

# **KRCW**

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**FCC Issues/Program List**

**January 1 – March 31, 2014**

## 2014 FIRST QUARTER ISSUES & PROGRAMS

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## **LOCAL & GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

KRCW reports on a variety of topics this quarter. Stories ranging from moving the Sellwood Bridge to gun control and the Columbia River Crossing are hot topics this quarter.

### KRCW "WA Pot New Year" 01/01/14 10:00 PM 2:00

Those long lines we saw today in Colorado are not far behind for Washington. The Night Team's Mark Hanrahan talked to a Vancouver man hoping to get into the pot business. He joins us live in Vancouver now with his reaction to what unfolded in Colorado today. He's excited, and if the state gives him a license, he's hoping to see a big bump in business at his place. He says he doesn't smoke pot but he does want to make money off it. All eyes were on Colorado this morning, as the state became the first in the nation to sell "legal" recreational pot.

"It's just a whole new world, you know, just not having to be underground about it and be all sneaky about it."

Washington isn't far behind. Retail pot stores are slated to open by May or June and there are plenty of people hoping to cash in, including Charles Iheanacho. He owns the East 39th Street Mini Mart in Vancouver and applied for a license to sell pot.

"That is the ultimate goal: to make money. That's why I'm in business."

But he's up against a lot of competition. The State Liquor Control Board has received roughly 13 hundred applications for 344 available licenses' to sell pot. Only a half-dozen of those licenses will be issued in Vancouver.

"They're only going to have 6 in the city of Vancouver. I think I'm one of those 6 applicants that is going to receive a license."

As he waits to hear from the state, the scenes from Colorado today have marijuana advocates here excited.

Nick Roberts, supports legal pot: "I believe it's an amazing thing. It's a great start to noticing the values of this plant."

But not everybody is rejoicing.

Alex Koyev: "I wouldn't want my children to grow up thinking it's normal."

Alex Koyev is concerned that marijuana will be too accessible to kids. And, as a business owner, he says he won't stop testing his employees for it. "If we catch them we fire them. And you'll continue to do that? We'll continue to do that, yeah."

The State Liquor Control Board is now in the process of reviewing applications and since there are more than the available licenses, it appears they'll resort to a lottery system in determining who gets one.

### KRCW "PDX Flight Impact" 01/06/14 10:00 PM :45

The extreme cold is cancelling four thousand flights, leaving hundreds of thousands of passengers in a lurch in airports across the country including here in Portland. The

number of cancellations in-and-out of here is 23. That might not sound like a lot but it's actually a pretty big number when you consider we have zero weather issues anywhere near us.

Armando Saiz is fed up. He's been trying to get to Ohio since Saturday. "Today's travels had me flying out of here at 1 AM. I hit Minnesota, tried to hit Cleveland a couple times, couldn't and came back."

One entire airline stopped flights from New York City and Boston. Jet Blue says it will pick back up tomorrow and be fully operational after 3 PM.

#### KRCW "CRC Tolling Report" 01/07/14 10:00 PM :35

There may be new 'financial' life for the I-5 Bridge project according to an ODOT report released late this evening. It says the money generated by tolls would be enough to finance construction for the Columbia River Crossing. According to the report, tolls would pay for half of the project's 2.7 billion dollar cost. The report doesn't give a specific amount for the tolls, but says they would be at or below the national average. Washington's legislature 'pulled out' of funding the project last July and since then, the State of Oregon has looked into how it could fund the project without the State of Washington's help.

#### KRCW "Oregon Parks Smoking Ban" 01/08/14 10:00 PM :30

You already can't smoke in Portland parks and now, the Oregon Parks and Rec. Department is considering a plan to ban lighting up in all state parks. The proposed ban would eliminate smoking on hiking trails, in picnic areas and common areas of state campgrounds. The fine for breaking the law would cost you between 60 and 110 dollars. Hearings are being held across the state this week; the next hearing is tomorrow night at seven at "Champoeg State Heritage Area's Visitor Center" in St. Paul. If approved, the ban would take effect in 2015.

#### KRCW "Columbia County Jail" 01/14/14 10:00 PM 1:30

Columbia County is bracing for a permanent 'get out of jail card' for many of its inmates. If the sheriff's office doesn't get a sudden influx of cash, it could shut down its jail in a few months. The vast majority of the people tonight repeated what they said on their ballots in November; we don't want to pay more taxes to lock up our inmates. So come June, the sheriff may have to wipe off the word jail entirely from his sign. Of the 250 beds here, only 25 are used to house local arrests. Much of the remainder of the space is used by the federal government for its inmates. When the county has more than 25 people to house, it has to let someone go. It just doesn't have enough money to keep them locked up. Tonight Sheriff Jeff Dickerson described what will happen because voters rejected a 9.5 million dollar levy to fund the jail. He says he'll have to shut the jail down, sending federal inmates away and putting his ten most violent criminals to Dallas, Oregon-Polk County, a two hour drive away from here.

"Hey you know what? It is nothing but a bully tactic. They are using that into scaring us into voting for it. That's truly what I believe."

And true enough, some people want to put this to the voters again in May and keep the jail open. The sheriff says if the jail does close after funding runs out in June, his office is not giving up on law enforcement.

KRCW "Novick vs Oregonian" 01/21/14 10:00 PM :50

Seattle Seahawk Richard Sherman sparked a lot of debate with his fiery post-game interview after Sunday's NFC championship. It also inspired a Portland City Commissioner to take on the Oregonian. Commissioner Steve Novick is upset about two recent editorials that called city commissioners 'mediocre' and questioned their commitment to providing local jobs.

He wrote: "You want to talk about mediocre? A paper that only delivers four times a week, now that's mediocre."

The Oregonian's publisher, Christian Anderson, says he was amused by Novick's rant. "He's a city commissioner. This is in the vein of a city official saying what he wants to say."

Novick posted another entry on his blog this afternoon. He said the 'going Richard Sherman' blog was not aimed at Oregonian reporters.

KRCW "WA Death Penalty" 02/11/14 10:00 PM :25

There will be no more executions in Washington as long as Jay Inslee is governor. Today Governor Inslee said he'd been weighing the decision for months and is not convinced it's a punishment that's carried out equally. Nine men are on Washington's death row. They will be given a reprieve, not a pardon, meaning they will remain in prison. In 2011, Governor Kitzhaber declared a similar moratorium for the death penalty in Oregon.

KRCW "Rescued Alpacas" 02/12/14 10:00 PM :40

Doctors and students at Oregon State University are working to save nearly 200 alpacas that were rescued from a snow-bound ranch in Polk County. Sheriff's deputies discovered the alpacas back in December but they were in such bad shape that many couldn't travel. They finally made their way to Corvallis last week.

"We've been lucky so far that all the ones that came here on Thursday are still with us & we've gained one with the baby over there."

That baby alpaca is underweight so vets are trying to teach him to nurse to help him get healthy. Two people are now facing felony animal abuse and animal negligence charges. The alpacas will be available for adoption once they're healthy again.

KRCW "Walden Cover Oregon" 02/14/14 10:00 PM :55

Tonight we're hearing more from Oregon Congressman Greg Walden about his call for a federal investigation into the troubled "Cover Oregon" website. Not a single person has been able to use the site to sign up for health care. Walden, who is a Republican, sat down today with NewsChannel 8 to explain why he wants an audit.

Rep. Greg Walden, (r) Oregon: "I think it's really important since there's 304 million dollars at stake here, to find out how was it spent, how much has been spent, how have we had quality control or none. What went wrong here?"

The Government Accounting Office says it will take weeks to decide whether to investigate. KGW political analyst Len Bergstein says "Cover Oregon's" problems are likely to become the dominant political issue in Oregon during the 2014 campaign.

KRCW "China Gate Crumbling" 02/21/14 10:00 PM :40

Some downtown Portland residents think the city's "Chinatown" gate needs some renovation. A chunk of it fell and broke in two after the recent winter blast. The tile came close to hitting a resident of the "Right 2 Dream Too" homeless camp. A city inspector says the gate and the tiles on it are generally in good shape. But some aren't so sure.

"I'm concerned; I'm more concerned about on the weekends when the bar patrons come they'll be climbing on the gates and everything. I'm worried that one of them is going to get injured."

The gate's been on Fourth and West Burnside since 1986; it was a gift to the city. We're told the last time work was done on the gate was in 2009 when it was painted.

KRCW "Giffords WA Testify" 01/27/14 10:00 PM :30

Former Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords is heading to Olympia tomorrow to push for an initiative to require universal background checks in Washington. Giffords survived being shot during a public appearance back in 2011. The "Seattle Times" reports she will urge the Washington House Judiciary Committee to support initiative 5-94. Washington lawmakers are also considering another proposal that would prevent the state from adopting background check rules that are stricter than the national standard.

KRCW "OR Medical Pot" 03/03/14 10:00 PM :20

There is some movement today involving medical marijuana in Oregon. The state started registering its first legal operating licenses this morning and several dispensaries applied in the first hour. Also, Democrats in Oregon's House delayed voting on a bill that would let communities and counties stop 'medical pot stores' from opening. They say they need another day to talk about it before voting.

KRCW "Cover Oregon Oracle" 03/03/14 10:00 PM :25

"Cover Oregon" won't be paying its technology contractor, Oracle, 25 million of the 69 million dollars it owes the company. This is part of a new agreement as "Cover Oregon" transitions away from Oracle. The health insurance site was supposed to go live on October first but it still isn't working right. Governor Kitzhaber and "Cover Oregon" leaders have said they would penalize Oracle if the site couldn't be fixed. Oracle will stay on during the transition process to another tech contractor.

KRCW "Trolley Bridge Danger" 03/06/2014 10:00 PM :20

The fast-moving Clackamas River is only making matters worse for crews trying to keep a bridge near "High Rocks" from shifting. You can see how badly the "Old Trolley Bridge" is leaning. The Clackamas County Sheriff's office posted signs there warning boaters to stay away. Hikers and bicyclists are also urged to steer clear for now.

KRCW "CRC Dead" 03/07/14 10:00 PM 1:10

ODOT announced it is shutting down the "Columbia River Crossing" project. It announced the project will completely close down by the end of May. In a statement, Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek thanked all of those who worked to move the project forward. Governor Kitzhaber told me in an exclusive interview in February that it would be a serious mistake to walk away from the project. But the Oregon Legislature failed to re-affirm its support during the just-ended legislative session. Washington lawmakers refused to contribute money last year. Earlier today we talked with Political Analyst Len Bergstein about the death of The CRC and what it might mean politically for the governor. "It was clear the CRC was not gonna pass this session. I think it's a loss and maybe lays into some of the vulnerabilities, what's the story? "

KRCW "Avoiding Stamp Cuts" 03/12/14 10:00 PM :30

Oregon will be the fourth state to avoid food stamp cuts included in the Federal Farm Bill. Governor Kitzhaber made the decision earlier this week and it was made public today. It means some 100 thousand Oregon households won't see their food stamp benefits decline after all. They expected to lose an average of 58 dollars a month.

KRCW "TriMet Crime Rates" 03/26/14 10:00 PM :25

TriMet says passengers on its buses and trains were safer last year than the year before. The agency announced a twenty-five percent drop in crime. TriMet released its preliminary crime report earlier today. It shows reported crimes dropped 27 percent on trains and 24 percent on buses. TriMet says there was a small uptick in crime reports along the Green Line, between Main Street and Clackamas Town Center. The agency credits increased patrols and investments in security systems for the overall drop in crime.

## **HEALTH CARE ISSUES**

Staying healthy has become a subject of national concern for all Americans. From prevention to medical breakthroughs, KRCW is committed to providing our viewers with information that can improve their health and live productive lifestyles.

### **KRCW "Flu ER Visits" 01/03/2014 10:00 PM :30**

Our news partners at the "Oregonian" are taking a closer look at just how deadly the flu season has been at Portland hospitals. So far three deaths were reported at Legacy Health, two at OHSU, and two at Providence. Oregon Public Health says the state is experiencing a kind of spike it hasn't seen in years. And the kind of patients hit hardest by the flu is changing from years past.

### **KRCW "Flu Stuff" 01/08/2014 10:00 PM 2:15**

As dozens of people continue fighting the flu in our area several local hospitals are making changes to help keep the virus from spreading. NewsChannel 8's Katherine Cook talked with hospital officials and a local woman who almost lost her husband to the flu during the 2009 outbreak. At one point Becky Trautman's husband was given a 5-percent chance of surviving H1N1 as he lay in a hospital bed here Emanuel. He beat the odds and now, Becky's mission is helping others avoid getting the flu and stay hopeful if they're sick.

Becky Trautman says it took a miracle for her husband Tom to survive the H1n1 flu four years ago. "I call him my miracle man. It's kind of scary because you know it brings back memories."

Tom was hospitalized for 2 months and then spent 2 -1/2 weeks in a in a medically induced coma. At first, doctors thought Tom had bronchitis but it was actually the flu. "When he had a high temp and everything blood pressure, I took him into the hospital, into the emergency. The sooner you get in, the sooner they can treat you with some of the anti viral medication and the CDC is recommending that that happen within the first 48 hours of sickness."

Portland Adventist is trying to prevent others from suffering the flu like Tom. It's asking patients and visitors to sanitize their hands before, during and after their stay.

Providence is requiring hospital visitors to be over 18 or immediate family, with even tougher restrictions in the birth center, pediatrics, and the intensive care units

"H1N1 is not something to mess with. People can get moderate symptoms to something that's very severe and cause respiratory failure."

Doctors say getting a flu shot is key in preventing the flu or decreasing its effects.

NewsChannel 8 Photographer Rod Stevens got his today at a local pharmacy. That's advice Trautman shares with anyone who'll listen.

“Have you always been an advocate for getting a flu shot? No. I was like so against it at first I was like I don't know what I'm putting in my body. And then Tom got sick. I got to nurses and docs more it's like we don't miss getting a flu shot every year, all of us.” Doctors predict we'll see the peak of this flu season in about two weeks and they say it's not too late to get your flu shot. In fact, Legacy Emanuel will be offering free flu shots to people age six months and older on MLK Day, January 20, from 11:00 AM till 3:00 PM.

KRCW “Vaccine Exemptions ” 02/18/2014 10:00 PM :25

Tomorrow is an important day for students in Multnomah County whose immunizations aren't up to date. The county health department puts on the second of two clinics tomorrow. It will be at the East County Services Building in Gresham and starts at 9 AM. Children who don't have their shots up to date can't go to school until after they get them. If you live outside Multnomah County, check your county health department website for clinic info.

KRCW “New Pain Killer ” 03/03/2014 10:00 PM :25

A new, powerful prescription painkiller will hit the market this month but it's got some controversy around it. It's called "Zohydro" and it's supposed to help people suffering from long-term, severe pain. But addiction analysts say it's got a huge potential for abuse. The pill can also become more potent when crushed and snorted. The manufacturer is working on a pill that can't be crushed easily but that could take years.

KRCW “Gladstone Whooping Cough” 03/18/2014 10:00 PM :25

There is a confirmed case of whooping cough at a school in Gladstone. John Wetten School sent letters home to parents. Whooping cough, or pertussis, is contagious among non-vaccinated children. A second child, who attends a Head Start program, may also have whooping cough. Kids who have symptoms, which include uncontrollable, violent coughing, should stay home and see a doctor before returning to school.

## **YOUR MONEY, YOUR BUSINESS: CONSUMER ISSUES AND ECONOMIC CRISIS**

KRCW keeps a close watch on economic developments and informs viewers of consumer issues to aid them in making wise spending decisions.

### KRCW "WA Wineries Closing" 01/01/2014 10:00 PM :45

Several small wineries in Clark County are in danger of closing as early as Sunday. Joe Millay owns Moulton Falls Winery in Yacolt, Washington. He tells us while he was on vacation he got a letter from the county saying he had to close in ten days because he didn't have the required permits for his winery. But he says he's been trying for years. He calls the ordeal a two-year nightmare.

"We can't get a straight answer and that's where we're losing sleep over this thing. We would love to do whatever the county wants us to do. Just give us a list. Make it clear that this is what we need to do. We'll do it!"

A handful of other rural wineries in Clark County got similar letters. The owners are meeting tomorrow to figure out what to do next. We did put a call into the county worker who signed the letter. Our calls were not returned.

### KRCW "Velveeta Shortage" 01/07/2014 10:00 PM :20

Your next football party might be missing its secret ingredient if you're on "Team Velveeta." Kraft Foods says customers will have a tough time finding the product on store shelves over the next several weeks but didn't give a specific reason. It simply said shortages like these happen from time to time and that it's noticeable because of seasonal demand.

### KRCW "Target Breach" 01/13/2014 10:00 PM :40

Target issued a written apology in newspaper ads nationwide today and the CEO says he's confident the store's system is now safe. On Friday Target admitted that a third of the country may have had their credit card and personal information stolen. Plus, over the weekend Neiman Marcus announced its own breach. And there are reports that three other, so far unnamed, retailers were also attacked. The head of Target says it will take time to win customers back.

Janet Handal, Target Customer: "I have been back to shop at Target, but I pay cash. That will be my modus operandi at least for the near term."

Experts say it's a good idea to keep monitoring your credit cards and bank accounts no matter where you shop.

KRCW "Facebook Falloff" 01/21/2014 10:00 PM :50

Facebook is one of the most popular social media sites around. But if a new report is right, it could soon be losing a whole lot of friends. Researchers at Princeton believe 80 percent of Facebook could jump ship in the next two years. They came to the conclusion by comparing it to an infectious disease that spreads rapidly, before eventually dying out. A local social media expert says it's already happening; many younger users are moving on to other sites.

Kent Lewis, Anvil Media, Inc.: "These are finicky fads. If you look at snowboarding, skateboarding, hip hop fashion turns so fast that manufacturers can barely keep up. I think that's exactly what happens with social media."

So if Facebook falls out of favor what will replace it? Lewis thinks it could be a current site like Instagram or Pinterest or something we haven't even heard of yet.

KRCW "PDX Valentines Biz" 02/14/2014 10:00 PM :40

Last weekend was supposed to be a pre-valentine's shopping bonanza for local stores but Mother Nature had other plans. City Commissioner Nick Fish went to Twitter to rally shoppers, "post storm." From his tweet to the hash tag "pdx loves small biz", Valentine's Day shopping became a city wide event for 50 neighborhoods and 19 thousand businesses that represent 250 thousand jobs.

Heather Hoell, Executive Dir., Venture Portland: "For every dollar you spend in a local Portland business 70 cents returns to the local economy.

Valentine's Day is a 17 billion dollar boost to the country's economy. And here are some quick stats; men spend an average of 113 dollars on Valentine's Day versus 57 dollars for women.

KRCW "Google Fiber" 02/19/2014 10:00 PM :45

Portland and several surrounding cities are on the shortlist for an ultra high-speed internet network. Google Fiber is looking to expand its network to more US metro areas. Portland, Gresham, Beaverton, Lake Oswego, Tigard and Hillsboro are all in contention. To get the service, cities will need to work with Google on a checklist of items, including where they could place fiber and which areas already have the infrastructure.

"I have no doubt about our ability to have success. Some cities will have to prove to Google they are cool enough. We have cool covered."

Google will likely decide by the end of the year whether to expand here. If picked, service could start as early as next year.

KRCW "Boeing Cracks" 03/07/2014 10:00 PM :20

Boeing's much-delayed 787 Dreamliner has hit another production problem. Hairline cracks were found in the wings of some 787's that are being built. Boeing says none of the 122 jets that were already flown are affected. It also says roughly 40 planes might be affected. It will take up to two weeks to fix the cracks.

KRCW "Too Much Beer" 03/19/2014 10:00 PM :25

Does Oregon have too much of a good thing when it comes to beer? A regional economist with the Oregon Employment Department spent a year analyzing the state's beer industry. He says it isn't saturated with breweries, like some would believe. In

fact, the economist says he sees more room for growth for smaller, neighborhood brewpubs.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

KRCW covers a variety of environmental topics as we keep our viewers informed of health and safety issues in their home environments, wildlife and their

### KRCW "Snow Draught Update" 01/30/14 10:00 PM :50

Rain may have returned to the Willamette Valley this week but it'll take a lot more to make up for our shortfall. And some ski resorts, like Hoodoo, are really hurting.

"Typically this time of year we'd have close to 100 inches and we have 19."

This year's snow pack for the Willamette Valley Basin is 24 percent of normal. The Santiam Pass measuring site is just eight percent of normal. Things are a little better in the Mount Hood Basin. It's at 34 percent of normal; the Mount Hood site alone is at 51 percent today. Concern is growing for later this year.

"I think about irrigation and water for our farms and I think about our rivers and as lot of our employees are seasonal and do rafting and fishing-so I think about them- how's it gonna affect their summer."

As for the Hoodoo Resort, they're halfway through the season and still closed. They're hoping for a few good storms to make the season a "go".

### KRCW "Keystone Protest" 02/03/14 10:00 PM :30

More than a hundred people gathered in downtown Portland tonight to protest the controversial "Keystone XL Pipeline." Members of several environmental groups took part in the demonstration near Terry Schunk Plaza. The pipeline would transport crude oil from Canada to the US and beyond. Opponents fear it could threaten the environment and produce dangerous carbon emissions. Last week a state department report found no major environmental concerns with the project.

### KRCW "Seattle Tusk" 02/11/14 10:00 PM :20

It was a huge and important find in the middle of Seattle. Construction crews unearthed a mammoth tusk from the Ice Age! Paleontologists were called in to check the tusk out after the crews found it. They say they're confident it's a tusk from an Ice Age Woolly Mammoth. The bone is on private property so it's up to the landowner to figure out what to do with it next.

### KRCW "Mountain Snow" 02/18/14 10:00 PM :40

Talk about a turnaround. In just a few weeks Mount Hood's snow pack has nearly doubled! Our crews caught heavy showers at Mt. Hood Meadows today. Some skiers and snowboarders said it was their first time on the mountain this year, because conditions have been so poor.

Mike Bernard: "I was waiting for good conditions to come up here to justify the expense...and it really didn't happen until the last week or two."

Just last month when hydrologists measured the snowpack here, it was only 40 percent of normal. Today, 6 weeks later, it's at roughly 80 percent. But be careful if you plan to back country ski or hike as the Northwest Avalanche Center issued an avalanche warning for the Mt. Hood area.

KRCW "Mt. Hood Mini Quakes" 03/26/14 10:00 PM :45

Have you felt them? A swarm of small earthquakes have hit on Mount Hood over the past few days! The quakes are rumbling right below Government Camp; they started Sunday evening. Since then geologists have recorded 31 tremors. The largest one, still only a magnitude 2.3, was barely big enough to feel. But it's not the size of the quakes that's intriguing the scientists, it's where they're happening; right alongside a recently discovered fault.

"The fact that the earthquakes are defining a fault means that that fault is active and it can make a magnitude 2.3 a much larger earthquake."

Madin doesn't believe the seismic swarm is tied to any volcanic activity. But the fault is capable of a magnitude six or stronger earthquake. As for when that could happen, it could be another ten thousand years.

## **FAMILY AND EDUCATION ISSUES**

KRCW continues its focus on families and education with reports on school safety, school budgets, the rising cost of college, and school testing. Nightly News takes an in-depth look at the many issues of caring for our aging parents from healthcare and insurance to emotional and financial issues. This is an issue affecting more families as the median age in our country rises.

### KRCW "PPS Teacher Negotiations" 01/02/14 10:00 PM :45

Portland teachers are still without a contract tonight after another day of negotiations. The teachers union and the school district met behind closed doors today. They'll be back at the table again tomorrow and on Monday. Portland teachers are trying to nail down a new two-year contract. Both the teachers' union and the district hope to reassure parents that nothing will change when classes resume next week. Christine Miles, Portland Public Schools Spokesperson: "We just want the parents and the community to know that kids are going to be fine, that classrooms are going to go on as scheduled and we're going to continue to negotiate." Gwen Sullivan, Portland Association of Teachers: "Everything should be, you know the same. There's nothing happening that is going to be any different." The teachers union says a strike is highly unlikely; at least any time soon.

### KRCW "Military Court" 01/07/14 10:00 PM :30

Military veterans in trouble with the law could soon get help through a special court. The court would help veteran's access treatment for alcohol and drug and mental health issues. It would also give them counseling to keep them from re-offending. Adding the court in Multnomah County would bring it in line with other counties including Klamath, Marion and Lane.

### KRCW "Packy TB" 01/27/14 10:00 PM :25

He's one of the biggest attractions at the Oregon Zoo but today we learned that "Packy the Elephant" is having a tough time beating tuberculosis. Vets say the primary medicine they were using to help Packy fight the infection was hurting his liver. They hope to begin a new treatment next week. Packy isn't showing any symptoms, and the TB was caught early, but it can be fatal. For now Packy and his son Rama, who also has TB, are in isolation.

### KRCW "PPS Strike Vote" 02/05/14 10:00 PM 1:25

And they've set a date. After 10 months of tense negotiations Portland teachers have voted to strike. That announcement came down within the last 90 minutes outside the

Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. The teachers union says in a near unanimous voice vote they voted to strike on February 20<sup>th</sup> and they plan to officially give the district notice tomorrow. If the union and district can't agree on a contract in the next two weeks, it appears the teachers will walk. A spokesperson for the district released a statement following tonight's vote that reads in part "The district is deeply dissatisfied that the union and the teachers have decided to walk out of the classroom. The strike will be disruptive to our kids, our families and our community."

As we mentioned, both sides say they plan to attend another mediation session on Sunday and both sides say they hope to come to an agreement in hopes that they can avoid the February 20<sup>th</sup> strike. Three sticking points stopped teachers and the district from coming to an agreement. The first was class size. 2013 numbers from the district say the average class size is 24 but teachers argue it's actually higher than that. Another problem is the length of the school year. The district wants to add three days, but the teachers say that should only happen at low-performing schools. The sides also couldn't come to an agreement on salary. The district is offering a two percent increase each year for the next three years, but the union wants more than that.

#### KRCW "PFB Homeless Help" 02/10/14 10:00 PM 2:10

Four days of snow and ice meant a lot of people got cabin fever. Others risked their lives just to reach a warm shelter. Not one; not a dozen; but a 144 people. They took them to homeless shelters across the metro area; many who wouldn't have made it there on their own and others who wouldn't have made it to the next morning. On a frigid cold night, Ray Thompson and others in Portland's homeless community huddle to stay warm. They've made it to a shelter and safety.

Ray Thompson: "Oregonians are used to wet but they're not used to wet, cold and frozen. We needed a place to stay and this place offered an overnight shelter for as long as it was below 30 degrees."

It was a journey many attempted during our snow and ice storms but would never have made had it not been for Portland Fire and Rescue.

Lt. Michael Silva was part of an effort to find and deliver homeless people to shelters during the bad weather. "We would find people who were either sitting in the snow or laying in the snow, looked like they were in trouble, maybe they started out for a warming shelter or soup kitchen."

Between Thursday and Monday they did so for 144. Some were entire families; others were barely hanging on.

Joseph Troncoso: "One of the gentlemen we found was in on a bridge in nothing but a t-shirt in 24 degrees and very disoriented and at that point, it becomes a life threatening intervention. When you see a person in need and there's something you can do, it's something that we want to do."

Crews also rescued dozens of stranded people whose cars had broken down or were stuck in the snow. That's something Ray Thompson appreciates. He watched as the fire crews brought in one after another in need of shelter, and he's grateful that someone cared enough to help. "It's awesome - how else would they get there? It's hard to just walk down the street it was so bad."

Besides fire fighters, Portland police also helped out, giving rides to homeless shelters and also delivering food boxes from the Sunshine Division.

KRCW "Teen Sex Twitter" 02/12/14 10:00 PM :45

Parents, you'll want to pay attention to this one. Teens in Clark County are turning to a graphic Twitter account to share sexual experiences online. We're not sharing the name of the account but it contains graphic posts saying things like "I had sex with a teacher..." and various pornographic terms. Experts say it may be tough but you need to talk with your kids to make them understand what not to share online.

Debbie Tschirgi, Educational Service Dist. 112: "It boils down to teaching kids to make good decisions about their own behavior, their own ethics and their own personal safety and showing respect to others."

Evergreen and Vancouver School Districts say students do not have access to Twitter from the school's networks and the schools don't monitor social media sites. But they are reporting the site to Twitter.

KRCW "PPS Strike Sports OSAA" 02/14/14 10:00 PM 1:50

Today we learned of another big blow to students if teachers walk. Many student athletes won't be allowed to finish their winter season. As for JV and freshman athletes, their seasons will be done. Today, Portland Public School's athletic director filed a letter with the OSAA declaring their plan. Striking teachers who'd been coaching sports teams won't be allowed to coach anymore, unless they cross the picket line. At this point the district says none of them have filed paperwork to do that, given there's still a possibility a strike won't happen. Non-teaching coaches will be allowed to continue coaching. Lori Bennett's son plays JV basketball. She's torn; she wants to support teachers, but feels sad for all the hard work her son's put into his season and school work.

Lori Bennett, mom of JV athlete: "It's like he gets up at 5:30 in the morning to go to practice as it is which is really tough and to just have the season end with no follow up or ... This is it, over."

Marshall Haskins, district athletic director: "We know it's going to be a hard thing but hopefully down the road a miracle will work out because at the end of the day, the kids are the ones who are going to suffer in this whole thing."

Striking coaches would also be banned from even attending games on school property. The first day could strike is next Thursday, the 20th.

KRCW "WA Partnerships Change" 02/17/14 10:00 PM :30

Some Washington couples may find themselves tying the knot whether they know it or not! In June, thousands of couples on the state's domestic partnership registry will be changed into married couples. That's unless they've already gotten married or dissolved their union. It is part of the state's new gay marriage law; that includes couples that may have broken up and others who now live in states where partnerships are not legal and dissolution isn't possible. The state will send out notices about the change next month.

KRCW "Gay Marriage Ash Wednesday" 03/04/14 10:00 PM 1:50

If you're getting ready for "Ash Wednesday" tomorrow you may see some members of your congregation wearing something new this year. All is quiet tonight at St. Mary's

Cathedral in Northwest Portland but that'll change come Wednesday. A group that calls itself "Catholic Oregonians for Marriage Equality" will stand up for same-sex marriage by wearing these pins at Ash Wednesday mass.

"We do this out of love for our church and out of love for our faith communities."

Jackie Yerby is a devout Catholic; she says it's part of her DNA. But she's frustrated that the church doesn't support gay marriage. .

"We are all God's children regardless of our condition in life. We're all perfect in the eyes of God."

Same-sex marriage may very well appear on the November ballot here in Oregon and the Archdiocese of Portland is taking a stand of its own. In an email to staff, Archbishop Andrew Sample wrote: "As the Chief Shepherd of this local flock, it is my intention to commit the energies of the church to help defeat this initiative and to uphold the uniqueness and sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman."

"What do you make of the whole thing?"

"It's church teaching." And now it's Jackie Yerby's mission to do a little teaching of her own. "This is not a protest. This is us being respectful and a loving witness for same-sex marriage."

#### KRCW "SAT Changes" 03/05/14 10:00 PM :30

There is a big change for students preparing to take the SAT's. Starting in the spring of 2016 the essay will be optional. The College Board made the announcement and that's just one change high school students can expect. The exam will return to the 16 hundred scale and won't deduct points if you get a question wrong. In the past, critics said deducting discouraged guessing. Vocabulary and writing sections will be a little easier. The College Board says they'll test words that students will use consistently.

#### KRCW "OHSU Fundraising Goal" 03/12/14 10:00 PM :25

OHSU says it's halfway to meeting a big challenge from Phil Knight. The Nike co-founder offered to donate 500 million toward cancer research if OHSU could match it. They have until 2016 but they've already raised 286 million. 200 million came from the Oregon Legislature and the rest in private donations from all over the country. OHSU plans to use the money to attract high-profile scientists to research the early detection of cancer.

#### KRCW "Social Security Help" 03/17/14 10:00 PM :50

A non-profit designed to help disabled people pay their bills is now the focus of a federal investigation. And that puts hundreds of people at risk of losing their benefits. Unit 8 has learned that the group "Safety Net" is accused of mismanaging people's money and will shut down on April first. Many of these folks are mentally disabled, homeless or living in shelters. They have a deadline of this Friday to sign up for a new program. But many simply don't know about the investigation or the deadline, because a lot of notifications that were mailed out have been returned.

Lee Girard, Multnomah County: "They may not know about it, and if they do they may have trouble getting into the Social Security Office, and if they don't get their benefits, their housing, food, utilities, all those may be a risk."

The Social Security Office could issue emergency checks to people who miss the deadline, but again, notifying people of that option is also tough.