KKNU-FM 93.3 SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

QUARTERLY POSTING OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS, NEEDS AND INTERESTS

First Quarter, 2018: January 1st through March 31st

Posted: April 10th, 2018

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.
- Community Forum: This is a 15-30 minute weekly program that offers indepth examinations of community problems, needs and issues.

McKENZIE RIVER BROADCASTING 1Q, 2018, ISSUES LIST: KKNU-FM / KMGE-FM / KEUG-FM / KEQB-FM

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

<u> </u>	issues to be broadcast in this quarter.	
Qua		
Year		
	*Note: Major breaking news stories during the quarter that fall under these categories will be ad as is appropriate and reflected in daily news-public service postings	ided
1	POLITICS, ELECTIONS: Trump administration, Congress, the courts; partisan and budget battles	
•	Congress; Gun control, mass shootings, school violence, mental health treatment; Immigration, IN	3, .IQ
	raids, DACA, border wall; Marijuana enforcement; Opioid epidemic; Health care reform; Affordable	NO -
	housing; Government funding, shutdown threats; Oregon politics; National, state, local elections;	~
	Mueller investigation: Wyden and others; North Korea; Cybersecurity, hacking, data breaches.	
2	ECONOMY, BUSINESS, GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT, UTILITIES, COLLEGE-PRO SPORTS:	
Economy; Affordable housing; Unemployment, workforce training; Government funding; F		
ļ	finance; Consumer prices; Legal cannabis; Immigration economics; Retirement concerns; Econor	
İ	and downtown development, urban renewal and urban density; Rural development, urban growth	
	boundary; UO Athletics funding, spending; Sports events; Civic Stadium rebuilding; Agriculture;	
į	Technology; Energy prices, development; Cybersecurity, hacking.	
3	CRIME, SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT: Mass shootings; School violence; Community crime,	
١	policing and prevention; Drug & alcohol abuse; Opioid addiction and treatment; Human trafficking	
ļ	Youth protection; Child abuse; Gangs; Cybersecurity; Police shootings, targeting of police;	,
Ì	Demonstrations & riots; Arsonists; Racial profiling; Public safety; Severe weather, disasters, terror	
4	HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH: Mental health; Opioid epidemic, drug abuse; Illegal drugs; Legal ar	112111
-	illegal cannabis, Recreational and medical marijuana; National health care reform; Oregon Health	na
1	Plan (Medicaid) and CCOs; Abortion battle and reproductive debates; Prescription drug prices;	
	Immunizations and treatments; Environmental health, including wildfire smoke and overall air qua	1:4
	Infectious diseases including flu and STDs; Vaccines; Food and product recalls; Lead in water	iity;
	systems and homes; Obesity, diabetes & healthy eating; Physician-assisted suicide.	
5	WOMEN, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, FAMILY, YOUTH, ELDERS, MINORITIES, RACISM,	
١	IMMIGRATION, CIVIL RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, RELIGION, COMMUNITY	
ĺ	DISABILITIES: #MeToo; Sexual violence and harassment; Immigration, DACA, Latino community	<u>,</u>
	Families and children; Domestic violence; Youth programs; Youth protection; Minority issues; Rac	,
	racism; Same-sex marriage; Gay rights, fair housing; Civil rights, civil liberties; Privacy, cybersecu	ritv
	Religion, churches; Community and charitable events, Older adults, Pets and animal rights.	ıııty,
6	HOMELESSNESS, LOW-INCOME ISSUES: Affordable housing; Homeless veterans, individuals,	
_	families and youth; Homeless "rest stops"; "The Working Poor"; Minimum wage and living wages;	
	Community agencies; Mental health issues; Older adults: Protection, health, housing, finances.	
7	ENVIRONMENT, DISASTERS, AGRICULTURE: Potential drought and wildfire outlook; Snowpac	·k·
•	Wintry weather; Disaster preparedness and response, Air quality; Climate change; Agriculture;	'n,
ŀ	Pollinators; Pesticides and herbicides; Agriculture, gardens, Sustainable landscaping; Ocean heal	th:
	Forest management; Wildlife habitat, fish recovery, fishing effects; Power generation; Alternate	uı,
	energy; Hazardous materials transport, toxic dumps, clean-up sites.	
8	MILITARY, VETERANS, WAR ON TERRORISM: Veterans' issues, including jobs, mental health	
_	(PTSD, suicide, etc.) and homelessness; Military families issues; Homeland and local security;	
	Balancing terrorism with civil rights; National Guard deployments; Oregonians in the military; NSA	
	nacking and privacy issues.	
	EDUCATION: Local and state budgets for higher and lower education; Paying for college; Curricu	lum
~	and academic standards; Student activism; Programs and students honored for academic or civic	iuffi
	excellence. National education and trends; Teacher contracts and contract negotiations.	
10	FRANSPORTATION: Infrastructure needs and projects; ; Road and gas fees and taxes; Rail safe	h.,
	Pedestrian, biker, rider safety; Hiking-biking trails; Airlines and Eugene's airport; Lane Transit Dist	ιy πίσι
1	expansion and service; Hybrid, electric vehicles.	HCt
	1st Quarter, 2018, Issues List was formulated at a public meeting on Tues., Jan. 9, 2018.	
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The 1st Quarter, 2018, Issues List was formulated at a public meeting on Tues., Jan. 9, 2018. Contributing:Tracy Berry - KKNU-FM, Mary Reilly - KMGE-FM, Lupe Cureno - KEQB-FM

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/07/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME, BUSINESS, GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	It's a new year. How about a new approach to your finances and savings? Each year we sit down with the folks at NEDCO, our local non-profit that teaches financial literacy and financial independence, to hear tips for saving and responsible spending. NEDCO's Ross Kanaga also offers details on the organizations classes, counseling and other programs ranging from financial stability to buying that first house, starting a business and debt counseling. NEDCO offers an annual pass: \$75 gives your entire household unlimited access to the non-profit's classes and counseling. Some of the new classes target young adults ages 16-24 asd people preparing for an in retirement. Kanaga also offers tips on how to track your spending, as well as exercises where one spends as little as they can in one month to see how quickly they can free up savings for other things.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/14/18 and 01/21/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, GROWTH
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	It's been a moderately mild winter so far in Eugene-Springfield and central Lane County. Nothing like last winter, which included crippling freezing rain and snowstorms. But crews at the Oregon Department of Transportation or ODOT want to make sure they have the tools they need when the ice returns. We learn about the addition of selected applications of salt under certain conditions and on limited stretches of road in today's Community Forum. Local ODOT managers say it's a balance between safety and environmental concerns. And we learn more about local road maintenance in the winter, long-term construction projects, and normal maintenance year-round. ODOT's local Transportation Maintenance Manager, Kevin Finch, talks about that as well as the growing problem of litter and safe driving tips around road construction and road maintenance operations.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	01/28/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, COMMUNITY, GROWTH
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	We have a lot of wonderful trees in the Eugene-Springfield area, what you might call our "urban forest." And one of the reasons we have some new ones every couple of weeks is because of the local group, Friends of Trees. His morning, we chat with Eric Burke, the group's local director, who provides details on the hundreds of thousands of trees in the local urban forest, areas that have much less arboreal cover and how they're working to change that. Burke says trees not only improve property values but improve neighborhoods by providing shade, filtering the air and runoff and can even provide secondary health benefits by helping to lower blood pressure. But not every neighborhood has enough trees. Burke says the group is focusing on those areas, contacting landowners and homeowners to add tress from everything from parking strips to industrial wetlands. He says studies also show that trees around schools can increase academics and enhance student recreation by creating a more welcoming outdoor environment. And he talks about how Friends of Trees coordinates volunteer work parties throughout the year—many including volunteers on bicycles—to plant appropriate species in various spots while also working to maintain key open spaces to preserve local views.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/04/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	EDUCATION, YOUTH, COMMUNITY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	The workers and taxpayers of the future are in school today, learning not just how to read but learning the love of reading. And for some youngsters, that's where SMART comes in. SMART focuses on youth literacy as well as success in school and in life. Kari Rosenfeld, the area manager for the SMART South Valley program says children who are not good readers by the third grade are at high risk of dropping out of school and having a tough time finding a career and a goodpaying job later in life. She says some experts say the third-grade literacy rate can be a way of estimating how many jail cells are needed in the future, although educators and volunteers hope that isn't the case. SMART pairs volunteers with children needing some reading assistance. They meet once a week at school to read a book, often chosen to appeal to a child's interests from everything from pets and trucks to food or the outdoors. SMART is a non-profit that has a statewide program that serves thousands of students, close to 1,300 in our region. One of the program's highlights provides SMART kids with two free books each month during the school year that they may keep for themselves. This winter, a local company stepped up to underwrite one of those book giveaway days and the program is looking for additional corporate sponsors. SMART holds its annual fundraiser, the SMART Sip, on Feb. 20 and SMART is always looking for volunteers. We learn more about the event and volunteering, as well.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/11/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME, ELDERS, COMMUNITY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	It's tax time and a lot of people are trying to file early. Are you receiving all of the tax credits for which you're eligible? The AARP Foundation of Oregon, United Way of Lane County and a number of local partners are working to assist taxpayers of low to moderate incomes, as well as seniors, families, people with disabilites and others, have their taxes prepared for free. Len Lewandowski with the AARP Tax Aides in Lane County joins us to discuss how they're setting up drop-in and appointment sites that serve taxpayers and also help determine whether they qualify for things such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit. Many people don't realize they qualify for these tax credits and the AARP Tax Aides and United Way of Lane County estimate they helped their clients in Lane County secure roughly \$6,200,000 in refunds with \$1,670,000 in Earned Income tax Credits, \$400,000 in Child Tax Credits and \$535,000 in the Additional Child Tax Credit. He says that's significant because people with lower and moderate incomes tend to spend their tax refunds in the community almost immediately, creating a significant local economic benefit. Lewandowski explains how people may make appointments at a Tax Aide site or find a drop-in site and what they need to bring to those appointments. Those include sites in outlying communities such as Veneta, Florence, Junction City, Cottage Grove and Oakridge. Lewandowski say the Tax Aide program is always looking for volunteers and provides comprehensive training.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/18/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	EDUCATION, YOUTH, COMMUNITY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	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. This month, the Oregon School Activities Association or OSAA is recruiting men and women to become certified high school officials. Mike Whitty, the commissioner for lane county basketball and football officials, joins us. He says the demand is high and the turnover is high. For example, during basketball season on any given Tuesday or Friday, they have to fill close to 130 officiating slots. There are 80 to 90 officials needed during football season. Occasionally, games at the lower levels have been postponed for lack of officials. Whitty says it can be a rewarding part-time position that includes a game and travel stipend. They're looking for candidates with good character and a good attitude. They offer training in everything from the basic rules to dealing with emotions and abuse from coaches, parents and players and partner new officials with experienced officials. Whitty also talks about how the program has partnered with students in related degree fields at the University of Oregon to train them as officials and he discusses the importance of youth sports.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	02/25/18 and 03/04/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	LOW-INCOME, HOMELESSNESS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITY, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	We continue our occasional focus on affordable housing with a closer look at one of the key players looking to expand the local inventory: Homes for Good, Lane County's Housing Authority. It has a new name and an expanded mission. Director Jacob Fox discusses how it helped lower-income residents get into private housing placements and vouchers that can help pay the rent for a private housing rental. The agency also offers financial counseling resources, weatherization services to reduce utility bills, maintenance support and more. Homes for Good has developed more than 1,600 affordable housing units in Lane County and remains the county's biggest landlord. It manages units, collecting pay from renters, but also acts as an advocate between renters and private landlords. And the agency has partnered with groups ranging from the St. Vincent DePaul Society and Sponsors to create specialized affordable housing projects. Fox says the need for affordable units remains great in communities from Florence, Veneta and Junction City to Cottage Grove, Creswell and Oakridge, especially as rising rents in Eugene-Springfield force more people to move of of the metro area. So he says the long-term focus includes creating more affordable units in those areas.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	03/11/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, YOUTH PROTECTION, SAFETY, COMMUNITY, EDUCATION
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	A sobering statistic from Lane County Public Health officials: In a county where there are typically seven adolescent suicides each year we've had five in the past 40 days. This is heartbreaking for family and friends and a situation that the county's medical examiner has called, "a permanent solution to a temporary problem." If there is a message to teens grappling with suicidal thoughts, it is this: "You are not alone. There are people who care about you. You have options." This morning, we sit down with Dr. Patrick Luedtke with Lane County Health and Human Services to talk about adolescent suicide including contributing factors such as romantic break-ups, family crises, cyberbullying and depression. We learn about prevention and, for family and friends, learn how to talk with someone who might be contemplating suicide. Luedtke says 70% of people who die by suicide tell someone about their plans, or give warning signs. Those who have made serious attempts are at much higher risk for actually taking their lives. Between 20 and 40% of people who kill themselves have previously attempted suicide. And although most depressed people are not suicidal, most suicidal people are depressed. We also discuss some other health trends in Lane County, including the alarming increase in sexually-transmitted diseases or "STDs." He says in since 2010, gonorrhea cases have climbed from fewer than 50 each year to close to 425—a close to 1,000 percent rise. Luedtke suspects fewer people are practicing safe sex, in part because of inroads in treating diseases such as HIV. But he adds that whenever health officials see increases in gonorrhea,

they know rises in HIV, syphilis, chlamydia and other STDs climb. He explains the importance of vaccinating adolescents against HPV, the human papilloma virus which causes genital warts as well as some types of cancers. We discuss the severity of this flu season, how there might be a second peak of cases locally involving a strain of Type B influenza, and the importance of getting your flu vaccine. And we discuss the epidemic of opioid addiction, including how Lane County Health and Human Services is working to reduce prescribing of opioids at its clinics as part of a coordinated effort to reduce access to prescription opioids.

Name of Program	Community Forum
Date of Program	03/18/18 and 03/25/18
Time of Program	6:30 AM on KKNU-FM 7:00 AM on KMGE-FM & KEUG-FM
Issue	HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, LOW-INCOME, FAMILY, ECONOMY
Length Of Program	30 Minutes
TOPIC	For sports fans, this is the time for March Madness with lots of excitement about college basketball tournaments. The games are often preceded by office bracket pools and professional sports betting. But for some Lane County residents, gambling is more than an occasional activity. It's an addiction that can drain their checking and savings accounts, affect relationships and led to feelings of depression, anxiety, guilt and shame. This morning, we sit down with Julie Hynes, lane County's expert on problem gambling prevention to discuss the latest developments in addiction and treatment. We also chat about the growing challenges posed by online games, sports fantasy leagues, as well as Oregon's lottery and video gambling machines and the revenues they provide. The state has worked to expand its treatment options over the years, from inpatient to support groups to online chats. She reminds listeners to call 1-877-MY-LIMIT or go online to www.opgr.org or

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST

01/03/18

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY: Eugene Police yesterday released the name of the man who died in Saturday's early-morning crash on Bailey Hill Road. 24-year-old Mack Wallace Carothers of Eugene was found unresponsive in the crashed pickup near Four Oaks Grange Road. Police are still investigating after a witness told officers a second person was in the vehicle but left the scene. The Register-Guard quotes a police spokeswoman who says the person has been found but not arrested.: Oregon State Police have not released the name of the Veneta boy who died in Saturday afternoon's traffic accident on Highway 58 near the Salt Creek Tunnel. But the Register-Guard quotes family members who say they are mourning sevenyear-old Hunter Heineman. The child's mother, father and their 15-month-old daughter survived the crash, which occurred when the family's SUV was struck by a pickup truck. The pickup's driver and passenger were not injured. The crash remains under investigation. Relatives say Hunter was a first-grader at Elmira Elementary loved playing with Legos, reading books and making his little sister laugh. The Register-Guard reports a Go Fund Me online fundraising effort called "Funds for Hunter" is raising money to assist the family.; During the Christmas/ New Year's holiday, Lane County Sheriff's Office deputies conducted overtime saturation patrols focused on reducing impaired driving and related vehicle crashes and injuries. These patrols are funded solely through grant monies provided through the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association and the Oregon Department of Transportation. During this two week saturation period, deputies made a total of 15 DUII arrests. These arrests were made by deputies on saturation patrol and during normal shifts. Deputies also issued the following citations: 9 Driving While Suspended; 7 Speeding; 2 Reckless Driving; 1 Felony Attempt to Elude; 22 Other Citations; and 47 Warnings. During the same time period last year, there were 12 DUII arrests. This year there were 30 hours of grant funded overtime worked by deputies as compared to 32 hours last year. Grant funding will provide additional overtime for DUII Saturation Patrols throughout the year for holidays and local Lane County special events. Please have a safe new year.; Authorities have called off the search for a man who was last seen fishing for crab from a kayak near the mouth of the Seaside Estuary. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports City of Seaside spokeswoman Esther Moberg says the Coast Guard called off the search Tuesday afternoon, citing "survivability factors" including the fact that Matthew Manley was reportedly not wearing a life jacket. The Seaside Police Department began searching for the 42-year-old

Tualatin man on New Year's Day. Manley was last seen in an area where water temperatures are about 50 degrees Farenheit. The U.S. Coast Guard was assisting with 47-foot motor lifeboats and helicopter crews. There have been no signs of Manley, his kayak or his crabbing gear.; A 19-year-old man suffering from an unknown medical issue was rescued by helicopter just south of Depoe Bay. The Register-Guard reports the Depoe Bay Fire District says low tide Tuesday allowed the man to be rescued from a reef in Big Whale Cove that is typically underwater. A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter made the rescue once firefighters had responded to the scene. Firefighters stabilized the patient with help from ambulance personnel within 10 minutes of receiving the dispatch call at 3:52 p.m. The fire district says the man was taken to a local hospital for assessment. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: Tracking statistics from the moving company United Van Lines indicate that Americans are still heading west, while parts of the Northeast and Midwest are losing people. The suburban St. Louisbased moving company on Tuesday released its 41st annual National Movers Study, which tracks customers' state-to-state migration patterns. Three of the top four destination states are in the West: Oregon, Idaho and Nevada. The outlier is Vermont, a Northeast state that had the highest percentage of inbound migration in 2017. About 68 percent of state-to-state moves in Vermont were inbound last year. At the other end of the spectrum is Illinois, which had the highest percent of outbound moves, followed by New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Kansas. / COMMUNITY: The owners of a horse sanctuary in western Oregon say they might close down by March unless they can secure financial support. The Register-Guard reports David and Jane Kelly started the Oregon Horse Rescue on their farm outside of Eugene about five years ago and have been supporting the operation mostly by themselves. Kelly says he and his wife pay about 90 percent of the sanctuary's operating costs, and they cannot continue to provide that same level of support. Kelly says they are seeking donations to cover 75 percent of the operating costs. The couple set the beginning of March as the deadline to decide if they will close. The nonprofit organization has about 40 horses currently in its care and about dozen horses are available for adoption. / POLITICS: Congress returns to work today as the U.S. Senate reconvenes after its winter break. The House is back in session next week. Among the first items of business: Swearingin Democrat Doug Jones, who won last month's hotly contested special election in Alabama over Republican Roy Moore. Jones' swearing-in trims the GOP's Senate majority to 51 - 49. Also being sworn in today: Minnesota Lt. Gov. Tina Smith, a Democrat appointed to fill the remainder of the term of Sen. Al Franken, who resigned over sexual misconduct allegations. The Republican-controlled Congress has plenty on its plate for 2018. There is continued talk of repealing and replacing former president Obama's health care law, welfare reform, immigration, and a new infrastructure plan. But before they get down to that business, lawmakers need to replace a short-term spending bill that expires Jan. 19 or face a government shutdown. Looming in the distance: the mid-term elections and the continuing Russia investigations. / ECONOMY: No big Christmas or New Year's gifts for lottery players across the U.S. That means the Powerball and MegaMillions jackpots are continuing to grow. No one matched all six numbers in Saturday's Powerball drawing, pushing tonight's draw to \$440 million. Nobody won last night's MegaMillions jackpot, so it climbs to \$418 million for Friday night's drawing. / MINORITIES, POLITICS: Governor Kate Brown appointed Adrienne

Nelson to the Oregon Supreme Court on Tuesday, marking the first time an African American has served on the high court in the state's 158-year history. The Oregonian and OregonLive report no African American judge has served on the state's second highest court -- the Oregon Court of Appeals -- either. Nelson, who is in her early 50s, has presided as a Multnomah County Circuit judge for nearly 12 years. At the time of her circuit appointment by then-governor Ted Kulongoski in 2006, she was the only African American judge in a state court system of about 200 judges. Today, there are five, three of whom were appointed by Brown last year. Nelson fills a vacancy created by retired Justice Jack Landau. Her appointment starts immediately. / CRIME, ECONOMY: "American Vandal," the Netflix true-crime parody about a case of male genitalia vandalism, is coming back for a second season. And the Oregonian / OregonLive report this one is going to shoot in Portland. The first season of "American Vandal" is a satirical spin on such who-done-it series Netflix's "Making a Murderer" and public radio's "Serial." But the crime in "American Vandal" isn't grim, it's goofy -- i.e., who painted used spray paint to vandalize a bunch of high school faculty cars. Portlanders will have a chance to appear in "American Vandal" Season 2. Cast Iron Studios, which has done casting for such filmed-in-Portland series as "Grimm," "The Librarians," and "Here and Now," will hold an open casting call on Saturday, Jan. 6. The call is by appointment only. /

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST

01/04/18

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ELECTIONS, POLITICS: President Trump is disbanding his controversial voter fraud commission amid infighting, lawsuits and some state officials' refusal to cooperate. On Twitter early today he claimed states that would not cooperate fully must know they have people voting illegally. Trump convened the commission to investigate the 2016 presidential election, after alleging repeatedly and without evidence that voting fraud cost him the popular vote. Trump won the Electoral College. The White House blamed the decision to end the panel on more than a dozen states that have refused to comply with the commission's demand for vast amounts of personal voter data, including names, partial Social Security numbers. voting histories and party affiliations. Critics saw the commission as part of a conservative campaign to make it harder for poor people and minority voters to access the ballot box, and to justify Trump's claims of voter fraud, which they called "fake news." They also viewed the commission as part of an attempt to distract from the ongoing investigations into Russian election meddling and potential collusion between Moscow and Trump campaign aides. More than a dozen states, as well as the District of Columbia, had refused the commission's request for voter data, citing privacy concerns and a fear that complying would legitimize the idea that voter fraud is widespread. While Oregon elections officials said they could provide a statewide list of voters for \$500, the price they charge anyone else, Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, a Republican, wrote a letter noting that he is barred legally from disclosing Social Security and driver's license numbers. Richardson said in the letter that there is "very little evidence" of voter fraud or registration fraud in Oregon. National elections analysts say While there have been isolated cases of people voting illegally, and many voter rolls contain outdated data, there is no evidence voter fraud is a widespread problem in the United States or has affected election results. A study by a Loyola Law School professor found that out of 1 billion votes cast in all American elections between 2000 and 2014, there were only 31 known cases of impersonation fraud. Trump has repeatedly alleged, without evidence, that 3 million to 5 million people voted illegally in the 2016 election, delivering the popular vote to his Democratic rival. Hillary Clinton. Clinton received more than 2.8 million more votes than Trump nationwide. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, CRIME: Attorney General Jeff Sessions is rescinding the Obama-era policy that had paved the way for legalized marijuana to flourish in states across the country, including Oregon. Two people with knowledge of the attorney general's decision say Sessions will instead let federal

prosecutors where cannabis is legal decide how aggressively to enforce federal marijuana law. A formal announcement is expected later today. The move by President Trump's attorney general likely will add to confusion about whether it's OK to grow, buy or use marijuana in states where pot is legal, since long-standing federal law prohibits it. It comes days after pot shops opened in California, launching what is expected to become the world's largest market for legal recreational marijuana and as polls show a solid majority of Americans believe the drug should be legal. Sessions has criticized marijuana, saying it is comparable to heroin, and has blamed it for spikes in violence. His comments came as cannabis advocates continue to argue that legalizing the drug eliminates the need for a black market and would likely reduce violence, since criminals would no longer control the marijuana trade. The Obama administration in 2013 announced it would not stand in the way of states that legalize marijuana, so long as officials acted to keep it from migrating to places where it remained outlawed and kept it out of the hands of criminal gangs and children. Oregon is one of eight states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use. Sessions' policy will let U.S. attorneys across the country decide what kinds of federal resources to devote to marijuana enforcement based on what they see as priorities in their districts, the people familiar with the decision said. Sessions and some law enforcement officials in states such as Colorado blame legalization for a number of problems, including drug traffickers that have taken advantage of lax marijuana laws to hide in plain sight, illegally growing and shipping the drug across state lines, where it can sell for much more. The decision was a win for pot opponents who had been urging Sessions to take action. / ECONOMY: Macy's says it enjoyed sales growth during the holiday season, but the improvement wasn't enough to offset a tough year. The department store said Thursday sales at established stores rose 1 percent in the November-December period. It now expects that figure to decline between 2.4 percent and 2.7 percent for the year. Total revenue is forecast to decline 3.6 percent to 3.9 percent compared to a year earlier. Macy's also says it will close another 11 stores early this year, cut jobs and streamline non-store functions. That should produce savings of about \$300 million. The store at Eugene's Valley river Center is unaffected. Meanwhile, J.C. Penney's revenue at stores opened at least a year rose 3.4 percent for the nine-week period ended Dec. 30. The holiday sales growth is encouraging for department stores, which are struggling to reinvent themselves. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: With a new deadline fast approaching, Democrats in Congress are struggling to adopt a unified strategy to protect hundreds of thousands of young immigrants from deportation. Their inaction has enraged liberal activists, who have shifted their anger in recent days from Republicans who control Congress to Democrats seeking to balance their commitment to a progressive priority with their desire to avoid a politically explosive government shutdown. Liberal groups with millions of members, like MoveOn, are threatening primary election challenges later this year against Democrats who don't fight hard enough for so-called "Dreamers." Others are vowing to block campaign cash from uncooperative Democrats, while preparing a wave of camera-friendly protests. At issue is the fate of about 800,000 young immigrants, many brought to the country illegally as children. / EDUCATION: Thurston High School will be back on its regular schedule this morning. This, after repair crews took a second try at fixing a water line rupture at the school. Springfield School District officials say there was a temporary repair on

Tuesday under the Thurston weight room. But after the temporary fix ruptured yesterday, Thurston officials cancelled Wednesday afternoon classes in order to turn off the high school's water supply and make a permanent repair. Everything should be back to normal today: Both the class schedule and the water line. / SAFETY, ECONOMY: Security researchers at Google say they've discovered serious security flaws affecting computer processors built by Intel and other chipmakers. Google's Project Zero team said the flaw could allow bad actors to gather passwords and other sensitive data from a system's memory. The tech company disclosed the vulnerability not long after Intel said it's working to patch it. Intel says the average computer user won't experience significant slowdowns as it's fixed. Tech companies typically withhold details about security problems until fixes are available so that hackers wouldn't have a roadmap to exploit the flaws. But in this case, Intel was forced to disclose it after British technology site The Register reported it. That caused Intel's stock to fall. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: Your dreams of a huge Powerball payday can continue. There was no overall winner in Wednesday night's drawing for a \$460 million jackpot, so the top prize jumps to an estimated \$550 million for Saturday. The numbers from Wednesday night are 2-18-37-39-42 with a Powerball of 12 and a Power Play of 3-times. \Meantime, rival lottery Mega Millions will hold its draw Friday night for a \$418 million prize. The chances of winning remain long, but if you want to be an optimist, the Powerball's odds are "only" 1-in-292,201,338. Mega Millions odds are 1-in-302,575,350. Unfortunately, the odds are much better that you'll die from a shark attack, which is about 1-in-3.5 million. / CRIME: The Register-Guard is reporting that a Bend man was sentenced Wednesday to 15 years in prison for his role in a series of armed robberies in Eugene last year. 19-year-old Eli Steven Johnson is the third of four teenagers arrested in the case to be sent to prison for the Feb. 7 robbery spree. A fourth defendant will be sentenced next week. Reporter Jack Moran writes that Johnson pleaded guilty last month to seven counts of second-degree robbery and one count of unauthorized use of a vehicle. The Register-Guard reports that Johnson is the only suspect in the case who was 18 or older at the time of the crimes, although all four defendants have been prosecuted as adults. The defendants were arrested after seven people were approached at random in Eugene and robbed. One victim, a 25-year-old woman. was stabbed in the back when she was robbed in the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue. Authorities said the robbers stole relatively inexpensive items from the victims, such as cellphones, headphones and cigarettes.; A judge is taking action against two men who took part in the occupation of an Oregon wildlife refuge after Facebook photos showed they violated their release conditions by visiting the Bundy ranch in Nevada without permission. U.S. District Judge Anna Brown has moved up Jon Ritzheimer's date to surrender to prison from Feb. 15 to Jan. 12. The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Tuesday. Brown ordered Montana militia leader Ryan Payne to return to home detention in Las Vegas. She also forbade Ritzheimer from having contact with any defendant from either the Oregon or Nevada standoff cases before his prison sentence begins. Payne received a similar order. The two men have pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy in the armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Oregon in 2016. Payne also faces other federal charges in Nevada along with Cliven Bundy and sons Ammon and Ryan Bundy. The photos of Payne and Ritzheimer at the ranch, located east of Las Vegas, were discovered by a federal pretrial services

officer in Oregon who notified Brown. The photos were posted on Ritzheimer's Facebook page. Ritzheimer had a "no-travel restriction" on his Oregon release that only allowed him to travel from Arizona to Oregon to attend court. Ritzheimer is also banned from posting on Facebook except to promote his motorcycle repair business. He was given permission to stay at an Airbnb rental in Las Vegas in late December to celebrate his wedding anniversary, according to court documents. After a mistrial in Nevada, Brown gave Payne permission to go home to Montana for Christmas. Neither of the men was allowed to go to the ranch. "I am concerned that defendants have taken advantage of this court's release accommodations in their favor," Brown wrote in an email obtained by the newspaper. Brown decided to deal with the allegations informally instead of through formal proceedings. / POLITICS, CRIME: An investigator with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission has concluded that Cylvia Hayes, the girlfriend of former Gov. John Kitzhaber, used her official position for personal gain. The report, released Wednesday, recommended that the commission make a preliminary ruling that Hayes violated state law. Kitzhaber resigned just over a month into his fourth term. in 2015, amid allegations he failed to publicly declare a potential conflict of interest between his elected position and Hayes' work as a clean energy consultant. The ethics commission recently rejected a proposal that he be fined \$1,000 fine, with some members believing it was too low and that he hasn't shown sufficient contrition. On the commission's agenda when it meets in Salem on Friday is the Hayes matter. / SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: Oregon State Police say a 21-year-old man is missing after being swept out to sea by a wave. Sgt. Jeff Proulx says Christopher Kareck of Sparks, Nevada, was standing on some rocks Wednesday morning when the wave carried him into the Pacific Ocean near Brookings, Oregon. Searchers spent the afternoon searching for Kareck without success. Large, unpredictable "sneaker" waves have killed about two dozen people along the Oregon coast since 1990. The incidents generally occur during late fall and winter. Warning signs are posted at Oregon beaches.; Authorities say they have found the body of a kayaker who went missing while crabbing in the Seaside Estuary. The Seaside Police Department says Wednesday that 42-year-old Matthew Manley's body was spotted at the waterline of the Pacific Ocean west of the Seaside Turnaround. Manley had been missing since New Year's Day when he was last seen on his kayak near the mouth of the Necanicum River. Authorities are still looking for the Tualatin man's kayak. They say it may have been taken from the shoreline sometime Tuesday and they are asking anyone with information to call the Seaside police.; A series of small earthquakes has rattled an area northeast of Mount St. Helens in southwest Washington state. The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network says a 3.9 magnitude quake hit around 12:38 a.m. Wednesday. Dozens of people throughout the region reported feeling it. It was followed minutes later by a 2.7 magnitude temblor. Dozens of smaller aftershocks have been hitting since then. The seismic network outreach director, Bill Steele, says it's fairly typical to see earthquake swarms in this area though somewhat unusual to have one with a 3.9 magnitude. Steele said Wednesday morning that a larger quake could follow within 48 hours but there's a small probability of that happening. He says even though the quakes have been located near Mount St. Helens, it's not caused by the magma underneath the volcano. / ENVIRONMENT: Oregon Gov. Kate Brown has expressed confidence in the investigation that ended with no charges against an elk hunter who told police he killed a wolf in

self-defense. More than a dozen conservation groups have urged the governor to reopen an investigation into the Oct. 27 killing west of La Grande. The Capital Press reports that Brown told the groups in a reply last month that she consulted with the agencies that conducted the investigation and has confidence in their findings. The hunter told investigators he feared for his life when he shot the wolf at a distance of 27 yards. The groups say the bullet passed through the wolf's shoulders, perhaps indicating it was standing broadside to the hunter and not charging.; A cheetah named Bingwa-on loan from Oregon to the St. Louis Zoo is a proud mother — eight times over. Officials with the zoo's Cheetah Breeding Center announced Wednesday that the 4-year-old cheetah gave birth Nov. 26 to eight cubs — three male and five female. It's the first documented case of a litter that large being born in a zoo. The average litter size is three to four cubs. All eight cubs and the mom are doing well. They'll remain indoors, away from the public and under close scrutiny from staff, for several months. Bingwa, whose name means "champion" in Swahili, is on loan from Wildlife Safari in Winston, Oregon. Cheetahs once roamed much of Africa and Asia. Today, only around 10,000 remain in the wild in Africa along with 100 or fewer in Iran. Zoo officials say the decline in numbers is due in part to conflict with humans as well as lack of genetic diversity. The litter's father is from a Florida facility so zoo officials hope these cubs eventually will help enhance the cheetah breeding lines and population across the globe. /

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ECONOMY, POLITICS, CRIME: Marijuana-related stocks plummeted, cannabis boosters worried about the industry's future and defiant growers and sellers vowed to keep operating after U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions signaled a tougher approach Thursday to federal pot enforcement. The plunging stock prices reversed a weekslong rally driven by optimism for legal recreational sales that started Monday in California.; Governor Kate Brown says Oregon's medical and recreational marijuana industry has created more than 19-thousand jobs in the state. She calls Attorney General Jeff Sessions' efforts to roll back federal marijuana policy "deeply concerning and disruptive to our state's economy." She notes that Oregon officials worked carefully to build its recreational cannabis sector in good faith and in accordance with the Obama-era federal guidelines. She's calling on the federal government to keep to that approach. Brown says voters in Oregon were clear when they chose to legalize the sale of marijuana and the federal government should not stand in the way. In August, Brown and Oregon State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton sent a letter to Sessions, explaining in detail the policies the state put in place to ensure the safety and security of Oregon's cannabis market. They say officials worked to ensure the policies protect public health, protect minors, prevent diversion to illegal markets and suppress organized and violent crime.; Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley called Sessions' marijuana decision "destructive" and "a huge step backwards." Merkley says the decision directly contradicts then-candidate Trump's statement on cannabis policy that, quote, "it should be up to the states, absolutely." Merkley says it also flies in the face of Sessions' belief in states' rights? Oregon's junior senator adds, quote, "There is nothing to be gained from going back to an era when federal resources were wasted prosecuting nonviolent cannabis crimes. This decision will create massive uncertainty, hurt local businesses and tax revenue, and harm public safety by driving cannabis activity back into the more dangerous black market." He's asking the Justice Department to immediately reverse what he calls a "misguided decision."; An Oregon congressman who is one of a chief backer of legalized marijuana is urging a fight against U.S. Attorney General Jeff Session's plan to open the gates to federal enforcement of laws against marijuana. Rep. Earl Blumenauer, a Democrat who co-sponsored an amendment that prevents the Justice Department from interfering with states' medical marijuana programs, called the move outrageous. He said anyone who cares about this issue should mobilize and push back strongly. Oregon Gov. Kate

Brown said rolling back federal marijuana policy, which has been largely noninterventionist, will disrupt the state's economy. She said over 19,000 jobs have been created by the marijuana market in Oregon, which was the first state to decriminalize personal possession in 1973, legalized medical marijuana in 1998. and recreational use in 2014. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS, ECONOMY: Sources say the Trump administration is moving to vastly expand offshore drilling from the Atlantic to the Arctic oceans, including opening up federal waters off the coast of California for the first time in more than three decades. The new five-year drilling plan could also open new areas of oil and gas exploration off the East Coast in places from Georgia to Maine, where drilling has been blocked for decades. The Interior Department is set to announce the plan Thursday. Two sources described the plan on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss it before its release. It's the most expansive offshore drilling proposal in decades and comes in response to President Donald Trump's executive order in April encouraging more drilling rights in federal waters.; In the decades since a 1969 oil spill near Santa Barbara tarred sea-life and gave rise to the U.S. environmental movement, politicians and environmental activists have built up ample ways to make it difficult but not impossible for the Trump administration to renew drilling off California's coast. The Interior Department said Thursday it plans to open most federal waters off the United States to oil leases. In California, where no new federal leases offshore have been approved since 1984, Gov. Jerry Brown joined governors of Oregon and Washington in vowing to do "whatever it takes" to stop that from happening off the West Coast. State officials, environmental groups and oil-industry analysts say California has solid regulatory and legal means to try to make good on that threat. / ENVIRONMENT: Researchers in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska are looking for backcountry enthusiasts who want to aid a science mission. A program funded by NASA is recruiting citizen scientists to measure snow levels in mountain terrain. The goal is better estimates of the water contained by snow in a watershed. Oregon State University engineer David Hill says measurements taken by backcountry skiers, snowboarders and snowmobile riders have proven valuable in lowering the error rate of computer simulations of snow pack. The citizen snow-measuring program is called Community Snow Observations. Citizen scientists measure snow depth with avalanche probes and load the information into a smartphone app, which records the location and sends the data to researchers. NASA spokesman Kevin Murphy says citizen scientists can provide information to augment the agency's satellite or aircraft measurements. / ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT: Oregon is suing the agrochemical giant Monsanto over PCB pollution the state says has contaminated its waterways and wildlife. The lawsuit filed Thursday by Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum seeks \$100 million to mitigate pollution that state officials say has accumulated over decades. Monsanto says in an e-mailed statement that the lawsuit is baseless and undermines clean-up efforts. PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, were used in many industrial and commercial applications. The St. Louis-based company produced them from 1935 until Congress banned them in 1979. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, PCBs have been shown to cause cancer in animals as well as effects on the immune, nervous and reproductive systems. Some U.S. cities have also sued over PCB pollution. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: State auditors say the state environmental agency's backlog of inspections and permits could endanger Oregon's air quality and

residents' health. The Statesman Journal reports the Oregon Audits Division's report made public Wednesday shows 43 percent of the state's largest air polluters are operating with expired permits. Auditors say the expired permits mean that businesses are not meeting the most recent environmental standards. The state Department of Environmental Quality told auditors that it does not have a system for tracking when inspections are due. Department Director Richard Whitman says the problems stem partially from declining funding. Whitman says the department has begun addressing the problems identified in the report, and it is developing a plan to present to the state Legislature in 2019 to better fund the permitting and inspection work. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A pickup truck collided with a herd of elk in western Oregon, killing about a dozen animals. The Washington County Sheriff's Office says the crash happened Thursday afternoon on Highway 26 in the Coast Range, about 20 miles west of Portland. According to investigators, the pickup was heading east as the herd tried to cross the Sunset Highway. Some elk died before authorities arrived and others were euthanized. The 36-year-old driver was not hurt. Troopers from the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division salvaged the meat so it could be distributed to food banks and senior centers. The meat is being distributed locally as well as in Clatsop and Tillamook counties. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: The Sears stores at The Shoppes at Gateway in Springfield and Portland's Lloyd Center are closing sometime between early March and early April. They are two of 100 Sears and K-Mart stores set for shutdown by Sears Holdings, the parent company of the financially struggling retail chains. Corporate officials announced the planned closures yesterday, after shuttering more than 250 stores across the U.S. last year. Employees at the affected stores were notified yesterday, and eligible employees will receive severance and an opportunity to apply at other stores. Company officials did not disclose how many Springfield employees would be affected. Liquidation sales at the stores will begin as early as January 12. The Sears store at The Shoppes at Gateway in Springfield was one of the mall's original anchor tenants after moving from its longtime site in downtown Eugene. The store is among 39 Sears stores and 64 Kmart stores slated for closure in March and April. Sears Holdings, based in Hoffman Estates. III., also will close its Sears store at Lloyd Center in northeast Portland. No Kmart stores in Oregon were targeted for closure. The number of Springfield Sears employees to be laid off was not available Thursday. Most of the jobs are part-time positions, Sears Holdings spokesman Larry Costello said in an email. "Eligible associates will receive severance and will have the opportunity to apply for open positions at area Sears or Kmart stores," he said. The closures in Springfield and Portland will leave four Sears in Oregon, with the closest to Lane County in Salem. Sears shoppers in Springfield on Thursday noted that with its dim lighting and tired displays, the store was in need of a facelift. Sears had operated for years in downtown Eugene on West 10th Avenue between Olive and Charnelton streets. In late 1989, Sears moved from that location to be one of the original anchors in the then-new Gateway Mall. The Springfield mall's previous owner, Rouse Properties, embarked on a multiyear major renovation that in recent years added new stores and restaurants. Rouse put the mall up for sale in 2016, with a sales adviser for the firm saying that redevelopment of the northern end of the center where Sears was located would enable The Shoppes at Gateway to "accommodate additional category leading box tenants." At the time, Sears said it had no plans to close the

store. It's unclear how long of a lease Sears has at the mall. In its statement, Sears Holdings said it will continue to "close some unprofitable stores as we transform our business model so that our physical store footprint and our digital capabilities match the needs and preferences of our members." / ELECTIONS: Lane County Elections mailed ballots on Thursday for the January 23rd Special Election. Ballots are expected to be delivered to all eligible voters through Tuesday, January 9. Voters who are eligible to vote in this election and who do not receive a ballot for the January 23 Special Election can check on the status of their registration and ballot at www.oregonvotes.gov . They may also contact Lane County Elections at 541-682-4234 to determine if they need to update their voter registration to receive a ballot. Voters may drop off their ballots at one of many official drop box locations listed in the insert included with their ballot. Drop boxes are now open and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Lane County Elections is located at 275 W. 10th Avenue, on the corner of 10th and Lincoln in downtown Eugene. Public office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. On Election Day, January 23, 2018, the Lane County Elections Office will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. / ECONOMY-SPORTS: The most eyebrow-raising sports news yesterday? Reports that former Oregon football coach Chip Kelly has asked former Duck coach Mark Helfrich to be his offensive coordinator at UCLA. FootballScoop.com had the early news. The Register-Guard notes that Helfrich, who was Kelly's offensive coordinator, had a 37-16 record after being elevated to head coach for four seasons (2013-16). Helfrich was fired following the Ducks' 4-8 finish in 2016 and worked as an analyst on Fox Sports 1 this season. The Ducks meet UCLA on November 3rd at Autzen Stadium. Helfrich has also been mentioned as a potential replacement for Arizona head coach Rich Rodriquez, who was fired this week. Two other former Oregon assistants, Jerry Azzinaro (defensive line) and Don Pellum (linebackers), have also been hired by Kelly at UCLA. Jimmie Dougherty, who was briefly Willie Taggart's wide receivers coach at Oregon before leaving for UCLA, will be retained by Kelly, according to reports. / HEALTH: A new study finds that fewer Americans are getting cancer, and more of those who do are surviving the disease. Researchers with the American Cancer Society say between 1991 and 2015, the most recent year with available data, cancer deaths dropped 26 percent. That's about 2.4 million fewer deaths over 25 years. The report found decreased smoking rates, and improved detection and treatment, have led to sharp declines in lung, breast, prostate and colorectal cancer deaths. The study found a number of breakthrough, high-cost drugs also have improved the outlook for people with some deadly cancers, but the experts fewer smokers is driving the biggest drop in cancer cases. For most of the 20th century, cancer death rates rose as tobacco usage caused an increasing number of male deaths from lung cancer. But the trend reversed in the early 1990s. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said last year it will take steps to bring the smoking rate down further, by cutting the amount of nicotine in cigarettes and other burnt tobacco products. Since the cancer mortality rate peaked in 1991, it has fallen more sharply in men than in women. Lung-cancer death rates fell 45 percent among men between 1990 and 2015. For women, the death rate declined 19 percent between 2002 and 2015, according to the report. Other cancers have also become less lethal. The mortality rate for female breast cancer declined 39 percent between 1989 to 2015, and prostate cancer's death rate fell 52 percent

between 1993 and 2015. Researchers say increased detection of breast cancer at early stages through mammography and improved treatment are behind the drop in breast cancer. Death rates from other cancers have increased in recent years. including uterine cancers, liver cancers and pancreatic cancer in men. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: The Seattle Times is reporting that more than two weeks after a speeding Amtrak train derailed north of Olympia, Washington, killing three people and injuring dozens, federal investigators have not been able to interview the engineer who was driving the train. Officials say that's because the engineer and a conductor rising in the lead locomotive are still recovering from the injuries they sustained in the crash. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the first information on the engineer Thursday morning, although it withheld the employee's name. The engineer is 55 years old, had been working for Amtrak since May 2004 and had been promoted to engineer in August 2013. But the preliminary report offered no new information as to why the train was traveling nearly 50 mph faster than the speed limit when it crashed. The train, carrying 77 passengers and six crew members, derailed during the first passenger trip on a new stretch of track. The train was traveling 78 mph when it went off a curve with a 30-mph speed limit. The NTSB estimated the damage from the crash at more than \$40 million. An initial review by the NTSB, published four days after the crash, found that neither the engineer nor Freeman was using a cellphone or other personal electronic devices before the crash. That review found that the engineer "made a comment regarding an over speed condition" about six seconds before the derailment. The engineer appeared to apply the locomotive's brakes before the crash but did not put the brake handle in emergency-braking mode, the review found. Positive Train Control, an automated emergency braking system, was not in use at the time of the crash. The NTSB report says, essentially, that the system, which is estimated to be ready on this stretch of tracks sometime this year, would have prevented the crash. Had it been in use, Positive Train Control "would have applied the train brakes to maintain compliance with the speed restriction and stop the train," the NTSB said. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY: The jackpot for tonight's MegaMillions lottery drawing has climbed to \$445-million. The odds of winning remain 1 in 302,575,350. The jackpot for Saturday's Powerball drawing stands at \$550-million. The odds of winning that lottery are 1 in 292,201,338./

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

POLITICS, ECONOMY, CRIME: When U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions green-lighted federal prosecutions of marijuana lawbreakers, the vast majority of U.S. states that allow some form of medical marijuana were suddenly place at the risk of a crackdown. Many of them don't allow recreational marijuana sales and are warily watching developments. Sessions' scrapping of Obama-era guidelines that limited the scope of federal prosecutions in marijuana-legal states has put a spotlight on those 46 states, including his home state of Alabama. All in recent years legalized some form of medical marijuana. Only eight of those states. including Oregon, allow recreational marijuana. Among the legal guidance to U.S. prosecutors that Sessions rescinded was a 2009 memorandum that told federal prosecutors not to pursue cases against medical marijuana patients and distributors who complied with state laws.; Whether to crack down on marijuana in states where it is legal is a decision that will now rest with those states' top federal prosecutors. But many of those prosecutors are deeply rooted in their communities and may be reluctant to pursue cannabis businesses or their customers. Legal experts do not expect a flood of new cases. People familiar with the job of U.S. attorney say prosecutors could decide against using already limited resources to seek charges against law-abiding cannabis companies or their customers. / ECONOMY: No big lottery winner in Oregon. The unknown winner purchased their ticket at a New Hampshire convenience store for the \$570 million Powerball lottery jackpot. / CRIME, YOUTH, SAFETY: Eugene Police say they broke up a large party Saturday night in the Bethel area that included a number of underage attendees. Investigators say one of the callers said they'd received text messages with photos from the party on Trevon Street. They said the images showed drug use and firearms present at the gathering. Officers contacted the home owner, Juanne Shanelli Aguirra, and received consent to enter the residence. They say they encountered more than 60 partygoers, approximately half of whom were minors. Officers say they observed marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia strewn around the residence as well as numerous alcohol containers and a beer pong table. Investigators say a baggie of cocaine that had been dropped onto the floor was located in the living room. And they say two loaded firearms were also located in the residence. Eighteen of the minors contacted by police showed signs of impairment from either alcohol or marijuana. Aguirra, the home owner was arrested for eighteen counts of Furnishing Alcohol to Minors and Prohibited Noise. She also was cited for eighteen counts of

Unlawful Allowing Consumption on a Private Premise and Unruly Gathering. / POLITICS, HEALTH: Democrats say they're shifting to offense on health care, emboldened by successes in defending the Affordable Care Act. They say a government guarantee of affordable coverage for all is their ultimate goal. With Republicans unable to agree on a vision for health care, Democrats are debating ideas that range from single-payer, government-run care for all, to new insurance options anchored in popular programs like Medicare or Medicaid. There's also widespread support for authorizing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices. an idea once advocated by candidate Donald Trump, which has languished since he was elected president. Democrats are hoping to winnow the options during the 2018 campaign season, providing clarity for their 2020 presidential candidate. In polis, health care remains a top priority for the public, particularly Democrats and independents. / EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT: Oregon State University was recently awarded a grant to reduce food waste on campus. The Gazette-Times reports in a Saturday story that the university was awarded \$27,000 from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Materials Management program. The money will be used to install a Portland-based computer system in the dining halls that uses scales and cameras to collect food waste data. Chris Anderson with University Housing and Dining Service says information collected from the system will be used by dining hall managers to alter or reduce purchases. Anderson added that currently the school's dining halls produce between 200,000 and 250,000 pounds of wasted food annually. He hopes the school for at least a 10 percent reduction in food waste with the help of the new system. / CRIME, ENVIRONMENT: A decision is due in Las Vegas whether to end the criminal prosecution of a Nevada rancher and followers accused of leading an armed uprising against federal authorities. Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro's ruling on Monday comes after she declared a mistrial last month in proceedings against 71-year-old Cliven Bundy, sons Ryan and Ammon Bundy, and Montana militia leader Ryan Payne. The judge signaled at that time that she might dismiss the case outright. Navarro severely criticized prosecutors for what she called "willful" violations of due process rights of defendants, including failing to properly turn over evidence to their lawyers. Her decision is sure to reverberate among states' rights advocates in the Western U.S., where the federal government controls vast lands that some people want to protect and others want used for grazing, mining and oil and gas drilling.; A Cottage Grove man responsible for killing two trumpeter swans while hunting in central Oregon must pay \$4,750 in restitution. The Bulletin reports in a story on Friday that 35-year-old Michael J. Abbott received the sentence in Lake County Circuit Court. Abbott must also serve one year of probation and has lost his hunting privileges for three years. Trumpeter swans are a protected species in Oregon, and Abbott was found guilty of two misdemeanor wildlife violations in September. The swans named Fiona and Hope were a key part of the state's trumpeter swan reintroduction program. Authorities say that Abbott shot the swans in October 2016 while hunting at the Summer Lake Wildlife Area. Abbott reported shooting one swan after being confronted by hunters. Officials later found the other injured swan but it died. /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY: Investigators are working to determine the cause and damage amount after yesterday's early-morning fire gutted the warehouse outside of Pleasant Hill where Tannerite products are produced. The blaze lit the sky as components used to make the company's exploding targets and other products ignited. Crews from the Pleasant Hill and Goshen Fire arrived to find much of the structure engulfed in fire. The Register-Guard is reporting one of their newspaper delivery people spotted the flames on his route. The man, Jim Sartelle, said he quickly began knocking on nearby doors of homes to ensure neighbors were safely evacuated. Video and photographs captured by neighbors and shared on social media show flames reaching well above the warehouse roof and explosions that looked like aerial fireworks. Smoke continued to rise from the scene later in the day. Investigators are working to determine what sparked the fire and while company officials put a price tag on the damages. The blaze gutted the Tannerite Sports LLC manufacturing warehouse on Valley Road. No one was inside the warehouse at the time of the fire and there were no injuries among neighbors or fire crews. Tannerite binary targets are popular among some shooting enthusiasts, law enforcement and military personnel. The targets are designed to explode when struck by a round. / ENVIRONMENT, CRIME: A defiant Cliven Bundy walked out of a Las Vegas courthouse Monday a free man after a judge threw out the case against the 71-year-old rancher and his two sons. They were accused of leading an armed standoff with federal agents in 2014. The Nevada rancher, accused of stopping federal agents from rounding up his cattle during the confrontation, declared that his fight against U.S. authority is not over. While Cliven Bundy emerged to supporters' cheers, environmental and conservation advocates worried that the dismissal of his charges would bolster followers who aim to erode established parks, wildlife refuges and other public lands controlled by U.S. officials. The 71-year-old Bundy said he had been held as a political prisoner for 700 days and promised that if U.S. Bureau of Land Management agents come again to seize his cattle over unpaid grazing fees, they will encounter, quote, "the very same thing as last time." The stunning collapse of the federal criminal case against Cliven Bundy and his sons Ryan and Ammon marked a new low for government lawyers whose work is now under review by the Trump administration. Prosecutors have faced several losses in Oregon and Nevada arising from armed Bundy standoffs over federal control of vast stretches of land in the U.S. West. Jurors in Portland, Oregon, also acquitted Ryan and Ammon

Bundy more than a year ago of taking over a federal wildlife refuge in early 2016 and calling for the U.S. government to turn over public land to local control. The judge ended the latest case by criticizing government prosecutors for, quote, "flagrant misconduct" and "substantial prejudice." She found what she termed "deliberate attempts to mislead and distort the truth" and blamed FBI agents for "reckless disregard" of requirements to turn over evidence relating to government snipers and cameras that monitored the Bundy homestead. The defense also should have been given records of government threat assessments that concluded the Bundys would probably protest but not become violent if agents enforcing court orders began rounding up their cattle, the judge said.; The attorney who represented the leader of an armed occupation of a federal wildlife sanctuary has agreed to no longer handle federal cases in Oregon, Marcus Mumford represented Ammon Bundy, who was acquitted of charges stemming from the January 2016 takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, After the surprising verdict, U.S. marshals tackled Mumford and zapped him with a stun gun as he argued with a judge over whether Bundy should immediately be released. Though criminal charges against Mumford were dropped, Oregon chief U.S. District Judge Michael Mosman took the rare step of seeking to revoke the lawyer's ability to practice federal cases in the District of Oregon. Mumford initially fought the ban, but acquiesced Monday in Portland. Mumford faces a bar complaint in his home state of Utah. A forming finding against him in Oregon might have worked against him in Utah, so he voluntarily agreed to abstain from Oregon work. / ENVIRONMENT: A project designed to help fish populations travel more effectively is coming to an Oregon river. The Bend Bulletin reports construction is set to begin this spring on a 28-foot fish ladder at the Opal Springs Hydroelectric Project near the mouth of the Crooked River. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Fish Biologist Brett Hodgson says the primary goal of the \$10.7 million project is to allow Chinook salmon and steelhead in the Deschutes Basin to travel up the Crooked River more effectively, reuniting disconnected fish populations. Project manager Darek Staab says the ladder will make it possible for fish to move upstream and downstream more freely. Project consultant Finlay Anderson says the concrete ladder will have 38 individual segments where the fish can rest in the water. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: Oregon State University will hold five consecutive days of meningococcal B disease mass vaccination clinics starting Tuesday on its Corvallis campus. The clinics will help students meet the new university requirement that all OSU Corvallis students 25 and under must be vaccinated against meningococcal B by Feb. 15. This new requirement results from a sixth OSU undergraduate student since November 2016 being diagnosed with this disease. "The health and safety of our students is our number one priority," said Steve Clark, OSU's vice president of university relations and marketing. "We are doing everything we can to halt this outbreak." The clinics. which are being held in partnership with Fred Meyer Pharmacy, will be held daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Jan. 13. Check-in will occur in the Student Experience Center Plaza outside the Memorial Union. The vaccination requires multiple doses, which must be completed by Feb. 15. Doses must be given a month apart. "This means students must begin the vaccination process now if they have not already done so," Clark said. "Without receiving the requisite doses, students will not be able to register for spring term classes or receive final grades for winter term." For details regarding this vaccination requirement, visit

the Student Health Services website: GetTheVax.oregonstate.edu, Information on exemptions for vaccination requirements will available on the website beginning Jan. 8. Meningococcal disease is an uncommon and serious disease. In 10 to 15 percent of cases, death may result, as was the case with a University of Oregon student in 2015. In 20 percent of cases, hearing loss, mental impairment and limb loss can result. Prior to attending the mass vaccination clinics, students are responsible for contacting their health insurance carrier to determine if their plan covers vaccines given by Fred Meyer pharmacists. Recently enacted legislation requires Oregon's private insurers to cover the cost of vaccines deemed necessary during an outbreak. A summary of this policy can be found under the Updates section of the Oregon Health Authority's Meningococcal Information for College Communities web page. Students without insurance are encouraged to attend the mass vaccination clinics. Staff members will be available to provide options, including the Oregon Health Plan. In addition to the mass vaccination clinics, students may contact their primary care physician, a local pharmacy or urgent care medical center for a vaccination appointment. During this outbreak, health officials encourage everyone to monitor their own health and note the following symptoms specific to this disease: high fever, a rash, headache, stiff neck, exhaustion, nausea or vomiting. If these symptoms develop, seek prompt medical evaluation and mention attendance at OSU and that there is a disease outbreak on campus. For more information regarding the university's new vaccination requirement and exemptions, call the Office of Student Life, 541-737-6362 (MENB). For more information regarding the meningococcal B vaccination, dosing or for medical information, call OSU Student Health Services, 541-737-7570. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: The Washington Post is reporting that natural disasters caused \$306 billion in U.S. damage in 2017, the largest amount for one year. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria combined with devastating western wildfires and other natural disasters to create the most expensive year on record, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported Monday. Hurricane Harvey, which included extreme flooding in Houston and the surrounding area in August and September, caused \$125 billion in damage, the year's most expensive disaster. The amount raises concerns about future disaster damage, as scientists fear climate change could make extreme weather events more damaging in the future. The previous most expensive year in history was in 2005, when disasters — including Hurricane Katrina — caused \$215 billion in U.S. damage when adjusted for inflation. NOAA's records stretch back to 1980. / EDUCATION: the Register-Guard is reporting that 110 union-represented employees in the South Lane School District signed a letter Monday requesting that the school board place longtime Superintendent Krista Parent on administrative leave. Reporter Alisha Roemeling notes that the letter, signed by members of the South Lane Education Association, asks the board to place Parent on administrative leave while an independent investigation is conducted into whether Parent was the author of an anonymous, handwritten letter sent in August that, quote, "slanders and harasses" a district employee. The Register-Guard reports the school board did not address the union's request regarding Parent on Monday, but a copy of the union's letter was given to each board member before the meeting. Parent, who attended the meeting, also declined to comment. The Register-Guard reports that the letter allegedly written by Parent was placed on the desk of each South Lane School Board member just before an

August work session. The letter praised Parent, demanded the board support her and criticized a district teacher. The issue came to light last week when The Register-Guard reported the results of a forensic document examination that former longtime Eugene Police Department forensic document examiner James Green concluded was, quote, "probably" written by Parent herself. The distribution of the letter at that meeting came after public disclosure in May that Parent was having a romantic affair with a subordinate employee — an educational assistant at Bohemia Elementary School. Parent confirmed the affair in May. The educational assistant, Melissa Andrews, was married to a teacher at Cottage Grove High School, as is Parent's longtime partner. Several employees, who declined to speak on the record out of fear of losing their jobs, described Parent's activity as "disruptive to the learning environment." Some parents of students in the district also complained that the relationship was "inappropriate" and "negatively affecting" their students. / ECONOMY, TRANSPORTATION: Eugene's free downtown parking program is ending. And new "smart" parking meters are being installed beginning this week. The 280 new meters will accept coins, credit cards, Apple and Google pay, as well as communicate with the "Park Smarter" mobile phone application and allow for in-vehicle dash payment. And city officials say the meters will eventually be linked to a new digital application that will allow drivers to more quickly locate vacant on-street parking spots. Later this winter, there are improvements planned for the Overpark and Parcade parking garages which will include sensors and signage to show in real-time how many spaces are available in each facility. There will also be new payment devices installed in the Hult Center Garage, Broadway North & South Garages, Library Garage, City Hall Surface Lot, and Train Depot Surface Lot. They will also tie into the technology tracking available spaces on downtown streets and offer payment options by smartphone. The new meters and related devices are coming to a 12-square block area of downtown. City officials say the new meters also will be set at a height that is more accessible to all drivers. / POLITICS, MINORITIES. ECONOMY: Good news for two of the state's tribal confederations. Congressman Peter DeFazio says President Trump yesterday signed into law DeFazio-authored legislation that turns some property currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management over to tribal trusts. DeFazio says the Western Oregon Tribal Fairness Act will place 17,519 acres of BLM land into trust for the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. Another 14,742 acres of federal land will be placed into trust for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. The new law also amends the Coquille Restoration Act to allow the tribe to manage their forest lands in the same way as all other federal tribes. It was the third version of the bill to pass the House before finally clearing the Senate. DeFazio notes the tribes are sovereign nations and this allows them to better govern themselves and determine their own future. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Crews are rescuing residents from homes as mud and debris from wildfire-scarred hillsides inundate Southern California neighborhoods during a powerful winter storm. There have been similar concerns about how heavy rains might affected wildfire burn areas in parts of Oregon. Santa Barbara County spokeswoman Amber Anderson says helicopters are being used early Tuesday because roads are blocked by downed trees and power lines. Anderson says there are reports of injuries, but she didn't immediately know how many or the extent. She says "multiple" residents have been rescued and more are calling for

help in Montecito and Carpinteria. Evacuations were ordered in those footbill neighborhoods Monday because of mudslide fears. Thousands are without power in and around Santa Barbara, northwest of Los Angeles. The first significant storm of the season has soaked much of the state. A record 3.15 inches of rain fell in downtown San Francisco on Monday.; Heavy rains might be a problem in California, but Oregon rainfall and snowpack remain below normal as we head into the second week of the New Year. The first 2018 water supply outlook report from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service notes most of Oregon is lagging behind average. Snowpack in the Willamette and Umpqua Basins, for example, was measured at 37 percent of normal. On the east side of the mountains, things don't look much better. The snowpack stands at 40 percent of normal for the Upper Deschutes and Crooked River basins. Analysts say Oregon received near-normal amounts of precipitation in October and November, but December was relatively dry—despite storms that came at the start and end of the month. Still, snowpack experts say Oregon winters can quickly go from belowaverage to above-normal and we still have a few months remaining to build the snowpack and boost the summer streamflow forecasts. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: Oregon State Police say a Eugene woman died yesterday evening just south of Florence after she was struck by a vehicle while walking along Highway 101. It happened around 5:20 last night. Investigators say 28-yearold Heather Marie Sanford of Eugene was walking in the travel portion of the southbound lane when she was struck by a southbound pick-up truck and died from her injuries. State Police say Sanford was wearing dark clothing at the time and had been reported by other passing motorists as a hazard immediately prior to the incident. Investigators say the driver of the pick-up, a 70-year-old Florence man, is not suspected of any wrongdoing. / CRIME: Eugene Police arrested an 18-year-old man after he allegedly pulled a knife and tried to steal a car from a woman Sunday morning at Alton Baker Park. The victim told investigators the man demanded her car keys and that she ran away. She said that's when the man broke into her car and was observed inside it when officers arrived. Police say the suspect, identified as William Benjamin Clocksin, was in possession of items from the vehicle when they arrested him for Robbery a short time later.; Police responded to the area regarding a robbery where the victim's vehicle had been stolen. Police received information that the suspect met the 33-year-old male victim at the Side Pocket Tavern earlier in the evening, and the two subjects drove together to the Executive Motel. A male subject entered the room while both the victim and female suspect were in the room, and both suspects aggressively demanded money and personal items from the victim. Police received information that the male subject ran from the location and the female left with the victim's car. Police located the male subject, Clarence Neal III, age 32, of Eugene, hours later in the motel room where the incident occurred and located the female subject. Chrystal Raylynn Rulli, age 35, of Eugene, at the Motel 6 in Springfield. Police contacted Rullie and arrested her for Robbery in the Second Degree. Unauthorized Use of Vehicle, Possession of Methamphetamine, Prostitution, Warrant and Carry Concealed Weapon. Following contact with Neal, he was arrested for Robbery in the Second Degree, Possession of Heroin, Possession of Methamphetamine and Harassment. Both suspects were transported to the Lane County Jail. Police located and recovered the involved vehicle in the area of Washington Jefferson Park and returned it to the victim. / ENVIRONMENT

CRIME, SAFETY, FAMILY: Effective January 22, 2018, the hours of operation at the East Woahink, West Woahink and Sand Dune day use areas at Jessie M. Honeyman State Park will revert to standard daylight business hours, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Access from Canary Road will be gated overnight, and opened daily, as posted. Park Manager Justin Helberg noted that gates to the areas had been kept open as a courtesy to dog walkers, joggers and other users who come to the areas early--or late--in the day. The West Woahink and Sand Dune areas were being used respectfully, with a few isolated incidents. However, East Woahink suffered from vandalism and persistent, serious problems with unauthorized driving. This left the natural, grassy area damaged beyond routine repair. Helberg was concerned the East Woahink problems would spread to the other two areas, which prompted the after-hours closure of all three sites. "It's very unfortunate," Helberg said. "But the East Woahink area has become so degraded and the incidents so frequent that we are now concerned for public safety." Helberg said that because all three day use areas are somewhat isolated, reports of problems often come too late for staff or law enforcement to intervene. Park hours are posted on signs around the park. Visitors can also check the state park website at www.oregonstateparks.org / POLITICS, EDUCATION: Dom Peters says that as the first kid governor of Oregon, he hopes to make a difference in the state by ending bullying. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the 11-year-old boy was sworn into office at the Oregon Capitol on Monday after he was elected kid governor by fifth-graders from across the state. Former Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul De Muniz administered the oath of office to Peters, and Peters highlighted his anti-bullying platform in his inaugural address and a press conference. The fifth-grader was selected from a pool of eight candidates after he entered the contest that required him to submit a short video and complete several civics lessons. During his year in office, Peters will learn about the government and help teach what he learns to other Oregon students. /

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTING FORM

DATE OF BROADCAST

01/10/18

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME: Three local utilities yesterday warned customers that scammers are stepping up their efforts to separate small businesses from their money. The Eugene Water and Electric Board, Springfield Utility Board and Emerald People's Utility District issued advisories, saying the thieves are contacting local businesses claiming their power will be turned off in the next few hours for non-payment. In many cases, the criminal can "spoof" the phone number or email address to make it appear to be coming from a legitimate source even when it's not. They then pressure the person on the other end of the phone or email to pay immediately in some cases by meeting someone in a parking lot to hand over cash-or using a pre-paid credit card such as Green Dot, Moneypak or Vanilla Reload or providing other financial payment information by phone. Don't fall for it! The utilities say that's not how they do business. They say anyone who's behind on their bills receives at least two notices and will receive a final notice prior to service being disconnected. Utilities say if you receive a call or email that sounds suspicious and involves pressure tactics, hang up or avoid clicking any links in the email. Protect yourself by looking up your utility's contact information in the phone book, online or on a recent bill and contact them to let them know what happened. Report scams to the Oregon Attorney General's Office consumer hotline or go to oregonconsumer.gov; The Register-Guard is reporting that a woman from Bend who turned 18 last month will serve a lengthy prison term for her apparent lead role in a series of armed robberies of seven people in Eugene last February. Reporter Jack Moran writes that Elaine Jeffers will serve up to 20 years in prison for the crime spree, which involved her and three teenage male accomplices. All three of the males previously pleaded guilty in the case. Jeffers stabbed one of the group's seven robbery victims and was described by her codefendants as being "the front person" during the series of holdups, according to prosecutor Stephen Morgan. The Register-Guard reports none of the victims attended Jeffers' sentencing hearing. The prosecutor said one of them remains in counseling as a result of being robbed. Authorities said it's unclear why the teens carried out the robberies, during which they stole items of minimal value such as cellphones, headphones and cigarettes. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS: Oregon's Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden, along with more than 30 of their colleagues. yesterday criticized the Trump administration's decision to reopen offshore drilling leases three years ahead of schedule. This decision puts vast stretches of coastline in the Arctic and along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts at risk, including in

Oregon. "This draft proposal is an ill-advised effort to circumvent public and scientific input, and we object to sacrificing public trust, community safety, and economic security for the interests of the oil industry," the Senators wrote today in a letter to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke led by Merkley. "We urge you to abandon this effort and maintain the protections outlined in the current 2017-2022 plan." The Trump administration's decision to push a rewrite of the existing 2017-2022 offshore drilling plan has wasted valuable taxpayer resources and ignored extensive community input that went into the original plan. In many locations across the country, public input urged strong protections against drilling, as coastal communities that rely on commercial fishing and tourism for their economies feared the impacts that drilling and the potential of spills could have on their ecosystems, businesses and jobs.; Oregon lawmakers are unveiling the main feature of their upcoming 2018 short session, offering the first public review of a pair of bills designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help the state and its residents adapt to climate change. The Oregonian and OregonLive report the so-called "cap and invest" bills would establish limits on greenhouse gas emissions in the state and require the largest emitters to purchase allowances to cover their output. Reporter Ted Sickinger writes the proceeds from the allowance auctions would be used to reduce emissions, cushion the cost effect on households, and invest in communities disproportionately impacted by global warming, including rural areas. But opponents say the legislation is so complicated that it can't be adequately vetted in a 35-day session and should wait for next year's regular legislative session.; Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke this week announced the creation of the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council. Zinke says the Council will him and the Secretary of Agriculture advice regarding the establishment and implementation of existing and proposed policies and authorities with regard to wildlife and habitat conservation. The Council will examine ways to benefit wildlife resources; encourage partnership among the public, the sporting conservation organizations, state, tribal, territorial, and federal government; and benefit recreational hunting and recreational shooting sports. "Hunters and anglers are the backbone of wildlife and habitat conservation in America. Through the purchase of duck stamps, bows, ammo, firearms, and more, sportsmen and women contribute billions of dollars to conservation. From my perspective, the more sportsmen we have in the woods and waters, the better our wildlife and habitat will be," Secretary Zinke said. "The Council will be made up of experts that share their knowledge, experience, and recommendations on a number of policy proposals put before them, as well as helping the Departments come up with innovative ideas to improve the health of wildlife and their habitat and increase sportsmen access on public and private lands." The Council is strictly advisory. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: Bargainers seeking a bipartisan immigration accord plan to resume talks quickly. Their desire for speed comes as President Donald Trump and lawmakers seek to parlay an extraordinary White House meeting into momentum for resolving a politically blistering issue. Negotiators want to revive protections against deportation that Trump ended for nearly 800,000 immigrants who arrived illegally in the U.S. as children. In exchange, Trump and Republicans want toughened border protections and tightened restrictions on others trying to migrate to this country. At a White House bargaining session Tuesday, Trump told nearly two dozen lawmakers that they were "not that far away from comprehensive immigration reform." Adding

pressure: Republicans need Democratic votes by Jan. 19 to prevent a federal shutdown. Democrats have threatened to withhold those votes without an immigration agreement.; The U.S. Department of Justice says a judge's ruling against the Trump administration involving a program that protects young immigrants does not change the fact that the program is illegal. Justice spokesman Devin O'Malley said in a statement late Tuesday night that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program was an unlawful circumvention of Congress by the Obama administration. O'Malley says the federal government is acting within its authority to enforce the rule of law and wind down the program. U.S. District Judge William Alsup on Tuesday granted a request by California and other plaintiffs to prevent President Donald Trump from ending the program while their lawsuits play out in court. Alsup said lawyers in favor of DACA clearly demonstrated that the young immigrants were likely to suffer serious harm without court action, and that they have a strong chance of succeeding at trial. O'Malley says the Department of Justice will continue the court fight. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: It won't be the first thing they use, but road salt is back among the tools local road crews will use if we have another outbreak of severe. icy weather similar to what we experienced a year ago. This week, Oregon Department of Transportation specialists are outlining when they would use rock salt to provide life-saving traction on some road surfaces. But they say there would be plenty of restrictions: Salt only would be used to deal with heavy ice produced by freezing rain or heavy snow selected roadways as a "last resort" when the regular chemical deicer or gravel aren't providing enough traction. In Lane County, that might include portions of Interstate Five or the interchanges with Interstate 105 and the Beltline Highway. Officials say they want to create safer conditions for drivers but also ensure they protect nearby waterways. / ENVIRONMENT: Authorities say a wolf from the Rogue Pack is believed to be responsible for killing a calf last week on a ranch in southwestern Oregon. The Mail Tribune reports a rancher on Thursday found a 250-pound calf dead on his property near Medco Pond. According to an investigation by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists, the dead calf was labeled as a wolf kill after finding tracks and bites on the carcass matching a wolf. Authorities were able to trace the kill to OR-54, a young female wolf in the Rogue Pack. A tracking collar on the wolf placed it less than a mile from the scene of the kill. The pack is named after the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in southern Oregon.; A federal judge has signed off on a plan to spill more water over Columbia and Snake river dams to help protect salmon and steelhead, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Simon ruled last spring that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must spill more water through spillways, rather than turbines. In his order, he told federal agencies to spend the next year studying how to release the right amount of water without creating unintended negative consequences. He approved the plan Monday. Conservationists say the extra water will help young salmon migrate out to sea. The federal government has appealed Simon's 2017 ruling to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. If his order is not overturned, it will go into effect at eight dams in early April and last until mid-June.; The Nevada rancher who had his charges dismissed in a 2014 armed standoff with government agents is insisting that it's up to the states, not the federal officials, how to manage vast expanses of rangeland in the U.S. West. Some watching Cliven Bundy's case think he'll find more support from President Donald Trump than he did under former President Barack Obama,

who was in power when the standoff occurred. But Bundy said Tuesday that it doesn't matter because he believes the U.S. government has no land-owning authority in the states. Ian Bartrum, a University of Nevada, Las Vegas, law professor who has been writing about the Bundy case and federal land policy, said it seems like "a good moment for the Bundys to find a receptive ear in the White House, federal agencies and, perhaps, Congress." / SAFETY: Oregon State Police say a Eugene woman died Monday evening just south of Florence after she was struck by a vehicle while walking along Highway 101. Investigators say 28year-old Heather Marie Sanford of Eugene was walking in the travel portion of the southbound lane when she was struck by a southbound pick-up truck and died from her injuries. State Police say Sanford was wearing dark clothing at the time and had been reported by other passing motorists as a hazard immediately prior to the incident. Investigators say the driver of the pick-up, a 70-year-old Florence man, is not suspected of any wrongdoing. / COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT: The 2017-18 Eugene leaf collection and delivery season has come to an end. Crews completed their second and final pass through the city on Friday, January 5. "Thanks to the help of the community, and some good weather, we were able to finish our second round of leaf collection a few weeks early," said Chad Mickelson, Leaf Season Program Coordinator. "We were fortunate this year that most of the leaves fell in early fall. We were able to get a majority of the leaves in our first pass through the city." While leaf season is over, street sweepers are still working their way through the city to clean up any leaf-related debris left in the streets. This work is expected to be completed over the coming weeks. People who may still have any unwanted leaves are urged to utilize their yard debris bin. Leaf season started on November 13. Crews collected more than 11,000 cubic yards of leaves during their two passes through the city and delivered almost 1,000 truckloads of leaves to homes and community gardens. No leaves ended up in the landfill. Stormwater user fees help fund leaf collection and delivery season. This important service helps keep decaying leaves out of our rivers, which can rob fish of needed oxygen. For more information on leaf season visit Eugeneor.gov/leaf / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A scary sight yesterday mid-morning in the Willamette River in Eugene. Shortly after 10:20 a.m., an off-duty Eugene-Springfield firefighter near Valley River Center spotted a man in the current, clinging to a tree limb. The firefighter called 9-1-1 then made the rescue. Not a lot of details about how the man wound up in the river. He's described as being in his mid-30s and was taken to the hospital in stable condition.; The death toll from the mudslides that struck Southern California climbed to 15 this morning as rescue crews continued to search for people trapped, injured or dead in the fast-moving slides that smashed homes and swept away cars. The torrential rainstorm that set off the disaster has ended, revealing a landscape strewn with boulders and covered in cement-like mud shoulder-high in some places. Oregonians who live in wildfire burn zones are anxiously watching the California situation, concerned heavy rains might create similar conditions here. Officials say several dozen homes were destroyed or severely damaged, and that there are probably many more in similar condition in areas still inaccessible to search crews. In addition to the 15 dead, at least 25 people were injured—four of them critically—and 50 or more had to be rescued by helicopters. A mud-caked 14-year-old girl was among the dozens rescued on the ground Tuesday. She was pulled from a collapsed Montecito home where she had been trapped for hours. KNBC-TV shared video of

the girl telling rescuers as they wheeled her away on a stretcher that, quote, "I thought I was dead for a minute there." Most of the deaths occurred in and around Montecito, a wealthy community of about 9,000 people northwest of Los Angeles that is home to such celebrities as Oprah Winfrey, Rob Lowe and Ellen DeGeneres. Winfrey's home survived the mudslides. The mud was unleashed in the dead of night by flash flooding in the steep Santa Ynez Mountains, where hillsides were stripped of vegetation last month by the biggest wildfire on record in California, a 440-square-mile blaze that destroyed 1,063 homes and other structures. Burned-over zones are especially susceptible to destructive mudslides because scorched earth doesn't absorb water well and the land is easily eroded when there are no shrubs. / VETERANS, MENTAL HEALTH: President Trump yesterday signed an Executive Order aimed at ensuring all new Veterans receive mental health care for at least one year following their separation from service. The goal is to reduce the risk of suicide and mental health issues among veterans. Experts say the transitional period from active duty is often a difficult time for many vets. The order calls on the departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security to develop a plan to ensure that the 60 percent of new Veterans who currently do not qualify for enrollment in healthcare — primarily due to lack of verified service connection related to their medical issue at hand receive treatment and access to services for mental health care for one year following their separation from service. / VETERANS, EDUCATION: Congratulations to members of Western Oregon University's "Student Veterans of America" chapter. The organizers from Monmouth this month won "Chapter of the Year" honors. Western Oregon University's chapter formed two years ago to ensure veterans have plenty of support on-campus as they transition from active duty to education and employment. In December, Western's Veterans Services program was awarded an \$86,700 grant from the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs to enhance its Veterans Resource Center. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY: A trio of grants is helping the organizations "Connected Lane County" and "Lane STEM." They received word this month that they have been awarded three grants from the Oregon Department of Education and Meyer Memorial Trust, totaling over \$250,000, to continue to bring career connected learning to students, to impact math in real life, and to increase access to computer science and digital literacy. The last 18 months have been tremendous for the Elevate Lane County program; over 3,000 students have been connected to work learning opportunities outside of the classroom, and a dozen high school teachers spent over 2,000 hours learning from professional as local tech companies. This is just the beginning. In 2018, 370 fourth and fifth graders from across Lane County will get to explore hands-on learning with the new Coders-in-Residence program, a STEM student ambassador program will be launched, students will be able to earn badges for their efforts, 1,200 graduating seniors will get to participate in a countywide job fair, and eight more teachers will get to spend their summer in an industry externship leading to an increase in CTE programs. If you want to learn more about Connected Lane County, please consider joining us at our community celebration on January 24th, Noon, University of Oregon Ford Alumni Center. Connected Lane County aims to increase the number of local high school graduates who are successful in higher education and life by creating a seamless and streamlined transition between early childhood, K-12 and higher education through partnerships and relationships with educational, community, and business

partner organizations. / COMMUNITY, ECONOMY: Do you live in the Oakridge and Westfir area? Last month, The City of Oakridge sent surveys to local households, asking about a couple of issues: Whether neighbors would support creation of a Community Events Center and whether they're interested in reestablishing Amtrak passenger rail service to town. Backers think both proposals would provide enhanced service for residents and help bring more people to town, boosting the local economy. It comes as they work to set longterm goals for the community. The surveys are due in ten days, on January 20th and may be completed online at the City of Oakridge website or the one mailed to your residence may be mailed or dropped off at Oakridge City Hall or emailed to the city administrator. / ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT: Pacific Power is at work replacing 590,000 traditional electric meters at Oregon homes and businesses with new digital smart meters. The installations will roll out region by region throughout 2018 and into the fall of 2019. These new meters will provide customers -- including those in many of Oregon's rural communities -- with the timely information they need to make decisions about electric usage and enable smarter, more efficient management of the power grid. More than 70 million smart meters have been installed nationwide, equivalent to half of the households in the US. Smart meters are a key component to updating an aging energy grid, and can make it possible to adjust the flow of energy to meet specific needs, and support both rising technological demands and a clean energy future. Access to daily energy usage information will be available to customers via a secure website. This near real-time energy usage information will let customers better understand what is driving their electric bills and help them make decisions that can save energy and money. This capability will come about six weeks after a new meter is installed. Smart meters instantly track outages, meaning faster service response and shorter outages overall. Customers will be able to view their power usage hour-by-hour, get a forecast of their next bill, and set alerts so they can adjust their activity to reduce both their carbon footprint and bill. Businesses can get more detailed usage reporting which will help them cut costs and make investments in items that help their business grow. The updated grid will work more efficiently with, and will help better integrate, renewable power sources.

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CRIME, SAFETY, ELECTIONS, YOUTH, ECONOMY: When Oregonians voted to legal recreational marijuana, one of the key elements Measure 91 was that children would be discouraged from using it and minors would not be able to buy it. But it turns out some retailers are doing a poor job of checking to ensure their customers are 21 and older. During the past month, enforcement agents with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, or OLCC, conducted what are known as "minor decoy operations" similar to how the OLCC checks up on sellers of alcohol. On December 20th in the Eugene-Springfield area, marijuana inspectors visited 19 licensed marijuana retailers, and three failed a check for prohibiting sales to a minor volunteer. That's a compliance rate of 84 percent when it should be 100 percent. Things were even worse to the north of us, where the compliance rate was 78 percent in Salem-Keizer and 43 percent in the Portland area. By comparison, in Central Oregon, marijuana inspectors say every business they visited refused to sell to underage customers, the only 100 percent compliance they saw. During the sales checks, a minor volunteer attempts to enter a licensed marijuana retailer or purchase marijuana products from a licensed business to see if staff are checking ID's correctly and refusing entry to anyone under 21. The volunteers carry their own legal ID that identifies them as under 21 and do not disguise their age or lie to encourage the sale of marijuana. It's not hard to tell: The Oregon Driver license for a minor carries a red border around the picture with the words "Under 21 until" followed by the date of his/her 21st birthday. Sale of marijuana products to anyone under the age of 21 is a violation that for a first offense can result in a 10 to 30 day license suspension, or a fine of \$1.650. depending on whether or not the sale is intentional. Failure by a marijuana licensee, or its employee, to check a customer's identification before the attempted purchase of a marijuana product is a violation that can result in a seven day license suspension or a fine more than \$1100. / ECONOMY; Walmart is boosting its starting salary for U.S. workers to \$11 an hour, giving a one-time \$1,000 cash bonus to eligible employees and expanding its maternity and parental leave benefits. The retailer said Thursday changes that to its compensation and benefits policy will impact more than a million hourly workers in the U.S., with the wage increase effective next month. The company is also creating a new benefit to assist employees with adoption expenses. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS, CRIME: Top lawmakers from both parties, backed by the White House, have kicked off their search for a long-delayed and politically fraught compromise on

immigration. They're seeking to take advantage of a window of opportunity opened by President Trump. The group faces great pressure for a breakthrough before a deadline next week that, if missed, could lead to a government shutdown that neither side wants. Democrats want urgent action to stave off deportation of some 800,000 immigrants protected by an Obama-era program. Trump still wants his border wall, though he's toned down what that means. Conservatives are watching with a wary eye, fearing Trump will strike a soft compromise that could infuriate their — and his — political base heading into this year's elections.; U.S. immigration agents descended on dozens of 7-Eleven stores before dawn Wednesday to open employment audits and interview workers in the largest crackdown on an employer under Donald Trump's presidency. Agents tell The Associated Press they targeted about 100 stores from coast to coast in broadening an investigation that began with a 4-year-old case against a franchisee on New York's Long Island. The hiring audits could lead to criminal charges or large fines. The action appears to open a new front in Trump's sharp expansion of immigration enforcement, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement official Derek Benner says Wednesday's sweep is "the first of many" and "a harbinger of what's to come" for employers.; President Trump says the U.S. court system is in his words — "broken and unfair." That's his reaction after a trial-level federal judge in California temporarily blocked the administration from ending a program that protects certain young immigrants from deportation. The government could appeal that ruling to a San Francisco-based appeals court — where the administration's travel ban has run into legal problems. In his latest tweet, Trump says "it just shows everyone how broken and unfair" the court system is when those opposed to his policies find they "almost always" win in that appeals court before eventually being reversed. On Tuesday, U.S. District Judge William Alsup granted a request by California and other plaintiffs to prevent Trump from ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program while their lawsuits play out in court. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY, POLITICS: Another Republican governor is asking the Trump administration to exclude his state from a plan to open more U.S. coastal waters, including Oregon's, to offshore oil drilling. The request from South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster follows the Interior Department's decision to exclude Florida from the offshore drilling proposal. South Carolina's governor, like Florida's, is a Republican. Democrats are accusing President Donald Trump and his interior secretary, Ryan Zinke, of hypocrisy by agreeing to Florida's request but not to similar requests by the Democratic governors opposing the drilling expansion. A spokeswoman for Zinke says such criticism is "empty pandering" and invites governors to seek a meeting with the Interior secretary. The five-year plan would open 90 percent of the nation's offshore reserves to development by private companies. / ENVIRONMENT: The U.S. government will temporarily halt a beaver-killing program in Oregon after environmental groups threatened a lawsuit alleging the practice hurts endangered fish species. In a letter released by environmental groups Wednesday, the government says it will further study whether their actions violate the Endangered Species Act. Wildlife Services, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, intentionally killed 400 beavers in Oregon in 2016 because of concerns the animals were building dams that flooded agricultural fields and hurt timber land. The animals can also cause flooding around culverts that can impact road stability. The Western Environmental Law Center, Center for Biological Diversity and Northwest Environmental Advocates

say beaver dams provide critical habitat for young salmon, Coho and steelhead. Those species benefit from deep pools created by the dams. / POLITICS, LOW-INCOME, HOMELESSNESS: Boosting affordable housing and job growth in rural Oregon, tightening gun control and battling the opioid epidemic are among Gov. Kate Brown's priorities in the upcoming legislative session. Brown's policy advisers described the bills Brown would support in a briefing with reporters Wednesday. They include assisting those in the construction industry in starting their own business by making it easier for skilled professionals to get supervisory licenses by temporarily waiving fees and allowing job experience to be substituted for formal education requirements. She also wants to reduce the state's public pension liability. / HEALTH, POLITICS: It is a major policy shift that could affect millions of low-income people. The Trump administration announced this morning it is offering a path for states that want to seek work requirements for Medicaid recipients. Medicaid is the largest government health insurance program, a federal-state collaboration that covers more than 70 million people, or about 1 in 5 Americans. It was expanded under President Obama, with an option that has allowed states to cover millions more low-income adults. Many are already working but have jobs that do not provide health insurance. The head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Seema Verma, says said work and community involvement can make a positive difference in people's lives and in their health. The administration's latest action spells out safeguards that states should consider to obtain federal approval for waivers imposing work requirements on what it terms "able-bodied" adults. Technically, those waivers would be "demonstration projects." In practical terms, they would represent new requirements for beneficiaries in those states. Advocates for low-income people said work has never been a requirement for Medicaid, a program originally intended as a health program for the poor and disabled. It now covers a broad cross-section of people, from many newborns to elderly nursing home residents, and increasingly working adults. People currently are not legally required to hold a job to be on Medicaid, but states traditionally can seek federal waivers to test new ideas for the program. The administration said 10 states — mostly conservative ones — have applied for waivers involving work requirements or community involvement. Most are in the eastern half of the country, with the exception of Arizona. The plan announced this morning is expected to face strong political opposition and even legal challenges over concerns people would lose coverage. They are: Arizona, Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Utah and Wisconsin, Advocates for low-income people say they expect Kentucky's waiver to be approved shortly. A study from the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation found that a surprising number of working-age adults on Medicaid are already employed. Nearly 60 percent work either full time or part time, mainly for employers that don't offer health insurance. Most who are not working report reasons such as illness, caring for a family member or going to school. Some Medicaid recipients say the coverage has enabled them to get healthy enough to return to work. The debate about work requirements doesn't break neatly along liberal-conservative lines. Kaiser polling last year found that 70 percent of the public support allowing states to impose work requirements on Medicaid recipients, even as most people in the U.S. were against deep Medicaid cuts sought by congressional Republicans and the Trump administration. Thursday's administration guidance to states spells out safeguards that states

should consider in seeking work requirements. These include: exempting pregnant women, disabled people and the elderly; taking into account hardships for people in areas with high employment, or for people caring for children or elderly relatives; and allowing people under treatment for substance abuse problems to have their care counted as "community engagement" for purposes of meeting a requirement. The administration said states must fully comply with federal disability and civil rights laws, to accommodate disabled people and prevent those who are medically frail from being denied coverage. States should try to align their Medicaid work requirements with similar conditions applying in other programs, such as food stamps. / CRIME, SAFETY: The Register-Guard is reporting that no charges will be filed against an Oakridge woman who killed a half-brother visiting for the holidays. Oakridge Police say 36-year-old Angela Slabaugh acted in self-defense when she shot 45-year-old Justin Ryan in the head on December 23rd while he was visiting from Redmond. Reporter Chelsea Deffenbacher quotes police who say Slabaugh told them she kicked Ryan out of her home earlier in the day because he was intoxicated and behaving violently. She told investigators Ryan returned late in the evening and forced his way inside. moving toward her with his arms stretched toward her neck. She said that prompted her to fire. Ryan died at the scene. The Register-Guard reports police said Slabaugh has a valid concealed handgun license and regularly carries. / HEALTH, COMMUNITY: Hospitals across Oregon are seeing a continued surge in influenza cases as the nation's severe flu season continues. Oregon is one of 46 states reporting widespread flu this week. At some hospitals across the country and some here in Oregon, patients suspected of having the flu are jamming emergency rooms and receiving initial treatment in overflow areas. The Oregon Health Authority reported last week that slightly more than five percent of all emergency department visits statewide were due to influenza-like illness. Portland has seen much of the activity, with close to 200 flu-related hospitalizations reported last week. The CDC has issued a health advisory because of the severity of the influenza season. In Oregon, flu season traditionally does not peak until the end of this month but cases often are still diagnosed well into the spring. What is Influenza (also called Flu)? The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year. Signs and Symptoms of Flu: People who have the flu often feel some or all of these signs and symptoms that usually start suddenly, not gradually: Fever* or feeling feverish/chills; Cough; Sore throat; Runny or stuffy nose; Muscle or body aches: Headaches; Fatigue (very tired); Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in young children than in adults. It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever. Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by tiny droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Although people with the flu are most contagious in the first 3-4 days after their illness begins, some otherwise healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 to 7 days after

becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others with flu viruses for an even longer time. The time from when a person is exposed to flu virus and infected to when symptoms begin is about 1 to 4 days, with an average of about 2 days. / EDUCATION, GROWTH: Oregon State University has received a \$2 million donation for its new concert hall. The Corvallis Gazette-Times reports the university is looking to raise \$60 million for a new arts and education complex with an acoustically superior concert hall that can seat between 400 to 600 people. College of Liberal Arts Dean Larry Rodgers says they hope the hall will be an ideal space for relatively intimate music performances such as choir concerts, recitals and chamber music programs. The university announced Wednesday that it received the \$2 million donation from the family of the late Lynne Detrick of West Linn. The new concert hall is expected to be named the Lynne Detrick Hall. /

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VETERANS, HEALTH: Congressman Peter DeFazio says Oregon's veterans and employees of the VA's Roseburg Healthcare System, quote, "deserve lasting, meaningful change." The Fourth District Democrat yesterday released a statement after meeting with senior officials from the VA to discuss recent investigations into claims of misconduct, mismanagement, and degraded patient care at the VA Roseburg Healthcare System, which includes the VA clinic in Eugene, It comes after what he said were more than 200 messages from Roseburg Healthcare System employees documenting what he called alarming claims of misconduct. mismanagement and degraded patient care at both the Eugene and Roseburg facilities. DeFazio asked for an investigation and said yesterday he received the preliminary results. The Oregon Congressman says that during the briefing, VA investigators outlined a number of personnel and statutory changes that have been or will be implemented within the hospital system. He's pushing for the public release of a final report within the next few weeks. DeFazio say the VA Roseburg Healthcare System has suffered for years from mismanagement resulting in an inability to recruit and retain high-quality providers, which has seriously hindered patient care. This not the first crisis of management and patient care at VARHS, and previous short-term fixes have only compounded the problem. / ENVIRONMENT, FAMILY: The Bureau of Land Management is waiving recreation-related fees for visitors to public lands on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 15. So, too, are many other federal recreation agencies. Many people have Monday off from work or school. BLM officials say it's a good day for individuals and families to spend some time enjoying their public lands. The fees will be waived for day-use sites. But other fees, such as overnight camping, cabin rentals, group day use and use of special areas, will remain in effect, BLM officials say their managed public lands offer more recreational opportunities than any other federal agency, including camping, hunting, fishing and horseback riding, as well as boating, whitewater rafting, off-highway vehicle driving and many more activities. About 67 million visits are made annually to BLM-managed lands and waters, supporting more than 48,000 jobs nationwide and contributing almost \$7 billion to the country's economy. The BLM is waiving recreation-related fees for visitors to public lands on four additional occasions this year-- Presidents Day (February 19), National Get Outdoors Day (June 9), National Public Lands Day (September 22) and Veterans Day (November 11), / POLITICS, WOMEN: The intense national focus on sexual harassment and misconduct came to Oregon's

capital this week, when lawmakers were given a training session on harassment, and how to report it. For the first time, the training was offered to executive branch employees, lobbyists and others who work in the Capitol, Senate President Peter Courtney said. Previously, it was required for legislators and legislative employees. To accommodate the larger crowd, the training was conducted by lawyers for the Legislature and its director of employee services on Tuesday inside the main ballroom of the Salem Convention Center. One senator said the training is critically important. Others said some of the material provided in the annual training is repetitive. The presentation addresses identifying workplace harassment and discrimination, reporting incidents, investigations and retaliation. / HEALTH, YOUTH: Two children have died from the flu in Oregon, both younger than the age of 10. Oregon Health Authority spokesman Jonathan Modie says one child died in December and the other in early January. One was younger than 5, He declined to say where the children lived. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the flu season is severe this winter, with 14 pediatric deaths as of the last week of December. In Oregon, labs have confirmed nearly 6,000 cases this season. It runs from October to April. The two pediatric deaths in Oregon equal the state's total from the last three winters combined. Southwest Washington state has also been hit hard. Health authorities in Clark County, Washington on Thursday asked people with flu symptoms to call their doctor before coming to the emergency room to reduce crowding.; Officials with the Food and Drug Administration yesterday renewed their recommendation that cough medications that contain opioids like codeine should never be given to children. The FDA also says such medicines will now need to be labeled to make that clear and must carry bigger warnings about the dangers to adults. It comes amid concerns that codeine in cough and cold medicines can suppress breathing in youngsters and that the risks outweigh the potential benefits. A number of major medical groups, including the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Chest Physicians also suggest most coughs in children do not require cough syrups for treatment. They say a longstanding home remedy—a spoonful of honey—is better and safer for treating coughs, although honey should not be given to infants. / ENVIRONMENT: A report by an advocacy group says a liquefied natural gas pipeline and export facility proposed for southern Oregon would be the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state. The Mail Tribune reports the anti-fossil fuels group Oil Change International claims the entire operation from extracting the gas to burning it in overseas markets would produce more than 15 times the emissions of Oregon's last coal-burning plant. The Jordan Cove LNG terminal is proposed for a location in Coos Bay in western Oregon. The project also includes building the nearly 230-mile (370-kilometer) Pacific Connector Pipeline. Project spokesman Michael Hinrichs says the group's report appears to make inaccurate comparisons. Hinrichs says the project has received approval for an air permit from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. / HOMELESSNESS: President Trump's administration is announcing \$2 billion in grants for local agencies seeking to help the homeless. The amount announced Thursday is a slight increase over recent years and will go to 7,300 local projects. Across the country, homelessness has been on a downward trend for years, according to government counts. But there has been a spike in numbers in California, Oregon and Washington, where rents have been rising fast, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson says California programs will see

an increase in grant funding. The administration's announcement comes as it is proposing deep cuts to subsidized housing programs that also help the homeless. Its proposed budget also calls for the elimination of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, which coordinates the federal response to the problem. / ECONOMY-SPORTS: The Register-Guard is reporting that former Duck football coach Mark Helfrich is taking a job in the NFL. Reporter Ryan Thorburn writes that Helfrich has been hired as the offensive coordinator of the Chicago Bears. Another former Oregon coach, Chip Keily had offered Helfrich the offensive coordinator position at UCLA, according to a FootballScoop report. But Helfrich instead settled on the NFL position. The Register-Guard is also reporting that Helfrich reached a settlement in May of last year with the Oregon Athletic Department, news of which was first reported yesterday by 247 Sports. The settlement, according to documents released to The Register-Guard following a public records request, indicates the Ducks' former head coach received a lumpsum "termination payment" of slightly more than eight million dollars (\$8,053,830). After being fired following a 4-8 finish in 2016, Helfrich had been owed \$11.6 million. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS: Most governors of coastal states say they oppose the Trump administration's move last week to open their waters to offshore drilling. And some say the administration might have violated federal law by exempting Florida from the national plan to expand offshore drilling. It came after Florida's Republican governor asked to be excluded from the new policy. prompting howls of outrage from Democratic governors who say their appeals have been ignored. At least ten states, including Oregon, California and Washington, have challenged the changes that potentially open their offshore waters to drilling. Their governors have told officials with the Interior Department they "strongly oppose any new leasing" off their coasts and have asked to be removed from the plan. White House officials have denied that Florida received special treatment, saying that state's tourism industry makes it a unique case. / ECONOMY, BUSINESS: Taking the first concrete step toward the Republican tax plan's promise of fatter paychecks for millions, the Trump administration on Thursday issued new guidelines for how much employers should withhold as taxes from workers' pay. The Internal Revenue Service published the new income-tax withholding tables to conform to the sweeping \$1.5 trillion tax overhaul, the first major rewrite of the tax code in three decades, which became law last month and took effect Jan 1. The new law provides steep tax cuts for corporations and wealthy Americans while offering more modest reductions for most low- and middle-income families and individuals. Businesses across the country must adopt the changes by Feb. 15. That means employees could start seeing the changes reflected in their paychecks next month, the IRS said. President Donald Trump and the Republican architects of the tax plan have deflected criticism of the unpopular legislation, insisting at every turn that Americans will come to love the new law when they see their heftier paychecks next month — with less money withheld in anticipation of lower income taxes. Trump and the Republicans are counting on the tax-cut law, the first significant legislative achievement of his presidency, to ensure the GOP retains its majorities in Congress in this year's elections. The new guidelines adjust how much income tax must be taken out from employee paychecks after taking into account exemptions claimed by employees on their IRS Form W-4, filed with their employers to help determine withholding. The move should translate into more

take-home pay for about 90 percent of American workers, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in a statement. Individual taxpayers aren't required to make any changes to their Form W-4 right now. But the IRS expects that many taxpayers will have to do so later this year, when the agency releases a revised version of the form. The IRS also plans to release a new tax withholding calculator on its website late next month to help individual taxpayers determine the correct amount of withholding. Nonpartisan tax experts project that the law will bring lower taxes for the great majority of Americans, though not all. Reduced tax rates don't necessarily mean a lower tax bill for 2018. The new law is complicated. There are significant limitations on long-cherished deductions, such as the federal deduction for state income, property and sales taxes. There are new tax credits while other mainstays — like the \$4,050 personal exemption — are gone. The standard deduction is doubled, to \$24,000 for couples, but that means it no longer makes sense for many people to itemize and claim other deductions. That also means employees can't assume that the new, lower withholding rates will cover everything they owe Uncle Sam for this year. Taxpayers won't file their 2018 returns until next year, following normal procedure.; The Washington Post is reporting that millions of Americans will need to use a new Internal Revenue Service online calculator to ensure their new paychecks are accurate. That's the word from Trump administration officials yesterday as they issued guidelines for implementing the recently passed tax law. The guidelines are needed so businesses may calculate how much to withhold in taxes from employees' paychecks beginning as soon as next month. The White House officials say businesses should make the adjustments by Feb. 15, part of the administration's push for millions of workers to see bigger paychecks as quickly as possible. But in rushing the process, the Treasury Department is asking companies to rely on outdated forms to help determine how much to withhold. A senior IRS official said Thursday that Americans with simple tax situations are likely to get accurate paychecks next month. But many Americans, including those who tend to itemize their tax returns, will need to use the online tool to ensure they are not dramatically overpaying or underpaying their taxes. The online calculator will not be available until sometime next month. If they find their paychecks are inaccurate, it will be incumbent on the employees to tell their employers to make corrections. /

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MINORITIES, CIVIL RIGHTS, COMMUNITY: The Eugene Springfield NAACP and community partners today host the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day march and celebration with the theme "Standing United." Organizers say Martin Luther King Jr. Day is the perfect opportunity to remember the power that each community member has to make change right here in Eugene. In addition to the march and celebration, the Eugene Human Rights Commission presents an annual award to local change makers in an effort to acknowledge the time and talents they give to our community. Everyone is welcome. Participants are asked to gather at the North Gate at Autzen Stadium beginning at 9 a.m. for free coffee and remarks by Eugene Springfield NAACP's President, University of Oregon representatives and the UO Black Student Union. The march will commence at 10 a.m. and proceed to the Shedd Institute for a program highlighting solidarity between religious, civil rights, and racial justice groups and the presentation of the Community Leader Award. The Commission is honors Mo Young with the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Leader Award this year for her contributions in the area of human rights and race relations in our community. Mo was selected based on her contributions to race relations, demonstration of leadership in social justice, and their inclusive and supportive work of communities of color. Currently the Equity and Access Coordinator for Lane County, Mo Young has been a social justice advocate in Lane County (where she was born and raised) for more than 15 years. As the Equity and Access Coordinator for Lane County, Mo is responsible for moving forward several priorities established by the Board of Commissioners, including: staffing the Lane County Equity and Access Advisory Board; using data to improve equity in County-provided services internally and externally; working with and engaging community partners to ensure access to services and employment opportunities for all people in the community; and community engagement. Mo uses social media platforms to invoke dialogue on social justice on a daily basis, and has spent extensive time volunteering with Court Appointed Special Advocates of Lane County as well as Community Alliance of Lane County, ; Springfield is hosting its 20th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March & Celebration. It runs from 1-3:30 p.m. The MLK March for Justice and Equality begins at 1 p.m. at the Springfield Justice Center at 230 4th Street, followed by a celebration from 2-3:30 p.m. at Springfield High School, 875 7th Street. The Keynote Speakers for the event will be speech contest winners: Shyenne Bates, First Place; Jillian Speer, Second Place; and Amanda Torres, Third Place. All community members

and visitors are invited and encouraged to attend this free event. The 20th annual MLK March and Celebration showcases the achievements and talents of local students. This free, family event is coordinated by Springfield Alliance for Equity and Respect (SAfER, which is a program of Community Alliance of Lane County or CALC), Springfield Public Schools, the City of Springfield, and Willamalane Parks and Recreation District. The annual event is also co-sponsored and supported by: Oregon Community Credit Union, Springfield Arts Commission Heritage Arts Grant, Papa's Pizza, SELCO Community Credit Union, and the Springfield Education Association.; The 10th Annual Hendricks Park MLK Day of Service kicks off at 10 a.m. Each year, organizers welcome local volunteers to join them in answering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's call to community service. Volunteers are need to help preserve the healthy and thriving forest in Hendricks Park. Led by the Parks and Open Space Division's Eugene Outdoors volunteer program, MLK Day volunteers will maintain trails and clear invasive species from the forest area. After the cleanup, volunteers will be treated to snacks and an educational talk from the City of Eugene's urban forester, Scott Altenhoff, on what they find alive and well in our enchanted, wintery forests. All ages and abilities are welcome. Eugene Outdoors will provide tools and instruction at Summit Ave. and Skyline Blvd to begin the day. / CRIME: Springfield Police yesterday charged a 23 year-old man with murder and other counts, including weapons charges, after a Saturday evening shooting inside an apartment on West Centennial Blvd. Investigators say illicit narcotics played a role in the shooting. The suspect, 23-year-old Jordan Wyatt Ledbetter, will be formally arraigned later today. The victims' names have not been released. When officers arrived Saturday night, officials say they encountered a chaotic scene with two victims suffering from gunshot wounds lying at the base of a staircase leading to the suspect's apartment. Springfield Police say the two had been shot in the chest and arm respectively, and while conscious and breathing, were in need of urgent medical care. The man who died was the one who had been shot in the chest. Two other victims, one shot in the arm and a third, who had been shot in the neck, are still recovering from their injuries and both underwent medical treatment Saturday evening. Investigators say all were shot inside the apartment. Police say they seized evidence, including the gun used in the shooting, which was located outside the apartment. Police had initially responded to this incident as a potential "active-shooter" scenario, a call that typically creates widespread police response from surrounding jurisdictions to help in containing the shooter. That brought additional responses of officers from Eugene, Lane County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police. Anyone with information about this incident or about Jordan Ledbetter is asked to call the Springfield Police Department at 541.726.3714.; On Sunday afternoon a bit before 2:00 p.m., Junction City Police received a report of a male subject waving an eight-inch knife around outside of an apartment complex in the 900 block of West 1st Avenue. It was also reported the subject had just stabbed a dog. The Junction City Police and the Lane County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene where the subject was detained without incident. The investigation revealed the man stabbed the dog in self-defense after the dog attacked and bit his arm. But after the dog sustained fatal injuries, witnesses said the subject began waving the knife around again in a menacing fashion and making threating remarks toward one of the persons responsible for the dog. The suspect was identified as Christopher Michael Low. Low was lodged at the Lane

County Jail on charges of Menacing and Disorderly Conduct. Police say they were told there were multiple other confrontations between the subject and other area residents. Investigators are working to determine whether additional charges will be filed.; An man is being treated for what are being described as non-life threatening injuries after investigators say he sustained a gunshot wound near a grocery store off of Royal Avenue in the Bethel area. Eugene Police say they were called at 7:40 p.m. The victim reported the shooting occurred outside the Albertson's store by the apartments at the southwest corner near Unthank and Throne. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male in his 20s and last seen wearing a black hoodie and black Carhart-style pants. Police officers and a K-9 unit conducted a search without success, of the area noted by the victim. There is no ongoing threat to the public related to this incident. If anyone has relevant tips in this case or witnessed the incident they are asked to call 541.682.5111. / YOUTH, SAFETY, BUSINESS, CRIME: Oregon authorities say nearly 20 percent of state-licensed marijuana retailers in a recent undercover operation sold pot to underage buyers. The Oregon Liquor Control Commission tells The Oregonian/OregonLive in a story on Saturday that 16 of 86 shops sold marijuana to people younger than 21 during the December decoy visits. Oregon Liquor Control Commission Executive Director Steve Marks says the results are unacceptable. The agency says Portland area shops had the worst results, while none of the central Oregon stores sold to underage visitors. The agency issued citations to the shops that broke the law in a process that could result in fees or a temporary suspension of their licenses. The agency says more decoy operations are planned. / ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY: Idaho and Washington have passed laws allowing people to salvage roadkill, provided they fill out a short form with the state wildlife agency to get a permit. The Spokesman-Review reports Washington's law, which took effect July 1, 2016, allows for deer and elk only. Between then and the end of 2017, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife says 3,099 animals were salvaged off Washington roads. Idaho's law, which took effect six years ago, is much broader, listing nearly 50 species of mammals and birds as salvageable. Most animals are fair game, provided they're not endangered, threatened or otherwise protected by federal or state law. Under a law passed last year, Oregon will begin allowing permit holders to salvage roadkill in 2019. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS: A spokesman for Oregon Gov. Kate Brown says Interior Secretary Zinke has agreed to consider exempting Oregon from the Trump administration's offshore drilling plan. Spokesman Bryan Hockaday says this happened after Brown spoke on the phone with Zinke on Friday at Brown's request. Brown asked for the same consideration for the Oregon Coast as was given Florida, which was exempted from the offshore drilling plan after the republican governor complained. Hockaday said Zinke agreed with concerns about the economic risks that offshore drilling could bring to Oregon, and committed to work with Brown and visit the state as part of a process to consider exempting Oregon from the offshore drilling plan. / HEALTH, ECONOMY: Asthma costs the U.S. economy more than \$80 billion a year in medical expenditures, missed school and work days, and deaths, according to CDC researchers. The condition is responsible for 8.7 million lost workdays and 5.2 million lost school-days annually, at an estimated cost of around \$3 billion. according to the study. MedPage Today quotes the lead researcher, who notes his team's analysis probably underestimated the total cost of asthma to the U.S.

economy because it did not include people who did not receive treatment for their asthma. Approximately 40 million Americans, or 13% of the U.S. population, have a lifetime history of asthma and 26 million, or 8% of the population, currently have asthma, according to recent National Health Interview Survey data. Annual costs associated with asthma were estimated to be \$81.9 billion. Among the main findings: Roughly 15.4 million people in the U.S. are treated for asthma annually. The annual-per-person medical cost of asthma was estimated to be \$3,266, including \$1,830 for prescription medications, \$640 for medical office visits, \$176 for hospital outpatient visits and \$105 for emergency room care. Deaths related to asthma average 3,168 annually, for a yearly cost of \$29 billion. Children with asthma missed 2.3 additional school days annually compared to children without asthma, at a per-child cost of \$207, and adults with asthma lost, on average, 1.8 days of work due to their illness. Having no health insurance was associated with significantly lower per person total medical expenditures, suggesting that these people paid for their asthma care out-of-pocket and/or had less medical care related to their asthma than the population average, / HEALTH, YOUTH: Oregon has one of the highest rates of childhood dental disease in the country. Simple, preventive measures can help eliminate the dental health crisis facing Lane County children and put families back on a healthy path. That is why United Way of Lane County and Burley are teaming up with one goal in mind: Providing children in Lane County (ages 3 - 8) with a dental kit, Today, as part of the national MLK Day of Service, volunteers from across the community will come together to help build dental kits for Lane County's children. We are inviting the media to join us at Burley's warehouse to learn more about the project and what local volunteers are doing to help. The event runs from 2-4 p.m. at Burley's warehouse, 1515 Westec Drive in Eugene. Burley is known for building recreational transport gear including multi-functional child carriers to jogging strollers and balance bikes. United Way of Lane County works to support the education, financial stability and health of local residents with several initiatives specifically targeting children. /

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EDUCATION, POLITICS: Today's high school students focus on subjects that received much less attention a generation ago. But many employers say students skilled in Engineering Design, Health Services, Environmental Sciences, Graphic Design, Visual and Performing Arts, and Information and Communication Technology are desirable workers for the future. Today, governor Kate Brown visits West Eugene's Churchill High school to check in on how some local students are doing and deliver a preview of next month's "State of the State" address. Brown first visited many of these students two years ago, when they were in middle school and just beginning to develop their Career and Technical Education or "CTE" skills. / CRIME: Springfield Police say a suspect arrested in a triple shooting that killed a man had been hosting a birthday party when he shot the guest of honor and two other friends. The Register-Guard reports that 23-yearold Jordan Wyatt Ledbetter faces a murder charge and four counts of felony assault for the shooting at his apartment. Authorities on Monday said 27-year-old Garrett Dean Peterson was shot in the chest at the party and died at a hospital. Twenty-one-year-olds Jesse Ray Able and Darin Ray Havens were shot and have been released from a hospital. Police say they entered the apartment on Saturday to find Peterson and Able bloodied at the base of a stairwell and Ledbetter fighting another party guest. Police say it took four officers to detain Ledbetter. ; Authorities say a deputy shot an armed person in a stolen car in Eugene after that person fired a weapon. The Register-Guard reports the incident occurred Monday afternoon in the Santa Clara area of Eugene following stolen vehicle reports. Lane County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Carrie Carver says a deputy returned fire at about 4:40 p.m. Monday. She says the wounded person was taken to a hospital but the person's condition was unknown. No further information was provided about the suspect. Authorities were searching for a second suspect who may have run from the scene of the shooting.; It started as a report of a stolen car. But it ended with multiple agencies responding when one of the suspects, whom officials say was armed, was fatally shot by a sheriff's deputy. It happened yesterday afternoon when the Lane County sheriff's Office received a report about a stolen white Honda Accord in the 500 block of Clairmont Drive in Eugene's Santa Clara area. A deputy who responded to the call shortly before five p.m. observed two people in the vehicle. As the deputy approached, officials say the male driver exited the car. was uncooperative and was in possession of a firearm. While details have not been released, the driver, whose name won't be made public until relatives are

notified, was shot by the deputy and taken to the hospital for medical attention but succumbed to his wounds. None of the responding deputies or officers reported any injuries in connection with the incident. The second occupant of the vehicle is a male who has been identified by Lane County Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team investigators and has been contacted by law enforcement. The agencies that responded to the incident include: the Oregon State Police, the Eugene Police Department, the Cottage Grove Police Department, the Springfield Police Department, the Florence Police Department, Santa Clara Rural Fire, and Eugene Springfield Fire Department.; On Sunday afternoon, a Eugene Police officer spotted a vehicle parked in front of a "No Trespass" and "No Unauthorized Parking" sign in a parking lot in the 1500 block of West 6th Avenue. There were six people continually going in and out of the vehicle, with three standing outside, when the officer performed a traffic stop in the parking lot. One male, whom the officer said appeared to be in charge of the group, told the officer he was from Portland and asked the officer if he was intimidated by that. Another male, who had been sleeping in the front seat, awakened and appeared disoriented. The officer asked 19-year-old Jake Hodge of Gresham to get out the vehicle and as Hodge began to move the officer observed a handgun on suspect's lap. The officer reached in and quickly grabbed it. Police says Hodge faces charges of being both in Unlawful Possession of a Weapon and a Minor in Possession of Alcohol as well as Criminal Trespass. The other five 18- and 19-year-olds from Eugene and Portland face Criminal Trespass charges.; Eugene Police say they responded to a disabled vehicle call Saturday morning that turned into a DUII arrest. According to the police report: A Toyota Corolla was disabled in the middle of the northbound lane of Delta Highway, and had severe front-end damage, with airbag deployment. An OSP trooper arrived on scene first and EPD was called to help conduct a DUII investigation. The EPD officer contacted the driver, Christopher Michael Hilton, age 45, of Eugene. Eugene Springfield Fire EMS arrived on scene and checked Hilton out before the officer began his investigation and then arrested him for DUII and Reckless Driving. Another officer located the scene of the crash, a guardrail which had been hit. Hilton had continued driving the vehicle for more than a mile before it came to rest, impeding traffic. / ENVIRONMENT: A group of Oregon conservationists are suing the U.S. Forest Service for reauthorizing livestock grazing on grasslands within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The Capital Press reports the lawsuit, filed Wednesday by the Greater Hells Canyon Council in La Grande, looks to protect a rare species of plant known as Spalding's catchfly. Spalding's catchfly, which is found only in eastern Washington, northeast Oregon, west-central Idaho, western Montana and British Columbia, Canada, is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Greater Hells Canyon Council Conservation Director Veronica Warnock says the Forest Service is obligated to protect Spalding's catchfly under the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Comprehensive Management Plan. Fewer than 1,000 catchfly plants are known to exist in the grazing area along the lower Imnaha River. / ECONOMY: The commercial Dungeness crab season was set to open Monday in most of Oregon and Washington state, but price negotiations and ocean conditions kept boats at home. The season traditionally opens Dec. 1, but was delayed to mid-January because crabs did not have shells full of meat, Crabbers tell The Daily Astorian that major processors had offered crabbers \$2.30 a pound — not enough to get them to go out. The price inched up during the statesponsored negotiation period in Oregon, but by the time those negotiations ended the processors' price still remained under last season's average starting price of \$2.89 per pound. Talks are continuing. /

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EDUCATION: The Register-Guard is reporting that members of the South Lane School Board last night removed Krista Parent as superintendent. The vote was unanimous. Reporter Alisha Roemeling writes that Kyle Tucker was appointed acting superintendent. The Register-Guard reports Parent officially will retire June 30, remaining a district employee until then. But she will work, according to a statement from the board chairman, quote, "independently off-site on special projects as needed and requested, and assist in smoothly transitioning the district to new leadership." The decision came at a special board meeting last night. During the past week, board members received letters from classified, certified and administrative South Lane district staff. The letters urged the board to conduct an independent investigation into whether Parent wrote an anonymous letter that the writers claimed, quote, "slanders and harasses" a district teacher. Parent has worked in the district for 33 years and has served as the district superintendent for the past 16 years. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, IMMIGRATION: Republican leaders are racing to beat a Friday deadline for pushing a short-term spending bill through Congress. But they are facing strong resistance from hardline conservatives with the House Freedom Caucus, whose leader emerged from a Tuesday night meeting to say its members — and other GOP lawmakers as well — want added money for the military. If there's no spending deal by the end of thw workweek, federal agencies would start shutting their doors over the weekend. The setback came as a deal between President Trump and Congress to include in the spending bill protection for young immigrants from deportation appears increasingly unlikely. The temporary funding bill would include a long-delayed, sixyear renewal of a popular health insurance program for children of low-income families. The current version would fund the federal government through Feb. 16. / MINORITIES, CIVIL RIGHTS: Nina Turner, national political leader and analyst, speaks at today's MLK event at Lane Community college. Named one of "18 to Watch in 2018" by Politico, Turner is president of Our Revolution, an activist group in the Bernie Sanders' movement working to advance the progressive agenda in America. She was a prominent national surrogate for Sanders during the 2016 Democratic presidential primary. She served on the Cleveland City Council from 2005 to 2008 and in the Ohio State Senate from 2008 to 2014. She also is an analyst, appearing on numerous national television and radio shows. The event will be held Wednesday, January 17 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Lane Community College Center for Meeting and Learning, Building 19, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene.

The event is free and open to the public. Earlier in the day, Turner will attend the annual University of Oregon MLK invitational luncheon. / SAFETY: Authorities say a woman died after her vehicle went off a farm road in central Oregon and she went for help, leaving her 78-year-old mother-in-law in the vehicle. The Morrow County Sheriff's Office says on Monday night Springfield resident Becky Sue McDuffee and her mother-in-law were driving when the vehicle veered off the road and down a steep incline. The sheriff's office says McDuffee left on foot around midnight to get help but she didn't have warm clothing. The sheriff's office says just before 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, authorities received a report from someone who saw the vehicle and went to help. The sheriff's office says the older woman was found in the vehicle and told authorities about her daughter-in-law before being taken to a hospital. Search crews found McDuffee's body Tuesday afternoon. / ENVIRONMENT: A remote camera picked up two gray wolves in Oregon's northern Cascade Mountains, marking the first time multiple wolves have been documented in the area since the species returned to Oregon more than a decade ago. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife said Tuesday the animals were spotted in the White River Wildlife Area and in Mt. Hood National Forest, as well as on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Single wolves have been spotted in Wasco County twice before in 2013 and 2015. Gray wolves are a federally protected species in western Oregon. Wolves crossed into Oregon from Idaho in the early 2000s after being driven to extinction in the state decades ago. Officials are currently updating a wolf management plan to address changes in population. ; A \$100 million-plus project to improve conditions for endangered fish could mean emptying Detroit Lake for one or two years. The Salem Statesman Journal reports the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is planning to build a 300-foot tower and floating screen at Detroit Dam to improve water temperature and fish passage for salmon and steelhead in the North Santiam River. But the \$100 to \$250 million project could impact water supply in Salem and Stayton, for farmland irrigation, and to the economies of Detroit and the Santiam Canyon from the loss of recreation at the popular reservoir. The project aims to preserve native fish while maintaining the benefits of dams and reservoirs. The project still needs to go through multiple planning phases before construction is scheduled for 2021. / ELECTIONS, HEALTH: Oregon's special election results on a new tax on insurance companies and some hospitals will be live-streamed on Facebook next week. Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson said Tuesday that preliminary results of the Jan. 23 special election will be streamed on his official Facebook page before they're officially posted on state election sites. Richardson said 86 percent of adults on Facebook are under the age of 30, a demographic that historically has lower turnout in Oregon elections. He said live-streaming on Facebook is a new and novel way to engage younger citizens. The live-stream will begin at 7:45 p.m. Preliminary results will be announced shortly after 8:00 p.m. Full election results will then be posted on results oregon gov. The tax is to provide health care for low-income Oregonians. / CRIME: A man who was at an Oregon party where three people were shot says the alleged gunman was probably struggling with a combination of "drugs, alcohol and bad feelings." Dakota Pander tells The Register-Guard that no argument preceded the gunfire at Saturday's birthday party in Springfield. He says Jordan Ledbetter nonchalantly went into a bedroom and returned with a gun. Police say Ledbetter shot and killed Pander's brother and wounded two others. Springfield Police Lt. Scott McKee said

Tuesday it's believed that Ledbetter was under the influence of LSD. Toxicology results are pending. Ledbetter has been charged with murder, assault and unlawful use of a weapon. Court records do not list an attorney to speak on his behalf.; Springfield Police have identified the victims of the Saturday night shooting at the Centennial Apartments that left one man dead and two men wounded. Both surviving victims have been released from local hospitals. The suspect, 25-year-old Jordan Wyatt Ledbetter, was arrested following a struggle with police inside the apartment after police received 9-1-1 calls reporting the shooting. Investigators say 24-year-old Garrett Charles Peterson of Springfield died after being shot twice in the chest during what witnesses said was an unprovoked attack that took place during a birthday party inside the apartment. Peterson died Sunday morning while undergoing surgery for his wounds. Officials say 22-year-old Jesse Ray Able is recovering from being shot in the bicep. Police say he resided at the apartment and was the person whose birthday was being celebrated. Police say 21-year-old Darin Ray Havens of Springfield is recovering from being shot in the throat. Several other people who attended the party were uninjured. Investigators say they recovered a semi-automatic handgun at the scene and other evidence. They also say they learned that alcohol, marijuana and other illicit narcotics were being consumed by Ledbetter and others during birthday party. Detectives describe the attack as a random act of violence.; Investigators have released the name of the man who was fatally shot during a confrontation this week with a Lane County sheriff's Deputy. They say 42-year-old Robert Martinez, Junior, of Deadwood, was the armed suspect in the Monday afternoon incident in the Santa Clara area involving a stolen car. It happened on the 500 block of Clairmont Drive as the deputy responded to the report of a stolen white Honda Accord. Officials say as the deputy observed two people in the vehicle. As the deputy approached, officials say the male driver exited the car, was uncooperative and was in possession of a firearm. Details of the shooting have not been released. Martinez was taken to a nearby hospital but did not survive. The incident is being investigated by the Lane County Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team. Officials say the passenger in the vehicle has been identified and is cooperating with authorities. Investigators add that the passenger, whose name has not been released, has not been charged with any criminal offense. / HEALTH, BUSINESS: Walmart is helping customers get rid of leftover opioids by giving them packets that turn the addictive painkillers into a useless gel. The retail giant announced Wednesday that it will provide the packets free with opioid prescriptions filled at its 4,700 U.S. pharmacies. The small packets, made by DisposeRX, contain a powder that is poured into prescription bottles. When mixed with warm water, the powder turns the pills into a biodegradable gel that can be thrown in the trash. Research has shown that surgery patients often end up with leftover opioid painkillers and store the drugs improperly at home. Walmart says the powder also works with other prescription drugs. The company says its pharmacy customers can request a free packet at any time. /

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ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: BE safe is you're visiting the Oregon Coast during the next couple of days. The National Weather Service in Portland has issued a Coastal Flood Warning through Thursday. A 25 to 30 foot swell train reached the Oregon coast late Wednesday night and peaks late this morning. This event appears to be similar to, or slightly stronger, than the December, 2015, event when waves ran much higher on the beaches and impacted numerous low-lying structures adjacent to beaches and harbors. Breaking waves of 35-45 feet and parallel to the coastline will send water much further up beaches and jetties than normal. Structures and roads located immediately at beach level will potentially be flooded or impacted by debris. Many beaches, jetties, and rocky outcroppings will be covered by deep water. Higher than normal tides and large seas will result in beach erosion and some flooding of low lying locations along the coast. Some areas include Florence, Tillamook, Nehalem and Seaside, particularly during today's high tide. Tidal overflow flooding of inland areas is possible but low river flows may limit impacts. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: A delegation from the international governing body for track and field has been visiting Oregon to review preparations for the 2021 World Championships. The delegation of close to one dozen members arrived in Eugene on Monday. The international event, dubbed "Oregon21," will be held at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field. It will be the first time track and field's premier biennial competition will be held in the United States. IAAF CEO Olivier Gers said Wednesday that in addition to assessing the preparations, the delegation is exploring ways to engage the rest of the state and the region in the event. Hayward Field has hosted seven U.S. Track and Field championships and six Olympic Trials, as well as the annual Prefontaine Classic on the Diamond League schedule. The 2014 World Junior Championships were also held at the track, one of the most well-known in the sport. Renovations to accommodate 32,000 spectators for the World Championships were expected to start following the NCAA championships in June. It is expected that more than 2,000 athletes from 214 countries will take part in the meet, which was awarded to Eugene in 2015. The event is scheduled for Aug. 6-15, 2021. "It's a different scale than any other event," Gers said. "It will be in 2021 the largest sporting event of the year around the world." This week's visit was the first of many for the IAAF, he said. Doha is hosting the World Championships in 2019.; Oregon athletic director Rob Mullens will become the new chairman of the College Football Playoff selection committee starting next

season. Mullens will be the third chairman on what will be his third season on the committee. The committee, which selects the four teams that play in the college football semifinal games, is made up of sitting athletic directors, former players. coaches and administrators and former media members who have covered college sports. Mullens, a West Virginia graduate, has been athletic director of Oregon since 2010. As chairman, Mullens will run the weekly meetings of the committee that produce rankings over the final six weeks of the season, concluding with the selection of the four teams in the playoff. As the face of the committee, Mullens will also appear on ESPN's weekly rankings show to answer questions about the committee's decisions. The CFP's executive director, Bill Hancock, praised Mullens for his experience, passion about college football. detail-oriented approach and high energy level. / ECONOMY: Oregon's unemployment rate fell slightly in December as employers added more than 14,000 jobs. The state Employment Department said Wednesday that no major industry substantially cut jobs in the last month of 2017. Industries adding a lot of jobs were construction, manufacturing and leisure and hospitality. Oregon's unemployment rate remained essentially unchanged at 4.1 percent — down from 4.2 percent in November. It capped a year in which Oregon's jobless rate hit several record lows before inching higher. For 2017, the state's annual average unemployment rate was 4 percent. That is Oregon's lowest annual rate since comparable records began in 1976. The next-lowest mark was 4.9 percent, set in 1995 and 2016. / EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE: Big news about a big donation for Oregon State University. Officials vesterday announced a \$50 million dollar gift to expand and enhance its College of Veterinary Medicine. The gift, from Portland native and 1974 OSU alumnus Gary Carlson, will dramatically increase the college's ability to provide life-saying clinical care, professional education for future veterinarians, and research critical to animal and human health. Specifically, OSU's Small Animal Hospital will double in size. The donation also will establish an endowed fund to attract and retain top-tier veterinary faculty and support college strategic priorities. The \$50 million is the largest gift Oregon State University has ever received. In recognition of his gift, the College of Veterinary Medicine will be renamed the Gary R. Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine. In each of the last six years, the number of small animal patients at the hospital has increased an average of 10 percent. Plans are being formulated to build two new hospital wings, one of which will house a linear accelerator for radiation oncology. Adding this new service to the hospital's existing chemotherapy services means OSU will be able to provide comprehensive cancer care to patients in one location for the first time. Many owners must currently travel out of state for access to advanced cancer care for their animals. The additional space and expanded services in the teaching hospital will provide veterinary students with training in emerging treatment procedures in oncology and other specialties. Oregon State's Small Animal Teaching Hospital has treated more than 20,000 animals, primarily cats and dogs, since its opening in 2006. Many of these patients are referred to OSU from veterinarians throughout Oregon, northern California and western Washington. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: In the wake of December's deadly derailment of an Amtrak Cascades train in Washington state, Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio and Congressman Michael Capuano of Massachusetts have sent a letter to Amtrak President and CEO Richard Anderson. They want a detailed update on how close Amtrak is to implementing

Positive Train Control on its routes. Positive Train Control or PTC, is an automated emergency braking system that can automatically slow trains if they exceed the allowed speed or a problem or obstacle is detected on the tracks ahead. DeFazio, an Oregon Democrat, is the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Amtrak has publicly acknowledged the organization has a relaxed safety culture that needs to be improved. Amtrak's CEO raised this issue most recently in the aftermath of the December 18 Amtrak Cascades Train 501 derailment in DuPont, Washington, which killed three passengers and injured many others. According to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the train was traveling approximately 80 miles per hour into a 30 mile-per-hour curve. Shortly after the incident, NTSB confirmed that it would not have occurred had PTC been operational on the line. / CRIME, WOMEN'S ISSUES: Hundreds of untested sexual assault kits from across Oregon are being sent to a private lab for testing using money that was left over from a grant that paid for three western Oregon counties to submit kits for testing. It might finally allow investigators to move ahead on clearing a backlog, identifying attackers and bringing them to justice. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports Lane, Marion and Multnomah counties received a nearly \$2 million grant from Sorenson Forensics LLC and have sent more than 2,600 kits for testing. The grant allows the testing of up to 3,000 kits, so additional counties have received approval to submit untested kits that were collected before January 2015. State police in 2015 counted a backlog of 5,600 kits that required processing. / POLITICS, HEALTH, YOUTH, IMMIGRATION, MILITARY: President Trump says a children's health insurance program should not be part of a short-term budget deal. Instead, Trump tweets that there should be a long-term deal. The Children's Health Insurance Program is also known as CHIP. The popular program provides health insurance for nearly 9 million low-income children. Congress late last year failed to renew funding, forcing Oregon and other states to cover the program as a stopgap measure. House Republican leaders have included a six-year renewal in a short-term budget bill in an effort to woo Democrats. But the short-term funding bill remains bogged down over demands by Democrats that it include protections for hundreds of thousands of young immigrants known as "Dreamers" who were brought to this country illegally when they were children. Without passage of a short-term funding deal, the federal government would begin a partial shutdown Friday night. But not everything would close: Social Security recipients would still receive their monthly checks. Air traffic control towers and TSA checkpoints would continue operations. Members of the military received their most recent paychecks Monday and their next payday is February 1st, so as long as there is a spending agreement before them their pay would not be affected. Active duty personnel would continue working but civilian Department of defense workers would probably be furloughed. / HEALTH, ECONOMY: Democratic senators are questioning the legality of the Trump administration's new policy letting states make low-income adults work to get Medicaid coverage. Last week, the Trump administration said it will let states require work as a condition of coverage for "able-bodied" adults. Officials promptly approved a waiver request by Kentucky to carry out its plan. Senators sent a letter drafted by Oregon Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon and signed by 29 other Democrats. It says work requirements contradict the plain text and purpose of the Medicaid statute, as well as longstanding congressional intent. The administration says studies show work promotes better

health, so a work requirement would fit with Medicaid. But critics say a majority of Medicaid recipients already work and those who do not are often too ill to do so. / ENVIRONMENT, CRIME, SAFETY: A salmon fisherman who abandoned ship by leaping into the frigid waters of the Columbia River last summer -- an instant before another motorboat crashed into his -- has filed a \$372,500 lawsuit against the other driver. OregonLive reports that Clatsop County sheriff's deputies accused boat driver Marlin Lee Larsen of several crimes after the 75-year-old told investigators he couldn't see where he was driving because he was sitting down and the dash of his boat was blocking his view. Larsen said he probably should have been standing, according to the sheriff's report, which notes Larsen uses a motorized scooter to get around on land. OregonLive reporter Aimee Green writes that Larsen's son-in-law, who also was on the boat, told investigators that he had warned his father-in-law to pay attention, that he sometimes sees his father-in-law using his cell phone while driving the boat and that his father-in-law had been offand-on his cell phone the morning of the crash, according to the sheriff's report. Although Oregon law heavily restricts cell phone use while driving, there are no such specific laws governing boating. But it is against the law to operate a boat without due care. The lawsuit, filed earlier this month, claims Larsen was boating while distracted by his cell phone on the morning of the Aug. 12, 2017, when the crash occurred near the mouth of the Columbia at the Pacific Ocean, just east of Fort Stevens State Park. / CRIME, HEALTH, SAFETY: Oregon State Police have abandoned a longstanding practice of spot testing drugs found during traffic stops out of fear that troopers might be exposed to the synthetic painkiller fentanyl. The Oregonian and OregonLive reports the move comes as police nationwide. including the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, shift away from field testing drugs due to a rise in fentanyl trafficking and concerns about police safety. Fentanyl is considered to be about 200 times more potent than morphine. Oregon last year recorded an all-time high in fentanyl overdose deaths - 58 - compared to one just two years earlier. The elimination of field testing, for years a standard practice for patrol officers, has broad implications for drug possession cases moving quickly through Oregon's criminal justice system. The test results are used in the early stages of a criminal case and typically are key to establishing probable cause to make an arrest, charge someone with a crime or take a case to grand jury in drug possession cases. Without the field tests, some Oregon prosecutors say they will await a chemical analysis from the state police crime lab before filing charges. Those analyses can take weeks or even months. But in isolated cases across the country, officers have unintentionally ingested the drug while on the job, including an Ohio officer who was treated for an overdose after powder landed on his uniform. State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton told The Oregonian/OregonLive that he decided to halt most field testing in response to concerns raised by troopers. / HOMELESSNESS, COMMUNITY: A big crowd last night as The Register-Guard hosted a forum on homelessness. The event brought together community members including those are or have been homeless, along well as representatives of the dozens of social agencies, churches and housing organizations that assist them. It comes as The Register-Guard's Editorial Team wraps up a yearlong project focusing on homelessness in the community. Among the key items being discussed: How to create more affordable housing in Eugene and whether there should be a state declaration of a housing emergency as rents and prices soar while many incomes stay flat and housing availability remains

tight. / ENVIRONMENT: Forget the recent snow and ice storms in the South. Instead, think about the heatwaves and wildfires and hurricanes. Government scientists say 2017 was the Earth's second-hottest year on record. And the past four years are the hottest multi-year period ever recorded. The average temperature of the planet was a degree and a half warmer than it was during the 20th century, according to scientists with NASA and NOAA. It came as many governments around the world stepped up their effort to reduce the effects of climate change but the Trump administration began reversing Obama-era policies to combat global warming. NASA, NOAA and the group Berkeley Earth track temperatures across the surface of the Earth and its oceans. A spokeswoman for Berkeley Earth says average temperatures in the Arctic, which has seen significant melting of its polar ice cap, are two degrees higher than they were during the middle of the 20th century. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A High Surf Advisory remains in effect today on the Oregon Coast. The National Weather Service in Portland is warning of breaking waves that will continue to run-up beaches much higher than normal. Waves will likely break over jetties much closer to shore than usual. Large driftwood logs can easily be carried by the high surf. Injuries or death is possible to those near or on the logs. Large ocean swells of around 21 to 23 feet are forecasted to will subside below 20 feet this afternoon. The threat of coastal flooding and significant beach erosion has ended. It can be very dangerous to venture near the coast under high surf conditions. People at times are swept off rocks and letties and drown while observing high surf. Stay well back from the water's edge and be alert for the exceptionally high wave.; Oregon State Police say a man has been swept out to sea at Depoe Bay. Witnesses told police that the man from Newport went over a sea wall Thursday morning to look at the big waves from a storm. He was then swept off the rocks. The Coast Guard and local rescue crews searched for the 47year-old man but the search had been suspended last night because of darkness and stormy ocean conditions. North Lincoln Fire & Rescue reported damage to a restaurant, two motels and other businesses on the beachfront in Lincoln City and said one person had been hospitalized after being hit by a wave. Fire officials also posted photos of damage to the establishments on Facebook. The waves also forced the closure of beaches and access points along the coast. Large "sneaker" waves have killed more than two dozen people along the Oregon coast since 1990. / ECONOMY, SAFETY: Three warnings and three tips before purchasing digital currency: The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services recently received two consumer complaints regarding digital currency transactions. Both cases involve consumers unable to get help accessing their accounts from their digital currency exchange. These complaints reveal three warnings and three tips before purchasing digital currency, also known as cryptocurrency. Warnings: Understand the risk - Digital currency is unstable and can experience a sudden increase and decrease in value. It is not subject to regulation in the U.S., so the government cannot help you if your digital currency is lost, stolen, or hacked. Turning cash into digital currency is easy, but it can be difficult to turn it back into cash when you need it. Unlike money deposited into banks and credit unions, digital currency is not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or the National Credit Union Association (NCUA). Tips: Do not spend or exchange money you cannot afford to lose - The volatility of the digital currency market means that you should not use money that is needed for essential purposes, such as paying off debt or saving for education expenses. Treat digital currency investments like a commodity – Treat cryptocurrency like a non-liquid investment similar to oil, copper, or gold, and understand that digital currencies do not have the basic value of most commodities. Make sure the digital currency exchange is licensed with the state – Oregon law requires digital currency exchange companies, companies that turn cash into digital currency, to be licensed as a money transmitter in order to do business in the state. "Cryptocurrency is a hot trend that is getting a lot of media attention today," said Cameron Smith, acting DCBS director. "Like all popular financial trends, we encourage Oregonians to be cautious and know the risks before purchasing this unstable and unregulated currency." Oregonians can check the money transmitter license of a digital currency exchange at

http://dfr.oregon.gov/gethelp/Pages/check-license.aspx/ . Oregonians who need help with their digital currency exchange company can contact the Division of Financial Regulation at 866-814-9710 (toll-free) or visit http://dfr.oregon.gov . / ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT: A southern Oregon resort says business has been slow because of the lack of snow. The News-Review reported Tuesday that the Diamond Lake Resort is used to seeing a throng of visitors at this time of year looking to enjoy snow sports or a just a casual snowball fight. The resort's Marketing and Events Coordinator John Jonesburg says this year is different. He says he has never seen business so slow in his 28 years of working at the resort east of Roseburg. The lack of snow has forced the resort to shut down some of its operations and lay off more than half of its winter staff. Jonesburg says they tried to keep its snow tubing hill open, but gave up once costs became too much. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, IMMIGRATION, MILITARY: A divided House on Thursday passed an eleventh-hour plan to keep the government running. But the GOPwritten measure faces gloomy prospects in the Senate, and it remains unclear whether lawmakers would be able to find a way to keep federal offices open past a Friday night deadline. The House voted by a near party-line 230-197 vote to approve the legislation, which would keep agency doors open and hundreds of thousands of federal employees at work through Feb. 16. The measure is designed to give White House and congressional bargainers more time to work through disputes on immigration and the budget that they've tangled over for months. But most Senate Democrats and some Republicans are expected to vote no in that chamber, probably Friday. Democrats were hoping to spur slow-moving talks on protecting young immigrants who arrived in the U.S. illegally from deportation. A handful of Republicans are pressing for swifter action on immigration and a long-sought Pentagon spending boost.; Without passage of a short-term funding deal, the federal government would begin a partial shutdown tonight at midnight. But not everything would close: Social Security recipients would still receive their monthly checks. Mail deliveries will continue as usual because the U.S. Postal Service receives no tax dollars for day-to-day operations and relies on income from stamps and other fees. Air traffic control towers and TSA checkpoints would continue operations. Security operations would also continue at major rail stations and Amtrak trains would continue to run. Passport processing is expected to continue with some delays, since operations are funded by both fees and money appropriated by Congress. Active-duty members of the military received their most recent paychecks Monday and their next payday is

February 1st, so as long as there is a spending agreement before then their pay would not be affected. But many civilian Department of Defense workers would probably be furloughed. Other employees in all three branches of government are vulnerable to furlough, with its temporary unpaid leave. After previous government shutdowns, Congress passed measures to ensure that essential and nonessential employees received retroactive pay. The last government shutdown was in October of 2013. It lasted more than two weeks and more than 800,000 federal employees were furloughed. During that time, national parks closed with overnight visitors were given two days to depart. Popular Washington, D.C., tourist destinations also closed, including the Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo. Barricades went up at the Lincoln Memorial and other monuments along the National Mail. / HEALTH: Regulatory moves that could one day make smoking an obsolete habit get underway next week when U.S. regulators hold a public meeting on a closely watched cigarette alternative. The proposal from the Food and Drug Administration is two-fold: cut nicotine levels in cigarettes so that they are far less addictive. For those who can't or won't quit, allow lower-risk products that deliver nicotine without the deadly effects of traditional cigarettes. But the plan could have another unexpected effect: opening the door for companies to sell a new generation of alternative tobacco products, allowing the industry to survive for generations to come. It is a thorny proposition because it offers a potential role for the tobacco industry in the long-standing effort to eliminate the diseases caused by smoking. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Oregon State Police revealed more details yesterday about Wednesday night's crash on Interstate Five a few miles south of Cottage Grove. They says a southbound commercial trucker from Washington state lost control of his trailer, striking the guardrail, then overcorrecting and crossing both southbound lanes to cross the center concrete barrier. Investigators say the collision with the barrier dislodged several large concrete sections, forcing them into the northbound travel lanes. State Police say a northbound trucker from Myrtle Creek, stopped at the crash scene and exited his vehicle in an attempt to warn other southbound drivers. But he was struck by a southbound pick-up. The second trucker was hospitalized with serious injuries. During the next moments, state police say four northbound vehicles crashed into the concrete barriers that had been pushed into the northbound lane. Five people were taken to the hospital, including two people from Springfield, one from Cottage Grove and a person from Michigan with injuries ranging from minor to serious. Investigators are working to confirm the fifth person's identity. The Wednesday evening crashes completely blocked the both northbound and southbound lanes for two hours south of Cottage Grove. ODOT crews replaced six damaged concrete sections of the median. / CRIME: On September 2, 2017, OSP Fish & Wildlife sergeant was patrolling Roman Nose Mountain in the North Fork Smith River area, when he noticed a suspicious vehicle drive by him at a higher than normal speed. Approximately, ten miles down the road and half an hour later, the sergeant came upon a structure fire in an unoccupied building in a remote area of the North Fork Smith River. An off-duty forester, who also had just happened upon the scene, assisted the sergeant in taking action. The two forced entry through the gate of the property, put out a spot fire from embers that had crossed the river, and started building hand lines. Western Lane Fire Protection District employees responded with a helicopter and about half a dozen fire trucks and quickly extinguished the fire before it could spread further into the forest. A

follow-up investigation by an Oregon State Police arson detective led to charges being filed on three men. It was later determined that these three men where the same in the suspicious vehicle that had passed the sergeant. The suspects are: 18-year-old Elijah James Peterson who is charged with Arson 1, Burglary II, Criminal Mischief I; 24-year-old David Gilbert McCoy Jr who is charged with Burglary II, Criminal Mischief I; and 21-year-old Lucas Charles Reed who is charged with Criminal Trespass I. / TRANSPORTATION, DISABILITIES: Delta Air Lines will soon require owners of service and support animals to provide more information before their animal can fly in the passenger cabin, including an assurance that it's trained to behave itself. The airline says complaints about animals biting or soiling plane cabins have nearly doubled since 2016. Starting March 1, Delta will require owners to show proof of their animal's health or vaccinations at least 48 hours before a flight. Owners of psychiatric service animals and so-called emotional-support animals will need to sign a statement vouching that their animal can behave. But owners will be on the honor system they won't have to show, for example, that their dog graduated from obedience school. The new requirements don't apply to pets that stay in under-seat kennels during flights. Delta's policy change arrives with the number of animals in the cabin increasing. John Laughter, the airline's senior vice president of safety and security, said there are insufficient rules in place to screen animals for health and behavior issues. He said Delta sought a balance "that supports those customers with a legitimate need for these animals" while maintaining safety. Delta's new rules are aimed at two categories: service animals, which receive specific training to help blind or disabled passengers; and so-called emotional-support animals, which require no training at all. Both fly for free and are not required to be caged during the flight. The emotional-support group has been growing rapidly, and it is the target of most of the new Delta procedures. Last June, a 70-pound dog flying as a support animal bit another passenger several times in the face on a Delta plane in Atlanta. The victim was hospitalized. Airlines must allow support animals in the cabin, although they can require owners to present a letter from a doctor or other medical provider who can vouch that the human traveler is helped by having the animal there. Delta will now ask to see those letters 48 hours in advance, Airline employees say dogs and cats are the most common animals on planes, but there have been sightings of pigs, snakes and turkeys too. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: Oregon would be one of the Number One seeds along with UConn, Mississippi State and Louisville if the women's NCAA Tournament were to begin now. For the third straight year, the NCAA has provided a snapshot of the tournament field, unveiling the top 16 teams as of Tuesday, in order. Those schools would potentially host the opening two rounds of the tournament, which begins March 16. The inclusion of the Oregon women was a little bit of a surprise as the fourth No. 1 seed as the Ducks already have two losses this season. But they came on the road to Louisville and Mississippi State, two other preliminary top seeds and teams that are still undefeated. The Ducks also have four wins against Top 25 teams. Upon hearing the news, Oregon Coach Kelly Graves remarked that, quote, "Obviously there's a lot of basketball left to be played... But that would be something..." Oregon is ranked seventh this week and this evening heads to Corvallis to meet Number 18 Oregon State. The women's teams are at Eugene's Matt Knight Arena on Sunday for a second Civil War basketball game. / POLITICS, WOMEN'S ISSUES, COMMUNITY: About 3,000 people are expected

to participate in the second annual Women's March for Action on Saturday in downtown Eugene. Organized by the grass-roots organization Indivisible Eugene, the march will begin with a short rally at 1 p.m. on the steps of the U.S. District Courthouse, 405 E. Eighth Ave. The march is in protest of the policies of the Trump administration, particularly regarding women's rights, racial equality, immigration and other human rights issues. Other Oregon cities planning women's marches include Portland, Salem and Corvallis. Expected speakers in Eugene include U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio; members of the Eugene/Springfield NAACP Youth Council, NAACP President Kai Isaia and program coordinator Brittany Judson, as well as Nichi Masters Linder, the field director for Planned Parenthood. After the rally, participants will walk through downtown, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ELECTIONS, POLITICS, HEALTH: Oregon aggressively expanded its Medicaid rolls under the Affordable Care Act, adding enough people to leave only 5 percent of its population uninsured — one of America's lowest rates. Now, with the reduction of a federal match that covered those enrollees, the state is calling on voters to decide how to pay for its ballooning Medicaid costs. A special election on Tuesday asks Oregonians whether they approve of a tax on hospitals, health insurers and managed care companies that would leave Medicaid, as it is now, untouched. More than 1 in 4 residents here rely on it. Maine voters were in the national spotlight when they recently approved Medicaid expansion. But experts say Oregon's election is the only instance of voters — not lawmakers — getting the final say on the complicated question of how to fund rising Medicaid costs. The outcome could have significant consequences for the state's health care spending. Measure 101 would impose a 0.7 percent tax on some hospitals and a 1.5 percent tax on the gross health insurance premiums collected by insurers and on managed care organizations, raising anywhere from \$210 million to \$320 million over the next two years. Proponents call the tax an "assessment" and say money raised could cover the more than 350,000 low-income Oregonians who were added to the plan since 2014 while state lawmakers work out a long-term solution. The loss of that revenue could jeopardize an additional \$630 million to \$960 million in federal Medicaid matching funds that flow to the poorest in the state, according to the nonpartisan voter pamphlet. That possibility prompted the very hospitals and health insurers who would be taxed to come out as the measure's biggest backers. They say the cost of the taxes would be less than that of uninsured emergency-room visits. The ballot measure arose from a grassroots campaign to put parts of a bipartisan legislative funding solution passed last year before voters. Republican Rep. Julie Parrish and several colleagues were angered by portions of the bill that exempt large, self-insured corporations like Nike from Medicaid taxes but not Oregonians who buy insurance on health care exchanges. They also believe hospitals and insurers will pass the cost to consumers, despite language that limits premium rate increases to 1.5 percent. People who support Measure 101 have raised \$2.8 million. Parrish and her allies have raised \$353,000. Medicaid is a federal-state collaboration originally meant for poor families and severely disabled people. Over the years, it's grown to become the largest government health insurance program, now covering 1 in 5 Americans. In 2014, Oregon was one of 32 states and the District of Columbia to allow people

making 138 percent of the federal poverty line to qualify for Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. That's \$34,600 for a family of four. Before, they had to make less to qualify. The changes brought Oregon's slew of new enrollees. For the first two years, the federal government covered the full cost for them — and for those in other states. In 2017, the match dropped to 95 percent, adding \$136 million in costs in Oregon. It will drop to 90 percent in 2020. At the same time, the federal government asked Oregon to pay more for its other Medicaid recipients because of its strong economy. And state lawmakers voted to provide Medicaid coverage for children living in the country illegally starting Jan. 1, adding another \$27 million in costs. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, IMMIGRATION, MILITARY: The government shutdown is continuing for a third day after bargainers in the Senate inched closer but ultimately fell short of an agreement that would have reopened federal agencies before the beginning of the workweek. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said negotiations kept going late into the night, with a vote to break a Democratic filibuster on a short-term funding bill now scheduled for noon today. Under the proposal taking shape, Democrats would agree to a three-week spending measure — until Feb. 8 — in return for a commitment from the Republican leadership in the Senate to address immigration policy and other pressing legislative matters in the coming weeks. Behind-the-scenes talks between the leaders and rank-and-file lawmakers over how to end the display of legislative dysfunction gained added urgency after the shutdown began Friday at midnight when Democrats blocked a temporary spending measure. Democrats said it was because republicans have failed to include protections for roughly 700,000 younger immigrants known as "Dreamers' who as children were brought to the U.S. illegally.; The federal government shutdown amid a congressional dispute over spending and immigration has forced scores of federal agencies and outposts to close their doors. But the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, closed since the government shut down Friday, will reopen for visitors today, with New York state picking up the tab for the federal workers who operate the sites. New York's governor said the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are vital to the state's tourism industry and could not remain closed. He said the state will spend about \$65,000 a day to keep them open, with the revenue gained more than offsetting the costs. But in Philadelphia, crowds of tourists were told Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed, and the Liberty Bell remains closed.; Funds ran out at midnight Friday, leaving 48 hours before the most dramatic effect - the furloughing of nearly 1 million federal employees — takes place. Senate moderates in both major political parties expressed hopes of finding a way out of the government shutdown mess on Sunday while their leaders played the blame game. Lawmakers on Capitol Hill said they were pursuing a deal to reopen the government before the start of the workweek. In exchange for Democratic votes, Republican leaders would agree to address immigration policy in the coming weeks. But nothing had been agreed to, lawmakers said Sunday, and there were no indications that leaders of either party or the White House were on board. As in past shutdowns, federal services were carved into two categories, essential and non-essential, with the essential services set to carry on as normal. In that category, the mail will be delivered and Social Security checks still go out, the air traffic control system stays up and running, as do the FBI, Customs and Border Protection and veterans hospitals. There are roughly 700,000 federal and D.C.

government workers. Union representatives say they are sending a constant stream of anxious emails with questions about pay. One union representative said he told his members to report to work today and await instructions from the agency for which they work about whether they will be sent home or continue on the job.; While active-duty troops will stay at their posts during a shutdown, people stationed overseas were touched by the political fallout almost immediately. The American Forces Network, which broadcasts American radio and television programming outside the U.S. and uses civilian government employees, initially said its services would not be available, sparking angry reactions from viewers eager to see the NFL playoffs Sunday, Later, though, the Department of Defense said even though the civilian employees were furloughed two of AFN's eight channels, one for news and one for sports, would remain on. Back in the U.S., the shutdown scuttled plans for a National Guard training exercise at Fort Bragg in North Carolina and created uncertainty for the Army base's civilian employees and local businesses. It was just one example of how temporary closures are affecting nearby communities. ; As the shutdown continues, officials say the majority of Bureau of Land Management public lands across the country will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. BLM roads, trails, campgrounds, boat ramps and recreation sites will remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited. All BLM facilities on public lands however will be closed. Please note that because of the federal government shutdown, the BLM websites and social media are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions. For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown/ WOMEN'S ISSUES, POLITICS: Thousands gathered in Eugene Saturday, part of the nationwide Women's March events coinciding with the first anniversary of the Trump inauguration. Demonstrators from Los Angeles to New York marched in support of female empowerment and denounced administration views on women's rights, immigration, abortion and LGBT rights. Yesterday, thousands of women gathered at a Las Vegas stadium for a closing event at a stadium where they promised to continue their battle. Organizers hope the rally and other weekend events will help recruit candidates for upcoming elections, continue the push for women's equality and keep the marches and movement going in future years. / TERRORISM, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: CBS News is reporting that growing concern about terrorists getting a bomb onto a plane headed for the United States prompted an emergency order requiring stricter scrutiny of air cargo beginning today. Effective this morning, all cargo being loaded onto flights at last point of departure airports in five predominately Muslim countries — Egypt, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates — will be subject to the new requirements. Last year, the countries were among those subject to the so-called "laptop ban" that prohibited electronics larger than a cell phone to be carried on in the passenger cabin. All cargo loaded on an airplane already undergoes security screening. The new measures will provide additional details on parcels and look for those that trigger suspicion. An example given by officials was someone spending \$500 to ship a \$100 printer that's already available in the U.S. from a country with terrorist activity through one of these five countries. Such a package would likely warrant a further inspection. / CRIME, RELIGION. HUMAN RIGHTS: An Oregon man who served prison time for a 2002 racially-motivated attack on Eugene's largest synagogue has been arrested. Jail records indicate 37-

year-old Jacob Albert Laskey was booked into Lane County Jail early Saturday. He was arrested on investigation of second-degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon, menacing and criminal trespassing. A county sheriff's office spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to a call Sunday seeking details about Saturday's arrest. Laskey was sentenced in 2007 to more than 11 years in federal prison for his role in the attack at Temple Beth Israel in Eugene, Federal prosecutors said he and others threw swastika-etched rocks, breaking glass windows while members were attending a religious service inside. Laskey was released in 2015. It was not immediately clear whether he has a lawyer. An email sent to his lawyer in the federal case was not immediately returned Sunday.; A 44-year-old man accused of killing Portland man in September who was arrested in Eugene is being arraigned today. Portland Police say officers in Eugene arrested Lorenzo Jones Friday on a warrant related to the Sept. 17, 2017, fatal shooting of Wilbert Butler. Jones was taken into custody during a traffic stop. Authorities say Butler died of multiple gunshot wounds. / ENVIRONMENT: Federal ocean managers are making more than \$2 million available to try to help fishermen catch less of the wrong fish. "Bycatch" is a longstanding issue in commercial fisheries, and fishermen have long sought solutions to the problem of catching rare species when seeking exploitable ones. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says it is providing about \$2.4 million for "projects that increase collaborative research and partnerships for innovation" in reducing bycatch. The agency says it is prioritizing projects such as gear modifications, avoidance programs and improved fishing practices. NOAA also says it wants to learn more about possible reduction of mortality of fish that are released. The agency is looking for pre-proposals by Jan. 31 and full proposals by March 30. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Did you receive any alerts on your phone this morning? Good news: The tsunami warning for the West Coast, including Oregon. has been canceled. There was a strong, magnitude 7.9, earthquake, off Alaska this morning that caused some concerns and prompted the warnings but after examining the latest data the threat has eased and the alerts canceled shortly before 5:00 a.m. / POLITICS, ECONOMY: Hundreds of thousands of federal workers are expected to return to work now that Congress has agreed on temporary funding for the government and President Donald Trump has signed the bill into law. Democrats reluctantly voted to temporarily pay for resumed operations, relenting in return for Republican assurances that the Senate will soon take up the plight of young immigrant "dreamers" and other contentious issues. The end to the standoff began Monday when the Senate passed a stopgap funding measure 81-18, with senators from both parties voting against it. The House quickly approved, and Trump signed the measure Monday night. Democrats gave in after wrangling a promise that the GOP-run Senate would debate an immigration proposal even if it doesn't have the backing of Republican leaders and the White House. / ELECTIONS, HEALTH: Oregon voters will soon decide whether to fund the state's expansion of Medicaid and other rising health care costs with taxes on hospitals and health insurers. Experts say the special election Tuesday is the only instance where voters -- instead of lawmakers -- will decide how to fund the Medicaid expansion among the 32 states and Washington. D.C. that added enrollees under the Affordable Care Act. If it passes, the measure would tax hospitals and health insurers to fund Oregon's rising Medicaid costs. It would raise \$210 million to \$330 million in revenue over the next two years. Oregon added more than 350,000 people in 2014 but now has a budget hole as federal matching funds are reduced. The unusual election has significant consequences for low-income Oregonians. / ECONOMY: The Oregon Department of Revenue and the IRS will begin processing tax returns on January 29. Taxpayers can submit their returns earlier, but processing won't start until the tax season officially begins. Once processing begins, returns will be processed in the order received. This year, tax season ends on April 17. Much like last year, the department won't be issuing personal income tax refunds until after February 15. This refund hold is part of the state's tax fraud prevention activities, and will allow confirmation that the amounts claimed on returns matches what employers report on forms W-2 and 1099. The IRS is also holding federal personal income tax

refunds, but only for those taxpayers claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Additional Child Tax Credit. Here are other important things for taxpayers to know: There's a kicker this year: To figure out how much to claim for a kicker credit, taxpayers should multiply their 2016 tax liability before credits-line 24 on the 2016 Form OR-40--by 5.6 percent. They can also use the What's My Kicker calculator at www.oregon.gov/dor, under "Popular Topics." Filing a 2017 return is the only way to claim a kicker; there are no kicker checks. W-2s and 1099s are due by January 31: Employers: Don't forget that the deadline to electronically file W-2s and 1099s is January 31. The deadline for both Oregon and the IRS moved up last year. The earlier deadline allows state and federal tax agencies to compare employer wage information with wage information provided on returns to help detect tax refund fraud. To file, visit www.oregon.gov/dor and go to the iWire application. Tax payments are due by April 17 too: Tax returns aren't the only thing due on April 17. It's also the date by which taxes owed for 2017 are due-even if the taxpayer has an extension to file. Payments can be made online, by mail, or in person and by cash, check, money order, cashier's check, debit or credit card, or electronic funds transfer. Cash payments are only accepted at the department's Salem headquarters. The regional offices can't accept cash. Taxpayers who can't pay their taxes in full should contact the department as soon as possible to discuss setting up a payment plan or other payment options. Collections staff can be reached at (503) 945-8200. Taxpayers can now order paper copies of tax forms and publications online. Go to www.oregon.gov/dor/forms and select "Order Paper Forms." Taxpayers can also request copies of previously filed returns 24/7 through Revenue Online. Tax information is confidential, so taxpayers must have a Revenue Online account to make a request. To sign up for a Revenue Online, visit at www.oregon.gov/dor and select "Revenue Online." There's a \$5 fee for each return requested. Taxpayers can also request forms, publications, and returns by calling (503) 378-4988 or (800) 356-4222 (toll free). The August 21, 2017 solar eclipse event brought millions of visitors to Oregon. Taxpayers who sold merchandise or rented out their home or property for the event may have a state income or lodging tax obligation. Taxpayers should discuss reporting eclipse-related income with their tax preparers or check the instructions for Form OR-40, Oregon's individual income tax return. Lodging taxes must be collected by the property owner or their representative on any property that's rented out for 30 days or more during the calendar year. E-filing is the fastest way to get your tax refund. On average, taxpayers who e-file their returns and request their refund via direct deposit receive their refund sooner than those who file paper returns and request paper refund checks. Some software companies offer free software use and federal and state e-filing for taxpayers meeting their eligibility criteria. There are also free and low-cost tax preparation services available throughout Oregon. Also, Oregon taxpayers preparing their own return can file electronically at no cost using Oregon's free fillable forms. For more information on filing options, visit www.oregon.gov/dor and look under "Popular Topics." / CRIME: Three cold case killings from the 1980s are receiving a new look after Eugene Police say advances in DNA analysis and DNA databases provided insights into how the unidentified suspect might have looked then and how he might appear today. Detectives with the Eugene Police Violent Crimes Unit say the cases involve the violent homicidal deaths of 62-year-old Gladys May Hensley on June 5th of 1986; 33-year-old Janice

Marie Dickinson two weeks later, on June 19th of 1986; and the February 28. 1988, murder of 73-year-old Geraldine Spencer Toohey. Yesterday, detectives released a composite sketch of the unidentified suspect as he would have looked around then at the age of 25, and then an age-progressed image that shows what he might look like if he is alive today. Eugene Police are using a technology known as Parabon's Snapshot, which detectives describe as a revolutionary forensic DNA analysis service that accurately predicts the physical appearance and ancestry of an unknown person from DNA. Detectives hope the release of this new information will generate new leads in these cases, and would like previously interviewed parties to come forward in the hope they may be able to help with these leads. The Eugene Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit has established a dedicated tip line for these cases and is asking anyone with information about these three murders to call the tip line at 541-682-5162. The Eugene Police Department investigated eight murders in 1986, four of which occurred in a threemonth period beginning with Hensley's murder. Several persons of interest were developed and thoroughly investigated over the years and have been excluded through DNA comparison. All three cases have lacked any strong leads. Snapshot accurately predicts the physical appearance and ancestry of an unknown person from DNA. It can also determine kinship between DNA samples out to multiple degrees of relatedness. Snapshot uses extracted DNA or biological evidence, Parabon can produce a detailed Snapshot report and composite sketch that includes eye color, skin color, hair color, face morphology, and detailed biogeographic ancestry.; Eugene Police say they're searching for a man suspected of trying to force a 17-year-old girl into a vehicle yesterday evening on North Terry Street near Barger Drive. The report came in around 6:00 p.m. Investigators say the teen said a vehicle stopped in front of the sidewalk and a passenger in the vehicle tried to grab and force the girl into the vehicle. She said she fought back and got away. The vehicle is described as a white Honda Civic with bluish headlights. There were blue lights on the inside of the ceiling and the front plate was an Oregon plate ending in the number "2." The suspect who was riding in the passenger seat is described as an Hispanic man in his mid 20s. approximately 6'2" to 6'3" tall, with a very thin build, black/brownish hair that is long on top. He was last seen wearing a black pull-over hoody and khaki pants. The driver was described as a black male wearing short sleeves. If anyone has information in the case they are asked to call 541.682.5111.; A 29-year-old Pleasant Hill man faces a wide range of charges after he injured a Lane County Sheriff's Deputy during a traffic stop on Sunday. Investigators say the deputy tried to conduct a traffic stop on a 1999 Toyota Camry but initially the driver continued until eventually pulling over at the intersection of Highway 38 and Curtin Road. The deputy said the suspect, identified as Shawn Michael Obrein, did not provide a driver's license and when the deputy attempted to detain him Obrein began to physically fight the deputy. A second deputy arrived and was able to help get the suspect into custody. Investigators say Obrein was in possession of one gram of heroin and that they found methamphetamine residue and evidence of delivery of a controlled substance. They also determined that Obrein's driving privileges were suspended at the felony level. The deputy sustained a minor injury to his eye. He was treated and released. Obrein was lodged at the Douglas County Jail on a range of charges. / CRIME, YOUTH PROTECTION: The chairman, vice chairman and treasurer of USA Gymnastics have resigned. Paul Parilla, Jay Binder and

Bitsy Kelly announced they were stepping down Monday after calls for their ouster by gymnasts who have testified they were abused by ex USAG sports doctor Larry Nassar, whose sentencing hearing continues this week in Michigan. Former Olympians and dozens of others have testified at the hearing. A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that U.S. Olympic Committee CEO Scott Blackmun met with Parilla earlier this month and asked for his resignation. Meanwhile, a 15-year-old girl says Michigan State University is still billing her for medical appointments during which she says a sports doctor sexually assaulted her. Emma Ann Miller made the allegation in her statement to a Michigan judge Monday. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ELECTIONS, HEALTH, LOW-INCOME, ECONOMY: A big "yes" vote on Ballot Measure 101. Oregon voters yesterday approved hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes on hospitals, health insurers and managed care companies to help pay for the state's aggressive expansion of its Medicaid program. Measure 101 is passing with 61 percent voting "yes." It will raise \$210 million to \$320 million. Backers say the tax revenue will help secure between \$630 million to \$960 million in federal Medicaid matching funds. The election was an endorsement of a plan approved by Democrats in the Oregon Legislature to help cover Medicaid costs, During the expansion of the Affordable Care Act, the state added hundreds of thousands of low-income residents added to the Medicaid rolls in a bid to improve preventive care and overall health. Health care providers, doctors and nurses associations and insurers backed Measure 101, with hospital officials saying the costs of treating uninsured patients in emergency rooms would be more than the taxes imposed. Close to one in four Oregonians are covered by Medicaid. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, FAMILY, COMMUNITY: A 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck in the Gulf of Alaska Tuesday morning, triggering tsunami warnings for Alaska and western Canada, as well as tsunami watches all along the U.S. Pacific Coast. Although the tsunami warnings have been downgraded to advisories, the Red Cross is encouraging you to be prepared in case an earthquake and tsunami affect us. If you live in a coastal area, follow these Red Cross tsunami safety tips to keep yourself and your loved ones safe. Before a Tsunami: Find out if your home, school, workplace or other frequently visited locations are in tsunami hazard areas. Make an escape plan and build an emergency supplies kit. Find a supply list at www.redcross.org/PrepareGuide. If you live or frequent a place in a tsunami hazard area, know the height of your street above sea level and the distance of your street from the coast. Evacuation orders may be based on these numbers. Plan evacuation routes from your home, school, workplace and other places you could be where tsunamis present a risk. If possible, pick areas 100 feet (30 meters) above sea level or go as far as 2 miles inland, away from the coastline. If you cannot get this high or far, go as high or far as you can. Every foot inland or upward may make a difference. You should be able to reach your safe location on foot within 15 minutes. Learn the evacuation plan where your child attends school. Find out if the plan requires you to pick your children up from school or from another location. During a tsunami watch or warning, telephone lines may be overloaded and routes to and from schools may be jammed. Practice

your evacuation routes. Familiarity may save your life. Be able to follow your escape route at night and during inclement weather. Practicing your tsunami survival plan makes the appropriate response more of a reaction, requiring less thinking during an actual emergency. If you are a tourist, familiarize yourself with local tsunami evacuation information. You may be able to safely evacuate to the third floor or higher in reinforced concrete hotel structures. During a Tsunami: If you feel an earthquake while you are on the coast, drop, cover and hold on if inside and avoid falling objects if outside. When the shaking has stopped, move quickly inland and to higher ground. Go on foot if possible. Take your disaster preparedness kit (go bag), but don't delay leaving. If you evacuate, take your animals with you. If it is not safe for you, it is not safe for them. If a tsunami watch is issued, listen to a NOAA weather radio, Coast Guard emergency frequency station or other official sources for updated emergency information and be ready to evacuate. Remain inland and on higher ground until an "all clear" announcement is made by local officials. After a Tsunami: Let friends and family know you're safe. Register yourself as safe on the Safe and Well website at www.redcross.org/safeandwell. Continue using a NOAA weather radio or tuning to a Coast Guard station, or a local radio or television station for the latest updates. Return home only after local officials tell you it is safe. A tsunami is a series of waves that may continue for hours. Do not assume that after one wave the danger is over. The next wave may be larger than the first one. Check yourself for injuries and get first aid as needed before helping injured or trapped persons. If someone needs to be rescued, call professionals who have the right equipment to help. Many people have been killed or injured trying to rescue others. Help people who require special assistance-infants, elderly people, those without transportation, people with disabilities and large families who may need additional help in an emergency situation. Avoid disaster areas. Your presence might interfere with emergency response operations and put you at further risk from the residual effects of floods. Stay out of any building that has water around it. Tsunami water can cause floors to crack or walls to collapse. Use caution when re-entering buildings or homes. Tsunami-driven floodwater may have damaged buildings where you least expect it. Carefully watch every step you take. To avoid injury, wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up. Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control. For more disaster preparedness tools and information, visit redcross.org/PrepareGuide to download the free Red Cross Prepare Guide that has all the info you need to be prepared for disasters of all kinds. And download the red Cross apps.; The big earthquake off the coast of Alaska triggered a tsunami watch for the Oregon Coast during the predawn hours Tuesday, and while no tidal wave materialized, officials said it is a wake-up call. Althea Rizzo of the Oregon Office of Emergency Management said the 7.9 magnitude quake in the Gulf of Alaska that struck after midnight is a reminder that one can come at any time. She said people along the coast, especially those in inundation zones should sign up for alerts or pick up radios that sound an alarm. A 1964 earthquake off Alaska triggered a tsunami three-stories high that hit Oregon, killing several people. There were no evacuations and the watch was canceled within hours, before most people woke up and were even aware of the alert. / ENVIRONMENT: Preliminary data gathered by Oregon and Washington state observers shows gillnet fishermen on the Columbia River may be killing fewer steelhead fish while trying to catch other fish. The Daily Astorian reports the state

observations of the fishermen last year indicate steelhead mortality may be much lower than the historic rate of about 49 percent. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife officials say the steelhead mortality rate fell between 8 and 24 percent in 2009, 2012 and 2017. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife officials say the mortality rate may have been overestimated in the past, but the new findings still require some independent review. The new data will be presented to regulatory commissions as officials plan for the upcoming fishing seasons on the Columbia River. / HEALTH, YOUTH: Procter & Gamble says it's working to stop the "Tide Pod challenge," a social media-fueled trend in which teenagers eat single-load laundry detergent packets. The American Association of Poison Control Centers warned last week that it had seen a spike in teenagers eating the detergent pods, which it says can cause seizures, respiratory arrest and even death. CEO David Taylor called the trend "dangerous" and "extremely concerning" in a blog post Monday. He says the company is working with social media companies to remove videos of people biting into the detergent. The pods have generally been hit a for P&G, but shortly after introducing the product in 2012, the company said it would create a double-latch lid to deter young children from accessing and eating them. / SAFETY: A 35-year-old Springfield man died yesterday morning in a logging accident in the Coast Range. It happened shortly before nine yesterday morning. Deputies with the Lane County Sheriff's Office responded with Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue to the site, located approximately 20 miles east of the junction of Highway 126 West and Highway 36. Investigators say preliminary indications are that Arturo Toral-Pacheco fell from an elevated position. Deputies are working to determine the events that led up to the incident. Eugene Mountain Rescue and Lane County Ground Search and Rescue assisted in the recovery from the site, which was approximately 200 yards down a steep embankment. / CRIME: The Register-Guard is reporting that a judge vesterday swiftly rejected a request to reduce bail for a man charged with trying to kill three Springfield police officers in November. Reporter Jack Moran writes that an attorney for 38-year-old losif Fornich Ivanov of Woodburn asked that his client's bail be cut in half, from \$1.4 million to \$700,000. The lawyer said if his client were able to come up with \$70,000 to secure his release Ivanov would enter a drug treatment program, go to work and get medical treatment for injuries he suffered in a Nov. 13 incident that led to his arrest. The Register-Guard reports the judge denied the request citing Ivanov's criminal history, which he said includes a number of probation violations and a history of eluding police. Police said the Nov. 13 incident began when a couple who live near Coburg and Harlow roads in north Eugene reported that their Cadillac Escalade had been stolen from their garage. Police later spotted the vehicle in Springfield and tried to stop it, but the driver led officers on a chase that ended in Coburg. After driving to a dead-end street. Ivanov allegedly rammed patrol cars, refused police commands and ran from the stolen vehicle while armed with a semiautomatic handgun. Police said Ivanov pointed the gun at officers as a police dog bit him in the wrist, breaking a bone. Ivanov allegedly beat the dog and fought with officers before being taken into custody. Police said one officer suffered a fractured finger while a second had a similar injury from fighting with Ivanov. Ivanov's trial is scheduled to begin April 17. / SAFETY: Springfield Police are investigating a Monday night accident that sent a male bicyclist to the hospital with serious injuries. It was reported shortly after 9:00 p.m. in the 1600 block of South 'F' Street. The driver, 43-year-old Jerediah

Lockhart said he'd just left a nearby business at the end of his work shift and was driving eastbound on South "F" when felt his vehicle start to pull to the side and operate oddly. The driver said he stopped his vehicle, looked beneath it and spotted the victim, a 42-year-old man whose name has not been released. Police say the driver told them he hadn't seen the cyclist on the roadway. The victim was conscious and was able to speak to first responders as they extricated him. The accident is being investigated by members of the Springfield Police Department's Major Accident Investigation Team. If you have any information on the case. they'd like to hear from you. Call the Springfield Police Department at 541-726-3714. / FAMILY, AGRICULTURE: Every Oregon farm and ranch has a unique history and special family story. Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 award year for the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program. The application deadline is May 1, 2018. Families throughout Oregon who have continuously farmed portions of their family acreage for the past 100 or 150 years are invited to apply. The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program began in 1958 to honor farm and ranch families with century-long connections to the land. To qualify for a century or sesquicentennial award, interested families must follow a formal application process. Members of the Application Review Committee review each application against the qualifications, which include; continuous family operation of the farm or ranch; a gross income from farm use of not less than \$1,000 per year for at least three years out of five prior to application; and family members must live on or actively manage the farm or ranch activities. Application documentation may include photos, original deeds, personal stories, or other historic records. These records help support Oregon's agricultural history by providing valuable information about settlement patterns and statistics on livestock and crop cycles. All documents are archived for public access. The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch application and program guidelines are available at http://www.centuryfarm.oregonfb.org , or by calling Andrea Kuenzi at 503-400-7884. Successful applicants receive a personalized certificate with acknowledgment by the Governor and the director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and a durable metal roadside sign to identify the family's farm or ranch as having historic Century or Sesquicentennial status. Each family will be honored during a special ceremony and reception at the Oregon State Fair on August 25. To date, 1,200 families have formally received the Century designation and 39 families have received the Sesquicentennial Award, /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HOMELESSNESS, YOUTH, SAFETY, EDUCATION, POLITICS: It is hard enough for some teens to stay in school but imagine if you didn't have a place to live. Here in the Eugene-Springfield area, there are hundreds of young people in that situation. Somehow, with a determination that's awe-inspiring, they are staying in school and working to graduate. Now, an effort led by the St. Vincent DePaul Society of Lane County to convert the former Cascade Presbyterian Church in South Eugene into a first-of-its kind Youth House is complete. The facility at 33rd and Willamette Streets will provide a safe haven for more than one dozen homeless teen girls to live and study as they finish their final years of high school. This afternoon at 1:30 p.m., members of the coalition that came together to make the renovation a reality are gathering to celebrate the project's completion. St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County leaders hope it will be a model leading to the creation of more Youth Houses. In late 2016, SVDP purchased the former Cascade Presbyterian Church with a \$620,000 federal HOME grant awarded by the Eugene-Springfield Home Consortium. Over the following year more than 500 individual and business donors and 20 foundations provided the funding needed to remodel the 8,000-square-foot church. The Youth House, which will accept its first residents later this month, includes 14 apartments, a large community space, kitchen, laundry, counseling office and computer lab. A resident manager will live on-site, and a full-time casework services manager will help youth connect to social services and work with students to create individualized life plans. Each student will be assigned a mentor who will commit to working with his or her assigned youth for at least a full year. The SVDP Youth House for teen girls is a collaborative project involving the St. Vincent de Paul, Hosea Youth Services. Directions Service, the 15th Night community movement, NEDCO, the Eugene, Bethel and Springfield school districts, the cities of Eugene and Springfield, HUD, Food for Lane County and other agencies. Hosea will manage day-to-day operations at the youth house, and Directions will coordinate educational and health-related services for residents. Eugene, Bethel and Springfield school district officials estimate there are more than 400 unaccompanied homeless students enrolled in local high schools, and those teens are at extreme risk of dropping out of school. Hundreds more have left school and are living on the streets, where they are vulnerable to violence, drugs, sexual abuse, and a rampant human-trafficking trade along the I-5 corridor. St. Vincent de Paul plans to begin construction later this year on a second youth house for homeless teen

boys at a yet-to-be-announced site in the Bethel area. The second youth house project will be funded by a \$2 million pledge to SVDP by CBT Nuggets, a Eugenebased online IT education company. Donations to the Youth House project can be made by sending checks (made out to "SVDP" and designated "Youth House Project" to St. Vincent de Paul at P.O. Box 24608, Eugene, OR 97402. Donations and monthly pledges can also be made on our secure website at www.svdp.us (click on the "Donate" icon and then the box "Homeless Youth Housing") or by calling SVDP Development Director Paula Berry at 541 743-7144. ; Caseworkers strained to the breaking point, a drop in available foster homes for 11,000 youngsters and management shortcomings were cited as serious problems in an audit released Wednesday by the Oregon secretary of state. Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, who along with his wife adopted a girl 27 years ago, said, quote, "This is a statewide problem. This isn't a problem for the governor to fix, not a problem for the Legislature just to fix. It's our problem. These are our children." The 59-page report found a dwindling supply of suitable foster homes and residential facilities has led to some children spending days and weeks in hotels. Foster parents often have limited training, support and resources. And the audit claims the Department of Human Services' response to these problems "has been slow, indecisive and inadequate." Compounding the problems: The Department of Human Services lacks crucial data on how many foster placements are needed and the capacity of current foster homes. Among the factors driving children into the foster care system: The statewide opioid crisis. And it's not just the biological parents who are hooked: A judge in southern Oregon has seen children, even babies, coming into the system addicted to opioids, and found an alarmingly increase. In 2016, caseworker turnover was 23 percent, meaning that those who remained on the job had to take on more work until replacements could be found. About one-third of Child Welfare staff members are in their first 18 months on the job. Many say they feel burned out by the caseload.; In response to the audit, leaders of Oregon's Department of Human Services said they appreciate the audit's recommendations and the attention it helps bring to important issues. They note they've made progress in many areas in the last six to nine months since the research took place." But they add the report highlights the impact of chronic understaffing, which has led to high turnover and other problems. The response notes that caseworkers and supervisors remain committed to helping children stay safe and reunite with their families when possible; or to be adopted when that is the best option. DHS officials add that in 2017, more than two-thousand (2,134) children and teens kids left foster care to be reunited with their parents and 673 were adopted. They say those are successes worth celebrating. / HEALTH, LOW-INCOME: Researchers say Oregon's reformed Medicaid program has largely worked as intended with its coordinated care organizations performing well during the first three years of the federal waiver. The Bulletin reports the framework for the Oregon Health Plan was adopted in 2012 under a Medicaid waiver, and it provided each of the 16 regional care organizations with a single pool of money to cover member health care needs. The report by researchers at the Oregon Health & Science University indicates the growth in health spending has slowed while the health of plan members has improved. The report made public Monday indicates the care organizations have generally improved on many quality measures, and plan members have reported better care experiences under the new model. /

ECONOMY-SPORTS: The Register-Guard is reporting that Eugene's winning bid to host the 2021 World Outdoor Track & Field Championships at Hayward Field is facing increased scrutiny by the U.S. Justice Department. The story was originally reported by The New York Times. Register-Guard reporter Chris Hansen writes that U.S. prosecutors have issued grand jury subpoenas in what is reportedly a wide-ranging investigation into international sports corruption involving FIFA, the International Olympic Committee, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the International Association of Athletics Federations — the governing body of track and field. Prosecutors want to know more about what led to the decision in 2015 to award the 2021 World Championships to Eugene without going through a formal bid process. According to The New York Times, the Justice Department is exploring possible racketeering, money laundering and fraud charges, and have solicited documents, testimony and financial records dating back to 2013 with particular interest in how the IAAF awarded the 2019 World Championships to Doha, Qatar, and to Eugene for 2021. TrackTown USA, the local organizing committee that spearheaded the efforts to bring the world championship meet to Eugene, issued a statement from CEO Michael Reilly on Wednesday that read: "Our role was to put the best bid forward. We are proud of our bid and stand by it." TrackTown USA went through a lengthy bid process for the 2019 World Championships, and presented it in front of the IAAF Council in November 2014 in Monaco as one of three finalists. After losing out to Doha, Qatar, the group was gearing up to try again for the 2021 World Championships when the IAAF surprisingly awarded the meet to Eugene in April 2015 by a 23-1 secret-ballot vote organized by now-disgraced former IAAF President Lamine Diack. It's unknown if TrackTown USA has been contacted by Justice Department officials, and an email asking TrackTown USA for clarification went answered Wednesday. But some of the organizations that were part of Eugene's 2019 bid presentation to the IAAF said they haven't been contacted by Justice Department officials regarding the investigation. "Never been contacted by anybody," said Paul Weinhold, president and CEO of the University of Oregon Foundation, which is guaranteeing the funding of the 2021 World Championships and spearheading what is expected to be a massive renovation of Havward Field to prepare it for the meet. "Not even a phone call, not even an email. Nothing, Zero," Tobin Klinger, the UO's senior director of public affairs communications, said, "We have no information or reason to believe the 2021 championship is tied to this investigation. The university has not been contacted by law enforcement regarding the 2021 world championships. The university will cooperate fully if we are contacted." Jill Geer, a spokeswoman for USA Track & Field, had a similar statement: "We have no knowledge of any investigation. Should we be contacted, we certainly would cooperate." The comments by Klinger and Geer would seem to indicate the investigation has not reached out to TrackTown USA President Vin Lananna, who also is president of USATF and an associate athletic director at the UO. Lananna couldn't be reached for comment Wednesday, but he previously has said that he stands by the process his team went through to land the 2019 meet — a process that paid off in the end. The move to award Eugene the 2021 World Championships without a bid process was not unprecedented. The IAAF awarded the 2007 world championships to Osaka, Japan, without open bidding. Still, it raised enough eyebrows that in 2015 French prosecutors announced they had opened an investigation into the bidding process, and last June a BBC report claimed the FBI

and IRS were investigating the Eugene bid. / SAFETY: The Oregon State Police is launching a fast, new service to report incidents that are important but don't have the level of urgency of a 9-1-1 call. Called *OSP (star OSP), it is a fast & easy way for you to contact the Oregon State Police's dispatch for a non-emergency call from your mobile phone. Simply dial *OSP (*677). It is a mobile phone direct call number established to provide the public with a quick, easy to remember number to use for non-emergency reporting of traffic safety, highway hazards & obstructions, minor crashes, and requests for assistance. *OSP is not an emergency number and 9-1-1 still remains the emergency number to call for an emergency. *OSP rings directly into the State Police Dispatch center and is answered by a live dispatcher 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Department in collaboration with Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon's cell phone providers have secured this number to make it easier to contact the Oregon State Police for non-emergency police services and road hazards. Currently, Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and US Cellular have worked with the Department to facilitate this service. It is the Departments goal that, as this program develops, other cell providers will partner with us in this venture to provide access to all cell phone users. Now that the majority of motorists have cell phones, this easy to remember number will help ensure people have a way to report non-emergency issues directly to OSP. For members of the public who do not have cell phone service, or have providers that do not currently support this access number, they can still dial the Department's toll free phone number 800-452-7888. *OSP was established as a way to better serve the public and ensure a fast and easy way to contact OSP for public safety services. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HEALTH, SAFETY, VETERANS: The head of the Roseburg V-A Health Care System stepped down yesterday. Officials with the Department of Veterans Affairs say it is the latest move in the effort to improve care for veterans served by the Roseburg system, which is ranked as one of the V-A's 15 lowest-performing facilities. Doug Paxton is being reassigned to a V-A medical center in West Virginia, His replacement is David Whitmer, a longtime V-A facility manager with 20 years' experience working within the departments of Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services. Whitmer is currently CEO of the Sunshine Health Network in St. Petersburg, Florida. VA leaders say they are working to improve access to care in the Roseburg system, as well as both employee performance and patient experience. They also want to reduce the facility's mortality rate and have it meet other quality health care measures.; Earlier this week, the chief of surgery for the Roseburg V-A Medical Center stepped down following allegations of retaliation and bullying last year. That and other allegations spurred an investigation by the VA's Office of the Medical Inspector and the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection. Investigators interviewed about 200 VA employees in Oregon, including at the V-A facility in Eugene, late last year. Investigators described the Roseburg V-A health care system as having a "toxic culture," and a preliminary report called for changes in senior management.; Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio says he's repeatedly pushed for a change in leadership at the V-A's Roseburg Health System so he's pleased with news of the director's resignation. DeFazio says that and other recent leadership changes are signals that the VA is committed to improving overall care at the Roseburg and Eugene facilities. But DeFazio, a democrat who represents the Fourth District, says the latest changes are just steps in a longer process to fix chronic problems. He also thanked the dozens of VA employees who came forward during the investigation—at risk to their careers—to report sub-standard practices at the Roseburg Health System.; Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced steps that it is taking as part of an aggressive new approach to produce rapid improvements at VA's low-performing medical facilities nationwide. VA defines its low-performing facilities as those medical centers that receive the lowest score in its SAIL star rating system, or a one-star rating out of five. VA currently has 15 such one-star facilities: Hampton (Virginia); Harlingen (Texas); Roseburg (Oregon); Washington (DC); Big Spring (Texas); Denver (Colorado); Dublin (Georgia); El Paso (Texas); Jackson, (Mississippi); Loma Linda

(California); Memphis (Tennessee); Murfreesboro (Tennessee); Nashville (Tennessee); Phoenix (Arizona); and Walla Walla (Washington). The steps VA is taking to produce rapid improvements at its low-performing facilities include: Central, national accountable leadership. Comprehensive analysis and identification of improvement targets. Provision of national resources for improvement. And accountability for results -VA's Central Office will review each of the facilities quarterly, and if the facilities fail to make rapid substantial progress in their improvement plan, VA leadership will take prompt action, including changing the leadership of the medical center. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A lot of people enjoy hiking to the top of Spencer's Butte, south of Eugene, and walking or playing along the Ridgeline Trail. But if you're driving there, there are places where you can and cannot park. On Sunday, deputies with the Lane County Sheriff's Office say things were especially dangerous, with close to 40 vehicles parked on S. Willamette Street near Spencer Butte where the road is clearly marked as a no-parking area. The vehicles were parked on both sides of the roadway, and nearly all of the vehicles were on the fog line, forcing drivers to cross into oncoming lanes for extended distances. This creates a hazard for motorists and pedestrians in the area. Deputies issued six parking citations just before dusk for vehicles that remained in the area. And they remind you: Vehicles that are parked unsafely are also subject to be towed at the owner's expense. As time allows, deputies say they're going to continue to monitor the area to ensure the roadway is free of hazards that might increase the risk of traffic crashes along with driver and pedestrian injuries. / HEALTH: It looks like Groundhog Day for the nation's flu report, too: It's gotten worse, and there are weeks of suffering ahead. The government's latest report out Friday shows the flu season continued to intensify last week. One of every 14 visits to doctors and clinics were for symptoms of the flu. That's the highest level since the swine flu pandemic in 2009. Last week, 42 states, including Oregon, reported high patient traffic for the flu, up from 39. Hospital stays because of the flu were also up. Experts had thought this season might be bad, but its intensity has surprised most everyone. The flu usually peaks in February. Today's report is from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: Thanks to a red-hot stock market, Oregon's public pension system investment portfolio generated a 15.3 percent return last year, more than double what was expected and sufficient to lop \$3 billion or so off the system's \$25 billion unfunded liability. But it wasn't enough to head off another painful round of pension cost increases slated to hit government budgets in 2019. The Legislature will probably delay any serious conversation about changes to benefits, as it has for the past three years. Gov. Kate Brown, for one, says she's not ready to talk about the main benefit reform idea in circulation - reinstituting some level of employee contributions to the pension fund — until 2019. In the meantime, officials are considering two other plans. One would redirect a slice of state revenues to offset the pension costs of K-12 schools, community colleges and universities. The second involves enticing the 900 or so public employers who participate in the system to identify reserve resources and deposit them in accounts at PERS. In the process, they would be gambling that the pension fund's investments will generate higher returns than the low and largely risk-free returns those dollars earn today in the short- and medium-term funds managed by the Oregon Treasury. Historically, that's been a good bet. But it's no sure thing. / CRIME: Advisory from Eugene police, who say a member of

the local law enforcement community recently visited an ATM at First Tech Credit Union on W. 11th on January 30, around 6 p.m., to conduct personal banking and found a generic card left in the ATM machine. It is very possible someone left it there hoping another individual would come along to use the ATM and mistakenly take the generic card and leave their real card. He reported this to the bank and did not lose any money, but also reported this as a suspicious incident to police so that we could provide some general information to prevent people avoid ATM scams. Choose your ATM carefully. Some ATM's are better than others. For example, an ATM machine inside your bank would be less vulnerable to tampering. Try to use the same ATM each time you need cash so that you are familiar with what it looks like and can quickly spot changes. Inspect the ATM before you use it. Before you swipe or insert your card, do a quick cursory look for a loose keypad or signs of tampering. If something looks suspicious, don't use it and report it to the bank. Keep an eye on your surroundings. If someone else is hanging around, wait for them to leave first. Maintain your personal space and always pay attention to your surroundings. You can always come back later or choose another location if you are uncomfortable. Cover your PIN. Cover the keypad when you enter your pin so that a person can't "shoulder surf" and memorize it. Call your bank immediately if you have any trouble at an ATM. Don't leave the ATM while you call, you don't want the thief to take your card or cash. Pay attention to your bank balance and report any discrepancy to your financial institution right away.; Police say a 26-year-old man on his way to work to drive a taxi rear-ended a Eugene Police detective in an undercover vehicle during Thursday's morning rush hour. It happened shortly before 8:00 a.m. on interstate 105 westbound. When patrol officers arrived at the scene of the accident, they suspected impairment. They say James Blair Garner of Eugene was impaired by controlled substances that included marijuana. Garner was transported to the Lane County Jail where he is being held for Assault in the Third Degree, and Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. He was also cited for Following Too Closely. The detective was taken to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries, and released after being treated in the emergency room. / ECONOMY, CRIME: Oregon's federal prosecutor will hold a marijuana summit to address what he calls a "massive" marijuana surplus in the state. U.S. Attorney Billy Williams announced the summit after Attorney General Jeff Sessions rescinded a memo outlining how states with legalized marijuana could avoid federal scrutiny. In an opinion piece, Williams said the surplus attracts drug cartels and fuels a black market. The summit will give Oregon leaders a chance to explain how they will remedy the situation. States that have legalized marijuana for recreational and medical use have taken varying approaches to satisfying federal law enforcement priorities, in an effort to pre-empt raids or even a DOJ lawsuit that could undermine or destroy the newly regulated markets. They've also adjusted their approaches as their markets matured. / EDUCATION, CRIME: Police say the principal of a Springfield charter school who was placed on paid administrative leave amid a police investigation has been found dead. The Springfield Police Department says medics found Michael Fisher dead inside the garage of his home Thursday afternoon after his wife called authorities. Police say the death is being investigated as a suicide and have ruled out foul play. The Register-Guard reported Thursday that Fisher, who has been principal at the Academy of Arts and Academics in Springfield since 2005, was under investigation for "concerns

related to his conduct." A Springfield district spokeswoman says police restricted people from entering or leaving campus when officers made contact with Fisher Wednesday. At the time, officials say Fisher was not arrested. The district's assistant superintendent for instruction apologized to parents in a letter for what he termed the "ambiguity" of the investigation. / ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION: A group of researchers at Oregon State University are hoping to raise a 78-foot blue whale carcass that washed ashore near Gold Beach. The whale washed ashore in November 2015 and has been submerged in Yaquina Bay, near Newport, allowing scavengers to clean the bones. Researchers with the Marine Mammal Institute at Oregon State University hope to bring the skeleton to the surface and treat it with chemicals to get oil out of the bones and keep it from becoming rancid. They hope to display it for the public as an educational exhibit at the new Marine Studies Building that the university will open in late 2019 on the Hatfield Marine Science Center campus in Newport. The project will cost \$125,000. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Fire managers in Oregon will be better prepared to manage complex wildfires in the coming fire season thanks to additional training some received recently. The Oregon Department of Forestry, Office of the Oregon State Fire Marshal and Coos Forest Protective Association sent a combined group of seven employees to six days of complex incident management training sponsored by the National Association of State Foresters. The Complex Incident Management Course (CMIC) is a national training program that addresses multi-jurisdictional and all-hazard issues, including wildfire, that confront state emergency responders. The course trains people in command staff positions to function as qualified state incident management teams. These teams are able to assist their state forestry organizations and state emergency departments to manage the unique challenges of large or highly complex wildfires and other hazardous incidents.; Klamath County officials say the current dry and warm winter could lead to severe drought conditions, which would cause an economic blow to farmers and ranchers in southern Oregon. The Herald and News reports Klamath County commissioners on Wednesday discussed the option of declaring a drought emergency to begin the process in acquiring access to state and federal resources. Commissioner Donnie Boyd says the agricultural community could see a 50 percent drop in revenue if drought conditions similar to what occurred in 2001 are replicated. Commissioner Derrick DeGroot says agriculture has a direct economic impact of about \$300 million each year in Klamath County and an indirect impact of nearly \$1 billion. / CRIME, RACISM: An Oregon State University student faces felony charges after police say he stuck racist bumper stickers on cars that belonged to members of a group called Showing Up for Racial Justice. Andrew Oswalt was indicted this week on two counts of felony intimidation and two counts of misdemeanor criminal mischief. Chief Deputy District Attorney Ryan Joslin called the act a hate crime "inspired by ignorance and fueled by racism." Oswalt initially told a judge at Wednesday's court appearance that he did not want to apply for a court-appointed attorney. He later changed his mind. Oswalt said in a recent email to The Oregonian/OregonLive that police are involved in an "extremely politicized attempt at character assassination." The 27-year-old student is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry and is a member of the university's student government. / ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS: The top lawyers for a dozen coastal states, including Oregon, want the U.S. Interior Department to cancel the Trump administration's plan to expand offshore drilling, warning it threatens their maritime

economies and natural resources. The attorneys general, all Democrats, wrote Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke on Thursday about his agency's proposed five-year oil and gas leasing plan that opens new ocean waters. North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein says he assembled the coalition. He says his state's coastal tourism industry alone generates \$3 billion and 30,000 jobs. The letter also was signed by attorneys general of California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Oregon, Rhode Island and Virginia. Stein also told federal regulators this week that proposed changes to drilling safety requirements will increase exploration risks. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The contentious tax overhaul is beginning to deliver a change that many will welcome: bigger paychecks. Workers are starting to see more takehome pay as employers implement the new withholding guidelines from the IRS. which dictate how much employers withhold from pay for federal taxes. Those whose checks have remained the same shouldn't fret — employers have until Feb. 15 to make the changes. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has estimated that the new rules will mean more take-home pay for about 90 percent of American workers. How much extra cash? It depends on several factors, such as workers' income, how often they are paid and the number of withholdings allowances they claim on their IRS Form W-4 with their employer. According to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, a middle-income household would on average get a tax cut of \$930 this year, lifting their after-tax income by about 1.6 percent. That increase won't be perfectly reflected in their paycheck, though. That's because lower tax withholding on paychecks is just a piece of a complicated set of changes to tax law that the GOP pushed through in December. And what your employer withholds is based on an estimate of your tax obligation that includes many complex factors, but it's not a perfect measure. / HEALTH, SAFETY: Avoid food-borne bacteria at your Super Bowl party! The long-awaited game of the year is here and whether or not your team will vie for the Lombardi Trophy, one thing holds true - there will be lots of cheers, some tears and a whole lot of food. While enjoying some of the 1 billion chicken wings and other food consumed on Super Bowl Sunday, the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service remind fans not to let foodborne illness sideline them once the game is over. Millions of people get sick from food poisoning each year, with 128,000 hospitalized. Super Bowl parties present more opportunities for food poisoning because of large crowds and the length of the game. By following a few simple tips, you can keep your family and friends safe. Wash your hands, but not those wings. According to the National Chicken Council, more than 1.3 billion chicken wings will be consumed this Super Bowl, but washing those wings is not recommended because bacteria in raw meat and poultry juices can splash and spread to other foods, utensils and surfaces, contaminating them. Be sure to wash your hands with warm water and soap before cooking, but keep the wings dry. Don't cross contaminate. When you are shopping at the grocery store keep raw meat, poultry, eggs and seafood in separate plastic bags to prevent their juices from dripping onto other foods. Always remember to use a separate cutting board for fresh fruits and vegetables and for raw meats. Raw meat, poultry, seafood and egg products need to be cooked to the right internal temperature. Use a food thermometer to ensure foods have reached the correct temperature to kill any harmful bacteria that may be present. Chicken wings are safe to eat when they have reached an internal temperature of 165°F. Before indulging, take the temperature of multiple wings in

the thickest part of the wing being careful to avoid the bone. Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Keep food hot (at 140°F or above) in a slow cooker or chafing dish, or keep half of the food on the table and the other in the oven and replacing what's on the table with fresh items every hour. Keep cold foods cold (at 40°F or below) by placing salads, dips and salsa in a tray of ice. When setting food out, be sure to serve cold foods in small portions. Don't leave food sitting out, Most bacteria grow rapidly at temperature between 40°F and 140°F. That temperature range is known as the "Danger Zone". Refrigerate food promptly. Do not leave food at room temperature for more than 2 hours. / ECONOMY, GROWTH, SAFETY, CRIME: Oregon is experiencing a construction boom: more projects than at any time in the past decade. Are you buying or building a new home or remodeling an existing one? Make sure your contractor follows three important safeguards. The State of Oregon requires homebuilders: Be licensed, bonded, and insured Obtain all necessary construction permits and have regular inspections performed. Use licensed tradespeople. When contractors meet these three requirements, consumers know they are protected from jobsite accidents, the work will be done properly and critical jobs such as plumbing and electrical work will be performed by people with the proper training and experience. Protect your investment. Ensure your contractor meets these basic requirements. If you are buying a home or in the middle of a home building project, ask if your contractor follows required disclosure and contract laws and offers a warranty. Use these resources to make sure the job is done right: To check the licenses of contractors, go to http://search.ccb.state.or.us/search/ . To verify the licenses of plumbers and electricians, http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/licensing/Pages/search. Contact your local building official to ask questions, and check permit and inspection information. Visit www.bcd.oregon.gov to find the building official for your area. Finally, make sure you read and understand any contract before you sign it. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HOMELESSNESS, SAFETY, RELIGION, COMMUNITY: With frigid weather in the forecast for tonight, the Egan Warming Centers are opening their doors today to homeless individuals and families in Lane County to ensure they have a safe and warm place to sleep. The Egan Warming Centers are operated by a coalition of service providers, religious congregations, nonprofit support agencies, social communities and local governments. They open their doors whenever temperatures are forecast to drop below 30 degrees between November 15th and March 31st. The warming centers will remain on standby for Tuesday night, based on the forecast. There are seven sites set to open for tonight. The information is posted on the Egan Warming Center website and Facebook page. Organizers are encouraging all trained volunteers to sign up for a shift. And for those who are new volunteers, they say this is an opportunity to shadow seasoned volunteers. Here are tonight's sites: First Christian Church, Eugene. Takes Pets. NOT wheelchair accessible. Opens at 9 p.m. Ebbert Memorial Methodist Church, Springfield. Takes Pets. NOT wheelchair accessible. Opens at 6:30 p.m. Central Lutheran Church, Eugene. Takes Pets. Wheelchair accessible. Opens at 7 p.m. Valley Covenant Church, Eugene. NO Pets. Wheelchair accessible. Opens at 7 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, Eugene. This site especially takes our aged and physically infirm guests as well as others. Takes pets. Wheel chair accessible. Opens at 6:30 p.m. LCC Main Campus Bldg 4 Room 104, Eugene. No Pets. Wheelchair accessible. Opens at 6 p.m. Youth Site: First United Methodist, Eugene. This site is for unaccompanied youth 18 years and younger. Opens at 7 p.m.; The Egan Warming Center is a coalition of community members representing service providers, nonprofits, faith and social activists communities and local government who have come together since 2008 to ensure that homeless people have shelter during extreme cold weather. Named in honor of Major Thomas Egan, a kindly gentleman who froze to death during a cold spell in 2008, the Warming Center mission is simple: to ensure that homeless people in Lane County have a place to sleep indoors when temperatures drop to 30 degrees or below between November 15th and March 31st. St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County serves as the primary agency responsible for implementing the operation of the Warming Center and building a sustainable model for the long term. For more information about joining this effort, contact info@eganwarmingcenter.org. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: The Senate will open up a rare, open-ended debate on immigration and the fate of the "Dreamer" immigrants today. But the most

influential voice in the conversation may be on the other side of Pennsylvania Avenue. If the aim is to pass a legislative solution soon, President Donald Trump is a crucial and, at times, complicating player. His day-to-day turnabouts on the issues have confounded Democrats and Republicans and led some to urge the White House to minimize his role in the debate for fear he'll say something that undermines the effort. Yet his ultimate support will be vital if Congress is to overcome election-year pressures against compromise. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., scheduled an initial procedural vote for this evening to commence debate. It is expected to succeed easily, and then the Senate will sort through proposals, perhaps for weeks. Democrats and some Republicans say they want to help the "Dreamers," young immigrants who have lived in the U.S. illegally since they were children and have only temporarily been protected from deportation by an Obama-era program. Trump has said he wants to aid them and has even proposed a path to citizenship for 1.8 million, but in exchange wants \$25 billion for his proposed U.S.-Mexico border wall plus significant curbs to legal immigration. / CRIME: Authorities are investigating the death of a 53-year-old woman being held at the Lane County Jail in Eugene. Lane County Sheriff's Sgt. Carrie Caver tells The Register-Guard that the sheriff's office and the medical examiner are investigating after Jacqueline Suzette Cowans died in her cell at about 11 a.m. Friday. The cause of death hasn't been determined. Authorities say Cowans asked to speak with medical staff but was unresponsive when a deputy returned. She was being held on charges of unlawful delivery of methadone, firstdegree burglary and possession of a stolen vehicle. / ENVIRONMENT: Oregon environmental officials have increased protections for a rare diving seabird that nests far inland in old-growth forests. The Oregon Commission on Fish and Wildlife voted 4-2 on Friday to change the listing of the marbled murrelet to "endangered" from "threatened" after first being deadlocked on the issue. The species is listed as threatened under federal law and is endangered in Washington state and California. A coalition of environmental groups petitioned the commission to increase the bird's protected status in Oregon because of logging on state and private land that is threatening nesting sites in old-growth forests. The unusual seabird forages in the ocean but flies up to 55 miles inland to lay a single egg on tiny mossy depressions in trees that are at least 80 years old. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: Oregon legislators have advanced a proposal to partially separate state tax laws from federal codes and allow high earners to avoid some federal taxes using charitable deductions, a move they said would soften the impact of President Donald Trump's federal tax overhaul on the state. The Senate Finance and Revenue Committee approved the proposal Friday, which also included broadened tax breaks for some businesses, a tax break for individuals, and new rules on taxing offshore funds. The measure now moves toward a vote by the full Senate. State Sen. Mark Hass, the Democratic chairman of the committee, said a main focus is responding to changes in how some types of business income are taxed under federal law following the passage of the recent federal tax overhaul. / POLITICS, TRANSPORTATION, GROWTH: President Trump this morning launched what he dubbed his "big week" for his long-awaited infrastructure plan. It envisions \$1.5 trillion in spending over a decade to rebuild the nation's roads and highways. The plan would fulfill some Trump campaign goals but would also rely heavily on state and local government for much of the funding. The president is meeting with state and local officials at the White House

later in the day to drum up support. The administration's plan focuses on using \$200 billion in federal money to leverage local and state tax dollars to fix America's infrastructure, such as roads, highways, ports and airports. Trump has repeatedly blamed the, guote, "crumbling" state of the nation's roads and highways for preventing the American economy from reaching its full potential. Administration officials previewing the plan say it would feature two key components: an injection of funding for new investments and help speed up repairs of crumbling roads and airports, as well as a streamlined permitting process that would cut the wait time to get projects underway. Officials say the \$200 billion in federal support would come from cuts to existing programs. Half the money would go to grants for transportation, water, flood control, cleanup at some of the country's most polluted sites and other projects. States, local governments and other project sponsors could use the grants — which administration officials view as incentives — for no more than 20 percent of the cost. That might be a challenge for cash-strapped states and local jurisdictions: Transit agencies, for example, generally count on the federal government for half the cost of major construction projects, and federal dollars can make up as much as 80 percent of some highway projects. About \$50 billion, would go toward rural projects transportation, broadband, water, waste, power, flood management and ports. That is intended to address criticism from some Republican senators that the administration's initial emphasis on public-private partnerships would do little to help rural, GOP-leaning states / POLITICS, ECONOMY, ELDERS, HEALTH: President Trump is proposing a \$4 trillion-plus budget for next year that projects a \$1 trillion or so federal deficit and — unlike the plan he released last year — never comes close to promising a balanced federal budget even after 10 years. Add to that last week's \$300 billion budget pact that added funding for both the Pentagon and domestic agencies and combine it with last year's tax cuts, and analysts say the federal deficit will move sharply higher—at odds with traditional Republicans priorities. In a preview of the 2019 budget, the White House on Sunday focused on Trump's \$1.5 trillion plan for the nation's crumbling infrastructure. He also will ask for a \$13 billion increase over two years for opioid prevention, treatment and long-term recovery. A request of \$23 billion for border security, including \$18 billion for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and money for more detention beds for detained immigrants, is part of the budget, too. Trump would again spare Social Security retirement benefits and Medicare as he promised during the 2016 campaign. And while his plan would return to last year's attempt to scuttle the "Obamacare" health law and sharply cut back the Medicaid program for the elderly, poor and disabled, Trump's allies on Capitol Hill have signaled there's no interest in tackling hot-button health issues during an election year. The White House is putting focus this year on Trump's long-overdue plan to boost spending on the nation's crumbling infrastructure. The plan would put up \$200 billion in federal money over the next 10 years to leverage \$1.5 trillion in infrastructure spending, relying on state and local governments and the private sector to contribute the bulk of the funding. Critics contend the infrastructure plan will fail to reach its goals without more federal support. Proposals to streamline the permitting process as a way to reduce the cost of projects have already generated opposition from environmental groups. Presidential budgets tend to reprise many of the same elements year after year. While details aren't out yet, Trump's budget is likely to curb crop insurance costs, cut student loan subsidies, reduce pension

benefits for federal workers, and cut food stamps, among other proposals. ENVIRONMENT, FAMILY: It's free to fish, crab or clam on the Saturday and Sunday of President's Day Weekend, Feb. 17-18, so take a friend! During these two days, no fishing licenses or tags (including a Combined Angling Tag and a Columbia River Basin Endorsement) are required to fish, crab or clam anywhere in Oregon. Although no licenses or tags are required, all other regulations apply including closures, bag limits and size restrictions. Free Fishing Weekends are a great opportunity for friends and families to get out and enjoy a day or two of fishing. Winter steelhead, trout, crabbing and clamming are just some of the great opportunities available. Look for the best opportunities in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife weekly Recreation Report, which is updated online every Wednesday. Under statute set by the Oregon State Legislature, ODFW can offer eight days of free fishing each year. The six other days of free fishing in Oregon this year are listed on page 16 of the 2018 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations and are June 2-3, Sept. 1-2 (Sat.-Sun. of Labor Day Weekend) and Nov. 23-24 (the two days after Thanksgiving). / ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: The Register-Guard has some impressive images on this morning's front page showing the massive rock pile blocking the main route to Terwilliger Hot Springs that experts estimate would fill about 800 dump trucks. Reporter Dylan Darling writes that a big roadwork job awaits, but the hard part of the predicament is figuring out where to put all the rock. Federal officials have two options: push the pile toward Cougar Lake below or haul the earth away, truckload by truckload. Either way, the road to the popular warming pools, known by locals as Cougar Hot Springs, will be closed for about another six months, Willamette National Forest spokeswoman Judith McHugh said. "It's because of the safety risk above," she said last week during a visit to the site of the impressive slide. The McKenzie River Ranger District reported that the majority of the 20 to 30 calls coming in per day during the past month and a half have been inquiries about the hot springs and the closed road. Callers are asking about the closure and whether there are other ways to reach the hot springs. Willamette officials warn that the alternative is slower and riskier. But it will be some time until the easy road is clear. "The remaining rockfall/landslide hazard at this site is not yet well determined." said Fred Levitan, an engineering geologist at the forest. "We're going to do another geologic site visit (this) week." A steep rock wall towers above Aufderheide Drive as it cuts a course along the west side of Cougar Lake, about 5 miles south of Highway 126. Just a mile away from the hot springs, the wall often lets slides loose onto the road. "It's just a naturally unstable spot," Levitan said. Typically, the slides have only required a small cleanup on the road. A cycle of freezing and thawing late last year widened fractures in the rock, and on Dec. 21 a massive slide tumbled onto the road. Four hot springs visitors were at the pools during the slide and were briefly trapped, due to snow blocking a portion of Aufderheide Drive at the time, before being led on backroads to safety by a member of the Lane County search and rescue team and U.S. Forest Service workers. The scenic byway links Highway 126 near Blue River to Highway 58 near Westfir. People looking to visit the hot springs could come from Highway 58, McHugh said, but the windy drive covers about 40 miles. "That's a long trek to go to a hot springs," said Andy Vobora, spokesman for Travel Lane County, a nonprofit tourism association funded by local hotel room taxes. And, wintry weather might again cut off access, McHugh said. Some adventurous people looking to visit the hot springs have gone

past the roadblock at Cougar Dam and scrambled over the rock pile, but McHugh said it is illegal to be on the closed road and dangerous to go onto the rocks. The Forest Service has been issuing fines to people disregarding the closure, with fewer than 50 people fined for about \$200 to \$450 each, said Chiara Cipriano, another spokeswoman with the Willamette National Forest. /

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COMMUNITY, YOUTH, WOMEN'S ISSUES: The Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington are about to launch their 2018 cookie booth season. Sales begin Friday. Back by popular demand are Girl Scout S'mores Cookies! They and other varieties may be purchased from Girl Scout Cookie booths between Friday, February 16 and Sunday, March 11. The price is \$5 per box. Proceeds help fund local Girl Scout programs and give the girls some terrific business experience. Organizers say think of those tables outside major stores and other locations as "pop-up shops." Backers say the Girl Scouts learn all sorts of business essentials, from marketing and managing finances to "people skills." One-hundred percent of the net revenue earned from cookie sales remains within the local region. Every purchase of Girl Scout Cookies helps provide for new and unique opportunities for local girls including valuable educational experiences that offer lifelong impact. Girl Scout campers in Oregon use cookie program proceeds to fund their own camp and travel adventures. And, nearly every Girl Scout troop uses some portion of their cookie proceeds to give back to their local communities. Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington serves 13,955 girls in 37 northwest counties with the help of more than 10,000 volunteers. For more information, visit: girlscoutsosw.org / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: The Senate's Republican and Democratic leaders say it's going to be tough to broker a successful deal on immigration policy. Their comments came Monday as the Senate began a debate expected to end this week with a vote on President Trump's own proposal. The Republican majority leader, Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, says Democrats need to back up their demand for action with hard work on finding a solution that Congress will pass and Trump will sign. The Democratic leader, Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, expressed opposition to Trump's proposal. It would pave a path to citizenship for up to 1.8 million young "Dreamer" immigrants in the U.S. illegally, a lure for Democrats. Trump also wants \$25 billion for a border wall with Mexico and other security measures. / HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT: An Oregon woman who had worms coming out of her eve is being called the first known human case of a parasitic infection spread by flies. Fourteen tiny worms were removed from the left eye of the 26-year-old woman in August 2016. Scientists reported the case Monday. The woman was diagnosed in August 2016 with Thelazia gulosa, a type of eye worm seen in the northern United States and southern Canada — but only in cattle. The woman had been horseback riding near the city of in Gold Beach, in a cattle farming area. After a week of eye irritation, she pulled a worm from her eye. Over two weeks, doctors

removed 13 more. She recovered. The report was published in the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. / POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT: Hundreds of protesters converged on the Oregon Capitol to push lawmakers to adopt legislation that would place a cap on greenhouse gas emissions and impose a fee on companies that exceed maximum levels. Some lawmakers have said the current short session that lasts only 35 days should be just for budget issues and fine-tuning legislation. But two greenhouse-gas bills in the House and Senate, sponsored by 31 lawmakers and weighing in at up to 34 pages apiece, were taking center stage on Monday. Committee hearings were to be held in the afternoon. At midday, protesters gathered outside the Capitol in sunny, chilly weather, carrying signs including ones that said "climate justice." One inflatable sign asked Senate President Peter Courtney to "be a climate hero." / SAFETY: A Springfield woman has died from injuries she sustained in a crash last week on Highway 126 east of Springfield. It happened on Wednesday morning when they say 25-year-old Reynee Cicero lost control of her pick-up while crossing a small bridge over the Walterville canal. Investigators say Cicero's vehicle traveled down the gravel shoulder and rolled, pinning her inside. She was the only occupant of the pickup and, once extricated, was rushed to a nearby hospital. State Police say they learned over the weekend that Cicero had succumbed to her injuries. The Register-Guard notes that Cicero had been hailed as a hero in 2016 when she rescued a man she spotted struggling in the Willamette River. / EDUCATION, WOMEN'S ISSUES: They recognize and respect it's history but also want to ensure students, regardless of gender, feel they're being respected equally. South Eugene High School's athletic team name is changing from "Axemen" to "Axe." It comes after plenty of community input and a big public meeting. The axe is a longstanding part of South Eugene High School's history and tradition. The axe was the first symbol that students and athletes rallied around at the school, and the Axemen name had been in use for some teams since the 1930s, when interscholastic sports teams were all male. Over the years, and again recently, students, parents and community members have raised concerns that the Axemen team name is not inclusive of all athletes and students. The school administration recently undertook a process to formally reconsider the team name. The school and district invited students, parents, staff, alumni, and community members to attend a community forum or complete an online input form—not a vote on the name but an opportunity to provide input. Thousands of community members provided comments and about one hundred attended the forum in January, After considering all of the input, researching the school and team name's history, and more, South Eugene principal Dr. Andy Dey recommended that the team name change from Axemen to Axe. The shortened name maintains the school's history and traditions while removing the gender-specific suffix. Eugene School District 4J superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas has approved the recommendation. Changes to or replacement of materials where the Axemen name appears will be implemented over time, rather than immediately replacing all materials. The school and district leadership will work together to develop a schedule and budget plan for replacing materials. The Axemen name is used on uniforms for about half of the school's athletic teams and is displayed in only a few places throughout the school. Most materials that include the Axemen name are items that are routinely replaced or replenished over time, such as school letterhead and athletic uniforms. A one-time change will be required for a smaller

number of items, such as the seal on the front of the school, wallpaper in the gym foyer, and dies to produce class rings and graduation certificates. Historical materials such as yearbooks and trophies will not be changed retroactively. Once this change is fully implemented, "Axemen" will no longer appear on athletic uniforms and other materials. Future uniforms will display "Axe" or "South Eugene." Only the name will change; other aspects of the school's brand, such as the purple and white school colors and the school symbol of two crossed doublebitted axes, will remain unchanged. Gender equity in athletics is being addressed across the district in other ways beyond this team name decision. In a proactive undertaking unrelated to the Axemen team name or any complaint, the district has engaged in a full athletic program review with an expert Title IX gender equity consultant. The assessment of both athletic programs and athletic facilities is underway and will be completed this summer. / SAFETY, CRIME: A student in the Elmira area says she was approached by a suspicious man in a white van while she waited at a bus stop shortly after 8:00 a.m. yesterday morning. Now, investigators from the Lane County sheriff's Office say they'd like to hear from you if you know anything about the case. It happened near Wildwood and Ellmaker Roads. The female student said the man waved at her, got out of the van and started walking towards her, asking whether she wanted a ride to school. The student said she ran to safety and contacted her parents who called the Sheriff's Office. The driver is described as a white male between 30 and 50 years old with a brown and gray beard. He is described as wearing a dark colored shirt, possibly black or brown. He had a small, white dog with him, and the dog had curly hair. The white cargo van that the man was driving had a sliding side door and a ladder on top. The van had some type of blue lettering on the side, an aftermarket bumper, and possibly a brush guard. The van is further described as having a lot of trash on the dashboard. Investigators say the case is another reminder of the importance of staying aware of your surroundings. The Sheriff's Office is asking anyone who has any additional information about this incident to call 541-682-4141. : An unsettling evening for residents near the 900 block of South 55th Street in Springfield. Police say they responded to a home around seven last night after receiving a call from a female resident who said her husband had fired a gun inside the home after engaging in some threatening behavior. Springfield Police evacuated the woman and her two teenage children who were hiding in the residence's attached garage and nearby residents were evacuated or asked to shelter in place. The incident ended about two hours later when police discovered the man dead inside the residence from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HEALTH, POLITICS: Life, liberty and the right to health care? Democrats in the Oregon House yesterday took a step toward making universal health care a basic right laid out in the state Constitution. The vote broke along party lines but if the issue is approved in the state Senate, it go before Oregon voters on November's ballot. And that would be unprecedented: Officials say no other state in the U.S. enshrines the right to health care in its Constitution. Oregon Democratic leaders say the move is a pushback against efforts by President Trump and Congressional Republicans to dismantle the Obama administration's health care law, as well as Trump's new budget proposal, which calls for cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. The effort also comes after Oregon voters last month approved a special health care tax last month.; Oregon Governor Kate Brown has declared addiction a public health crisis in the state. Brown on Tuesday announced an executive order setting a deadline for the state Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to develop a plan, with intermediary deadlines as early as September. The plan would lay out steps for state agencies. The announcement came as separate opioid legislation requested by Brown makes its way through the Legislature. It would require the state to study how to improve access to treatment for people addicted to drugs, and requiring doctors to register with a statewide prescription-monitoring system.; Oregon is one of the first three states to receive funding from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to support a state reinsurance program. The state's award will be approximately \$54 million. The Oregon Reinsurance Program was created during last year's legislative session. It's designed to spread the risk of high-cost claims among all insurance companies to stabilize the individual health market. The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services will manage the program. Officials say the Oregon Reinsurance Program will help provide market stability for more than 200,000 individuals and encourage insurance companies to offer plans in every corner of the state. The reinsurance program is also partially being funded by the assessment that was approved by the Measure 101 vote. / CRIME: Investigators say she nearly struck two pedestrians walking their dogs and continued to drive recklessly for miles. And Jackson County Sheriff's deputies say once she was arrested, her blood alcohol content was found to be nearly seven times the legal limit for drivers in Oregon. It happened yesterday around 9:30 a.m. in Medford, when drivers and pedestrians began lighting up the phones at Jackson County's 9-1-1 dispatch center about the dangerous driver behind the

wheel of a 2012 Mercedes Benz SUV. Callers said she struck garbage cans on the side of one road, almost hit a pair of pedestrians, on what was apparently run to a fast-food restaurant. As she returned home, neighbors said the suspect, 39year-old Diane Marie Wilcox, missed her driveway, drove into a ditch, backed out, struck more garbage cans and was finally confronted and stopped by passersby who prevented her from going anywhere until deputies arrived. And, yes, you heard correctly. Investigators say a test revealed Wilcox had a blood alcohol content of 0.55 (point-five-five). Wilcox was taken straight to the hospital to receive medical treatment. Her charges include DUII, reckless driving, driving uninsured and driving with an open container of alcohol.; Oregon State Police say a 51-year-old Veneta woman died vesterday when her minivan was struck headon by a pick-up truck on Highway 126-west a few miles west of Eugene. It happened around 9:10 yesterday morning when investigators say the pick-up, operated by 32-year-old Christopher Sheridan of Springfield, struck the back of a hatchback that was slowing ahead of him, and wound up going into the oncoming lane, hitting the minivan. The minivan's driver, Jeannie Saeburn, died from her injuries. Her male juvenile passenger was taken to the hospital with minor injuries, as were 25-year-old Kenneth Shemel and 26-year-old Rachel Shemel, the Eugene driver and passenger in the vehicle that was rear-ended. The crash and investigation closed the highway for about three hours and crews set up a detour in the interim.; Remember the story we had yesterday about the student in the Elmira area who said she was approached by a suspicious man in a white van on Monday while she waited at a bus stop? Not a lot of details, but Lane County Sheriff's officials said yesterday afternoon they've investigated the report and spoken with the owner of the van in question. Sheriff's investigators say they do not believe that there is a threat to the community in connection with the case and they are no longer looking for the van or the male driver.; U.S. marshals say they arrested a 17-year-old Springfield boy accused of shooting another teen six times in unincorporated Washington County. The Washington County Sheriff's Office says the wounded 16-year-old boy has been released from a hospital and is expected to fully recover. Investigators say the Springfield teen suspect was arrested Monday near the soccer stadium in downtown Portland. He was booked into a juvenile detention center on charges of assault and attempted murder. / POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: Former Eugene lawmaker Vicki Walker is taking over as interim director at the Oregon Department of State Lands. The Department of State Lands oversees state-owned rangelands and timberlands, waterway leases, estates for which no will or heirs exist, and unclaimed property. Many of the resources generate revenue for the Common School Fund, which supports kindergarten through 12th grade public schools. Walker has a varied background: After serving ten years in the Oregon Legislature, she was the administrator of the Oregon Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision. Then she was named Oregon's State Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development efforts. While at the USDA, she oversaw the investment of \$4.8 billion in more than 24,000 projects to help rural Oregonians, from helping people purchase or repair low-income and affordable housing to assisting 900 rural businesses in expanding their operations.; The Oregonian and OregonLive are reporting that there's strong opposition in the Northwest to a proposal tucked into the budget and infrastructure plan released this week by the White House. It is the latest version of a proposal to sell one of the most critical pieces of the

Northwest's economic infrastructure: the electrical grid operated by the Bonneville Power Administration. Reporter Ted Sickinger writes that the Trump administration is proposing - as it did last year - to divest the transmission assets operated by all three federal power marketing administrations, including Bonneville, the Southwestern Power Administration and Western Area Power Administration, as well as the Tennessee Valley Authority. In the Northwest, Bonneville operates about three-quarters of the high voltage electrical grid, which spans 300,000 square miles, and includes more than 15,000 miles of lines and 299 substations that deliver electricity to some 12 million people. The operation is self-funded by customers, though it leans heavily on borrowing from the U.S. Treasury. The administration figures it could bring in \$5.2 billion by selling the BPA's transmission assets, and another \$4.2 billion from selling the other three entities' assets. It also estimates another \$1.9 billion in revenue during the next decade by authorizing the three power marketers to charge market-based rates for electricity, similar to for-profit investor-owned utilities, rather than being limited to cost-based rates. The privatization proposal is just that, an idea that Congress is free to disregard. And its release prompted an immediate backlash. The council said the proposal would significantly increase costs to local residents and businesses; eliminate regional control over the system; potentially lead to the neglect of remote areas, and impact reliability. Politicians immediately joined in. Members of the Northwest delegation, including Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Oregon, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon and Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., denounced the proposal. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The Oregonian and OregonLive are reporting that the state Senate easily passed a bill yesterday to ensure that Oregon taxes the money that corporations bring back from overseas under the new federal tax plan. It had strong bi-partisan support and now heads to the Oregon House. Reporter Hillary Borrud notes that the only debate was over what the state should do with the estimated \$145 million windfall: sock it away in the rainy day fund as currently planned, divert it to help pay down the long-term public pension deficit or send it to an education savings account? But Senate Democrats delayed a vote on a controversial companion bill that they say would prevent certain businesses from double-dipping on state tax breaks. They want to ensure they have enough votes and one key senator is recovering from a recent surgery and won't return until next week. Together, the two bills could bring in \$220 million during the current budget, according to economists for the Legislature. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Our warm winter weather is creating treacherous conditions on Oregon's Mount Hood. And yesterday, it sounds like that contributed to a deadly climbing accident. Authorities say one climber fell to his death and several others had to be rescued after the incident near the popular Hogsback area near the summit of the 11,249-foot peak. Investigators say the climber fell close to 1,000 feet in an area notorious for loose ice and falling rocks. Authorities say the person was among more than a half-dozen people who had been climbing in the area when they fell about 1,000 feet. Other climbers used their cellphones to report that they were stranded and conditions had grown hazardous. The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office says rescuers used a sled and a rope system to bring down one woman and that mountain rescue teams assisted others. The final climber was brought down the mountain to Timberline Lodge, which stands at an elevation of close to 6,000 feet, at about 8:00 p.m. last night. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME, EDUCATION, MENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY: Students and neighbors describe the suspect in the deadly rampage at a Florida high school as a troubled teen who harassed peers, talked about killing animals, posed with guns on social media, and bragged about target practice. 19-year-old Nikolas Cruz was charged with killing 17 people following hours of questioning by state and federal authorities. Staff and students say Cruz had been expelled from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for disciplinary reasons. A law enforcement official says Cruz legally purchased his AR-15 rifle about a year ago. A football coach who also worked as a security guard is among the dead in a school shooting that claimed 17 lives in Parkland, Florida. School officials said in a Twitter post that assistant coach Aaron Feis died while shielding students from the gunfire. They note that Feis graduated from the school in 1999 and worked mainly with the junior varsity. He lived in nearby Coral Springs with his wife and daughter. ; President Trump will address the nation at eight a.m. our time to discuss yesterday's mass shooting at a Florida high school that left 17 people dead. Trump also issued a proclamation honoring the victims of the shooting at the Parkland, Florida, school. It says, quote, "Our nation grieves with those who have lost loved ones." The 19-year-old suspect, Nikolas Cruz, is described as a former student who opened fire Wednesday at the school, using an AR-15 rifle that investigators say was legally purchased. This morning, Cruz was charged with premeditated murder and other crimes, in connection with the killings of 17 teachers, staff and students and the wounding of 14 other people. Investigators are describing Cruz as a troubled teenager who posted disturbing material on social media. Officials say he had been expelled from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for "disciplinary reasons." The mayor of Parkland, Florida, told CNN that Cruz at one point received treatment at a mental health clinic, but had not been to the clinic for more than a year. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: A group of senators has reached a bipartisan agreement aimed at balancing Democrats' fight to offer citizenship to young "Dreamer" immigrants with President Donald Trump's demands for billions to build his coveted border wall with Mexico. But overnight, the Trump administration denounced the deal. The compromise was announced yesterday by 16 senators with centrist views on the issue but it faced an uncertain fate. The bipartisan proposal would grant a 10- to 12-year route to citizenship for 1.8 million Dreamers. It would provide \$25 billion over a decade for a wall and other border security measures, the same total Trump has requested. It would bar

Dreamers from sponsoring their parents for citizenship. The moderates' measure does not alter a lottery that distributes about 55,000 visas annually to people from diverse countries. Trump has proposed ending it and redistributing its visas to other immigrants, including some who are admitted based on job skills, not family ties. Leaders were trying to schedule votes on that plan and three other immigration proposals for today, which they hoped would bring the chamber's showdown over the hot-button issue to a close. But Trump on Wednesday urged lawmakers to oppose any plan that doesn't meet his more stringent demands, which include curbs on legal immigration and the abolition of a visa lottery. The Senate's No. 2 Republican, John Cornyn of Texas, warned that lawmakers need to address Trump's entire proposal. The Department of Homeland Security, in a statement issued early this morning, condemned the deal, saying it will, quote, "create a mass amnesty for over 10 million illegal aliens, including criminals." Some Democrats, including the party's No. 2 Senate leader, Dick Durbin of Illinois, said they had "serious issues" with parts of the plan. Those concerns focused on its spending for Trump's wall and its prohibition against Dreamers sponsoring their parents for legal residency. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: Highway 126, the McKenzie Highway, was closed for several hours just east of McKenzie Bridge after a crash involving a propane truck. Crews brought in a second truck to pump the propane from the damaged vehicle before removing it from the roadway.; Amtrak's president and CEO says the railroad will consider suspending service on tracks that don't have speed controls in place by Dec. 31. That could affect service in much of the United States. Richard Anderson told a House subcommittee on Thursday that Amtrak is concerned about delays by private railroads that own the rail lines its uses for its passenger routes. It says those freight lines that delayed installing GPS-based positive-train control systems. Railroads face a year-end deadline for installing the systems, known as PTC, but many are seeking an extension until 2020. PTC is designed to automatically slow or stop trains that are going too fast. It can take control when an engineer is distracted or incapacitated. It's activated on Amtrak-owned tracks from Boston to Washington, D.C., and in Michigan. Elsewhere, Amtrak operates on track owned by freight carriers and other entities. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY, LOW-INCOME: Tuitions would rise between two- and three-percent next academic year at the University of Oregon. under a proposal from a campus committee. The Tuition and Fee Advisory Board is made up of students, administrators, and members of the faculty and staff. They held eight public meetings and participated in two student forums over a four-month period while drawing up their recommendations. The proposals take into account the U-of-O's budget and other financial data. The recommendations include an increase in tuition of \$6 per credit, or \$270 per year, for in-state undergraduate students. Nonresident undergraduate students would see tuition rise by \$18 per credit, or \$810 annually. For the 2018-19 academic year, this equates to a 2.84 percent increase in undergraduate tuition for in-state students and a 2.49 percent increase for out-of-state students. The committee recommendations also include a \$7 increase in the student health center service fee, which will help expand health and counseling services for students. Students and others at the U-of-O have until this evening to submit online comment about the plan and there will also be a student forum this evening at 5:30 in Gerlinger Lounge. University of Oregon President Michael Schill will make a final tuition recommendation to the U-of-O Board of Trustees for consideration at its next

regular meeting on March 2. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A fatality and an hourslong rescue effort to bring other climbers off Oregon's tallest peak as a storm approached underscore the dangers of a mountain that's soared in popularity due to its proximity to Portland. More than 10,000 people attempt to summit Mount Hood each season, but more than 130 have also perished on its icy slopes. There are no requirements for summiting the dormant volcano and no mandatory registration rules, making its peaks crowded. Thirty-five-year-old climber Miha Sumi died in a fall Tuesday and several stranded climbers had to be rescued. Officials say the Portland man had mid-level climbing experience and was properly equipped with an ice ax, crampons and a helmet. / HEALTH, POLITICS: The Oregon Senate's health committee will assess a bill passed by the House that would enshrine a right to health care in the state Constitution. Senate President Peter Courtney assigned the measure, which aims to put the proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot for Oregon voters in the November election, on Wednesday, a day after the House approved it along party lines. Such a constitutional amendment would be a first for any state in America, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. The Senate committee on health care has three Democrats and two Republicans, including a new member who's already said he's against the measure. The committee chairwoman, a Democrat, is a former nurse who is bullish on public health care. / EDUCATION, RELIGION, COMMUNITY: The Bethel School Board in Eugene had to call off its meeting after angry parents yelled repeatedly at board members. The reason for Monday's outrage: No more school parties for Valentine's Day. In the past, students celebrated Feb. 14 with the traditional exchange of cards and candy. But The Register-Guard reports the district has been phasing out those traditions, and now no school in the district will have an exchange. Parents say the district has been taking away other holidays as well. For instance, Bethel students no longer wear costumes for Halloween, and Thanksgiving celebrations have been renamed "harvest parties." District officials have said that organized holiday parties often end up excluding children whose parents don't have the means to buy valentines. or students who don't do well in a party setting. / POLITICS: An investigative report says former Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber allegedly violated state ethics laws 11 times during his third and fourth terms as governor. The Statesman Journal reports that the Oregon Government Ethics Commission will vote Friday on whether it agrees with its staff's findings. The report released Wednesday says Kitzhaber, who resigned in 2015 because of the scandal, used his office for financial gain, or to avoid financial problems, for former First Lady Cylvia Hayes and her consulting firm, 3EStrategies. The report also said Kitzhaber failed to follow state laws to handle "potential conflicts of interest" when he took actions that may have impacted the consulting firm's financial interests. Kitzhaber has admitted allegations he failed to publicly declare a potential conflict of interest between his elected position and Hayes' work as a clean energy consultant. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, POLITICS: Lawmakers effectively withdrew a proposal to allow autonomous vehicles on Oregon roads. The House Transportation Policy committee voted 8-0 Wednesday to substitute an amendment that replaced proposed rules for the vehicles with a study group. That group would report to the Legislature in the fall. Legislators questioned the safety of fully autonomous technology on roads. "I do not believe that creating a hostage environment inside a vehicle moving 60 miles an hour is something any of us

really want to get to in the long term," said state Rep. Paul Evans, a Democrat from Monmouth. Other lawmakers had previously questioned whether the technology could be hacked. According to the Oregon Department of Transportation, automated vehicles currently fall into a grey area in state law, neither explicitly permitted nor prohibited.; Fans of Uber and Lyft are pleased. Taxi companies and cab drivers are unhappy. The Register-Guard is reporting that Eugene-Springfield residents and visitors might be able to use a ride-hailing service such as Uber later this year — this time legally. Reporter Christian Hill writes that Eugene city councilors voted Wednesday to start the process to amend the city's ordinance and regulations to make them more amenable for ride-hailing services Uber and Lyft. Uber operated in the Eugene-Springfield area for less than a year before it suspended operations in April 2015. At the time, a city hearings official ruled that the company must secure a vehicle-for-hire license to continue operating in Eugene. Uber then agreed not to resume service in Eugene without securing that license, to settle a lawsuit filed by the city. But local taxi companies and drivers oppose such a move and are urging city councilors to oppose making changes that they said would harm the existing industry and benefit companies that don't share the community's values. In November, city councilors expressed an openness to changing their stance if it can be done in a way that continues to protect public safety and regulates ride-hailing services and taxi companies in the same manner. With the proposed changes, the city is giving a bit of ground on two of the three regulations that ride-hailing services have long opposed. The biggest was the city's requirement for all for-hire drivers to carry a minimum of \$1 million in liability insurance whenever they are working. The proposed change allows forhire drivers to carry varying minimum levels of insurance, depending on when they're available for pickups or driving a customer. Another change no longer would require a city inspection of a for-hire driver's vehicle. Instead, the city would rely on a vehicle inspection report by a certified mechanic. The city is holding fast, however, on a requirement that a prospective for-hire driver undergo a criminal background check by the Eugene Police Department. The ride-hailing industry practice is for a company to contract with a third-party firm to run those checks. / ECONOMY-SPORTS, EDUCATION: The Register-Guard is reporting that with the Hayward Field renovation project looming and an uncertain timeline for when it will begin and end, the NCAA recently re-opened the bidding process to host the 2019 and 2020 NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championship meet. Those events were previously scheduled to be hosted by Oregon. Oregon has also been removed as host for the 2021 meet, which was the last year in a nine-year deal to host the NCAA meet that began in 2013. Reporter Chris Hansen notes that doesn't mean the meet won't still be in Eugene for one of those years. Oregon associate athletic director Vin Lananna said the school will make an offer to host the 2020 meet. Renovations at Hayward Field—which The register-guard notes is rumored to include the demolition of the historic East Grandstand—are set to begin after the 2018 track and field season and continue through 2019. But the exact construction timeline is still being determined. When Oregon and the NCAA struck their long-term deal to hold the meet at Hayward Field, it was via a series of three three-year contracts. Instead, the sixth — and final — meet of that contract will come June 6-9. /

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EDUCATION, CRIME, SAFETY, POLITICS: In the wake of this week's deadly mass shooting at a Florida high school, Oregon State Police are reminding students and families about SafeOregon, a statewide school safety tip line. Officials say the tip line is a safe, confidential and anonymous way for students to alert authorities to information that may be useful in preventing school attacks, bullving, and suicidal behaviors. SafeOregon can be accessed through a phone call, text message, mobile application or the internet by students and other members of the public. Trained staff are available 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-ayear to review, analyze and route tips for the most appropriate follow-up and urgency. Tip line staff ensure there is follow-up on very tip and details of that follow-up are noted and recorded. Since the tip line began in January, 2017, it's received more than 525 tips. The top five types of tips include bullying or harassment, possession or distribution of drugs, concerns about safety issues, cyberullying and sexual harassment, Today, 813 Oregon schools in the PK-12 grades are signed up to use the statewide tip line. It's open to private and public schools in those grade ranges. To find out if your school is using the system visit SafeOregon.com and click on report a tip. Here you'll see all the different methods of reporting. By clicking on web report form you will see a box for "school name" begin entering your school name. If the school name appears, they are using SafeOregon. You should also talk to your school about how the system works and what you can do to help promote the statewide tip line in your school. For more information visit SafeOregon.com; Roseburg Police say they investigated a threat of school violence yesterday after receiving a report of a written threat on the wall of a girl's bathroom stall at Roseburg High School. Investigators identified a 17year-old female student as the suspect and she was arrested and lodged at the Douglas County Juvenile Detention Center. The teen faces charges of two counts of Disorderly Conduct in the First Degree and two counts of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree for her alleged involvement in this case and a similar case at the school in November of 2017. Officials say there is no known ongoing threat related to this case at this time.; Democrats say Congress needs to do more to help prevent the kind of shooting tragedy that left 17 people dead at a Florida high school this week. Sen. Bill Nelson declared, "enough is enough." He urged lawmakers to talk about ways to stop gun violence. But Congress has been here before. After a deadly mass shooting in Las Vegas last fall, lawmakers talked about banning bump stocks, a device that allowed the shooter's semi-automatic

rifles to mimic the rapid fire of machine guns. But those efforts fizzled amid opposition from Republican leaders. President Donald Trump addressed the nation Thursday, promising to "tackle the difficult issue of mental health." He avoided any mention of guns. The suspect is a troubled teenager who posted disturbing material on social media.; Oregon State University says it will begin to require all students to self-report past felony convictions and any registered sex offender status before enrolling for fall term, but will not bar them from school activities unless they pose a safety risk. The Corvallis Gazette-Times reported Thursday that the new policy was recommended by a task force convened last year in the wake of public outcry over revelations that a university baseball team pitcher, Luke Heimlich, had an undisclosed conviction for molesting a 6-year-old family member when he was 15. Heimlich was allowed to remain on the team after The Oregonian/Oregonlive reported the pitcher had pleaded guilty to the crime. Heimlich said in a university statement that he completed counseling, but was removing himself to avoid being a team distraction. / CRIME, POLITICS: Oregon lawmakers want to expand a ban on the purchase or possession of firearms by people with domestic violence records or restraining orders. And it would add stalking as a qualifying crime. Supporters said the bill would close a loophole in existing law that allows some abusers, such as boyfriends who abuse partners they do not live with, to be excluded even after an otherwise qualifying crime. The proposal's broader definition of such crimes replaces the words "intimate partners" to apply to anyone who has been convicted of domestic violence against a, quote, "family or household member," barring them from owning a gun or ammunition. In addition to include partners who do not live together, the changes would include immediate family members such as adult children. The proposal builds on a bill signed into Oregon law in 2015. That law bans gun ownership by people who have been convicted of domestic abuse, or had a restraining order taken out against them. The state House approved the measure 37-23 Thursday, sending it to the Senate. State police would be required to forward any flagged attempts made by banned individuals to buy guns to probation officers and local police for investigation, and those same agencies would be required to report yearly on the outcome of their investigations. Qualifying crimes would also be reported to federal authorities, for addition to federal databases on prohibited purchasers. Lawmakers' remarks during debate over the bill were notably emotional, with several fighting back tears, or having to pause during their remarks. Representative Jeff Barker, a Democrat, said that as a former police officer near Portland, he had been called repeatedly to a particular home in the area over domestic violence. Later, he said, he was called to the same address after a woman, the mother of children at the home, was shot and killed. "Had there not been a gun in that family, maybe those girls would have been able to grow up with their mother," Barker said. "I support gun rights, but convicted abusers and stalkers do not have an inherent right to continue to possess guns." / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, EDUCATION: We might see more snow in the hills and possibly on the valley floor this weekend and the possibility of school delays or closures in some areas on Monday. Use caution while traveling. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: The fate of hundreds of thousands of "Dreamer" immigrants remains in limbo, a day after the Senate rejected rival plans that would have spared them from deportation and strengthened the nation's border security. Senators dealt President Donald Trump an especially galling defeat. More than a

quarter of his fellow Republicans abandoned him and voted against a measure based on priorities he had spelled out. Also defeated was a plan by a bipartisan group of senators. They offered a compromise that would have shielded the young immigrants and financed Trump's demands for money to build his border wall, though more gradually than he wants. Eight Republicans joined most Democrats in backing that plan, but it fell short after the White House threatened a veto and GOP leaders opposed it. / SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: More than three hours of 911 calls reveal terror and heroism as fellow climbers tried to save a man who plummeted 1,000 feet on Oregon's tallest peak. The calls were released by Clackamas County sheriff's dispatch late Wednesday after The Associated Press made a public records request. In one call that lasts more than 2 1/2 hours, other climbers reach 35-year-old Miha Sumi and begin CPR as huge chunks of ice and rocks careen past them. At one point, one of them asks the 911 dispatcher to take down a message for his mother in case he doesn't survive. Sumi was airlifted from Mount Hood on Tuesday and pronounced dead at a Portland hospital. Other climbers did CPR on Sumi for 90 minutes before the airlift. / RACISM, POLITICS: Across America, many home owners and buyers of older properties are shocked to see racist provisions on deeds, decades after they were outlawed. Now, the Oregon Legislature is pushing forward a measure that would make it easier for people scrub the offensive language from their deeds. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Julie Fahey, who encountered a whites-only provision on the deed of the home she and her husband were buying in Eugene. She said she wants to make all Oregonians feel welcome in their homes and not have them endure the cost and time to have these whites-only covenants, which were declared illegal decades ago, removed from their property deeds. The measure was unanimously passed by the House on Wednesday and is now before the Senate. / AGRICULTURE, ECONOMY, CRIME, POLITICS: A proposal to ease the cultivation of hemp, a less-potent cousin of marijuana, is moving forward in the Oregon Legislature. The bill would expand a hemp research program run by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The bill would classify hemp seed as an agricultural seed, and direct the agency to set standards for the seed, and create standard identification documents for hemp products. A House committee approved the bill on a 9-0 vote Thursday. A close cousin of marijuana, hemp is a variety of cannabis plant that has lower levels of intoxicating chemicals, like THC, and that has been bred to produce fiber. The fiber from the plant has been used to manufacture paper, fabric, and other products. Hemp seeds are also a food. The bill was approved in the Agricultural and Natural Resources committee, sending it to the Ways and Means committee for approval before a full vote. / EDUCATION, RELIGION: Members of the Bethel School Board got an earful last night during a meeting collecting comments regarding changes to how holidays are celebrated in the public schools. It comes after an overflow crowd and angry parents forced the board to cancel a meeting Tuesday night and move it to a larger auditorium at Shasta Middle school. The issue came to a head this week as student prepared to celebrate a toned-down Valentine's Day with no more school parties. In the past, students celebrated with an exchange of cards and candy. But district officials said that organized holiday parties often end up excluding children whose parents don't have the means to buy valentines, as well as students who don't do well in a party setting or have a religious objection. As a public school system, officials said they can't intentionally plan events that we know will exclude children. But reinventing

traditions doesn't sit well with some parents. They noted that Bethel district students no longer wear costumes for Halloween, and Thanksgiving celebrations have been renamed "harvest parties." / CRIME, SAFETY: New state figures reveal a disturbing trend; Deaths connected to the use of methamphetamine have reached higher rates than previously recorded in Oregon, surpassing the death rates from heroin and nearly matching the rates from opioids. Oregon recorded 141 meth-related deaths in 2016, rising from the 51 overdose deaths from meth recorded in 2012, according to numbers from the Oregon Health Authority based on what's reported on death certificates. The Statesman-Journal reports numbers from the Oregon State Medical Examiner show an even higher tally: 232 methrelated deaths in 2016—two-and-a-half times the number from five years earlier. As meth-related deaths have increased, so too has the number of convictions for meth possession. The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission recorded a steady rise in convictions from 2008 to 2016, according to its sentencing data. Why is meth making such a comeback? The New York Times spoke with prosecutors in Portland this month, who say it's getting more difficult and more expensive for addicts to buy heroin and opioids. But Mexican drug cartels are smuggling large quantities of cheap, high-quality meth into the U.S., creating such a glut that some Portland drug dealers are offering hits to their customer on credit. One prosecutor says that's unheard of. / MILITARY: The City of Klamath Falls is proud to host an the 173rd Fighter Wing of the Oregon Air National Guard and Kingsley Field. And on Monday, the city is showing its support by holding a ceremony to extend the National Guard's lease on the airfield property until 2095. With another 77 years on the contract, it will be the longest lease of any base in the country. Congressman Greg Walden will join community and military leaders at the event. The 173rd Fighter Wing maintains the only F-15C formal schoolhouse in the U.S. Air Force. The lease extension clears the way for construction projects that are part of the long-term expansion of the Kingsley Field facilities. / HEALTH, AGRICULTURE: You know how you're always being told to "eat your vegetables"? Well, you should be happy to, because so much of the good stuff on your plate comes from Oregon. Folks at the state Department of Agriculture say Oregon remains one of the nation's top producers of several vegetable crops, both those served fresh or harvested for processing, and is a Top ten state overall. Among our biggest crops: Onions, sweet corn, green peas, squash and pumpkins. Oregon Ag officials say if you want to get a great sense of the quality and variety of our produce, just stop by your local grocery or a farmer's market to see what's available year-round. Oregon's growers also export a lot of vegetables, particularly to Asia where frozen veggies go into egg rolls and fast food service rice bowls. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has approved a cleanup plan for parts of Union Pacific Railroad's Eugene Yard. The cleanup plan calls for worker safety plans and ongoing monitoring to ensure that off-site groundwater contamination does not pose a risk to neighbors. In the 1990s, investigators found groundwater beneath parts of the site contaminated by solvents from the former locomotive facility. The solvents leaked into the groundwater and the contamination spread off site, beneath parts of the Trainsong and River Road neighborhoods. In the 1990s and 2000s, DEQ and Southern Pacific Railroad (which Union Pacific later purchased) conducted a number of sampling events in and around the rail yard. The investigation also found high concentrations of petroleum in soil and groundwater and metals in soil. In 2007,

vapor barriers were installed in nine homes after investigators discovered that solvent vapors might be entering homes in the Trainsong area. By 2008, solvent vapors in soil had dropped dramatically and DEQ approved removal of the vapor barriers. From 2005 to 2006, Union Pacific Railroad treated groundwater on site to reduce the amount of contaminated groundwater moving off site. Groundwater monitoring has shown that levels of contamination continue to decline. DEQ held a public meeting on the proposed Record of Decision last year. Following the comment period, DEQ responded to all comments before preparing the Record of Decision that spells out the cleanup activities Union Pacific Railroad must complete at the site. The company will enter into an agreement with DEQ to complete the remedial design and remedial action implementation. / HEALTH: This nasty flu season, which has been worsening for months, may finally be leveling off. Health officials this morning said about 1 of every 13 visits to the doctor last week was for fever, cough and other symptoms of the flu. That's no reason for health officials to celebrate yet: That level is among the highest in a decade. But it's no worse than last week, and flu activity had been increasing each week since November. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the number of states reporting heavy flu patient traffic also held steady at 43. But Oregon for a second week is doing a bit better than just about every other state. Still, nationwide, the CDC says 22 more children have died from the flu, bringing the total to 84 in the worst influenza season in decades. This season started early and has been driven by a formidable type of flu that tends to put more people in the hospital and cause more deaths. Making a bad year worse, this year's flu vaccine is estimated to be only 25 percent effective against that type. Preliminary data released last week indicated patient traffic in doctor's offices and emergency rooms this flu season was as bad as the height of the swine flu pandemic in 2009. However, the CDC readjusted its numbers down slightly in Friday's report, meaning this season did not quite match the intensity of flu activity seen in October 2009. Still, it counts as one of the most intense flu seasons in more than a decade. Whether it's peaking or not, flu season is still expected to last several more weeks. Flu remained widespread in every state except Oregon and Hawaii, the same as the week before. The new report shows that for the week ending Jan. 27, just under 10 percent of U.S. death certificates listed flu or pneumonia. That's down slightly from the week before, but indicates that flu remains at epidemic levels. There are as many as 56,000 deaths connected to the flu during a bad year. Eighty-four children have died so far. Childhood deaths have reached about 170 in a season. Figures released Thursday suggest this year's flu vaccine has worked fairly well in children younger than 9. That was no comfort to parents with sick children. /

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

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EDUCATION, SAFETY: Snow flurries Sunday and cold weather have prompted the Willamette Leadership Academy to postpone the start of classes by two hours. Most public schools are closed for the President's Day Holiday but the Springfield schools are operating and are running on time. Chain restrictions are in place on the mountain passes. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: With frigid weather in the forecast for tonight, the Egan Warming Centers are opening their doors today to homeless individuals and families to ensure they have a safe and warm place to sleep. The Egan Warming Centers are operated by a coalition of service providers, religious congregations, nonprofit support agencies, social communities and local governments. They open their doors whenever temperatures are forecast to drop below 30 degrees between November 15th and March 31st. The warming centers will remain on standby for Tuesday night, based on the forecast. Which sites are open tonight? The information is posted on the Egan Warming Center website and Facebook page. / CRIME, ENVIRONMENT: Three men authorities say started a central Oregon wildfire by shooting at exploding targets are facing felony charges. Lake County District Attorney Sharon Forster tells The Bulletin in a story on Friday that a grand jury indicted Elijah Dyer, Gary Bigelow and David Evans. Each is facing charges of felony manufacturing of a destructive device, felony criminal conspiracy and six counts of misdemeanor reckless burning. Authorities say the men are from the Eugene-Springfield area and were visiting central Oregon for a family gathering on July 8. Forster says they added pyrotechnics to exploding targets. The wildfire that followed consumed about 9 square miles and destroyed one hunting cabin and outbuilding. It's not clear from online records if the three have attorneys.; A teenager charged in juvenile court with starting a massive wildfire in Oregon's Columbia River Gorge last fall by tossing a lit firecracker into the woods has pleaded guilty. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports that the boy from Vancouver, Washington listened Friday to an hour of testimony from those affected by the wildfire and then read a statement apologizing for his actions. He was sentenced to community service and five years of probation. Authorities have not released his name. The early September blaze forced evacuations, caused an extended shutdown of an interstate highway and sent ash raining down on Portland. The teen, who was 15 at the time, was charged in October with reckless burning, depositing burning materials on forest lands, criminal mischief and recklessly endangering other persons. / POLITICS: The Oregon Government Ethics Commission has voted

unanimously in finding former Gov. John Kitzhaber guilty of 10 ethics violations. The preliminary finding on Friday means that Kitzhaber can appeal. The former governor resigned in 2015 amid accusations of influence peddling involving his fiancée Cylvia Hayes. Kitzhaber has admitted allegations he failed to publicly declare a potential conflict of interest between his elected position and Hayes' work as a clean energy consultant. The ethics commission recently rejected a proposal that he be fined \$1,000, with some members believing it was too low and that the former Democratic governor hasn't shown sufficient contrition. / TRANSPORTATION, DISABILITIES: A survey says a majority of sidewalk ramps along Oregon highways do not comply with guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Friday that the audit by the Oregon Department of Transportation was part of settlement with Disability Rights Oregon. According to the preliminary results of the study, 97 percent of the 26,000 curb ramps inspected do not comply with ADA access guidelines. Ten Oregon counties lacked a single compliant ramp. Transportation department officials say they are still verifying the accuracy of the survey's findings. Disability Rights Oregon sued the state last year over inadequate curb ramps and crossings. As part of the settlement, the transportation department agreed to invest \$23 million into curb ramps upgrades in 2017 and 2018, and upgrade all inadequate ramps by 2032. / ECONOMY: A report from Oregon's state economists warned the federal tax overhaul could cost the state more than \$200 million in revenue in the short term, amid an overall bright outlook for state businesses and workers. The report, released Friday by the Oregon office of Economic Analysis, predicted that state tax revenues revenue would drop, then eventually begin to rise after changes made in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, signed by President Donald Trump late last year. Oregon uses federal tax law to calculate state taxes, meaning that changes in federal code automatically impact state revenues. Economic volatility, including the sharp drop in US markets earlier this month, is expected to have a delayed effect on the state. / SAFETY: On Sunday shortly after 12:30 p.m., the Junction City Police and Fire Departments responded to a report of a vehicle that had crashed into the front of the Safeway store on Ivy Street. Officers say an 88-yearold man had driven through windows at the southeast entrance of the store, through the floral department, and ended in the produce section where the car came to a stop. The vehicle was occupied by the driver and two other occupants who refused medical transport and were uninjured in the incident. One store customer was struck by debris from the collision but sustained non-life threatening injures. The driver co-operated with investigators, who determined the incident was accidental in nature and that no criminal charges will be filed nor citations issued. But they and their insurance company will be on the hook for damages.; The Register-Guard is reporting that Eugene Police used a robot to investigate a suspicious object near West Broadway and Eighth Avenue on Sunday afternoon. Reporter Morgan Theophil writes that a pedestrian reported seeing the object on the sidewalk near bushes shortly after two p.m. Police called in their explosives disposal unit after finding what appeared to be a pressure cooker. That forced the temporary closure of Charnelton Street from Seventh Avenue to West Broadway, and Eighth Avenue from Olive Street to Charnelton Street. The explosive disposal team's robot analyzed the pressure cooker and determined that it was safe. Streets were reopened about 5 p.m. / COMMUNITY: This is Presidents' Day. Some places are closed for the holiday: Eugene School District: Closed;

Springfield School District: In session; Bethel School District: Closed; University of Oregon: In session; Lane Community College: Closed. Lane Transit District: Buses on regular schedule; offices closed; Banks and stock markets: Closed; Lane County Waste Management: Closed; Eugene Solid Waste and Recycling: Closed; Ecosystems Transfer and Recycling in Veneta: Normal operations; Lane Apex, Royal Refuse and Sanipac: Normal operations; Mail: No delivery; post office closed; Eugene and Springfield public libraries: Closed; University of Oregon Knight Library: Normal hours; Government offices: Closed. /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ECONOMY-SPORTS: The Oregon Women survived a UCLA rally and pulled it out in overtime Monday, 101-94, to take a one-game lead in the Pac-12 title race into the final week of the regular season. Pushed to the brink after No. 10 UCLA rallied back from a 19-point deficit, the No. 8 Oregon women's basketball team responded to force overtime, then dominated the extra five minutes to win 101-94 on Monday in front of a raucous crowd of 7,098 in Matthew Knight Arena. The Ducks (25-4, 14-2) came into the night a game up on the Bruins and a half-game up on Stanford in the Pac-12, and now take a lead in the conference race into the final weekend of the regular season, coming up in Arizona. The Ducks last took home a conference crown in the 1999-2000 season. Up Next: The Ducks open the final weekend of the regular season at Arizona State on Friday (5 p.m., Pac-12 Network).; They say they want to eliminate potential conflict of interest concerns amid a Department of Justice investigation into bidding for several international athletic championships. The board of USA Track and Field—the governing body for track and field—on Sunday placed its President and board Vice Chairman Vin Lananna on temporary administrative leave. Lananna heads TrackTown USA, the organization that's been key to bringing a number of elite events to Eugene's Hayward Field. USATF board members took the action in response to news this month that the DOJ is conducting a federal investigation into the awarding of the 2021 World Championships to Eugene. TrackTown USA and Lananna were initially contacted by federal law enforcement months ago. USATF officials stress in their statement that they have has no reason to believe TrackTown and/or Lananna have done anything wrong and understand that they have been told that they are not a target of the investigation. But they say it's importance to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest until the investigation is resolved. Lananna led Eugene's bid efforts when the city was awarded the World Championships in 2015. / HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY: The Statesman Journal reports the Oregon Health Authority's 2016 Youth Intervention and Prevention Plan Annual Report says those 38 suicides accounted for 45 percent of the suicides reported among youth 24-and-under. The report says Oregon went from having the 12th-highest youth suicide rate in the nation to the 16th in 2015. The report shows there were 695 hospitalizations of youth 24-and-under in 2015 for selfinflicted injury/attempted suicide. Nearly 17 percent of eighth-graders and 18 percent of 11th-graders statewide who took the Oregon Healthy Teens Survey in 2017 reported they had seriously considered suicide over the previous 12 months.

/ CRIMES, ELECTIONS: AARP Oregon and OSPIRG, the leading senior and consumer advocacy groups in Oregon, are warning voters to watch out for telemarketing scams designed to trick voters into supporting policies that could hurt them. The Voter Alert comes a week after a Eugene Register-Guard investigation into the practices of a group called "Caregiver Voices United." The Register-Guard revealed that the group, funded by drug manufacturers, pretended to be a patient advocacy group and called Oregonians to convince them to join an effort to stop a prescription drug price transparency bill being considered by state lawmakers. One of the independent contractors hired by Caregiver Voices United blew the whistle after looking up the legislative bill and realizing that it was one he and other people would support. AARP Oregon and OSPIRG have joined with nurses, doctors, health plans, labor and other advocacy groups in support of drug price transparency. They say actions like this by the pharmaceutical industry are a way of tricking voters into opposing something they might support and say there are some things you may do if you receive one of these calls: Ask to speak to a manager. A true patient advocacy group will have one you can speak to. Groups like Caregiver Voices United pay individual contractors who work alone, usually from home. ; Ask how the group is funded. A true patient advocacy group will be able to provide you with an answer.; Do not give the telemarketer your personal information or agree to have a letter sent to your representative on your behalf.: Are the social media trolls at it again? The New York times is reporting that last week, just one hour after news broke about the school shooting in Florida, a number of Twitter accounts suspected of having links to Russia released hundreds of posts taking up the gun control debate. Just a short time earlier that same day, The Times reports, many of those accounts had been focused on the investigation by the special counsel Robert S. Mueller III into Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election. Those tracking the automated accounts or "bots," as they're known, say that in the wake of the school shooting the messages appeared designed to widen the divide between Second Amendment advocates and those who support tighter gun control, making compromise even more difficult. Social media analysts say the suspicious accounts quickly adopted hashtags such as #guncontrolnow, #gunreformnow and #Parklandshooting. One tracking company executive says the bots' quick response to a tragedy in the U.S. is pretty typical. He says the bots focus on anything that is divisive for Americans, almost systematically. / HEALTH, POLITICS: The Trump administration is clearing the way for a lower-cost alternative to comprehensive medical insurance plans sold under the Obama health care law. Proposed regulations out this morning from the Health and Human Services officials allow health insurers to sell socalled "short-term" policies that can last up to 12 months. The administration is targeting several million consumers who buy individual plans but are not eligible for federal subsidies. They come with lower premiums, but also offer lower benefits and do not have to meet the Affordable Care Act's consumer protections. Critics say short-term policies will draw healthy people away from the health law's insurance markets, potentially making them less stable and raising subsidy costs for all taxpayers. / BUSINESS, HEALTH: Albertson's, the privately held owner of Safeway, Vons and other grocery brands is plunging deeper into the pharmacy business with a deal to buy Rite Aid, the nation's third-largest drugstore chain. Albertsons Companies is offering either a share of its stock and \$1.83 in cash or slightly more than a share for every 10 shares of Rite Aid. A deal value was not

disclosed in a statement released Tuesday by the companies. Shares of Rite Aid, which have shed more than half their value over the past year, surged 26 cents, or 12.2 percent, in premarket trading after the deal was announced. Shareholders of Boise, Idaho-based Albertsons will own more than 70 percent of the combined company, which is expected to trade on the New York Stock Exchange. The companies say the deal should close in the second half of this year, but regulators and Rite Aid shareholders still have to approve it. / HEALTH: There is no Harvard study that says a British children's television cartoon causes autism, despite what a social media post claims. In fact, there's at least one peer-reviewed study that hints that a children's television show may help autistic kids. The post on the newsely site, and others that have circulated in recent months, claims that a group of Harvard experts did a study that revealed Peppa Pig "is one of the main causes of autism among children." The piece describes other complaints about the British animated series and does not name the authors of the so-called study or where it was published. Autism experts say that's because it doesn't exist. But when autism researcher Dr. Susan Hyman, a professor of behavioral pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center, searched the scientific literature, she found one relevant study in the journal Behavior Analysis in Practice. That 2017 study of only two autistic five-year-olds found that their behavior improved after watching the PBS children's show Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood. / ENVIRONMENT: Federal officials are offering a \$100,000 prize to find a way to kill invasive quagga and zebra mussels. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation says the only area not yet invaded by the mussels in the contiguous United States is the Columbia River Basin in the Pacific Northwest. The basin contains struggling runs of salmon and steelhead trout. The basin is also heavily harnessed for hydroelectric power. Officials estimate it will cost \$500 million annually to fight the mussels if they infest infrastructure. Bureau of Reclamation Science Adviser David Raff says the mussels are a huge problem with the potential to get worse. They spread by hitching rides on boats and trailers, multiplying rapidly in new waters. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 28. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

CRIME, SAFETY, YOUTH, POLITICS: President Trump is declaring that more must be done to protect America's children. With a Florida community grieving over the latest school shooting, Trump is directing the Justice Department to ban devices like the rapid-fire bump stocks used in last year's Las Vegas massacre. On Wednesday afternoon, Trump is hosting parents, teachers and students for a "listening session" that will include people impacted by the mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, and the shootings in Columbine, Colorado, and Newtown, Connecticut. Trump is a strong and vocal supporter of gun rights, and he has not endorsed more robust changes sought by gun control activists. But the White House is casting the president as having been swayed by the school shooting in Florida and willing to listen to proposals.; The Justice Department says it is moving quickly with its review of "bump stock" devices after President Trump directed the agency to propose regulations banning them. The devices allow semiautomatic rifles to fire faster and were used in last year's Las Vegas massacre. The Justice Department in December announced it was reviewing whether bump stocks are prohibited under federal law banning fully automatic weapons. The department said Tuesday it "understands this is a priority for the president and has acted quickly to move through the rulemaking process." A public comment period for the review closed last month.; Oregon's governor, backing gun-control legislation before a panel of state senators, said anguished voices in the wake of the school shooting in Florida that claimed 17 lives must be heard. "They call on us to take action," Gov. Kate Brown said. She appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday to support a bill that would expand a ban on the purchase or possession of firearms by people convicted of stalking and domestic violence or with restraining orders. The proposal would ban anyone who had been convicted of domestic violence against a "family or household member" from owning a gun or ammunition. Opponents say it would violate Second Amendment protections on the right to bear arms.; Students who survived the Florida school shooting are preparing to flood their state's Capitol. They are urging state lawmakers to ban the assault-style rifle used to kill 17 people, and yowing to make changes in the November election if they can't persuade lawmakers to change laws before their legislative session ends. About 100 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School students arrived at a Tallahassee high school to extended applause late Tuesday after a nearly eight-hour trip. Despite their enthusiasm and determination, the students and their supporters aren't likely to get what they really

want: a ban on AR-15s and similar semi-automatic rifles. Republican lawmakers are talking more seriously about some restrictions, but not a total ban. Some restrictions could include raising the minimum age to purchase the weapon to 21 and creating a waiting period.; It's a rumor. It's false. And Springfield Police are asking Springfield High school students, parents and community members to stop spreading it. Somehow, someone misunderstood and shared misinformation about next month's planned National Student Walkout to protest school violence. They began spreading rumors that there was a threat today against Springfield High School, which was shared over and over and over on social media. No, no, no. Springfield Police investigated the concerns and say while they appreciate the diligence of students, parents and others in reporting any suspected concerns, officers are confident there is no current threat to Springfield schools today associated with any student walk out. They are asking students, parents and community members to stop perpetuating the rumor about an act of violence saying it's been deemed just that: a rumor. Springfield Police and the Springfield School District continue to work in partnership to ensure student and staff safety. Anyone with new or different information is asked to call the Springfield Police Department at 541.726.3714. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, EDCUATION: More low-elevation snow, more snarled mountain roads, more school delays for some districts. The chilly weather might last another day. / EDUCATION, POLITICS; A proposal to include class sizes as required bargaining items during negotiations between teachers and school districts is moving ahead in the Oregon Legislature. Teachers are currently able to ask for class size changes as part of their bargaining, but are not required to do so. Under the proposal, collective bargaining negotiations would be required to cover class sizes along with things like pay. The Oregon House advanced the measure on a 33-25 vote Tuesday, sending it to the Senate. The bill's sponsor, Rep. Brian Clem, a Democrat from Salem, said the motivation for the bill stemmed from his own experience as a parent and had watched students in his daughter's class cope with added classmates. Rep. Julie Parrish, a Republican from West Linn, said before voting against the measure that she supported smaller class sizes but was worried taxpayers could be left to pay for increases negotiated outside the Legislature. / POLITICS, CRIME, BUSINESS: Democratic lawmakers on a House investigative panel are asking the creditmonitoring company Equifax Inc. to provide free credit monitoring and identity theft protection for at least three years. Equifax has offered up to one year of complementary protections after a massive data breach last year compromised personal information for about 145 million Americans. The Democratic members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee argue that identity thieves often wait much longer to act on stolen information. The lawmakers said the company's chief information security officer told committee staff in a briefing last October that data thieves would likely wait a year or more before attempting to sell the data on the black market. / HEALTH, POLITICS: The Register-Guard is reporting that after years of stalemate, the Oregon House on Tuesday narrowly approved several reforms to the state's 15 coordinated care organizations, known as CCOs, which provide government-funded health care to low-income residents in Oregon's Medicaid program. Reporter Saul Hubbard writes that the changes would require CCO boards to open their meetings to the public and to keep minutes; to spend a set portion of their reserve funds on community health programs in the geographic areas they serve, and to provide at least three

months' notice before deciding to end their contract with the state. None of the changes would apply immediately, but they would be incorporated in the CCOs' next five-year contracts with the state, set to start in 2019. Oregon's CCOs — half of which are for-profit businesses - function primarily to receive public dollars from the government and dispense money to health care providers for services to Medicaid recipients. The CCOs have drawn increased scrutiny from lawmakers after controversies in Lane County and more recently in the Portland area. / ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION: Did massive wildfires spread across the Earth 13,000 years ago, leaving an ecologically changed Northern Hemisphere in their wake? That's a controversial question that UO archaeologist Jon Erlandson and an international team of scientists address in a study published online ahead of print this month in the Journal of Geology. The study investigates marine, lake and terrestrial sediments on four continents to test the hypothesis that a major regional cooling period, known as the Younger Dryas, was triggered by a comet impact and a subsequent episode of intense, widespread burning of forests and other vegetation. Evidence for a comet impact event was first reported in October 2007 by a 26-member team from 16 institutions in a paper in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Erlandson and former UO scientist Douglas Kennett, now head of the Department of Anthropology at Penn State University, were co-authors on that paper. The new study in the Journal of Geology describes a widespread "black mat" of organic sediment that was laid on sites across North America. The authors propose that the mat is the result of large-scale burning set off by the comet strike, which caused an "impact winter" and contributed to the extinctions of North America's large ice age mammals, including mammoths, mastodons, dire wolves, horses and giant sloths. They note that fossils of these large mammals, as well as evidence of one of their big game-hunting contemporaries, the Clovis people, have only been found in soil and rock layers below the black mat, suggesting that they were wiped out as the mat was deposited. /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: A final day of low-elevation snowy weather for the Willamette Valley means drivers and others need to use some extra caution on the morning commute. / VETERANS, ECONOMY: A Veterans Job Fair is set for today at the Vets Memorial Building. Representatives from local businesses will meet with job-seeking military vets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Vets Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette St. in Eugene, The St. Vincent DePaul's Veterans in Progress program (VIP) sponsors the event. VIP is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and serves about 150 local veterans a year. Veterans receive job assessment, paid work experience, job-search assistance and placement, case management, career planning and certifications. The program annually places an average of 90 percent of its enrolled veterans in jobs and is located at the Lindholm Center, 465 Highway 99 North Eugene (541 607-0439), / CRIME, POLITICS, EDUCATION: A Thurston High School student has been charged with disorderly conduct after police say he sent a Snapchat message to a girl at Springfield High School that read: "I am the shooter!" Police say the freshman boy described the message as a joke. But investigators said it wasn't taken as a joke, and it created additional panic at a time when there were rumors of a school shooting at Springfield High School. Officials say the message was sent to the girl's cell phone shortly before noon Tuesday. The 15-year-old boy was arrested at home Wednesday and booked into a juvenile detention center. The boy attends Thurston High, where 15-year-old Kip Kinkel killed two students and wounded 25 others in a 1998 shooting spree. Kinkel is serving a de facto life sentence.; They shared wrenching tales of lost lives and stolen safety, as students and parents yesterday appealed to President Trump to set aside politics and protect school children from gun violence. Trump listened intently to the anguish and anger, pledging action and saying, quote, "We don't want others to go through the kind of pain you've been through." The president solicited suggestions from the group. He promised to be, quote, "very strong on background checks." He also indicated interest in the idea of concealed weapons for trained teachers, saying it was something his administration would be, quote, "looking at it very strongly." Although he is a strong supporter of gun rights, Trump has indicated in recent days that he is willing to consider ideas that break with National Rifle Association priorities, including age restrictions for buying assaulttype weapons. Among those attending the White House session were students and parents from Parkland, Florida, as well as families who lost loved ones in the

school shootings at Colorado's Columbine High School and at Sandy Hook elementary in Newtown, Connecticut. On Tuesday, Trump directed the Justice Department to move to ban devices like the rapid-fire bump stocks used in last year's Las Vegas massacre. The White House has also said Trump was looking at a bill that would strengthen federal gun background checks. But those moves have drawn criticism as being inadequate, with Democrats questioning whether the Justice Department even has authority to regulate bump stocks and arguing that the background check legislation would not go far enough. On background checks, Trump has suggested he is open to a bipartisan bill developed in response to a mass shooting at a Texas church. It would penalize federal agencies that don't properly report required records and reward states that comply by providing them with federal grant preferences.; In the aftermath of the latest mass school shooting. President Donald Trump has raised the idea of arming teachers. Trump says that had one of the victims, an assistant football coach at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, been armed, "he would have shot and that would have been the end of it." The comments come as lawmakers in several states are wrestling with the idea of letting teachers carry guns, including in Florida, where 17 victims are being mourned. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has called arming teachers an option for states. American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten calls it a horrible idea. The Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence says at least eight states allow, or don't specifically prohibit, concealed weapons in K-12 schools.; The National Rifle Association says any legislation aimed at raising the age requirement for rifle and shotgun purchases would deprive young Americans their constitutional right to self-protection. Federal law already prohibits those under the age of 21 from purchasing handguns from licensed gun dealers. President Trump is backing the National Rifle Association, sending supportive tweets of the NRA and its leadership one day after he met with survivors and families of those killed in school shootings and publicly discussed possible gun control measures in the wake of the Florida high school shooting that left 17 dead. Trump has expressed interest in strengthening background checks, banning "bump stock" style devices and raising the minimum age to 21 for possessing more weapons than at present. Today, the president is meeting with state and local officials from around the country to discuss school safety. Trump will also hear from local police, health and education officials.; Starting today, one of the country's largest theater chains will no longer allow moviegoers to carry large bags in its auditoriums. Cinemark, which has a number of multiplexes in Oregon, says in a press release that all bags and backpacks larger than 12 inches by 12 inches by six inches will be barred from its theatres. The only exceptions are diaper bags and medical equipment bags. Cinemark's new release say it's part of an effort to enhance security and safety. The theatre chain is relying on patrons to leave those bags at home: Cinemark will not provide a bag check area. And Cinemark staff reserve the right to inspect all bags and packages entering their theatres. The decision comes one week after the Florida high school shootings. The 2012 movie theatre shootings in Aurora, Colorado, took place at a Cinemark complex and company officials say they have worked to increase security since. / HEALTH, CRIME: The Oregonian and OregonLive are reporting that the city of Portland will join a national movement by suing drug companies behind America's opioid crisis. Reporter Brad Schmidt writes that on Wednesday, the Portland City Council voted 4-0 to file litigation, an

effort to recoup millions of dollars spent locally each year dealing with the fallout of opioid addiction. Portland will join at least 370 other cities and counties across America suing drug manufacturers or distributors. Multnomah County officials filed suit against several companies in August. Portland plans to argue that drug companies created a public nuisance and acted negligently. In 2016 alone, Portland firefighters responded to 3,475 overdose calls. Of those, first responders administered Naloxone, which reverses opioid overdoses, about 400 times. And about half of all drug calls to police are related to opioids. / RACISM, CRIME: Analysts with the Southern Poverty Law Center declared say the white-supremacy movement continues to expand in the U.S. -- as does violence by white-nationalist groups. The civil-rights and legal-advocacy nonprofit's annual report concludes the U.S. had 954 active hate groups in 2017, a four-percent increase from the year before. The sheer number of such organizations in the country, ranging from "altright" to black nationalist, is notable. But Southern Poverty Law Center officials say it understates the true level of hate in America, because a growing number of extremists, particularly those who identify with the alt-right, operate mainly online and may not be formally affiliated with a hate group. OregonLive took a closer look at the report and found that Oregon, with its population of just over four million, appears to have a disproportionate number of hate-based organizations within its borders. Several are either based in or have chapters or websites in the state, including American Front, Identity Evropa, American Stormer, Vanguard America, True Cascadia, the National Socialist Movement and the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Ku Klux Klan. But members of those groups often dispute being labeled "hate groups." / POLITICS, ECONOMY: The top legislator in the state Senate says he supports a stripped-down proposal to partially disconnect the state's tax law from last year's federal tax overhaul after legislators increased the amount of money the proposal would raise by removing breaks for individuals and businesses. Senate President Peter Courtney confirmed his support Wednesday. The proposal would stop a federal deduction on certain types of income from also being automatically deducted from Oregon taxes. Altogether, changes in the federal overhaul law were forecast to cost the state up to \$217 million over the next two years, according to a report released by the state economist last week. The bill would reverse that impact, and collect \$27.4 million extra in taxes, or about \$244.4 million altogether. The measure's future had been in question after Senate leaders sent the bill back to committee. Concerns had earlier been raised that the bill didn't completely fill the funding hole created by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, a recent overhaul of federal taxes championed by President Donald Trump. / POLITICS, CRIME: The Oregon House of Representatives says some plea bargains offered defendants deprive them of fundamental rights. The House unanimously passed a bill on Wednesday which seeks to reform plea deals and to make them fairer. Among testimony presented was a plea agreement offered by prosecutors in Portland in which a woman charged with interfering with police and attempted assault of a public safety officer would have to surrender certain rights. Among them, the right to challenge a sentence as unconstitutionally cruel and unusual, the right to due process and habeas corpus. The bill was endorsed by the American Civil Liberties Union and opposed by the Oregon District Attorneys Association. It next goes to the state Senate. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/06/18

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

SAFETY, CRIME, YOUTH: A 20-year-old Oregon man filed suits Monday claiming Dick's Sporting Goods and Walmart discriminated against him when they refused to sell him a rifle. Dick's and Walmart restricted gun sales to adults 21 and older in the wake of the Florida high school massacre. It came after investigators said the 19-year-old accused in the school slaying bought the rifle used in the attack legally. Oregon law allows residents to buy shotguns or rifles starting at the age of 18. The Oregonian / OregonLive reported Tyler Watson's lawsuits filed against the retailers in two separate counties claim he faced age discrimination from Dick's and Walmart. The lawsuit is believed to be the first filed over the new gun policies enacted on February 28. The lawsuit claims a store owned by Dick's Sporting Goods in Medford refused to sell Watson .22-caliber Ruger rifle on Feb. 24. The suit says the Grants Pass Walmart refused to sell him a gun on March 3. It's not clear whether Watson knew of the restrictions at the time. A Walmart spokesman said the retailer plans to defend the new policy. / SAFETY, CRIME, POLITICS: Democratic Oregon Gov. Kate Brown has signed into law a bill that bars convicted domestic abusers and people under restraining orders from buying or owning guns and ammunition. Brown signed the bill that adds more people to an existing ban on the steps of the Oregon State Capitol as several hundred onlookers cheered. Among them were high school students who had come to press for school safety and to meet with Brown. Brown said the law is the first passed since the Valentine's Day massacre at a Florida school. The bill was introduced before the shooting, and was passed by lawmakers after the killings of 17 people. / ENVIRONMENT, BUSINESS: The Trump administration's proposal to expand offshore drilling off the Pacific Northwest coast is drawing vocal opposition. The governors of Washington and Oregon and other top officials have slammed Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's plan to open 90 percent of the nation's offshore reserves to development by private companies. Opponents are speaking out Monday at their own organized hearing in Olympia ahead of an event hosted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to take public comment. Attorney General Bob Ferguson told dozens gathered that he will sue if the plan is approved. In announcing the plan, Zinke said responsible development of offshore energy resources would boost jobs and economic security while providing billions of dollars to fund conservation along U.S. coastlines. The plan proposes 47 leases off the nation's coastlines from 2019 to 2024, including one off Washington and Oregon. Oil industry groups have praised the plan, while environmental groups

say it would harm America's oceans, coastal economies, public health and marine life.; Continued problems with Sacramento River salmon survival means there likely will be very little, maybe even zero, sport and commercial salmon fishing this summer off the Southern Oregon coast. The Medford Mail Tribune says preliminary stock assessments estimate only 229,400 Sacramento River fall chinook will be in the ocean. That's 1,300 fewer than last year's small run, whose protection shut down sport and commercial chinook fishing off Southern Oregon. Salmon managers heading into the Pacific Fishery Management Council's March 8-14 meeting say they think the council will be able to propose at least possible sport and commercial seasons with as little impact to Sacramento stocks as possible. The Pacific Fishery Management Council will set its final season recommendations when it meets April 5-11 in Portland. The federal Department of Commerce has the final say in setting ocean-fishing seasons. / POLITICS, BUSINESS: In a remarkably public confrontation, House Speaker Paul Ryan and other Republican allies of President Trump pleaded with him Monday to back away from his threatened international tariffs, which they fear could spark a dangerous trade war. Trump retorted: "We're not backing down." The president said U.S. neighbors Canada and Mexico would not be spared from his plans for special import taxes on steel and aluminum, but he held out the possibility of later exempting the longstanding friends if they agree to better terms for the U.S. in talks aimed at revising the North American Free Trade Agreement. Trump spoke shortly after a spokeswoman for Ryan, a Trump ally, said the GOP leader was "extremely worried" that the proposed tariffs would set off a trade war and urged the White House "to not advance with this plan." Likewise, Republican leaders of the House Ways and Means Committee circulated a letter opposing Trump's plan. and GOP congressional leaders suggested they may attempt to prevent the tariffs if the president moves forward. / HEALTH, BUSINESS: The nation's largest health insurer plans to give some customers a break at the pharmacy counter starting next year. Officials with UnitedHealthcare announced today that the insurer will pass along rebates from drug manufacturers to customers when they fill a prescription. Those rebates could amount to a few bucks or several hundred dollars, depending on the drug. The policy will apply to about seven million people who have fully insured coverage through an employer. That insurance generally involves smaller businesses. Drugmakers frequently give rebates for prescription drugs, but those discounts rarely flow directly to people filling the prescriptions. The Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute says insurers and employers most often use the money to reduce overall plan costs. President Trump also has proposed giving rebates directly to Medicare prescription drug customers. /

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT: Another big gift to enhance academics at the University of Oregon. Oregon native and longtime U-of-O benefactor Lorry Lokey says he's providing \$10 million to endow up to five faculty positions for the Knight Campus. University of Oregon officials broke ground Friday on the campus, across Franklin Boulevard, a \$1 billion project designed to fast-track scientific discoveries into treatments, therapies and technologies that can radically improve human health. The campus was launched in October 2016 with a \$500 million gift from Nike founder Phil Knight and his wife, Penny. It's planned for completion in two years and faculty recruitment is already underway. Lokey says he hopes his gift will inspire other donors to step up. Lokey was an early backer of a complex of campus science buildings that bear his name. Lokey, a Stanford graduate, founded the Business Wire news service and has given nearly \$800 million to schools and colleges in the U.S. and Israel.; The Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact began its transition from vision to reality Friday as heavy equipment started clearing the way for the ambitious project. Dozens of state and local dignitaries, university officials, faculty and staff at the groundbreaking event applauded as UO President Michael Schill gave workers the signal to start tearing down an existing building on what will be the site of the futuristic campus on the north side of Franklin Boulevard, UO officials also delivered news from Salem that state lawmakers had approved an additional \$20 million of state bonds toward the project. The Legislature in 2017 approved \$50 million in state bonds for the campus. / BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION: A new direct connection for Eugene's airport. Allegiant yesterday announced new nonstop service from Eugene to San Diego International Airport beginning May 17. The new seasonal route will operate twice weekly. Airport officials say San Diego is a popular travel destination and the new route should bring even more traffic to the airport. / SAFETY, YOUTH: The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries says it will accept complaints from those who believe they have been discriminated against by new policies at Dick's Sporting Goods and Walmart that restrict gun sales to people 21 and older. Commissioner Brad Avakian said in a letter to Oregon House and Senate leaders Tuesday that state law only provides for agerelated exemptions for alcohol and marijuana sales. A 20-year-old Oregon man has sued the retailers, alleging they discriminated against him by refusing to sell him a rifle due to his age. Avakian says his agency believes changing state law to add an age exemption for gun purchases would be "appropriate" to make public

places safer. The bureau will present a bill to lawmakers in the 2019 legislative session. / ECONOMY: Oregon's unemployment rate held steady in January as employers added 5,000 jobs. Analysts with the state Employment Department said Tuesday the jobless rate was 4.1 percent — the same as in December. Strong employment gains in manufacturing, construction and private educational services were partially offset by a weak month for leisure and hospitality. Another unemployment measure, known as U-6, was at 8.5 percent in January. That's also unchanged from December. The figure includes discouraged workers who stopped looking and part-time workers who want but can't get full-time jobs. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: More warnings are coming in response to President Trump's plan to impose tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum. Congressional Republicans and industry groups are pressing the president to narrow his plan for across-the-board tariffs. A visiting head of state, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, said during a joint news conference with Trump that increased tariffs will hurt everyone in the long run. Trump has reiterated his plans as a response to mistreatment of the U.S. in trade deals. He's leaving open the possibility that Canada and Mexico could be spared if they're willing to offer more favorable terms under a renegotiated North American Free Agreement.; Top Trump economic adviser Gary Cohn is leaving the White House after breaking with President Trump on trade policy. Cohn, the director of the National Economic Council, has been the leading internal opponent to Trump's planned tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum. He has tried to orchestrate an eleventh-hour effort to push Trump to reverse course. But Trump has been resistant to those efforts, and reiterated Tuesday he will be imposing the tariffs in the coming days. In a statement, Cohn says it was his honor to serve in the administration and "enact pro-growth economic policies to benefit the American people." Trump praised Cohn despite the disagreement, saying Cohn has "served his country with great distinction." / EDUCATION, ECONOMY, POLITICS: It's back to school in West Virginia. Teachers across the Appalachian mountain state are returning to their classrooms Wednesday, jubilant after their governor signed a 5 percent pay raise ending their nine-day walkout. The strike was closely watched by teachers' unions in Oregon and elsewhere across the country. West Virginia's 35,000 public school employees can get back to work — and 277,000 students are heading back to the books. / CRIME, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: The Bend Bulletin is reporting that the three Lane County men accused of sparking a 5,800-acre near Summer Lake in July were arraigned this week in Lake County Circuit Court. They're accused of starting the fire when they shot at homemade exploding targets. The suspects, 27year-old Elijah Matthew Dyer of Springfield, 34-year-old David Robert Evans of Springfield, and 68-year-old Gary Arthur Bigelow of Walterville were indicted in February on charges of felony manufacturing of a destructive device, felony criminal conspiracy and six counts of misdemeanor reckless burning. Reporter Kyle Spurr quotes prosecutors who contend the men were visiting the area July 8 for a family gathering on private property just north of the Summer Lake Lodge when they allegedly added pyrotechnics to targets and shot at the targets, leading to the wildfire. Lake County District Attorney Sharon Forster says exploding targets such as Tannerite are legal in Oregon, but attaching fireworks to targets and shooting at them recklessly in dry summer conditions is not. The Ana Fire burned sagebrush, grass and timber west of the Ana Reservoir near Summer Lake, destroying a hunting cabin and outbuilding. It burned on state and federal

lands, including parts of a federally protected sage grouse habitat. Flames 20 feet high came within 70 yards of homes in Summer Lake. The Bend Bulletin notes the six reckless burning charges against the men are because of the destroyed structures and burned federal land. The indictments list affected private property and property belonging to the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon Department of Forestry. A restitution amount is still being determined for the damage. All three men are out of custody after they each posted \$2,500 of their \$250,000 bail. They are each due back in court for a pretrial hearing in April. They may appear by phone, according to a court order. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: The Trump administration has filed a lawsuit seeking to undo California laws that extend protections for immigrants living in the United States illegally. The lawsuit was filed late Tuesday in Sacramento. It says three state laws intentionally undermine federal immigration law. Among other things, the legislation bars police from asking people about their immigration status or participating in federal immigration enforcement activities. Another law offers protection against workplace raids. The Justice Department says those laws hinder immigration authorities and are unconstitutional. / HEALTH, SAFETY: Emergency rooms saw a big jump in overdoses from opioids last year — the latest evidence the nation's drug crisis is getting worse. A government report released Tuesday shows overdoses from opioids increased 30 percent late last summer. compared to the same three-month period in 2016. The biggest jumps were in the Midwest and in cities, but increases occurred nationwide. Dr. Anne Schuchat. acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, calls it a "very difficult and fast-moving epidemic and there are no easy solutions." Overdose increases in some states and cities may be due to changes in the volume and type of illicit opioid drugs being sold on the streets, health officials said. The report did not break down overdoses by type of opioid, be it prescription pain pills, heroin, fentanyl or others. The CDC recently started using a new system to track ER overdoses and found the rate of opioid overdoses rose from 14 to 18 per 100,000 ER visits over a year. Almost all those overdoses were not fatal. The CDC numbers is likely an undercount. It's tracking system covers about 60 percent of the ER visits in the whole country and some people who overdose don't go to the hospital, Schuchat said. Opioids were involved in two-thirds of all overdose deaths in 2016. That year, the powerful painkiller fentanyl and its close opioid cousins played a bigger role in the deaths than any other legal or illegal drug. More recent CDC data shows overdose deaths rose 14 percent from July 2016 to July 2017, but that data doesn't distinguish opioids from other drugs.; Opioid drugs might be touted as treatments for chronic pain but a new, yearlong study finds they are no better than over-the-counter drugs or other non-opioids at reducing problems with walking or sleeping in patients with stubborn back aches or hip or knee arthritis. Among the opioids tested were generic Vicodin, oxycodone or fentanyl patches although few patients needed the most potent opioids. Nonopioids included generic Tylenol, ibuprofen and prescription pills for nerve or muscle pain. The study randomly assigned patients to take opioids or other painkillers. That's the gold standard design for research. The lead author of the study, which appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association, says if opioids don't work better than less risky drugs, there's no reason to use opioids given their side effects, which can include death and addiction. And while the results likely will surprise many people because opioids have a reputation as being

really powerful painkillers, the researchers say that's not what they found. About 42,000 drug overdose deaths in the U.S. in 2016 involved opioids, including prescription painkillers, heroin and fentanyi. Many people get hooked while taking opioids prescribed for injuries or other short-term pain and move on to cheaper, more accessible illicit drugs like heroin. A report released Tuesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found emergency rooms saw a big jump in overdoses from opioids last year. Opioid overdoses increased 30 percent late last summer, compared to the same three-month period in 2016. The biggest jumps were in the Midwest and in cities, but increases occurred nationwide. The report did not break down overdoses by type of opioid. Prescribing guidelines note that opioids should only be used if other methods don't work for chronic pain. Prescribing rates have declined slightly in recent years although they are still much higher than two decades ago. Researchers say the strongest evidence from other studies shows that physical therapy, exercise or rehabilitation therapy works best for chronic pain. And they note that there are a variety of non-opioid drugs to try if one type doesn't work. / HEALTH, BUSINESS: Amazon has taken another step to woo low-income shoppers to its site and away from rival Walmart. The online retailer opened up its \$5.99-a-month discounted Prime membership to people on Medicaid today, giving Amazon an even bigger pool of potential shoppers who might otherwise have been unable to pay the standard fee. Since June, Amazon has offered the same Prime discount to people using food stamps or other government assistance through an Electronic Benefit Transfer card. Amazon officials declined to say how many people signed up through that program. Industry analysts believe Amazon is maneuvering both to expand its Prime membership numbers, and to go after people whose first shopping destination might be Walmart. Prime offers free, expedited shipping, and other perks, such as access to Amazon's video and music streaming services. Nearly 70 million people are enrolled in Medicaid, which provides health coverage to lowincome people and those with disabilities. More than 42 million participate in the food stamps program, through what is now called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

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HEALTH, YOUTH, EDUCATION: A sobering statistic from Lane County Public Health officials: In a county where there are typically seven adolescent suicides each year we've had five in the past 40 days. The cases are unrelated, as are the circumstances that led up to the deaths and the methods used. Experts say suicide has many triggers, including family or economic issues, mental health problems, the break-up of a relationship or, sometimes the case of adolescents and pre-adolescents, bullying. Either way, suicide is heartbreaking for family and friends and a situation that the county's medical examiner has called, "a permanent solution to a temporary problem." In the wake of this cluster of deaths. Lane County health officials say they're partnered with private and community health providers, emergency responders, schools and parenting groups to get the word out about the situation and to share resources dealing with suicide prevention. They say if you have contemplated suicide, know that you are not alone. There are people who care about you. You have options. For family and friends, county health officials say you can learn about prevention and how to talk with someone who might be contemplating suicide. They say it's never an easy conversation, but it can help let the person know people care about them and there are other options. I've placed a link to the county's suicide prevention resources on my TracyKKNU Facebook page. Or go to Preventionlane.org; Did you know that 70% of people who die by suicide tell someone about their plans, or give warning signs? Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people between the ages of 5 and 34 and the 9th leading cause of death overall in Oregon. Rates of suicide in Oregon have been higher than the national average for the past 30 years—we rank in the top ten. Those who have made serious attempts are at much higher risk for actually taking their lives. Between 20 and 40% of people who kill themselves have previously attempted suicide. Nearly 50% of suicide victims have a positive blood alcohol level. Although most depressed people are not suicidal, most suicidal people are depressed. Serious depression can be manifested in obvious sadness, but often is expressed instead as a loss of pleasure or withdrawal from activities that were once enjoyable. Sometimes those contemplating suicide talk as if they are saying goodbye or going away forever.; A student-led report found that Oregon high school students cited mental health services among their top policy concerns. Oregon Public Broadcasting reports data compiled by Oregon Student Voice shows that 40 percent of students listed mental health resources as the most important issue for schools. The student-led

organization surveyed more than 2,200 students from 42 Oregon high schools. gauging students' opinions on teacher quality, support services, school climate and ability to influence education policy. The State of the Schools report found that only about half the students felt they could easily access mental health resources through their school. The report also outlined aspects of school life that students say influence their mental health like the difficulty and intensity of standardized testing.; It is a preventable disease but the infection rate in Lane County is up close to 1,000 percent during the past eight years. We're talking about Gonorrhea. a sexually-transmitted disease or "STD" that is making a comeback in Oregon because people are not practicing safe sex. In 2010, Lane County Public Health officials say there were fewer than 50 cases. For 2017, there were close to 430. What's behind the increase? County health officials think people have become complacent, especially because the medical community has done such a good job of treating other sexually-transmitted diseases such as HIV. But public health officials warn that a rise in gonorrhea infection rates is usually accompanied by increases in other diseases, such as HIV, syphilis and chlamydia. They say they're seeing increased in STDs across many age groups, but particularly among adults in their 20s and in their 40s. They say the numbers emphasize the importance of being tested for such diseases so you may get the appropriate treatment and practicing safe sex. / ELECTIONS, POLITICS: The window for candidates to register for Oregon's primary elections has closed - a step toward the first general elections in the state since President Donald Trump took office and a test for Democrats hoping to solidify their control of the Legislature. The deadline to register passed Tuesday at 5 p.m. All 60 seats in the state House are up for election, along with 16 state Senate seats, all five of Oregon's U.S. House seats. the governorship, and other state offices. The roster of candidates for the primary election isn't completely finalized yet, said Debra Royal, chief of staff for Secretary of State Dennis Richardson. All candidates names had been posted online, and election officials were working their way through verifying about 30 remaining candidates Wednesday afternoon, checking that they meet residency and other requirements. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, CRIME, HEALTH, POLITICS: Florida Governor Rick Scott has declined to say whether he will sign a school safety bill with new restrictions on rifle sales and a program to arm some teachers. The Florida House narrowly passed the measure yesterday after a close vote for passage on Monday in the Florida Senate. The measure, a response to the shootings at a Parkland high school that left 17 dead, is supported by the victims' families. Scott has repeatedly said he does not support arming teachers and had pushed lawmakers adopt his own proposal, which called for at least one law enforcement officer in every school and one for every thousand students who attend a school.; President Trump plans to meet with video game industry representatives as he considers responses to gun violence after the Florida school shooting that killed 17 people. The White House says attendees at today's meeting include representatives of the Entertainment Software Association, the Entertainment Software Rating Board and the Parents Television Council. Others represent the Media Research Center, a video game distributor, a software company, along with the author of a book linking mass killings to violent video games. Florida's Republican Senator Marco Rubio is among the lawmakers expected to attend. Trump has repeatedly referenced the violence in movies and video games during his public comments about guns and school safety since last

month's Florida shooting. Decades of research have failed to find such a link. : Do violent video games lead to deadly school shootings? In the wake of the Florida high school shootings, President Trump has called the level of violence in video games and movies "vicious" - and thinks the issue needs to be revisited. But experts say two decades of research have failed to show a direct link between to the games people play and what they do in real life. For example, a 2006 study by Indiana University found teens who play violent video games had higher levels of emotional arousal — but less activity in parts of the brain associated with planning, controlling and directing thoughts and actions. Another study by Villanova University found men who commit severe acts of violence actually play violent video games less than the average male. Another study by the same professor, Patrick Markey, at the same school found violence tends to dip when a new violent movie or video game comes out. Markey says so far, evidence either suggests no link or "goes in the opposite direction" when it comes to pairing violent entertainment with actual acts of violence.; Authorities say they are investigating a fatal shooting at an Alabama high school as an apparent accident. The incident left a 17-year-old girl dead and a 17-year-old boy wounded. Birmingham Police say investigators are working to piece together the circumstances surrounding Wednesday afternoon's shooting, which came as classes were being dismissed at Huffman High School. Investigators hope school surveillance video and interviews of students and staff will provide a timeline, details and answer their questions. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, POLITICS: A federal appeals court has given the green light to a lawsuit filed by young activists who say the U.S. government is failing to protect them from climate change. The lawsuit brought by 21 children and young adults asserts the government has known for decades that carbon pollution causes climate change but has failed to curb greenhouse gas emissions. They are seeking various environmental remedies. A three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday rejected the government's request for an order directing a lower court to dismiss the case. Julia Olson, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said in a statement that the group will put the federal government's "dangerous energy system and climate policies on trial." / ECONOMY, POLITICS: The White House is moving ahead with an announcement laying out President Trump's plan to impose tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. With Trump's official announcement expected Thursday, officials are working to include language in the tariffs that would give the president the flexibility to approve exemptions for certain countries, a move that could ease threats of retaliation. Trump trade and manufacturing adviser Peter Navarro says the president's planned tariffs for steel and aluminum imports would not immediately apply to Canada and Mexico. Navarro tells Fox Business that Trump intends to sign a proclamation including such a clause favoring the U.S. neighbors. More than 100 House Republicans are asking Trump to reconsider the plan. The lawmakers say in a letter to the president that tariffs are taxes that make U.S. businesses less competitive and consumers poorer. / IMMIGRATION. POLITICS: The Trump administration's lawsuit challenging California is the latest warning shot at communities nationwide that are attempting to provide protections for immigrants facing the threat of deportation. U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Wednesday that so-called sanctuary policies cannot be accepted. The U.S. Justice Department sued California over laws that limit police and employers' cooperation with federal immigration agents. White House officials are

set to meet Thursday with four Colorado state lawmakers who oppose so-called sanctuary policies. The Trump administration has clashed repeatedly with Democratic mayors and state officials over its immigration policies. Officials in other sanctuary cities and states were angered by Sessions' lawsuit. An Oregon lawmaker called the suit an attempt to "bully states." Chicago's mayor said the city can't be blackmailed into changing its values. / LOW-INCOME, HOMELESSNESS: Portland city commissioners have made permanent a program that requires landlords to pay renters' moving costs if they are evicted without cause or forced to move because of a rent increase of 10 percent or more. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the program is designed to address Portland's escalating housing and homelessness crisis. The program had been used on a trial basis for a year before commissioners made it permanent Wednesday. The permanent program adds a laundry list of new ones that will allow some landlords with a single unit and other landlords meeting certain conditions to avoid paying tenants' relocation costs. Wednesday's vote comes after commissioners heard hours of testimony on the program last week. Supporters said the program has helped tenants avoid big rent hikes and costly moves. Some landlords said the rules hampered their ability to issue a no-cause eviction against bad tenants. / CRIME: A Lane County jury has found a western Oregon man guilty of the 2016 fatal stabbing of his 19-year-old girlfriend in Eugene. The Register-Guard reports 24-year-old Erick Joaquin was convicted of murdering Jessica Frank after about 30 minutes of the jury deliberation. During closing arguments, the prosecutor told the court that Frank's injuries made it evident that Joaquin intended to kill her. Joaquin will be sentenced next week. / HEALTH, ECONOMY: Health insurance company Cigna will spend about \$52 billion to acquire the nation's biggest pharmacy benefit manager, Express Scripts. It is the latest in a string of proposed deals as the companies that pay many of the nation's health care bills attempt to get a grip on rising costs. The proposed \$67 billion acquisition follows a deal announced late last year in which the drugstore chain CVS said it will spend around \$69 billion on insurance company Aetna. Insurers and pharmacy benefit managers — which run drug plans for insurers and employer-based plans — have struggled to corral spiraling costs. The industry is also still adapting to the Affordable Care Act, which reshaped the individual insurance market and expanded the state- and federally funded Medicaid program. /

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EDUCATION, SPORTS: Good luck to two of our local prep teams who are headed to Gill Coliseum in Corvallis for championship games today: The Marist girls meet La Salle in the Class 5A title game at 6:45 p.m. and the Thurston boys meet Wilsonville in their Class 5A title game at 8:30 p.m.; Good news for the Oregon men's basketball team: They rallied to beat Utah in the Pac-12 tournament quarterfinals and meet USC in a semifinal match-up this evening. / EDUCATION, CRIME, WOMEN, YOUTH: The Register-Guard is reporting that the victim of abuse by the former principal of the Academy of Arts and Academics has informed the Springfield School District that she intends to sue. Reporter Alisha Roemeling writes that the tort claim notice filed by a Portland attorney who's representing the adult victim, says that her client will demand compensation from the district for, quote, "damages she suffered as a result of the conduct" of former Principal Mike Fisher and other district employees. The notice was filed with the district Wednesday. The allegations regarding Fisher came to light last week when The Register-Guard reported that Fisher, the former longtime principal of the charter high school known as A3 from 2005 to 2018, had sexually abused a student starting when she was 14 years old and continued having sex with her into adulthood. Fisher committed suicide Feb. 1, just one day after being placed on administrative leave in connection with a police investigation into the matter. / HEALTH, CRIME, SAFETY, POLITICS: Oregon Governor Kate Brown yesterday testified in front of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to share perspectives on the opioid crisis and provide recommendations on how to better address the issue at the federal level. Brown noted that opioid abuse can begin with a prescription in a family medicine cabinet, leading to parents unable to care for children or themselves. She told senators that in Oregon, sixty percent of foster children have at least one parent with substance abuse issues, including opioids. During its recent short legislative session, Oregon lawmakers passed a bill aimed at better assessing the prevention and treatment options in the state. She'll sign it into law later this month. She also highlighted the need to improve data sharing from the federal to the state level and make affordable generic overdose drugs more available. / CRIME: Yet another armed robbery has been reported near the University of Oregon, this time involving a woman walking on Hilyard Street near East 15th Avenue. It happened at 12:30 a.m. Thursday one block from where a woman was robbed early Saturday morning. The latest robbery is the fifth in one week. The 21-year-old victim told

police she was approached by a man who threatened her with a handgun and robbed her of cash. He then ran northbound. The woman walked home in about 20 minutes and told her roommate, who called 911, Eugene police said, Officers searched the area but were unable to find the suspect. He was described as a white male of an unknown age, about 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall with a medium build and weighing 180 pounds. He was wearing a dark-colored hooded sweatshirt. At 2:39 a.m. Saturday, a 21-year-old woman was robbed of cash at gunpoint at East 16th Avenue and Hilyard Street. The suspect in that case was described as a black male in his 20s, about 6 feet tall. The other gunpoint robberies in the past week occurred at a Subway sandwich shop, Tom's Market and the Neighborhood Market. University of Oregon police said two men were involved in the Tom's Market robbery. The first suspect was described as a black male, in his 20s, between 6-foot and 6-foot-2, with a heavy or muscular build. He was wearing a black beanie-style hat, a black mask covering the lower part of his mouth, a long-sleeved black jacket and black pants. The second suspect was described as a white male, with a medium build, who was wearing a dark blue beanie-style hat, a dark blue sweatshirt with a gray hood and a logo, black pants and black shoes. Anyone with information about the crimes is asked to call Eugene Police at 541-682-5111. / HEALTH, EDUCATION: PeaceHealth Medical Group and Eugene School District 4J have joined forces to ensure students continue to receive easy access to critical physical and mental health care through the district's two school-based health centers, located at Churchill and North Eugene high schools. 4J established a health center at North Eugene High School in 1986 to provide preventive care, the treatment of illnesses, injuries and chronic health issues and coordination of mental health counseling services for 4J students. The North Eugene school-based health center was only the second in the state. 4J opened a second clinic at Churchill High School in 1995. Recent state changes to health center requirements induced the district to partner with an outside medical provider for medical services and billing. The new partnership with PeaceHealth makes it possible for 4J students to continue accessing healthcare services in a school-based setting. Under this new partnership, the school district will continue to provide the clinic space and support staffing, while PHMG will provide medical staffing, medical oversight and facilitation of the billing of medical services. Lane County Public Health will continue to provide mental health services. Among the services provided: School/sports/camp physicals; Immunizations; Mental health assessments and visits; Follow-up for various health-care needs; Referrals for specialty care; Lab testing. The centers take insurance and the Oregon Health Plan, and will not turn away any student needing treatment, regardless of ability to pay. From August 29, 2017 to January 31, 2018, the clinics have assisted 437 patients. / SAFETY: Sunday, March 11th, marks the beginning of Daylight Saving Time and serves as a good reminder for Oregonians to test their smoke alarms. The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal is urging residents to test their smoke alarms before automatically changing the batteries. Smoke alarm technology has advanced and many now come with 10-year batteries and some are tamper-resistant. Experts encourage you to test your alarms before changing the battery, and to be sure to replace any smoke alarm that is 10 years old or older. Oregon law requires ionization-only smoke alarms that are solely battery powered to come equipped with a hush feature and a 10year battery. Because of this technology, the national slogan "Change your clock,

Change your battery" might not apply to Oregon residents who have these ionization-only smoke alarms. Other types of alarms are also being sold with either a 10-year battery or a standard-life battery. Ensuring you have working smoke alarms in your home is the single most important step you can take to increase your family's safety from a home fire. To test your alarm properly: Push the test button to be sure the battery is working. When replacing batteries, follow the manufacturer's instructions for the correct battery type to use. Always retest alarms after installing new batteries. Replace any alarm that fails to operate after installing a new battery. Inspect your alarms to determine if they are 10 years old or older, and replace any smoke alarm 10 years old or older. Look for a date on the back of the alarm. If there is no date, your alarm is more than 10 years old and should be replaced. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for regularly cleaning your alarms of dust and cobwebs. / ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT, LOW-INCOME: Calling it a significant expansion that will double its footprint and add to downtown Eugene's revitalization, officials with the 5th Street Public Market are revealing details of what they say is a \$60 million development on the site of a parking lot off Sixth Avenue between Oak and Pearl Streets. The project is being developed on land owned by Lane County and leased for 99 years to Obie Companies, which owns the 5th Street Public Market. Backers say the three buildings planned on the site include a three-story retail and office building, an 82room boutique hotel and 113-unit apartment building. They say the project will add 45,000 square feet of retail and office space to downtown Eugene. Company officials are revealing additional details later today. They'll be joined by Lane County Commissioners Chair Jay Bozievich and Homes for Good Executive Director Jacob Fox. Homes for Good, Lane County's housing agency, is developing workforce housing on a lot at 6th and Oak Street adjacent to the Market expansion. / EDUCATION: Imagine 56 teams from seven Lane County school districts— 280 competitors in third, fourth and fifth grades who love reading and are ready to prove it. Saturday at Thurston High school, the Springfield Public Schools host the Region 3 North Oregon Battle of the Books. The top elementary teams prepared by reading and discussing details of 16 books and on Saturday, during the preliminary and final rounds, they'll be tested on their knowledge. Think of it as a tournament of the mind in a quiz show format. And these kids are good at what they do. The Oregon Battle of the Books or O-BOB is a voluntary reading program that encourages and motivates students to read while promoting academic excellence and teamwork. There are also O-BOB tournaments for middle and high school students. All are vying for the chance to represent their schools at the state tournament next month. New Country 93.3's Tracy Berry will be one of the volunteer moderators and is looking forward to another great year. / ECONOMY, POLITICS: President Trump says his action on tariffs on steel and aluminum imports is necessary to protect industries "ravaged by aggressive foreign trade practices. It's really an assault on our country." He has ordered steep new tariffs on those imports to the U.S. The president says he will exempt Canada and Mexico as "a special case" while negotiating for changes to the North American Free Trade Agreement. The new tariffs will take effect in 15 days, with America's neighbors indefinitely spared "to see if we can make the deal." Trump says. He suggested in an earlier meeting with his Cabinet that Australia and "other countries" might be spared, a shift that could soften the international blow amid threats of retaliation by trading partners.; U.S. employers went on a hiring binge in

February, adding 313,000 jobs, the most in any month since July 2016, and drawing hundreds of thousands of people into the job market. The influx of new workers kept the unemployment rate unchanged at 4.1 percent. The Labor Department said wage gains, meanwhile, fell a bit from January year-over-year. Strong hourly wage growth had spooked markets last month because it raised the specter of inflation. The surge of job gains may reflect, in part, confidence among some businesses that the Trump administration's tax cuts will accelerate growth. Consumers are also benefiting from higher after-tax income, which grew last month at the fastest pace in a year, aided by the tax cuts. In the meantime. economists are calculating how the Trump administration's decision Friday to impose a 25 percent tariff on steel imports and a 10 percent tariff on aluminum might affect the job market. The Trade Partnership, a consulting firm, estimates that the tariffs will eliminate roughly 145,000 jobs. Steel and aluminum producers would hire more people. But the gains would be more than offset, the firm calculates, by sharp losses among companies that use the metals, such as automakers, packaged food companies and those that make industrial machinery. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, CRIME, HEALTH, POLITICS: As Florida's Republican governor keeps everyone in suspense about whether he'll sign the legislature's response to the massacre of 17 people by a teenager, the Broward County Sheriff's Office released 911 recordings of ten telephone calls that highlight how events played out at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The material includes frantic calls by students and parents. The excerpts show a deputy on school grounds first thought the loud bangs were firecrackers, then realized they were gunshots — yet he never ran toward them. Other responding deputies and officers desperately tried to sort through a chaotic scene, treat the injured, lock down the school and locate the shooter. The bill Gov. Rick Scott is weighing narrowly passed Florida's House and Senate. It falls short of what he wanted and what survivors of the massacre demanded, and both teachers unions and the National Rifle Association are opposed. But the families of some of the 17 students and staffers who died signed a letter urging Scott to "quickly sign this historic legislation into law." Scott said he plans to meet with those families on Friday. The measure would raise the minimum age to buy rifles from 18 to 21. extend a three-day waiting period for handgun purchases to include long guns, and ban bump stocks that allow guns to mimic fully automatic fire. As for schools, it would create a so-called guardian program enabling school staffers with law enforcement training and school district approval to carry concealed handguns on campus. It would create new mental health programs for schools and establish an anonymous tip line where students and others could report threats. It also seeks to improve communication between schools, law enforcement and state agencies. The NRA opposes raising age limits to buy weapons or imposing new waiting periods. In a statement Thursday, NRA and Unified Sportsmen of Florida lobbyist Marion Hammer called the bill "a display of bullying and coercion" that would violate Second Amendment rights and punish law-abiding citizens. Teachers. meanwhile, called on Scott to use his line-item veto power to zero out the \$67 million set aside for the program to train and arm school employees. The Florida Education Association on Thursday sent a letter to Scott saying the only people who should have guns in schools need to be trained law enforcement. The governor, who is expected to seek a U.S. Senate seat later this year, has called for raising the minimum age to purchase any type of gun, but he does not support

arming teachers. Instead, he wanted lawmakers to adopt his own \$500 million proposal to put at least one law enforcement officer in every school. The governor has 15 days to sign the measure, veto it or let it become law without his signature. The suspect in the attack, Nikolas Cruz, a 19-year-old former Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School student, faces 17 counts of first-degree murder and 17 counts of attempted murder for the massacre. Cruz's public defender has said he will plead guilty if prosecutors take the death penalty off the table and sentence him to life in prison instead. Prosecutors have not announced a decision. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: Officials with the U.S. Embassy in Mexico issued a security alert this week for the Caribbean resort of Playa del Carmen, a popular spot for some Oregonians during Spring Break vacations. The alert included an indefinite ban on travel to Playa del Carmen by U.S. government employees. It said the U.S. consular agency there "will be closed until further notice." Mexican officials said the city is safe, despite the U.S. alert. But they are concerned that U.S. tourists might now avoid the areas, which relies on their visits. Already, a number of U.S. travel agencies say they have clients canceling spring break trips to the region. The embassy did not specify what kind of security threat it had been informed of in the resort area, which is near Cancun, Cozumel and Tulum. But officials said it was unrelated to an explosion on a passenger ferry last month that injured at least two dozen people. Last week, undetonated explosive devices were found on another boat owned by the same ferry company. U.S. officials say Playa del Carmen and some other Mexican tourist areas are seeing growing problems with drug violence and signs of conflict between drug cartels. But it's not clear if that is in any way related to the security alert issued Wednesday by the Embassy.

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

EDUCATION, SPORTS: Congratulations to the Marist girls and the Thurston boys, who earned Class 5A state basketball championships over the weekend. / ECONOMY, SPORTS: Oregon was given a No. 3 seed to the 2018 National Invitation Tournament and will face sixth-seeded Rider Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the opening round at Matthew Knight Arena. The Ducks went 22-11 in the regular season, including an 11-7 mark in Pac-12 games, Rider, located in Lawrenceville. N.J., was the regular season champion of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference after going 22-9 overall and 15-3 in league play. This will be the first meeting between Oregon and Rider. The Oregon-Rider winner will face either Marquette or Harvard on a yet-to-b-determined date between March 16-19. Tickets went on sale online Sunday night at www.goducks.com/tickets Prices, plus fees, range from \$10 to \$50. This will be Oregon's 11th NIT appearance, and first since 2012. The Ducks have reached the NIT Final Four in New York on three occasions: 1975, 1999 and 2004. / CRIME, SAFETY, COMMUNITY: The three finalists for Eugene Police Chief are in town this week. They'll meet with department staff and visit with some key members of the community. And tomorrow evening from 5:30-6:30 p.m. they'll take part in a forum that's open to the public. It will be in Harris Hall in the Lane County Public Service Building at Eighth and Oak Streets in Eugene. The finalists are: Mike Lester, Assistant Police Chief for the Vancouver. Washington; Bruce Marquis, former Police Chief of Norfolk, Virginia, Hartford, Connecticut, and the Houston, Texas Independent School District; and Chris Skinner, Chief of Police for the Richland, Washington. Officials say they'll collect community feedback on the candidates at Tuesday evening's forum and that written feedback may be provided via email EPCrecruit@ci.eugene.or.us through Saturday evening. / SAFETY: A motorcycle rider was severely injured yesterday in a crash east of Autzen Stadium. Eugene Police officers say they responded to the single-vehicle crash on MLK Boulevard at the Leo Harris Parkway to find the rider. whose name has not been released, suffering several fractures and other lifethreatening injuries. Witnesses told investigators the motorcycle was weaving through traffic at a high rate of speed before it left the roadway and struck a retaining wall. It appears speed and alcohol might be contributing factors to the crash. The eastbound lanes of the roadway were closed for several hours during the investigation. / EDUCATION, CRIME, SAFETY, POLITICS, YOUTH: President Trump tweeted this morning that he is, quote, "watching court cases and rulings," end quote, before taking action on raising age limits for purchasing some firearms.

The president argues that there is, quote, "not much political support (to put it mildly)." Trump's tweet came after his White House put out a plan to combat school shootings that does not increase the minimum age for purchasing assaultstyle weapons to 21 — an idea Trump publicly favored just last month. Instead, a new federal commission on school safety will examine the age issue as part of a package the White House announced Sunday in response to the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, last month that left 17 dead. No deadline was set for the commission's recommendations, but officials expected them within a year. The plan also leaves the question of arming teachers to states and local communities. The administration pledged to help states pay for firearms training for teachers. Trump convened a series of listening sessions in the weeks after the Florida high school massacre. In televised meetings with lawmakers, survivors of recent school shootings and the families of victims, Trump made a strong case for arming teachers and for increasing the age for purchasing long guns. But Trump has also spoken repeatedly in recent weeks with the heads of the powerful National Rifle Association, which considers increasing the age of purchase to be an assault on the Second Amendment. The NRA on Friday sued Florida over a new gun law signed by Republican Gov. Rick Scott that bans the purchase of firearms by anyone under the age of 21. The White House is backing a modest background check bill and a school safety measure, which both are expected to have widespread bipartisan support—even though some Republicans object and many Democrats say they are insufficient. The president also called on states to pass court-issued Risk Protection Orders, which allow law enforcement to confiscate guns from individuals who pose risks to themselves and others, and temporarily prevent them from buying firearms. And he called for the reform and expansion of mental health programs, as well as a full audit and review of the FBI tip line. The bureau has been criticized for not following up on warnings about the suspect in the Parkland school shooting.; Wednesday marks the one-month anniversary of the mass shooting at a Parkland, Florida, high school. Across the country, thousands of students plan to walk out of their classes for 17 minutes—in memory of the 17 who died. The challenge for school officials is deciding how to respond to that and other planned walkouts this spring. National demonstrations are also planned for March 24, with a march on Washington, D.C.; and on April 20, the 19th anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado. Some schools are taking a hands-off approach to the demonstrations, allowing students to exercise their First Amendment rights provided they do not disrupt classes or ask teachers and administrators to take a stance on gun control. Others have promised to suspend students who walk out. There have been other. smaller demonstrations in the wake of last month's shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. But Wednesday will mark the first large-scale, coordinated national demonstration, partly coordinated by organizers of the Women's March. The ACLU has been advising students that because they are required to go to school by law, administrators can discipline them for unexcused absences. But the ACLU also told students in an online training video that administrators cannot punish them more harshly because of the political nature of their demonstrations. Last week, a number of leading universities including Harvard, Yale, MIT, the University of Connecticut, UCLA and dozens of others reassured students that no matter how schools decide to deal with the demonstrations, student participation will not affect their chances of being

admitted. / IMMIGRATION, CRIME: President Trump is visiting the U.S.-Mexico border Tuesday, where little has changed in the past year despite heated rhetoric. On Tuesday, Trump will inspect 30-foot-high prototypes for a future border wall that were built in San Diego last fall. The wall was a centerpiece of his campaign. but barriers extend the same 654 miles they did under his predecessor. Trump pledged to expand the Border Patrol by 5,000 agents, but staffing fell during his first year in office because the government has been unable to keep pace with attrition and retirements. Farmers in California's Imperial Valley still rely on hundreds of Mexicans who cross daily to pick vegetables. Jack Vessey, who farms about 10,000 acres, says daily commuters from Mexico account for half his workforce. / VETERANS, CRIME, HEALTH: Authorities have so far been tightlipped about why a former Army rifleman might have killed three women at a Northern California veterans home. Albert Wong had been enrolled in the veteran treatment program at The Pathway Home after several years of struggling following his deployment in Afghanistan. The 36-year-old was recently expelled from Pathway Home, but authorities have not said why. A family member says Wong became fixated on petty grievances after experiencing combat in Afghanistan. Tyrone Lampkin, the older adopted brother of Albert Wong, tells the Press-Democrat newspaper that Wong was never the same after getting out of the military. Lampkin says Wong would obsess about relatively minor conflicts, such as someone owing him money or not pulling their weight. The treatment facility in Yountville might never reopen. A spokesman for The Pathway Home says directors of the veterans program are beginning an exhaustive review of security protocols. / POLITICS, WOMEN: Days before an Oregon state senator was due to leave his post over sexual misconduct allegations, the Republican from rural downstate published a newsletter casting himself as a victim of politics. Oregon state Senator Jeff Kruse of Roseburg had previously announced he was resigning March 15 after an investigation determined he had harassed women with unwelcome physical contact. But on Friday, he said he resigned without the extent of his due process so as not to distract from the legislative session's business. He also made a plea for his legacy to be remembered aside from his swift downfall, which he called a scripted "soap opera" designed for political gain. The independent investigator in response urged the public to read the report detailing years of inappropriate behavior. /

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EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: The Oregon women's basketball will be at home to open the NCAA Tournament this weekend — and the Ducks hope they have an arena full of fans joining them Friday evening. Fresh off the first Pac-12 Tournament championship in program history, the UO women on Monday were awarded a No. 2 seed into this year's NCAA Tournament. The Ducks will host the first two rounds of the tournament, looking to extend their school-record 30-win season against No. 15 seed Seattle University on Friday in Matthew Knight Arena (4:30 p.m., ESPN2). The No. 2 seed is the highest in school history, ahead of the No. 3 seed earned by the 1984 team. The Ducks (30-4) hope to see those fans and thousands more on Friday, when the arena hosts two first-round games. No. 7 seed Green Bay and No. 10 seed Minnesota will meet Friday at 2 p.m., followed by the Ducks and Redhawks. The winners will meet Sunday (time TBA, ESPN2) for a trip to the Sweet Sixteen. Oregon is playing in the Spokane Regional, and thus could stay in the Pacific Northwest by winning twice this weekend. But after surprising the nation by earning a No. 10 seed and making it to the Elite Eight last season, the Ducks know not to take anything for granted. Oregon won the Pac-12 regular-season title with a 16-2 record, led by conference player of the year Sabrina lonescu and fellow first-team all-conference selections Ruthy Hebard and Maite Cazorla. Wing Satou Sabally was named conference freshman of the year.; The Oregon State women's basketball team will open the 2018 NCAA Tournament in Knoxville, Tenn, the NCAA Selection Committee announced Monday as part of its Selection Show. The No. 3 seed Beavers will take on 11seeded Western Kentucky on Friday. Should Oregon State advance, it will play on Sunday against the winner of No. 3-seed Tennessee and No. 14-seed Liberty. The second-round winner will head to the Sweet 16 at the Lexington Regional. This season marks the fifth-straight season Oregon State has made the NCAA Tournament, the most consecutive tournament runs in program history. The Beavers head to this year's NCAA Tournament with a record of 23-7, as the team has notched its fifth-straight 20-win campaign. Oregon State has made the NCAA Tournament in each of the last four years, and has made the Sweet-16 in back-toback seasons, including a Final Four run in 2016.; The Oregon men were given a No. 3 seed to the 2018 National Invitation Tournament and will face sixth-seeded Rider Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the opening round at Matthew Knight Arena. The Ducks went 22-11 in the regular season, including an 11-7 mark in Pac-12 games. Rider, located in Lawrenceville, N.J., was the regular season champion of the

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference after going 22-9 overall and 15-3 in league play. This will be the first meeting between Oregon and Rider. The Oregon-Rider winner will face either Marquette or Harvard on a yet-to-be-determined date between March 16-19. Tickets range from \$10 to \$50. The UO will operate public shuttles from Autzen Stadium only for the NIT first round game. This will be Oregon's 11th NIT appearance, and first since 2012. The Ducks have reached the NIT Final Four in New York on three occasions: 1975, 1999 and 2004. / CRIME, SAFETY, MENTAL HEALTH: Attorney General Jeff Sessions is telling state and local officials to make sure they are providing crucial mental health and criminal history information to federal background check systems. Sessions on Monday directed the FBI to identify localities that are not fully reporting information about arrests and mental health records to federal authorities. Such information could prevent someone from purchasing a gun if discovered during a background check. Sessions told the FBI that people who can't legally own guns shouldn't be able to pass background checks "simply because information was not available to you." Sessions in November ordered a review of the FBI's background check system after the Air Force failed to report the criminal history of the gunman who slaughtered more than two dozen people at a Texas church. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, CRIME: The Register-Guard is reporting the Springfield School District will move to end the charter school designation for the Academy of Arts and Academics, an alternative high school also known as A3. Reporter Alisha Roemeling writes the district intends to eliminate the high school's independent, 10-person governing board, giving the district staff and its board complete oversight of the school in downtown Springfield. A3 administrators no longer will oversee staff contracts or evaluations, financial allocations or be able to make decisions regarding programs or services at the school. The school with about 300 students has been reeling for nearly two weeks since the disclosure of allegations that its former principal, Mike Fisher, had sexually abused a female student for years. Fisher committed suicide Feb. 1, one day after being placed on administrative leave in connection with the police investigation into the matter. The decision was announced by A3 Governing Board interim president Andy Dey at a regularly scheduled meeting Monday evening following a meeting with Springfield district staff earlier in the day. The two groups agreed that the charter designation will end on June 30 to ensure that students in the current school year will not be affected by the change. / ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT, BUSINESS: A \$1.5 billion settlement has been reached in a class-action lawsuit covering tens of thousands of farmers, grain-handling facilities and ethanol plants. They sued Swiss agribusiness giant Syngenta over its introduction of a genetically engineered corn seed. Four lawyers who led the litigation said in a joint statement that the settlement is believed to be the largest agricultural litigation settlement in U.S. history. Lawsuits in state and federal courts challenged Syngenta's decision to introduce two modified corn seed strains (Viptera and Duracade) for the 2011 growing season three years before earning approval for import by China cut off their access to the large Chinese corn market and caused price drops for several years. Most of the farmers involved in the suit did not grow the genetically modified strains but China rejected millions of tons of their grain because elevators and shippers mix grain from several suppliers, making it impossible to find corn free of the trait. Syngenta invested more than \$100 million and 15 years in developing the corn strains, which have a trait that protects against pests such

as earworms, cutworms, armyworms and corn borers. / CRIME, BUSINESS, POLITICS: Federal prosecutors will not take on small-time marijuana cases, despite the Justice Department's decision to lift an Obama-era policy that discouraged U.S. authorities from cracking down on the pot trade in states where the drug is legal, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Saturday. Federal law enforcement lacks the resources to take on "routine cases" and will continue to focus on drug gangs and larger conspiracies, Sessions said. The comments come after the Trump administration in January threw the burgeoning marijuana legalization movement into uncertainty by reversing the largely hands-off approach that prevailed during the Obama administration, saying federal prosecutors should instead handle marijuana cases however they see fit. The Obama-era policy allowed the pot trade to flourish, with eight states legalizing marijuana for recreational use. The reversal added to confusion about whether it's OK to grow, buy or use marijuana in states where pot is legal, since long-standing federal law prohibits it. And it caused concern that prosecutors would feel empowered to jail individuals for marijuana possession. Of particular interest are problems that federal authorities have tried for years to tackle, like illegal marijuana-growing operations on national parklands and gangs that peddle pot along with more harmful drugs. Some law enforcement officials in pot-legal states argue the legal trade has caused unintended problems like black-market marijuana growing and dealing by people who don't even try to conform to the legal framework. It remains to be seen whether prosecutors will seek to punish state-sanctioned pot businesses. Some have indicated they have no plans to do so. /

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SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, FAMILY: The arrival of spring brings many visitors to the Oregon coast and officials with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department remind you to be safe while exploring the shoreline. March can be a tricky time of year on the coast. There is still stormy weather driving larger ocean waves and breakers on shore, even on warmer spring days. Visitors are often so excited about sunnier skies that safety takes a back seat, occasionally with tragic consequences. Preparation and common sense go a long way to keeping you safe on the coast. Coastal threats can come in the form of powerful waves, unstable logs on beaches and erosion of rocks and cliffs. Some essential safety tips: Always keep one eye on the ocean so you won't be caught off guard if a bigger wave surges up the beach. These "sneaker waves" are unpredictable, powerful and especially dangerous for children. Stay away from logs on the wet sand or in the surf. These logs can weigh several tons and can be moved by only a few inches of water. The ocean is strong enough to pick up even the biggest log and roll it over you. Know when the tide is coming in, especially when exploring tidepools. It's easy to become stranded by the incoming tide when your attention is elsewhere. You can keep track of tides with a tide table; state park rangers and many local businesses can give you one for free. Be careful on cliffs and rocks. They can be unstable due to erosion. Stay on marked trails and do not climb over fences. Both are there to keep you safe. / DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION: The Eugene Airport management team is hosting an Airport Master Plan Open House to give community members an opportunity to learn about plans for the future of the facility. Community members are invited to attend the Open House on Wednesday, March 14, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., in the Eugene Airport Terminal Lobby. Parking in the short-term parking lot will be validated for free. The master plan is a comprehensive study of the Eugene Airport that will be used as a strategic planning tool. Attendees will hear about upcoming airport projects and future opportunities. Participants will also be able to provide feedback with airport staff and consultants working on the plan. The following facility requirements for the Eugene Airport have already been identified: Five additional aircraft parking positions for commercial aircraft. Additional concourse hold rooms to accommodate the associated enplaning and deplaning passengers. Airfield safety improvements required by FAA to meet modern design standards. Terminal area entrance road enhancements which will improve safe vehicle and pedestrian movement. Additional parking and rental car spaces to meet community demand.

Consolidation of general aviation facilities to improve efficiency and ensure a compatible airport operating environment. Preservation of strategic land locations to prepare for future demand for airport-specific facilities such as hangars, charter passenger services, airport maintenance, and aircraft fuel storage. The master plan proposes long-term capital improvements recommended to maintain efficient airport operations and high levels of customer service. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, POLITICS: From Maine to Hawaii, students planned to walk out of school today to protest gun violence in the biggest demonstration yet of the student activism that has emerged in response to last month's massacre of 17 people at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. In nearly 3,000 protests nationwide, including a number here in Lane County, students from the elementary to college level are taking up the call in a variety of ways. Some plan roadside rallies to honor shooting victims and protest violence. Others will hold demonstrations in school gyms or on football fields. In Massachusetts and Georgia and Ohio, students said they'll head to their statehouse to lobby for new gun regulations. The coordinated walkouts were loosely organized by Empower, the youth wing of the Women's March, which brought thousands to Washington, D.C., last year. The group urged students to leave class at 10 a.m. local time for 17 minutes — one minute for each victim in the Florida shooting -- and suggested demands for lawmakers, including a ban on sales of assault-style weapons and mandatory background checks for all gun sales. Other schools sought a middle ground, offering "teach-ins" or group discussions where students who don't want to participate could bring a note from a parent to opt out. But each community is being urged to shape its own protests, and while parents and teachers in many districts worked together to organize age-appropriate activities, school administrators had mixed reactions. Some have applauded students for taking a stand, while others threatened discipline. Today's nationwide action is one of several protests planned for coming weeks. The March for Our Lives rally for school safety is expected to draw hundreds of thousands to the nation's capital on March 24, its organizers said. And another round of school walkouts is planned for April 20, the 19th anniversary of the Columbine High School shooting in Colorado. ; First Lady Melania Trump is bringing together tech giants to talk about fighting cyberbullying and promoting internet safety. Among the companies expected to attend the meeting next week are Amazon, Snap, Facebook, Google and Twitter. Representatives of three companies say the meeting is set for March 20. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss the plans publicly. The meeting would mark Mrs. Trump's first public event on a subject she has previously expressed interest in. During the first year of her husband's administration, she played a low-key role. Her interest in children has been clear, with visits to schools and hospitals. In remarks at the United Nations last year, Mrs. Trump called on world leaders to come together for the good of their children. / CRIME: A Springfield man has been sentenced to life in prison after a jury found him guilty of murder. The Register-Guard reports that 31-yearold Timothy Micheal Green was convicted on Tuesday in the May 2017 death of 36-year-old Steven Ray Burton. Green's attorney asked jurors to find his client guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter, arguing that Green's decision to shoot Burton was reckless, rather than intentional. But prosecutor JoAnn Miller argued that murder was the appropriate charge. She said evidence showed Green had acted intentionally when he used a 9mm pistol to shoot Burton in the chest. Miller

said trial evidence showed that Green had used methamphetamine before killing Burton. / ENVIRONMENT: Three environmental groups are suing the federal government over the decline in wild salmon and steelhead in the Upper Willamette watershed. The lawsuit filed Tuesday in Portland alleges the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the National Marine Fisheries Service have not completed specific tasks intended to help fish overcome dams that have cut off key spawning habitat. The Statesman Journal reports that state biologists fear the winter steelhead could go extinct in the Molalla, Santiam, McKenzie and Middle Fork rivers. WildEarth Guardians, Native Fish Society and Northwest Environmental Defense Center say dams on those tributaries block between 40 percent and 90 percent of spawning habitat. Corps officials say they have kept to a 2008 agreement to help fish and point to \$194 million spent on the Upper Willamette. / HEALTH, SAFETY. ENVIRONMENT: The final evacuees from a large fire in northeast Portland have been given the OK to return home. Officials asked up to 4,000 residents to evacuate Monday because of unhealthy air. The fire in an auto-salvage yard burned cars and tires, sending heavy black smoke into the sky. Multnomah County officials cut the size of the evacuation zone early Tuesday and gave the all-clear to residents Tuesday afternoon for the four blocks closest to the scrap yard. More than 140 evacuees stayed in a shelter overnight. The fire began Monday morning and burned all day. Officials say at least four residences. including a duplex and two single-family homes, were destroyed. No people were injured, but many pets died. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: Ford is recalling nearly 1.4 million midsize cars in North America because the steering wheel can detach from the steering column and drivers could lose control. The recall covers certain Ford Fusion and Lincoln MKZ cars from the 2014 through 2018 model years. Ford says steering wheel bolts can loosen over time. The company says it knows of two crashes and one injury caused by the problem. Dealers will replace the bolts with longer ones that have more aggressive threads and a nylon patch to stop them from coming loose. Just over 1.3 million cars in the U.S. are being recalled. The rest are in Canada and Mexico. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: Freshman Victor Bailey Jr. hit 7 of 8 three-pointers and scored 23 points, both career bests, and Oregon rallied in the fourth quarter to defeat Rider 99-86 in a first-round NIT game on Tuesday night. /

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30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, HEALTH: The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local partners have responded to an oil release that caused a significant oil sheen on the McKenzie River in Springfield on Tuesday March 13. The release of hydraulic oil was from an International Paper storm water outfall from their paper plant on N. 42nd Street. The release was originally reported to Oregon Emergency Response at 5:50 p.m. on Tuesday. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife received the initial report of sheen earlier Tuesday and notified International Paper. The company estimates 200 gallons were released. DEQ is coordinating its response with Lane County Emergency Management, Lane County Sheriff's Office, Eugene Water & Electric Board, the Eugene-Springfield Fire Department and Region 2 Regional Hazardous Materials Team. The source of the oil release is located approximately 800 feet downstream from EWEB's McKenzie River drinking water intake. The intake is located at Hayden Bridge and provides water to the city of Eugene and other communities. EWEB's water supply has not been affected. EWEB is providing updates to the public through social media channels regarding the spill response, drinking water quality and river access. Emergency responders advise the public to avoid using the Hayden Bridge or Bellinger boat ramps until further notice, and to avoid the McKenzie River from Hayden Bridge downstream to Armitage Park until the situation is resolved. People should also avoid contact with any oily water on the McKenzie River. If people were to come into contact with oily water agencies recommend washing affected areas with soapy water. Emergency responders stopped the flow of oily water from the pipe and placed booms and materials across the river to help absorb and capture the oil. They are also assessing the McKenzie River shoreline today from Armitage Park, approximately seven river miles downstream, up to the release point to determine if there are any wildlife impacts and any oil that can be cleaned up. The booms will prevent all recreational boating traffic near Hayden Bridge and will remain blocked until the booms are removed. Emergency responders are evaluating the river and riverbank areas to determine if they are contaminated and require cleanup. The agencies are working with the paper company on the use of their outfall to ensure that additional releases are prevented.; The Lane County Sheriff's Office has closed three Springfield-area boat ramps-- the Hayden Bridge, Bellinger and Hendricks Bridge boat ramps-- to the public effective immediately and until further notice. The boat ramps are closed in order to support the clean-up of an oil spill in the McKenzie River. "We

need boaters to be aware that the Hayden Bridge, Bellinger and Hendricks Bridge boat ramps are closed," said Assistant Search and Rescue Coordinator Jason Bowman, Lane County Sheriff's Office. "The presence of booms in the river and other obstructions related to the clean-up effort pose a safety hazard for boats. We need boaters to avoid those areas until further notice." Vehicle access to the boat ramps will be blocked by construction barricades. Boat ramp locations: Bellinger Boat Ramp is located on Oak Point Road (off of Camp Creek Road); Hayden Bridge Boat Ramp is located at 3400 Hayden Bridge Road (near the intersection of Hayden Bridge Road and Marcola Road); Hendricks Bridge Boat Ramp is located at 38870 Hendricks Park Road (between mileposts 11 and 12 on Highway 126 east); The Eugene Water & Electric Board has posted its own update to clarify that the cleanup is happening a short distance DOWNSTREAM from its water intake and is not affecting drinking water.; More than 1.5 million juvenile fish evacuated from a hatchery after last year's Columbia Gorge wildfire are being released into rivers for their journey to the Pacific Ocean. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildfire says a half-million coho evacuated from a hatchery in Cascade Locks were released last week in the Lostine River in northeastern Oregon. Another half-million will soon be released in the Umatilla River. Also this spring, 650,000 coho will be released into the Methow and Wenatchee rivers in Washington state. And spring chinook evacuated last September will go into a tributary of Oregon's Sandy River. Officials ordered the evacuation because storms were passing over the area burned by the Eagle Creek fire. Officials feared a debris flow would harm water quality and kill fish at Cascade Hatchery. The fish were moved to other Northwest hatcheries. Some were sheltered at the Leaburg hatchery up the McKenzie River. The released fish will migrate into the Columba River and eventually the ocean. / EDUCATION, CRIME, SAFETY, POLITICS: They bowed their heads in honor of the dead. They carried signs with messages like "Never again" and "Am I next?" And they repeated the message: Enough is enough. In a wave of protests one historian called the largest of its kind in American history, tens of thousands of students walked out of their classrooms Wednesday to demand action on gun violence and school safety. The demonstrations extended from Maine to Hawaii as students joined the youth-led surge of activism set off by the Feb. 14 massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. For 17 minutes—one for each person who died in Parkland, Florida, students around the nation left class to lead marches or rally on football fields, while others gathered in school gyms or took a knee in the hallway. At some schools, hundreds of students poured out. At others, just one or two walked out in defiance of administrators. In joining the protests, the students followed the example set by many of the survivors of the Florida shooting, who have become gun-control activists, leading rallies, lobbying legislators and giving TV interviews. Their efforts helped spur passage last week of a Florida law curbing access to assault-style rifles by young people. Another protest against gun violence is scheduled in Washington, D.C., on March 24, with organizers saying it is expected to draw hundreds of thousands. But whether the students can make a difference on Capitol Hill remains to be seen. Some students want to see mandatory background checks for all gun sales and a ban on weapons like the one used in the Florida bloodbath. As the demonstrations unfolded, the NRA responded by posting a photo on Twitter of a black rifle emblazoned with an American flag. The caption read: "I'll control my own guns,

thank you." But Congress has shown little inclination to defy the gun lobby's powerful voice, the NRA, and tighten gun laws, and President Trump backed away from his initial support for raising the minimum age for buying an assault rifle to 21.; Students from almost 3,000 schools marked National Walkout Day, including some in Lane County ranging from elementaries and high schools to the University of Oregon and Lane Community College. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown went to Roosevelt High School in Portland to show support Wednesday. Brown tweeted that she was proud of the students, encouraged by the movement, and federal legislators must do more to keep schools safe. At Churchill High in Eugene, students gathered in the school courtyard at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes of silence and then marched down a road chanting: "Hey, hey, ho, ho, the NRA has to go." In Eastern Oregon, dozens of Pendleton High students gathered silently by a flagpole. An assistant principal monitored the event from afar and a police officer was on the scene. As the protest rolled across the Eastern and Central time zones. Democrats in the U.S. Senate took the floor for a series of speeches in which they read the names of young people killed by gun violence. Other walkouts were planned in parts of Europe and Australia. While many schools accommodated the planned demonstrations, other districts warned students they face disciplinary actions if they disrupt classes with the protest—including possible suspension.; While students across the nation walked out of school amid the national gun control debate, the 19-year-old accused of killing 17 people and wounding more in the Florida school shooting sat in court silently with his head bowed. Nikolas Cruz sat motionless in the jury box and said nothing during a brief hearing Wednesday. Because he refused to announce his plea, a judge entered a not guilty plea on his behalf on each of the 34 counts he faces — mainly to keep the legal process moving. His attorney reiterated that Cruz would plead guilty if prosecutors waived the death penalty, which they refused to do. Cruz is accused of carrying out the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida that also wounded 17 other people. / ECONOMY, BUSINESS, POLITICS: The U.S. Senate has passed bipartisan legislation easing bank rules that were enacted after the financial crisis to prevent a relapse. The Senate voted 67-31 for a bill from Republican Senator Mike Crapo of Idaho that would scale back provisions of the law known as Dodd-Frank. The bill is particularly aimed at helping small and medium-sized banks, but critics argue that the likelihood of future taxpayer bailouts will increase if it becomes law. The House has already passed more expansive legislation. Now, lawmakers will try to work out a compromise that both chambers can support. That may be difficult as negotiators try to appease GOP lawmakers without losing the support of a core group of Democratic senators who backed Crapo's banking legislation. / BUSINESS, ECONOMY: Fond memories don't balance corporate profit and loss sheets. In the face of tough competition from megastores like Wal-Mart and online retailers including Amazon, as well as the move away from traditional toys to online games, Toys R us is heading for liquidation and the closure of its 740 U.S. stores, including one in Eugene. The chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last fall, grappling with \$5 billion in debt. While company officials say they will try to find a buyer for its U.S., Canadian and online operations, the outlook appears grim for close to 30,000 Toys R Us employees. The company's troubles have affected toy makers Mattel and Hasbro, which are big suppliers to the chain. But analysts say the likely liquidation will have a bigger impact on smaller toy makers, who rely

more on the chain for sales. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, CRIME: There's a new officer patrolling the University of Oregon campus in Eugene. Onyx, a 3-year-old black Labrador rescue dog, and his handler, Officer Troy Phillips, completed a special training program ahead of starting work on campus. The dog was named for both Onyx Street, which runs through campus, and for his shiny black coat. Onyx has two key duties: explosives detection and community engagement: Officials say the dog is a great icebreaker with students and a good ambassador for the U-of-O's police department. Onyx's specialized training allows him to sniff out both explosives and the small explosives in firearms ammunition. University of Oregon officials say those skills are essential when they host dignitaries, hold high-profile events or need to search inside a building or in campus open spaces. Officer Phillips and Onyx are making the rounds of campus, getting the dog acquainted with the lay of the land and allowing him to meet student, staff and visitors along the way. Their only request: Ask first before greeting Onyx, so Officer Phillips can make sure the dog follows directions and keeps his enthusiasm in check. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, FAMILY: A German Shepherd from Salem wound up in Japan this week. Accidentally. The Oregonian and OregonLive report the ten-year-old dog, named Irgo, was headed to Wichita during a family move to Kansas. But something happened at Denver's airport and Irgo was put in a canine flight container headed for a military family serving overseas. Reporter Andrew Theen writes that Kara Swindle, one of Irgo's owners, showed up at Kansas City air cargo facility Tuesday night and burst into tears when a Great Dane puppy peered out of Irgo's container. United Airlines later issued a statement saying the pets' destinations were accidentally swapped by the vendors operating the kennel at Denver's airport. Irgo arrived at Tokyo's Narita Airport, was checked by a veterinarian and pronounced healthy. Don't know whether he's earning frequent traveler miles but united officials say the German Shepherd is flying to Wichita aboard a private charter.; United Airlines says the flight attendant who ordered a passenger to put her pet carrier in the overhead bin didn't realize there was a puppy inside. The airline's account is being contradicted by the family that owned the French bulldog, and also by other passengers on Monday night's flight. United said Wednesday that the customer did mention the dog, but the flight attendant didn't hear or understand her. The dog died during the Houston-to-New York flight on Monday night. United, which promotes its petshipping program called PetSafe, carries more animals than any other airline, but its animal-death rate is also the highest in the industry. Last year, 18 animals died while being transported on United — three-fourths of all animal deaths on U.S. carriers, according to the Department of Transportation. / HEALTH, WOMEN; A new study from Sweden shows that women who are highly fit in mid-life are nearly 90% less likely to get dementia decades later. And while a few highly fit women did develop dementia as they aged, they did so 11 years later than those who were moderately fit. Researchers followed the women for 44 years. Those who were not as in shape lived just as long. But those who could ride an exercise bike at a fast rate for six minutes in an initial fitness test had a much lower risk of dementia later on than those who couldn't complete the workout. The study, published in the journal Neurology, doesn't directly link lack of exercise to dementia or a high level of fitness to preventing dementia. But health researchers say they've long known of a correlation between exercise and decreased dementia risk. This study just dramatically underscores that. Only about five

percent of the women with the highest fitness level in middle age developed dementia, compared to 25% of those with medium fitness and 45% who weren't fit enough to finish the test. Scientists believe Alzheimer's and other dementias begin 15-20 years before symptoms even appear, so it makes sense that exercising in mid-life would reduce the risk. Other ways to reduce risk: avoid smoking, get adequate sleep and eat a healthy diet. As a bonus, those lifestyles also help prevent cardiovascular disease. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: The postseason honors continue to accumulate for the Oregon Women's Basketball team. The squad opens NCAA tournament play Friday afternoon against Seattle. It's a 4:30 game at the Matthew Knight Arena and broadcast on ESPN2. This week, sophomore Sabrina Ionescu (yoh-NESS'-coo) was named one of four finalists for the Wade Trophy, which is presented by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association to the national player of the year. The winner of the Wade Trophy will be announced during ESPN's telecast of the Final Four games on Mar. 29, in Columbus, Ohio. lonescu led the Pac-12 in both points (19.4 ppg) and assists (7.8 apg) this season and her nine career triple-doubles is already the most in NCAA history.; And Oregon women's basketball head coach Kelly Graves has been named one of four finalists for Naismith Coach of the Year honors. Graves, who reached his 500th career head coaching win this season, helped Oregon set program records for overall wins (30) and conference wins (16). Oregon is ranked No. 6 heading into the NCAA Tournament. Oregon's regular season Pac-12 title this year is its first since 2000 while the Ducks' Pac-12 tournament title is the first in program history.; Sophomore forward Sierra Campisano has been named second team all-academic while senior Justine Hall and sophomore Lydia Giomi (gee-OH'-mee) also earned honorable mention all-academic honors. Campisano boasts a 3.78 GPA and is majoring in English with minors in creative writing and special education. She plans to become a teacher after graduation.

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CRIME, SAFETY: Eugene police say they are investigating the city's eighth robbery in less than two weeks. And while they don't know whether some or all of the cases are linked, they continue to ask the public for any leads they might have on the suspects. Most of the holdups occurred near the University of Oregon. including several late at night on local streets and sidewalks. Some of the robberies were committed by one man, while two men acted together in other holdups. The suspects have been described variously as a white male, a black male and an Hispanic male. The latest hold-up came yesterday in the River Road area at (Lucky) Lil's Deli. The business features several video lottery machines. The suspect was described as a white male, 20 to 30 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall with a medium-to-heavy build and a blue bandana over his face. The suspect was wearing white and black skate or athletic shoes with a big tongue, blue jeans and a gray hooded sweatshirt. The same deli also was robbed earlier this month. Last week, there was a robbery of a Springfield deli with video lottery machines.: The Register-Guard is reporting that the man who allegedly fired a handoun in a Santa Clara neighborhood Thursday evening before leading officers on a brief chase was arrested without incident. Eugene Police say officers responded shortly before 7 p.m. after multiple people called 911 to report that a man was shooting a handgun while walking in the 600 block of Terra Linda Avenue. There were no reports of injuries. Reporter Christian Hill writes that as officers converged, the man-whose identity has not been released-jumped into a white Ford Bronco hauling a trailer. Police say he drove through the neighborhood and turned on Wilkes Drive with numerous police vehicles tailing him, fleeing an attempted traffic stop at River Road and Irvington Drive before turning onto West Anchor Avenue, pulling over and surrendering. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: For years, scientists have warned that Oregon and the Northwest are overdue for the sort of massive earthquake that strikes offshore once every 500 years. The temblors occur in what's known as the Cascadia Subduction Zone and such massive quakes register up to magnitude 9.0, which would cause widespread damage not just along the coast but here in the Willamette Valley. Now, a new study by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries assesses just how bad the damage might be in the Portland metropolitan area, which is home to more than 40 percent of Oregon's population. It predicts billions of dollars in building damage and as many as 27,000 people injured or killed, although the study concludes most injuries would be minor. But the report estimates up to

85,000 people might be displaced from their homes and that building damage alone could top \$30 billion. Now, the scientists aren't sharing this to depress us or encourage people to move away. Rather, they say they hope people will use the information to better prepare, taking small steps such as securing large pieces of furniture and TVs so they cannot topple—and constructing or retrofitting homes and offices to better withstand earthquakes. They say how the region prepares will determine just how well Oregon and the Northwest bounces back. They say this is also a good opportunity to chat with your family and co-workers about how you'd deal with a major earthquake should it strike while you're at home, at work or at school. The study says casualties would be much higher if "the big one" hits in the daytime, when more people are away from home. A 9.0 quake in the middle of the night would leave 4,400-10,400 injured or killed. A daytime guake could leave 60,000 people injured or dead, the report said. More than a quarter-million people could face long-term displacement, and building damages might exceed \$80 billion. The report also examines the potential impact of a magnitude 6.8 quake along the Portland Hills Fault, which hasn't produced a strong earthquake in thousands of years. Though the low-activity fault is less likely to rupture, its location beneath a large section of Portland would make a seismic event more catastrophic. / BUSINESS, POLITICS: America's largest business lobby is warning President Donald Trump against slapping big tariffs on Chinese imports. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is sounding the alarm as the White House weighs whether to punish China for forcing U.S. companies to hand technology to Chinese companies. "Simply put, tariffs are damaging taxes on American consumers," U.S. Chamber President Thomas Donohue says in a statement. Citing reports that the administration is considering tariffs worth \$30 billion a year, Donohue notes that such a tax on Chinese imports would wipe out much of the windfall American families are getting from December's tax cuts. Donohue also warns that sanctions against China "could lead to a destructive trade war." The administration last August launched an investigation into Chinese policies that coerce U.S. companies into transferring technology, / EDUCATION, POLITICS: The Department of Education has begun notifying some former Corinthian Colleges students that it will forgive only one-half or less of their federal student loans, even though the students were defrauded by the now-defunct schools, the Associated Press has learned. The action is part of the Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' push to ease regulations governing for-profit schools. DeVos says she wants to protect taxpayers' money, but critics say that the Trump administration has deep ties to for-profit colleges and is putting industry interests ahead of students. The secretary announced in December that she was breaking with the Obama administration's practice of fully wiping out the loans of defrauded forprofit students and would grant some only partial relief. / BUSINESS: Sports apparel brand Nike says one of its senior executives will step down in August. Nike did not say why Trevor Edwards, its brand president who had been seen as a possible future CEO, was leaving the company. The Wall Street Journal reported that his resignation was announced to Nike employees in an internal memo that said the company had received complaints about inappropriate workplace behavior. The Journal said the internal memo from CEO Mark Parker didn't specify the nature of the complaints or whether they involved Edwards or other executives. Nike Inc. representatives did not immediately respond to requests for comment. The Beaverton, Oregon-based company said in a news release that

Parker will remain as chairman, president and CEO beyond 2020, and detailed other executive changes. / RELIGION, CRIME, BUSINESS: A movement to ban assault-style rifles in Oregon was launched yesterday by a group of interfaith clergy at a Portland church Thursday. They hope youth involved in recent protests against gun violence will help drive the campaign. They've begun an initiative petition to place the issue on the November ballot and must gather slightly more than 88,000 signatures by July 6 in order to do so. It comes in the wake of last month's mass shooting at a Florida high school and this week's student protests across the country. While a person must be at least 18 years old to vote in Oregon, the campaign organizers note that even a 14-year-old can go out and collect signatures. Those involved in the interfaith campaign note the civil rights movement of the 1960s was launched in an Alabama church, adding that, quote, "Good things come out of unexpected places." / RELIGION, POLITICS, CRIME: The Oregon Supreme Court on Thursday handed down the longest suspension in its history to a judge who refused to marry same-sex couples in the state, but stopped short of removing him from office. Instead, the court ordered Vance Day suspended for three years. A spokesman for the Oregon Judicial Department. said the suspension was the longest in the court's history. Particularly troubling, according to the court, was Day's willingness to repeatedly make false statements during official inquiries. That conduct, the court wrote, called into question Day's trustworthiness, undermining both his integrity and the integrity of the judicial system as a whole. The most serious ethics charges stemmed from allegations that Day twice gave a gun to a felon who was in probation through a special court for veterans where Day was a judge. In those incidents, the Oregon Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability said Day had inappropriately singled out a veteran who was on probation through his court, including texting him, then twice allowed him to handle a gun, then lied to the commission during an investigation into the gun handling. Another of the charges stemmed from an incident between Day and a referee at a soccer game in 2012. The commission said Day made a false statement in a letter he submitted as part of an investigation into the incident. Day's public stance on same-sex marriage came later. After a May, 2014 ruling by a federal judge that legalized gay marriage in Oregon, Day instructed his staff not to schedule any marriages for gay or lesbian couples. The commission said Day's actions toward same-sex amounted to discrimination, and referred it and seven other counts related to the other incidents to the high court for final action. The court's action suspends Day immediately without pay, effective after two weeks. It doesn't affect criminal charges against him related to the gun handling allegations. Day's trial on those charges, for official misconduct and for giving the gun to the man. is scheduled to begin April 17. / ECONOMY, HEALTH: The start of March Madness, with the excitement over the college basketball tournaments, is accompanied by office pools and lots of professional sports betting. But for some Lane County residents, gambling is more than an occasional activity: It's an addiction that can drain their checking and savings accounts, affect relationships and lead to feelings of depression, anxiety, guilt and shame. Sunday at 6:30 a.m. on Community Forum, we sit down with Lane County's Problem Gambling Coordinator to discuss the latest trends in addiction and treatment. We'll also chat about the growing challenges posed by online games, as well as Oregon's video gambling machines and the state's reliance on the revenues they provide. That's at 6:30 a.m. Sunday here on New Country 93.3. / ECONOMY: U.S. employers

sharply ramped up their demand for workers in January, advertising 6.3 million jobs at the end of the month, the most on records dating back 17 years. The Labor Department says the number of job opening soared 645,000 in January, the largest one-month increase in 21/2 years. The number of people hired ticked up and fewer Americans quit in January compared with the previous month. The huge demand for workers comes as the unemployment rate is already at a 17year low of 4.1 percent. The report shows that overall hiring increased by a much smaller amount than job openings, suggesting that employers are having difficulty finding the workers they need. That may raise pressure on companies to increase pay to attract more applicants. / FAMILY, TRANSPORTATION: An Oregon dog who was mistakenly flown to Japan is back with his family in Kansas. The German Shepherd, named Irgo, arrived at a Wichita airport Thursday night after a flight on a private plane from Japan. Kara Swindle and her two children were flying on United Airlines from Oregon to Kansas City, Missouri, on Tuesday during a move to Wichita, Kansas. When they went to pick up Irgo, they instead were given a Great Dane. United said in a statement that the dogs were somehow put on the wrong flights during a connecting flight in Denver. Irgo's misadventure began a day after a French bulldog puppy died aboard a United flight after a flight attendant required a passenger to put her pet carrier in the overhead bin. /

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ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: On the McKenzie River, the Bellinger and Hendricks Bridge boat ramps reopened on Friday, but the Hayden Bridge Boat Ramp remains closed until further notice. The next available boat ramp downstream from Hayden Bridge is Rodakowski Landing (also known as Harvest Landing). It comes as clean-up continues over the weekend following last week's spill of 200 gallons of hydraulic oil. The floating "booms" that had been placed across the river have been removed and smaller booms have been installed along the shore on both sides of the McKenzie near Hayden Bridge. The booms and their associated lines and underwater anchors still pose a significant hazard and boaters should stay as far away from the equipment as possible. As the clean-up effort continues, officials warn that re-closure might be necessary. Boaters should check the homepage at www.lanecounty.org before heading out to ensure that Bellinger and Hendricks Bridge remain open and the river remains passable. / ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY: Douglas County Parks Department is pleased to announce that the structural repairs have been completed at Windy Cove County Park Crabbing / Fishing Dock in Winchester Bay. The dock reopened on Friday, just in time for Spring Break visitors. This is good news in Winchester Bay: The project originally was slated to re-open in July. The Crabbing / Fishing Dock received significant structural repairs that included replacing the landing area that has been closed to the public for several years, and a complete deck repair and replacement. In addition, life rings and access ladders were installed to improve safety. A Land and Water Conservation Grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department helped pay for the repairs. Douglas County Parks, which operates solely on user fees, maintains 42 developed parks, 23 boat ramps and nine campgrounds. / BUSINESS, COMMUNITY, CRIME, POLITICS: A sharp loss for Facebook is helping to pull technology companies lower as stock indexes decline in early trading. Facebook stock slumped five percent in the opening minutes. The company is facing new criticism after revealing that a data mining firm affiliated with the Trump campaign improperly kept data on tens of millions of users.; Lawmakers on both sides of the Atlantic criticized Facebook and its chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, after reports surfaced that another company, Cambridge Analytica, improperly harvested information from 50 million Facebook users. The officials reacted to reports in The New York Times and The Guardian of London that a company known as Cambridge Analytica, which is best known for working on President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign, had improperly obtained

Facebook user data and retained it after claiming it had deleted the information. Former Cambridge Analytica employee Chris Wylie said that the company obtained information from 50 million Facebook users, using it to build psychological profiles so voters could be targeted with ads and stories. In Washington, D.C., there were calls for an investigation as Senator Amy Klobuchar (KLOH'-buh-shahr), a Democrat from Minnesota, said on Twitter that Zuckerberg "needs to testify before Senate Judiciary." Klobuchar, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said the situation amounted to a major breach that needed to be investigated, adding, quote, "It's clear these platforms can't police themselves." Senator Mark Warner of Virginia, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, echoed Klobuchar's complaint, saying of the online political advertising market, quote, "left unregulated, this market will continue to be prone to deception and lacking in transparency." A British lawmaker accused Facebook on Sunday of misleading officials by downplaying the risk of users' data being shared without their consent. Conservative legislator Damian Collins, who heads the British Parliament's media committee, said he would ask Zuckerberg or another Facebook executive to appear before his panel, which is investigating disinformation and "fake news." Collins said Facebook has "consistently understated" the risk of data leaks and gave misleading answers to the committee. Collins also accused the head of the U.K.-based data firm Cambridge Analytica, Alexander Nix, of lying to the committee during testimony last month. / CRIME, ELDERS, LOW-INCOME: Several Oregon state agencies are investigating a manufactured home park for seniors in Eugene, amid complaints that it cheated some residents out of thousands of dollars. The Register-Guard reports that those investigating the Falcon Wood Village park include the Department of Justice and the Department of Consumer and Business Services. The newspaper says it identified five cases from 2010 to 2013 in which residents agreed to allow the park to sell their homes for them — only to receive a small fraction of the ultimate selling price. Some of the residents were in difficult financial straits when they agreed to the sales. After an internal audit, the park's owner, Chicago-based Equity Lifestyle Properties, fired its regional manager in Oregon in January. It says it's cooperating with investigators. / BUSINESS, SAFETY: Fred Meyer says it will stop selling guns and ammunition. The Portland, Oregon,-based chain in an announcement Friday says it made the decision after evaluating customer preferences. The company has more than 130 stores in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. The company in a statement says the firearms category represents about \$7 million annually of its revenue and sales are declining. It says it will phase out the sales of guns and ammunition, but didn't give a timeline. The company several weeks ago in response to last month's high school shooting in Florida that left 17 people dead said it would stop selling firearms to anyone under 21. The company, a subsidiary of Kroger Co., had already stopped selling assault-style guns several years ago, except in Alaska, / BUSINESS: Claire's, the mall chain that has pierced the ears of millions of teens, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The company said its stores will remain open as it restructures its debt. Claire's is just the latest retailers to seek bankruptcy protection, close stores or go out of business entirely. Toys R Us announced last week that it would close or sell all its stores after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last year. Privately held Claire's says it expects to emerge from bankruptcy in September. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: The U.S.

Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether federal immigration law gives the government the power to indefinitely detain any noncitizen it is considering deporting if the person previously committed certain crimes. The Supreme Court agreed this morning to consider the issue. Immigration law says that if noncitizens commit a crime for which they can be deported, the government should take them into custody for potential removal when they're released from prison or jail. A person detained immediately may be held indefinitely. The government argues the same is true if the person is released and then later detained for possible removal. At issues is a ruling from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, which ruled that noncitizens not promptly detained must be given the opportunity to be released on bond. / EDUCATION, ECONOMY-SPORTS: Senior Marie Gulich had 14 points and 12 rebounds to lead sixth-seeded Oregon State to its third straight regional semifinal appearance with a 66-59 win over third-seeded Tennessee in Knoxville Sunday. The Lady Vols had been 57-0 at home in NCAA tournament play. Tennessee's swarming pressure defense flustered OSU early, forcing turnovers and contested shots. The national leader in 3-point field goal percentage, OSU started 1 for 7 from behind the 3-point line in the first half. But OSU switched to a zone defense in the second quarter that slowed the Vols' offense and began hitting shots on the other end. The Beavers gradually built their lead to as large as 13 points. Tennessee made a desperate attempt to rally in the final minutes, but OSU managed to keep the Lady Vols at bay and beat Tennessee for the first time in five attempts. It's the second straight season that Tennessee lost in the second round of the NCAAs and will miss the Sweet 16 in back-to-back seasons for the first time in the program's 37-year tournament history. After the final buzzer, the Beavers celebrated on the court as their small contingent of fans behind the bench cheered. Tennessee had three players from the state of Oregon on its roster, including Senior Mercedes Russell, who was recruited out of Springfield. Russell finished with 21 points and 14 rebounds in the final game of her Tennessee career. The Beavers are scheduled to take final exams this week before heading to Lexington, Kentucky, for the Sweet 16 and a match-up against No. 2 seed Baylor.; The Oregon women's basketball team has advanced to the NCAA's Sweet 16 after a 101-73 win over Minnesota at Matthew Knight Arena. The Ducks' sophomore guard, Sabrina Ionescu, had 29 points, nine assists and seven rebounds. And she set a Pac-12 single-season record for assists at 284. Fellow sophomore Ruthy Hebard finished with 22 points and 10 rebounds. It was the final home game for senior and local star Lexi Bando, who nailed some signature three-pointers to thrill the home fans. This was the 11th straight victory for the Ducks, who are headed to the round of 16 for the second straight season. Last year they went to the Elite Eight for the first time in program history. The Ducks, who won both the Pac-12 regular season and tournament titles. They've now pushed their total wins this season to 32, a record for coach Kelly Graves. The Ducks will travel to Spokane, Washington, to face the winner of today's game between third-seeded Ohio State and No. 11 Central Michigan in Columbus, Ohio.; But the season ended for the Duck men. They lost their Sunday NIT contest to Marquette, 101-92. MiKyle McIntosh went 15 of 18 from the freethrow line — both career highs — and scored 25 points for Oregon (23-13). Paul White scored a career-high 19 points and Pritchard scored seven of Oregon's first nine points but went scoreless the rest of the quarter and finished with 16. /

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Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

COMMUNITY, CRIME, SAFETY: Eugene's new police chief is Chris Skinner, a veteran public safety officer who is currently at the helm of the Richland. Washington, police department. Skinner will take the top job with the Eugene Police on April 30th. Eugene City Manager Jon Ruiz says Skinner has demonstrated leadership abilities, a depth of experience and is known for building relationships, using innovative approaches, and leading by example. Skinner was one of three finalists who visited Eugene last week to meet with community members and department employees. Skinner began his public safety career in Oregon with the Benton County Sheriff's Office, where he worked throughout the county, including with Oregon State University. He worked his way up to Deputy Chief in Hillsboro, Oregon, before taking the job with the Richland Police in 2011. In Richland, Skinner has focused on growing the police department's communication and community policing efforts while implementing data-driven initiatives to reduce crime. He currently serves as a Co-Chair of the Tri-City Coalition against Trafficking and the Washington State Department of Commerce's Taskforce against the Trafficking of Humans. Within his department, he also created an Internet Crimes against Children taskforce. Skinner is a founding Co-Chair of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chief's Public Trust Committee which uses 21st Century Policing to guide work aimed at building trust between public safety agencies and communities across Washington. Skinner earned a master's degree in Business Administration from George Fox University and a bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement and Psychology from Western Oregon University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Skinner will receive an annual salary of \$153,171. Eugene's Police Chief is responsible for the overall leadership and administration of the Police Department which employs about 190 sworn officers and 140 civilian employees who provide a variety of police services with an operational budget of over \$50 million. / CRIME: Springfield Police say they have arrested two men in connection. with robbery at Springfield video lottery deli. They say it came after a tip Friday morning from a clerk at a business in the 5600 block of Main Street in Springfield. Investigators have charged the two men in connection with the March 12 armed robbery of Lucky Lou's deli in Springfield. The suspects, identified as 40-year-old James Thomas Tkacs and 32-year-old Waquas Ali "Vick" Bhatti of Eugene, currently face charges of second-degree robbery. Springfield Police say that during the early-morning robbery, they ordered customers in the deli's video lottery

gaming area to hand over their belongings and that one suspect struck a woman in the head with the gun when she was slow to respond to his demands. Police have not determined whether the two men are connected to a series of robberies during the past month in Eugene, including a number near the University of Oregon campus. But The Register-Guard notes that several hours after Bhatti and Tkacs were arrested, a 19-year-old woman was the victim of a robbery attempt at East 15th Avenue and Mill Street, near the U-of-O. Descriptions of the suspects in the various holdups have included a black male, a white male and a Hispanic male. Some of the robberies were committed by one man, while two men acted together in other holdups.; Eugene Police say they negotiated a peaceful ending to an armed stand-off yesterday afternoon near the busy 29th and Willamette intersection in South Eugene. Shortly after 1:15 p.m., they received a call regarding a man who was reportedly armed with a handgun and waving it around in the street near the 7-Eleven store. Investigators say the man, later identified as 29-year-old Nathan Alan Duffy, ran to a nearby McDonald's as police arrived to contact him, and then barricaded himself in a bathroom. Nearby offices were evacuated for safety while police successfully negotiated with Duffy. They were able to persuade him to exit the bathroom without the weapon and took him into custody without incident. Officers later identified the gun as a realistic looking B.B. gun. It was partially pink in color, however, gun manufacturers are selling firearms in colors that have a similar look. Duffy was charged with Disorderly Conduct.; Two men were arrested over the weekend near Yoncalla in connection with the largest seizure of methamphetamine by members of Douglas County's Interagency Narcotics Team. It came during a traffic stop on Interstate Five. Investigators say they seized about 74 pounds of meth and an undisclosed amount of cash. They say if sold by the pound, the "street value" of the methamphetamine would be approximately \$370,000 but that the value would have been higher once it was divided into smaller quantities for sale. The suspects include a Creswell man, 30-year-old Israel Salvador Mercado-Mendoza, and a 33year-old California man. They face charges of Unlawful Possession, Delivery and Manufacture of Methamphetamine, Unlawful Delivery of Methamphetamine, and Unlawful Manufacture of Methamphetamine. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, HEALTH: The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is working with International Paper to ensure any remaining oil left in a pipe leading to the McKenzie River is removed and that the pipe can be safely returned to service. Over the weekend, a company contractor inspected two sections of the pipe and found oil had accumulated in one of those areas. Today, the contractor will pump out the oil and then clean the pipe using a high-pressure water jet. Once the cleaning efforts are finished, and the pipe in that area is inspected, workers will resume pumping water through the pipe, increasing the flow gradually until it reaches levels seen during International Paper's typical operations. Plans call for this test flow operation to happen on Tuesday. As a precaution, booms that can contain and absorb oil will be placed in the river early Tuesday morning, before flow rates through the pipe are increased. DEQ will closely observe the flow test. which will likely take most of the day Tuesday. A slight sheen may result from any residual oil still left in the pipe. If there is an unanticipated larger release of oil, the booms will help capture and contain any oil that is released. If there is a persistent sheen, the water flow will be turned off and DEQ will work with International Paper on alternative plans to clean out the pipe and return it to service. Samples taken

from the river last week are below levels expected to cause harm to aquatic wildlife or humans. Water samples will be collected Tuesday during the flow test and continue every other day until further notice. DEQ and International Paper are coordinating with Lane County, which is coordinating notifications to the boating community and any necessary postings at area boat ramps. The Hendricks and Bellinger boat ramps will re-close at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19, and remain closed through Wednesday morning, March 21. The Hayden Bridge Boat Ramp has been closed since March 14 and will remain closed until further notice. The current closure will allow clean-up crews to place booms across the McKenzie River downstream from Hayden Bridge as a precaution while the pipe that originally discharged the hydraulic oil into the river is tested. The river will be completely blocked downstream from Hayden Bridge throughout the day on Tuesday, March 20. These booms and their associated lines and underwater anchors pose a significant hazard and boaters should stay as far away from the equipment as possible. Boaters should check the homepage at www.lanecounty.org before heading out on Wednesday to ensure that the Hendricks and Bellinger boat ramps have been reopened and that the river is passable near Hayden Bridge. An oil spill to a stormwater outfall last week resulted in a significant sheen on the river downstream from Eugene Water & electric Board's McKenzie River water intake. The release did not affect drinking water.; The lower viewing platform at Multnomah Falls has opened to the public for the first time in more than six months. The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the viewing platform, which sits at the base of the falls, was closed in September by the Eagle Creek Fire. The blaze swept through the Columbia River Gorge and covered nearly 49,000 acres. Firefighters protected the 1925 lodge from the flames, and it reopened in November. Many gorge destinations, including most trails in the burned area. Authorities haven't set a timeline for when the trail to the falls' upper viewing platform will reopen. The upper platform remains intact. / ENVIRONMENT: Gray whales are migrating north past the Oregon coast and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department invites visitors to share the excitement during Spring Whale Watch Week March 24-31. Trained volunteers from the "Whale Watching Spoken Here" program will be stationed from 10 a.m. -- 1 p.m. each day at 24 sites along the coast, ready to help people spot the migrating marine mammals. A map of the 24 volunteer whale watch sites can be found at whalespoken.org Visit oregonstateparks.org for information about coastal parks and campgrounds. The Whale Watching Center in Depoe Bay also will be open 10 a.m. -- 4 p.m. daily. Visitors to the center can enjoy interactive whale exhibits and take in the panoramic ocean views. Binoculars are provided, OPRD rangers will also be on hand to answer questions about the whales. A live stream of whale activity off of Depoe Bay returns this spring too; watch it on the Oregon State Parks YouTube channel. / BUSINESS: The Register-Guard is reporting that Bartels Packing has closed its Eugene and Fern Ridge Lake-area slaughterhouse and meat packing operations. That's costing 142 workers their jobs and shuttering the 120-year-old business. Reporter Elon Glucklich writes that the firm closed its plants last Wednesday with no advance notice to employees, according to a letter from president Chris Bartels to laid-off workers, dated two days later. The letter notes the company experienced significant difficulties over the past several months including a continuing decline in sales, accumulation of finished goods inventory, the recent and unexpected loss of one of the firm's largest customers,

as well as the coming due of its line of credit and a shortage of sufficient working capital necessary to operate as a viable business. The company had been repeatedly fined and even temporarily shut down in recent years over concerns related to treatment of cattle, as well as environmental concerns over its discharging of wastewater in a ditch that flows into wetlands near Fern Ridge Lake. The U.S. Department of Agriculture shut down the slaughterhouse in late 2016 after an investigation found several instances of Bartels' employees failing to properly stun cattle with hand-held bolt guns before slaughtering them. The company reopened several weeks later. Bartels' Friday letter to employees said company officials were in negotiations to sell the business to at least one potential buyer, but couldn't reach an agreement. / HEALTH, TRANSPORTATION: Worried about catching a cold or the flu on an airplane? Get a window seat, and don't leave it until the flight is over. That's what some experts have been saying for years, and it's perhaps the best advice coming out of a new attempt to determine the risks of catching germs on an airplane. The new study sent squads of researchers onto commercial flights to look for viruses and observe how and when people came into close contact. They concluded that people on the aisles get up the most and tend to be most likely to be near a person spewing infectious droplets of flu or cold virus. The study was funded by Boeing, the Chicago-based airplane manufacturer. It was published by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. / ECONOMY, CRIME: Orbitz says one of its older travel booking platforms might have been hacked, potentially exposing the personal information of people that made purchases between Jan. 1, 2016 and Dec. 22, 2017. The company says about 880,000 payment cards were impacted. The data that was likely exposed includes names, payment card information, dates of birth, phone numbers, email addresses, and physical and/or billing addresses. The current Orbitz.com website was not involved in the incident. Orbitz is now owned by Expedia. / BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION: United Airlines is pausing its petshipping business after mishaps that include an Oregon dog winding up in Japan instead of Kansas. United says it will halt PetSafe reservations while it reviews the service, which lets customers ship pets as cargo. Fees can run several hundred dollars for a medium-size or big dog. The review, expected to finish by May 1. does not affect pets in the cabin. United was the target of criticism earlier this month after a French bulldog died after a flight attendant told a passenger to put her pet carrier in the overhead bin. /

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ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: The Hendricks, Bellinger and Hayden Bridge boat ramps remain closed to public use as the clean-up continues from last week's spill of 200 gallons of hydraulic oil. These booms and their associated lines and underwater anchors pose a significant hazard and boaters should stay as far away from the equipment as possible. Boaters should check the homepage at www.lanecounty.org before heading out to see when and whether the Hendricks and Bellinger boat ramps have been reopened and that the river is passable near Hayden Bridge. / CRIME, WOMEN: The backlog of Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Kits - also known as rape kits - in Oregon is within a year of being eliminated following the passage of a state law mandating quicker testing and additional funding, officials say. The kits are used to collect biological material like blood, hair, and semen during exams following reported sex crimes. As of late 2015, the Oregon State Police said it had counted a statewide backlog of more than 5,600 awaiting testing. In 2016, legislators passed the measure intended to speed up processing, but by 2017 state police said their backlog had actually increased. The state patrol and Multnomah County now say that kits are being processed by state labs quickly and labs inside and out of the state are within months of completing testing on thousands of older, warehoused kits that had built up in police custody since 1983. Less than 2,000 are likely left statewide. / ECONOMY: Oregon's unemployment rate did not budge in February. The state Employment Department said Tuesday the jobless rate was 4.1 percent — the same as in December and January. The month saw strong job gains in retail. construction and health care. Payroll employment has grown by 43,700 jobs over the past year, with construction and the leisure-and-hospitality industry faring particularly well. Recent figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show Oregon — at 2.7 percent — had the country's fifth-fastest job growth between January 2017 and January 2018. It trailed Utah, Idaho, Nevada and Washington. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY: A Coast Guard aircrew was 300 feet in the air conducting training when they had a near-miss collision with a recreational drone in the vicinity of Fairchild International Airport, Saturday. The MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Air Station Port Angeles was conducting low-level training near the airport when the crew maneuvered to miss what they thought was a bird. The object ended up being a drone and the aircrew estimated the near miss at only 50 feet. Drone operators must provide advanced notification to airports or airport traffic control to fly drones within five miles of an airport. Operators must

yield right of way to manned aircraft and keep their drones in line of site at all times. It was confirmed by the Fairchild International Airport manager that this drone had not been authorized or requested by the operator to fly within the fivemile radius, as is required by the Federal Aviation Administration. There are different FAA drone regulations between commercial use and recreational use, but ALL owners must be aware of those regulations before operating their drones. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, IMMIGRATION, TERRORISM: Talks over a \$1.3 trillion government spending bill neared completion early today as the White House and Capitol Hill Democrats ironed out deals on a first round of funding for President Trump's U.S.-Mexico border wall. Negotiators planned to officially unveil the massive government-wide spending bill later in the day in hopes of passing it before a Friday midnight deadline to avoid a government shutdown. A temporary funding bill to keep operations going this weekend might be required. The top four leaders of both House and Senate are slated to meet today morning to try to seal the agreement, aides said. The bill would give Trump a huge budget increase for the military, while Democrats would cement wins on infrastructure and other domestic programs that they failed to get under President Obama. GOP aides said that Trump would win \$1.6 billion for border wall and other physical barriers along the border, which would involve older wall designs, but that he would be denied a more recent, far larger \$25 billion request for multi-year funding for his wall project. Democrats said just \$641 million would go to new segments of fencing and walls that double as levees. Domestic programs would receive a generous 10 percent increase on average as well, awarding Democrats the sort of spending increases they sought but never secured during the Obama administration. Democrats touted almost \$4 billion in total funding to fight the nation's opioid addiction epidemic, an almost \$3 billion increase. More than \$2 billion would go to strengthen school safety through grants for training, security measures and treatment for the mentally ill. Medical research at the National Institutes of Health, a longstanding bipartisan priority, would receive a record \$3 billion increase to \$37 billion. Republican conservatives are dismayed by the freespending measure and its effect on federal deficits, which means Democratic votes are required to pass it. That gave Democrats leverage to force GOP negotiators to drop numerous policy riders that Democrats considered poison pills. / EDUCATION, COMMUNITY: Community members will have the opportunity to tour the new Hamlin Middle School this evening from 5:30-7:00 p.m. It's also a chance to see projects completed by students who put their new educational tools to work. The new Hamlin Middle School stretches across two floors and more than 123,000 square feet. It includes state-of-the-art classrooms for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) and Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) labs, where students learn through projectbased curriculum. The new gymnasium is big enough to fit the entire student body, and has a remarkably equipped workout room. Acoustically friendly choir and band rooms, STEM and STEAM student projects built in the makerspaces. New shop equipment and computers. The school was built after district voters approved a general obligation bond in 2014. / ENVIRONMENT, GROWTH: In the city of The Dalles on the Columbia River, a cougar was euthanized Tuesday morning at a downtown motel after it was deemed a public safety risk. The cougar had been spotted at the same motel early Sunday morning. The Dalles Chronicle reports cougar sightings are not uncommon in the outskirts of The Dalles.

especially this time of year, when deer are on winter range just outside the city. But reporter Neita Cecil quotes wildlife experts who say a cougar coming so far into town, into the business district and deep into a hotel complex, and not showing fear of people or wariness of urban environments was, quote, "extremely odd." Experts estimate the male cougar was about two years old and speculate the big cat might have been unable to establish its own home range in its natural habitat and felt forced to move into urban areas to find food. The cougar was spotted by the motel's owner in a boiler room portion of the facility that was under construction and, after seeing the glow of eyes in his flashlight beam, shut the door and called police. It was Officer Kris Wood's first day on duty after graduating from the Oregon police academy. He and his training officer responded to the call and heard a growling noise, figuring it was a raccoon. But when Wood walked a bit further into the room, he said the big cat popped his head out from behind the boiler and hissed at me. He backed out of the room and had to persuade his training partner that he'd really seen a cougar. Officials said the animal never advanced on them and stayed huddled by the boiler, appearing, quote, "pretty scared." Over the weekend, wildlife officials trapped and euthanized a cougar on the outskirts of the city of Silverton after it was deemed a public safety risk. These were the fifth and sixth cougars euthanized in Oregon this year. ODFW does not relocate animals who demonstrate behaviors like a loss of wariness of humans, since they will likely either return to their original location or repeat the behaviors in a new location. Since cougars are so territorial, relocating one into another cougar's territory can lead to conflict with established cougars, leading to an animal's injury or death. / CRIME, SAFETY, EDUCATION: Officials say a teenager armed with a handgun who shot and critically wounded a girl inside a southern Maryland high school on Tuesday was killed when a school resource officer confronted him moments after the gunfire erupted. A third student was in good condition after he was shot. It wasn't immediately clear whether the shooter took his own life or was killed by the officer's bullet at Great Mills High School. Authorities didn't release a motive, but said they believe the girl and the shooter — 17-year-old Austin Rollins — previously had a relationship. It wasn't clear how the 14-year-old boy was wounded. The school resource officer, who doubles as a SWAT team member, was unharmed. /

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EDUCATION, YOUTH: It's easy to find people who will tell you what's wrong with Oregon schools. But members of a state legislative committee want to hear about what's working well. That's why members of the Joint Committee on Student Success are in town today, starting an eight month series of visits across Oregon to see how the state's most successful schools so what they do and figure out how to duplicate those approaches across the state. Committee members say Oregon's future depends on the ability to teach and train the next generation of Oregonians, especially students in rural Oregon. They'll start today with a listening session with high school students from across Lane County. Then, lawmakers will tour the computer science and career technology education programs at Churchill High School; visit the alternative program at Kalapuya High School; get a closer look at the Science Technology Engineering and Math program at Hamlin Middle School; tour the Preschool Promise site at Maple Elementary; then visit Mohawk Middle and Senior High School in Marcola. The committee members will close their day with a public hearing this evening at 7:00 p.m. at Eugene's Sheldon High School. / EDUCATION, BUSINESS: A company launched at Oregon State University that designs and builds walking and running robots is making great strides, figuratively and literally. OSU officials say the company, known as Agility Robotics, has raised \$8 million in new funding. Founded by Jonathan Hurst, an associate professor of mechanical engineering at OSU, Agility Robotics has developed technologies that allow robots to better mimic human gaits. Hurst says one day, walking robots will be a common sight. He says industry designers have already improved computing speed and enhanced their material strength and motor power. But their often-mechanical locomotion limited other advances. The goal at Agility Robotics is to allow robots to move more naturally so they may better integrate into human and natural environments. That might include working in warehouses and package delivery companies, providing in-home assistance. even taking part in responding to natural disasters. Two of the new investors in this round of funding are venture fund Playground Global and the Sony Innovation Fund along with existing investor Robotics Hub. / ENVIRONMENT: There's a Winter Weather Advisory posted in the Oregon Cascades through Friday evening. Snow is expected. Total snow accumulations of 4 to 14 inches. Expect reduced visibilities at times. Due to warm road surfaces, it will take some time for snow to accumulate on roads, but once it does, roads will become slippery. Obtain the latest road conditions by going to www.tripcheck.com or calling 5-1-1. / SAFETY,

TRANSPORTATION: At 11:40 p.m. last night Eugene Police and Eugene Springfield Fire and EMS responded to a crash between a vehicle and a bicycle on West 11th Avenue just east of Greenhill Road. The 63-year-old driver called 9-1-1 to report the crash. Responding officers arrived to find the 36-year-old female bicyclist dead at the scene. The driver was in a Toyota Scion traveling east on W. 11th just passing Greenhill Road when the crash occurred. Eugene Police Major Collision Investigation team has responded to investigate. West 11th is closed at Greenhill and Beitline (from Ed Cone to Greenhill) but should reopen in the next hour or so. The Oregon Department of Transportation has responded to the scene to assist with traffic control and direction. / POLITICS, ECONOMY: Congressional bargainers have announced a bipartisan \$1.3 trillion budget deal financing government agencies for the rest of this federal fiscal year. Lawmakers now have until midnight Friday to approve it and prevent the year's third embarrassing government shutdown. Passage seems certain. President Trump was limited to \$1.57 billion to begin constructing his wall with Mexico and take other border security measures. The bill does not contain steps to protect young Dreamer immigrants from being deported. It also has no federal payments to subsidize health insurers in order to help curb premium increases this fall, just before congressional elections. The compromise provides big spending increases for defense and domestic programs. That includes added money for veterans, infrastructure projects and attacking the growing, deadly use of opioid drugs. / POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT: A spending bill slated for a vote in Congress includes a bipartisan plan to create a wildfire disaster fund to help combat increasingly severe wildfires that have devastated the West in recent years. The bill sets aside more than \$20 billion over 10 years to allow the Forest Service and other federal agencies end a practice of raiding non-fire-related accounts to pay for wildfire costs, which exceeded \$2 billion last year. Western lawmakers have long complained that the current funding mechanism — tied to 10-year averages for wildfire — makes budgeting difficult, even as fires burn longer and hotter each year. The new plan sets aside \$2 billion per year — outside the regular budget so officials don't have to tap money meant for prevention programs to fight wildfires. / EDUCATION, SAFETY, GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT: The Corvallis Gazette-Times is reporting that Oregon State University is investigating the failure of a massive cross-laminated timber panel in a new building going up on the OSU campus. Reporter Bennett Hall writes the incident, which was disclosed by the university on Tuesday, happened a week ago at the work site for the new College of Forestry building. The four-foot by 20-foot section of cross-laminated timber or CLT flooring is composed of five layers of 2-by-6 boards glued together at right angles. But the section of subflooring fell after delaminating at one end. No one was injured and construction officials say they replaced the section and shored up other areas to prevent future issues. The Gazette-Times reports OSU plans to bring in an outside engineering firm to determine what caused the CLT panel failure and evaluate whether any other cross-laminated structural elements in the building were at risk of failure. But campus and construction officials stress they have confidence in the CLT materials. The three-story, 80,000-square-foot new home of the OSU's College of Forestry and is intended to be a showcase for the Oregon timber industry, which is moving into the emerging field of mass timber construction. This building technique has been used for years in Europe, Canada and elsewhere but is just coming into vogue in the United States. / SAFETY.

ENVIRONMENT: The McKenzie River will remain blocked a half-mile downstream from Hayden Bridge Boat Ramp until further notice as clean-up efforts along the river continue. It comes after last week's accidental spill of 200 gallons of hydraulic oil. The Hendricks, Bellinger and Hayden Bridge boat ramps remain closed to public use until further notice. The river is completely blocked by floating barriers in multiple locations between Hayden Bridge Boat Ramp and where the Mohawk River meets the McKenzie. These barriers and their associated lines and underwater anchors pose a significant hazard and boaters should stay as far away from the equipment as possible. / ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH: The state has reached a settlement with a northeastern Oregon dairy company accused of endangering drinking water by mismanaging manure and wastewater. The Statesman Journal reports Wednesday's settlement will allow Lost Valley Farm to operate in a limited capacity until it can prove that its wastewater treatment system is fully functional. The dairy is built to handle tens of thousands of cows. The Oregon Department of Agriculture filed a lawsuit last month, citing the Boardman facility's numerous failed inspections and environment violations since it opened last year. The state claimed the owner (Greg te Velde) failed to comply with directions to stop liquid manure and wastewater from overflowing at storage lagoons. The department says it will inspect the facility weekly. Health and environmental groups have criticized the settlement, saying the terms are too loose. / ENVIRONMENT: Two species of fish listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act are facing a growing challenge in Oregon from hungry sea lions. The federally protected California sea lions are traveling into the Columbia River and increasingly, say wildlife biologists, into the Willamette and other tributaries to snack on fish. For a decade, officials have trapped or killed the hungriest sea lions near Bonneville Dam on the Columbia. This spring, they began trapping and relocating some of the sea lions below Willamette Falls in Oregon City, driving them two-and-a-half hours to the coast. Now, they're asking for permission to kill some of the worst offenders at the falls to sensitive protect fish runs. Last winter, state figures indicate a record-low 512 wild winter steelhead completed their journey over Willamette Falls. Fewer than 30 years ago, that number was closer to 15-thousand. Officials believe sea lions are eating one out of every four of the returning adult fish at Willamette Falls, along with close to one out of ten of every spring Chinook salmon. But opponents of an expended trapand-kill effort say fish face other challenges, including hydroelectric dams that block rivers, agricultural runoff, damage to spawning grounds and competition with hatchery-bred fish. They're not sure sea lions shoulder the brunt of the blame. California sea lions are not listed under the Endangered Species Act, but killing them requires special authorization under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. which was changed to address the issue of fish predation. /

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ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION: A Winter Weather Advisory remains in place on the Cascades passes. Total snow accumulations of 8 to 15 inches. Wind gusts on the passes to 40 mph. Travel will be very difficult to impossible. Expect reduced visibilities at times. A Winter Weather Advisory for snow means periods of snow will cause primarily travel difficulties. Expect snow-covered roads and limited visibilities, and use caution while driving. The latest road conditions for the state you are calling from can be obtained by calling 5 1 1.; Slushy snow in the Coast Range prompted the Junction City and Fern Ridge School to postpone the start of today's classes by two hours. A handful of districts out their buses on morning snow routes. / POLITICS, ECONOMY, MILITARY, IMMIGRATION, HEALTH: Congress gave final approval early this morning to a giant \$1.3 trillion spending bill that ends the budget battles for now. But the deal came only after late scuffles and objections over the size of the spending. Senate passage shortly after midnight averted a third federal shutdown this year, an outcome both parties wanted to avoid. But in crafting a sweeping deal that busts budget caps. lawmakers have stirred conservative opposition and set the tone for the next funding fight ahead of the midterm elections. The plan funds the government through September. It beefs up military and domestic programs, delivering federal funds to every corner of the country. Leaders delivered on President Trump's top priorities of boosting Pentagon budgets and starting work on his promised border wall, although with far less money than he requested. The GOP compromised with Democrats on funds for road building, child care development, fighting the opioid crisis and more. But the result has been unimaginable to many conservative Republicans after campaigning on spending restraints and balanced budgets. Along with the recent GOP tax cuts law, the bill that stood a foot tall at some lawmakers' desks ushers in the return of \$1 trillion deficits. Trump only reluctantly backed the bill he would have to sign, according to Republican lawmakers and aides, who acknowledged the deal involved necessary trade-offs for the Democratic votes that were needed for passage despite their majority lock on Congress. Trying to smooth over differences, Republican leaders focused on military increases that were once core to the party's brand as guardians of national security. Democrats faced their own divisions, particularly after failing to resolve the stalemate over shielding young Dreamer immigrants from deportation as Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program has left it for the courts to decide. Also missing from the package was a renewal of

federal insurance subsidies to curb premium costs on the Affordable Care Act exchanges. Trump ended some of those payments as part of his effort to scuttle President Barack Obama's health care law, but Republicans have joined Democrats in trying to revive them.; Oregon's U.S. Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden say the spending bill includes funding for a range of Northwest issue. That includes the previously announced money to battle wildfires, as well as improvements to coastal ports in the form of funding for dredging, maintenance and new construction. There is money set aside to continue coastal salmon recovery. And the spending bill allocates funds for continued development of the West Coast Earthquake Early Warning System, including real-time sensors and communications technologies. For cities, Wyden and Merkley there is money to make major investments in community infrastructure, ranging from roads and bridges to rural broadband. The spending bill pay for roads, rail, mass transit and airport projects, including Lane Transit District's Em-X service and money for new. less-polluting buses. There's even funding for maintenance projects on some Amtrak routes. Merkley and Wyden say the 2018 spending bill preserves funding for rural housing programs and other low-income housing and rural housing services as well as homeless assistance grants. And they say the bill includes resources for Klamath-area irrigators and tribes to help communities cope with drought and ongoing water and irrigation challenges and habitat restoration. / ECONOMY, POLTIICS, AGRICULTURE: China has announced a list of U.S. goods including pork, apples, wine and aluminum pipe it says may be hit by higher tariffs in response to President Trump's higher import duties on steel and aluminum. The Commerce Ministry on Friday called on Washington to reach a negotiated settlement of the dispute "as soon as possible" but gave no deadline. It said China last year bought about \$3 billion worth of the goods affected by the proposed higher tariffs. The ministry criticized Trump's action as a violation of global trading principles.; The Capital Press is reporting that here in the Northwest, agricultural steel users are already expecting higher prices on steel fence posts, barbed wire, trellis wire and other metal supplies due to President Trump's proposed 25 percent tariff on steel and aluminum imports. Some farmers and ranchers fear suppliers will use the situation as an opportunity to make money. Others hope there will be an increase in domestic steel production that will provide a lower-cost alternative to imports. If not, they say they might buy from suppliers in Canada, since that country is being exempted from the tariffs for now. / ECONOMY, COMMUNITY, CRIME: Americans looking for love or companionship will have a tougher time making the connection on Craigslist. The classified ads site has taken its personals section offline in the United States. The action comes after the U.S. Senate on Wednesday passed an anti-sex trafficking bill that, if it becomes law, could hold the website and others responsible for illegal activity. The company says the proposal would open websites to criminal and civil liability. / POLITICS, CRIME: Hundreds of people are expected to march through the streets of downtown Eugene on Saturday, joining a national call of action to end gun violence at schools. The planning for the national March for Our Lives and hundreds of local marches began after last month's killing spree at a Florida high school that left 17 people dead. Saturday's march will take place less than two months before the 20th anniversary of the Thurston High School shootings. It will begin with speeches at 11 a.m. at the U.S. Courthouse, 405 E. Eighth Ave. The march will begin at noon from the federal courthouse, following the same

route that participants took during the Women's March in January, which ended at Whirled Pies Downtown, 199 W. Eighth Ave. The event is scheduled to end at 2 p.m. A police department spokeswoman said officers would be on hand for traffic control, and access to some downtown streets might be affected. Local high school students are organizing the Eugene event. On the local march's Facebook event page, nearly 1,000 people indicated that they had planned to attend, and another 1,900 people said they were interested in attending. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/march4ourliveseugene / GROWTH: It's getting a bit more crowded these days in Eugene-Springfield. The Census Bureau reports our metropolitan area population is up to 374,748 in 2017. /

DATE OF BROADCAST 03/26/18

TIME OF BROADCAST

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

NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ECONOMY-SPORTS, EDUCATION: It was the end of the season for the Oregon State women's basketball team as they lost to top seed Louisville Sunday in Lexington, Kentucky. The final score was 76-43. The Oregon women hold their Elite Eight game this evening in Spokane, Washington, when they meet top seed Notre Dame with a trip to the Final Four on the line. The game will be broadcast at 6:00 p.m. on ESPN. / TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT: The Oregon and Washington state Departments of Transportation have extended studded tire season in the two states until the end of the day on Sunday, April 15th. Travelers normally may use studded tires from November 1 through March. 31. But the law grants each state's transportation department the ability to extend the studded tire season when necessary, based on projected weather forecasts. Officials say the forecast suggests Oregon's mountain passes will receive some significant snow in the next few weeks. But they ask that if you're not planning to travel in those areas, please don't wait until the last minute to remove your studded tires. Drivers with studded tires on their vehicles after the April 15 deadline may be charged with a Class C traffic violation. Highway maintenance crews will continue to monitor highways and weather forecasts and will work to clear any late-season snow or ice as soon as possible. Visit www.TripCheck.com or call 511 for the latest road conditions. This is only the fifth time in the past 16 years that the Oregon Department of Transportation or ODOT has extended the studded tire season past March 31st. ODOT encourages drivers to consider other types of traction tires or chains to help minimize roadway damage that studded tires cause. A 2014 study concluded studded tires cause about \$8.5 million in damage each year to state highways. In addition to studded tires, other types of traction tires are available that meet the Rubber Manufacturers Association standards for use in severe snow conditions. These tires carry an emblem on the tire sidewall of a three-peaked mountain with a snowflake in the center. Research shows these tires cause no more damage than standard all-weather radial tires. but they provide better traction than studded tires on bare pavement. / COMMUNITY, CIVIL RIGHTS: The Federal Trade Commission is investigating Facebook's privacy practices following a week of privacy scandals including whether the company engaged in "unfair acts" that cause "substantial injury" to consumers. Facebook's stock, which already took a big hit last week, plunged as a result. Facebook said in a statement this morning that the company remains "strongly committed" to protecting people's information and that it welcomes the

opportunity to answer the FTC's questions. Facebook reached a settlement with the FTC in 2011 offering privacy assurances. Meantime, the social media site is facing new questions about collecting phone numbers and text messages from Android devices. The website Ars Technica reported that users who checked data collected by Facebook found that it had years of contact names, telephone numbers, call lengths and text messages. Facebook says the information is uploaded to secure servers and comes only from users who allow it, leading many users to tighten their permissions granted to the Facebook app. / ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY: Oregon beaches received a much needed spring cleaning Saturday. Undeterred by the rain, more than 3,000 volunteers removed over 15,000 pounds of litter and marine debris from the coast. The annual SOLVE Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup took place Saturday, March 24 at 45 cleanup locations from Astoria to Brookings. SOLVE, an Oregon-based nonprofit aimed at keeping our state clean and healthy, has been organizing bi-annual cleanups along the entire Oregon coast since 1984. Since that time over 260,000 SOLVE volunteers have removed an estimated 3.6 million pounds of debris from the coastline. Common items found during the event were tiny bits of plastic, cigarette butts, bottle caps, and food wrappers, which can be harmful to both marine life and shorebirds. Unique items found by volunteers included a full bottle of wine at Nehalem Bay, several broken chairs and fenders at Sand Lake, a bag for golf clubs at Yaquina Bay, long crab line at Agate Beach, and a complete barbecue set at Netarts Bay. In addition to litter on the beach, some of the debris had washed in from the ocean following winter storms and tides. Items ranged from fishing rope, crates, and buoys to glass and plastic bottles. In order to divert some of the marine debris from the landfill, SOLVE partnered with the Washed Ashore Project in Bandon. Artists will wash the debris, and turn it into educational art sculptures. Event Presenting Sponsor, AAA Oregon, hosted a volunteer photo contest and joined four of the cleanup sites with more than 50 employees. Oregonians who were not able to make it to the beach Saturday can still make a difference by picking up litter in their neighborhood, local park or along the beaches any time of vear. Join a local SOLVE project, or create your own. Learn more at solveoregon.org / POLITICS, CRIME, YOUTH, COMMUNITY: After a Saturday filled with marches that unified hundreds of thousands of people in cities across the country and galvanized the anti-gun violence movement, organizers are vowing to get young voters registered and send a message in upcoming elections. They and other students across the country are planning voter registration drives through the fall. Voter registration groups that usually focuses on registering young people at concerts and music festivals, also helped mobilize teams at Saturday's marches in 30 U.S. cities and have created a registration tool kit for high school students. They promised to keep political pressure on elected officials, including President Trump. The White House issued a statement about the student-led march and also pointed to the president's support for the Stop School Violence Act, which authorized grants to schools to bolster security and attempts to improve background checks. But student leaders at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and elsewhere say the current laws and legislation don't go far enough. The student organizers are demanding an assault weapons ban, prohibition of sales of high-capacity magazines and universal background checks. Compared with 2012, voter turnout for millennials, those ages 18 to 35, increased to just below 50 percent in the last presidential election, according to the Pew Research

Center and U.S. Census data. But that turnout still lags behind other generations. Rick Santorum, a former Republican Senator from Pennsylvania and now a CNN commentator, suggested Sunday that students should not look to others to solve their problem. Instead, he suggested on CNN's "State of the union" that they, quote, "Do something about maybe taking CPR classes or trying to deal with situations that when there is a violent shooter that you can actually respond to that." But Sen. Mark Warner, a Virginia Democrat who has previously voted against stricter laws on high-capacity magazines and semi-automatic weapons, said the student rallies will likely make a difference as Congress takes on the issue again. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

30 Seconds

ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

ECONOMY-SPORTS, EDUCATION: They dreamed of a run to the Final Four but it ended last night with an 84-74 loss to Notre Dame. The Fighting Irish outscored Oregon 52-38 in the paint and outrebounded the Ducks 51-29 in the Spokane Regional final to advance to the Women's Final Four against UConn. First-team all-American Sabrina Ionescu led Oregon (33-5) with 26 points, but the Ducks struggled offensively over the final 20 minutes. Oregon shot 8 of 31 in the second half and lonescu had just seven points after the break. The Ducks were unable to find other scoring options. Ruthy Hebard had 12 points in the first half and just five in the second half. The Irish shut down much of Oregon's outside scoring, even as senior Lexi Bando ended her college career as the school's and Pac-12 Conference's career three-point shooter. Justine Hall is Oregon's only other senior, meaning this will be a young team for 2018-2019. / ELCTIONS, POLITICS: Petitioners for an initiative that would restrict the sale of assault weapons in Oregon have submitted some of the signatures necessary to make the November ballot. If the batch submitted Monday in Salem includes at least 1,000 valid signatures, the attorney general will begin the ballot title drafting process. Petitioners must ultimately submit 88,184 signatures by July 6. The initiative opposed by conservatives will likely be appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court. and petitioners cannot gather signatures during an appeal. Penny Okamoto. executive director of Ceasefire Oregon, tells the Statesman Journal she's concerned a months-long legal review will leave too little time to collect signatures. Okamoto says if they fail to make this year's ballot, supporters of the ban will push for it during the next legislative session. If that fails, they will try for the 2020 ballot. / SAFETY, COMMUNITY, CIVIL LIBERTIES: U.S. regulators and state attorneys general, including Oregon's, are increasing pressure on Facebook as they probe whether the company's data-collection practices have hurt the people who use its services. The Federal Trade Commission confirmed news reports on Monday that it was investigating the company. Separately, the attorneys general for 37 U.S. states and territories sought details Monday on how Facebook monitored what app developers did with data collected on Facebook users and whether Facebook had safeguards to prevent misuse. Facebook's privacy practices have come under fire after revelations that a Trump-affiliated consulting firm, Cambridge Analytica, got data on millions of Facebook users. That included information on friends of people who had downloaded a psychological quiz app, even though those friends hadn't given explicit consent to sharing. Facebook is also facing

questions about reports that it collected years of contact names, telephone numbers, call lengths and information about text messages from Android users. Facebook says the data is used "to improve people's experience across Facebook" by helping to connect with others. But the company did not spell out exactly what it used the data for or why it needed it. / IMMIGRATION, POLITICS: Texas and more than a dozen other states led by Republican governors are supporting the Trump administration in its lawsuit over California's so-called sanctuary laws that protect people in the U.S. illegally. In a court filing Monday, the states say the laws are designed to interfere with or block federal immigration enforcement, and California doesn't have that authority. The U.S. Justice Department is challenging three California laws, including one that bars law enforcement from providing release dates for people in jail. Other states and cities, including in Oregon, have similar laws or policies in place. Federal officials say they need the kind of information California has blocked to take custody of people in the country illegally who are dangerous and need to be removed. State officials say their policies increase public safety by promoting trust between immigrants and law enforcement.; The 2020 U.S. Census will include a question about citizenship status, a move that brought applause from conservatives and swift condemnation from Democrats, who said it would intimidate immigrants and discouraging them from responding. The population count taken every 10 years is more than an academic exercise. It's required by the Constitution and is used to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House as well as how federal funds are distributed to local communities. The Census numbers help communities determine where to build everything from schools and grocery stores to hospitals. A coalition of state attorneys general urged the department last month not to add the citizenship question, saying it could lower participation among immigrants and cause a population undercount. The Commerce Department said in a press release Monday that citizenship data will help the Justice Department enforce the Voting Rights Act, which protects minority voting rights. It said that between 1820 and 1950, almost every decennial census asked a question on citizenship in some form. California's Attorney General said the state will sue the Trump administration over its decision. Census counts are taken by mail and by workers walking neighborhoods. The Census Bureau says that the 2010 census drew a massive response, with about 74 percent of the households mailing in forms, and the remaining households counted by workers in neighborhoods, / ECONOMY, AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENT, CRIME: Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell wants a full pardon for hemp. The Kentucky Republican on Monday previewed legislation to free the plant from its ties to marijuana and let it take root as a legitimate crop. McConnell says that hemp — marijuana's non-intoxicating cousin — would be removed from the controlled substances list under the bill he's offering in the Senate. The measure seeks to legalize hemp as an agricultural commodity. The versatile crop has been grown on an experimental basis in a number of states in recent years, including Oregon, and Kentucky has been at the forefront of hemp's comeback. Growing hemp without a federal permit has long been banned owing to its classification as a controlled substance related to marijuana. Hemp and marijuana are the same species, but hemp has a negligible amount of THC, the psychoactive compound that gives marijuana users a high. Hemp got a limited reprieve with the 2014 federal Farm Bill. McConnell helped push for the provision that allows state

agriculture departments to designate hemp projects for research and development. Since then, 34 states have authorized hemp research, while actual production occurred in 19 states last year. / ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY: Another closure of three McKenzie river boat ramps in Springfield and a stretch of the scenic river. Officials are continuing their cleanup after 200 gallons of hydraulic oil was accidentally released from an International Paper mill discharge pipe near Hayden Bridge. During this phase of the cleanup, booms will be extended across sections of the river, blocking river traffic. Officials say the booms along their associated lines and underwater anchors pose a significant hazard and that boaters should stay as far from the equipment as possible. The closures stretch from the Hayden bridge boat ramp to the confluence of the McKenzie and Mohawk rivers, and include the Hendricks Bridge and Bellinger boat ramps.; Holy cow! If you want to do a wildlife double-take, get a look at the photo at the bottom of The Register-Guard's City/Region page this morning. Reporter Dylan Darling writes that a cougar prowled onto the backyard deck of a Leaburg home Monday morning — coming close enough to peer through the sliding glass doors at a twoyear-old house cat. The homeowner said he and his wife spotted the big cat and snapped some photos during its 9 a.m. visit. The home is about 19 miles east of Springfield, right off Highway 126 and close to other houses. The residents told The Register-Guard their house cat was spooked, alerted its owners about the mountain lion, then hid under some furniture. It's not unusual to see cougars in the mountains east of Eugene and Springfield, according to state wildlife officials. But to have the female cougar on someone's deck is out of the ordinary. The Leaburg cougar sighting was the most recent in mountain lion encounters reported in Oregon. On March 18, state wildlife managers trapped and killed a cougar in Silverton, after the big cat killed a deer in the backyard of a Silverton home and then was spotted in the Oregon Garden. On March 20, wildlife managers killed a cougar found at a downtown hotel complex in The Dalles. Cougars are a game animal in Oregon, with the state regulating year-round hunting in designated areas. And, Oregon law allows property owners or tenants to kill cougars that pose a threat to domestic animals or people. Depending on the situation, state or federal wildlife managers might kill the animal. Last October a cougar was killed at Casey's Riverside RV Park in Westfir after it spent at least a week on the prowl in the mobile home park. The son of park residents shot and killed the cougar. / HEALTH, FAMILY: Scientists have the dirt on those happy yellow rubber duckies that are a fixture on bathtubs across America and much of the world: They are a haven for nasty bacteria. Swiss and American researchers counted the microbes swimming inside the toys and say the murky liquid released when ducks are squeezed contained "potentially pathogenic bacteria" in four out of five toys studied. The bacteria included one variety that is often implicated in hospitalacquired infections." Researchers, who received funding from the Swiss government, say using higher-quality polymers to make the ducks could prevent bacterial and fungal growth—but might result in a more expensive toy. / SAFETY: An Oregon teenager who sued her father and a lawn mower manufacturer after she lost her left leg in a mowing accident when she was a toddler has been awarded more than \$12 million. The Register-Guard reports the Lane County jury on Monday sided with 14-year-old Isabelle Norton, finding her father Kirk Norton and Deere & Co. at fault. Reporter Alisha Roemeling writes Kirk Norton had backed over his daughter with a riding lawn mower outside their Springfield home

in May 2006. Lawyers for the teen had argued that the father was negligent and the lawn mower had inadequate safety features. The manufacturer was ordered to pay \$9.5 million. Kirk Norton was order to pay about \$2.7 million. The teen's lawyer, Don Corson, says the case could drag on for several more years should Deere seek an appeal. /

DATE OF BROADCAST

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NAME OF PROGRAM

Morning News

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ISSUE OR SUBJECT DISCUSSED

HEALTH, YOUTH: As Easter approaches with the arrival of spring, some people buy baby chicks to give as gifts, but Oregon Health Authority infectious disease experts caution against this practice because the cute, fuzzy little birds can carry Salmonella bacteria. They say that because of their size and cuteness, children often pick up the baby birds, hold them close to their faces and even kiss them. And children often don't wash their hands after handling the chicks. Health experts say adult chickens, ducks and other live poultry carry Salmonella bacteria, and that means their offspring can carry it as well. Since 2010, 11 outbreaks of illnesses caused by Salmonella bacteria from baby chicks have occurred in Oregon, affecting at least 72 cases of salmonellosis. Forty-three percent of the cases were children. The last major salmonellosis outbreak, in 2017, occurred after people handled, kissed and kept poultry inside the home. Salmonella infections can cause diarrhea, abdominal cramps and fever symptoms lasting three to seven days. Anyone with compromised immune systems, the very young and elderly people could become very ill and die of the infection. Health officials add that baby chicks really are not appropriate Easter gifts, since many don't realize the responsibility involved with raising chicks and ducklings as the animals grow up. The birds require space to roam and food to eat. People unprepared for those responsibilities sometimes abandon the poultry after they become adult chickens and ducks. Tips for preventing Salmonella infection from baby poultry: Don't give live baby birds to children. Instead, give stuffed animals. Always wash hands with soap and water, and thoroughly clean surfaces after handling any animal or coming in contact with animal waste. Keep chicks in an appropriate outdoor area. If chicks are handled, never nuzzle or kiss them. Never allow poultry inside the home. / HEALTH, CRIME, POLITICS: Governor Kate Brown yesterday signed two bills into law and issued an executive order aimed at tackling addiction. substance abuse and the opioid crisis. One bill, which Brown introduced, focuses on measures to combat the opioid epidemic in the state. The executive order declares addiction and substance abuse to be a public health crisis in Oregon, and charges the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission with creating a statewide strategic plan around prevention, treatment, and recovery. A corresponding bill requires the commission to develop preliminary recommendations for the scope and framework of the plan and a Request for Proposal for the full report this fall. The governor says addiction is an issue that impacts Oregonians every day, either through personal struggles, or through its effects on families, friends, and

colleagues. She says the focus now needs to be one of providing the best possible treatments first and effective assistance while helping addicts overcome their shame and seek help. / CRIME: Eugene Police say they've evicted ten people—including three wanted on arrest warrants—from a rundown vacant property off Bethel Drive. It took place on Monday during the noon hour, when officers were called in to assist another agency following complaint calls about squatters who were causing damage to the property. The process involves making sure the residence was vacant, and boarding it up as it was deemed a dangerous dwelling. Eugene Police officials say an officer knocked on the door for about five minutes with no answer. As he stepped away to locate another entry, the front door opened and closed suddenly. He knocked on the door some more, with no answer. Officers tried knocking on other doors, with no response, although there were sounds from inside. Officers then entered the residence and found 10 individuals, including three individuals with warrants for their arrest. They took those three into custody and cited the others for Criminal Trespass. The six men and four women occupying the structure ranged in age from 21 to 58.; A 20-yearold man told Eugene Police his bicycle was taken from him during an armed yesterday afternoon. The victim says it happened around 1:40 p.m. at the intersection of Royal and Fairfield Avenues when he was approached from behind by two men, one of whom had a short-barreled shotgun. The victim says the man with the shotgun stole his white Fuji bicycle while the second suspect was on a black BMX bike. The armed suspect is described as a darker-skinned male in his 20s, with scruffy facial hair, standing about 5-foot-11 and last seen wearing a large, tan-colored winter coat. The second man is described as a male between the ages of 25 and 30 with blond hair, and wearing a flat-billed baseball cap, baggy sweatshirt and dark jeans or sweat pants. This is the latest in a series of robberies reported to Eugene Police. Investigators say the robberies appear to be of four distinct types, all with slightly different factors. They include street robberies like this one that use weapons; strong-arm robberies that use physical force but no weapons; robberies of delis that also operate as video poker establishments; and robberies of convenience stores, restaurants and the like. / SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION: This morning at approximately 2:41 a.m., Oregon State Police troopers responded to a single vehicle crash on Highway 99-West about two miles north of Junction City near Lingo Lane. Preliminary investigation revealed that a northbound brown 2015 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup driven by a lone male occupant left the roadway to the west for an unknown reason crossing over the southbound lane. The pick-up travelled approximately 386 feet in the southbound ditch before striking a large tree and coming to rest. The vehicle caught fire after the crash. It's believed the male driver was not wearing a seat belt. Investigators say he was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene. The man's family is being notified and the victim's name will be released tomorrow. The accident closed Highway 99-West for several hours during the investigation while traffic was detoured onto nearby roads.; As that accident was cleared we received calls about another accident at Highway 99 north of Eugene at Meadowview. It appears this is a double fatal, but few details are available. / SAFETY, COMMUNITY: Facebook is giving its privacy tools a makeover as it reels from criticisms over its data practices and faces tighter European regulations in the coming months. The changes won't affect Facebook's privacy policies or the types of data it gathers about its users. But the company hopes its 2.2 billion users will have an easier time navigating its complex and often confusing privacy and security settings. Facebook says it's trying to make the controls easier to find and to give users a simpler way to access and download the data it collects on them. Wednesday's announcement follows revelations that a Trump-affiliated consulting firm got data on millions of unsuspecting Facebook users. Facebook is also facing criticism for collecting years of data on call and text histories from Android users.; Three users of the popular Facebook Messenger app have filed a lawsuit claiming the social network violated their privacy by collecting logs of their phone calls and text messages. The suit, filed Tuesday in federal court in northern California, comes as Facebook faces scrutiny over privacy concerns. Facebook acknowledged on Sunday that it began uploading call and text logs from phones running Google's Android system in 2015. Facebook officials added that only users who gave appropriate permission were affected, adding that it didn't collect the contents of messages or calls. But while Facebook officials emphasized that users can opt out of the data collection and have the stored logs deleted by changing their app settings, most users say the settings are not easy to access and most users assumed such detail was not being gathered. The suit seeks class-action status. / POLITICS, IMMIGRATION, MILITARY: Oregon is one of at least 12 states planning to sue to block the Trump administration from adding a question about citizenship to the 2020 census. The attorneys general in the states argue that the change would cause fewer Americans to be counted, violating the U.S. Constitution. It comes after the State of California filed a separate lawsuit on Monday. The census takes place every ten years and the results are used to redraw political boundaries and determine how federal funds are distributed to states and municipalities. Opponents of the added citizenship question said it would lower the number of responses in areas with large numbers of immigrants, affecting funding for key government services. The Trump administration defended the citizenship question by saying it was needed to better enforce the Voting Rights Act.; President Trump has floated the idea of using the military's budget to pay for his long-promised border wall with Mexico, despite the fact that such spending would likely require approval from Congress. Trump is still angry about the budget deal he signed last week and briefly threatened to veto the omnibus spending bill, in part because it didn't include the \$25 billion he'd tried to secure for the wall in a last-minute bargaining spree. The \$1.3 trillion funding package did include \$1.6 billion in border wall spending. But much of that money can only be used to repair existing segments, not build new sections. Congress also put restrictions on the types of barriers that can be built. Trump has tried to justify signing the deal by pointing to the boost in funding the new spending measure it provides for the military. Congress, under the Constitution, has the power to determine federal appropriations, and the administration has little authority to shift funding without congressional approval. The Senate Appropriations Committee was not aware of any authority that would allow the Defense Department to fund the wall without congressional approval, said a GOP aide. /