# **Quarterly Issues Programs List**

# Townsquare Media Rochester License, LLC Stations: KFNL, KFIL-FM, KFIL-AM

April 1st, 2021 through June 30th, 2021

#### **SECTION I. Issues**

- **A) COVID-19** Minnesota's COVID-19 peacetime emergency has been extended through at least August 1<sup>st</sup> as the number of people receiving the vaccine increases. The latest update from the Minnesota Department of Health shows 3,040,505 Minnesotans have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose. Just over half the state's total population is now considered fully vaccinated (51.2 percent). Most COVID restrictions have been lifted across the state.
- **B)** Drug & Alcohol Abuse The number of Minnesotans who died from drug and alcohol overdoses rose sharply in 2020. According to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) a total of 1,008 people died from drug overdoses statewide in 2020, compared to 792 in 2019. That amounts to a 27% year-overyear increase. 992 Minnesotans died from alcohol use last year, a jump of 171 deaths compared to 2019.
- **C) Police Reform/Social Justice** George Floyd died as police tried to apprehend him on May 25<sup>th</sup> in 2020. The conversations on racial inequality and police brutality continued this year as the officer, Derek Chauvin, went on trial in March and was found guilty of murder in April. Another young black man, Duante Wright, was shot and killed during a traffic stop in April in Brooklyn Center.
- **D) Mental Health** The COVID-19 pandemic caused a tremendous amount of stress, fear and anxiety for many people. The Minnesota Department of Health has made it a priority to make sure Minnesotans have access to the mental health care resources they need to stay well. The MDH and other state agencies have been collaborating to raise awareness and ensure support is available to all.
- **E)** Minnesota Economy/Workforce Shortage –The percentage of Minnesotans, 16 and older, who are working hasn't been this low since June of 1978. It has dropped from 70.2 percent to 67.7 percent since 2020. This means there are approximately 112,000 fewer people in the workforce.

#### **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 KFNL between 7:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. and from 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM.

04/04/2021

**Issues Discussed:** Police Reform/Social Justice

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts are joined by Hamline Professor, David Schulz, to discuss the Derek Chauvin trial. The professor breaks down the complicated legal case and explains all three charges that the officer faces.

04/11/2021

**Issues Discussed:** Police Reform/Social Justice, COVID 19

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts are joined by former US attorney Tom Heffelfinger to analyze the Chauvin trial. Governor Walz and Minnesota Health Officials teamed up with Celeb Chef Andrew Zimmern for a "Roll Up Your Sleeves MN" campaign to connect food workers to COVID vaccines. Zimmern appeared on the program to discuss the program and explain how people can sign up.

# 04/18/2021

**Issues Discussed:** Police Reform/Social Justice

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts discuss the death of Daunte Wright. Wright, a 20-year-old black man was shot and killed by a police officer during a traffic stop in Brooklyn Center. The program also provides the latest on the Chauvin trial and the hosts are joined by Minnesota T-Wolves player Josh Okogie to discuss on social justice issues.

# 04/25/2021

Issues Discussed: Police Reform/Social Justice, Drug & Alcohol Abuse

**Program Description:** This week: The host discuss the Derek Chauvin verdict. The officer was found guilty on all three charges. Former US attorney Tom Heffelfinger joined the program to discuss the trial and explain what happens next in the legal process. The program also highlights reactions from Minnesota lawmakers including MN Governor Tim Walz who demanded change and additional police reform. Colin Planalp from the University of Minnesota also joined the program to discuss the alarming rise of alcohol related deaths – the rate of alcohol related deaths has doubled since 2016.

# 05/02/2021

**Issues Discussed:** Police Reform/Social Justice

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts are joined by Minnesota Attorney General, Keith Ellison, to discuss the Chauvin verdict. The show also provides an update on police reform legislation developments from the State Capitol.

## 05/09/2021

Issues Discussed: COVID-19, Drug & Alcohol Abuse

**Program Description:** This week: Bill Werner share MN Lawmakers' reactions on COVID-19 guideline updates and explained Governor Walz's 3-step plan to end COVID restrictions and plan to ramp up vaccinations. The hosts are joined with representatives from the State Health Department to discuss an alarming uptick in drug overdose deaths. The show provided information and advice on who to turn to for help for those that might be struggling with substance abuse.

# 05/16/2021

Issues Discussed: Mental Health

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts share a new report from the Minnesota Department of Public Health that shows that the number of suicide deaths were down in 2020. Dr Stephen Gingrich and Tanya Carter from the MDH joined the program to discuss the report and explain that the long-term trend of suicide deaths is still going up despite the one-year decrease. The duo also shared information on crisis hotlines.

# 5/23/2021

Issues Discussed: COVID-19, Minnesota Economy/Workforce Shortage

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts give an update on the Minnesota jobs rate. Minnesota's unemployment rate in April was 4.1%. Minnesota Jobs Commissioner Steve Grove appeared on the program and said he was a little encouraged that the state was performing a little better than the country but explained this is a tricky time coming out of the pandemic. Grove explained how he is working with workers and businesses with the goal to improve job growth each month. He explained the average wage rate in the state and how unemployment works.

# 05/30/2021

Issues Discussed: Police Reform/Social Justice, COVID 19

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts preview the upcoming special legislative session which could include additional police reform measures. Senate Majority Leader, Paul Gazelka, joined the program and said his party is open to more reform, but thinks there needs to be more police on the streets to curb violence. House Speaker Melissa Hortman appeared on the program and said gun violence prevention measures will help. The program also outlines Minnesota's new COVID vaccine incentive program which rewards Minnesotans for getting the shot.

# 06/06/2021

Issues Discussed: Minnesota Economy/Workforce Shortage

**Program Description:** This week: The are joined by Ben Wogsland from Hospitality Minnesota to discuss the debt that many businesses in our state took on during the pandemic and how this will be a multi-year challenge for these businesses to recover. Wogsland encouraged state lawmakers to step up and offer hospitality relief. Ben said over half of hospitality operators are in jeopardy of closing over the next 6-months because of the debt incurred during the pandemic.

# 06/13/2021

Issues Discussed: Police Reform/Social Justice, COVID 19

**Program Description:** This week: The hosts offer safe swimming tips from the Department of Natural Resources after a spike in drownings. Police reform legislation is also being discussed at the State Capitol, the hosts outline the proposals put forward by state republicans and democrats. Governor Tim Walz appeared to say he is optimistic that some of these reform measures will pass.

# 06/20/2021

**Issues Discussed:** Police Reform/Social Justice, COVID 19

**Program Description:** This week: Governor Walz extended his COVID-19 peacetime emergency order and this show featured reaction from state lawmakers. A special session to set the state's budget is happening at the State Capitol with one of the biggest sticking points being police reform. The hosts explained what the senate has agreed to and the additional measures the house is seeking.

# 06/27/201

**Issues Discussed:** Minnesota Economy/Workforce Shortage

**Program Description:** This week: Alyssa Hayes from Explore Minnesota joins the program to discuss 4<sup>th</sup> of July events and activities around the state. Hayes talks about the importance of supporting our local businesses as they try to recover from the pandemic. She encouraged listeners to stay home and support Minnesota businesses. The hosts explain how exploreminnesota.com is full of vacation destinations around the state.

# **MINNESOTA MILITARY RADIO**

In addition to the programs listed Minnesota Military Radio, a Veterans Affairs program, airs each Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM, and from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on KFNL. See attached program log.



#### MINNESOTA MILITARY RADIO

#### PROGRAM LOG – 2nd QUARTER 2021

Airing Each Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. on KFIL-AM and KFIL-FM, and from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on KFNL

With nearly 370,000 veterans and tens of thousands of guard and reserve troops, Minnesota is a state committed to supporting our friends and neighbors who serve in the military.

# 04/04/2021

This week we learn about Operation Safety Net from the Commander of the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division, Chief of the Minneapolis Police Department and the Minnesota State Patrol, meet with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs to talk about Minnesota Veterans Homes and get an update from the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Guests include:

- Maj. Gen. Mike Wickman 34th Red Bull Infantry Division
- Col. Mat Langer Minnesota State Patrol
- Chief Medaria Arradondo Minneapolis Police Department
- Doug Hughes Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs
- Greg Peterson Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers

# 04/11/2021

This week we discuss Veterans Week of Advocacy with the Minnesota Senate, Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Services, Disabled American Veterans, Department of Minnesota and the Commanders Task force. Guests include:

- Trent Dilks Disabled American Veterans, Department of Minnesota
- Rep. Rob Ecklund Minnesota House of Representatives
- Sen. Andrew Lang Minnesota State Senate
- Todd Kemery Commanders Task Force
- Brad Doboszenski Minneapolis VA Health Care System

#### 04/18/2021

This week we learn about the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs 9/11 and Global War on Terrorism Remembrance Task Force, get an update from the 2nd Battalion 135th Infantry Regiment from the Horn of Africa and meet with the MN Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Mariah Jacobsen 9/11 and Global War on Terrorism Remembrance Task Force
- Randell Dietrich 9/11 and Global War on Terrorism Remembrance Task Force
- Lt. Col. Chip Rankin 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment
- Tim Leonhardt Minnesota Patriot Guard

# 04/25/2021

This week we learn how Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is supporting the Minnesota National Guard during Operation Safety Net, get a construction update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System and meet with our Senior Enlisted Advisor. Guests include:

- Annette Kuyper Minnesota Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- Steve Challeen Minneapolis VA Health Care System
- Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Soper Minnesota National Guard

# 05/02/2021

This week we meet with the Commander of the 347th Regional Support Group and discuss unit capabilities, missions, activities and events. Learn about a new Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and get an update from the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Guests include:

- Col. Stephen Burggraff 347th Regional Support Group
- David Swantek Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- Greg Peterson Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers

# 05/09/2021

This week we meet with Federal Premium and discuss their impact on Veteran Service Organizations, learn how Shoot for the Troops is helping Military Families and get an update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. Guests include:

- Erik Carlson Federal Ammunition
- Brian Kelvington Federal Ammunition
- Dennis Angell Minnesota Military Family Foundation
- Ed Suarez Shoot for the Troops
- Amanda Othoudt Shoot for the Troops
- Brad Doboszenski Minneapolis VA Health Care System

#### 05/16/2021

This week we check in with the Commander of the American Legion Department of Minnesota, learn about the Minnesota National Guard's Survivor Outreach Program and get an update from the Minnesota Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Commander Mark Dvorak The American Legion Department of Minnesota
- Amanda Schwarzkopf Survivor Outreach Services
- Doug Wortham Minnesota Military Radio
- Doug Bley Minnesota Patriot Guard

# 05/23/2021

This week we meet with the Minneapolis VA Health Care System to discuss a new study aimed at helping Veterans in pain, learn about Hennepin County becoming a Beyond the Yellow Ribbon County and get an update from our Senior Enlisted Advisor. Guests include:

- Dr. Diana Burgess Minneapolis VA Health Care System
- Neil Doyle Hennepin County Veteran Services
- Owen Rice Hennepin County Deputy Sheriff
- Annette Kuyper Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- Jason Burley Minnesota Military Radio
- Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Soper Minnesota National Guard

# 05/30/2021

This week we check in with Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America, meet with the Navy League of Minnesota and get an update from the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Guests include:

- President Todd Kemery Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Brian Skon Navy League of Minnesota
- Doug Wortham Minnesota Military Radio
- Greg Peterson Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers

# 06/06/2021

This week we meet with Congressman Tom Emmer to discuss Veteran Legislation, learn about Higher Education and Employment programs from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and get an update from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. Guests include:

- Rep. Tom Emmer United States House of Representatives
- David Bellefeuille Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- Director Patrick Kelly Minneapolis VA Health Care System

## 06/13/2021

This week we meet with a WWII Veteran from the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division, discuss Veteran Homelessness with Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans and get an update from the MN Patriot Guard. Guests include:

- Don Halverson 34th Red Bull Infantry Division
- Jon Lovald Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans
- Tim Leonhardt Minnesota Patriot Guard

# 06/20/2021

This week we learn about Recreational Therapy and the PGA HOPE program from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, meet with the Director of Psychological Health from the Minnesota National Guard and get an update from our Senior Enlisted Advisor. Guests include:

- Casey Gunderson Minneapolis VA Health Care System
- Benny Menton PGA HOPE Minnesota
- Danella Breitenfeldt Minnesota National Guard
- Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Brian Soper Minnesota National Guard

## 06/27/2021

This week we meet with the Battalion Commander of the 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 194th Armor, learn about Higher Education Veteran Centers from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and get an update from the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Guests include:

- Lt. Col. Jacob Helgestad 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 194th Armor
- Ed Godfrey Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs
- Greg Peterson Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers