

# Issues and Programs

4th Quarter, October 1 – December 31, 2023

## KSDL & KXKX

### Section I. Issues

KSDL & KXKX has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community this quarter:

**1. Poverty:** With 43,353 people, Pettis County is the 26th most populated county in the state of Missouri out of 115 counties, according to Missouri-Demographics.com. In 2021, the median household income of Pettis County households was \$51,936. About 10.6% of Pettis County families live in poverty. Organizations such as Community Santa (Christmas gifts for poverty-stricken kids in Pettis County), United Way of Pettis County (with 11 funded partners, such as Association for Persons with Disabilities, Blind of Central Missouri, Boys and Girls Clubs of West Central MO, C.A.C.T.U.S., Children's Mercy Hospital, Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Pettis County Community Partnership. Salvation Army, Sedalia Civil Air Patrol, Sedalia Senior Center, Show-Me Christian Youth Home) and the Sedalia Salvation Army attempt to alleviate some of the problem. Around 1200 Pettis County residents visit the Salvation Army's food pantry every month, SA Service Center Director Magen Hudson said.

**2. City Government:** The City of Sedalia in early December announced a major reorganization involving moving the chief of police (Matt Wirt) to an assistant city administrator position, so

that he could assume some of the responsibilities of the current city administrator (Kelvin Shaw). Instead of 16 departments reporting to Shaw, half will now report to Shaw and half to Wirt. This resulted in the promotion of Senior Police Commander David Woolery to Interim Police Chief. This all comes in anticipation of Shaw's eventual retirement. Randy Kirby interviewed Shaw, Wirt and Woolery as well as Mayor Andrew Dawson for an in-depth story that aired on Townsquare Talk in mid-December. And Chief Woolery returned the last week of December for an interview on Townsquare Talk focusing on the Sedalia Police Department, looking forward to 2024.

**3. Senior Health in Pettis County:** With an aging population wanting to remain healthy in their later years, the Sedalia Senior Center offered a six-week course that focuses on chronic health problems seniors may experience such as pain and fatigue. The 19-chapter course ends Dec. 26. In 2021, Pettis County had a population of 42.9k people with a growth rate of 0.18%, with a median age of 38 and a median household income of \$51,936.

**4. State Government:** The State of Missouri is reinvigorating the MoBucks program, which offers low-interest loans to farmers and small businesses. Up to \$6500 in scholarship money is available through the program. The money comes from donations, and any business that wants to participate can get a 100 percent tax credit, dollar for dollar, according to Missouri State Treasurer Vivek Malek.

**5. Child Abuse:** Child abuse is an on going problem in Pettis County and numerous counties across mid-Missouri, as evidenced by Child Safe Incorporated states. Child Safe Executive Director Heather Lynn, who recently retired

as a Children's Division's Circuit Manager for Pettis and Cooper counties after 30 years of service, said that Child Safe serves 11 counties, plus two more counties in Missouri, with a mutual aid agreement, serving a little over 450 kids in the region, who have experienced child abuse in their home.

## **Section II. Responsive Programming**

KSDL & KXXK 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 KSDL & KXXK and is not presented in order of priority or significance

**Program and Issues Report for KSDL & KXKX. 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 2023. 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
10/1	KSDL & KXKX	Gabrielle Lurie, Alyssa Schukar	Townsquare Talk	20:00	<p>The 75th annual Missouri Photo Workshop was held in Sedalia Sept. 24-30. A total of 38 photojournalists attended the workshop along with close to 40 support staff from University of Missouri. Gabrielle Lurie participated as a student in 2015 in Perryville. She is now a staff photographer for the San Francisco Chronicle, was asked to return as an instructor. Lurie, who worked with a team of 8 or 9 students, was impressed with Sedalia and loves the thunderstorms we have here. She became a photojournalist nine years ago. She focuses a lot of her attention on the fentanyl epidemic in the San Fran region, as well as wildfires and homelessness, to name a few topics. The best photos from the workshop were on display at the Heckart Community Center for the community to view on Saturday</p> <p>Workshop Co-Director Brian Kratzer, and associate professor at MU, and director of photography at the Columbian Missourian, said seven countries were represented by MU graduate students, early-career photojournalists and a staff photographer for the New York Times.</p>	6 a.m.	Journalism
10/8	KSDL & KXKX	Vivek Malek, Darcy Roach, Sheri Hancock	Townsquare Talk	20:00	<p>Missouri State Treasurer Vivek Malek was the featured guest at the annual meeting of TARGET (The Association for Republicans Getting Everyone Together) and the John C. Ryan Picnic on Sept. 21. Malek mentioned the Mo Scholars program started by his predecessor Scot Fitzpatrick. Up to \$6500 in scholarship money is available through the program. The money comes from donations, and any business that wants to participate can get a 100 percent tax credit, dollar for dollar. Unclaimed property was the other topic that Malek focused on that night. ShowMeMoney.com is the website anyone can log into, and see if the state of Missouri has any money that is due them. There is currently \$1.2 billion in the account. If you are owed money from unclaimed property, the state will mail you a check right away. Darcy Roach opened a new Real Estate office in downtown Warrensburg and held an open house to celebrate moving up from Windsor. Several agents, over a dozen, are based out of the new office. She also has a location that she is remodeling in Holden. Sheri Hancock was the Central Bank of Sedalia's Unsung Hero. She retired from the Pettis County Assessor's Office four years ago, and now volunteers for Encounter Church.</p>	6 a.m.	State Government, Economics, Real Estate, Community Involvement

10/15	KSDL & KXXK	Ken Bird, Byron Matson, George McKernnon, Mayor Dawson	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Pettis County Historical Society member Ken Bird spoke with Townsquare Talk about a fund-raiser for the Pettis County Museum. The fund-raiser was held at Convention Hall in Liberty Park, where Rails and Trails was scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4. The event featured train memorabilia dealers from all over Missouri as well as model trains on display for several hours. Byron Matson spoke Randy Kirby with about the Sedalia Symphony Society's opening concert for season 89. Guest Irish musicians "And So It Goes" are the featured performs at the concert at Smith-Cotton. Cost is \$35, and season tickets are \$50 (\$35 for senior citizens). Tire Technician George McKernnon was reconized by Mayor Andrew Dawson and other City officials, for his heroic efforts, quick thinking and exceptional valor Sept. 29 at Broadway and Engineer, after hearing a horrific crash. He rolled out two pneumatic jacks to raised a dump truck that was knocked on its side. A total of five people were injured. The truck contained three City employees. Dawson presented McKernnon with a plaque and a key to the City to express the Mayor's respect, trust and gratitude.	6 a.m.	Local History, Heroism
10/22	KSDL & KXXK	Brandon Goodman, Molly Lovette, Lori Haney	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Brandon Goodman talked about the upcoming 11th annual Youth Big Deer Contest, Oct. 28-29, held at Auto Glass Express in Sedalia. Last year's event saw 587 kids sign up, and 118 deer were brought in. Over 100 sponsors help fund the various prizes offered. The contest is for kids ages 6 through 15. No sign-ups can be made over the phone or online, they have to be done in person at the business, located 3620 W. Broadway. Country music songwriter and singer Molly Lovette spoke with Randy Kirby via phone interview from Nashville about her new video release "Flower Girl." Lovette said she has been touring a lot with her band, and also opened for Dierks Bentley a couple of weeks ago. "Things have been really good, playing a lot of shows and writing a lot of music," she said. The new video was shot in her hometown of St. Louis, working from 10 a. m., to 7 p.m., in one day, to get all the necessary footage. "It was a long day, but awesome," Lovette said, adding that her cousin (Lauren Hays Media) produced the video. Upcoming shows include Kansas (Guitars and Cadillac in Overland Park), Florida, Kentucky and Iowa. "It's been really cool to get to meet a lot of my fans in other cities, and create new fans, yeah it's been awesome." CASA Executive Director Lori Haney spoke about "In Her Shoes" a fund-raiser that was held on the Missouri State Fairgrounds. Citizens Against Spouse Abuse celebrated its 40th anniversary. The seventh annual event theme focused on the "80s.	6 a.m.	Conservation, Entertainment, Spousal Abuse

10/29	KSDL & KXKX	Jessica Craig, Rachelle Simon	Townsquare Talk	20:00	EDSPC held its annual Manufacturer's Milestone Awards dinner at the Sedalia Country Club. EDSPC Executive Director Jessica Craig spoke with Townsquare Talk about the event. "We honor companies, whether they've been here for five years or a hundred years. We're always excited to welcome a new company to our community, but it's absolutely most important to recognize those companies that have been here for a long time, prosper here, reinvest here and employ the people they do," Craig said, adding that Sedalia is pro growth and "we're open for business." Rachelle Simon, executive director of United Way of Pettis County, spoke with Randy Kirby about the importance of United Way and how it impacts residents on a daily basis. UW is in the midst of their annual campaign, and has 11 funding partners. Ten local leaders comprise the local UW board. Kim Birdsong is the president of the board. Impact areas at UW include education, health and financial stability. Over 1400 kids are involved with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, Simon noted. UW also writes three venture grants every season, ultimately supporting 14 non-profits in the area.	6 a.m.	Economic Development, Education, Health, Finance
11/5	KSDL & KXKX	Cadet Capt. Addysin Hunt, Maj. Stephanie Diaz, Tadley Peterson, Gabriel Peterson, Vivek Malek	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Cadet Capt. Addysin Hunt and Maj. Stephanie Diaz with Smith-Cotton JROTC, visited with Randy Kirby in studio about the upcoming Veterans Day breakfast and program at the high school, where all branches of the US military are honored by the entire student body, as well as a guest speaker. The public is invited to the Friday event, which starts at 7:30. The event concludes with a 21-gun saluet by VFW Post 2591, followed by the playing of Taps. Then on Saturday, JROTC sponsors a Veterans Day parade in downtown Sedalia at 1 p.m. There is no entry fee to participate, Diaz said. Witches United 2 will be presented at the Hayden Liberty Center in downtown Sedalia by the LCAA Junior Theatre Nov. 3-5. Tadley Peterson plays Hans in the production. He is also the assistant director. Vanessa Rubio is the other assistant director. Rehearsals began in early October with a cast of about two dozen. Gabriel Peterson plays Max, a cameraman. He has 11 lines in the play. Missouri State Treasurer Vivek Malek spoke with Randy Kirby at the Pettis County Courthouse after a presentation there promoting the "MoBucks" program, which will open Jan. 2. It provides low-interest loans to small businesses and farmers in Missouri who need help expanding. The cap on the total amount in the program has been raised from \$800 million to 1.2 billion, Malek said.	6 a.m.	Military service, Fine Arts, State Government

11/12	KSDL & KXXK	Carol McMillin, Betty Albrecht, Swanetta Marshall	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Community Santa representative Carol McMillin came to the studio to promote the public assistance program for Pettis County families in need. Applications are being accepted Nov. 1 through Dec. 1, from 10 to 2 weekdays, she said. "We use the poverty guidelines that the state dictates," McMillin told Kirby. Parents provide 2 or 3 ideas for the kids' gifts. No electronics are considered, she noted. Also, bicycles are too pricey to be a part of the program. "So now we are out of the bike business, but we have lots and lots of really great interactive toys. We concentrate of thinking toys. And every child gets two toys, a board game and at least two books," McMillin said. Betty Albrecht is the toy buyer for Community Santa. "We are also collecting toys in the community at various businesses," Albrecht said. In addition, people can donate cash to the program as well. "We get paid in rewards in seeing the people who are very appreciative when they come in, and we've had some really neat experiences who have been in the program and say you helped me before. I'm in a better place now. I want to pay it forward." Albrecht recalled, adding that last year, Community Santa helped over 600 families in the area. Swanetta Marshall was named Central Bank of Sedalia's Unsung Hero for the month of October. She came to the studios to talk after being nominated by her friend Misty Casdorff. Both Casdorff and Marshall lost a son to gun violence and bonded over their mutual tragedies about two years ago. Marshall formed an organization in honor of her son Trayvon, called "Digz Kids," which collects school supplies for needy children. A scholarship fund is also being planned.	6 a.m.	Poverty, Grieving Parents
11/19	KSDL & KXXK	Liz Rooks, Heather Lynn	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Liz Rooks, the chair of the Sedalia Senior Center Advisory Board (and a volunteer) spoke with Randy Kirby about "Living A Healthy Life" a six-week series designed for seniors. The course is to supplement the senior's health care routine and focuses on chronic health problems, (such as pain and fatigue) as well as making healthy food choices and exercise, and includes 19 chapters. The seniors are allowed to take their book home and study it at their leisure. It also helps seniors be better advocates for themselves when they go visit the doctor. Call 826-0713 to sign up for the course, which begins Nov. 21. It ends Dec. 26. Heather Lynn, executive director for Child Safe of Central Missouri, spoke with Randy Kirby about a dessert auction fund-raiser, featuring homemade desserts that are auctioned off at The Foundry. Other items are cash & carry, Lynn said. Lynn retired as a Children's Division's Circuit Manager for Pettis and Cooper counties after 30 years of service. Child Safe serves 11 counties, plus two more counties in Missouri, with a mutual aid agreement, serving a little over 450 kids in the region. The founder of Child Safe, Carolyn Green, now serves on the Child Safe Board and also works with the Pettis County Sheriff's Office. State Rep Brad Pollitt will be the auctioneer, and Pettis County Sheriff Brad Anders will serve as emcee.	6 a.m.	Healthy Seniors, Child Abuse

11/26	KSDL & KXXK	Becky Imhauser, Gene Schmitz, Magen Hudson	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Sedalia Author Becky Imhauser stopped by the studio to chat with Randy Kirby about All Around Downtown, Volume 2. Imhauser says she loves to research. Her new book is for sale in various downtown businesses as well as online. In fact, she owns a loft downtown and enjoys watching parades moving down Ohio Avenue. Gene Schmitz, University of Missouri Extension livestock specialist, talked about a drought that affected producers' grass growing season. Magen Hudson, director of the Sedalia Salvation Army's service center, visited with Randy Kirby about asking for volunteers for the SA's bell ringing season, as well as volunteers at the center. SA is in desperate need of bell ringers at West Wood, JC Penney and Walmart, starting on Black Friday. Money raised stays in Pettis County and goes to the Christmas Assistance Program, Emergency Financial Assistance, help with utility bills, and of course the food pantry. Around 1200 Pettis County residents visit the Salvation Army's food pantry monthly, Hudson said.	6 a.m.	Poverty, Hunger, Local History, Drought
12/3	KSDL & KXXK	Byron Matson, Becky Imhauser, Magen Hudson	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Sedalia Symphony Society representative Byron Matson visited with Randy Kirby about the symphony's upcoming Pops Concert at the Heckart Performing Arts Center and the Messiah Concert at First Baptist Church. The Messiah concert on Sunday is free (a gift to the community), while the Monday night concert is a paid event. The second half of the Monday night concert will feature Christmas music. Cost is \$10 each. Sedalia Author Becky Imhauser stopped by the studio to chat with Randy Kirby about All Around Downtown, Volume 2. Imhauser says she loves to research. Her new book is for sale in various downtown businesses as well as online. In fact, she owns a loft downtown and enjoys watching parades moving down Ohio Avenue. Magen Hudson, director of the Sedalia Salvation Army's service center, visited with Randy Kirby about asking for volunteers for the SA's bell ringing season, as well as volunteers at the center. SA is in desperate need of bell ringers at West Wood, JC Penney and Walmart, starting on Black Friday. Money raised stays in Pettis County and goes to the Christmas Assistance Program, Emergency Financial Assistance, help with utility bills, and of course the food pantry. Around 1200 Pettis County residents visit the Salvation Army's food pantry monthly, Hudson said.	6 a.m.	Fine Arts, Poverty, Hunger



12/10	KSDL & KXXK	Britt Faaborg, Tom Oldham	Townsquare Talk	20:00	Britt Faaborg, director of the Sedalia Chorale, spoke with Randy Kirby about the singing group's Dec. 10 concert at 3 p.m., at Wesley United Methodist Church. The first half will feature secular music (River in Judea, American Folk Trilogy, Hernando's Hideaway, Bridge Over Troubled Water), while the second half will feature Christmas music, such as Sleigh Ride, Christmas Gloria, and 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. The Choral has about 20 members. "We're trying to bounce back from COVID," Faaborg said. Dena Neil is the accompanist, Russ Schupp is the drummer, Charles Ferguson is the upright bas player for the group, while Ann Temple plays flute for one song. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. Faaaborg urged anyone who wants to join the group to contact him. The next concert for Sedalia Chorale will be held in the spring. First Ward Councilman Tom Oldham gave an update on the latest Council activity, including putting on the ballot the question of whether Council member should serve four years instead of just two. The issue will be on the April ballot.	6 a.m.	Fine Arts, City Government, Voting
12/17	KSDL & KXXK	Andrew Dawson, Kelvin Shaw, Matt Wirt, David Woolery	Townsquare Talk	20:00	The City of Sedalia Sedalia announced an organizational change in the departments on Dec. 5, and Randy Kirby interviewed Mayor Andrew Dawson, City Administrator Kelvin Shaw, Assistant City Administrator Matt Wirt and Interim Police Chief David Woolery on location to ask them to explain the change and how each of their jobs will differ with the new organizational plan in place. Former Sedalia Police Chief Wirt was asked to assume a new position with the City and be Shaw's assistant in anticipation of Shaw's eventual retirement. Half of the departements will now report to Shaw, the other half to Wirt. Woolery was promoted from Senior Commander to Interim Police Chief. A nationwide search is now underway.	6 a.m.	City Government
12/24	KDSL & KXXK	Amanda Caldwell, Devin Lake, Rhiannon Foster	Townsquare Talk	20:00	US Dermatology Partners recently opened a new office in Warrensburg in an effort to serve rural and underserved communities. This is one of 30 new locations across eight states, and will serve Johnson and Pettis counties. Amanda Caldwell is a nurse practitioner and a dermatology nurse practitioner, practicing medical and cosmetic dermatology. Caldwell began her career in dermatology in 2012. "In my early 20s, I was diagnosed with skin cancer, and that was surprising to me," Caldwell told Randy Kirby by phone. "So I know what it's like to be a patient, and I love educating, so I found dermatology to be a good fit for a career." Before opening a facility in Warrensburg, the nearest available dermatological services were located about an hour away. Chief Building Official Devin Lake visited with Randy Kirby in studio about the Council's decision Monday night to remove the requirement for garage sale permits for the City of Sedalia. Lake said the process was taking up a lot of her clerk's time and the permits were no cost, therefore bringing in no revenue to the City. Mayor Pro Tem Foster broke a 4-4 tie between Council members to remove the permit requirement. City Council also voted to place an issue changing the term of a Council member from 2 years to 4 on the April 22 ballot. "If you're doing your job, being reelected should not be a big problem," Foster told Randy Kirby.	6 a.m.	Dermatology (Health), City Government

12/31	KSDL & KXXK	David Woolery	Townsquare Talk	20:00	<p>Sedalia Interim Police Chief David Woolery visited with Randy Kirby in studio about his new position as chief of police, effective Dec. 5. The change came about after former Chief Matt Wirt was asked to become assistant city administrator and work alongside City Administrator Kelvin Shaw, in anticipation of Shaw's impending retirement. The 16 departments that were reporting directly to Shaw have now been split in two, with eight reporting to Shaw and eight reporting to Wirt. Interim Chief Woolery talk about his law enforcement career, which began in 1993 as a Pettis County Sheriff's Explorer, then later hired by SPD as a Patrolman. Woolery was the senior commander on the force, and was asked to be interim chief when Wirt was moved into Shaw's office. Woolery talked about how efficient and modern the SPD has become over the years, and how equipment and technology used in the department has changed over the past two decades. Recruiting new officers, training and retaining them is an ongoing process for the Sedalia Police Department. Currently the department is short by about seven officers.</p>	6 a.m.	Local Policing
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