

KNEB-AM - Scottsbluff, NE

Quarterly Issues/Programs List
July 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020

Below is a list of some of the significant issues responded to, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period. This list is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Newscasts on KNEB-AM air Monday through Friday at the following times and durations: 5:00 in length at 6:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 11:35 a.m., 12:35 p.m., and 4:00 p.m., plus a news brief 1:50 in length at 5:40 p.m.

Our extended news program, News Extra, airs Monday through Friday between 7:50 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., and covered a variety of topics: Public Health Updates moved to afternoons twice weekly, and we carried an edited version once per week with the latest information on the pandemic, including an update to the regional spread risk dial, plus other topics they would discuss related to COVID-19. Additional topics covered during the period included new fixed route services set for Tri-City Roadrunner, the start of Scotts Bluff County Fair ticket sales, an interview with the governor regarding the pandemic and resumption of the legislative session, an update on Medicaid expansion, a resumption of elective surgeries by Regional West, political discussion with Congressman Adrian Smith, fundraisers such as Fill the Boot, Legacy of the Plains, Team Jack Radiothon, Brews and BBQ and the latest with the United Way (monthly). We also discussed Home Fire Safety Inspections, hosted U.S. Senatorial nominees Ben Sasse and Chris Janicek, Monument Marathon, and the start of a Holiday Food and Gift Program for CAPWN.

Issue	Program	Description of issues addressed/topics covered
Arts and Culture	Newscasts	Kimball Newspaper Sportswriter Tom Southard honored for decades of service to the industry; Lied Scottsbluff Library ramps up COVID-impacted summer reading program; Oregon Trail Days reset for August, limited to a handful of events with no parades; Hot Air Balloon Championship postponed this year but 2 nd additional year given to Scotts Bluff County, Old West Balloon Fest instead included a qualifier for next year's National's; Renovated Chimney Rock Visitor Center opens to rave reviews; Pilgrim Media Group comes to Scotts Bluff County to produce episodes of the Street Outlaws franchise for Discovery Channel; United Way has Duck Draw instead of Duck Dash, sells more permits than previously expected (and more than prior year); Pony Express Re-Ride Cancelled; Robidoux Trading Post to be removed from current site due to structure condition, loss of lease;
Community	Newscasts	A variety of food giveaways to those in need continues throughout the quarter to address food insecurity during pandemic; Three local women honored by Panhandle Business and Professional Women for contributions to the community; Leadership Scotts Bluff XXXI donates to Shop with a Cop, Cat/Pup Pack Food Backpack programs; Local businessman donates experimental aircraft to local airport for display in terminal; Scottsbluff begins Monument Pathway North project; TCD announces development of independent living apartments for young adults with disabilities; Jeff Sprock residents as Alliance City Manager; Erroneous Gering Utility Bills with charges in the tens of thousands create uproar; Kimball Council rejects Mayor's appointment of new city administrator; Two new wings of Eastwood Apartments low-income housing are opened;

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Health	Newscasts	State Pharmacists Association receiving grant to promote and equip pharmacies to become drug take-back sites; Panhandle recorded its fourth through ninth COVID-related deaths during this period; Scotts Bluff County Fair goes off with a few limitations, no reported problems despite some larger event gatherings; Regional public health officials remind everyone about needing to take proper precautions against COVID spread, especially larger events. Panhandle moves from Phase 3 to Phase 4 restrictions; Medicaid expansion sees solid applications, about 10,000 in two months before start of coverage; West Nile Virus doesn't show up in region until late in the season; With relaxation of gathering restrictions in Sept., public health says risk of virus spread is on the rise, asks public to continue taking precautions to keep themselves, their families and the community safe, including mask use as appropriate;
Public Safety	Newscasts	New County Transit Manager named; Explosion hits Torrington Wyo. fireworks in storage for show; Friends and Family mark 1-year anniversary of disappearance of Chance Engelbert; Bridgeport man charged in motor vehicle death of his brother; NSP seizes 42 pounds of pot in I-80 traffic stop; Nebraska Supreme Court announces live-streaming pilot project for court proceedings; Scotts Bluff County signs contract to house juvenile offenders in Lancaster Co. as a backup option; Man killed in train v. pedestrian accident in Scottsbluff; Crop Duster hits power lines and crashes, takes out power for much of Scottsbluff; Local man arrested for taking GoFundMe money raised for children of woman who died from motor vehicle accident; John Kiss retiring as Alliance Police Chief; Hubbard Gap Fire chars nearly 4,000 acres over five days, prompts creation of a state incident management team;
Politics	Newscasts	Nebraska Legislature resumes 2020 session to work on property tax relief, business incentive package; Medical Marijuana initiative backers submit over 182,000 signatures, is certified but loses court challenge and won't be on November ballot; Trio of casino gambling measures gather enough signatures to make ballot, Sec. of State says violates single issue law but NE Supreme Court disagrees and orders the measures go before voters in November; Initiative limiting interest rates for payday loans certified for ballot; Scotts Bluff County comes to agreement with Allo, Scottsbluff and Gering to remit mis-paid franchise fees over five-year period; City of Scottsbluff had to plan on spending \$3million to meet state lid requirements, \$2 million toward street project, \$250,000 ea. to citywide façade program and workforce development, and \$500,000 to council 'wish-list'; Sens. Fischer, Sasse weigh in on Coney Barrett Supreme Court Nomination;
Education	Newscasts	SHS Senior Katherine Reisig one of 44 statewide to post perfect college entrance exam score in 2020; SBPS surveys parents about concerns of students returning to classrooms in fall, finds more than half ok with in-person learning, and half approve of mask usage while on campus; Area schools unveil plans on how classes and classrooms will change to accommodate more distancing, combat COVID spread; UNL announces proposed cuts; Gering, Scottsbluff school boards settle on final budgets for coming fiscal year; Gering School Board settles on general timeline in search for new superintendent; Lincoln Elementary in Gering gets Greener Towns grant for landscaping improvement project; SBPS highlights new elementary science curriculum that's more hands-on than in years past;

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Business, Industry and the Economy	Newscasts	Scottsbluff announces third round of grants for East Overland Façade Improvements; Senator John Stinner touts importance of property tax relief, new business incentive package that passes the legislature; Nebraska economy rebounds strongly following lifting of restrictions, unemployment gets to under 4%; SWBC announces closure of local office, with half of existing staff to be laid off, the other half to become virtual workforce; Camping World CEO announces plans to open store in Sidney, along with a 3PL logistics operation; NPPD expects significant costs for repairs to high-voltage transmission line hit by crop duster; Prime Metal Products is up and running; Regional West Health Services hit by 'computer network outage' impacting some appointments but not delivery of most services;