

Quarterly Issues Programs List

Townsquare Media Rochester
Stations: KDOC-FM, KFNL, KFIL-FM, KFIL-AM
October 1st, 2023 through December 31st, 2023

SECTION I. Issues

A) Public Health – The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) works to protect, maintain, and improve the health of all Minnesotans through disease prevention, health promotion, and assurance of a safe and healthy environment. MDH collaborates with communities, individuals, and partners to address public health challenges and advance health equity across the state.

B) Economy – The U.S. Census Bureau released a report that shows that median incomes when adjusted for inflation have declined in Minnesota the last 5 years.

C) Cannabis Education and Regulation – On May 30th, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz signed a bill making recreational marijuana legal in the state. The new law took effect on August 1st.

D) Public Education – The Minnesota Department of Education released statewide test results for 2023 that show more than half of students are struggling.

E) Wildlife Health and Conservation – Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal, neurological illness that kills deer and elk.

SECTION II – RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS

MINNESOTA MATTERS is a weekly locally produced public affairs program that discusses matters of importance to Minnesotans. Minnesota Matters runs every Sunday morning on KFNL and KDOC-FM between 7:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. and from 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM.

October 6th, 2023 – Issues Discussed: Economy, Public Health, Mental Health

The show begins with a focus on the childcare industry in Minnesota. Federal funding to boost childcare provider wages is ending across the nation, leading to challenges in hiring and retaining workers. However, Minnesota stands out due to a \$330 million investment in the state's childcare industry. Senate Majority Leader Kerry Deeds discusses the multifaceted approach taken, including the creation of the Great Start Compensation program to uplift childcare workers and increased funding in various bills to stabilize and build the childcare system.

The hosts also discuss veteran suicide prevention and awareness, timely as October 7th is designated as Minnesota Veteran Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day. Christy Stipes, a suicide prevention coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, joined to discuss the disturbing trend of veteran suicides. Resources available to veterans are highlighted, emphasizing the need for veterans to utilize their earned benefits for comprehensive support.

October 13th, 2023 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Mental Health

The hosts address bullying prevention month and talk to Julie Hertzog, the director of Pacers National Bullying Prevention Center. They discuss the importance of raising awareness about bullying and the

upcoming Unity Day on October 18, where people are encouraged to wear orange to stand against bullying.

October 20th, 2023 – Issues Discussed: Cannabis Education and Regulation, Public Health, Mental Health

The hosts discuss a proposed cannabis manufacturing and cultivation facility in Grand Rapids. Brent Palm interviews John Hadoop, the lead investment partner in the project, discussing its potential economic impact and technological aspects. The discussion delves into job creation, workforce recruitment, and the high-tech nature of the cannabis industry.

A Minnesota Council of Nonprofits report is also discussed during this program: It revealed insights into the current state of the nonprofit sector in the state. Kari Onstad, associate director of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, joined to share information on workforce trends, charitable giving, and pay parity within the nonprofit sector.

October 27th, 2023 - – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Wildlife Health and Conservation

A new collaboration between the University of Minnesota and three native communities designed to stop the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) on and near tribal lands is discussed.

The episode also features a segment on health insurance during open enrollment time, with guests Brian Eck (UCARE) and Joe Fering (Fering Financial) discussing Medicare supplement plans and their differences from Medicare Advantage plans.

November 3rd, 2023 – Issues Discussed: Economy, Public Health, Wildlife Health and Conservation

DNR Commissioner Sarah Stroman joined the program to talk about the significance of the season for hunters, the economic impact on the state, and emphasizes the importance of safety measures, particularly for those using elevated tree stands.

November 10th, 2023 – Issues Discussed: Public Education

This program recaps the results of the mid-term elections: Voters went to the polls in a number of communities across Minnesota to vote for Mayor, City Council school board and to decide on school districts requests for bond issues and operating levies. Greg Abbott with the Minnesota School Boards Association says about 2/3 of them were approved.

November 17th, 2023 Issues Discussed: Economy, Public Education, Public Health, Traffic Safety

The episode begins with an overview of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce's annual Business Benchmark Report, emphasizing concerns about the state's economic performance compared to the national average. Beth Cardoon, the Vice President of Tax and Fiscal Policy, joined the program to discuss job growth and GDP numbers. The discussion touches on the state's strength in innovation but raises concerns about its 45th ranking in tech job growth, exploring potential solutions like workforce training and improving the business climate.

The hosts talk about a decline in 3rd and 8th-grade reading and math test scores, possibly influenced by teacher shortages and the impact of COVID-19.

Mike Hansen, director of the State Office of Traffic Safety, joins to discuss the "Toward 0 Deaths" conference, where professionals discussed strategies to improve traffic safety in Minnesota. Mike Hansen highlighted progress, setbacks, and the importance of collective efforts to reduce traffic fatalities.

November 22nd, 2023 Issues Discussed: Public Health, Economy, Food Insecurity

This program features an interview with Dr. Mary Jo Kreitzer about mindful eating habits during the holiday season. Kreitzer offered tips for staying mindful in various situations, including holiday events and grocery shopping.

The hosts talk about the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign, and Dan Furry from the organization shares that there's an increased demand for Salvation Army services. According to Furry, many Minnesotans are facing financial difficulties due to rising inflation and food expenses. He urges people to contribute to the red kettle campaign, emphasizing that the funds collected provide essential relief to those who are struggling financially in the state.

December 1st, 2023: Issues Discussed: Cannabis Education and Regulation, Wildlife Health and Conservation

In this episode the hosts discuss the Department of Natural Resources' efforts to combat chronic wasting disease in wild deer. Eric Hildebrand of the Minnesota DNR joins to talk about the issue.

The hosts also talk about the proposed designs for a new state flag and seal, featuring insights from Anita Gall, vice-chair of the State Emblems Redesign Commission.

Another segment introduces David Rock, Office of Medical Cannabis Research manager, who announces the inclusion of dry herb vaporization as a new delivery method in Minnesota's medical cannabis program

MINNESOTA MILITARY RADIO

In addition to the programs listed Minnesota Military Radio, a Veterans Affairs program, airs each Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM, and from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on KFNL and KDOC-FM. See attached program log.



MINNESOTA MILITARY RADIO

PROGRAM LOG – 4th Quarter 2023

Airing Each Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM
and from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on KFNL and KDOC-FM

With nearly 370,000 veterans and tens of thousands of guard and reserve troops, Minnesota is a state committed to supporting our friends and neighbors who serve in the military.

October 1, 2023

This week we learn about a special proclamation from the Adjutant General, hear the story of Gold Star Son Rep. Dean Phillips, meet with the new Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota and get an update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. Guests include:

- Rep. Dean Phillips – United States House of Representatives
- Commander Dan Meyer – Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota
- Director Patrick Kelly – Minneapolis VA Health Care System

October 8, 2023

This week we have recorded our 700th show live from the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. We discuss construction, specialty clinics and PACT act with the Director of the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, meet with the Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Director and listen to a special interview with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Guests include:

- Director Patrick Kelly – Minneapolis VA Health Care System
- Executive Director Kim Graves – Veterans Benefits Administration, St. Paul Regional Office
- Secretary Denis McDonough – United States Department of Veterans Affairs

October 15, 2023

This week we learn about Breast Cancer Awareness and Screening from the Women Veterans Program Manager at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, hear the story of a 2-time Breast Cancer Survivor who is also the Community Outreach Coordinator for Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, learn how Meals From The Heart is impacting our local communities and get an update from our Senior Enlisted Advisor. Guests include:

- Emma O'Brien – Minneapolis VA Women Veterans Program Manager
- Stefanie Hurt – Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Community Outreach Coordinator
- Todd King – Meals from the Heart
- CCMSgt. Lisa Erikson – Minnesota National Guard

October 22, 2023

This week we learn about the Minnesota State Veteran Cemeteries from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, meet with leadership at the 204th Medical Company Area Support and get an update from the MN Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Dave Swantek – Deputy Director of Memorial Affairs
- Maj. Jakob Reding – 204th Medical Company Area Support
- SSG Raul Navarro-Urena – 204th Medical Company Area Support
- Tim Leonhardt – Minnesota Patriot Guard

October 29, 2023

This week, we learn about the Daniel Drevnick Memorial Fund, meet with the Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America and get an update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. Guests include:

- Ken Drevnick – Daniel Drevnick Memorial Fund
- Julie Drevnick – Daniel Drevnick Memorial Fund
- Todd Kemery – Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Sandra Roy – Minneapolis VA Health Care System

November 5, 2023

This week we discuss Veterans Day in Minnesota with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, learn about a Native American's perspective on Veterans Day from a Master Sargent in the Minnesota National Guard and get an update from the MN Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Dave Bellefeuille – Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- Beth Barstow – Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- MSG Lowell Laudert – Minnesota National Guard
- Doug Bley – Minnesota Patriot Guard

November 12, 2023

This week we discuss Diabetes Awareness with the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, get an update from the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon – Isanti County and meet the new Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Guests include:

- Amy Stanwood – Minneapolis VA Health Care System
- Carol Ann Smith – Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- Adam Skillings – Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

- John Baker – Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers

November 19, 2023

This week we meet with the command team at the 133rd Airlift Wing, learn about the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Program at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and get an update from the Command Senior Enlisted Leader of the Minnesota National Guard. Guests include:

- Col. Jesse Carlson – 133rd Airlift Wing
- CMSgt Richard Schumacher – 133rd Airlift Wing
- Jean Kim Maierhofer – Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- CCM Lisa Erikson – Minnesota National Guard

November 26, 2023

This week we meet with Federal Premium and learn about their philanthropy and community involvement, in the second half of our show we talk about leadership changes at the MN Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Dennis Angell – Federal Ammunition
- Jason Nash – Federal Ammunition
- Jared Kutney – Federal Ammunition
- Craig Ugland – Minnesota Patriot Guard
- Doug Bley – Minnesota Patriot Guard

December 3, 2023

This week we discuss Minnesota Military and Veteran Legislation with Congressman Tom Emmer, learn about the 148th Fighter Wing at the Girls Rock Wings event in Atlanta and get an update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. Guests include:

- Rep. Tom Emmer – U.S. House of Representatives
- MSgt Lindsay Koolmo – 148th Fighter Wing
- Melanie Nelson – Minneapolis VA Health Care System

December 10, 2023

This week we learn about Volunteering from the Director of the Center for Development & Civic Engagement at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, meet with the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon and discuss the highlights of 2023 and what's to come in 2024 and get an update from our Senior Enlisted Leader. Guests include:

- Rachel Hammer – Center for Development and Civic Engagement
- Stefanie Hurt – Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- Taylor Kristoffe-Jones – Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- CCMSgt. Lisa Erikson – Minnesota National Guard

December 17, 2023

This week we host our annual Commanders Task Force Holiday Show. We hear from the Commanders of these Veterans Service Organizations: Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota, JWVMN, American Legion Department of Minnesota, DAV Department of Minnesota and Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America. Guests include:

- Commander Dan Meyer – Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota
- Commander Stewart Mednick – Jewish War Veterans Department of Minnesota
- Commander Paul Hassing – American Legion Department of Minnesota
- Commander Ellsworth Fields – Disabled American Veterans Department of Minnesota
- Commander Todd Kemery – Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America

December 24, 2023

This week we host our annual Chaplains Christmas Show co-hosted with a Colonel from the Minnesota National Guard, we discuss deployments with a Chaplain from the 682nd Engineer Battalion, learn about preparing for deployment with a Chaplain from the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division and finish with a special Christmas message/prayer. Guests include:

- Ch. Col. Buddy Winn – Minnesota National Guard
- Ch. Capt. Michael Gaulke – 682nd Engineer Battalion
- Ch. Capt. Noah Mooney – 34th Red Bull Infantry Division

December 31, 2023

This week we take a look back at the year that was and forward toward what's to come in this new year for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and State of Minnesota. Guests include:

- Commissioner Brad Lindsay – Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- Governor Tim Walz – State of Minnesota