

Issues and Programs

4th Quarter, Oct. 1 – Dec. 31 2022

KSDL- KXXK

Section I. Issues

KSDL - KXXK has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community this quarter:

1. Adoption: Jerry Tritz, communications manager for Central Missouri Foster Care and Adoption, talked about “Cocktails and Conversations” which is an event to help promote the agency, which serves 24 counties, scheduled for Oct. 6 at Hotel Bothwell in downtown Sedalia. Tritz said there are currently 13,000 kids in Missouri's foster system. And Pettis County is home to 130 kids in foster care. “Our goal is to find loving families for them,” Tritz said. “Everyone deserves a family. These are kids, through no fault of their own, are separated from their biological family.”

2. Hunger: Darren White, Director of Regional Development for the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri, spoke with Randy Kirby about a food drive coming up Monday, Nov. 14. The last time the event occurred locally was in 2019 because of COVID. The event will happen at Sedalia WalMart and both Woods Supermarkets.

3. Crime Stats: According to Best Places.net, Sedalia's violent crime rate is 37.6, compared to Missouri's rate of 22.7. Sedalia's property crime rate is 80.3, compared to Missouri's rate of 35.4. The figures are based on FBI data. Violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible

rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims.

4. Employment: According to BestPlaces.net, the best paying jobs in Sedalia involve personal care, while the worst paying jobs are health practitioners. The highest paying industry jobs are in public administration, while the lowest paying industry jobs are in accommodations and food service. The average income of Sedalians is \$20,080, compared to \$31,177 nationally. The average household income is \$35,096, compared to \$57,652 nationally. Recent job growth is at -4.43 percent, while future growth is at 19.69 percent.

5. Business Expansion: EDSPC Executive Director Jessica Craig noted that 2022 has been a strong year. Maxion Wheels is proceeding with expansion, adding three new product lines and hiring an additional 60 employees. Impact Sign is also expanding, with a new headquarters at Thompson Meadows Industrial Park. Impact Signs CEO David Goodson said an \$8 million, 60,000-square-foot headquarters and manufacturing facility will be built soon at Curry and Main Street. Simcote International announced on Oct. 9 that it will locate a \$17 million plant on Cedar Drive in Pettis County. Simcote specializes in epoxy-coated rebar and fabrication, as well as a full range of epoxy projects. Simcote employs between 80 and 90 with its Marion, Ohio and St. Paul, Minnesota. Roughly 35 employees will be employed at the Sedalia plant. Simmet expects to be up & running by late summer or early fall of 2023. “I see our economic horizon is really strong, and our project list indicates that,” Craig told Randy Kirby after a quarterly EDSPC meeting.

6. Autism: First Ward Councilman Tom Oldham also serves as facility manager for Retrieving Freedom, spoke with Randy Kirby

just prior to a graduation ceremony at State Fair Community College which featured the placement of 15 dogs with veterans and those with autism. The graduation was the first in three years due to COVID. 509th Bomb Wing Commander Col. Daniel Diehl was the guest speaker for the event. He also spoke with Randy Kirby just after the conclusion of the ceremony. “We look forward to more opportunities where we can support each other in our endeavor to make sure that any stigma associated with mental health, that we can overcome that, and get the help they need.” Retrieving Freedom a non-profit organization based in Pettis County, Mo., and Waverly, Iowa.

Section II. Responsive Programming

KSIS addresses these issues through responsive programming which includes:

- Local newscasts
- Live interviews with community leaders and citizens
- Live appearances at various community and charity events by station personalities
- Weather alerts, storm coverage.
- EAS messages (child abductions, storm warnings, etc.)
- Local newscasts dedicated to covering local crime patterns and special events.

This report is illustrative of the Issues and Programming aired by KSIS and is not presented in order of priority or significance

Program and Issues Report for KXKX and KSDL. Contained within this report are details of the major news stories and events covered by the stations for the time period of October through December 2022. Details of programs aired addressing issues affecting our community during the time frames listed below.

Date	Station(s)	Guests	Program name	Length of Program	Description of issues discussed	Time	Issues discussed
10/2	KSDL, KXKX	David Goodson, Rusty Kahrs, Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe	Townsquare Talk	19:11	Impact Signs CEO David Goodson announced a major expansion of his business at an event held at State Fair Community College Sept. 28. A, \$8 million, 60,000-square-foot headquarters and manufacturing facility will be built soon at Curry and Main Street at Thompson Meadows Industrial Park in Sedalia. Goodson plans to hire eight more employees, bringing the total number to 48. The sign company is 26 years old. Impact's customer base includes small, family-owned business, major universities, hospitals and financial institutions, as well as Fortune 500 companies. Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe noted that Impact has also done work for the state of Missouri, including producing a wrap on an RV that is used to promote tourism in the state. Jerry Tritz, communications manager for Central Missouri Foster Care and Adoption, talked about "Cocktails and Conversations" which is an event to help promote the agency, which serves 24 counties, scheduled for Oct. 6 at Hotel Bothwell in downtown Sedalia. Tritz said there are currently 13,000 kids in Missouri's foster system. And Pettis County is home to 130 kids in foster care. "Our goal is to find loving families for them," Tritz said. "Everyone deserves a family. These are kids, through no fault of their own, are separated from their biological family."	6 a.m.	Business Expansion, Adoption, Foster Care, Child Abuse
10/9	20:00 KSDL, KXKX	Adam Simmet, Tom Oldham, Brad Politt, David Dick, Subash Alias, Jessica Craig	Townsquare Talk		Simcote International announced on Oct. 9 that it will locate a \$17 million plant on Cedar Drive in Pettis County. Simcote specializes in epoxy-coated rebar and fabrication, as well as a full range of epoxy projects. Since 1978, Simcote has fabricated and delivered over one million tons of epoxy-coated rebar to projects across North America. Simcote President Adam Simmet spoke with KSIS about the proposed company expansion. "It's been nice to have the support of the local business community, but also the tax incentives that have attracted other businesses to Sedalia applied to us, and it's not always the case in other states and communities," Simmet said. Simcote employs between 80 and 90 with its Marion, Ohio and St. Paul, Minnesota. Roughly 35 employees will be employed at the Sedalia plant. Simmet expects to be up & running by late summer or early fall of 2023. First Ward Councilman Tom Oldham addressed the crowd. "When a business chooses to build here, that choice ripples throughout our community. They employ our families, they sponsor our little leagues, they donate to our nonprofits. It even encourages other businesses to move here to utilize their own service or product. They ensure that the roots that had been planted here by those families get the support they need to continue being strong," Oldham said. "So on behalf of the City of Sedalia, thank you Simcote for making the choice, for choosing to employ our families, to support our children, for building our strong community, so thank you for choosing Sedalia." Beth Hakala, who runs a donkey rescue, Peaceful Pastures, was Central Bank of Sedalia's Unsung Hero for the month. Hakala works every day to fight the global donkey abuse crisis. An open house is planned for late October in Benton County.	6 a.m.	Business, global donkey abuse crisis

10/16	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Byron Matson, Ryan Mahannah, Mari Asbury	Townsquare Talk	Byron Matson, representing the Sedalia Symphony, promoted the first concert of the 88th season of the symphony on Oct. 17, which featured special guests Sons of the Pioneers at the Heckart Performing Arts Center on the Smith-Cotton High School campus. The Pioneers was founded in 1934 by Roy Rogers, Matson said. And there is also a meet and greet with the Pioneers at the Moose Lodge the day before on Sunday at a cost of \$25. Ryan Mahannah, SFCC theatre program director, visited with Randy Kirby about an upcoming production "Heathers" at the Stauffacher Center on the State Fair campus. Mari Asbury, Child Safe of Central Missouri, visited with Randy Kirby about the 13th annual dessert auction, Child Safe's biggest fund-raiser. Homemade desserts are donated, then auctioned off to the top bidders. There is also a cash-and-carry table at the event, scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 22 at The Foundry in downtown Sedalia. Garber Brothers is the auctioneer for the event. A \$10 meal will be served as well, featuring chili and pulled pork. WireCo is the corporate sponsor for the fund-raiser, Asbury noted.	6 a.m.	Fine arts, child abuse
10/23	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Stephanie Diaz, Jessica Craig, Mari Asbury	Townsquare Talk	Cadet Captain Stephanie Diaz visited with Randy Kirby about the Smith-Cotton JROTC Veteran's Day activities scheduled for Nov. 11 in Sedalia. JROTC will sponsor a free breakfast, ceremony and parade for area Veterans on Nov. 11. The 7:30 breakfast and following ceremony will take place at Smith-Cotton that morning, and the parade will begin at 3 p.m., in downtown Sedalia. Former POW Col. John Clark is the guest speaker at the ceremony. Each branch of the military will be recognized at the event. The student body will also attend the ceremony. EDSPC Executive Director Jessica Craig noted that 2022 has been a strong year. Maxion Wheels is proceeding with expansion, adding three new product lines and hiring an additional 60 employees. Impact Sign is also expanding, with a new headquarters at Thompson Meadows Industrial Park. Impact Signs CEO David Goodson said an \$8 million, 60,000-square-foot headquarters and manufacturing facility will be built soon at Curry and Main Street. Simcote International announced on Oct. 9 that it will locate a \$17 million plant on Cedar Drive in Pettis County. Simcote specializes in epoxy-coated rebar and fabrication, as well as a full range of epoxy projects. Simcote employs between 80 and 90 with its Marion, Ohio and St. Paul, Minnesota. Roughly 35 employees will be employed at the Sedalia plant. Simmet expects to be up & running by late summer or early fall of 2023. "I see our economic horizon is really strong, and our project list indicates that," Craig told Randy Kirby after a quarterly EDSPC meeting. Mari Asbury, Child Safe of Central Missouri, visited with Randy Kirby about the 13th annual dessert auction, Child Safe's biggest fund-raiser. Homemade desserts are donated, then auctioned off to the top bidders. There is also a cash-and-carry table at the event, scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 22 at The Foundry in downtown Sedalia. Garber Brothers is the auctioneer for the event. A \$10 meal will be served as well, featuring chili and pulled pork. WireCo is the corporate sponsor for the fund-raiser, Asbury noted.	6 a.m.	Veterans, Business Expansion, child abuse

10/30	19:59	KSDL, KXKX	Nick LaStrada, Brandon Goodman, Stephanie Diaz	Townsquare Talk	<p>Pettis County Election Authority Nick LaStrada spoke with Randy Kirby and noted that his office is gearing up for the Nov. 8 election. No excuse absentee voting is available through Nov. 7. LaStrada said it's just like early voting. Voters need to show up at his office's new location in the 200 block of East 5th. Plenty of parking is available on the west side of the building. Polls open at 6 a.m., and close at 7 p.m., on Election Day. Recreational marijuana is on the ballot this time for Missouri. Also the Pettis County Prosecuting Attorney position is contested this time. LaStrada suggests that voters do their homework before Election Day rolls around. Brandon Goodman, who is co-owner of Auto Glass Express, spoke with Randy Kirby about the 10th annual Youth Big Deer Contest Oct. 29-30. Registration at the time of the interview was around 400, Goodman said. A lunch is scheduled for the young hunters at noon Saturday. A total of 110 deers were brought in at last year's event. Cadet Captain Stephanie Diaz visited with Randy Kirby about the Smith-Cotton JROTC Veteran's Day activities scheduled for Nov. 11 in Sedalia. JROTC will sponsor a free breakfast, ceremony and parade for area Veterans on Nov. 11. The 7:30 breakfast and following ceremony will take place at Smith-Cotton that morning, and the parade will begin at 3 p.m., in downtown Sedalia. Former POW Col. John Clark is the guest speaker at the ceremony. Each branch of the military will be recognized at the event. The student body will also attend the ceremony.</p>	6 a.m.	Politics, Democracy, conservation, hunting, Veterans
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11/6	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Darren White, Tom Oldham, Col. Daniel Diehl, Vicki Hart, Dr. Brent Bates	Townsquare Talk	<p>Darren White, Director of Regional Development for the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri, spoke with Randy Kirby about a food drive coming up Monday, Nov. 14. The last time the event occurred locally was in 2019 because of COVID. The event will happen at Sedalia WalMart and both Woods Supermarkets. First Ward Councilman Tom Oldham also serves as facility manager for Retrieving Freedom, spoke with Randy Kirby just prior to a graduation ceremony at State Fair Community College which featured the placement of 15 dogs with veterans and those with autism. The graduation was the first in three years due to COVID. 509th Bomb Wing Commander Col. Daniel Diehl was the guest speaker for the event. He also spoke with Randy Kirby just after the conclusion of the ceremony. "We look forward to more opportunities where we can support each other in our endeavor to make sure that any stigma associated with mental health, that we can overcome that, and get the help they need." Retrieving Freedom a non-profit organization based in Pettis County, Mo., and Waverly, Iowa. Central Bank of Sedalia's Unsung Hero Vicki Hart came to the studio and spoke with Randy Kirby about her activities that got her nominated for the award. Hart is a mentor at Washington Elementary School. "That is a passion for me, I love doing that," she said, adding that she just had lunch with a Washington School male student. Simmons Bank provided a grant to buy books for Boys & Girls Club, Hart noted. Hart is site director for Skyline School, and has served with Boys & Girls Clubs for 15 years. The club has a total of 13 sites. Hart also goes "Junkin" in her spare time, visiting garage sales on the weekends. SFCC President Dr. Brent Bates spoke with Randy Kirby about Jingle On The Green, scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday Dec. 1. It is one of the most anticipated events on the Sedalia campus. The event features 10 area high school choirs and bands performing, as well as SFCC's own vocal and instrumental department showcasing their talents. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will appear at the Hopkins Building. A variety of treats prepared by Great Western Dining is a huge draw for many at the event. Cookies and other goodies are available across the campus at the 2-hour event.</p>	6 a.m.	Hunger, Autism
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11/13	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Riley Bryan, Ken Bird, Gov. Mike Parson	Townsquare Talk	<p>Smithton High School Senior Riley Bryan spoke with Randy Kirby about her performance at the MSHAA state championship for cross country last Saturday in Columbia at Gann's Creek. She won first place by 24 seconds. The course was muddy and windy, which made it difficult for all runners, Bryan said. Then it started raining. There were a total of six runners from Smithton who qualified for state. Four females were on the Class 2 team. They came in fourth at District, which qualified them to go to state. Two male runners qualified individually, she said. Smithton recently added 17 students to the population, which bumped them up to Class 2 status. "We were the smallest school there, it was very noticeable," Bryan said, adding that there were 163 females athletes competing in that particular race. Bryan recently committed to running for Missouri State University and will sign a letter of intent soon. Chad Mulgrew is her athletic director. "He is new this year, but he has done an amazing job, he has a very strong background in Track & Field, so we're very thankful to have him this year. It is also my coach's first year. He has taken on a whole new world. We're thankful that he stepped up & decided to coach us this year," Bryan said. Bryan began playing sports in fourth grade and started doing track in seventh grade. Bryan plans to become a registered dietician and specialize in athletes at the collegiate or professional level. Ken Bird spoke with Randy Kirby at the 10th Sedalia Rails and Train show Nov. 5 at Convention Hall. He is the train show chairman. He noted there were 50 vendors with 90 tables, the largest of any event over the past 10 years. Proceeds went to the Pettis County Museum, which survives by donations. Republican Missouri Gov. Mike Parson visited Nucor Steel Sedalia Nov. 2 to conduct ceremonial signings of Senate Bills 3 and 5, and House Bill 3 as part of a special session. Also attending were Sen. Sandy Crawford, Rep. Brad Pollitt and Rep. Roger Reedy. "The right thing to do was stick up for agriculture in our state, it's the number one industry in our state," Parson said. Current law exempts the first \$100 of a taxpayer's income from taxation. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, this act exempts the first \$1,000 of income from taxation. Governor Parson called the Missouri General Assembly back to Jefferson City for Special Session in mid-September to enact legislation that provides an immediate income-tax cut (reduction from 5.4% to 4.8%); raising the standard income tax deductions; and exempting the first \$16k individual or \$32k joint filers; and an agriculture incentives package that includes tax credits for retailers that sell ethanol and biodiesel products, meatpackers and beginning farmers.</p>	6 a.m.	Autism, High School Sports, Veterans, Military Service
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11/20	19:58	KSDL, KXXK	Misty Casdorff, Debra Andresen, Samantha Gilpin	Townsquare Talk	<p>Art Director Misty Casdorff spoke with Randy Kirby about an upcoming concert scheduled for Nov. 23 at the Liberty Center, 111 W. 5th Street, in downtown Sedalia. The concert will feature local bands Sweetshot and Dirt Road Addiction. Cost is \$10. Two cash bars will be available. Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Debra Andresen spoke with Randy Kirby about the annual Christmas parade, scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. A total of 127 entries ultimately participated in the parade. This year's event featured newly-purchased barricades placed on both sides of South Ohio to keep parade watchers from impeding the flow of the parade and keeping them safe. The fee for entries is \$20 each. Andresen also promoted a program "Holiday Feast Meal" that gives a Thanksgiving meal to airmen at Whiteman Air Force Base. Cost to help out is \$10 per meal to sponsor an airman. All meals are prepared by Colton's Steak House. A total of 560 airmen will be fed through the program, which also includes pies made by Perkins. Samantha Gilpin spoke with Randy Kirby about a program that aims to collect and distribute cold weather clothing to the homeless and those in need of clothing to stay warm in the winter.</p>	6 a.m.	Live performance
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11/27	19:58	KSDL, KXXK	David Stoermer, Owen Hildebrand, Annalise Hailey, Debra Andresen, Samantha Gilpin, Magen Hudson	Townsquare Talk	<p>David Stoermer, academic records and testing specialist for State Fair Community College, visited with Randy Kirby about his lead role in the upcoming play, It's A Charlie Brown Christmas, scheduled to run Dec. 9-11 at the Liberty Center, 111 W. 5th, in downtown Sedalia. There are a total of 11 actors in the play. Owen Hildebrand plays Linus and also appeared in the studio to chat with Randy Kirby. "I think we worked really hard and I hope people enjoy it," Hildebrand said. Also Annalise Hailey, who plays Snoopy in the play, is from Warsaw. Hailey was home schooled and recently graduated and has a desire to perform on stage. "I want to be an actress," Hailey told Randy Kirby. Ticket prices are \$15, \$12 and \$10, Stoermer said. Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Debra Andresen spoke with Randy Kirby about the annual Christmas parade, scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. A total of 127 entries ultimately participated in the parade. This year's event featured newly-purchased barricades placed on both sides of South Ohio to keep parade watchers from impeding the flow of the parade and keeping them safe. The fee for entries is \$20 each. Samantha Gilpin spoke with Randy Kirby about a program that aims to collect and distribute cold weather clothing to the homeless and those in need of clothing to stay warm in the winter. Magen Hudson, director of Sedalia Salvation Army, talked with Randy Kirby about the Army's bell ringing program, which is in desperate need of bell ringers for Monday through Saturday, 10-7 at WalMart, (both doors), Thursday through Saturday at JC Penney and West Woods Supermarket, from 10 -7. One-hour and two-hour time slots are available for volunteers. "We can really stretch out those funds and make them go a long way," Hudson told Kirby. Several groups have volunteered already. "This is our one main fund-raiser for the year. It's so crucial. It will set the tone for the financial assistance that we can provide for the next year," she said, adding that there is a goal of \$20,000. "Eighty-five cents of every dollar goes directly back into the community. And that other 15 cents is used for our support services like children's camps, or highway programs, where they assist stranded motorists," Hudson said. Bell Ringing continues through Dec. 23. Counter kettles are also sitting inside businesses asking for donations to help those in need. The week of Dec. 19, Christmas food and toys will be handed out. And volunteers are needed for that as well. The SA's food pantry is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 12. "Since August, we've seen a huge increase in the number of people needing food," Hudson said, adding that it went from around 800 or 900 families to around 1400. "We're seeing a lot of families who didn't have a need before, having a need now."</p>	6 a.m.	Fine arts, Foster Care
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12/4	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Kyle Herrick, Joleigh Cornine, Byron Matson, David Stoermer, Owen Hildebrand, Annalise Hailey, Magen Hudson	Townsquare Talk	<p>"Ride The Train With Santa" is a new event coordinated through the City of Sedalia and Amtrak. The event will take place Dec. 10 and start at Warrensburg and end at the Sedalia Amtrak station. Santa and Mrs. Claus will ride the train with kids and their parents and disembark at Sedalia to visit with them inside the Amtrak Depot. Kyle Herrick is the president of the Sedalia Visitors and Convention Bureau. He was accompanied by Planning and Downtown Specialist Joleigh Cornine. They talked with Randy Kirby about how to get tickets for Train #318. If successful, this promises to be an annual event, Cornine said. Each adult ticket purchased includes a child's ticket at half price. Byron Matson, representing the Sedalia Symphony Society, stopped by the studios to visit with Randy Kirby about the annual Pops Concert, scheduled for Monday evening, Dec. 5. Special guests are the Word Of Life Ukrainian Choir. The symphony will perform The Nutcracker Suite #1. A reception will follow the concert at the Heckart Community Center on the Smith-Cotton High School campus. Cost is \$10 each. David Stoermer, academic records and testing specialist for State Fair Community College, visited with Randy Kirby about his lead role in the upcoming play, It's A Charlie Brown Christmas, scheduled to run Dec. 9-11 at the Liberty Center, 111 W. 5th, in downtown Sedalia. There are a total of 11 actors in the play. Owen Hildebrand plays Linus and also appeared in the studio to chat with Randy Kirby. "I think we worked really hard and I hope people enjoy it," Hildebrand said. Also Annalise Hailey, who plays Snoopy in the play, is from Warsaw. Hailey was home schooled and recently graduated and has a desire to perform on stage. "I want to be an actress," Hailey told Randy Kirby. Ticket prices are \$15, \$12 and \$10, Stoermer said. Magen Hudson, director of Sedalia Salvation Army, talked with Randy Kirby about the Army's bell ringing program, which is in desperate need of bell ringers for Monday through Saturday, 10-7 at WalMart, (both doors), Thursday through Saturday at JC Penney and West Woods Supermarket, from 10 -7. One-hour and two-hour time slots are available for volunteers. "We can really stretch out those funds and make them go a long way," Hudson told Kirby. Several groups have volunteered already. "This is our one main fund-raiser for the year. It's so crucial. It will set the tone for the financial assistance that we can provide for the next year," she said, adding that there is a goal of \$20,000. "Eighty-five cents of every dollar goes directly back into the community. And that other 15 cents is used for our support services like children's camps, or highway programs, where they assist stranded motorists," Hudson said. Bell Ringing continues through Dec. 23. Counter kettles are also sitting inside businesses asking for donations to help those in need. The week of Dec. 19, Christmas food and toys will be handed out. And volunteers are needed for that as well. The SA's food pantry is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 12. "Since August, we've seen a huge increase in the number of people needing food," Hudson said, adding that it went from around 800 or 900 families to around 1400. "We're seeing a lot of families who didn't have a need before, having a need now."</p>	6 a.m.	Public transportation, fine arts, animal rescue, needy families, fire safety
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12/11	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Britt Faaborg, Laura Edmiston, Magen Hudson, Amy Epple	Townsquare Talk	<p>Britt Faaborg, Sedalia Chorale director, spoke with Randy Kirby about a Christmas concert scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 11. This is the group's first concert since the COVID pandemic hit. The all-volunteer group has 20 members. The Chorale rehearses on Monday nights at State Fair Community College. New members are welcome. "We're doing a wide range of music and I hope our audience enjoys it," Faaborg told Kirby. The Chorale will perform again in the spring, with a country music show. The country show was postponed for a couple of years due to COVID, and will take place at the new United Methodist Church on Thompson Blvd. Laura Edmiston is the Central Bank of Sedalia's Unsung Hero for December, and operates "Pawsibilities Are Endless" a cat rescue program in the area. Edmiston also helps run Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) programs in the Pettis County area and beyond. She noted that she currently has a list of about 50 cats that needs foster homes. Volunteers are badly needed. "We need a larger team to help trap and transport" cats, she said. Previously, the program processed around 300 cats, but lately that number has decreased due to lack of volunteers. Magen Hudson, director of Sedalia Salvation Army, talked with Randy Kirby about the Army's bell ringing program, which is in desperate need of bell ringers for Monday through Saturday, 10-7 at WalMart, (both doors), Thursday through Saturday at JC Penney and West Woods Supermarket, from 10 -7. One-hour and two-hour time slots are available for volunteers. "We can really stretch out those funds and make them go a long way," Hudson told Kirby. Several groups have volunteered already. "This is our one main fund-raiser for the year. It's so crucial. It will set the tone for the financial assistance that we can provide for the next year," she said, adding that there is a goal of \$20,000. "Eighty-five cents of every dollar goes directly back into the community. And that other 15 cents is used for our support services like children's camps, or highway programs, where they assist stranded motorists," Hudson said. Bell Ringing continues through Dec. 23. Counter kettles are also sitting inside businesses asking for donations to help those in need. The week of Dec. 19, Christmas food and toys will be handed out. And volunteers are needed for that as well. The SA's food pantry is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 12. "Since August, we've seen a huge increase in the number of people needing food," Hudson said, adding that it went from around 800 or 900 families to around 1400. "We're seeing a lot of families who didn't have a need before, having a need now." Sedalia Parks & Rec Director Amy Epple spoke with Randy Kirby following a monthly meeting of the Sedalia Park Board. An electrical upgrade was recently done to Liberty Park. The old system was installed in the 1930s, so there was a definite need for more modern, safer electrical lines. The no-name street is now known as Liberty Stadium Boulevard. The street was in disrepair and badly in need of resurfacing and connects Third Street with Liberty Park Boulevard.</p>	6 a.m.	Fine arts, Foster Care
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12/18	20:00	KSDL, KXKX	Amy Epple, Dr. Michael Murders	Townsquare Talk	<p>Sedalia Parks & Rec Director Amy Epple spoke with Randy Kirby following a monthly meeting of the Sedalia Park Board. An electrical upgrade was recently done to Liberty Park. The old system was installed in the 1930s, so there was a definite need for more modern, safer electrical lines. The no-name street is now known as Liberty Stadium Boulevard. The street was in disrepair and badly in need of resurfacing and connects Third Street with Liberty Park Boulevard. The Board has a snow removal plan to help keep the Heckart Community Center open on bad weather days. The Leisure Pool is leaking water and there will be closed up to a week for inspection and repairs. The competitive pool will still be open during that time, Epple said. The three gyms at the Center are always booked, Epple noted. All Parks & Rec staff have been trained in CPR, she said, which was one of her goals for 2023. Parks & Rec has applied for a \$1.5 million grant. Results will be announced at the end of January. The money will be used to make improvements to Liberty Park Baseball Stadium. A total of 14 volleyball tournaments are scheduled to take place at the Heckart through the Heart of America Association in January, February and March. Free lifeguard training is being offered to prospective employees. Hiring and retaining employees are still an ongoing problem. An aquatic facility is being planned for the east side of Sedalia, and once completed, Liberty and Centennial pools will be permanently closed, because they have reached the end of their life. Repairs at those two pools have been very costly the past few years. Minimum wage goes up to \$12 January 1, and Parks & Recs has been preparing for that. A Missouri Parks & Rec Maintenance Rodeo is planned for January. Sedalia has hosted it three times before. SFCC Vice President Dr. Michael Murders visited with Randy Kirby about his new position. Murders is a 20-year-old Air Force Veteran and is originally from Arkansas. He has worked for multiple colleges and worked his way from faculty to administration. COVID has taken its toll on higher education, he noted. "Community College was calling my name" Murders said when the position became available. "I fell in love with Sedalia" Dr. Murders said, who obtained his doctorate 5 or 6 years ago. SFCC serves a 14-county region. He is in charge of academics and student success.</p>	6 a.m.	Health & Fitness, higher education
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12/25	20:00	KSDL, KXXK	Cadet Col. Cinta, Cadet First Sergeant Morelos, Sedalia Fire Chief Matt Irwin	Townsquare Talk	<p>Smith-Cotton High School JROTC Cadets Cinta and Veronica Morelos spoke with Randy Kirby about a Friday Jan. 6 dance party at Broadway Presbyterian Church from 7 to 10 p.m. The dance is a fundraiser for JROTC, which hopes to travel to Daytona, Florida for annual national competition. The dance will have a 1950s theme, Cinta said, and tickets are \$25. She added that there are about 200 students participating in the JROTC program, which is expected to grow by 20 next year.</p> <p>Sedalia Fire Chief Matt Irwin visited with Randy Kirby about the dangers of space heaters. Never use an extension cord with a space heater, Irwin emphasized. In addition, the SFD has smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors available for free to those who need them. Chief Irwin noted that a smoke detector awakened a Sedalia citizen around 3:30 a.m., a few weeks ago during a house fire. SFD responded and the resident survived. Had the house not been equipped with a smoke detector, Chief Irwin said that most likely it would have been a fatal incident. Also, do not sleep with a space heater on overnight. Instead put an extra blanket on your bed and wear pajamas. Also, do not use your kitchen stove to heat your house. The oven is not designed to do that.</p> <p>Incomplete combustion particles can fill the house and residents will end up breathing it, making for a very dangerous situation. SFCC Vice President Dr. Michael Murders visited with Randy Kirby about his new position. Murders is a 20-year-old Air Force Veteran and is originally from Arkansas. He has worked for multiple colleges and worked his way from faculty to administration. COVID has taken its toll on higher education, he noted. "Community College was calling my name" Murders said when the position became available. "I fell in love with Sedalia" Dr. Murders said, who obtained his doctorate 5 or 6 years ago. SFCC serves a 14-county region. He is in charge of academics and student success.</p>	Fire Safety, Education
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