

## **FCC Public Issues & Programs List: Third Quarter 2022**

### Contents:

- (A) Legend/map key for abbreviations
- (B) Summary of major news stories, features, interviews, forums and debates regarding state, area and local issues\* for

**JULY 2022**  
**AUGUST 2022**  
**SEPTEMBER 2022**

\*Enclosed is a listing of some of the significant issues to which Kansas Public Radio (KANU-Lawrence 91.5 FM, KANH-Emporia 89.7 FM, KANV-Olsburg/Junction City 91.3 FM, and KANQ-Chanute 90.3 FM) responded, along with some of the most significant programming treatments of those issues for the period of time specified. This listing is by no means exhaustive, and a more complete, detailed listing can be found in the official KANU news archives. The order in which the issues appear has no significance, and does not reflect any particular priority for these stories.

**TOPIC CODE**

**AG** – Agriculture

**AR** – Arts & Entertainment

**CR** – Crime

**ECO** – Economy & Business

**ED** – Education

**ENV** – Environment

**HE** – Health

**HI** -- History

**HS** – Human Sexuality

**KU** – University of Kansas-related story

**MI** – Military-related story

**POL** – Kansas Government & Politics

**RE** – Religion

**RR** – Race Relations

**SP** – Sports

**WX** – Weather-related story

**FORMAT CODE**

**R** – Report

**C** – Commentary

**PROGRAM CODE**

**ME** – Morning Edition

**ATC** – All Things Considered

**WE** -- Weekend Edition

## **KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR JULY 2022**

1. Suzanne Perez reported on the continuing teacher shortage in Kansas. New research indicates that the problems with retention and recruitment stem not so much from low pay, but from frustration and stress.  
(KNS-BURNOUT.wav) – aired 07-05-22 – ATC/R – length: 4:01 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm  

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**ED/ECO**
  
2. Commentator Scott Carlberg discussed the potential of nuclear power generation as more Americans are embracing cleaner, renewable energy sources. About 80% of the power generated in the U.S. still comes from fossil fuels. While reservations remain about nuclear power and its safety, technologies have advanced dramatically in recent years, and more analysts are now discussing the possibility of small nuclear power generating stations as alternatives to facilities that produce more greenhouse gases.  
(SC-NUKE-EM2.wav) – aired 07-11-22 – ATC/C – length: 3:14 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm  

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**ECO/ENV/HE**
  
3. Dylan Lysen and Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service discussed the fine line walked by Kansas churches in the run-up to a vote on a possible constitutional amendment that would open the door to banning abortion outright in the state. Churches can advocate for passage or defeat in a general sense, and can discuss the theological and moral issues surrounding abortion, but because there are specific regulations on political advocacy that could threaten their tax-exempt status, they're under close scrutiny.  
(KNS-2WAYABO.wav) – aired 07-13-22 – ME/R – length: 3:54 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am  

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**POL/REL**
  
4. Jim McLean spoke with Kansas Lieutenant Governor and state Commerce Secretary David Toland about the announcement that Kansas has landed a deal with the Panasonic Corporation as the new home of a \$4 billion facility for the manufacture of batteries for use in electric cars. It's expected to bring thousands of high-paying jobs to western Johnson County. It's a big win for the state, but there are many questions about the manner in which the deal was secured. Still most uncertainty surrounds the timeframe for the project's completion, and how the state will complete the infrastructure that will be necessary to support such a huge enterprise.  
(JM-TOLAND.wav) – aired 07-18-22 – ATC/R – length: 3:56 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm  

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**ECO**
  
5. Celia Llopis-Jepsen and Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service discussed a new study showing a distinct racial disparity in Kansas when it comes to the

accrual of medical debt. Medical debt default and difficulty disproportionately affects people of color in the state. The ripple-effect of debt default reaches far into day-to-day life for many of the people who find themselves with few options after accruing massive medical bills.

(CLJ-MEDDEBT.wav) – aired 07-19-22 – ME/R – length: 3:51 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**HE/ECO**

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6. Greg Echlin reported on the induction of Negro Leagues Baseball legend John “Buck” O’Neil into National Baseball Hall of Fame. Long a beloved figure in Kansas City, O’Neil’s path to the Hall of Fame was delayed until after his death...but his impact on the game is still felt by coaches, players and fans. (GE-BUCK.wav) – aired 07-22-22 – ME/R – length: 3:51 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**SP/RR**

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7. Dylan Lysen of the Kansas News Service provided an in-depth report on the pending amendment that would change the right to privacy currently guaranteed by the state constitution. The amendment explicitly states that abortion is not covered by that right to privacy. Passage of the amendment would open the door to the Kansas Legislature passing laws that could include draconian restrictions on abortions, up to and including a complete ban. Groups supporting its passage are mostly silent on the possibility of a pending ban; groups opposing its passage are very vocal about that possibility. (KNS-LYSEAB.wav) – aired 07-25-22 – ATC/R – length: 3:47 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 5:44 pm

**POL/RE/CR/HE**

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8. Kaye McIntyre spoke with education scholar Bruce Baker about public school finance, and why that issue dominated state politics for so many years in Kansas. (2022-07-24-22-bruce-baker.wav) – aired 07-24-22 – KPR Presents – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6 pm

**ED/POL/ECO**

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9. Kaye McIntyre hosted a discussion of the book “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Wisdom of Plants.” The book by Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer was the KU Common Book read for 2021. (2022-07-31-22-braiding) -- aired 07-31-22 – KPR Presents – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6 pm

## **KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 2022**

1. Blaise Mesa of the Kansas News Service reported on staffing problems that continue to plague Kansas law enforcement agencies. Pay rates and the inherent danger of the positions have hampered recruitment efforts and there are not enough applicants to fill available positions. The short-handedness of departments has meant that officers and support staff are forced to work overtime, and vacations are often postponed or cancelled. It's not clear what can be done to solve the problem.

(KNS-LEOSTAFF.wav) -- aired 08-02-22 – ATC/R -- length: 3:48 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**ECO/CR**

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2. David Condos reported on the unlikely draw of western Kansas as a prime site for paleontologists. 80 million years ago, western Kansas was covered by a massive body of water. That means the area is an excellent spot for finding fossilized remains of aquatic plant and animal life. The entire region has become a major draw for paleontologists and paleobotanists.

(KNS-WKPALEO.wav) -- aired 08-10-22 – ME/R -- length: 4:13 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**ENV/ECO/KU**

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3. Documentarian Dave Kendall and KPR commentator Rex Buchanan have produced a new program on the effects of climate change in the Great Plains. They spoke with Doug Kluck, the regional director of climate services for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(DK-CLIMATE1.wav) -- aired 08-12-22 – ATC/R -- length: 3:49 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**ENV/ECO/AG**

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4. Celia Llopis-Jepsen and Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service discussed the possible environmental impact of a new electric battery production plant on Johnson County and northeastern Kansas. The Panasonic Corporation has announced plans to locate a plant in the area as part of its plans to dramatically increase production of electric batteries for “greener” cars. But despite the need for cleaner forms of transportation, there are also concerns about the environmental costs that come with producing the batteries that will power the next generation of automobiles.

(KNS-CARBATT.wav) -- aired 08-17-22 – ME/R -- length: 4:00 – airtimes: 6:35am, 7:45am

**ENV/ECO**

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5. KPR's Laura Lorson spoke with University of Kansas assistant professor Allison Kirkpatrick about her work for the teams analyzing data from the James Webb Space Telescope. The huge amount of data being sent back to Earth from the

telescope is challenging many of the theories that physicists and astronomers have been relying on for decades to explain the way the universe developed.

(KIRK-WEBB2.wav) -- aired 08-18-22 – ATC/R -- length: 4:21 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

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**KU/ED**

6. KPR's Tom Parkinson spoke with blues musician Kelley Hunt about an upcoming benefit performance for the Jayhawk Theatre in Topeka. The theater first opened in 1926, but fell into disrepair by the mid-1970s. A group of volunteers formed a non-profit organization to restore the theater and Hunt's performance is part of an effort to raise funds and awareness for the project.  
(TP-KELJAY-2.wav) -- aired 08-19-22 – ME/R -- length: 2:45 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

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**AR/ECO**

7. Jim McLean of the Kansas News Service spoke with University of Kansas political scientist Patrick Miller about the anti-abortion constitutional amendment that was rejected by Kansas voters earlier this (August) month. The amendment would have cleared the way for greater restrictions on abortion in Kansas and possibly opened the door to an outright ban. The rejection of the amendment came as a surprise to much of the national news media. McLean and Miller examined what analysts have learned about the Kansas electorate, and what it all might mean for the upcoming fall elections.  
(JM-MILL2WAY.wav) -- aired 08-23-22 – ATC/R -- length: 3:58 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

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**POL**

8. Rose Conlon reported on the reasons abortion access is still difficult to access in the state of Kansas, despite the recent rejection of an amendment to the Kansas Constitution that could have led to an abortion ban. Despite the legality of abortion in Kansas, abortion procedures continue to be tightly restricted, and Kansans' access to abortion care is further squeezed by the influx of people seeking abortion services from neighboring states that have completely outlawed the procedures.  
(RC-POSTVOTE.wav) -- aired 08-24-22 – ATC/R -- length: 4:09 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

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**HE/POL**

9. NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Len Dawson died at the age of 87. Dawson was quarterback for the Kansas City Chiefs, and became a noted broadcaster in his years after his football career. Sports reporter Greg Echlin provided a remembrance of Dawson's career and impact in the Kansas City region. (GE-DAWSONDIES.wav) -- aired 08-24-22 -- ATC/R -- length: 3:26 -- airtimes: 3:50pm, 5:50pm

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**SP**

10. Dylan Lysen and Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service discussed the possibility that conservative lawmakers could still further restrict abortion in Kansas via legislative means. In the upcoming elections, many representatives and state senators pursuing a far more conservative agenda than the general state population are running unopposed. There's also a retention election for Kansas Supreme Court justices, and a change in the ideological makeup of the court could lead to another opportunity for abortion opponents to counter the results of the recent vote that defeated a proposed anti-abortion amendment to the Kansas Constitution. (KNS-LYSENABO.wav) -- aired 08-25-22 -- ME/R -- length: 3:58 -- airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

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**POL/HE**



## **KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2022**

1. Will Bauer reported on recent shifts in the labor force doing the job of detasseling corn. It's a job that has been traditionally given to teenagers, but in recent years, agriculture companies and farm managers have been changing how they advertise and recruit for the jobs in order to attract more migrant workers.  
(MIDWEST-DETASS.wav) – aired 09-05-22 – ATC/R – length: 4:25 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 5:44pm

**AG/ECO**

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2. Celia Llopis-Jepsen and Blaise Mesa discussed the problem of abandoned oil and gas wells in Kansas. The abandoned machinery and the physical wells themselves can be hazardous and can pollute groundwater. But many of the companies that put the wells into service no longer exist. The federal government has now allocated billions of dollars to help states clean up the mess.  
(KNS-OILWELL2.wav) -- aired 09-08-22 – ME/R – length: 3:51 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**ECO/ENV/HE**

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3. Xcaret Nuñez reported for Harvest Public Media on the problems facing rural veterinarians. They often are paid less than urban practitioners, take on more work, and are saddled with thousands of dollar in debt from veterinary school. There are now several efforts being staged to attract and keep veterinarians in rural areas and to keep them in the industry.  
(HPM-RURVET.wav) – aired 09-09-22 – ME/R – length: 3:58 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**AG/ECO/ED**

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4. Carlos Moreno reported on concerns surrounding a proposed solar power farm in Johnson County. People seem to like the idea of generating cleaner, renewable energy...but no one seems keen on having a large solar panel array anywhere near them due to property value and aesthetics concerns.  
(KNS-SOFARM.wav) – aired 09-16-22 – ATC/R -- length: 4:08 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**ECO/ENV**

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5. Blaise Mesa reported on problems that have arisen with the health care provided to prison inmates. The state of Kansas says it is satisfied with its new prison health care contractor, but inmates say the care is actually of such poor quality that it is threatening their health. Mesa collaborated with the Topeka Capital-Journal for this investigative report.  
(BM-PRISONMED.wav) – aired 09-20-22 – ME/R – length: 4:00 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

**HE/CR/ECO**

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6. Emporia State University has announced that it is laying off dozens of employees, including tenured faculty. The ramifications of that move have educators, students, and alumni alarmed about the future of ESU as a teaching institution. Suzanne Perez of the Kansas News Service spoke with Stephen Koranda about what led to this situation, and what the next steps will be for faculty, staff, and students.

(KNS-ESU2WAY.wav) – aired 09-21-22 – ATC/R – length: 4:02 – airtimes: 4:44pm, 6:44pm

**ED/ECO/POL**

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7. KPR’s Laura Lorson spoke with author, record executive, and musician Nabil Ayers. Ayers has written a book about his childhood and young adulthood called “My Life in the Sunshine: Searching for My Father and Discovering My Family.” Ayers gave a talk at the Lawrence Public Library about the book and its themes of inclusivity, family, and self-discovery.

(LPL-AYERS2.wav) – aired 09-22-22 – ATC/R – length: 3:42 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**AR/RR/RE**

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8. Laura Spencer reported on the legacy of aviator Amelia Earhart in the town of Atchison. A new museum honoring her achievements in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century is set to open in 2023. It features interactive exhibits, history lessons, and a Lockheed Electra cockpit for visitors to experience.

(KCUR-EARHART.wav) – aired 09-23-22 – ME/R – length: 4:01 – airtimes: 6:45am, 8:45am

**HI/ECO/AR**

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9. Dylan Lysen of the Kansas News Service spoke with editor Stephen Koranda about the reasoning behind a proposed constitutional amendment that will appear on the ballot in November. It would allow the Kansas Legislature to override policy decisions made by the governor. This would be a fundamental change to the design of the state’s political process and would upend the state’s governmental separation of powers.

(KNS-REGS2WAY.wav) – aired 09-23-22 – ATC/R – length: 3:55 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**POL**

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10. Rex Buchanan, director emeritus of the Kansas Geological Survey, provided his thoughts on the looming water crisis in Western Kansas. The state's farming and livestock industries are dependent upon vast amounts of water, and the underground aquifer supplying that water is strained. Buchanan has been measuring water well levels for years, and he says there's good reason to be very concerned. He says that it's well past time to make plans for a future that can't utilize the Ogallala Aquifer in the same ways.  
(RB-WATERCRISIS2.wav) – aired 09-21-22 – ATC/C – length: 3:44 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

**ENV/AG/POL/ECO**