It's time to celebrate 50 years of KOPN: March 3rd, 1973 - March 3rd, 2023!

As we reflect on the first 50 years of KOPN we invite you to share our excitement. Here are some of the events we have planned. Please join us!

~ Do not adjust your set!

On **Friday, March 3rd**, KOPN will be taking over the airwaves for a special birthday surprise. We've been giving you a heads-up
with our on-air announcements, but you'll have to tune in to 89.5 FM, or online at kopn.org, on the day to find out exactly what we have planned.

KOPN: The hippiest happiest place in Columbia, MO.

Pictured left: Administrative Manager Julie Aston and Serenade of Love host Elder Joseph Wilson in the studio recording promos for the March 3rd KOPN special event.

~ What birthday couldn't use a parade?
Join KOPN at the True/False March March on the afternoon of Friday, March 3. Since it's our birthday we want to show up, make noise, and represent! Wear your favorite KOPN t-shirt, your silliest costume, favorite hat, and/or bring your portable radio tuned to 89.5 and/or your noisiest instrument to toot, bow, or strum. Contact Margot McMillen, margotmcmillen@gmail.com, for details on when and where to meet.

~ Did someone say Reunion?
We did! If you haven't already marked Saturday, June 10th, in your calendar, please do it now. KOPN is inviting any and all friends, listeners, programmers, and volunteers, past or present, to join us at KOPN Central, aka Columbia, MO, for a day of reminiscing and celebrating all that has been accomplished by the many wonderful folks who have become part of the KOPN family. Details will be available soon.

~ You could fill a book with stories of KOPN!
Yes, we could and we will! Thanks to a grant from the Missouri Arts Council, Margot McMillen, the longtime host of Farm & Fiddle, is currently taking a break from that program to work on a book exploring the history of KOPN. The book will be timed to coincide with KOPN's June 10th reunion. Do you have stories or mementos you would like to share with Margot for possible inclusion in the book? You are welcome to email them to us at submit@kopn.org or bring them to the station at 401 Bernadette Drive. The Columbia Tribune recently published an article about Margot's book project:
~ KOPN: The First 50 Years
Have you been enjoying this aural look back?

Each Wednesday between 6:00 and 7:00 pm, Trevor Harris takes us on a journey into the past, present, and future of our community radio station. He picks a theme and airs excerpts from a recent oral history and a related archival recording. Often, a guest is featured that helps tie the theme together. Recent programs have been listening to past KOPN children’s programming, shows on prison issues, folk music, local black history, community affairs, women’s issues, and bluegrass. Upcoming weeks will feature oral histories from long-time music programmers and more archival talk, music, and poetry recordings.

Verna Laboy (pictured) and David Aguayo of the Worley Street Roundtable were Trevor’s guests in the studio on February 15th, discussing local black history and progress in minority education. That program also featured archival material from Wynna Faye Elbert and poetry from Maya Angelou.

Verna Laboy photo credit: Worley Street Roundtable.

Tune in to the next episode of KOPN: The First 50 Years to catch some of long-time station programmer Carol Goodnick’s 2022 oral history where she discusses the people and events that make the station somewhere she chooses to come back to each week now for decades. There will also be 1970s archival recordings from Susan Newstead’s ‘Natural Living’ program, poetry from the Chez, and a live recording from the St. Louis Jazz Quartet. Trevor's in-studio guest will be Tadeo Ruiz-Sandoval. Tadeo is a newer station programmer who is pursuing a career in radio and audio storytelling. He co-hosts the KOPN Spanish-speaking show, La Voz Latina.

Excerpts from Carol Goodnick’s 2022 oral history will be featured on the March 1st episode of KOPN: The First 50 Years.

Tadeo Ruiz-Sandoval, co-host of KOPN’s La Voz Latina, will be Trevor’s in-studio guest on Wednesday, March 1st.
Letters from the Archive

In April 1973 KOPN first began publishing letters from listeners in its program guide. Here's a letter from Steve Hecox that was published in the August 1973 Program Guide:

"Dear KOPN: this is to let you people know that I've finally gotten over being pixxed off at you baxtxrds for losing that Jean Shepherd tape that you promised to play way back in---hxll, when was it?---February or March, I think. Anyway I'd been up for it for an entire month 'cause I haven't heard Jean Shepherd since I left New York almost two years ago the last time and I'd even called work and told them I was sick so I could stay home and listen to the radio. I had my ten dollars all ready to send in to you that night but when I realized that I'd been burned I tore it up and vowed never to give you all a dime till I got through being pixxed about it. Well, congratulations—I finally did it and I'm even in a better financial shape now so I'm giving you more 'cause basically I love your station."

Thank you, Steve. We love you too!

A big thank you to Christine Gardener who has been reviewing past program guides, and will be sharing more listener letters with us throughout the year.

Station Update:
Operations Manager Dylan Martin has been hard at work improving the functionality of the KOPN studios.

First, he created these awesome "on-air" lights:
Then he assembled and installed a silent doorbell that lights up in the studio so that program hosts will know when someone is at the door after hours.

As if that wasn't enough, he also got to handle some heavy equipment while installing the cover on the satellite dish.
Thank you, Dylan, for all that you do to keep us looking and sounding so good!

And the winners are...
The votes have been counted in the KOPN Board of Directors election and three new members have taken their seats at the KOPN Board of Directors table. Thank you to everyone who participated in this important process. A big thank you also to our outgoing board members: Diana Moxon, Margot McMillen, and Joy Rushing. We are grateful to you for your commitment and dedication to KOPN.

Meet your newly elected board members:

**Ed Herrmann**
Ed's radio experience began at KOPN in the late 1970s when he was both a program host and engineer, and also helped with the production training program. He currently hosts Flight Risk each Wednesday at midnight. Ed brings a wealth of experience in radio hosting and production, as well as small business ownership to his role on the board.

**Heather O'Connor**
Heather has been a long time KOPN listener who was previously elected to the board in 2015, and served as its Secretary for 4 years. More recently, Heather has been a member of the KOPN Community Advisory Committee. Heather is also co-owner of a custom home remodeling business and will bring all these experiences to her role on the board.

**Nancy Silver**
Before retiring in 2019, Nancy enjoyed a long and successful career as an executive in the Columbia not-for-profit sector, where she gained considerable expertise in numerous administrative functions. Since retiring, Nancy has been sharing this expertise while volunteering at KOPN, and has now added board member to her list of commitments.
Congratulations to Melinda Hemmelgarn, the host of Food Sleuth Radio, who was recently quoted in a Fortune Magazine article on the dangers of mixing prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines. Great job, Melinda!

You can view the article here: fortune.com.

Registration Open!

The Mid-Missouri Kickball League is now recruiting individuals or teams for its five week spring season. People 21 and older are welcome to register.

For more information: midmissourikickballleague.com

Upcoming Events:

The Boone County History and Culture Center is hosting an exhibit through March:

- Titled: I Do, this exhibit explores local wedding traditions, over 200 years of wedding fashion, and stories of early Boone County ceremonies.

For more information: boonehistory.org

The Boonslick Chordbusters invite you to join them for:

- Together in Harmony at 7:00 pm on Saturday, April 29th at Campus Lutheran Church, 304 S. College Ave.

For more information: chordbusters.com or 573-529-6821

Clovers Natural Market will host a Health Fair:

- 3/18 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at 2100 Chapel Plaza Ct

For more information: (573) 445 0990

Central Bank is offering the following Prosperu Financial Education Classe:
2/28 6:00 pm Small Business Vision Casting

For more information: www.centralbank.net/prosperu

Dive Bar is hosting the following events:
- 3/3 5:00 pm Bart & Red
- 3/3 8:00 pm Blake Gardner & The Farmers
- 3/4 8:00 pm Billy McDow
- 3/8 6:00 pm Steak & Bluegrass with Clayton Hicklin & Friends
- 3/10 5:00 pm Jeff Arrigo
- 3/10 8:00 pm Hart Creek Ramblers
- 3/11 8:00 pm Maddi Warren
- 3/14 6:00 pm CoMo Song Swap

For more information: divebarcomo.com/events

KOPN is happy to support the Odyssey Chamber Music Series' 19th Season.

Scheduled 2023 performances:
- 3/23 Lucille Chung Piano Recital
- 3/24 Amit Peled Cello Recital
- 3/25 Plowman Competition: Semi-Finals
- 3/26 Plowman Competition: The Finals
- 3/27 Jeff Scott Horn Recital
- 5/5 Cinco de Mayo
- 5/20 Kids@Heart

For more information: OdysseyMissouri.org