Academic Affairs

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Additional information: Copies of KMUW’s annual reports can be found here: http://kmuw.org/publications
Two weeks ago, a massive wildfire spread into Kansas from northern Oklahoma. It left behind more than 600 square miles of blackened land in its wake.
Responders from dozens of state and local agencies battled the fire as it burned out of control for several days. Many of the emergency responders in Barber County, Kansas, were volunteers who were trying to protect their own homes, those of their neighbors, and their herds of cattle. KMUW’s Sean Sandefur toured some of the damage with a man who’s been fighting Kansas wildfires for 25 years.

A new wind energy project announced today by Gov. Sam Brownback is one of 10 now under construction in Kansas.

The Cimarron Bend project in Clark County will add another 200 wind turbines to the rural landscape in southwest Kansas. But the power produced there will be used by the tech giant Google and the Board of Public Utilities in Kansas City, Kansas.

BPU general manager Don Gray says wind power has gotten much cheaper in recent years.

'Aye In The Sky' Will Keep You Guessing

The new drone warfare thriller Eye in the Sky is not only a first-rate suspenser but almost a police procedural about the use of drones in assassination attempts, with big drones the size of small airplanes, little drones the size of birds, and tiny drones the size of junebugs.
League Of Women Voters Joins Federal Suit On Citizenship Law

By ASSOCIATED PRESS • 5 HOURS AGO

The League of Women Voters of Kansas has joined a federal class action lawsuit seeking to overturn a state law that requires voters to show proof of U.S. citizenship to register.

'It's Finally Setting In': Volunteer Firefighter Reflects On Massive Wildfire

By SEAN SANDEFUR • 11 HOURS AGO

Two weeks ago, a massive wildfire spread into Kansas from northern Oklahoma. It left behind more than 600 square miles of blackened land in its wake.

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Kansas Law Enforcement, Trucking Industry Partner To Fight Human Trafficking

By STEPHEN KORANDA • APR 7, 2016

Kansas law enforcement officials have
partnered with the trucking industry to better train truck drivers to identify and report suspected human trafficking.

Truckers can now call a national hotline to report evidence of human trafficking. That information will then be relayed to local authorities.

“We’re making the reporting more timely, hopefully, so drivers as they’re seeing crimes happening can report it, giving law enforcement a better response time,” says Esther Goetsch of the group Truckers Against Trafficking.

Republican Gov. Sam Brownback signed a school aid bill Wednesday that Kansas lawmakers hope will satisfy the state Supreme Court's ruling to fix equity issues in education financing.

KMUW assistant news director and host of Soulsations Carla Eckels received the Wayne Carlisle Distinguished Service Award Wednesday from Wichita State University.

The award is the highest honor
available for an unclassified professional at the university. It recognizes the employee who best emulates the care and dedication of former Shocker Wayne Carlisle.

US Cotton Growers Struggle With Changing Demand

By KRISTOFOR HUSTED  ·  APR 7, 2016

Cotton fabric has been a staple in our closets for decades. But times are tough for farmers in the U.S. cotton belt: They’re caught in the middle of a storm of changing global demand. Harvest Public Media’s Kristofor Husted visited cotton farmers and found them hoping for a rebound.

Multiple Wildfires Spread Across Oklahoma And Kansas

By ABIGAIL WILSON & ASSOCIATED PRESS  ·  APR 6, 2016

UPDATE

Thursday, April 7, 10:14 a.m: KPR's J. Schafer reports that Kansas officials say all major wildfires across the state have now been contained and are under control. Ben Bauman, the spokesman for the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, says the massive wildfire burning
in northwest Oklahoma is no longer presenting a threat to counties in southern Kansas.

Original story:

Pompeo Doesn’t Rule Out Run For The U.S. Senate

By STEPHEN KORANDA • APR 6, 2016

Republican Congressman Mike Pompeo, from Wichita, is not ruling out a run for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by fellow Republican Jerry Moran.

Pompeo blasted the Kansas senator after Moran called for hearings on a Supreme Court nominee, then changed his mind. As KPR’s Stephen Koranda reports, the harsh words fueled talk that Pompeo might challenge Moran.

Moran changed his position on holding hearings after facing criticism. Pompeo called it a “tardy conversion.”

Man Who Killed Abortion Doctor George Tiller Back In Court

By ASSOCIATED PRESS • APR 6, 2016

The man convicted of killing abortion provider Dr. George Tiller was back in court Tuesday.

Scott Roeder was sentenced to 50 years in prison for the murder of Tiller, who was one of the few doctors in the country who performed late-term abortions. Roeder said that he killed Tiller in order to save the babies who were in imminent danger.