KKNU-FM 93.3

SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

QUARTERLY POSTING OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS, NEEDS AND INTERESTS

First Quarter, 2015: January 1st through March 31st

Posted: April 10th, 2015

KKNU-FM: Springfield, Oregon, 93.3 mhz

McKenzie River Broadcasting Co., Inc.

Each quarter, on January 10, April 10, July 10 & October 10, we place in our public inspection file a list of what are considered to be the most significant Problems, Needs and Issues of the Springfield-Eugene, Oregon, community.

Along with this list are the programs that were aired to deal with these problems, needs and issues.

ASCERTAINMENT METHODS

To ascertain these problems, needs and issues, McKenzie River Broadcasting Co., Inc., employs a Public Affairs Director who, within the natural course of news gathering, is made aware of problems, needs and issues in the community. The views of citizens of the community and civic leaders regarding community problems, needs and issues are also ascertained during meetings and interviews. Problems, needs and issues are also ascertained during interaction with members of the public.

PROGRAMMING

To air information about these problems, needs and issues, McKenzie River Broadcasting Co., Inc., relies on the following methods:

- 1. Bona Fide Newscasts: These include news stories and segments that target these problems, needs and issues.
- 2. Community Forum: This is a 15-30 minute weekly program that offers indepth examinations of community problems, needs and issues.

McKENZIE RIVER BROADCASTING 1Q, 2015, ISSUES LIST:

KKNU-FM / KMGE-FM / KEUG-FM

The Following are Issues determined by the previous quarters' ascertainments to be the relevant issues to be broadcast in this quarter.

Quarte		
Year	2015	
	Issue: *Note: Major breaking news stories during the quarter that fall under these	
	categories will be added as is appropriate and reflected in daily news-public service	
	postings	
1	ECONOMY: Economic recovery; Unemployment, workforce training; Federal, state and	
	local budgets, political standoffs; Gas & food prices; Immigration; Retirement concerns;	
	Economic development; Athletics funding and spending; Sports events; Agriculture;	
	Technology; Legal marijuana; Energy prices and development; Cybersecurity, hacking.	
2	POLITICS, ELECTIONS: Congressional gridlock, 2016 presidential politics; Legislative	
	session; Ballot initiatives; Funding issues; Election finance.	
3	HEALTH: The Affordable Care Act and Cover Oregon; Medical and recreational marijuana;	
	the Oregon Health Plan, co-ops and managed care; Prescription drug prices;	
	Immunizations and treatments; Measles, meningitis and other outbreaks; Ebola concerns;	
	Food and product recalls; General health care issues; Obesity, diabetes & healthy eating;	
	Drug & alcohol abuse; Pandemic risks; Physician-assisted suicide.	
4	CRIME-SAFETY: Gun control, gun violence and politics; Drug & alcohol abuse; Human	
	trafficking; School safety; Gangs; Policing & community policing; Demonstrations & riots;	
	Arsonists; Racial profiling; Youth protection, including child abuse; Traffic; Public safety	
	during severe weather, disasters and terrorism; Cybersecurity and hacking.	
5	WOMEN, FAMILY, ELDERS, MINORITIES, IMMIGRATION, CIVIL RIGHTS, CIVIL	
	LIBERTIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, RELIGION, COMMUNITY, DISABILITIES: Immigration;	
	Same-sex marriage in Oregon and elsewhere; Gay rights, fair housing, domestic	
	partnerships; Families and children; Domestic violence; Youth programs; Minority issues,	
	including the growing local Latino population; Racial issues; Civil Rights; Civil liberties; The	
	NSA and related issues; Religious issues and churches, Community and charitable events,	
	Older adults, Pets and animal rights; Cybersecurity and privacy, hacking.	
6	EDUCATION: Local and state budgets for higher and lower education; Paying for college;	
	Curriculum and academic standards; Programs and students honored for academic or civic	
	excellence. National education and trends; teacher contracts.	
7	HOMELESSNESS, LOW-INCOME ISSUES: "The Working Poor"; At-risk youth; Community	
	agencies; Veteran homelessness and mental health issues; Homeless and low-income	
	families and "living wages"; Affordable housing; Senior citizens financial, health and lifestyle	
	issues; Local coalitions.	
8	MILITARY, VETERANS, WAR ON TERRORISM: National Guard deployments;	
	Oregonians in the military; Overseas deployments; Veterans' issues, including jobs, mental	
	health (PTSD, suicide, etc.) and homelessness; Military families issues; Homeland and	
	local security; Balancing terrorism with civil rights; NSA hacking and privacy issues.	
9	GROWTH & TRANSPORTATION: Willamette Street modifications; Road projects; Lane	
	Transit District EmX expansion, other bus lines; Downtown development; Rural	
	development, urban growth boundary; Economic development efforts; Highway and street	
	improvements & safety; Urban renewal and urban density; UO athletic facilities.	
10	ENVIRONMENT: Drought, severe weather; Disaster preparedness; Earthquakes, tsunamis	
i	Japanese tsunami debris; Wildfires; Hazardous materials transport, toxic dumps, clean-up	
	sites. Air quality and greenhouse gases; Agriculture; Ocean health; Forest management;	
	Wildlife habitat, fish recovery, fishing effects; Power generation; Alternate energy,	
	Technology	

The 1st Quarter, 2015, Issues List was formulated at a public meeting on Wednesday, January 7th, 2014. In attendance were Tracy Berry of KKNU-FM and Mary Reilly of KMGE-FM.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/04/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
issue	ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME, FAMILY, EDUCATION
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	We ring in the new Year with a pair of interviews about getting your financial house in order. First, we hear from Russ Kanaga from NEDCO about how to deal with savings and paying down debt and about the classes the organization offers individuals and families to help plan for and manage their financial futures. Then, Bob Brew from the Oregon Office of Student Access and Completion reminds us that the start of the student aid application season begins shortly after the New Year and that now is the time for students, would-be students and their families to begin preparing to fill out the FAFSA (the federal student financial aid) form and apply for a range of "early bird" financial aid and all sorts of scholarships. He also offers tips about planning and saving for college.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/11/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	HEALTH, EDUCATION, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	Lots of talk this winter about health, vaccines and family decisions. It comes amid news of that measles outbreak traced to an unvaccinated visitor at the Disneyland theme park and with the peak of the winter flu season. Our guest is Lane County's chief health officer, Dr. Patrick Luedtke, who talks about vaccinations, personal exemptions and other county health topics.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/18/15 and 01/25/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
issue	MILITARY, VETERANS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, HEALTH, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	We begin a multi-week focus on helping veterans transition from active duty into their communities with a look at how the St. Vincent DePaul Society of Lane County and other government and community groups are working to improve transitional housing for veterans. These include affordable homes for veterans and their families, as well as emergency and other housing to help veterans living with PTSD and recovering from mental illness, battle wounds, traumatic brain injury and substance abuse get off the streets and into safe, stable housing. Our guests include Terry McDonald from St. Vincent DePaul and include mentions of the upcoming Truffle shuffle, a local fundraising race that this year benefits the transitional housing programs.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/01/15 and 02/08/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	MILITARY, VETERANS, EDUCATION, FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, HEALTH, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	When military veterans leave active duty, many head for college campuses to prepare for their new lives and careers. But the transition can be a challenging one. At the University of Oregon, Lane Community College, Umpqua community College and other local institutions, there are increased efforts to help student veterans and their families. We spent the morning with the staff and some of the participants at the UO's Student Veteran's Center and learn about some of the other vet-related organizations on campus.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/15/15 and 03/29/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT
Length Of Pregram	30 Minutes
TOPIC	Planning travel around Oregon this spring and summer? A new edition of the popular book, "Roadside Geology of Oregon" just came off the presses. It's authored by Marli Miller, a University of Oregon geologist, and is also the subject a new exhibit at the UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History. We get a look at the "Road Trip" exhibit and talk about Oregon's unique geology and how it's shaped the state and its people.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/22/15 and 03/01/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
issue ,	FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	It's been an abnormally warm winter, which is prompting a lot of Western Oregon residents to begin preparing their yards and gardens for the spring growing season. We get tips on what to do and not do from Brooke Edmunds, who heads the program with the Oregon State University Extension Service. And we learn about a new cookbook from the Master Gardeners here in Lane County that is part of a big fundraiser for the program. We also learn about some of the classes offered by the local extension office as well as the "demonstration garden" at the OSU Extension Service of Lane County's new offices.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	03/08/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	HEALTH, SAFETY, EDUCATION
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	There is now a fifth diagnosed case of meningococcal disease on the University of Oregon campus—an outbreak that has taken the life of an 18-year-old female student and seriously sickened the others. Lane County and state health officials this week held mass vaccination clinics on campus and at local pharmacies to try to protect all 22,000 UO undergraduates from the bacteria that causes Meningitis B. We sit in on the news conference with Lane County's top public health officer, Dr. Patrick Luedtke, and Oregon Department of Health infectious disease expert Dr. Paul Czeslak to learn more about the outbreak, the bacteria and related diseases and how to prevent catching it. We also try to out the outbreak and possible health risks in perspective.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	03/15/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	EDUCATION, FAMILIES
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	They are the unsung heroes of Oregon's public schools. Classified employees, the "non-teaching" workers who fill a range of jobs—don't get a lot of attention. But this morning we profile Rose Minium, the Springfield Public Schools' "Classified Employee of the Year" to learn more about her and others in similar rolls. Minium has spent close to 30 years at Thurston Elementary School and is now like every student's grandmother. She talks about why she does it and how much she enjoys working with the children. And her coworkers and family members discuss the profound difference she's made in the lives of generations of youngsters.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	03/22/15
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	Oregon's annual Spring Beach Cleanup takes place on Saturday, March 28 th . We chat with Quintin Bauer from SOLVE—the non-profit that founded the event close to three decades ago—about the event, its evolution and how listeners can help.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST

01/02/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: Willamette Pass Ski Area will open for Skiing and Snowboarding beginning Saturday, January 3rd. Both Mother Nature and the snow-making crews, provided just enough quality snow in the past week for crews to groom and move what is needed to open the lower mountain and trail network for this weekend. For more information go to willamettepass.com or 541-345-SNOW / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: Heavy stagnation causes burn ban in Eugene/Springfield and Oakridge

Continued air stagnation and strong inversions have pushed the Eugene/Springfield area into a "RED" wood burning advisory beginning January 1st, 2015 at 4 pm. Oakridge also remains at the "RED" advisory level. The "RED" advisory does not allow for any visible smoke from a chimney at a residential home. People are asked at this time to refrain from burning and use alternative forms of heat. For low income residents, an exemption form is available on the agency's website at www.lrapa.org in both English and Spanish, under "Announcements & Updates." Officials say that while they want to discourage burning, they also know that for some people, they cannot afford other forms of heat. However, even with an exemption, clean burning practices are required and thick smoke is still not allowed. For people who do have access to other heating sources, burning with any visible smoke is strictly prohibited during a red advisory. During a red advisory any visible smoke from a woodstove or fireplace could result in enforcement action and a fine. Residents in Eugene/Springfield can expect to see LRAPA enforcement staff present in the community on red advisory days. In Oakridge, City police handle enforcement and issue tickets to violators. During stagnant periods, fine particles from smoke and vehicle exhaust get trapped at ground-level, where they can be inhaled deeply into the lungs and damage delicate lung tissues. The effect can cause health problems for sensitive individuals. People most at risk are those with asthma, heart or lung diseases, and older adults and children. Anyone with these conditions should avoid prolonged exercise or heavy exertion if they experience health symptoms, and follow their doctor's advice. LRAPA is forecasting unhealthy air quality levels for Oakridge and Eugene/Springfield over the next few days as high pressure dominates the region and air stagnation continues. The agency regularly forecasts pollution levels and provides the community with a daily home wood burning advisory. Call the Home Wood Heating Hotline, 541-746-4328, or check www.LRAPA.org for current advisories and up-to-date air quality information. / ENVIRONMENT, CRIME, SAFETY: On New Year's Eve, temperatures in the low 20s helped in keep loud

parties to a minimum. There was still significant activity near bars to keeping things lively. And, unfortunately, too many people were driving while drunk. Springfield Police officers arrested 10 DUII drivers on New Year's Eve. All of those came during a four-hour period between 10:45 p.m. and 3:45 a.m. That's double 2013's New Year's Eve numbers. Springfield Police have really stepped up their efforts to get dangerous drivers off the roads: There were three officers out during that period who were specifically responding to DUII calls for service. And since each DUII investigation can take up to two to three hours, officers were very busy during that period of time. Springfield officers investigated only one motor vehicle accident. No injuries but that investigation led to one of the 10 DUII's. Eugene Police made five DUII arrests—including one DUII / Hit and Run of parked cars and responded to calls regarding disorderly subjects and disputes. / ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME: With the new year will come a higher wage for Oregon's lowestpaid workers. The state minimum wage rises 15 cents Thursday to \$9.25 per hour. That's an extra \$234 a year for people working 30 hours a week. State analysts say the change could affect as many as 142,000 workers and 8 percent of all jobs in Oregon. The Oregonian reports that Oregon's minimum wage is second-highest in the nation, behind Washington at \$9.45 an hour for next year. Oregon's wage floor adjusts each year in line with inflation and will be \$2 above the federal minimum in 2015. Studies have shown that more than half of Oregon's minimum wage jobs are tied to the leisure and hospitality sectors of the economy. / HEALTH: Just over 73,000 Oregonians have enrolled in private health insurance through the federal website that replaced Cover Oregon's failed portal. The figures released Tuesday by the federal government show coverage that will begin on Jan. 1. Oregon's enrollments for the start of 2015 fall slightly short of the 77,000 people who currently have coverage through the health insurance exchange. Because of the switch to a federally run website, Oregonians who enrolled in 2014 were not automatically re-enrolled for next year. A Cover Oregon spokeswoman says it's not clear how many people who signed up for coverage in the new year are currently covered. About 79 percent of people who selected plans are receiving federal subsidies. Oregonians can continue enrolling at HealthCare.gov until Feb. 15, but coverage won't begin immediately. / CRIME, ENVIRONMENT: Oregon State Police say their wildlife troopers in southern Oregon have issued criminal citations to two Eagle Point men accused of poaching in a case involving a trophy bull elk and four buck deer. An initial report was received in early September. In each case, only the heads were taken, with the rest of the carcasses left to waste. Police said Wednesday that tips led troopers to recover the animals' antiers and issue citations that require the men to appear in Jackson County Circuit Court. Police say 19-year-old Austin Burkett was cited for two counts of unlawfully taking deer, as well as unlawfully taking elk and waste of wildlife while 19-year-old Christian Cochran was cited for two counts of unlawfully taking deer, aiding in a wildlife crime and waste of wildlife. Several groups had offered more than \$15,000 in reward money to help solve the case. / ECONOMY. EDUCATION: Pac-12 champion Oregon and Big Ten champion Ohio State will meet in Arlington, Texas, at the home of the Cowboys on Jan. 12 to decide the national title in the first year of the new postseason system. The Ducks and Buckeyes last played in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, in 2010. Ohio State won that game 26-17. This time, the national championship for college football will be at stake. It would be the first for Oregon.; Marcus Mariota and

Oregon turned an avalanche of Florida State mistakes into a mountain of points and the Ducks rolled past the defending national champions 59-20 yesterday to turn the first College Football Playoff semifinal into a Rose Bowl rout. Mariota and the second-seeded Ducks scored six straight times they touched the ball in the second half, with five of the touchdowns covering at least 21 yards and the last four coming after Florida State turnovers.; Some TV analysts and fans criticized the large number of Florida State players who walked straight off the field at the end of the game without coming to mid-field to shake hands with their opponents and congratulate them. Several Oregon football players are facing team discipline after celebrating their Rose Bowl win by mocking Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston. Video taken from the field as Oregon celebrated its 59-20 win at the Rose Bowl showed at least three players chanting "No means no!," referring to sexual assault allegations against Winston.; Two teachers from Eugene, Oregon, decided to get hitched yesterday during a tailgate party before the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Both Steven Twomey and Lisa DeFluri are big fans of the Oregon Ducks. There were plenty of Oregon fans stopping to congratulate the happy couple when they saw the green and gold arch and 'just got hitched' sign.; There's Civil War basketball on the schedule this weekend as the Duck men host the Beavs on Saturday (January 3rd) at 5:00 p.m. in the Matthew Knight Arena. It'll be on ESPN-U. The Duck women are at USC in a game that tips off at three p.m. on Saturday. It's being broadcast by the Pac-12 Networks. / IMMIGRATION, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: California today begins accepting driver's license applications from the nation's largest population of immigrants living in the country illegally. The California Department of Motor Vehicles expects 1.4 million people will seek a license in the first three years of a program, which aims to boosting road safety. California is one of 10 states that now provide licenses to immigrants in the country illegally. The licenses issued to immigrants without legal status will include a distinctive marking and are not considered a valid form of federal identification. Law enforcement officials say the program will improve road safety because licensed drivers must be tested and insured. A DMV study of 23 years of crash data found that unlicensed drivers were more likely to cause a fatal collision than licensed drivers. State insurance officials hope the change will increase the number of drivers holding auto insurance. But critics have questioned state officials' ability to verify the identity of foreign applicants, citing security concerns. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, ECONOMY: The Eugene Water and Electric Board, the utility that operates Leaburg Dam on the McKenzie River, hopes to resume supplying water to two state fish hatcheries by the end of next month. The hatcheries had to release trout and salmon months earlier than normal when the second of three floodgates jammed shut on the Leaburg Dam last week. That allowed the reservoir behind the dam to drop, cutting off water to the hatcheries. Utility officials say repairs should be completed in the next couple of weeks on a floodgate that failed in 2012, which would allow refilling the reservoir. In the meantime, EWEB is leaving the third gate open as a precaution in case there is heavy rain and a big rise in river levels. A truck carrying 11,000 salmon smolts from the McKenzie Hatchery overturned on the McKenzie Highway near Walterville earlier this week, killing the young fish, which were being transported for release in the Row River. Investigators say the driver had a blood-alcohol level well above the legal limit. / CRIME, TRANSPORTATION: The Register-Guard is reporting this morning that two Sutherlin men now face felony assault charges in a

2012 freeway overpass rock-throwing incident that seriously injured University of Oregon distance runner Molly Grabill. The newspaper reports that the 21-year-old suspects, Matthew Logan McKinney and Hayden Ray Tabor, are scheduled to be arraigned later this month in Douglas County Circuit Court in Roseburg. Grabill and fellow UO distance runner Chris Brewer. Both were traveling in Grabill's car on the night of Nov. 26, 2012, when a rock tossed from an Interstate 5 overpass near Rice Hill shattered the vehicle's windshield and struck Grabill — who was driving — in the face. The car spun out of control and overturned after the rock knocked her unconscious. She suffered a broken jaw and other head and facial injuries, and was hospitalized for two days after the incident. Brewer suffered less serious injuries but was also transported to a hospital after the crash. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: General Motors is recalling 92,221 full-size trucks and SUVs for a defect in ignition lock systems that can cause safety problems in hot conditions. Thursday's recall covers certain 2011-2012-models and certain 2007-2014-models that were repaired with defective parts. The recall is for U.S., Canadian, Mexican and exported vehicles. The affected models re Chevrolet Silverado light-duty and heavy-duty pickups; Avalanche, Tahoe and Suburban; GMC Sierra light duty and heavy-duty pickups; and Yukon and Yukon XL; Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV and Escalade EXT. GM says the ignition lock actuators may be too wide, making turning the key difficult when it's hot inside the cab. No crashes or injuries have been reported. Last year, GM recalled 2.6 million small cars for defective ignition switches, linked to at least 42 deaths and 58 injuries. / ECONOMY, FAMILIES: The new year is expected to bring rising chicken egg prices across the U.S. as California starts requiring farmers to house hens in cages with enough space to move around and stretch their wings. The new laws give hens more room and require any farmer in the country selling eggs in California to abide by California's standards. lowa farmer Jim Dean says he'll have to revamp henhouses, costing millions. University of California, Davis, agricultural economist Daniel Sumner said egg prices could go up dramatically at first. He expects prices to eventually settle at 10 and 40 percent higher in California and return to normal throughout the country. Wayne Pacelle of the Humane Society of the United States says that by paying a little more, consumers will help end the inhumane treatment of chickens. / SAFETY: Fiskars Brands Inc. has agreed to pay \$2.6 million to settle allegations that safety regulators weren't promptly alerted about a potentially defective ax made by the company's Oregon-based subsidiary. Gerber Legendary Blades, based in Tigard, recalled the Gator Combo Axe in 2011. Federal prosecutors say the company started receiving complaints within months of releasing the axe in 2005. The Oregonian reports that court documents show customers complained that a knife secured by magnets inside the ax handle would slide out and slice them. In addition to the penalty, Fiskars agreed to set up a program to track product safety hazards. The company did not admit breaking any laws. The settlement awaits court approval. The Oregonian was unable to reach Gerber spokesmen Wednesday, and the company's office was closed Thursday. / HEALTH: Scientists know little about why humans slur their speech when they drink alcohol. Researchers at Oregon Health and Science University hope tipsy songbirds can help them uncover clues. OHSU researcher Christopher Olson is recording the sounds made by male zebra finches. Olson tells KATU that a trained ear can hear evidence of slurring in the songs of birds that were given alcohol with their helping of diluted white grape juice. Olson says finches learn

song patterns similar to the way humans learn to speak. He says he hopes to learn why alcohol affects birdsong, and ultimately why it affects humans' speech. He says the research could help scientists learn more about people who have speech disorders or problems with alcohol. / ENVIRONMENT: A young sea turtle roughed up by chilly, choppy waters off the coast of Washington state is making a strong recovery in Oregon. "Solstice" was found on the beach near the north end of the Long Beach Peninsula on Dec. 21, the winter solstice. The female olive ridley turtle was dehydrated, and her body temperature was about 15 degrees below the typical 75 degrees. Olive ridley turtles are typically found in tropical waters from Peru to California. Erin Paxton of the Oregon Coast Aquarium tells The Daily News of Longview that during storms, warm currents sometimes carry sea turtles into the colder northern latitudes. As the warm water dissipates, the turtles get hypothermic. Paxton says the aquarium has in the past released sea turtles near San Diego. Federal authorities must approve any release of Solstice. /

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST

01/05/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS: President Barack Obama this week will test whether he still has the political clout to keep a focus on some of his own priorities, even as a new Republican-run Congress arrives at the Capitol eager to challenge him. Fresh off a two-week vacation, Obama immediately began preparing for his January 20th State of the Union address - his best chance to set an agenda for 2015 on his own terms. The president will roll out new executive steps and proposals for Congress this week on home ownership, higher education and manufacturing jobs - a similar menu to the one he has offered in years past. Republicans have an entirely different blueprint for the start of the year. In full control of Congress for the first time in Obama's presidency, they plan an all-out offensive against his policies on immigration, foreign policy and the environment. The new, Republican-run Congress will be seated tomorrow, bringing with it an onslaught of attacks the GOP has been preparing up for years. Without a Democratic majority in the Senate to stop them, Republicans plan to start chipping away at the president's past actions on health care, immigration and the environment, to name just a few. Obama planned to spend most of the week in Michigan, Arizona and Tennessee showcasing how his own economic policies are fueling the economic recovery. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: The incoming chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee says raising the federal fuel taxes is among the options under consideration to replenish the dwindling Highway Trust Fund. Sen. John Thune of South Dakota says all options must be looked at to fill an enormous shortfall when the existing highway legislation expires in May. Gas and diesel taxes haven't risen since 1993, resulting in perennial shortfalls in the fund that pays for most road projects. Several commissions have called for raising the taxes, but Congress has been reluctant. Instead lawmakers have dipped repeatedly into the general treasury to keep the trust fund solvent. The federal gas tax is 18.4 cents per gallon and the diesel tax is 24.4 cents per gallon. Thune spoke on "Fox News Sunday." / ECONOMY: With the help of holiday sales, cheap gas and low interest rates, U.S. auto sales are posting big gains in December -- and that's helped make 2014 a record-setting year for some automakers. Nissan and Honda are reporting U.S. sales numbers that pushed both Japanese companies to record numbers for 2014. And Fiat Chrysler sold just over 2 million cars and trucks in 2014, for a 16 percent increase over 2013. All major automakers report U.S. sales today.; Before the Ohio State Buckeyes face Oregon in college football's championship game next week, the Ohio city of Oregon hopes to distance itself from the Ducks. A Toledo newspaper, The Blade,

reports there's a petition circulating calling for the city to temporarily change its name. The city's mayor also plans to issue a proclamation to clarify that it is not populated with Duck fans, although he's stopping short of lobbying for a temporary name change. Suggestions include Buckeye Town and Brutusville. One petitioner says he wouldn't be particular and would settle for "East East Toledo" as long as it's anything but Oregon. / ENVIRONMENT: A couple of updates from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlfie: Don't forget to report your hunt results no later than Jan. 31, 2015 for most hunts. Hunters need to complete a report for each deer, elk, cougar, bear, turkey and pronghorn tag purchased (or picked up as part of a Sports Pac)—even if they didn't hunt or weren't successful. Deer and elk hunters who don't report will have to pay a \$25 fine to get a 2016 hunting license. Report online at https://or.outdoorcentral.us/or/hunterreport or by phone at 1-866-947-6339.; Oregon's hunting and shooting map goes mobile! Just click on the interactive www.oregonhuntingmap.com from your mobile device. The map has the ability to search hunting areas by species and location land ownership, property boundaries and much more.; Winter steelhead season is underway. Winter steelhead and winter rains have arrived together. For the best fishing, keep an eye on the weather and water levels (and the weekly Recreation Report) and be ready to hit the river when water levels start to fall. To help plan your trip, including access and fishing tips, check out the 2014 Annual Fishing Guide online. ; Want to get your trees and shrubs in shape for spring—but don't want to damage the plant while you're doing it? The OSU Extension Service in Lane County is sponsoring pruning classes throughout Lane County in January and February at cities throughout Lane County. Classes will be held rain or shine. A \$10 donation per person is recommended for classes and will be collected at class site. Check out the 2015 Pruning Class Schedule and pre-register at extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/gardens Or call the OSU Extension Service -Lane County office at 541-344-5859. / CRIME: Thousands turned out vesterday in New York to honor the second of two New York City police officers gunned down in their patrol car last month. The services for officer Wenjian Liu (WEHN'-jihn loo) included both a Chinese ceremony led by Buddhist monks and a traditional police ceremony. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and Police Commissioner William Bratton eulogized Officer Wenjian Liu as an incarnation of the American dream. Liu emigrated from China at age 12 and devoted himself to helping others in his adopted country. But thousands of officers watching video screens outside the Brooklyn funeral home turned their backs as de Blasio spoke, repeating a stinging display of scorn for a mayor who many officers say is anti-police. / TERRORISM; The judge overseeing Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehvz) trial says it will begin on Jan. 26 and will last three to four months. Judge George O'Toole revealed the timeline as jury selection began today. Potential jurors stared intently at Tsarnaev as he sat at a table in the front of the jury assembly room. Over the next three days, about 1,200 people will be called to federal court to be considered as potential jurors. To begin, O'Toole gave the first 200 initial instructions. /

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/06/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: There are areas of dense fog and reduced visibilities for drivers this morning. Be especially cautious around school zones. / EDUCATION, HEALTH: On the first day of winter term, University of Oregon students celebrated access to an expanded and renovated student recreation center. With 110,000 square feet of new space and 40,000 square feet of renovated space, the rec center has new group exercise, yoga and cycling studios, a new climbing area with bouldering wall, a new aquatics facility and an additional three-court gym for court sports. UO students passed a referendum to authorize and fund the project. The 2012 Oregon Legislature passed the capital construction budget to authorize the \$50-million project. Bonding authority of \$50 million was used and will be retired through student incidental fees. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The Eugene City Council has cancelled its meeting Monday, January 12 due to a scheduling conflict with the University of Oregon's appearance in the College Football National Championship game that same evening, Because Eugene is home of the Ducks, many people who may otherwise participate in the Council meeting will want to be watching the national championship game. Agenda items will be rescheduled. The next Public Forum is scheduled for February 9. / ECONOMY: According to the latest snapshot of Oregon's Economic Indicators, the state's economy improved further in November. The report by University of Oregon economist Tim Duy notes that some key indicators suggest continued growth in Oregon at an above-average pace of activity: Strong growth in employment as the three-month average helped fuel increases in the Oregon Measure of Economic Activity; The household sector also gained on strong performances from the labor force, and gains in the stock market and consumer confidence. Employment improved broadly within the services sector; and residential building permits and the Oregon weight distance tax (a measure of trucking activity) were largely unchanged while consumer confidence rose.; Well, this will prompt plenty of discussion: Nike has unveiled the uniform design for the Ducks in the College Football Championship game: white with "tonal grey and silver accents." The conspiracy theorist in me wonders whether this is just another step in the transition to orange and black (yes, I hear you cheering, Beaver fans). I'm enough of a traditionalist to yearn for a bit of green and yellow but enough of a spectator to admit this looks pretty spiffy. But honestly, I think I'm to the point where I don't care what they wear as long as they play well and fairly and, all things being equal, win. / CRIME: The Oregon Board of Parole has denied parole

for a man who killed his wife and two young children 25 years ago. Now 58 years old, Yoshio Morimoto, recounted the crime in his September appearance before the Oregon Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision. The Oregonian reports the board decided last week to keep him in prison. He can request another review in two years. Morimoto admitted beating his wife with a tire wrench and strangling his daughters who were 3 years and 9 months old. He dreamed of being with another woman. Morimoto pleaded guilty to murder charges in Washington County and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Parole board members say his admission showed shame but not remorse. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY: It's a popular annual workshop for college students. college-bound students and their families. "How to Pay for College-In One Day!" takes place this Saturday, January 10, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Lane Community College's main campus off 30th Avenue in Eugene. The workshop will be held in Lane's "Center for Meeting and Learning" — Building 19,-- in partnership with College Goal Oregon, which provides a range of scholarship and financial aid information. If you attend, you'll learn about all sorts of financial aid and discover dozens of scholarships that you might not know exist. The workshop and college's staff will help you sort through the options and complete applications. The goal? Help students graduate debt-free. The workshop is free, thanks to support from Northwest Community Credit Union. Register online http://lanecc.augusoft.net by typing "How to Pay" in the search box, then follow the prompts; or call (541) 463-6100; or register at the event. During Saturday's workshop, you'll learn how to find scholarships, fill out applications and write essays. You'll be able to meet with financial aid professionals and, if you take your 2013 tax returns and 2014 financial records, even be able to complete the FAFSA (FAHF'-suh) federal student aid application. One Lane student says she attended last year's workshop. then spent the next couple of weeks applying for 77 scholarships. She won enough to pay for her tuition, fees, books, and course supplies. / HEALTH, FAMILIES: For years, we've heard health professional warn of the disruptive effect nighttime television viewing can have on children's sleep. But a new study in the journal "Pediatrics" suggest that "small screen" devices, such as smartphones or tablets, might be even more harmful to a child's sleep patterns. MedPage Today reports the research suggests that youngsters who slept near a small screen in their room reported fewer minutes of sleep and later bedtimes than children who slept with a TV in their room—an average of 20 fewer minutes of sleep on school nights. The study's authors say the lighted screens of smartphones and tablets can delay the body's nightly production of melatonin, which helps humans fall asleep, at the same time children are engrossed in videos, games, texting and emails. Researchers say poor sleep patterns in children can harm their development and lead to poor sleeping patterns when they become adults. / ECONOMY, CRIME: Oregon agriculture officials are drafting rules that would allow industrial hemp farmers to plant crops this spring. The Oregonian reports the state Department of Agriculture is holding a public hearing today in Salem on the draft rules. Prospective producers said they're happy the state is finally moving ahead with a hemp program, but they're concerned about high licensing fees and restrictions. They say industrial hemp can be used to make biofuel, food and paper products. / HEALTH: Officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned yesterday that the flu is now widespread in all but seven states—including Oregon. But that's expected to change in the coming weeks, as

students return to school and adults return to work from holiday break. Nationwide, hospitalization rates now match the dismal season two years ago. Health officials fear this will be an unusually bad year, but add that it's too soon to say. The latest figures released yesterday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show the flu hitting hard in most of the 43 states where the illness was widespread. But the flu was not yet rampant in populous states like California and New York. The report is for the week of Christmas, and it shows the flu season following a similar track as the last two, when flu activity peaked no later than mid-January. Perhaps that will happen this winter, too, the CDC's Dr. Michael Jhung said. It is not too late to get a flu shot. CDC officials say no. Even if the flu season peaks soon, it will still be around for months. Despite the new flu strain, the vaccine has been well matched in roughly a third of the flu cases seen so far. And it is considered to be effective against some other flu viruses that could surge in the late winter or spring. About 40 percent of the public was vaccinated against flu as of November, which is about normal in recent years. / HUMAN RIGHTS: More than 40 same-sex couples have been married this morning on the steps outside City Hall in Orlando, Florida. The state's ban on same-sex marriage ended at midnight -- and court clerks in some counties wasted no time, issuing marriage licenses and performing weddings in the early morning hours./ ELECTIONS, POLITICS: Jeb Bush is forming a political action committee as he moves closer to a prospective White House bid. The former Florida governor announced the move today in a video on Facebook. Bush telegraphed the formation of a PAC last month when he announced plans to actively explore a 2016 presidential bid. The son and brother of former presidents is emerging as a Republican establishment favorite, although many conservatives are skeptical. Several potential Republican presidential candidates have already formed similar PACs.; One of the two Republicans who are challenging John Boehner (BAY'-nur) today in his bid for reelection as speaker of the House says he's hoping to force the leadership contest past one ballot, so there can be a serious discussion about change. The two GOP House members, who have tea party support, say the current high command isn't conservative enough. One of them, Ted Yoho of Florida, tells CNN that the choice is between "the status quo" and "a new direction for the Republican party." / ENVIRONMENT, GROWTH: The Oregon Court of Appeals has ruled that the state Water Resources Department failed to limit the amount of water cities and water districts can draw from the lower Clackamas River so that there would be enough water left in the river for threatened and endangered salmon. The ruling handed down last week says the withdrawals permitted by the department were not supported by evidence or reason. The court sent the permits back to the department to be revised. The permits are held by the city of Lake Oswego and water districts serving people in Oregon City, West Linn and northern Clackamas County. Attorney Lisa Brown of the conservation group WaterWatch, which brought the lawsuit, says there is plenty of water to draw on in the area without threatening salmon.; Influential Oregon business groups are outlining their agenda for the upcoming legislative session, calling for a focus on education, infrastructure and natural resources. The annual Oregon Business Summit is scheduled for Tuesday in Portland. Gov. John Kitzhaber, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden and state legislative leaders will speak to a group of executives, lobbyists and lawmakers. The group will unveil the so-called Oregon Business Plan, which represents the collective will of the state's business community. Rather than

specific bills, it calls broadly for policies that corporate leaders believe would improve the business climate, raise employment, improve wages and reduce poverty. With Democrats empowered by expanded majorities in the House and Senate, business officials are pushing issues on which they hope they can find common ground. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: A federal mediator is getting involved in stalled contract talks between West Coast dockworkers and their employers. Political and financial pressure has been building as each side blamed the other for the slow movement of billions of dollars of cargo across the docks at 29 seaports that are a vital trade link with Asia. The U.S. Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service announced its involvement late Monday. While the development does not mean an immediate return to normalcy at the sea ports, a mediator has proven pivotal in past contract disputes. The ports from San Diego to Seattle handled \$892 billion in imports and exports during 2013, according to U.S. trade data. Cargo volume has been heavy in the past year as the economy has improved — and due to a range of problems, that cargo is having a hard time getting where it needs to go efficiently. Members of the powerful International Longshore and Warehouse Union have worked without a contract since July 1. The maritime association accuses workers of slowing down deliberately, while the union says bad management is the main cause of problems. /

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Morning News

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POLITICS, ECONOMY, ELDERS: The House has passed new rules that could force an explosive battle over Social Security's finances on the eve of the 2016 presidential election. Social Security's disability program has been swamped by aging baby boomers, and unless Congress acts, the trust fund that supports the program is projected to run dry in late 2016. At that point, the program will collect only enough payroll taxes to pay 81 percent of benefits. To shore up the disability program, Congress could redirect payroll taxes from Social Security's much larger retirement fund — as it has done in the past. However, the House adopted a rule Tuesday blocking such a move, unless it is part of a larger plan to improve Social Security's finances, by either cutting benefits or raising taxes. / POLITICS: The House has re-elected John Boehner to be speaker in the new Republican-led Congress, despite opposition by tea party lawmakers that underscored party divisions. The Ohio Republican garnered the votes of 216 GOP lawmakers as Congress convened Tuesday. That was enough for him to win a third two-year term leading the House. But in an embarrassing slap, 25 Republicans voted for other candidates or voted present. They consider Boehner to be too accommodating and not conservative enough. Their repudiation of Boehner was an awkward display of GOP schisms at a time when party leaders want to show voters that they can govern effectively. They want to show they won't be forced by tea party legislators into unwinnable, unpopular showdowns with President Barack Obama. / POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT: Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says President Barack Obama is obstructing the change American voters want by threatening to veto the first bill introduced in the new, Republican-controlled Senate. Despite that disagreement over approval of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, McConnell held out hope Wednesday that Republicans could work with Obama on issues such as trade agreements, infrastructure improvements and rewriting tax laws. In his first major speech since becoming Senate majority leader, the Kentucky Republican held out hope of working with the Democratic president on bigger efforts. He said those included protecting and strengthening Medicare and Social Security, balancing the budget and whittling away the national debt. But McConnell says Obama is the only one who can lead Democrats to compromise and get things done. / EDUCATION, CRIME: University of Virginia President Teresa A. Sullivan says fraternities and sororities are being allowed to reinstate social activities, provided they agree to new safety practices. The Greek system at U.Va. came under scrutiny after Rolling Stone magazine reported on an alleged gang rape at a fraternity house in 2012. The magazine has since apologized for

what it calls discrepancies in details of the account. In a statement issued Tuesday, Sullivan said she approved additions to the university's Fraternal Organization Agreement. Sullivan said the changes will enhance the safety of fraternity and sorority members, as well as guests. One change: no pre-mixed drinks at fraternity parties and all fraternity functions must have security monitoring the front door. Sullivan suspended social activities until Jan. 9 after the Rolling Stone article was published. / ECONOMY, FAMILY: If you're a proud parent whose son is on one of the teams playing for the College Football Championship on Monday, you probably want to be there. But the expense can be a huge obstacle. Yesterday, the NCAA granted a waiver. It'll allow the College Football Playoff to help pay for the parents and guardians of Oregon and Ohio State football players to travel to the national championship game in Arlington, Texas. The NCAA waiver allows the College Football Playoff to provide a reimbursement of up to \$1,250 per parent or guardian to will cover hotel accommodations, travel and meals. Supporters say parents and guardians make a lot of sacrifices and there's a lot of money spent throughout the regular season to watch their kids play. The NCAA also announced it will provide a similar reimbursement to the families of athletes who compete in the men's and women's basketball Final Fours as part of a pilot program. Analysts say that at a time when the leaders of college athletics are trying to steer more of the millions in growing revenues generated by big-time sports toward the athletes themselves, this is another example of the NCAA acknowledging that more can be done. The issue gained attention this year when the implementation of the College Football Playoff forced parents of athletes who make it to the national championship to consider two big postseason trips. Under NCAA guidelines, schools were permitted to use a student assistance fund for a one-time payment of \$800 to help fund families' postseason travel, But that didn't come close to covering all of the costs. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY, POLITICS: Faced with a backlash from current and retired employees, the U.S. Forest Service has abruptly dropped plans to spend up to \$10 million on a fiveyear nationwide public relations campaign to brand itself as a public agency that cares about people and nature. Without giving a reason, Forest Service officials issued a statement yesterday saying they had not accepted any contract bids and would look for other ways to enhance the public's access to national forests and understanding about what the agency does. The agency has been facing an intense public backlash in the West over plans to close trails and roads to motorized vehicles due to a lack of money for maintenance, as well as to prevent erosion and protect fish and wildlife. But a watchdog group and current and retired Forest Service employees had raised concerns that PR campaign money would be better spent on the ground, instead of trying to enhance the agency's image, while it struggles to pay to fight wildfires, maintain roads and trails, and offer timber sales. Andy Stahl, director of the watchdog group Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, said that after he learned of the contract, he sent an email to 25,000 Forest Service employees, and about half of them opened it. Jim Golden, a retired deputy regional forester for the Northwest and board chairman for the National Association of Forest Service Retirees, said he warned Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell in an email Saturday of the "growing firestorm" among retirees unless the agency released information explaining the campaign. Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio says he's happy the Forest Service changed its mind and is putting the money toward more "pressing needs." / CRIME: An

Oregon man who killed a California sheriff's deputy last year died from a selfinflicted wound during the ensuing shootout with a police officer, according to an investigation by a California district attorney's office. The finding follows contradictory reports over whether 32-year-old Ricardo Chaney died from an officer's bullet or his own. Chaney fatally shot Deputy Ricky Del Fiorentino on March 19 after killing retired University of Oregon professor George Wasson, a family friend, in Eugene, then carjacking a vehicle and driving south. / SAFETY: Eugene Fire crews say a late-night blaze at Far West Steel on the west side of town caused between \$850,000 and \$1,000,000 dollar in losses. Crews were called to the facility on Henderson Avenue shortly after 10:30 last night. They arrived to find a laser plasma cutter on fire inside the building. The blaze was contained in less than 20 minutes and employees evacuated safely. There were no reports of injuries. / TERRORISM: Prosecutors in Paris say the editor and a cartoonist for the satirical French newspaper targeted by gunmen are among the 12 people killed in today's attack. According to police, two police officers are also among the dead -- including one who'd been assigned as the bodyguard for the cartoonist after prior death threats against him. The three gunmen are still at large. France has now ratcheted up security to the highest levels in the capital.; President Barack Obama is offering help to French officials to pursue terrorists responsible for what he is calling a "horrific shooting" at a satirical weekly newspaper. In a statement, Obama offered thoughts and prayers for the people of France, which he called "America's oldest ally." He says France and Paris, where the attack occurred, will endure beyond -- in his words -- "the hateful vision of these killers."; Even though the French newspaper that was the target of today's attack had prompted threats from radical Muslims in the past, it hadn't stopped poking fun at the extremists. Just minutes before the attack, the newspaper had tweeted a cartoon in which the leader of the Islamic State group is seen giving New Year's wishes. Another cartoon, which appeared in this week's issue, was entitled, "Still No Attacks in France." / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Interior Secretary Sally Jewell is calling for a new wildfire-fighting strategy to protect a wide swath of intermountain West sagebrush country that supports cattle ranching and is home to a struggling bird species. Rangeland wildfires in the West, including Oregon, have grown more massive and destructive in recent decades. Scientists say warmer and dryer summers have extended the region's wildfire seasons, which are made worse by fire-prone invasive species, particularly cheatgrass. The recurring fires wipe out grazing areas for cattle and native plants such as sagebrush, in turn eliminating the native species that rely on them. Jewell issued an order yesterday seeking a "science-based" approach that safeguards both habitat and the greater sage grouse. The greater sage grouse, under consideration for federal protection, already has put on hold development of wind farms and oil and gas drilling plans in some areas. Experts say an endangered species listing for the bird could damage Western states' economies. Some scientists at a national conference this fall in Boise suggested Bureau of Land Management and other officials put protection of rangeland resources ahead of property. The protection of human life would remain the top priority. Last month, President Barack Obama signed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill with a provision that barred spending on rules to protect the chicken-sized bird and three related types of grouse.; PacifiCorp, which serves 1.8 million customers in Oregon and five other Western states, will pay \$2.5 million in fines, restitution and community

service after pleading guilty to killing golden eagles and other birds at two Wyoming wind farms. The violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act stem from the deaths of 38 golden eagles and 336 other protected birds at PacifiCorp's Seven Mile Hill and Glenrock/Rolling Hills wind farms in east-central Wyoming. Company officials say they're working to protect migratory birds. / HEALTH: One of Oregon's largest hospital networks says it will no longer sell or stock sugary drinks in its Oregon hospitals and business offices. The Oregonian newspaper reports that officials with Providence Health & Services say it comes as part of a corporate healthy dining initiative. / ENVIRONMENT: A sea turtle found hypothermic and emaciated last month on a southwest Washington beach is improving at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport. The Olive Ridley turtle is the most recent to be found far from the southern, more temperate waters of their normal winter range.; Volunteers on the Oregon coast say they saw the spouts from 1,900 gray whales last week as they headed south on their annual migration from Alaskan waters to the warmer waters off Mexico. Gray whale populations have been growing in recent years. Off the Southern California coast, volunteers. marine scientists and sightseers are reporting large numbers of wintering and migrating whales of several species. The volunteers here in Oregon were part of the annual winter Whale Watch program that runs during the holidays. The whales should be even easier to spot in the spring, when they head north, because the mothers with calves tend to swim closer to shore. ; The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is deciding whether an undersized bear that fell out of a tree can be rehabbed or will have to be euthanized. A department biologist pulled the bear out of blackberry bushes Tuesday after it fell from the tree near Medford. The Mail Tribune reports the bear is nearly a year old but weighs only 14 pounds, which may indicate a health problem. Biologists planned to evaluate the bear in Corvallis to determine whether it could eventually be returned to the wild or if it could be placed in a zoo. Because bears that have contact with people often become a nuisance, the bear could be killed. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Dense valley fog across the Pacific Northwest is cancelling and delaying some airline flights. Many of those cancellations came last night and were also affected by cold, snowy weather in the northeastern U.S. In some cases, flights are being diverted to San Francisco and other West Coast airports. In other cases, flights are being cancelled in Denver, Salt Lake City and elsewhere or postponed while controllers wait for the skies to clear. / ECONOMY: The retailer Wet Seal is closing 338 stores, about two-thirds of its locations, resulting in nearly 3,700 full and part-time workers losing their jobs. Company officials blame their overall financial condition and an inability to big cuts in rent and other expenses with landlords. The closings are effective today. About 173 Wet Seal stores and its online business will continue to operate. The California company expects to save up to \$6.4 million with the closings. / CRIME, TRANSPORTATION: The Register-Guard is reporting that a Springfield man believed to be high on methamphetamine rolled his car on Jasper Lowell Road early yesterday morning in a failed attempt to flee police. The newspaper reports that Springfield Police arrested 41-year-old Curtis Glen Dehaven on a number of charges, including attempting to elude police by vehicle and on foot, reckless driving, first-degree trespass and possession of methamphetamine. /

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TERRORISM: Bells rang out, public transportation in Paris stood still and children sat silent as France today mourned 12 people killed in an attack on a newspaper office that has rattled the nation. French President Francois Hollande (frahn-SWAH' oh-LAWND') ordered flags at half-staff and a moment of silence today to honor the victims of Wednesday's attack on Charlie Hebdo, the satirical publication that also was firebombed in 2011 for its depictions of Islam. Police are still looking for two brothers considered armed and dangerous. ; Former CIA Director Michael Hayden says the deadly attack on a French satirical newspaper demonstrates "the increased sophistication" of groups bent on terrorism. Hayden says the armed gunmen seemed "very comfortable in their own skin." On NBC's "Today" show, he calls the assault "the high end of the new genre of attacks." Hayden adds that terrorist elements apparently are scaling back their plots, aiming more toward smaller targets and quick hits. Because of this, he says, "now what we have are drive-by shootings" and incidents like the SUV bombing plot against New York's Times Square. He says larger-scale attacks aimed at causing mass casualties take longer to evolve and are more easily thwarted by law enforcement. The Obama administration has said that it stands by the French in this crisis.; Two brothers in France have become the most-wanted men in the country. They're suspects in yesterday's terror attack on a newspaper office that killed 12 people and wounded 11. Police have been searching for Cherif and Said Kouachi, who they say carried out the attack. A third man has turned himself in. Early today, police swarmed a gas station northeast of Paris, where the Kouachi brothers were reportedly spotted. / ECONOMY: Some pros are getting into pot. The \$2 billion San Francisco venture capital firm called Founders Fund is investing in Privateer Holdings, a marijuana company that owns several pot-related brands. Founders Fund is run by Silicon Valley stars including Peter Thiel, co-founder and former CEO of Paypal. The companies aren't disclosing the size of the investment, but describe it as a "multi-million dollar" participation in a \$75 million fundraising effort by Privateer. / CRIME, ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Oregon State Police confirm the driver is to blame in the crash of that tanker truck that was moving juvenile salmon from a McKenzie River hatchery last month. The driver, 45-year-old Ray C. Lewis of Umpqua, was cited Wednesday on drunken driving and reckless driving charges. Earlier, investigators said his blood alcohol level was several times the legal limit for commercial drivers. The crash on Dec. 30 on the side of the McKenzie Highway near Walterville spilled and killed 11,000 Chinook salmon smolts. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife truck was hauling the final load out of

227,000 salmon that were moved to the Row River because of low water at the McKenzie Hatchery due to problems at the Leaburg Dam. Lewis was treated at a hospital for head cuts and other injuries. / HEALTH: The arrival of the new year brings with it a seasonal increase in patient volumes at PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center. As the RiverBend and University District hospitals in Springfield and Eugene respond to a high census, officials say patients may experience longer wait times in the Emergency Departments. They add that admission to the hospitals becomes more complex as beds fill up and care teams become responsible for managing more patients. PeaceHealth officials urge flu immunizations for all appropriate area residents. Everyone age six months and older is recommended for an annual flu vaccination, with rare exceptions. Vaccination is particularly important for people who are at high risk for serious complications from influenza. It's important to remember that most people who get sick with the flu do not need medical care or antiviral drugs. However, it is best for certain people who are at high risk for flu-related complications (including young children, people 65 and older, pregnant women and people with certain medical conditions) to contact their doctor if they become ill with influenza-like symptoms. While vaccination is the best way to prevent or reduce the severity of seasonal flu, good health habits are essential to limit the spread of the flu virus. Above all, stay home when you are sick. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. And clean your hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. / HEALTH, CRIME: Thirteen Portland police officers have started carrying a drug to treat people suffering from a life-threatening overdose of heroin. Portland Fire and Rescue trained the Central Precinct officers to administer the nasal spray to deliver the drug Naloxone, also known as Narcan. It helps reverse overdose effects. It's a one-year test that could lead to other officers using the treatment to prevent drug-related deaths. / EDUCATION, COMMUNITY, FAMILY: A nice bit of news for the Eugene Public Library. It's receiving an Oregon "Ready to Read" grant for more than \$20,000 to support early literacy services for the community's littlest readers. The grant will help the Eugene Public Library continue its "Books for Babies" outreach to parents of newborns, and the Storytime-To-Go project, which sends trained volunteers to provide storytimes in daycare facilities in low-income neighborhoods. The funding will also help pay for training workshops for childcare providers and preschool teachers; expert presenters for the popular Terrific Twos Storytime, Sensory Storytime, and Spanish-language storytime; and the purchase of picture books and other materials. Research shows that the earlier a child learns to read and enjoy reading, the better the perform in school and in life. / CRIME, SAFETY: Police are paying the veterinary bills for a pit bull that was wounded by an officer in Springfield. Police tell KVAL the dog was defending its territory Tuesday and wasn't ordered to attack the officer who was investigating the theft of a table. The dog bit the officer on his hand. The officer was wearing gloves and wasn't hurt. He fired a shot that hit the dog in a thigh. It's expected to make a full recovery. Police recovered the table and arrested a 19-year-old man on a theft charge. It had been taken from a nearby St. Vincent de Paul store. An employee with the thrift store, Charley Harvey, says it would have given the man the \$25 table if he needed it that desperately. When the incident was over, Dakota Javmes Putnam, 19, was arrested on a charge of third degree theft. The table taken from St. Vincent de Paul was recovered. / ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT: New York City plans to ban

food establishments from using plastic foam containers starting July 1. Mayor Bill de Blasio's (dih BLAH'-zee-ohz) administration says there will be a grace period. without fines, until next January. The sale of packing peanuts within city limits also will be banned. They can still be used in packages shipped to New York from other places. Nonprofits and small businesses could qualify for an exemption from the plastic foam ban. / ECONOMY, HEALTH: The Oregon Lottery isn't playing fair. That's the gist of the lawsuit filed by Justin Curzi. He contends the lottery's video poker machines mislead players. He says the poker games' "auto-hold" feature doesn't always make the best recommendations and reduces the players' chances of winning. Curzi's lawyer tells The Oregonian newspaper a disclaimer on the machines is too vague. Lottery officials have declined to comment on the suit. / HEALTH, SAFETY, COMMUNITY, TRANSPORTATION: Officials say it's a reminder of the importance of vaccination. State health officials say seven Californians and two people in Utah have confirmed cases of measles likely contracted on a trip to Disney theme parks in California in December. The state Department of Public Health said Wednesday that three more California residents were suspected of having measles. Officials say all patients with confirmed or suspected cases of measles visited Disneyland or Disney California Adventure between Dec. 15 and Dec. 20 and that it is likely a person with the illness was at one of the theme parks at the time. The Californians with confirmed cases are from five different areas of the state. Six of the seven with confirmed cases had not been vaccinated against the disease. A message was left for Disney officials seeking comment.; On Sunday morning at 6:30 here on New Country 93.3, our guest on Community Forum is Doctor Patrick Luedtke, the chief health officer for Lane County. He'll talk about the flu outbreak, vaccinations and other public health issues./ HEALTH, ECONOMY: Operators of a northeast Ohio bridal shop linked to an Ebola survivor say the store is closing because it lost significant business and has been stigmatized. Dallas nurse Amber Vinson was diagnosed with Ebola days after visiting Coming Attractions Bridal & Formal store in Akron in October. The store temporarily closed and cleaned before reopening in November, but business hasn't bounced back. Owner Anna Younker says her shop has become known as the Ebola store. She tells the Akron Beacon Journal the temporary closure and canceled orders cost the store at least \$100,000. That wasn't covered by her insurance because it excludes viral illnesses. The store will take orders until the end of January and then self dresses at discounts and liquidate all assets. / ENVIRONMENT: Oregon's famous wandering wolf, OR-7, is now officially the leader of his own pack. State and federal wildlife agencies said Wednesday they have designated OR-7, his mate and their pups the Rogue Pack, for their location in the Rogue River drainage in the Cascades east of Medford. It's the first pack in western Oregon and ninth in the state since wolves from Idaho started swimming the Snake River in the 1990s. As a youngster, OR-7 left his pack in northeastern Oregon in September 2011 in search of a mate, and traveled thousands of miles across Oregon and into Northern California before finding one last winter in the southern Cascades. The GPS collar that tracked his travels is still working, but biologists hope to replace it this spring. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: A Port of Portland spokeswoman says a Boeing 757 cargo plane made an emergency landing Wednesday evening at Portland International Airport after at least five ducks hit the plane, causing engine damage. KATU-TV reports that Port spokeswoman Kama Simonds says the plane had just taken off about 6:30 p.m.

when it hit the birds. Simonds says the crew of two was unhurt and the plane landed safely. She says at least five northern pintail ducks struck the plane. The plane's operators were not immediately reachable to discuss the extent of the damage. / CRIME: A trial has been scheduled for the man accused of fatally stabbing and beating a convenience store clerk in Roseburg last September. The News-Review reports that 27-year-old John Joseph Flannigan goes on trial Jan. 19 on a charge of murder. He has pleaded not guilty and faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years in prison. Police have said that Flannigan told them he didn't know the victim, 38-year-old Lori Lynn Rothrock, but hated her. The slaying was captured on a surveillance video. /

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TERRORISM: A pair of hostage crises near Paris, France, appear to have come to an end and some police sources are indicating the two gunman at one location are dead but so far there is no official word on whether there have been any arrests or casualties. It came after explosions and gunshots rang out during the past hour and smoke rose outside a printing plant where two brothers linked to al-Qaida and suspected in this week's French newspaper massacre were holed up with a hostage northeast of Paris. Now there is word that explosions and gunshots were also heard as police forces stormed a kosher grocery on the east side of Paris where a gunman was holding at least five people hostage. The gunman at the market had threatened to kill those inside if the brothers holed up at the printing plant were harmed. The terrorists are facing off against thousands of French security forces as city officials ordered a precautionary shutdown of a famed Jewish neighborhood and scrambled to protect residents and tourists from further attacks. Security forces had surrounded the building for most of the day, cornering the suspects in the Wednesday killings at the offices of the satirical newspaper in Paris. Police SWAT forces could be seen on the roof of the building and one police helicopter landed near it. Minutes earlier, police said a gunman holding at least five hostages in a Paris kosher market had threatened to kill them if French authorities launched an assault on the two brothers. In addition, the police said the gunman inside the kosher grocery store is believed responsible for the roadside killing of a Paris policewoman on Thursday. Authorities released a photo of him and a female accomplice. Police said several people had been wounded when the gunman opened fire in the kosher market but were able to flee and get medical care. It was not clear whether there were other wounded inside the market, or whether the woman listed as the gunman's accomplice in a police bulletin was inside the market with him.; An Islamic cleric convicted of terrorism charges in plots to build a terrorist training camp in Oregon and kidnap tourists in Yemen in 1998 is scheduled to be sentenced today. 56-year-old Mustafa Kamel Mustafa, also known as Abu Hamza al-Masri, was convicted in May and faces a likely life sentence. His lawyers have urged U.S. District Judge Katherine Forrest to take into account that their client will have a particularly hard time in prison because he is missing hands and forearms because of diabetic amuptations and has other health ailments. They also say U.S. authorities promised Great Britain when Mustafa was extradited to the United States that he would not be housed at a maximum security facility in Colorado. Prosecutors said the government made no such promise. They also say he should be sentenced to life in prison. Mustafa

was convicted of helping others plot to open a terror training camp in Bly, Oregon. He also aiding terrorists who kidnapped four tourists in Yemen. Prosecutors say Mustafa worked "tirelessly to drive his young, impressionable followers to participate in acts of violence and murder across the globe" and that he "openly and unapologetically used the power of his hateful words to distort religion by giving purported religious justification for acts of terrorism." / HEALTH: The World Health Organization says the two leading Ebola vaccines appear safe and will soon be tested in healthy volunteers in West Africa. After an expert meeting this week, The World Health Organization says there's now enough information to conclude that a vaccine by GlaxoSmithKline and another licensed by Merck and NewLink have "an acceptable safety profile." / EDUCATION, POLITICS, ECONOMY: President Barack Obama says he wants to make publicly funded community college educations available to all Americans. It is a sweeping proposal that would make higher education as accessible as a high school diploma. But the unanswered question is: how much would it cost? Administration officials say the goal is to boost weak U.S. wages and improve the skills of America's modern workforce. Obama plans to reveal more details during a visit today to a community college in Knoxville, Tennessee. He unveiled the concept yesterday evening in a video message posted to Facebook. But there's still no price tag attached to the initiative and the new, Republican controlled Congress seems less likely to support big new spending programs. The president and administration officials say they'd like to make the first two years of community college free to students who attend at least half-time, maintain a 2.5 GPA and make progress toward completing a degree or certificate program. Participating schools would have to meet certain academic requirements. Administration officials estimated nine million students could participate and save an average of \$3,800 in tuition per year. That suggests an annual cost in the tens of billions of dollars. The White House said the federal government would pick up 75 percent of the cost and the final quarter would come from states that opt into the program. The idea got a chilly response from House Speaker John Boehner's office, which labeled the initiative something that was, quote, "more like a talking point than a plan." The funding details are expected to be included in the president's budget proposal next month. / ENVIRONMENT: Yesterday, as much of the U.S. struggled with bone-chilling cold, federal meteorologists said America's weather in 2014 wasn't really that bad. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced that the U.S. average temperature in 2014 was half a degree warmer than normal. But they added that the overall weather was less disastrous and drought-stricken than in previous years. And while 2014 was warmer than 2013 in the lower 48 states, it was still only the 34th warmest on record. That contrasts with the experience of the world as a whole. Globally, it will likely go down as the warmest year on record. Still, it was the 18th straight year the U.S. was warmer than the 20th-century average. California, Nevada and Arizona had the hottest year in 120 years of record-keeping, while Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and New Mexico had one of their five warmest years on record. / ECONOMY: It will not affect the store in Eugene, but it will include the one at North Bend's Pony Village Mall. J.C. Penney Co. is planning to close about 40 of its more than 1,000 stores this year and cut approximately 2,250 jobs, as it tries to improve its profitability. Most of the affected stores will close by April 4th. The announcement came two days after J.C. Penney reported a rise in sales during the critical holiday

shopping season, an encouraging sign as the company tries to recover from a botched plan to reinvent its stores and corporate brand. Company officials say all affected employees will be offered career training classes, including help writing resumes and filling out applications.; The number of people earning paychecks in the United States is up by three million from this time last year. And that's the largest annual job gain since 1999. Today's December jobs report is boosting expectations that the U.S. economy will strengthen further this year, even as overseas economies stumble. The unemployment rate is down to 5.6 percent -but part of that decline is from jobless people who gave up looking for work. Reaction on Wall Street is muted -- stocks are mostly steady in early trading. / CRIME, EDUCATION, WOMEN, ECONOMY: A woman who says she was sexually assaulted by three University of Oregon basketball players filed a lawsuit yesterday against the school and head basketball coach Dana Altman. The suit alleges the coach knew when he recruited Brandon Austin that the player had been suspended from Providence College in Rhode Island due to allegations of sexual misconduct. It also claims that the university put off disciplinary action against the players for two months in order to help the basketball team and that it illegally accessed her campus counseling records. The woman, who is still a University of Oregon student, alleges the school was negligent, violated her civil rights and privacy, and deprived her of her right to an education. Interim President Scott Coltrane said the university disagrees with the allegations in the lawsuit and believes it acted lawfully. He said the university is trying to improve its code of conduct and its handling of student discipline. He adds that the U-of-O's primary job is to keep students safe. The woman met the players at a party on March 8, the same night the Ducks finished the regular basketball season. Austin and the two other players told authorities they had consensual sex with the woman, and prosecutors said there was insufficient evidence to file charges. The university was informed of the ensuing investigation but allowed two of the players, Dominic Artis and Damyean Dotson, to compete in the NCAA tournament. Austin could not suit up because of NCAA transfer rules. All three players were later suspended from the university. The woman, who is identified in the lawsuit as Jane Doe, is seeking reimbursement of her tuition and expenses, payment of expenses incurred as a result of the alleged assault, as well as damages for emotional pain and loss of enjoyment of life. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: Nuts, beer, cheese and lasagna are up for grabs in the friendly wager between the governors of Oregon and Ohio, whose flagship universities compete in the college football championship next week. The Ohio State Buckeyes face the Oregon Ducks on Monday. A spokesman for Gov. John Kitzhaber says the Oregon Democrat is wagering a six-pack of Total Domination IPA from Ninkasi Brewing in Eugene. He's also offering a box of hazelnuts, which Oregonians call filberts, and 5 pounds of Tillamook cheese. Republican Gov. John Kasich of Ohio is offering beer from Columbus Brewing Company and a tray of the governor's favorite lasagna from Monte Carlo Italian Kitchen in Westerville, his hometown. He'll also throw in some buckeyes — the chocolate and peanut butter candies, not the poisonous nuts.; The national championship game Monday night between Ohio State and Oregon has generated so much talk between the U.S. Senators from Oregon and Ohio that both sides have decided it's time to back it up by putting up "very personal" stakes. Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley have settled on a bet with Ohio Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman that all parties have pledged to

fulfill in public on the Capitol steps. If Oregon beats Ohio State on Jan. 12, Senators Brown and Portman have agreed to learn how to "throw the O" sign with instructions from their Oregon colleagues and from the Oregon Duck if and when the Ducks visit Washington, DC as national champions. If Ohio State defeats Oregon, Senators Wyden and Merkley have agreed to help their Ohio colleagues spell "O-H-I-O."; The Eugene Emeralds, a Class A short-season affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, and the Columbus Clippers, the Triple-A affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, are excited to announce a friendly wager on the upcoming College Football National Championship game between the University of Oregon Ducks and The Ohio State Buckeyes. The "Pass a Cold One" wager will benefit the team's local chapter of Special Olympics. The losing team will participate in their cities upcoming Polar Bear Plunge event. So when the Ducks win on Monday, January 12, the Clippers staff, while wearing a mixture of University of Oregon and Emeralds gear, will participate in the Columbus Polar Plunge on February 21 at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium. If, somehow, the Ducks lose the Emeralds staff, while wearing a mixture of Ohio State and Clippers gear, would participate in the Polar Plunge Eugene on February 7 at Maurie Jacobs Park. The event will be documented on the team's social media accounts. / CRIME, ECONOMY: The former head of a chain of retirement centers based in Oregon has pleaded guilty to mail fraud and money laundering charges. Jon Harder is the former president and CEO of Sunwest Management of Salem. Prosecutors say he defrauded more than 1,000 investors out of \$130 million by operating a complex, Ponzi-like scheme that lasted until 2008. Despite the guilty plea, Harder disagrees with the scope of the fraud outlined in an indictment and in court Thursday, U.S. District Judge Michael Simon has scheduled a two-part sentencing process that will conclude in November. Prosecutors plan to recommend a 15-year prison sentence while Harder's lawyers are expected to seek five years. / CRIME, FAMILY: The 911 call was alarming. Portland police say the caller reported an incendiary device had been thrown into a home with two children inside. Smoke was reported coming from the home. When police, firefighters and bomb squad members raced to the scene Thursday, they found something quite different, Apparently a family dog had chewed on the TV remote control and damaged one of the lithium batteries, which started to smoke. Sgt. Pete Simpson says the kids in the home ran out and told other children and someone called 911. As Simpson puts it, "Obviously the report was grossly inaccurate." Police found the two children safe at a neighbor's house, the four family dogs "running all over the place" and no damage beyond the remote control. The culprit wasn't immediately identified. Says Simpson, "We don't know which dog did it." / CRIME, ECONOMY: Over the last month, Eugene Police investigators say they have received reports of more than 20 commercial burglaries. In most of these incidents, the suspects have forced their way into the business and targeted the cash register and/or safe. The burglaries have taken place throughout Eugene, and the Crime Prevention Unit wants all business owners, managers and employees to be aware and understand how to best prevent a burglary from occurring: Business Burglary Prevention Tips: Ensure good deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and inside security doors. Windows should have secure locks and security film. Ensure good lighting inside and out, especially around doors, windows, and other entry points and keep windows clear of signs for visibility inside. An even level of lighting inside and out is more important than bright light in only some areas. Keep plants

and all landscaping trimmed to no more than a few feet in height and in good condition so as not to provide cover. Leave cash registers empty and open overnight. Post a sign on the door and/or register that says "Register emptied every night." Make deposits daily so as not to have significant cash in your safe overnight. Vary deposit time and location to avoid patterns. Safes should be securely anchored and should be left open and empty overnight whenever possible. If at all possible, never leave items of value, such as laptops and financial data, unsecured in plain view. Limit access to your safe and knowledge of your financial information. Instruct employees to never give out any details regarding the use of the safe, how much money is brought in and other financial information. If someone inquires about the business' safe or financial information, immediately notify the owner or manager and get a good description of the person and especially any vehicle associated with them. Consider a security system and/or video surveillance system. Establish a Business Watch with neighboring businesses. Make sure you know how to reach each other after hours. If you are burglarized don't clean-up! Call 682-5111 and wait for police to respond and gather evidence. If the crime is in progress or just occurred, call 911. Call the Eugene Police Department Crime Prevention Unit (541) 682-5137 for a free Business Safety Inspection or help setting up a Business Watch in your area. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/15/15

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5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TERRORISM: U.S. and French intelligence officials say they are leaning toward an assessment that the Paris terror attacks were inspired by al-Qaida but not directly supervised by the group. Although one of the two brothers who carried out the attack at the Charlie Hebdo newspaper is believed to have traveled briefly to Yemen in 2011, where he met an al-Qaida leader, U.S. intelligence officials are not convinced that the Paris attacks were directed from abroad, despite a claim of responsibility by al-Qaida's Yemen affiliate. They say the claim seems hastily put together and "opportunistic." Still, if the attack was not directed by al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, it would fall into the category of homegrown incidents that security officials in the U.S. and Europe say are extremely difficult to detect and thwart. Investigators say they also remain unconvinced that the attacker at a kosher grocery store coordinated in advance with the suspects in the attack on a satirical, Paris-based newspaper. Security experts say one of the biggest challenges globally comes from disaffected individuals who have become sympathetic to al-Qaida, the Islamic State group or their ilk - yet are not involved in the sort of international conspiracy that lends itself to relatively easy detection. Case in point: On Wednesday, an Ohio man was arrested and charged with plotting to kill government officials inside the U.S. Capitol. The FBI said the man spoke of his desire to support the Islamic State group. Other such cases in the U.S. include the 2013 Boston marathon bombings, the 2010 attempted Times Square bombing and the 2009 Fort Hood shootings. In Europe, an investigation found no direct assistance or orchestration from al-Qaida to the group that bombed a Madrid train in 2004. Likewise, authorities have found no links between international terrorists and the man who attacked Canada's parliament in October. ; That 20-year-old Ohio man's Twitter posts sympathizing with Islamic terrorists led to an undercover FBI operation and the man's arrest yesterday on charges that he plotted to blow up the U.S. Capitol and kill government officials. According to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in Ohio, Christopher Lee Cornell, told an FBI informant they should "wage jihad," and showed his plans for bombing the Capitol and shooting people. Cornell was arrested Wednesday after buying two semi-automatic rifles and about 600 rounds of ammunition, authorities said. But officials say the public was never in danger and that the plan was never operational. The complaint alleges that an FBI informant began supplying agents with information about Cornell last year. Cornell's arrest came only days after a grand jury indictment charged another Cincinnati-area resident—a bartender with a reported history of mental illness—with threatening to murder House Speaker

John Boehner.; The second phase of jury selection will begin Thursday in the federal death penalty trial of Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv). The judge will begin individually questioning about 40 prospective jurors until there are enough people to move to the final phase of jury selection. Last week, more than 1,350 people filled out lengthy juror questionnaires. Many are expected to be excused based on their responses. / TERRORISM, RELIGION: PARIS (AP) — French President Francois Hollande says the country's millions of Muslims should be protected and respected and in turn they should also respect the nation's strict secular policies. Last week's terror attacks that killed17 people in France have prompted scattered retaliatory attacks on Muslim sites around the country and have put many French Muslims on the defensive. Meanwhile, funerals are being held for at least four of the six staffers of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, who were killed in the terror attack on their Paris offices. / EDUCATION, POLITICS: What would an extra \$600 million in funding buy for Oregon's public primary and secondary schools during the next two-year budget cycle? Oregon's Democratic legislative leaders say that, like a smaller proposal from Governor John Kitzhaber, it would fund all-day kindergartens in all districts. They also say it would give more overall money to schools as they work to educate Oregon's students for the workforce of the future. The chief budget writers released an outline of their proposals on yesterday, allocating \$330 million more to the state's public elementary and secondary schools than was requested in the governor's proposal. One trade-off: they would spend less on early-childhood education. The proposal would give 52 percent of the general fund and lottery to education, from preschool through college. As a result of the improving economy and a forecasted increase in state revenues, the lawmakers say their plan would require relatively small budget cuts to social safety net programs. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: Eugene officials said yesterday that the growing civil penalties against ride-hailing service Uber have grown to \$118,000 for continuing to operate without a license and for recruiting and dispatching drivers who have not been certified. City regulations require that anyone who provides transportation for hire in Eugene or Springfield is required to be certified by the City of Eugene. "Certified" means city officials and inspectors verify that the vehicle is safe for public use, that the operators have adequate insurance in case of an accident, and that the driver has had a driving and criminal background check. The fines against Uber are increasing by \$2,000 for each day that the ride-hailing business operates without a license. A lawyer for Uber says the license requirement does not apply because Uber does not own or operate the vehicles. The City of Eugene plans to send out notices this week to let Uber drivers know they are in violation of the City's code for operating without the required certification and that the drivers have an opportunity to come into compliance with the City's code before penalties will be issued. Initial penalties are generally \$300 to \$600 but can increase depending on the severity and frequency of the violation. In order for drivers to become certified, they must be working, as an employee or independent contractor, or for a Public Passenger Vehicle Company that is licensed by the City of Eugene (Eugene also licenses companies that operate in Springfield). The City Council has scheduled a public hearing on January 20 to hear public input on possible updates to City code that would recognize changing transportation technology and business models, while also maintaining community safety standards. The proposed amendments will

specifically require companies that connect, or attempt to connect, a prospective passenger to a vehicle for hire by providing a digital or software application scheduling platform or service, such as Uber, to obtain a license. The proposed code amendments also more clearly authorize the use of smartphone applications as a way to calculate fares. The public hearing on January 20th will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Harris Hall at 125 E. 8th Avenue. The Register-Guard reports a hearing on the fine is scheduled for Feb. 2. / ECONOMY: The end of the holiday season led to more Americans seeking unemployment benefits last week, raising the number of applications to an 18-week high. Still, the level remains near historically low levels. The Labor Department says applications for benefits jumped 19,000 to a seasonally adjusted 316,000. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, rose 6,750 to 298,000. That average has plunged 11.4 percent in the past 12 months, staying at historically low sub-300,000 levels since September. The longer-term trend suggests that employers expect solid economic growth to continue, causing them to hold onto their workers and possibly increase their headcounts. The Labor Department reported last week that employers added 252,000 jobs in December as the unemployment rate fell to 5.6 percent from 5.8 percent.; A healthier U.S. housing market and economy helped to winnow foreclosures in 2014 to levels not seen since before the housing bust. The decline is the latest evidence of how foreclosures have diminished in recent years from a national crisis to a largely market-specific concern. But not all states saw completed foreclosures decline last year. Nine states registered an increase from 2013, including Oregon. Still, the nationwide number of homes repossessed by banks fell 29 percent last year to the lowest level since 2006, which was one year before the subprime mortgage crisis erupted. That's according to data by foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac. One reason for the drop; fewer homes entered the foreclosure process last year. Meantime, CoreLogic reports nearly 1.5 million homes returned to positive equity - when a home is valued at more than what the owner owes on the mortgage - in the 12 months ended Sept. 30. / IMMIGRATION: Attorneys for 25 states are going before a federal judge in Texas to argue for a rollback of President Barack Obama's expansive executive actions to spare nearly 5 million people living in the U.S. illegally from deportation. Texas leads the coalition of states suing the government. It argues in its lawsuit that Obama's decision "tramples" key portions of the Constitution. At a Thursday hearing in Brownsville, the states will ask U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen to block the president's actions. Hanen previously accused the Obama administration of participating in criminal conspiracies to smuggle children into the country by reuniting them with parents living here illegally. Obama announced the executive actions in November, saying lack of action by Congress forced him to make sweeping changes to immigration rules on his own. / ECONOMY: Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota, whose leadership on the field brought the Ducks to the brink of a national championship, is leaving Oregon early for the NFL. Mariota announced his long-awaited decision to forgo his senior season on Oregon's website. The team said he filed paperwork on Wednesday, one day before the NFL deadline. In his statement, the humble leader of the Ducks' offense says he will miss being with his teammates but will always treasure his experience at Oregon. The 6-foot-4 from Hawaii won every major award for which he qualified, including the Heisman, AP Player of the Year, the Maxwell and Walter Camp awards and Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Year. He set a

conference record for most touchdowns in a single season with 58; 42 via pass. 15 on the run and that one touchdown catch. His passing touchdowns set a Pac-12 single-season record. He also set the conference's career mark for career touchdowns with 136. He threw at least one touchdown pass in all 41 college games he played at Oregon. And he's one of just four quarterbacks in FBS history to pass for more than 10,000 yards and run for more than 2,000 in his career. Mariota is the second Oregon player to declare for the NFL draft with eligibility left. Defensive lineman Arik Armstead filed paperwork to make in official Tuesday. De Forrest Buckner says he'll stay for his senior year. / CRIME: Lawyers for a man convicted of planting a bomb that killed two Oregon police officers in 2008 are seeking to overturn the verdict. The Oregonian reports that attorneys for Bruce Turnidge are accusing the trial judge of making two dozen errors, including allowing the jury to hear Turnidge's anti-government views. The attorneys will make oral arguments before the state Supreme Court today. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: The agency in charge of writing the rules for selling recreational marijuana in Oregon says it will start holding community meetings this month as it works toward the opening of retail stores in late 2016. The voter-approved law allowing recreational marijuana, including homegrown, goes into effect July 1. It gives the Oregon Liquor Control Commission the chore of regulating sales, as it does with distilled spirits. The law says the commission must begin taking applications for retail licenses next January. As it considers the rules, the agency plans to hold "listening sessions" in communities around the state. The first are scheduled in Baker City and Pendleton on Jan. 22. The agency said Wednesday it will soon announce more sessions. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: The newly repainted Yaquina (ya-KWINN-a) Lighthouse on the Oregon coast is getting ready to make its debut. The Bureau of Land Management says the 95-foot-tall lighthouse has been surrounded by scaffolding and wrapping since mid-October as old paint was removed and a natural cement wash was applied. It will take about three weeks to unwrap. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The Obama administration says new rules to significantly loosen the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba and open up the communist island to greater American travel will go into effect tomorrow. They are the next step in the president's plan to re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba. They come three days after U.S. officials confirmed the release of 53 political prisoners Cuba had promised to free, Only Congress can end the five-decade U.S. trade embargo of Cuba. Thsee measures include permission for Americans to use credit cards in Cuba and U.S. companies to export some technologies. Americans authorized to visit Cuba need no longer apply for special licenses. Americans can also bring home up to \$100 in alcohol and tobacco from Cuba, meaning the ban on Cuban cigars is officially over. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: A wild duck shot by a hunter in the Willamette Valley is the first wild bird in Oregon to test positive for avian flu since the disease showed up recently in Washington. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife said Wednesday the female mallard was taken Dec. 20 at Fern Ridge Wildlife Area outside Eugene and was tested as part of a program initiated since avian flu appeared in Washington. Department veterinarian Colin Gillin says avian flu poses no risk to people or wild waterfowl, but can kill domestic poultry. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: The Oregon Department of Transportation plans to fire noise cannons again this winter in an attempt to prevent thousands of starlings from roosting on the Interstate 5 Columbia River bridge in Portland. The bird

droppings are not only an unhealthy nuisance for bicyclists and pedestrians below, they also cause corrosion to the surface of the aging bridge. The Oregonian reports the department uses a propane-powered cannon that also is used to scare birds out of orchards. The cannon will fire in a random schedule to keep the birds from becoming accustomed to the noise and its location. / IMMIRGATION: The Mexican government says it will start issuing birth certificates to its citizens at consulates in the United States. The aim is to make it easier for Mexican citizens in the U.S. illegally to apply for work permits, driver's licenses and protection from deportation. The move comes as Washington essentially remains gridlocked on immigration issues. Republicans who won outright control of Congress last fall are trying to pass legislation reversing President Barack Obama's administrative steps to slow down deportations. / TRANSPORTATION, POLITICS: Congress just started a new session, but it's confronting an old problem: How to find money to repair America's crumbling infrastructure. Specifically, lawmakers are looking for ways to bankroll improvements for highways and transit programs. Congressional leaders are saying there's little appetite for an increase in the federal fuel tax. House Speaker John Boehner hasn't foreclosed this possibility, but he's conceding there aren't enough votes to pass it. / HEALTH, ECONOMY: A new study says the number of people struggling with medical costs has dropped since President Barack Obama's health care law has expanded coverage. The Commonwealth Fund's biennial health insurance survey says the share of U.S. adults who did not get needed care because of cost dropped from 43 percent in 2012 to 36 percent last year. The percentage of people who got treatment but had problems paying their bills also dropped, from 41 percent in 2012 to 35 percent last year. /

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01/16/15

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Morning News

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TERRORISM: Security forces in Europe are continuing their searches today for suspected terrorists in France, Belgium and Germany. They say that's already resulted in more than two dozen arrests. Authorities say 13 people have been detained in Belgium and two in France in the anti-terror sweep that followed a firefight in which two suspected terrorists were killed. French and German authorities today arrested at least 14 other people suspected of links to the Islamic State group. French President François Hollande (frahn-SWAH' oh-LAWND') says his country is "waging war" against terrorism and will not back down from international military operations against Islamic extremists despite recent deadly attacks.; This, as the head of European Union police agency Europol says the large number of radicalized Muslim extremists across Europe, their lack of command structure and growing sophistication make it "extremely difficult" for law enforcement agencies to foil every terror attack. He says that underscores the importance of European governments cooperating more closely to prevent attacks like last week's deadly rampage in Paris. The officials says at least 2.500 and possibly up to 5,000 suspects have traveled from Europe to conflicts in Syria and Iraq.; U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is in Paris today for meetings with French officials. Meantime, President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron are meeting at the White House today. They're talking Islamic extremism, cybersecurity, economic growth and global trade.; As for that Ohio man arrested for allegedly plotting to set off bombs at the U.S. Capitol and shoot government officials, he's due in court this afternoon. Twenty-year-old Christopher Lee Cornell was arrested Wednesday and charged with plotting to attack after his alleged posts on Twitter prompted an FBI sting. / HEALTH: This year's flu vaccine is doing a pretty mediocre job. It's only 23 percent effective, which is one of the worst performances in the last decade, according to a government study released yesterday. Each year, the flu vaccine is reformulated, based on experts' best guess at which three or four strains will be the biggest problem. Those decisions are usually made in February, months before the flu season, to give companies that make flu shots and nasal spray vaccine enough time to make enough doses. But this year's formula didn't include the strain of H3N2 virus that ended up causing about two-thirds of the illnesses this winter. And that strain tends to cause more hospitalizations and deaths, particularly in the elderly, making this a particularly bad winter to have a problem with the flu vaccine. Still, CDC officials say the vaccine can provide some immunity to other flu strains and can reduce the illness; symptoms and duration. / ECONOMY: The Oregon track and field teams

will start the 2015 season this weekend in Seattle at the Washington Preview on Saturday, Jan. 17. Head coach Robert Johnson said the meet will be a big one for some of the younger Ducks, many of whom will be making their debut in an Oregon uniform. But it won't be all about the newcomers with some outstanding returners back for the new season. The Men of Oregon start the season at No. 2 in the rankings while the women's team is No. 3. After the U-of-O's Laura Roesler became the first Oregon woman to take home The Bowerman Trophy in December, fellow NCAA Champion Jenna Prandini is on the preseason watch list for the award this season. On the men's side, sophomores Edward Cheserek and Devon Allen are in the group of 10 on the watch list. The Ducks are coming off a sweep at the 2014 NCAA Indoor Championships, where the men won with 62 points and the women won an instant classic decided by a 4x400 relay win to close the meet. The Women of Oregon are now five-time defending NCAA Indoor Champions. The streak is tied with LSU for the longest in NCAA history which won five straight from 1993-97. The 2015 Oregon men's and women's track and field recruiting classes were both ranked among the top two in the nation by Track and Field News. The women's team brought in the top class for the second-straight year No. 1 with five All-Americans. The men's team was No. 2 with three All-Americans.; The Register-Guard is reporting that another big national championship is coming to Eugene. This time, it's the 2016 NCAA men's and women's golf championships, which will take place at the Eugene Country Club. The R-G reports the women's tournament will run May 20-25, and the men's will play from May 27 through June 1. It will be the third time the course has played host for the NCAA Championships, after it hosted in 1959 and 1978. The club hosted the men's West Regional last season. The event will join a crowded sports summer of 2016 in the area. The NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships are scheduled for mid-June at Hayward Field, which also will host the Prefontaine Classic, the OSAA State Track and Field Championships and, from July 1-10, the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, which will select the team headed for Rio De Janeiro for the Summer Olympics. The Register-Guard reports the golf tournament will feature a 72-hole stroke-play format that will determine the individual champion. The tournament will cut down to the top 15 teams and nine individuals not on an advancing team after 54 holes. After 72 holes, the top eight teams will compete in a match play competition, with the first two rounds on Tuesday and the final on Wednesday. The tournament will be televised live by the Golf Channel.; Deadheads, unite! The Grateful Dead is coming back to life for a series of final concerts in July. The surviving band members announced this morning that they will perform three shows on July 3rd, 4th and 5th at Chicago's Soldier Field. The band is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and band members say the shows will mark its final performances. They Dead last performed in 1995 at the Chicago venue. Tickets for "Fare Thee Well: Celebrating 50 Years of Grateful Dead" will be available through mail order system on Jan. 20. They go on sale online on Feb. 14. The Grateful Dead will be joined by Phish's Trey Anastasio, keyboardist Jeff Chimenti and pianist Bruce Hornsby at the concerts. / ECONOMY: U.S. consumer prices fell in December by their largest amount in six years. Analysts say that reflects another big monthly decline in gasoline prices and low inflation. The Labor Department says its consumer price index dropped by four-tenths of one percent last month, the biggest one-month drop since December 2008. For all of 2014, overall inflation was up just eight-tenths of one

percent, which was also the smallest annual increase since 2008. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: U.S. auto safety regulators are investigating engine compartment smoke or fire complaints in two Jeep Cherokees, and air bags that didn't inflate properly in two Nissan Rogues. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says the Cherokee probe covers 50,000 of the SUVs from the 2015 model year. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: It's not a surprise but it's still unwelcome news. Timber counties in 41 U.S. states—including Oregon-- received official confirmation yesterday of how less funding they'll receive now that Congress has ended subsidies to counties that contain national forest land. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Forest Service is distributing more than \$50 million to 746 timber counties nationwide. That's far below the close to \$300 million the counties received during the final year of what was known as the Secure Rural Schools subsidies program. For decades, the Forest Service paid one-quarter of its logging revenues to counties with forest land. The funds were used to build roads and help pay for the operation of schools. About 20 years ago, with logging being reduced to protect the spotted owl and salmon, Congress began approving the subsidies. Efforts to renew the subsidies died in Congress last month. / ENVIRONMENT: Federal science officials say that for the third time in a decade, the globe sizzled to the hottest year on record. Both the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NASA calculated that 2014 was the hottest year in 135 years of record-keeping. Earlier, the Japanese weather agency and an independent group out of University of California Berkeley also measured 2014 as the hottest on record, NOAA scientists said 2014 averaged 58.24 degrees Fahrenheit, 1.24 degrees above the 20thcentury average. The agency had previously reported that Earth also broke heat records in 2010 and 2005. Last month was also the hottest December on record. In 2014, six months set marks for heat. / RELIGION, CRIME: The Catholic Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis has filed for bankruptcy, saying it's is the best way to fairly get as many resources as possible to victims of clergy sexual abuse. Roughly two dozen lawsuits have been filed against the archdiocese alleging past sexual abuse and the archdiocese has received more than 100 notices of potential claims. It's the 12th U.S. diocese to seek bankruptcy protection in the face of sex abuse claims. / HEALTH, POLITICS: Medicare chief Marilyn Tavenner (TAV'-eh-nur) says she's stepping down at the end of February. Tavenner survived the 2013 technology meltdown of HealthCare.gov, but was embarrassed last fall when she testified to Congress that 7.3 million people were enrolled for coverage. That turned out to be an overcount that exaggerated the total by about 400,000. In an email to staff today Tavenner says she's leaving with "sadness and mixed emotions." / ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT: Swanson Group Manufacturing says it will rebuild at the Springfield, Oregon, location where a spectacular fire destroyed its plywood and veneer mill last July. The Register-Guard reports that the family-owned business said Thursday it will start construction on an upgraded mill this summer and hopes to have it mostly complete by mid-2016. The company plans to hire back as many displaced workers as possible. The fire displaced 250 workers. The company says the new mill will employ between 180 and 190, due to increased automation. Chuck Wert is chief operating officer of parent company Swanson Group. He says the company likes the existing site because of its proximity to ready labor, to the type and quality of logs it needs, and a pulp mill to take wood waste. Also, several

major pieces of equipment survived the fire and would be expensive to duplicate elsewhere. Wert says the new mill will focus on specialty plywood products, such as forms for pouring concrete, and hardwoods for cabinet and furniture construction. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: Crater Lake — Oregon's only national park — reports visitation was up in 2014 — part of a nationwide trend. Park Superintendent Craig Ackerman tells the Herald and News newspaper that 619,469 people visited the park last year, up from 523,027. He attributes the increase to a lack of snow that allowed the park to open roads, campgrounds and trails a month earlier than usual, and a promotional campaign by Travel Oregon. Ackerman says he expects to see even more visitors this season, as a result of the movie "Wild," which includes scenes of star Reese Witherspoon hiking a trail overlooking the lake. Nationwide, unofficial figures show a record 294 million people visited National Park Service sites in 2014, a 20 million increase over 2013. ; U.S. government meteorologists say there likely will not be enough snow to boost water supplies in the drought-stricken West. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Water and Climate Center says the year has started off unusually dry in the Southwest. And the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center says drought conditions are expected to improve closer to the Mexican border but not in northern California and Nevada. / HUMAN RIGHTS: With time running short for this term, the Supreme Court's closed-door conference today is of interest to same-sex marriage supporters and opponents. In October, the justices passed up appeals from both sides and refused to block court orders in favor of same-sex couples from taking effect. But the federal court that oversees Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee upheld same-sex marriage bans in November. There have been no rulings in Alabama, Georgia, Nebraska and North Dakota. / SAFETY: Furniture retailer Ikea is recalling 169,000 baby crib mattresses in the U.S. and Canada after receiving two reports of infants getting trapped between the mattress and the end panels. Ikea says the children were not injured. The recall applies to mattresses used for Ikea's Vyssa-style cribs (including the models Vacker, Vinka, Spelevink, Sloa and Slummer). Ikea says some of the mattresses are too short for the crib, posing a risk of entrapment. / IMMIGRATION, EDUCATION, POLITICS: Arizona has become the first state in the nation to enact a law requiring high school students to pass the U.S. citizenship test on civics before graduation. Both the Arizona House and Senate quickly passed the legislation on just the fourth day of the legislative session, and newly elected Republican Gov. Doug Ducey signed it into law Thursday evening. / MILITARY: The US will send 400 troops to train moderate Syrian rebels this spring. The Pentagon confirms the plan that was first reported by Defense One yesterday. Last month, President Barack Obama signed into law a massive defense policy bill that endorsed his plan to fight Islamic State militants, including air strikes and training Iraqis and moderate Syrian rebels. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: Washington's legal marijuana market opened last summer to a dearth of weed. Some stores periodically closed because they didn't have pot to sell. Prices were through the roof. Six months later, the equation has flipped, bringing serious growing pains to the new industry. A big harvest of sun-grown marijuana from eastern Washington last fall flooded the market. Prices are starting to come down in the state's licensed pot shops, but due to the glut, growers are struggling to sell their marijuana. Some are finding it tougher than expected to make a living in legal weed. Grower Andrew Seitz at Dutch Brothers

Farms in Seattle calls it an "economic nightmare." State data show that Washington's relatively few retail stores have sold less than one-fifth of the 31,000 pounds of marijuana flower that growers have harvested. /

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ECONOMY, POLITICS: Republican lawmakers are already signaling they will do what they can to block President Barack Obama's pitch for tax increases on the wealthiest Americans. As the president continues to signal what he will propose during tomorrow's State of the Union address, senior administration officials released more details over the weekend. They say Obama will call for raising the capital gains rate to 28 percent on couples making more than half-a-million dollars per year, the same level it was during the Reagan administration. The president also wants to eliminate a tax break on some large inheritances, a change that would require estates to pay capital gains taxes on securities at the time they're inherited. Officials said the overwhelming impact of the change would be on the top one percent of income earners. The revenue generated by those changes would then fund new tax credits and other cost-saving measures for middle-class taxpayers. Analysts say that the president is outlining that proposal during his State of the Union address in hopes of putting the new Republican Congress in the position of deciding whether to defend top income earners over the middle class. Tax increases are rarely welcomed by congressional Republicans, who now hold majorities in the House and the Senate for the first time in Obama's presidency. His tax proposals are expected to be dismissed, if not outright ignored, by lawmakers outside of the Democratic Party's liberal base. Key Republicans in both chambers indicated they would oppose the plan Administration officials pointed to a third proposal from the president as one they hope Republicans would support: a fee on the roughly 100 U.S. financial firms with assets of more than \$50 billion. Raising the capital gains rate, ending the inheritance loophole and tacking a fee on financial firms would generate \$320 billion in revenue over a decade, according to administration estimates. Obama wants to put the bulk of that money into a series of measures aimed at helping middle-class Americans. / HUMAN RIGHTS, MINORITIES: Ahead of the Martin Luther King, Junior, Holiday, Oprah Winfrey and actors from the movie "Selma" marched with hundreds in a tribute to the slain civil rights leader in Selma, Alabama, yesterday. The movie chronicled turbulent events leading up to the historic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, and the subsequent passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Elsewhere, King's legacy is being celebrated with days of events in Atlanta, especially at the church he once pastored. The King holiday includes other activities nationwide, including plans for a wreath-laving in Maryland, a tribute breakfast in Boston and volunteer service activities by churches and community groups in Illinois. In South Carolina, civil

rights leaders also plan their biggest rally of the year. Here in Lane County, there are marches and observances planned both in Eugene and Springfield, as well as an evening event at Lane Community College. The Eugene Community March begins in front of P-K Park on MLK Boulevard at 9:00 a.m. with a short program. Participants will then march to the Shedd Institute in downtown Eugene for some concluding events. Parking is available at the Serbu Center. The Springfield School District is holding its annual event early this afternoon with a march and speakers. The event begins at 1:30 p.m. at the Springfield Justice Center, followed by a celebration from 2-4 p.m. at Springfield High School. The event at Lane Community College begins at 6:30 p.m. and features actress Holly Robinson-Peete. All tickets are reserved, none are available at the door. / MILITARY, VETERANS, ECONOMY: The movie "American Sniper" earned an astonishing \$90.2 million in its debut weekend in wide release. The entertainment industry trade publication, "Variety," reports it is now on pace to beat records for the Martin Luther King holiday and for the month of January, pulling in roughly \$105 million over the four-day period. That's well above the \$40 million some analysts predicted. Box office observers say the film is gaining strength as it becomes a cultural phenomenon. The film, from director Clint Eastwood, recently picked up Oscar nods for best picture and best actor for star Bradley Cooper. "American Sniper" deals with topics including the Iraq War and post-traumatic stress disorder, which some analysts thought might discourage large audience. Instead, its ticket sales were on par there with those of a blockbuster summer release. / TERRORISM: PARIS (AP) — Police in France are demanding more heavy weapons following three days of terror attacks around Paris that left three officers among the dead. Police unions met today with top officials from the Interior Ministry, pressing for heavy weapons and protective gear, better training for first-responders, and more legal tools to guard against terrorists. Two police officers died Jan. 7 during the massacre at the Charlie Hebdo newspaper. The following day, an unarmed policewoman was killed on the outskirts of the French capital. / ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME: Officials with Oxfam International say the richest one percent of the population will own more than half of the world's wealth by 2016. The details come in a report released today as the World Economic Forum begins its annual meetings in Davos, Switzerland. Oxfam says the world's richest people saw their share of global wealth jump to 48 percent last year from 44 percent in 2009. The organization is warning that rising inequality is holding back the fight against global poverty. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Sometimes the picture says it all. For Kaleb Whitby, the picture says a little too much. He'd rather not think about it — the semi-trucks flattening his Chevy Silverado like a panini press. Amid the tangled steel after the predawn crash near Baker City sat Whitby: intact, trapped and full of questions. "Thank God that I'm still alive," Whitby said. "Now I've got to go figure out why." More than 100 people were involved in the Saturday morning pileup on Interstate 84, about 33 miles east of Baker City. At least three separate collisions involving more than 20 vehicles, most of them semi-trucks, injured a dozen people. All 12 were initially treated at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. The most severely injured was transferred to OHSU Hospital in Portland and listed in critical condition. Six others remained hospitalized Saturday afternoon: Two were in stable condition in Baker City, and four were transferred to a sister hospital in Boise. Black ice, heavy winds, fog and cold weather combined into what were extremely hazardous

conditions. Oregon State Police Sgt. Kyle Hove said there have been plenty of bad crashes on I-84. Nine people died in a charter bus crash in 2012 near Pendleton. But the photos from this incident are dramatic, and telling. Hove estimated 50 vehicles were trapped on the eastbound stretch of highway but then lost count. He said he was distracted by the 100 or so people on the scene, plus 10 troopers and emergency personnel. "I think we're fortunate that there weren't any fatalities here." Hove said. None, perhaps, feels more fortunate than 27-year-old Kaleb Whitby. Headed up a slight hill into a curve, Whitby decided to pass the semi-truck in front of him, but then thought better of it. The fog was too thick. He backed off. When he rounded the curve and started descending, Whitby saw the semi again but this time it was jackknifed across the interstate. He swerved to the right, but ended up hitting the back end of the trailer. It flipped him around, and instantly his truck stalled — leaving him splayed out with his passenger side facing oncoming traffic. Then the headlights of an oncoming semi-truck filled the window frame. "I just braced and hoped that everything would be all right," Whitby said. He prayed, and wondered if it was his time. Ten seconds went by. After the semi slammed into him, Whitby opened his eyes to the sight of shattered glass. The steering column was lodged in his right hip. He was upright again and still in the driver's seat. But the truck as he knew it was gone. He took out his Leatherman pocketknife to cut away his seat belt and dislodge the steering column from his side. He shouted for help. Sergi Karplyuk was already pretty familiar with I-84 and how dicey it could get in bad weather. The 32-year-old trucker had been driving professionally only for two months, and the trip from Pasco to Boise was going slowly. As Karplyuk navigated the same curve and slight descent Whitby traveled minutes earlier, a semi-truck wall met him, blocking the entire road. Karplyuk swerved left and struck the guardrail. His truck disabled, Karplyuk got out of the cab. That's when he saw the barrier wasn't one semi-truck, but two. Sandwiched in between them -- Kaleb Whitby. Good thing I didn't hit the trailer smack in the middle, Karplyuk recalled thinking. That guy would've been dead. Update: The freeway has been reopened. About 30 minutes after flipping his truck, Whitby was free and among the sea of others who had largely escaped serious injury. He and Karplyuk pitched in to help other travelers and the stream of emergency personnel who arrived afterward. Hove credited onlookers for pitching in, saying their work might have saved lives. Afterward, Whitby went to the hospital for a checkup. "I've got two Band-Aids on my right ring finger," he said. "And a little bit of ice on my left eye." / CRIME: An unprecedented pool of 9,000 prospective jurors have been called as lawyers begin to select 12 people to decide if James Holmes was insane when he killed a dozen people in a Colorado movie theater. Jury selection begins tomorrow in Denver. And the size of the jury pool underscores how challenging it is to handle the trial of a mass shooting suspect. Holmes' attorneys acknowledge that their client was the gunman in the July, 2012, attack but say he was in the grip of a psychotic episode. Holmes has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. If jurors find him guilty, they must decide whether to recommend the death penalty. If found not guilty, he would be committed a mental hospital. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: An Oregon jogger thought someone knocked him in the head or he got hit by lightning or may have suffered a stroke when he felt a big blow to the head last week as he was jogging in Bush's Pasture Park. When the 58-year-old man, Ron Jaecks of Salem, was struck a second time he saw a large winged animal he thought was a massive bat. Willamette University biology Professor David Craig

told the Statesman Journal the attacker was likely an owl. Great horned owls are nesting in January and are known to attack anything they think threatens their nest. / ENVIRONMENT, RELIGION: The parishes of St. George Greek Orthodox and St. John the Wonderworker Serbian Orthodox churches will come together at "River Wood" beach on the south bank of the Willamette River at 12:15 p.m. Monday (1/19) to bless the river and by extension all the waters of Eugene. The day is an Orthodox Christian feast day called Theophany, recalling the baptism of Christ in the Jordan River. A wooden cross will be thrown into the river and retrieved by volunteers, as done among Russian Orthodox congregations. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, ECONOMY: It doesn't land on Congressional lawmakers' desks until this morning, but already, President Barack Obama's \$4 trillion budget is the topic of heated political debate. The president says his spending plan seeks to raise taxes on wealthier Americans and corporations and use the extra income to lift the fortunes of families who have felt squeezed during tough economic times. President Obama would also ease tight budget constraints imposed on the military and domestic programs back in 2011, and unveils new initiatives including an ambitious \$478 billion public works program for highway, bridge and transit upgrades. Administration officials say the budget represents a strategy to strengthen the middle class. But Republicans accuse the president of seeking to revert to what they call "tax-and-spend policies" that they claim will harm the economy while failing to do anything about spending on government benefit programs. / HEALTH, POLITICS: In the midst of a measles outbreak, President Barack Obama is telling parents to get their kids vaccinated. The president spoke in an interview with NBC Sunday that is airing this morning on The Today Show. More than 100 cases of the measles have been reported in the U.S. since last month. Many cases have been traced directly or indirectly to someone who visited the Disney theme parks in Southern California. Measles, which is spread through the air, is highly contagious. Symptoms include fever, runny nose and a blotchy rash. Most young children are vaccinated against measles. But outbreaks still occur in the United States, usually when travelers pick up the virus abroad and then spread it among unvaccinated people here. People at highest risk are those who are unvaccinated, pregnant women, infants under six months old and those with weakened immune systems due, for example, to disease, organ transplantation or recovery from chemotherapy.; New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie says parents should have some choice when it comes to vaccinating their children. Christie today disagreed with President Barack Obama, who is urging all parents to vaccinate their kids. The comments come in the wake of a measles outbreak in California. The Republican governor, a potential 2016 presidential candidate, said that he and his wife vaccinated their kids. But, he said, parents need to have some measure of choice as well. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: At least 51 families will get payments from GM, stemming from fatal crashes caused by faulty ignition switches in small cars. And that number is almost certain to rise. The deadline to file claims with compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg was Saturday. An official with the compensation plan says 77 injured people will also get payments. And more claims are still to be decided.; Over the weekend,

there was a call for some drivers to take their vehicles back to the shop for more work on faulty air bags. The government says more than two million Toyota, Chrysler and Honda vehicles need a second fix for air bags that might inadvertently inflate while the car is running. The recall includes some Acura MDX, Dodge Viper, Jeep Grand Cherokee, Honda Odyssey, Pontiac Vibe, Toyota Corolla and Toyota Avalon models made from 2002 to 2004. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says all of the vehicles covered in Saturday's announcement had already been under a recall for the faulty air bags. Carmakers originally tried to fix the defects by partially replacing the electronic control unit, but that fix didn't always work. The new remedy - full replacement of the unit - will be available to all affected vehicles by the end of the year. However, the NHTSA is urging consumers with cars under the first recall to have the partial unit installed despite the fix's failure rate, even if they have to return to the dealer under the second recall. About 39 air bags, or 15 percent, that had been replaced under the previous recall have deployed inadvertently again. / HEALTH, FAMILY: Researchers at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say it underscores the importance of parents to reading food labels carefully and selecting healthier choices. A new government study finds many packaged meals and snacks for toddlers contain what health experts say are "worrisome" amounts of salt and sugar. That, say the experts, can potentially create an early taste for foods that might contribute to obesity and other health risks. Almost one in four U.S. children ages 2 to 5 are overweight or obese - and almost 80 percent of kids ages 1 to 3 exceed the recommended maximum level of daily salt, which is 1,500 milligrams. Excess sugar and salt can contribute to obesity and elevated blood pressure even in childhood, but also later on. The researchers analyzed package information and labels for more than 1,000 foods marketed for infants and toddlers and published their results in the journal "Pediatrics." The researchers said the good news is that the majority of infant foods were low in sodium. But that changes among foods developed for toddlers. About seven in 10 toddler dinners they studied contained too much salt, and most cereal bars, breakfast pastries and snacks for infants and toddlers contained extra sugars. / ECONOMY, POLITICS, COMMUNITY: Around the country, exotic dancers have stepped up their fight for better working conditions. Some are suing. Others have filed complaints with state regulators. A handful have unionized. But in Oregon, the dancers are taking a different approach. They're working directly with state lawmakers and even professional lobbyists to win workplace improvements. The strippers are seeking small changes: A mandate that clubs post information about the rights of dancers, with a hotline they can call to report abuses. / TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMY, SAFETY: The city of Eugene has granted Uber's request for a delay in its appeal hearing. The Register-Guard reports the hearing had been set for Monday and a new date hasn't been scheduled. Meanwhile, Uber and city officials continue to negotiate an agreement that would put the ride-sharing company in compliance with city regulations. The city began fining Uber after the company failed to obtain a transportation license that officials contend is required for operation. Uber maintains it is not subject to the licensing requirement. The city has fined the San Francisco-based company \$2,000 a day since Dec. 15. The total is up to about \$100,000. / CRIME, POLITICS: Junction City Police Chief Mark Chase returns to duty Monday after more than five months on paid administrative leave. City administrator Melissa Bowers says the move

follows an investigation into formal complaints made by members of the department. She declined to provide specifics, saying the complaints were all personnel matters. Contact information for Chase outside of the police department was unavailable. Chase came to Junction City in 2009 from the Salem Police Department. The Register-Guard reports that Chase's return comes as Bowers prepares to leave. She announced in December that she was resigning from the job in mid-February. She cited personal and family issues as the reason for her departure. Her replacement has yet to be chosen. / ENVIRONMENT: The U.N. weather agency says 2014 was the warmest year on record, though the temperature difference with 2010 and 2005 is so small that it's impossible to say for sure which of the three years was the hottest. The World Meteorological Organization's analysis mirrors findings two weeks ago by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and also included data from the Met Office in Britain. The Geneva-based WMO said surface temperatures were 1.03 F above average last year. That's slightly warmer than 2010 and 2005, but the difference was within the uncertainty margin of 0.10 C (0.18 F). With 14 of the 15 hottest years recorded this century, WMO chief Michel Jarraud says warming is expected to continue as atmospheric levels of heat-trapping CO2 rise. / MILITARY, VETERANS, HEALTH: The Senate today is expected to take up a bill aimed at reducing a suicide epidemic among military veterans. The legislation is named for Clay Hunt, a 26-year-old veteran who killed himself in 2011. The House passed the measure last month. It would require the Pentagon and Veterans Affairs Department to submit to independent reviews of their suicide prevention programs and offer financial incentives to psychiatrists and other mental health professionals who go to work for the VA. /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED CRIME, SAFETY, EDUCATION: It was an armed dispute involving a machete and while it took place at a home, it sent two Springfield schools into a brief precautionary lockdown. Police say that's because it happened yesterday afternoon on the 900 block of "G" Street—close to both Springfield High School and Two Rivers-Dos Rios Elementary. At around 2:20 in the afternoon, Springfield Police received a call from Springfield High School employees about the dispute between a student and an adult. Witnesses reported the student had armed himself with a machete-style knife and was swinging it at the adult. When officers arrived, they say they quickly located the adult involved in the incident and learned the name of the teen who was involved but had left the scene. A short time later, the youth was pointed out by school employees near the Two River's- Dos Rios School and taken into custody without incident. The teen faces charges for Unlawful Use of a Weapon, Reckless Endangering, Menacing and Disorderly Conduct. / COMMUNITY, ECONOMY: How should recreational marijuana sales be regulated in our community? Officials with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission are holding a series of public sessions around the state to hear what residents think. And tonight, they're in Eugene from 7-9 p.m. in the Wheeler Pavilion of the Lane County Fairgrounds. Under the new law, personal possession of recreational marijuana becomes legal on July 1 of this year. The OLCC must begin accepting applications for commercial licenses next January, with retail stores set to open by late 2016. The OLCC "listening sessions," as they're being called, are the first steps in a yearlong public rulemaking process that will determine how those stores are allowed to open and operate. The agency will have the authority to issue four types of recreational pot licenses: Producer, Processor, Wholesaler, and Retail. The agency will also have the authority to tax, license and regulate recreational marijuana. The public input from the Eugene meeting and other session will help the OLCC develop its process for approving those licenses. The goal is to set up the retail system for recreational marijuana in such a way that it protects children, keeps communities safe, and smooths the recreational marijuana industry's transition into a state-regulated market. Measure 91 provides for an excise tax that is paid by the Producer (grower) \$35/oz. for flower, \$10/oz. for leaves, \$5 per immature plant. The revenue estimate from taxes when fully implemented ranges from \$17 million to \$40 million annually. Measure 91 provides distribution of revenue after costs to the following: 40% to Common School Fund; 20% to Mental Health Alcoholism and Drug Services; 15% to State Police; 10% to Cities for enforcement of the measure; 10% to Counties

for enforcement of the measure; and 5% to Oregon Health Authority For Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention.; Meantime, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has adopted administrative rules that allow for industrial hemp production and create a framework for what will become the state's newest agricultural industry. Hemp is a member of the Cannabis plant family but is grown for its fiber, oil and seeds and has a far lower THC content than medical and recreational marijuana. The new state rules define production and handling requirements while establishing a permit and licensing process and fees for growers of industrial hemp. State agriculture officials say that while industrial hemp, as defined in Oregon law, is arguably a safe crop and commodity, it is still classified by the federal government as illegal. With the adoption of the rules, the agency is expecting some farmers to plant their crop as soon as permits are issued. The rules are the result of a 2009 law passed by the Oregon Legislature authorizing industrial hemp production and possession. / ENVIRONMENT: Brrr. The northern tier of the U.S. is feeling the freezing cold this morning, as an arctic blast brings minus 20 degree wind chills to parts of Pennsylvania, New York and New England, and minus 35 degrees in pockets near the Canadian border. And a winter storm warning has been lifted for Maine, but residents in several parts of the state will have to dig through between 10 and 17 inches of snow. The latest storm also brought nearly 18 inches to the Boston area. / ECONOMY: U.S. home values rose at a modest pace in December. It's a sign there are too few potential buyers to bid up prices. Real estate data provider CoreLogic says home prices rose 5 percent in December from 12 months earlier. That is down from the 5.5 percent price gain recorded in November. The biggest yearly gains were in Colorado, Texas, New York, Nevada and Michigan. Oregon prices were up 6.7 percent. / ECONOY, EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT: The construction of a new women's softball stadium at the University of Oregon might force the relocation of a World War I memorial that was built in the 1930s. The Register-Guard reports that the soldiers' memorial includes a wall, wrought iron fencing, ornate wrought iron gates with the words "Howe Field" and a ticket booth. Construction of the new softball stadium is scheduled to begin in May. / HEALTH, COMMUNITY, EDUCATION: A state health official says the vaccination rate for measles in Oregon has gotten low enough to cause concern the disease could spread. A Lane County man is among more than 100 people who got measles in the Disneyland outbreak. His visit was in early January. Officials like to wait four weeks to say for sure a measles patient hasn't infected anyone else. Dr. Paul Cieslak (SEES'-lak) of the Oregon Public Health Department tells The Bulletin newspaper the number of Oregonians claiming exemptions from vaccination requirements has crept up. Federal figures show about 91 percent of Oregon children between 19 months and 35 months have been vaccinated against measles. Cieslak says that's below the target of 94 percent, the point when herd immunity stops measles from spreading. / HEALTH, POLITICS: House Speaker John Boehner (BAY'-nur) is weighing in on the vaccine controversy. Boehner says all children ought to be vaccinated. Other politicians have been less clear on the question, amid a measles outbreak. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said parents should have some choice in the matter, a comment his office later clarified by saying that with a disease like measles there's no question kids should be vaccinated.; The House is set to get the ball rolling today by voting on another attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. President Barack Obama says he'll veto

the bill if it reaches his desk. The White House says Obama will meet today with 10 Americans from across the country who wrote him letters about how they benefited from the health care law. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, ELECTIONS, ENVIRONMENT: Democrats are wasting no time before using their expanded majorities in the Oregon Legislature to push forward with several of their initiatives that stalled in recent years. As lawmakers formally began the 2015 legislative session Monday, hearings were scheduled on three Democratic priorities: Expanding the low-carbon fuel standard, automatic voter registration and changes to the rules for class-action lawsuits. In prior years, all three initiatives fell short of the 16 votes they needed in the Senate. The Senate now has two more Democratic seats and the House has one. House and Senate Democrats say they're taking care of "unfinished business." Republicans say they're rushing without allowing time for public input. / POLITICS, ELECTIONS: Oregon might soon have a third major political party. The Independent Party of Oregon says it's up to 108,744 members, giving it 5 percent of the state's registered voters. That's the threshold for becoming a major political party. Party secretary Sal Peralta says the party will send a letter to the Secretary of State's Office, asking it to confirm the development. Besides bragging rights, the main benefit of being a major party is an appearance on the primary ballot. Peralta says attaining major party status would also help it recruit candidates. / POLITICS< HUMAN RIGHTS: The Oregon case that put a wedding cake at the center of a clash between claims of civil rights and religious freedom is headed for a hearing in March. It will focus on the damages due a lesbian couple who were turned down when they asked two Gresham bakers for a wedding cake in January 2013. The bakers say they were acting on their religious beliefs. A year ago, state investigators concluded the bakers had violated the couple's rights to equal treatment in places that serve the public. On Monday, the state labor department announced that an administrative law judge had come to the same conclusion. The Oregonian reports the case ultimately will go to the agency head, Brad Avakian. His decision could be appealed to the courts. / EDUCATION, LOW-INCOME: A new study says the gap between the ability of the nation's richest and poorest students to obtain a bachelor-degree by age 24 has doubled over the last four decades. The study by two education organizations finds that the percentage of students from the lowestincome families earning a bachelor's degree has only increased from 6 percent to 9 percent from 1970 to 2013. But for students from wealthy families, the percentage jumped from 44 to 77 percent. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A series of weather systems will bring periods of occasionally heavy rain and gusty winds to much of northwest Oregon beginning later tonight and continuing through Monday of next week. Rainfall totals for the period through Monday could reach 5 to 7 inches along the coast, in the coastal mountains and in the Cascades-with 2 to 3 inches or a bit more in the valleys. These systems will have a connection to the subtropical moisture systems known as "the pineapple express" and will be guite wet. But breaks between the individual systems may be enough to keep our area rivers within their banks. The first in the series of systems will approach tonight and move through on Thursday. This system will likely produce gusty winds, especially near beaches and exposed coastal headlands where wind gusts to 60 mph are possible. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: Lane County Public Health officials yesterday confirmed the diagnosis of a second University of Oregon student with Menningococcemia (muh-NING'-goh-kawk-see'-mee-ua), the bacterial infection that can cause meningitis. They confirmed that the female student lived on-campus at Earl Hall and health officials offered preventive pills that can halt reproduction of the bacteria to residents of the dormitory. Campus officials yesterday sent text messages to hundreds of students who might have had contact with student. A more general email went to all students. Unlike the measles, the risk of transmission of Menningococcemia is considered to be quite low. You typically would need to have close contact with a patient for four hours or more over the previous seven days. Health experts say many people carry the bacteria in their body and are never affected because their immune system prevents the disease from making them ill.; The measles outbreak in 14 states is testing presidential hopefuls and political leaders, some of whom struggled this week to articulate their positions on whether parents should vaccinate their children. The outbreak has sickened more than 100 people and sent some to the hospital for treatment of complications. Kentucky Senator Rand Paul, who is weighing bids for the GOP presidential nomination, said Monday that he had heard of cases where children developed disorders after receiving vaccines and that parents, quote, "should have some input." But Paul issued a statement yesterday denying immunizations cause disorders, saying they were just, quote, "temporally related." He also posted a photo on Twitter of himself getting a booster for a Hepatitis vaccine. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie on Monday initially said he and his wife had vaccinated their own children and he believes doing so is important to public health but that, quote, "parents need to have some measure of choice in things as well." But

Christie's staff later emphasized that the governor backed vaccinations for diseases such as measles. House Speaker John Boehner yesterday backed vaccination, as did Senate President Mitch McConnell, who referenced his own childhood battle with polio. Potential Democratic presidential candidate Hilary Clinton also tweeted her support for vaccination. / HEALTH, WOMEN: New numbers show that lung cancer has passed breast cancer as the leading cause of cancer death in women in wealthier countries. The American Cancer Society says lung cancer deaths are rising now because of increases in smoking rates several decades ago. Lung cancer has been the top cancer killer for men globally since the 1950s. Since then, smoking rates have been leveling off or falling in many countries and there are signs that lung cancer deaths are declining as well. Doctors say that half of all cancers are preventable by quitting or not smoking, eating a healthy diet and getting enough exercise. Some vaccines also help prevent cervical and liver cancer. / HEALTH: Meantime, U.S. health officials say secondhand smoke exposure dropped by half since 1999. But one in four nonsmokers -- 58 million people -- are still exposed to secondhand smoke. according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data show that exposure remains higher among children, blacks, those who live in poverty, and those who live in rental housing. The report finds two in every five children aged three to 11 years are still exposed to secondhand smoke. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY: Do you have any unpaid parking citations from the University of Oregon? If so, here's your chance at amnesty: an opportunity to pay any outstanding tickets, without having to shell out accrued late fees. Thousands of registered owners of vehicles with unpaid U-of-O parking tickets are receiving letters reminding them of the citations, and providing instructions on how to pay without late fees. That's a chance to avoid future collections or the dreaded parking boots. But it's only good through the end of this month. After that, any unpaid citations from January 1, 2014, or later will be sent to a collection agency. Vehicles with unpaid tickets from any time will be subject to immediately booting or towing if they're spotted parking on campus. See more at parking.uoregon.edu / POLITICS, ECONOMY: A state legislative panel has advanced a measure changing the way Oregon handles class-action lawsuits. The move on the second day of the legislative session Tuesday sets up a vote in the House as soon as Thursday. The measure is a top priority for Democrats, who are using their expanded House and Senate majorities to quickly push through several measures that were blocked in earlier years. Proponents say they're trying to prevent companies that break the law from keeping money they obtained illegally. Critics in the business community say it would make it far too easy for plaintiffs to bring class-action lawsuits in Oregon and would unfairly affect lawsuits already in progress. / ECONOMY< TRANSPORTATION: The AAA auto club reports the average price of a gallon of gasoline in Oregon is \$2.13. That's down a cent in a week and 34 cents lower than a month ago. It's 6 cents higher than the national average. The AAA reports the national average of \$2.07 is up 3 cents from a week ago. Some metro figures from AAA's Tuesday survey: Portland \$2.11, Salem \$2.09, Eugene-Springfield \$2.15, Medford-Ashland \$2.14. / ECONOMY: The tribe that runs the Seven Feathers Casino Resort along Interstate 5 in Southern Oregon has laid off nearly 10 percent of its workforce, which numbered about 1,000. The Medford Mail Tribune reports the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians said Monday that 93 employees got a severance package. In a press

release. Chairman Michael Rondeau blamed the effects of the Great Recession and changing demographics among gamblers. He also said the prospect of a Coquille Tribe casino opening in Medford 70 miles to the south demands the Seven Feathers casino be conservative. The Coquille Tribe operates a casino in Coos County and bought land to open a second operation in Medford. It's seeking a federal OK that could lead to reservation status for the property. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: A large crowd last night in Eugene as officials with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission held a session to find out how the public thinks Oregon's recreational marijuana sales be regulated in the community. Hundreds attended the event at the Lane County Fairgrounds. Under the new law, personal possession of recreational marijuana becomes legal on July 1 of this year. The OLCC must begin accepting applications for commercial licenses next January, with retail stores set to open by late 2016. These OLCC sessions-which are taking place throughout Oregon—are the first steps in a yearlong public rulemaking process that will determine how those stores are allowed to open and operate. The agency will have the authority to issue four types of recreational pot licenses: Producer, Processor, Wholesaler, and Retail. The agency will also have the authority to tax, license and regulate recreational marijuana. The public input from the Eugene meeting and other session will help the OLCC develop its process for approving those licenses. The goal is to set up the retail system for recreational marijuana in such a way that it protects children, keeps communities safe, and smooths the recreational marijuana industry's transition into a stateregulated market. Measure 91 provides for an excise tax that is paid by the Producer (grower) \$35/oz. for flower, \$10/oz. for leaves, \$5 per immature plant. The revenue estimate from taxes when fully implemented ranges from \$17 million to \$40 million annually. / ECONOMY: Staples is buying Office Depot. It' a cashand-stock deal valued at nearly \$6 billion. The deal is expected to close by year's end. It comes a little more than a year after Office Depot combined with OfficeMax. Businesses and consumers have shifted rapidly to online shopping, at the same time that printers and the use of other traditional office supplies have diminished.; A private survey finds that U.S. companies hired at a solid pace last month, the latest sign of steady improvement in the job market. Payroll processor ADP says companies added 213,000 jobs in January, a decent increase though also the smallest in four months. The ADP numbers cover only private businesses and sometimes diverge from the government's more comprehensive report, which includes government agencies. Businesses have added 200,000 jobs or more in nine of the past 10 months, ADP says. The figure suggests Friday's government report will also show a solid burst of hiring. Economists surveyed by FactSet expect the government's report will show that employers added 230,000 jobs. /

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HEALTH, EDUCATION: The Register-Guard is reporting that a University of Oregon student who lived in the same on-campus dorm as a student diagnosed with meningococcemia (muh-NING'-oh-kak-see'-mee-uh) has shown early symptoms of the potentially fatal blood infection. The newspaper quotes a Lane County Public Health official who says the testing of the student's blood is underway, and a diagnosis has not yet been confirmed. If confirmed, it would be the third case of a UO student diagnosed with meningococcemia (muh-NING'-ohkak-see'-mee-uh) since mid-January, and the second involving a student living on campus. All three students are females. County and U-of-O health officials learned Tuesday of the second confirmed case involving a student living in Earl Hall. Officials said the student was scheduled to be released from a hospital yesterday. The Register-Guard reports the university on Tuesday sent out text messages to 1,200 students who attended the same classes with the diagnosed student and extended hours at the health center so that anyone who wanted to could receive antibiotics that stop the bacteria from spreading. The student being monitored visited the Health Center later that day and was identified as one of a handful of students who had closest contact with the infected student. : Officials with the Oregon Immunization Program are reminding parents that children will not be able to attend school or child care starting February 18 - School Exclusion Day - if their records on file show missing immunizations. State law requires that all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified child care facilities have up-to-date documentation on their immunizations, or have an exemption. If school and child care vaccination records are not up-to-date, the child will be sent home. In 2014, local health departments sent 32,345 letters to parents and guardians informing them that their children needed immunizations to stay in school or child care. A total of 5,227 children were kept out of school or child care until the necessary immunization information was turned in to the schools or child care facilities. Letters to parents will be mailed on or before February 4, 2015. Parents seeking immunizations for their children should contact their health care provider or local health department, or call 211 Info - just dial 211. No one can be turned away from a local health department because of the inability to pay for required vaccines. Pharmacists can immunize children 11 and older. Parents should contact their neighborhood pharmacy for details. Parents also need to know about one updated vaccine requirement: The hepatitis A vaccine, which protects against a communicable viral infection, is a two-dose series required for children 18 months and older in child care, preschool and

kindergarten through sixth grade.; California lawmakers proposed legislation Wednesday that would require parents to vaccinate all school children unless a child's health is in danger. Parents could no longer cite personal beliefs or religious reasons to send unvaccinated children to private and public schools. The proposal was introduced after dozens of people have fallen ill from a measles outbreak that started at Disneyland. Mississippi and West Virginia are the only other states with such strict vaccine rules, though the California bill's chief author said he would consider including a religious exemption. Childhood vaccine has become an emotionally charged topic amid the measies outbreak that has sickened more than 100 people across the U.S. and in Mexico. No deaths have been reported. But an estimated one in every four Calfiornia pateints has been hospitalized for complications. Parents cite a variety of reasons for not immunizing their children: religious values, concerns the shots could cause illness and a belief that allowing children to get sick helps them to build a stronger immune system. Measles is extremely contagious and is spread by air through coughing and sneezing. Symptoms include fever, runny nose and telltale rash all over the body. The disease is particularly dangerous to pregnant women, people with weak immune systems and babies who are too young to receive the shot. / EDCATION. ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT: The Register-Guard is reporting that members of the Eugene School Board are giving the city of Eugene a little more time to complete a deal to purchase the Civic Stadium property. The district previously had given the city until February 16 to determine whether it can complete the deal but will now wait until the 27th. No reason was given for why an extension was requested for the city to purchase the 10-acre south Eugene property. Last year, the City Council agreed to buy the property, but only if another entity raised at least \$3 million and had a business plan to renovate and operate the stadium. The nonprofit Eugene Civic Alliance has told city officials it wants to renovate the stadium for soccer and other sports, and to use part of the site for a Kidsports athletic fieldhouse. / POLITICS, ELECTIONS: A new study finds that corporations and trade groups gave at least \$217 million to sway the outcome of state ballot measure and referendum campaigns during the 2014 midterm elections. The agricultural giant Monsanto helped defeat the proposal in Oregon that would have required more labeling of food products. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: The high winds hitting the coast of Oregon and southwest Washington on Thursday morning are leading a series of storms in what forecasters call an atmospheric river. The National Weather Service says the rain storms will arrive in surges through the weekend with breaks in between. Rainfall totals through Monday could reach 5 to 7 inches on the Oregon coast and Cascades and 2 or 3 inches in the valleys. The Weather Service says it also will be windy through the weekend. Forecasters say the storms should end and let the region dry out by the middle of next week.; The angry owl in a Salem park has struck again. Brad Hilliard says he was jogging early Monday in Bush's Pasture Park when he felt a scratch on the back of his neck and something swooped off with his favorite running camp. When he saw signs warning park visitors of aggressive owls, he realized what happened. The Statesman Journal reports it was the fourth owl attack in the park since last month. Keith Keever with the Parks Operations Division says it's a barred owl that may be protecting a nest. Officials hope the owl will be less territorial after mating season ends next month. / ECONOMY: The Register-Guard is reporting 350 new jobs might be coming to Eugene. A company headquartered

in Mumbai, India, hopes to open a call center in the Chambers Media Center building on Chad Drive in northeast Eugene next month. Firstsource Solutions already is looking for workers. Notices posted in the past few days on job websites such as Careerbuilder.com, Glassdoor.com and others show the company is looking for call center supervisors, customer service representatives, training managers, IT engineers and other positions. The city of Eugene in December approved a \$1.25 million building permit for Chambers Communications, the owner of the Chad Drive building, to renovate part of the building for a call center operation. The building also houses ABC affiliate KEZI-TV, which Chambers formerly owned. / HEALTH, CRIME: The health insurance company Anthem says the hackers who got into its computer network were able to gain access to personal information for "tens of millions" of customers and employees. Those employees include the company's CEO. The nation's second-biggest health insurer says it's contacting customers who were affected. The hackers were able to see names, birthdates, email addresses, employment details, Social Security numbers, incomes and street addresses of current and past customers. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS: An Oregon bill aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions has cleared its first hurdle in the state Legislature. Democrats on the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee sent the measure to the full Senate in a party-line vote Wednesday. The bill would extend Oregon's lowcarbon fuel standard, which requires oil companies to reduce the carbon emissions associated with their fuels or buy credits from producers of cleanerburning fuels. The program was first approved in 2009 but is set to expire at the end of the year. Critics say it would raise fuel prices without bringing a noticeable reduction in global carbon emissions. Proponents say price increases would be minimal, and it would spur investments in new technology. / POLITICS, MINORITIES, IMMIGRATION: An Oregon legislative committee has advanced a measure that would use driver's license records to automatically register people to vote. The House Rules Committee approved the bill on Wednesday, sending it to a budget committee. The measure is a top priority for Democratic leaders, who are using their expanded House and Senate majorities to quickly push through bills that were stymied in previous years. Democratic Secretary of State Kate Brown, who proposed the bill, estimates about 300,000 eligible voters will be identified. They'll be sent allowing them to opt out of registering or choose a political party. If they don't opt out, they'll get a ballot in the mail during the next election. State experts estimate it will cost about \$800,000 to comply. / POLITICS: The editorial board of Oregon's largest newspaper is calling on Gov. John Kitzhaber to resign following ethical questions about his fiancée. The Oregonian wrote Wednesday that "Kitzhaber has broken faith with Oregonians" and can no longer effectively lead the state. In a statement responding to the editorial, Kitzhaber said he was elected to serve the citizens of Oregon and he intends to continue to do so. The Democratic governor is under fire over paid consulting work done by his fiancée, Cylvia Hayes, on behalf of organizations seeking to influence state policy. He's deflected questions, saying a state ethics commission is investigating. In a news conference last week, Kitzhaber also refused to answer questions about whether Hayes failed to report income on her taxes. / TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMY: Employers could lock out West Coast dockworkers in as few as five days if the two sides do not reach a new contract. That warning came Wednesday from the head of a maritime association who is

negotiating a new deal with a union representing longshoremen at 29 ports that handle about \$1 trillion in trade annually. Pacific Maritime Association CEO James McKenna said he wanted to avoid a coast-wide port shutdown, but employers wouldn't keep paying workers who aren't moving cargo at their normal rate if the ports become much more gridlocked. He said that could come between five and 10 days from now. A spokesman for the International Longshore and Warehouse Union said the differences between negotiators were small. After his remarks, McKenna returned to negotiations in San Francisco. / EDUCATION: The state Department of Education reports that 570,857 students enrolled in K-12 public schools last fall, a gain of less than 1 percent from 2013-14. Of Oregon's 197 school districts, 58 percent had an enrollment increase, 41 percent saw a decrease and 1 percent had no change. Portland remains the largest district with 47,647 students, followed by Salem-Keizer, Beaverton and Hillsboro. North Clackamas edged Bend-LaPine and Eugene for the fifth spot. Hispanic students now represent 22 percent of the overall student population. Deputy Superintendent Rob Saxton said in a news release Wednesday that educators must adapt to the demographic changes because the state's future depends on closing the achievement gap. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, HEALTH: A new survey of the nation's college freshmen says that teenagers across the United States are spending much less time partying and socializing with friends during their last year of high school than their parents' generation did. The annual survey released Wednesday, conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA, also found that first-year college students' sense of emotional well-being is at its lowest level since the institute first asked incoming freshmen to rate their mental health in 1985. Kevin Eagan, the institute's managing director and an assistant professor at UCLA, says the results indicate the millennial generation faces greater pressure to succeed academically and has less time to have fun. Other survey trends show that students are increasingly drinking less alcohol as high school seniors, submitting more college applications and reporting they feel overwhelmed. / ECONOMY: If you bought a ticket or tickets for last night's \$317 million Powerball drawing, sorry. Nobody won the jackpot. There'll be another drawing Saturday night. Each drawing without a winner rolls the jackpot over and makes it more lucrative. The Powerball website shows the current estimated haul for the next drawing is \$360 million. /

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ENVIRONMENT: The high winds hitting the coast of Oregon and southwest Washington on Thursday morning are leading a series of storms in what forecasters call an atmospheric river. The National Weather Service says the rain storms will arrive in surges through the weekend with breaks in between. Rainfall totals through Monday could reach 5 to 7 inches on the Oregon coast and Cascades and 2 or 3 inches in the valleys. The Weather Service says it also will be windy through the weekend. Forecasters say the storms should end and let the region dry out by the middle of next week. ; With Willamette Basin snowpack at 14 percent of normal, this weekend's warm, wet storms can only make things worse. The snow level is up to 8,000 as the first storm arrived overnight. Yesterday, the high temperature in Eugene was a record warm for the date: 64 degrees. The previous record of 62 was set in 2010, the previous warmest year on record. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: A Lane County public health official says that a third University of Oregon student does not have a contagious bacterial blood infection. The Register-Guard reports spokesman Jason Davis said Thursday that the young woman had flu-like symptoms but tests show she does not have meningococcemia. Early symptoms can resemble flu. Davis says the two female UO students with confirmed cases of meningococcemia — one in mid-January and the other earlier this week — are both recovering. The university notified a total of 2,000 students who were at risk of being infected by the two students and has provided antibiotics to about 400 of those students. / HEALTH, POLITICS: A group of Democratic lawmakers—including an Oregon senator—says a plan by three Republican lawmakers for replacing President Barack Obama's health care overhaul would leave Americans with less coverage and higher costs than the landmark law they want to repeal. The remarks came one day after the GOP authors released their outline. The plan is not yet in legislative language. But it would erase the existing law's coverage requirements for individuals and employers. It would eliminate the state and HealthCare.gov federal insurance marketplaces where insurance can be purchased. And it would abolish the taxes the law imposes on medical devices and other things. The GOP plan relies largely on tax credits and greater flexibility for insurers and states to provide coverage. Oregon Senator Ron Wyden, complains that the proposal, quote, "effectively raises taxes on the middle class, removes bedrock protections for consumers and chips away at key coverage benefits that Americans rely on." Wyden is the top Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee. Republicans have promised to repeal and replace the health care overhaul virtually since its 2010 enactment but

have so far not advanced a substitute. The GOP leadership faces growing pressure to suggest a replacement plan because 19 million Americans will be covered under Obama's law this year, according to estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.; Several state legislatures are debating vaccine-related measures as dozens of people have fallen ill from a measles outbreak that started at Disneyland in December and spread beyond the theme park. Oregon made it harder for parents to opt out of vaccinations for nonmedical reasons in 2013. That law requires parents to meet with a doctor or watch an informational video before they can reject vaccines for a child entering kindergarten. A bill proposed this year would expand the requirement to all children, including those already in school. A hearing on the bill has yet to be scheduled. The CDC reported that Oregon had the nation's highest rate of nonmedical vaccine exemptions during the 2012-13 school year. / ECONOMY: The latest look at the statewide indicators compiled by economist Tim Duy at the University of Oregon found another month of solid activity in December. There were some signs of continued job growth and consumer confidence climbed, in part likely because of the decline in gasoline prices. Manufacturing data remained generally positive, but the rate at which contractors are securing residential building permits is still a bit weak. / POLITICS: Three prominent House Democrats are vowing to skip Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech to Congress next month, saying they disapprove of House Speaker John Boehner's decision to invite the Israeli leader without consulting President Barack Obama. The three include Congressmen Earl Blumenauer of Oregon, John Lewis of Georgia and G.K. Butterfield of North Carolina. The White House also hinted yesterday that Vice President Joe Biden might not attend Netanyahu's March 3rd speech, which is expected to focus on Iran. Blumenauer, a well-known liberal and advocate of alternative energy, called on Boehner last week to cancel the joint session with Netanyahu, calling it "political grandstanding." The Constitution vests the responsibility for foreign affairs in the president, Blumenauer said, adding that "it's deeply troubling that the speaker is willing to undercut diplomacy in exchange for theatrics on the House floor." Boehner spokesman Michael Steel said Thursday that "support for Israel has always been a bipartisan issue, and it always should be." / MILITARY, VETERANS: NBC News anchor Brian Williams found himself at the center of the story yesterday, his credibility seriously threatened because he falsely claimed he had been in a helicopter hit by a grenade during the Iraq war. NBC News officials would not say whether their top on-air personality would face disciplinary action. Williams, the "Nightly News" anchor for just over a decade, became an online punching bag overnight. Williams apologized Wednesday for telling the story a week earlier during a "Nightly News" tribute to a veteran he had befriended during a 2003 reporting trip to Iraq. Before expressing his regrets on the air, Williams did so online and in an interview with the newspaper Stars & Stripes. He speculated online that constant viewing of video showing him inspecting the damaged helicopter and the fog of memory over 12 years, made him, quote, "conflate the two," and he apologized. Williams' story was first questioned in posts to the "Nightly News" Facebook page. It's a touchy topic: Members of the military who are wounded or who come under enemy fire consider themselves members of a special kind of brotherhood. Military and media experts say inaccurate claims and embellishment smack of stolen valor. Williams' immediate issue is whether people believe his apology, a particular problem in an

industry in which credibility is crucial. Tweets with the hashtag BrianWilliamsMemories joked that he blew up the Death Star, saved someone from a polar bear and flew with Wonder Woman in her invisible helicopter. Photoshopped pictures showed him reporting from the moon and riding shotgun with O.J. Simpson in his Ford Bronco. / TERRORISM: Officials in Portland are deciding whether to fully rejoin the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force after dropping out a decade ago. U.S. Attorney Amanda Marshall told the City Council late Thursday the move would help keep the city safe. Portland left in 2005 after federal officials refused to grant top-secret clearance to then-Mayor Tom Potter. Potter said he had to ensure that city officers obey Oregon laws barring police from investigating people because of their religious or political ties. The lack of oversight remains a sticking point, and everyone who signed up to speak at the hearing urged city leaders to keep Portland out of the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Among them was Brandon Mayfield, the Portland lawyer wrongly linked by the FBI to the 2004 Madrid train bombing. He says local FBI agents routinely intimidate Muslims. The council expects to make a decision in two weeks. / ECONOMY: There's new evidence today that the job market is accelerating closer to full health. Employers added a vigorous 257,000 jobs in January, and wages jumped by the most in six years. And hiring turns out to have been far stronger in November and December than had been estimated. The unemployment rate inched up from 5.6 percent to 5.7 percent -- but that was because more than 1 million Americans began looking for jobs. That suggests Americans have grown more confident about their prospects. / CRIME: The state parole board has decided not to release a man convicted of killing a police officer in John Day in 1992. The Oregonian reports the decision was reached Thursday in the case of Sidney Dean Porter. Porter was convicted of killing Officer Frank Ward during a domestic violence call. Authorities say Porter smashed a piece of firewood on Ward's forehead, and the officer died of a broken neck and extensive head trauma. The parole board said Porter has what it calls "severe emotional disturbance" and is a danger to the community. The decision means his next possible release date is in 2020. In 2013, the board granted his release but later reversed its decision when Gov. John Kitzhaber and law enforcement officers objected.; A Springfield man who set fire to an ATM in an effort to cover up illegal cash withdrawals has been sentenced to 18 months in prison. The Register-Guard reports that 33-year-old Jeremy Shorter pleaded guilty in Lane County Circuit Court to charges of second-degree arson, identity theft and second-degree theft. He was sentenced Thursday. Authorities say the Dec. 29 fire caused an estimated \$42,000 in damage. Shorter poured gasoline on the ATM, then set it afire. Prosecutors say he inserted empty envelopes into the machine to make it appear as if he had deposited money, and then withdrew money. He reportedly got about \$400 in illegal withdrawals. Shorter's lawyer blamed her client's methamphetamine use for the crimes. /

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ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Weather notes: We had some big lightning storms to the north of us overnight. Meantime, The Oregonian's outdoor writer reports Mt. Bachelor has received a foot of fresh snow, fueling hopes there might be some late-winter or spring skiing for other resorts this season.; Another strong low pressure system will bring another significant round of rainfall to the region, up to one inch in the inland valleys. Less certain is how strong the winds will be with this system, as It will likely be weakening as it moves up the Oregon coast. At this point it appears south to southwest winds will gust 30 to 40 mph Monday afternoon and evening for the Willamette Valley and the Interstate 5 corridor. With the ground soggy from recent rainfall, this may be enough to knock down some weaker trees in the area. Officials recommend staying informed with the latest forecasts as a lot of uncertainty remains and the forecast may change significantly between now and the event.; A fast-moving fire Sunday night destroyed a home in Monroe. And KEZI is reporting that neighbors say they saw lightning hit the house. Firefighters haven't confirmed the cause. The residents weren't home at the time.; Boston has set a record for the most snow recorded in a 30-day period, and more is on the way. Logan International Airport had a little more than a foot by 7 a.m. from a storm that is expected to last all day and add several more inches. Gov. Charlie Baker says highway crews have removed enough snow from state roads over the last two weeks to fill Gillette Stadium in Foxborough 90 times over. / HUMAN RIGHTS: Alabama has started issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples, becoming the 37th state where gays can legally wed. A probate judge issued a license to two women shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court denied the state's request to extend a hold on a judge's ruling overturning the state's ban on gay marriage. He issued the license despite Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's 11th-hour attempt to keep the weddings on hold, with an order send to all probate judges Sunday night directing them to refuse to issue the licenses.; An official of the ACLU in Alabama says she's heard of four counties in the state where judges are refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. And Susan Watson says those judges face the risk of lawsuits for refusing. / MILITARY: A trial is getting under way today at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina for a Marine who vanished in Iraq a decade ago and then wound up in Lebanon. Defense attorneys maintain Cpl. Wassef Hassoun (wah-SEF' hah-SOON') was kidnapped in 2004 by insurgents and later became tangled up in Lebanese courts. But prosecutors allege he fled his post because he was unhappy with his deployment and how U.S. troops treated Iraqis. / ECONOMY, WOMEN: An Oregon House committee

plans to take two measures today. The Oregonian newspaper reports that they're aimed at narrowing the earnings gap between men and women. One would outlaw employers from paying men and women different amounts for equivalent work. The other would prohibit employers from punishing workers who discuss their wages. The proposals are backed by top Democrats in the Senate and House of Representatives, who say existing anti-discrimination laws haven't done enough to bring women's wages in line with men's, and that people should feel safe to talk with colleagues about pay. Recent data indicates Oregon women earn 79 cents for every dollar that men brought home in 2012. That was two cents better than the national average. / MILITARY, VETERANS: Brian Williams has, in effect, suspended himself from "NBC Nightly News" — the show on which he is both anchor and managing editor. In a memo to his staff, Williams said he was making the move in his role as the show's managing editor. He says it has become "painfully apparent" he has become a distraction. Williams has been under fire for claiming he was in a helicopter that came under fire during his coverage of the war in Iraq. Williams says he'll be back in the anchor seat soon — and that Lester Holt will sub in his absence. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: A Senate report says automakers are cramming cars with wireless technology, but they have failed to adequately protect against the real possibility that hackers could use those potential entry points to take control of vehicles or steal personal data. Sen. Edward Markey asked automakers a series of questions about the technologies built into their vehicles and how carmakers are safeguarding those systems from infiltration. The Massachusetts Democrat also asked how the information vehicle computers gather and often transmit wirelessly is protected. The report by Markey's staff says the responses from 16 manufacturers reveal there is "a clear lack of appropriate security measures" to protect drivers against hackers who may be able to take control of a vehicle or wish to collect and use personal driver information.; Land Rover and Jaguar are recalling 104,000 vehicles because of problems with the brakes and lights. The largest recall involves a brake-hose issue that Jaguar Land Rover North America studied and dismissed, only to reopen after an accident. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issued notices on the recalls Friday. The safety agency said that Jaguar Land Rover North America will recall up to 74,648 Range Rovers because one or both front brake hoses could rupture, causing the loss of braking fluid. Land Rover dealers will replace the brake hoses for free on the cars, which are model years 2006 through 2012. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: The average price of a regular gallon of gas jumped 13 cents in the past two weeks to \$2.20, ending a sustained drop. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that a rebound in the price of crude oil caused the run-up at the pump. However, the price is \$1.10 below the mark a year ago, on Feb. 7, 2014. In Eugene-Springfield this morning, AAA—the automobile club—reports that the average price from a gallon regulargrade gasoline is \$2.30 per gallon. That's up 16 cents per gallon from last week but still seven cents below the same time last month. Prices were one dollar per gallon higher one year ago. Lundberg says pump prices could climb as much as a dime in the near future, unless oil prices show significant declines. / ECONOMY: The Powerball jackpot is climbing to \$450 million for Wednesday night's drawing. Lottery officials say that's the fifth-largest jackpot in U.S. history. / SAFETY: The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division says it has found no violations in relation to a construction worker's death at McCullough Bridge in North Bend last

fall. The World newspaper reports the man's death was also unrelated to a wind storm that damaged a work enclosure on the same bridge a few hours before 52year-old Mark Fortune of Florence died. OSHA says Fortune, a mechanic, died after backing his pickup truck off a work platform below the bridge into the Coos Bay. At the time of the accident, he was putting an "oil diaper" on a crane to keep oil from dripping into the bay. OSHA investigators concluded Fortune tried to avoid hitting a spool of electrical cable on the platform and went over a bull rail. / HEALTH, CRIME: First hacking, now phishing. Anthem is warning its customers about possible scam emails trying to take advantage of the hacking attack that infiltrated its system. The company behind Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance has had hackers get access to records of about 80 million people, including their names, Social Security numbers and email addresses. Anthem says the bogus emails are designed to look like they come from Anthem — but aren't. So Anthem is warning users not to click on any links in suspicious emails, open attachments to emails — or even reply to them. Anthem says when it supplies information to its clients about credit monitoring services, it will use the U.S. Postal Service to do so. / TERRORISM: The family of an American woman kidnapped by the Islamic State group is holding out hope that the 26-year-old is still alive. Militants claimed on Friday that Kayla Mueller (MYOO'-lur) of Prescott, Arizona, was killed during airstrikes by Jordan. Jordan calls the claim propaganda. Mueller was abducted in August 2013 while leaving a hospital in Syria, and up until Friday her family and a few close friends had kept her situation a closely guarded secret to ensure her safety. /

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ENVIRONMENT: Last week, scientists with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service reported that, for the second consecutive year, Oregon's mountains are experiencing record-low snowpack levels. The latest snow survey revealed that while the state has received near-normal amounts of rainfall since Oct. 1 -- the beginning of the water year -- mountain temperatures have been unusually warm. As a result, 44 out of 110 long-term snow monitoring sites in Oregon measured record or near-record low levels for snowpack on Feb. 1. Some areas were snow-free for the first time on record. And in the Willamette Basin, the average snow-water equivalent—a measurement of the overall snowpack and its water content—was at 12 percent of normal. That's an historic low. Without significant snowfall in February and March, NRCS hydrologists predict that streams and rivers typically fed by snowmelt will experience well-below-normal flows this summer.; The monster snowstorm that left some Boston-area communities with another two feet of snow or more is gone, but the aftereffects continue. The region continues to clean up, but coming hard on the heels of two other major snowstorms, there is no place to move the latest snowfall. The storm also forced Boston's transit system to suspend all rail service for the entire day today to clean tracks and repair equipment. Boston hospitals have set up sleeping areas for workers and police are offering rides to work for doctors and nurses. Another problem is the possibility of roof collapses. Several partial collapses were reported yesterday, and the danger remains. Most schools remain closed, and a school district north of Boston has closed all schools for the week over concerns about strained roofs. / ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION: High wind gusts of 60 mph took down a dozen power poles and their electrical lines on Highway 34 west of Lebanon yesterday morning. It might be tomorrow before crews can repair all of the damage. In the meantime, the highway is down to a single lane of alternating traffic. The outages from high winds cut power for several hours to 17,000 customers in the Lebanon area. Here in Eugene-Springfield, our highest wind gust was 40 miles per hour.; A weather-related pavement failure has created a pothole four feet long and two feet wide on Highway 126 in Springfield on the 28th Street overpass. Crews need warmer, drier weather to make the emergency patch so they've put up advisories but use caution driving through the area. / SAFETY: A 78-year-old pedestrian died yesterday morning when she was struck by a local charity's truck as its driver was pulling out of the Civic Stadium parking lot in South Eugene. The accident happened shortly after ten a.m. Police say Ruth Madsen Ross of Eugene was walking westbound from the Civic Stadium parking

lot toward 20th and Oak Streets. At the same time, a St. Vincent DePaul tractortrailer truck driven by 54-year-old Arthur Taylor of Springfield was pulling out of the parking lot to go north on Oak. The investigation, which is still underway, closed the intersection for several hours. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: President Barack Obama could — as early as today — ask Congress to allow the use of military force to fight the Islamic State group. Debate on Capitol Hill could lead to the first war vote in Congress in 13 years. In 2002, Congress passed a resolution authorizing President George W. Bush to use force against Iraq. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: Authorities in Eugene, Oregon, say a third University of Oregon student has been diagnosed with a contagious bacterial infection that can cause meningitis. The Register-Guard reports that Lane County Public Health spokesman Jason Davis says the male student with meningococcemia is in the intensive care unit of a local hospital. University spokeswoman Jen McCulley said the university sent text messages and emails Monday to students and faculty who may have shared a class with the student to tell them that an antibiotic that prevents the spread of the bacteria in the body is available at the campus health center. The university notified a total of 2,000 students and faculty in the two earlier cases, both involving female students who are recovering. The bacterium is not as easily spread as the virus that causes the flu. Still, Davis notes that "it's spreading, and it's a potentially deadly bacteria." / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: The Eugene, Oregon, City Council says while Uber might be a new type of ride service, it should comply with the same rules as traditional taxi companies. The Register-Guard reports the council voted 8-0 on Monday night to approve a code change that makes it explicit that ride-hailing services such as Uber must be licensed by the city. Councilor Greg Evans says the change is designed to ensure that such companies follow the safety and other regulations the city requires of other transportation providers. The change also lets traditional taxi companies use smartphone applications to calculate fares. Uber has refused to comply with Eugene's licensing and other requirements since it began operating in the city last summer — and the city has been fining it. Uber's Northwest manager, Brooke Steger, said the code change would jeopardize Uber's operations in Eugene. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The Oregon House of representatives has approved a measure changing the way the state handles class-action lawsuits. Two Republicans joined all Democrats present in approving the measure yesterday. Democrats have put it on a fast track over objections from critics who say it will upend Oregon's legal procedures for handling class-action lawsuits. / TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMY, POLITICS: Members of the Lane County Board of Commissioners could get another earful today as they consider whether to refer a \$35 annual vehicle registration fee to the May ballot. The proceeds would help pay for maintenance of county and city roads and bridges. But there's some healthy opposition to the proposed new fee. Backers say the county needs to find a new source of revenue as the current funding for road maintenance declines. Money from federal timber payments is projected to end this year, and analysts say gas tax revenue is declining as vehicles become more fuel-efficient. The public hearing will be at 1:30 this afternoon at Harris Hall in the Lane County Public Service Building at 8th and oak Streets in Eugene. Lane County has more than 1,400 miles of roads and 417 bridges, which together are valued at more than \$6 billion. / CRIME: Springfield Police say they need your help in locating the driver of a vehicle involved in a pedestrian hit-and-run last night at

10th and Main Streets that sent the victim to the hospital with a broken hip. It happened shortly after 8:20 p.m. as the victim was walking westbound across 10th Street on the south side of Main Street. Witnesses say the pedestrian had a walk signal and tried to jump out of the way of the vehicle but was struck and fell to the ground. Witnesses say the vehicle, described as a black or grey sedan 2010 or similar model Toyota Camry, stopped momentarily, but then fled southbound on 10th St and then eastbound on South A Street. Know anything about the case? Contact the Springfield Police at 541-726-3714. / ENVIRONMENT: A lawsuit that accuses the federal Environmental Protection Agency of failing to protect Oregon and Washington oysters from ocean acidification is scheduled for a hearing on Thursday in Seattle. The agency is being sued by the Center for Biological Diversity, a nonprofit organization that works to protect endangered species and habitat. The center is challenging an EPA decision three years ago that said Oregon and Washington ocean waters meets water-quality standards meant to protect marine life. / EDUCATION: Oregon's Chief Education Officer says the state's schools deserve a one-year reprieve from being rated according to their test scores. The Oregonian quotes Nancy Golden—who is the state's top education official and the former superintendent of the Springfield Schools. She said yesterday that because Oregon is switching this year to a new set of tests. the state should issue report cards that show each school's scores but not a rating of how well or how poorly they stack up against other schools. Oregon switched to the new tests because, unlike the state's old assessment, the so-called "Smarter Balanced" tests cover what students are supposed to be taught under the Common Core reading, writing and math standards that Oregon adopted in 2010. The tests, which were taken by 4 million students in spring 2014 to work out any kinks, will be given in 19 states, including Oregon, Washington and California, this spring. They are far different than OAKS: more intellectually demanding, not exclusively multiple-choice and requiring students to cite evidence to support their answers. But Golden says rating schools in the first year based on their performance on the unfamiliar tests could harm students, who might grow discouraged about the first batch of scores. She made the recommendation after she spent more than a year examining testing issues with representatives of the state teachers union. The Oregonian notes that Golden's recommendation is in draft form and could change by March. / TERRORISM: The parents of an American woman held by Islamic State militants say they have been notified of her death. The White House also issued a statement confirming the death of Kayla Jean Mueller (MYOO'-lur). The Islamic State group said Friday that the 26-yearold Mueller from Prescott, Arizona, died in a Jordanian airstrike. The government of Jordan had dismissed the statement as propaganda. / ECONOMY: The number of available jobs posted by U.S. employers has reached its highest level in 14 years, a sign recent strong job gains will likely continue. The Labor Department says job openings rose 3.7 percent in December to a seasonally adjusted 5 million, the most since January 2001. More Americans also quit their jobs, a sign of confidence in the labor market, because people typically quit when they have another job lined up, usually at higher pay. / POLITICS: Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber is fighting back after a week of silence about influence-peddling allegations against his fiancée, Cylvia Hayes. In a letter Monday to Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, the Democratic governor maintains that he and Hayes have done nothing wrong and says "the Oregon media" have rushed to judgment.

He asks Rosenblum to conduct what he called a "factual review" of the allegations. Rosenblum last week called the allegations very serious and troubling. The request is a change of course for Kitzhaber. He had insisted a state ethics commission could do an adequate investigation, and he repeatedly rejected calls to appoint a special prosecutor. A series of newspaper reports since October have showed Hayes did paid consulting work for advocacy groups seeking to influence state government. / ELECTIONS, POLITICS: Secretary of State Kate Brown has formally designated the Independent Party of Oregon as a major political party. The designation announced Monday allows the Independent Party to participate in primary elections. Party officials said last week that their ranks reached five percent of the total voters registered for the November election. That's the threshold for a major party designation. Brown's office says the Independent Party's status will be verified again on Aug. 17 to determine whether it gets a spot in the May 2016 statewide primary. The Independent Party joins the Republican and Democratic parties as major political parties in Oregon. /

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TRANSPORTATION, ELECTIONS, POLITICS: Members of the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously yesterday to place a \$35 annual vehicle registration fee on the May ballot. The proceeds would help pay for maintenance of county and city roads and bridges. Backers say the county needs to find a new source of revenue as the current funding for road maintenance declines. Money from federal timber payments is projected to end this year, and analysts say gas tax revenue is declining as vehicles become more fuel-efficient. Lane County has more than 1,400 miles of roads and 417 bridges, which together are valued at more than \$6 billion. / EDUCATION: Oregon's Chief Education Officer says the state's schools deserve a one-year reprieve from being rated according to their test scores. The Oregonian quotes Nancy Golden-who is the state's top education official and the former superintendent of the Springfield Schools. She said vesterday that because Oregon is switching this year to a new set of tests, the state should issue report cards that show each school's scores but not a rating of how well or how poorly they stack up against other schools. Oregon switched to the new tests because, unlike the state's old assessment, the so-called "Smarter Balanced" tests cover what students are supposed to be taught under the Common Core reading, writing and math standards that Oregon adopted in 2010. The tests, which were taken by 4 million students in spring 2014 to work out any kinks, will be given in 19 states, including Oregon, Washington and California, this spring. They are far different than OAKS: more intellectually demanding, not exclusively multiple-choice and requiring students to cite evidence to support their answers. But Golden says rating schools in the first year based on their performance on the unfamiliar tests could harm students, who might grow discouraged about the first batch of scores. She made the recommendation after she spent more than a year examining testing issues with representatives of the state teachers union. The Oregonian notes that Golden's recommendation is in draft form and could change by March. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: President Barack Obama is asking Congress to formally authorize war against Islamic State militants, offering a draft resolution that says the Islamic State "poses a grave threat." The president is sending Congress a proposed three-page authorization for military force. Obama would limit authorization to three years, with no restriction where U.S. forces could pursue the threat. / CRIME: Here's an unsettling advisory from Eugene Police: In the last week, police have received information about a white jeep, possibly a 2001 to 2002 model, in the area of 22nd Avenue and Olive Street. The vehicle is reported to have followed a female on

each occurrence and the driver of the vehicle is reported to have attempted to make contact with the person both times. On one occasion, the man got out of the vehicle and followed the female, but she was able to find safety when she happened to see a friend nearby. The man is estimated to be in his late 30's to early 40's in age. The suspect is described as a white male, "scruffy" facial hair, medium brown curly hair, basic frame glasses, and has been seen wearing a charcoal grey fleece pullover, dirty jeans and dirty shoes. Police offer these personal safety tips: Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Do not get into someone's car even if they display a weapon. It is better to fight back in the street where help is closer at hand and other people may hear your calls for help. Walk confidently and don't avoid eye contact. Don't let strangers into your 'space,' Keep plenty of distance between yourself and people you don't wish to approach you. Don't stop to talk with strangers asking for directions or other types of help as this can be a ploy to get close for an attack. If you feel you are in danger or being followed, call 9-1-1. If grabbed, fight back and make as much noise as possible. Use the buddy system when walking after dark. You should know the person you are walking with well enough to trust them. Walk in lighted areas as much as possible and don't walk too close to bushes, alleyways or other places where attackers can conceal themselves. / ECONOMY: Radio Shack plans to close its two of its Eugene stores as part of its reorganization in federal bankruptcy court. They are among more than one dozen Oregon stores slated for closure. Radio Shack officials announced late last week they are closing up to 2,100 of their close to 4,400 stores. The closure list was released this week. They include the store at Eugene's Valley River Center and at Santa Clara Square. / COMMUNITY: It's a high-profile event that's raised millions of dollars for non-profit organizations in our community. But it also requires a huge number of volunteers and volunteer hours. The Register-Guard is reporting that the Great Rotary Duck Race has made its final float.

Rotarians plan to replace it with a raffle. The new event will still offer some big prizes. But it won't involving staging a huge weekend event that features thousands of numbered rubber duckies—representing the entrants who bought tickets—being dropped into the Willamette River for a "race" to the finish line that determines who wins the big prizes. / MILITARY, VETERANS: NBC announced Tuesday that it is suspending Brian Williams as "Nightly News" anchor and managing editor for six months without pay for misleading the public about his experiences covering the Iraq War. NBC chief executive Steve Burke said Williams' actions were inexcusable and jeopardized the trust he has built up with viewers during his decade as the network's lead anchor. But he said Williams deserved a second chance. Williams apologized last week for saying he was in a helicopter that was hit by a grenade while covering the Iraq War in 2003. Instead, another helicopter flying ahead of his was hit, and some veterans involved in the mission called him out on it. The swift public reaction had put NBC News on a crisis footing. Lester Holt would continue to substitute for Williams as the nightly news anchor. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: A fraternity and sorority held a party at the home of the third University of Oregon student diagnosed with a contagious bacterial infection — meningococcemia. Lane County Public Health is contacting the students to tell them they may want an antibiotic to stop the spread of the disease. KVAL reports the agency and the University of Oregon have not identified

the fraternity and sorority involved. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Monroe fire officials confirm that lightning started a house fire in Monroe. Fire Chief Rick Smith tells the Corvallis Gazette-Times the fire started late Sunday as a thunderstorm was moving through the area. There was no one home at the time. Two pets died in the fire and damage is estimated at \$350,000.; A Washington State University researcher thinks he knows the cause of a mysterious "milky rain" that hit parts of the Pacific Northwest last Friday. While the ash-like substance has not yet been scientifically confirmed, the Weather Service says it's believed to be from a dust storm that struck Oregon's Summer Lake on Thursday night. / CRIME. ENVIRONMENT: Fish and wildlife troopers say their investigation of mule deer poaching has led them to people in central and southern Oregon. They say Gene Parsons of La Pine was arrested after being told that he had been involved in the illegal killing of a large number of mature trophy class mule deer bucks last fall. That investigation led troopers to a Grants Pass man accused of unlawful taking of mule deer and waste of a game mammal. / ECONOMY: Wednesday's (2/11) Powerball jackpot has been increased to \$500 million. Here are some interesting points for this Powerball jackpot: Tonight's \$500 million jackpot is the 3rd largest Powerball jackpot and 5th largest ever in North America. (World record jackpot: \$656 million Mega Millions won in Mar. 2012). Players have two choices on how to take the jackpot prize: 30-year annuity = over \$11.1 million per year (after Federal and State withholding taxes) or a one-time cash payment = over \$226.3 million (after Federal and State withholding taxes). / POLITICS: Lawyers for Gov. John Kitzhaber and his fiancée are arguing that the Oregon Government Ethics Commission has no jurisdiction to investigate Cylvia Hayes, even though Kitzhaber spent months saying it was the appropriate agency to look into influence-peddling allegations. But whether the ethics commission looks at the allegations may be a moot point, now that the state attorney general has launched her own criminal investigation. Hayes' defense to three complaints lodged with the ethics commission was dated Dec. 8 and became public this week. Hayes is accused of using her position as first lady to land private consulting clients. She argues that state ethics laws don't apply to her because she doesn't meet the legal definition of a "public official." The ethics commission investigates civil conflict-of-interest complaints. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: Oregon state regulators have issued the first license to grow industrial hemp in Oregon. Now, Capital Press reports, Edgar Winters of Eagle Point just has to figure out how to get seeds to plant. That was a question last year in Kentucky and Colorado, two states in the forefront of growing hemp for products such as clothing, food and cosmetics. The plant is illegal under federal law, and seeds will have to be imported. Oregon officials say they're working on that. Kentucky officials say a provision in the new federal budget keeps federal drug agents from interfering with state-approved hemp development. Hemp is related to marijuana but doesn't cause a high. Winters says that if he can get a crop in, warehouse and processing facilities are ready to go. / Colorado finally knows how much tax revenue it collected from recreational marijuana in the first year of sales, and the haul was below estimates — about \$44 million. The year-end Colorado tax report was made public Tuesday. Colorado is the first government anywhere in the world to regulate marijuana production and sale, so other governments are watching closely. Colorado's total haul from marijuana for 2014 was about \$76 million. That includes fees on the industry, plus pre-existing sales taxes on medical marijuana products.

The \$44 million represents only new taxes on recreational pot. Those new taxes were estimated to bring in about \$70 million. Budget writers say the tax report shows marijuana isn't having a major effect on a multibillion state budget. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/23/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, TRANSPROTATION: A wind advisory is in effect beginning tonight for a storm that carries the potential of gusts to 55 mph here in the Willamette Valley. That could mean some downed trees and limbs, power disruptions, minor damage to property and challenging travel conditions for highprofile vehicles.; The National Weather Service says a snowstorm is expected to hit the Oregon Cascades on Monday and Tuesday, with 3 to 6 inches in the forecast. The accumulation won't be nearly enough to allow skiing at the largely snow-free Willamette Pass and Hoodoo ski areas. The Register-Guard reports that Willamette Pass and Hoodoo are having among their worst seasons ever. They were open for just a few days in early January. Weather experts have said a large ski-season-saving series of snowstorms is unlikely this spring, given weather patterns over the Pacific Ocean. But, at least for the next couple days, Western Oregon may get the right mix of moisture-laden clouds and cold air currents to create some mountain snow. A high of 70 is forecast for Eugene by Thursday, with a high of 60 at Willamette Pass. / TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMY: The average national price of a gallon of regular-grade gasoline has dropped 4 cents in the last two weeks to \$2.50. But here in Eugene-Springfield, the average stands at \$2.83 for a gallon of regular. That's down eight cents from one week ago but is 31 cents higher than one month ago, when prices across the U.S. were bottoming out. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that falling oil prices and strong production at U.S. refineries led to lower numbers this past week at the pump. The drop comes despite labor disruptions at some refineries. Los Angeles had the most expensive gas among cities surveyed in the Lower 48 states at \$3.29. Charleston, South Carolina, had the cheapest at \$2.11. / ELECTIONS, POLITICS: The U.S. Supreme Court has turned away a challenge to Wisconsin's voter identification law, after having blocked the state from requiring photo IDs in November's general election. The court did not comment on its order. But the justices' action means that state is free to impose the voter ID requirement in future elections. It is also further evidence that the court put the law on hold last year only because the election was close at hand and absentee ballots already had been mailed with no notification of the need to present photo IDs. / CRIME: The U.S. Supreme Court is adding a new case to decide whether its three-yearold ruling throwing out mandatory life in prison without parole for juveniles should apply to older cases. The court was scheduled to hear arguments in a case from Louisiana later this month, but the state released the inmate at the heart of the case, George Toca, after 30 years in prison. Today, the justices said they would

consider a new Louisiana case involving a man who has been held since 1963 for killing a sheriff's deputy in Baton Rouge. The case will be argued in the fall. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: In a ceremony at the Pentagon, Afghanistan's president has thanked U.S. military personnel and taxpayers for their sacrifices in nearly 14 years of war. President Ashraf Ghani also offered assurances that his country would not be a burden on the international community as it continues to struggle against the Taliban and its own internal divisions. / CRIME: A man who got kicked out of a concert in Eugene, Oregon, last fall has filed a complaint against two city police officers, saving they unnecessarily used a stun gun during an incident outside the venue. Stephen Hedrick of Longview, Washington, told The Register-Guard newspaper he was on his knees, surrendering, when police fired a Taser at him. Eugene police, however, says Hedrick refused to obey their repeated commands. The incident occurred after Hedrick was booted out of a Social Distortion concert for fighting inside the venue. The 24-year-old pleaded guilty to a charge of disorderly conduct and no contest to a charge of harassment in Eugene Municipal Court. He was sentenced to six days in jail. / ECONOMY, EDUCATION: The No. 1-seeded Wisconsin Badgers are headed back to the Sweet 16 after defeating Oregon 72-65 in the NCAA Tournament last night. The Badgers beat the Ducks in the round of 32 for the second straight year. Wisconsin played with the lead all game until Dwayne Benjamin tied it at 52 with a high-arcing 3-pointer from in front of his bench with 5:27 left. The Badgers took the lead right back, though, with Sam Dekker's reverse layup and 3-pointer. / ECONOMY, HEALTH: New research funded by farmers aims to breed wheat for people who can't eat wheat and other grains, and comes amid booming consumer interest in glutenfree foods. The Kansas Wheat Commission provided \$200,000 for the first two years of a project to identify the wheat DNA that causes a reaction in people with celiac disease, an autoimmune disorder in which eating any gluten can damage the small intestine. That would theoretically let researchers breed celiac-safe wheat. U.S. consumers spent \$973 million on products marketed as gluten-free in 2014 — driven in part by non-celiac sufferers intolerant to gluten or following fad diets. Research supporters say it isn't an effort to regain market share. Some skeptical celiac experts say the research may, at best, lead to a less toxic wheat variety. / ELECTIONS, POLITICS: Texas Senator Ted Cruz has opened the first major campaign of the 2016 presidential season with a kickoff speech courting cultural conservatives. One of several Republican hopefuls to rise from the tea party movement, Cruz spoke at Liberty University, the college founded by the late Reverend Jerry Falwell. A familiar stop for presidential hopefuls, the selection of Liberty University is meant as a marker against potential rivals who are also counting on Christian conservatives to fuel their ambitions. / ECONOMY: U.S. home sales remain sluggish -- the result of tight inventories, affordability problems and the recent nasty winter weather. The National Association of Realtors says sales increased just slightly in February. Sales of existing homes rose 1.2 percent, after falling in January. The real estate market has hibernated through the first two months of 2015. Strong job growth and relatively low mortgage rates have failed to awaken buyers. / ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT, MILITARY: Oregon Gov. Kate Brown has approved state money to help the city of Pendleton build hangars and storage facilities at a testing site for commercial drones in eastern Oregon. Brown on Friday announced a \$545,000 grant for the Pendleton Unmanned Aerial Systems Range, one of three test ranges in Oregon. She and others say the

money will help keep the state competitive in the emerging market for drones. The Eastern Oregonian newspaper reports the state's economic agency Business Oregon also plans to add \$1.1 million in financial help to the range. Umatilla County will also give a \$100,000 incentive to the first drone company to locate in Pendleton. / ECONOMY. LOW-INCOME: The rise in tax refund anticipation checks or other forms of advance payments has caught the eye of regulators. The advances on refunds are especially popular among low-income families who receive the Earned Income Tax Credit. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is finalizing the first rules on prepaid debit cards, including those for tax refunds, that would require "easy to understand" disclosures upfront about costs and risks. / CRIME, HEALTH: Do laws protecting the disabled require police to make reasonable accommodations when arresting people who have mental or physical disabilities? The question is before the Supreme Court today as the justices hear arguments in a dispute over police treatment of a woman with schizophrenia who had threatened to kill her social worker. Teresa Sheehan was shot five times after she came at police with a knife. She survived and is suing. / MINORITIES, TRANSPORTATION: The U.S. Supreme Court is weighing a freespeech challenge to Texas' refusal to issue a license plate bearing the Confederate battle flag. Specialty plates are big business in Texas, where drivers spent \$17.6 million last year to choose from among more than 350 messages the state allows on the plates. The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles says nearly 877,000 vehicles among more than 19 million vehicles registered in Texas carry a specialty plate. But a state motor vehicle board turned down a request by the Texas division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans for a license plate with its logo bearing the battle flag. Nine other states issue similar plates. The justices are hearing arguments Monday over whether the state violated the group's First Amendment rights. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: French President Francois Hollande says no survivors are likely in the Alpine crash of a passenger jet carrying at least 147 people. The Germanwings Airbus A320 crashed today in the French Alps region as it traveled from Barcelona to Duesseldorf. Hollande says the area of the crash is remote and it's not clear whether anyone on the ground has been hurt. Hollande says it's probable that a number of the victims are German. France' Interior Ministry says debris from the crash has been located. He says the plane did send out a distress signal. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: A senior coalition official says the U.S.-led military force has begun surveillance flights over the Iraqi city of Tikrit, which is being controlled by the Islamic State group. The official says the coalition is offering intelligence to Iraqi forces. He won't say whether the coalition is carrying out airstrikes. Earlier this month, Iraqi security forces, backed by Iraniansupported Shiite militias, launched a large-scale offensive to recapture Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown.; President Barack Obama will meet with Afghanistan's new president at the White House today to talk about the future relationship between the two countries. President Ashraf Ghani wants Obama to keep more U.S. troops in Afghanistan for a longer period of time. The original plan called for cutting the number of troops to 5,500 by the end of this year. Officials predict that many of the 9,800 American troops there now will remain long into next year.; Meantime, the Pentagon is continuing its investigation into a purported ISIS "hit list" of 100 American personnel that appeared on the Internet over the weekend. The personnel are here in the U.S. and the information posted online includes names, photographs and purported addresses. The personnel have been offered protective services and also been encouraged to tighten privacy settings on any social media accounts. It appears many of the names and details were gleaned from social media sites, public records, news accounts and basic online searches. / ECONOMY: A modest rebound in gas costs and broad gains in other categories lifted consumer prices for the first time in four months, a sign inflation may be stabilizing. The Labor Department says the consumer price index rose 0.2 percent in February after dropping 0.7 percent the previous month. January's decline was the biggest in six years. Gas prices have plummeted since June. dramatically lowering inflation. Consumer prices were unchanged in the 12 months ending in February, after slipping 0.1 percent in January from a year earlier. Yet excluding gas, prices have been more stable. Outside food and energy, core prices also rose 0.2 percent last month. The cost of rents, clothes, new and used cars, and airfares all increased. Core prices have risen 1.7 percent

in the past year. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Three dozen members of Congress from California, Oregon and Washington are urging full funding of a West Coast earthquake early warning system. The group on Tuesday sent a letter to the House Appropriations Committee asking that the U.S. Geological Survey receive \$16.1 million to make a demonstration system fully operational. The sum is the estimated annual cost of building, operating and maintaining a full system of sensors that detect initial waves of an earthquake and provide valuable seconds of warning before slower but damaging waves arrive. Last year, Congress voted to provide \$5 million, bringing total system funding to \$6.5 million for fiscal 2015. California Rep. Adam Schiff says warning time could enable trains to brake, allow shutdown of sensitive systems and give people time to reach a safe location. / CRIME: The judge called him a dangerous man and sentenced him to more than 14 years in prison—the maximum sentence. The Register-Guard reports it comes in the case of a Washington County teenager convicted of the rape and brutal beating of a woman near Autzen Stadium last fall. The newspaper's Chelsea Gorrow reports that as the victim of the attack read her statement Monday to the court describing how she was punched approximately 20 times in the face while being raped in the bushes near the stadium, her attacker, 17-year-old Jaime Tinoco (high-MAY' tee-NOH'-koh) grinned. Judge Debra Vogt called that "scary." When she asked him why he was smiling, Tinoco said he didn't know. Vogt commended the victim for showing, quote, "extraordinary grace" while speaking about the attack, the reconstructive surgery and how the recovery cost her her job. Tinoco will serve part of his sentence with the Oregon Youth Authority until he reaches the age of 25, then will finish serving his sentence in prison. Tinoco turns 18 on April 3. He will be required to register as a sex offender for life and will have to participate in drug, alcohol, anger and sex offender treatment, and any other treatment his parole officer sees fit, Vogt said. Tinoco was on a field trip to the University of Oregon Ducks football game in September with the Washington County Juvenile Department when he wandered away from the group and followed the victim as she walked home. / MILITARY, VETERANS, HEALTH: The Department of Veterans Affairs says it is relaxing a rule that makes it hard for some veterans in rural areas to prove they live at least 40 miles from a VA health site. The change comes in response to pressure from Congress and veterans groups, who say the VA's current policy has prevented thousands of veterans from taking advantage of a new law intended to allow veterans in remote areas to gain access to federally paid medical care from local doctors. The VA said it will now measure the 40-mile trip by driving miles, rather than as the crow flies, as currently interpreted. The rule change is expected to roughly double the number of eligible veterans. The VA says few veterans have seen private doctors under the new law. / EDUCATION, POLITICS: Oregon legislative leaders say they'll move forward this week with a schools budget that education interests call inadequate. House Speaker Tina Kotek and Senate President Peter Courtney, both Democrats, said Monday that it's important to provide school districts with certainty as they develop their budgets. If future projections show the state will have more money, Kotek and Courtney say 40 percent of the additional revenue will be dedicated to K-12 schools. The Democratic leaders say their \$7.24 billion budget provides enough money for most school districts to avoid cutting services. It's scheduled for a committee vote on Tuesday, potentially reaching the House and Senate next week. Interest groups representing teachers, school

administrators and others say many districts would be forced to reduce school days or lay off teachers. They're requesting an additional \$260 million. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The Oregon Senate is nearing a final vote on a bill giving tax breaks to Internet providers and companies that own data centers. The bill's sponsor, Democratic Sen. Mark Hass of Beaverton, says the Senate will vote Tuesday on the measure, sending it to Gov. Kate Brown. Hass says the Legislature will follow up later with a new bill to fix provisions that displeased Google. The company says it won't bring Google Fiber high-speed Internet to Portland without the changes. The bill is a response to an Oregon Supreme Court decision last year that led to substantial increases in the property tax bills for telecommunications companies. The decision threatened the growth of data centers, primarily in central and eastern Oregon. / ECONOMY, SAFETY, CRIME: Oregon authorities say the computer glitch that caused thousands of reports on prison inmates' release to be sent out erroneously to crime victims has been fixed. Spokeswoman Betty Bernt says the victim notification system known as VINE will likely work again by Tuesday. The Corrections Department suspended the system on Friday after more than 8,700 incorrect notices went out to victims and their families. One alert wrongfully said that a prisoner convicted of killing two schoolgirls in Oregon City had been discharged. Officials said the glitch was caused by routine database maintenance. All who received the reports were alerted twice that they were false. The notifications that were erroneously sent out pertained to 1,891 inmates. VINE is used in 47 states, but the glitch was limited to Oregon. / HEALTH: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the number of uninsured people in the U.S. is at its lowest level in 15 years. The CDC says the number of uninsured U.S. residents fell by more than 11 million since President Barack Obama signed the health care overhaul five years ago. That leaves about 37 million people uninsured. /

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Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, ECONOMY: Language calling for a two-year extension of subsidies to Oregon's timber counties has been inserted in legislation in Congress that reforms the way Medicare reimburses doctors. It's a legislative maneuver that might not be the most logical but it has the approval of House Speaker John Boehner and is being celebrated by Oregon Congressmen Peter DeFazio and Greg Walden, who lobbied hard for the inclusion of the timber subsidies. The longstanding subsidies make up for declines in federal timber revenues shared with counties since logging on national forests was cut back to protect the northern spotted owl and salmon. Last year they provided \$100 million to Oregon. The money is considered critical to funding Oregon's schools, roads and local law enforcement. In the Senate, Oregon Democrat Sen. Ron Wyden says a three-year extension of the program is making progress, as well. He added he was happy the House was not linking the payments to legislation to increase logging that would never pass the Senate. / ECONOMY, SAFETY, HEALTH: Government investigators in Oregon, Washington and Alaska yesterday announced an independent investigation into this winter's cyberattack on Premera Blue Cross and the Lifewise Insurance companies. Oregon insurance officials said Tuesday the breach exposed personal identification from 250,000 people who belong to the Lifewise Insurance Plan of Oregon, a Premera subsidiary. Details of the cyberattack were disclosed by Premera last week, which said hackers accessed the personal information of 11 million consumers between May of last year and late January of this year. Investigators in the three states say they remain seriously concerned about the amount of time it took Premera to notify its policyholders of the breach. The scope of the investigation might include the extent of the financial damage, what steps were taken to prevent a future attack and on-site reviews of Premera's books and activities. Additional states might also join the investigation team as officials learn how much the hack affected Premera's national provider network. Oregon Insurance Commissioner Laura Cali said in a statement that state officials take the protection of personal identifying information very seriously. After disclosing details of the attack last week, Premera said it would provide two years of credit monitoring and identity theft protection services to anyone affected. The FBI is investigating the attack, and Premera has also hired the security firm Mandiant to help repair its systems. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY (SPORTS): The Oregon Softball squad meets Utah Valley today at 4:00 p.m. at historic Howe Field. After a flawless weekend at Utah, Cheridan Hawkins has been named Pac-12 pitcher of the week for the second time this season. She also took the league's top pitching

honors in week one. Hawkins still has not allowed an earned run in Pac-12 play as the junior tossed two complete games in wins over Utah on Saturday and Monday. The junior allowed two unearned runs on back-to-back seventh inning errors in Friday's 4-2 win after allowing six hits and one walk with four strikeouts. She came back even better on Monday, losing a no-hitter in the sixth and throwing her fifth shutout of the season. Hawkins allowed just two hits in seven innings with nine strikeouts and one walk in Oregon's 12-0 win. Hawkins dropped her ERA to a ridiculous 0.32 after the weekend. / ENVIRONMENT, FAMILIES, COMMUNITY: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) continues to host its Spring Whale Watch Week through Saturday, March 28, at 24 designated whale watching sites along the coast. Trained volunteers from the Whale Watching Spoken Here program will be stationed at the sites from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on those days to help visitors spot gray whales heading north. Visitors will also learn about whale migration and feeding habits. A map of the watch sites is available online at whalespoken.org. Camping, including yurts and cabins, is available at state parks along the coast. Go to oregonstateparks.org to check availability and make a reservation. OPRD reminds visitors to be aware of storms and high waves: respect closures, stay off the sand and watch storms from an elevated location.; On Saturday, March 28, thousands of Oregonians will mobilize across the state to scour over 100 miles of beaches, cleaning up debris washed in from winter storms. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., SOLVE welcomes volunteers of all ages to join together in clearing the entire Oregon Coast of trash. Marine debris on Oregon's coast is an issue that affects all of us, threatening the health our environment, and impacting the economy. Discarded items, like cigarette butts and tiny bits of plastic flow into our rivers and streams to the Pacific Ocean, where they can be toxic to marine life. Everyone has a role they can play in helping to reduce the impact of wayward trash. Last year, more than 4,800 Spring Oregon. Beach Cleanup volunteers removed nearly 50,000 pounds of debris from the coast, contributing to the 3.2 million pounds that have been picked up since the first coast-wide cleanup in 1984. The twice-annual SOLVE beach cleanups have become an Oregon tradition, encouraging families, business groups, schools, and others to become lifelong stewards and make a difference for Oregon. Be part of the solution by volunteering at the SOLVE Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup. Get more information at solveoregon.org or by calling 503-844-9571 x332.; Several Hoodoo-managed campgrounds in Central Oregon open for Spring Break Hoodoo Recreation has opened eight campgrounds in the Metolius River Area of the Deschutes National Forest in time for Spring Break. These campgrounds include Link Creek, Camp Sherman, Pine Rest, Smiling River, Allen Springs, Allingham, Gorge and Lower Bridge. Forecasts in the area predict temperatures in the 70s throughout the weekend (March 27-29). Please note that water will not be available in these campgrounds until May, which is closer to the normal opening schedule. Overnight rates will be lowered to \$14 in these campgrounds until further notice. For more details, including maps, amenities and nearby recreation activities, go to hoodoorecreation.com or call 541-338-7869. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, HEALTH: French investigators cracked open the mangled black box of a German jetliner today and sealed off access to the rugged Alpine crash site where 150 people died when their plane slammed into a mountain. The dented, twisted and scarred cockpit voice recorder is being mined for clues into what sent the Germanwings Airbus 320 into a mid-flight dive

Tuesday after pilots lost radio contact over the southern French Alps during a routine flight from Barcelona to Duesseldorf. Germany's top security official says there is no evidence of foul play. Emergency crews, meanwhile, traveled slowly over the steep, rocky terrain to the remote high-altitude crash site through fresh snow and rain. Key to the investigation is what happened in the two minutes when the flight reached its cruising altitude of 38,000 feet. From then on, air traffic controllers were unable to make contact with the plane. The voice recorder takes audio feeds from four microphones within the cockpit and records all the conversations between the pilots, air traffic controllers as well as any noises in the cockpit. The victims are primarily from Germany and Spain but there were two Americans on the flight whose names have not been released. Those who perished include 16 German high school students and their two teachers returning from an exchange program in Spain. The flight also carried two babies, two opera singers, and an Australian mother and son on vacation. In the small French town near the crash site, locals offered to host bereaved families because of a shortage of rooms to rent. / ECONOMY: It will be one of the largest food and beverage companies in the world with annual revenues of about \$28 billion. H.J. Heinz Co. is buying Kraft Foods. The Kraft-Heinz Co. will own Kraft, Heinz, Oscar Mayer, Ore-Ida and other brands. The deal to bring together the two companies, each more than a century old, was engineered by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and Brazilian investment firm 3G Capital. The two will invest another \$10 billion in the new company. The deal still needs a nod from federal regulators as well as shareholders of Kraft Foods Group Inc., but the boards of both companies unanimously approved it. The planned closing is set for the second half of the year. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: It might provide some comfort to people who lives in Western forests with trees damaged or killed by beetle infestations. But the authors of a new study on Western fire risks say those residents should still be concerned. The new study found no evidence that bug-infested forests are more likely to burn than healthy ones. But the study agrees with earlier research that, once sparked, beetle-killed trees ignite faster and burn more quickly than healthy trees, posing a danger to firefighters. Mountain pine beetles have left vast tracts of dead, dry trees in the West, raising fears that they're more vulnerable to wildfire outbreaks. University of Colorado researchers say weather and terrain are bigger factors burn than beetle invasions in determining whether a forest will burn. The study said beetle outbreaks and wildfires increased at the same time but that drought was behind the worsening fires. But the new findings notes that trees infested with beetles have only about 10 percent of the moisture of healthy trees. which makes them more vulnerable to igniting from embers or burning branches carried by wind and heat waves. Nearly 36,000 square miles of trees have been attacked by mountain pine beetles in the West since 1996, / CRIME: An Oregon man has been accused of blowing pot smoke into the mouth of his one-year-old child. Officers said they responded to a report of a domestic argument at the Beaverton home of 22-year-old Christopher Robert Kling on Sunday night, That's when a family friend gave investigators a smartphone video that allegedly showed Kling drawing smoke from a glass pipe and blowing it into the child's mouth. KGW-TV reports that Kling is accused of endangering the welfare of a minor and other crimes. The police said the video had been turned over to child welfare authorities and wouldn't be made public. ; A New York-based criminal justice nonprofit says it will work with jails and prisons in five states, including Oregon, to

reduce the use of solitary confinement—in an effort to make prisons and jails safer. The Vera Institute of Justice selected state corrections systems in Oregon, Nebraska and North Carolina as well as jails in New York City and Middlesex County, New Jersey, for the two-year project. Inmates are regularly placed in 23hour confinement for breaking jailhouse rules, for their protection and for security reasons. Some prisoners have stayed in solitary for years. But the Vera Institute's Fred Patrick says research shows restrictive housing can be counterproductive to jail safety and can damage prisoners psychologically and otherwise. Patrick says Vera will help corrections officials analyze their use of solitary, evaluate their disciplinary system and develop other programming.; Legalizing marijuana reduces drug arrests but doesn't solve one of the central goals of drug-policy reformers — ending racial disparities in marijuana enforcement. That's according to a new review of Colorado's criminal justice system before and after pot was made legal. A report released Wednesday by the pro-legalization Drug Policy Alliance examined drug-related arrests in all 64 Colorado counties for two years before and two years after legalization in 2012. Not surprisingly, the data showed that marijuana-related arrests all but vanished after voters made the drug legal in small amounts for adults over 21. But the report noted continuing racial disparities in arrest data from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. Even after legalization, black people were more likely than white people to be charged with marijuanarelated crimes. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Distractions - especially talking with passengers and using cellphones - play a far greater role in car crashes involving teen drivers than has been previously understood, according to compelling new evidence cited by safety researchers. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety analyzed nearly 1,700 videos that capture the actions of teen drivers in the moments before a crash. It found that distractions were a factor in nearly 6 of 10 moderate to severe crashes. That's four times the rate in many previous official estimates that were based on police reports. The study is unusual because researchers rarely have access to crash videos that clearly show what drivers were doing in the seconds before impact as well as what was happening on the road. AAA was able to examine more than 6,842 videos from cameras mounted in vehicles, showing both the driver and the simultaneous view out the windshield. The foundation got the videos from Lytx Inc., which offers programs that use video to coach drivers in improving their behavior and reducing collisions. Crashes or hard-braking events were captured in 1,691 of the videos. They show driver distraction was a factor in 58 percent of crashes, especially accidents in which vehicles ran off the road or had rear-end collisions. The most common forms of distraction were talking or otherwise engaging with passengers and using a cellphone, including talking, texting and reviewing messages. Other forms of distraction observed in the videos included drivers looking away from the road at something inside the vehicle, 10 percent; looking at something outside the vehicle other than the road ahead, 9 percent; singing or moving to music, 8 percent; grooming, 6 percent; and reaching for an object, 6 percent. In one video released by AAA, a teenage boy is seen trying to navigate a turn on a rain-slicked road with one hand on the wheel and a cellphone held to his ear in the other hand. The car crosses a lane of traffic and runs off the road, stopping just short of railroad tracks that run parallel to the road. In another video, a driver on a lonely two-lane road at night is shown looking down at an electronic device, apparently texting. While his eyes are off the road, the car crosses the opposite lane, leaves the road and

appears about to strike a mailbox. One teen driver is captured braking hard at the last moment to avoid slamming into the back of an SUV stopped or slowed in traffic ahead. Just a moment before, the girl had turned her attention to another girl in the front passenger seat in an animated conversation. The camera shows the shock on the girls' faces as they suddenly realize a crash is imminent. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has previously estimated that distraction of all kinds is a factor in only 14 percent of all teen driver crashes. Teen drivers have the highest crash rate of any age group. About 963,000 drivers age 16 to 19 were involved in police-reported crashes in the U.S. in 2013, the most recent year for available data. These crashes resulted in 383,000 injuries and 2,865 deaths.; At 12:53 this morning, Eugene Police officers were called to the Wal-Mart on West 11th Avenue, regarding single car rollover crash. Investigators say the driver, 24-year-old Sergio Mares-Velasco of Eugene, was allegedly driving his vehicle westbound in the oncoming traffic lane at an estimated 60-70 mph when he attempted to turn into the west entrance of the Wal-Mart parking lot at a high rate of speed. Witnesses say he lost control of his vehicle and it overturned. Mares-Velasco was transported to a local hospital with what appear to be non-life threatening injuries. He's facing charges of DUII, Reckless Driving, Driving While Suspended Misdemeanor, and Contempt of Court Linn County Warrant. / SAFETY, HEALTH: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is investigating the safety of Lumber Liquidators laminate flooring made in China. Chairman Elliot S. Kaye said Wednesday the agency is taking the issue seriously and is working to get answers for consumers. The move comes after a report on CBS' "60 Minutes" earlier this month that said that Lumber Liquidators' Chinesemade laminate flooring contains high levels of formaldehyde, a carcinogen. The Toano, Virginia-based discount hardwood flooring retailer has said it complies with applicable regulations for its products and has reassured consumers that its flooring is safe. Two senators have since called for investigations following the broadcast. Lumber Liquidators Holdings Inc. has more than 350 locations in North America. / ECONOMY, WOMEN: The U.S. Supreme Court is giving a former UPS driver another chance to prove her claim of discrimination after the company did not offer her lighter duty when she was pregnant. The case concerned employers' responsibilities under the 37-year-old Pregnancy Discrimination Act. Atlanta-based UPS maintained that it obeyed the law because it provided light-work duty only in limited situations and did not single out pregnant women. But the company changed its policy as of January and says it now tries to accommodate pregnant workers. / POLITICS, ELECTIONS, MINORITIES: The U.S. Supreme Court has blocked an Alabama redistricting plan that critics said intentionally 'packed' African-American voters Americans into a few districts, so others would be more accommodating to Republicans. The justices ruled 5-4 that maps drawn by Alabama's Republican-controlled Legislature cannot be allowed to stand. Democrats and black state legislators in Alabama claimed the Legislature drew the district lines that intentionally to minimize the voting impacts of black voters. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY, POLITICS: An Oregon legislative panel has advanced a \$7.255 billion spending plan for primary and secondary schools. Democrats on the budget subcommittee that oversees education funding approved the schools budget in a party-line vote Tuesday. The full Ways and Means Committee is scheduled to take up the measure on Thursday, setting up votes in the full House and Senate as soon as next week. Democrats praised the budget as a stable

funding plan that will allow most schools to continue with their current level of service. They say they'll try to bolster the funding if lawmakers later raise additional revenue or the economy leads to stronger revenue projections. Education interests have criticized the budget, saying it won't allow the state to improve lackluster graduation rates. / CRIME, FAMILIES: The Oregon Supreme Court has vacated its 2014 ruling that said animals can be considered individual victims of a crime. In an opinion released earlier this month, the high court said the matter should have never been considered because the state lacks the authority to appeal a judge's sentencing in a misdemeanor case. The issue arose when a Stanfield, Oregon, man was convicted in 2010 of starving 20 horses and goats on his property. A judge sentenced him on one count of second-degree animal neglect. The state said he should have been convicted on 20 counts, with each goat or horse considered a separate victim. The Oregon Court of Appeals and Oregon Supreme Court sided with the state. But justices now say neither court had authority to issue an opinion. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: The U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments today in a case challenging some of the rulemaking authority of the Environmental Protection Agency. Industry groups and Republican-led states want to roll back rules aimed at reducing power plant emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants that contribute to respiratory illnesses, birth defects and developmental problems in children. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: Some U.S. military personnel in Afghanistan hoping to be home by the end of the year will have to stay months longer. President Barack Obama agreed today to slow the U.S. military pullout from Afghanistan at the request of its new government. But Obama says the delay won't jeopardize his commitment to end America's longest war before leaving office. The latest plan will leave 9,800 troops in place rather than downsizing to 5,500 by year's end. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

03/26/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, ECONOMY: House Republicans pushed through a boldly conservative budget yesterday, eliminating deficits over the next decade by cutting deeply into Medicaid, food stamps and welfare, and repealing the president's health care law. The bill now goes to the Senate. The ambitious document calls for \$5 trillion in deficit reduction, increased defense spending and major transformations in both the tax code and Medicare. Sidelined Democrats were left protesting that the budget used shady accounting to arrive at its savings while slashing safety net programs for the poor. The budgets themselves are nonbinding and do not require a presidential signature. Instead, once the House and Senate agree on a common plan, lawmakers will have to draft legislation to carry out the program that Republicans have vowed to follow in the wake of campaign victories last fall that gave them control of Congress. / POLITICS, HEALTH, ECONOMY: Fueled by a rare alliance between party leaders, a \$214 billion measure permanently blocking deep cuts in doctors' Medicare fees is ready to sail through the House. The bill's Senate prospects are brightening but remain murky. The House seemed set to approve the legislation today, a package bearing victories for Republicans and Democrats alike. That would shift the focus to the Senate, where Democratic complaints were waning about the bill's abortion restrictions and added money for children that they want to increase further. Time is a factor. Congress plans to leave town by week's end for a spring break, and physicians treating Medicare patients face a 21 percent fee cut on April 1 unless lawmakers act. If the Senate doesn't give final approval before recessing, the federal agency that sends checks to doctors could delay processing them until lawmakers return to the Capitol. President Barack Obama embraced the legislation Wednesday, saying at a White House event, "I've got my pen ready to sign a good bipartisan bill." / HEALTH, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: A prosecutor in Paris says the co-pilot of the Germanwings plane that crashed in the French Alps wanted to "destroy the plane" but there is no indication that it was a terror attack. The official says the co-pilot was alone at the controls and was conscious when the plane went down this week, killing all 150 people on board. The prosecutor says an alarm sounded as the pilot banged on the armored cockpit door, trying to get back in and passengers could be heard screaming. Investigators have been listening to the cockpit voice recorder which was retrieved from the crash site. / MILITARY, TERRORISM: An Iraqi military commander says troops have launched the final phase of an offensive to recapture the Islamic State-held city of Tikrit (tih-KREET'). The official says the troops and special forces have begun moving

toward the center of Saddam Hussein's hometown, which was seized by militants last summer. At Iraq's request, the U.S. began airstrikes on Tikrit yesterday in support of the stalled ground offensive.; The top U.S. general for the Middle East says Iranian forces and Shia militia groups have left the fight to recapture the Iraqi city of Tikrit (tih-KREET'). They've pulled back as U.S. airstrikes are taking place to support Iraqi forces and try to take back the city from Islamic State militants. Gen. Lloyd Austin tells the Senate Armed Services Committee that the U.S. agreed to come in with airstrikes under the condition that the militias pull back. He says there are about 4,000 Iraqi forces, commandos and police battling for the city.; The Army sergeant who abandoned his post in Afghanistan and was held captive by the Taliban for five years was charged yesterday with misbehavior before the enemy and desertion. 28-year-old Army Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl walked away from his post in 2009. If convicted of both counts, he could face up to life in prison, a dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank and forfeiture of all his pay. But It appears Bergdahl will not face a death sentence, although the punishment is an option for prosecutors to pursue against deserters in wartime. His case does raise the question of whether military prosecutors will lock him away for life or agree to a plea deal. Last year, the Obama administration made the controversial decision to swap Bergdahl for five Taliban commanders imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay. The president said the deal freed the last American held captive in the war. Some members of his former unit have called for serious punishment, saying others risked their lives searching for him. Before disappearing, Bergdahl had expressed misgivings about the U.S. role in the war as well as his own. / ECONOMY: More signs of Oregon's economic recovery. New figures from the state employment department indicate that during 2014, Oregon's private employers were looking to fill about 45,000 job vacancies at any given time. Compared to 2013, that was a 40 percent increase in job vacancies. The average starting wage offered by employers also improved last year, increasing by four percent to \$15.67 per hour. Analysts say one key to finding a job that pays higher than average wages is to have at least some post-secondary training or other work related qualifications. The average wage offered for vacancies requiring education beyond high school was more than \$17 per hour. Average wages also increased for jobs requiring college degrees, to \$20 per hour for vacancies that required an associate degree, \$31 per hour for a bachelor's degree, and \$38 for a graduate degree. By comparison, vacancies that did not require education beyond high school offered hourly wages of \$12 per hour. Employers also offered higher wages when their vacancies required more than one year of previous experience. The health care and social assistance industry accounted for almost one-fifth of the job openings, more than any other sector. / CRIME, WOMEN, EDUCATION: A former University of Oklahoma fraternity member caught on video leading a racist chant says he's deeply sorry for his role in the incident and "upset and embarrassed" that he failed to stop it. Surrounded by several black leaders, Levi Pettit publicly apologized yesterday during a brief news conference. It followed a meeting he had at an Oklahoma City Baptist church with civil rights activists, pastors and elected officials. Pettit answered a few questions from reporters but declined to say who taught him the chant or where he learned it. Pettit and several other members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at OU were caught on video engaging in the chant that referenced lynching and used a racial slur to describe how African-Americans would never

become members.; Police say some women pictured nude or seminude in photos posted to a Penn State fraternity's secret Facebook page have come forward, and some frat members are now cooperating with an ongoing criminal investigation. State College police Lt. Keith Robb says authorities are interviewing them and are asking people to "be patient so we can do our job." The Kappa Delta Rho fraternity has been suspended for a year and is being ordered by its national office to reorganize. Penn State President Eric Barron says the university has also begun a wide review of the role fraternities and sororities play at the school. The new developments emerged Wednesday as protesters marched to the house and called for the school to shut down the fraternity permanently. / ENVIRONMENT: Nearly 3,500 volunteers have pre-registered and more are expected for SOLVE's 30th annual Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup this Saturday, March 28, Volunteers will head out to one of 45 check-in sites along the coast, from Fort Stevens State Park near Astoria to Harris Beach in Brookings. For the fourth year in a row Washed Ashore, a Bandon-based non-profit, will be collecting marine debris from several beach sites along the coast. They will use the debris to create art pieces that ultimately increase awareness about the problem of marine debris. In addition, volunteers will serve as citizen-scientists as they help collect debris data for the Ocean Conservancy, connecting the Oregon event with over 100 coastwide cleanups around the world in 2015. The event runs from 10 am to 1 pm. The Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup takes place coast-wide. Along the central coast, volunteers will gather in the following locations: Florence Area: South Jetty, North Jetty Beach, Heceta Beach, Carl Washburne State Park, Siltcoos Outlet; Yachats Area: Yachats Beach (meet at the Yachats Chamber of Commerce office on Highway 101); Reedsport, North Bend & Coos Bay Area: Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (meet at the office in Reedsport), Umpqua Dunes (meet off Salmon Harbor Drive in Winchester Bay), Bastendorff Beach Cleanup. Dress for rain or shine and wear sturdy shoes. SOLVE will provide bags and gloves. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own reusable bucket/bag and water bottle to help reduce plastic waste. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: A dense fog advisory is in effect in the Willamette Valley until 11 a.m. this morning. Motorists are advised to use caution and slow down as objects on and near roadways will be seen only at close range. Use your headlights and leave plenty of distance ahead of you. / GROWTH: Florida's often-sunny weather seems to be drawing growing numbers of Americans. The U.S. Census Bureau reports some of the nation's fastest-growing metro areas are in Florida. But a spot in Oregon also made the list. Six of the metropolitan areas in the Sunshine State made the list of fastest-growing cities. It doesn't mean they're the largest U.S. cities. But their fast recent growth is an indication to planners and government officials of how the nation's population might be shifting to various state and regions. And that has implications from everything from budgeting and taxes to political representation in Congress. In the one year period between July of 2013 and July of 2014, one community—The Villages, west of Orlando—grew by 5.4 percent to a population of 114,000. Bend, Oregon, was the seventh fastest-growing metro area, with a 2.7 gain during one year to a population of slightly more than 170,000. The central Oregon city was hit hard by the recession but appears to be gaining new residents as it attracts new businesses and retirees. / POLITICS, FAMILY: An Oregon legislative committee has advanced a bill that would require nearly all employers to give workers up to five days a year of paid sick leave. In Wednesday's party-line

vote, Democrats on the Senate Workforce Committee sent the measure to the budget committee. Democrats said their bill would give an assist to low-income workers, who are much more likely to have to give up pay when they are sick or need to care for an ill child. Republicans and business interests said it would impose a significant cost on small businesses. The bill would apply to all employers with at least six workers. Workers would accrue at least one hour of sick leave for each 30 hours of work. Portland and Eugene have local mandates for paid sick leave. / ENVIRONMENT: After a warm, mild winter, Crater Lake National Park has recorded nearly 2 feet of snow in recent days, but the seasonal total is still a third of normal. The Klamath Falls Herald and News reports the park usually has 119 inches of snow on the ground as of March 24. But the total recorded Tuesday was 40 inches. The snow that fell beginning Friday was heavy and wet. Rangers said cross country skiing was tough. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME: Payday lenders are facing new federal regulations aimed at preventing low-income borrowers from being buried by high fees and rising debt loads. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau will unveil a set of proposed rules later today. President Barack Obama is also expected to use an afternoon speech in Birmingham, Alabama, to address the plans to oversee the payday sector and efforts by congressional Republicans to limit the bureau's authority. Borrowers barely getting by on low paychecks have increasingly relied on storefront and online lenders, prompting the federal government to set standards for a multibillion dollar industry that has historically been regulated at the state level. The loans' steadily compounded fees have overwhelmed some borrowers, causing them to lose their bank accounts and their cars — and even risk prison time./

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/27/15

TIME OF BROADCAST

5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, HEALTH: German prosecutors say they've found evidence that the co-pilot of the Germanwings plane that crashed in the French Alps hid evidence of an illness from his employers. Prosecutors say they've seized documents from the Duesseldorf apartment of co-pilot Andreas Lubitz (an-DRAY'us LOO'-bihtz) that indicate "an existing illness and appropriate medical treatment." German news media have said Lubitz had a history of depression.; A number of European airlines changed their in-flight rules vesterday, requiring that two members of the crew be in the cockpit at all times. This, after yesterday's chilling discovery that the co-pilot of that doomed German airliner locked the pilot out of the cockpit before deliberately crashing the plane. In the United States, in the aftermath of 9/11, airlines are required to have two people in the cockpit at all times. If a pilot or co-pilot leaves, another crew member enters the cockpit until that person returns. But for years, airlines in Europe have not had the same requirement. That began to change yesterday. This morning, Denmark's transportation minister says officials are asking all airlines with a base in that Scandinavian country to begin requiring two people in the cockpit.; Despite U.S. and international regulations requiring that airline pilots be screened for mental health problems, pilots and safety experts say little effective, real-world checking takes place. The crash of Germanwings Flight 9525 into an Alpine mountain, which killed all 150 people aboard, has raised questions about the mental state of the co-pilot. Authorities believe the 27-year-old German deliberately sought to destroy the Airbus A320 as it flew Tuesday from Barcelona to Duesseldorf. German media are reporting Andrea Lubitz had received treatment for depression. In the U.S., the Federal Aviation Administration requires that pilots receive a physical exam from a flight surgeon annually or every six months depending upon the pilot's age. The International Civil Aviation Organization, a U.N. agency that sets global aviation standards, also requires that pilots receive a periodic medical exam including a mental assessment. Technically, doctors are supposed to probe for mental problems, but pilots said Thursday that's usually not how it works. In fact, they said if a pilot had a mental health issue, you likely would not tell their flight surgeon about that because it goes right to the FAA, Pilots are also required to disclose existing psychological conditions and medications on health forms they fill out themselves for the FAA. Failure to do so could result in a fine of up to \$250,000. The forms include questions about whether a pilot is depressed or has attempted suicide. Europe has a single standard for pilot medical exams. Airlines typically ask pilots to take mental health screening exams when they apply for a

job, but follow-up after hiring is cursory at best, experts say. / POLITICS, ECONOMY: Republicans muscled a balanced-budget plan through the Senate early this morning, positioning Congress for months of battling President Barack Obama over the GOP's goals of slicing spending and dismantling his health care law. Working into the pre-dawn hours, senators approved the blueprint by a near party-line 52-46 vote, endorsing a measure that closely follows one the House passed Wednesday. Both budgets embody a conservative vision of shrinking projected federal deficits by more than \$5 trillion over the coming decade, mostly by cutting health care and other benefit programs and without raising taxes. The Senate was beginning a spring recess after approving the measure, leaving Congress' two GOP-run chambers to negotiate a compromise budget in mid-April. The legislation is a non-binding blueprint that does not require the president's signature but lays the groundwork for future bills that seem destined for veto fights. The budget's partisan battle stands in contrast with a bipartisan bill the House overwhelmingly approved yesterday permanently blocking perennial cuts in physicians' Medicare fees. It, too, will wait until April for final congressional approval by the Senate, with Senate President Mitch McConnell saying his chamber will handle it very quickly when members return. The bill also contains two-year extension of subsidies for timber counties in Oregon and a number of other states. The long-running subsidies help offset a decline in federal timber revenues share with counties ever since logging was cut back on national forests to protect salmon and northern spotted owl habitat. The money is considered critical funding for Oregon's schools, roads and local law enforcement. Last year Oregon got about \$100 million of the \$500 million paid nationwide. Loss of the subsidies has forced some Oregon counties to consider tax increases or cuts to law enforcement./ POLITICS, ELECTIONS: He has led Senate Democrats since 2005. But Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid says this is his final term. In a message released early this morning, Reid says he'll leave Congress at the end of 2016. The 75-year-old Nevada senator saw his party lose control of the Senate during the mid-term elections and Reid suffered a serious injury to his right eye on New Year's Day during an exercise accident. But he says neither of those are key factors in his decision. Rather, Reid says he wants to go out while he's still at the top of his game and then devote his energy to electing more Democrats to the upper chamber. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: The Obama administration has reached an agreement with Oregon ranchers to protect sage grouse that the ranchers hope will help avoid having the bird listed by the federal government as an endangered species. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and Gov. Kate Brown are expected to be in Bend this afternoon to announce the agreements covering 5,500 square miles of private land in central and southeastern Oregon. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: BMW is recalling nearly 49,000 motorcycles in the U.S. and Canada because flanges that hold the rear wheel can crack if bolts are too tight. The recall covers multiple models including the 2005 to 2010 R1200 GS and R1200 RT, and the 2006 to 2010 R1200 GS Adventure. BMW says if bolts that hold the rear wheels to a flange are over-tightened, the flange can crack, If that happens, the bolts can loosen and the wheel may not stay secured to the bike. The problem was discovered after a 2004 motorcycle crashed in Spain last August. BMW says the rider and passenger were bruised and scraped. The recall is expected to begin April 21. Dealers will replace the aluminum flange with a steel one at no cost to owners. / MILITARY: The New York Times is reporting that three

major Shiite militia groups pulled out of the fight for Tikrit on Thursday, in protest of the American military airstrikes. The militia groups, some of which until recently had Iranian advisers with them, insist that the Americans were not needed to defeat the extremists there. Together, the three groups boycotting the fight represent as much as a third of the 30,000 fighters on the government side in the offensive against the Islamic State group. The action immediately deprived the Iraqi government of thousands of their fighters on the ground even as American warplanes readied for an expected second day of airstrikes against the Islamic State militants. / ECONOMY: Oregon and 21 other states have joined Texas in its legal challenge to RadioShack's plan to sell personal data on 117 million customers. Radio Shack, the longtime electronics retailer, is in the midst of bankruptcy proceedings. The Oregonian newspaper reports that last month, RadioShack proposed to sell a list of the names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and physical addresses of its customers, as well as information on some customers' shopping habits, as part of an asset sale related to the bankruptcy proceedings. Texas Attorney General filed legal documents, claiming that action would be an explicit violation of the company's own privacy policy. In legal documents, he cites promises that RadioShack made to customers of its physical stores and its websites that it would never share or sell their data without their permission. This week, consumer protection agencies from the 22 states and the District of Columbia added letters to the court filing to voice support for Texas's objection to the sale. Legal analysts say it's a reminder that while companies see consumer data as an asset to be exploited, others see it as personal property to be protected. / HEALTH, SAFETY: The White House is announcing a five-year plan to fight the threat posed by antibiotic-resistant germs. It's an effort to deal with once-treatable germs that can kill. Repeated exposure to antibiotics can lead germs to become resistant to the drugs, so that they are no longer effective. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that drug-resistant bacteria cause 23,000 deaths and 2 million illnesses each year in the United States.; Federal officials plan to scrutinize the safety and evidence behind alternative remedies like Zicam and Cold-Eeze, so-called homeopathic products that are protected by federal law, but not accepted by mainstream medicine. The Food and Drug Administration announced that it will hold a two-day meeting next month on homeopathic medicines, which have long occupied a place on the fringes of U.S. health care. Similar to dietary supplements, homeopathic products are not required to prove they are safe or effective before being sold on the market. But unlike supplements, homeopathic medicines can state that they are designed to treat specific medical conditions. According to a list of questions published online, the FDA will ask meeting attendees whether there is data to "better assess the risks and benefits" of homeopathic medicines. / EDUCATION, POLITICS: A Democratic budget for Oregon schools is headed for votes in the full House and Senate, likely next week. The Ways and Means Committee approved the \$7.3 billion spending plan in a party-line vote on Thursday. The two-year budget proposal would be a 9 percent increase in state aid for schools. Education interests have slammed the plan, saying it doesn't keep pace with rising costs and will force many school districts to slash spending. Democrats say their budget isn't ideal but would provide enough money for nearly all school districts to keep their current staffing and service levels. They've promised to devote a portion of any new revenue to schools. / CRIME,

ECONOMY: Oregon officials say they'll be restructuring information technology functions after a state network was hacked. Gov. Kate Brown said in a statement Thursday someone gained access last week to so-called metadata at the Department of Administrative Services, which handles technology for much of state government. Brown says the hackers didn't gain access to any personal identifying information. Officials say metadata such as the sizes of data and the timestamps of messages were compromised. She says the state's chief information officer will now take charge of the agency's Enterprise Technology Services Division. The state will also begin a process to find a management and organizational design expert to review their IT standards, she said. Brown says the review will identify vulnerabilities and provide recommendations to fix them. / EDUCATION: Two University of Oregon archivists are out of their jobs as a result of the release of thousands of pages of presidential documents. A university spokesman, Tobin Klinger, says the employees, as he put it, "will not be returning to their positions in the library." The school said the documents covering five years in the president's office hadn't been screened for confidential personal information or records protected by attorney-client privilege. A university professor, Bill Harbaugh, got the documents through a records request. The university demanded their return after one surfaced on his blog, and he complied. The archivists were put on leave. The school hasn't named the library workers. The Eugene Register-Guard reports Klinger wouldn't elaborate on their fate. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

03/30/15

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ECONOMY: Two major companies in a prominent \$1.4 billion Asia investment fund managed by New York banking giant Morgan Stanley unexpectedly told securities regulators they will not file their financial statements on time and froze trading in their stocks. Those actions are generally considered to be cause for concern. The fund's American investors include the Oregon public employees' retirement system, the University of Michigan's endowment and a foundation supporting at-risk Appalachian children. The publicly traded companies, Tianhe Chemicals Group and Sihuan Pharmaceutical Holdings Group, separately announced late last week that they would be unable to meet Hong Kong Stock Exchange deadlines because auditors have not yet signed off on their financials. Both companies pledged to cooperate with the auditors. The twin filing delays raise uncomfortable questions for Morgan Stanley, which picked the companies from obscurity then promoted them as multibillion-dollar growth stories. / ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY: Oregon beaches are ready for summer after shedding close to 63,000 pounds on Saturday. Over 5,000 volunteers helped clear the entire Oregon coast of trash at the annual SOLVE Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup. An Oregon tradition for 30 years, the twice-annual coast-wide beach cleanups have seen nearly 240,000 SOLVE volunteers remove an estimated 3.2 million pounds of trash from our beaches since 1984. The most common items found during the event were tiny bits of plastic, cigarette butts, fishing rope, glass bottles and plastic bottles. Interesting items found by volunteers included a large dock washed up near Battle Rock, a discarded baby stroller in Seaside, 200 feet of fishing rope in Cannon Beach, a broken mailbox near Cape Lookout State Park, and bayonet at Sunset Beach. There were also many inspiring stories from across the coast. Down in Gold Beach, the Visitor Center partnered with the U.S. Forest Service for their first ever community-led Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup event. A crew of 43 volunteers cleared nearly 1,500 pounds of litter off of five miles of beach, and a lucky few even collected prized glass blown floats. At the Sand Lake Recreation Area, over 100 members of the Sand Lake Duners led the cleanup effort, helping to give back to the beaches they love. Serving as Beach Captains since the 1980s, the Rockaway Beach Lions Club welcomed 140 volunteers with free lunch, including hot dogs and donations from the Metro Korean Lions Club. They cleared over 3,500 pounds off the beach and road. At Short Beach, a few brave volunteers hiked up and down hundreds of steps to pick up litter, while Netarts Oceanside Fire and Rescue hauled debris off nearby Bayocean Spit. Many of the event's sponsors also joined in the effort. The Oregon Parks and

Recreation Department coordinated over half of the 45 check-in sites, and helped haul thousands of pounds of trash. Local transfer stations and coastal counties once again generously donated their services up and down the coast. In addition, the non-profit, Washed Ashore, took debris from several check-in sites. Due to their efforts, over 1,000 pounds of debris will be re-purposed and turned into educational art sculptures at their Bandon facility. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: In Central Oregon, a police officer shot and killed a cougar after it was spotted just above a popular hiking trail. KTVZ-TV reports the animal was seen Saturday evening near the summit of Pilot Butte, a 500-foot-tall, extinct cinder cone volcano, on the east side of Bend. Officials say it was a large male cat, spotted just 15 yards from a paved road and hiking trail used by hundreds of people daily. Officers evacuated visitors for safety. A spokesman says police considered tranquilizing the cougar, but darts can take up to 15 minutes to work. This was the second cougar killed in Bend in just over two months. On Jan. 30, state Fish and Wildlife agents killed a cougar in a tree above a home. They said it would have been too risky to try to relocate the animal. / HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, MINORITIES: The longtime leader of the Oregon chapter of the ACLU says he's retiring. The Register-Guard reports it comes after Dave Fidangue shepherded the non-profit American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon of for 22 years but Tuesday is his last full-time day. His tenure as head of the organization included such landmark issues as defending gay rights, freedom of speech and reproductive rights. The Register-Guard reports that Fidanque will remain with the organization part-time through April 24 as he wraps up a few last projects and puts things in order. The ACLU's Oregon chapter is seeking a successor to Fidangue and says it is drawing some strong applicants from across the country.; Republican legislative leaders in Indiana say they are working on adding language to a new state law to make it clear that it doesn't allow discrimination against gays and lesbians. The morning announcement comes amid widespread outcry over the measure that prohibits state laws that "substantially burden" a person's ability to follow his or her religious beliefs. Indiana's House Speaker said at a news conference during the past hour that the law was meant to promote a message of inclusion but has instead led to one of exclusion. He blamed the fallout on a "mischaracterization" of the legislation. Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed the measure last week. He defended it during a television appearance Sunday but did not directly answer questions about whether it allowed discrimination against gays and lesbians. Since the Republican governor signed the bill into law Thursday, Indiana has been widely criticized by businesses and organizations around the nation, as well as on social media. Already, consumer review service Angie's List has said it will suspend a planned \$18.5 million expansion in Indianapolis because of the new law. The Indianapolis-based NCAA has expressed concerns and suggested it might move future events elsewhere; the men's Final Four will be held in the city next weekend.; The U.S. Supreme Court says a lower court must take another look at a ruling that said Virginia state lawmakers packed too many black voters into one congressional district. The justices said the lower court should reconsider the case in light of the high court's ruling last week in an Alabama redistricting case. In the Alabama case, the justices said the lower court failed to consider claims that the new districts limited minority voting power, / ECONOMY: More Americans signed contracts to buy homes in February, evidence that the spring buying season could open strong after sluggish sales for

much of the winter. The National Association of Realtors says its seasonally adjusted pending home sales index climbed 3.1 percent to 106.9 last month, the highest reading since June 2013. Buying activity jumped in the Midwest and West, while dipping slightly in the Northeast and South. The gains suggest that housing should overcome the recent hurdles of freezing weather and blistering snowstorms, as both buyers and potential sellers return to the market. Pending sales are a barometer of future purchases. A one- to two-month lag usually exists between a contract and a completed sale / HEALTH, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Prosecutors said today that the co-pilot of the Germanwings flight that crashed into the French Alps last week had received treatment for suicidal tendencies several years ago. But they say there is no indication that 27-year-old Andreas Lubitzshowed any signs of that recently while being treated for depression. Authorities believe, based on data from the plane's cockpit voice recorder, that Lubitz locked his captain out of the cockpit and ignored pleas to open the door while sending the plane into a fatal descent on what should have been a routine flight. All 150 people on board were killed. / SAFETY. ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: A Pendleton couple's home is being demolished after a worker dumped 150 gallons of diesel into their basement. The East Oregonian newspaper reports that Pendleton Grain Growers made the mistake Nov. 24 while delivering fuel to the home that Brent Merriman and Michele Lowary owned for nearly three decades. On Friday, the couple watched as workers in two excavators smashed the structure. A Pendleton Grain Growers spokeswoman says after the incident that a driver for the agricultural cooperative was confused about where to deliver the fuel. The house used heating oil some years ago, and the driver pumped the diesel into the basement. The co-op's insurance is paying to demolition the home and build a new one in the same spot. / CRIME: Sounds like more than a dozen vehicles had their tires slashed over the weekend in Oakridge. Know who's behind it? The Oakridge Police would like to hear from you.

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CRIME, SAFETY, FAMILIES: It was a hoax and investigators would appreciate any tips the public can provide into the person or persons who were behind it. Just after 2:00 pm yesterday, a bomb threat was called into Elmira Elementary School. It came as buses were departing the school for the day and there were approximately 30-50 students still at the facility taking part in an after-school program. The Explosive Disposal Unit searched the school. No explosive devices were located.; Eugene Police say an officer responding to a call yesterday evening on the 2200 block of Devos Street in the Bethel area fatally shot man believed to be suicidal. The officer was not injured during the incident, which began shortly after five p.m. when officers were called about a possibly suicidal subject. Not a lot of other information is being released at this point. Names of the officer and the subject should be made public in the next few days. The Interagency Deadly Use of Force Investigation Team is reviewing the incident.; The American Red Cross Cascades Region is assisting nine adults and nine children displaced by a multiple-unit residential fire in the 600 block of Kelly Street in Monroe, Benton County. The Red Cross provided lodging, food, clothing, infant supplies, and information about Disaster Health and Mental Health services. The Red Cross advocates emergency preparedness and suggests taking a few moments to review your family's exit plan should there be a fire in your home. Know what to do before, during and after a home fire. / TERRORISM: A mentally ill British man pleaded guilty Monday to U.S. charges that he plotted to set up an al-Qaida training camp on a ranch in a remote part of south-central Oregon. Haroon Aswat admitted he traveled to Bly, Oregon, in 1999 at the direction of Mustafa Kamel Mustafa, a double-amputee and radical cleric based in London. At his sentencing, he told the court his orders were to help train recruits "who wanted to participate in jihad on behalf of a terrorist organization." Before pleading guilty to conspiracy and supporting terrorism, Aswat told U.S. District Judge Katherin Forrest that he had been diagnosed with schizophrenia at 20. The judge ruled that the sentencing could go forward because the defendant was under medical care and showing no symptoms. The 40-year-old Aswat was charged in 2005 in the plot to establish the camp for military training at a site known as Dog Cry Ranch. Prosecutors accused the defendant of arriving in Oregon with instructions on how to make bombs and poisons. According to court papers, one communication between the conspirators said that the property was located in a "pro-militia and firearms state" that "looks just like Afghanistan" and that the group was "stockpiling weapons and ammunition." But the camp never materialized beyond a

dozen people taking target practice, authorities said. Aswat faces up to 20 years in prison at sentencing July 31. Mustafa, the mastermind of the camp who is also known as Abu Hamza al-Masri, was sentenced this year to life in prison following a trial in the same Manhattan courthouse. / EDUCATION: The Oregon House is nearing a decision on state funding for schools. The House is scheduled to vote Tuesday on the \$7.3 billion budget proposed by Democratic legislative leaders. Education interest groups have criticized the proposal as inadequate. They say it won't allow school districts to make improvements and will require some to increase class sizes. Democratic leaders say their budget isn't ideal but would allow most districts to offer all-day kindergarten to all students without cutting their budgets beyond current levels. State funding makes up the bulk of the budget for Oregon school districts and is one of the most closely watched decisions each legislative session. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: A safety investigation reveals many tractor-trailers on the nation's roads are driven faster than the 75 mph their tires are designed to handle. But The Associated Press reports the practice, which has been linked to wrecks and blowouts, has largely escaped the attention of highway officials. Nearly all truck tires are designed for a maximum sustained speed of 75 mph. But 14 states, mainly west of the Mississippi River, now have speed limits of 75, 80, even 85 mph in parts of Texas. Safety advocates and tire experts say that habitually driving faster than a tire's rated speed can generate excessive heat that damages the rubber, with potentially catastrophic results. It's hard to pinpoint the cause of most blowouts. Road debris can be a factor. Underinflation, heavy loads and high speeds can also damage tires over time. The American Trucking Associations, an industry group, says it opposes speed limits over 65 mph, and it has petitioned the government to require speed-limiting devices on trucks. The problem does not extend to ordinary car tires. Eyer since Firestone tires started failing on Ford Explorers in the 1990s, the government has required car and light truck tires to be designed for well above highway speed limits. Even the most basic car tires can safely go up to 112 mph. For now, truck drivers keep driving at high speeds - legally and illegally. ; During the next three nights, a contractor working for the Oregon Department of Transportation we be performing "median cable barrier work" on Interstate 5 between Goshen and Creswell (milepost 185 to 186). Motorists should be alert to activity in the median area of I-5, expect single lane restrictions and a 50 miles per hour work zone speed reduction from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Motorists should proceed with caution through the work zone. The work in the short section between Creswell and Goshen is part of a much larger I-5 median cable barrier project between Salem and Eugene. When completed, this work will help prevent median cross-over accidents through these sections of I-5. / SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT; Ski areas are asking the Oregon Legislature for enhanced protection from lawsuits after the state Supreme Court invalidated the broad liability waivers often printed on the back of lift tickets. Ski facility executives told the Senate Judiciary Committee Monday that they may have to raise their prices if they aren't shielded from lawsuits. They say they'll face higher bills for lawyers and insurance. But Lauren Bagley, whose son was injured as a teenager at Mount Bachelor in 2006, says ski companies should be held accountable when their man-made equipment fails. Committee chairman Floyd Prozanski asked both sides to work together and see if there's room for agreement.; A Brookings, Oregon, man is among 20 people being honored with medals and cash from the Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Heroes

Fund Commission. Terry Brown helped rescue a 14-year-old boy from drowning in surf near a state park beach in June 2014. The commission investigates stories of heroism and awards medals and cash several times a year. / MINORITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICS, ECONOMY: Indiana lawmakers have been scrambling to control damage from a widely criticized new law that critics fear could permit discrimination against gays and lesbians. The state is among about a dozen where measures aimed at preventing government from infringing on people's religious beliefs have been introduced this year. The Indiana law, which takes effect July 1, prohibits state laws that, quote, "substantially burden" a person's ability to follow his or her religious beliefs unless the government can show that it has a compelling interest and that the action is the least restrictive means of achieving it. The definition of "person" includes religious institutions, businesses and associations. Republican leaders in Indiana said yesterday they would work with lawmakers on language to clarify the intent of the law and eliminate concerns about discrimination. They did not offer specifics. Many Indiana businesses have posted signs or stickers saying they serve everyone, and the home page for Visit Indy included a message that all are welcome. But other companies and organizations have canceled future travel to Indiana or halted expansion plans in the state. The Indianapolis-based NCAA says it is concerned about the law's impact on future Indiana events.; Mayor Charlie Hales says Portland's government is joining the reaction against an Indiana law aimed at preventing government from compelling people to do things they object to, such as catering gay weddings. The law has been widely criticized as allowing discrimination against gays. Hales said Monday he's suspended city-funded travel to Indiana. He called on business and civic leaders to do the same. Spokesman Dana Haynes says Portland employees do occasionally travel to Indiana — the planning and development department leaders went recently for a forum. But he says travel is scheduled department by department, and it's not yet known if any trips were in the works. Oregon regulators are considering sanctions against two bakers who refused to provide a wedding cake to a same-sex couple.; State lawmakers in Arkansas are poised to enact a law similar to the one that has brought so much controversy in Indiana. A final vote could come today in the state House on a proposal to ban state and local governments from infringing on someone's religious beliefs without a "compelling" reason. Critics say the laws are a license to discriminate against gays and lesbians. / MINORITIES, CRIME: Oregon House lawmakers are considering legislation that defines and bans racial profiling by law enforcement agencies. The measure was introduced in the wake of widespread protests touched off by the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager by a white police officer in Missouri. A state House panel heard testimony on the measure Monday. It would also establish a system for people to file profiling-based complaints. Additionally, the bill creates a task force that would propose a way to identify patterns of profiling in law enforcement agencies. The task force would identify methods to correct such patterns. Bill supporters say it's about strengthening trust between law enforcement officers and local communities. They say previous efforts to define racial profiling died before making their way through the Legislature. They say the Missouri shooting death of Michael Brown is helping this year's bill gain traction. / ECONOMY, FAMILIES: More homes are financially out-of-reach for would-be home buyers. A closelywatched index of home prices finds that they rose by 4.6 percent in January from

12 months earlier. Prices are rising at a faster pace than earnings, making it harder for buyers to save for a down payment and afford a monthly mortgage. Fewer Americans are listing their homes for sale, and the tight supply has kept prices higher. /