

Issues and Programs List for July - September, 2020

From the News Department - all stories broadcast at 7:30 AM as well as other times

Coronavirus pandemic – “Governor Burgum raises risk levels for several counties”

Time: 3:45 Reporters: Danielle Webster and Dave Thompson. Aired Sept. 3rd and 4th.

Dakota Access Pipeline – “Federal judge orders Dakota Access Pipeline to shut down, pending an environmental review, and threatening to shut down much of the state’s oil exports”

Time: 4:13. Reporter: Dave Thompson. Aired July 6.

Coronavirus – “Cass County and state COVID numbers going up, and health officials are increasingly concerned”

Time: 3:17 Reporter: Todd McDonald Aired July 14th.

Wind power – “PSC working through siting opposition and lighting requirements”

Time: 4:00 Reporter: Dave Thompson. Aired Aug. 10th.

Farm economy – “Farmers still reeling after trade wars, delayed harvests and COVID-19 demand effects”

Time: 4:38 Reporter: Todd McDonald. Aired Sept. 14.

From *Main Street* - all broadcast at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Tuesday, July 7, 2020 - Adapting to life during a pandemic has been a particular challenge for agencies across the state that offer senior services. The demand for meals on wheels is up sharply, while the opportunities for social gatherings and other services have been curtailed.

Joining us is Brian Arett, director of Valley Senior Services. 18:00

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 - Two counties in North Dakota coal country have blocked the construction of wind farms. Joining us to discuss the tensions between coal advocates and those pushing for wind is Hazen mayor Jerry Obenauer. 15:00

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 - Andrew Skoogman, president of the Minnesota Police Chiefs Association, comments on initiatives to improve policing in the wake of the unrest that began with George Floyd’s death. 15:00

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 - It will be one of the nation’s most memorable elections this fall as we deal with ways to safely vote, mail-in-voting, and outside attempts to influence the outcome. Here to discuss the challenges is Al Jaeger, North Dakota Secretary of State, whose department is charged with running the state’s election. 25:00

Tuesday, August 18, 2020 - Next in our series of interviews with statewide candidates, we visit with Kirsten Baesler who is seeking re-election as the state superintendent of public instruction, a most challenging job during these stressful times. 20:00

Thursday, August 20, 2020 - Contact tracing is seen as a key strategy for containing the spread of the pandemic, but how effective is it? And what are the challenges? Are there privacy concerns? Do the tests come back quickly enough for tracing to be helpful? Are people cooperating? Joining us is Michelle Dethloff, a disease control expert with the North Dakota Department of Health. 15:00

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 - Counselors and therapists have seen a rise in demand during the pandemic, but is remote counseling as effective? Are there advantages? What has gotten worse for clients, and conversely, has there been any benefit as some people take a step back from their previous schedules? We visit with Carol Kapaun Ratchenski founded The Center for Compassion and Creativity, which offers both individual and couples counseling, as well as group experiences. 40:00

Monday, September 14, 2020 - The stress brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting our health. A new partnership between UND and Sanford health aims to expand healthcare offerings across the state. The first phase of that partnership -- the website, behavioralhealthbridge.org -- offers free mental and behavioral health resources. Ashley Thornberg spoke with Dr. Stephen Wonderlich vice president of Research at Sanford Health, and Dr. Andrew McLean, Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences. 40:00

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 - As part of our continuing interviews with statewide candidates, today we meet with Shelley Lenz, candidate for governor. 20:00

Wednesday, September 30, 2020 - In another candidate conversation, we discuss the issues confronting education with Brandt Dick, who is running for Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction. 20:00