

**KNDU/KNDO**

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING**

**October-December 2023**

**COMMUNITY CONCERN ISSUES ADDRESSED  
THROUGH NEWS**

**October 1st- December 31st, 2023**

## NON-ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMING

### KNDU/KNDO LOCAL NEWS AT 4:30AM

Local news and information airs 4:30AM till 7:00AM (Monday through Friday)

### KNDU/KNDO LOCAL NEWS AT 5PM

Local newscast airs 5:00PM till 5.30PM (Daily)

### KNDU/KNDO LOCAL NEWS AT 6PM

Local newscast airs 6:00PM till 6:30PM (Daily)

### KNDU/KNDO LOCAL NEWS AT 11PM

Local Newscast airs 11:00PM till 11:35PM Sunday through Friday and 11:00PM to 11:30PM on Saturday (Daily)

### KNDU/KNDO LOCAL NEWS SATURDAY

Local news and information airs 7:00AM till 10:00AM (Saturday)

### EARLY TODAY

Network, national and international news, and information airs 4:00AM till 4:30AM (Monday through Friday)

### TODAY

Network national and international news and information airs 7:00AM till 9:00AM (Monday through Friday)

### TODAY II

Network, national and international news, and information airs 9:00AM till 10:00AM (Monday through Friday)

### TODAY III

Informational and entertainment features air 10:00AM till 11:00AM (Monday through Friday)

### NBC NIGHTLY NEWS

Network, national newscast airs 5:30PM till 6:00PM (Daily)

## SATURDAY TODAY

Network, national and international news, and information airs 5:00AM till 7:00AM (Saturday)

## SUNDAY TODAY

Network, national and international news, and information airs 6:00AM till 7:00AM (Sunday)

MEET THE PRESS Network, NBC host questions about some of today's most influential and powerful policy makers. The show airs from 8:00AM till 9:00AM (Sunday), and Monday morning 2AM.

DATELINE Network, a two-hour magazine show, airs as part of the NBC broadcast line-up. It also airs early Monday mornings (2:00AM) if Meet the Press is preempted on Sunday due to early sports.

## **ECONOMY/COMMUNITY**

The Tri-Cities and Yakima communities are very close within each other and to each other. Many issues people are concerned about in one community may connect to something in the other or could also be happening in the other. One thing that impacted many people last quarter in the community was that a hotel was shut down, are there any updates? Has the city kept the community informed? It's also election season again. What's on this ballot? What is the community doing about the upcoming voting opportunity? This quarter is also a time for multiple holidays, what can people do at each? Christmas is one of those, and the community always has many events to celebrate. What fun is being had? What other local events are popular or important to the community?

## **RESPONSE**

DATE: 10/04/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:41

SUBJECT: Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center Update

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported another update to the closure of the Marcus Whitman Hotel in Walla Walla for a gas investigation. This was the first time the city let staff and guests back into the building. However, this did not officially reopen the hotel. The investigation continued, and crews still worked on replacing the area air. Water was still also being tested.

DATE: 10/12/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:37

SUBJECT: Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center Open

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that the Marcus Whitman Hotel had finally reopened officially after the gasoline investigation.

DATE: 10/13/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:46

SUBJECT: Pasco Taco Sprint

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Pasco Taco Sprint. It's like the Taco Crawl event where community members can buy and taste different locally made tacos and vote for their favorite. All the money raised then goes back to the local community in different ways.

DATE: 10/26/23

TIME: 5 AM News

DURATION: 00:01:15

SUBJECT: Young Democrats

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the November seventh election. A local group called the Benton County Democrats put together a focus group for young adults. It was reported that the group's goal was to help the young adult age range understand many different aspects of their lives and how that pertains to voting and using their voices.

DATE: 11/01/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:40

SUBJECT: Proposition One

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on one of the propositions that would appear on the November seventh ballot. Noel Anderson explained Prop One, a local sales and use tax for public safety records. She also explained why people felt very strongly about the prop on both sides.

DATE: 11/01/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:49

SUBJECT: Yakima Valley Mall Dia de los Muertos

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, KNDO/KNDU reported on what the Yakima Valley Mall was doing to celebrate Dia de los Muertos. There was a display set up in the mall showing off the tradition and honoring the local community.

DATE: 11/24/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:02:14

SUBJECT: Downtown Yakima Small Business Saturday

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, KNDO/KNDU reported on Small Business Saturday. Tomas D'Anella talked about an event where more than 30 local businesses in Downtown Yakima took part. He also talked with some of the business owners about what the event means to them and why the day is important.

DATE: 11/28/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:40

SUBJECT: Benton County Election Certified

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the certification of the November seventh election results. It was also reported that Prop One had passed. It was also reported that all election results were linked on NonStopLocal.com.

DATE: 12/14/23

TIME: 5&6 PM News

DURATION: 00:02:00

SUBJECT: Lower Valley Christmas Trucks in Kennewick

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Lower Valley Christmas Trucks parading through Kennewick. It was reported that this is a group of truckers who get together every year during December to spread holiday cheer from the Yakima Valley to Walla Walla and beyond driving their lighted trucks through towns and stopping at some events.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:16

SUBJECT: Bateman Island

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the reopening of Bateman Island. The island had been closed off after a fire in September. This area is very popular with the community.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 11PM News

DURATION: 00:01:54

SUBJECT: KITTCOM 911 Issues Update

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, KNDO/KNDU reported an update on the Kittitas County emergency services experiencing issues with the 911 system. Tomas D'Anella explained that the county commissioners decided to put a tax on the 2024 ballot to help fund the issues. He also explained the vote and talked with a few community members about how they feel about it.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:45

SUBJECT: Roller Rink with Santa

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the roller rink with Santa event. It was also reported that this was a fun Christmas themed event where Santa showed off his skating skills at the Toyota Center. Local children got to come skate with Santa and even got toys.



## **HEALTH**

Health is always a major factor in any community and in the Tri-Cities and Yakima areas, there are many health issues still being discussed or investigated. What health issues arise this quarter and what is being done for treatment, prevention and awareness? How is Washington State working to help its people with health insurance? The Nitrate issues in Yakima County are still around, what is being done and what's the update? The Bird Flu is also going around the state, where is it? Where does Washington rank for health overall for the year?

## **RESPONSE**

DATE: 10/13/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:48

SUBJECT: Metastatic Breast Cancer

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on metastatic breast cancer awareness day. Cristian Garza explained the importance of being on top of your health and what people need to look out for in terms of identifying cancer on or in their own body.

DATE: 10/13/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:59

SUBJECT: MRIs and Health Insurance

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the new senate bill signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee that would allow breast exams including MRIs to be included in health insurance coverage.

DATE: 10/23/23

TIME: 6 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:44

SUBJECT: Open Enrollment Health Insurance

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the open enrollment for health insurance. It was reported when it would open, what the plans are, how to save money and the deadlines people had to follow.

DATE: 10/26/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:54

SUBJECT: Nitrate Issue in Yakima Update

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Nitrate Issue happening in Yakima. Tomas D'Anella explained the health district's latest community survey for the groundwater contamination. He also explained what the health department and Department of Ecology's planned next steps were.

DATE: 10/27/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:57

SUBJECT: Bird Flu Testing Kittitas County

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on Bird Flu being confirmed around Washington State. On this day Kittitas County was added to the list as Washington's 17<sup>th</sup> infected county after several birds in a flock died suddenly. It was reported what bird owners could do to protect their birds and how to report it if they suspect it.

DATE: 11/6/23

TIME: 5 AM News

DURATION: 00:02:09

SUBJECT: Year-Round Skin Safety

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on skin safety all year long. Briana Chavez looked into Skin Health Awareness Month which is November. She explained why it's just as important to protect your skin in the winter as it is summer. She also gave tips for healthy skin from doctors.

DATE: 11/24/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:38

SUBJECT: Precut Fruit Recall Expands Again

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the expansion of the precut and whole cantaloupe recall because of a salmonella outbreak. The CDC updated its list of cantaloupe brands being recalled, the number of people sick and hospitalized, and the number of deaths involved.

DATE: 12/20/23

TIME: 5 AM News

DURATION: 00:00:20

SUBJECT: Mabton Water Distribution

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that Mabton residents would be given free bottles of water because of the high levels of nitrate in the water. It was reported when and where community members could get their water. And that the Department of Ecology is working on reducing the contamination in the Yakima Valley.

DATE: 12/26/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:57

SUBJECT: RSV During Winter

On December 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on RSV cases during the winter. It was reported that it's usually in the winter that hospitals see an increase in babies being hospitalized and what immunizations are available.

DATE: 12/29/23

TIME: 5 AM News

DURATION: 00:01:30

SUBJECT: WA Health Ranks High in 2023

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Washington health rank for 2023 according to the 2023 America's Health Rankings Report. It was reported that Washington overall was doing better than other states, ranking seventh.

## **EDUCATION**

Education has always been very important to the Tri-Cities and Yakima communities. This quarter a lot of students and schools were recognized for many different achievements. Who were they and what did they do? How is the state helping to improve education? There's also a lot of talk and movement with new schools in the area, what are the updates? It's a time for new programs to start, as well as new people taking new positions. How is Washington State's graduation rate?

## **RESPONSE**

DATE: 10/05/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:02:19

SUBJECT: Perry Tech Expansion

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Perry Tech expansion. It's a school in the lower Yakima valley that's opened with one program and 18 spots. Dan Hanson talked with the President of the Institute about why the school was put in Sunnyside.

DATE: 10/24/23

TIME: 6 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:56

SUBJECT: Grants for Outdoor Learning in Washington

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the grants being given for outdoor learning in Washington. The OSPI announced \$3.7 million for learning experiences which goes to the Outdoor Learning Program. Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Kittitas and Yakima counties all got money.

DATE: 10/25/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:59

SUBJECT: Talking After Tragedy

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on how to talk to your children after a tragedy. A mass shooting had happened in Toppenish about a week prior that killed four people where the youngest was only 13 years old. Tomas D'Anella explained how parents were having trouble talking with their kids about the shooting. He also talked with the Yakima School District about how to have those conversations.

DATE: 10/26/23

TIME: 6 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:32

SUBJECT: Pasco School Names

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Pasco School Board approving the new high school's names in the district. It was reported that one school will be named Harvest View High School and the other Orion High School.

DATE: 11/02/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:44

SUBJECT: HSD Chosen as Lighthouse School System

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Hermiston School District being chosen as one of four schools in the country recognized as a 2023 fall lighthouse system. It was reported what the system is and how a school gets recognized for one.

DATE: 11/24/23

TIME: 6 AM News

DURATION: 00:00:41

SUBJECT: College Place Adult ED Classes

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that College Place Public School District announced that its adult night school program was coming back. This is a free program offering educational opportunities for a couple of months.

DATE: 11/30/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:38

SUBJECT: Junior Named as 2024 Delegate

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on a Richland High School junior who was named a 2024 delegate to the American Junior Academy of Science. It was reported she was chosen after she developed an app that could tell when a person is drunk just by looking at a person's eyes.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:27

SUBJECT: Washington Graduation Rates

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the graduation rates in Washington being high. It was reported that the OSPI said the state graduation rate had hit a record high of 83.6 % for the class of 2023.

DATE: 12/21/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:36

SUBJECT: New EDU Director for CTUIR

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that the Confederated Tribes on Umatilla Indian Reservation will welcome a new Education Department Director. Jamie Crane was given the position, and it was reported that she's worked with CTUIR since 2020 in the Children and Family Services Department.

DATE: 12/21/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:00

SUBJECT: Barnes and Noble Chiawana fundraiser

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on the Chiawana High School fundraiser held at Barnes and Noble in Kennewick. It was reported that there was a book fair with gift wrapping stations and more. Donations made and proceeds from the book sales went back to benefit Chiawana students.

DATE: 12/29/23

TIME: 5 AM News



DURATION: 00:00:30

SUBJECT: Hermiston Student Recognized

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that a student from Hermiston High School got state recognition. It was reported that he won the congressional app challenge for Oregon's second district. His app was designed to help people diagnose problems with their car and learn how to fix them.

### **CRIME/SCAMS/FIRES/PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Tri-Cities and Yakima are always busy with crime, but how do local law enforcement respond? Has crime increased recently? Are cases being closed and/or followed up on? How well is Law Enforcement keeping up with crimes? What crime is happening around the region? Are there any new laws aimed at helping reduce crime?

## **RESPONSE**

DATE: 10/19/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:35

SUBJECT: Toppenish Deadly Mass Shooting

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on a Toppenish mass shooting that killed four people. Tomas D'Anella had been out at the scene all day and recaps the timeline of events that was known at the time.

DATE: 10/23/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:35

SUBJECT: Toppenish Mass Shooting Id's

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported an update on the Toppenish deadly mass shooting. It was reported who the victims were that died and who the gunman was.

DATE: 10/27/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:31

SUBJECT: Hermiston Shooting

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on a Hermiston shooting that hurt one man. It was reported that the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office was investigating the drive-by shooting.

DATE: 10/29/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:36

SUBJECT: Police Pursuit Ends in Death

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that a police chase started in Milton-Freewater and moved into Walla Walla. It was reported that the 19-year-old suspect died in a crash trying to escape police.

DATE: 11/06/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:47

SUBJECT: Escaped Inmate

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on an inmate who escaped from the Franklin County Corrections Center. It was reported that a 33-year-old who was wanted for escaping after he violated the terms of his furlough. He was originally arrested and convicted for assault, kidnapping and other charges.

DATE: 11/28/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:02:07

SUBJECT: Gun Arrests at High Schools

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported on multiple gun arrests at different high schools in the area on the same day. Cristian Garza explained both instances at Kamiakin High and Hanford High. He explained at Kamiakin, the student had two handguns on their person that were fully loaded, but no one was threatened or hurt. He explained at Hanford, the student was found with a gun and drugs on them.

DATE: 11/30/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:42

SUBJECT: Pasco Woman Sentenced for Fentanyl Trafficking

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported that a Pasco woman will spend nine years behind bars for trafficking fentanyl. It was reported that she was one of many under investigation in the Tri-Cities area and that she had bought thousands of fentanyl laced pills. Police also found 14,000 rainbow fentanyl pills, a pound of meth and a loaded gun in her home.

DATE: 11/30/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:35

SUBJECT: Burbank Murder Suspect Arrested

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KND reported an update to a homicide almost 13 years old. It was reported that the Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office finally found and arrested two people involved in killing a man in Burbank in 2010.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:16

SUBJECT: Union Gap Shooting Update

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, KNDO/KNDU reported an update to a shooting at the Yakima Valley Mall. Union Gap Police shared photos of the suspect asking the community to help keep an eye out for the person. It was reported the suspect had been stealing from Macy's when a loss prevention officer tried to stop him, and the suspect shot the officer and escaped.

DATE: 12/19/23

TIME: 11 PM News

DURATION: 00:00:25

SUBJECT: Little Hands Daycare Rape Complaint Not Valid

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported an update on the Little Hands Daycare Rape Complaint. It was reported that the complaint was found not valid by police and the Department of Children Youth and Families.

DATE: 12/26/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:01:28

SUBJECT: Former Pasco Police Officer Found Guilty

On December 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported an update to the former Pasco Police Officer on trial for murder. It was reported that Richard Aguirre was found guilty of first-degree premeditated murder of sex worker Ruby Doss.

DATE: 12/26/23

TIME: 5 PM News

DURATION: 00:02:02

SUBJECT: DCYF Investigation Law

On December 26<sup>th</sup>, KNDU/KNDO reported a new law taking effect in 2024 that will allow child protective services to investigate reported child abuse or neglect in residential spaces without parents. Kaitlyn Smock talked with the DCYF about the new law and how it works and will help families.