

KAGE-AM, VAN BUREN, AR. FIRST QUARTER 2021 ISSUES PROGRAMMING

KAGE-AM covers issues in the Arkansas-Oklahoma region (Arklahoma) on several programming platforms, but especially on the 6am to 9am Arklahoma Today news and talk program M-F. The program features local newscasts, interviews with newsmakers, and featuring interviews with public officials on a regular basis.

Current weather and traffic updates are broadcast throughout the program. The statewide news is also covered by the Arkansas Radio Network. We also include high school sports coverage and stock market updates . We give a daily rundown of events happening in the area (especially with Covid 19 vaccinations beginning to increase, we kept listeners up-to-date on how the get registered. The following issues and response-programming is only a part of the outreach KHGG-FM accomplished during this period.

The Key Issues for this period included:

1. The arrival of vaccine and registration of qualified citizens and getting the word out from the CDS and Arkansas and Oklahoma Department of Health, as well as local and area healthcare providers.
2. Notifying listeners of food giveaways, psychological help and support to the needy. Fort Smith Mayor George McGill and Congressman Steve Womack are heard frequently listing these services.
3. Presenting soundbites of Gov. Asa Hutchinson's regular news conferences, which included numerous safety recommendations. The Covid 19 came back strong in January.
4. Urging listeners to receive vaccinations if eligible and in the proper good health.
5. Pet care was also a concern during the stressful times and several agencies had representatives on the air to help owners.
6. The proposed selection of Ebbing Air National Guard Base in Fort Smith as a new location for U.S. Air Force plans and F-16s from the Singapore Air Force continues to be a possibility. Two other bases in the U.S. are being considered for the major economic opportunity.
7. Lifting of the mask mandate in Arkansas.

8. Record snow and record cold force power outages in the region. 9. Danny Cervantes of the local Blood Institute talks about a desperate need for blood during the huge snow storm.

KAGE-AM is a news/talk station, with emphasis on local events and information.

Monday, January 4—Eddie Lee Herndon, head of the United Way of the Greater Fort Smith Area, talks about the agency's "Count Your Blessings" event.(6min). Fort Smith City Administrator Carl Gefkin talks about challenges and solutions for the city in the year 2021 (7min).

Wednesday, January 6--Gov. Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas explains revisions to those included in the initial "wave one" for health care and emergency workers vaccination process. (4 minutes, 5 seconds). Gov. Hutchinson discusses "when do I get MY vaccine" and the involvement of the Arkansas Pharmacy Association. 4 minutes 5 seconds. John Vinson of the Pharmacy group, talked about their plans for the vaccinations (4 min 30sec). He pointed out that potential recipients needed to get their name on waiting lists at hospitals and pharmacies. Some drive-thru centers were being established. Vinson told us he is eager to begin a statewide partnership with the Arkansas Department of Health. 3:00). Chad Lowe of the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Nature Center talked about virtual events at the center (6 min). (Chad is a guest the first Wednesday of each month).

Thursday, January 7--Susie Meluso of the Regional Art Museum talked with Karen for 5:19) about new year's plans.

Friday, January 8, --Dave Kennedy, Curator the U.S. Marshal's Museum in Fort Smith, talks about Marshal's who have been in the military and joined the Marshal's. (4:50). He hosts Facebook Live on Friday's at 2pm from the Museum. U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas talks about his decision not to support further efforts to change the outcome of the Presidential election in the Senate. (5min). Gov. Hutchinson tells how he has "faced calls from the media to close bars." He said there's no proof it would contain the virus in a significant way. (3:31). Fort Smith Mayor George McGill talks about a new industry that's coming to town : Hytrol Conveyor Company (4:30).

Monday, January 11, --Carrie Terry of the United Way of Fort Smith Area encourages listeners to get a free Family Wise Pharmacy Discount Card. (7:06).

Tuesday, January 12,--The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education Physical Therapy School is looking for volunteers to help study the effects of Low Level Laser Therapy on pain management. Dr. Danny Curtis explains. (6:25).

Wednesday, January 13--Gov. Hutchinson speaks to the Arkansas Legislature during its opening session. He stresses bills to keep the economy moving and action on a hate crime bill. (5:32).

Thursday, January 14--Gov. Hutchinson announces the launch of "Ready for Life" to connect workers with industry. (4:53). State Education Director Johnny Key (1:40). State official Mike Presson also spoke.

Friday, January 15—Fort Smith Mayor George McGill about the economy and the fight against Covid 19. He also announces that a major industry will be coming to town, so "let's keep our city clean and ready for new people." (9 minutes)

Monday, January 18- Eilee Cumming with United Van Lines explains why Arkansas is logging in at state number ten in places Americans are migrating. Open spaces and plenty of outdoor activities are the top reasons, in addition to escaping crowded states where covid-19 is rampant. (4 minutes) Fort Smith Mayor also discusses the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr and events in January celebrating his life. (4 minutes)

Tuesday, January 19 – Eddie Lee Herndon, Executive Director of the United Way Greater Fort Smith Area talks about the "Count our Blessings" campaign. Most of the 32 agencies which are part of United Way were unable to hold fundraisers in 2020 due to covid-19. The campaign is designed to ask for financial donations to help make up the \$750,000. Shortfall by agencies (8 minutes)

Wednesday, January 20 – Phillip Poston, General Manager of the new Hytrol Conveyor company in Fort Smith discusses how his company has grown as a result of online orders during covid 19, how the old whirlpool plant in Fort Smith was renovated to handle the Hytrol conveyor equipment, and the upcoming interview process for prospective Fort Smith Employees. (7 minutes) Fort Smith Mayor George McGill reviews how the city recruits prospective businesses (3 minutes)

Thursday, January 21 – Arkansas Secretary of Education Johnny Key updates listeners on how educators are preparing for vaccination from covid-19 and how school districts will decide how and when clinics will be held. (4 minutes) State Health Department chief, Dr. Jose Romero discusses the various strains of covid-19 identified across the country. No variants have been identified in Arkansas as of yet. (4 minutes)

Friday, January 22 – Fort Smith Mayor George McGill discusses the importance of the Hytrol conveyor belt company opening a facility in Fort Smith (7 minutes) Curator of the US Marshal's Museum, Dave Kennedy talks about today's facebook live presentation. (4 minutes)

Monday, January 25--Fort Smith Mayor George McGill talks about the Presidential Inauguration, insurrection, vaccination, and the National Day of Racial Healing. (6:51).

--Arkansas Secretary of Education Johnny Key discusses a new website to link virtual learners with resources such as food, clothing and mental health. He is also requesting the state legislature to approve \$4.6 million for 2020 lost leave funds for teachers (3:02).

--Dr. Jose Romero, Arkansas Secretary of Health, discusses the new covid 19 strain. (3:00).

U.S. Marshal Museum curator Dave Kennedy shares info on Frederick Douglas, first African-American U.S. Marshal (4:03).

Monday, January 25 – Lorie Robertson with Chaffee Crossing talks about 2020 being a banner year for economic development at the former military camp despite covid-19. (10 minutes)

Tuesday, January 26 – Dianne Heinrichs with the Fort Smith Lawn and Garden Show and Master Gardeners talks about the online Master Gardener class available through the U of A Agricultural Extension Office. Following training and an exam, those finishing the course will be expected to volunteer 40 hours over a year's time to master gardener projects across the River Valley (10 minutes)

Wednesday, January 27 - Third District Congressman Steve Womack gives his insight on the assault on the Capitol earlier in the month, and how the tumultuous events may affect the legacy of former president Donald Trump. (10 minutes)

Thursday, January 28 – Julie Moncrief, Development Director for the Fort Smith Regional Art Museum talks about the challenges covid-19 posed for RAM during 2020. (5 minutes)

Friday, January 29 – Fort Smith Mayor George McGill talks about covid-19 numbers in the River Valley, encouraging listeners to be vigilant in mask wearing, hand washing, and social distancing. (8 minutes) Dave Kennedy with the US Marshal’s Museum promotes facebook live for that afternoon (4 minutes) John Pope of “Keep Van Buren Beautiful” talks about the 1,000 trash bags filled with refuse (3:00).

Les Montgomery talks about repairing the Crawford County levee, which almost broke open during the 500-year flood of 2019. He talked about fixing the burm and what is a burm. 92:30).

Health officials asked citizens to cut back on Super Bowl parties to help halt the spread of coronavirus. (4:21).

Monday, February 1 – Listeners get to meet the new Executive Director of the Fort Smith Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, Tim Jacobsen. (7:31)

Tuesday, February 2 – Eddie Lee Herndon, Executive Director of the United Way Greater Fort Smith Area promotes “Rising in the River Valley” to raise awareness of domestic abuse and sexual assault (10 minutes)

Wednesday, February 3 – Danny Cervantes, Executive Director of the Arkansas Blood Institute appeals for blood donations, especially those who have convalescent covid-19 antibodies. The increase in covid-19 hospitalizations has caused a severe stain on the local blood supply. (9 minutes)

Thursday, February 4 – Chris Hedrick, chair of this year’s “Grape Escapes” to benefit Bost School for mentally and physically challenged individuals talks about this year’s virtual event (5minutes)

Friday, January 5 – Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge talks about a new scam targeting families who suffered a death in the family. Crooks have been calling families claiming to be from the funeral home in need of social security number information. (7:18) Dave Kennedy with the US Marshal's Museum talks about the topic of discussion for facebook live. (4minutes)

Monday, February 8 - Melissa Curry, Director of Methodist Village Senior Living talks about nursing home residents receiving the covid-19 vaccination. (8 minutes)

Tuesday, February 9 – Executive Director of the Community Services Clearinghouse, Tami Kuhns reviews the strict procedures they go through to make sure their clients and staff are protected from covid-19 (7:04 minutes)

Wednesday, February 10 - Third District Congressman Steve Womack talks about issues before the House and his committee responsibilities (10 minutes). "For the People Democrats for Election Reform" 5 minutes.

Thursday, February 11 – Danny Cervantes with Arkansas Blood Institute talks about this week's three day blood drive at Central Mall. (8 minutes)

Friday, February 12 -Fort Smith Mayor George McGill discusses how the city is coping with this week's snow storm. (7minutes) Dave Kennedy with the US Marshal's Museum talks lineage of US Deputy Marshal Bass Reaves. (5 minutes) Chris Hedrick, chairman of the "Grape Escapes" to benefit Bost Human Development Center. This is the major fundraising even of the year, but there will be some changes to accommodate Covid 19 protocols. (6:16).

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15 TO FEBRUARY 19 WINTER STORM PREVENTED SHOW.

TRAVEL WAS DISCOURAGED—WORKED REMOTELY DOING NEWS AND ANNOUNCING THE DIRE NEED FOR BLOOD. DESPITE THE WEATHER, JESICA DID TWO HOURS OF LIVE REMOTES FROM THE MALL TO BRING OUT DONATIONS (4 HOURS)

Wednesday, February 25--Chad Lowe of the Arkansas River Valley Nature Center outlines February events. He says there will be make and take turnkey calls, with kids' fishing lessons and how to cook what you catch. (5:30). Carrie Terry with

the United Way of Greater Fort Smith Area discusses new 211 service in the River Valley. (5:30).

Thursday, February 26--Melissa Curry, CEO of Methodist Village Senior Living, explains 154,000 Mabee Matching Grant information (4:02). Fort Smith's Christian Parker talks about new music he has written and performed. (7:29).

Friday, February 26,--Dave Kennedy of the U.S. Marshal's Museum invites listeners to an encore performance of "A Night in the Past" with Harriet Tubman during the Facebook live the Museum. (4:49). Susie Rheel, executive director of Westark RSVP, invites listeners to take advantage of free tax help from retired seniors for seniors. (4:44). We expand our coverage of the need for blood in the aftermath of the winter storm. Blood Institute Director Danny Cervantes okays an announcement that we ran numerous times over a three-day period to turn out donors. Fort Smith Mayor George McGill reviews the success of the city's first mass vaccination clinic for Covid 19 virus. (2:30).

Monday, February 26--The Fort Smith Knights of Columbus announce plans for Friday Fish Night at Columbus Acres. He said the fish will be "carry out" during Lent 2021 due to the virus. Henry Moore was our guest. (3:24). Chris Hedrick with Bost Inc., encourages listeners to help "Grape Escapes" fundraiser for the agency which helps individuals with physical and mental challenges. (4:45).

Monday, March 1--Executive Director of the Fort Smith Museum of History, Caroline Spier, discusses a creative on-line auction to raise money for the Museum. (7:12).

Tuesday, March 2--Arkansas Congressman Steve Womack (3rd District), addresses Congress on passage of the third stimulus bill. (1:04). – Part II of the interview with Fort Smith School Superintendent Dr. Terry Morowski and Dr. Gary Udouj (8:00) – Caroline Spier with the Fort Smith Museum of History talks about a virtual auction to raise money for the museum organized by Fort Smith "Retro Market" (7:12)

Wednesday, March 3-- – Comments by Northside High School coach Ricky Smith on Jersey Wolfenbarger following last year's state championship girls basketball

win. Wolfenbarger was named a McDonald's All American (3:30) Chris Hedrick with Bost reminds listeners of the virtual "Grape Escapes" fundraiser. (4:45) Christian Parker of Fort Smith talks about, then sings one of his five songs he wrote during last Summer's covid-19 pandemic. (7:29)

Thursday, March 4---- – Congressman Steve Womack from the Third Congressional District talks about the power grid problems from the recent snow storm in the south. (7:00) Henry Moore with the Fort Smith Trolley Museum discusses financial needs of the non-profit (3:24)

Friday, March 19--Fort Smith Mayor George McGill previews groundbreaking events on the Arkansas River for the Community School of the Arts. He also discusses Covid 19 vaccine clinics and other potential businesses coming to town. (6:54). Danny Cervantes Blood Institute (6 min). The New Fort Smith Advertising and Promotions Manager, Tim Jacobsen, informs us about events and bus tourism later in the spring. (3:34pm).

Monday, March 22-- Tami Kuhns with the Community Services Clearinghouse gives details about the True Grit Bike Ride Virtual in 2021. The Clearinghouse provides food to the needy. (7:43). The local Children's Shelter announces how it is coping with Covid 19 issues and the \$20,000. grant they recently received. (7:28).

Tuesday, January 23---Danny Cervantes, executive director of the Arkansas Blood Institute, explains an April 1st Blood Drive at the Fort Smith Convention Center with 100 donors being sought. (6:07). Fort Smith Mayor George McGill gives the State of the City address, highlighting the recent visit of officials from the Singapore Air Force (they may relocate their F16's to Ebbing Air National Guard Base at the Fort Smith Regional Airport. (5:38). Crystal Lougin, professional marriage counselor at Baptist Health in Fort Smith, talks with Karen Pharis about the difficulties Covid 19 has brought to relationships. (5:31).

Wednesday, March 31-Erin Farrah and Niesha Smith of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Arkoma discuss the final phase of fundraising for the new Ronald McDonald House in Fort Smith. (5:47). Bethlehem Freewill Baptist Church Pastor Randall Ray invites listeners to drive through an Easter drama, "Risen: The Life of Christ." April 1, 2, 3. (4:15pm). Officer Robyn Shoptaw of the Fort Smith Police

Department gives details on the "Polar Plunge" fundraiser for Special Olympics in April.
