### **KKNU-FM 93.3**

### **SPRINGFIELD, OREGON**

# QUARTERLY POSTING OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS, NEEDS AND INTERESTS

First Quarter, 2023: January 1 through March 31

**Posted: April 10, 2023** 

### 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.

KENZIE RIVER BROADCASTING ISSUES LIST
KKNU-FM / KMGE-FM / KEUG-FM
First Quarter – January 1, 2023, through March 1, 2023
reaking news stories during the quarter that fall under these categories will
appropriate and reflected in daily news and public service postings
IPLOYMENT, LABOR, FINANCES, BUSINESS, GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT,
LITIES, COLLEGE & PRO SPORTS, EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS, HOLIDAYS,
<b>ENT, LOTTERY:</b> Economic recovery from pandemic, inflation, possible recession;
fuel, food, and other prices; Unemployment, workforce training; Legislature;
omic, downtown development, urban renewal, urban density; Affordable housing;
cs; Other sports events; Rural development, urban growth boundary; Road
Local tech; Personal finance; Consumer prices; Legal cannabis; Immigration
rement concerns; County courthouse, City hall; Agriculture and farms;
ergy prices, development; Cybersecurity and breaches.
CES, LOW-INCOME, HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, CHARITY: Legislative
lessness and Safe Sleep sites issues; Neighborhood, business, and community
substance abuse, and homelessness; CAHOOTS and other alternate
fordable housing; Homeless veterans, individuals, families, youth; "The Working
wage and living wages; Community agencies; Mental health; Older adults:
th, housing, finances /
Y, POLICING, LAW ENFORCEMENT, ILLEGAL DRUGS: Drug & alcohol
pidemic; Addiction treatment; Mental health; Police funding and policing
munity enforcement, social service funding shift; CAHOOTS; Illegal cannabis
esses; Traffic safety; Cybersecurity; Severe weather, storms, natural disasters;
ng; Youth protection; School safety; Child abuse; Gangs; Terrorism.
TAL HEALTH, PANDEMIC: Mental health; Opioid epidemic, drug abuse; Legal
ID-19 pandemic easing, lifting of restrictions, vaccines, treatments, long COVID;
diseases; Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid) and CCOs, ACA; Prescription drug
diabetes & healthy eating; Food and product recalls; Abortion and reproduction; en's health; STDs, other illnesses & diseases; Environmental health, wildfire
air quality; Safe water; Assisted suicide.
ISASTER PREPAREDNESS, WILDFIRES, WILDFIRE RECOVERY,
F, ENERGY, WEATHER, CLIMATE CHANGE, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY,
HERIES, RECREATION: Wildfire recovery; Community and residential
inst wildfires; Climate change; Drought; Winter weather – snowpack and rain;
vere weather preparedness; Air quality; Climate change and health; Agriculture,
EVs; Natural gas referendum; Power generation; Offshore drilling; Wind, solar,
n" energy; ; Ocean health, Fisheries; Forest, wildlife, habitat; Hazardous
nes; Oil trains; Cannabis & hemp; Pollinators; Pesticides, herbicides; Predator
wolves, cougars, coyotes.
JDENTS, & EDUCATION: Schools and students, post-pandemic learning and
ommunity college and higher education funding and program adjustments;
pility; Curriculum, academic standards; Student honors; Student activism;
ts; New schools; Families; The childcare shortage.
JDENTS, & EDUCATION: Schools and students, post-pandemic learning and community college and higher education funding and program adjustments; bility; Curriculum, academic standards; Student honors; Student activism;

POLITICS, ELECTIONS, GOVERNMENT, COURTS: Legislative session and local government; Oregon revenues, Legislative Emergency Board funding; Federal funding, Congressional appropriations, state and local program funding; Racial justice & policing; School funding; Biden Administration, Congressional, and federal and state courts decisions impacting Oregon; Secession movements; Cybersecurity, data breaches / RACIAL JUSTICE, RACE, RACISM, BIPOC (BLACKS, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR), LATINX, IMMIGRATION, CIVIL RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, DISABILITIES, LEGAL, COMMUNITY, FAMILY, CHILDREN, YOUTH, OLDER ADULTS, RELIGION, WOMEN, LGBTQ, GENDER ISSUES, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, ANIMALS: Racial equality and administration of justice; Civil rights, Civil liberties; Older adults; Families and children; Youth programs & protection; Domestic-sexual violence; Immigration-DACA, LatinX community; LGBTQ; Fair housing; Privacy, cybersecurity; Religion, churches; Community and charitable events; Older adults; Pets, animal rights. **TRANSPORTATION:** Infrastructure needs and projects; Road and gas fees and taxes; Pedestrian, biker, rider safety; Hiking-biking trails; Airlines; Eugene's airport expansion; Lane Transit District; Hybrid, electric vehicles; Spring-summer travel; Rail safety; Transportation systems ridership recovery. MILITARY, VETERANS, WAR ON TERRORISM: Veterans, jobs, mental health (PTSD, suicide, 10 etc.) and homelessness; Military families; Homeland and local security; Balancing terrorism with civil rights; National Guard deployments; Oregonians in the military; Hacking and privacy. The 1st Quarter, 2023, Issues List was formulated by Tracy Berry - KKNU-FM and from previous quarters' ascertainments, conversations, phone calls, and emails with listeners and community leaders. As always, the list is updated to reflect developing issues over the course of the quarter.

ISSUES: Low-Income, Families, Youth, Finances, Business, Housing.

## NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 01/01/23 and 01/08/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Ross Kanaga, Financial Innovation Manager, DevNW

Contact information: <a href="mailto:ross.kanaga@devnw.org">ross.kanaga@devnw.org</a>

City and State: Springfield, Oregon

**TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** All sorts of financial challenges are facing individuals and families with the New Year. Inflation is running near record highs. Housing prices and interest rates are making home ownership unaffordable for many. And those financial cushions many built up during the pandemic are disappearing. As we ring out 2022 and ring in 2023, it's time for our annual New Year's financial resolutions. Ross Kanaga joins us from Dev NW. The local non-profit teaches financial literacy and financial independence, offering classes on topics ranging from saving and responsible spending to first-time homebuying, starting a business or side hustle, and eliminating debt. The organization offers financial and debt counseling and unlimited seminars and classes through a \$75 annual household pass. Kanaga says there are several programs for first-time homebuyers that make savings for a down payment and meeting monthly mortgage obligations much easier. Some DevNW courses also target young adults ages 16-24 and people preparing for retirement. There also are courses for those with side hustles. Kanaga says many people also are adjusting to the anticipated end of a moratorium on federally backed student loan payments. He offers advice on ways to put any remaining savings to work, and how to design a spending and savings plan for the future. He says its's always important to put some money into an emergency savings fund to help tide you over for at least a month should you have a disruption to your life or employment. And for those who struggled last year with financial disruptions, he encourages them to receive financial counseling on how to deal with any lingering debt and prepare for the future.

ISSUES: Disasters, Housing, Finances, Environment, Government

NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 01/15/23 and 01/22/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Jason Horton, Oregon Department of Business & Consumer

Services, Division of Financial Regulation

Contact information: jason.a.horton@dcbs.oregon.gov

City and State: Salem, Oregon

**TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Winter in Oregon brings rain –lots of it. This year is no different. The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) reminds people to be prepared. Flood damage to your home and property can be expensive, especially if you don't have the proper insurance coverage. Most homeowner's policies might cover water damage if your toilet overflows, your dishwasher malfunctions, or your washing machine backs up. But that's different from water that's coming in from outside. That can include things like overflowing rivers and lakes, clogged storm drains, and broken water mains. Most Oregonians with flood coverage have it through the National Flood Insurance Program. But otherwise, you need to purchase private flood insurance coverage through your insurance carrier. Experts with the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation say flood insurance can be expensive in flood-prone areas but can be fairly affordable elsewhere. DFR has resources available on its website about flood insurance at https://dfr.oregon.gov/insure/home/storm/Pages/flood.aspx We speak with Jason Horton from DFR, who says it is important to be prepared before flooding takes place. One way to do that is to build a financial first-aid kit and inventory. You can do this by: Saving account numbers – Have a safe place where those are stored and accessible. Having an inventory of your belongings – Take pictures or videos of your items and write down a record of what you have. Backing up computer files - Consider backing up your information to a secure cloud storage service or keeping an external device with important information backed up somewhere other than your home. Securing important documents – It is critical to keep important papers in a water-tight fire safe or a bank deposit box. If you do have coverage and need to file a claim, immediately contact your insurer or agent. Also, save any receipts from repairs, housing, food, mitigation

(sandbags, pumps, etc.) because reimbursements may be part of your coverage. Before going back into your home, make sure it is safe to do so. Flood damage can make buildings insecure and unsteady. Also, you want to be careful of gas leaks and electrical wires in flooded areas. If you don't have flood insurance, consider purchasing it. Even those who don't live in flood zones are susceptible under certain conditions. Contact your agent or the National Flood Insurance Program.

ISSUES: Health, Mental Health, Youth, Community, Education.

## NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 01/29/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Luis Pimental

Contact information: Lane County Health & Human Services Alcohol Abuse Prevention

Coordinator

City and State: Eugene, Oregon

TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Alcohol abuse and binge drinking can have a devastating effect on your health and lifespan. Alcohol is often overlooked as a public health problem, but according to federal numbers it is America's leading preventable cause of death. Excessive drinking can lead to alcohol-caused liver or pancreas failure, alcohol poisoning, and mental and behavioral disorders tied to the use of alcohol. Excessive drinking is associated with high blood pressure, stroke, and heart disease. Drinking by pregnant women can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, or birth defects. And health officials say alcohol is a factor in as many as one-third of serious falls among the elderly. Last month, the Oregon Health Authority and county public health departments launched a new awareness campaign, "Rethink the Drink," at https://www.rethinkthedrink.com/ to provide tips on making lifestyle changes and reducing alcohol dependency. We chat with Luis Pimental, Lane County's Alcohol Abuse Prevention Coordinator about that and other local efforts, drinking trends now and during the pandemic, and how educational approaches for the public have changed in recent years. And we discuss Dry January, during which people abstain from alcohol for 30 days, and how the effort can continue in the coming months. Several studies tout the range of potential health benefits, including weight loss and metabolic improvements and better sleep. Experts say a successful Dry January can have other long-term health effects, including permanent reductions in alcohol-consumption habits. They say one key to making Dry January a success can be finding a teammate, so you can support one another. Maybe even several teammate, so you form a Dry January crew.

ISSUES: Low-Income, Community, Pandemic, Youth, Families, Charitable.

## NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 02/05/23 and 02/12/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Tom Mulhearn, Executive Director, and Dawn Marie

Woodward, Events & Media Relations Manager

Contact information: 541-343-2822 City and State: Eugene, Oregon

TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION: We speak with officials from FOOD for Lane County, our local foodbank, about the surge in requests for assistance. Inflation has hit lower-income households hard. The local food bank and its partners who operate distribution pantries have seen demand climb since the middle of last year. Requests for emergency food assistance are expected to increase in March, after the federal government ends the additional emergency SNAP benefits that began in early 2020 during the start of the pandemic. Some SNAP households could see their benefits drop by up to \$95 per month. Last month alone, the state distributed \$71 million dollars in pandemic-related emergency SNAP benefits to close to 421,000 households. The end of the emergency supplemental assistance in March will have a ripple effect, as those benefits were spent at local grocery stores and farmers' markets, boosting the economy, and supporting small businesses and food producers. We also learn about how FOOD for Lane County has expanded its facilities and operations in recent years, about it network of food pantries, and programs for adults and youth. We also hear about some upcoming fundraisers.

ISSUES: Health, Mental Health, Community, Families, Youth, Veterans, Illegal

**Drugs** 

NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 02/19/23 and 02/26/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Roger Brubaker, Lane County Public Health Suicide

**Prevention Coordinator** 

Contact information: 541-682-8731 City and State: Eugene, Oregon

**TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Analysts say suicide remains a serious public health problem in Lane County. A new report capturing trends from the past 20 years underscores that its causes are complex, but that there are ways to prevent unneeded deaths. Among the findings in the new report: Between the years 2000 and 2020, the rate of suicide increased by 80 percent in Lane County. In all, 1,458 people ended their lives by suicide, at a rate that was 65 percent greater than the U.S. average. Overall, males died about 4 times as often as females and older adult males (≥65) had the greatest risk of suicide of any age group. The rates of suicide in Junction City, Florence and Cottage Grove were about twice the county average. One in four people who died by suicide was a veteran or military service member. Most people died in their homes with a firearm which they owned. Half of the people who died during this time had some history of a mental health problem. Lane County Public Health's Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Roger Brubaker, says we can prevent suicide through compassion, inclusion, and safety. He discusses how to speak with someone at risk for suicide and when to call for assistance. He also highlights the Suicide Prevention program at Lane County Public Health, which works to increase awareness of suicide and the importance of mental wellness. The program also encourages and supports community action, preparing people for how to respond such crises. More information can be found at preventionlane.org

ISSUES: Youth, Family, Mental Health, Safety, Government

NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 03/05/23 and 03/12/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Brandyn Rice, Resource Family Retention and Recruitment

Champion, Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare.

Contact information: 541-686-7555 City and State: Eugene, Oregon

#### TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Every year in Lane County there are hundreds of children and teens who need a safe, secure, temporary home. In many cases, they've been removed from their biological families because of abusive or neglectful situations. They're placed in what we've traditionally called "foster homes" with "foster parents." But as there's been a shift in how officials assist these youngsters and teens, and work with their biological families, there's been a change in what we call their temporary homes: They're now "resource homes" with "resource parents." The approach now focuses on, whenever possible, returning the children and teens to their biological homes by providing those parents with resources and training and keeping them involved with their children's lives even while the youngsters are in resource homes. The need for resource parents is strong. This morning, we speak with Brandyn Rice from the Oregon Department of Human Services' Child Welfare Office in Lane County about the range of people who serve as resource parents, the time commitment, and how the shift in the agency's approach is making a big difference.

ISSUES: Community, Family, Education, Recreation

NAME OF PROGRAM: COMMUNITY FORUM Locally produced / Regularly scheduled

DATE: 03/19/23 and 03/26/23

TIME: 6:30 a.m.: KKNU / 7:00 a.m.: KMGE & KEUG

**LENGTH: 30 minutes** 

#### **GUEST:**

Name, Title, Organization: Madeline McGraw, Curator, Springfield History Museum

Contact information: 541-726-2300 City and State: Springfield, Oregon

TOPIC AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Perhaps you've walked or driven by and wondered what's inside. The building at Sixth and Main Streets in Springfield houses the Springfield History Museum. This morning on Community Forum, we chat with museum curator Maddi McGraw. The Springfield History Museum officially opened to the public in 1981 in a city-owned building that was constructed in the early 1900s. It's exhibits touch on key parts of Springfield history, from its native people to settlers, major industries, and contemporary culture. A popular current exhibit traces the history of labor unions in the community. Curator Madeline McGraw says the museum offers educational tours and free admission to the public. There's also an effort underway to digitize its holdings—including thousands of photographs—for the public to access online for free, McGraw says that will better assist those seeking to learn more about their families, local land and structures, and the area's human and natural history.

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/03/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HEALTH: Three days into the New Year, how are you doing with your resolutions? One that's grown in popularity in recent years is Dry January, during which people abstain from alcohol for 30 days. Several studies tout the range of potential health benefits, including weight loss and metabolic improvements and better sleep. Experts say a successful Dry January can have other long-term health effects, including permanent reductions in alcohol-consumption habits. They say one key to making Dry January a success can be finding a teammate, so you can support one another. Maybe even several teammate, so you form a Dry January crew. / HEALTH, CHILDREN, SAFETY: The number of young children, especially toddlers, who accidentally ate marijuana- and THC-laced treats rose sharply over five years as recreational cannabis became legal in more places in the U.S. That's according to a study, which found the nation's poison control centers were notified of more than 7,000 confirmed cases of children younger than age 6 eating marijuana edibles between 2017 and 2021. The increase went from around 200 reports annually to more than 3,000 per year. And the study found nearly one-quarter of those children were hospitalized, with some becoming seriously ill. Details of the new analysis were published in the journal Pediatrics. It noted the numbers are just the reported cases, and do not include milder incidents that did not require medical intervention. The study's lead author says it underscores the importance of parents and other adults being more vigilant and keeping marijuana and THC-infused candies, chocolate and cookies out of reach of children. Rather than thinking of recreational cannabis as a snack, the researchers say those concerned about the safety of young children should store it the same way they would household chemicals or medication. Currently, 37 U.S. states permit the use of marijuana and cannabis products for medical purposes and 21 states allow it for adult recreational use. Some states have adopted laws to make recreational cannabis products — often packaged to look like kids' candies and snacks — appear less appealing and be less accessible to children. The researchers analyzed reports to the National Poison Data System, which includes the nation's 55 regional poison control centers. More than half of the children were toddlers, ages 2 and 3. More than 90 percent found and ate the edibles at home. Of more than 7,000 reports, researchers were able to track the outcomes of nearly 5,000 cases. They found that nearly 600 kids, or about eight percent, were admitted to critical care units, most often with depressed breathing or even a coma. Nearly 15 percent were admitted to non-critical care units. And

more than one-third were seen in emergency rooms. Drowsiness, breathing problems, fast heart rate and vomiting were the most common symptoms. Reports and hospitalizations rose during the last two years of the study, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers said that's when more children were at home, with more opportunities to find pot treats. EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH, FAMILY, GOVERNMENT: If you're a worker in Oregon, you'll begin seeing payroll deductions this month to help fund a new paid family-leave program. But you will have to wait until September before you can begin claiming that time off. The program is known as Paid Leave Oregon. It covers leave for the birth or adoption of a child; for serious illness or injury; for taking care of a seriously ill family member; and for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or harassment. Six weeks ago, Paid Leave Oregon launched a new statewide campaign and online toolkit aimed at notifying Oregon employers about their role and responsibilities in the new program. All employers, regardless of size, began collecting contributions from employees starting January 1. The state-managed fund has a total contribution rate of 1 percent of gross payroll. Employees will pay 60 percent, and large employers will pay 40 percent, of the 1 percent contribution rate. For example, if an employee makes \$5,000, the employee will pay \$30, and the employer will pay \$20. However, only employers with 25 or more employees will contribute to the program. Small employers with fewer than 25 employees are not required to make contributions, but they can choose to participate in coverage as a benefit to their employees. The state will administer the program, including paying employees while they are on leave and determining their eligibility for benefits. Benefits will be available to employees in September 2023. / COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT: The City of Eugene's second and final round of leaf collection season begins today. Between now and January 20, Eugene Public Works crews will collect leaf piles along public streets. So far this season, public works teams have collected more than 8,400 cubic yards of leaves. That's enough to fill about two-thirds of the Empire State Building—if you were crazy enough to haul them there and could persuade building tenants to allow you to fill their offices. Stormwater user fees help fund leaf collection and delivery. Concentrations of decaying leaves in urban settings can deplete oxygen in nearby streams and rivers needed by fish and other aquatic life. / CRIME, LEGAL: The Oregon Supreme Court ruled late last week that people who were convicted of a crime by a non-unanimous jury have a right to a new trial. Under the ruling, final convictions issued by non-unanimous juries before the U.S. Supreme Court struck down such jury verdicts in 2020 must be reversed and sent back for a new trial. The ruling applies to state cases where a criminal conviction was final and the appeals, if any, were over before the 2020 Supreme Court decision. Authorities say the decision will affect at least 400 convictions in the state. Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum welcomed the ruling, saying it would help address inequities and ensure fairness in the justice system. Oregon voters in the 1930s enacted a law that allowed for non-unanimous jury verdicts of 10-2 or 11-1 in most criminal cases, except those for first-degree murder. Until recently, Oregon was the only state in the country, along with Louisiana, that allowed people to be convicted of a crime when at least one juror expressed doubt. But the U.S. Supreme Court struck down non-unanimous jury verdicts in 2020, ruling in Ramos v. Louisiana that they violated defendants' constitutional

right to a trial by jury and had roots in racism. Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote for the court that the practice should be discarded as a vestige of Jim Crow laws in Louisiana and racial, ethnic and religious bigotry that led to its adoption in Oregon, After the 2020 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Oregon's Appellate Division reviewed more than 750 criminal convictions that were on appeal and identified hundreds requiring reversal, according to the state justice department. Oregon appellate courts have since sent over 470 of the cases back for new trials, the department said. Convictions dating back decades could be overturned, state justice department officials said, although the statute of limitations might bar relief for some older convictions. The Oregon District Attorneys Association expressed skepticism over the ruling. It said that "retrying decades old cases can be challenging if not impossible" and expressed concern for crime victims who might have to re-testify before their abusers. / HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Oregon's top health official starts a new job this week with the state of New Mexico. Pat Allen will oversee an agency of more than 2,000 employees at the forefront of efforts to blunt the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic while attending to longstanding public health issues aggravated by poverty and limited access to medical care in remote areas. Some of those efforts are similar to what Allen handled in Oregon. New Mexico's Health Department is helping to oversee creation of a new veteran's home and grapple with the statewide toll of alcoholism, drug-overdose deaths and gun violence. Allen has spent more than 30 years in public service, most recently serving as the director of the Oregon Health Authority under outgoing Governor Kate Brown. He also worked with Oregon's Department of Consumer and Business Services. / TRANSPORTATION, FINANCES, GOVERNMENT: With the New Year, many Americans now qualify for a tax credit of up to \$7,500 for buying an electric vehicle. The credit is part of changes enacted in the Inflation Reduction Act and is designed to spur EV sales and reduce greenhouse emissions. But a complex web of requirements is casting doubt on whether anyone will be able to receive the full \$7,500 credit. For at least the first two months of 2023, though, a delay in the Treasury Department's rules for the new credits will likely make the full credit temporarily available to consumers who meet income and price limits. People who buy a used EV can get a smaller tax credit. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/04/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME: Eugene Police are asking for leads as they seek the driver in a Tuesday afternoon vehicle-versus-pedestrian hit-and-run crash. The pedestrian, a 60-yearold woman, was hospitalized with potentially life-threatening injuries. It happened shortly after 4:15 yesterday afternoon at 6th Avenue and Lincoln Street. Police say the suspect vehicle is a black sedan, possibly a Honda Civic. After leaving the crash scene, the hit-and-run driver might have taken the on-ramp onto the Washington Street Bridge and I-105 eastbound. Officials say there might be frontend damage near the passenger-side headlight and hood. Investigators have shared nearby security camera images of the vehicle and hope anyone who was in the area at the time might have tips in the case or even in-car camera footage. If you do, contact Eugene Police at 541-682-5138.; Investigators yesterday released more details about a Monday pursuit and officer-involved shooting that began with an effort to stop a driver on Benton County's Peoria Road and ended near Albany's train depot. They say the suspect in the case, 40-year-old Stephen Anthony Schmidt-Shelton of Corvallis, is jailed on charges including Attempted Murder, Attempted Assault, Unlawful Use of a Weapon, being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Reckless Endangering, Reckless Driving, and Failure to Perform the Duties of a Driver. Officials say that after Schmidt-Shelton allegedly fled their attempted traffic stop in a black 1997 Honda, he fired multiple gunshots at pursuing Corvallis Police vehicles. Albany Police officers deployed spike strips that flattened two of the vehicle's tires. The suspect continued driving, but the pursuit ended when Albany and Oregon State Police used a forcible stop technique to halt his vehicle under an overpass near the train station. During that confrontation, State Police troopers were involved in a shooting that left the suspect with non-life-threatening injuries. He was treated at a nearby hospital before being jailed. No law enforcement personnel were injured or wounded during the incident.; A Eugene woman faces charges including DUII, Reckless Driving, and Assault in connection with Monday afternoon's single-vehicle crash at an off-ramp from the Ferry Street Bridge. Two children riding in the vehicle were taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Eugene Police say the suspect, 44-year-old Cassandra Lee Foster, lost control of her vehicle and collided with signs, bushes and a utility pole. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, MENTAL HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Lane County officials say that new federal appropriations bill provides, among other things, \$3.1 million for a trio of critical public safety projects: That includes \$176,000 so

the Lane County Sheriff's Office can replace its Dispatch Center consoles. While the facility itself is technologically up-to-date, officials say the personnel workstations are functionally obsolete and have not been upgraded in more than 15 years. The new consoles will help emergency dispatchers better provide critical emergency communications services to deputies working across Lane County. \$1.5 million will help enhance funding for equipment and facilities related to the county's development of a behavioral health crisis-stabilization center. The federal money is being added to \$7 million that the Board of County Commissioners already has dedicated to the important project. The intent is to provide a much-needed option for first responders, police agencies, and others when they encounter someone experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Another \$1.5 million will help ensure that any new multi-use facility being considered for the Lane Events Center would be built to withstand a major earthquake and could be used as a safe evacuation site after any significant seismic event. This investment would be combined with \$7.5 million previously appropriated by Oregon lawmakers. If commissioners do not move ahead with the facility, the funding will be returned. County officials, including Board of County Commissioners Chair Pat Farr, thank last year's Congressional delegation including Senator Jeff Merkley, Senator Ron Wyden, and Congressman Peter DeFazio—along with their staffs, for working to include funding for the projects. / LEGAL, GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, SAFETY: A Malheur County judge on Tuesday declined to lift his order that temporarily freezes part of a new, voter-approved gun safety measure—the part that requires a completed criminal background check before a gun can be sold or transferred. It comes after the judge less than two weeks ago heard arguments from the State of Oregon on a motion to allow the background check provision to take effect even while the overall constitutionality of the Measure 114's other elements were decided by the courts. Under federal law, firearms dealers can sell guns without a completed background check if the check takes longer than three business days — a practice Oregon's new law would end. The practice, known as the so-called "Charleston loophole," allowed a man in Charleston, South Carolina, to in 2015 buy a gun that was used to kill nine Black parishioners at a church. The Harney County judge, Robert Raschio, previously dealt a blow to gun control advocates when he put all other elements of the tough new law on hold, including a permitto-purchase provision and a ban on high-capacity magazines. State officials say they will be ready to support a permit program in March. In his opinion issued Tuesday, Raschio said he would reconsider severing the background check provision of the law from the rest of the measure only if the permit-to-purchase element was ultimately found to be unconstitutional. He stressed that he has not made a final determination on the constitutionality of any of Measure 114's provisions. The lawsuit in Harney County, filed by Gun Owners of America Inc., the Gun Owners Foundation and several individual gun owners, sought to have the entire law placed on hold while its constitutionality is decided. The state lawsuit specifically makes the claims under the Oregon Constitution, not the U.S. Constitution. Measure 114 requires a permit, criminal background check, fingerprinting and hands-on training course for new firearms buyers. It also bans the sale, transfer or import of gun magazines over 10 rounds unless they are owned by law enforcement or a military member or were owned before the measure's passage. Those who already own high-capacity magazines can only

possess them in their homes or use them at a firing range, in shooting competitions or for hunting as allowed by state law after the measure takes effect. Gun rights groups, local sheriffs and gun store owners have filed at least four lawsuits, almost all in federal court, saying the law violates Americans' constitutional right to bear arms. The Harney County lawsuit is the only one filed in state court, gun rights advocates said. A federal judge in Portland hearing a different challenge to the law under the U.S. Constitution on Dec. 6 delivered an initial victory to proponents of the sweeping gun-control measure that passed in the Nov. 8 midterms. In that ruling, U.S. District Judge Karin Immergut allowed the ban on the sale and transfer of new high-capacity magazines to take effect. She also granted a 30-day delay before the law's permit-to-purchase mandate takes effect but did not quash it entirely as gun rights advocates had wanted. Raschio's subsequent ruling the same day threw the law into limbo: Because that lawsuit challenged Measure 114 under the Oregon Constitution, it held precedence in the state, legal experts said. The law's fate is being carefully watched by both gun rights advocates and those who want stricter limits on gun ownership. It would be one of the first to take effect since the U.S. Supreme Court in June struck down a New York law that placed limits on carrying guns outside the home. / TRANSPORTATION, BUSINESS: It's an expensive apology and already has a lot of takers. Southwest Airlines is offering travelers stranded by canceled flights during Christmas holidays refunds, reimbursements for unexpected travel costs, and 25,000 frequent-flyer points. Airline officials say the points are valued at more than \$300. The details are contained in a letter from Southwest's CEO to previously stranded passengers. In it, Bob Jordan writes that "no amount of apologies can undo" the experience. But he says airline employees are working "with great urgency" to process refunds, return lost bags and handle requests for reimbursement of costs incurred by stranded travelers. Dallas-based Southwest canceled more than 15,000 flights between Dec. 22 and Dec. 30, according to tracking service FlightAware, amid bad weather and a software meltdown. Southwest officials say people booked on flights between December 24 and January 2 that were canceled or "significantly" delayed received the 25,000 points. / EDUCATION, LEGAL, HOUSING, LOW-INCOME, PANDEMIC: A program at the University of Oregon School of Law is receiving \$1.2 million in state grant funding to deliver free eviction prevention mediation services at five Resolution Centers across the state. The money, from Oregon Housing and Community Services, will fund the efforts through the law school's Office for Community Dispute Resolution. Backers of the effort say mediation is an effective way to resolve disputes between renters and their housing providers and prevent evictions before they happen. That, they say, increases overall housing stability. High prices, supply shortages, and the ongoing effects of the pandemic have resulted in challenges for many Oregon renters. The worst impacts were delayed during a pandemic-related temporary statewide moratorium on evictions. That moratorium ended in July of 2021, allowing housing providers to begin evicting tenants for non-payment of accumulated back rent. Data collected by researchers at Portland State University found that, since then, more than 17,000 eviction cases have been filed in Oregon. Two-thirds of those involved non-payment of rent. Analysts say the risk of eviction is increasing for many lower-income renters this year, with state rent control limits rising by up to 14.6 percent because of the leap in inflation. Because eviction greatly increases the risk of poverty,

homelessness, job loss, and loss of possessions, those behind the law school's program hope increased access to mediation can bring landlords and renters together outside of a courtroom to find other ways to resolve the dispute. This might include creating a rent repayment plan; develop reimbursement options; help connect renters to services such as credit counseling, energy assistance, and transportation programs; or even settle on a negotiated move-out date so the tenant has a bit more time to secure new housing and avoid the long-term consequences of an eviction filing. / HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Sunday, January 15, is the last day of open enrollment for private health insurance in Oregon's Health Insurance Marketplace. The Marketplace is the state-level partner to HealthCare.gov If you are no offered insurance through your job or through a public program like the Oregon Health Plan or Medicare, open enrollment is the only time when you can enroll in health coverage through OregonHealthCare.gov\_ You might even qualify for financial help. Since open enrollment began on November 1, more than 138,000 people have enrolled in health insurance for 2023. More than 80 percent of Oregonians who applied qualify for financial help. Those savings reduce monthly premiums. And additional financial help, known as cost-sharing reductions, also are available for thousands of Oregonians on out-ofpocket costs for Silver-level health plans. The Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace provides online tools to help you find insurance coverage. / GOVERNMENT, MENTAL HEALTH: Oregon Psilocybin Services has begun accepting applications for licenses for manufacturers, laboratories, service centers and facilitators. The program, operated by the Oregon Health Authority, has posted information on how to apply for the license types on its website. Under the Oregon Psilocybin Services Act, or ORS 475A, a client 21 and older may access psilocybin services and will be required to complete a preparation session with a licensed facilitator before participating in an administration session. The client will only access psilocybin at a licensed service center during an administration session. Integration sessions will be made available after administration sessions to further support clients. Psilocybin products must be cultivated or processed by licensed manufacturers and tested by licensed. accredited testing laboratories before being sold to licensed service centers. Service centers are the only licensee authorized to sell psilocybin products to clients and only for consumption at the licensed service center during administration sessions. It will take some time for these four license types to become licensed and set up operations. Licensees will determine the cost of their services and the scheduling of clients once they are licensed and open for business. / CRIME, ENERGY, SAFETY: Federal authorities say two men have been arrested and charged with vandalizing electrical substations in Washington state. The Christmas Day attacks that left more than 15,000 thousand without power over the holidays. They occurred just weeks after officials have warned that the U.S. power grid needs better security to prevent domestic terrorism. The attacks came after a large outage last month in North Carolina took days to repair. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Seattle said Tuesday that 32-year-old Matthew Greenwood and 40-year-old Jeremy Crahan, both of Puyallup, were arrested Saturday. Authorities say Greenwood told investigators they knocked out power so they could burglarize a business and steal from the cash register. A newly unsealed complaint charged both with conspiracy to damage energy facilities, and it charged Greenwood with possession of a short-barreled rifle and

a short-barreled shotgun. The legal filing notes that cellphone records and other evidence tied the men to the attacks on the four substations in Pierce County, near Tacoma. The complaint said transformers at the four Tacoma Power substations would have to be replaced and damage was estimated to be at least \$3 million. According to the complaint, the pair hit the first three substations early on Christmas Day, then struck the last — the Kapowsin substation — that evening. In each case, they used bolt cutters to access the properties and manipulated switches to knock out power. At the Kapowsin substation, their actions caused arcing and sparking, the complaint said. Conspiracy to attack energy facilities is punishable by up to 20 years in prison. Possession of an unregistered firearm is punishable by up to 10 years. At least four electrical substations were targeted in earlier attacks in Oregon and Washington beginning in late November. Attackers used firearms in at least some of the incidents and some power customers in Oregon temporarily lost service. In one of the attacks, two people cut through a fence surrounding a high-voltage substation and then shot several pieces of equipment. The utilities affected in those cases — Portland General Electric, the Bonneville Power Administration and Puget Sound Energy — said they were working with the FBI. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/05/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME: A 30-year-old man has been sentenced to 80 months in prison for a series of drug, property, and financial crimes. It comes after an extensive investigation by Eugene Police officers and members of EPD's Street Crimes Unit, and Property/Financial Crimes Unit. Investigators said they first became aware of McKenzie Daniel Harris in March of 2021, when he was selling drugs on Facebook under an assumed name. Harris was detained during a traffic stop and a search of his home yielded a seizure of close to 14 pounds of methamphetamine and more than \$18,000 cash, along with scales and packaging materials. In April of last year, a Eugene Police officer spotted Harris in a vehicle being sought out of Springfield. Harris was found with a felony amount of narcotics and a later search recovered numerous stolen checks, ID cards, and bank cards. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: New COVID cases after weeks of holiday gatherings are showing up at Oregon hospitals. And even though pandemicrelated deaths have slowed a bit, new numbers show Oregon has hit a grim new milestone. More than 9,000 Oregon residents have died from COVID-19 and COVID-related complications since the start of the pandemic. That's according to the newest weekly numbers from the Oregon Health Authority. Of the 9,024 deaths, more than 2,800 came last year. The Oregonian and OregonLive report that came even as our state recorded the eighth-lowest COVID death rate in the country. COVID mortality continues to hit older adults hardest: According to state numbers, 85 percent of those who have died are 60 or older—with the vast majority over the age of 80. Lane County Public Health officials received reports of 348 infections during the past week and two additional COVID-related deaths. That puts our local pandemic death toll at 683. / FAMILIES, CHILDREN, HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT: For working parents of young children, it is challenging to move on from the pandemic as waves of other illnesses and childcare disruptions continue to upend families' lives. Vaccines for young kids and the end of quarantines for COVID exposure were supposed to bring relief. Instead, young families are dealing with a "tripledemic" of RSV, flu, and COVID. That is stressing children's hospital wards and putting more pressure on the childcare system. Many doctors and parents fear disruptive illnesses will continue this winter. Even parents of babies with less serious cases of COVID-19 have run into 10-day isolation rules that have taxed the patience of employers. A record-high 104,000 people missed work in October because of childcare problems, surpassing even early pandemic levels, according to numbers from the federal Bureau of Labor

Statistics. Childcare-related absences fell to 59,000 in November, but the numbers still surpass typical pre-pandemic levels. The instability has hurt many working parents' finances. Most of those who missed work in October because of childcare problems did not get sick or family-leave pay, according to an analysis from the Center for American Progress, a left-leaning think tank. Now, doctors are bracing for the number of sick children to rise on the heels of holiday family gatherings. The infections are causing illnesses among childcare providers, adding to the strain. During the early months of the pandemic, experts say women in the prime of their careers left the labor market at a rate far exceeding men. often to provide care for their children as childcare centers closed. Women have since returned to the workforce, but in lower numbers here in the U.S. than in other industrialized nations. Advocates say a lack of universal preschool and paid family leave policies are contributing factors. At the pandemic's height, more than one-third of day care jobs were lost. Staffing has not fully recovered. As of November, Bureau of Labor Statistics figures show the country had eight percent fewer childcare workers than before the pandemic. The strong labor market also has driven up the cost to hire new workers. That means childcare spots are pricier and harder to find. And even centers with childcare openings might need to temporarily close when staff or kids fall ill. / TRANSPORTATION, WEATHER, SAFETY: In Eastern Oregon, much of a 160-mile stretch of Interstate 84 remains closed in both directions six miles east of Pendleton all the way to Baker City due to a large number of crashes and extremely high wind conditions. Officials are reporting 70 mph gusts in some areas. To add to the challenge, there's no longer any safe parking for trucks in Baker City or La Grande. Some secondary highways also are closed or are not considered viable for freeway traffic. Check TripCheck.com or call 511 / 800-977-6368 for updates. Outside Oregon call 503-588-2941. / BUSINESS: Corporate leaders with retailer Bed Bath & Beyond warned this morning that the company is running out of cash and is considering bankruptcy. The company has hundreds of stores nationwide, including eight locations in Oregon—one of which is in Eugene. The Wall Street Journal and CNBC report that the retailer, citing worse-than-expected sales, likely will not have the cash to cover expenses, such as lease agreements or payments to suppliers. Bed Bath & Beyond leaders say they are exploring their financial options, such as restructuring, seeking additional capital, or selling assets, in addition to a potential bankruptcy. Among its challenges, the retailer is having trouble getting enough merchandise to fill its shelves and is drawing fewer customers to its stores and website. Because of its financial crunch, some suppliers are not willing to ship large quantities of merchandise or, in some cases, any merchandise to the company. Bed Bath & Beyond already has a history of strained relationships with key national brands, such as Dyson, Keurig and Cuisinart. During previous holiday seasons, Bed Bath didn't have popular gift items, such as KitchenAid's stand mixers. Those items were plentiful at competitors like Target. /

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TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY: Lane Transit District is adjusting its schedule and reducing service on 12 of its regular bus routes. LTD also plans to increase some weekday EmX bus service. The changes go into effect on Sunday. February 5. Lane Transit officials say the changes are driven by economics: LTD passenger boardings are at 70 percent of their pre-pandemic levels and the transit agency has many open jobs—including those for bus operators. Check out Lane Transit's Rider's Guide for timepoint adjustments. / ELECTIONS: For the first time ever, Oregon had the highest voter turnout rate in the nation for last November's elections. Oregon Public Broadcasting spoke with former Oregon Secretary of State Phil Keisling, who now leads a national effort to expand voting from home. Keisling said 61.5 percent of all the eligible citizens in Oregon cast a ballot. Keisling said Oregon has had a relatively high turnout rate since the state implemented its pioneering vote-by-mail system 25 years ago. He said the numbers have really ramped up since Oregon's "motor voter" law went into effect in 2015. That law automatically registers people to vote when they get a driver's license. Oregon's general election also had a number of ballot measures and candidate races that drew voters. They included the three-way governor's contest, and statewide measures dealing with firearms restrictions, a constitutional right to health care, limits on walkouts by state lawmakers, and the removal of language pertaining to slavery in Oregon's Constitution. / ECONOMY, EMPLOYMENT: America's employers added a solid 223,000 jobs in December, a decent gain but the lowest monthly increase in two years. Still, the nation's unemployment rate matches a half-century low at 3.5 percent. Labor Department analysts say last month's job growth capped a second straight year of robust hiring during which the nation regained all 22 million jobs it lost to the COVID-19 pandemic. But the rapid hiring and the hefty pay raises that accompanied it likely contributed to a spike in prices, catapulting inflation to its highest level in 40 years. The picture for 2023 is much cloudier. Many economists foresee a recession in the second half of the year, as a result of the Federal Reserve's series of sharp rate hikes. The Fed's higher rates have begun to cool inflation from its summertime peak, but they have also made mortgages, auto loans and other consumer and business borrowing more expensive. For now at least, the job market is showing surprising resilience in the face of higher interest rates: Employers added 4.6 million jobs last year, on the heels of 6.7 million in 2021. The hiring drove a powerful economic rebound from the pandemic recession of

2020.; The Federal Trade Commission proposed a rule Thursday that would ban U.S. employers from imposing noncompete clauses on workers. The sweeping measure could make it easier for people to switch jobs. And it could deepen competition for labor across a wide range of industries. The proposed rule would prevent employers from imposing contract clauses that prohibit their employees from joining a competitor, typically for a period of time, after they leave the company. Advocates of the new rule argue that noncompete agreements contribute to wage stagnation because one of the most effective ways to secure higher pay is switching companies. They argue that the clauses have become so commonplace that they have swept up even low-wage workers. Opponents argue that by facilitating retention, noncompete clauses have encouraged companies to promote workers and invest in training, especially in a tight labor market. The agency estimates that the new rule could boost wages by nearly \$300 billion a year and expand career opportunities for about 30 million Americans. The public has 60 days to submit commentary on the rule before it takes effect. A 2019 analysis by the liberal Economic Policy Institute estimated that 36 million to 60 million workers could be subject to noncompete agreements, which the group said companies have increasingly adopted in recent years. While such agreements are most common among higher-paid workers, the study found that a significant number of low-wage workers were subjected to them, including more than guarter of those making an average wage of less than \$13 an hour. The EPI study found that many companies still impose noncompete clauses in several states that already ban or restrict them, including in California, where the practice has been prohibited for a century. The proposed FTC rule would require companies to scrap existing noncompete causes and actively inform workers that they are no longer in effect, as well as prohibiting the imposition of new ones. While defenders of non-compete clauses argue they help start-ups and small business retain talent, opponents say they hinder recruitment at those same entities. / TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY: Oregon ended 2022 ranked second in the nation for the share of new electric vehicles sold. Analysts with the Oregon Department of Transportation say EV sales averaged around 1,000 per month. They expect the numbers to increase this year. According to the most recent data, which is from the first nine months of last year, sales of electric vehicles increased monthly. By September, Oregon had 57,700 registered EVs. ODOT officials say the expansion of the public and private EV charging network also continued. In May, ODOT contractors completed the first phase of a five-year, state- and federally funded effort to expand and upgrade Oregon's share of the West Coast Electric Highway. Once work is complete, officials say it will bring Oregon's public DC fast-charger count to nearly 480. What's known as Public Level 2 charging is even more plentiful, with about 1,700 chargers statewide. While gasoline-powered vehicles will remain on Oregon's roadways for decades. regulations in Oregon and a number of other states require all new cars, trucks and SUVs sold in Oregon to be zero-emission by 2035. / LOW-INCOME, CHILDREN, FAMILIES: More Oregon families now qualify for a state affordable childcare program. The Oregon Department of Human Services this year expanded eligibility for its Employment-Related Day Care program. Officials say they made the updates because for many families the cost of childcare can be a barrier to meeting their educational goals and entering and staying in the workforce. Under the changes: Parents who are students—whether in college, a

GED program, or high school—no longer need to work to qualify for the childcare assistance. Parents who need more study time and caretakers who work night shifts will qualify for additional childcare assistance. And state officials say many families will qualify for more childcare hours because of a change in the way parttime and full-time coverage is calculated. The Employment-Related Day Care program also will allow caretakers on medical leave for their own health condition or their child's to receive state benefits. Open childcare spots remain hard to find in many communities. State officials say they are working to meet the increased demand by recruiting licensed childcare providers who currently are not members of the state-funded program. / DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS, ENVIRONMENT, LEGAL: Opponents of the largest lithium mine planned in the U.S. yesterday urged a federal judge in Nevada to vacate the U.S. government's approval of the project until it completes additional environmental reviews and complies with all state and federal laws. A U.S. District judge hearing the arguments hopes to decide "in the next couple months" on how to proceed in the nearly two-year-old legal battle. It focuses on the Bureau of Land Management's approval of the mine planned by Lithium Nevada Corp. 25 miles south of the Oregon border. Lawyers for the company and the Bureau of Land Management insisted the project complies with U.S. laws and regulations. But attorneys for a nearby rancher, conservation groups, and Native American tribes say an environmental damage from the mine would be irreversible. Du has refused twice over the past year to grant temporary injunctions sought by tribal leaders who say the mine site is on sacred land where their ancestors were massacred by the U.S. Cavalry in 1865. Lithium Nevada and the Bureau of Land Management say the project atop an ancient volcano is critical to meeting the growing demand for lithium to make electric vehicle batteries — a key part of President Joe Biden's push to expedite a transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy through a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Opponents say it will destroy dwindling habitat for sage grouse, Lahontan cutthroat trout, pronghorn antelope, and golden eagles. They also argue the mine will pollute the air and create a plume of toxic water beneath the open pit excavation that will be deeper than the length of a football field. Demand for lithium is expected to triple by 2030 from 2020. Lithium Nevada says its project is the only one on the drawing board that can help meet the demand. / FISHERIES, RECREATION, HEALTH: Recreational crabbing is open now along the entire Oregon coast. This includes the ocean, bays and estuaries, and on beaches, docks, piers and jetties. The decision from the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife comes after two consecutive tests show that unhealthy levels of domoic acid in the crabs have dropped back below the allowable threshold. The previous closure affected parts of the coast between Winchester Bay and Cape Blanco. Recreational bay clam and mussel harvesting also remain open along the entire Oregon coast. However, razor clamming is still closed coastwide. For more information call Oregon Department of Agriculture's shellfish biotoxin safety hotline at (800) 448-2474, the Food Safety Division at (503) 986-4720, or visit the state's food safety webpages for the latest alerts and tips on handling shellfish and other foods. /

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GOVERNMENT, POLITICS: Oregon's next governor, longtime lawmaker Tina Kotek, is being sworn into office later today. It comes after tight voting in November's three-candidate race that took the better part of one week to resolve. Kotek succeeds outgoing Democrat Kate Brown, who faced major challenges during her final term, including the COVID-19 pandemic; debates over racial justice that, in Portland and elsewhere, escalated into clashes between liberal protesters, right-wing extremists, and law enforcement; several seasons of devastating wildfires; a shortage of housing statewide; and a surge in homelessness. Brown became a polarizing figure as she imposed some of the most restrictive anti-pandemic measures in the nation, including masking and stay-at-home mandates, and became, according to several opinion polls, the most unpopular governor in America. There was backlash from conservatives over pandemic restrictions and debates over measures to combat global warming. In December 2020, anti-lockdown protesters, including members of the far-right groups Proud Boys and Patriot Prayer, stormed the Oregon State Capitol — an eerie preview of the much larger Jan. 6 insurrection in the nation's Capitol. Brown said Oregon, like much of the rest of the country, faces workforce challenges in building affordable housing and expanding staffing for mental health and addiction rehabilitation services. Brown first gained statewide office in 2008 when she was elected secretary of state — one step from the governorship. She unexpectedly became governor when Democratic Gov. John Kitzhaber resigned in 2015 amid an ethics investigation. Brown won a special election to complete his term and then was reelected in 2018. Brown said she intends to keep working in the public service arena, is not planning on running for office, and has had several feelers about opportunities. Members of the 2023 Oregon Legislature formally convene on January 17 in Salem. / EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT: The New Year will bring some challenges at the top in the Oregon Department of Education. Director Colt Gill will retire at the close of the 2023 legislative session. Governor-elect Kotek says she'll conduct a national search for his replacement. Colt Gill was a longtime Lane County school administrator who led the Bethel School District before he took a job as the state's Education Innovation Officer and, in 2018, Oregon's schools chief. Gill was praised for his work as a strong advocate for educational equity, mentorship, and leadership both for students and educators. / ELECTIONS, GOVERNMENT: Now that the U.S. House has resolved its leadership crisis and elected Republican Kevin McCarthy as Speaker,

the Congressional body has turned to other business. That included swearing in new members shortly after midnight—Washington, DC, time—on Saturday morning—including three first-term representatives from Oregon: Democrat Val Hoyle replaces retired longtime Congressman Peter DeFazio in the Fourth Congressional District. Republican Lori Chavez-Deremer (duh-REE'-mr) is the new representative in the 5th Congressional District, which stretches from Portland to Bend and includes a portion of Linn County. And Democrat Andrea Salinas in the newly created 6th Congressional District, which includes portions of the northern Willamette and the Yamhill valleys. They join a trio of returning incumbents: Democrat Suzanne Bonamici in the First Congressional District; Republican Cliff Bentz in Eastern Oregon's Second District; and Democrat Earl Blumenaur in the Third, which includes much of the Portland metro area. / SAFETY: A Mapleton man with dementia wandered away from his residence on Saturday night. As the search continues, the Lane County Sheriff's Office yesterday asked people to keep an eye out for 83-year-old Clarence Taylor. Taylor, who goes by the name of "Chuck" is described as a white male. About 5'09" and 165 pounds. He has brown eyes, gray hair and a gray beard. He was last seen wearing a green puffy jacket and blue jeans. He also is hard of hearing. Investigators say a man whose description is similar to Taylor's was sighted in the Whitaker Creek area earlier on Sunday, but officials have been unable to confirm whether it was Taylor. Have any leads? Please contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150. / CRIME: Eugene Police are investigating a fatal hit-and-run crash that happened last night near West 7th Avenue and Van Buren Street. The incident occurred shortly after 9:15 p.m. No word yet on the identity of the victim. The suspect vehicle is a light-colored Land Rover from the 2006-2009 model years. If you have any tips in the case, please contact the Eugene Police Major Collision Investigation team.; Springfield Police say a 24-year-old man who ran across a busy roadway on Friday evening was hospitalized with head injuries after being struck by a vehicle that had the right-ofway. It happened shortly after 7:15 p.m. Friday at the intersection of 42nd and Main Streets, when witnesses say the man darted into the path of an eastbound sedan that had the green light.; Eugene Police are investigating a Saturday morning incident in the 2900 block of Allane Lane, off Bethel Drive, that left a man hospitalized for treatment of a gunshot wound. Police say the victim's wound and injuries are non-life-threatening. The suspect, 31-year-old Dustin William Harris, was arrested for First-Degree Assault when he was apprehended near Chapman Lane and River Loop 1. There is no ongoing threat to the public. / RECREATION, FISHERIES, SAFETY, HEALTH: Remember how on Friday morning we were telling you about how state officials had reopened recreational along the entire Oregon coast? Yeah, that didn't last long. New test results hours later led to the announced closure of all recreational crabbing from Bandon south to the California border because of higher-than-allowed levels of paralytic domoic acid in the crabs. Areas north of Bandon remain open, including the Pacific Ocean, bays and estuaries, and on beaches, docks, piers and jetties. Recreational bay clam and mussel harvesting remains open along the entire Oregon coast. However, razor clamming is still closed coastwide. For more information call Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) shellfish biotoxin safety hotline at (800) 448-2474, the Food Safety Division at (503) 986-4720, or visit the state's food safety webpages for the latest alerts and tips on handling shellfish and other foods.;

Meantime, after a delay that extended through the holidays, Oregon's commercial Dungeness crab fishery season opens on Sunday, January 15, from Cape Falcon to Cape Arago. The commercial season opens February 1 from Cape Falcon north to Washington State in accordance with the Tri-State Protocol. The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife says the commercial opener was set after testing revealed there's finally enough meat filling the crab's shells and biotoxins are low in all crab tested from Cape Arago north. Domoic acid testing of crab will continue from Cape Arago south to the California border until those level drop below allowable limits. ODFW works closely with the crab fishing industry, the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture on testing and season openings. ODFW also coordinates with California and Washington to help create an orderly start to the season within the Tri-State region. / SAFETY, WEATHER, FINANCIAL: Winter in Oregon brings rain - and lots of it. This year is no different and the Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) reminds people to be prepared. The forecast for this weekend and into next week is for continued rain and with flooding already happening in the Northwest, there are ways you can be ready. Most Oregonians with flood coverage have it through the National Flood Insurance Program. You may also purchase private flood insurance through your insurance company. Typical homeowners or renters' policies do not cover flood damage. If your insurance company does not offer flood insurance, you can shop different companies that do. It is important to be prepared before flooding takes place. One way to do that is to build a financial first-aid kit and inventory. You can do this by: Saving account numbers - Have a safe place where those are stored and accessible. Having an inventory of your belongings - Take pictures or videos of your items and write down a record of what you have. Backing up computer files – Consider backing up your information to a secure cloud storage service or keeping an external device with important information backed up somewhere other than your home. Securing important documents – It is critical to keep important papers in a water-tight fire safe or a bank deposit box. "Water damage from flooding can be devastating to your home," said Andrew Stolfi, insurance commissioner and Department of Consumer and Business Services director. "Much like a fire, flooding and storm damage can destroy your home and the items you care most about inside it. Being prepared will make dealing with the aftermath much easier." If you do have coverage and need to file a claim, immediately contact your insurer or agent. Also, save any receipts from repairs, housing, food, mitigation (sandbags, pumps, etc.) because reimbursements may be part of your coverage. Before going back into your home, make sure it is safe to do so. Flood damage can make buildings insecure and unsteady. Also, you want to be careful of gas leaks and electrical wires in flooded areas. If you don't have flood insurance, consider purchasing it. Even those who don't live in flood zones are susceptible under certain conditions. Contact your agent or the National Flood Insurance Program. / HEALTH, YOUTH: New guidelines suggest children struggling with obesity should be evaluated and treated early and aggressively. The American Academy of Pediatrics says treatments can include medication for kids as young as 12 and surgery for those as young as 13. The group said today that delaying treatment to see whether children and teens outgrow or overcome obesity only makes things worse. Left untreated, obesity can lead to lifelong health problems, including high blood

pressure, diabetes, and depression. Nearly 20 percent of kids and teens in the U.S. are obese.  $\!\!/$ 

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Morning News

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SPORTS: Georgia is No. 1 in the final Associated Press college football poll, becoming the 12th back-to-back national champion in the history of the rankings after routing TCU. The Horned Frogs were No. 2, their best final rankings since the 2010 season. Michigan was No. 3, followed by Ohio State and Alabama. The Oregon Ducks finished the season ranked at No. 15. after their win over North Carolina in the Holiday Bowl. Oregon State finished ranked at No. 17—the first time the Beavs have made the national rankings at the close of the season since 2012—after dominating Florida in the Las Vegas Bowl.; As college football's postseason heads toward the debut of an expanded, 12-team playoff in 2024 those involved with bowls anticipate changes. A bigger playoff will impact the scheduling of bowls, maybe even the number of bowls. What it takes for a team to qualify for a bowl game could change, and also whether players will be compensated for participating.; Legendary Oregon football running back LaMichael James will be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2023. James is among 18 former first-team all-Americans and four standout coaches included in the Hall of Fame Class. He'll be officially inducted at an awards dinner in Las Vegas in December. James is the sixth Oregon football player to enter the College Football Hall of Fame. He helped lead Oregon to national prominence during his three seasons in Eugene from 2009 to 2011. During that time, the Ducks won three straight Pac-12 titles and reach three consecutive BCS bowls, including the 2011 National Championship game. James was drafted by San Francisco in the second round of the 2012 NFL Draft and played for both the 49ers (2012-14) and the Miami Dolphins (2014-15). He currently owns and operates Killer Burger franchises in Lake Oswego and Beaverton, with a third location set to open in Eugene later this month. GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING: Oregon's newly sworn-in Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek said Monday at her inauguration that her first order of business will be tackling homelessness. In her inaugural address at the state Capitol in Salem, Kotek said she will declare a homeless "state of emergency" and sign an executive order to increase housing construction. She also proposed a \$130 million emergency investment to help unsheltered people move off the streets. Oregon has struggled for years to address a housing shortage that is interwoven with homelessness, addiction and mental health crises. The state's homeless population has increased by more than 22 percent since 2020, according to figures from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development. Oregon also has the highest drug addiction rate of any state and ranks last in access to mental health treatment, according to federal data from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Kotek said her first executive order will set a housing construction target of 36,000 new homes per year. describing the figure as an 80 percent increase over recent construction trends. Her proposed \$130 million emergency investment will aim to help unsheltered people move off the streets within a year. Kotek asked lawmakers to act with urgency and said she hopes to build on the investment with a larger, more comprehensive housing and homelessness package during the legislative session. The measures come on the heels of a significant spending package passed by Oregon lawmakers last year that included \$400 million to address homelessness and housing. Members of the 2023 Oregon Legislature formally convene on January 17 in Salem. Lawmakers also were sworn in on Monday. Democrats still control both chambers of the Legislature, but they lost their threefifths supermajority in November's election. During her nine years as speaker of the Oregon House, Kotek spearheaded and passed liberal agendas made possible by Democratic supermajorities, including the nation's first statewide rent control law. She helped push through gun storage laws, criminal justice reform and paid family leave, among other measures. Kotek yesterday pledged to unite Oregonians after a bitterly fought gubernatorial race — the tightest in a decade. She said she plans to visit every county in Oregon during her first year in office. In a letter to Kotek, Oregon's House Republican caucus congratulated her and said it hoped the governor's office and the Legislature "can co-exist for the benefit of all Oregonians." The GOP letter noted that, quote, "it is clear that the partisan divide between Democrats and Republicans provides no benefit to the constituents that elected us." Kotek is replacing term-limited Democrat Kate Brown, whose strict coronavirus pandemic measures made her a polarizing figure. The two worked together for years as respective speaker and governor, and they have similar profiles as progressives and open members of the LGBTQ community. But Kotek sought to distance herself from Brown — and her low approval ratings — toward the end of the gubernatorial campaign, casting her predecessor as ineffective on homelessness. Kotek joins Maura Healey of Massachusetts as the first openly lesbian elected governors in the U.S.; U.S. Senator Ron Wyden yesterday announced plans to hold 11 in-person town halls this month, including stops in Lane and Linn counties. Wyden says town halls provide Oregonians an opportunity to shorten the distance between them and Washington, DC, by asking him questions, and sharing ideas. Since he was first elected to the U.S. Senate, Wyden has Wyden has held 1,027 town halls statewide to fulfil his pledge to hold at least one town hall each year in each of Oregon's 36 counties. During the pandemic, the Oregon Democrat conducted virtual town halls. Among the town hall stops: Linn County: Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1:30 pm, Linn-Benton Community College, Forum Building, F-104 - 6500 Pacific Blvd, SW, Albany and Lane County: Sunday, Jan. 15, 3 pm, the Gymnasium Arts and Technology Academy (ATA), 1650 W 22nd Ave. Eugene. / CRIME: Eugene Police say the victim in Sunday night's fatal hit-and-run crash near West 7th Avenue and Van Buren Street was a 17-year-old boy. The incident occurred shortly after 9:15 p.m. Yesterday, investigators located the suspect vehicle, which was described as a light-colored Land Rover from the 2006-2009 model years. They are continuing to gather evidence and, so far, no arrest has been made. But

they continue to seek information in the case, so if you have any to share please contact the Eugene Police Major Collision Investigation team. Police say there tend to be more vehicle-versus-pedestrian and vehicle-versus-bicycle crashes during the darker-weather months. Most are not fatal but can leave pedestrians and pedalers with serious injuries. Between October and last Friday, Eugene Police say they received reports of 63 of those sorts of crashes. They urge drivers to be extra vigilant—and pedestrians and bicyclists to wear light-colored clothing and reflectors to ensure they can be more easily seen.; Eugene Police arrested a Springfield man after they say he was spotting driving recklessly yesterday morning, almost struck the front of an officer's vehicle, and led a pursuit along West 6th Avenue, Highway 99, Prairie Road, and the Beltline Highway, that ended a short time later on River Road. Investigators say the incident began around 5:15 Monday morning when an officer observed the suspect, 36-year-old Michael Scott Bodine, driving recklessly in a Dodge Dakota pickup on West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The pursuit ended at W. Dean Avenue and River Road, near River Loop 2, when police say Bodine's vehicle went into a slide, struck two small trees, crashed into a brick and iron fence, and came to rest in the nearby dirt, where officers used their vehicle to pin Bodine's and take him into custody.; A 36-year-old Creswell man serving time for a 2017 incident where he shot at an Oregon State Police trooper during a traffic stop has died in prison. Officials with the Oregon Department of Corrections say Edward Dungan died Sunday evening. The medical examiner is working to determine his cause of death. Dungan entered custody in April of 2018 with an earliest possible release date in 2036. At the time of his death, he was incarcerated at Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla. Dungan had a long criminal history in Lane County dating back more than a decade before the 2017 incident. According to court records, it included convictions for resisting arrest, attempting to elude a police officer, reckless driving, first-degree robbery, and failure to report as a sex offender.; It's a new investigative tool that will help better fight child sexual abuse and trafficking. Lane County Sheriff's Office detectives say they'll soon have access to new software that will aid them in processing digital evidence. A non-profit organization, Operation Underground Railroad, has donated \$3,000 to help the sheriff's office purchase Griffeye, a software that analyzes digital evidence, including photos and videos, and can be programmed to detect illegal images such as child pornography. Currently, detectives must review and process each individual image collected during an investigation. That's time-consuming and mentally and emotionally draining. This speeds the process, leading to faster results and less mental stress. / GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION, FIANNCES: The White House is moving forward with a proposal that would lower student debt payments for millions of Americans now and in the future. It would offer a new route to repay federal loans under far more generous terms. President Biden first announced the plan in August, but it was overshadowed by his separate, sweeping plan to slash or eliminate student debt for 40 million Americans. Education Department officials today called the new plan a "student loan safety net," saying it will prevent borrowers from being overloaded with debt. The Democratic president is moving forward with the repayment plan even as his one-time debt cancellation effort faces an uncertain fate before the U.S. Supreme Court. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION, WEATHER: On the Oregon Coast, U.S. Highway 101 is closed about 12 miles south of Port Orford after a Monday early-morning

landslide. According to the Oregon Department of Transportation, the slide caused a roughly 200-yard segment of highway to drop as much as 12 feet in some spots. Yup. That's what we call "undriveable." ODOT crews worked through the day yesterday while geotechnical engineers evaluated the slide and watched for additional movement. There is no local detour and officials do not know when they will have the highway rebuilt or reopened. The closure also affects emergency services that normally travel between Port Orford and Gold Beach. The slide is near Sisters Rocks, just north of Arizona Beach. Crews first noticed landslide activity on January 2, when large cracks began forming in the pavement. The cracks were patched, but by Friday, a sunken area had formed in the northbound lanes, prompting a lane closure and 24-hour flagging for traveler safety. Around 3 a.m. Monday, a larger section of U.S. 101 sank about five feet, and we closed the highway. U.S. 101 continued to drop through mid-morning, although movement has slowed as of noon. Active landslides are common on the south coast. ODOT monitors multiple active landslides between Port Orford and Ophir. This active landslide, known as the "Arizona Slide," has had events like this since the 1980s. The last big Arizona Slide event occurred in 1993 and closed U.S. 101 for more than a week. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/11/23

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GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, HOSUING, HOMELESSNESS: Oregon's new governor Tina Kotek signed three executive orders intended to combat homelessness on her first full day in office Tuesday. The orders call for boosting construction and marshaling resources to help the people living unsheltered in Oregon. According to the most recent federal data, there are nearly 18,000 people in that situation. Advocates welcomed the measures. But they said that shoring up mental health and addiction services must also occur to help people move off the street. Members of Oregon's House Republican caucus said they want to work on bipartisan solutions to homelessness but expressed wariness about new spending. Democrats still control both chambers of the Legislature but lost their three-fifths supermajority in November's election, meaning they will need some Republican support to raise revenue through taxes. Just last year, Oregon lawmakers passed a spending package that included \$400 million to address homelessness and housing. But soaring inflation, rising rents and a spiraling drug addiction crisis have meant that that money hasn't gone as far as it needs to in reducing the state's homeless population. Oregon is among the five states along with California, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Arizona — that have seen the largest increases in the number of people living outside since 2020. Its homeless population has grown by more than 3,300 people since then, a 22.5 percent increase, according to an annual report from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Like other West Coast states, Oregon is struggling with an affordable housing crunch. Officials have estimated the state is short 110,000 housing units and needs to build more than a half-million homes over the next 20 years to keep up with demand. But advocates say that moving someone off the streets and simply giving them keys to a new unit is not enough. Many people need treatment and counseling with access to trained professionals in their living environment to ensure they stay housed. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: The Federal Aviation Administration has lifted a "ground stop" on flights across the U.S. following a computer outage early this morning that resulted in thousands of delays—including in Eugene and Portland. Experts are working to determine what caused the outage in the Notice to Air Missions System. It lists potential adverse conditions for flight crews, ranging from airport and runway construction to severe weather and possible icing. All aircraft are required to route through the system, including commercial and military flights, civilian drone pilots, and others. / WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, RECREATION, SAFETY, WEATHER: They're a popular

tourist attraction on Newport's Bayfront—and a low-level irritation to commercial fishing crews. But for now, they're taking up residence somewhere else. The Newport News-Times reports the sea lion docks on Yaquina Bay were torn from their pilings during stormy conditions during the holiday season. Reporter Steve Card writes that after the dock's hinges broke, the sections took a ride in the storm. One set of docks was found three miles up Yaquina Bay. Others lodged themselves underneath a nearby restaurant. The head of the non-profit that manages and maintains the sea lion docks said they'll be repaired and returned to Newport's Bayfront. But for locals, it's literally a bit of a breather since the dozens of sea lions that gather on the dock can be—how shall we say it?—fragrant. / DISASTERS, ECONOMY: U.S. weather disasters are getting costlier as more people move into vulnerable areas—and climate change is raising the risks of extreme heat and rainfall. That's according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—or NOAA—as its experts released their annual billion-dollar disasters report. In all, 18 disasters each caused more than \$1 billion in damage. The list included three hurricanes, two tornado outbreaks, a destructive fire season, several extreme storms and a drought that disrupted sectors across the economy. Together, the 2022 disasters' damages topped \$165 billion. And that doesn't even include counting the damage still being tallied from December's winter storms. The most expensive U.S. weather disaster of 2022 was Hurricane Ian, which hit the barriers islands off Fort Myers, Florida, with 150mph sustained winds, tying for the fifth-strongest wind speed at U.S. landfall on record. Its storm surge swept through coastal neighborhoods, where the population has boomed in recent years, and its rainfall deluged a large swath of the state. Twenty inches of rain fell in Daytona Beach, triggering erosion with devastating consequences. At least 144 deaths were attributed to the storm in Florida alone, and the total damage neared \$113 billion. Widespread drought was the second-costliest category of disasters, at over \$22 billion. Drought across much of the West and parts of the Midwest left reservoirs near record lows, disrupted farming in several states, and temporarily shut down barge traffic on the Mississippi River. Many of 2022's billion-dollar disasters involved extreme storms. including hail, tornadoes, and a derecho that damaged power lines from Wisconsin to West Virginia. It was also a summer of flooding, beginning with rain falling on snow that turned the Yellowstone River into a record-shattering torrent. St. Louis, Dallas, eastern Kentucky, southern Illinois, and Death Valley were all hit with 1,000-year floods. Storms in the South knocked out Jackson, Mississippi's fragile water supply for weeks. Even though humans are becoming more adept at managing climate risks, research published in 2022 found that extreme flooding and droughts are still getting deadlier and more expensive, and the costs are likely to continue to rise. /

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SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, WEATHER: There's a Sneaker Wave warning in effect through Friday morning. Waves can run up significantly farther on a beach than normal, including over rocks and jetties. Sneaker waves can suddenly knock people off their feet and quickly pull them into the frigid ocean which may lead to serious injury or drowning. / DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION: It's an attractive piece of property that's drawn the attention of plenty of developers and now of consideration of leaders with the Eugene School District. Superintendent Andy Dev and other district officials are preparing to bid on the vacant Eugene Water & Electric Board's riverfront property. Eugene School District leaders say EWEB's former headquarters building would provide expanded space for their administrative operations, allowing them to expand instructional offerings at the district's current administrative headquarters on North Monroe Street. District 4J officials say they would work with the Lane Arts Council, the Eugene Science Center, and other partners to establish a multicultural center focusing on publicly accessible programming. The existing kitchen facilities at the EWEB building would be used as a community food hall, restaurant incubator, and to provide hospitality and culinary arts programming for students. And they say the riverfront site also could provide a permanent home for multicultural offerings such as the NATIVES program, which has been operating at a location off Bailey Hill Road. District officials say they also are working to expand childcare programs in the community and would hope to do so that the former EWEB headquarters building. / TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMY: Local gasoline prices fell a few cents during the past week, after climbing a bit over the holidays. Analysts say, nationwide, we might see prices at the pump continue to dip into next month. This morning, automobile club AAA reports that in Eugene-Springfield, the average price for a gallon of regular-grade fuel is \$3.68. That's down four cents from last week and 31 cents from one month ago. Diesel prices remained about the same as last week, averaging \$4.76 per gallon. But that is down 34 cents from last month. / ECONOMY: Even as it gradually slows, inflation remains a painful reality for many Americans, especially with such necessities as food, energy and rents having soared over the past 18 months. But rising consumer prices in the U.S. moderated again last month, bolstering hopes that inflation's grip on the economy will continue to ease this year and possibly require less drastic action by the Federal Reserve to control it. Inflation slowed to 6.5 percent in December compared with 12 months earlier, according to

government numbers. It was the sixth straight month of year-over-year slowdowns. Prices actually slipped 0.1 percent from November to December, the first such drop since May 2020. The softer readings add to growing signs that the worst inflation bout in four decades is gradually waning. Still, the Fed doesn't expect inflation to slow enough to get close to its two percent target until well into 2024. The central bank is expected to raise its benchmark rate by at least a quarter-point when its governing board meets at the end of this month. EDUCATION, HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Yesterday, Oregon U.S. Senator Ron Wyden visited Lane Community College to learn more about its Health Education programs and discuss a half-million dollar federal investment to create a state-ofthe-art simulation lab. Such labs use realistic mannequins as patients to simulate a wide range of medical symptoms. They help students better learn how to treat patients in something similar to a hospital setting. Demand for such hands-on education is great. So, too, is demand for students who have strong clinical skills. Simulation labs grew in importance as the pandemic reduced access for health professions students to hospitals and clinics across the country. The labs don't replace all of the hands-on work. But it's a great resource for students and even for some of the area's health care providers, who'd like to keep their staff's skills current.

Wyden and fellow Oregon U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley worked together to secure the funds in December's big Congressional spending package. / POLITICS, COMMUNITY: U.S. Senator Ron Wyden is in the middle of an 11-city visit to Oregon this month, to hold in-person town halls. He'll hold his Lane County town hall on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 3 p.m. at the Arts and Technology Academy gymnasium, 1650 West 22nd Avenue in Eugene. New Fourth District Congresswoman Val Hoyle will join him. Wyden says the town halls provide Oregonians an opportunity to shorten the distance between them and Washington, DC, by asking him questions, and sharing ideas. Since first being elected to the U.S. Senate, Wyden has promised to hold at least one town hall every year in each of Oregon's 36 counties. He's held to that, conducting 1,027 town halls total. During the pandemic, Oregon's senior senator conducted virtual town halls. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: More than 1,300 flights were cancelled and more than 10,000 delayed across the U.S. yesterday after a system that offers essential safety information to pilots failed. The government has launched an investigation into the breakdown, which grounded some planes for hours. The Federal Aviation Administration said preliminary indications "traced the outage to a damaged database file." The agency said it would take steps to avoid another similar disruption. The breakdown showed how much American air travel depends on the computer system that generates alerts called NOTAMs (NOH'-tam) — or Notice to Air Missions. Before a plane takes off, pilots and airline dispatchers must review the notices, which include details about bad weather, runway closures or other temporary factors that could affect the flight. The system broke down late Tuesday and was not fixed until midmorning Wednesday. The FAA took the rare step of preventing any planes from taking off for a time, and the cascading chaos led to more than 1,300 flight cancellations and 9,000 delays by early evening on the East Coast, according to flight-tracking website FlightAware. Longtime aviation insiders could not recall an outage of such magnitude caused by a technology failure. Some compared it in scope to the nationwide shutdown of airspace after the 2001 terrorist attacks. As the extent

of Wednesday's breakdown became clear and airlines delayed more flights, passengers scrambled to rearrange trips. Many said they had trouble finding out how long the delays would last. It was the latest headache for travelers in the U.S., who faced an even larger number of daily flight cancellations over the Christmas holiday due to a severe winter storm and a breakdown in crewscheduling technology at Southwest Airlines. Delays and cancellations among flights across the United States were minimal this morning. There were 636 delays into, within or out of the United States, according to flight-tracking website FlightAware, and 82 cancellations. / SAFETY: There were alerts yesterday afternoon on automated highway signs as the Douglas County Sheriff's Office seeks a missing 73-year-old man with advanced dementia. Late yesterday morning, investigators say Richard Doffing drove away from his home in Glendale. In his declining mental state, it is believed he might be trying to drive to Texas, but there is no current indication as to his direction of travel or possible route. Richard Doffing was last seen driving a white 1992 Ford F350 bearing Oregon license plate SXD561. The pickup has the "Tri-R" logo on both back doors. Doffing is 5'10", 160 lbs. with hazel eyes and gray hair. He was last seen wearing a dark shirt and blue jeans. He does not have a cellphone with him. If you have any information concerning his whereabouts, contact 9-1-1 and reference Douglas County Sheriff's Office Case #23-0144. / HEALTH, LOW-INCOME, GOVERNMENT; Sunday, January 15, is the last day of open enrollment for private health insurance in Oregon's Health Insurance Marketplace. The Marketplace is the state-level partner to HealthCare.gov If you are no offered insurance through your job or through a public program like the Oregon Health Plan or Medicare, open enrollment is the only time when you can enroll in health coverage through OregonHealthCare.gov You might even qualify for financial help. Since open enrollment began on November 1, more than 138,000 people have enrolled in health insurance for 2023. More than 80 percent of Oregonians who applied qualify for financial help. Those savings reduce monthly premiums. And additional financial help, known as cost-sharing reductions, also are available for thousands of Oregonians on out-of-pocket costs for Silver-level health plans. The Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace provides online tools to help you find insurance coverage, including a quick and easy-to-use "window shopping" tool where users can preview which plans and savings are available to them. The tool also allows users to see which plans cover their prescription drugs and are networked with their preferred primary care doctor or preferred hospitals.

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, WEATHER: Contractors and crews with the Oregon Department of Transportation have been working long hours to repair that 200-yard stretch of Highway 101 about 12 miles south of Port Orford closed by a slide that caused the pavement to drop 15 feet and move 12 feet to the west. They hope to have one lane reopened later today following a four-day closure. But much of that depends on the weather: Rain might slow work on the temporary lane, saturate the ground, and cause the landslide to resume its movement. Traffic will be flagged through the single-lane zone when it reopens. Expect delays and slower speeds through the area. / RECREATION, RACIAL JUSTICE: Monday, January 16, is the federal Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. That makes it a fee-free day on many federal recreation sites, including those operated by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and at federal wildlife refuges. The fee waiver includes many federally managed picnic areas, boat launches, trailheads, and visitor centers. Fees for camping, cabin rentals, or other permits still apply. And fees will continue to be charged at recreation sites operated by concessionaires unless the individual manager chooses to participate. But for many sites, Monday is a great day to get out and enjoy your federal public lands while saving a few dollars. / EVENTS: The Eugene winner of Tuesday's \$1 million Mega Millions ticket claimed their prize Wednesday after matching five of the six numbers drawn. The lottery did not release the person's full name but said that Zehao C. purchased the ticket at the Jackson's Food Store at 274 Coburg Road in Eugene on Monday. The store that sold the ticket will receive a \$10,000 retailer bonus. No one has won the Mega Millions jackpot since October 14. The prize for this evening's drawing has climbed to an estimated \$1.35 billion. It is the second largest Mega Millions jackpot in history. Since Saturday, when the Mega Millions jackpot reached \$1 billion, the Oregon Lottery has sold more than \$3.89 million in tickets. Lottery officials say roughly one-third of the sales proceeds are distributed in Oregon to support economic development, education, veteran's services, and more. Should you be a winner, lottery officials recommend you sign the back of your winning ticket to ensure you can claim your prize. Should you win the jackpot, consult a trusted financial planner or similar professional to develop a plan for your winnings. Players have one year to claim their prize. / CRIME, SAFETY: Multiple explosions and a fire yesterday at a property off the 38000 block of Place Road near Lowell. The blaze engulfed a shop at the back of the parcel, but fire crews were able to extinguish it

before it spread to neighboring properties and the surrounding forest land. Investigators with the Lane County Sheriff's Office recovered evidence at the scene indicating the building was being used to process highly volatile Butane Hash Oil, also known as BHO. After securing a search warrant, they say they recovered substantial quantities of marijuana along with equipment used to manufacture Butane Hash Oil. The property's owner, 51-year-old Danny Billows Jr., is facing charges including Unlawful Manufacture of Marijuana and Reckless Endangering. Officials say the volatile chemicals used to extract Butane Hash Oil not only carry the risk of fire and explosion but can poison the environment and be a health risk to those nearby. / GOVERNMENT: The Oregon Department of Revenue will begin processing 2022 state income tax returns one week from Monday, on January 23. That is the same day the IRS begins processing federal returns. Some of you early birds already have submitted your returns. But they won't begin being processed until tax season officially begins. Returns will be processed in the order they are received. To allow time to spot potential tax fraud and ID theft, the Department of Revenue will not begin issuing personal income tax refunds until after February 15. That gives processors time to confirm that the amounts claimed on returns match what employers report on Forms W-2 and 1099. Once the department begins processing returns, you may go to Oregon's "Where's My Refund" webpage to check the status of your state refund. E-filing remains the fastest way for taxpayers to get their refunds. On average, taxpayers who e-file their returns and request their refund via direct deposit receive the money sooner than those who file paper returns and request paper refund checks. The Oregon Department of Revenue also reminds you that taking a few easy steps in the next few weeks can make preparing your 2022 tax return easier in 2023. / HEALTH: The number of infections tied to RSV and influenza are beginning drop. But we might see a mild increase in the number of COVID cases over the next few weeks as a new variant of the virus spreads across the Northwest. Experts with the Oregon Health Authority offered that update yesterday. Dr. Dean Sidelinger says: RSV cases, which spread among young children and those in school, peaked on November 19 and hospitalizations are decreasing rapidly. That's providing relief to hospitals that provide care to pediatric patients and saw numbers surge heading into the start of the holiday season. While influenza activity remains high in both adults and children, state numbers indicate our winter flu season in adults peaked on December 3. Hospitalizations in children only recently plateaued and begun to drop. COVIDrelated hospitalizations remain high following a rapid increase in November, but they dropped during the last week. That said, the most recent forecast from Oregon Health & Science University analysts predict a small increase in the number of COVID hospitalizations into February. That's due to this new, highly contagious Omicron variant known as XBB.1.5, which some have dubbed "Kraken." The subvariant already has spread rapidly in the northeastern U.S. and is expected to soon become widespread in Oregon. State health experts say the best way to protect yourself continues to be through vaccination against COVID and the flu, wearing masks when needed, limiting indoor gatherings, covering coughs and sneezes, washing your hands, and staying home when you're sick. The Oregon Health Authority also reported yesterday that the summer mpox outbreak has slowed dramatically, with fewer than five cases reported per month. Sidelinger say the low case counts are attributed both to the effectiveness of the

Jynneos mpox vaccine and an emphasis on encouraging health care providers to offer the vaccine to high-risk individuals. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: Vaccination rates for U.S. kindergarteners dropped again last year. Federal officials said vesterday they are starting a new campaign to encourage parents to better protect their youngsters from potentially deadly and devastating childhood diseases. Usually, 94 percent to 95 percent of kindergarteners are vaccinated against measles, tetanus, and certain other diseases. But the CDC reports vaccination rates slipped a bit in the first year of the pandemic and again last school year, to 93 percent. That might not sound like much, but the new numbers suggest that as many as 275,000 kindergartners lack full vaccine protection. Health experts say that can open the door to outbreaks of diseases once thought to be a thing of the past. That includes recent measles surges in Minnesota and Ohio and a case of paralytic polio last year in New York. The cases coincide with survey and anecdotal information suggesting more parents are questioning the need for childhood vaccines long celebrated as public health success stories. This week, the CDC launched a campaign called "Let's RISE" — with RISE an acronym for Routine Immunizations on Schedule for Everyone. It includes new educational materials to help doctors talk to families about vaccinations, as well as information for families who have questions about the doses. Rates vary across the country. CDC officials noted significant increases in a few states, including Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, and Wyoming. But most states saw declines, with the largest drops in Mississippi, Georgia, and Wisconsin. A second CDC report found overall vaccination rates among younger children around two years of age remained high and stable, although there were declines among kids who were poor and lived in rural areas. Why the difference? CDC officials said it appears doctors and parents made sure younger and more vulnerable children got initial vaccine protection during the pandemic, but that there might have been a drop-off in getting booster doses and additional shots as kids got older. / SAFETY: Thank you to everyone for your help. A missing 73-year-old Douglas County man with advanced dementia was found safe in California and has been reunited with his family. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office shared alerts about the man and the vehicle he was driving on automated highway signs and through media and social media outlets, asking the public to keep an eye out for him. / WILDLIFE, GOVERNMENT, AGRICULTRUE: Oregon officials have approved the killing of two wolves in a new pack they say has attacked calves in the northeastern part of the state. Officials with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife say they will allow the landowner or a specialist from USDA Wildlife Services to kill the wolves near the spots where the attacks occurred. It comes after ODFW confirmed wolves came onto private pastures and killed five calves on three separate days between Christmas and Tuesday of this week. That qualifies as chronic depredation and comes after nonlethal measures failed to discourage the wolves. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/16/23

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Morning News

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RACIAL JUSTICE, EVENETS, COMMUNITY: Today is the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday. Government offices, financial institutions, schools, and many other locations are closed. There is no U.S. Mail delivery today. Several events are taking place locally to commemorate the slain civil rights leader: The Eugene-Springfield chapter of the NAACP and other local partners are holding an MLK March followed by a short program. The event begins at 10:30 a.m. at Autzen Stadium and concludes at Eugene's Hult Center. The event at the Hult runs from noon to 3:30 p.m. and features entertainment along with informational tables sponsored by local organizations. In the afternoon, the City of Springfield, Springfield Public Schools, and Willamalane hold their annual MLK events. That includes the 1 p.m. "March for Justice and Equality," which begins at the Springfield Justice Center. Events beginning at 1:30 p.m. at Springfield High School include a reception followed by a celebration including local musicians; student artwork, essays and poetry; and more. The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday also is a day of service for many. Across the area, schools, community groups, and some workplaces are taking part in local efforts, including planting trees.; The federal Martin Luther King Jr. holiday also is a fee-free day at many federal recreation sites, including those operated by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and at federal wildlife refuges. The fee waiver includes many federally managed picnic areas, boat launches, trailheads, and visitor centers. Fees for camping, cabin rentals, or other permits still apply. And fees will continue to be charged at recreation sites operated by concessionaires unless the individual manager chooses to participate. But for many sites, today is a great day to get out and enjoy your federal public lands while saving a few dollars. / POLITICS, GOVERNMENT: Homelessness, mental health treatment, addiction treatment, housing, voting rights, and gun control. Those are just some of the big issues before Oregon lawmakers when they convene in Salem on Tuesday. Dozens of bills have been introduced to address the interconnected crises. One aims to secure ongoing funding for the new national 988 mental health hotline, by taxing cell phone subscribers 50 cents a month. Another seeks to make it easier to build housing by changing planning and land-use rules. Federal data shows that Oregon has one of the highest rates of homelessness and drug addiction in the nation. Nearly 18,000 people are experiencing homelessness in the state.; Oregon lawmakers will take up a full slate of legislation on pressing and polarizing issues from homelessness to gun

control to drugs when the legislative session starts tomorrow. It comes after midterm elections that cost Democrats their supermajority but swept in a new, progressive governor. A top priority is addressing the interconnected crises of homelessness and mental health that have seized the state for years. Dozens of new bills target sticking points that make it difficult provide mental health and drug treatment to those in need and to build housing. Oregon has some of the highest rates of homelessness and drug addiction in the nation, federal data shows stemming largely from a critical housing shortage, rising rents and a lack of mental health services. A bill to secure ongoing funding for the new national 988 mental health hotline ranks high on the agenda of the state House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care, said its chair, Rep. Rob Nosse. The bill proposes taxing cell phone subscribers 50 cents a month to maintain the helpline and ensure effective routing of calls. The move could raise about \$60 million per budget biennium, state analysts estimate. "A lot of acute mental health challenges can be resolved over the phone," Nosse said. "People just getting to talk to somebody can take their temperature down. So we need to stand up that system." 988, the country's first three-digit mental health crisis hotline, launched in July. It built on the existing network that staffed the old National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255. When called, a dispatcher connects people with trained mental health counselors instead of police or paramedics. In the six months since it launched, the helpline has received over 2 million calls, texts, and chat messages. While the federal government has poured hundreds of millions of dollars into the project, states are expected to take over operation and funding of the line — just as they do with 911 emergency call services. So far, five states — Washington, California, Nevada, Colorado, and Virginia — have passed cell phone taxes to fund 988, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Other bills that may prove controversial would make it easier to force certain people into mental health treatment, echoing a growing debate in the state and nationwide about hospitalizing people against their will. One bill, for example, would allow judges to civilly commit someone for substance use disorder if that person is also determined to have a mental illness that makes them unable to care for themselves or dangerous to themselves or others. In the face of the state's high drug addiction rates, Republicans have introduced several bills that would repeal all or parts of Ballot Measure 110, which was approved by voters in 2020 and made Oregon the first state in the country to decriminalize hard drugs. One of the most significant bills introduced seeks to facilitate building homes by changing planning and land-use rules. Oregon is short 110,000 housing units and needs to build more than a half-million homes over the next 20 years to keep up with demand, officials have estimated. "We know we need to double our rate of housing production to meet the need right now," said state Rep. Julie Fahey, the Democratic House Majority Leader, Democrats, who control the Legislature, have also advanced gun control bills as a legal battle plays out in the courts over a narrowly passed, voter-approved measure that would require a permit to purchase a firearm and ban high-capacity magazines. They're set to spar with Republicans, who have introduced several of their own bills that would loosen gun regulations. One Democratic bill would outlaw "ghost guns," untraceable firearms without a serial number that an individual can assemble themselves. Another, which has yet to be formally introduced, would raise the age for buying and possessing a firearm to 21, with exceptions for hunting, law enforcement and

military members. While federal law sets the minimum age to buy a handgun as 21, it allows for people 18 or older to buy a rifle or a shotgun. Regarding voting rights — an increasingly contentious issue following former President Donald Trump's false claims that voter fraud cost him reelection in 2020 — a bill has been introduced that would automatically register people on Oregon's Medicaid plan to vote, expanding on the state's Motor Voter law. That first-in-the-nation law, which took effect in 2016, automatically registers people who renew or apply for a driver's license or ID card at the DMV. Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan said the bill could add about 170,000 people to the voter rolls. Oregon's Motor Voter law and vote-by-mail system have been credited for boosting participation in elections the state. It had the highest turnout rate nationally in the November midterms, with 61.5 percent of eligible voters casting a ballot. Additionally, House Democrats say they plan to introduce a bill that would protect people in Oregon from criminal and civil liability for receiving or providing an abortion. The move would add Oregon to the list of states that have taken steps to shield people from lawsuits in states where abortion has been banned or severely restricted following the U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade. Republicans, meanwhile, have introduced a bill that would ban abortion after 15 weeks except in a medical emergency. Abortion is currently legal in Oregon at all stages of pregnancy. Democrats still control both chambers of the Legislature but lost their three-fifths supermajority in November's election, meaning they will need some Republican support to raise revenue through taxes. / LEGAL, ELECTIONS, POLIITICS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, SAFETY: On Friday, the state attorney general has petitioned the Oregon Supreme Court to either toss out a circuit judge's rulings that block the implementation of a new, voter-approved gun safety measure or else explain why the rulings should stand. According to The Oregonian/OregonLive, the filing notes that Harney County Circuit Judge Robert Raschio's orders halt the Measure 114 regulations "indefinitely." The state attorney general's office argues that the trial court does not have the authority to make policy on a public safety matter and override the initiative process. "Keeping people safe is a fundamental duty, mission, and purpose of government," Koch wrote. "By ignoring binding precedent, the trial court disregarded the will of the people and forestalled the state's efforts to protect Oregonians from gun violence." Raschio in the last two months halted all parts of the gun control measure, citing state constitutional law. The measure requires a permit to buy a gun, a background check to be completed before a gun can be sold or transferred and restricts the sale. manufacture and use of magazines holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. It passed with nearly 51 percent of the vote. The case filed in Harney County Circuit Court was brought by Virginia-based Gun Owners of America, its legal defense fund Gun Owners Foundation and two gun owners. Raschio's orders came in separate rulings over the past two months. He found that the Gun Owners of America had shown that pausing Measure 114 will maintain the "status quo" until the court can determine whether the measure meets constitutional muster. He ruled that the public interest weighed against the implementation of the measure, noting that individual liberty is a "cornerstone of our country." He also ruled that magazines that hold more than 10 rounds are not distinct from "arms," and are protected by the Oregon Constitution. Koch countered in court filings Friday that Raschio made "fundamental legal" errors and acted beyond his discretion. Oregon Constitution protects only the right to bear arms commonly

used by Oregonians for self-defense in 1859 and earlier, and doesn't relate to magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, Koch wrote. Further, he argued that the state constitution does not provide for "an unfettered right to possess or use constitutionally protected arms in any way they please." Separately, in response to four suits filed in federal court, a federal judge only delayed the permit-topurchase gun regulation but allowed the measure's other regulations to take effect. Raschio's ruling, though, was separate and binding, in that it resulted from a separate challenge to the state's constitution, not the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment. At a minimum, Koch argued, the state Supreme Court should put a hold on Raschio's orders that prevent a criminal background check from being completed before a gun can be sold — and the measure's restrictions on large-capacity magazines. The state argued that 19 of 21 mass shootings with 10 or more fatalities since 1999 have involved guns with magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. "The longer that the trial court's injunctive orders remain in effect — for the months or years in which the case is pending in that court — the greater the possibility of another comparable tragedy happening here in Oregon," Koch wrote. "These dangers are real, and Measure 114 reasonably seeks to safeguard against them." The state Supreme Court will either accept or deny the petition. If it is accepted, the state's high court will then decide whether to throw out Raschio's orders or direct the circuit judge to explain why the state's high court should maintain them. The plaintiffs would be able to file briefings in support of Raschio's rulings. /

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ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, CLIMATE: Every year in the winter, high tides on the West Coast are even higher than usual. These extreme high tides, commonly called "King Tides." occur when the moon is closest to the Earth. Another round of King Tides will occur Friday through Sunday, bringing potential new challenges to storm-damaged sections of the California coast. King Tides also occur in Oregon, sending ocean water into some especially low-lying areas. That can include stretches of roadways, including that section of Highway 126 that passes under the old railroad bridge in Cushman. But the Friday forecast looks dry, and there are just a few showers in the weekend forecast for Florence, so it might not be an issue for drivers. And every winter, a group of dedicated volunteers head for the coast with their cameras to safely document the phenomena. Their goal is to better help scientists and others visualize and understand the impacts of sea level rise and tidal erosion, and the implications for those living at the ocean's edge. / WILDLIFE, ENVIRONMENT: A 40-foot sperm whale that beached on Oregon's north coast was killed after being struck by a ship. That's according to federal biologists, who conducted a post-mortem examination of the animal on Monday. Biologists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's fisheries agency, also known as NOAA Fisheries, say there was a large gash in the whale's side. They also found signs of hemorrhaging, indicating the animal was alive when it was struck. The dead whale washed ashore on Saturday at Fort Stevens State Park on the north coast. During the examination, biologists determined it was a 20-year-old male. Members of the NOAA's West Coast Marine Mammals Stranding Network also removed the whale's lower jaw and teeth to study them. They say sperm whale teeth and jaws are lucrative items on wildlife black markets and that they also wanted to protect the remains from looters. Sperm whales, the largest toothed whale, were nearly decimated by the whaling industry in the 19th and 20th centuries. The prized waxy substance found in their heads, spermaceti, was used in oil lamps, lubricants, and candles. They are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The next challenge will be figuring out how to dispose of the carcass. Whales that wash ashore are often buried where they lie on the beach. In the meantime, officials have urged curious onlookers to keep their distance from the carcass. Although not unheard of, it's unusual for a whale to wash up in northern Oregon during a time of year when most have migrated south for the winter. Officials say sperm whales are the third most frequent species to strand on Oregon's coast, after gray whales and

humpbacks. Samples and information collected from stranded animals are often used for scientific purposes to learn more about their populations and their health. While in many cases it is unknown what caused a stranding, it can include disease, parasites, harmful algal blooms, injuries from ships or fishing gear, pollution, and starvation. Most stranded animals are found dead. But in a limited number of cases, animals that are alive can be transported to rehabilitation centers. Those that successfully rehabilitated can be returned to the wild in rare cases, according to the network. / RACIAL JUSTICE, EVENTS, COMMUNITY: Americans yesterday commemorated the birthday of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. That included local marches, speeches, and receptions that featured music, artwork, essays, poetry, and more. The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday also was a day of service, as many took part in community projects across the U.S. But even as the nation marked the anniversary of his birth, King's youngest daughter said the country still has not fully embraced and acted on the lessons of his life. The Rev. Bernice King, who leads The King Center in Atlanta, said leaders, especially politicians, too often cheapen her father's legacy into something more comfortable and convenient by quoting King around the federal holiday and offering easy platitudes. She encouraged Americans to live her father's values all 365 days of the year. / GOVERNMENT, POLITICS: Time to get to work at the state capital in Salem, as Oregon lawmakers convene their 2023 session. Homelessness, mental health treatment, addiction treatment, housing, voting rights, and gun control. Those are just some of the big issues before Oregon lawmakers when they convene in Salem today. Other hot-button proposals deal with abortion and birth control. Democrats still control both chambers of the Legislature but lost their three-fifths supermajority in November's election, meaning they will need some Republican support to raise revenue through taxes.; Oregon Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici says she and her husband are recovering at home after being hit by a car in Portland on Friday evening. The Democratic congresswoman and her husband, U.S. District Judge Michael Simon, were struck by a car while crossing the in Portland street. The driver turned into them at low speed, knocking them down, and remained at the scene to cooperate, according to a Portland Police report. Bonamici was treated at a hospital for a concussion and a cut to her head, according to her communications director. Simon was treated for minor injuries. Both are expected to fully recover. The 68-year-old Bonamici said she and her husband are grateful for the kind thoughts and support they've received. Bonamici has represented Oregon's 1st Congressional District since 2012. / SAFETY, COMMUNITY: Oregon State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple is calling on Oregonians to practice fire safety at home as we mark Community Risk Reduction Week. In Oregon, cooking was the number one cause of home fires in 2021—making up 19 percent of reported fires. Heating problems came in second, accounting for 15 percent of all reported fires. Cooking Fire Safety: Keep an eye on what you're cooking; don't leave cooking unattended. Keep cooking areas clean and clear of potholders, food packaging, towels, etc., and wipe up surface spills. Create a three-foot kid- and pet-free zone around the stove. Older children should only cook under adult supervision. Have a lid or cookie sheet within reach while cooking to smother flames in case of a fire. Home Heating/Electrical Safety: Keep things that burn such as paper, curtains, bedding, or furniture, at least three feet away from all heating equipment, including fireplaces, wood stoves, and pellet

stoves. Unplug portable space heaters when not in use, before going to bed, or when leaving the room. Plug appliances (portable space heaters, refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, etc.) directly into a wall outlet and never a power strip or extension cord. Extension cords are for temporary use only. / HEALTH: The American Cancer Society reported late last week that the cancer mortality rate in the U.S. has dropped by one-third in the past three decades. And among the biggest improvements was among women, who saw a big drop in the rate of cervical cancer. Cancer is the second-leading cause of death in the U.S., behind heart disease, with nearly 2 million cases and some 610,000 deaths expected this year. Researchers say declines in smoking rates, better early detection, and innovative treatments including immunotherapy drugs have averting an estimated 3.8 million cancer deaths over the past three decades. Most significantly, Cervical cancer rates dropped 65 percent between 2012 and 2019 among women in their early 20s. It came after a generation of young women were vaccinated for the first time against the human papillomavirus, or HPV. HPV is a sexually transmitted virus that can cause cervical and other types of cancer. The Food and Drug Administration approved the first HPV vaccine in 2006 for girls and women ages 9 to 26. The youngest in that group are now adults. In 2021, 79 percent of U.S. adolescent girls had received at least one dose, and 64 percent were up to date on their dosages. The vaccine was also approved for boys and young men in 2009, and doctors said they were optimistic that the vaccine could similarly affect other HPV-related cancers. Rates even among unvaccinated women in that age group declined to a lesser degree, suggesting a herd immunity-like effect from the vaccine reducing the virus's spread, the report said. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: If your New Year's errands include hauling loads of debris to a dumpsite or transporting household goods for donation, remember to "Tie It Down." The National Sheriffs' Association Traffic Safety Committee is working to raise awareness of the dangers of unsecured loads. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety estimates that, during a four-year period, road debris played a role in more than 50,000 crashes annually. These resulted in more than 9,800 injuries and close to 125 deaths per year. Always take a moment for departure to inspect your cargo. Are there any light or loose items that might scatter or unsecured larger items that might fall out and cause another drive to swerve or crash? To be secured, loads should be: Tied down with rope, netting or straps. Tied directly to the vehicle or trailer. Covered entirely with a sturdy tarp or netting. NOT overloaded. Packed with lighter weight items at the bottom and evenly distributed to prevent them from sliding. Safer loads also mean less debris and garbage along the roadside. /

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GOVERNMENT, POLITICS: Oregon lawmakers in both the Democratic and Republican parties on Tuesday as they began the 2023 legislative session on a note of relative bipartisan goodwill. Convening in person without COVID-19 restrictions for the first time since the pandemic, legislators reiterated calls to boost housing construction, protect renters from eviction, increase homeless shelter capacity, and expand mental health and addiction services. Other key issues that lawmakers from both parties have said they want to address include the state's lack of public defenders and a workforce shortage that's gripped sectors from health care to childcare. Attracting the semiconductor industry and the windfall of federal money that would come along with it — is another shared bipartisan goal. But the bipartisanship will be tested as the lawmakers grapple with more divisive issues, such as gun control, drugs, and abortion rights. In a gesture of bipartisanship, Democratic and Republican leaders of the Oregon House held a joint news conference to highlight areas of common ground. In the face of solid Democratic control of the Legislature, Republicans in recent years have relied on delay tactics, including walkouts, to stall legislation. Frustrated by the walkouts, Oregon voters in November overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure aiming to limit them. Measure 113 added language to the Oregon Constitution establishing that state lawmakers will be disqualified from re-election if they are absent from 10 legislative floor sessions without permission or excuse. Democrats still control both chambers of the Legislature but lost their three-fifths supermajority in November's election, meaning they will need some Republican support to raise revenue through taxes. The bipartisan will to tackle housing comes as homelessness has reached into nearly every corner of the state. Oregon has some of the highest rates of homelessness and drug addiction in the nation, federal data shows — stemming largely from a critical housing shortage, rising rents and a lack of mental health services. / WILDLIFE, ENVIRONMENT: The carcass of that 40-foot sperm whale that beached on Oregon's north coast will be moved to another location where it will be allowed to decompose naturally—and only buried, if needed. That's the word from the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, which will coordinate moving the carcass from a popular beach at Fort Stevens State Park. The whale, which washed ashore on Saturday, died after being struck by a ship, according to federal marine biologists. Sperm whales, the largest toothed whale, were nearly decimated by the whaling industry in the 19th and 20th centuries. They are listed as

endangered under the Endangered Species Act. / ENVIRONMENT, GOVERNMENT, LEGAL, RECREATION: Next time you walk on an Oregon beach, you might want to send some mental thanks to Ted Goodwin. We learned this week that Goodwin, who was the longest serving federal judge in the country, died late last month at the age of 99. The Oregonian and OregonLive report he'd been working on cases as recently as two years ago. Among the landmark rulings by the former Lane County jurist: His majority opinion while serving on the Oregon Supreme Court, which found that Oregon's beaches are public. The ruling fortified support of Oregon's much-celebrated Beach Bill, passed two years earlier under the leadership of Governor Tom McCall. / DISASTERS: Weather forecasters say the tenth and final in a series of atmospheric rivers will slam parts of California today. It's arriving as many residents continue to reel from a series of strong storms that saturated the soil, triggering more than 500 landslides and sending rivers over their banks and through weakened levees. More than 600 American Red Cross disaster workers, including 11 from the Cascades Region, are deployed to help provide a safe place for evacuees to stay, along with emergency meals, relief supplies, emotional support, and comfort. So far, the agency estimates it has helped operate 80 shelters across flood-affected parts of California, accounting for a combined 7,100 shelter stays and more than 31,000 meals and snacks. / WEATHER, SAFETY, HOMELESSNESS, CHARITABLE, RELIGION: When the temperatures outside turn frigid, a network of social service, community, and religious agencies join to shelter those who are unhoused. Some agencies operate overnight shelters for individual adults. Catholic Community Services of Lane County offers motel vouchers to families with children to keep those groups safe and warm. The organization's Cold Weather Shelter program provides the room vouchers through a county grant and private donations. But the early start of our winter weather has already drained the Cold Weather Shelter program funding. CCS is appealing for donors to help replenish the fund. Any contribution helps. But a donation of \$77 covers the cost of a single voucher to shelter a small family for one night. Today, Fisherman's Market in Eugene is holding a fundraiser to help fund Cold Weather Shelter vouchers. Twenty percent of all sales will be donated to Catholic Community Services of Lane County to keep unhoused families safe on the coldest nights. When you drop by Fisherman's Market, just tell them you're there for Catholic Community Services – CCS—when making your purchase. / WEATHER, HOMELESSNESS, SAFETY: The Egan Warming Center is activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tomorrow evening and is on standby for Friday night. In Eugene, the sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 7 p.m. Thursday. The Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center at 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene opens at 10 p.m. Thursday. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. Thursday. In Springfield: The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. There also is a site for youth in Eugene: The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. / SPORTS, LEGAL, EDUCATION: Attorneys for the NCAA will ask a federal appeals court next month to block a lawsuit that seeks to have athletes treated as employees who are paid for their time. The case is the latest high-profile challenge to amateurism in

college sports. The University of Oregon is one of the schools named in the filing. The Division I athletes and former athletes who filed the suit are seeking hourly wages like those earned in work-study programs. They say the nation's colleges are violating fair labor practices by failing to pay them for the time they put into their sports, which their attorney said can average more than 30 hours per week. A lower court judge declined to dismiss the case, prompting the NCAA to seek a ruling from the appeals court on whether the issue should indeed go to trial. Those arguments had been set for today but were rescheduled by the court for February 15. The plaintiffs' attorney says the athletes are not seeking huge payouts. But he says they want a share of some of the millions being spent on their coaches, college administrators, and facilities. He suggested athletes might earn about \$2,000 per month or \$10,000 per school year, for sports that stretch across five months. Last year, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court lifted the ban on compensation beyond full-ride scholarships and cleared the way for colleges to give athletes education-related benefits such as computers and study abroad program fees. As of July 2021, college athletes can now earn money through use of their name, image or likeness and the budding industry now sees millions in deals. The NCAA is still working through its oversight of NIL payments after a series of states passed laws permitting them. Players have taken to social media to argue for a cut of some of the hundreds of millions of dollars that NCAA schools earn on sports through marketing, merchandise, and television contracts. The NCAA has one eye on the court case but another on Congress, where it hopes to find relief after a series of legal setbacks involving its long-held amateurism model. NCAA leaders, at the organization's convention, compared the athletes to students who perform in theater groups, orchestras, and other campus activities without pay. Incoming NCAA president Charlie Baker, the former Massachusetts governor, asked at the time, "If you're going to say that a scholarship athlete is an employee, then why isn't a scholarship trombone player an employee? Why isn't a scholarship mathematician an employee?" Baker added that most of the students who play sports in college do not play sports at schools that make money from those sports. The players' attorney argues that those types of campus groups are student-led, while athletes have their time controlled by their coaches in a way that resembles employment. / BUSINESS, LEGAL: The Washington state Supreme Court has brushed aside the final remaining legal hurdle in the way of a \$4 billion dividend by Albertsons to its shareholders ahead of a proposed merger with rival Kroger. The Seattle Times reports the court on Tuesday declined to review a case against the dividend brought by Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson. Ferguson had argued that the payment could financially weaken Albertsons and lead to shuttering locations of Albertsons and of Safeway, which Albertsons owns. Albertsons wants to pay the dividend to shareholders ahead of its proposed \$25 billion merger with Kroger, which owns QFC and Fred Meyer. Ferguson's case was the final obstacle to the dividend after a federal judge in Washington, D.C., rejected similar efforts by California, Illinois, and the District of Columbia. Grocerystore closures have been a concern in the Seattle area, where Albertsons and Kroger have nearly 200 locations. Kroger and Albertsons have both repeatedly dismissed closure concerns. Representatives of grocery-worker unions also expressed dismay at Tuesday's ruling. Yesterday's ruling does not affect the months-long approval process for the proposed Kroger-Albertsons merger, which

could be held up by both federal and state regulators. Nationwide, Kroger, and Albertsons have an estimated 800,000 employees in nearly 5,000 stores across 48 states and the District of Columbia. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/19/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

FISHERIES: Dungeness crab, anyone? The popular Oregon coastal crustacean is showing up in local fish markets and stores now that the commercial crab season is finally underway. The fishery opened on January 15 from Cape Falcon to Cape Arago after Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife testing determined there was finally enough meat filling the crab's shells and that naturally occurring biotoxins were low in all crab tested from Cape Arago north. Yesterday in Eugene, Fisherman's Market shared an announcement showcasing their recently arrived Dungeness crabs—the first harvest of the season. The buttery crab meat is prized by many Oregonians and often a staple on holiday tables. But the delayed start to the local commercial season meant either postponing plans to serve crab or purchasing Dungeness sourced from elsewhere. / GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT: City of Eugene officials say they've entered negotiations with the Eugene Water and Electric Board to purchase the utility's former riverfront headquarters property. The intent is to provide a new home for Eugene's city hall while keeping the parcel in public ownership and maintaining access to the riverfront. In recent years, the site had been the subject to much speculation about whether it could serve as a new city hall—especially after the city demolished the old structure. City services have operated out of a handful of locations around downtown and the city council has borrowed space at the Lane County Courthouse for its meetings. After separate Wednesday sessions, EWEB and city officials announced their talks would move forward, with the goal of the city purchasing the 4.4-acre site to house a permanent City Hall, along with many departments and operations at a single location. No word yet on the purchase price. City of Eugene officials say they have some funds set aside for the purchase and that council members will meet in the coming weeks to discuss and finalize the terms of the deal. EWEB officials say they would maintain a reduced customer service office at the site. Most of the utility's operations and personnel now work out of West Eugene, at EWEB's facility off Roosevelt Boulevard. The EWEB location has long drawn the interest of private developers. Just last week, leaders of the Eugene School District said they were preparing a bid to acquire and convert the location. They envisioned expanded space for administrative operations, a multicultural center, community food hall, and possible childcare offerings. / SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT: Quick note to drivers on the Beltline: The highway is not a NASCAR track and officers are using new devices—fully funded by a federal grant—to crack down on dangerous speedsters. This week

alone, the Eugene Police Traffic Safety Unit has issued numerous citations for speeds well above 80 miles per hour, including two drivers going more than 100 miles per hour. Experts say when you're traveling 100 miles per hour, your vehicle covers about half the length of a football field in the time most people take a single step. That's simply not enough space to react, brake, and steer around potential hazards, whether a slowing vehicle or roadway debris. Now that Eugene Police are upgrading from their 15-to-20-year-old LIDAR units, they're engaging on a traffic enforcement and educational campaign. And tickets are spendy! Depending on your speed, fines can be more than \$1,000 and you might even have your driving privileges suspended. But more to the point, a high-speed deadly collision can kill or badly injure you and others. So don't do it. / BUSINESS: It was only about a year ago that Eugene electric-vehicle startup Arcimoto opened its new 250,000 square-foot factory. But now, The Oregonian and OregonLive report the production facility has been shut down as its cash reserves dwindle and company officials consider a bankruptcy filing. Arcimoto leaders had high hopes for sales of their three-wheeled electric passenger vehicles and delivery vans—early last year predicting they might produce up to 50,000 vehicles annually by the year 2025. But they were dogged by supply chain issues and lower-than-expected demand. Arcimoto laid off 50 and furloughed another 66 employees last fall to cut costs. But reporter Mike Rogoway says company officials in a regulatory filing this week said they've halted production and slashed share prices in hopes of raising millions of dollars in operating funds. Rogoway notes that just two years ago, Arcimoto was one of Oregon's most highly publicized young companies, with a market value that peaked above \$1 billion in 2021. The company is now worth less than \$7 million. / GOVERNMENT: The Oregon Department of Revenue's Eugene office will be closed starting on Monday for construction intended to improve security in its customer service area. The office will return to normal business hours on Monday, February 6. The state revenue office is located at 1600 Valley River Drive, Suite 310. During construction, a secure drop box will be available for taxpayers to deliver any payments or documents. Workers in the Eugene office will mail receipts to customers acknowledging they received the paperwork. In the interim, officials say both the state Department of Revenue's website and its Revenue Online portal offer access to many services. Through Revenue Online, individuals can view letters sent to them by the department, initiate appeals, make payments, and submit questions. / HEALTH, SAFETY, ILLEGAL DRUGS: More grim numbers from the Oregon Health Authority. Unintentional overdoses from opioids claimed close to 400 lives last year. The numbers are still being finalized and could climb as experts review more death certificates. The death toll is lower than in 2020 and 2021. But the report notes that the number of opioid overdose visits to emergency departments and urgent care clinics were higher in 2022 than in previous years. Health and drug prevention officials say the wave of opioid overdoses and deaths in Oregon and across the U.S. is driven by drugs laced with fentanyl, which have flooded the streets and show up in counterfeit prescription pills being marketed on the internet and social media. A national crime-prevention group has called on the Justice Department to take additional steps to clamp down on social media's role in the spread of fentanyl. The drug is largely driving a troubling spike in overdose deaths among teenagers and the National Crime Prevention Council is urging an

investigation into fake, fentanyl-laced pills sold on the popular teen platform Snapchat.  $\!\!\!/$ 

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CRIME, SAFETY: They searched the area and could not find the subject, but no weapon was observed in a review of surveillance video. The Lane County Sheriff's Office vesterday afternoon investigated a report from a Creswell School District employee who said they'd heard about a person lying in the grass near Creswell High School, possibly armed with a gun. The district employee said they had received the information secondhand. Deputies quickly converged on the area and searched for a person matching the description, even bringing in a drone. The subject was described as a white male in his teens or early twenties. wearing an orange hat, camo jacket, and black pants. He is thought to be about 5'05" tall with a medium build, and long dark hair. The possible weapon was described as resembling a rifle. But while deputies reviewing surveillance video saw a subject matching that description walking onto and off of the campus, there was no weapon observed in the surveillance video. Deputies say they conducted an extensive search of the area but could not locate the subject. / GOVERNMENT, ILLEGAL DRUGS, HEALTH, SAFETY: Oregon's first-in-thenation drug decriminalization program has had a rocky start. But Oregon's secretary of state says it is too early to call it a failure. In 2020, voters approved Ballot Measure 110, which decriminalized small amounts of drugs for personal use. The measure called for channeling hundreds of millions of dollars of marijuana tax revenues into drug treatment and harm-reduction programs. Instead, the funding has been slow getting out of the gate and instances of drug abuse and overdose deaths have increased. But those changes have not yet translated into an improved care network in a state that has the second-highest rate of substance use disorder in the nation and ranks 50th for access to treatment. Still, Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan writes that Measure 110 must work over the long run, because people's lives hang in the balance. Other states that might consider following Oregon's path — which a few countries including Portugal have taken — will likely assess how well, or badly, it has gone. Portugal's approach, though, is more vigorous than Oregon's in getting people to treatment. There, "dissuasion commissions" pressure anyone caught using drugs to seek treatment. The director of the Oregon Health Authority, which helps establish the measure's drug treatment aspects, blamed the funding delays on "ambitious implementation timelines and stretched OHA staffing resources due to the pandemic," along with a shift in decision-making roles that required building new relationships. Among the audit's recommendations: The health authority

should publish a plan by September on integrating Measure 110 into the state's overall behavioral health system; improve data collection so the ballot measure's effectiveness can be tracked by policymakers and the public; and set clear expectations, roles and responsibilities. Another setback of the measure is the lack of people with substance abuse disorders who are seeking help after being ticketed for drug possession and given a hotline number. In the first year after the new approach took effect in February 2021, only 1 percent of people who received citations for possessing controlled substances sought help via the new hotline. Keith Humphreys, an addiction researcher and professor of psychiatry at Stanford University, said the audit "is commendably candid in acknowledging the bureaucratic failures that produce insufficient and uncoordinated services, and the reforms proposed to fix that situation are sensible." "In contrast, the report does not deal adequately with that fact that the statewide effort to use tickets/fines for drug possession to incentivize people to enter treatment was a complete failure," Humphreys, a former senior adviser in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, said in an email. Oregon officials are wrong to assume that increasing access to treatment alone will lead to most addicted individuals seeking drug treatment, he said. Without some external pressure, Humphreys said most people will not attempt to reduce their drug use via treatment or other means. The Drug Policy Alliance, which spearheaded Oregon's ballot measure, intentionally sought an approach that did not compel people to seek treatment, saying there are more successful outcomes when people voluntarily access services. But Fagan, whose brother and late mother had drug dependency issues, said the old system of criminalizing drug possession, combined with a lack of available treatment, simply did not work. / CRIME: Investigators with the Eugene Police Property and Financial Crimes Unit is seeking tips as they work to identify a person of interest in a series of arsons. The fires occurred in the Bethel-Danebo neighborhood in the areas of Taney, Berntzen, Hawthorne, and Marshall Streets. The first occurred the morning on December 13, and the most recent fire was on January 5. Have any leads in the case? Contact Eugene Police. / EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS: Oregon employers added 6,100 jobs last month, but the state's unemployment rate rose a notch to 4.5 percent in December, from 4.3 percent in November. Analysts are keeping an eye on the trend as many companies around the U.S. are beginning to trim their payrolls. Oregon's jobless rate hit a low of 3.5 percent in May, June, and July. Sectors seeing the largest hiring gains were in manufacturing (+2,400 jobs), construction (+1,300), and professional and business services (+1,100). The largest decline in December was in the category known as Other Services, which saw a net cut of 500 jobs. Oregon's private sector alone added 5,600 jobs in December, reaching another all-time high of 1,694,200. This was 22,500 jobs, or 1.3 percent, above the prerecession peak in February 2020. Construction continued its rapid expansion last year as the industry added 10,200 jobs in 2022, for an annual growth rate of 9.1 percent. Gains were widespread with hiring for building equipment contractors (+3,700 jobs, or 11.5 percent) and building finishing contractors (+2,200 jobs, or 14.9 percent) growing at the fastest rate. But the Leisure and Hospitality sector, which was hammered in the early months of the pandemic, remains substantially below its pre-pandemic peak. It did gain 1,500 jobs in November and 600 in December, however, as Americans returned to travel and tourism. / ECONOMY, HOUSING: Sales of previously occupied U.S. homes slumped nearly 18 percent

in 2022, the slowest year for the housing market in nearly a decade. The National Association of Realtors said that existing home sales totaled 5.03 million last year, a 17.8 percent decline from 2021. That marks the weakest year for home sales since 2014. Even so, the median national home price for all of last year jumped 10.2 percent to \$386,300. Home sales slumped in 2022 as mortgage rates more than doubled while the Federal Reserve hiked its key lending rate in its bid to cool the economy and tame inflation. Sales fell 34 percent in December from a year earlier, marking their 11th consecutive monthly decline. / RECREATION, SAFETY: The number of recreational boating fatalities in Oregon was down a bit last year, but experts with the Oregon State Marine Board say they numbers remain far too high. There were 16 fatalities reported in 2022, down from 19 the year before and 26 in 2020. The average age was 43 years old. Three of the victims were female. Thirteen were male. Eleven of last year's deaths involved non-motorized boats. They included rafts, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, a canoe, and a sailboat without auxiliary power. Five were on motorized craft. But if there was a common trend in a majority of the deaths, it is that 10 of the 16 victims were not wearing a life jacket or personal floatation device. Experts remind you that you need to be prepared, no matter where you boat or how experienced a boater you might be: Accidents happen, no one can predict them, and wearing a life jacket increases your odds of survival. Inflatable life jackets are popular with many boaters, but state Marine Board experts say they require maintenance and should be routinely tested. In cases where an inflatable life jacket failed to inflate, investigators often find the owner did not test the device or failed to arm it with a CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge. Experts say they also are hybrid life jackets available with foam flotation and an inflation mechanism. They can provide immediate flotation if you fall overboard and then you can manually activate the inflation. The Oregon Marine Board also reminds stand-up paddleboarders of the importance of wearing the appropriate leash for the water. This includes quick-release leashes designed for moving water, to help avoid entanglement with rivers obstructions and other obstacles. Anyone new to boating also is encouraged to take a boating education class to learn about how to be safe through pre-trip planning and preparation. Consider joining a club to learn ways to build skills with others and don't boat on waterways that exceed your skill level. / ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE, HEALTH: A baby gray whale washed up on the northern Oregon coast on Wednesday, making it the third dead whale to beach on the state's coastline over the past week. The 12-foot-long calf washed ashore at Fort Stevens State Park, KGW reported, only 100 yards from the site where a dead sperm whale beached last weekend. Marine biologists say the baby whale appeared to be stillborn. There were no indications that it was struck by a ship or that it died from human interaction. Federal biologists determined that the 40-foot sperm whale that washed ashore nearby died after a ship hit it. The whale had a large gash in its side. Experts suspect westerly winds and currents may have caused the two whales to wash ashore near each other. Gray whales are currently migrating south for the winter to their birthing and breeding grounds near Baja California. On Jan. 11, a gray whale washed up on the state's central coast near Reedsport. An expert with the NOAA's Marine Mammal Stranding Network said it appeared the creature had been killed by orcas, who have been known to prey on gray whales. An increase in the number of gray whales stranding on the west coast, from Mexico to Alaska, prompted the National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration or NOAA in 2019 to announce an "Unusual Mortality Event." Such events are declared when animals strand unexpectedly or when there is a "significant die-off" of a population that demands an immediate response. The investigation has identified several reasons behind the gray whale population decline, including ecological changes in the Arctic affecting the seafloor and animals the whales feed on each summer. The gray whale population has declined by 38 percent from its peak in 2015 and 2016, the NOAA found, partly stemming from low birth numbers in recent years.; A nonprofit group that aims to protect endangered species asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Thursday to reintroduce sea otters to a stretch of the West Coast from Northern California to Oregon. Threatened southern sea otters occupy only 13 percent of their historic range, with a small population of the mammals currently living on California's central coast, according to the Center for Biological Diversity. Supporters of the effort say not only would the sea otters thrive, but they would also help restore vital kelp forest and seagrass ecosystems. The petition under the Endangered Species Act recommends that reintroduction occur between San Francisco Bay and Oregon and asks the Fish and Wildlife Service to assess the feasibility of reintroduction from Southern California into Baja California, Mexico. North America's smallest marine mammal, sea otters rely on dense fur to keep warm. But that fur attracted commercial fur traders who began slaughtering them in the mid-1700s. Traders nearly drove the species to extinction, wiping out 99 percent of the global population, according to wildlife groups. Reintroductions have helped reestablish sea otter populations in Canada's British Columbia, Alaska, Washington State and California. / WILDLIFE, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: On the Central Oregon Coast, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office is warning drivers to remain alert as elk and deer make their winter commute across major roads and highways to find food at lower elevations. Natural food sources are lean in the upper elevations in the coast range during the winter as freezing temperatures arrive and occasional snow falls. The migration takes place during both daytime and nighttime. Traffic safety experts remind you: If you see one deer or elk, there are probably others nearby. And if you stop to watch the migrating or grazing animals, remember: Keep a minimum distance of 100 yards. If the animals begin to move away from you, do not follow them. Not only is that illegal and you'd face fines, but you might provoke a deer or elk to turn and attack. WILDFIRE RECOVERY, DISASTERS, GOVERNMENT: The Biden administration is directing \$930 million toward reducing wildfire dangers in 10 Western states, including Oregon. The effort would clear fire-prone trees and underbrush from vulnerable areas of some national forests. The move was announced yesterday. It comes as government officials have struggled to protect nearby communities from destructive infernos being worsened by climate change. Under a strategy now entering its second year, the U.S. Forest Service is trying to prevent out-ofcontrol fires that start on public lands from raging through communities. But in an interview with The Associated Press, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack acknowledged that the shortage of workers that has been plaguing other sectors of the economy is hindering the agency's wildfire efforts. He also warned that budget cuts being floated by some Republicans, who control the U.S. House, could also undermine the administration's plans. The goal of the program, Vilsack said, is to lower wildfire risks across almost 80,000 square miles of public and private lands over the next decade. The work is projected to cost up to \$50 billion.

Last year's climate and infrastructure bills combined directed about \$5 billion to the effort. Vilsack says fires on public lands still will continue to threaten the West. Such blazes charred about 115,000 square miles over the past decade — an area larger than the state of Arizona — destroying close to 80,000 houses. businesses and other structures, according to government statistics and the nonpartisan research group Headwaters Economics. Almost 19,000 of those structures were torched in the 2018 Camp Fire that killed 85 people in Paradise, Calif. The sites targeted for spending in 2023 cover much of Southern California, home to 25 million people; the Klamath River Basin on the Oregon-California border; San Carlos Apache Reservation lands in Arizona; and the Wasatch area of northern Utah, a tourist draw with seven ski resorts. Other sites are in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Washington state, Colorado, New Mexico and Montana. The idea is to remove many trees and other flammable material from hotspots that make up only a small portion of fire-prone areas but account for about 80 percent of risk to communities. Vilsack said officials will seek to restore "old-growth forest conditions" — meaning fewer but larger trees that can be resilient against fires. Some say the administration remained overly focused on stopping fires — a nearimpossible goal — with not enough money and resources going to communities and people at risk, including the elderly and people with medical conditions or disabilities. But Vilsack said the projects announced so far will help reduce wildfire risk to around 200 communities in the western U.S. Warming temperatures have dried out the region's landscape and driven insect outbreaks that have killed millions of trees — ideal conditions for massive wildfires. The impacts stretch across North America, with smoke plumes at the height of wildfire season in the U.S. and Canada sometimes causing unhealthy pollution thousands of miles away on the East Coast. Last year's work by the Forest Service included tree thinning and controlled burns across 5,000 square miles of forest nationwide, Vilsack said. But a key piece of the administration's strategy — intentionally setting small fires to reduce the amount of vegetation available to burn in a major blaze — already has encountered problems: The program was suspended three months last spring after a devastating wildfire sparked by the federal government near Las Vegas, New Mexico, burned across more than 500 square miles in the southern reaches of the Rocky Mountains. It was the state's largest fire on record, and several hundred homes were destroyed. Experts have said the environmental damage will linger generations. Congress has approved nearly \$4 billion in assistance for the fire's victims, including \$1.5 billion in the massive spending bill passed last month. / CRIME: The FBI field office in Portland is seeking tips from the public to identify the person or persons responsible for arsons at three Oregon reproductive health centers. Investigators say it is part of a national effort to bring awareness to a series of attacks and threats targeting reproductive health service facilities across the country. The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$25,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction of the suspect(s) responsible for these crimes. Between 4:00 p.m. on July 4, 2022, and 8:00 a.m. on July 6, 2022, an arson attack and vandalism took place at the front entrance of the Mother and Child Education Center located at 1515 NE 41st Ave. Portland. Oregon. The words, "IF ABORTION AINT SAFE NEITHER RU JR" and "JANES RVVGG" were spray painted on the front of the property. At approximately 2:30 a.m., on June 10, 2022, Gresham Police responded to an alarm at the Gresham Pregnancy Resource Center located at 104 NW 11th Street. Once on scene, law

enforcement personnel found a fire inside the building. Investigators believe several Molotov cocktails were thrown through a kitchen window in order to ignite the fire. Investigators found several large bottles in the kitchen with fire accelerant confirmed on the floor. At approximately 10:38 p.m., on Sunday, May 8, 2022, the Keizer Police Department received 911 calls reporting someone throwing multiple Molotov cocktails at the Oregon Right to Life building located at 4335 River Road North. From nearby security footage, investigators determined the suspect retrieved an item from the trunk of their vehicle and walked towards the building. A glow could be seen on the security footage that was determined to be flames from the Molotov cocktail thrown at the building. Shortly after, the individual was observed running back to the vehicle. Investigators believe the suspect may have been driving a white sedan, possibly a 2017-2018 Hyundai Elantra. Such criminal acts carry a penalty of up to 20 years in federal prison. Anyone with information is asked to call 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324), contact their local FBI office, or submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov. You may remain anonymous. /

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CRIME, SAFETY: More details from the Lane County Sheriff's Office about Thursday afternoon's report of a possibly armed subject near Creswell High School, Officials say the person involved in this incident has been identified as an elementary-aged child who was playing with a realistic looking toy gun. The Creswell School District has been in contact with the child's family and there is no ongoing threat to the public.; Eugene Police Chief Chris Skinner says it was hard to hear the news about the mass shooting on Lunar New Year's Eve in a largely Asian American suburb of Los Angeles. In a statement released vesterday. Skinner wrote that while we don't know yet the motives of the shooter, something like this should never happen. When it does, he says our hearts break not only for those involved and their families, but also for what this does to damage that community's peace and sense of safety, and the ripple effect in our own Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Skinner says he wants residents to know that Eugene Police are committed to learning what we can about what happened, and that they will take any steps needed to ensure our community is safe. Skinner notes that the City of Eugene has zero tolerance for hate crimes and will act on any reports received. While no threats to our local Asian American and Pacific Islander community have been reported in recent days, the Eugene police chief says his agency's Special Investigations Unit is continuing to monitor not only local activity but any updates from federal investigators. Chief Skinner also encourages residents to report any suspicious activities or bias crimes. If the tip does not have immediate life and safety or property concerns, the best number to call is 541-682-5111. If it is an immediate life and safety or property concern, please call 911 and Eugene Police will respond.; Lawmakers in at least two states that have seen recent attacks to electrical infrastructure are proposing new legislation to improve security around substations and increase the penalties for damaging utility equipment. Attacks last month in Moore County, North Carolina, knocked out power to more than 45,000 customers for several days. Those attacks, and others in Washington, Oregon, South Carolina, and Nevada, have underscored the vulnerability of the nation's far-flung electrical grid, which security experts have long warned could be a target for domestic extremists. South Carolina lawmakers have filed two related bills, and a North Carolina lawmaker is drafting legislation. Among the elements being considered: that requiring utilities to provide 24-hour security at substations, which transform high-voltage electricity into the lower voltages that power

communities. Security provisions would vary across sites, some of which are already gated with nearby cameras while others are more exposed. Federal regulators in December ordered a review of physical security standards across the nation's vast electricity transmission network following the attacks in North Carolina. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), which oversees the nation's bulk power system, has until early April to submit a report and recommend possible improvements. The Pacific Northwest has become a hotspot for these physical attacks, with Washington and Oregon utilities reporting at least 15 incidents in 2022, including 10 in the last two months of the year. Attackers hit four Washington substations on Christmas Day, forcing entry, setting fire to equipment, and temporarily cutting power to thousands of customers. In Oregon, the state's Public Utility Commission is working with regulated utilities to increase vigilance and explore possible security updates, after gunfire attacks damaged two substations southeast of Portland in late November. Spokesperson Kandi Young said the commission monitors proposed legislation and is not aware of any related bills introduced this session. / ENERGY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has certified the design for what will be the United States' first small modular nuclear reactor. It means that companies seeking to build and operate a nuclear power plant can pick the design for a 50-megawatt, advanced light-water small modular nuclear reactor by Oregon-based NuScale Power and apply to the NRC for a license. It is the final determination that the design is acceptable for use, so it cannot be legally challenged during the licensing process when someone applies to build and operate a nuclear power plant. The new rule becomes effective in late February. Energy Department officials say the newly approved design "equips the nation with a new clean power source to help drive down" planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions. It's the seventh nuclear reactor design cleared for use in the United States. The rest are for traditional, large, light-water reactors.

For many, nuclear power is emerging as an answer as states and countries transition away from coal, oil, and natural gas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and stave off the worst effects of a warming planet. The U.S. Energy Department said it provided more than \$600 million since 2014 to support the design, licensing, and siting of NuScale's VOYGR small modular reactor power plant and other domestic small reactor concepts. The department is working with Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems to demonstrate a six-module NuScale VOYGR plant at the Idaho National Laboratory. The first module is expected to be operational by 2029. NuScale has signed 19 agreements in the U.S. and internationally to deploy its small reactor technology. One Energy Department officials says small modular reactors are no longer an abstract concept but are real and ready for deployment. NuScale has also applied to the NRC for approval of a larger design, at 77 megawatts per module, and the agency is checking the application for completeness before starting a full review. / TRANSPORATION, CRIME, SAFETY: A bill under consideration in Washington state would make it the second state in the country to lower the legal limit for a driver's blood alcohol content from 0.08 percent to 0.05 percent. A Washington state senator who is a former state trooper is sponsoring the bill. He said this week that hundreds of people were killed on roads in Washington last year in DUI-related incidents and that action should be taken to prevent more deaths. Across the country and

currently in Washington, the legal blood alcohol content limit for most drivers is 0.08 percent, but limits vary by state for commercial drivers or drivers with past DUI convictions. Utah's Legislature voted in 2017 to decrease the legal limit to 0.05 percent despite similar concerns. Since it went into effect, the number of crashes and fatalities have fallen even though drivers logged more miles, according to research published last year by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The National Transportation Safety Board recommended last year that all new vehicles in the U.S. be equipped with blood alcohol content monitoring systems that can stop an intoxicated person from driving, saying alcohol-related crashes were one of the biggest causes of highway deaths. The agency encouraged states a decade ago to drop their blood alcohol content levels to 0.05 percent. Josh McDonald, executive director of the Washington Wine Institute, spoke against the bill this week, saying a change to 0.05 percent blood alcohol content could turn a "reasonable, modern consumption experience, for both the customer and winery, into a very serious concern," KUOW reported. / LEGAL, POLITICS, WOMEN, HEALTH: Women's marches demanding the protection of abortion rights drew thousands of people to the streets across the country on Sunday. The day marks the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision for abortion rights that was overturned by the court last June. The main march was being held in Madison, Wisconsin. Organizers say they chose that location because of an upcoming state Supreme Court election that could determine the balance of power on the court and the future of abortion rights in Wisconsin. Abortions are unavailable in the state due to legal uncertainties faced by abortion clinics there. / HEALTH, ANIMALS: A new pill aims to make it easier to treat diabetic cats without insulin shots twice a day. The drug is the first oral treatment for feline diabetes approved by the Food and Drug Administration. But the new pill cannot be used in diabetic cats that have already received insulin. And animals must be screened carefully for other conditions and monitored for serious side effects. Made by Elanco Animal Health Inc., Bexacat was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in December and is expected to be available in the U.S. in the next several weeks. It's the first drug of its type approved for animals; similar drugs have been approved for people for about a decade. About a quarter of U.S. households include one or more cats, totaling more than 58 million felines. Between 1 in 100 and 1 in 500 cats in the U.S. are diagnosed with diabetes, which experts say is rising as obesity rates in the species approach 50 percent. While many cat owners successfully treat their cats with insulin shots, others struggle. The difficulties can lead some pet owners to euthanize their animals. Most vets are expected to charge pet owners about \$100 to \$150 a month for the new pills. Depending on the source, that may be higher than the costs for insulin and the syringes or pens to administer it. / SPORTS: Former Oregon basketball star Sabrina lonescu announced over the weekend that she is engaged to her longtime boyfriend Hroniss Grasu, who plays center for the Oakland Raiders. Ionescu, who plays with the WNBA's New York Liberty, posted photos on her Instagram Saturday to share her excitement. Grasu proposed on Friday night with a heart made of roses and with candles on the ground in the shape of a heart. The couple both attended the University of Oregon, although at different times. Grasu began his Oregon football career in 2011 and was drafted in the third round of the 2015 NFL draft by the Bears, where he played for three seasons. Ionescu began her collegiate career in 2016

and was drafted first overall in the 2020 WNBA draft. The Ducks basketball star left a major mark in her collegiate career, finishing as the only NCAA Division I basketball player to achieve 2,000 points, 1,000 rebounds and 1,000 assists. Additionally, she is the all-time leader in assists in the Pac-12. / BUSINESS: An Oregon-based media group says it will start a newspaper in a southern Oregon city that lost a longstanding newspaper this month. Jefferson Public Radio reports that EO Media Group announced it will open a news outlet that serves Medford and Ashland after the closure of the Mail Tribune. EO Media Group has 15 publications around the Pacific Northwest, including the Bulletin in Bend and the Capital Press. The new print and online outlet will be called The Tribune. EO Media Group publisher Heidi Wright says a newsroom of 14 people will be hired, including seven reporters. The paper will start as online only. /

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HEALTH, PANDEMIC: U.S. health officials want to make COVID-19 vaccinations more like the annual flu shot. The Food and Drug Administration on Monday proposed a simplified approach for future vaccination efforts, allowing most adults and children to get a once-a-year dose to protect against the mutating virus. This means Americans would no longer have to keep track of how many vaccinations they've received or how many months it's been since their last booster. The proposal comes as boosters have become an increasingly hard sell. While more than 80 percent of the U.S. population has had at least one vaccine dose, only 16 percent of those eligible have received the latest boosters authorized in August. The FDA will ask its panel of outside vaccine experts to weigh in at a meeting Thursday. The agency is expected to take their advice into consideration while deciding future vaccine requirements for manufacturers. In documents posted online, FDA scientists say many Americans now have "sufficient preexisting immunity" against the coronavirus because of vaccination, infection or a combination of the two. That baseline of protection should be enough to move to an annual booster against the latest strains in circulation and make COVID-19 vaccinations more like the yearly flu shot, according to the agency. For adults with weakened immune systems and very small children, a two-dose combination might be needed for protection. FDA scientists and vaccine companies would study vaccination, infection rates and other data to decide who should receive a single shot versus a two-dose series. FDA will also ask its panel to vote on whether all vaccines should target the same strains. That step would be needed to make the shots interchangeable, doing away with the current complicated system of primary vaccinations and boosters. The initial shots from Pfizer and Moderna — called the primary series — target the strain of the virus that first emerged in 2020 and quickly swept across the world. The updated boosters launched last fall were also tweaked to target omicron relatives that had been dominant. Under FDA's proposal, the agency, independent experts and manufacturers would decide annually on which strains to target by the early summer, allowing several months to produce and launch updated shots before the fall. That's roughly the same approach long used to select the strains for the annual flu shot. Ultimately, FDA officials say moving to an annual schedule would make it easier to promote future vaccination campaigns, which could ultimately boost vaccination rates nationwide. The original two-dose COVID shots have offered strong protection against severe disease and death no matter the variant,

but protection against mild infection wanes. Experts continue to debate whether the latest round of boosters significantly enhanced protection, particularly for younger, healthy Americans. / LEGAL, HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Oregon is launching a new abortion hotline offering free legal advice to callers, moving to further defend abortion access after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade last summer and eliminated federal protections for the procedure. The state's Department of Justice announced the initiative Monday. It is modeled on similar hotlines launched by the attorneys general of New York and Delaware, as states where abortion remains legal have seen an increase in the number of patients traveling from areas where the procedure has been banned or restricted. Since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in June, near-total bans on abortion have been implemented in Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia. Legal challenges are pending against several of those bans. The lone clinic in North Dakota relocated across state lines to Minnesota. Idaho has three separate laws banning abortion. One allows the potential family members of a fetus to sue a health care professional who performs an abortion; another makes it a crime for medical professionals to perform an abortion after electrical activity is detected; and another effectively bans all abortions but allows doctors to defend themselves in court by proving that the procedure was done to save the life of the patient. Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said in a news release. "This is especially important because we share a border with Idaho, which has a near-total abortion ban." Abortion remains legal at all stages of pregnancy in Oregon, which has worked with California and Washington to promote the West Coast as a safe haven for the procedure. People can call the anonymous hotline from any state, including Oregon, for free legal advice and receive a call back from a lawyer within 48 hours. All three bans are in effect statewide, though a federal judge put a small portion of the third law on hold while a lawsuit is underway. The federal judge said the state could not enforce the third law against health care providers who perform abortions in medical emergencies at Medicaid-funded hospitals until the lawsuit is over. About 70 lawyers from several local law firms will be working for Oregon's hotline, said Anna Sortun, a partner at Tonkon Torp, which will be serving as the number's logistics backbone. She said her firm sought advice from people operating New York's abortion hotline. Calls to the hotline will first be fielded by the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service. The office will dispatch the calls or voicemails to Tonkon Torp. which will then assign them to one of the lawyers volunteering for the hotline. While lawyers will only be sharing legal advice on the status of Oregon law, they can also provide contact information for providers and abortion funds if callers need more information on the resources available to them, according to state iustice officials. The hotline was launched the day after abortion supporters rallied across the country to mark the 50th anniversary of the now-overturned Roe v. Wade. Anticipating a spike in out-of-state patients, Oregon lawmakers created a \$15 million fund last year to increase access to abortion services. This year, Democrats in the Legislature plan to introduce a bill that would shield patients and providers from lawsuits originating in states where abortion is banned or restricted. / SAFETY: Thanks to everyone who joined the road crew yesterday afternoon about the semi-truck hang-up on the ramp from the eastbound Beltline Highway to northbound Interstate Five. The wreck was cleared yesterday

afternoon. / ENERGY: Eugene Water & Electric Board officials say it was an equipment failure that caused yesterday afternoon's power outage across a large portion of southwest Eugene, affecting more than 6,000 EWEB customers. / CRIME: Yesterday morning just after 9:30 a.m., the Lane County Sheriff's Office received the report of a school shooting threat involving a student at Crow High School. Investigators say they learned the involved student had made a social media post three days ago, asking other students if they would like to help shoot up the school. The involved student was identified, and his parents were contacted. Deputies took the juvenile into custody for Disorderly Conduct in the First Degree. He was transported to the SERBU juvenile detention facility. Investigators say they have been working closely with school officials to ensure the safety of the community. They believe there is no ongoing threat.; Eugene Police say they have arrested the suspect in Thursday's late-night fatal shootings at a residence in the 2800 block of West 18th Avenue. 24-year-old Vaughn Pierre Derry Jr. of Eugene is charged with two counts of Murder in the First Degree and one count of Robbery in the First Degree. Police say the deceased are 20-yearold Breanna Don Dapron and 31-year-old Dylan Wayne George. Investigators said earlier they believed this was a targeted incident.; Flags are flying at halfstaff outside schools and public offices and many businesses in memory of the victims of the weekend mass shooting in Monterey Park, California. Governor Tina Kotek issued the order yesterday. Flags will remain at half-staff through sunset on Thursday. / EDUCATION, EVENTS: The University of Oregon will hold this year's spring commencement exercises on Tuesday, June 20. The university typically holds commencement the Monday after spring term finals, but this year that Monday falls on the Juneteenth holiday, so the date has been moved back by one day. The main university commencement ceremony for all graduates will be held at 9 a.m. at Autzen Stadium. The school and college ceremonies, with the exception of the School of Law, also will be held June 20. The university will release additional details about the times and locations of each of the school and college ceremonies, as well as information about regalia, parking, the Grad Parade and more on its commencement website in the weeks to come. / GOVERNMENT: The Oregon Department of Revenue yesterday began processing 2022 state income tax returns, the same day the IRS began processing federal returns. Returns are being processed in the order they are received. To allow time to spot potential tax fraud and ID theft, the Department of Revenue will not begin issuing personal income tax refunds until after February 15. That gives processors time to confirm that the amounts claimed on returns match what employers report on Forms W-2 and 1099. E-filing remains the fastest way for taxpayers to get their refunds. On average, taxpayers who e-file their returns and request their refund via direct deposit receive their refund 34 days sooner than taxpayers who mail their paper return and request paper refund checks. Several free file options are available on the department's website. Free guided tax preparation is available from several companies for taxpayers that meet income requirements. Be sure to use links from the department's website ensures that your federal and state return will be filed for free. Taxpayers that don't meet the income requirements for guided preparation can file for free using Oregon Free Fillable Forms. Free Fillable Forms performs basic calculations and are ideal for taxpayers who don't need help preparing their returns and want the convenience of filing electronically. / FINANCES, CRIME: With the 2022 tax filing

season officially open, take some basic security measures to avoid becoming a victim of tax identity fraud. As of late last year, the IRS's Criminal Investigation division has identified \$5.7 billion in tax fraud for fiscal year 2022, more than double the total two years earlier. Thieves use stolen Social Security numbers and other personally identifiable information to file a fraudulent tax return and claim a refund. They'll try to do it early in the filing season before you might file your own return. This is why it's important to safeguard things such as your W-2 tax forms, addresses, and date of birth. Often, you might only learn you were a victim of a scam after you or your preparer have filed your taxes and the IRS sends you a rejection letter because the agency has received multiple filings. Some tips from experts at Umpqua Bank include filing as early as possible and: Consider using an Identity Theft PIN through the IRS. This six-digit number prevents someone else from filing a tax return using your SSN or tax-ID number. Originally, the PINs were assigned to victims of identity theft to help them confirm their identity, but now everyone is eligible. To qualify, you first must pass an identity verification process. The PIN is valid for one calendar year, with a new one generated each January. Research potential tax preparers before providing them with sensitive personal information. Be sure they're a qualified, trusted, and reputable preparer. Use the IRS's searchable directory to help you find a qualified tax professional. Watch for schemes to take your SSN. There are numerous scams aimed at stealing SSNs (and other sensitive personal information). Don't provide such information to unfamiliar contacts—especially if you're unexpectedly asked to do so by a stranger via email, text message, or even on social media. The IRS does not use those methods to contact individuals. Use secure, trusted devices when filing your taxes online. When collecting your tax documents and then filing online, be sure you're using as secure a computer as possible. That includes running the most updated versions of security software, internet browsers, and operating systems, and that your computer is connected to a trusted, safe internet connection. (For example, if possible, consider using a personal laptop connected to your home Wi-Fi network rather than a shared computer with a public internet connection.) Place a security freeze on your credit reports. Freezing your credit reports with the top three credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) could help prevent further damages if a fraudster does steal your identity. When you place a freeze, you'll set up an account with each of the agencies. Store the passwords to each of the sites in a safe place. You can always temporarily unfreeze your report in order to get any credit needs approved. If you discover that somebody stole your identity to file your taxes: Contact the IRS and complete form 14039 (Identity Theft Affidavit). Follow the instructions that you receive in any letter from the IRS alerting you of a potential stolen tax identity theft situation. Then, report the situation to both the IRS and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to initiate a recovery plan. Secure your IP PIN and any other details you receive from the IRS and other federal agencies/law enforcement to prevent future identity theft. Place a fraud alert on your credit reports—and consider freezing them altogether if you haven't already done so. / GOVERNMENT, EVENTS: A panel of U.S. senators grilled Ticketmaster representatives this morning about the spectacular breakdown late last year during that presale of Taylor Swift concert tickets. The Senate Judiciary Committee is using the hearing to take a closer look at consolidation in the live entertainment and ticketing industries and how it harms customers. Ticketmaster

is the world's largest ticket seller, processing 500 million tickets each year in more than 30 countries. Around 70 percent of tickets for major concert venues in the U.S. are sold through the company. But customers complain that ticket fees now average 27 percent of the ticket cost and can climb as high as 75 percent. In 2010, Ticketmaster merged with Live Nation, an entertainment company that produces live shows, festivals and concert tours. That's led to complaints of a virtual monopoly in some markets and the stifling of competition that could lower prices. In mid-November, Ticketmaster's site crashed during a presale event for Swift's upcoming stadium tour. The company said its site was overwhelmed by both fans and bot attacks. Many people lost a chance to purchase tickets after waiting for hours in the online queue. Ticketmaster required fans to register for the presale, and more than 3.5 million people did, a record for the company. Ticketmaster eventually canceled a planned general ticket sale, saying it didn't have enough inventory. / RECREATION, DEVELOPMENT: In the Bethel neighborhood, the City of Eugene is working to enhance the offerings at Golden Gardens Park. Planners envision reworking much of the park's 223 acres to create sports fields and playgrounds, nature trails and wildlife habitat. And they want to hear from residents as the designs take shape. Visitors currently access Golden Gardens Park from the intersection of Golden Gardens Street and Jessen Drive, north of Barger Drive. The parks ponds were originally deep gravel pits used for construction of the Beltline Highway—then Beltline Road—in the 1950s. But after a series of drownings, the city worked to improve safety around the ponds, improve the park's habitat, and add more acreage and other features. The first phase of construction could begin in three years, partially funded by a general recreation bond and levy that's already been approved by Eugene voters. This evening at Willamette High School, Eugene Parks and Open Space is holding the first in a series of public meeting to share updates and invite you to fill out a community survey. Planners say this is a family-friendly event, with some food and drinks provided. The session runs from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. this evening at Willamette High, with the opportunity for those unable to attend in person to take part online. / SAFETY, RECREATION: Yowza! near Pacific City, what the Oregon State Parks folks are describing as a "small sinkhole" measuring 20-feet wide and 15-feet deep was discovered Sunday at Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area in the lower northwest corner of the dune. You would not want to slip into this! Staff cordoned off the area and are encouraging visitors to respect the closure, keep pets on leashes, and children away from the edges. Officials say they're working to determine what caused the sand to slump but add that this is a reminder of just how dynamic Oregon's coastal environment can be. According to parks officials, Cape Kiwanda is a rarity for the Oregon Coast: a sandstone outcropping. They say sandstone is naturally much weaker and prone to sudden changes, unlike hardier rock like basalt. Even though the spot is marked with barriers, they warn the sinkhole could change at any moment, and others could appear. If you visit Cape Lookout and see something that concerns you, leave the area for your safety and contact the Cape Lookout State Park staff at 503-842-4981. In an emergency, call 911. / AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, EDUCATION: Bees pollinate our crops and harvest nectar, which they turn into honey. But bees they face all sorts of challenges. Now, there's a pre-sale underway for what might become Oregon's newest license plate—a design that supports Oregon's bees and research into better protecting them. The Pollinator

Paradise License Plate will go into production once 3,000 vouchers are sold. Proceeds will support pollinator research at the College of Agricultural Sciences -Oregon State University. The plate, which was designed by an Oregon high school student, features two of Oregon's most iconic bees, the managed honey bee and the wild yellow-faced bumble bee. The plate also showcases Oregon landscapes including natural areas, agricultural fields, and backyard gardens that help support the state's more than 600 species of bees. The centerpiece is a field of red clover - which often dots the rolling hills of Oregon's Willamette and Grande Ronde valleys. / BUSINESS, POLITICS, WILDLIFE: A bill that would ban the sale of kangaroo parts has been introduced in the Oregon Legislature, taking aim at sports apparel manufacturers that use leather from the animals to make their products. Soccer cleats are one of the only products made from kangaroo leather that are routinely sold in Oregon, Oregon Public Broadcasting reported. The measure would impact Nike, which is based in Oregon and the state's largest employer. Eugene Democratic state senator Floyd Prozanski, who introduced the bill, said in a news release issued Monday by animal rights groups that it is "unconscionable that millions of native wild animals in Australia have been killed for the sake of high-end soccer cleats worn by a subset of elite soccer players." Prozanski added that he understands the legislation might have financial impact on some Oregon shoe manufacturers, but in the balance Oregon should be standing on the humane side of this issue. He says there are other materials that can be used in making these high-end cleats. In the news release, the Center for a Humane Economy, Animal Wellness Action and the Animal Wellness Foundation welcomed the move, "It's time for these shoe manufacturers to evolve their business model to eliminate extreme animal cruelty in their product offerings," said Rene Tatro, a board member of the Center for a Humane Economy. Nike didn't respond to OPB's request for comment, but the company told ESPN last month that it uses kangaroo leather in a "small portion" of its soccer shoes and that it "works with leather suppliers that source animal skins from processors that use sound animal husbandry and humane treatment, whether farmed, domesticated, or wild managed." Oregon's bill would make it a crime to buy, receive, sell, or commercially exchange "any product containing a part of a dead kangaroo." Lawmakers in Connecticut have introduced a similar bill this session. A federal ban on kangaroo products was proposed in the U.S. House in 2021 but was not approved. The ban on "k-leather" would not be without precedent: California enacted a ban on kangaroo-based products in the 1970s. The commercial harvest of kangaroos in Australia is legal. More than 1.3 million kangaroos were killed for commercial purposes in the country in 2021, OPB reported, citing the Australia Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. The agency said that number represents less than onethird of the "sustainable quota," which is the amount it considers could be killed without putting any of the four main kangaroo species at risk. The U.S. listed several types of kangaroo as "endangered" from the mid-'70s until the mid-'90s, but the animal is considered to have "recovered." /

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HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, WEATHER: As our air quality in Eugene-Springfield turns stagnant, the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency is urging you to limit your home wood heating and use another heating method, if possible. The use of fireplaces and wood stoves add to the smoke and other pollutants trapped close to the ground. L-RAPA officials say using other forms of heat like electric, propane, or natural gas will create less air pollution, protect Lane County's air quality, and help you breathe easier. / CRIME: They say he was dealing drugs to juveniles out of a trailer he parked near schools. Now, Lane County Sheriff's investigators say they've arrested 47-year-old Jeremy Lee Linville. He's charged with being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, Unlawful Delivery of Marijuana, and Delivery of MDMA within 1,000 feet of a School. Sheriff's detectives say they received information earlier this month about a man who was allegedly parking his RV in various locations between South Eugene High School and Roosevelt Middle School and selling various drugs to juveniles. Investigators allege Linville also frequented the Amazon Skate Park.Late last week, officials say they served a search warrant on Linville and his RV and recovered methamphetamine, several pounds of marijuana, and a stolen firearm.; Eugene Police have arrested a second suspect in Thursday's late-night fatal shootings at a residence in the 2800 block of West 18th Avenue. He is 24-year-old Dejuan Debrail Stevens of Eugene. Earlier, investigators arrested another 24-year-old, Vaughn Pierre Derry Jr. of Eugene. Both men are charged with two counts of Murder in the First Degree and one count of Robbery in the First Degree. Police say the deceased are 20-year-old Breanna Don Dapron and 31-year-old Dylan Wayne George. Investigators said earlier they believed this was a targeted incident.; Eugene Police say the suspect in the January 13 robbery of the Key Bank branch on West 11th Avenue has been arrested in Louisiana by U.S. Marshals. The FBI is handling the case involving 59-year-old Kenneth Dewain Stone of Hot Springs, Arkansas. That includes the investigation into a bank robbery that occurred a few hours earlier in Salem. Officials say Stone has a history of robberies and at one point was sentenced in federal court to serve 100 months in prison.; KVAL is reporting one person was found dead following an early-morning apartment fire in South Eugene. The twoalarm blaze was reported around 4:45 this morning near 29th and Willamette Streets. KVAL reports a number of people were rescued, with one taken to the hospital. / SAFETY: Crews have recovered the body of a man whom bystanders

spotted Monday evening in the Willamette River near the Ferry Street Bridge before he disappeared underwater and did not resurface. Crews from the Lane County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team searched Monday night and again yesterday. Divers located the man's body shortly after 1 p.m. Officials are working to determine his identity. / WILDKIFE, SAFETY: A fourth dead whale has washed up on the Oregon coast this month. This one was a 30-foot-long adult gray whale found in a remote area near Cannon Beach. It was in such an advanced state of decomposition that marine biologists are having a tough time determining how it died. They say the carcass bears a shark bite, but the bite might have occurred after the whale's death. Earlier this month, a 40-foot sperm whale washed ashore at Fort Stevens State Park after a ship hit it. The whale had a large gash in its side. The carcass of a 12-foot-long female calf washed ashore later that week at Fort Stevens. Marine biologists say the baby whale appeared to die shortly after birth. And the carcass of an adult gray whale also washed up near Reedsport. An expert with the NOAA's Marine Mammal Stranding Network said it appeared the creature had been killed by orcas. Gray whales are currently migrating south for the winter to their birthing and breeding grounds near Baja California. EMPLOYMENT: Lane County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged up two notches, to 4.8 percent in December. That's a bit higher than the statewide jobless rate of 4.5 percent and more than a percentage point above the U.S. unemployment rate of 3.5 percent. That said, state analysts say Lane County's payroll employment increased by a seasonally adjusted 600 jobs in December after increases of 400 each in November and October. The county has regained 93 percent of the jobs lost in March and April 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 crisis. Some of the larger December gains were in retail trade, reflecting the increase in holiday shopping, along with professional and business services. But there were seasonal losses in leisure and hospitality, education, and health services. But year-over-year, state employment experts say Lane County's employment increased by 5,400 jobs between December of 2022 and 12 months earlier. Our county's record low unemployment rate was 3.6 percent in January 2019. / AGRICULTURE, GOVERNMENT: The Environmental Protection Agency is going to study whether to toughen regulation of large livestock farms that pollute waterways. The agency has not revised its rules dealing with the nation's largest hog, poultry, and cattle operations since 2008. Beef, poultry, and pork have become more affordable staples in the American diet thanks to industry consolidation and the rise of giant farms. Yet federal and state environmental agencies often lack basic information such as where the facilities are located, how many animals they're raising, and how they deal with manure. Experts say at some locations, farm manure and fertilizer runoff fouls lakes and streams. It also is a leading cause of harmful algae blooms. EPA leaders say they reconsidered their intention to leave existing rules in place after an environmental group filed a lawsuit. Instead, the agency now will gather information on how bad the pollution is and what new methods might bring improvements. / SAFETY, CRIME, MENTAL HEALTH: A new report on mass attacks calls for communities to intervene early when they see warning signs of violence. The report released this morning by the Secret Service's National Threat Assessment Center also encourages businesses to consider workplace violence prevention plans and highlights the connection between domestic violence, misogyny, and mass attacks. The report analyzed 173 mass attacks carried out over a five-year period

between January 2016 to December 2020 in public or semi-public places such as businesses, schools, or churches. Its release comes as the U.S. is experiencing a particularly deadly start to the new year with 39 people dead in six mass killings. The center defines a mass attack as one in which three or more people — not including the attacker — were harmed. Almost all the attacks were carried out by one person, 96 percent of attackers were men and the attackers ranged in age from 14 to 87. The report noted that nearly two-thirds of attackers exhibited behaviors or communications "that were so concerning, they should have been met with an immediate response." It said these concerns were often shared with law enforcement, employers, school staff or parents. But in one-fifth of the cases, the concerning behavior wasn't relayed to anyone "in a position to respond, demonstrating a continued need to promote and facilitate bystander reporting." The report also called for greater attention toward domestic violence and misogyny, noting that nearly half of the attackers studied had a history of domestic violence, misogynistic behavior, or both. About half the attacks in the study involved a business location, and attackers often had a prior relationship with the business, as an employee, a customer, or a former employer. The report also noted the role that grievances like workplace disputes or feuds with neighbors played in mass attacks. About half the attacks were motivated "in whole or in part by a perceived grievance," according to the report. "Workplaces should establish behavioral threat assessment programs as a component of their workplace violence prevention plans, and businesses should also establish proactive relationships with area law enforcement so that they may work collaboratively to respond to incidents involving a concern for violence, whether that concern arises from a current employee, a former employee, or a customer," the report read. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/26/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

EDUCATION: There's still a lot of room for improvement, but officials say there is some encouraging news from the education front: The statewide graduation rate for the high school class of 2022 was 81.3 percent. While it's still far from 100 percent, the Oregon Department of Education reports that was the secondhighest graduation rate ever reported in the state, and up from the early years of the pandemic. Officials say it's another indication of the resilience of Oregon students and their families. But they know that more investment is needed to assist younger students who struggled through challenges including remote learning and distanced classrooms and continue to lag in some key academic and social areas. Still, the graduation news is encouraging: Analysts with the Oregon Department of Education note that students who completed two credits in an approved Career and Technical Education Program of Study significantly exceeded the statewide average, graduating at a rate of 93.0 percent. Students who successfully completed English Learner programs prior to entering high school in Oregon graduated at 86.4 percent, 5.1 percentage points higher than the statewide average and an all-time high for that student group. / HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: The government says a record 16.3 million people sought health insurance through the Affordable Care Act this year. That's double the number covered when the marketplaces first launched nearly a decade ago. More than 3 million new members have joined the marketplace, which is also known as "Obamacare," according to data from the Department of Health and Human Services. The open enrollment season ended Jan. 15. The Biden administration worked with nonprofit groups and invested in program specialists who helped sign up people in low-income, immigrant, Black and Latino communities. President Biden and a Democratic-led Congress have also committed millions of dollars over the past two years into unlocking low-cost insurance plans for more people.; During the 2023 open enrollment period, 141,963 Oregonians enrolled in health insurance coverage, according to officials with the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace. If you missed the open enrollment deadline, you still might have an opportunity to get health coverage through the Marketplace if you experienced a qualifying life event. Those include moving, involuntarily losing health coverage, having or adopting a child, marriage, a change in citizenship, and being released from incarceration. Enrolled Tribal members, Alaska natives, and people who have lower incomes also may enroll in health coverage at any time throughout the year. Preview plans and savings by answering a few short questions at

OregonHealthCare.gov The website is also the best place to find a health insurance expert who can give one-on-one help with the application and enrollment process by phone, email, or in person. / ECONOMY: The U.S. economy expanded at a 2.9 percent annual pace from October through December, ending 2022 with momentum despite the pressure of high interest rates and widespread fears of a looming recession. Most economists think the economy will slow further over the next few months and slide into at least a mild recession by midyear. But the economy got a boost last quarter from continued strong consumer spending and businesses being able to restock supplies. The question now for economic experts: How will we know if the U.S. is in recession? Despite inflation and other economic headwinds, including big cuts at some leading tech companies, overall hiring remains strong and the labor market remains tight. Applications for jobless aid fall last week and for the first time in nine months has been below 200,000 in back-to-back weeks. But inflation, while weakening, is expected to remain a challenge in the near future. Higher interest rates have affected consumer and business borrowing and are expected to steadily weaken consumer and business spending. In response, economists predict many businesses likely will trim expenses, which could lead to layoffs and higher unemployment. But it remains unclear whether that will simply slow the economy a bit or lead to a mild recession. / CRIME: Detectives with the Lane County Sheriff's Office say a Veneta man is facing charges in connection with allegedly uploading thousands of files of child pornography and messaging a person he believed was an 11-year-old girl in an effort to have sex. Officials are concerned there might be other victims and are asking to hear from parents and guardians if their children or teens might have had contact with 45-year-old Lon Curtis Coffey. The local investigation began when detectives received information from a task force on Internet Crimes Against Children. Sheriff's detectives were notified that approximately 30 files of child pornography had been uploaded to the internet using a messaging platform (Kik) from a residence in Veneta. Officials served a search warrant on the residence and developed leads indicating that Coffey had uploaded the images. Additionally, detectives learned that about two years ago, Coffey had attempted to groom an 11-year-old girl to solicit sex. With permission from the child's guardian, detectives used the child's Facebook account to message with the suspect. Within two days of messaging, Coffey stated he wanted to have sex with the now 13-year-old girl and advised he would drive down to the Eugene area from Albany to meet. Detectives confronted Coffey when he arrived, and he was taken into custody. Investigators say Coffey has admitted to uploading the child pornography from his residence in Veneta. They say he also advised them he has been involved in child pornography for over 10 years and has exchanged thousands of files. If you have additional leads in the case or concerns that your child might have been contacted by Lon Coffey. please contact Lane County Sheriff's Office detectives at 541-682-4150. SAFETY: A two-alarm apartment fire in South Eugene yesterday morning left one person dead and sent another to the hospital with life-threatening injuries. Eugene-Springfield fire crews responded to the blaze in the 2900 block of Willamette Street around 4:45 a.m. Wednesday. The blaze forced the evacuation of 8-10 residents, but fire crews say they were able to return to their units once the fire was doused. / WILDFIRES, DISASTERS, DEVELOPMENT, FORESTRY: Amid widespread criticism from property owners, and now possible changes by

state lawmakers, leaders with the Oregon Department of Forestry said yesterday they will delay release of an updated state Wildfire Risk Map. The map was released in June. An update was expected in March. Once it's finalized, the map will allow home, business, and property owners to enter their address to see whether it is in a wildfire risk zone. Those that are would eventually be required to make some improvements to better protect their properties. That might include cleaning up fire-prone debris and improving access for emergency vehicles. But critics say some improvements would be too expensive, could affect their insurance rates, and argued the map was inaccurate. The Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer categorizes every property in Oregon, whether a home, business, or piece of land, a risk category that can range from "zero" to "extreme." Under the initial version of the map, about half of all tax lots in the state were considered to lie in what's known as the "wildland-urban interface." These are areas, often on the edge of or just outside communities that butt up against forest and rangelands that are prone to wildfire. That included big sections of Central, Eastern and Southern Oregon. But there are similar higher-risk zones in the Willamette Valley, Cascades, and Coast Range—including areas threatened or devasted by recent blazes. Among the factors that drive increased wildfire risk: weather, climate, topography, vegetation, and nearby buildings. State officials hope to use the map to create updated building codes and zoning requirements that factor in the wildfire risk. Property owners who disagree with the wildfire risk classification of their tax lots would be able to appeal. The new map is part of a wildfire preparedness and prevention package approved by state lawmakers in the wake of 2020's devastating blazes that destroyed thousands of Oregon homes. While lawmakers consider possible changes, state foresters say they will work with experts at Oregon State University, who are exploring technical adjustments based on feedback received from the initial map. That includes concerns related to irrigated lands and classification differences on adjacent lots. / HOMEELSSNESS, GOVERNMENT: Every year, Lane County Human Services conducts an annual census of people experiencing homelessness on a single night. It's called the "Point In Time" count. The tally is part of a federal requirement from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for communities that receive funding to assist those who are homeless. This year's count started at 7 a.m. and continues through 7 p.m. tomorrow evening. Local mangers of the count say it's a critical tool, because you can't solve a problem that you can't see, and that getting a clear understanding of the scope of local homelessness is the first step to doing that. Point In Time Count organizers say while the numbers are important, they know single snapshots won't capture the full number of individuals experiencing homelessness and that the actual tally is likely greater than what they will see. This year, Point In Time teams will count individuals who are unsheltered in the Eugene-Springfield area, and in Veneta, Florence, Junction City, and Coburg. To provide a more complete picture, that data also will be cross-referenced with a database of individuals who are experiencing homelessness and have interacted with service agencies. Additionally, Lane County has been selected by HUD to focus on youth homelessness solutions and is taking extra steps to ensure unhoused youth are captured in the 2023 Count. That includes those who are "couch surfing" at someone else's residence or are in other unstable housing situations. The efforts include events on the day of the count intended to attract unhoused youth and

ask them to complete a survey. Youth surveyors will be available working through the Eugene Library, Youth ERA, Lane Community College, and other youthspecific outreach locations in the metro and rural areas on the day of the count. The full report on Lane County's Point In Time count will be available several months after the tally is conducted. / EDUCATION, HEALTH: Wednesday, February 15, is School Exclusion Day. Leaders with the Oregon Immunization Program remind parents that is the day your children might not be able to attend school or childcare if their health records show missing immunizations. Under state law, all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified childcare facilities must have up-to-date documentation on their immunizations or must have an exemption. State experts say such immunizations are the best way to protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases such as whooping cough and measles. Just a few years ago, we saw several measles cases in the Northwest. Recently, Central Ohio experienced a severe measles outbreak with more than 30 unvaccinated children hospitalized. And there also were recent polio cases in New York state. If a child's school and childcare vaccination records are not up to date by February 15, the child will be sent home if they do not have an exemption. Parents seeking immunizations for their children should contact their child's pediatrician or local health department, or contact 211Info by dialing 211 or visiting to 211info.org No one can be turned away from a local health department because of the inability to pay for required vaccines. Many pharmacists can immunize children ages 7 and older. Contact your neighborhood pharmacy for details. In 2022, local health departments sent 26,149 letters to parents and guardians informing them that their children needed immunizations to stay in school or childcare. A total of 5,118 children were kept out of school or childcare until the necessary immunization information was turned in to the schools or childcare facilities. This year, reminder letters are being mailed to parents by February 1. COVID-19 vaccinations are not required for students in Oregon schools or childcare facilities. But state health officials strongly recommend everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 immunizations. Check with your healthcare provider or your pharmacist about availability and current recommendations. Additional information on school immunizations can be found at

https://www.oregon.gov/OHA/PH/PreventionWellness/VaccinesImmunization/Pages/index.aspx /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/27/23

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Morning News

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME: It started with a traffic stop on West 11th Avenue and ended with a standoff at a residence off Fox Hollow Road. In between, Eugene Police say the driver of the driver of the truck intentionally rammed the officer's patrol car and fled, then one of the suspects in the truck fired shots at pursuing officers. They allegedly stopped in the driveway of the Fox Hollow home and fled into the residence. Investigators say the occupants of the house were able to safely evacuate. During a four-hour standoff, law enforcement used chemical munitions to try to force the suspects out of the home. And police say the suspects again fired at officers, leading to an exchange of gunfire. The situation wrapped up around 4 a.m., when 31-year-old Chet Evan Raymond of Eugene surrendered. The female suspect was reportedly suffering a medical issue inside the home and was hospitalized for a possible drug overdose.; A tense overnight incident. Eugene Police say shots were fired at their officers during a vehicle pursuit that started shortly after 11 p.m. on West 11th Avenue. It ended shortly after four this morning with the arrest of a barricaded suspect at a home in the 29000 block of Fox Hollow Road. The initial traffic stop involved a man and woman in a pick-up truck. During the stop, investigators say the driver intentionally rammed the officer's patrol vehicle and fled the scene. Other police units joined the pursuit, and said multiple shots were fired from the suspect vehicle at the pursuing officers. The pursuit ended in the private driveway to that residence off Fox Hollow Road, where investigators say the two left their vehicle and went into the home off Fox Hollow. Police say the residents of that home were able to safely evacuate. What followed was a SWAT response and three-and-a-half hours of crisis negotiation, with support from the Lane County Sheriff's Office, Springfield Police Department and Oregon State Police. As the suspects refused to leave the home, police used chemical munitions as they say the suspect shot at police, leading to an exchange of gunfire. Around 4 a.m., police say the male suspect surrendered and advised the female suspect was still in the home suffering from a what appeared to be a medical issue. Police who removed her from the residence say she was suffering from a possible drug overdose and hospitalized. The male suspect is identified as 31-year-old Chet Evan Raymond of Eugene. He's been jailed. Criminal charges are being prepared.; A 34-year-old Springfield woman is facing charges including DUII, Violating the Designated Speed Limit, and Driving While Uninsured. Eugene Police say they clocked her going 110 miles per hour Wednesday morning on the Beltline Highway. A member of EPD's Traffic Safety

Unit spotted the Hyundai Santa Fe allegedly being driven by the suspect, Kayla Deneice Nice, at about quarter 'til eleven, heading west near the Northwest Expressway. As he activated the emergency lights on his motorcycle, the officer said the driver took the Prairie Road exit, headed south, and abruptly cut off another vehicle turning into the driveway of a nearby business, nearly causing a collision. Police say the driver stopped the vehicle and started to get out moments later but was directed by the officer to remain seated and he detected possible intoxication. Just last week, Eugene Police said they'd embarked on a safety campaign on the Beltline, using new speed-detection devices fully funded through a federal grant—and had issued numerous citations to drivers traveling well above 80 miles per hour, including some going more than 100 miles per hour. Depending on your speed, fines can be more than \$1,000 and you might even have your driving privileges suspended. / SAFETY, HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH: Sunday morning at 6:30 a.m. on Community Forum, we're talking about alcohol abuse and binge drinking—and the effect it can have on your health and lifespan. Alcohol is often overlooked as a public health problem, but according to federal numbers it is America's leading preventable cause of death. Excessive drinking can lead to alcohol-caused liver or pancreas failure, alcohol poisoning, and mental and behavioral disorders tied to the use of alcohol. Excessive drinking is associated with high blood pressure, stroke and heart disease. Drinking by pregnant women can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth or birth defects. And health officials say alcohol is a factor in as many as one-third of serious falls among the elderly. Last month, the Oregon Health Authority and county public health departments launched a new awareness campaign, "Rethink the Drink," at https://www.rethinkthedrink.com/ to provide tips on making lifestyle changes and reducing alcohol dependency. We'll chat with Luis Pimental, Lane County's Alcohol Abuse Prevention Coordinator. / ILLEGAL DRUGS, HEALTH, SAFETY: Amid evidence of growing use, abuse, and overdose, Lane County Public Health has launched of a Fentanyl Awareness campaign. Dubbed "Fentanyl Aware," the goal is to save lives through education about the potentially lethal effects of the powerful illicit opioid. Law enforcement and health officials say they have seen growing evidence of fentanyl use in Lane County, including increased supply, rising calls to 911, emergency room visits, and deaths. The campaign will include information on the signs and symptoms of an overdose, how to respond. information about Narcan—which can reverse an overdose, and other community resources. Fentanyl Aware will provide the educational tools online, through social media, to school districts, healthcare providers, and community organizations. To learn more and follow the campaign, visit http://fentanylaware.com / HEALTH, LEGAL, MENTAL HEALTH: A coalition of Oregon hospital providers yesterday filed updated details in their lawsuit against the state, which alleges that some vulnerable patients are being denied critical mental health care. The suit was initially filed in federal court in Eugene by attorneys for PeaceHealth, Providence Health & Services, Legacy Health, and St. Charles Health System. The suit was originally filed in September, seeking to ensure that the Oregon Health Authority fulfills its legal obligation to provide adequate mental health treatment for civilly committed individuals. The Oregon Health Authority filed a motion late last month asking the judge to dismiss the lawsuit. The hospitals systems say the state needs to increase capacity for civilly committed patients. Leaders of the medical centers say their psychiatric beds are

full, staffing is tight, and that they don't have the resources to adequately serve patients experiencing a mental health crisis. They claim the state is using community hospitals as a warehouse for civilly committed patients, something state officials deny. / POLITICS, GOVERNMENT, HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING: Oregon Governor Tina Kotek said on her first day in office she intended to combat homelessness across the state. She declared a homeless "state of emergency," signed an executive order to increase housing construction, and proposed a \$130 million emergency investment to help unsheltered people move off the streets. Yesterday, the governor provided more detail on what she hopes state lawmakers will fund. Kotek proposes boosting construction and marshaling resources to help the people living unsheltered in Oregon. According to the most recent federal data, there are nearly 18,000 people in that situation. She says her plan would provide immediate relief to at least 1,200 unsheltered Oregonians; prevent nearly 9,000 households from becoming homeless; expand the state's shelter capacity by 600 new beds; increase sanitation services; and ensure a coordinated response across state, county, and local government. Advocates have welcomed Kotek's efforts. But advocates say that moving someone off the streets and simply giving them keys to a new unit is not enough. They say many need addiction and mental health treatment and counseling—with access to trained professionals in their living environment—to ensure they stay housed. Members of Oregon's House Republican caucus have said they want to work on bipartisan solutions to homelessness, but also have expressed wariness about new spending. Just last year, Oregon lawmakers passed a spending package that included \$400 million to address homelessness and housing. But soaring inflation, rising rents and a spiraling drug addiction crisis have meant that that money hasn't gone as far as it needs to reduce the state's homeless population. Oregon is among the five states — along with California, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Arizona — that have seen the largest increases in the number of people living outside since 2020. Its homeless population has grown by more than 3,300 people since then, a 22.5 percent increase, according to an annual report from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Oregon also has the highest drug addiction rate of any state and ranks last in access to mental health treatment, according to federal data from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Like other West Coast states, Oregon is struggling with an affordable housing crunch. Officials have estimated the state is short 110,000 housing units and needs to build more than a half-million homes over the next 20 years to keep up with demand. / GOVERNMENT, LOW-INCOME: Today is Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day. The Oregon Department of Revenue and the Oregon Department of Human Services are encouraging all workers with income in 2022 to check their Earned Income Tax Credit eligibility at https://www.irs.gov/creditsdeductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit/use-the-eitc-assistant Learn more about the tax credit and find out if you're eligible at https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc Many Oregonians miss out because they simply don't know about it, especially among those that aren't required to file taxes. The Earned Income Tax Credit is a federal and state tax credit for people making less than \$59,187 in 2022. Families may be eligible for a maximum refundable credit of \$6935 on their federal tax return, and a maximum Oregon Earned Income Credit of \$807 on their state tax return. Certain taxpayers without children might also be eligible for these

credits. Learn more about the Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit at https://www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/individuals/Pages/EIC.aspx You might qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit, even if you are not required to file. To receive the refundable credits, however, you must file a federal and state tax return. Basic qualifications for EITC include: All filing statuses are eligible, but some have specific requirements that must be met to qualify. You, your spouse, or any qualifying child must have a Social Security number to claim the federal credit. Your earned income in 2022 must be below certain limits based on your number of qualifying dependents. You may be eligible even if you do not have a qualifying child. Taxpayers can use the IRS EITC Assistant at https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit/whoqualifies-for-the-earned-income-tax-credit-eitc to check their eligibility. The assistant is available in English and Spanish. Many of the basic qualifications for the Federal EITC are the same as those for the Oregon EIC, but Oregon also allows taxpayers who use an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) to file their taxes, or have a qualifying child with an ITIN, to claim the Oregon EIC. If you have an ITIN, claim the Oregon EIC using schedule OR-EIC-ITIN. Taxpayers can visit the Earned Income Credit page of the Revenue website at https://www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/individuals/Pages/EIC.aspx for more information on the Oregon EIC, as well as more information about their eligibility. Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day is a nationwide effort to increase awareness about the Earned Income Tax Credit and free tax preparation sites. There are volunteer organizations, such as CASH Oregon and AARP, that can help you file your taxes for free or at a reduced cost. CASH Oregon provides free or low-cost, in-person and virtual tax preparation services throughout Oregon. For more information, visit www.cashoregon.org You also can dial 2-1-1 or visit the Oregon Department of Revenue website to find free tax return preparation sites by using the interactive map at

https://www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/individuals/Pages/electronic-filing.aspx\_For more information on the EITC, visit https://www.eitc.irs.gov/. For questions about Oregon taxes, call the Department of Revenue at 503-378-4988. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/30/23

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Morning News

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

RECREATION, WILDLIFE: Final reminder from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for big game hunters who purchased or were issued a deer or elk tag in 2022: You must report your hunt by the end of the day tomorrow for any hunt that ended by Dec. 31, 2022. Report online or with a licensed sale agent. New this year, hunters may also report via the MyODFW app under Outcome Reporting when their mobile device is online. Failure to report by the deadline will result in a \$25 penalty when purchasing a 2024 hunting license. On Wednesday, state officials said close to 50,000 customers still needed to report the results of their hunt on their 2022 deer and elk tags. The information helps ODFW determine harvest and hunting pressure for each hunt and is used to help set tags. As an incentive to report on time, every hunter who does is entered to win one of three special tags ODFW offers each year. Winners can choose a deer, elk or pronghorn tag that is valid statewide during a four-month season, similar to auction and raffle tags which people can pay thousands for. / ECONOYM, TRANSPORTATION: Gasoline prices have been inching higher the past couple of weeks. Analysts with automobile club AAA say winter storms at the end of the year contributed to tighter supplies. And with the return of milder weather, more drivers are getting behind the wheel. This morning in Eugene-Springfield, a gallon of regular gas is averaging \$3.66, up seven cents from this time last week. But it's still 26 cents cheaper than it was 12 months ago. Things are different for drivers of diesel vehicles. Diesel prices are averaging \$4.62 across the metro area this morning. That's 11 cents per gallon more than last week and 47 cents higher than one year ago. / CRIME, RACISM: Four white men with white supremacist ties have been sentenced in federal court in Seattle for an assault on a Black DJ in the suburb of Lynnwood. All four were convicted of committing a hate crime and making false statements. One was from Lane County. The Daily Herald Randy Smith of Eugene received a three-and-a-half-year sentence. Daniel Dorson of Corvallis got two-and-one-half years. They were also ordered to pay restitution. Tyrone Smith spoke publicly outside the courthouse saying the defendants' actions changed him from an outgoing person to someone who struggles with anxiety and uses a cane. / GROWTH, FORESTRY, BUSINESS: In Oregon, mass timber is increasingly being viewed as a construction material that could help the state build more affordable homes and revive rural logging towns. Mass timber is made from wood products that are fastened together to make large panels or beams. A new prototype of an affordable mass timber housing unit was unveiled

at the Port of Portland on Friday. The Oregon Mass Timber Coalition aims to open a factory at the port that could mass produce homes. The coalition says the increase in production would help alleviate the state's housing shortage. Some environmental groups say the material could lead to deforestation. / SPORTS: Los Angeles Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert had surgery on his nonthrowing shoulder last week, but he is expected to be ready for the offseason program in the spring. The team announced on Sunday that the former Oregon quarterback had surgery on the labrum in his left shoulder on Jan. 25. The Chargers' offseason program will begin in mid-April. / POLITICS, LEGAL, HEALTH: Across the U.S. Friday and Saturday, crowds gathered for the 50th annual "March for Life." The events, organized by anti-abortion activists, were the first since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned "Roe v. Wade," the ruling that legalized the procedure nationwide over the past half-century. Rally attendees heard from speakers who emphasized there is more to be done, especially in states where the procedure remains legal. And many urged anti-abortion advocates to step up support to women who now must continue their pregnancies. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 01/31/23

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT: Members of the Eugene City Council last night approved purchasing the former riverfront headquarters property of the Eugene Water and Electric Board for use as a new City Hall. It came on a 7-1 vote. The intent is to provide a new home for Eugene's city hall while keeping the parcel in public ownership and maintaining access to the riverfront. The 4.4-acre parcel contains two buildings and their adjacent parking lots. The purchase price: \$12 million. In recent years, the site had been the subject to much speculation about whether it could serve as a new city hall—especially after the city demolished its old City Hall. City services have operated out of a handful of locations around downtown and the city council has borrowed space at the Lane County Courthouse for its meetings. City of Eugene officials said earlier this month they had some funds set aside for the purchase. Officials say they're still working to determine which departments and offices will move to the new location. They say the moves into the new City Hall will take place in phases. EWEB officials said earlier they will maintain a reduced customer service office at the site. Most of the utility's operations and personnel now work out of West Eugene, at EWEB's facility off Roosevelt Boulevard. The EWEB location has long drawn the interest of private developers. Earlier this month, leaders of the Eugene School District said they were preparing a bid to acquire and convert the location. They envisioned expanded space for administrative operations, a multicultural center, community food hall, and possible childcare offerings. / CRIME: The FBI and multiple agencies have joined the search in Southern Oregon for the man wanted after last week's violent kidnapping. 36-year-old Benjamin Obadiah Foster is being sought after a woman was found unconscious and bound in Grants Pass on January 24. She was hospitalized in critical condition and has not regained consciousness since then. Officials say Foster narrowly eluded a police raid Thursday in the nearby unincorporated community of Wolf Creek. They add he might have changed his appearance by shaving his beard and hair or changing his hair color. Police offered a \$2,500 reward Friday for information leading to Foster's arrest and prosecution. Grants Pass police announced Friday that Foster was using online dating applications to contact unsuspecting people to lure them assisting with his escape or to potentially find new victims. On Monday, they said Monday that investigators no longer believe Foster was trying to find more victims but could have been seeking an unwitting person to help him avoid the intensive police manhunt. Before moving to Oregon, Foster held his then-girlfriend captive

inside her Las Vegas apartment for two weeks before she managed to escape in October 2019. Police said the woman suffered seven broken ribs, two black eyes and had been choked to the point of unconsciousness during her captivity. And officials in Nevada now say he was released from prison in October 2021—the same day he was transferred to that state's custody to serve a kidnapping sentence. Foster originally faced decades in prison in Nevada after he was charged in 2019 with five felonies, including assault and battery. But a deal with prosecutors allowed him to instead plead guilty to felony and misdemeanor battery, a judge sentenced him to a lesser prison term, and he was released the same day on time already served. / PANDEMIC, HEALTH, GOVERNMENT, POLITICS: They were first declared three years ago today, at the start of the pandemic. President Joe Biden informed Congress on Monday that he will end the national emergency and public health emergency declarations for addressing COVID-19 on May 11. The move would formally restructure the federal coronavirus response to treat the virus as a continuing, endemic threat to public health that can be managed through agencies' normal authority. Congressional lawmakers have already ended elements of the emergencies that kept millions of Americans insured during the pandemic. Combined with the drawdown of most federal COVID-19 relief money, it would also shift the development of vaccines and treatments away from the direct management of the federal government. Biden's announcement comes in a statement opposing resolutions being brought to the floor this week by House Republicans to bring the emergency to an immediate end. House Republicans are also gearing up to launch investigations on the federal government's response to COVID-19. Administration officials say an abrupt end to the emergency declarations would create wide-ranging chaos and uncertainty throughout the health care system — for states, for hospitals and doctors' offices, and for tens of millions of Americans. Congress has already blunted the reach of the public health emergency that had the most direct impact on Americans, as political calls to end the declaration intensified. Lawmakers have refused for months to fulfill the Biden administration's request for billions more dollars to extend free COVID vaccines and testing. And the \$1.7 trillion spending package passed last year and signed into law by Biden put an end to a rule that prohibited states from kicking people off Medicaid, a move that is expected to see millions of people lose their coverage after April 1. Still, some things will change for Americans once the emergency expires. The costs of COVID-19 vaccines are also expected to skyrocket once the government stops buying them, with Pfizer saying it will charge as much as \$130 per dose. Only 15 percent of Americans have received the recommended, updated booster that has been offered since last fall. People with private insurance could have some out-ofpocket costs for vaccines, especially if they go to an out-of-network provider. Free at-home COVID tests will also come to an end. And hospitals will not get extra payments for treating COVID patients. Legislators did extend for another two years telehealth flexibilities that were introduced as COVID-19 hit, leading health care systems around the country to regularly deliver care by smartphone or computer. The Biden administration had previously considered ending the emergency last year, but held off amid concerns about a potential "winter surge" in cases and to provide adequate time for providers, insurers, and patients to prepare for its end. Case counts have trended downward after a slight bump over the winter holidays, and are significantly below levels seen over the last two

winters — though the number of tests performed for the virus and reported to public health officials has sharply decreased. More than 1.1 million people in the U.S. have died from COVID-19 since 2020, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including about 3,700 last week. On Monday, the World Health Organization said the coronavirus remains a global health emergency, even as a key advisory panel for the group found the pandemic may be nearing an "inflexion point" where higher levels of immunity can lower virus-related deaths. China, for example, reported an unprecedented surge in December after lifting most of its COVID-19 restrictions. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/01/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, MENTAL HEALTH, HEALTH, ILLEGAL DRUGS, EDUCATION, FAMILIES: Oregon's Governor Tina Kotek plans to ask lawmakers to allocate more than \$1 billion to housing and hundreds of millions more to mental health and education. Kotek unveiled her strategy for tackling the state's most pressing crises in a budget proposal released Tuesday. Analysts say Oregon would need 110,000 to add housing units in the coming years to help combat one of the nation's highest rates of homelessness and drug addiction. Kotek says those twin crises are overwhelming service providers, the criminal justice system, and the state's beleaquered psychiatric hospital. Kotek says she's proposing the state take a bigger role on housing and homelessness to disrupt the flow of at-risk Oregonians who move from homelessness to jail or the state hospital. Kotek is asking the Oregon Legislature to act as quickly as possible to immediately fund 600 new shelter beds and provide rental assistance for tenants and landlords to stem evictions. She says the biggest challenge in drafting her proposed budget is determining how to keep programs afloat with \$3.5 billion in one-time federal funding that is set to expire as the national COVID-19 emergency winds down. It was federal relief money, along with higher-thanexpected revenue growth, that helped state governments including Oregon build historic cash surpluses during the pandemic. Fiscal analysts expect the state to have a \$4 billion surplus at the end of the current budget cycle. But they have also forecast a mild recession this year that threatens to flip the surplus into a \$560 million budget deficit during the next two years. Because of that, Kotek says her budget would not tap into \$2 billion currently set aside in the state's reserve funds; instead, it would redirect \$765 million that was set to be deposited into the reserve toward her priorities. The governor says her proposed budget would not raise new taxes. But it does assume that lawmakers will pass a bill that would create a monthly cell phone tax to fund the new national 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at the state level. Republicans in Oregon's House of Representatives said they were "optimistic" that the budget wouldn't increase taxes. But they also expressed concern about whether spending would be equitably distributed across urban and rural communities. Some Republican lawmakers have criticized an executive order that Kotek signed on her first full day in office earlier this month pronouncing a homeless state of emergency. The order only declares an emergency in parts of the state where unsheltered homelessness has increased by at least 50 percent since 2017, a threshold that leaves out some rural areas.

The bulk of the proposed \$1 billion in housing money would fund the construction and preservation of affordable housing. About \$770 million in general obligation bonds would go toward building more units for renters and new homeowners and \$118 million in lottery and general fund money toward keeping existing affordable homes on the market. Highlighting the intersection of the homeless, mental health and criminal justice crises, Kotek has asked that \$50 million be allocated to the understaffed Oregon State Hospital, which is at overcapacity. The majority of patients in the public psychiatric hospital are people charged with crimes who have been sent there by a judge to receive treatment aimed at helping them participate in their own defense. Of those so-called aid and assist patients, 60 percent were homeless prior to their arrest, Kotek said in her budget request. Kotek also sees boosting the capacity at local mental health and addiction treatment centers as a way to unload some of the burden on the state hospital. Oregon has grappled with its approach toward drug use. In 2020 it became the first state in the nation to decriminalize small possessions of hard drugs after voters approved Ballot Measure 110. The measure was supposed to channel hundreds of millions of dollars of cannabis tax revenues into drug treatment and harm reduction programs, but a recent audit found that money has been slow to get out the door. In the meantime, overdose deaths fueled by meth and opioids have continued to rise. Kotek's proposed budget would direct nearly \$280 million toward addiction treatment, overdose prevention and peer support services, drawing from Measure 110 money and federal Medicaid funding. Education and early learning are other funding priorities for Kotek. Math and language test scores plummeted in Oregon because of the pandemic, and every county in the state is considered a "childcare desert" for infants and toddlers, meaning the number of children needing care outnumbers available slots by at least 3-to-1. Kotek's budget also would invest \$100 million in literacy programs aimed at helping children learn how to read, and a similar amount in expanding and creating more child care and preschool facilities. More than \$60 million would help provide a living wage to childcare workers, who often cite low pay and lack of benefits as reasons for leaving the sector or not entering into it. Universities, however, say the budget's proposed funding for higher education is insufficient. A statement issued by the presidents of Oregon's eight public universities say more funding is needed to maintain essential programs and related services for an increasingly diverse student body, and to soften the impact of inflation on students and their families. Kotek acknowledges that her budget will not finance major capital improvement projects that universities have requested, because the bulk of the state's general obligation bonds instead would be spent on housing. The Legislature will review and finalize a new state budget ahead of the next twoyear budget cycle, which begins in July. / CRIME: A suspect in a violent kidnapping in Southern Oregon is dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Grants Pass Police say 36-year-old Benjamin Obadiah Foster died Tuesday night at a hospital, hours after he was taken into custody in Grants Pass. Officials say Foster was spotted yesterday morning in the Grants Pass area walking a dog, but later barricaded himself under a house as officers from four agencies focused on the area and attempted to secure his surrender. Investigators had received a tip that Foster had entered the home where a woman was found unconscious, bound, and near death more than one week ago. She was hospitalized in critical condition. Last Thursday, law enforcement raided a property in the

unincorporated community of Wolf Creek, but Foster, who had been staying on family property there, slipped away. Forested mountains surround the community, but investigators believe that instead of disappearing solo into the wilderness, Foster had help getting out of the area. / SAFETY, HEALTH: Conagra, which produces Vienna sausages and potted meats for several major labels and grocery chains, is recalling 2,581,816 pounds of canned meat and poultry products. Conagra's recall notice says it's due to a packaging defect that may cause the products to become contaminated without showing any outward signs of contamination. / CRIME: The Lane County Sheriff's office on Monday evening arrested a Mapleton man and charged him in connection with striking his father on the head with a frying pan and a replica firearm. It came after callers alerted deputies to the dispute in a Mapleton residence. 23-year-old Steen Joseph Hardt was arrested for Second-Degree Assault and Unlawful Use of a Weapon. Deputies say the victim had a laceration on his head and was taken to a hospital for treatment. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Hundreds of cities and counties across the U.S. will receive a share of over \$800 million in federal grants to improve the safety of streets and intersections, under funding announced by U.S. Department of Transportation. The competitive grants include money for the City of Portland, to help rework a busy arterial on the east side of town that has seen frequent vehicle-versus-pedestrian fatalities. The grants are the first under the Safe Streets and Roads for All program, which ultimately will provide \$5 billion over five years. The program was part of the federal infrastructure law passed by Congress and signed by President Joe Biden in 2021. Grants generally are intended to promote safety for multiple roadway users, including motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. / GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, YOUTH, SAFETY, EDUCATION: The Justice Department has been scrutinizing a controversial artificial intelligence tool used by a Pittsburgh-area child protective services agency following concerns that it could result in discrimination against families with disabilities. Amid those concerns, the state of Oregon recently stopped using a similar tool. The interest from federal civil rights attorneys comes after an AP investigation revealed potential bias and transparency issues about the opaque algorithm. The Allegheny Family Screening Tool is designed to assess a family's risk level when they are reported for child welfare concerns. The AP obtained records showing hundreds of specific variables that are used to calculate the risk scores for families who are reported to child protective services, including the public data that powers the Allegheny algorithm and similar tools deployed in child welfare systems elsewhere in the U.S. The AP's analysis of Allegheny's algorithm and those inspired by it in Oregon, Los Angeles County, California, Douglas County, and Colorado, reveals a range of controversial data points that have measured people with low incomes and other disadvantaged demographics. At times, the algorithm measures families based on their race, zip code, disabilities, and their use of public welfare benefits. Since the AP's investigation published, Oregon dropped its algorithm due to racial equity concerns. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy has emphasized that parents and social workers need more transparency about how government agencies are deploying algorithms as part of the nation's first "Al Bill of Rights." /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/02/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ECONOMY: If you borrow money to make a large purchase, such as a home, car, or large appliance, you'll likely take a financial hit. You'll also see increase monthly payments and costs if you're already paying interest on credit card debt. The Federal Reserve raised its key interest rate by a quarter point Wednesday. The rate is now at its highest level in 15 years, part of the Fed's effort to ease inflation by making borrowing more expensive. But if you're a saver, your money might earn a little more. The latest rate increase is smaller than the Fed's halfpoint rate hike in December and its four straight three-quarter-point increases earlier last year. The slowdown in the Fed hikes is an acknowledgement that inflation, while still high, is easing, and some parts of the economy appear to be cooling. But it's still an increase, to a range of 4.5 percent to 4.75 percent. And many economists say they still fear that a recession remains possible — and with it, job losses that could cause hardship for households already hurt by inflation. Fed Chair Jerome Powell has acknowledged in the past that aggressively raising rates would bring "some pain" for households but said that doing so is necessary to crush high inflation. / CRIME: Police in Southern Oregon say the suspect in a violent kidnapping killed two men before being cornered by officers and fatally shooting himself. Thirty-six-year-old Benjamin Obadiah Foster died at a hospital Tuesday night, hours after he shot himself while hiding in a crawlspace underneath a house in Grants Pass. Police said it appears the two men, who shared a residence in the unincorporated community of Sunny Valley, did not know Foster. They say Foster also stole some of the victims' belongings, including their dog. Foster was seen walking a dog Tuesday in Grants Pass, according to police. Foster had been the subject of a manhunt after a woman was found unconscious, bound and near death in a house in Grants Pass on January 24. Authorities say Foster tortured the woman, who remained hospitalized in critical condition on Wednesday. Authorities converged on the neighborhood with rifles and at least one armored vehicle and searched the house where they had found the woman the previous week. Officers didn't initially find anyone, but then they sent a sheriff's department robot into the crawlspace and found signs Foster was hiding there. His presence was confirmed by a camera. The officers expected a gunfight, but instead say Foster shot himself in the head. Foster was said to be unconscious and still holding a .45-caliber pistol while wedged under the house, and officers had to remove floorboards to extract him. The fugitive had narrowly eluded a raid last Thursday in the unincorporated community of Wolf

Creek, and police warned the public the next day that he was using dating apps to find people who could help him avoid authorities. In 2019, before moving to Oregon, Foster held his then-girlfriend captive inside her Las Vegas apartment for two weeks. He reached a plea deal with Clark County prosecutors in August 2021 and was released the day he was transferred to a Nevada prison. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: City of Eugene planners are working to turn traffic-intensive Franklin Boulevard into a safer and more pleasant thoroughfare. This afternoon from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., they're holding a drop-in open house to provide an update on design options and get your input. Food and drink will be available, along with kid-friendly activities. The event will be held both in-person and virtually. / ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE, CHARITABLE, COMMUNITY: It lies at the base of Mt. Pisgah, where the Coast and Middle Forks merge to form the mainstem of the Willamette River. After a decade of habitat restoration, The Nature Conservancy has completed the transfer of the 1,300-acre Willamette Confluence Preserve to the McKenzie River Trust. During the last century, the confluence was a rich source of gravel and other aggregate that helped build roads and buildings across Eugene-Springfield. In 2010, The Nature Conservancy purchased the property from Wildish Sand and Gravel Company with financial support from the Bonneville Power Administration, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Since then, the Nature Conservancy staff and volunteers have restored the site, reconnected it the Willamette, and improved water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. As it takes over management of the property, the McKenzie River Trust will work with tribes, state and federal agencies, local watershed councils, and others to further protect and restore the Willamette Confluence. / SPORTS: The U.S. Justice Department has asked a federal appeals court to narrowly consider Major League Baseball's antitrust exemption, a filing made in a case involving four eliminated minor league teams—one from Oregon—that are hoping to end the sport's century-old legal protection. Major League Baseball cut the minimum guaranteed minor league affiliation agreements from 160 to 120 in September 2020 and took over running the minors from the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, which had been in charge since 1901. The parent companies of the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes were among those who sued MLB in December 2021, alleging an antitrust violation that artificially reduced and capped markets for Minor League teams that affiliated with Major League clubs. A judge rejected their filing. An appeal in another federal court was also dismissed, leading to the teams to turn to the U.S. Supreme Court. The high court granted baseball an antitrust exemption in the Federal League case when Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote that baseball was not interstate commerce, but exhibitions exempt from antitrust laws. The decision was reaffirmed in 1953 and again in 1972, as justices opined that any changes should come from Congress. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/03/23

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Morning News

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, RECREATION: It is a potentially deadly obstruction on the McKenzie River, just below the popular Olallie Boat Launch. The Lane County Sheriff's Office vesterday warned that a tree has fallen across the river, completely blocking the channel. The McKenzie is not safely navigable on that stretch. The obstruction is approximately one-quarter of a mile downstream from the Olallie boat launch. See details on that and other river obstructions and safety hazards across Oregon on the State Marine Board website at www.oregon.gov/osmb / RECREATION, HEALTH: Recreational crabbing is open along the entire Oregon coast. Recreational crabbing is now open from the Washington border to the California border. This includes the ocean, bays and estuaries, and on beaches, docks, piers and jetties. The Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife made the announcement this week. The agency experts always recommended that any crab you catch be eviscerated and the guts removed prior to cooking, which includes the removing and discarding the viscera, internal organs and gills. That helps reduce the risk the presence of small amounts of naturally occurring biotoxins. Such toxins cannot be removed by cooking, freezing or any other treatment. State officials test crab regularly for biotoxins. Crab and shellfish products being sold in retail markets and restaurants remain plentiful and safe for consumers. For more information call Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) shellfish biotoxin safety hotline at (800) 448-2474, the Food Safety Division at (503) 986-4720. / HEALTH, SAFETY: The Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have issued warnings and asked people to stop using some over-the-counter eye drops. The EzriCare Artificial Tears have been linked to a series of drug-resistant infections. By Wednesday evening, there were 55 reported cases in 12 states including a handful of people who suffered permanent vision loss—and one death in Washington state. Health investigators say the infections appear linked to use of EzriCare Artificial Tears. See the FDA and CDC warnings about EzriCare Artificial Tears at https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fdawarns-consumers-not-purchase-or-use-ezricare-artificial-tears-due-potentialcontamination and https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2023/han00485.asp See the company's advisory at https://ezricare-info.com/ The product is a lubricant used to treat eye irritation and dryness and were made in India. Officials say eye drops can cause infections in the blood or lungs because the eye connects to the nasal cavity through the tear ducts. Bacteria can move from the nasal cavity into the

lungs. Also, CDC officials say bacteria in these parts of the body can seed infections at other sites such as in the blood or wounds. The Food and Drug Administration said the company recalled unexpired lots of EzriCare Artificial Tears and another product, Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears. The FDA recommended the recall based on manufacturing problems including lack of testing and proper controls on packaging. The agency also blocked import into the United States. The infections were caused by a bacteria called Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Investigators detected it in open EzriCare bottles, but further testing was underway. EzriCare officials say they are not aware of any evidence definitively linking the outbreak to the product, but that it has stopped distributing the eye drops. Infections were diagnosed in patients in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin. The person who died from a blood infection was in Washington state. / LEGAL, GOVERNMENT, HOUSING: A Lane County judge this week tossed out the City of Eugene's limit on rental application screening fees, saying it is in conflict with state law. The Register-Guard reports that Lane County Circuit Court Judge Erin Fennerty wrote enforcement of the \$10 fee cap "ultimately defeats the purpose of (the) applicant screening charge, as a landlord cannot recoup its average actual costs" as required under the Oregon Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. Reporter Megan Banta notes that Eugene officials passed the cap on application and screening fees in July as part of a first slate of renter protections, which the City Council is considering in three phases. Thorin Property and Jennings Group sued in November, describing the limit as "arbitrary" and arguing it violates state law. They said application screening "typically costs four to five times" the \$10 cap. The lawsuit did not address four other protections passed in the first phase. The Register-Guard reports that Judge Fennerty ruled in the property management company's favor, writing that state law allowing landlords to charge for the actual cost of the background checks supersedes the city's ordinance. Darren Stone, the principal at Jennings Group, said landlords hope the council will invite them to the table "in a meaningful way" to help craft renter protections that work for tenants and landlords. "Participation though public comment at council meetings is insufficient," Stone said in an emailed statement. "Participating through litigation is a poor use of everyone's resources, and does nothing to address the challenges renters face in our community." A spokesperson for Eugene said the city was reviewing Fennerty's decision. The Springfield Eugene Tenant Association, which supported the cap on fees and other protections, also had not yet responded to a request for comment. / LOW-INCOME, CHARITABLE: Sunday morning at 6:30 p.m. on Community Forum, we chat with officials from FOOD for Lane County, our local foodbank, about the surge in requests for assistance. Inflation has hit lower-income households hard. The local food bank and its partners who operate distribution pantries have seen demand climb since the middle of last year. Requests for emergency food assistance are expected to increase in March, after the federal government ends the additional emergency SNAP benefits that began in early 2020 during the start of the pandemic. Some SNAP households could see their benefits drop by up to \$95 per month. Last month alone, the state distributed \$71 million dollars in pandemic-related emergency SNAP benefits to close to 421,000 households. The end of the emergency supplemental assistance in March will have a ripple effect, as those

benefits were spent at local grocery stores and farmers' markets, boosting the economy, and supporting small businesses and food producers. / EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT: The oldest building on the Bushnell University campus in Eugene is set to receive a modern upgrade. Goodrich Hall, off East 11th Avenue, was constructed in 1908. Now, officials say an \$800,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and a matching gift from an alumnus will pay for construction of the four-story Goodrich Hall Tower. The expansion will provide will add an elevator to the historic building to make it more accessible, along with bathrooms on each floor, update classrooms, and reconfigure administrative offices. Bushnell, a private religious college, opened its doors in Eugene in 1895. / MILITARY: Close to 120 soldiers with the Oregon Army National Guard are demobilizing Saturday at Camp Withycombe, southeast of Portland, after a yearlong deployment to Poland. The soldiers are assigned to Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron of the 82nd Cavalry Regiment. Their deployment came as tensions soared during Russia's invasion of nearby Ukraine. During previous deployments, the 82nd Cavalry served in Iraq in 2009 and later in Afghanistan in 2014 as part of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team. The demobilization ceremony will be livestreamed on YouTube at

https://www.youtube.com/live/ubB\_dHG1nBs?feature=share\_The gathering also will recognize the sacrifice and support from loved ones, family, friends, coworkers, and employers, who helped make the mission a success. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/06/23

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Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, HEALTH: The debate over whether to ban the use of natural gas connections and natural gas-fueled appliances in new construction is on the agenda this evening during a special meeting of the Eugene City Council. Council members will consider whether to refer a measure to voters that would ban new natural gas infrastructure in low-rise residential buildings. Those include single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes, quads, cottage clusters—basically any residential structure that is three-stories or less. The council held public hearings on the proposal in November and December. A handful of local governments have moved to ban new buildings from using natural gas, including San Francisco and Berkeley, California. It comes amid a growing national debate about how much such appliances contribute to global warming and household health issues. Industry officials say banning gas stoves, heaters, and other household appliances is not a practical response. They say any methane emissions are tiny, and that any household health concerns can be addressed through improved ventilation, such as using vents or opening doors and windows. / EDUCATION, HEALTH: Have a child who is school- or childcare-aged and still needs to get some required vaccinations ahead of this year's Exclusion Day? Lane County Public Health's Communicable Disease Program is hosting a 2-day, walk-in immunization clinic on Tuesday, February 14, and Wednesday, February 15. The clinic will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days, at the Lane County Health & Human Services Building at 7th and Charnelton Streets in Eugene. The cost of the vaccines is covered through the Vaccine for Children program. Youngsters also may receive their required immunizations from their private provider, at participating pharmacies, or at a school-based health clinic. Under state law, all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified childcare facilities must have up-todate documentation on their immunizations or must have an exemption. Health experts say such immunizations are the best way to protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases such as whooping cough and measles. Every year, Lane County Public Health officials review more than 50,000 records to ensure children's immunizations are up to date. For those children whose immunization record is incomplete, a letter is sent out to their parents asking them to schedule the required immunizations for their child. Public health officials say they know that it can be challenging for parents to find the time to schedule their child's immunizations. They hope the clinics will make it easier. This year, Lane County

Public Health sent out more than 1,650 letters. That was down from 2,300 the previous school year. The decrease is encouraging to public health officials but also highlights areas for improvement. Analysts say there appear to be more children between the ages of two and five who are not receiving all of the vaccines. Officials speculate the youngsters missed key "well child" checks with their primary care providers when they were between the ages of 12 and 18 months and need to be brought up to date. Public health experts say that while it is easy to think of a child's immunizations only as part of that individual child's health care, the vaccines also protect the health of their classmates and of the entire community. They say in the cases of diseases such as pertussis, mumps, measles, rubella, and others, a 94 percent vaccination rate is needed to achieve what's known as "community immunity" and protect against widespread outbreaks. While some parents choose to exempt their child from required immunizations, those children still might be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak. / FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT, DISASTERS, CLIMATE, WEATHER, EDUCATION: It's been a tough couple of summers for trees across the Pacific Northwest. Prolonged heat and drought, wildfires, and invasive insects all have taken a toll. And after multiple days of record-setting, triple-digit temperatures in June 2021, more trees began showing signs of what is known as "tree scorch." Researchers at Oregon State University have taken a closer look at the phenomenon, determining the damage was more attributable to the extreme heat then the continued drought. A team led by Christopher Still of the OSU College of Forestry cites evidence including leaf discoloration and damage that are consistent with direct exposure to solar radiation during the hottest afternoons of the "heat dome" that for long days covered the Northwest. They say the drought was certainly a contributing factor, but it's still the blast furnace of the summer heat dome that did the most immediate damage. The authors point to the level of damage among coastal Douglas-fir and western hemlock plantations in western Oregon and Washington state, where there was plenty of scorch but comparatively low levels of drought. The scientists note the heat dome was one of the most extreme heat waves ever recorded anywhere in the world and the most intense ever in the Northwest. And they say it also hit many forests around Oregon's Willamette Valley and along the western slopes of the Cascade Range that already were experiencing severe to exceptional drought. TRANSPORTATION: Lane Transit District on Sunday reduced service on 12 of its bus routes and has adjustments to its weekday EmX service between Eugene and Springfield. While passenger boardings have recovered somewhat since the start of the pandemic, they remain at 70 percent of pre-pandemic levels. As is the case with many other businesses and organizations, LTD also has struggled to hire enough people to fill all available openings. Check the Lane Transit Riders Guide, website, and app for updated bus routes and schedules. / CRIME: Police in Oregon have arrested a Canadian man who allegedly stole a yacht and had to be rescued by a Coast Guard swimmer. He was wanted in what authorities call a series of "odd" events that involved him leaving a dead fish in Astoria at the home featured in the film "The Goonies." Police on Friday identified the man as 35-yearold Jericho Labonte of Victoria, British Columbia. They say he was treated at a hospital but released Friday before authorities realized he was wanted in the dead fish incident. Police in Seaside found him at a homeless shelter Friday night and took him into custody. / MILITARY, FAMILIES: It was a gathering that recognized

their service—but also the sacrifice and support from loved ones, family, friends, co-workers, and employers. Close to 120 soldiers with the Oregon Army National Guard on Saturday held a demobilization ceremony at Camp Withycombe, southeast of Portland. They have returned from a yearlong deployment to Poland. The soldiers are assigned to Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron of the 82nd Cavalry Regiment. Their deployment came as tensions soared during Russia's invasion of nearby Ukraine. During previous deployments, the 82nd Cavalry served in Iraq in 2009 and later in Afghanistan in 2014 as part of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, HEALTH: A divided Eugene City Council last night approved a ban on natural gas, fuel oil and other fossil fuel infrastructure in new low-rise residential construction within the city limits. It is part of an effort by the city to reduce the use of fossil fuels. The 5-3 decision came after months of debate. In the new ordinance, fossil fuel infrastructure is defined as, "natural gas piping, fuel oil piping, or other fossil fuel piping or conveyance system within a building, that connects a source of supply to a fossil-fuel burning appliance." Low-rise residential buildings include singlefamily homes, duplexes, triplexes, quads, cottage clusters—basically any residential structure that is three-stories or less. The council held public hearings on the proposal in November and December. Some council members argued Eugene voters should make the final decision. But an effort to refer the matter to May's ballot failed on a 3-5 vote. The ordinance prohibits fossil fuel infrastructure in new low-rise residential buildings; and adding sections 6.695 and 6.696 to the Eugene Code, 1971. A handful of local governments have moved to ban new buildings from using natural gas, including San Francisco and Berkeley, California. It comes amid a growing national debate about how much such fuels contribute to global warming and household health issues. Industry officials say banning gas stoves, heaters, and other household appliances is not a practical response. They say any methane emissions are tiny, and that any household health concerns can be addressed through improved ventilation, such as using vents or opening doors and windows./ EDCUATION, SPORTS: High school, junior varsity, freshman, and middle school sports are a big part of student life and key element in the development of many young people. Students learn to work as a team, manage success and setbacks, and they get some important exercise. But without officials to run the games, you don't have those sorts of youth sports. The Oregon School Activities Association or OSAA is recruiting men and women to become certified high school officials for the spring sports season—particularly umpires for baseball and softball. It can be a rewarding parttime position that includes a game and travel stipend. The OSAA is looking for candidates with good character and a good attitude. The organization offers training in everything from the basic rules to dealing with reactions from coaches, parents, and players. New officials are partnered with experienced officials. In years past, the OSAA has trained students from related degree fields at the University of Oregon and Lane Community College as officials for youth sports.

Demand for new officials is high: occasionally, games at lower levels have been postponed for lack of umpires and referees. / EDUCATION, HEALTH: Have a child who is school- or childcare-aged and still needs to get some required vaccinations ahead of this year's Exclusion Day? Lane County Public Health's Communicable Disease Program is hosting a 2-day, walk-in immunization clinic on Tuesday, February 14, and Wednesday, February 15. The clinic will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days, at the Lane County Health & Human Services Building at 7th and Charnelton Streets in Eugene. The cost of the vaccines is covered through the Vaccine for Children program. Youngsters also may receive their required immunizations from their private provider, at participating pharmacies, or at a school-based health clinic. Under state law, all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified childcare facilities must have up-to-date documentation on their immunizations or must have an exemption. Health experts say such immunizations are the best way to protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases such as whooping cough and measles. Every year, Lane County Public Health officials review more than 50,000 records to ensure children's immunizations are up to date. For those children whose immunization record is incomplete, a letter is sent out to their parents asking them to schedule the required immunizations for their child. Public health officials say they know that it can be challenging for parents to schedule their child's immunizations and hope the clinics make it easier. This year, Lane County Public Health sent out more than 1,650 letters. That was down from 2,300 the previous school year. The decrease is encouraging to public health officials but also highlights areas for improvement. Analysts say there appear to be more children between the ages of two and five who are not receiving all of the vaccines. Officials speculate the youngsters missed key "well child" checks with their primary care providers when they were between the ages of 12 and 18 months and need to be brought up to date. Public health experts say that while it is easy to think of a child's immunizations only as part of that individual child's health care, the vaccines also protect the health of their classmates and of the entire community. They say in the cases of diseases such as pertussis, mumps, measles, rubella, and others, a 94 percent vaccination rate is needed to achieve what's known as "community immunity" and protect against widespread outbreaks. While some parents choose to exempt their child from required immunizations, those children still might be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak. / SPORTS, WOMEN: WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert was the guest of Democratic Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon at an event Monday to demonstrate community support for an expansion team in Portland. Among those trying to persuade the commissioner that Portland would be a good fit were Oregon women's coach Kelly Graves, Oregon State women's coach Scott Rueck and representatives from the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers and the Portland Thorns of the National Women's Soccer League. Portland previously had a WNBA team, the Portland Fire, which played three seasons before folding in 2002. The late Paul Allen, owner of the Blazers, declined to buy the Fire when the NBA sold ownership of WNBA franchises. The WNBA was launched in 1997 with eight teams. The most recent expansion team was the Atlanta Dream, which began playing in 2008. Engelbert said last year her hope was to expand by two more teams to start in 2025 at the latest. Among the other cities considered candidates for a new franchise are Toronto, Philadelphia, San Francisco and

Nashville, Tennessee. The Chicago Sky and Minnesota Lynx will play a preseason game in Toronto on May 13. Monday's event was hosted by The Sports Bra, hailed as the country's first sports bar dedicated solely to women's sports. Owner Jenny Nguyen hosted the event. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: Not much change in local gasoline prices so far this month. This morning in Eugene-Springfield, the average price at the pump is \$3.66 per gallon, about where it was last week. Diesel prices are up a penny, to \$4.65. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/08/23

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ELECTIONS, LAW ENFORCEMENT: They say it would not increase the tax rate but would continue to provide expanded services. Members of the Lane County Board of Commissioners vesterday voted unanimously to ask for a renewal of the county's public safety levy on the May 16 ballot. Officials say renewal of the measure would maintain a minimum 255 local jail beds. They say it also would provide the sheriff greater capacity to hold those arrested for violent felonies or Measure 11 offenses until their cases are resolved instead of releasing them due to lack of space. The original levy took effect in 2013. County officials say renewal of the levy also would: maintain investment in medical mental health services within the Lane County Jail to help those in custody make positive improvements and build life skills to reduce recidivism; and continue to provide counseling, secure treatment and detention services for youth offenders. In Youth Services, the public safety levy funds 8 of 16 youth detention beds and 8 of 15 Phoenix Treatment Program beds. Officials say the public safety levy provides 52 percent of the operational funding for the Lane County Jail. The estimated tax rate for this levy is \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The median Lane County homeowner is estimated to pay an average of \$9.83 per month for five years. Levy funds are placed in a restricted fund earmarked for the Lane County Jail and Youth Services. An annual independent financial audit of levy spending is required and presented publicly. Prior to the passage of the original public safety levy in May 2013, the Lane County Jail had only 125 beds for local offenders – a fraction of the recommended number for a jurisdiction the size of Lane County. The Sheriff's Office, which operates the Lane County Jail, was also forced to release more than 5,000 defendants and offenders from the Lane County Jail in fiscal year 2012-13 due to lack of capacity. The public safety levy was created to decrease the number of capacity-based releases for adult offenders and to increase youth treatment services for youth in detention or in residential treatment at Lane County Youth Services. / MENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY: Analysts say suicide remains a serious public health problem in Lane County. A new report capturing trends from the past 20 years underscores that its causes are complex, but that there are ways to prevent unneeded deaths. Among the findings in the new report: Between the years 2000 and 2020, the rate of suicide increased by 80 percent in Lane County. In all, 1,458 people ended their lives by suicide, at a rate that was 65 percent greater than the U.S. average. Overall, males died about 4 times as often as females and older adult males (≥65) had the greatest risk of

suicide of any age group. The rates of suicide in Junction City, Florence and Cottage Grove were about twice the county average. One in four people who died by suicide was a veteran or military service member. Most people died in their homes with a firearm which they owned. Half of the people who died during this time had some history of a mental health problem. Lane County Public Health's Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Roger Brubaker, says we can prevent suicide through compassion, inclusion, and safety. The Suicide Prevention program at Lane County Public Health works to increase awareness of suicide and the importance of mental wellness. The program also encourages and supports community action, prepare people for how to respond such crises. / EDUCATION: Oregon's K-12 public schools will receive a record \$72.2 million from the Common School Fund in 2023. The totals were released at Tuesday's meeting of the State Land Board. Every one of Oregon's 197 public school districts receives annual distributions from the Common School Fund. How much each district receives depends on the number of students served. In 2023, the Eugene 4J Schools will receive \$2.4 million. Springfield Schools will receive \$1.4 million. Smaller Lane County districts, such as South Lane, will receive \$403,000, while the Crow-Applegate-Lorane will receive \$37,000. The average 2023 distribution is approximately \$367,000. Baker School District, with about 1,700 students, will receive \$237,422 in 2023. The Common School Fund has supported Oregon schools since statehood, when the federal government granted our new state nearly 3.4 million acres "for the use of schools." The State Land Board was established to oversee these school lands, which generate revenue for the Fund. Now valued at \$2.1 billion, the Common School Fund is invested by the State Treasurer and the Oregon Investment Council. The Fund earned an average 4.42 percent rate of return over the three-year period ending in 2022. Annually, 3.5 percent of the Fund is distributed to schools. The 2023 distribution of \$72.2 million, the highest-ever distribution, is \$8 million more than the 2022 distribution of \$64.2 million and \$12.1 million more than the 2021 distribution of \$60.1 million. Approximately 772,000 acres of school lands are managed by the Department of State Lands on behalf of the Land Board. \$1.38 million in net income from school land leases, sales, and other land management activities was added to the Fund in fiscal year 2022. / FORESTRY, WILDFIRE RECOVERY, BUSINESS: Officials with the Oregon Department of Forestry say three Lane County tree nurseries are among ten across the state receiving funds to support production of desperately needed tree seedlings. The seedlings will help reforest millions of acres deforested in recent years by wildfire, disease, and pests. Trillium Gardens in Eugene received \$531,000 and Kintigh Nursery in Springfield \$238,000. PRT Growing Services, with locations in Cottage Grove and Hubbard, received \$540,000. The ten nurseries across Oregon are sharing \$4.4 million in funding this year. To qualify for a grant, a nursery had to have experience growing high-quality commercial conifer trees for reforestation in Oregon, including Douglas-fir, grand fir, noble fir, western redcedar, ponderosa pine and others. The nurseries are using the funds to invest in everything from adding irrigation to building new greenhouses, increasing seedbed space, and enhancing storage facilities for seedling trees. Funds may also be put toward equipment, the cost of collecting or purchasing tree seeds, and purchasing additional land for expansion of their nursery facilities. The funds must be spent before the end of this summer. State lawmakers authorized the spending in 2021,

following the devastating 2020 wildfires. Following those blazes, demand for tree seedlings quickly outstripped supply. There were funding challenges for nursery and reforestation operations that were asked to quickly expand their services including not enough workers to grow and plant the seedlings. Private landowners also seeking to replant discovered there often were not enough of the appropriate kind of tree seedlings for their land. / GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, HEALTH: The city of Eugene will join other local governments throughout the country in phasing out gas appliances in some types of new construction to cut climate pollution. The Eugene City Council passed the measure by a 5-3 vote Monday night. The ordinance, believed to be the first of its kind in the state, bans natural gas hookups in the new construction of residences that are three stories or less. Existing buildings are not affected by the new requirements. Council members in favor said the move would reduce carbon emissions and eliminate the air quality hazards of gas stoves. Council member Mike Clark said the change will discourage developers. Research has found that gas stoves in California are leaking cancer-causing benzene, while another study has determined that gas stoves in the U.S. are contributing to global warming by putting 2.6 million tons of methane in the air every year even when turned off. Dozens of local governments throughout the country have moved to restrict the use of gas in some types of new construction, including in Seattle and Bellingham, Washington, and San Francisco and Berkeley, California. Multnomah County, home to Portland, in 2021 approved a resolution to prohibit the use of fossil fuels such as natural gas in new and remodeled county buildings. Some federal lawmakers have called for addressing the potential health risks of natural gas usage through regulation, such as requiring that gas stoves be sold with range hoods to improve ventilation or issuing mandatory performance standards for gas stoves. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: Have a child who is school- or childcareaged and still needs to get some required vaccinations ahead of this year's Exclusion Day? Lane County Public Health's Communicable Disease Program is hosting a 2-day, walk-in immunization clinic on Tuesday, February 14, and Wednesday, February 15. The clinic will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days, at the Lane County Health & Human Services Building at 7th and Charnelton Streets in Eugene. The cost of the vaccines is covered through the Vaccine for Children program. Youngsters also may receive their required immunizations from their private provider, at participating pharmacies, or at a school-based health clinic. Under state law, all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified childcare facilities must have up-todate documentation on their immunizations or must have an exemption. Health experts say such immunizations are the best way to protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases such as whooping cough and measles. Every year, Lane County Public Health officials review more than 50.000 records to ensure children's immunizations are up to date. For those children whose immunization record is incomplete, a letter is sent out to their parents asking them to schedule the required immunizations for their child. Public health officials say they know that it can be challenging for parents to schedule their child's immunizations and hope the clinics make it easier. This year, Lane County Public Health sent out more than 1,650 letters. That was down from 2,300 the previous school year. The decrease is encouraging to public health officials but also highlights areas for improvement. Analysts say there appear to be more children between the ages of

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WEATHER, SAFETY: Yesterday's icy road conditions in some areas contributed to a pair of fatal traffic crashes. Around 9:00 A.M., Oregon State Police say a Eugene woman, 52-year-old Cynthia Ann Waters, died when she lost control of her Honda Civic on Highway 58 eastbound near the Waldo Lake junction. Investigators say Waters' vehicle struck a dump truck pulling a trailer. The truck's driver, a Lakeview man, was uninjured. Earlier in the day, around 6 a.m., state police say a Linn County man—40-year-old Michael Stafford—a died on Highway 228 a few miles west of Sweet Home when his vehicle left the road and struck a large tree. Officials say icy roads and the vehicle's speed appear were contributing factors in the crash. / CRIME: The Lane County Sheriff's Office has arrested a man in connection with an attempted murder-for-hire plot. Not a lot of details being shared by investigators, but they say they received information on Friday that 58-year-old John Robert Clarke had offered to pay a third party an undisclosed amount of money to kill a person known to Clarke. Clarke was arrested and jailed for Solicitation to Commit Murder. Prosecutors with the Lane County District Attorney's Office are reviewing details of the case. Sheriff's officials believe there is no ongoing threat to the public or to the intended victim.; Eugene Police say one teen is in custody after an incident yesterday during the noon hour on Echo Hollow Road. It was originally called in as a possible robbery at Everyone's Market and one caller said a gun had been wrested from a suspect. Investigators say it turned out to be a burglary and menacing involving an airsoft replica gun. During the incident and the law enforcement response, nearby schools were put into "lockout" as a precaution. Police detained multiple teen suspects before taking the one into custody. No apparent injuries during the incident. The investigation is continuing. / EDUCATION: Oregon high school students or Oregon GED program students graduating in 2023 or 2024 can take one tuition-free course this spring or summer from Lane Community College to jump-start their college education. "That's a \$530 savings for a four-credit course," explained Lane Community College Advisor Brenda Williams. Fees and other expenses are not included in this offer. Registration for new students wanting to begin in spring term starts February 20 and early May for summer term. Any course for college credit is eligible provided the student meets its prerequisites. Registration must be completed by April 10 for spring term and by September 16 for summer courses. This initiative started in 2020 with almost 400 high school students starting their college career early since its debut. Last

summer, students saved at least \$63,600 in tuition costs. / EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT: For 15 years, it has provided important services to property owners and residents along with valuable educational experience for local high school students. The Springfield Public School's Water and Energy Learning Lab is booking appointments for its free Well Water Testing Program. The Water and Energy Learning Lab is a district-wide school program, funded by the Springfield Utility Board. You may schedule an appointment with the Community Water Testing Lab at Thurston High School to drop off your well water sample. Tests are performed by high school students and results are mailed or emailed within a few days. The testing parameters include fecal & E. coli bacteria, arsenic, nitrates, copper, iron, hardness, pH, conductivity, and turbidity. Appointments are required and space is limited. / EDUCATION, LEGAL: After two years of virtual competitions, a popular high school academic competition is returning for an inperson program. Students and teachers from across the Southern Willamette Valley will compete in a High School Mock Court, hosted by the Lane County Circuit Court. The event takes place on Friday at the Lane County Courthouse. Five schools are competing in the final rounds, including three from our area, including two teams from North Eugene High School, one from South Eugene High, and one from Thurston High School. Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses, and court officers while honing their public speaking, teamwork, research, and collaboration skills. They also learn about civil and criminal legal concepts, and civic engagement. This year's fictional case involves student athletes, career-ending injuries from attacks, and allegedly corrupt college boosters. The Classroom Law Project has coordinated the Oregon competition since 1987. / GOVERNMENT: A thirst for rare bottles of bourbon might cost the executive director and other top officials of Oregon's liquor and marijuana regulating agency their jobs. The agency is the state's third-largest revenue generator. But an internal investigation by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission, concludes that Executive Director Steve Marks and five other agency officials had diverted some sought-after bourbons, including Pappy Van Winkle's 23-year-old whiskey, for their personal use. The officials were paying for the whiskey, which often cost hundreds if not thousands of dollars per bottle. But the investigation found they had used their knowledge and connections at the OLCC to obtain them. In doing so, the report concluded they had deprived members of the public of the spendy spirits. The investigation determined that violated of Oregon statutes, including one that prohibits public officials from using confidential information for personal gain. Oregon Governor Tina Kotek has asked the OLCC Board of Commissioners to remove the agency's executive director and other implicated officials. The commissioners' next regular meeting is on Wednesday. Kotek also has asked Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum to conduct an independent civil investigation. / GOVERNMENT, FAMILIES, EMPLOYMENT: State officials continue to enhance the new Paid Leave Oregon website at PaidLeave.Oregon.gov Paid Leave Oregon allows employees to take paid time off for some of life's most important moments. It covers leave for the birth or adoption of a child, for serious illness or injury, for taking care of a seriously ill family member, and for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or harassment. They say the site is now available in six languages: English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, and Traditional Chinese. Other new features include: An interactive contributions calculator so

employers and employees can figure out their payroll contributions. A safe exit or "quick escape" feature – these buttons are used on websites for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. The button helps web users quickly exit the site they're browsing and will automatically open another page. Detailed information for both employers and employees, as well as new sections for self-employed people, healthcare workers, and service providers. Videos that feature Oregon business owners in various communities. Contributions to the program by large employers and all employees, regardless of employer size, started January 1. Benefits will be available to employees in September 2023. /

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HEALTH, SAFETY, FAMILY: Don't invite foodborne illness to your Super Bowl party. Here are some tips from federal food-safety experts: Keep hot foods at 140°F or warmer. Use chafing dishes, slow cookers, and warming travs to keep food hot. Keep cold foods, like salsa and guacamole, at 40°F or colder. Use small service trays or nest serving dishes in bowls of ice. Wash hands immediately before and after handling food. A recent USDA study showed that 99 percent of people don't wash their hands correctly. To properly wash your hands, wet your hands with water, lather with soap and scrub for 20 seconds. Rinse your hands and dry with a clean towel or paper towel. Stock up on shallow food containers and make sure you've got extra space for them in your refrigerator or freezer. Foods should not be left at room temperature for more than two hours. Know when you plan to serve the food and set a timer to remind yourself to start packing up leftovers. Make sure you have a food thermometer to ensure that food reaches a safe internal temperature when you're cooking and that leftovers reach 165 degrees Fahrenheit when you reheat them. If you plan on serving food throughout the game, make two portions of each dish. Serve one portion as the game starts and keep another portion in the refrigerator or oven to rotate out after half time. Keep raw meat and poultry separate from other foods like fresh fruits and vegetables by using separate cutting boards and utensils. This will prevent cross-contamination of bacteria and keep your MVPs from getting food poisoning. Clean and sanitize all cooking surfaces and utensils, especially after handling raw meat. You'll also need to wash your hands often throughout the game. Begin putting food away at the half time mark, especially if food has been sitting at room temperature since the beginning of the game. Pack leftovers in small portions in shallow containers and place the containers into the refrigerator or freezer immediately. Discard any food that has been out for more than two hours. At half time you should also bring out the substitute players - those fresh portions of food that you've been keeping hot or cold. Your household will thank you for the fresh food, and for watching their blind side when it comes to food poisoning. / SPORTS, FINANCES, MENTAL HEALTH: The Super Bowl has always been a big day for advertising, but this year another industry is gearing up for recordbreaking profits - gambling. More than 50 million Americans plan to bet on this weekend's showdown - more than ever before. According to the American Gaming Association, bettors are expected to wager a record \$16 billion on the showdown between Philadelphia and Kansas City, more than double last year's

projection. Most Oregonians are "social gamblers." But for some, gambling becomes a problem that is uncontrollable, destroying families, friendships, and finances. Some become despondent over their losses, even taking their own lives. Clinical psychologists treating gambling addiction in recent years have reported a shift in their client base from older, poorer gamblers that frequent casinos to younger men with good incomes who are hooked on sports betting. Many are already avid sports fans who get introduced to the sportsbook apps via ads airing during televised games, or through friends and family. But psychologists say familiarity with a favorite sport often gives gamblers false confidence they can "beat the odds." A string of new apps has made betting on live games more accessible. Most connect and sync directly with users' bank accounts to enable quick and easy deposits, and as a result, gamblers often lose track of how much they're up or down. Experts say it's critical not to make spur-ofthe-moment decisions when gambling, and to set caps before a big game and stick to them. That includes using self-imposed betting limits and cool-off periods that are available in many app's settings. Oregon offers free treatment, both inpatient and outpatient options, as well as a regular online and by-phone Help Center. The Oregon Council on Problem Gambling has a 24-hour helpline at 1-877-MY-LIMIT and is online at www.opgr.org / LEGAL, GOVERNMENT, POLTIICS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, SAFETY, CRIME: Oregon's Supreme Court has again refused to overturn a lower court ruling blocking a voter-approved gun measure from taking effect. Justices on the state's high court concluded Thursday that it would be inappropriate to get involved while the matter is still being addressed in a trial court, pending a hearing on its constitutionality. Ballot Measure 114 was narrowly approved by voters in November. The measure requires a permit to buy a gun and a background check before a gun can be sold or transferred. It also restricts the sale, manufacture and use of magazines holding more than 10 rounds. The case before the state Supreme Court arose from litigation in Harney County. Because the lawsuit challenged the measure under the Oregon Constitution, it held precedence in the state, legal experts have said. In December, Harney County Circuit Court Judge Robert Raschio temporarily blocked the measure from taking effect. The Oregon Department of Justice asked the state Supreme Court to overturn that order, but the justices declined to consider the appeal. Raschio later extended his order. The state Supreme Court said its decision Thursday does not preclude a future challenge. There have been other legal challenges in federal and state courts. Four federal cases have been consolidated. The judge in that matter has ruled that the law could take effect while she hears further arguments. But she also allowed the state to postpone implementing the permit requirement until the systems needed to administer it are in place. Additional testimony is expected later this month. Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said her office intends to continue to defend the law in the Harney County court. She says the office takes the position that the law passed by Oregonians last November is totally proper and legal under the U.S. and Oregon constitutions. / RECREATION: Oregonians love their state parks and have the numbers to prove it. Officials with the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation say 2022 was the system's second busiest camping and day-use year in history—right behind 2021. Last year, as Oregon State Parks celebrated their centennial, they logged 2.97 million camper nights. That's only down 1.8 percent less from the record-breaking totals in 2021. Last

year, state parks also tracked more than 52 million day-use visits. High gas prices affected travel plans last year: An increasing number of campers stayed close to the state's largest population centers, with overnight camping increasing at parks in the Willamette Valley. Those included Fall Creek, Detroit Lake, Champoeg (say: shampooey), Willamette Mission, and Milo McIver. But coastal parks remain widely popular, with only slightly lower overall camping numbers at popular spots like Fort Stevens. Some visitors shifted to lesser-used coastal campgrounds, including Cape Blanco, Cape Lookout and Alfred Loeb. Amid drought and wildfire smoke, and those higher gas prices, there was a close to 12 percent decrease in camping at some spots in southern and eastern Oregon, including at Valley of the Rogue, Prineville, Cove Palisades, and Farewell Bend. Oregon State Parks also struggled, as did many employers, with hiring enough staff for full operations and ensuring those park rangers and others could find housing in rural communities. Our state parks are funded through a portion of recreational vehicle fees, lottery revenues, and visitors' fees. Looking ahead, officials say they are preparing to begin \$50 million in construction projects to improve aging infrastructure and protect resources at 11 popular parks. By 2026, some of the work will add visitor facilities and expand camping in several locations, including Silver Falls, Champoeg, and Milo McIver. The improvements are being funded by general obligation bonds approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2021. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: Recent declines in the spread of influenza and RSV are expected to continue into spring. And while there's been a recent uptick in COVID-19 activity, state health officials say respiratory virus hospitalizations should continue dropping over the coming weeks. Officials with the Oregon Health Authority provided that monthly update yesterday. They say RSV activity has dropped significantly since its peak in late November, and the state is close to the end of RSV season. Influenza activity is expected to decline following a slight and shortlived increase in influenza B cases. And new computer modeling from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicts Oregon's COVID-19 hospitalizations are likely to remain flat all this month. They've been declining since late December. State public health officials are "keeping an eye" on a recent uptick in COVID-19 activity – an increase in test positivity in the last two weeks – that is likely caused by the now-predominant XBB.1.5 Omicron subvariant. But if conditions continue to improve, it could allow state officials to eventually lift the state rule requiring workers in health care settings to wear masks. But officials say they'll approach any change in those guidelines carefully, while consulting with health care and local public health partners, and others. They say there's also a chance of a second influenza wave driven by influenza B, which often fills the void left by plummeting influenza A activity late in the flu season. / CRIME: They're known as "sweetheart scammers" or "Valentine's scammers" and they will break your heart and steal your savings. Federal and state law enforcement issued fresh warnings this week about the criminals who often connect with you online or through dating apps, convince you there's love in the air, then start asking you to send money. And more money. Often until your accounts are drained. Investigators say the scams target people of all ages, but especially older, single adults who not only are emotionally vulnerable but usually have more money saved. Fraudsters will tell you they need money to travel to meet you, that they need cash for a family member or a business opportunity. They also might steal your identity to commit more fraud against other victims. Do your homework.

Do not send money to anyone you have not met in person. Be cautious about sharing personal or financial information. Keep copies of all communications with possible scammers and report them to local law enforcement, the division, the online dating site, the local police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Federal Trade Commission. / GOVERNMENT, ECONOMY, PANDEMIC: The Internal Revenue Service is recommending that more than 200,000 taxpayers hold off on filing their tax returns for 2022 because they received a special tax refund or payment from the state last year. Oregon was one of 19 states with offered diverse programs that offered inflation relief payments or refunds for taxpayers. The IRS is still working with state governments to determine which if any of those payments are taxable. Oregon last summer issued \$600 economic stimulus payments to 236,000 qualifying households. Most had qualified for the Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit on their 2020 tax filing and received the payments automatically, either by direct deposit or mailed checks. The Oregon Department of Revenue says those payments are not taxable income, which is why it did not mail tax forms this year for recipients to report the payment on their tax returns. But the IRS guidelines seem a bit less straightforward and is encouraging those taxpayers to hold off until the agency determines that the payments are, in fact, not taxable. If you've already filed, hold off on filing an amended return, since you might not need to. If you are not sure if you need to wait to file your taxes, consult a tax professional about your specific situation. / EDUCATION, PANDEMIC: Hundreds of thousands of students who have dropped off public school rolls since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic are unaccounted for. An analysis by The Associated Press, Stanford University's Big Local News project, and Stanford education professor Thomas Dee found 240,000 students in 21 states who appear to have simply dropped out of school. The researchers say that based on their records search, the children and teens did not move out of state and did not sign up for private school or home-school. Early in the pandemic, school staff went door-to-door to reengage kids, but most such efforts have ended. The researchers say the data suggests a need to understand more about the children who are not in school, how that will affect their development, and try to get them and their families reconnected. Enrollment in U.S. public schools plummeted during the pandemic, with a loss of more than 1.2 million public school students from the 2019-2020 school year to the 2021-2022 school year — 2.5 percent of the entire the public-school population in grades K-12. Some of those children left for private school or homeschooling or moved out of state. But for years, no one has known for sure where they went. In many cases, publicly available data gives no indication where kids ended up, or whether they were keeping up their education at all. Some may be young students whose parents have decided not to start them in formal school. Some may be taught at home, either formally or informally, and their families haven't registered them as home-schooled. Some might not be learning at all. Overall, out of over 700,000 students who left public schools in these states, 40 percent switched to home-schools or private schools, and 26 percent of the change can be explained by population loss. That means a third of students who left public school – 230,000 kids – could not be accounted for. Because so many states fail to provide adequate data on private school and home-schooling, the true number of missing students nationally is likely higher. Home-schooling skyrocketed during the pandemic, up 30 percent in the states for which we have home-school data.

Ten states and D.C. saw home-schooling numbers increase more than 50 percent, including Oregon at 62 percent. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/13/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, SAFETY: A fast-moving cold front will sweep across the Pacific Northwest this morning, followed by cooler temperatures and rapidly lowering snow levels. Snow will be heavy at times in the Cascades and Coast Range later today through tonight. Post-frontal showers will persist through early Tuesday, eventually clearing from north to south as Tuesday progresses. By early Tuesday morning snow levels will be near sea level, and light accumulations are possible for the lowlands. Enhanced instability may lead to a few thunderstorms, especially near the coast. High pressure will lead to a clear and cold night Tuesday night. with mostly dry weather likely mid to late week.; The Egan Warming Center will activate five emergency cold-weather shelter sites Tuesday night. The sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. The Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center at 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene opens at 10 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. / GOVERNMENT, ECONOMY: The IRS says most relief checks issued by states last year—including in Oregon—will not be subject to federal taxes. The agency provided late guidance on Friday as taxpayers continue filing returns. IRS officials said they will not challenge the taxability of payments related to general welfare and disaster. That means taxpayers who received those checks will not have to pay federal taxes on those direct payments. The 11th-hour guidance came one week after the IRS told payment recipients to delay filing taxes while a decision was being made. Twentyone states made such special payments in 2022. Oregon was one of 19 states with programs that offered inflation relief payments or refunds for taxpayers. Oregon last summer issued \$600 economic stimulus payments to 236,000 qualifying lower-income households. Most qualified for the Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit on their 2020 tax filing and received the payments automatically, either by direct deposit or mailed checks. The Oregon Department of Revenue said all along those payments were not taxable income, which is why it did not mail tax forms this year for recipients to report the payment on their tax returns. / EMPLOYMENT: New projections this month from the Oregon Employment Department project that between 2021 and 2031 the state's private

and public employers will add 265,000 jobs. That employment growth includes both the recovery from low employment levels in 2021 due to the pandemic recession along with regular long-term growth. In addition, many job openings are anticipated to replace workers who either leave their occupations or retire. Leisure and hospitality is projected to increase the fastest and add the largest number of jobs. The projected gain of 60,100 jobs—representing a 34 percent growth rate as restaurants, hotels, and arts, cultural, and recreational establishments continue to see increased demand. The next fastest-growth job sectors; private health care and social assistance and information. / CRIME, GOVERNMENT: The Oregon Department of Justice on Friday opened a criminal investigation into allegations that senior officials in the state's alcohol regulatory agency violated ethics laws by diverting rare bourbons for personal use. The officials said they were paying for the whiskey, which can cost thousands of dollars a bottle, but they allegedly used their knowledge and connections at the commission to obtain the products, according to an internal investigation by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission. That practice had purportedly been going on for many years and involved senior agency employees and members of the Oregon Legislature. The officials denied they resold the whiskeys they obtained. The state attorney general says that practice deprived the public of some of the tiny-batch boutique bourbons. State Justice Department officials say the practice also violated several Oregon statutes, including one that prohibits public officials from using confidential information for personal gain, according to the commission's investigation. Governor Tina Kotek expressed outrage at the findings and on Wednesday asked that the OLCC board of commissioners to fire Executive Director Steve Marks and others who have been implicated. Kotek also asked Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum to conduct an independent civil investigation. Instead, the justice department's criminal division opened an investigation, Rosenblum said, adding that a civil probe would come later. Criminal law involves prosecuting defendants and holding offenders accountable, usually through imprisonment or probationary sentences. Civil law addresses situations in which an economic award or penalty might help remedy a situation. Chris Mayton, the OLCC's distilled spirits program director, was one of the people accused of abusing his position. He told the OLCC investigator that he had served as a "facilitator" for commission employees and legislators hundreds of times in acquiring the whiskeys as part of his work duties. He did not name any lawmakers. The officials purportedly had very limited bottles of top-shelf bourbon routed to a liquor store, often in the Portland suburb of Milwaukie where the commission headquarters is located and would reserve them for pickup later. Marks has not responded to requests for comment from The Associated Press. but in his responses during the investigation, he denied that he had violated Oregon ethics laws and state policy. However, he acknowledged that he had received preferential treatment "to some extent" in obtaining the whiskey as a commission employee. Marks and the other officials denied they resold the whiskeys they obtained. The board of commissioners is appointed by the governor and in turn selects the executive director, according to a commission spokesman. The commissioners' next regular meeting is Wednesday. The agency is the state's third-largest revenue generator. / CRIME: Yesterday marked one year since a hit-and-run driver severely injured a Eugene woman trying to do a good deed on a busy roadway. In the aftermath, Kimberly Spencer has

undergone multiple surgeries, dealt with continued pain, been off work-and the driver still has not been identified. While the leads have gone cold, Oregon State Police continue to welcome tips that would help them locate the driver of a red pickup truck that struck a Spencer on Saturday afternoon, February 12 of 2022. It happened while she was trying to remove a mattress blocking a traffic lane on the flyover from northbound Interstate Five to the westbound Beltline Highway. Spencer says she spotted the mattress, stopped her vehicle, turned on her hazard lights, and pulled the mattress from the roadway. As she was walking back to her vehicle she says a red pickup—possibly a Chevy Colorado or GMC Sonoma—came around the flyover curve at a high rate of speed. The suspect is described as an older white male, perhaps 65 to 70 years of age. Spencer says the hit-and-run driver stopped about 50 feet from the crash scene, walked back toward her, saw her lying on the ground as she pleaded with him to help her, but instead ran back to his truck and fled. Investigators say it's unknown what damage the pickup truck sustained or whether it's been repaired. Know anything about the case? Oregon State Police would like to hear from you. Contact the Oregon State Police Dispatch at 1-800-442-2068 or OSP (677). Reference Case # SP22035811./

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/14/23

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Morning News

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30 Seconds

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WEATHER, SCHOOLS, SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: SCHOOL DELAYS AND CLOSURES: LANE COUNTY: CLOSED: Junction City, Fern Ridge, Crow-Applegate-Lorane, Blachly, McKenzie, Twin Rivers Charter School, TWO-HOUR DELAYS: Eugene, Bethel, Springfield, Marcola, Creswell, South Lane, Pleasant Hill, Lane ESD, Willamette Leadership Academy, Eugene Christian School, Oak Hill School, St. Paul Parrish School, Eugene Montessori School. THREE-HOUR DELAYS: Oakridge Schools. Marist High School is running one hour late and begins at 10 a.m. HEAD START OF LANE COUNTY: Morning classes cancelled. Full-day classes begin at 11 a.m. Pearl Buck Center: The Academy, LEAP and Preschool classes are canceled. Lane Community College: the Eugene and Cottage Grove campuses are operating on a two-hour delay. LCC-Florence is on time. Bushnell University is opening two hours late. BENTON COUNTY: CLOSED: Monroe Schools, LINN COUNTY: TWO-HOUR DELAYS: Harrisburg. Central Linn, Greater Albany, Lebanon Community Schools, Linn-Benton ESD, Albany Christian School, Central Electric JATC. CLOSED: Sweet Home Schools, Santiam Canyon Schools. The Lebanon "Meals on Wheels" site also is closed. DOUGLAS COUNTY: TWO-HOUR DELAYS: Oakland, Elkton, Yoncalla, North Douglas, Sutherlin, Roseburg, Glide. CLOSED: Winston-Dillard, South Umpqua, Days Creek Charter School, Camas Valley Charter School. UCANN Head Start has closed all classes. ALSO: Springfield City Hall and Springfield Municipal Court open at 10 a.m. Springfield Public Library opens at 10 a.m.—it's regular schedule. Willamalane's Adult Activity Center, Bob Keefer Center, and Willamalane Park Swim Center will open at 10 a.m. The L-COG Senior Meals Site and Senior & Disability Services Office in Oakridge and the L-COG Senior Meals Site in Cottage Grove are CLOSED. The L-COG Senior & Disability Services Office in Eugene and Cottage Grove will open at 10 a.m. The Willamette Valley Cancer Centers in Eugene and Florence are operating on time. The Albany and Corvallis clinics are on one-hour delays. Slocum Orthopedics is opening at 9 a.m. Northwest Medical Homes: Two-hour delay.; Chains are currently required over most of the mountain passes, in luding the I-5 corridor. This includes the passes north of Grants Pass to Canyon Mountain - and over Rice Hill north of Sutherlin due to disabled trucks. The City of Springfield's crews have been hard at work since very early this morning plowing and sanding priority streets. The division has three sanders out, with staff continuing to assess conditions, and city tree crews on standby. Springfield crews are applying deicer to priority streets and will

begin treating roads in the hills later today once the snow melts. The goal: Get the deicer down ahead of the freezing conditions that are expected overnight. But officials remind you deicer only works so well and becomes diluted as more precipitation falls. View Springfield's snow and ice priorities map at https://bit.ly/SnowlcePrioritiesMap; With frigid temperatures in the forecast, the Egan Warming Center will activate five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight. The sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. The Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center at 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene opens at 10 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. / PANDEMIC, HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, YOUTH, WOMEN: The pandemic took a harsh toll on U.S. teen girls' mental health, with almost 60 percent reporting feelings of persistent sadness or hopelessness, according to a government survey released Monday that bolsters earlier data. Sexual violence, suicidal thoughts, suicidal behavior, and other mental health woes affected many teens regardless of race or ethnicity, but girls and LGBTQ youth fared the worst on most measures, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report. More than 17,000 U.S. high school students were surveyed in class in the fall of 2021. In 30 years of collecting similar data, "we've never seen this kind of devastating, consistent findings," said Kathleen Ethier, director of CDC's adolescent and school health division. "There's no question young people are telling us they are in crisis. The data really call on us to act." The research found: Among girls, 30 percent said they seriously considered attempting suicide, double the rate among boys and up almost 60 percent from a decade ago. Almost 20 percent of girls reported experiencing rape or other sexual violence in the previous year, also an increase over previous years. Almost half of LGBTQ students said they had seriously considered a suicide attempt. More than a quarter of American Indians and Alaska Natives said they had seriously considered a suicide attempt — higher than other races and ethnicities. Feelings of persistent sadness and hopelessness affected more than one-third of kids of all races and ethnicities and increased over previous years. Recent poor mental health was reported by half of LGBTQ kids and almost one-third of American Indian and Alaska Native youth. The results echo previous surveys and reports and many of the trends began before the pandemic. But isolation, online schooling, and increased reliance on social media during the pandemic made things worse for many kids, mental health experts say. The results "reflect so many decades of neglect towards mental health, for kids in particular," said Mitch Prinstein, the American Psychological Association's chief science officer. "Suicide has been the secondor third-leading cause of death for young people between 10 and 24 years for decades now," and attempts are typically more common in girls, he said. Prinstein noted that anxiety and depression tend to be more common in teen girls than boys, and pandemic isolation may have exacerbated that. Comprehensive reform in how society manages mental health is needed, Prinstein said. In schools, kids should be taught ways to manage stress and strife, just as they are taught about exercise for physical disease prevention, he said. In low-income areas, where

adverse childhood experiences were high before the pandemic, the crisis has been compounded by a shortage of school staff and mental health professionals, experts say. School districts around the country have used federal pandemic money to hire more mental health specialists, if they can find them, but say they are stretched thin and that students who need expert care outside of school often can't get it because therapists are overburdened and have long waitlists. / SCHOOLS, HEALTH, LOW-INCOME: A new study shows that a 2010 federal law that boosted nutrition standards for school meals may have begun to help slow the rise in obesity among America's children. The national study found a small but significant decline in the average body mass index of more than 14,000 schoolkids ages 5 to 18 whose heights and weights were tracked before and after implementation of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. The law, championed by former first lady Michelle Obama, was the first national legislation to improve school meals in more than 20 years. It increased the quantity of fruits, vegetables and whole grains required in school meals. Previous studies have shown weight-related effects of the federal law among children from low-income families. The new study is the first to find lower BMI in kids across all income levels. / GOVERNMENT, CRIME: The executive director of Oregon's liquor regulatory agency announced his resignation Monday amid a criminal investigation into allegations that he and other senior officials used their positions to divert rare, sought-after bourbons for personal use. Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission Executive Director Steve Marks noted in his resignation letter that Gov. Tina Kotek asked him to step down. He said his resignation is effective at 5 p.m. Wednesday. The resignation letter to the OLCC's board of commissioners was first reported by The Oregonian and OregonLive. The liquor officials told an internal investigator they were paying for the whiskey, which can cost thousands of dollars a bottle, but they are accused of using their knowledge and connections at the commission to obtain the products. Marks and the other officials denied they resold the whiskeys they obtained. Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum on Friday announced a criminal investigation into the allegations that senior officials in the state's alcohol and marijuana regulatory agency, which is the state's third-largest revenue generator, violated ethics laws. The funneling of the top-end whiskey to leaders of the state agency deprived well-heeled whiskey aficionados of the bourbons and violated several Oregon statutes, including one that prohibits public officials from using confidential information for personal gain, according to the commission's investigation. The officials purportedly had very limited bottles of top-shelf bourbon routed to a liquor store, often in the Portland suburb of Milwaukie where the commission headquarters is located, and would reserve them for pickup later. They said they used the whiskey for personal consumption or as gifts. During the OLCC internal probe, Marks denied that he had violated Oregon ethics laws and state policy. However, he acknowledged that he had received preferential treatment "to some extent" in obtaining the whiskey as a commission employee. The board of commissioners is appointed by the governor and in turn selects the executive director, according to a commission spokesman. The commissioners' next regular meeting is Wednesday. / SAFETY, CRIME: Investigators with the Lane County Sheriff's Office one person died when a 1992 Toyota pickup slid and rolled off a curve on Row River Road near Dorena. It happened Saturday evening around 7 p.m. Deputies say the passenger was ejected from the vehicle. Intoxication does not appear to be a factor in the crash.

Investigators are working to determine the identities of those involved. While deputies were investigating the crash, they say a 1997 Ford pickup driven by 51-year-old Richard Eugene Watkins attempted to drive through the crash scene and nearly struck a patrol car. Deputies contacted Watkins and determined he was under the influence of alcohol. Watkins was arrested for DUII. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/15/23

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Morning News

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

EDUCATION: A campus advisory board at the University of Oregon is recommending a four percent increase in tuition rates for Oregon residents and a 3.8 percent increase for nonresident students. Tomorrow evening, officials are holding a forum to take comments from students and others. The U-of-O's board of trustees is set to vote on the recommendations at next month's board meeting. The recommended tuition hike came after the campus advisory board, made up of students, staff and faculty members, held ten public meetings and one public forum. The proposed increases only apply to incoming undergraduate students. If approved, the tuition and mandatory fees would be locked in for the incoming class of undergraduate students for the next five years. The Oregon Guarantee, adopted in March 2020, means each incoming class of first year and transfer students pay the same tuition rate and fees for the next five years. Tuition rates and mandatory fees for all other undergraduate students are already set. Most undergraduate students are part of the guaranteed tuition program and will see no increase in their tuition rates or administratively controlled mandatory fees. Undergraduates who started at the UO prior to summer 2020 have locked tuition increases of 3 percent per year through next year, as part of the phase-in of the guaranteed tuition program. / ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY: It is something of an unprecedented effort to collect and save the seeds of a common but threatened Northwest tree. Staff with the Oregon Department of Forestry recently wrapped up a multi-year effort to collect seeds from populations of Oregon ash (Fraxinus latifolia) trees, which are at risk of being wiped out by an invasive pest. The invasive beetle, the Emerald ash borer, already has decimated ash trees throughout North America and Europe—killing up to 99 percent of ash trees in some locations. Experts with the Oregon Department of Forestry say the beetle, which has an iridescent green appearance, is considered the most destructive forest pest in North America. It is believed to have come from Asia through Canada to the U.S. about 20 years ago. In July of last year, the insect was discovered west of Portland and began spreading across the state. In other parts of the country, the Emerald ash borer has killed native trees in less than ten years. The beetle lays eggs in crevices in the tree's bark, and when larvae hatch they chew into the tree's nourishing cambium layer, eventually girdling and killing it. When infestations are discovered, trees must be cut down and chipped to prevent the pest's spread. But that won't replace the trees that are dying. Over the past few years, a five-member Oregon Department of Forestry crew began

collecting seeds from Oregon ash trees—with growing urgency as the pest drew closer to our state. In all, the team has collected more than 900,000 seeds from 245 mother trees representing 27 distinct populations from the Coast Range through the Willamette Valley, into the western Cascade foothills, and south to the California border. The seeds were sent to USDA Forest Service seed storage facilities in Cottage Grove, Colorado and Iowa. The effort was made possible by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service. The seeds were cleaned, sorted, and catalogued and will be started in nurseries to determining whether any of the seedlings show resistance to the insect. If so, they could be planted to reestablish populations of the native Oregon tree. Oregon ash trees often line rivers and streams, shading waterways to keep water temperatures cooler for fish and other aquatic creatures. Their roots stabilize streambanks, reducing erosion. Many animals, birds and insects eat the seeds and leaves. Experts say losing vast swaths of the trees would have a significant impact on these ecosystems. WILDFIRE RECOVERY, COMMUNITY, DEVELOPMENT: As the rebuilding continues up the McKenzie Valley in the wake of 2020's devastating Holiday Farm Fire, there's new federal funding available to help community members repair or replace damaged septic systems. The septic system funding is retroactive to March 3 of 2021. Eligible landowners may qualify for up to \$35,000 but actual grant amounts will be based on factors including the type of septic system, its cost, the landowner's income, and number of people in their household. The goal is to protect the river from pollution including bacteria, viruses, and chemicals. Those can harm people, fish, wildlife, and plants. The Eugene Water & Electric Board is managing that program, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Lane County, and other agencies. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/16/23

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, GOVERNMENT, LEGAL, SAFETY, CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT Local governments in Oregon cannot declare themselves Second Amendment sanctuaries and ban police from enforcing certain gun laws. That's the ruling from the Oregon Court of Appeals, which issued its decision Wednesday in the first court case filed over a concept that hundreds of U.S. counties have adopted in recent years. The measure in question, which was approved in Columbia County, forbids local officials from enforcing most federal and state gun laws and would impose thousands of dollars in fines on those who try. The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that such actions violate a law giving the state the power to regulate firearms. It found such ordinances would effectively create a 'patchwork quilt' of firearms laws in Oregon, where firearms regulations that applied in some counties would not apply in Columbia County. The justices say that is something state lawmakers specifically wanted to avoid. Second Amendment sanctuary resolutions have been adopted by some 1,200 local governments around the U.S., including in Virginia, Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Illinois and Florida, experts say. Many are symbolic, but some carry legal force like the one in Columbia County, a conservative, rural logging area in northwestern Oregon. The sanctuary movement took off around 2018 as states considered stricter gun laws in the wake of mass shootings, but it had not previously faced a major legal challenge. The Oregon case was filed in 2021 under a provision in state law that allows a judge to examine a measure before it goes into effect. A trial court judge originally declined to rule, a decision that was appealed to the higher court. The ordinance's supporters included the Oregon Firearms Federation, which said in a statement Wednesday that the ruling, quote, "calls into question the legitimacy of the court and the likelihood of getting fair rulings from it." Opponents of Columbia County's measure included the legal arm of the group Everytown for Gun Safety, which had argued that the ordinance violated the U.S. Constitution. An official with that group called the court's decision, quote, "a win for public safety and the rule of law." State Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, who has also sued two other Second Amendment sanctuary counties, also applauded the ruling, saying it makes it clear that common-sense requirements like safe storage and background checks apply throughout Oregon. Rosenblum added that she hoped other counties with similar measures on the books will, quote, "see the writing on the wall. / POLITICS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION: An Oregon lawmaker has introduced a bill that would require police officers to complete at least two

years of education beyond high school. The bill comes amid renewed nationwide focus on police qualifications following the fatal beating of Tyre Nichols last month. The bill, introduced by Portland Democratic Senator Lew Frederick, would require two years of higher education for departments with less than 50 officers. and a bachelor's degree for those with more than 50. Many police departments say that raising education requirements would worsen staffing shortages and make police forces less diverse. But reform advocates say that higher education can equip officers with critical thinking and communication skills that could help improve their interactions with the public. The bill would set police education requirements in state law. Currently, such requirements are generally determined by municipalities or individual departments. Even if it's not mandated, many police officers choose to pursue higher education in order to be eligible for higher salaries or promotions. About one-third of law enforcement officers have at least a four-year degree, according to a 2017 survey conducted by the National Policing Institute and California State University, Fullerton. The training that police receive once hired, however, can be just as important as education, say criminology experts. But they add such training only lasts a few months and often focuses on tactical and mechanical skills. / SPORTS: The NCAA is asking a federal appeals court to reject a legal effort to make colleges pay Division I athletes an hourly wage. Lawyers for the students say that weekly, they spend 30 hours or more on their sport, and often need money for expenses even if they are on scholarship. And they believe the athletes deserve a share in the millions that are spent on coaches, college administrators and facilities — and the billions that networks pay to televise college sports. The NCAA urged the court to uphold the tradition of college athletes being unpaid amateurs. Lawyers for the organization said the idea would cause chaos and leave student-athletes with a tax bill for their scholarships. Critics also fear it could lead schools to cut sports that don't generate revenue, while sending more resources to football and basketball programs. The three-judge panel in Philadelphia did not say when it would rule. / ILLEGAL DRUGSM, SAFETY: A panel of U.S. health advisers said Wednesday that the overdose-reversing drug naloxone should be made available over the counter as part of the national response to the opioid crisis. The panel of experts with the Food and Drug Administration voted unanimously in favor of the switch after a full day of presentations and discussions. The discussions focused on whether untrained users would be able to dispense the nasal spray safely and effectively on someone who needs it in an emergency situation. The vote is not binding and came despite concerns from some panel members about the drug's instructions and packaging, which caused confusion among some people in a company study. The manufacturer, Emergent Biosolutions, said it would revise the packaging and labeling to address those concerns. The FDA will make a final decision on the drug in coming weeks. Panel members urged the FDA to move swiftly rather than waiting for Emergent to conduct a follow-up study with the easier-to-understand label. Narcan, which comes in a prefilled device for nasal dosages, is the leading version of naloxone in the U.S. If FDA approves, Narcan would be the first opioid treatment to make the regulatory switch to a nonprescription drug. The potential move represents the latest government effort to increase use of a medication that has been a key tool in the battle against the U.S. overdose epidemic that kills more than 100,000 people annually. The decades-old drug can counteract the effects of an opioid overdose in minutes.

Narcan is already available without a prescription in all 50 states, where state leaders have issued standing orders for pharmacists to sell the drug to anyone who asks for it. But not all pharmacies carry it and those that do must keep it behind the counter. Also, the stigma of opioids can discourage people from asking for the drug. If approved by the FDA, the switch would allow Narcan to be sold in vending machines, convenience stores, and supermarkets. Despite flaws in the original packaging, the panel of 19 pain and medical education experts expressed confidence that the product could be used effectively by most adults and adolescents. Government officials hope that moving naloxone beyond the pharmacy counter will boost sales, with the potential to lower costs. Currently the drug can cost \$50 for a two-pack, when not covered by insurance. Community advocates and organizations that favor distributing the drug welcomed the potential approval of an over-the-counter version that they say would reduce Narcan's stigma and let people know it is safe and easy to use. U.S. overdose death rates began steadily climbing in the 1990s, driven by painkillers. Waves of deaths followed, led by other opioids like heroin and — most recently — illicit fentanyl. Nearly 107,000 Americans died of drug overdoses in 2021, an all-time high, though recent data suggests deaths might be plateauing.; New numbers conclude that in 2021, a record 193 homeless people died in Oregon's Multnomah County, home to the city of Portland. A report released Wednesday found that fatalities involving the use and abuse of substances were involved in about 60 percent of the deaths. Methamphetamine was the most common drug found in those cases. But fentanyl-related fatalities saw their biggest increase compared with 2020, jumping more than eightfold from 4 deaths to 36. Multnomah County health officials said they have had difficulty responding to the spike in meth use because there is no medication that can reverse a meth overdose, the way that naloxone can reverse an opioid overdose. The number of homeless people who died by homicide in the Portland metro area also reached a new high of 18. More than two-thirds of those were caused by guns. County health officials noted that extreme heat and cold events also contributed to some deaths. Four unhoused people died during 2021's "heat dome" and eight died of hypothermia during the winter months. The report relied on the findings of medical examiners, who tend to investigate non-natural deaths including those caused by suspicious or unknown circumstances, such as homicide and suicide, and those caused by injuries and accidents, such as overdoses. For that reason, officials say the deaths in the report are likely an undercount. / HOMELESSNESS, SAFETY: With more cold weather in the forecast, the Egan Warming Center is once again activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight. And there's also an urgent need for volunteers to help manage the sites. The Egan Warming Centers are managed by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, with funding from Lane County and support from community members, service providers. nonprofits, faith-based and social communities. Its emergency shelters serve unhoused adults and youth on nights when the low temperature is forecast to be 30 degrees or below. The Egan Warming Center is named in honor of Major Thomas Egan, who froze to death during a cold spell in 2008. This evening's sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. The Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center at 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene opens at 10 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m.

The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. / HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, POLTIICS, GOVERNMENT: Lawmakers throughout the United States are weighing proposals to legalize the use of psychedelic mushrooms in behavioral health treatment settings. They say alarming suicide rates and a shortage of traditional mental health practitioners have led them to consider research into alternative treatments for depression and anxiety, including so-called "magic mushrooms." Unlike the push to remove criminal penalties for drug use that saw success at the ballot box in Oregon and Colorado over the past few years, legalization efforts underway in red and blue states focus on allowing magic mushrooms to be consumed under supervision. In Utah, lawmakers hope buy-in to the state's medical marijuana program will convince skeptical lawmakers to consider a similar framework for magic mushrooms. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/17/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: Good luck to all our local high school students taking part today and Saturday at the OSAA State Swimming Championships in Beaverton. The heats begin at nine this morning and finals wrap up Saturday evening. / ECONOMY. TRANSPORTATION: Heading out for Presidents Day Weekend? Gasoline prices crept up slightly over the past week as nationwide demand stayed fairly flat and oil prices experienced a few small fluctuations. Automobile club AAA's survey this morning in Eugene-Springfield finds a gallon of regular gasoline is averaging \$3.70, up four cents from one week ago but 26 cents cheaper than this time last year. Diesel prices dropped an average two cents per gallon in the past week, \$4.60. But they remain 40 cents per gallon higher than they were 12 months ago. / WILDLIFE, COMMUNITY, FAMILY: For a quarter of a century, the Great Backyard Bird Count has been growing globally, providing scientists with data on bird populations. This year, the four-day count begins today and runs through Presidents Day. Last year, about 385,000 people in 192 countries took part. Organizers with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society say the count is something even beginners can enjoy and is as easy as looking out a window. How it works: Participants watch birds, whether that means looking out the window for 15 minutes or taking a longer trip to a nature area. Organizers recommend the Merlin bird ID app to distinguish birds by size, shape, song or other characteristics. Many participants also carry field guides and binoculars along with their phones. They then enter the findings into the eBird app. Scientists say the data helps them track bird populations and declines in many species. The information also helps them develop conservation efforts and determine how well such efforts are working. The need is great: One study estimates there are 3 billion fewer birds in North America than there were in 1970. The pandemic contributed to the surge in interest in the Great Backyard Bird Count and birds in general. Now, many bird-watchers use eBird year-round. The database has collected huge amounts of information, including between 1 million and 2 million bird checklists shared each month from around the world. / RECREATION: Two days of free fishing, clamming and crabbing, coming right up! The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is holding a pair of Free Fishing Days Saturday and Sunday. Oregon residents and nonresidents can fish for free. You don't need tags or licenses. Just obey the basic rules on where to fish, clam, or crab, and observe the closure, size, and bag limits. The Recreation Report is updated weekly and features the best bests for fishing for the upcoming week. Depending

on water levels and conditions, fishing could be good for Chinook or coho salmon. Check in advance for any crabbing and clamming closures by calling the ODA Shellfish safety hotline at 1-800-448-2474 or checking the Shellfish page. If heading for the coast, check ocean conditions and never turn your back on the ocean. / CRIME: Lane County Sheriff's deputies are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect in a theft investigation. The theft occurred January 10 when a man stole items from the front porch of a residence in the 34000 block of Del Monte Avenue, off Seavey Loop Road. The primary suspect appears to be a white male adult in his 20's or 30's. The vehicle appears to be a newer silver Mazda sedan. Have information about the case? Contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150 opt. 1. Reference LCSO Case #23-0300.; Lane County Sheriff's Office detectives say they have uncovered additional evidence indicating that a local man accused of sexually abusing children might have additional victims. Investigators have reason to believe that there may be additional victims. They would like to hear from you if you believe your child had contact with 45-year-old Lon Curtis Coffey. Call 541-682-4150. Coffey remains in custody after being arrested last month for allegedly uploading child pornography to an internet platform and attempting to groom a girl for sex. Detectives say that since then they have established probable cause that Coffey sexually abused a child under the age of 12. He faces a range of charges. Officials say Coffey frequently goes by the nickname of "Katana." He most recently lived in the Veneta, Junction City, and Albany areas. / ELECTIONS, DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, POLITICS, GOVERNMENT: Opponents are gatherings petition signatures in an effort to force a vote over a recently approved City of Eugene ban on natural gas, fuel oil, and other fossil fuel infrastructure in new low-rise residential construction within the city limits. The coalition behind the petition effort includes local business and construction interests along with regional natural gas supplier Northwest Natural. Petition gatherers need to collect more than 6,400 signatures from registered Eugene voters by March 10 for the effort to go to voters. Under the new ordinance, fossil fuel infrastructure is defined as, "natural gas piping, fuel oil piping, or other fossil fuel piping or conveyance system within a building, that connects a source of supply to a fossil-fuel burning appliance." Low-rise residential buildings include single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes, quads, cottage clusters—basically any residential structure that is three-stories or less. A handful of local governments have moved to ban new buildings from using natural gas, including San Francisco and Berkeley, California. It comes amid a growing national debate about how much such fuels contribute to global warming and household health issues. Industry officials say banning gas stoves, heaters, and other household appliances is not a practical response. They say any methane emissions are tiny, and that any household health concerns can be addressed through improved ventilation, such as using vents or opening doors and windows. / EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS, ECONOMY: Lane County is expected to continue adding jobs between now and early next decade. New estimates from the Oregon Department of Employment predict private and public employment across the county will grow by 20,400 jobs. The projections cover a period that started in 2021 and continues through 2031, so there's some pandemic recovery in there. But employment analyst Brian Rooney says almost all industries are expected to continue adding jobs. In addition, many job openings are expected due to the need to replace

workers who leave their occupations or retire. Leisure and hospitality is projected to increase the fastest and add the most jobs as those establishments continue to see increased demand. Also expected to see healthy expansion, the private health care and social assistance sectors, in large part because our aging population means longer life expectancies and continued health care needs. Additionally, Lane County has become a regional health care center, serving people from outside the area. Health care alone will account for over one out of five new jobs created by 2031. In 2021, there were 165,500 jobs in Lane County. The 12 percent increase in employment between 2021 and 2031 includes privatesector gains of 18,100 jobs, 2,000 jobs in government, and an additional 300 job gain in self-employed Lane County residents. / POLITICS, CRIME: Oregon's Legislature is considering a bill that experts say would create the nation's most comprehensive law against paramilitary activity. In recent years, the state has been a hotbed of extremist incidents, including a breach of the state Capitol and a takeover of a wildlife refuge. The bill would create civil remedies in court if armed paramilitaries interfere with another person who is engaging in an activity they have a legal right to do. And a court could block a paramilitary group from pursuing an activity if the state attorney general believes it would be illegal conduct. The measure also enables anyone injured by paramilitary activity to sue. ; Over the past decade, Oregon experienced the sixth-highest number of extremist incidents in the nation, despite being 27th in population, according to an Oregon Secretary of State report. Now, state lawmakers are considering a bill that, experts say, would create the nation's most comprehensive law against paramilitary activity. It would provide citizens and the state attorney general with civil remedies in court if armed members of a private paramilitary group interfere with, or intimidate, another person who is engaging in an activity they have a legal right to do, such as voting. A court could block paramilitary members from pursuing an activity if the state attorney general believed it would be illegal conduct. All 50 states prohibit private paramilitary organizations and/or paramilitary activity, but no other law creates civil remedies, said Mary McCord, an expert on terrorism and domestic extremism who helped craft the bill. The Oregon bill is also unique because it would allow people injured by private, unauthorized paramilitary activity to sue, she said. Opponents say such a law would infringe on rights to freely associate and to bear arms. Backers of the bill list incidents in recent years to show the need for such legislation. They include the armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge; more than 100 straight days of sometimes violent protests that turned downtown Portland into a battleground; the violent breach of the state Capitol in Salem; and clashes between gun-toting right-wingers and leftist militants. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/21/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: A Winter Storm Warning is in effect for the Cascades until 10 a.m. Wednesday. Watch for heavy snow. Additional snow accumulations of 6 to 14 inches, except 10 to 22 inches above 2500 feet. Winds gusting as high as 55 mph. Travel could be very difficult. Widespread blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility. Strong winds could cause tree damage. Above 5000 feet, snow accumulations up to 30 inches possible with winds gusting as high as 60 mph along the peaks. If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food, and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency. / GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY: It's not as high-profile as, say, being on the city council. But members of local budget committees perform critical work. They approve a city and its department's financial plans, helping to shape the upcoming year's spending and programs. The City of Springfield is recruiting to fill four vacancies on two of its budget committees—the city's main budget panel and the one helping to oversee budgeting for development in Springfield's downtown and in Glenwood. Terms on the panels are for three years. Meetings are typically held from late April through early May. The deadline for submitting applications is 5 p.m., March 3, 2022. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigleg wants the nation's freight railroads to immediately act to improve safety. It comes as regulators move to strengthen safety rules in the wake of a fiery Feb. 3 derailment in Ohio that forced evacuations when toxic chemicals were released and burned. Buttigieg announced a package of reforms this morning — two days after he warned that the railroad responsible for the Ohio derailment must fulfill its promises to clean up the mess and help the town recover. Even though government data shows that derailments have declined in recent years, there were still 1,049 of them last year. Buttigieg said railroads and tank car owners should act to accelerate their plan to upgrade the tank cars that haul flammable liquids like crude oil and ethanol by 2025 instead of waiting to comply with the 2029 standard. He also says freight railroads should quickly agree to use a confidential government hotline that lets employees report safety concerns without fear of retribution, and should reach agreements to provide their employees with paid sick time to help prevent fatigue. Buttigieg also wants railroads to stop asking for waivers from inspection requirements every time they develop new technology to improve inspections, because he said technology should supplement but not replace human inspections. Railroad unions have also been raising concerns that car inspections are being rushed and preventative

maintenance may be getting neglected after widespread job cuts in the industry in recent years. Buttigieg says regulators will be looking at whether they can revive a proposed rule dropped during the Trump administration that would have required upgraded, electronically-controlled brakes on certain trains filled with flammable liquids that are designated a "high-hazardous flammable train." The Federal Railroad Administration also is working to finalize its proposed rule to require two-person crews in most circumstances to improve rail safety. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, CRIME: Planning air travel through a U.S. airport? When you get ready to pack, start with an empty suitcase or carry-on bag. That's the advice from federal officials, who last year saw a record number of guns intercepted at airport checkpoints across the country. The total intercepted firearms at airport security checkpoints in 2022 was 6,542. The Transportation Safety Administration reports that with the exception of pandemic-disrupted 2020, the number of weapons intercepted at airport checkpoints has climbed every year since 2010. Experts don't think this is an epidemic of would-be hijackers — nearly everyone claims to have forgotten they had a gun with them — but they emphasize the danger even one gun can pose in the wrong hands on a plane or at a checkpoint. Officials say gun interceptions tend to happen more at bigger airports in areas with laws more friendly to carrying a gun. The top 10 list for gun interceptions is Dallas, Austin and Houston in Texas; three airports in Florida; Nashville, Tennessee; Atlanta; Phoenix; and Denver. When TSA staffers see what they believe to be a weapon on the X-ray machine, they usually stop the belt so the bag stays inside the machine and the passenger can't get to it. Then they call in local police. Repercussions vary depending on local and state laws. The person may be arrested and have the gun confiscated. But sometimes they're allowed to give the gun to a companion not flying with them and continue on their way. Unloaded guns can also be placed in checked bags assuming they follow proper procedures. They also can face federal fines. Those fines are the TSA's tool to punish those who bring a gun to a checkpoint. Last year TSA raised the maximum fine to \$14,950 as a deterrent. Passengers also lose their PreCheck status — it allows them to bypass some types of screening — for five years. It used to be three years, but about a year ago the agency increased the time and changed the rules. Passengers might also miss their flight as well as lose their gun. If federal officials can prove the person intended to bring the gun past the checkpoint into what's called the airport's sterile area, it's a federal offense. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/22/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

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SAFETY, WEATHER, SCHOOLS, TRANSPORTATION: This morning's school closures and delays: CLOSED: Oakridge, Crow-Applegate-Lorane, Mapleton, Blachly, Roseburg, Winston-Dillard, South Umpqua Schools, Days Creek Charter. Camas Valley Charter School, UCAN Head Start's classes at multiple sites. Twohour delay: Junction City (with buses on snow routes), Creswell, Fern Ridge, Alsea, Kings Valley Charter, and Santiam Canyon Schools. On-time but buses on Snow Routes: Eugene 4J, Pleasant Hill, Sutherlin, Philomath (Blodgett buses on snow routes). : With more cold weather in the forecast, the Egan Warming Center is once again activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight. And there's also an urgent need for volunteers to help manage the sites. The Egan Warming Centers are managed by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, with funding from Lane County and support from community members, service providers, nonprofits, faith-based and social communities. Its emergency shelters serve unhoused adults and youth on nights when the low temperature is forecast to be 30 degrees or below. The Egan Warming Center is named in honor of Major Thomas Egan, who froze to death during a cold spell in 2008. This evening's sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection at 3925 Hilyard Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome.; More than 1,000 flights in the U.S. have been cancelled amid the winter storm sweeping across much of the country. Tracking site Flight Aware also reports close to 950 delays. Many are flights to and from airports including Chicago, Minneapolis, and Denver. SeaTac, which has flights connecting to many of those airports, has close to one dozen cancellations. Portland has a handful. The weather could have a ripple effect for travelers across the country throughout the day. / CRIME, RELIGION: Eugene Police continue to investigate a series of anti-Semitic fliers that were left throughout the community over the weekend. Investigators say they appear to be similar to hate messages that were distributed in Springfield over the last few weeks. In all, Eugene Police took about 50 calls from residents reporting they had discovered the anti-Semitic fliers. Officials say they appear to be part of a national effort to

push an anti-Semitic agenda. Eugene Mayor Lucy Vinis says the idea of the flyers being spread in our community is disturbing. She says such messages are designed to divide our community, and they have no place here. She also asks community members to continue reporting any potential related criminal activity to Eugene Police or dialing 911 in an emergency. Hate speech and other acts of discrimination also can be reported online or by calling 541-682-5177 or contacting the Oregon Department of Justice at https://justice.oregon.gov/CrimeReporting/BiasCrime / LAW ENFORCEMENT, LEGAL: Two Lane County community organizations have filed a lawsuit against the City of Cottage Grove. They claim the police department has violated the Sanctuary Promise Act by illegally providing assistance to federal immigration officials seeking to deport community members. The groups are asking a Lane County judge to declare that the City of Cottage Grove is violating the act and issue an injunction ordering the city to comply. Cottage Grove officials have not yet commented on the suit. The Rural Organizing Project (ROP) and Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC) allege that Cottage Grove Police Department are detecting and taking people into custody for immigration enforcement. They also say members of the agency are notifying immigration officials of people in local custody who police believe are violating federal immigration law; giving immigration officials access to people it is detaining in restricted areas of the Cottage Grove Jail; and sharing confidential information with immigration officials about people in its custody, including release dates, contact information, and personal data. The suit claims such practices illegally divert local resources to assist federal officials in enforcing immigration laws against refugees and immigrants. They say that, in turn, erodes community trust in police and tears families apart. The plaintiffs are represented by the Oregon Law Center, a statewide, non-profit law firm. / CRIME, SAFETY: One Tuesday morning, law enforcement officials in Douglas County received multiple calls about an alleged active shooter at various schools. The reports were false, but schools in Douglas County were put on a precautionary lockdown for a time. Local and state investigators are seeking the person or persons responsible for the calls. The bogus reports also led to some concerned parents and others flooding 911 lines with calls for updates on the situation. Douglas County officials remind families that while the situation caused some concern, it's important to keep 911 lines open so someone experiencing an emergency can report it.; Eugene Police says the scammers are back, calling people and pretending to be members of local law enforcement. The criminals even are using the names of retired and current Eugene Police officers and command staff, and calling from a spoofed number that looks like it's coming from the police department. The scammers claim you need to pay them money to avoid criminal charges—through services such as Apple Pay or Zelle, or through cryptocurrency or gift cards. Don't do it! This is a variation on the same old scams where people call claiming to be with the IRS or some other government agency, with the scammer demanding payment over the phone or else you'll face a warrant for your arrest. Police and other government officials would never do that and say if someone calls with such a story and demands immediate payment, hang up and report to the information to federal investigators at www.ic3.gov If you are the victim of a scam and have incurred a loss, please call the Eugene Police non-emergency line at 541-682-5111.

WILDFIRE RECOVERY, GOVERNMENT: More federal funding is coming to western Oregon to help cover the costs of fighting last season's wildfires and dealing with cleanup after a storm pummeled the region with straight-line winds. Oregon U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley say the Oregon Department of Forestry is receiving more than \$3.5 million to cover the costs of managing the response to those incidents. Wyden and Merkley say the state is also receiving more than \$18 million from the federal infrastructure act to help prevent and reduce chemical contaminants such as the substance known as PFAS in local drinking water supplies. Such substances can put children at higher risk for cancer, birth defects, and other devastating health outcomes. / DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, LEGAL: Conservationists are seeking an emergency court order to block construction of a lithium mine near the Nevada-Oregon line. The new request filed Tuesday in federal court in Reno comes after a judge there directed the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to revisit part of its approval of the plans but allowed construction to go forward in the meantime. The White House says the mine planned by Lithium Nevada Corp., a subsidiary of Lithium Americas, is critical to ramped-up efforts to produce raw materials for electric vehicle batteries. Opponents say it would harm wildlife habitats, degrade groundwater, and pollute the air. Four environmental groups are asking the judge to temporarily halt any work at the mine until they can appeal her Feb. 6 ruling to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The judge in Reno ordered the government's lawyers to respond on an expedited basis by the end of the day today. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/23/23

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, SAFETY, SCHOOLS: CLOSURES IN LANE COUNTY: Lane Community College – all campuses; Marcola, McKenzie, Siuslaw, Mapleton, Junction City, Fern Ridge, Crow-Applegate-Lorane, Blachly, Oak Hill School, CLOSURES IN BENTON COUNTY: Corvallis, Philomath, Monroe, and Alsea Schools, CLOSURES IN LINN COUNTY: Central Linn, Lebanon Schools, Santiam Canyon. ALSO: Western Oregon University has closed its Monmouth and Salem campuses for the day. CLOSURES IN DOUGLAS COUNTY: Elkton, Oakland, Sutherlin, UCAN Head Start classes in Sutherlin, CLOSURES ELSEWHERE ON THE COAST: North Bend, Coos, Bay, Bandon, Lincoln County (Newport). TWO-HOUR DELAYS: MORNING DELAYS FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: Oregon State University's Corvallis campus, and Linn-Benton Community College are opening at 10 a.m. Note: Willamette University in Salem remains on its regular schedule. TWO-HOUR DELAYS FOR LANE COUNTY SCHOOLS: Eugene 4J (with buses on snow routes), Willamette Leadership Academy, Eugene Christian School; Eugene Montessori; St. Paul Parrish; Twin Rivers Charter School. ALSO: Head Start of Lane County has canceled its morning classes and begins its full-day classes at 11 a.m. TWO-HOUR DELAYS FOR LINN COUNTY SCHOOLS: Harrisburg, Greater Albany, Sweet Home, Linn-Benton ESD, Albany Christian School. TWO-HOUR DELAYS FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS: North Douglas, Yoncalla, Camas Valley Charter School. SCHOOLS THAT ARE ON TIME BUT WITH BUSES ON SNOW ROUTES: Creswell, Pleasant Hill, Roseburg, Winston-Dillard, South Umpqua. SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON THEIR REGULAR SCHEDULE: Springfield, Bethel, South Lane. BIG CHALLENGE FOR SOME OF THE STATE'S TOP HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLERS: The OSAA Championships were set to begin today at Portland's Memorial Coliseum. That's not possible with the weather conditions. Officials are working to reschedule. OTHER DELAYS: The Lane Council of Governments' Senior & Disability Services – the Florence and Oakridge offices along with the Oakridge Senior Meals site are CLOSED. L-COG's Eugene offices are opening at 10 a.m. Pearl Buck Center has canceled its facility programs, including the Academy, LEAP, and preschool classes. Willamalane's Bob Keefer Center, Willamalane Adult Activity Center, and Willamalane Park Swim Center will open at 10 a.m. The Willamette Valley Cancer Institute's Florence and Albany locations are closed, its Eugene and Corvallis locations open at 9 a.m. and the Corvallis location at 10 a.m. The RiverBend location is on its regular schedule. Central

Electric JATC in Tangent has canceled classes for the day. State office buildings in Portland are closed. Officials have decided to open the state office buildings in Salem, after all.; In the Portland area, if you choose to travel, expect snow on top of ice throughout the area, major delays, and road closures. Many roads are blocked by stalled and abandoned vehicles. Watch for crews and give them room to work safely. Downed trees have closed multiple roads in the Coast Range, mostly on their western ends, from Oregon Highway 34 just outside of Alsea to many other Coast Range highways to the north. Expect ice, snow, and downed trees in many areas. Where power is out, signals are four way stops. Check TripCheck.com before you go and be prepared for winter conditions and travel delays.; The Egan Warming Center is once again activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight. The Egan Warming Centers are managed by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, with funding from Lane County and support from community members, service providers, nonprofits, faith-based and social communities. Its emergency shelters serve unhoused adults and youth when the low temperature is forecast to be 30 degrees or below. The centers are named in honor of Major Thomas Egan, who froze to death during a cold spell in 2008. This evening's sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection at 3925 Hilyard Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. / CRIME, SAFETY: If you received an emergency alert on your mobile device yesterday urging you to stay away from the area of 13th and F Streets in Springfield or if already in the area to shelter in place, you were not alone. Not a lot of details, but it was a vehicle pursuit where Homeland Security has been seeking a suspect out of Washington state. Two suspects, a man and a woman, ditched the vehicle in Springfield and barricaded themselves in a residence, The man and woman were eventually taken into custody without incident. Multiple local police agencies and tactical teams were involved, including law enforcement from Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County. Two nearby schools were placed on a precautionary lockdown until the situation was resolved.; It caused anxiety yesterday afternoon on the main campus of Lane Community College. But Lane County Sheriff's investigators have determined there was no credible threat after earlier reports of a possible armed person on campus. The campus went into a precautionary lockdown and the public was asked to avoid the area during the law enforcement response. Now, investigators are working to determine the circumstances surrounding the initial report. / HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING, POLITICS: Majority Democrats in the Oregon Legislature have proposed a \$200 million spending package to tackle homelessness and housing. It comes as the state struggles to build more homes and move a growing number of people off the streets. Backers of the plan say the lack of affordable housing is the root cause of much of the state's homelessness. Much of the money would fund the \$130 million housing and homelessness budget request from Governor Tina Kotek. The funds, among other things, would create 600 shelter beds and advance efforts to house more than 1,000 people currently without shelter. Kotek's budget request was paired with an executive order that declared a homelessness state of emergency in parts

of the state. Much of the crisis is in and near the state's larger cities, where the number of people living outside has increased by more than 50 percent since 2017. Oregon has grappled for years with the interconnected crises of affordable housing and homelessness. Experts estimate the state should have 140,000 ore housing units, and federal data shows our homeless population has increased by 22 percent since 2020. While the governor's executive order was largely welcomed, some lawmakers criticized it because it excluded many rural areas. An estimated 4,000 of the state's nearly 18,000 homeless Oregonians live in rural areas, according to the latest 2022 federal point-in-time count. In an apparent bid to address that criticism, the package unveiled Wednesday provides \$27 million for homeless services in 25 rural counties. The legislative package also would expand homeless services for youth and increase rental assistance for tenants facing eviction notices. It would aim to boost affordable housing construction by changing land-use rules. And it would invest \$20 million in the factory production of modular homes, notably those built with products known as "mass timber." While environmentalists say the mass timber industry could lead to increased deforestation, officials across the state, including Gov. Kotek, are hoping it will speed up housing construction and create jobs in rural areas hit hard by the decline of logging. Kotek has set a new housing construction target of 36,000 units per year — an 80 percent increase over current production —to address the state's housing shortage. Democratic lawmakers presented the package Wednesday as bipartisan, naming two Republican colleagues who worked with them on certain measures. While those Republicans acknowledged the crossaisle collaboration, they say more work still needs to be done, concerned the plan does not accelerate production enough in the short term. The package still faces a series of reviews by legislative committees. Democratic lawmakers hope to pass it by the middle of next month. / GOVERNMENT, ECONOMY: Oregon's tax revenue forecast has jumped again, potentially giving state lawmakers more money to spend in the next budget and driving up the likely state tax rebate that taxpayers could receive next year. State economist Mark McMullen told lawmakers Wednesday that income taxes paid by individuals and corporations continue to outstrip economists' expectations. But the state has only begun to receive a "trickle" of tax returns and tax payments, so analysts are awaiting additional data. McMullen said the next revenue forecast in May will provide a sharper focus upon which state lawmakers may base their 2023-2025 budget. State economists also bumped up their prediction for general fund and lottery revenues in the current budget cycle by nearly \$500 million, according to a document from the Legislative Revenue Office. The latest forecasted state revenue bump could help erase a budget shortfall of \$560 million predicted by budget analysts in December. Still, economists expect Oregon lawmakers will have \$3 billion less to spend in general fund and lottery revenue over in the next two years than they had during the current budget cycle. That means some potentially tough funding choices ahead. With the surge in revenues, the state now is expected to send nearly \$4 billion back to taxpayers next year in the form of Oregon's unique "kicker" rebate, which usually takes the form of a tax credit on the following year's tax returns. At the last state revenue and economic forecast released in November, state economists estimated the kicker rebate to be paid out as tax credits in 2024 could be around \$3.7 billion. Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp of Bend has proposed legislation to issue the kicker to taxpayers as

checks this year. Senate President Rob Wagner, a Democrat from Lake Oswego, said that idea was a nonstarter. / SAFETY, RECREATION: Investigators say it likely was an accidental fall. But it had a fatal outcome. Officials with the Lane County Sheriff's Office say a 22-year-old Salem man died Saturday afternoon when he apparently fell off a cliff located between Aufderheide Drive and Cougar Reservoir, near Terwilliger Hot Springs. The location with what was described as "extreme terrain" made it difficult for first responders to reach the man. Lane County Sheriff Search and Rescue personnel used ropes to rappel down the cliff. The man's name is being withheld until relatives are notified. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/24/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, SCHOOLS: They've cleared Interstate 5 and some of the other major highways, but travel remains challenging on secondary roads and neighborhoods in the Portland area this morning. Portland was largely shut down yesterday after 11 inches of snow fell, making it the second snowiest day in the city's history—the snowiest since 1943. In many places, Portland-area temperatures did not warm long enough yesterday, so some of the roadway snow has formed a solid layer of ice and black ice. Wednesday's storm took drivers by surprise, stalling traffic during the evening rush hour and trapping motorists on freeways for hours. Some spent the night up to 13 hours—in their vehicles or abandoned them altogether as crews struggled to clear roads. Other commuters got off spun-out buses and walked in groups to safety. The National Weather Service had predicted only a slim chance of significant snow in the Portland area.; Yesterday, Oregon Department of Transportation crews removed hundreds of downed trees from highways in the Coast Range and reopened many roads, but a 25-mile stretch of Oregon Highway 34 remains closed through the Coast Range. Travelers between Philomath and Waldport need to take U.S. 20 through Newport or Oregon Highway 126. Icy and snowy conditions continue to create occasional closures on Interstate 84 through the Columbia Gorge and Eastern Oregon. Roads also might be dangerously icy throughout Central and Eastern Oregon this morning after snow and slush from this week's storm froze hard overnight.; All lanes of Interstate 5 southbound remain closed this morning from Exit 14 in Ashland to the California border due to severe winter weather conditions in northern California. All lanes of I-5 northbound in California are closed at Redding to the Oregon border. Oregon and California highway crews are expecting a long closure today. Local detour routes are limited; Oregon Highways 66 and OR 273 (the Old Siskiyou Hwy) are both closed. When the lanes reopen, there will be a chain requirement in placer. Officials say traction tires alone with not be enough for safe navigation.; CLOSURES: The BLACHLY SCHOOLS have CLOSED for the day. TWO-HOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT DELAYS: The Fern Ridge and the Crow-Applegate-Lorane Schools are on two-hour delays. OTHER CLOSURES: The Lane Council of Government's Senior Meals Site in Veneta also is closed today. Pacific University's Eugene campus is CLOSED today, and Pacific's weekend sports events are canceled. ON TIME: The Sutherlin Schools and the Lebanon Schools are both operating on time, but they have their buses on snow routes. / SPORTS:

In sports: Good news for the state's top high school wrestlers: The OSAA Championships, postponed yesterday in Portland because of snow and ice, begin today and run through Sunday. The Portland Timbers' Major League Soccer season opener against Sporting KC has been postponed because of severe winter weather in the Portland area. The teams had been scheduled to play Saturday, but instead will play Monday night. / CRIME, SAFETY: Eugene Police want to hear from anyone who might have information related to last night's fatal pedestrian-versus-vehicle hit-and-run on Highway 99 near Fairfield. The reports came in shortly before 9 p.m. Preliminary information indicates one or possibly two vehicles were heading northbound on Highway 99 when the crash occurred. Excessive speed is being considered as a factor in the crash. The vehicle or vehicles left the scene and likely suffered damage from the impact. The Eugene Police Major Collision Investigation team is asking anyone with information to call 541-682-5138. The case number is 23-02825; Investigators with the Lane County Sheriff's Office have determined that Wednesday's report of an armed subject at Lane Community College was the result of a series of miscommunications prior to the initial 911 call being placed. Officials say the miscommunications were not maliciously made. Instead, it involved the sharing of second-hand and third-hand information. That led people to believe there was an armed subject at the school with intent to harm a student. But during the investigation, deputies say they learned there were not any threats made toward the school nor was an armed subject observed on campus. Once that was determined, deputies worked with LCC Public Safety and the Oregon State Police Trooper to lift the precautionary lockdown and notify those on campus.; Investigators with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office are working with the state medical examiner to identify human remains found last week in the forest southeast of Glide. A man called the sheriff's office after his son, who had been hunting for shed antlers, found the remains in the Thunder Mountain area. Officials have not released many details but ask anyone with information or leads in the case to contact the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at (541) 440-4471. The case number, for reference, is 23-0618. / EDUCATION, FORESTRY, BUSINESS: It's a big day for some high school students participating at this year's Oregon Logging Conference at the Lane County Events Center and Fairgrounds. It's the "5th Annual Future Forestry Workers Career Day," where students get a close-up look at advanced logging and forestry equipment and technology. They'll also attend presentations to learn more about forestry, reforestation, logging, trucking, diesel mechanics, operating heavy equipment, and firefighting. It's also an opportunity to talk with industry professionals about job opportunities. Also today, the High School Skills Competition. It's an opportunity for the next generation of loggers to show off their stuff in events including Choker Setting, Cable and Line Splicing, Crosscut, and Power Buck. Saturday is Family Fun Day at the Oregon Logging Conference. The event features fun educational exhibits and activities in the Wheeler Pavilion. The topics include papermaking, wildlife exhibits, a chance to build your own bird feeder, learn more about trees, even get some free seedlings. Families also can explore the exhibits and equipment on display at the conference. There's free popcorn, along with clowns, Smokey Bear, and the mascot known as "Coni-Fir." Saturday's activities are free and open to everyone. Family Fun Day runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. / WEATHER, SAFETYM, HOMELESSNESS: The Egan Warming Center is once again activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight.

This evening's sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection at 3925 Hilyard Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. There is a transportation hub at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak Street, with shuttles running from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. / LOW-INCOME, GOVERNMENT: Nearly 30 million lower-income Americans who received extra government help with grocery bills since the beginning of the pandemic soon will see that aid shrink. The U.S. government is ending the added benefit through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program known as SNAP or food stamps. Initially, all U.S. states participated in the program and provided their residents with more SNAP money. Oregon has continued to provide it to those who qualify. But by January, 18 states had rolled back the extra benefits, often along with the end of local emergency declarations. That reduced aid to more than 10 million Americans. An analysis shows for the average SNAP recipient, the end of the supplemental assistance means about \$90 less per month in benefits after this month. Benefits will return to their normal levels, which are based largely on a household's income, size, and certain expenses. Officials and advocates are using texts, flyers, and social media posts to make sure recipients know the program is ending. Experts credit the emergency funds with making sure most Americans had enough food to eat, despite the pandemic. About 10 percent of U.S. households had trouble obtaining sufficient food in 2020 and 2021, roughly unchanged from pre-COVID levels. The rollback is coming during a time when inflation, though improving, remains elevated and food prices are still high. Maximum benefits went up by 12 percent in October to reflect an annual cost-of-living adjustment boosted by higher prices for foods and other goods. But payments went down for those who also receive Social Security because of the 8.7 percent cost-of-living increase in that program on Jan 1. Congress struck a budget deal in late December that replaces the emergency SNAP allocations with funding for a permanent program to replace summer meals program for lower-income children. SNAP recipients are encouraged to check whether they qualify for other nutritional benefits, such as through the federal Women, Infants and Children program, and whether they can qualify for refundable tax credits. / WOMEN, MILITARY, VETERANS: Registration is now open for the 2023 Oregon Women Veterans Conference, which will be held on May 20 and 21 at the Salem Convention Center. It is hosted by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. The free event takes place every two vears and is the largest gathering of female veterans in the state. Women who are veterans from any branch of military service, military era, and military background are invited to attend. The conference includes informational workshops, special speakers, and the opportunity to network. Attendees can connect to resources, learn about the veterans' benefits they've earned, and collectively celebrate their service. This year's theme is "Stronger Together — Voices of Service." ODVA Director Kelly Fitzpatrick, who is an Army veteran and the first woman to lead the state agency, says it is a testament to the continued strength, diversity, and community of female veterans. Female veterans make up

one of the fastest-growing segments of the Oregon veterans' community. An estimated 25,000 women who are veterans live in the state, representing close to one tenth of Oregon's veteran population. The first Oregon Women Veterans Conference was held 25 years ago in 1998. Attendance is free, but registration is required. Go to wvc.oregondva.com to register and find additional event information on lodging, sponsorship, and vendor opportunities. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/27/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, WEATHER, SCHOOLS: Prepare for winter driving conditions and snow at low elevation today in southwest Oregon. Tire chains will likely be required throughout the day on high elevation areas of Interstate 5 north of Grants Pass.: TWO-HOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT DELAYS: The McKenzie, Blachly, Alsea, and Santiam Canyon Schools are on a two-hour delay. CLOSED: The Winston-Dillard Schools and their UCAN Head Start classes and Camas Valley Charter School have closed for the day. The Roseburg Schools are operating on-time but have put several of their buses on snow routes. / EDUCATION, LOW-INCOME. GOVERNMENT, LEGAL: The U.S. Supreme Court is about to hear arguments over President Joe Biden's student debt relief plan. If allowed to go into effect, millions of borrowers could see their loans wiped away or reduced. But Republican-appointed judges have kept the Democratic president's plan from going into effect. It's unclear how the high court will respond. The court is dominated 6-3 by conservatives. The justices have scheduled two hours of arguments in the case Tuesday, though it'll probably go longer. The court is hearing challenges by two students and by six Republican-led states: Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Carolina. / HEALTH, LOW-INCOME: If you get health care coverage through Medicaid, you might be at risk of losing that coverage over the next year. Roughly 84 million people are covered by the government-sponsored program, which has grown by 20 million people since January 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. But as states begin checking everyone's eligibility for Medicaid for the first time in three years, as many as 14 million people could lose access to that health care coverage. At the beginning of the pandemic, the federal government prohibited states from kicking people off Medicaid, even if they were no longer eligible. Before the pandemic, people would regularly lose their Medicaid coverage if they started making too much money to qualify for the program, gained health care coverage through their employer or moved into a new state. That all stopped once COVID-19 started spreading across the country. Over the next year, states will be required to start checking the eligibility again of every person who is on Medicaid. People will have to fill out forms to verify their personal information, including address, income, and household size. Many people who will no longer qualify for Medicaid coverage can turn to the Affordable Care Act's marketplace for coverage, where they'll find health care coverage options that may cost less than \$10 a month. But the coverage available on the marketplace will still be vastly different from what's

offered through Medicaid. Out-of-pocket expenses and co-pays are often higher. Also, people will need to check if the insurance plans offered through the marketplace will still cover their doctors. A special enrollment period will open for people who are unenrolled from Medicaid that will start on March 31 and last through July 31, 2024. People who lose Medicaid coverage will have up to 60 days to enroll after losing coverage, according to guidance the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services sent to states last month. More than half of U.S. children receive health care coverage through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program. Even if you receive a notice that you're no longer eligible for Medicaid, it's likely that your child still qualifies for the program or for health care coverage through CHIP, which covers children whose families make too much money qualify for Medicaid but don't earn enough to afford private health insurance. Between 80 percent and 90 percent percent of children will still be eligible for those programs, according to estimates from the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute's Center for Children and Families. / HEALTH, ILLEGAL DRUGS: The Biden administration is moving to require patients see a doctor in person before getting drugs to treat attention deficit disorders or addictive painkillers, toughening access amid a deepening opioid crisis. The proposal is likely to overhaul the way millions of Americans get their prescriptions after relying on doctor's appointments by computer or phone during the pandemic. Doctors will no longer be able to use telehealth to prescribe drugs that the federal government says have the most potential to be abused — Vicodin, OxyContin, Adderall, and Ritalin, for example. The Drug Enforcement Administration will also clamp down on how other, less addictive drugs can be prescribed over virtual and phone visits. / SAFETY: Cosori is recalling more than 2 million air fryers sold in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico because their wire connections can overheat and cause a fire risk. The Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall Thursday. The agency says consumers should stop using the air fryers immediately. The recall involves multiple model numbers in 3.7-quart and 5.8-quart sizes. All of the units have the Cosori brand name on the front. The air fryers were sold between June 2018 and December 2022 in Best Buy, Target and Home Depot stores and online at Amazon, Walmart and other retailers. They cost between \$70 and \$130. Consumers should contact Cosori to receive a free replacement air fryer or another product. / YOUTH, SAFETY, CRIME: "Once you send that photo, you can't take it back," goes the warning to teenagers, often ignoring the reality that many teens send explicit images of themselves under duress, or without understanding the consequences. A new online tool aims to give some control back to teens, or people who were once teens, and take down explicit images and videos of themselves from the internet. Called Take It Down, the tool is operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and funded in part by Meta Platforms, the owner of Facebook and Instagram. Learn more at https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/ The site lets anyone anonymously — and without uploading any actual images — create what is essentially a digital fingerprint of the image. This fingerprint (a unique set of numbers called a "hash") then goes into a database and the tech companies that have agreed to participate in the project remove the images from their services. Now, the caveats. The participating platforms are, as of Monday, Meta's Facebook and Instagram, Yubo, OnlyFans and Pornhub, owned by Mindgeek. If the image is on another site, or if it is sent in an encrypted platform such as

WhatsApp, it will not be taken down. In addition, if someone alters the original image — for instance, cropping it, adding an emoji or turning it into a meme — it becomes a new image and thus need a new hash. Images that are visually similar — such as the same photo with and without an Instagram filter, will have similar hashes, differing in just one character. Managers of the new tool said teens may feel more comfortable going to a site than to involve law enforcement, which wouldn't be anonymous. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 02/28/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, TRANSPORTATION, SCHOOLS: Expect low elevation snow and winter driving conditions this morning in southwest Oregon. Delay travel if you are able. If you must travel, check your route on www.TripCheck.com Tire chains may be required at high elevation throughout the day.; All Lane Community College locations—Eugene, Cottage Grove, and Florence—open at 10 a.m. Oregon State University's Corvallis and Willamette University in Salem open their campuses at 10 a.m. Western Oregon University's Monmouth and Salem campuses have CLOSED for the day. LANE COUNTY SCHOOLS: CLOSED: The Marcola, Oakridge, McKenzie, South Lane, Siuslaw, Mapleton, Fern Ridge, Crow-Applegate-Lorane, and Blachly Schools have closed for the day. TWO-HOUR DELAY: The Junction City Schools and Twin Rivers Charter School are on a twohour delay. ON-TIME BUT BUSES ON SNOW ROUTES: The Eugene, Springfield, Creswell, and Pleasant Hill Schools are operating on-time but with their morning buses on snow routes. ALSO: Head Start of Lane County has canceled its morning classes and will delay the start of its full- and extended-day programs until 11 a.m. DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS: CLOSED: The Elkton, Yoncalla, Oakland, Sutherlin, Roseburg, Winston-Dillard Schools, and Camas Valley and Days Creek Charter Schools are closed. TWO-HOUR DELAY: The Glide and South Umpqua Schools are on a two-hour delay. BENTON COUNTY SCHOOLS: CLOSED: The Monroe, Philomath, and Alsea Schools are closed. TWO-HOUR DELAY: The Corvallis Schools are on a two-hour delay. LINN COUNTY SCHOOLS: CLOSED: The Greater Albany, Albany Christian, Lebanon, Sweet Home, Santiam Canyon, and Santiam Christian Schools, and the Linn-Benton-Lincoln ESD have closed for the day. The Family Tree Relief Nursery is closed but operating remotely. TWO-HOUR DELAY: The Central Linn and Harrisburg Schools, and Central Electric JATC are on a two-hour delay. ALSO: The Lane Council of Governments has CLOSED its Senior Meals sites in Oakridge and Cottage Grove and its L-COG Senior & Disability Offices in Cottage Grove and Florence. L-COG's Senior & Disability Services office in Junction City is opening at 10 a.m. State offices in Douglas County, including Douglas County Circuit Court, are opening at 10 a.m.; The Egan Warming Center is once again activating five emergency cold-weather shelter sites tonight. This evening's sites include: Trinity United Methodist Church at 440 Maxwell Road opens at 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection at 3925 Hilyard Street opens at 6:30 p.m. The Springfield Memorial Building at 765 North A Street opens at 6:30 p.m.

Whiteaker Site at the Eugene Mission, 1542 West 1st Avenue, opens at 10 p.m. The All-Night Warming Center (a "No-Sleep" site") is at the First Christian Church at 1166 Oak Street in Eugene and opens at 11 p.m. The youth site (for minors 18 and younger) is at First United Methodist Church, located at 1376 Olive Street in Eugene, and opens at 6 p.m. All sites are accessible, and animals are welcome. There is a transportation hub at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak Street, with shuttles running from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. / SCHOOLS, EDUCATION, SPORTS, RECREATION: Despite yesterday's chilly temperatures, lots of warm smiles yesterday in the Bethel Schools. Students, families, community members, and staff celebrated a new softball facility and artificial turf field at Willamette High School. It's a terrific practice and game setting for the students. Thanks go to members of the community who authorized the bond sales to pay for it. / CRIME: A 21-year-old Corvallis woman was arrested and jailed after what Eugene Police say was dangerous driving on Interstate 105 and Interstate 5 yesterday morning shortly after 10 a.m. Officials say a traffic officer was using LIDAR on eastbound I-105 between Coburg Road and I-5 when he spotted a Subaru whose driver appeared to be speeding. As he followed it and prepared to make a traffic stop, the officer said the driver made two abrupt lane changes to take the off-ramp to southbound I-5. When the officer activated his patrol vehicle lights, he said the driver of the Subaru passed a pickup on the shoulder of the single-lane ramp, then passed a second vehicle on the right-hand shoulder where the ramp joins the freeway. The driver then allegedly moved to the left lane of southbound I-5 and passed another vehicle using the left-hand median. The Subaru's driver, identified as 21-year-old Nora Grace Baumgart of Corvallis, stopped a short time later and arrested. / LAW ENFORCEMENT, CRIME, ELECTIONS: It's an innovative approach to promoting the renewal of its Public Safety Levy on the May ballot. The Lane County Sheriff's Office is inviting citizens to tour the Lane County Jail. In announcing the tours, Lane County Sheriff Cliff Harrold said he wants to showcase some of the innovative efforts at the jail and what taxpayer dollars support. The tours are planned for Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings, beginning March 15. Want to sign up? You need to be age 18 or older. Reserve a spot at www.publicsafetylevy.org/tours /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/01/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SCHOOLS, WEATHER: The Siuslaw Schools are on a two-hour delay. The L-COG Senior & Disability Services office in Florence is opening at 10 a.m. Junction City Schools are operating on-time but buses are on snow routes. In Linn and Benton Counties: Oregon State University's Corvallis campus is opening at 10 a.m. The Alsea Schools, Benton County government offices, and Central Electric JATC are on two-hour delays. The Philomath Schools are operating on-time with morning buses on snow routes. In Douglas County, the Sutherlin, Roseburg and Winston-Dillard Schools are operating on-time but with morning buses on snow routes. The South Umpqua Schools and the Camas Valley Charter School are on a two-hour delay. / SAFETY: Extensive damage but no reported injuries. It took three hours for fire crews to bring a fast-spreading blaze under control at Eugene's Valley River Inn. The three-alarm fire damaged multiple rooms and floors in the hotel's riverfront wing. Crews remained late into the day to douse hot spots and work to determine what caused the blaze. The fire was reported shortly after 11 a.m. on the hotel's south side and flames quickly spread to the third floor and attic. Eugene-Springfield Fire officials said the building's sprinkler system did not activate, but fire alarms alerted guests and staff to evacuate. There were no reported injuries. The hotel wing suffered a partial roof collapse along with smoke and water damage. Eugene-Springfield Fire deployed all available crews to the blaze.; To some alarmed callers, they sounded like gunshots. But Eugene Police say the sounds came from exploding propane tanks at a homeless camp near the Beltline Highway and Roosevelt Boulevard. The explosions and fire were reported shortly after 6:30 yesterday morning. Investigators say the small structure was a substantial wooden hut with a single stove in the middle. No reports of injuries.; Two Eugene women are safe after being rescued from their vehicle, which was stuck in deep snow on a secondary road in Southern Oregon. Crews from Jackson County Sheriff's Office used a search-and-rescue Sno-Cat to locate 21year-old Taylor Marie Lange and 20-year-old Talia Esther Rosenbloom in their 2010 Volkswagen Jetta. The two had been reported missing out of Shady Cove on Monday night. Crews searched multiple travel routes throughout the day yesterday. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office assisted with the efforts. Officials say it is another reminder to avoid taking unknown roads during times of severe winter weather, let someone know where you are heading and by what route, and ensure both you and your vehicle are prepared for the conditions. / ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE, AGRICULTURE, NURSERIES, BSUINESS: It's a

hitchhiker that could mean bad news for Oregon's native frogs and amphibians. A non-native and potentially invasive Cuban treefrog (Osteopilus septentrionalis) was found Monday on a plant at a store in the Beaverton area that sells tropical plants. Wildlife officials are not certain whether or not a Cuban treefrog could survive year-round in Oregon due to our cold temperatures but say it could survive in warmer weather during the late spring to early fall in many parts of the state. Cuban treefrogs prey on other frogs, tadpoles, small lizards, and snakes. They reproduce quickly and can outcompete native species. They also secrete a mucus that may irritate your eyes and nose and cause allergy-like symptoms and possibly trigger an asthma attack. Biologists with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife are asking all nursery plant retailers and customers to inspect their products and contact wildlife officials if any frogs or other species are found hitchhiking on or inside of a plant or its container and packaging. If you do, please do not release it into the wild. Instead, contact state wildlife officials so they may identify the species. This is the second time that a non-native tree frog has entered Oregon through a supply chain. The first incident was in 2021 when two Cuban treefrogs were discovered in nursery plants and quickly reported to ODFW. If you find insects or snails, please report them to the Oregon Invasive Species hotline. / HEALTH, LOW-INCOME, BUSINESS: Drugmaker Eli Lilly will cut prices for some of its older, generic insulins later this year. The company also will immediately cap monthly out-of-pocket costs at \$35 for people who are not covered by Medicare's prescription drug program. That cap applies to people with commercial coverage. The federal government in January started applying that cap to patients with coverage through its Medicare program for people age 65 and older. Many insurers already have price caps in place. Lilly said people without insurance can find savings cards to receive insulin for the same amount at its InsulinAffordability.com website. The move promises critical relief for some people with diabetes who otherwise can face annual costs of more than \$1,000 for the insulin products they need in order to live. Eli Lilly's changes also come as lawmakers pressure drugmakers to do something about soaring prices. People with Type 1 diabetes must take insulin every day to survive. More than 8 million Americans use insulin, according to the American Diabetes Association. Research has shown that prices for insulin have more than tripled in the last two decades, and pressure is growing on drugmakers to slow the increases. Still, the prices cuts are months away and the drugmaker did not say what the new prices will be. Lilly is cutting the list price for its most commonly prescribed insulin, Humalog, and for another insulin, Humulin, by 70 percent in the fourth quarter.

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/02/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, SAFETY: Portland last week received nearly a foot of snow in a single day in what proved to be its second-snowiest day in history. Mountainous areas of California experienced nearly unprecedented snowfall accumulations more than 40 feet since the start of the season. Even Phoenix suburbs woke up today to a dusting of snow that covered cactuses and lush golf courses. What is going on with all the snow? Meteorologists say the explanation for the robust winter season is not so simple. The current La Niña pattern does have an influence on global weather, but they say that is only one factor. Experts say a persistent blocking pattern over the Pacific Ocean plus cold air migrating south from the Arctic have created the conditions for widespread snowfall along the West Coast. With respect to human-induced climate change, meteorologists say it's challenging to nail down what part it is playing in the West Coast's peculiar winter season. But increasingly extreme weather is expected as global temperatures rise. Meteorologists say heat produces moisture, moisture produces storms, and heat and moisture bind to produce even more severe storms. SPORTS: Endyia Rogers scored 10 of her 28 points in the fourth quarter and ninth-seeded Oregon pulled out a 52-50 win over eighth-seeded Washington in the first round of the Pac-12 Tournament. The Ducks face top-seeded and sixthranked Stanford in the quarterfinals today at 2:30 p.m. on the Pac-12 Network. Rogers had two baskets in a 9-0 run that was capped by a Te-Hina Paopao 3pointer that put the Ducks on top 45-43. Hannah Stines scored the next three baskets for Washington, one a 3-pointer, but Rogers did the same with her jumper giving Oregon a 51-50 lead with 1:28 to play.; Raegan Beers scored 18 points making 8 of 9 foul shots and Adlee Blacklock scored 15 and No. 11-seed Oregon State upset sixth-seed USC 56-48 on Wednesday in an opening round of the Pac-12 Conference tournament. The Beavs take on No. 3 seed Colorado tonight at 8:30 p.m. on the Pac-12 Networks. Jelena Mitrovic added 12 points for Oregon State (13-17). Oregon State outscored USC 21-5 in the final 6:53 and made all eight of its final foul shots at the end to secure the win. / CRIME: Members of the Eugene Police Street Crimes Unit and SWAT team say they seized multiple firearms, money, and drugs while serving a search warrant at a residence Tuesday afternoon in the 2800 block of Crocker Road, off Irving. Investigators say the location had been considered a neighborhood nuisance house for quite some time, and that frequent short-stay traffic had been observed on multiple occasions. Suspecting that the occupants were dealing in narcotics

and fencing stolen property, law enforcement moved in. Officials say 29-year-old Brandon Anthony Calhoun McFarland was arrested and will face several felony charges. Among the items seized: Five handguns—including three handguns from a vehicle, one handgun reported stolen; a rifle with a case from a vehicle; and ammunition. Police say other evidence included digital scales and packaging material; along with various quantities of Xanax, oxycodone, methamphetamine, heroin, heroin-fentanyl mixture, fentanyl powder, MDMA, and cocaine. Police also recovered a stolen bicycle and more than \$4,000 in cash. / SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT: Eugene Police say they've received a grant to crack down on speedsters on local streets. They're conducting special enforcement efforts all this month. Among the targeted roadways: 6th and 7th Avenues, 11th and 18th Avenues, and 1st Avenue. Officials say it comes as speeding-related fatalities continue to rise across the state. According to Impact Oregon, speeding fatalities were up 17 percent from 2019 to 2020, and another estimated five percent from 2020 to 2021. It's part of a nationwide problem: According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2020 more than 11,200 people were killed in speeding-related crashes, and excessive speed was a contributing factor in 29 percent of all fatal crashes across the U.S. / PANDEMIC: Three years ago, Oregon began recording its first COVID-19 cases and deaths. But new numbers from the Oregon Health Authority show continued gradual easing of infection numbers and hospitalizations. But part of the drop in infections is because fewer people are being tested or are not reporting positive home test results. Officials say COVID is still circulating in Oregon and elsewhere. And while we have a higher level of immunity—either through vaccination or earlier infections—the coronavirus continues to pose health dangers to older adults and those with vulnerable immune systems. Lane County Public Health received reports of 269 new infections last week and four additional deaths. That brings our pandemicrelated death toll to 712. Local officials say slightly more than nine percent of those tested by primary care providers and in other clinical settings came back positive for the coronavirus. Oregon's pandemic "state of emergency" is set to expire March 6. But so far, the requirement to wear masks in health care settings remains in place to protect workers and vulnerable patients. / EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, LOW-INCOME: Both Democrats and Republicans are preparing for a prolonged political battle over student debt relief if the U.S. Supreme Court rejects President Joe Biden's plan to forgive federal loans. Conservative justices appeared deeply skeptical of the debt relief plan this week. and the White House wants to turn up the heat on Republicans and deflect disappointment from borrowers if the court rules against the administration. For Democrats, at stake is the loyalty of young, college-educated voters who are a critical part of their coalition. But it's not clear whether the administration has a backup plan for canceling the debt. But Republicans who sued over the plan and those in Congress who cheered them on say Biden's student loan cancellation unfairly punishes Americans who saved for college or made a different career choice. Up to 43 million Americans could benefit. Out of the 26 million who have applied for relief, 16 million have been approved, according to administration officials. However, all relief has been on hold amid legal challenges from Republicans. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/03/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, SCHOOLS: Due to icy conditions this morning, the Junction City, Fern Ridge, and Crow-Applegate-Lorane Schools are on a two-hour delay. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: Workers, patients and visitors in health care settings will no longer be required to wear masks starting April 3. That word just in the last few minutes from the Oregon Health Authority, matching similar moves in Washington state and elsewhere. While pandemic-related mask mandates were lifted months ago in many other workplaces, the state has kept the rules in place for health care settings to protect staff and vulnerable patients. Come April 3. masks will no longer be required in hospitals, mobile clinics, ambulances, outpatient facilities, dental offices, urgent care centers, counseling offices, school-based health centers, complementary and alternative medicine locations. It will be up to individual healthcare workers and patients to decide whether to mask up. Oregon Health Authority leaders say they've seen continued decreases in a trio of respiratory infections—COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. They say that's eased the strain hospital emergency departments and intensive care units. Some health care settings may continue to require masks even after the requirement is lifted. But by announcing the lifting of the mask mandate one month early, OHA's leaders say health care facilities have time to prepare for the change. That includes time for any training and new procedures to ensure continued patient safety. It also gives patients and others time to plan their health care visits and any protective measures they wish to take. State health officials continue to recommend that people at higher risk for severe disease, or who live with someone at higher risk, consider wearing masks in health care or any settings, to better protect themselves and those most vulnerable around them. / SPORTS: Number 6 Stanford defeated the Oregon Women's Basketball team 76-65 in the Pac-12 tournament quarterfinals. The Duck Women now must wait to learn whether they make the NCAA tournament. Head coach Kelly Graves says if the Ducks do not receive an NCAA bid, they would accept one to the NITs.; Number 20 Colorado knocked the Oregon State Women's Basketball team out of the Pac-12 tournament last night, 62-54. / WILDFIRE RECOVERY, GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY: Lane County officials are moving ahead with new efforts to continue funding the recovery for those affected by 2020's Holiday Farm Fire. The county's Board of Commissioners this week approved the use of \$4.1 million in state funds to assist with affordable housing development, home purchases, infrastructure rebuilding, and staffing to help manage the efforts. The grant money

includes \$800,000 toward the development of multiple low- to moderate-income single-family homes in the community of Blue River. The McKenzie Community Land Trust and DevNorthwest (DevNW) will spearhead that effort and work to secure additional state funds for the project. Other funds will help pay for design and engineering of a reworked Blue River Drive through the heart of the community. There is additional money to aid wildfire survivors through the McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group and through the rental and home repair financial assistance efforts managed through a separate program. There also is funding to continue the push for creation of high-speed communications throughout the Upper McKenzie River Valley. And money will help repair hard-hit parks and boat ramps. / HEALTH, BUSINESS, COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT: State health officials have released their preliminary report that analyzes community health risks related to industrial pollution at the now-closed J.H. Baxter wood treatment facility in West Eugene. It comes after the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency collected soil samples from residential yards during the past two years. They focused on more than two dozen locations in areas north of the shuttered facility. During both rounds of sampling, experts say they found levels of dioxin in soil that was above health-based screening concentrations in seven residential yards. The report concluded that there was a low risk of cancer from long-term or chronic exposures to dioxins from J.H. Baxter. And it found no anticipated health risks from exposures shorter than one year. But the report does find that soil with dioxin concentrations over 40 parts per trillion (ppt) could harm the health of children younger than age six if they come in contact with bare soil regularly for one year or longer. And the report notes that if backyard chickens live in those affected residential yards where the soil has dioxin levels above 4.7 ppt, it could be harmful to eat eggs laid by those chickens. The Oregon Health Authority is accepting public comment on the report and plans to host a public meeting on its findings on April 22 at the Petersen Barn Community Center in Eugene. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/06/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, RECREATION, ENVIRONMENT: Recently Lane County Sheriff's Search and Rescue responded to an all-too-familiar mission, but with a unique twist. A motorist had attempted to travel a remote road in the Willamette National Forest that is not maintained for winter travel. His vehicle became stuck in the snow, and he did not have cell service to call for help. Cell reception is very limited in many forested areas of Lane County. Making his situation worse, he had not let anyone know where he was traveling or when he expected to return. But officials say after his initial mistake, the man made a few smart decisions: He stayed with his vehicle, which gave him some protection from cold temperatures and winds. And he used some ingenuity to call for help. Officials say the man had a drone with him and attached his cell phone to the drone. He then typed a text message to a trusted person describing his situation and exact location, hit send, and launched the drone several hundred feet into the air. The increased elevation allowed his phone to connect to a tower and send the message, which resulted in search and rescue teams being deployed to assist him. While sheriff's teams were rescuing that person, they also located another motorist who had also been stranded nearby in the snow for multiple days. Having told you all that, some important reminders: Forest Roads are not maintained for winter travel. Always tell a responsible person EXACTLY where you are going, and when you expect to be back. Do not deviate from this plan. If a road becomes unpassable, turn around and go back the way you came. Do not attempt a detour without first updating your plan with your emergency contact. Of the dozens of missions we have had this winter involving a vehicle stuck in the snow, nearly all of them were 4x4 vehicles and almost all of the drivers told us "I didn't think I would get stuck." Instead of asking yourself whether you think you can get through a section of road, ask yourself "What will happen if I do get stuck?" If you (and the group of other vehicles you are traveling with) are not prepared to deal with any of the possible outcomes from an attempt, turn around and go back the way you came.; Law enforcement officials say a 46-year-old Oregon man was killed in an avalanche northwest of Bend. The Statesman Journal reported the man died Thursday in Black Crater in the Three Sisters Wilderness. Authorities haven't released his name. The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office said the man's his skiing partner called 911. He was then able to locate the man's body in the snow using an avalanche beacon and attempted lifesaving measures, which were unsuccessful. Officials say both skiers had the proper backcountry safety gear.

Rescuers were unable to recover the body Thursday because of the extreme avalanche danger and not enough light. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: Workers, patients and visitors in health care settings will no longer be required to wear protective masks starting April 3. The word came Friday from the Oregon Health Authority, matching similar moves in Washington state and California in a coordinated West Coast decision. While pandemic-related mask mandates were lifted months ago in many other workplaces, the state has kept the rules in place for health care settings to protect staff and vulnerable patients. Come April 3, masks will no longer be required in hospitals, mobile clinics, ambulances, outpatient facilities, dental offices, urgent care centers, counseling offices, schoolbased health centers, complementary and alternative medicine locations. It will be up to individual healthcare workers and patients to decide whether to mask up. Oregon Health Authority leaders say they've seen continued decreases in a trio of respiratory infections—COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. They say that's eased the strain hospital emergency departments and intensive care units. Some health care settings may continue to require masks even after the requirement is lifted. But by announcing the lifting of the mask mandate one month early, OHA's leaders say health care facilities have time to prepare for the change. That includes time for any training and new procedures to ensure continued patient safety. It also gives patients and others time to plan their health care visits and any protective measures they wish to take. State health officials continue to recommend that people at higher risk for severe disease, or who live with someone at higher risk, consider wearing masks in health care or any settings, to better protect themselves and those most vulnerable around them. / SAFETY, HEALTH, EDUCATION: University of Massachusetts is warning about a TikTok trend after 28 ambulances were summoned to off-campus parties. Officials said students were observed Saturday carrying jugs with a mixture of alcohol, electrolytes, and water, dubbed "blackout rage gallons," or "BORGs," in a bingedrinking trend gaining traction on TikTok. Officials said there were so many calls for ambulances for student alcohol intoxication that neighboring agencies stepped in to help. Fortunately, none of the cases were life-threatening. / MILITARY, EDUCATION: Army recruiters are struggling to meet enlistment goals. Last year was the Army's worst recruiting year in recent history, when it fell 25 percent short of its 60,000 enlistment goal, and they say one of their biggest hurdles is not having been able to visit many high schools during the pandemic to meet students one on one. All the military services are struggling to compete for young people in a tight job market where private companies are often willing to provide better pay and benefits. And, according to estimates, just 23 percent of young people can meet the military's fitness, educational and moral requirements, with many disqualified for reasons ranging from medical issues to criminal records and tattoos. Army leaders say their surveys show that young people don't see the Army as a prime career choice, often because they don't want to die or get injured, deal with the stress of military life or put their lives on hold. At some schools and in some communities, there also is resistance from those don't see the value in offering students the military as a career option. Army leaders say the military can offer an excellent college benefits, teach leadership skills, and provide a lifetime career path with strong health care and retirement benefits. / SPORTS: Congratulations to some of our local teams for their performances over the weekend at the Class 1A, 2A, and 3A basketball tournaments. The Pleasant

Hill girls and Creswell boys each took 4<sup>th</sup> Place in their respective Class 3A tourneys. The North Douglas girls out of Drain took 4<sup>th</sup> in their Class 1A tournament. Starting tomorrow and continuing through Saturday, it's the quarterfinal, followed by the semifinal and championship brackets in the Class 4A, 5A, and 6A Girls and Boys Basketball Playoffs. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/07/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY: Oregon State Police yesterday released the name of a California man who died Saturday afternoon after falling from a rocky bluff at Cape Kiwanda and being swept out to sea. They say 25-year-old Henry Mihn Hoang was hiking on the other side of a safety fence when he slipped and fell about 20 feet to the water's edge. Witnesses said he appeared to be knocked unconscious by the fall and was swept into the ocean by the waves. After a search involving the Coast Guard and local agencies, his body was located and recovered Sunday afternoon. Ever since Apple introduced a new feature on iPhones and Apple Watches in September called Crash Detection, there have been plenty of false alarms triggered by events that are not car crashes—including riding on some roller coasters. The Oregonian and OregonLive report there's also been a bump in 911 alerts tied to skiers and snowboarders. Reporter Rob Davis writes that in Central Oregon's Deschutes County alone, 911 dispatchers have received at least 30 automatic crash reports from skiers or snowboarders on Mount Bachelor since December. While two of the calls were from someone who actually was injured in a fall, the rest appear to be false alarms. Managers of the state's 911 systems say their goal is to educate people. While skiers and boarders can turn off their notification, they are not being encouraged to do it since even falls on ski area slopes can cause the occasional serious injury. Apple says it's aware of the issue and it sounds like the company has issued some software updates in recent months to reduce the number of false alarms. Deschutes County officials tell The Oregonian and OregonLive they plan to study the notifications for the next year to see whether they increase or decrease. / ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES WILDFIRES: Some encouraging news about Oregon's snowpack and water supply outlook—at least in some parts of the state. Not so much for others. State snowpack is generally close to normal. But what's known as our water-year precipitation remains below normal. It comes after a relatively dry January and colder-than-normal winter temperatures. Scientists with the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service say because most of our precipitation has fallen as snow instead of rain, we're seeing some streamflows that are well below normal in many parts of the state. Yes, that snow will eventually melt and flow into streams, rivers, and reservoirs. But for now, many reservoirs are below their normal levels. Drought is still an issue in many areas east of the mountains—especially in parts of Central Oregon. Here in the Willamette Basin, our monthly precipitation is at 96 percent of normal. But for the

water year, which began in October, we're at 81 percent of normal. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, FAMILIES: Getting ready for that family Spring Break or summer vacation? The U.S. Department of Transportation is rolling out an online "dashboard." It's designed to let travelers see at a glance which airlines help families with young children sit together at no extra cost. Yesterday's announcement comes as the department works on regulations to prevent families from being separated on planes. It is the latest salvo in the Biden administration's efforts to clamp down on what it calls "junk fees," and to put pressure on airlines to improve service. The dashboard rewards airlines with a green check if they guarantee that an adult family member can sit next to their young children if seats are available. On Monday, only three of the 10 U.S. airlines listed on the website received a green check: Alaska, American and Frontier. The site also includes links to each airline's customer policies. Officials with an airline industry trade group say they already work to accommodate customers who are traveling together, especially those traveling with children, and will continue to do so. Several carriers in recent months have pledged to make changes in their seating policies. The new dashboard builds on a site that the Transportation Department started last year to detail compensation for passengers whose flights are canceled or delayed. / TRANSPORTATION: Amtrak has restarted direct trips on its Cascades passenger-train service between Portland and Vancouver, British Columbia, marking full restoration of daily service on the popular route. Amtrak Cascades customers can choose from multiple daily roundtrips between Seattle and Canada, some by connecting bus service. About 159,000 people each year took direct trips between Seattle and Vancouver, B.C., before the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, including trips with stops along the way, about 290,000 passengers rode the train between the two cities. Passenger trains to Vancouver, B.C. were halted in 2020 when Canada closed the border. The border reopened in August 2021 for vaccinated travelers, but service did not immediately resume. One daily trip was restored between Seattle and Vancouver, B.C., in September 2022. / HEALTH, ILLGEAL DRUGS, POLITICS: Backers say it can save lives and reverse potentially lethal drug overdoses. Opponents say it needs to be paired with better efforts to combat drug use. Lawmakers in the Oregon House yesterday approved a bill to expand distribution of naloxone, packaged as the nasal spray Narcan. Narcan can instantly reverse the effects of fentanyl and other opioid overdoses. While Narcan already is available through first responders, primary care providers, and pharmacies, this would place supplies in public locations including libraries, churches, and buildings open to the general public. Police, firefighters, and EMTs would be able to distribute naloxone kits to drug users, family members, and others who might encounter someone experiencing a drug overdose. And educators would be allowed to administer Narcan to someone who is overdosing in a school setting. The bill now goes to the Oregon Senate. / AGRICULTURE, POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT: Public debate in Salem over a legislative bill that would ban new or expanded large-scale farm operations in Oregon. That would include everything from megadairies to huge poultry operations. Senate Bill 85 was introduced after concerns about large megadairies in Eastern Oregon with tens of thousands of cows, as well as the continued expansion of Foster Farms chicken growing operations in the mid-Willamette Valley. Supporters of the bill say state agencies that oversee everything from agriculture and land use to air and water quality need more time to evaluate such

facilities and their impacts on neighbors and nearby communities. Opponents, including many farmers and agricultural companies, say Oregon already has adequate protections. / PANDEMIC, FAMILIES, CHILDREN, BUSINESS: During the pandemic, Oregon's childcare industry initially shut down, then began slowly reopening—at the start for children of first responders, healthcare, and other essential workers. But some childcare operations remained closed for good. Many providers left the business, or struggled to operate amid tough health, safety, and economic challenges. For many parents, it meant digging deeper into the household budget to pay for increasingly expensive childcare, or one adult changing their job, scaling back hours, or leaving the workforce altogether to care for their kids at home. Since then, state Employment Department analyst Henry Fields says we've seen a rebound in the number of workers employed in the childcare sector statewide and locally. Oregon and Lane County remain still below the number of workers employed in the sector during the same time in 2019, significantly so in the case of Lane County. But Fields notes that even a partial rebound is significant. Childcare centers are themselves employers, and ones that tend to struggle to fill job openings because they have even tighter constraints than many businesses. Their ability to raise wages, for example, is limited by thin margins and high staffing needs. / SPORTS: State high school basketball championships continue this week. Good luck to all our local teams taking part in the playoffs. In today's contests: The Springfield Girls host Mountain View in the quarterfinals of the Class 5A tournament. Tip-off is at 1:30 p.m. at Gill Coliseum on the campus of Oregon State University in Corvallis. It's also a midvalley Girls' match-up as Crescent Valley out of Corvallis meets South Albany in the quarterfinal at 6:30 p.m. at Gill. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/08/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: Congratulations to the Springfield Girls' Basketball team, which yesterday advanced to Thursday's semifinals in the state high school basketball tournament. Today in Class 5A Boys' quarterfinal action, North Eugene meets Summit. Tip-off is at 1:30 p.m. at Gill Coliseum on the campus of Oregon State University in Corvallis. / WEATHER, SAFETY: With snow showers continuing in some areas and icy roads still affecting some bus routes in the hills, the South Lane Schools have closed for the day. So, too, has the L-COG Senior & Disability Services Office in Cottage Grove.; Want to thank everyone who yesterday afternoon joined the Alpha Towing & Recovery Road Crew and provided updates on that big traffic crash on Interstate 5 about seven miles south of Cottage Grove. A northbound commercial slammed into the middle divider, shifting some of the road barrier into the southbound lanes. Once the truck was removed, highway crews needed to realign the barrier before fully reopening the travel lanes. CRIME: He claims he was restrained, struck in the head with a rifle butt, and robbed during a home invasion yesterday in the 24000 block of High Pass Road, west of Junction City. Investigators with the Lane County Sheriff's Office want to hear from anyone who might have leads in the case. The victim says the five suspects claimed they were police officers serving a search warrant. They were not. The victim says the suspects—four men and a woman—were wearing ballistic vest carriers that had the word "police" on them. He said the suspects were wearing masks and at least one of them had what appeared to be a badge hanging from his neck. The victim said several were carrying rifles. The suspects were believed to be driving a gray Jeep Gladiator pickup, a white sedan, and a silver sedan. Know anything about the case? The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to hear from you. Call 541-682-4150 and, when prompted, select Option 1.; Springfield Police say they yesterday arrested a man who is described as a "person of interest" in a suspicious death investigation. No details at this point on the victim, but the investigation began when police were called to the area of Henderson Avenue in Glenwood. They identified 30-year-old Michael Patrick Hill as a "person of interest" and later located and detained him in the area of 54th and Main Streets. Have any information in the case? Contact Springfield Police at 541-726-3721. / SAFETY: Have you seen him? Eugene Police say a family member reported a 30-year-old man with medical and mental health conditions left his treatment facility several days ago and might be at risk. 30year-old Andrew Ronald Carpenter was reported as missing after he left the Hour

Glass treatment facility on Saturday morning without his medications. Officials say he recently moved to Eugene and does not know the area. He is on foot and without a phone. Carpenter was last seen in the Centennial Loop / MLK Jr. Boulevard area. He was wearing white-framed prescription glasses, a light-grey hooded sweatshirt under a copper or brown mustard-colored jacket, blue jeans and black tennis shoes. If you spot him, please dial 911. / EMPLOYMENT: Oregon's unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in January, holding at that level for a fourth consecutive month. The state's nonfarm payroll employers added a net 9,900 jobs. January's gains were largest in the health care and social assistance (+2,200 jobs); professional and business services (+1,800); and leisure and hospitality (+1,400) sectors. The only major industry with a job loss in January was private educational services (-600). While leisure and hospitality employers added jobs in January, state analysts say the sector is still 10,600 jobs below its pre-recession peak reached in February of 2020. / WILDFIRE RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENT, GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY: Woody debris from the Holiday Farm Fire still litters a big section of the McKenzie Valley. Those slash piles need to be burned so they don't become fuel for a future wildfire. But how to do it without creating huge amounts of smoke and a risk the burns might spread? Officials with the Bureau of Land Management yesterday showed off their new approach, in partnership with the Forest Service. They say the machine known as CharBoss turns the wildfire debris into useable "biochar." Experts say the portable burning unit produces less smoke and captures more carbon than traditional open-pile burning. The resulting biochar, a form of charcoal, can be added to soil to improve its quality and productivity. Officials say biochar can contribute to a more successful replanting of the area and help the soil retain moisture. Leaders of the project say biochar also can be used as a water quality filter and in a variety of agricultural uses. Agency scientists will be tracking the results and say if all goes well, the CharBoss could be incorporated into future land management. / TRANSPORTATION, DISABILITIES: The Lane Transit District is receiving a \$1.9 million state grant to enhance its support services, vehicles, bus shelters, and transit district programs that serve the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities. The goal is to better assist those with disabilities who need transportation to support their independent living and get to work, school, health care, and recreation opportunities. Last year, LTD provided more than 250,000 trips for RideSource passengers using its fleet of small buses, private taxis, and when needed—medical transport vehicles. Using RideSource, Medicaid recipients alone traveled more than 2.7 million miles in over 225,000 hours of travel. / HEALTH, SAFETY: U.S. health officials are alerting consumers about two more recalls of eyedrops due to contamination risks that could lead to vision problems and serious injury. The announcements follow a recall last month of evedrops made in India that were linked to an outbreak of drug-resistant infections. There's no indication the latest recalls are related to those products. The Food and Drug Administration posted separate recall notices for certain eyedrops distributed by Pharmedica and Apotex after the companies announced they are voluntarily pulling several lots from the market. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/09/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: Lots of Lane County teams in action today at the state high school basketball tournaments: At the Class 4A tourney at Forest Grove High School, the Marist Boys meet Cascade in the quarterfinals at 3:15 p.m. At 8:15 tonight, the number-two seed Junction City Boys take on Gladstone. The top-seeded Springfield Girls meet Crater in the semifinals of the Class 5A playoffs in Corvallis. Tip-off is at 1:30 p.m. at Gill Coliseum. The North Eugene Boys meet Mountain View at 9:00 this morning in Corvallis for a Class 5A consolation game. And at the Class 6A Girls' tournament in Portland, the Willamette Girls meet Beaverton at 9:00 a.m. in consolation play at the Chiles Center.; Arizona State knocked the Oregon State Men out of the first round of the Pac-12 Basketball Tournament yesterday in Las Vegas, 63-57. The Oregon men open their tournament play this afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in a quarterfinals contest with Washington State. The game will be broadcast on the Pac-12 Network.; An Oregon minor league baseball team, the Hillsboro Hops, plans to build a \$120 million ballpark near the site of their current stadium southwest of Portland. The stadium will seat about 6.000 for baseball and 7.000 for concerts and other events. Recently promoted to the High-A level, the Hops said they looked at upgrading their existing stadium to meet Major League Baseball requirements but found that it was more cost effective to build a facility. Here in Lane County, the Eugene Emeralds are facing a similar deadline to build a new stadium. Construction for the Hops is set to begin this summer and completion is expected in advance of the 2025 season. The new ballpark in Hillsboro will largely be privately financed, though a portion of the construction funds will come from a city lodging tax. / EDCUATION, HEALTH: The Mapleton School District is closed today because of a staffing shortage due to illness. / EDUCATION, LATINX, IMMIGRATION: A new effort to better educate migrant students. The Lane ESD this week celebrated its updated and enhanced Migrant Education Program at the agency's main campus off Highway 99 in Eugene. Coordinators say the goal is to welcome both students and their families to help ensure long-term academic success. The remodel adds floor space and improved locations for hosting small and large groups and videoconferences. Lane ESD's Migrant Education Program provides supplemental services and helps better connect students and their families with local resources. / EDUCATION, PANDEMIC: New data indicates that younger Americans who came of age during the pandemic are skipping college in big numbers. Many have shunned traditional college paths, turning instead to

hourly jobs or careers that don't require a degree. Still others feel locked out, deterred by high tuition and the prospect of student debt. According to numbers from the National Student Clearinghouse, colleges nationwide saw undergraduate enrollments drop 8 percent between 2019 and 2022, with continued declines even after the return to in-person classes. The slide in the college-going rate since 2018 is the steepest on record, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Economists say the long-term impact could be dire: Fewer college graduates could worsen labor shortages in fields from health care and engineering to information technology. For those who forgo college, it usually means lower lifetime earnings — 75 percent less compared with those who get bachelor's degrees, according to Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce. And when the economy sours, those without degrees are more likely to lose jobs. In dozens of interviews with The Associated Press, educators, researchers and students described a generation jaded by education institutions. Largely left on their own amid remote learning, many took part-time jobs. Some fell behind, other said felt they weren't learning anything. For many, the idea of four more years of school, or even two, held little appeal. At the same time, the nation's student debt has soared. The issue has loomed large in the minds of young Americans as President Joe Biden pushes to cancel huge swaths of debt, an effort the U.S. Supreme Court appears poised to block. Many surveyed said that during the pandemic they lost access to counselors and teachers who help navigate college applications and the complicated process of applying for federal student aid. / COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT: Congratulations to the City of Halsey, the most recent community in Oregon to earn the designation of "Tree City USA." The title, bestowed by the national Arbor Day Foundation, recognizes towns that work to increase and protect their municipal tree canopy. Halsey is the 70th city in Oregon to gain the designation as a tree-friendly community. With a population of just 952, the town is also one of Oregon's smallest Tree City USA communities. It's also one of the oldest, having been incorporated in 1876. To celebrate, the city of Halsey is planning a local tree-giveaway as part of their Oregon Arbor Month celebration at the end of April and will plant four new trees in Halsey Memorial Park on April 29. More street trees also are coming to town, as part of a series of Oregon Department of Transportation Improvements on Highway 99E through Halsey. / CRIME, RECREATION: Vandals have caused more than \$1,000 in damage to a horse arena used by the Lane County Sheriff's Mounted Posse near Mount Pisgah. Investigators say the vandals used spray paint to write hateful rhetoric on signs and storage containers. They say the graffiti was intended to slander police. The vandalism was not only illegal but misdirected: The Sheriff's Mounted Posse is a non-profit group made up entirely of volunteers. Members donate their time and animals to serve the county, assisting with everything from search-and-rescue to directing traffic at major events. During the Holiday Farm Fire and Cedar Creek Fire, Sheriff's Mounted Posse members volunteered their vehicles and expertise to transport the animals of evacuated residents that had no means to quickly move their animals to safety. They also open their arena to the public, so equestrians may ride and improve their horsemanship skills. And the posse regularly donates a portion of the funds they raise to other community organizations. The Lane County Sheriff's Posse is currently accepting applications for both adult and youth auxiliary members. Know anything about the vandalism? Contact the Lane County

Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150 and, when prompted, select Option 1. / CRIME: Sounds like he might have been something of a "one-man crime wave." Members of the Eugene Police Property and Financial Crimes Unit recently arrested a man they say was behind a bunch of car clouts and identity thefts. They say 34-yearold John Allen McClatchy, Jr., of Eugene broke vehicle windows to steal items including laptop computers, credit cards, and bank cards. Last month, police served search warrants at a location in the 2300 block of North Terry Street, recovering 16 laptop computers, an AR-15 rifle, a handgun, and \$6,000 cash. At a second location in the 1800 block of West 25th Avenue, they recovered 20 laptop computers, a small amount of fentanyl, a rifle, and other stolen property. McClatchy is facing a mix of charges, including Theft, Criminal Mischief, Unauthorized Entry into a Motor Vehicle, and being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm. / CRIME, COMMUNITY, ILLEGAL DRUGS, HEALTH: A new study underscores the challenges many people face after they are released from prison in Oregon: They face the risk of opioid overdose 10 times greater than the general public. Scientists from the Oregon State University College of Pharmacy, Oregon Health & Science University, the Portland State University School of Public Health, and Oregon Department of Corrections led the effort. They say their findings underscore the need to help formerly incarcerated adults stay safe especially during the first two weeks after release, when their opioid overdose risk is double that of any other time period. The researchers say nearly two-thirds of all adults in custody in the United States have a documented substance use disorder. They say that worldwide, drug overdoses—particularly opioid overdoses—are a leading cause of death among people who have recently been in prison. Findings also determined that women were more at risk of opioid overdose than men. The research was published in the Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment. / GOVERNMENT: The Oregon Department of Revenue has been issuing refunds at a pretty fast clip to qualifying taxpayers who have filed their 2022 tax returns. The agency began processing returns January 23 in the order they were received. Each year, in an effort to reduce fraud and identity theft, the department waits until February 15 to issue personal income tax refunds. The delay allows staff to confirm that the amounts claimed on tax returns match what employers report on Forms W-2 and 1099. Officials say that, through March 3, the department has received and processed 681,099 returns and had issued 495,606 refunds. Want to track your state refund? Go to the department's "Where's My Refund?" site. / ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE: Scientists say the La Niña weather phenomenon that worsens western drought is gone after three troublesome years. La Niña is a natural and temporary cooling of parts of the Pacific Ocean that changes weather worldwide. Among other things, it can intensify Western droughts and the Atlantic hurricane season. Scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration say Planet Earth now is in what's considered a neutral condition and probably will slide into an El Niño in late summer or fall. That's usually good news for the United States, bringing added rain and snow to many areas. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/10/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: The state high school basketball tournaments continued today: At the Class 4A tourney at Forest Grove High School, the Number Two-seed Junction City Boys meet Cascade in the semifinals at 8:15 p.m. The Marist Boys take on Gladstone at 10:45 a.m. in Consolation play. The top-seeded Springfield Girls meet Crescent Valley in the Finals of the Class 5A playoffs in Corvallis. Tip-off is at 5:45 p.m. at Gill Coliseum. The North Eugene Boys meet La Salle Prep at 10:45 this morning in Corvallis for the Class 5A game to determine 4th and 6th places. And at the Class 6A Girls' tournament in Portland, the Willamette Girls meet West Salem Saturday morning at 9 a.m. at Portland's Chiles Center for a game to determine the 4th place and 6th place finishers.; Oregon defeated Washington State 75-70 on Thursday in the Pac-12 Tournament. The fourthseeded Ducks (19-13) have won 10 straight games. They will meet top-seeded UCLA in the semifinals today. Tip-off from Las Vegas is at 6 p.m. on the Pac-12 Network. / SAFETY, HEALTH: Yeti has recalled 1.9 million coolers and gear cases because their magnet-lined closures can deteriorate, detach, and pose a risk of serious injury or death. If swallowed by children or others (or pets), two or more high-powered magnets can attract to one-another or to another metal object and become stuck in the digestive system. The Consumer Product Safety Commission says consumers should immediately stop using the four recalled products and contact Yeti for refund information. The products being recalled are the Sidekick dry gear case, M20 soft backpack cooler and M30 soft cooler, version 1.0 and 2.0. They were sold nationwide in retail stores and online between March 2018 to January 2023. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: Following the worst respiratory virus surge Oregon has seen, the state's top health official vesterday painted an optimistic picture for spring. Dr. Dean Sidelinger with the Oregon Health Authority says the numbers of infections and hospitalizations tied to COVID-19, RSV, and influenza are lower overall than they have been in months. Sidelinger says the encouraging outlook is driven by high vaccination rates and slowly falling test positivity rates. He notes nearly 87 percent of adults 18 and older received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccines, and more than 25 percent got the bivalent booster shot. On April 3, the state is lifting mask requirement for health care settings. Sidelinger called that a positive step. And the final statewide executive order tied to the pandemic expired on Monday. Now, state health officials say Oregonians are shifting from a state-level response to a focus on individual risk assessment. That means living with COVID-19 and

managing the constant but low-level presence of the virus in our communities. Sidelinger say Oregonians now have access to tools to help that do that, and which we did not have at the start of the pandemic. That includes including safe and effective vaccines; antiviral medications for preventing severe illness; information on how the virus affects people with certain medical conditions; and resources for understanding the level of transmission in communities. At the same time, he emphasizes that it is important for people with chronic conditions or who are immunocompromised – therefore at higher risk for severe illness from a COVID-19 infection – to continue to take steps to protect themselves. The same goes for their caretakers and household members. / ELECTIONS, POLITICS, HOUSING, ENERGY, HEALTH: They say they just turned in more than 12,200 signatures to local elections officials. Leaders of the group "Eugene Residents for Energy Choice" say that should be twice what's needed to force a vote over a recently approved City of Eugene ban on natural gas, fuel oil, and other fossil fuel infrastructure in new low-rise residential construction within the city limits. The coalition behind the petition effort includes local business and construction interests along with regional natural gas supplier Northwest Natural. A handful of cities across the U.S. have moved to ban new buildings from using natural gas and other fossil fuels amid a growing national debate about how much such fuels contribute to global warming and household health issues. Industry officials say banning such stoves, heaters, and other household appliances is not a practical response. They say any household health concerns can be addressed through improved ventilation, such as using vents or opening doors and windows. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/13/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: Congratulations to the Springfield Girls' Basketball team, your Class 5A State Champions. Springfield defeated Crescent Valley on Friday evening in the Finals, 44-29. Also at the high school tournaments: The North Eugene Boys claimed 4th Place in the Class 5A playoffs. The Philomath Boys were runners-up in the Class 4A tournament. The Marist Boys were 4th. The Philomath Girls captured 4th Place in the Class 4A playoffs. The Willamette Girls took 6th Place in their Class 6A tournament.; The Oregon Women's Basketball team missed a slot in the NCAA Tournament and instead will play in the WNIT. The Ducks' schedule and opponent will be announced later this morning. ; The Oregon Men's Basketball team is headed for the NIT as a No. 1 seed. The Ducks will host U-C Irvine in opening-round play Wednesday evening at the Matthew Knight arena in Eugene. Tip-off is 8 p.m. Oregon lost in the semi-finals of last week's Pac-12 Tournament. / EDUCATION, POLITICS, CLIMATE: Oregon's Democrat-led legislature is considering a bill to make the state the second in the nation to mandate climate change lessons for K-12 public school students. Connecticut currently is the only U.S. state law requiring climate change instruction. In addition to Oregon's bill, lawmakers in California and New York are considering similar proposals. One of the bill's chief sponsors, Lane County State Senator James Manning, says he's heard from many students—including some in elementary school—who says climate change education is important to them. Manning's bill requires every Oregon school district to develop climate change curriculum within three years, with the content addressing its ecological, societal, cultural, political, and mental health aspects. The current version of the bill does not specify how many hours of instruction are needed for the state's education department to approve a district's curriculum. Dozens of Oregon high schoolers who have submitted comments in support of the proposal say they care deeply about climate change issues. Some teachers and parents also support the effort, while others want schools to focus on basic skills such as reading, writing, and math after test scores plummeted on during the early years of the pandemic. The legislative proposal comes as schools across the U.S. have found themselves at the center of a politically charged battle over curriculum and how topics such as gender, race, and sex education should be taught — or whether they should be taught at all. Most states have learning standards — largely set by state education boards — that include climate change, although their extent varies by state. Twenty states and Washington, D.C., have specifically adopted what are

known as the Next Generation Science Standards. They call for middle school students to learn about climate science and for high schoolers to receive lessons on how human activity affects the climate. / HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Oregon was taking a major step Friday in its pioneering of legalized psilocybin therapy with the graduation of the first group of students trained in accompanying patients tripping on psychedelic mushrooms. But the bankruptcy of a similar company has left another group of trainees with uncertain futures. Graduation ceremonies for close to 100 students of Portland firm InnerTrek were held over the past three days. Coordinators say facilitator training is at the heart of the Oregon's statewide psilocybin therapy and wellness program—the first of its kind in the nation. The students who pass the InnerTrek program must also pass a test administered by the Oregon Health Authority to receive their facilitator licenses. Officials with the state say they already have received 191 license and worker permit applications, including licenses for manufacturers of psilocybin and service centers where the psychedelic substance would be consumed and experienced. Tom Eckert, the program director at InnerTrek, was the architect of the 2020 ballot measure that legalized Oregon's psilocybin program. But a similar training program in Southern Oregon, Synthesis Institute, shuttered earlier last week. Synthesis Institute's parent company, based in the Netherlands, had been declared insolvent and entered bankruptcy. The company had more than 200 students in Oregon, each of whom now is working to recover refunds on at least some of their \$13,000 in tuition and fees. Oregon voters approved the measure on psilocybin in 2020, it did not make the drug legal until Jan. 1, 2023. The psilocybin sessions are expected to be available to the public in mid- or late-2023. In November, Colorado voters also passed a ballot measure allowing regulated use of "magic mushrooms" starting in 2024. Researchers believe psilocybin changes the way the brain organizes itself, permitting users to adopt new attitudes more easily and help overcome depression, PTSD, alcoholism and other issues. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/14/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: The Oregon Women's Basketball team will host North Dakota State on Friday in the opening round of the WNIT Tournament. Tip-off at Matthew Knight Arena is 7 p.m.: The Oregon Men's Basketball team is headed for the NIT as a No. 1 seed. The Ducks will host U-C Irvine in opening-round play Wednesday evening at the Matthew Knight arena in Eugene. Tip-off is 8 p.m. Oregon lost in the semi-finals of last week's Pac-12 Tournament. ; Yesterday's rainy weather canceled the second round of the Bandon Dunes Championship on the coast. The golfers from the University of Oregon and Oregon State, and other college teams will try again this morning with a rain-shortened 36-hole tournament.; Dick Fosbury, who revamped the technical discipline of high jump and won an Olympic gold medal with his "Fosbury Flop," has died. He was 76 from lymphoma. Before Fosbury, many high jumpers cleared their heights by running parallel to the bar, then using a straddle kick to leap over before landing with their faces pointed downward. At the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, Fosbury took off at an angle, turning at the last instant to leap backward as he catapulted his 6-foot-4 frame over the bar. It was a convention-defying move, and with the world watching, Fosbury cleared 7 feet, 4 1/4 inches to win the gold and set an Olympic record. By the next Olympics, 28 of the 40 jumpers were using Fosbury's technique. The Montreal Games in 1976 marked the last Olympics in which a high jumper won using a technique other than the Fosbury Flop. Over time, Fosbury's move became about more than simply high jumping. It is often used by business leaders and university professors as a study in innovation and willingness to take chances and break the mold. Fosbury started tinkering with a new technique in the early '60s, as a teenager in Oregon attending Medford High School. As a kid, Fosbury threw himself into sports as a way of dealing with the grief after his younger brother, Greg, was killed by a drunken driver while the two boys were riding bikes. Unable to stick with the football or basketball teams, Fosbury tried track but struggled there with the preferred jump of those days — the straddle. Fosbury's biographer, Bob Welch, wrote that Fosbury was fine dealing with people ridiculing his style because, to him, it still wasn't as painful as the sorrow he felt for the loss of his brother. / EDUCATION: The new president of the University of Oregon will take the helm on July 1. The U-of-O's Board of Trustees yesterday named John Karl Scholz to the campus' top job. He replaces Michael Schill, who in August of last year became president at Northwestern University. Scholz is provost at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a longtime

economist and professor. His area of expertise is household savings, low-wage labor markets, financial barriers to higher education, and bankruptcy laws. Scholz served in two presidential administrations, working in both the U.S. Treasury Department and on the Council of Economic Advisors. His naming at the U-of-O's 19th president comes after a six-month international search by a committee that included students, faculty, staff, community members, and others. Board of Trustees chairwoman Ginevra Ralph describes Scholz as "a visionary leader with deep passion for public higher education." She adds he is deeply committed to the success of students, to the university's research and liberal arts roots, and to its focus on positively impacting society. Scholz will lead a 146-year-old institution with 23,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Campus leaders say between its academic and research and public outreach—including sports—the University of Oregon has an estimated annual economic impact of \$1.2 billion. Luda Isakharov, president of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon, was one of two students on the search committee. She describes Scholz' approach to leadership as very student-centered. Patrick Phillips served as interim president during the search and will return to the faculty to run his biology lab. The Board of Trustees is expected to name current Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Jamie Moffitt, as interim president until Scholz arrives on July 1. / CRIME: A 53-year-old Springfield man has been arrested and charged in connection with a stabbing that occurred during a Sunday morning sermon. Investigators say John Brian Johnson was apprehended outside the Crossfire Church on 28th Street. Officials say Johnson's male victim sustained lacerations to his head and his neck and taken to the hospital, but that his wounds were non-life-threatening. Johnson was jailed on charges of Assault II and Unlawful use of a Weapon. / ECONOMY: Consumer prices eased slightly last month but remained high. That poses a challenge for the Federal Reserve at a delicate moment for the U.S. financial system. Even though prices are rising much faster than the Fed wants, some economists expect leaders of the central bank to pause its series of interest rate hikes when it meets next week. The Fed was expected to raise its benchmark interest rate by a quarter- to a half-point when it meets next week. But that was before last weekend's two major bank failures and a series of emergency measures that the Fed unveiled to try to bolster confidence in the financial system. When measured against prices a year ago, inflation has been easing for eight months. But consumer prices have continued to rise for everything from rent and groceries to the cost of hotels, restaurants, and airplane flights. Much of the rises come as more Americans seek housing and spend money on travel, dining out and entertainment events. If the Fed does pause its rate hikes this month, it would likely resume them when it meets in May. Rate hikes affect everything from consumer loans—including mortgages, auto purchases and credit card balances—to business loans. But some analysts think the aftereffects of the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and New York-based Signature Bank might already be prompting many small and medium-size banks may pull back on lending to shore up their finances. A lower pace of lending could help cool the economy and slow inflation. / HEALTH, BUSINESS: Another major insulin producer is preparing to slash its U.S. insulin prices. Officials with Novo Nordisk say they will begin reducing some U.S. insulin prices by up to 75 percent next year. That follows similar action by drug company Eli Lilly. It comes after the federal government in January started applying a \$35 cap on monthly out-of-

pocket costs to patients with coverage through Medicare. The latest announced prices cuts will take effect on January 1 and affect pens and vials of long-acting and short-acting insulins including Levemir, Novolin, NovoLog, and NovoLog Mix70/30. Novo Nordisk also will drop the list price of some unbranded products to match the lower price of the branded insulins. Eli Lilly and Co. announced earlier this month that it will cut the list prices for its most commonly prescribed insulin, Humalog, and for another insulin, Humulin, by 70 percent or more in the fourth quarter, which starts in October. List prices are what a drugmaker initially sets for a product and what people who have no insurance or plans with high deductibles are sometimes stuck paying. Patient advocates have long called for insulin price cuts to help uninsured people who would not be affected by price caps tied to insurance coverage. They have noted that high insulin prices force many people to ration doses, which can be dangerous for their health. Insulin is made by the pancreas and used by the body to convert food into energy. People who have diabetes don't produce enough insulin. People with Type 1 diabetes must take insulin every day to survive. More than 8 million Americans use insulin, according to the American Diabetes Association. Research has shown that prices for insulin have more than tripled in the last two decades. Pressure is growing on drugmakers to help patients. The Wall Street Journal first reported the price cuts this morning. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/15/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

DISASTERS: Trained volunteers from the American Red Cross are among those assisting residents in parts of California being hammered by this winter's 11th atmospheric river. Portions of California are facing flood watches and warnings. tens of thousands have evacuated, and emergency crews continue to respond to levee breaches and flooded roads. Meantime, hard-hit mountain communities continue to dig out after weeks of record snowfall. Ten trained volunteers from the Red Cross – Cascades Region in Oregon and Southwest Washington have been deployed along with hundreds of others nationwide. They have helped operate shelters, coordinate emergency meals, and provide comfort kits and other supplies. / DISASTERS, HOUSING: Here in Oregon, we've dodged the sort of storms that hammered California But officials with the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation remind you there's still the possibility of flooding should we receive heavy rainfall in the coming months. They say now is the time to consider protecting your home or business with comprehensive flood insurance. Floods can cause extensive damage, including structural damage, loss of personal property, and even force you to relocate. Most homeowners, renters, and business policies do not cover flood damage. However, you can buy flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program and some private insurers. Flood insurance policies can be tailored to meet your specific needs, providing options for building coverage, contents coverage, and replacement cost coverage. In addition, excess flood coverage is available for those who need additional protection above and beyond the standard policy limits. / WILDLIFE, RECREATION: Heading to the coast this spring? Enjoy the salt air, the surf, and the sand, but be sure to keep an eye out for closures along some stretches of Oregon's beaches to protect nesting snowy plover. The seasonal closures began yesterday (March 15) and continue through September 15. Beachgoers will see signs and ropes that identify sensitive plover nesting areas and list restrictions to protect the small shorebirds. Plover beaches remain open to foot and equestrian traffic on wet, packed sand throughout nesting season. All other recreation on plover beaches is off limits on both wet and dry sand, include walking your dog (even on a leash), driving a vehicle, riding a bicycle, camping, fires, and flying kites or drones. The small birds nest on open sand along Oregon's beaches. Nests, and especially chicks, are well-camouflaged. During nesting season, human disturbances can flush adult plovers away from their nests as they attempt to defend their young from the perceived predator. Left alone too long, or too

often, eggs or chicks can die from exposure, predators, or people. Recreation restrictions occur in small stretches of beach along the entire coastline where plovers are nesting or could potentially nest. These areas collectively comprise about 45 miles of Oregon's 362 miles of shoreline. Visitors still have access to hundreds of miles of Oregon beaches that have no seasonal restrictions. By planning your trip, you can enjoy the coast and help keep these special birds safe. / CRIME: That closure early yesterday morning near the intersection of 13th and Patterson Streets in Eugene? Police say it came after a dispute during which shots were fired. Investigators say when officers arrived shortly before 12:30 a.m. Tuesday, they found two people who had suffered minor gunshot wounds and one person who was dead in a nearby crashed vehicle. There is no continuing risk to the public. Anyone who witnessed the incident is encouraged to contact the Eugene Police Department at 541-682-5111.; Eugene Police are seeking the suspect in an armed robbery of the Walgreen's store on Coburg Road. It was reported shortly after 1:30 yesterday afternoon. Investigators say the suspect targeted the store's pharmacy, taking controlled prescription medications. He is described as a Black man in his mid-20s, about 5'10" tall, with a thin build and last seen wearing a light brown hoodie and dark brown sweat pants. Have any tips in the case? Contact Eugene Police at 541-682-5111. / EDUCATION, DISABILITIES: The Eugene School District is hosting an event tonight for students and families to celebrate what's known as "neurodiversity." That includes students who have developmental disabilities, are deaf or hard-of-hearing, autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and a range of other learning challenges. The event, which starts this evening at 6 p.m. and continues until 8:30 p.m., takes place at South Eugene High School. Organizers say the event includes free games, prizes, fun activities, food, and entertainment for students and families. It's part of the celebration of Neurodiversity Week and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. / FISHERIES: Severely low forecasted returns of Chinook salmon to some major Northern California river systems are affecting Oregon's ocean and recreational fisheries. But biologists with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife say Coho are a bright spot again for Oregon, as we prepare for another good Coho run and Coho fishing seasons that should be similar to last year's. But the Chinook season looks grim. Last week, the National Marine Fisheries Service cancelled the spring 2023 commercial ocean troll and recreational salmon fisheries from Cape Falcon on Oregon's North Coast to Point Sur, well south of Monterey, California. Fisheries regulators are looking for alternatives for the summer and fall salmon seasons. Generally, they would allow Coho fishing from mid-June through September but restrict Chinook fishing south of Cape Falcon until at least Sept. 1, when most of the Chinook headed to California are no longer migrating off of Oregon's coast. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/16/23

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SPORTS: The Oregon Men's Basketball squad won its NIT opener last night at Eugene's Matthew Knight Arena. The Ducks, playing without three injured starters, defeated U-C Irvine 84-58. Oregon will host Central Florida in the second round on Sunday at 4:30 p.m. The game will be carried by ESPNU. / HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, POLITICS: Oregon lawmakers yesterday advanced a package of legislation intended to build housing that is more affordable, spend money to support unsheltered children, and help people on the verge of losing their residences. The bills cleared the Democrat-controlled Oregon House and now head to the state senate, where they are expected to be approved. While some Republicans raised concerns that the measures take away local control, many GOP members voiced support for the effort. House Bills 2001 and 5019, the package would dedicate a combined \$200 million to the construction of more affordable housing in the state, rehouse about 1,200 people without homes, prevent homelessness for more than 8,000, and expand shelter capacity statewide by 600 beds within one year. It eases some bureaucratic obstacles and adds a component to track how the money is spent and the number of units built. Under the proposals, cities whose populations are over 10,000 would be required to set building targets for specific income levels and then build to ensure they have that number of affordable housing units. The legislation also works to streamline the often litigious and lengthy process of setting aside more land inside urban growth boundaries for housing. The bills require agencies or groups that receive the state money to provide quarterly updates on the number of people who, because of the additional funding, either find new housing or stay in their current home. Additionally, the legislative package sets aside \$25 million to address youth homelessness, \$20 million to help build modular housing, and \$3 million to help developers trying to build affordable homes. There also is \$27 million allocated to help rural counties address homelessness and \$5 million provided to help farmers improve living conditions for their workers. State lawmakers also are expected to release their two-year budget proposal in the coming weeks. It, too, is expected to include additional money to encourage creation of affordable housing and target homelessness. / CRIME: Not a lot of details, but officials with the Lane County Sheriff's Office said yesterday they are using search warrants at multiple locations involving a large-scale criminal marijuana operation. Investigators say the case is still in its early stages, which is why they cannot reveal more. But they add that there is no threat to the public. /

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Newly obtained documents show the then-police chief and a police captain in Cottage Grove resigned in October after learning that a preliminary investigation found, quote, "extremely unacceptable behavior and a total lack of control and leadership" at the agency. The Register-Guard reports that Cottage Grove Police Chief Scott Shepherd and Captain Conrad Gagner resigned after being on paid administrative leave since July. City Manager Richard Meyers told the Register-Guard in a statement that the city halted the investigation after the two men resigned. September notices to Shepherd and Gagner outlined what was described as "numerous" findings of wrongdoing, including Gagner's use of homophobic and racial slurs in the workplace and Shepherd's failure to address it. The report also found issues with Gagner's use of social media that it said Shepherd failed to address, as well as instances of sexual harassment and other unprofessional conduct and behavior; failures within the city jail; and failure to assist outside law enforcement agencies. Cottage Grove's city manager wrote in the notices of potential termination that Shepherd and Gagner's actions harmed operation of the police department and "placed the City at risk of unneeded liability." Shepherd and Gagner received notice of potential termination at the end of September and both resigned several days later. The Register-Guard notes that efforts to contact Gagner and Shepherd for comment were not successful. Gagner and Shepherd both worked for the Cottage Grove Police Department for about 30 years. Officials say allegations of misconduct predate Shepherd's 2016 promotion to chief, including complaints from 2011. Jeff Groth has been serving as interim chief. The is developing the recruitment process for hiring a permanent chief. The department also is recruiting a new captain. / SAFETY: Eugene Springfield Fire crews responded to an early morning house fire at the intersection of Cal Young and Ravenwood in Northeast Eugene. Firefighters say when they arrived they found a blaze engulfing a home that was under construction. The cause is being determined. Crews say they found evidence to suggest the building was being used by someone as temporary shelter but could find nobody inside and there were no reported injuries. The person who called in the fire said they discovered it after hearing a flock of roosting turkeys making a bunch of noise. Fire officials say they appreciate the assist from the wild game, but also remind you that for your home and business, turkeys are not a good substitute for working smoke detectors. Along with the blaze off Cal Young Road, Eugene-Springfield Fire crews responded overnight to a house fire in the 5100 block of E Street in Springfield, an RV fire near 1st and Lincoln, and 15 additional calls for service early this morning. Despite the busy morning, there were no reported injuries. This morning during the 8 a.m. hour, crews responded to an RV rollover crash on the Beltline Eastbound near the Barger Drive interchange. Fire crews used saws to extricate one person who was taken to the hospital and treated for what were described as non-life-threatening injuries. / HEALTH, DISABILITIES: It's a push to significantly expand the number of inpatient rehabilitation beds in Eugene-Springfield to assist those recovering from brain and spinal-cord injuries, as well as strokes, neurological disease, and similar conditions. Officials with PeaceHealth and Lifepoint Rehabilitation yesterday said they have entered into a partnership to build and operate a new facility in Springfield. They say it will have 50 private rooms. That nearly doubles the patient capacity of PeaceHealth's acute rehabilitation unit in Eugene. Twelve beds in the 67,000 square-foot facility will be

part of a new treatment unit for those with brain injuries. PeaceHealth officials say the new rehab unit will feature intensive nursing, along with physical, occupational and speech pathology services. Construction of the new inpatient rehabilitation facility is expected to begin in the spring of 2025 with an expected opening in 2026. / TRANSPORTATION, GOVERNMENT: Oregon's popular rebate program for electric vehicles is closing early this year after overwhelming demand. The Department of Environmental Quality is temporarily suspending the Clean Vehicle Rebate Program on May 1. That means state rebates on qualifying electric vehicles will not be available for those who buy or lease after April 30. The standard rebate is \$2,500 but lower-and moderate-income households can qualify for an additional \$5,000 rebate. The program is funded annually and is expected to return in 2024. EV demand has grown in recent months as prices have fallen, more automakers have created electric vehicle models, and buyers have been lured by a combination of federal and state incentives. To date, Oregon's Clean Vehicle Rebate Program has disbursed \$71 million dollars to EV buyers and lessees over the past five years. / CRIME, ILLEGAL DRUGS: Police officers in Beaverton this week revived a 2-year-old girl suspected of accidentally overdosing on fentanyl. The Oregonian and OregonLive quote authorities as saying that officers gave the girl CPR on Monday and administered two rounds of naloxone, the life-saving nasal spray that reverses overdoses. The girl regained consciousness a few minutes later and was taken to a hospital. Beaverton police spokesman Matt Henderson told the outlet that someone called 911 after seeing a man who is believed to be the toddler's guardian pulled over in his car and acting frantically. Henderson says criminal charges are expected. RECREATION, SAFETY: In Deschutes County, officials say a snowboarder died after an avalanche Wednesday afternoon at Paulina Peak. Investigators told a reporter at KTVZ in Bend that a trio of snowboarders had used snowmobiles to reach the summit of Paulina Peak and were snowboarding when the avalanche occurred. One rider was caught by the avalanche, the others were uninjured. Officials say their recovery efforts were slowed by extreme avalanche danger in the area. Earlier this month, an experienced backcountry skier from Bend was killed by an avalanche it appears he accidentally triggered while skiing with a friend at Black Crater, north of the Three Sisters. / FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, LEGAL: A federal judge says the National Marine Fisheries Service violated the law when it failed to develop a plan to prevent the harming of humpback whales by West Coast commercial fishermen catching sablefish. About 150 commercial fishing vessels use traps to capture sablefish—also known as black cod—in waters off Oregon, Washington, and California. That includes areas offshore from Astoria and Newport. Because sablefish dwell below 650 feet on muddy ocean floors, fishermen place multiple heavy pots that are linked with heavy-duty fishing line. But the lines pose an entanglement risk to humpback whales—which can result in the whales being injured or drowned. The federal judge's ruling found that while the Endangered Species Act requires the fisheries service to develop a plan to reduce the number of whales accidentally injured or killed by the fishery, the agency neither crafted such a plan nor started work to do so. Officials with the National Marine Fisheries Service say they are reviewing the decision.

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/22/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, POLITICS: Oregon lawmakers passed a sweeping \$200 million housing and homelessness package on Tuesday, displaying a bipartisan will to tackle two of the state's most pressing crises. Most of the funding — about \$157 million — is aimed at boosting homelessness prevention and eviction prevention services. The money will go toward increasing shelter capacity, addressing youth homelessness, and funding rapid rehousing efforts and rental assistance programs. Like much of the U.S. West, Oregon has struggled with a surge in homelessness driven in part by high costs and a lack of affordable housing options. Analysts and agencies estimate Oregon is short 140,000 housing units, and federal data shows its homeless population has increased by 22 percent since 2020. The crises are affecting both cities and rural regions. About 4,000 of the nearly 18,000 homeless people in the state live in rural areas, according to the latest 2022 federal point-in-time count. The Oregon Senate approved the package Tuesday night, with half of the chamber's Republicans voting in favor. The legislation passed the House last week with support from both parties. It now heads to the governor's desk. Lawmakers pointed to the package's investments outside cities — nearly \$27 million is earmarked specifically for rural areas to combat homelessness — as the fruits of cross-aisle negotiation. The package will also direct \$20 million to ramp up factory-produced modular housing, in a bid to meet Governor Tina Kotek's housing construction target of 36,000 units per year — an 80 percent increase over current production. Some GOP lawmakers said cutting bureaucratic red tape and creating more incentives for housing developers would better address the issue. Some members of the public submitted written testimony opposing the high spending. But most nonprofits and housing groups expressed support, saying it would help communities that are disproportionately impacted by homelessness and the affordable housing shortage. / HEALTH, POLITICS, LEGAL, LGBTQ: An Oregon bill that would greatly expand access to abortion and gender-affirming care has sparked debate at a packed public hearing this week at the state Capitol in Salem. The bill would shield abortion providers and patients from criminal and civil liability from states where the procedure is banned. It would also require private insurance to cover gender-affirming care. The most contentious aspects of the legislation include allowing doctors to provide reproductive health care information and services to anyone regardless of age, as well as barring them in certain cases from disclosing that to parents. Debate over the bill mirrors the

culture war debates playing out across the U.S. over abortion, gender identity, and parents' rights. Supporters described abortion and gender-affirming care as lifesaving. Opponents took issue with provisions that would make it easier for minors to access certain services without parental consent. Abortion remains legal at all stages of pregnancy in Oregon and its state Medicaid program has covered certain gender-affirming care since 2015. But Democratic lawmakers say the measure is needed to push back against the flurry of anti-abortion and anti-LGBTQ legislation moving through statehouses across the country. The bill would implement a wide-ranging series of measures, including shielding providers and patients from criminal and civil liability as states have moved to outlaw abortion following the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade last year. It would also allow a person to bring a civil action in court against a public body for interfering with their reproductive health rights. The bill would also prohibit medical licensing boards from suspending, revoking, or refusing to grant a license to a provider because of a conviction or disciplinary action for providing reproductive or genderaffirming health care in states where that care is restricted. The parts of the bill that have proved to be the most contentious have to do with minors. Under the legislation, doctors would be allowed to provide reproductive health care information and services, including abortion, "to any person without regard to the age," and would bar them in certain cases from disclosing that to parents. Backers say that would help protect young people living in unsupportive families. Critics said this would exclude parents from key aspects of their child's health care. The legislation would also require private insurance to cover genderaffirming care that is prescribed as medically necessary. In written testimony, some members of the public supporting this measure named it as especially critical for transgender people. The bill would also make it a crime to block access to a health care facility, and require public universities and community colleges with health centers to provide emergency contraception and medication abortions. Lawmakers will further discuss the bill and propose amendments during a House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care work session next week. / SAFETY: Oregon State Police yesterday released the name of the commercial truck driver who died in Saturday's crash on southbound Interstate 5 about one mile north of the Harrisburg interchange. It happened Saturday afternoon, shortly after 3 p.m. Officials say a Freightliner truck and trailer operated by 50-year-old Branden Hamilton of Buffalo, New York, went off the roadway and struck both the quardrail and a cement bridge barrier. Hamilton died from his injuries. The freeway was closed for almost six hours during the investigation. The cause of the crash is unknown, but investigators believe the operator might have suffered a medical event prior to the incident. / EMPLOYMENT: Oregon's unemployment rate continued to remain stable last month. Nonfarm payroll employment declined by a net 100 jobs in February. The state's unemployment rate was 4.7 percent. little changed from 4.8 percent in January and close to the average for the past six months. While the Manufacturing and Financial Activities sectors shed some positions, there were net hiring gains in Construction, Private Educational Services, and Government—especially in Education. Construction employment was the big gainer, as the sector reached another record employment high with 122,700 total jobs. Construction companies have added 7,500 jobs over the past 12 months, which is a gain of six-and-a-half percent. / HEALTH, SAFETY: So far, no cases in Oregon have been linked to an outbreak of hepatitis A tied to various

frozen organic strawberry products. But Oregon Health officials are keeping an eye on the situation and remind you to check the affected products in the recall, since several were distributed in our state. That includes frozen "Organic Strawberries" products sold at Oregon Costco stores and a frozen "Organic Tropical Fruit Blend" sold at Trader Joe's markets. The products were produced by Scenic Fruit Company in Gresham. Five outbreak-associated cases of hepatitis A have been reported in Washington state. They occurred between November 11 and December 27 of last year and two individuals required hospitalization. Although no patients with hepatitis A in Oregon have been definitively linked to the consumption of these products, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) officials are interviewing persons diagnosed with hepatitis A to determine whether they consumed any frozen berries. The company has ceased the production and distribution of the product as the Food and Drug Administration continues its investigation into what caused the problem. In addition, the company is removing all inventories of the affected lot from sale. Although no hepatitis A virus has been found in the products that were tested, FDA officials say consumers should stop eating the products, and return them to the place of purchase for a full refund or throw it away. If you believe you got sick from consuming frozen strawberries purchased at Costco or Trader Joe's, contact a health care provider. Symptoms of hepatitis A infection include jaundice—which is a yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes—tiredness, stomach pain, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dark urine, and light-colored bowel movements. The disease varies in severity, with mild cases lasting two weeks or less and more severe cases lasting four to six weeks or longer. Hepatitis A infection can result in hospitalization. Some individuals, especially children, may not develop jaundice and may have a mild illness that can go unnoticed. However, even mildly ill people can be highly infectious. People with symptoms suggestive of hepatitis should consult a physician immediately, even if symptoms are mild. / BUSINESS: Oregon-based battery parts producer Entek plans to invest \$1.5 billion in a new manufacturing campus in Terre Haute, Indiana, and create 642 jobs there by the end of 2027. Company officials say the investment will support the growing electric vehicle industry in Indiana. Entek is based in Lebanon, Oregon, and makes battery separators for lithium-ion battery manufacturers. The company's CEO said available land and community were key in the decision to locate in Terre Haute. Indiana will provide up to \$8 million in tax credits and up to \$300,000 in training grants, along with as much as \$5.4 million in other grants and performance payments. / EDUCATION, DISABILITIES: The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled unanimously for a deaf student who sued his public school system for providing an inadequate education. The case is significant for other students with disabilities who allege they were failed by school officials. The case involved a student who attended public school in Michigan. The boy's lawyers told the court that for 12 years the school system neglected the boy and lied to his parents about his progress. Officials eventually agreed to pay for additional schooling and sign language instruction. The justices ruled the family can also pursue monetary damages under a different federal law. / SPORTS: Wisconsin got some late three-pointers to fall, and the Oregon Men's Basketball team couldn't get a free throw to fall most of the night. The combination led to the Badgers beating the Ducks, 61-58, in their NIT guarterfinal Tuesday night. That ended the UO men's season before 3,384 fans in Matthew

Knight Arena.; The Oregon Women's Basketball team will host San Diego tomorrow night in the "Super 16" of the WNIT Tournament. Tip-off at Matthew Knight Arena is 6 p.m. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/23/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TRANSPORTATION: The Harrisburg Bridge on Highway 99E now has a weight limit for some larger commercial trucks. The new Oregon Department of Transportation weight limit is 36 tons for seven-axle trucks and 33 tons for threeaxle emergency vehicles, based on inspection and load ratings. But according to details on the city of Harrisburg's website, unless you have a SU7 vehicle, that weighs more than 36 tons, this will not affect you. The rating will not affect most local farm vehicles, Knife River pre-stress long loads, or regular semis, doubletrailer, and even triple-trailer vehicles, as long as they are operating under the weight restrictions. Passenger vehicles also are not affected by the weight limit. For those larger vehicles that exceed the weight restriction, ODOT has established a detour using state and local roads: Overweight drivers heading northbound will need to take Highway 99W to Corvallis, then go east on Oregon Highway 34. Drivers heading south should take territorial Road to Diamond Hill Road to Interstate 5. The Harrisburg Bridge was built in 1925, then upgraded in 1976 and in 2021. The 2,146-foot bridge and Highway 99E serve as a major route for drivers between Junction City and the Albany area. / ECONOMY: The Federal Reserve extended its year-long fight against high inflation Wednesday by raising its key interest rate by a quarter-point despite concerns that higher borrowing rates could worsen the turmoil that has gripped the banking system. That will likely lead to higher costs for many loans, from mortgages and auto purchases to credit cards and corporate borrowing. The succession of Fed rate hikes has also heightened the risk of a recession, which could lead to slower growth and hiring. As the Federal Reserve raises interest rates again, new numbers show credit card debt is at a record high, with more people carrying debt month to month. The higher debt, combined with higher annual percentage rates or APRs means credit card customers also are paying more in interest. And with inflation still high, analysts say people are relying on their credit cards more for everyday purchases. Data also shows more people are now falling behind on payments. CRIME: Lane County Sheriff's deputies say they served a search warrant shortly before 9:00 a.m. yesterday morning at a residence in the 1500 block of Adelman Loop in Eugene. Not a lot of details being revealed, but officials say it was in connection with a robbery investigation. The Sheriff's Office's Special Response Team initially responded to assist with the warrant as there was information to believe that the suspects could be armed and dangerous. / MENTAL HEALTH, HEALTH, GOVERNMENT: Oregon has issued its first license under its new

system that offers controlled use of psilocybin to the public. The Oregon Health Authority announced Wednesday that it had issued a manufacturer license to Satori Farms PDX LLC, owned by Tori Armbrust. Oregon Psilocybin Services, which falls under the health authority, began accepting applications for four license types in January. More than 220 license and worker permit applications have been submitted to Oregon Psilocybin Services so far. Voters in our state in 2020 approved legalizing the therapeutic use of psilocybin mushrooms for treatment of PTSD and other mental health conditions. Oregon Psilocybin Services says it will take time for all four license types — manufacturing, lab, service centers, and facilitators — to become licensed and set up operations. Earlier this month, the first students trained in accompanying patients tripping on psychedelic mushrooms graduated during a ceremony held by InnerTrek, a Portland firm. Students must pass a final exam to receive InnerTrek certificates and then take a test administered by the Oregon Health Authority to receive facilitator licenses. / AGRICULTURE: Yesterday, on National Agriculture Day, there was word that two Lane County farms are each receiving \$250,000 grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It's intended to help them to market and expand sales of new and existing products. Oregon U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley announced the grants yesterday. The recipients include Creamy Cow, a farm in Junction City, which produces hard and soft cheeses; and My Brothers' Farm in Creswell, which produces organic hazelnuts.

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/24/23

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: Interstate 5 southbound remains closed for a few more hours while crews work to remove a jackknifed semi and trailer near Milepost 166. Officials also are trying to turn vehicles around near Milepost 168 at Martin Creek, but it's slow work. There is no safe detour in the area, so consider delaying your travel through this area. Officials with the Oregon Department of Transportation strongly discourage you from using GPS to find a detour off established highways, especially with this morning's wintry weather conditions. / CRIME: Eugene Police it was high-profile law enforcement action, but there is no ongoing threat to the public. Members of EPD's Street Crimes Unit, SWAT team, and Special Investigations Unit yesterday morning conducted a high-risk traffic stop on River Road north of the Beltline Highway. It took place shortly after 10:40 a.m. Officials say the stop was related to a case involving guns, drugs, and money. They say a search warrant related to the case was also served around 12:30 yesterday afternoon at an address on West 7th Avenue. More details will be released later.; Eugene Police yesterday released the name of the suspect they arrested in Tuesday afternoon's incident at the Wells Fargo Bank branch on East Broadway. While it was originally labeled a possible bank robbery, officials say 28-year-old Elijah Cain Weber was taken into custody on an arrest warrant and had failed to register as a sex offender. He was jailed on those charges and for Resisting Arrest and Disorderly Conduct. / SPORTS: At one point during the first half, it was raining threes as the Oregon Women's Basketball team took the lead against San Diego and never looked back, winning their "Super 16" game of the WNIT Tournament, 81-61. The Ducks advance to the WNIT quarterfinals known as the "Great Eight." They will play the winner of today's game between Washington and Kansas State, with the date and time of the guarterfinal to be determined. / RECREATION: Spending the day at popular Salmon Harbor and Winchester Bay? The area now has new automated fee machines to streamline the payment processes for launches, transient moorage, and dry camping. There are three new automated fee machines, one at the east launch ramp, one at the west launch ramp and one at the D-section of the dry-camping area on the middle spit of Salmon Harbor on Ork Rock Road. Visitors who prefer to pay with cash will still have the option to do so at the Salmon Harbor Marina Office, located at 100 Ork Rock Road in Winchester Bay. The Salmon Harbor Marina Office is open Monday through Friday - 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. For after-hours payments, envelopes will be made available at the office, and payment can be deposited in

the pay slot. Douglas County officials also are promoting their new social media page that features recreational opportunities available in the area in and around Winchester Bay. That includes exploring sand dunes to crabbing, fishing, and camping, along with the nearby lighthouse and museum. / EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS: Still a lot of "Help Wanted" signs across Oregon, so don't be surprised if you encounter the effects of staff shortages at popular locations during Spring Break Week. Earlier this month, analysts with the Oregon Employment Department projected a 12 percent increase in Lane County's total employment between 2021 and 2031. That amounts to close to 20,600 additional jobs. They say a lot of the growth will be continued recovery from the pandemic and a large number of workers needed to replace those who either leave for another occupation or retire. Most of the openings are expected in the service category, including cooks, restaurant servers, stock clerks, home health workers, housekeepers and janitorial employees, landscaping and yard workers, and similar positions. But another broad occupational category with many openings is professional and related professions. These occupations include teachers, scientists, engineers, lawyers, heavy- and tractor-trailer truck drivers, carpenters and electricians, bookkeepers, registered nurses, medical assistants, and software developers. They are generally highly paid positions because they require higher levels of education and training. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, SAFETY, AGRICULTURE: The Environmental Protection Agency is urging Oregon to clean up water contamination from nitrates the eastern part of the state. Oregon Public Broadcasting reports that an EPA regional administrator visited Morrow and Umatilla counties on Monday to learn more about the pollution. The EPA could step in under the Safe Drinking Water Act if the state fails to address the issue. OPB reports that it's been 30 years since state agencies first noted high levels of nitrate contamination in the groundwater in the two counties. Many residents in the area say their health has declined because of the contamination, which environmental groups blame on large-scale livestock and agricultural operations. EPA scientists say nitrate levels exceeding 10 milligrams per liter can cause serious health risks if consumed. That could include increased heart rate, headaches, stomach cramps and vomiting, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which lists fertilizers, septic systems, animal feedlots and industrial waste as common sources of nitrate pollution. The state and a local committee have worked on voluntary measures to reduce the contamination. But nitrate levels in the area's main source of drinking water have steadily increased and no mandatory action has been taken to begin cleanup. The Oregon Health Authority announced Wednesday that it will provide vouchers through May to cover testing costs for private well owners in Morrow and Umatilla counties. To be eligible for the free testing, residents must use the well water for drinking, bathing, cooking, or washing dishes. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/27/23

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

TRANSPORTATION, WEATHER, SAFETY: Traffic is moving again on U.S. Highway 20 at the junction with Oregon Highway 126. Early this morning, a iackknifed semi-truck closed the roadway for several hours. : Oregon State Police on Saturday released the name of the woman who died in Friday's accident on southbound Interstate 5 a few miles south of Cottage Grove. They say the 46year-old woman from Monroe, Washington, was at the wheel of a passenger car that struck a semi-truck and trailer that had jackknifed moments earlier. Karen Sweesy died at the scene. Her passenger, a 59-year-old Washington state woman was hospitalized with serious injuries. The truck driver was uninjured. The crash closed the highway for several hours. / SPORTS: It was a tough ending to a challenging season in Seattle yesterday for members of the Oregon Women's Basketball team. They lost their "Great 8" matchup in the Women's NIT to Washington, 63-59. It was the fourth time this season the two squads had squared off. The Huskies advance to the WNIT semifinals. The end of the Oregon's postseason run closed out the college careers of seniors Taya Hanson, Ahlise Hurst, and Taylor Hosendove. / EVENTS, WILDLIFE: Oregon's Spring Whale Watch returns tomorrow through Sunday. Trained volunteers will be stationed at 17 sites to help visitors spot whales, share information and answer questions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. The sites are some of the best places to watch for whales on the Oregon Coast. During the spring migration, an estimated 18,000 gray whales are expected to swim off Oregon's shores between late March to June on their way to cooler waters off Alaska. Many will be accompanied by their calves, who were born during the winter in the warmer water lagoons off the coast of Baja, Mexico. All Whale Watch Week visitors are encouraged to dress for the weather, to bring binoculars and to follow beach safety guidelines such as remaining out of fenced areas, knowing the tide schedule and keeping an eye on the surf at all times. Oregon's designated whale watching sites offer the best chances of spotting whales because of their locations, usually slightly elevated above the ocean and in areas where whales are more easily seen. The Depoe Bay Whale Watch Center also will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday and offers interactive whale exhibits. / WEATHER, AGRICULTURE: We've avoided the sorts of devastating storms that have slammed California the past couple of months. But Oregon is still receiving a healthy dose of mountain snowfall. And that's reflected in the latest snowpack summaries. According to the latest measurements from the

National Resource Conservation Service—an arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture—the snowpack across the Willamette Basin and what's known as its "snow water equivalent" is running at 140 percent of median. Many other parts of the state are seeing above-normal snowpacks. But experts say a single winter won't be enough to offset some of the prolonged effects of years-long droughts in Central and Eastern Oregon. That, they say, would take a few more years of healthy snowpack along with plenty of rain. But even though the snowpack across the state is robust, our rain-year precipitation totals since October 1st are lagging a bit. Here in the Willamette Basin, we are at 84 percent of normal. We need some wet spring storms to help raise those numbers and ensure enough runoff through the summer to keep reservoirs at healthy levels are provide ample irrigation for farmers and plentiful drinking water for many communities. The measurements are taken daily from automated SNOTEL sites. The equipment includes what's known as a "snow pillow" along with a storage precipitation gauge and a temperature sensor. There are close to 800 such sites across the Western states. Many enhanced SNOTEL sites also are equipped to take soil moisture and soil temperature measurements at various depths, as well as solar radiation, wind speed, and relative humidity. / AGRICULTURE, GROWTH, BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT, POLITICS: For 50 years, Oregon's farms and forests have been protected from urban sprawl by the nation's first statewide law creating urban growth boundaries. Cities cannot expand beyond those borders unless they make a request and justify it. Approval by cities and counties can take months or even a few years. Larger expansions also need approval by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. But now, a bill being considered in Oregon's Legislature could authorize the governor to unilaterally expand boundaries as part of the state's quest to lure computer and device chip companies and provide land for them to build their factories. The measure would also provide \$200 million in grants to chipmakers. Farmers and conservationists are worried about the proposal and what it will mean for a state that cherishes its open spaces. State officials and lawmakers, on the other hand, are eager to bring more semiconductor factories to Oregon. They were stung by Intel's decision last year to build a massive \$20 billion chipmaking complex in Ohio and not in Oregon, where suitable zoned land is scarce. Oregon is competing with other states to host multibillion-dollar microchip factories, called fabs. The competition heated up after Congress passed the CHIPS Act in 2022, providing \$39 billion for companies constructing or expanding facilities that will manufacture semiconductors and those that will assemble, test, and package the chips. A report last summer from the Oregon Semiconductor Competitiveness Task Force concluded that dramatically expanding semiconductor design and manufacturing in Oregon would create tens of thousands of high-paying construction jobs and thousands of manufacturing and supply chain jobs. But the task force warned that Oregon needs more buildable industrial land near infrastructure, talented workers and specialized suppliers to attract and retain semiconductor businesses and called for "urgent legislative attention." Leaders of the Oregon Farm Bureau, which represents 7,000 family farmers, say the effort should instead focus on lands already within the urban growth boundary. Farm Bureau officials warn that converting agricultural lands into paved and developed industrial lands is a permanent destruction of natural and working lands. They add that, once paved,

the soil and its ability to sequester carbon, support the food system, and generate other forms of income for Oregonians is gone forever. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/28/23

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, WEATHER: All north and south lanes of Interstate 5 are closed this morning from Exit 14 in Ashland to Redding, California, Severe weather is to blame: The forecast calls for parts of far northern California to receive 6-10 inches of snow today amid wind gusts of up to 60 mph. Secondary highways also are closed or experiencing long delays, including portions of U.S. 199 through the Siskiyous. OR Highways 66 and 273 also are closed to all but local traffic. And officials are warning drivers not to attempt a detour using lesser maintained routes or routes suggested by their GPS. Such detours can put you in danger and leave you stranded during harsh winter conditions.; Expect delays and a possible detour possibly into the lunch hour today on northbound Interstate 5 at Milepost 277, one mile south of the Donald-Aurora interchange, due to a semi-truck fire. Rush hour traffic is backed up as far south as Woodburn as of 8 a.m., so use an alternate route, expect delays and watch for emergency responders.; A crash involving a semi-truck and trailer and a passenger car has blocked the intersection of Roosevelt Boulevard and Seneca Road in Eugene. It appears the trucker was turning right but the driver of the small car didn't realize it. Hoping everyone is uninjured. But the intersection will be closed until they get it cleared.; With the start of spring comes the annual deadline to remove studded tires. Oregon drivers must remove studded tires from their vehicles by Friday, March 31. After March 31, use other types of traction tires or chains if needed, or postpone your travel until conditions improve. State transportation officials encourage you not to wait, however if you are not driving across Oregon's mountain passes between now and then. Drivers with studded tires on their vehicles after the March 31 deadline are subject to a citation from law enforcement for a Class C traffic violation, which carries a presumptive fine of \$165. And while studded tires are allowed in Oregon from Nov. 1 through March 31, drivers are urged to use alternatives, such as traction tires and chains. A 2014 study showed studded tires cause about \$8.5 million in damage each year to state highways. / HOUSING, SAFETY, WEATHER, BUSINESS: It's been a stormy winter across the West. Heavy flooding continues to strike parts of California—something we've seen over the years in parts of Oregon. Flood damage to your home and property can be expensive, especially if you don't have the proper insurance coverage. Most homeowner's policies might cover water damage if your toilet overflows, your dishwasher malfunctions, or your washing machine backs up. But that's different from water that's coming in from outside.

That can include things like overflowing rivers and lakes, clogged storm drains, and broken water mains. Most Oregonians with flood coverage have it through the National Flood Insurance Program. But otherwise, you need to purchase private flood insurance coverage through your insurance carrier. Experts with the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation say flood insurance can be expensive in flood-prone areas but can be fairly affordable elsewhere. / SAFETY, BUSINESS: Officials from the Eugene-Springfield Fire Department will be conducting fire prevention inspections at local businesses during next month. The inspections are part of a continuing by the Fire Marshal's Office to help business owners reduce fire risks at their establishments. Deputy Fire Marshals will be contacting owners and managers of Eugene and Springfield businesses in the coming weeks to schedule an inspection. Officials say the focus is on education: on ensuring that business owners and workers are aware of any risks that exist and informing them of methods of reducing or eliminating those risks. / HEALTH, CHILDREN, LOW-INCOME, GOVERNMENT: The pandemic might be easing, but child hunger is still a huge challenge across the state. The Oregon Department of Human Services is preparing to issue \$170 million in Pandemic EBT food benefits to 434,000 students and young children from lower-income households over the next two months. An Electronic Benefit Transfer or EBT card containing \$391 in food benefits, which is different from the regular EBT card, will be sent by mail to each eligible child. The cards are being sent in batches between now through the end of May. The additional food benefits are part of a temporary COVID-19 response program meant to provide additional food support for children whose access to adequate and quality food received through school programs might have been impacted by the pandemic. These are in addition to regular SNAP benefits and do not replace any child nutrition program already being offered the youngsters. Children are eligible for Pandemic EBT benefits if they were: Eligible to receive free or reduced-price National School Lunch Program meals during the 2021-2022 school year or attended what's known as a Community Eligibility Provision school and; were under the age of 6 and enrolled in SNAP during the summer of 2022. Eligible children will receive a letter notifying them they are eligible, followed by a separate envelope containing their food benefits card. Households with multiple eligible children will receive individual letters and cards for each eligible child. / HOUSING, POLITICS:) Still plenty of opposition to a legislative bill that would increase Oregon's statewide rent control guidelines. Four years ago, Oregon became the first state to enact a rent control law. It limits annual rent increases to seven percent plus the rate of inflation. But with inflation surging, that resulted in big rent increases over the past two years. The state senate bill would limit annual rent increases to three percent plus inflation but cap the hike at no more than eight percent. It also would expand the number of rentals that qualify for the limits to include buildings that received certificates of occupancy during the past three years. The proposal also would require landlords to compensate tenants in the event of a no-cause eviction, providing the equivalent of three months' rent to assist with relocation expenses. Landlords' groups say they can't support that, noting that inflation has increased their expenses, too. Tenants like the proposed limits but complain there are not enough other protections in the legislative bill. The measure faces strong headwinds because state lawmakers are divided over the proposals, largely along party lines. / LAW ENFORCEMENT: A longtime Eugene police dog died at his

home last month after an illness. Now, Eugene Police are planning an event to honor their canine comrade and the public is invited to attend. The ceremony for K9 CWYK (say: quick) is set for Wednesday evening at 5 p.m. at Eugene Country Club, off Country Club Road. It will feature an overview of Cwyk's work, a video, and more information about the Eugene Police K9 program. Cwyk began his training in 2018 and worked with EPD's SWAT team. He was credited with dozens of captures over the years. That included once tracking a would-be thief through three inches of snow, and later making three apprehensions in 90 minutes toward the end of his law-enforcement career.

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/29/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HEALTH, ILLEGHAL DRUGS, SAFETY: Leaders of the Food and Drug Administration this morning has approved selling overdose antidote naloxone over-the-counter. It will happen by late summer and marks the first time an opioid treatment drug will be available without a prescription. Today's FDA approval is for Narcan, a name-brand version of naloxone sold by Emergent BioSolutions. The drug is already carried by many law enforcement officers and medical first responders. The nasal spray can reverse overdoses of opioids, including street drugs such as heroin and fentanyl and prescription versions including oxycodone. The decision means Narcan can be available at convenience and grocery stores, although its retail price is being determined and it's not clear yet whether insurers will continue to cover it as a prescription drug if it's available over the counter. Even before the FDA's action, pharmacies could sell naloxone without a prescription because officials in every state have allowed it. But not every pharmacy carries it. And buyers have to pay for the medication — either with an insurance co-pay or for the full retail price. The cost varies, but two doses of Narcan often go for around \$50. The drug is also distributed by community organizations that serve people who use drugs, though it's not easily accessible to everyone who needs it. Making naloxone available more widely is seen as a key strategy to control the nationwide overdose crisis, which has been linked to more than 100,000 U.S. deaths annually. The majority of those deaths are tied to opioids, primarily potent synthetic versions such as fentanyl that can take multiple doses of naloxone to reverse. Advocates believe it's important to get naloxone to family members and other drug users, to improve the chances someone who overdoses might be around someone able to administer the dose of Narcan. / HEALTH, PANDEMIC: There finally is clarity for Americans wondering whether it's time to get another COVID-19 booster shot. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this week issued guidelines stating that a single updated vaccine dose is sufficient, even for people who received their last vaccination more than six months ago. The San Francisco Chronicle quotes federal health officials, who say a single updated booster—even if you received it in September—will protect most people against severe illness. It comes amid a push to create a one-peryear booster that would target the latest circulating COVID strains. Recent studies have shown that the protection provided by the most recent bivalent booster shot, which was engineered to guard against the original coronavirus strain as well as more recent omicron subvariants, decreases after a few months. But U.S. health

officials have not seen enough data to justify rolling out another round of shots. Infectious disease experts say the virus remains a risk for the very old with weakened immune systems. But they add that, overall, we are at a point where most people are now probably immune either from having an earlier infection or receiving vaccinations, or both. For health officials, the focus remains on persuading those who are eligible for the last booster to receive it. While more than 81 percent of the U.S. population has had at least one vaccine dose, only about 16 percent of those who are eligible have received the latest boosters. / TRANSPORTATION, WEATHER: A challenging weather day yesterday for some Oregon drivers. Interstate Five reopened late yesterday between Ashland in Southern Oregon and Redding, California. Heavy snow and high winds from another big Northern California storm prompted the safety shutdown. And the westbound lanes of U.S. Highway 20 just a few miles this side of Santiam Pass were closed for a time after a snow slide blocked part of the highway near Hogg Rock. Oregon Department of Transportation crews cleared the blockage and ensured the slope was stabilized before reopening the westbound roadway. / POLITICS, ELECTIONS, LEGAL, SAFETY, CRIME, MENTAL HEALTH: The Oregonian and OregonLive report that Eugene State Senator Floyd Prozanski this week unveiled an extensively rewritten new bill incorporating many of the gun control regulations that voters approved under the now-stalled Measure 114. Reporter Maxine Bernstein notes that the proposal would raise the age for gun buyers and increase the waiting period before a gun can be sold. Senate Bill 348 sets out a procedure to apply for a permit to buy a gun and requires state police to complete a criminal background check before a gun can be sold or transferred to a permit holder, starting July 1, 2024. It would raise the age to get a permit and buy a gun from 18 to 21 with one temporary exception: 18-, 19- and 20-year-olds could buy certain hunting rifles and shotguns without a permit until July 2026 -- as long as they have completed a firearms safety course. The bill also would ban the sale or purchase of magazines holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition, except for use by military or law enforcement officers. The large-capacity ammunition ban would become effective on the date the bill is signed into law if approved. The Oregonian and OregonLive quote Prozanski, a former prosecutor, who says his proposal came after a monthlong work group incorporated input from Measure 114's chief petitioners, the nonprofits Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action, the state Department of Justice, Oregon State Police, and the associations that represent the state's sheriffs and police chiefs. He said he wanted to honor the work of the Measure 114 drafters and provide more money for law enforcement agencies to carry out the new permitting process. The bill would increase the fees to apply for a gun permit from a local police department or sheriff's office from \$65, as set out in Measure 114, to \$150 and to \$110 for a renewal permit. The amendment comes as Measure 114, narrowly passed by Oregonians in November, is on hold over a legal challenge under the state constitution brought by the Gun Owners of America, based in Virginia. A Harney County judge has blocked all provisions from taking effect until he holds further hearings. Prozanski, D-Eugene, didn't answer directly when asked if the amendment is designed to get around the lawsuits over Measure 114. / TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY: You might see them zipping around town this spring. The first shipment of a fleet of between 200 and 300 bright yellow electric scooters arrives this week in Eugene. They'll go into service on Friday.

They are part of a one-year pilot program between the city of Eugene, the University of Oregon, and Cascade Mobility. Similar to the PeaceHealth Rides bike-rental program, users will use a mobile app to rent the e-scooters at close to two dozen locations and, when finished, drop them at designated spots. The scooters come from a company called Superpedestrian. Workers for Cascade Mobility will manage the scooters and redistribute them around town and on campus, as needed. U-of-O officials say they've put a number of operational guidelines in place to enhance safety for pedestrians and scooter riders. That includes creation of no-ride zones, slow-ride zones, and a top speed of 15 mph. Officials say the e-scooters are equipped with technology that regulates their speed through certain zones and also keeps the scooters within their geographic rental boundaries. First-time users can download the Superpedestrian mobile app, available for iPhone and Android devices, and must listen to a required safety message before their first rental. Once the e-scooter program is fully deployed, officials say 600 e-scooters will be available citywide, including 100 three-wheel scooters with seats. Meantime, PeaceHealth Rides is continuing to maintain its fleet of 350 rental bicycles. The cost to unlock an e-scooter is \$2, along with a rental fee of 39 cents per minute. The clock runs on the rental until the e-scooter is parked within a designated zone. Once parked, the user gets \$1 back. / HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, LOW-INCOME, GOVERNMENT: Lane County and a number of non-profit organizations will receive a share of close to \$50 million dollars headed to Oregon to help reduce homelessness and provide additional resources for individuals and families at-risk for homelessness. Oregon U.S. Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden yesterday announced details of the grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The grants support efforts to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing trauma and dislocation. Among the recipients: Lane County will receive close to \$2.5 million. Homes for Good will receive close to \$830,000 and the St. Vincent DePaul Society of Lane County will receive \$795,000.

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/30/23

TIME OF BROADCAST 5:30AM-8:30AM / KKNU-FM

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Looks like the final weekend of Spring Break is promising a stormy wrap-up. A Winter Storm Watch remains in effect from Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon above 3.000 feet in the Oregon Cascades. Heavy snow is possible, with accumulations of 19 to 43 inches over those 48 hours. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph. Travel could be very difficult.; With the start of spring comes the annual deadline to remove studded tires. Oregon drivers must remove studded tires from their vehicles by tomorrow -Friday, March 31. After March 31, use other types of traction tires or chains if needed, or postpone your travel until conditions improve. State transportation officials encourage you not to wait, however if you are not driving across Oregon's mountain passes between now and then. Drivers with studded tires on their vehicles after the March 31 deadline are subject to a citation from law enforcement for a Class C traffic violation, which carries a presumptive fine of \$165. And while studded tires are allowed in Oregon from Nov. 1 through March 31, drivers are urged to use alternatives, such as traction tires and chains. A 2014 study showed studded tires cause about \$8.5 million in damage each year to state highways. / CRIME: Eugene Police say they arrested a local woman earlier this week and charged her with multiple crimes. They say a search of 51-year-old Shelly Lee Hart's residence in the 1700 block of Grove Street resulted in the seizure of weapons, drugs, and stolen property. Police say they'd conducted a similar search slightly more than a year ago and has received tips that criminal activity there had resumed. Investigators say several unreported overdoses also had occurred at the location, creating a more pressing need to stop alleged narcotics distribution at the house. During the search of the residence, members of the Eugene Police Street Crimes unit say they seized approximately 20 grams or more of fentanyl, 10 grams or more of methamphetamine, five grams or more of cocaine, and packaging material, and other evidence of manufacturing and delivery of drugs. Police also say they recovered two firearms—one of which was stolen—along with stolen property from Jerry's Home Improvement. / POLTIICS, HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING: Oregon Governor Tina Kotek has signed into law that sweeping \$200 million housing and homelessness package. It was approved by lawmakers amid a bipartisan effort to tackle two of the state's most pressing crises. Most of the funding — about \$157 million — is aimed at boosting eviction prevention and homelessness prevention services. Those efforts will include rental assistance and rapid rehousing, increased shelter capacity, and addressing youth homelessness. An initial \$30 million dollars is being distributed immediately to help fund rent assistance and eviction prevention. The remainder will be disbursed in July, with the start of the state's new fiscal year. At the signing ceremony, the governor said the funding will help move Oregon forward and make real, measurable improvements across the state. Like much of the U.S. West, Oregon has struggled with a surge in homelessness driven in part by high costs and a lack of affordable housing options. Analysts and agencies estimate Oregon is short 140,000 housing units, and federal data shows its homeless population has increased by 22 percent since 2020. The crises are affecting both cities and rural regions. About 4,000 of the nearly 18,000 homeless people in the state live in rural areas, according to the latest 2022 federal point-in-time count. During passage of the bills, lawmakers pointed to the package's investments outside cities — nearly \$27 million is earmarked specifically for rural areas to combat homelessness — as the fruits of cross-aisle negotiation. Another \$20 million will ramp up factory-produced modular housing, in a bid to meet the governor's housing construction target of 36,000 units per year — an 80 percent increase over current production. Some GOP lawmakers had argued that cutting bureaucratic red tape and creating more incentives for housing developers would better address the issue. But most nonprofits and housing groups expressed support, saying it would help communities that are disproportionately impacted by homelessness and the affordable housing shortage. / EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS: State labor economists say earnings in Oregon increased sharply over the past year, surpassing the high rate of inflation. It came amid a hiring shortage, as employers worked to attract and retain skilled employees. According to state numbers, total private average hourly earnings increased by 9.1 percent between February 2022 and February 2023. The growth rate was much higher than the comparable national growth in private earnings of 4.6 percent in that same 12-month period, and faster than the U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, which shot up by 6.2 percent during that time. According to the Oregon Employment Department, all major industry sectors saw rapid hourly earnings gains. Even the sector with the slowest earnings growth—in trade, transportation, and utilities—rose by 4.4 percent. / WILDLIFE, FISHERIES: Democratic U.S. Senators from four states want federal environmental officials to address a spate of whale deaths on both coasts, urging "transparency and timeliness" in releasing information about whale deaths and their causes. Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley is among them. He and others called for action by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – or NOAA. The senators expressed concern about the deaths of gray whales on the West Coast, where 298 of the animals have washed ashore since 2019. Some showed signs of emaciation. In 2008, NOAA into place speed regulations for marine vessels to reduce the number of whale deaths caused by boat strikes. Updated rules are expected by June. Mostly Republican lawmakers also have called for a pause or an outright halt to offshore wind farm preparation work, which they blame for the deaths of whales along the East Coast. But numerous federal agencies have said there is no evidence of any link, and instead said many deaths were caused by ship strikes or entanglement with fishing gear. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/31/23

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

WEATHER, SAFETY: A winter storm is arriving in the Northern Oregon Cascades and the Cascades in Lane County later today. Snowfall amounts will be higher on U.S. 20 over Santiam Pass than on Oregon Highway 58 over Willamette Pass. but accumulations will be significant for drivers over both mountain highways: Above 3,000 feet: total snow accumulations of 2 to 4 feet. Above 1,500 feet: total snow accumulations of 1 to 2 feet. Winds gusting as high as 40 mph. Travel could be very difficult. Patchy blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility. Those with recreation plans in the Cascades this weekend should prepare for strong winter conditions. If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food, and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency. / PANDEMIC, SAFETY; Workers, patients and visitors in health care settings will no longer be required to wear protective masks starting Monday, April 3. In making the change, the Oregon Health Authority is matching similar moves in Washington state and California in a coordinated West Coast decision. While pandemic-related mask mandates were lifted months ago in many other workplaces, the state has kept the rules in place for health care settings to protect staff and vulnerable patients. Come Monday, masks will no longer be required in hospitals, mobile clinics, ambulances, outpatient facilities, dental offices, urgent care centers, counseling offices, schoolbased health centers, complementary and alternative medicine locations. It will be up to individual healthcare workers and patients to decide whether to mask up. Oregon Health Authority leaders say they've seen continued decreases in a trio of respiratory infections—COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. They say that's eased the strain hospital emergency departments and intensive care units. Some health care settings may continue to require masks even after the requirement is lifted. But by announcing the lifting of the mask mandate one month early, OHA's leaders say health care facilities have time to prepare for the change. That includes time for any training and new procedures to ensure continued patient safety. It also gives patients and others time to plan their health care visits and any protective measures they wish to take. State health officials continue to recommend that people at higher risk for severe disease, or who live with someone at higher risk, consider wearing masks in health care or any settings, to better protect themselves and those most vulnerable around them. / POLITICS, HALTH, YOUTH, FAMILY, CRIME: A bill that would criminalize helping minors obtain an abortion without parental consent won final passage in Idaho's legislature yesterday and is headed to the desk of its Republican governor, Brad

Little. The measure would be the first of its kind in the U.S. It seeks to restrict travel by creating the crime of "abortion trafficking" and would bar adults from obtaining abortion pills for a minor or, quote, "recruiting, harboring or transporting the pregnant minor" without the consent of the minor's parent or guardian. Anyone convicted of breaking the law would face two to five years in prison and could also be sued by the minor's parent or guardian. Parents who raped their child would not be able to sue, though the criminal penalties for anyone who helped the minor obtain an abortion would remain in effect. National Right to Life, an anti-abortion organization, lauded the bill as protecting parental rights by keeping parents involved in a child's decisions. To sidestep violating a constitutional right to travel between states, Idaho's law would make illegal only the in-state segment of a trip to an out-of-state abortion provider—including to facilities in Oregon. Opponents are promising a legal battle if the bill becomes law. Idaho is one of 13 states that already effectively ban abortion in all stages of pregnancy and is one of a handful of states that already have laws penalizing those who help people of any age obtain abortions. State leaders in Oregon, Washington, and California have promoted the West Coast as a "safe haven" for abortion procedures, and lawmakers in Oregon and Washington are considering bills to shield abortion providers and patients from criminal liability. Oregon's bill would allow physicians to provide abortion to anyone regardless of age and would bar them in certain cases from disclosing that information to parents. Thirty-six states require parental involvement in a minor's decision to have an abortion, though most allow exceptions under certain circumstances like medical emergencies, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a research group supporting abortion rights. / CRIME: Two people have been arrested in connection with Wednesday afternoon's theft from a construction site off Coburg Road, midway between Eugene and Coburg. Workers at the site said they returned from lunch to discover thousands of dollars' worth of tools had been stolen. But they also spotted the suspects speeding away in a vehicle. They got the vehicle description and its license plate. Lane County Sheriff's deputies identified the suspects as 34-year-old Trevor Lee Hendricks and 31-year-old Jessica Marie Jackson. Investigators say Hendricks also was wanted on an arrest warrant out of Eugene Municipal Court. When deputies went to a residence off Matt Drive in northeast Eugene, they say Jessica Jackson cooperated with deputies, but Hendricks refused to leave the residence. Deputies, including Sheriff's K9 Ripp and his handler Deputy Chris Gardner, entered the residence. Hendricks surrendered when he learned that the sheriff's K9 was assisting in the search. Hendricks was lodged at the Lane County Jail on his outstanding warrant and a new charge of First-Degree Theft. Jackson was issued a citation in lieu of custody for First-Degree Theft. Deputies say they recovered the tools stolen from the construction site. / ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE, TRIBES. FISHERIES. WILDLIFE. WEATHER: A northern California tribe is pressing the federal government to stop water deliveries for farming in southern Oregon and northern California unless a federal agency can show it's met all legal requirements for endangered species, including salmon and killer whales. The Yurok Tribe, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations and Institute for Fisheries Resources filed a motion for a preliminary injunction last week, the Capital Press reported. It's part of a 2019 lawsuit against the federal Bureau of Reclamation and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Bureau of Reclamation operates the Klamath Project, which provides water for about

200,000 acres of farmland in southern Oregon and northern California. But the operations cannot threaten the survival of endangered species. The agency must consider water needs for threatened coho salmon in the Klamath River, and two species of endangered sucker fish in Upper Klamath Lake. Southern resident orcas are also impacted because they depend on Klamath River salmon for prey. Three consecutive years of drought has prompted the Bureau of Reclamation to adopt a more flexible management strategy for the Klamath Project. In mid-February, the agency began reducing minimum stream flows in the Klamath River by 11 percent below Iron Gate Dam. Additional reductions of 16 percent were made on Feb. 25. The goal was to hold more water back in Upper Klamath Lake near Klamath Falls, Oregon, allowing Lost River and shortnose suckers to access critical shoreline habitat for spawning and rearing. But according to the Yurok Tribe, the cutbacks dropped Klamath River flows below what is necessary to protect "extremely at-risk" coho. The tribe and fishing groups are asking a U.S. district judge in San Francisco to order the Bureau of Reclamation to withhold water for irrigators until the agency satisfies its obligations for endangered fish. The Klamath Tribes, headquartered in Chiloquin, Oregon, also filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue the government in February, arguing Reclamation has failed to meet minimum lake elevations for suckers in Upper Klamath Lake during the last three years. The lawsuits come as Klamath Project irrigators await their annual water allocation, typically announced in April. / WILDLIFE: More than 50 years after an orca known as Lolita was captured for public display, plans are in place to return her from Florida's Miami Seaquarium to her home waters in the Pacific Northwest, where a nearly century-old, endangered killer whale believed to be her mother still swims. An unlikely coalition involving the theme park's owner, an animal rights group and an NFL owner-philanthropist announced the agreement yesterday. Lolita, also known as Tokitae, was about 4 years old when she was captured in Puget Sound in summer 1970, during a time of deadly orca roundups. She spent decades performing for paying crowds before falling ill. Last year the Miami Seaguarium announced it would no longer stage shows with her, under an agreement with federal regulators. Lolita — now 57 years old and 5,000 pounds — currently lives in a tank that measures 80 feet by 35 feet and is 20 feet deep. The orca believed to be her mother, called Ocean Sun, continues to swim free with other members of their clan — known as L pod — and is estimated to be more than 90 years old. That has given advocates of her release optimism that Tokitae could still maybe have a long life in the wild. The agreement still faces hurdles to gaining government approval. The time frame for moving the animal could be 18 to 24 months away, the group said, and the cost could reach \$20 million. The plan is to transport Lolita by plane to an ocean sanctuary in the waters between Washington and Canada. There, she would initially swim inside a large net while trainers and veterinarians teach her how to catch fish. She will also have to build up her muscles, as orcas typically swim about 100 miles per day. The orca would be under 24-hour care until she acclimates to her new surroundings. The legacy of the whale roundups of the 1960s and '70s continues to haunt a distinct group of endangered, salmon-eating orcas that are known as the southern resident killer whales and spend much of their time in the waters between Washington and Canada. At least 13 orcas died in the roundups and 45 were delivered to theme parks around the world, reducing the Puget Sound resident population by about 40 percent and helping cause problems with

inbreeding that remain a problem today. Today only 73 remain in the southern resident population, which comprises three familial groups called pods, according to the Center for Whale Research on Washington state's San Juan Island. That's just two more animals than in 1971. /