

AD ASTRA PER ASPERA BROADCASTING, INC.
QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST
3RD QUARTER 2021
JULY 1-SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

LUCKY KIDD, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

FOCUS ON KANSAS

A weekly public affairs program aired Sunday mornings starting at 6 AM. Typical program length is between 40 and 45 minutes depending on the number of topics and length of interviews. The typical length is extended when needed, with the full 6-7 AM hour available.

Within this program is Kansas Profile, a five minute program produced by the Huck Boyd Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University which focuses on people and organizations making a difference in rural Kansas. Also included most weeks (subject to pre-emption) is The Wheat Scoop, a three minute program produced by Kansas Wheat (a collaboration of the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers) discussing various agricultural topics focusing on wheat production, marketing and use. Two of the five largest wheat producing counties in Kansas are located within the Ad Astra Radio coverage area.

During April and May Ad Astra Radio aired a series of special COVID-19 reports four times each day Monday through Friday (10 AM, 1, 4 and 7 PM). Due to the sharp decline in the number of COVID cases in the area (including minimal numbers in some of the smaller counties in our area including Rice County) starting in June this information was provided entirely within scheduled newscasts as noted below.

Local newscast schedules are as follows

KNZS

Monday-Saturday 6:20, 7:20 and 8:20 AM

Monday-Friday 11:20 AM, 12:20, 4:20 and 5:20 PM

KSKU

Same as KNZS except no Saturday newscasts

KWHK

Monday-Friday 5:40, 6:00, 6:40, 7:00, 7:40, 8:00, 8:40 and 11:40 AM; 12:00, 4:40, 5:00 and 5:40 PM

Saturday 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00 AM

Sunday 7:00 and 8:00 AM

KXKU

Same as KWHK except no Sunday newscasts

ISSUES FOR THE 3RD QUARTER 2020

Issues related to COVID-19 and the local response to it continued to be the single biggest issue in the area during this quarter. This also included various impacts on individuals along with safety measures, including those for the 2021 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, which is the largest single gathering of people in the state outside of sports events in the Kansas City metro area.

Another issue covered was the aftermath of February's sudden spike in natural gas prices. In addition to regular news coverage of developments, one Focus on Kansas program was devoted to an overview of the situation as it applied to 49 Kansas cities owning their own gas systems that are part of a gas buying consortium including several area cities including Lyons, Moundridge and Partridge among others.

Another issue which was dealt with in two Focus on Kansas programs was a proposal to expand the size of the Reno County Commission from three to five members. This was previously talked about several years back but came to the forefront in the past year and a half in the wake of a severe illness of one of the Commissioners who passed away in the fall of 2020. This left the Commission in a situation where if one member was absent no business could be conducted. The proposal will be on the November 2021 election ballot.

Other issues covered during the month included

- Education
- Personal finance
- Community and cultural activities
- Legislative redistricting
- Agriculture
- Food safety
- Poverty awareness

During this quarter, one of the Kansas profile programs featured Daniel Friesen of Buhler, who as a high school student founded a company that became IdeaTek, which has grown into a significant internet provider in rural Kansas with considerable growth in the past 18 months providing reliable high speed internet for the first time to a number of communities. Friesen has also been involved in many community activities, having served as mayor Buhler and currently as a Reno County Commissioner.

FOCUS ON KANSAS PROGRAMS FOR 3RD QUARTER 2021

7-4 THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM LOOKED IN DEPTH AT A PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE SIZE OF THE RENO COUNTY COMMISSION FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS. A SIMILAR PROPOSAL HAD BEEN LOOKED AT IN 2015 BUT COMMISSIONERS AT THAT TIME DECLINED TO TAKE ACTION. THE PROPOSAL LATER IN JULY WAS PLACED ON THE NOVEMBER 2021 BALLOT BY COMMISSIONERS. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY CLIMATOLOGIST MARY KNAPP DISCUSSED THE POTENTIAL FOR HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS AND RECOMMENDATION TO DEAL WITH IT.

7-11 BUHLER HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER SAMANTHA NEILL DISCUSSED HER PARTICIPATION AS A MILLIKEN FELLOW IN A RECENT PROGRAM FOR HIGH PERFORMING EDUCATORS SPONSORED BY THE MICHAEL MILLIKEN FOUNDATION. (NEILL IS A PAST KANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR) KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES SPECIALIST SHAROLYN JACKSON DISCUSSED ADAPTATION OF RECIPES MANY PEOPLE HAVE DUG OUT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AS PEOPLE WERE EATING AT HOME MUCH MORE OFTEN.

7-18 RENO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR KARLA NICHOLS AND HEALTH OFFICER KAREN HAMMERSMITH PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON INCREASED COVID-19 CASE NUMBERS THAT HAS BEEN SEEN IN MANY AREAS OF THE COUNTRY THAT WAS STARTING TO APPEAR IN CENTRAL KANSAS. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST ELIZABETH KISS DISCUSSED WAYS TO REPLENISH EMERGENCY SAVINGS IN THE WAKE OF WHAT HAS GONE ON DURING THE PAST YEAR OR SO OF COVID-19.

7-25 THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM FEATURED KANSAS MUNICIPAL GAS AGENCY GENERAL MANAGER PAUL MAHLBERT AND GAS BUYER DIXIE RIEDEL WHO PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION INVOLVING A SHARP SPIKE IN NATURAL GAS PRICES DURING A SEVERE COLD SNAP IN FEBRUARY. KMGA IS A GROUP OF 49 KANSAS CITIES, INCLUDING LYONS, MOUNDRIDGE, PARTRIDGE AND OTHERS IN THE LOCAL AREA THAT PROCURES GAS SUPPLIES FOR MEMBER CITIES, SOME OF WHICH PRODUCE GAS FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC GENERATIONS.

8-1 THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM FEATURED RENO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR KARLA NICHOLS, WHO DISCUSSED WITH RENO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS GOING FORWARD DUE TO INCREASES IN COVID-19 CASES OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, PARTLY TIED TO THE DELTA VARIANT, THE LOCAL IMPACT ON WHICH HAS NOT YET REACHED WHAT IS BEING SEEN IN OTHER AREAS. THE PROGRAM ALSO FEATURED A PRESENTATION OF THE SHAPE AWARD BY THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO LYONS USD 405, THE FIRST SCHOOL DISTRICT IN KANSAS TO EVER BE HONORED FOR THEIR WORKPLACE SAFETY ACTIVITIES.

8-8 WALLET HUB ANALYST JILL GONZALEZ DISCUSSED A RECENT STUDY THEY CONDUCTED ON EQUITABILITY OF SCHOOL FUNDING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT FUNDING RECEIVED AND HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS. KANSAS RANKED 10TH NATIONALLY AS BEING MOST EQUITABLE IN FUNDING, AND FAIRFIELD USD 310 IN WESTERN RENO COUNTY WAS RATED THE MOST EQUITABLY FUNDED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF 286 IN KANSAS. MICHAEL LIZARDE FROM MIDWAY MOTORS HUTCHINSON DISCUSSED A FUNDRAISER THEY ORGANIZED TO ASSIST CLAYTON EVANS, A TEACHER AND COACH AT HUTCHINSON HIGH SCHOOL WHO SUSTAINED A SEVERE SPINAL INJURY IN JUNE WHICH HAS BEEN GROWING LARGER AND LARGER AS IT APPROACHED. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY CHILD DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST BRADFORD WILES TALKED ABOUT BACK TO SCHOOL ANXIETY. THIS PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDED INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS IN THE AMERICAN SOLAR CHALLENGE RACE FEATURING COLLEGE TEAMS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY DRIVING SOLAR POWERED VEHICLES FROM INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI TO LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO FOLLOWING THE SANTA FE TRAIL WHICH MARKS IT'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2021. THOSE INTERVIEWED INCLUDED BILLY BROOKE FROM PRINCIPALIA COLLEGE (IL) AND SYDNEY KIM FROM MIT, ALONG WITH LINDA COLLE FROM THE QUIVIRA CHAPTER OF THE SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION WHICH WAS INVOLVED IN AN OVERNIGHT STOP IN MCPHERSON.

8-15 THE PROGRAM INCLUDED COMMENTS FROM AREA RESIDENTS WHO ADDRESSED THE KANSAS LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE WHEN IT HELD A HEARING IN HUTCHINSON AUGUST 11TH. THOSE SPEAKERS INCLUDED HUTCHINSON NAACP PRESIDENT CALVIN WRIGHT, RENO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEMBER DENISE BRODSKY, CUNNINGHAM AREA FARMER AND RETIRED EDUCATOR ALAN ALBERS, MEDFORD HOLMES OF PLEVNA, CLIMATE AND ENERGY PROJECT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DOROTHY BARNETT, ANTHONY FRISCHENMEYER FROM PRARIE INDEPENDENT LIVING RESOURCE CENTER, AND HUTCHINSON RESIDENT VICTORIA VALOSKIS. CHUCK WELCH, VICE PRESIDENT FOR HUTCHINSON REGIONAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT THE HOSPITAL IS CURRENTLY FACING IN

CONNECTION WITH COVID-19, INCLUDING STAFFING ISSUES AND FREQUENT CONTACTS FROM OTHER HOSPITALS LOOKING FOR PLACES TO HOUSE COVID-19 CASES.

8-22 THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM FEATURED A TOWN HALL MEETING WITH FIRST DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN TRACEY MANN (R-SALINA) WHO DISCUSSED THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN WASHINGTON AND HEARD COMMENTS FROM CONSTITUENTS, WITH THE BULK OF THE DISCUSSION CENTERING ON COVID-19 AND ISSUES INVOLVING VACCINES FOR IT.

8-29 LISA GLEASON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED WAY OF RENO COUNTY, DISCUSSED THE UPCOMING 2021-22 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN. AS PART OF THE DISCUSSION, GLEASON PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES UNITED WAY WAS INVOLVED WITH DURING THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC INCLUDING THE RALLY RENO GROUP UNITED WAY HELPED COORDINATE THAT PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO MANY PEOPLE IMPACTED BY THE COVID PANDEMIC. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY CLIMATOLOGIST MARY KNAPP DISCUSSED THE ROLE DATA COLLECTION PLAYS IN BOTH RESEARCH AND EVERYDAY LIFE. KNAPP HAS SPENT MANY DECADES IN THE FIELD, AND IS RETIRING FROM THIS POSITION AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

9-5 BRYAN SCHULZ, THE NEW GENERAL MANAGER OF THE KANSAS STATE FAIR, DISCUSSED UPCOMING PLANS FOR THE FAIR, WHICH WAS NOT HELD IN 2020 DUE TO COVID-19. HE REVIEWED SOME OF THE CHANGES FOR THE FAIR AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR THE 10 DAY EVENT AND GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND WHICH INCLUDED LONG-TIME MANAGEMENT OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY FAIR IN NORTH DAKOTA AND HIS MANAGEMENT OF AN EVENT CENTER IN ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE COVID PANDEMIC. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST ELAINE JOHANNES AND JAMES ROBERSON, VICE PRESIDENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR KVC HOSPITALS, DISCUSSED THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

9-12 US SENATORS JERRY MORAN AND ROGER MARSHALL AND FORMER US SENATOR PAT ROBERTS DISCUSSED THE CURRENT POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SITUATIONS IN THE COUNTRY, REPRESENTED IN A THE VERY SHARP POLITICAL DIVIDES IN CONGRESS, AGRICULTURAL ISSUES, AND THE AFGHANISTAN SITUATIONS. THE SENATORS PARTICIPATED IN AN ANNUAL KANSAS FARM BUREAU LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST HELD DURING THE KANSAS STATE FAIR WHERE SENATOR ROBERTS WAS HONORED FOR HIS LONG SERVICE TO KANSAS AND TO AGRICULTURE, WHICH INCLUDED CHAIRING BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES.

9-19 RENO COUNTY COMMISSIONER RON SELLERS DISCUSSED A PROPOSAL THAT WILL BE VOTED ON IN THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION TO EXPAND THE SIZE OF THE RENO COUNTY COMMISSION FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS. THE PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN DISCUSSED OFF AND ON FOR A NUMERE OF YEARS, WITH A SIMILAR PROPOSAL CONSIDERED BUT NOT ADOPTED IN 2015. OSCAR GOMEZ OF THE SW BRICKTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD IN HUTCHISON DISUSSED THE FIESTA THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS HOLDING SEPTEMBER 25TH AS PART OF HISTORIC HERITAGE MONTH. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY NUTRITION SPECIALIST SANDY PROCTOR DISCUSSED ISSUES INVOLVING SAEPLY PREPARING FROZEN FOODS, ESPECIALLY NOT READY TO EAT FROZEN CHICKEN PRODUCTS THAT ARE VERY POPULAR FOR BOTH QUICK DINNERS AND SNACKS.

9-26 RACHEL PITTMAN, A VISTA VOLUNTEER WORKING WITH THE UNITED WAY OF RENO COUNTY, DISCUSSED A POVERTY SIMULATION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 11TH, WHERE GROUPS OF PEOPLE WILL GO THROUGH SCENARIOS OFTEN FACED BY PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY. DR. TYLER HUGHES, A PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND FOR MANY YEARS A FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN IN MCPHERSON, DISUSSED THE IMPACTS OF COVIOD-19 ON HEALTH CARE AND THE DEEP DIVISIONS EXISTING ON VARIOUS PREVENTITIVE MEASURES. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AGING SPECIALIST ERIN YELLAND TALKED ABOUT THE THEORY OF HAVING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON AGING ADDING SIGNIFICANTLY TO A PERSON'S LIFE SPAN.