

## INTRO

Independent, nonprofit community radio.

KMRE brings you local news for [Monday], [June 5th]. Good afternoon, I'm

\_\_\_\_\_.

## **STORY: Department of Ecology adopts new regulations**

The Washington State Department of Ecology issued a new set of regulations to *severely* limit the amount of toxic chemicals in consumer products.

As consumer products are used and thrown away, they often release chemicals into homes and environments across the state. These chemicals are linked to *health* problems such as cancer, or developmental delays in children. Two of the most notable are PFAS— used to create water resistant material— and phenolic compounds, used in laundry detergents as well as food and drink can linings.

Washington state passed the *Toxic Pollutant Law* in 2019 which allows the Department of Ecology to regulate chemicals by *class* so they can prevent one toxic chemical from being swapped for another *equally dangerous* one. The Department of Ecology's director Laura Watson said in a statement quote "this is a milestone for pollution in Washington State. We've taken the first step toward closing gaps in the existing federal regulations," unquote.

### **STORY: TRAIN DEATH AN ACCIDENT**

Bellingham police department says the tragic death of 15-year-old Lucy Guerra (GWARE-uh) was accidental. Guerra was a freshman at Bellingham High School and was struck by a train while walking along the trestle above Squalicum Beach.

First responders attempted, but were unable, to revive the girl. Later the Whatcom County Medical Examiner confirmed the death was an accident.

In an email to Bellingham High School students, family and staff, principal Marty Atkins expressed deep sorrow over the event.

Saying, quote Lucy made a positive impact on our school and in our community in a number of ways. She will be missed," unquote.

A gofundme set up to help the Guerra family has already raised over 26 thousand dollars.

### **STORY: Man pleads guilty to 12 felonies in Whatcom Superior Court**

Brandon Maurice Thompson, age 29, pled guilty to 12 felonies and one gross misdemeanor charge in Whatcom Superior Court last week. Charges include 3 counts of identity theft second degree, 4 counts of possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of a stolen firearm, and more.

Thompson was sentenced to 6 years and will receive credit for the one year served while awaiting trial.

### **Story: Roadworks Scammers Impersonating Whatcom County**

#### **Employees**

Whatcom County Public Works made an announcement yesterday to warn residents of scammers impersonating Whatcom County Employees. One resident reported being offered free gravel left over at a nearby job site.

In that case the scammers claimed they were Whatcom County employees doing chip sealing work.

The scammers offered to lay the gravel out for free, and brought in equipment to do so. They stayed until they were asked to leave by the homeowner, and then asked for money for their services.

According to Whatcom Public Works, these kinds of scammers are usually unregistered contractors using high pressure sales tactics, often targeting senior citizens, who inflate their price once the work is done.

Whatcom Public Works told KMRE their employees do *not* show up unsolicited, and will *never* offer to sell goods or services.

### **STORY: WWU Kicks off Pride Month**

Western Washington University kicked off Pride Month Wednesday by hosting its annual celebration. Several hundred students were present at Western's flag poles to watch the gay Pride flag raised. Additionally, students and faculty spoke on the importance of celebrating pride and the LGBTQ+ community.

This comes after WWU celebrated what they call "Gaypril" (gay-pril), the school's official month-long celebration of LGBTQ identities held in April.

### **STORY: STATE INVESTS IN BROADBAND**

Washington state is investing \$121 million in bringing high speed internet to rural residents. The state has a goal of ensuring access to broadband internet for *all* Washingtonians by 2028. Eric Tegethoff has the story.

## **BROADBAND AUDIO**

### **STORY: Cheap and free things to do**

Things are really starting to heat up on the events scene, and that includes a bevy of cheap and free things for you to do this weekend!

Just a few notables:

First Fridays start tonight– a monthly celebration that showcases local artists and galleries, places to dine and sip, late night shopping, events, live music, and more starting at 6pm tonight. Find the full list of participating venues, at [downtownbellingham.com](http://downtownbellingham.com), or head downtown and look for the colorful flags.

If you like dixieland jazz, you might want to check out Market Street Dixieland Jass Band from Seattle performing “the best in New Orleans

style Jazz, Dixieland, 1920s songbook and gutbucket second line blues!”.

Tickets start at \$5 at the VFW hall.

Also on Saturday, check out LawnStock on the WWU Comm lawn.

Showcasing emerging bands, the show starts at 5pm and is free.

You can find more events at the [bellingham.org](http://bellingham.org) website.

### **STORY: KMRE SIGNAL CHANGE**

On Sunday, June 11th KMRE will be moving! To prepare for our increase in power, we are changing our call signal to 88.3FM which means you'll be able to find us down at the beginning of the radio dial, or on-demand at [kmre.org](http://kmre.org).

### **WX:**

For your Whatcom weather today be ready for more sunny skies. A high of 67 degrees will reach Bellingham around 4pm today. As the sun goes down, expect a low of 50 degrees to settle for the rest of the evening.

Tomorrow June 3rd, more warmth is on the way. A high of 69 degrees is expected as we enter the weekend. Dipping down to a low of 50 degrees in the evening.

OUTRO:

Today's newscast was produced by volunteer Carl Bryden. Tune in to local news on KMRE weekdays at 3, 4 and 5 p-m. For news tips and feedback, send us an email st [news@kmre.org](mailto:news@kmre.org) or call 360-398-6150. KMRE is a nonprofit community radio station, powered by listener donations. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and thanks for listening.