

KNKX:

Issues & Programs List

2023: Fourth quarter (October-December)

Local newscasts on Morning Edition air every half hour from 6:30 to 8:30 AM

Local newscasts on All Things Considered air every half hour from 3 to 6 PM

All stories listed aired both morning and afternoon on the day noted -- sometimes the stories aired as many as 4x in one day.

POLITICS

Seattle, King County candidates tackle homelessness in debates moderated by KNKX

October 12, 2023

Homelessness is a top issue on voters' minds. This week, KNKX co-sponsored a series of debates to see where candidates stand.

No, it's not weird that so many people are running for WA lands commissioner

October 18, 2023

Seven candidates are running to become Washington's next Commissioner of Public Lands. People who are familiar with the office say it's not shocking – even if some voters aren't totally sure what the commissioner's job is.

Protesters calling for Gaza cease-fire block road at Tacoma port while military cargo ship docks

November 6, 2023

Hundreds of protesters calling for a cease-fire in Gaza are blocking traffic at the Port of Tacoma, where a military supply ship had recently arrived. The Cape Orlando drew similar protests in Oakland, California, on Friday before it sailed to Tacoma.

WA Secretary of State calls suspicious envelopes 'terrorism' after election center evacuations

November 9, 2023

Election offices in four Washington counties were evacuated Wednesday, after receiving mail with unknown powdery substances as workers processed ballots.

In early returns, Western WA voters want more cops and jails

November 9, 2023

Early vote tallies seem to show support for more law enforcement staffing and infrastructure in most major Western Washington cities, but not all.

Election offices are sent envelopes with fentanyl or other substances. Authorities are investigating

November 9, 2023

Authorities are trying to determine who sent suspicious letters, including some containing fentanyl or other substances, to local election offices in at least five states, including Washington.

Voters seem to support Burien City Council's homeless camping ban

November 15, 2023

Burien City Council has been split over the question of what to do about a local homeless encampment. But voters have taken a strong stance.

Voter turnout in this part of Tacoma is very low. But some residents are trying to change that

November 15, 2023

The south part of Tacoma has some of the lowest voter turnout in Washington state. Regardless, organizers for one initiative hit the neighborhood hard this election season.

Former Washington state House candidate faces felony voter fraud charges

November 20, 2023

The Republican drew headlines in spring 2022 when he filed his candidacy using a friend's address, saying he rented the room for \$1 a month.

As public opinion shifts in support of a ceasefire, a Jewish peace activist has mixed feelings

November 20, 2023

At recent protests calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, like the one at the Space Needle on Sunday, young activists locked arms with older Jewish protesters, some of whom have been protesting Israeli policies toward Gaza and the West Bank for decades.

Franz says opportunity, not opportunism, driving her bid for WA seat in Congress

November 27, 2023

The Democratic lands commissioner quit the governor's race and began campaigning to succeed U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer, who is not seeking re-election. Democratic state Sen. Emily Randall is also vying for the post.

Inslee wants to spend \$50M more to combat opioid crisis

December 5, 2023

Gov. Jay Inslee proposed supplemental budget would add to about \$200 million for combating illegal opioids as the state is tapping another \$82 million from opioid settlements.

A third Democrat joins contest for western Washington congressional seat

December 6, 2023

Inslee warns that state program to move people out of encampments is getting short on cash

December 8, 2023

Washington Three Percenters want to escape the 'extremist' label — but experts remain wary

December 10, 2023

A Republican joins the hunt for Washington congressional seat

December 18, 2023

State Sen. Drew MacEwen is up against three Democrats in the 6th District. No Republican has held the seat since the 1960s.

WA initiative supporters turn in signatures to repeal capital gains tax, carbon auctions

December 22, 2023

A group aiming to undo some of Washington's newest policy changes is gaining steam, making it likely that voters will see the proposals on their ballots next November.

ENVIRONMENT

Federal officials want your thoughts on grizzly reintroduction plans

October 1, 2023

A couple federal agencies are looking at several ideas to bring grizzly bears to Washington's North Cascades. The feds are hoping to hear from you.

Seattle puts limits on emissions from large existing buildings

December 13, 2023

Buildings are the second largest source of climate pollution in Washington. Seattle City Council passed a policy Tuesday requiring existing structures over 20,000 square feet to get to net-zero emissions by 2050.

Crews work to contain gas pipeline spill in Washington state

December 12, 2023

Authorities say more than 25,000 gallons of gasoline spilled when part of a pipeline failed in northwestern Washington state over the weekend.

Shimmering glass sculpture 'The Salmon School' returns to Tacoma

December 8, 2023

Hundreds of shimmering silver steelhead have "come home" to the Museum of Glass in Tacoma. "The Salmon School" sculpture has traveled around the world to raise awareness about the plight of salmon, especially in light of climate change.

Flooding, landslides after record-breaking rain in Pacific Northwest

December 6, 2023

Authorities rescued people from raging rivers and roads submerged by high waters in the Pacific Northwest and continued to investigate the deaths of two people whose bodies were found in Oregon creeks this week as an atmospheric river brought heavy rain, flooding and unseasonably warm temperatures to the region.

Atmospheric river soaks Pacific Northwest with record-breaking rain and warm winter temperatures

December 5, 2023

An atmospheric river has brought heavy rain, flooding and warm winter temperatures to the Pacific Northwest, closing rail links, schools and roads as it shattered daily rainfall and temperature records in Washington state.

Hanford managers and watchdogs hold first in-person cleanup meeting since before pandemic

December 4, 2023

Hanford managers and watchdogs hold public meeting to discuss current cleanup and future plans at the site

Young humpback whale leaps out of Elliott Bay, dazzling onlookers

December 1, 2023

A humpback whale visiting the waters off Seattle gave people on shore a show Thursday morning.

Leaked document says US is willing to replace the power generated by Snake River dams

November 30, 2023

In a strong sign that the U.S. will consider breaching four controversial dams on the Snake River, a leaked Biden administration document says the government is prepared to help build clean energy projects to replace the power generated by the dams.

Skagit's white birds of winter are ambassadors among land use, values conflicts

November 30, 2023

When the white birds of winter blanket Skagit Valley fields, conflicts can arise, with agricultural market pressures, regard for nature, crop damage, wildlife habitat and respect for property among the issues.

U.S. moves to protect wolverines as climate change melts their mountain refuges

November 29, 2023

The North American wolverine would receive threatened species protections under a Biden administration proposal. Warming temperatures are expected to shrink the mountain snowpack wolverines rely on.

[Seattle's outgoing city council looks to curb building emissions](#)

November 28, 2023

Seattle has a reputation as a left-leaning, 'green' city, but the current city council has not had a committee to address climate change. Now, a new select committee has the sole focus of curbing emissions from large buildings.

[NASA satellites could be a new tool to help estimate snowpack](#)

November 25, 2023

Scientists in Washington recently used NASA satellites to learn more about snow in the mountains and manage water resources.

[Washington scientist brings new hope to dying coastal sea star](#)

November 21, 2023

The once-thriving sunflower sea star has all but disappeared along the West Coast, but a San Juan Island lab is cultivating a new generation.

[Volunteers help sagebrush, wildflowers grow back after fires](#)

November 19, 2023

After wildfires, it can be hard for native plants to come back. That's why volunteers are planting them and spreading seeds this fall in southeastern Washington, helping sagebrush and wildflowers take root again.

[Federal agency recommends allowing Makah whale hunt](#)

November 17, 2023

The Makah tribe is getting closer to reviving a traditional whale hunt. The final Environmental Impact Statement on their request recommends granting the waiver, allowing for a limited hunt off the west coast of Washington state.

[Activists continue to fight against South Tacoma warehouse plan](#)

November 16, 2023

A coalition of activists is pointing to Tacoma's approval of Bridge Industrial's huge warehouse development as environmental racism.

[As the 'aroma' fades, Tacoma hopes green jobs could bring back its blue-collar roots](#)

November 13, 2023

The paper mill most blamed for the "aroma of Tacoma" is closing down. Many Tacomans see it as the end of an era. But what's next for the former factory town?

[Cleaner snowpack could help balance out winter warming](#)

November 10, 2023

Researchers in the Northwest are studying dirty snow – and how cleaner snow could someday help with water resources around the world.

[Fishing groups sue 13 US tire makers over rubber preservative that's deadly to salmon](#)

November 9, 2023

The 13 largest U.S. tire manufacturers are facing a lawsuit from a pair of California commercial fishing organizations that could force the companies to stop using a chemical found in almost every tire because it kills migrating salmon. Native American tribes in California and Washington state recently petitioned the EPA to review the use of the chemical.

[Fishery on Elwha rewards tribe's long push for river restoration](#)

November 9, 2023

Members of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe harvested about 200 coho salmon from their home river in October – fewer than expected, but it marked a milestone for river restoration and a new subsistence fishery.

[Washington sets out to merge its carbon market with California and Québec](#)

November 7, 2023

Supporters say linking the programs could bring lower costs for companies and savings for consumers. Critics worry it could let some polluters off the hook.

[How wildlife officials saved a humpback whale found 'hogtied' to a 300-pound crab pot](#)

November 6, 2023

The juvenile whale was seen swimming in a clockwise circle, making unusual noises and trailing two buoys. A team of wildlife experts had to move fast, but with plenty of patience, to save its life.

[In Seattle, phones ding. Orcas could be close](#)

October 31, 2023

Salish Wildlife Watch, a WhatsApp group chat, is making it easier for residents to spot endangered resident orcas and, organizers hope, get motivated to learn about and protect the animals.

[After a century of displacement, Shasta Indian Nation sees hope in dam removal](#)

October 23, 2023

The Klamath dam removal is uncovering painful history for the Shasta Indian Nation. But the tribe's leaders also see a chance to recover some of their lost lands, restoring ceremony, language, and community in the process.

[Flying for conservation, EcoFlight soars above the Snake River dams](#)

October 22, 2023

A conservation group is helping people see a different perspective of the Snake River dams in southeastern Washington.

[Seattle City Light pilots novel EV chargers in denser neighborhoods](#)

October 21, 2023

Seattle City Light is installing 31 public curbside chargers for electric vehicles in neighborhoods less likely to have garages or driveways. The pilot project, one of several EV charging programs, is intended to remove barriers for switching to EVs.

[Northwest tribes cultivate land for First Foods, traditional medicines](#)

October 15, 2023

For tribes throughout the nation, protecting access to culturally important foods is a top priority. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation say their first foods policy drives most of their land management decisions.

[**To rein in climate change, Biden pledges \\$7 billion to regional 'hydrogen hubs'**](#)

October 13, 2023

President Joe Biden announced billions of federal dollars for the creation of regional hydrogen hubs across the country. Hydrogen could be a climate-friendly alternative to fossil fuels.

[**For first time since dam removal, a fishery opens on the Elwha**](#)

Tribal members are once again fishing for salmon on the Elwha River. The ceremonial subsistence fishery is the first time anyone has been allowed to fish there since dam removal a decade ago.

[**Large Snake River toxic algal bloom hasn't happened before**](#)

October 10, 2023

A harmful algal bloom on the Snake River has spanned nearly 30 miles of the river. The Whitman County health department says it hasn't seen a bloom like this on the Snake before.

[**Washington state's efforts to trade timber revenue for carbon credits**](#)

October 4, 2023

Washington state plans to conserve 2,000 acres of state forest, that would otherwise be logged, to absorb carbon dioxide. Activists want more. KNKX environment reporter Bellamy Pailthorp explains the potential of this climate solution, and the obstacles to implementing it.

ARTS AND CULTURE

[**A cross-country competition to inflate Christmas cheer invades Richland**](#)

December 23, 2023

There's a giant inflatable Yeti invasion taking over one Tri-Cities street. It's all part of a friendly Christmas spirit competition – that you can't miss.

[After a decade, a re-imagined Black Nativity returns to Seattle](#)

December 21, 2023

[Actor Lily Gladstone is standing on the cusp of history](#)

December 16, 2023

[Seattle Poi Company uses the traditional Hawaiian dish to bring folks a taste of home](#)

December 15, 2023

[Mariachi ensemble brings fresh approach to holiday classics](#)

December 14, 2023

Veteran musician José Hernández brought his mariachi ensemble to Seattle for a Christmas concert at the Moore Theater.

[Shimmering glass sculpture 'The Salmon School' returns to Tacoma](#)

December 8, 2023

Hundreds of shimmering silver steelhead have "come home" to the Museum of Glass in Tacoma. "The Salmon School" sculpture has traveled around the world to raise awareness about the plight of salmon, especially in light of climate change.

[These two Washingtonians competed on 'Squid Game: The Challenge.' It changed them](#)

December 2, 2023

Competing in this game show resulted in sleepless nights and anxious tics for two Washington contestants — but they both say it was a positive experience and they might even do it again.

[Seattle's biggest holiday makers market returns this weekend](#)

December 1, 2023

Urban Craft Uprising is one of the biggest holiday makers markets in the Pacific Northwest. Now in its 19th year, organizers curate a mix of new and returning vendors.

[Once thought lost for good, Native Americans' prized tobacco is back in Oregon](#)

November 22, 2023

Tribes across Oregon are reigniting their relationship with tobacco. Not just any tobacco, but the very kind their ancestors grew and used before colonization and the fur trade.

[A Lincoln District icon rooted in pho and lots of love](#)

November 17, 2023

Vien Dong's owners were a part of the wave of Vietnamese immigrants who settled in Washington. The iconic pho restaurant opened in Tacoma's Lincoln District in 1989.

[Artist Spotlight: Delaney Saul](#)

November 17, 2023

Meet artist Delaney Saul, part of our artist spotlight series for KNKX Connects to Tacoma.

[Talking with Tacoma musicians: Kim Archer](#)

November 17, 2023

Singer and guitarist Kim Archer performs soul, funk and blues while also creating opportunities for others to perform through regional events and festivals.

[Artist Spotlight: Perry Porter](#)

November 16, 2023

Meet artist Perry Porter, part of our artist spotlight series for KNKX Connects to Tacoma.

[Talking with Tacoma musicians: Tracy Knoop](#)

November 16, 2023

Called "Mr. Tacoma" by one fellow musician, Tracy Knoop is well-known as a saxophonist and educator, influencing the region's sound.

[Station Space opens, marking new chapter for Seattle arts nonprofits](#)

November 15, 2023

The second floor of Seattle's King Street Station is now Station Space. The new creative hub will house five different nonprofits focused on youth and the arts, including Totem Star which works with young recording musicians.

Talking with Tacoma musicians: Osama Afifi

November 15, 2023

Since moving to Tacoma almost two decades ago, bassist Osama Afifi has immersed himself in the region's music scene, finding mentors at every gig.

Artist Spotlight: Paige Pettibon

November 15, 2023

Meet artist Paige Pettibon, part of our artist spotlight series for KNKX Connects to Tacoma.

Artist Spotlight: Mindy Barker

November 14, 2023

Meet artist Mindy Barker, part of our artist spotlight series for KNKX Connects to Tacoma.

Talking with Tacoma musicians: Cliff Colón

November 14, 2023

Saxophonist Cliff Colón's musical journey began in Tacoma. The Jazz Overhaul band leader reflects on growing up and finding his niche in the Grit City's music scene.

Artist Spotlight: Trenton Quiocho

November 13, 2023

Meet artist Trenton Quiocho, part of our artist spotlight series for KNKX Connects to Tacoma.

Talking with Tacoma musicians: Johnaye Kendrick

November 13, 2023

An accomplished vocalist and educator, Johnaye Kendrick is excited about Tacoma's music scene and inspired by the hard working folks fighting for jazz education.

[New European film festival starts strong with notable Polish drama](#)

November 2, 2023

Seattle's first annual European Film Festival kicks off this November, screening various Polish films. Director Agnieszka Holland spoke about "Green Border," her award-winning film that's been targeted by conservative Polish leaders.

[ArtsWA adds three new 'Creative Districts,' funds arts for veterans](#)

October 31, 2023

The Washington State Arts Commission board recently voted to certify three new "Creative Districts," including Anacortes and Bremerton, and to fund organizations connecting veteran communities with arts programming.

['Cambodian Rock Band' brings the local Khmer community together](#)

October 26, 2023

Seattle's ACT and 5th Avenue theaters collaborated to bring "Cambodian Rock Band," a play about a Khmer Rouge survivor, to local audiences — and the third largest Cambodian community in the U.S.

[Sam Miller once slept outside Olympia's Capitol Theater. Now it's the setting for his comedy special](#)

October 22, 2023

Sam Miller mines his experiences of homelessness and drug addiction for comedy. That might be why he's getting big now.

[Looking for a frightening flick? These are the best horror movies set in the Pacific Northwest](#)

October 13, 2023

There are plenty of great horror movies out there, but only a handful can claim the esteemed distinction of being set in the Pacific Northwest. Whether you're looking to watch an older classic or a modern riff on the genre, these horror films leverage their setting for a local scare.

[A new magazine celebrates the impact of Filipinos across the U.S.](#)

October 13, 2023

FilipinoTown is a new magazine dedicated to celebrating the impact of Filipinos in their communities. The first issue will focus on Seattle.

[**Meet the Mexican, female conductor bringing classical music to Latinos in the Pacific Northwest**](#)

October 13, 2023

Classical music. It's not usually associated with Latinos. Conductor Paula Madrigal and the Seattle nonprofit Orquesta Northwest is changing that.

[**'Frasier' returns to TV but you don't need to be a superfan of the original to laugh at its jokes**](#)

October 10, 2023

After two decades, the character Dr. Frasier Crane returns in a new sitcom, "Frasier," for Paramount+. The writers behind the show use restraint, referencing the original series sparingly and taking it easy on the Frasier-speak.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

[**Jury finds three Tacoma police officers not guilty in death of Manny Ellis**](#)

December 21, 2023

A jury found three Tacoma police officers not guilty Thursday in the March 2020 killing of Manuel "Manny" Ellis. The trial was the first test of a state law making it easier to charge officers for using deadly force.

[**Former Washington state House candidate faces felony voter fraud charges**](#)

November 20, 2023

[**Abuse victims say gun surrender laws save lives. Will the Supreme Court agree?**](#)

October 31, 2023

[**An off-duty pilot is accused of trying to shut down the engines of a Horizon Air jet in midflight**](#)

October 24, 2023

An off-duty pilot riding in the cockpit of a Horizon Air passenger jet tried to shut down the engines in midflight. It happened Sunday on a flight from Everett, Washington, to San Francisco.

[Thrift store chain case was no bargain for Washington attorney general; legal fees top \\$4.2 million](#)

October 18, 2023

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson's long-running legal case against the thrift store chain Savers Value Village turned out to be no bargain, as the state has been ordered to pay the company nearly \$4.3 million in legal fees.

[A Supreme Court dispute over a \\$15,000 IRS bill may be aimed at a never-enacted tax on billionaires](#)

October 16, 2023

Charles and Kathleen Moore of Redmond, Wash., are about to have their day in the Supreme Court over a \$15,000 tax bill they believe is unconstitutional. The case could upend parts of the U.S. tax code and rule out a much-discussed but never-enacted tax on wealth.

[Woman whose case changed Washington drug law passes away](#)

October 9, 2023

Shannon Bowman fought a felony drug charge in 2016 that resulted in the landmark "Blake decision." She passed away in August.

SOCIAL JUSTICE/RACE

[Starbucks promises to reach labor agreements in 2024. Labor expert says fight to organize isn't over](#)

December 13, 2023

Starbucks says it's ready to move forward with unionized workers. A labor expert warns even if they do sign off on contracts, the quality of the agreements matter.

[Volunteers in Issaquah say their free meal program is under threat](#)

December 6, 2023

Volunteers say the city's plan to build a \$500,000 gated security fence around the parking lot shared by the volunteers and police threatens to impede their access to the building they use to serve free meals.

[**Health inspectors turned away at Tacoma ICE detention center as hunger strike continues**](#)

December 5, 2023

[**Nine detainees still refusing meals at Tacoma immigration facility**](#)

November 29, 2023

[**Yakama descendants search for relatives' remains in suspected unmarked graves**](#)

November 26, 2023

[**After detention, this organization welcomes and guides immigrants**](#)

November 17, 2023

Almost every day, people from all over the world try to find their footing after being released from the Northwest ICE Processing Center in Tacoma. An RV parked outside the immigration detention center and a hospitality house in south Tacoma managed by AIDNW give them a place to go.

[**Built during protests, Seattle's BLM Garden fights for its future**](#)

October 26, 2023

Founded during the height of the 2020 protests against police brutality, community members say the Black Lives Memorial garden in Cal Anderson Park serves not only them but others in the community, such as the unhoused. Seattle Parks and Recreation say they need the space back.