RADIO: KBLU broadcasts at 240 watts

Continued from 1A

Turning the dial to 90.5 FM will reveal an eclectic playlist that runs the gamut from classical to classic rock and world music.

While a pre-launch survey revealed many potential listeners wanted to a station dedicated to country western or classic rock, management decided to aim for a different audience.

"Geezers tend to want genre music," said Gary Betts, who co-founded KBLU with his wife, Virginia Blakelock. "Millennials and adults want the mix."

Betts' resume may be the only thing more varied than KBLU's selection. His lifelong interest in electronics began as a boy assembling radios in his spare time in Zillah, Wash. Betts eventually moved to Seattle to attend the University of Washington, where he initially decided to major in physics before switching to comparative literature.

After graduating with a master's degree Betts moved to a cabin west of Wilsonville in 1969, a place he'd call home for the next 24 years.

During his time in the cabin, he worked stints as a Portland Community College professor, the owner of a concrete company and a software designer for IBM.

Betts married Blakelock, a renowned beadwork artist who's had her work shown in the Smithsonian Institution, in 1980.

Betts and Blakelock moved to Eastern Oregon in 2005 after Betts inherited his grandfather's Athena wheat farm.

Betts and Blakelock got together a group in 2007 and spent seven years raising the funds to buy a radio license and collect the equipment needed to start a community station.

KBLU started broadcasting in October, using a radio tower powered by solar panels to cut energy costs.

The early goings weren't easy — high winds blew off KBLU's solar panels within the first few weeks, cutting off its broadcast.

Replacements were sent free of charge and reinforced to keep them anchored. With the recent installation of a wind turbine to provide additional power to the tower, high winds are now an asset instead of a threat.

Betts said KBLU's broadcast is now stable, although Pendleton's uneven topography and preponderance of brick buildings means not every area of town receives the signal clearly.

KBLU broadcasts at 240 watts, which is more than twice as powerful as the signal emitted by KCUW, another community radio station in the area.

Owned by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and located at Mission, KCUW broadcasts at 100 watts, or about as much as bright light bulb.

KCUW has gone through great lengths to expand their audience despite the low wattage.

In addition to moving its radio tower from Cayuse to the top of Wildhorse Casino and Resort, KCUW recently started streaming their broadcast online thanks to some underwriting from Cayuse Technologies.

KCUW operations manager Jiselle Halfmoon said the online broadcast gives the station a better idea of how many people are listening and what they're listening to.

The KCUW listening audience numbers may have hit their peak during the recent season of Nixyaawii boys basketball games. This was the first year KCUW broadcast all of the team's games, which coincided with the Golden Eagles' run to the state title game appearance.

"Everybody was listening," KCUW assistant Anson Crane said.

In addition to broadcasting basketball games, KCUW also plays a combination of prerecorded and live material hosted by a small but dedicated group of volunteer disc jockeys. Halfmoon plans to continue expanding their programs.

Halfmoon wants to recruit more volunteers with the message that the station is open to all programming, not just those focused on the tribal community.

She wants to use new volunteers to grow the station's burgeoning local news coverage, which recently added a news segment that airs five days a week.

With a significant portion of KBLU's budget coming from member donations, volunteer personnel is also one of nonprofit's top priorities.

Currently, the station plays commercial-free music from premade playlists mostly curated by Blakelock.

In addition to prerecorded spots that share track information, Betts also wants a variety of prerecorded programming, including a bedtime story time for children, a call-in show for city council members and a farm show that would be a mix of country western music, wheat prices and updates from the Oregon State University Experiment Station.

Betts eventually wants to add live material to the mix, but is wary of profanity without having the equipment to edit it out.

KBLU can be heard on the radio at 90.5 while KCUW is on 104.3. Both are on the FM dial.

Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

Cancer study will take new tack

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

CHICAGO — The federal government is launching a very different kind of cancer study that will assign patients drugs based on what genes drive their tumors rather than the type.

The National Cancer Institute's NCI-MATCH trial will be a massive precision medicine experiment at more than 2,400 sites around the country.

Starting in July, about 3,000 patients will have their tumor genes sequenced to see what mutations or pathways fuel their disease. About 1,000 patients whose tumor characteristics most closely match one of the 20 or so gene-targeting drugs offered in the study will be put into groups of about 30 patients to get that drug.

"The goal is really to try to get the information faster, so when we see responses we can expand rapidly" and offer the drug more widely, said Dr. Douglas Lowy, the Cancer Institute's acting director.

Details of the study were revealed Monday at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in Chicago.

It is based on the growing realization that many cancers share the same gene mutations or pathways to grow. So a drug that targets one of these for a specific cancer, such as breast, may work against other types, such as lung.

"We're getting to the lowest common denominator" of a cancer, said Dr. Otis Brawley, chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, which has no role in the study but praised the effort. "You might end up with 30 people, all with different kinds of cancer, getting the same drug."

Those eligible for the study will be adults with tumors or lymphomas worsened or spread despite at least one standard treatment. Fresh biopsies will be taken and sent to the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston for quality checks, then sent to one of four labs around the country that will sequence the DNA.

All the labs will use tests from Thermo Fisher Scientific of Waltham, Massachusetts, to check for 143 cancer genes and more than 4,000 mutations. The whole process should take less than two weeks. Gene testing and the drugs will be free to patients.

"We're hoping that a substantial minority of the patients that are tested will actually have rare or uncommon cancers" so more can be learned about what genes fuel them, Lowy said.

The study will be headed by Dr. Keith Flaherty at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Richard Pazdur, cancer drugs chief at the Food and Drug Administration, warned that although everyone hopes that targeting drugs to gene mutations will improve survival, "this may be far more complex than we realize."

The FDA has never approved a drug that was not aimed at a specific tumor type such as breast cancer, but if a drug shows promise for a particular pathway involved in many tumor types, it could be approved for that use, he said.

Also on Monday, the oncology society discussed details of a study it will launch for patients with advanced cancers who lack treatment options now. It will offer patients "off label" access to various drugs already used for other tumor types or purposes, and collect information on how they fare.

So far, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly and Company, Genentech and Pfizer have agreed to provide at least 13 drugs, which will be free to study participants.

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

TERRIFICALLY FREE TUESDAY, all day, Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. Free admission all day. (541-276-1066).

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-276-8100)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30-11 a.m., Stanfield Public Library, 180 W. Coe Ave. (541-449-1254).

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is $4 for seniors 55 and older and $5 for adults. (541-481-3257).

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave. Costs $4 for adults and children over 10, $4 for Meals on Wheels home delivery, free for children under 10. Extra 50 cents if center provides table service or dishes. Transportation can be arranged by donation. (541-567-3582).

JUNGLE STORY TIME, 12 noon to 2 p.m., Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. Free with paid admission. (541-276-1066).

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Cost is $3.50 for seniors, $6 for those under 60. Meet new friends, enjoy pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels call CAPECO at 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).

HELP WITH MEDICARE, 3-5 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. Hermiston Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance Office volunteers answer Medicare questions for Medicare recipients or their providers. Call 541-667-3507 to schedule individual consultations.

ECHO PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING, 6 p.m., Echo Preschool, across the street from Echo High School, 600 Gerone St. Meet the teacher and get information on preschool offerings and programs. Cost is $25 per month for before or after school, $400 per month for all day. Enrollment forms available at www.echo.k12.or.us. (541-376-8436).

HOMEBUYERS WORKSHOP, 6-7 p.m., Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, 130 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. Free information for prospective homebuyers. (Bethany Winters 541-564-1979).

PENDLETON KNITTING GROUP, 6 p.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave. (541-966-0380).

PENDLETON EAGLES BINGO, 6:30-9 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge No. 28, 428 S. Main St. (541-278-2828).

STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 6:30 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. For elementary school-age children. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100)

BABY BOOGIE & TAPPIN' TODDLERS, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).

COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE GRAND OPENING, 10:30 a.m. ribbon cutting, 138 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Former Community Bargain Counter has reopened at a new location, offering quality donated merchandise at affordable prices. Everyone welcome.

STORY TIME, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. Costs $3.50 for seniors, $6 for those under 60. Meet new friends, enjoy pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels call CAPECO at 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini in Hermiston at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in Pendleton at 541-966-0818.

To submit engagements, weddings and anniversaries: email rstruthers@eastoregonian.com or visit www.eastoregonian.com/community/announcements

To submit a Letter to the Editor: mail to Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com.

To submit sports or outdoors information or tips: 541-966-0838 • sports@eastoregonian.com

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with a thunderstorm	A t-storm around in the p.m.	Intervals of clouds and sunshine	Sunny	Sunny and very warm
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
72° 49°	71° 48°	76° 50°	83° 54°	91° 59°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
75° 52°	74° 51°	79° 52°	88° 55°	93° 59°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	74°	57°
Normals	74°	50°
Records	98° (1909)	35° (1919)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.41"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.06"
Year to date	4.94"
Last year to date	6.47"
Normal year to date	6.57"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	84°	59°
Normals	76°	51°
Records	102° (1986)	34° (1984)

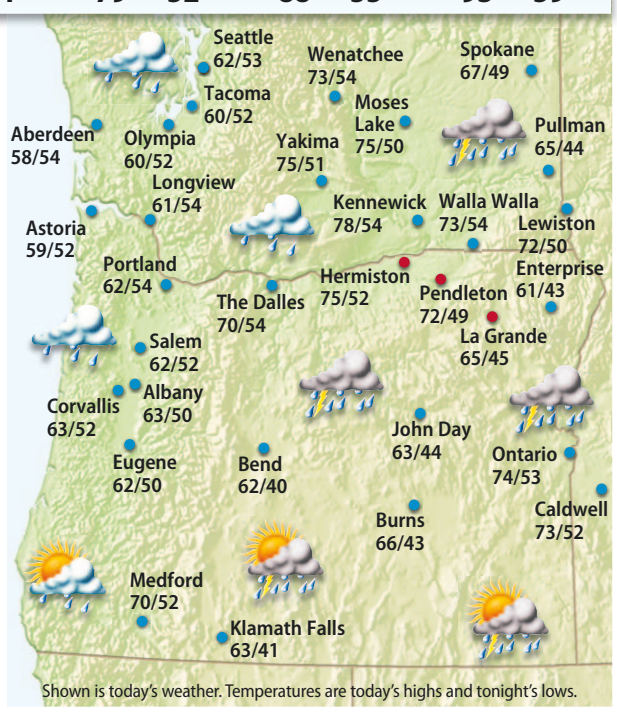
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	0.03"
Year to date	3.14"
Last year to date	3.77"
Normal year to date	5.14"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:09 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:38 p.m.
Moonrise today	8:40 p.m.
Moonset today	5:32 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
June 2	June 9	June 16	June 24



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: A couple of showers today. Times of clouds and sun; cloudy across the north.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy today with a shower or thunderstorm around, but dry in the south.

Western Washington: Cloudy today into tomorrow with a couple of showers. Thursday: clouds and sun.

Eastern Washington: A shower in spots today.

Cascades: Cloudy most of the time today with a passing shower; cool in central parts.

Northern California: Warmer in central parts today; low clouds followed by some sun at the coast.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today Hi	Lo	W	Wed. Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	59	52	sh	62	51	c
Baker City	62	42	t	65	40	t
Bend	62	40	pc	63	40	t
Brookings	59	50	sh	61	51	c
Burns	66	43	pc	68	43	pc
Enterprise	61	43	t	62	42	t
Eugene	62	50	sh	66	49	c
Heppner	68	45	pc	69	45	t
Hermiston	75	52	t	74	51	t
John Day	63	44	c	65	43	t
Klamath Falls	63	41	pc	67	47	t
La Grande	65	45	t	66	44	t
Meacham	60	40	t	60	35	t
Medford	70	52	sh	73	54	c
Newport	54	51	sh	56	49	c
North Bend	61	52	sh	62	52	c
Ontario	74	53	c	77	53	pc
Pasco	77	53	t	77	52	s
Pendleton	72	49	t	71	48	t
Portland	62	54	sh	65	51	c
Redmond	63	41	pc	64	41	t
Salem	62	52	sh	66	51	c
Spokane	67	49	t	68	49	pc
Ukiah	64	42	t	64	40	t
Vancouver	61	54	sh	65	50	c
Walla Walla	73	54	t	74	54	t
Yakima	75	51	pc	75	50	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today Hi	Lo	W	Wed. Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	90	62	pc	91	70	pc
Hong Kong	89	82	pc	90	82	t
Jerusalem	83	56	s	86	56	s
London	65	50	sh	65	47	s
Mexico City	75	53	pc	77	52	pc
Moscow	66	53	c	79	60	s
Paris	73	55	s	70	52	pc
Rome	80	59	s	82	61	s
Seoul	81	57	pc	81	57	s
Sydney	60	47	s	62	47	s
Tokyo	83	68	pc	75	65	r

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	WSW 10-20	WSW 6-12
Pendleton	W 10-20	W 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

8 a.m.	10 a.m.	Noon	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	6 p.m.
1	4	7	6	4	1

0-2, Low **3-5**, Moderate **6-7**, High; **8-10**, Very High; **11+**, Extreme

The higher the **AccuWeather.com UV Index™** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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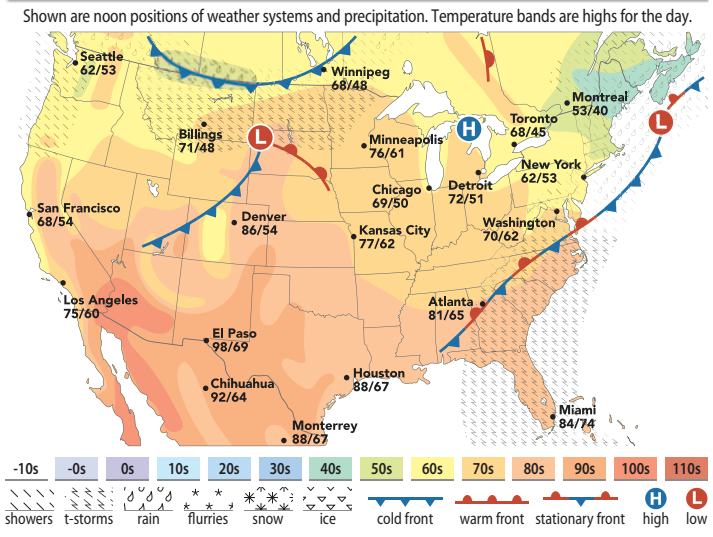
NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary: Rain and thunderstorms will affect the Atlantic Seaboard today. Showers and storms will stretch from the northern Plains to the Northwest. The area from California to Michigan will be dry.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 104° in Blythe, Calif. **Low** 24° in Togo, Minn.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today Hi	Lo	W	Wed. Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	89	58	s	88	57	s
Atlanta	81	65	t	82	66	t
Atlantic City	68	57	r	64	57	r
Baltimore	66	57	t	67	58	r
Billings	71	48	t	70	51	t
Birmingham	81	61	t	83	63	pc
Boise	72	52	c	76	52	pc
Boston	51	44	r	59	47	pc
Charleston, SC	83	67	t	80	67	t
Charleston, WV	73	58	c	76	59	t
Chicago	69	50	s	73	54	s
Cleveland	66	52	pc	73	58	pc
Dallas	84	66	s	88	66	s
Denver	86	54	s	78	54	t
Detroit	72	51	s	74	56	s
El Paso	98	69	s	97	68	s
Fairbanks	63	43	c	58	41	c
Fargo	73	59	t	72	52	t
Honolulu	85	72	pc	85	73	pc
Houston	88	67	s	87	66	s
Indianapolis	74	52	s	79	61	pc
Jacksonville	84	65	t	84	66	t
Kansas City	77	62	pc	83	67	s
Las Vegas	94	69	s	93	68	s
Little Rock	81	63	s	84	66	s
Los Angeles	75	60	pc	74	60	pc
Louisville	75	59	pc	81	63	t
Memphis	79	62	pc	83	64	pc
Miami	84	74	t	84	74	t
Milwaukee	61	46	s	67	50	s
Minneapolis	76	61	pc	74	62	t
Nashville	77	58	c	81	60	pc
New Orleans	86	71	pc	88	72	t
New York City	62	53	r	68	57	c
Oklahoma City	83	67	pc	86	67	s
Omaha	78	64	pc	82	66	t
Philadelphia	65	56	r	69	59	r
Phoenix	102	73	s	100	71	s
Portland, ME	53	42	r	65	46	pc
Providence	55	45	r	67	47	pc
Raleigh	80	64	t	75	63	t
Rapid City	80	55	t	71	51	t
Reno	79	49	s	78	53	s
Sacramento	84	56	s	83	56	s
St. Louis	77	59	s	82	64	pc
Salt Lake City	79	55	pc	78	57	s
San Diego	71	62	pc	70	62	pc
San Francisco	68	54	pc	65	55	pc
Seattle	62	53	sh	63	52	c
Tucson	102	66	s	100	66	s
Washington, DC	70	62	t	69	63	r
Wichita	81	66	pc	85	67	s

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice.