

Quarterly Issues Programs List

Townsquare Media Faribault-Owatonna

Stations: KRFO-AM, KRFO-FM, KDHL-AM, and KQCL-FM

January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024

SECTION I. Issues

- A) **Education:** Next to health care, education is likely the biggest concern for southern Minnesota families. Not just learning, but also everything else that surrounds and supports the learning opportunities in Minnesota schools.

- B) **Health:** Keeping their families healthy is likely the top priority of southern Minnesota parents and families. From challenges at long-term care facilities, to the health of Minnesota kids, healthcare is always a top point of concern.

- C) **Public Safety:** Many Minnesotans view the state as being less safe than it was just a few years ago. From law enforcement staffing issues, to an increase in violent crime – keeping themselves, their children, and families safe is always on the mind of Minnesotans.

- D) **Climate:** Climate and climate change are front and center for Minnesotans after experiencing one of the warmest and driest winters in recorded history. Weather extremes are more of an issue related to personal and property safety.

- E) **State Government:** Minnesotans are keenly aware that what happens in the state legislature has a direct impact on their lives and their bottom lines. This quarter also features the opening weeks of the 2024 state legislative session.

SECTION II – Responsive Programs

MINNESOTA MATTERS is a weekly locally produced public affairs program that discusses matters of importance to Minnesotans. Minnesota Matters runs every Sunday morning on **KRFO-AM, KRFO-FM, KDHL-AM** and **KQCL-FM** for 30 minutes from 6:00 am to 6:30 am.

1/7/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Health, State Government, Economy, Personal Finance, Education

Program Description: Discussed during the program, Radon Action Month and the risks associated with excess Radon in Minnesota households, a new law protecting Minnesota rental tenants, navigating student loans and debt, and a look at Minnesota's new laws going into effect with the new year.

1/14/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Hunger, State Government

Program Description: During the program there was a discussion regarding the continued high rate of use of food shelves across the state, a new book coming out next month that takes a in depth look at the Minnesota North Stars, a check-in with a University of Minnesota hockey team member, and look back to 25 years ago when Jesse Ventura was sworn in as Minnesota Governor.

1/21/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Civil Rights, State Government, Public Events

Program Description: During the program the hosts discussed the Minnesota-based Great American Think-Off's 2024 question, 'is freedom of speech worth the cost,' a sneak-peek of the 2024 Minnesota State Fair, the upcoming Big Ten Women's Basketball tournament coming to Minnesota, and a Minnesota case involving the violation of a pregnant woman's civil rights.

1/28/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Public Events, Health, Public Safety

Program Description: During the program the hosts discuss Minnesota's hosting of the 2024 Big Ten Men's Basketball tournament, the flu and COVID season in Minnesota, and the charging of a Minnesota state trooper with second degree murder.

2/4/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Education, Public Safety, Fire Safety, Climate

Program Description: This week's program included discussions regarding the University of Minnesota's expected announcement of its four finalists for president, and expected busy day for district court judges on Valentine's Day, a strong start to the season for the U of M Women's Gymnastics team, and a mild, dry winter in Minnesota has officials concerned about a growing wildfire danger.

2/11/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Climate

Program Description: The program continued the discussion of Minnesota's strange warm and dry winter, the University of Minnesota Women's Gymnastics team remains undefeated, and the operators of a historic northern Minnesota lodge vow to rebuild after a devastating fire.

2/18/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: State Government, Health

Program Description: This week's program included a discussion regarding the Minnesota Department of Health's confirmation of new cases of measles, a new University of Minnesota study suggests actual COVID deaths could be much higher than what is on record, a preview of the U of M baseball season, and this week's opening of the 2024 state legislative session.

2/25/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Education, Public Safety, State Government

Program Description: This week on the program discussions included the ongoing debate at the state capitol over the use of school resource officers in Minnesota, a new series on youth sports in Minnesota, and a discussion surrounding the shooting deaths of three Minnesota first responders this week.

3/3/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Mental Health, Health, Climate, Public Safety

Program Description: The program included discussions on 988 life centers continuing to connect with Minnesotans in crisis, the record-breaking Minnesota winter of 2023-2024, the continuing series on youth sports in Minnesota, and this week Minnesotans remembered and honored three first responders killed while in the line of duty last month.

3/10/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: State Government, Business, Health, Politics

Program Description: During the program the hosts discussed the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's encouragement of Minnesota businesses to hire Minnesotans with disabilities, the continuation of the flu season in Minnesota, the state's retailer associations highlight legislative priorities, and Minnesotans voted in this week's Super Tuesday primary.

3/17/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: State Government, Gambling, Personal Finance, Education, Public Safety

Program Description: During the program the hosts covered the sports betting bill that continues to move forward in the Minnesota legislature, ways to tackle mounting credit card debt, what leads to learning an essential skill, and the state legislature's decision on how to best address the use of school resource officers.

3/24/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: State Government, Gambling, Health, Agriculture, Natural Resources

Program Description: This week's program focuses on a bill to legalize sports betting in Minnesota, a baby goat in Minnesota tests positive for bird flu, unleaded 88 gasoline sales hit another state record, a preview of Minnesota's state fishing opener, and a recap of this week's news from the state capitol.

3/31/2024

Issue(s) Discussed: Education, State Government, Economy

Program Description: This week's program focuses on opening weekend of the Twin Cities Auto Show, the state education department is out with the latest graduation rates, Delta Airlines weighs in on a U.S. Department of Transportation decision that could affect their partnerships with Mexico, and the governor's state of the state address.