from either party — became the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court in 1981.

scotched around, leaving

patches of green among

the black. That type of

burn — a so-called mosaic pattern — is encour-

Wildfires

From Page 1

"It's difficult to overstate how emotionally impactful this is for people who love the land in those places, whether they're locals or they're people who would only visit it once a year," said Steve Pedery of Oregon Wild. "These places are sanctuaries for people trying to find a little bit of peace and solitude in nature and the modern world."

Fire also tore through Jefferson Park, a popular alpine backpacking

Closing and 8:30 a.m. quotes

Close

49.94

33.73

8:30

49.51

33.53

Xerox

207.42 204.80

117.01 127.85

Stock

Kroger

Microsoft

Intel

Nike

destination on the flanks of Mount Jefferson. The flames crept to the edges of Silver Falls — one of Oregon's most popular state parks and its largest - and burned up half the buildings at Breitenbush Hot Springs, a forest retreat where Oregonians bathed nude in natural hot springs, sat in saunas and practiced yoga.

Further south, another inferno leveled the town of Blue River, east of Eugene, and singed the forests around the McKenzie River, a premier whitewater rafting destination that attracts tourists from

around the nation.

"So this is just a beautiful river corridor and ... some really beautiful stretches and beautiful views, and that will be very different," said Chandra LeGue, western Oregon field coordinator for Oregon Wild. "And it will have an impact on businesses and river guides for years to come."

The biggest worry for many environmentalists is the condition of the old-growth forest known as the Opal Creek Wilderness. Before the fire, hikers who visited the 36 miles of trails were

rewarded with views of trees that were hundreds of years old with bark 6 inches thick. Deep, clear blue pools at Opal Creek were inviting on a hot day.

Anxiety over the condition of the forest has been amplified by the news that George Atiyeh, a storied logger-turned-conservationist who was instrumental in saving the forest, died in the blaze.

Studies of ash and carbon layers show that the area burned at least twice before, in the 1500s and the 1800s. But the conditions this time were so dry

MegaMillions Sept. 22 36-43-44-55-68 Megaball: 12 Multiplier: x4 Jackpot: \$24 million

Powerball Sept. 19 11-14-23-47-57 Powerball: 14 Multiplier: x4 Jackpot: \$22 million

year.

Megabucks Sept. 21 11-16-20-34-35-46 Jackpot: \$2.2 Million Win For Life Sept. 19 33-44-52-61

aging because it means the old-growth will likely recover but not quickly, Canfield said. "The forest lives on time scales much longer than humans do, and so I'm sure much of the forest will survive and recover, and it will be there for future generations," he

said. "But for the people living now, it's going to be a long time before it's anything like it used to

and it's a magical place for so many people," said Dwayne Canfield, the executive director of the Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center, which is housed in the old mining town and hosted 3,000

Oregon schoolchildren a Aerial photos taken Sunday by the U.S. Forest Service show the fire burned the trees but hopbe."

NW Natural 45.42 44.15 Skywest 31.09 30.52 Starbucks 83.95 84.42 Umpqua Hldgs 10.53 10.52 Weyerhaeuser 27.72 27.58

18.38

18.24

Levi Straus 12.36 12 98 Dow Jones closed at 27,287.65 NASDAQ closed at 10,959.36 S&P 500 closed at 3,315.49 Provided by Coos Bay Edward Jones

private deliberations.

The World FOR THE WORLD CLOUDS, RAIN 68 • 57 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 thevorldink.com

Follow us online: facebook.com/theworldnewspaper stuitter.com/TheWorldLink instagram.com/theworldlink Bears Hall of Famer Gale Sayers dies at 77

CHICAGO (AP) — Hall of Famer Gale Sayers, who made his mark as one of the NFL's best all-purpose running backs and was later celebrated for his enduring friendship with a Chicago Bears teammate with cancer, has died. He was 77.

Nicknamed "The Kansas Comet" and considered among the best open-field runners the game has ever seen, Sayers died Wednesday, according to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Relatives of Sayers had said he was diagnosed with dementia. In March 2017, his wife, Ardythe, said she partly blamed his football career.

Sayers was a blur to NFL defenses, ghosting would-be tacklers or zooming by them like few running backs or kick returners before or since. Yet it was his rock-steady friendship with Brian Piccolo, depicted in the film "Brian's Song," that marked him as more than a sports star.

"He was the very essence of a team player — quiet, unassuming and always ready to compliment a teammate for a key block," Hall of Fame President David Baker said. "Gale was an extraordinary man who overcame a great deal of adversity during his NFL career and life."

He became a stockbroker, sports administrator, businessman and philanthropist for several inner-city Chicago youth initiatives after his pro football career was cut short by serious injuries to both knees.

"Gale was one of the finest men in NFL history and one of the game's most exciting players," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "Gale was an electrifying and elusive runner who thrilled fans every time he touched the ball. He earned his place as a first-ballot Hall of Famer."

Sayers was a two-time All-American at Kansas and inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as well. He was selected by Chicago with the fourth pick overall in 1965, and his versatility produced dividends and highlight-reel slaloms through opposing defenses right from the start.

He tied one NFL record with six touchdowns in a game and set another with 22 touchdowns in his first season: 14 rushing, six receiving, one punt and one kickoff return. Sayers was a unanimous choice for Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Sayers followed that by being voted an All-Pro during the first five of his seven NFL seasons (1965-71). But he was stuck on a handful of middling-to-bad Bears teams and, like Dick Butkus, another Hall of Fame teammate selected in the same 1965 draft, he never played in the postseason. Sayers appeared in only 68 games total and just two in each of his final two seasons while attempting to return from those knee injuries.

Butkus said he hadn't even seen Sayers play until a highlight film was shown at an event in New York that both attended honoring the 1964 All-America team. He said the real-life version of Sayers was even better.

"He was amazing. I still attribute a lot of my success from trying to tackle him (in practice)," Butkus said at the Bears' 100th anniversary celebration in June 2019.

"I never came up against a running back like him in my whole career, as far as a halfback. And that was counting O.J. (Simpson) and a couple of other guys," he added. "No one could touch this guy."

The Bears drafted them with back-to-back picks in '65, taking Butkus at No. 3 and Sayers at No. 4. It didn't take long for Sayers to win over veterans who had helped the Bears take the NFL championship in 1963.

"We were both No. 1s, so they're going to make it hard on us and show us the ropes and everything else," Butkus said. "But Gale just ran circles around everybody. Quickly, they adopted him."

The friendship between Sayers and backfield mate Piccolo began in 1967, when the two became unlikely roommates. Sayers was Black and already a star; Piccolo was white and had worked his way up from the practice squad. Early on, they were competing for playing time and carries.

But when the club dropped its policy of segregating players by race in hotel room assignments, they forged a bond. In 1968, Piccolo helped Sayers through a tough rehab process while he recovered from a torn ligament in his right knee. After Sayers returned the next season to become an All-Pro, he made sure his friend shared in the credit.

They became even closer after Piccolo pulled himself out of a game early in the 1969 season because of breathing difficulties and was diagnosed with cancer. That phase of their friendship was recounted first by Sayers in his autobiography, "I Am Third," and then in the 1971 movie "Brian's Song."

With actor Billy Dee Williams playing Sayers and James Caan in Piccolo's role, the made-for-TV movie was later released in theaters.

Sayers stayed by Piccolo's side as the illness took its toll, donating blood and providing support. Just days before Piccolo's death age 26, Sayers received the George S. Halas Award for courage and said: "You flatter me by giving me this award, but I can tell you here and now that I accept it for Brian Piccolo. ... I love Brian Piccolo and I'd like all of you to love him, too. Tonight, when you hit your knees, please ask God to love him."

Dodgers wrap up top seed in National League

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Wrapping up an NL West title has become routine for the Los Angeles Dodgers, but in a year in which no one was sure three months ago if there would be a baseball season, manager Dave Roberts wanted his team to still savor the moment.

The Dodgers clinched the NL's top postseason seed and eighth straight division title Tuesday night with a 7-2 victory over the Oakland Athletics. They are third team to win at least eight straight division titles, joining the Atlanta Braves (14 straight from 1991-2005) and New York Yankees (nine straight from 1998-2006).

"To fast forward a couple months and be crowned NL West champs is a credit to everyone. It should never be taken for granted," Roberts said. "Truth be told a lot of guys didn't know we could clinch. We were responsible but I let it know that it has to be appreciated." The Dodgers, who own the best record in the majors at 39-16, were the first team in the majors to clinch a playoff berth on Sept. 16. They will open postseason play on Sept. 30 by hosting every game in a best-of-three series against the No. 8 seed.

Braves clinch third straight NL East title

ATLANTA (AP) — After clinching their third straight NL East title, the Atlanta Braves set their sights on ended a much longer streak.

After losses in 10 straight postseason appearances, the Braves are desperate to end the drought.

"If you ask me, it's World Series or nothing," said Ronald Acuña Jr. said through a translator after Atlanta clinched the division title by beating the Miami Marlins 11-1 on Tuesday night.

Bryse Wilson pitched five scoreless innings, and Marcell Ozuna drove in five runs with four hits that included two home runs. positive for the novel coronavirus.

Freeman rebounded to become an MVP candidate. He pushed his batting average to .347.

After Jorge Alfaro's game-ending lineout to Freeman, Braves players hugged on the field and exchanged high-fives in the dugout. Players wore "Respect Atlanta" T-shirts and posed for photos on the field with the 2020 banner.

From the visitor's dugout, Marlins manager Don Mattingly watched the low-key celebration with respect.

"They've been probably the class of

who had three hits and one of Los Angeles' four home runs, "It stinks not being able to do champagne and beer showers because some of the younger guys haven't been able to experience that."

Max Muncy, Chris Taylor and AJ Pollock also went deep for Los Angeles, which leads the majors with 104 home runs.

"This whole year has been weird. There's no other way to describe it," Muncy said. "It's sad not to be celebrate as usual but we know there is a lot more at stake."

Dustin May (2-1) went five innings and allowed two runs on three hits. The 22-year-old red-headed righty set a team record by not allowing more than three earned runs in his first 13 career starts, which include 10 this season. Robbie Grossman homered for Oakland, which clinched its first AL West crown in seven years on Monday during a day off. The Athletics, in the postseason for the third straight year, currently are the AL's No. 3 seed.

Los Angeles came into the day with a magic number of two and got help with the Angels' 4-2 victory over the San Diego Padres.

Instead of a wild celebration on the mound after Jake McGee struck out Sean Murphy for the final out, players briskly walked out of the dugout to celebrate with Atlanta hit five homers, including drives by Dansby Swanson and Freddie Freeman off Nick Vincent in a five-run seventh. Freeman drove in two runs with three hits.

"I think when it's all said and done, this is the most satisfying with all we had to go through this season to get to this point," said Freeman, who missed the start of the delayed season with a high fever and other symptoms after testing

teammates. Everyone grabbed a division clinching shirt and cap before heading to the mound for a group photo.

The clubhouse celebration was also muted. Champagne was still involved,

the division over the last few years," Mattingly said. "They're the gold standard. They're the guys you have to go after."

Wilson (1-0) allowed three hits and one walk, striking out a career-high seven.

Atlanta clinched its record 20th division title, one more than the New York Yankees. The Braves won 14 straight in completed seasons from 1991-2005 but have not won a postseason series since 2001 and have not won a championship since 1995.

but it was players toasting each other with a glass instead of being showered in it.

"We talked about it instead of dumping stuff on people. It's a moment you need to celebrate and we did," said Corey Seager, Mark Canha had two of Oakland's five hits.

Seager tied it at 1 in the first with an RBI single and then led off the fifth with a drive to center off T.J. McFarland to extend LA's lead to 6-2.

Muncy gave the Dodgers a 3-2 lead in the third inning with a two-run homer. Taylor and Pollock extended it with solo shots in the fourth off Oakland starter Frankie Montas (3-5).

Nuggets top Lakers to pull within 2-1 in series

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — They had just lost a playoff heartbreaker, and two nights later the Denver Nuggets quickly went from in control to in trouble.

Escaping trouble is what these Nuggets do best.

"Everybody always has us packing our bags and leaving, but we're not ready to go," coach Michael Malone said. "For some reason we love this bubble."

They'll get at least two more games in it.

Jamal Murray had 28 points, 12 assists and two late 3-pointers to halt a Lakers charge, helping the Nuggets to a 114-106 victory Tuesday night that cut Los Angeles' lead to 2-1 in the Western Conference finals.

The Nuggets lost almost all of a 20-point lead in the fourth quarter but held on, avoiding a 3-0 hole that would have been daunting even for this never-outof-it team.

"We feel that we should be up 2-1 right now, to be honest," Murray said. "So we're just going to move on to Game 4."

Denver has set a record by erasing two 3-1 deficits in this postseason, but no NBA team has ever come back from 3-0.

Jerami Grant added a playoff career-high 26 points and Nikola Jokic had 22 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets, who will try to even the series on Thursday.

LeBron James had 30 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds — his 26th playoff triple-double — for the Lakers, who remain two wins from their first NBA Finals appearance in a decade. Anthony Davis, who made the winning 3-pointer at the buzzer in Game 2, scored 27 points.

The Nuggets led by 20 with 10 1/2 minutes left and soon after were hanging on after the Lakers charged back with a 19-2 run, turning to a zone defense and forcing turnovers that led to easy baskets.

"We played some pretty good ball in the fourth quarter, but those first 36 minutes, that hurt us obviously," James said.

With Denver's lead down to four, Murray made a 3-pointer with 2:16 remaining. He then found Paul Millsap under the basket for a score before hitting a long 3 to push the lead back to 111-99 with 53 seconds to play.

Tiger, Thomas team for golf exhibition win

RIDGEDALE, Mo. (AP) — Justin Thomas won his six-hole singles match and was closest to the pin on the decisive final hole as he and Tiger Woods won an exhibition match Tuesday that served as the grand opening of the Woods-designed Payne's Valley Golf Course at Big Cedar Lodge.

The televised event was called the Payne's Valley Cup, after the course Woods designed in the Ozarks. It was the first public course in the United States for Tiger Woods Design.

The money raised went to the Payne Stewart Family Foundation. The course at Big Cedar Lodge was named in honor of Stewart, who died in a plane crash in October 1999.

The match had a Ryder Cup theme because the matches were scheduled for this week until being postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic. Thomas and Woods, who partnered in last year's Presidents Cup, took on Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland and Justin Rose of England.

McIlroy and Rose won the fourballs over six holes. Woods and Thomas won the foursomes on the next six holes. In the singles, Thomas defeated McIlroy, while Rose defeated Woods. The matches ended in a tie, and the Americans won because Thomas was closest to the pin on a par 3 designed to settle matches.

Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player also took part in the final hole, as did Aaron Stewart, the son of the late three-time major winner who now is a tournament director for the LPGA Tour's season opener in Florida.

The exhibition was two days after the U.S. Open at Winged Foot, where Woods and Rose missed the cut. McIlroy and Thomas finished in a tie for eighth, a dozen shots behind winner Bryson DeChambeau.

"It's what all of us needed after what we experienced last week," McIlroy said.

Bulls hire Billy Donovan as new coach

CHICAGO (AP) — Billy Donovan wasn't on the market for long — hardly a shocker given he's won everywhere he's coached.

That he's headed to Chicago might be a surprise, only because big and bold moves have been few and far between for the team. Then again, these aren't the same old Bulls.

Chicago struck it big Tuesday,

hiring Donovan and landing one of the top candidates on the market to lead a rebuilding team with an overhauled front office.

The 55-year-old Donovan spent the past five seasons with the Oklahoma City Thunder. He replaces Jim Boylen, who was fired after the Bulls finished 22-43 and were one of the eight teams that didn't qualify for the NBA's restart at Walt Disney World. In a statement, Donovan thanked ownership and said he's looking forward to working with new executive vice president of basketball operations Arturas Karnisovas.

The Bulls came into the season with their sights set on a playoff spot. They were 11th in the Eastern Conference when play was stopped in March and decided they needed new leadership.