

FCC Public Issues & Programs List: Second Quarter 2021

Contents:

- (A) Legend/map key for abbreviations
- (B) Summary of major news stories, features, interviews, forums and debates regarding state, area and local issues* for

APRIL 2021

MAY 2021

JUNE 2021

*Enclosed is a listing of some of the significant issues to which Kansas Public Radio (KANU-Lawrence 91.5 FM, KANH-Emporia 89.7 FM, KANV-Olsburg/Junction City 91.3 FM, and KANQ-Chanute 90.3 FM) responded, along with some of the most significant programming treatments of those issues for the period of time specified. This listing is by no means exhaustive, and a more complete, detailed listing can be found in the official KANU news archives. The order in which the issues appear has no significance, and does not reflect any particular priority for these stories.

TOPIC CODE

AG – Agriculture

AR – Arts & Entertainment

CR – Crime

ECO – Economy & Business

ED – Education

ENV – Environment

HE – Health

HI -- History

HS – Human Sexuality

KU – University of Kansas-related story

MI – Military-related story

POL – Kansas Government & Politics

RE – Religion

RR – Race Relations

SP – Sports

WX – Weather-related story

FORMAT CODE

R – Report

C – Commentary

PROGRAM CODE

ME – Morning Edition

ATC – All Things Considered

WE -- Weekend Edition

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR APRIL 2021

1. Kansas News Service reporters Celia Llopis-Jepsen and Brian Grimmatt discussed a bill in the Kansas Legislature that would allow utility companies to use a kind of specialized financial tool to speed up their ability to pay down debt. That may seem kind of abstruse, but what that means in practical terms is that this means of retiring debt could allow those utilities to speed up the state's transition to an entirely renewable electric grid.
(KNS-BILL2WAY.wav) -- aired 04-05-21 – ATC/R – length: 3:46 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 6:44pm

ENV/ECO

2. Celia Llopis-Jepsen reported on the debate over the future of telemedicine and telehealth programs in a post-pandemic future. Telehealth services were wildly popular during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing patients to see doctors from a distance and not requiring to make an office visit. The question now stands as to how insurance companies plan to compensate physicians for these telehealth consultations and appointments in the future. It's possible that the physicians won't want to take a lower payment for what is, in essence, the same amount of time spent with a patient via teleconference that they would for an in-office visit... while insurance companies may not want to pay for telehealth visits at the same rate as in-person consultation.
(CLJ-TELEHLTH.wav) – aired 04-13-21 – ME/R – length: 4:04 – airtimes: 6:35am, 7:35am

HE/ECO

3. Brian Grimmatt reported on the dramatic drop in the number of grasshoppers found in the Konza prairie over the last quarter-century. Scientists say the problem comes from changes in prairie grass spurred by climate change, and that has raised concerns about what that could mean for the rest of the food chain in that ecosystem.
(BG-GRHOPPERS.wav) – aired 04-20-21 – ME/R – length: 4:05 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

ENV/AG/ECO

4. KPR continued its series of excerpts from Dave Kendall and Rex Buchanan's documentary research on the Santa Fe Trail. In this installment, listeners learned about the first man to lead a successful trading expedition down the Trail, some 200 years ago. William Becknell of Franklin, Missouri established a thriving trade with Santa Fe, leading the way for other merchants and speculators to try their luck.
(JDS-SANTAFE-4.wav) – aired 04-23-21 – ME/R – length: 5:15 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HI/ECO/RR

5. KPR's J. Schafer talked with Will Averill, the communications director for the Willow Domestic Violence Center in Lawrence, which serves Douglas, Franklin and Jefferson counties. The shopping channel HSN helped to raise money for the center by matching donations up to \$5000. Schafer and Averill discussed what services the center provides, what its immediate needs are, and how the organization planned to use any money that was raised. A follow-up was provided during newscasts the next day, after Willow and HSN met their goals and the group received \$11,000 in donations after HSN kicked in an additional \$1000. (JS-HSNWILLOW.wav) – aired 04-27-21 – ME/R – length: 3:45 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

CR/HE/ECO/RR

6. Rex Buchanan provided a commentary on ways he found to stay active and engage with the natural world during the pandemic lockdown. He found that solo bicycle riding was a balm to the soul while providing a workout for the body. (RB-NATURTRAIL.wav) – aired 04-30-21 – ME/C – length: 2:57 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HI/ENV/HE

7. Kaye McIntyre's weekly program KPR Presents featured conversations with area poets Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg and Shannon Carriger to mark the occasion of National Poetry Month. It featured read excerpts of poetry written by Kansas poets, including both panelists. (KPR1_KPRPRESENTS_APR18.wav) – aired 04-18-21 – KPR Presents – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6pm

AR/HI

8. KPR's Kaye McIntyre hosted an encore presentation of former Vice President Walter Mondale's interview and appearance at the Dole Institute of Politics from 2007. Mondale died on April 19, 2021, and KPR Presents honored his legacy with this repeat broadcast of his conversation in Lawrence. He discussed the challenges faced during the Carter Administration, rebuilding the nation's military, and The Federalist Papers.

(KPR1_KPRPRESENTS_APR25.wav) – aired 04-25-21 – KPR Presents – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6pm

POL/HI/MI/KU

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR MAY 2021

1. David Condos reported for the Kansas News Service on the efforts to conserve and protect the water in the Ogallala Aquifer. After decades of being tapped for irrigation, almost a third of the water in the Kansas area of the aquifer has disappeared. Now, researchers are reaching out to farmers to show that irrigation and water conservation can go hand-in-hand before the area's wells run dry permanently.
(DC-OGALLALA.wav) – aired 05-05-21 – ME/R – length: 4:04 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

ENV/ECO/AG/KU

2. Brian Grimmatt reported on The Land Institute's drive to develop crops that could reduce the overall carbon footprint of agricultural work. As it stands, agriculture is reportedly responsible for about 12% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. The Salina-based initiative has researchers working on the development of new kinds of crops that could return more carbon dioxide to the ground.
(KNS-GRAINS.wav) – aired 05-12-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:03 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

ENV/AG/ECO

3. KPR's J. Schafer spoke with author Anne Kniggendorf about her book Secret Kansas City: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure. From castles, to the world's longest snake, to the horse buried in a cul-de-sac, they discuss some of the odder things to be found in Kansas City that go beyond just sports, barbeque, and jazz.
(KNIGGEN-3.wav) – aired 05-14-21 – ME/R – length: 6:58 – airtimes: 6:50am, 8:50am

AR/HI

4. Suzanne Perez of the Kansas News Service spoke one-on-one with Rick Muma, the new president of Wichita State University, to discuss his vision for the school and some of the challenges he faces as he formally enters the position. They discuss the departures of former school president Jay Golden and head men's basketball coach Gregg Marshall, and talk about the post-pandemic outlook for WSU.
(2WAY-RICKMUMA.wav) – aired 05-19-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:06 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm, 6:44pm

ED/POL/ECO/SP

5. KPR's occasional series celebrating the bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail continued, this time with readings from the papers of Josiah Gregg, author of the book Commerce of the Prairies. Gregg's account of his experiences on the trail prompted others to become involved with the Santa Fe Trade. KPR's J. Schafer provided narration.

(SFT_05_Gregg.wav) – aired 05-20-21 – ATC/R – length: 5:45 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm. 6:44pm

HI/ECO/AR

6. KPR's Laura Lorson talked with Kelsyn Rooks, a Kansas City-area native who is working on a project designed to bring people together to listen to music. The Center for Recorded Music would be a kind of hands-on learning-focused museum where people could gather to learn about the history of recorded music, but also listen to music in a communal way. Rooks said he has been sad to see the experience of recorded music become a solitary, isolated one, with the advent of personal playlists, digital storage, and seemingly omnipresent headphone or earbud usage. He's working to raise the funds to create the CRM and provide a space for groups of people to hear musical albums and interact with each other in discussion and discovery.

(LL-C4RM.wav) – aired 05-21-21 – ME/R – length: 3:51 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

AR/ED

7. Seth Bodine reported for Harvest Public Media on the role animal disease laboratories might play in preventing the next pandemic. Because so many of the most dangerous illnesses start out as animal diseases that leap to humans, the labs' experience with tracking animal diseases could prove to be invaluable in heading off more highly contagious, difficult-to-treat diseases that have their origins in non-human species.

(HPM-DISEASE.wav) – aired 05-25-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:00 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 5:44pm

AG/HE/ENV/ED/ECO

8. Suzanne Perez reported on the problems Kansas swimming pools and water parks are having in finding qualified lifeguards. The teenagers who traditionally make up the workforce for these recreational spots aren't necessarily turning out in force to take the physically demanding jobs in the same way they used to in the past.

(KNS-LIFEGUARD.wav) – aired 05-31-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:02 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 5:44 pm

ECO/HE/SP

9. Sally Buzbee has just been appointed the new executive editor of The Washington Post, following a long and successful career at the Associated Press. KPR Presents featured an encore presentation of Buzbee's conversation with Kaye McIntyre at the KPR studios, plus Buzbee's remarks as she received the 2019 William Allen White National Citation at her alma mater, the University of Kansas.
(SallyBuzbee.wav) – aired 05-16-21 – KPR Presents – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6 pm

POL/ED/KU

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR JUNE 2021

1. Abigail Censky reported on the return of the practice of placing so-called “earmarks” ...or specific funding for specific community projects... in budget bills passed by the U.S. Congress. Often, these projects were viewed as wasteful or as being simply politically expedient for certain Representatives and Senators. Politicians who were hawkish on reducing government spending put a top to the process in the 2000s, but now the practice has returned. Censky examines the fine line some of the Kansas Republican politicians who say in public that they are opposed to such spending must walk, while reaping the benefits of bringing jobs and projects to their conservative constituents.

(AC-EARMARKS.wav) – aired 06-08-21 – ME/R – length: 3:58 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

POL/ECO

2. KPR’s Laura Lorson spoke with Chris Schneider of the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America about a free, online seminar designed to highlight resources available to Kansans dealing with Alzheimer’s Disease. It’s estimated that between people suffering from the disease and those involved in their care, more than 200,000 Kansans have some kind of connection to this dementia affliction. The online seminar featured staffers from the University of Kansas Alzheimer’s Disease Center and popular television personality Dr. Mehmet Oz.

(LL-ALZCONF.WAV) – aired 06-14-21 – ATC/R – length: 3:41 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

HE/KU

3. Brian Grimmatt reported on the problems being encountered by Kansas farmers who took advantage of new regulations in the state allowing them to legally cultivate hemp for industrial uses. Problems concerning economies of scale, a now-flooded market for certain hemp products, and a shifting regulatory landscape have made it difficult for small hemp farmers to succeed.

(KNS-HEMPDIS.wav) – aired 06-15-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:02 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

AG/HE/ECO

4. Dave Kendall and Prairie Hollow Productions provided another excerpt from the documentary on the bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail, this time focusing on the journal of a woman who made the trip and kept a running commentary on daily life along the trail.

(JDS-SANTAFE-6.wav) – aired 06-17-21 – ME/R – length: 5:53 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HI/RR/ECO

5. Suzanne Perez reported on summer school in Kansas, and the growing number of students and their parents who are opting out of the mid-year classes. Some families say their kids need some time away from online learning and school of any kind after months of distance education. This has some educators and administrators concerned about students falling behind.

(SP-SUMSCHOOL.wav) – aired 06-22-21 – ME/R – length: 4:06 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

ED/POL/HE

6. Commentator Rex Buchanan reviewed a new book by environmentalist and researcher Wes Jackson. “Hogs Are Up” is an overview of Jackson’s time working on the land, researching the environmental impact of certain crops, and working on expanding awareness of the most pressing environmental issues in Kansas.

(RB-WESJACKSON2.wav) – aired 06-23-21 – ATC/C – length: 3:04 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

ENV/AG/AR/KU

7. David Condos reported on the struggles faced by Black farmers in and around Nicodemus, Kansas, as the U.S. Department of Agriculture has pledged to assist Black farmers who have faced discrimination and land seizure over the last hundred years. The federal government has said it plans to start sending payments to Black farmers and their families, but various lawsuits from white farmers have stalled the process. In many cases, any kind of reparation payments are coming too late to reverse the decades of damage caused by discrimination in assessment, lending, and market opportunities.

(KNS-BLKFARM.wav) – aired 06-29-21 – ATC/R – length: 4:08 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

RR/AG/ECO

8. KPR Presents host Kaye McIntyre spoke with Mary Madden, director of the Kansas Museum of History, which re-opened in June, more than a year after the COVID-19 pandemic closed its doors. The two toured the new museum exhibit "Upwards to Equality: Kansas Women Fight to Vote." She also spoke to Leslie VonHolton about "Words of a Feather," the latest project of Humanities Kansas.

(KPRPresents-06062021.wav) – aired 06-06-21 – KPR Presents – length: 59 minutes – airtimes: 6am

AR/HI/ED

9. KPR Presents host Kaye McIntyre began a series of in-depth interviews on this year's Kansas Notable Books with Kansas Poet Laureate Huascar Medina, author of "Un Mango Grows in Kansas."

(KPRPresents-062021.wav) – aired 06-20-21 – KPR Presents – length: 59 minutes – airtimes: 6am

AR/ED/RR
