

Issues & Programs List

High Plains Public Radio

January – March 2024

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Issues; Programs	Title / Programming Type	Date/Time/ Duration	Narrative
Education: KNS	Governor continues to oppose shifting education funds.	1/4/2024	The Kansas governor opposes shifting dollars supporting public schools to private schools.
Economy: KNS	Governor Kelly released her plan to reduce state property taxes	1/9/2024	Kelly proposed to reduce property tax as well as eliminate state food tax in Kansas. Republicans say her plan is not enough to be competitive with other states. They favor a single rate income tax.
Environment: KUT	Your questions answered on ERCOT and Texas' electric grid during this winter weather	1/18/2024	The Electric Reliability Council of Texas has issued back-to-back requests for Texans to conserve energy as freezing temperatures grip the state. The grid operator said it's expecting electricity supply to be tight as residents crank up the heat in their homes.
Agriculture: KNS	Fast food hamburgers are helping Kansas ranchers save dwindling native grasslands	1/23/2024	In western Kansas, seas of corn and wheat stretch out across the plains, but a huge portion of those fields used to be native grassland. To conserve what's left, a new program will work with ranchers, and it's backed by some of the biggest beef buyers like Burger King.
Education: TX TRIB	Here's what Texans need to know about the new FAFSA to get aid for college	1/24/2024	The launch of the revamped federal application to receive aid for college pushed this year's filing deadlines, but financial aid counselors are still advising college hopefuls in Texas to fill out the form as soon as possible to up the odds of getting more money.
Education: KNS	A bill in Kansas would allow more options for adoption / custodial care	1/29/2024	A bill in Kansas would allow for multiple adults to be a custodian arrangement with friends or close relatives for teens over the age of 16. This would also need the approval of the teen as well.
Environment: KNS	A company plans to propose plant that could reduce greenhouse emissions.	2/05/2024	The proposal would take emissions from production of jet fuel and inject it into the ground but community opposition is common in communities that these proposals have been levied.
Community: KUT	U.S. Rep. Greg Casar files bill to connect Texas grid to rest of the country	2/14/2024	"This is the first bill ever in the U.S. Congress to require ERCOT to finally interconnect," the former Austin City Council member told KUT in an exclusive interview ahead of the bill's filing on Wednesday.
Environment: KNS	These ethanol plants want to bury CO2 in Kansas to cut their carbon footprints	2/21/2024	Two companies seek to build the first sites in Kansas where carbon dioxide emissions get pumped deep underground to keep them out of the atmosphere, a practice that proponents argue will combat climate

change but that many environmental groups oppose.

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Community: KNS	How running with pancakes in southwest Kansas boosts community spirit and the economy	03/02/024	This year marks the 75th anniversary of what's known as the Pancake Day Race in the southwest Kansas town of Liberal. It's an oddity, but these types of community festivals offer economic and less tangible benefits to smaller towns.
Economic Development: KNS	People in older, more affordable Kansas homes are more likely to lose power. There's no easy fix	03/05/2024	Burying existing overhead power lines in developed neighborhoods would cost billions of dollars. That cost would immediately show up on electricity bills.
Environment: KNS	Kansas bans sale of Callery Pear trees.	3/18/2024	Starting in 2027 Kansas nursery's and tree farms will not be able to distribute and sell Bradford Pears (Callery Pears). They will now be considered a invasive specie. Existing Bradford Pear trees do not need to be removed.
Healthcare: KNS	Medicaid expansion in Kansas	3/22/2024	Lawmakers are encouraging Medicaid expansion for the first time in many years. This would provide care for more than 150,000 additional people. The proposal faces an uphill battle because of its expense.
Agriculture: KNS	To save water in the Ogallala aquifer, look to parts of Kansas already using less	3/27/2024	People in the agriculture industry are still looking for local solutions to save what is left of the Ogallala aquifer that supports western Kansas. But systemic challenges are making it a slow effort.