

## KPBX 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 Issues

Spokane Public Radio KPBX determined the following to be community needs and addressed them through news and other programming during the quarter ending March 31st, 2024.	<p>Coronavirus (COVID -19)</p> <p>Regional, state, local, county politics &amp; govt.</p> <p>Economy</p> <p>Environmental/natural issues</p> <p>Healthcare</p> <p>K-12 and higher education</p> <p>Health care</p> <p>Arts /culture</p> <p>Business, industry, agriculture</p> <p>Police/Crime</p> <p>Legal issues</p> <p>Native Issues</p>
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### Network Specialty Audience Programs

<b><u>Public Forums</u></b>	It's Your World, Alternative Radio, Commonwealth Club – conversations on different topics ranging from left-wing politics to international and national events. Programs air Tuesdays at noon. (1 hour)
<b><u>Climate One</u></b>	Weekly program devoted to climate-related topics, airing Mondays at noon. (1 hour)
<b><u>Zorba Paster On Your Health</u></b>	Medical call-in program, Wednesdays at noon. (1 hour)
<b><u>Concert of the Week</u></b>	Highlights of performances from the Inland Northwest and around the world, Mondays at 7 p.m. (2 hours)

### KPBX Produced Programs

<b><u>Guitar Hour</u></b>	Weekly musical program featuring the guitar	Thursdays 11 am	1 hour
<b><u>Radio Play Co-Lab</u></b>	Local regional talent performs locally written material	Quarterly	30 min
<b><u>Movies 101</u></b>	Local people review recent motion pictures	Fridays 6:30 pm	30 min
<b><u>TA(P)</u></b>	A weekly look at the arts in the Inland Northwest	Thursdays 12 pm	1/2 hour

*SPR-produced newscast at 5:31, 6:04, 6:31, 6:45, 7:04, 7:31, 7:45, 8:31, 8:45 am.; 4:45, 5:00, 5:45, 6:00 pm., Mon.-Fri., and at 7:35 and 9:35 am Sat.-Sun. (News stories average 1:30-6 min. in length and include stories produced by Spokane Public Radio staff and by Northwest News Network, to which Spokane Public Radio belongs.) Topics are listed by subject category. Spokane Public Radio also airs All Things Considered and Morning Edition from NPR News. A sample of topics covered during this quarter are presented below:*

<b>Coronavirus</b>	
<b>Election Coverage</b>	<p>Pam Haley re-elected Spokane Valley mayor. A Republican joins the race to be Washington’s next schools chief. Central Valley puts two school levies before voters in February. West Valley voters to decide school levy, bond issue in February. Mead places school levy before voters on February 13. Deer Park schools are growing, ask voters for help to address it. McMorris Rogers announces she won’t run for Congress again. Nine Mile Falls voters to decide school levy. School officials like February ballot and other election notes. Spokane councilman joins growing field to succeed McMorris Rodgers. Washington Senate balks at moving some local elections to even-numbered years. The Idaho Republican Presidential Caucus is Saturday. Here’s what to know. Quick and easy: Idaho GOP voters gather across the state at 210 sites for 2024 presidential caucus. Ranked choice voting may have a prominent place on Idaho’s November ballot. Filing period opens for Idaho legislative candidates. Idaho’s primary election could be moved to April. Biden and Trump easily win in WA presidential primary, clinch nominations. Idaho open primaries supporters say they are on the brink of qualifying ballot initiative.</p>
<b>Culture Issues</b>	<p>Upholding legacy and planning for future top of mind for re-launching The Black Lens. Some senators cast doubt on need for resolution denouncing racism after N. Idaho harassment report.</p>

## Politics & State Govt.

2024 Idaho legislative session kicks off Jan. 8. The new Washington state laws taking effect in January 2024. The Standard's guide to following the Washington state legislative session. Little wants more for education, transportation, water quality in '24. Washington House passes bill to allow splitting of residential lots. In final State of the State, Inslee touts progressive policies, asks law makers to keep going. Idaho Freedom Foundation President Wayne Hoffman replaced, controversy over his alt-right contractor lingers. For second time, Washington House backs tougher penalties for threatening election workers. Idaho Legislature introduces new bill banning explicit AI media to harass or extort victims. Washington AG launches lawsuit to stop Kroger-Albertsons merger. Revived 'harmful to minors' library materials bill advances in Idaho Legislature. Washington's latest daylight saving time proposal would mean earlier summer sunsets. Inslee asks legislature for help in lowering traffic deaths. Prisoners would get to vote under bill backed by formerly incarcerated WA lawmaker. Idahoans expressing doubts about state's direction, annual poll finds. WA lawmakers consider free prison phone calls to help keep families connected. Idaho legislative committee advances school gun bill. WA lawmaker wants to make voting mandatory... sort of? Amid procedural changes, Idaho Legislature's JFAC cancels Friday's budget setting meeting. Idaho House bill aims to protect candidates from AI fake video. Democrats want independent prosecutor to handle cases where police use deadly force. Washington lawmakers hope to tweak new wildfire protection rules for homes. Washington lawmakers look to broaden hate crime law to cover vandalizing public property. House Republicans oust Majority Leader Megan Blanksma from leadership role. Idaho Senate narrowly passes bill that would allow residents a six-month supply of contraceptives. WA Democrats ditch bill repealing voter-backed cap on property tax hikes. WA House approves bill to expand dormitory-like housing. Amid budget unrest, Idaho legislators advance new bare-bones budgets. 'Hope springs eternal:' Little acknowledges Statehouse pushback over Idaho Launch. Plan to cap how much landlords can raise rent moves ahead in Washington Legislature. With new revenue report, WA lawmakers prep for budget reveal. WA Legislature keeps most of its priority bills alive – so far. Citizen initiatives score public hearings. Will Democrats make them law? Republicans in Washington Legislature bristle over collapse of rural housing bills. Idaho could receive state voter guides under new bill. How Washington lawmakers want to spend another \$2 billion with this year's state budget. WA Senate passes legislation pushing back on book bans. WA bill requiring clergy to report child abuse dies in House committee. Kootenai Co.

	<p>legislator proposes constitutional amendment to block ranked choice voting. Plan for 7% statewide cap on rent increases fails in Washington Legislature. Governors, tribes ratify Columbia River Basin pact at White House signing ceremony. Initiative to ban a Washington income tax receives a hearing. Two initiatives receive the attention of the Washington legislature on Wednesday. Idaho bill proposing \$420 mandatory minimum fine for marijuana possession goes up in smoke. Washington Legislature approves three citizen initiatives. Five takeaways from the 2024 Washington legislative session. Washington legislators honor departing colleague. Bills, bills, bills: What passed and failed in Washington’s 2024 legislative session. Idaho Republican legislators revive library materials bill. Idaho bill expanding birth control access heads to governor’s desk. Initiative filing fee drastically increased in Washington. Idaho lawmakers vote down compromise school facilities gun bill. Idaho Senate passes bill to reinstate presidential primary election. Gender wage gap in Washington is among widest in nation, analysis shows. Idaho Legislature calls for new, independent health and social services ombudsman. Idaho lawmakers advance several election-related bills. Idaho librarians from across state testify in opposition to revived library materials bill. Washington looks at new ways to clean up graffiti along state highways. WA state spending to rise tenfold on housing for people with developmental disabilities. Republican Idaho legislator introduces late – session Texas-style immigration bill. New Washington law will allow traffic cameras on more city streets and county roads. New Washington budget boosts state spending by \$2B.</p>
<p><b>Local &amp; County Govt.</b></p>	<p>Spokane Fire Chief Schaeffer confirms plan to retire. New judge takes seat with busy Spokane County Superior Court. Spokane senator tries to eliminate twice-yearly clock switch. Spokane city gov’t and homeless service providers work to cope with extreme cold. Spokane legislator wants all kids to have free school meals. Spokane consortium receives federal money to address wildfire smoke. January cold response taps out Spokane’s extreme weather sheltering budget. Federal officials in Spokane County connect wildfire victims with aid. Federal judge sets new boundaries for Yakima Valley legislative. Spokane to continue funding church-based shelters through the summer. Spokane County leaders concerned about public defense resources.</p>

<p><b>Environment/Energy</b></p>	<p>Feeding birds during the winter can be a safe, satisfying activity. Region prepares for abrupt shift from mild winter to extreme cold. Break in active weather pattern aids plow crews. Feds plan to add land in Western states to potential expansion of solar energy. Washington preps to merge carbon market with California amid repeal threat. EPA looks to unlock Superfund dollars for Columbia River site in northeast Washington. Judge rejects attempt to delay building code update with new heat pump rules. WA ecology officials deny Spokane airport's request for another extension on PFAS agreement. Update of Washington's wildfire building code gets ditched. The art and science of landslide preparedness a decade after Oso. Spring snowpack levels in North Idaho lowest in 40 years. It's not too early to protect your home from wildfire. Disaster recovery money is flowing in Spokane, but demand for help is decreasing. Palouse wind project seen as economic asset, but also dangerous to the environment.</p>
<p><b>Business/Labor/Economy</b></p>	<p>New study finds wide salary ranges in job ads are viewed skeptically. SPR chief engineer and GM haul a piece of emergency equipment to the transmitter site on Wednesday. Spokane County recovery group helps people affected by Gray, Oregon Road fires. Spokane's Junior Lilac Parade to be organized by Lilac Festival. Seattle music magazine to live on forever in Washington State Museum. Take this historic house, please! Lawmakers unsure about acquiring political trailblazer's home. Hold on. 'The Evergreen State' isn't Washington's nickname? Washington lawmakers move to reign in unscrupulous rooftop solar companies.</p>
<p><b>Health Care/Social Issues</b></p>	<p>Paid leave for families in Washington helps some, frustrates others. The Cruellest Lie: You're Safe Now. Washington officials turn to schools in fight against opioid epidemic. Spokane medical student wins big research award. WA intercepts millions in child support for low-income families. Idaho bill to expand contraceptives access makes its way to Senate floor after committee. Idaho youth treatment home exposed in InvestigateWest investigation closes down. WSU researchers study care given at Spokane transitional nursery for infants addicted in utero. Patty Murray's push to fund nutrition and child care. WA lawmakers approve out-of-state option for long-term care benefit. Idaho Legislature requests Office of Performance Evaluations investigation of youth treatment homes. Idaho had 5 documented abortions in 2023, but a closer look at the data tells a different story.</p>

<p><b>Police/Crime</b></p>	<p>Idaho investigators repeatedly found kids in danger. Youth treatment programs faced few consequences. Judge denies appeal in Kohberger case, trial date could be more than a year out. An Indigenous teen in Washington disappeared amid clear signs of danger. It took more than a year before police started investigating. Idaho governor signs bill into law that would establish mandatory minimum sentences for fentanyl. Idaho Department of Correction unable to move forward with scheduled execution of Thomas Creech. Police reform advocates see a top priority lapse in Washington Legislature. CDA police investigating racial epithets aimed at University of Utah students. Inmates in Washington build structures designed to protect fellow inmates.</p>
<p><b>Education</b></p>	<p>K-12 schools could see \$162 million in cuts from attendance-based formula. Building Northwest schools so they can shake off the region's next megaquake. Wednesday school closures, delays. Thursday school closures and delays in the Inland Northwest. Idaho's top school official shares her vision with legislators. Friday school closures/delays. 'It's incredible that this is where we are.' Bizarre development puts Idaho open meetings trial on hold. Medical Lake district puts two school levies before voters. Cheney district looks to build new school, renew two levies. Washington Senate approves requirement for all public schools to have naloxone. Freeman voters to decide two school levies this month. East Valley voters to decide a school levy this month. Big projects planned if Riverside school bond passes. WSU, UW athletics officials explain their plight to legislators. Idaho A.G.'s Supreme Court appeal could obstruct University of Phoenix purchase. North Idaho College faces critical visit as accreditation concerns continue. Zags, Cougs, Eagles get their post-season basketball assignments. Spokane medical students to open their careers in the Lilac City. Whitworth, WSU combine to create new publishing press. Judge awards \$240,000 to Idaho Board of ED in U Phoenix lawsuit.</p>
<p><b>Agriculture</b></p>	
<p><b>Native issues</b></p>	

<b>Legal Issues</b>	Idaho AG's office asks Supreme Court to rule in abortion case. U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear Idaho case on emergency room abortions. U.S. Supreme Court will not hear challenge against Washington state capital gains tax. Judge declines request to remove Trump from WA primary ballots. Idaho's top judge lauds court works, asks for more state help. 'Verge of collapse': Washington public defenders swamped by cases. Ada County judge rejects Idaho AG Labrador's open meetings lawsuit against State Board of Education. How local Idaho prosecutors lost the case against Patriot Front's white nationalist leader.
<b>Military</b>	