

Issues Programs List
Quarterly Issues Programs List
Station: KSSM-FM
October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Section I. Issues

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in this quarter.

A: COVID-19: The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has led to two elevations of the threat level in Bell County this quarter, and prompted the opening of more testing stations. Local health officials have advised Central Texans to limit the size of holiday gatherings, and have issued guidance on slowing the spread of the virus and bringing the infection and hospitalization rate down.

B: Food Insecurity: The economic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in food insecurity in Bell and surrounding counties. Local volunteer organizations and food banks have held free food distribution events to aid those in need, as well as volunteer and donation drives.

C: Homelessness: Homelessness was a cause for concern in Central Texas before the COVID-19 pandemic, and now more emphasis has been placed on helping those experiencing it receive food and supplies.

D: Veteran Relief and Support: Central Texas' military families have not been immune to the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Organizations such as Operation Phantom Support work to provide food, as well as financial and benefits assistance, to active duty and retired military in our area.

E: Domestic Violence Prevention: The State of Texas has launched a statewide protective order registry to make protective orders issued in domestic violence cases available to law enforcement agencies across Texas, as well as the public.

F: Traffic Safety: Over the past few years, there have been fatal incidents involving drivers not moving over or slowing their vehicle when approaching tow trucks, law enforcement vehicles, and stranded motorists on local roadways. The Killeen Police Department this quarter launched a week-long initiative to inform the public Texas' move over/slow down laws and enforce them.

Section II – Responsive Programming

KSSM-FM Quarterly Issues Programming Report

KSSM-FM provides listeners with programming and public service announcements that address issues of concern to our local community. Among the issues determined to be of most concern to the community during the months of October, November, and December of 2020.

Date	Time	Program	Description of Program/Issue	Duration	Issue
10/1/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The City of Killeen has reported more homicides in 2020 than in 2019. The majority of these cases have been linked to organized crime. Cortney and Melz shared tips from local law enforcement and community outreach groups on how people can protect themselves and safely report suspected gang activity in their neighborhood.	20 mins	Crime Prevention
10/1/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The City of Harker Heights is using federal COVID-19 relief funds to offer emergency small business grants to local business owners. Cortney and Melz provided information on how local business owners can qualify for the grants in order to preserve their business and protect employees from unemployment.	20 mins	COVID-19
10/2/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The Texas Department of Health and Human Services will set up a free COVID-19 testing station in Waco from October 7 through October 10. Cortney and Melz shared information on how listeners in the area can get preregistered, as well as information about eligibility, symptoms to be watching for, and safety expectations from both testers and visitors.	20 mins	COVID-19
10/5/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Today is the final day for Texans to register to vote. Cortney and Melz shared information on where and how people can get registered, as well as where and how people can vote early or on the day of the general election. They also shared information about COVID-19 safety protocols in place at Central Texas voting locations.	20 mins	Voter Registration
10/5/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Houston resident Keith Martin has been missing since September 20, and was last seen in the Killeen area. Police say he was beaten and robbed before disappearing. Cortney and Melz shared information about Martin provided by volunteer search group Guardian of the Missing, including information about contact authorities if Martin is spotted.	20 mins	Public Safety
10/5/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	No-knock warrants have been a highly controversial issue in Killeen after questions of their constitutionality and incidents of both police and suspects being injured as these warrants were served. After a 90-day suspension of the practice pending a review, the Killeen Police Department has resumed no-knock warrants, but with changes to the nature of the cases for which they'll be issued and how police will execute them. Cortney and Melz shared information on the department's new no-knock execution and public transparency policies.	20 mins	Public Safety
10/7/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The United States Food and Drug Administration has informed us of a voluntary recall by Coutnry Fresh of fruit products sold at Walmart and RaceTrac stores due to possible Listeria monocytogenes contamination. Cortney and Melz shared information about the recalled products and labels consumers who've bought them should look for as they check their refrigerators.	10 mins	Public Health
10/07/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Governor Greg Abbott has issued an executive order allowing bars in Texas to open at 50% capacity on October 14 after months of being closed. Bars may only open in counties with a COVID-19 hospitalization rate of 15% or less, and must follow strict capacity and health and safety protocols. Cortney and Melz shared information from the Bell County Public Health District and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission about what's expected from both bar owners and patrons.	20 mins	COVID-19

10/08/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Local poverty relief groups are seeking volunteers for Operation Feed the Need, which will distribute boxes of food to Bell County residents in need on October 17, 24, and 31 at the Harker Heights Events Center. Cortney and Melz shared information about how listeners can either volunteer to help or benefit from this event aimed at relieving food insecurity in Bell County.	20 mins	Food Insecurity
10/12/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Early voting for the general election starts today in Bell County. Cortney and Melz shared information on how, where, and when registered voters can cast their ballots, as well as health and safety protocols in place at local polling locations. This year, due to the pandemic, voters can cast their ballots at any polling location in Bell County - an important fact Cortney and Melz shared as well.	20 mins	Early Voting
10/13/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Local volunteer group IMpossible Paradigm Shifters has opened a new teen center in Killeen. The organization offers a number of after school IT and entrepreneurship programs, weekend activities, and mentorship programs for local youth, and they're seeking volunteer mentors. Cortney and Melz shared informatoin about the programs offered at IMpossible and how people can volunteer their time to help local students.	10 mins	Youth Mentorship
10/13/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The Texas Department of Health and Human Services will set up a free COVID-19 testing station in Killeen from October 13 through October 17. Cortney and Melz shared information on how listeners in the area can get preregistered, as well as information about elegibility, symptoms to be watching for, and safety expecations from both testers and visitors.	20 mins	COVID-19
10/14/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Following reports of electioneering at a local polling location, Bell County Judge David Blackburn has issued a countywide public reminder of what electioneering is and how voters can avoid it and report it. Cortney and Melz shared this information on the air with our audience.	10 mins	Electioneering
10/14/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The Texas Workforce Commission is reinstating a pre-COVID-19 requirements for unemployment benefits beginning November 1. The policy requires Texans to submit proof of 3 work searches or job skills learning courses per week. Cortney and Melz shared information on what applicants and those currently recieving unemployment benefits will need to do to meet this requirement while they search for employment.	20 mins	Unemployment
10/20/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The City of Temple is hosting a free household hazardous waste disposal event on October 24. Temple residents can drop off old chemicals, tires, batteries, and other potentially hazardous waste for safe and responsible disposal. Cortney and Melz shared information about the event and its benefits.	10 mins	Environmental Safety
10/21/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Volunteers with the Temple Homeless Task Force will be conducting a two-week count of homeless people in our area and surveying their needs and obstacles. Two local organizations involved in the program - Feed my Sheep and St. Vincent DePaul - are seeking volunteers to help in their efforts to combat homelessness in Central Texas, as well as increase community awareness of these programs and how those in need can benefit from them. Cortney and Melz shared this information on the air.	20 mins	Homelessness
10/23/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The Texas Department of Health and Human Services will set up a free COVID-19 testing station in Killeen from October 26 through November 6. Cortney and Melz shared information on how listeners in the area can get preregistered, as well as information about elegibility, symptoms to be watching for, and safety expecations from both testers and visitors.	20 mins	COVID-19

10/26/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	Early voting for the general election ends this week in Bell County. Cortney and Melz shared information on how, where, and when registered voters can cast their ballots early, as well as health and safety protocols in place at local polling locations.	20 mins	Early Voting
10/28/20	9AM-Noon, Noon-3PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks/Afternoons with Melz	The Central Texas Food Bank has scheduled free food distribution events in Waco and Temple November 5 and 7. Cortney and Melz shared information about when and where these events will take place, as well as how people can volunteer with or donate to the Central Texas Food Bank.	20 mins	Food Insecurity
11/2/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The State of Texas has launched a statewide protective order registry. The online database will make protective orders issued in domestic violence cases available to law enforcement agencies across Texas, making it easier for police to enforce them and more difficult for domestic abuse offenders to move to a new county and avoid obeying protective orders. Cortney shared information about the registry and how the public can also access it.	10 mins	Domestic Violence Prevention
11/3/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Bell County Sheriff's Office reports that someone pretending to be a deputy with the agency has been calling citizens and threatening them with arrest if they don't purchase Visa gift cards in order to pay a fictional fine. The imposter has also been requesting DNA samples. Cortney shared tips from the sheriff's department on detecting the scam and reporting it, as well as information about how law enforcement actually contacts people with outstanding warrants or fines.	10 mins	Crime Prevention
11/3/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Dr. Amanda Robison-Chadwell, Director of the Bell County Public Health District, anticipates a spike in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in Central Texas due to "COVID fatigue" and people gathering for the holidays. Cortney shared advice from Dr. Robison-Chadwell on how families can celebrate safely and help slow the spread of COVID-19 in Bell County.	10 mins	COVID-19
11/6/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Killeen chapter of No More Violence and City of Restoration Church have organized a community outreach event to provide food and supplies to homeless individuals in Bell County. The groups are seeking volunteers and donations, and are trying to get the word out to people who could benefit from the event. Cortney shared information about the event, including how people can participate and the items organizers need most.	10 mins	Homelessness
11/9/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Killeen Police Department is conducting a Move Over/Slow Down initiative this week to remind the public to move over and/or slow down when approaching and passing public safety workers, tow truck drivers, TxDOT personnel, and stranded motorists on local roadways. Cortney shared information about the initiative, including what drivers are expected to do and the fees and citations issued to those who fail to move over and slow down.	10 mins	Traffic Safety
11/9/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful and the City of Copperas Cove are hosting a free waste disposal event on November 21st aimed at keeping old chemicals, appliances, tires, and other bulk garbage from being dumped along roadways or in local bodies of water. Cortney shared details about the event and how these cleanup and collection events protect our local environment.	10 mins	Environmental Safety

11/10/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Bell County Public Health District has raised the COVID-19 threat level in response to significant uncontrolled community transmission in response to a spike in active local cases. Director Dr. Amanda Robison-Chadwell sent us information on the spread of the virus in Bell County, including the current hospitalization rate and advice on how individuals and families can help slow the spread of COVID-19 with the holidays approaching. Cortney discussed this information on the air.	10 mins	COVID-19
11/16/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Bell County Public Health District recently raised the COVID-19 threat level in response to significant uncontrolled community transmission in response to another local spike in active cases. Director Dr. Amanda Robison-Chadwell has issued public guidelines on slowing the spread of the virus during the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, including limiting the size of family gatherings and cancelling any unnecessary travel plans. Cortney discussed this information on the air.	10 mins	COVID-19
11/19/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Townsquare Media partners with Operation Phantom Support in Killeen each holiday season to raise toy donations for local military and first responder families. During this time, we share information with the public about the services the non-profit provides to military and first responder families in need in Bell County, such as a food pantry, thrift store, and workshops to help soldiers and their spouses find employment, integrate back into civilian life, and take advantage of government and private programs that help veterans receive their full benefits.	10 mins	Veteran Relief and Support
11/20/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Refuge Mobile Food Pantry is hosting a free food distribution event in Copperas Cove on November 21. Cortney shared information on how families in need can participate.	10 mins	Food Insecurity
11/24/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Central Texas Food Bank has scheduled free food distribution events in Waco and Temple December 3 and December 19. Cortney shared information about when and where these events will take place, as well as how people can volunteer with or donate to the Central Texas Food Bank.	10 mins	Food Insecurity
11/30/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	In response to cold weather rolling into Central Texas, the City of Killeen will be opening the Killeen Community Center as a warming station to benefit those without shelter at night. Cortney discussed this on the air.	10 mins	Homelessness
12/1/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The City of Killeen will use funds from the federal CARES Act to assist qualifying residents with their utility payments. Cortney shared information on how Killeen residents can apply for the program and which utilities are covered.	10 mins	COVID-19
12/3/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Temple Fire & Rescue has started a safety campaign titled Keep the Wreath Red to raise awareness of holiday fire hazards. They issued a news release with tips on how families can protect themselves and prevent fires during the holiday season. Cortney shared this information on the air.	10 mins	Fire Safety
12/3/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	Baylor Scott & White Medical Center's blood bank is extremely low, and they're in dire need of donations. Cortney shared information on why these blood donations are vital and how people can donate.	10 mins	Donating Blood

12/10/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Bell County Public Health District has again raised the COVID-19 threat level in response to severe uncontrolled community transmission after a significant spike in active local cases. Director Dr. Amanda Robison-Chadwell sent us information on the spread of the virus in Bell County, including the current hospitalization rate and advice on how individuals and families can help slow the spread of COVID-19 with the holidays approaching. Cortney discussed this information on the air.	10 mins	COVID-19
12/17/20	10 AM-2PM, 2 PM-6PM	Mid-Days with Cortney Hicks	The Texas Department of Health and Human Services will set up a free COVID-19 testing station in Killeen from December 21 through December 22. Cortney shared information on how listeners in the area can get preregistered, as well as information about eligibility, symptoms to be watching for, and safety expectations from both testers and visitors.	10 mins	COVID-19
12/20/20	5:30 AM	Kiss Community Connections with Phyllis Jones	Host Phyllis Jones was joined by Dr. Christine Mann to discuss the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in Central Texas and ways listeners can protect themselves and others as hospitalization rates climb.	30 minutes	COVID-19