[DATE] [RD] [TITLE (2-3 WORDS MAX)] [SHOW IT'S FOR] [INITIALS]

04/24 RD Home Hockey Game ME
DL

The Utah Mammoth is back at the Delta Center tonight {FRI} for its first home playoff game.

The team competed on the road in Las Vegas for the first two matches in the best-of-seven series.

The series is tied one to one after they beat the Vegas Golden Knights on Tuesday.

Games 3 and 4 will be played in Salt Lake City.

This will be the first time a Stanley Cup playoff game has been hosted in the state.

04/21 RD Stanley Cup Match ATC
DL

Utah's N-H-L team is competing in its second Stanley Cup playoff game tonight {TUE}.

The Utah Mammoth face off against the Vegas Golden Knights at 7:30 Mountain Time.

They trail the series after the Golden Knights won the first game 4 to 2 at home.

The first two matches are in Vegas.

But the teams will travel to Salt Lake City to play the next two at the Delta Center.

The Mammoth will host their first ever playoff home game on Friday.

04/15 RD Utah Gymnastics ME
DL

Three gymnasts will represent the University of Utah at the N-C double A National championship tomorrow {THURS}.

The lineup features sophomore Avery Neff in the all-around, Junior Ella Zirbes {ZER-bis} on floor, and senior Ana Padurariu {PAD-u-RARE-ee-ooh} on beam.

Neff will rotate with the U-C-L-A Bruins across all four events.

And Zirbes and Padurariu {PAD-u-RARE-ee-ooh}will move with the Minnesota Golden Gophers as they head to the floor and beam.

{OPT: Utah Gymnastics did not qualify as a team for the championship for the first time in 49 years.}

04/14 RD Visitor Center Unveiled ME
DL

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints unveiled a building that's specifically designed for non-members.

The Church previewed its new Temple Square Visitors' Center to the media yesterday {MON}.

Latter-day Saint temples are considered sacred, and are only open to church members in good standing.

The new visitor's center will offer 30-minute, paid guided tours.

Those will give people outside the faith a chance to see what a temple looks like on the inside - and learn what happens there.

It will open on May 18th.

04/09 RD Trump 1B Follow ATC (scratched)
DL

Last week, President Donald Trump offered to take action in restoring the Great Salt Lake.

The lake has been drying up at a rapid pace and emitting greenhouse gases into the atmosphere..

Following meetings with Governor Spencer Cox, Trump has requested 1 billion dollars towards the cause.

If Congress approves, the money would be used to create new infrastructure that would send water back to the lake.

It would also go towards improving water efficiency and optimizing agricultural water use.

04/09 RD Drought Disaster Loans ME
DL

Small businesses and private nonprofits in Utah can now apply for a federal disaster loan because of a drought that started last July.

On Wednesday, The U-S Small Business Administration said the amount can go as high as 2 million dollars with interest rates down to 4 percent.

The loan is intended to help with financial losses from extreme weather.

Utah is still dealing with dry conditions after hitting record low snowpack levels this winter

Businesses will only qualify if they apply before the deadline on May 8th.

04/09 RD District Fails ME
DL

A second Senate District has fallen short of signatures needed for the Prop 4 repeal effort.

On Wednesday, advocacy group Better Boundaries announced that Senate District 12 dropped below the threshold.

But the repeal effort had already failed, and the question will not appear on November's ballot.

At issue was whether to get rid of Utah's anti-gerrymandering law.

Better Boundaries has led a signature removal effort since February.

Executive Director Elizabeth Rasmussen {RASS-muss-en} said the organization will continue to help people who were, quote, "tricked or misled into signing."

04/08 RD Oil Wells Plugged ME
DL

Utah has new funds to start plugging up abandoned oil and gas wells.

The state's Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining received 5 million dollars from a federal grant.

That money will be used to plug wells that create environmental and safety risks on state and private lands.

Work began in the Uintah Basin in March and will expand into southern Utah.

The division plans to restore 24 sites in the next two years.

And it's aiming to create an efficient approach to statewide reclamation.

{OPT: An engineering manager in the division said the goal is to have "zero" orphaned wells in Utah and clean up the land in a timely manner.}

04/06 RD Distracted Driving ME
DL

Utah law enforcement will be watching the roads carefully over the next few weeks.

Today {MON} through April 20th, the state's Department of Public Safety will be searching for distracted drivers.

Officers will be spread out across Salt Lake and Utah counties in unmarked vehicles.

And the department says appropriate enforcement action will be taken against violators.

D-P-S named a few distractions it will be looking for – including phone use, grooming, and eating.

{OPT: In a press release, the department called distracted driving, quote, "A serious problem in Utah."}

04/03 RD SLC Zoning Change ME

DL

The Sugar House District might be getting a new hotel that could be up to 90 feet tall.

Tuesday night, the Salt Lake City Council will consider rezoning to add the building to the northwest corner of Sugar House Park.

The hotel would be built where the old Sizzler restaurant used to be.

{OPT: The restaurant was demolished in 20-24 and the property has been vacant ever since.}

The current zoning only allows buildings 35 to 40 feet tall.

In a public hearing last month, people complained that a taller building would obstruct views and would be out of place next to the park.

04/03 RD Weekend Traffic Delays ME
DL

Expect some traffic delays around Utah this weekend.

Park City's Main Street is hosting a parade today {FRI} to celebrate Olympians and Paralympians from the Milan Cortina and Paris Games.

Lower Main Street will be closed at 11 a-m and vehicle traffic on the rest of Main will be stopped at 4 o'clock.

On Saturday and Sunday, thousands of Latter-Day Saints will gather in downtown Salt Lake City for the General Conference.

The event will take place at the Conference Center on North Temple.

{OPT: There won't be parking there, but conference tickets double as Utah transit passes for the event.}

04/02 RD Measles Cases ATC
DL

Utah has seen a dramatic spike in measles over the last three weeks.

The state's Department of Health and Human Services recorded 142 infections during that time.

The U-S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ranks Utah second in the nation for reported measles cases.

Most of the early cases were found in the school systems.

But the list of infection sites now includes several stores, a movie theater and an L-D-S temple open house in Lindon.

{OPT: A full list of places can be found on the health department's website.}

04/01 RD Idaho Voter Suit ATC
DL

The U-S Department of Justice announced today it is now suing Idaho over its voter registration lists.

The department is now looking for detailed voter data from 30 states and the District of Columbia.

Utah is on that list and voter rights groups here have filed a motion to intervene.

Katharine Biele is with the League of Women Voters. She told Utah News Dispatch the group wants to protect voter privacy and that the lawsuit undermines trust in what she called "Utah's credible system."

03/31 RD New Halfpipe ATC
DL

Freestyle snowboarders are getting a brand new facility in Park City.

Park City Mountain is set to host Season Two of The Snow League – a competition that features the world's top athletes in half pipe snowboarding and freeskiing.

The three-day event will happen in January of next year on the same weekend that used to welcome the Sundance Film Festival.

The 22 foot half pipe is larger than the traditional 18 foot. According to the Associated Press, Park City hasn't had a half pipe this big since 20-19 when it hosted the world championships.

Three-time gold medalist Shaun White created the league, and it had its inaugural season last year.

03/24 RD GenX Expensive Healthcare ME
DL

It's not just young people who struggle to pay their medical bills.

New findings show that some Gen Xers do too.

According to Salt Lake County Aging and Adult Services, 11 percent of residents between 45 and 64 can't afford the healthcare they need.

For the uninsured, it's closer to 40 percent.

Salt Lake County partnered with the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute to conduct the study.

Later this year, Salt Lake County is set to launch an initiative to help address healthcare, housing and economic needs for its residents.

03/17 RD All America Team ATC
DL

The awards keep rolling in for Brigham Young University forward AJ Dybansta [duh-BAWNT-suh].

The freshman basketball player earned numerous Big-12 honors during the regular season.

And now the Associated Press has named him a first-team All-American.

He is only the third player in B-Y-U history to be chosen for this team.

Dybansta [duh-BAWNT-suh] and the Cougars will next compete in the N-C-A-A March Madness tournament.

{OPT: They are set to play in the first round on Thursday.}

03/13 RD I-15 Closure ME
DL

Parts of interstate 15 will be closed this weekend.

Construction crews will be working on new bridge projects in Farmington and Riverdale.

{OPT: The Utah Department of Transportation says drivers in Northern Utah should plan ahead for the closures.}

I-15 will be closed near the Ogden-Hinckley Airport on Friday and Saturday nights.

Northbound lanes will be closed from Friday night to Saturday morning.

Then, southbound lanes will be closed from Saturday night to Sunday morning.

03/12 RD 1993 Murder ATC
DL

The Salt Lake County District Attorney has just charged a man in a 1993 murder case.

James Wallace Petersen the third was arrested yesterday {WED} for first-degree murder and aggravated sexual assault.

The victim was 35-year-old Theresea Morlock.

{OPT: The two met while Petersen was in town for the NBA All-Star Weekend.}

Morlock died from asphyxiation due to strangulation.

The investigation at the time failed to identify a suspect, but the case remained open.

{OPT: Advancements in technology made the arrest possible decades later.}

A forensics lab found hair and bite marks on the victim's body that have now been matched to Petersen's DNA profile.

03/10 RD Dybansta Awards ATC
DL

Brigham Young University's AJ Dybansta [duh-BAWNT-sah] is one of the top players in college basketball, and now he has the awards to prove it.

The 6 foot 9 forward is officially the Associated Press Big-12 Player of the Year.

He's also the Big-12 Freshman of the Year, and the only player that earned a unanimous vote for the All Big-12 First Team.

Dybansta is making waves in his first season.

He leads the nation in scoring with 24.5 points per game.

The 19-year-old is projected to be the number one pick if he declares for the 2026 NBA Draft.

{OPT: He's recently said his mom really wants him to graduate.}

03/09 RD Prop 4 Signatures Update ATC
DL

A group of Republicans has another thing working in its favor to put a repeal of Utah's ban on gerrymandering before voters.

They already met their signature quota.

But opposing groups are trying to get people to remove their signatures.

Now, Governor Spencer Cox has signed a bill into law that prevents people from sending in removal requests with pre-paid postage.

Better Boundaries had sent out pre-paid mailers people could simply return to ask to take down their signatures.

{OPT: Yesterday {SUN} was the deadline for county clerks to finish counting valid signatures.}

The only way the repeal effort won't be on the ballot now is if enough people remove their names.

03/04 RD Epic Pass Sale ME
DL

Gen Z skiers and snowboarders can save big bucks on passes for next season.

Anyone between the ages of 13 and 30 can now buy an Epic Pass for 20% off.

Vail Resorts CEO Rob Katz says this will make it easier for young riders to hit the slopes.

But the price drop also comes after one of Utah's warmest winters on record.

Many resorts delayed their openings, and both locals and tourists complained about a lack of snow.

The company did not mention the weather as a motive for the sale.

The Epic Pass works at more than 90 resorts and typically costs over one thousand dollars.

03/04 RD Sec of State Tabled ME
DL

The chances of Utah getting a Secretary of State are getting slimmer.

A Senate Committee has tabled a bill to add the position to the state's executive branch.

That means no further action will be taken on it.

Under the bill, a Secretary of State would have taken over the Lieutenant Governor's responsibility to oversee elections and redistricting.

Utah remains only one of three states in the US without one.

02/25 RD Tax Increase on Cigarettes ME
DL

A pack of cigarettes in Utah could soon cost more.

Utah's House of Representatives approved a bill that will raise the state cigarette tax by 1 dollar and 75 cents per pack.

The bill will also increase taxes on other tobacco products.

{OPT: It has been 16 years since the legislature passed a cigarette tax increase.}

The American Cancer Society celebrated the latest move.

In a statement, it said this marks a significant step forward in the fight against cancer.

But before it becomes law, it still has to pass the Utah Senate.

02/25 RD St. Andrew's Basilica ME
DL

Parishioners got their first look at a 35-million dollar basilica-style Catholic church set to be built in Daybreak.

The St. Andrew parish was founded in 2006 and has been growing ever since.

They currently hold masses at the St. Andrew School gymnasium.

Designs for the new church were unveiled at a fundraiser earlier this month.

The diocese and parish say they want to begin building in the next five years.

But they can only do so if they match the church's high price tag.

{OPT: They say they plan to keep raising money to meet their goal.}

02/25 RD Secretary of State ATC

DL

Utah is one of only three states in the U.S. without a Secretary of State in its executive branch.

Now, some state lawmakers want to create the position.

A bill to do so advanced in committee and is now before the full House.

It would give most of the Lieutenant Governor's current responsibilities to the Secretary of State.

This includes overseeing elections, redistricting and other administrative tasks.

If passed, voters would choose a Utah Secretary of State in the 2028 election.

02/20 RD US Patent Office ATC
DL

Inventors and creators in Utah now have access to a new, in-state resource.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is opening a community engagement office at the University of Utah.

This location replaces a different outreach office in Colorado.

The federal agency says it chose the location because Utah is ranked one of the fastest-growing innovation economies in the country.

In a statement, U President Taylor Randall said this will give students and community members the right tools to bring new technologies to market.

The office will also serve people across the Mountain West.

02/18 RD Earthquake 2026 Aftershock ME
DL

Salt Lake City is still experiencing aftershocks from an earthquake that occurred nearly six years ago.

Northern Utah was hit with a 5 point 7 magnitude quake in March of 20-20.

{OPT: It was centrally located north of Magna.}

In a Facebook post, the University of Utah's seismograph stations say last Friday's earthquake was an aftershock of the 20-20 event.

They say it's normal for aftershocks to last for years.

And that while they typically decrease in intensity, a slightly larger one is not unheard of or alarming.

02/12 RD Constitutional Court Challenges ATC
DL

Utah's judicial system may see significant changes following this year's legislative session.

After some amendments from the Senate, a bill about constitutional court challenges is now headed back to the House for final approval.

Civil action cases in Utah are currently decided by a single district court judge.

House Bill 3-92 would allow the attorney general, the governor, or the Legislature to appoint a three-judge panel to oversee these cases instead.

The judges would be randomly selected.

And, any appeals would go directly to the state's Supreme Court.

Even with changes, the Utah state bar says it still opposes the bill.

02/12 RD Abravanel Hall ATC
DL

Salt Lake City's Abravanel{uh-BRA-vuh-nell} Hall is being honored for its cultural and historical significance.

The home of the Utah Symphony now has a spot on the National Register of Historic Places.

Salt Lake County Mayor Jenny Wilson described the venue as a, quote, “cultural anchor” amidst new changes.

The area is currently being re-developed as a Sports, Entertainment, Culture and Convention District.

In 2024, serious questions arose over whether the hall would be torn down or significantly altered.

But the county moved to preserve the building.

Wilson said Abravenel Hall will represent the city’s continued commitment to the arts.

{OPT: A formal plaque was unveiled Wednesday to celebrate its listing on the national register.}

02/11 RD Richins Jury ME
DL/KPCW

The Summit County court is selecting jurors for the Kouri Richins murder case.

Richins is accused of fatally poisoning her husband almost four years ago.

She pleaded not guilty and has awaited her trial in Summit County jail since 20-23.

A Third District Judge, prosecutors, and defense attorneys have brought in hundreds of locals for questioning.

As K-P-C-W reports, they have dismissed roughly seventeen-hundred people.

Remaining candidates will answer questions through video conferences.

This process has delayed the trial, but it is set to begin at the end of February.

02/05 RD Green River Uphill ATC
DL

Geologists have made a new discovery about the Green River.

For over a century, scientists have wondered why the river flows through Utah's Uinta [yoo-IN-tuh] Mountains rather than around them.

Researchers from Utah and the UK collaborated on a study.

And they think the answer is a natural process called "lithospheric dripping."

Millions of years ago, dense minerals formed under the mountain range and temporarily pulled parts of it downward.

The river then flowed through the lowered mountain rock, eroding it over time.

The scientists say lithospheric drip is a relatively new concept in geology. But it could explain how the unique channel formed.

02/03 RD Provo Bike Gold ME
DL

Provo has been officially recognized as a bike-friendly destination.

The League of American Bicyclists named the city a Gold-Level Bicycle Friendly Community.

This award is given to safe areas that encourage cycling in everyday life.

The levels range from Platinum as the highest, followed by Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Honorable Mention.

According to the league's official website, over 400 locations are currently certified.

There are several places in Utah also on the list.

Others include Park City, Logan, Moab, Salt Lake City, and St. George.

{OPT: Provo has spent 21 million dollars on improving biking conditions since 2020.}

{OPT: And, the city says they will be investing another 46 million over the next five years.}

01/28 RD Bar on Judicial ATC
DL

For a second year, the Utah State Bar is raising alarm bells about changes to the state's judicial system.

There is a proposed slate of legislation that would make it easier to remove judges and weaken protections for them from political backlash.

Plus, lawmakers would be able to make these decisions based on their own personal judgement.

{OPT: The Bar is also worried about how fast these bills are advancing and how Utahns will be affected if this legislation is passed.}

The organization says it does support two measures.

One cracks down on people not licensed to practice law. The other would add judges to lower courts.

01/27 RD US Magnesium Purchase ATC
DL

Utah will buy U.S. Magnesium's bankruptcy assets.

That includes its production plant near the Great Salt Lake.

According to FOX 13 News, it will cost $30 million dollars in taxpayer money.

The plant drained massive amounts of water from the drying lake and released toxic emissions into the air for decades.

Leaders from both parties in the state legislature say they are excited about the bid and optimistic about restoring the water that was lost.

01/26 RD Curtis on Noem ATC
DL

Utah Senator John Curtis criticized Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem for her response to the killing of Alex Pretti in Minnesota.

She talked to the media on the day of the shooting and claimed Pretti had committed an act of domestic terrorism.

In a social media post, Curtis described her statement as “premature” and that she spoke before all the facts were released.

Curtis is not alone in his sentiments.

He announced that he will be joining a group of senators to demand transparency so that justice can be served.

In the House of Representatives, there has also been a push to impeach Noem.

{OPT: The impeachment resolution has over 100 cosponsors from House Democrats so far.}

01/22 RD James Beard ME
DL

The 2026 James Beard Semifinalists are out and Utah makes the list several times.

Known as “the Oscars of Food,” the awards are highly regarded in the culinary industry.

The state has a total of eight candidates.

Five appear in the “Best Chef” category for the Mountain West region.

Plus, Salt Lake City’s “Junah” and “Post Office Place” were among the featured restaurants and bars.

The long list will be trimmed down to nominees at the end of March.

And the winners will be announced in June.

01/19 RD Utah Drought ATC
DL

Utah’s drought doesn’t seem to be going anywhere.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released its seasonal forecast last week.

It predicts that much of the West will be drier and warmer than normal.

Temperatures are expected to be above normal across the region this week.

The state has experienced record-breaking warm conditions and poor snow cover this winter.

Snowpack is below normal statewide.

01/14 RD Utah Talons ME
DL

The Athletes Unlimited Softball League has officially named Salt Lake City as home of the Utah Talons.

The reigning AUSL champions will host their games at Dumke Family Stadium at the University of Utah.

Three games were played at Dumke Family Stadium last year during the AUSL’s opening season, all which featured sold-out crowds.

The city has gained recognition for its strong youth softball foundation and overall enthusiasm for women’s professional sports.

That being said, the Talons are expected to play a pivotal role in expanding the league’s footprint in the Mountain West.

01/13 RD Sundance Tickets ATC
DL

Individual tickets for the last Sundance Film Festival in Utah go on sale tomorrow {WED}.

After this year, Park City will no longer host the annual event.

Starting in 2027, it will move to Boulder, Colorado.

The festival website says most of the passes are already sold out, so buying individual tickets is a way to secure seats.

They also announced that tickets are in high demand and expected to sell out fast.

The public can snap up tickets starting at 10 a.m. Mountain Time

The starting price is 35 dollars each, not including service fees.

{OPT: One ticket grants access to any screening of your choice.}

01/12 RD Three New Movies ME
DL

Utah will provide the background for three upcoming movies.

The state's Film Commission announced the titles that will get tax credits from the state to film here.

The first is a Lifetime thriller called "Taken From Me," which will be shot in Salt Lake and Utah counties.

The second is a World War Two movie by local filmmakers called "Tokens."

And the third is a sci-fi movie called "Sol Hershowitz's Guide to Extraterrestrial Life."

These movies are expected to generate $2-point-6 million dollars for the state and create more than 165 new jobs.