

Hawaii volcano erupts from summit, sends plume 30,000 feet into sky

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Associated Press



U.S. Geological Survey

The Kilauea Volcano erupted from its summit, shooting a dusty plume of ash about 30,000 feet into the sky.

HONOLULU — Hawaii's Kilauea volcano erupted from its summit before dawn Thursday, shooting a dusty plume of ash about 30,000 feet into the sky.

The explosion came at about 6 a.m. after two weeks of volcanic activity and the opening of more than a dozen fissures east of the crater that spewed lava into neighborhoods, said Mike Poland, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Residents who live in a nearby town reported light amounts of ash falling following the eruption.

Poland said the explosion likely only lasted a few minutes and that ash accumula-

Kilauea is one of the world's most active volcanoes. An eruption in 1924 killed one person and sent rocks, ash and dust into the air for 17 days.

Scientists warned last week that a drop in the lava lake at the summit might create conditions for an explosion that could fling ash and boulders the size of refrigerators into the air.

Scientists predicted it would mostly release trapped steam from flash-heated groundwater released as though it was a kitchen pressure cooker.

Communities a mile or two away may be showered by pea-size fragments or dusted with nontoxic ash, they said.

Kilauea volcano has been erupting continuously since 1983. It's one of five volcanoes that comprise the Big Island of Hawaii, and the only one currently erupting.

tions were minimal, with likely trace amounts near the volcano and at the town, named Volcano.

The lava that has emerged over the last two weeks has destroyed at least 26 homes and 10 other structures.

The crater sits within

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which has been closed since May 11 in preparation for an eruption.

Officials have said they didn't expect the explosion to be deadly as long as people remained out of the closed national park.

Medicare: County options dwindle

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FamilyCare representatives could not be reached for comment. The insurer's quarterly statements show 4,135 Medicare Advantage customers in the state. A former FamilyCare spokesman had said its two Medicare Advantage plans cover about 600 people in Clatsop County.

Craig Parker, a regional coordinator with Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance, said the people covered by FamilyCare can sign up for Moda Health's two Medicare Advantage plans or go with original Medicare supplemented by one of many Medigap policies available statewide.

As of January, around

7,900 people in Clatsop County were covered by Medicare, a federal health insurance program for people 65 and older covering hospital care and outpatient treatment, with supplemental policies to cover other services such as prescription drug coverage.

More than 2,800 people were served by health insurance programs such as Medicare Advantage, with coverage provided by private insurers such as Moda Health and FamilyCare that negotiate with health care providers to find the lowest-cost options. The plans can often be more cost-effective than original Medicare coupled with Medigap policies.

FamilyCare's departure from Oregon seems to be a

business decision and not regulatory, Parker said. After a spat with the Oregon Health Authority over reimbursement rates last year, FamilyCare in January stopped providing plans for Medicaid recipients under the Oregon Health Plan, affecting approximately 120,000 customers.

Clatsop County had seven Medicare Advantage providers as recently as 2009. The county now joins a wide swath of rural Oregon — including Tillamook, Baker, Gilliam, Harney, Lake, Morrow, Umatilla and Wallowa counties — down to only Moda, Parker said.

A report in August by the Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonprofit focusing on health care issues, found that 147

mostly rural counties across 14 states have no Medicare Advantage plans, including Washington's Pacific County. Insurers have less leverage to negotiate rates with hospitals and other health care providers in rural markets, the report said, potentially making them less profitable than others.

Ron Beazely, a Cannon Beach resident highlighted by The Daily Astorian in October when he was forced to find a new Medicare Advantage plan in the wake of Care-Oregon's departure, said his transition to FamilyCare was seamless.

Beazely is now wondering what he will do next.

"You think the state of Oregon would step in to protect us folks on the coast," he said.

Library: Total proposed budget is \$267,000

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tive assistant and the library's only other employee, will go up from 11.5 hours a week to 25. They might finally be able to have staff meetings, Calog said, only half jokingly.

The total proposed budget for the little library for the next fiscal year, which starts in July, comes to nearly \$267,000. The levy is expected to bring in an estimated \$933,773 over the next five years.

For comparison, the Astoria Library, staffed by Director Jimmy Pearson, two full-time senior librarian assistants and several part-time library assistants, will operate with a general budget of \$531,275 this next fiscal year, with the

addition of \$108,000 of capital improvement fund money. The Seaside Public Library, with more than 3,000 registered patrons, has a budget of nearly \$690,000 this fiscal year.

Warrenton's library operated out of a small building on Pacific Drive in Hammond for years until an inspection revealed the structure was in critical condition. The library relocated in 2017, leasing a building downtown from the Warrenton School District, a move that displaced the Serendipity Caffé and Bakery. At the time, the move caused some consternation in the community, but the library has only seen library card sign-ups and use increase at the new location.

"I guess the question is: At some point in the future is it something the city may be interested in purchasing?" Engbretson said. Right now, the answer is unknown. The City Commission still needs to determine what it wants to do with the old Hammond building.

For now, Engbretson is interested to see what a year really looks like with the increased levy funds in place. Beyond adding hours of operation, Calog hopes to make the library more of a community space and offer evening programs.

If the library lands a grant to automate services — adding bar codes to materials and a computer system to track checkouts and returns,

among other benefits — there will be more money to work with. Warrenton went out for the grant with Seaside Public Library. Calog and Engbretson expect to hear back about the grant's status by early June at the latest. Engbretson said they are optimistic they will get the grant, but would still be able to do some automation even without it.

Mayor Henry Balensifer said he was excited about the library's more robust budget, and satisfied by how Calog plans to use the money. But, he told her, "I want to keep this in perspective."

"I know you said you've been used to a shoestring budget, but looking at this budget, it's still a shoestring," he said. "It's just a nicer shoestring."

Primary: Just 33 percent of voters cast ballots

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"There are, of course, bumps in the road, but it's basically a long-term downward trend, and it's hard to say where we are now, except on that trend," Moore said.

The 2016 primary, with both major political parties in contentious presidential nominating fights, garnered a 54 percent turnout. But primary elections in midterm years such as 2018 — where there isn't a contest for president on the ballot — don't tend to generate enthusiastic turnout.

"The only thing worse would be a special election held in January of an oddly-numbered year, where you'd get lower turnout," said Paul Gronke, a professor of political science at Reed College and director of the Early Voting Information Center.

Participation also appears to vary between political parties.

A slightly greater share of registered Democrats and Republicans turned out than did in the last midterm primary, in 2014.

Early figures from the state show that about 43 percent of registered Democrats voted in Tuesday's election, while about 46 percent of registered Republicans cast a ballot. Both those rates of participation are slightly higher than they were in 2014.

The rate of participation among members of other parties — including the Independent Party of Oregon — held steady at about 24 per-

cent between 2014 and 2018.

Meanwhile, participation among nonaffiliated voters decreased significantly from 2014 to 2018 — from 20.3 percent to 13.6 percent.

That's likely prompted by a recent influx of nonaffiliated voters who were registered through the state's new automatic voter registration law, which went into effect in early 2016.

That means that Oregonians who have a qualifying interaction at the Department of Motor Vehicles are now automatically registered to vote. During that process, they can either opt out of registration, select a political party, or do nothing and be automatically registered as a nonaffiliated voter.

The resulting growth in the number of registered voters, in turn, could also have depressed overall turnout numbers in an off-year election. In 2014, 35.9 percent of registered voters cast a ballot; in 2010, 41.6 percent; and in 2006, 38.6 percent.

"I would hesitate to make any assertions about trajectory of turnout, because we have added in Oregon Motor Voter registrants," Gronke said. "And so they will almost by definition pull down our overall turnout numbers, for good reason: we've added people into the registration system that were previously sort of detached from the political system."

"It's sort of bouncing around," said Gronke of turnout. "So this does look like a low point, but it's going to be 2020 until we'll really be able to tell."

Pier 2: Port Commission approved consultants

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McGrath said American Cruise Lines has been up front about its responsibility.

"I'm confident they'll pay," said Jim Knight, the Port's executive director.

The Port Commission on Tuesday approved spending up to \$25,000 for engineering consultant BergerABAM to provide a more detailed assessment of the damage to Pier 2 and recommend repairs or replacements.

The Port had started a similar investigation in 2014 after the bulk carrier Global Endeavor ran into the northwest corner of Pier 1 while coming in to load logs. The Port was unable to get any recompense because it could not prove the condition of the dock prior to the collision.

"We can go over and see snapped piling (from the Queen of the West) on Pier 2 really easily," McGrath said.

The Port also has leverage because American Cruise Lines often requests berthing space at the Port, McGrath said.

The Port Commission also approved approximately \$23,000 in reimbursements to Bornstein Seafoods for work the company paid for under the Pier 2 seafood processing warehouse. The company faced a freezer sinking into a void under Pier 2 and hired Bergeman Construction to insert helical piers for support. The Port did not have the specialized equipment or know-how to insert the piers under the building's foundation, McGrath said.

The reimbursement to Bornstein can be included in pending claims the Port has with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, because storms in December 2015 contributed to the damage under the building's foundation, Knight said.

TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings THURSDAY

THURSDAY EVENING												MAY 17	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	Grey's Anatomy "All of Me" (SF) (N)	Station 19 "Not Your Hero" (SF) (N)	Quantico "Spy Games" (N)		KATU News (N)	(3:55) Jimmy Kimmel		
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's Anatomy "All of Me" (SF) (N)	Station 19 "Not Your Hero" (SF) (N)	Quantico "Spy Games" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(3:55) Jimmy Kimmel		
4	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	Ellen's Game of Games	American Ninja Warrior "All-Stars Special" (N)	KING 5 News (N)	(3:55) Tonight Show				
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Young Sheldon	Life in Pieces (N)	Life in Pieces (SF) (N)	S.W.A.T. "Hoax" (SF) (N)	KOIN 6 News (N)	(3:55) Colbert	
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Young Sheldon	Life in Pieces (N)	Life in Pieces (SF) (N)	S.W.A.T. "Hoax" (SF) (N)	KIRO News (N)	(3:55) Colbert	
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	Ellen's Game of Games	American Ninja Warrior "All-Stars Special" (N)	KGW News (N)	(3:55) Tonight Show				
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Super. "Let the Good Times Roll" (SF) (N)	Arrow "Life Sentence" (SF) (N)	News at 10 (N)	Friends	Two and a Half	Two and a Half		
10	KOPB	(10) Seeing Canada	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Oregon Art Beat	Oregon Guide	Their Own Words "Queen Elizabeth II" (N)	Royal Wedding "How to Celebrate" (N)	Secrets of Westminster			
11	KPTV	(11) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Gotham "No Man's Land" (SF) (N)	Showtime at the Apollo "Week 11" (N)	10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV		
12	KPDx	(12) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's News (N)	9 O'Clock News (N)	Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game	The Game		
13	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Gotham "No Man's Land" (SF) (N)	Showtime at the Apollo "Week 11" (N)	Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)	The Simpsons		
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	*** Old School (2003, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Vince Vaughn, Luke Wilson.		Conan Without Borders "Italy"			
21	KZJO	(21) Friends	Friends	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
29	ESPN	(29) (5:30) NBA Basketball Playoffs (L)				SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)	SportsCenter (N)			SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)		
30	ESPN2	(30) Boxing Classics		Boxing Golden Boy Romero Duno vs. Gilberto Gonzalez (L)		Around Horn (N)	Interruption (N)	First Take The hottest topics in sports are debated.					
31	NICK	(31) The Loud House	The Loud House	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	*** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (12) Vanessa Hudgens, Josh Hutcherson.	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Friends	Friends			
32	DISN	(32) Jessie	Jessie	Bunk'd	Jessie	DuckTales	Gravity Falls	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Stuck in Middle	Stuck in Middle	Raven's Home	Bunk'd
34	FAM	(34) *** Zookeeper (2011, Comedy) Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb, Kevin James.		Siren "Street Fight" (N)		*** A Walk to Remember '02, Rom) Shane West, Daryl Hannah, Mandy Moore.				The 700 Club			
35	FMC	(35) (5:00) Terminator: Genisys	(20) *** Terminator: Genisys (2015, Sci-Fi) Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke, Arnold Schwarzenegger.	(40) FXM Presents		*** Total Recall (2012, Action) Bokeem Woodbine, Bryan Cranston, Colin Farrell.				*** Where the Heart Is '00 Ashley Judd, Stockard Channing, Natalie Portman.			
36	LIFE	(36) Harry and Meghan: A Royal Romance (18) Parisa Fitz-Henley, Murray Fraser.		*** Two Weeks Notice (2002, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Vince Vaughn, Luke Wilson.		Post-game	MLB Baseball Detroit Tigers at Seattle Mariners			Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.			
38	ROOT	(38) Mariners Access	MarinersPre-game	MLB Baseball Detroit Tigers at Seattle Mariners Site: Safeco Field -- Seattle, Wash. (L)		Speak for Yourself		TMZ Sports (N)		*** The Waterboy (1998, Comedy) Kathy Bates, Henry Winkler, Adam Sandler.			
39	F51	(39) (4:30) NCAA Baseball	TCU at Texas (L)	MLB Whiparound (L)						Drunk History	Drunk History	The Daily Show (N) The Opposition	
43	SPIKE	(43) Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
44	COM	(44) The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office
45	HIST	(45) Swamp People "Savage Showdown"	Swamp People "Swamp Savage"	Swamp: Blood "Lone Hunter" (N)	Swamp: Blood "Lockjaw" (N)	(05) Truck "The Best of Truck Night" (N)	(05) Swamp People "Lockjaw"	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol	(05) Live PD: Patrol (N) Live PD: Patrol
46	A&E	(46) Live PD: Patrol	Live PD: Patrol	Lost Family "She Never Came Back"	Lost Family "28 Foster Homes"	Lost Family "You Think They Are Blood"	Naked and Afraid "King of the Forest"	Naked and Afraid "Brazilian Riverbank" (N)		Wicked Tuna "Mutiny on the Water"	Atlantis Rising		
47	TLC	(47) Say Yes to the Dress	Lost Family "She Never Came Back"	Lost Family "28 Foster Homes"	Lost Family "You Think They Are Blood"	Naked and Afraid "King of the Forest"	Naked and Afraid "Brazilian Riverbank" (N)			Wicked Tuna "Mutiny on the Water"	Atlantis Rising		
48	DISC	(48) Naked and Afraid "Hungry"	Naked and Afraid "Hungry"	Naked and Afraid "King of the Forest"	Naked and Afraid "Brazilian Riverbank" (N)					Wicked Tuna "Mutiny on the Water"	Atlantis Rising		
49	NGEO	(49) Life Below Zero "On the Edge"	Easter Island Underworld	Atlantis Rising James Cameron tries to find evidence of Atlantis.		*** Now You See Me (2013, Crime Story) Common, Annetta Benning, Jesse Eisenberg.	*** Open Range (2003, Western) Kevin Costner, Marneette Benning, Robert Duvall.			NCIS "Leap of Faith"	NCIS "Chimera"		
50	TNT	(50) NCIS: New Orleans "Chasing Ghosts"	NCIS: New Orleans "Stolen Valor"	*** Now You See Me (2013, Crime Story) Common, Annetta Benning, Jesse Eisenberg.	*** Open Range (2003, Western) Kevin Costner, Marneette Benning, Robert Duvall.					NCIS "Leap of Faith"	NCIS "Chimera"		
51	AMC	(51) (5:25) *** Escape Plan (13) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone.		NCIS "Family"	NCIS "Identity Crisis"	Chopped "Flip or Flop Takeover"	Chopped "Hush Puppy Love"			NCIS "Leap of Faith"	NCIS "Chimera"		
52	USA	(52) NCIS "Trojan Horse"	NCIS "Angel of Death"	Chopped "Flip or Flop Takeover"	Chopped "Hush Puppy Love"					NCIS "Leap of Faith"	NCIS "Chimera"		
53	FOOD	(53) Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Chopped "Fat Chance"						NCIS "Leap of Faith"	NCIS "Chimera"		
54	HGTV	(54) Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
55	FX	(55) (5:30) *** Everest (2015, Adventure) Jason Clarke, Keira Knightley, Jake Gyllenhaal.		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Hannity	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
57	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Hannity	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
58	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	The Ingraham Angle	Fox News @ Night	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	Hannity	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		Jay Leno's Garage "Rebels" (N)	Jay Leno's Garage "Down and Dirty"	Jay Leno's Garage "Living the Dream"				House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
63	BRVA	(63) Southern Charm "All Talk No Action"	Southern Charm "Pulp Friction"	Southern Charm "Exes on the Half Shell"	Southern Charm (N)					House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Angel (37, Dra) Marlene Dietrich.	The Devil Is a Woman (35) Cesar Romero, Marlene Dietrich. (45) Desire (1936, Drama) Gary Cooper, John Halliday, Marlene Dietrich.	*** Men in Black (1997, Sci-Fi) Tommy Lee Jones, Vincent D'Onofrio, Will Smith.	*** Men in Black II (2002, Sci-Fi) Tommy Lee Jones, Lara Flynn Boyle, Will Smith.					House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
65	SYFY	(65) (4:30) Knowing '09, Sci-Fi) Nicolas Cage.		*** Men in Black (1997, Sci-Fi) Tommy Lee Jones, Vincent D'Onofrio, Will Smith.	*** Men in Black II (2002, Sci-Fi) Tommy Lee Jones, Lara Flynn Boyle, Will Smith.					House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
102	RFD	(102) SF Machinery	Small Town	Rural America "Live" (L)	Steve Lantvit	Rural Eve. News	Market Journal	GA Farm Monitor	SF Machinery	Small Town	Time Life Library		