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2Q 2021
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
PROGRAMMING

MONTANA TELEVISION NETWORK

STATIONS

KAJJ-CD (CBS) – Kalispell, MT

KBZK (CBS) – Bozeman, MT

KPAX (CBS) – Missoula, MT

KRTV (CBS) - Great Falls, MT

KTVQ (CBS) – Billings, MT

KXLF (CBS) – Butte, MT

KXLH-LD (CBS) – Helena, MT

KTGF-LD (NBC) – Great Falls, MT

KTVH (NBC) – Helena, MT

Affiliated with MTN

KXGN - Glendive, MT

FACE THE STATE

Running time: 30:00

Airs: Sundays, 6:30 AM AND 9:30 AM

DESCRIPTION: Weekly half-hour public affairs program reporting on issues from all areas and regions of the state:

- COMMUNITY
- EDUCATION/YOUTH
- ECONOMY
- GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
- HEALTH/SAFETY

4/4/21

HOST: Jay Kohn (KTVQ Billings, MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on three bills House Bills 670, 701 and 701 related to legalization of marijuana and how they are being modified so they can advance through the house.
 - Report on how House Bill 112 bans transgender athletes from playing on a team that doesn't match their birth gender.
 - Report on how House Bill 632 distributes several billion in Covid Relief and stimulus money:
 - \$350 million for-Education get nearly 350
 - \$143 million for Health including Covid testing and tracing
 - \$500 for infrastructure
 - \$250 for communications
 - \$150 million for economic stabilization
 - \$152 million for emergency rental assistance
 - \$50 million for mortgage assistance
 - Interview with MT Senator Mary McNally (D-Billings) on being part of the minority party in the Montana Senate.
 - o Interview with MTN Chief Political Reporter Mike Dennison on upcoming legislation:
 - Transmittal deadline in the House for any bills related to taxation and spending
 - Ongoing impact of Covid on current legislature sessions.

4/11/21

HOST: Keeley Van Middendorp (KRTV, Great Falls MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on how the Senate voted to advance the Colstrip power bill which allows
 Northwestern Energy to charge customers for any cost of additional coal-fired power.
 - Report on how the Senate approved House Bill 2 in 33-17 vote which lays out how \$12.6 billion in state spending will take place over next 2 years.
 - House is expected to reject send House Bill 22 to conference committee to work on final version.
 - Report on affordable housing.
 - Republicans want to end inclusionary zoning which requires any new development to include low cost homes.
 - Builders claim inclusionary zoning forces them to raise prices on other housing.
 - Republicans passed a bill to end zoning restriction laws but local officials are asking Gov. Gianforte to veto the bill.
 - Republicans are also working on bills that would offer low interest loans and tax credits to aid in construction of housing for low- and moderate-income Montanans.
 - Report on progress of bills related to Recreational Marijuana Initiative 190 that was approved by voters last Fall.
 - All three marijuana-related bills 701, 670 and 707 are headed for the Senate after house passed them.
 - House Bill 701 requires counties to sign off on having businesses in their location
 - House Bill 670 allows medical and recreational marijuana to be sold at the same establishment but at different tax rates.
 - House Bill 707 set up a wholesaling system for marijuana where growers would have to sell to wholesalers who would have to sell to dispensaries.
 - Changes are expected regarding how tax revenue from recreational marijuana will be spent vs. how voters thought it would be spent.
 - Report on the death of former Montana governor Stan Stephens who served from 1988 to 1992.

4/18/21

HOST: Cody Boyer and Holly Brantley (KBZK, Bozeman MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on how the Montana legislature cancelled its floor sessions after a lobbyist who had wide contact with legislators tested positive for Covid.
 - Report on how Republicans in the legislature issued subpoenas to all seven justices of the state supreme court and the court administrator in order to get public records from the court to see whether bias exists on news laws that will come before it.
 - Report on how Governor Gianforte issued an executive order prohibiting state organizations from requiring a vaccine to access state services or facilities or businesses requiring customers to provide documentation to get in or get service.

- Report on how the State Senate endorsed House Bill 257 bill to limit the powers of local public health officers when responding to an outbreak of infectious disease
- Interview with state Senator Scott Sales former president of the state Senate and former House Minority Leader
 - Will be the State Lottery director as appointed by Governor Gianforte
- o Interview with MTN Chief Political Reporter Mike Dennison on upcoming legislation:
 - Legislators lost a day lost on the floor because of lobbyist who tested positive for Covid.
 - Legislators trying to finish early trying to wrap up final week of April but will go to May 11 because there are still a lot of bills that must be decided.
 - Montana State Supreme court may ignore subpoenas issued by Republican legislators but the dispute won't be going away.

4/25/21

HOST: Phoenix O'Connor (KTVH, Helena MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on progress made by legislature on marijuana regulation.
 - Montana Senate Select Committee on Marijuana Law passed its plan for implementing recreational marijuana in the state.
 - 3 large reform bills and several smaller ones narrowed down to one House Bill
 701.
 - Passed 11-1 after significant amendments.
 - Report on how Republican legislators are planning a half dozen bills that would cut state income taxes.
 - Senate Bill 159 would cut top rate from 6.9% to 6.75% on all taxable income above \$18,700 starting in 2022.
 - Senate Bill 399 would cut that rate to 6.5% on taxable income above \$20,500 for a single person and on taxable income above \$41,000 for a couple in 2023 and also eliminates 24 tax credits.
 - Report on the gathering of Montana leaders in Helena to mark the state's continued efforts to address the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women. Gov. Gianforte held a bill-signing of senate Bill 4 which extends the task force another two years.
 - Report the signing of two bills by Governor Gianforte that tighten voting and registration requirements.
 - One ends election day registration in Montana.
 - One places additional restrictions on the type of identification that is needed to register.
 - Opponents claim these are a form of voter suppression and make it harder to vote.
 - Report on how the State Senate endorsed a bill 31-19 that bars businesses or government making vaccinations a condition of employment or receiving services.
 - Bill is a few votes away from going to Governor Gianforte for signing into law.

- Report on how the Montana House and Senate both endorsed final version of House Bill 112 that would block transgender female student athletes from participating in women's and girls' sports.
 - Initially there was a provision that would void it if the federal government challenged the law as a violation of the anti-discrimination but the conference committee changed that to keep the law in place until the state went through a full appeals process.
- Report on how Republican legislators have continued their efforts to investigate the state's judiciary for alleged bias in key issues before the court.
- o Interview with State Senator Greg Hertz (R-Polson).
 - Senate Bill 159 reduces the current rate from 6.9% to 6.75%.
 - Senate Bill 399 broader tax reform, eliminates tax credits broadens base.
- o Interview with MTN Chief Political Reporter Mike Dennison on upcoming legislation:
 - Legislature will probably be wrapping up soon/early.
 - Budget and tax bills still remaining.
 - Special session still possible because of the high level of activity on complex things that will require attention later.

5/2/21

HOST: Jill Valley (KPAX, Missoula MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on how state legislators finally approved 2-year twelve billion dollar state budget and more than 2 billion dollars of authorizations to spend Covid Relief funds.
 - Report on Governor Gianforte's post-legislative address to Senate and House leadership.
 - Report on the final vote and passing of House Bill 701 which addresses how the state will deal with legalized marijuana.
 - Interview with State Representative Llew Jones (R-Conrad).
 - Even at \$12 billion, overall increase in state budget is 2.5%.
 - Previous budgets had higher increases.
 - Reductions in income and property taxes.
 - o Interview with MTN Chief Political Reporter Mike Dennison and political reporter Jonathan Ambarian on upcoming legislation:
 - A lot of spending on infrastructure for next four years, a lot on high speed internet.
 - Several newly created commissions which evaluate spending proposals.
 - Three bills dealing with legalized marijuana were eventually reduced to one bill House Bill 701 which is on its way to Governor's desk which is closer to what was in original voter-approved initiative.
 - \$120 million in tax cuts over two years.
 - Limiting liability from Covid allowed governor to lift mask mandate.
 - Bills to limit overreach from public health officials.
 - Starting teacher pay increased.
 - Substantial increase in Tax credit for parents of private school students.
 - Guns allowed on state campuses.

- Because of the Republican governor the Republican legislature was able to pass bills related to abortion and transgender youth.
- Republican legislature will continue investigation of Montana judiciary for alleged bias in bills that will come before judiciary for review.

5/9/21

HOST: Andrea Lutz (KTVQ, Billings MT)

- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Interview with Governor Greg Gianforte.
 - In order to incentivize people to go back to work, unemployment benefits will go back to unemployment benefits.
 - Adding back to work bonus.
 - 25,000 on unemployment vs. 14,000 open jobs.
 - Tourist boom expected for summer, businesses need to have enough staff.
 - Review of legislature.
 - Lowered taxes by \$120 million.
 - Put together a budget that grows state spending less than 1% per year.
 - Preserves essential services.
 - Increase starting teacher pay.
 - Protect Montana from Federal overreach concerning elections.
 - Concern about open borders and defunding the police.
 - Report on the reaction of public health officials on Republicans legislature passing 3 bills directly reducing the authority of County and City Health officers.
 - Report on mailer sent out by the Montana GOP urging the investigation of the Montana Supreme Court for alleged conduct investigations.
 - Democrats in the legislature claim the GOP effort is nothing more than an attempt to smear the judiciary which will be called upon to rule on Republican-passed laws that Democrats say are unconstitutional.
 - Report on the signing of the Big Jobs Act by Governor Gianforte which triple exemption under business equipment tax from \$100K to \$300K.
 - Will take around 3500 businesses off the tax rolls and allow them to invest back in their businesses.

POSITIVELY MONTANA

Running time: 30:00

Airs: Sundays, 6:30 AM AND 9:30 AM

DESCRIPTION: In May 2021, the Montana Television News network started producing *Positively Montana*, a half-hour public affairs program that features uplifting stories about Montana people:

- COMMUNITY
- EDUCATION/YOUTH
- ECONOMY
- GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
- HEALTH/SAFETY

5/16/21

HOST: Jill Valley (KPAX, Missoula MT)

- ISSUE: COMMUNITY
 - Report on a car repair garage in Missoula staffed by members of the Missoula Alliance Church that offers free minor repair work and related advice to financially-challenged families or one-parent families.
 - Report on how the community of Lewistown raised money to help a local family recovering from the loss of their father and brother in a car accident.
 - Report on a group of local volunteers who gathered at North Park in Billings to plant trees and help refurbish the park for Arbor Day.
- ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH
 - Report on a group of local middle school students who volunteered to refurbish the large "H" on the side of Mount Helena.
 - New unified track program in Hamilton "Unified Track" which pairs Special Olympics with peers in regular track meets.
 - Report a group of high school students at Capital High in Helena who created and produced trailer hitches with the logo of a local veteran association Mending waters and then donated the hitches to the non-profit.
 - Report on a Stevensville High teacher who was recognized as Montana's National History Day Teacher of the Year
- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on a veteran in Missoula who donated money to refurbish all veteran monuments in Rose Memorial Garden.
- ISSUE: HEALTH/SAFETY
 - Report on how the night manager at the local Super 1 Evening store in Columbia Falls helped to save lives after a car smashed through the store's main entrance.

5/23/21

HOST: Marian Davidson (KTVH, Helena MT)

- ISSUE: COMMUNITY
 - Report on how the town of Polson honored their most winning women's softball coach by naming their softball field after him.
 - Report on the Kiwanis club in Helena that is celebrating its centennial anniversary and how it performed major refurbishments on the local baseball field.
 - Report on the return of an annual book sale held by Central Christian Church in Helena that has been going on for 15 years.
 - Report on a local Missoula non-profit that is raising awareness about picking up trash by placing small clay gnomes in trees in local parks.
- ISSUE: ECONOMY
 - Report on how an auto body shop in Helena helps out a local food share non-profit by donating money and purchasing books for local schools.
- ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH
 - Report on ten year-old Belt student who was selected as the National Hoop Shoots Champion by the Elks National Foundation.
 - Report on how the Montana National Guard flew eight teachers from North Central Montana in a military helicopter over the Great Falls area so that the teachers could better convey to their students the experience of working for the military.
- ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS
 - Report on how a member of the National Guard in Billings bonded with a stray dog in Afghanistan and had the dog brought back to Billings with the help of a non-profit SBCA Global Rescue.

5/30/21

HOST: Janelle Slade (KTVQ, Billings MT)

- ISSUE: COMMUNITY
 - Report on the dedication of a statue in Butte honoring a dog who stayed by his owner's side after the owner – a firefighter - was fatally injured in the 1895 Canyon Connell explosion.
 - Report on a Billings World War II veteran and Chippewa Indian who turned ninetyeight.
 - Report on a celebration in Lake County of Special Olympics athletes who are participating in the Summer Games.
- ISSUE: ECONOMY
 - Report on a meat processing business in Babb that donates food to the local families who are searching for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Native family members.
- ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH
 - Report on a teacher at St. Ignatius high school who is retiring after 36 years of teaching science.

MTN STATEWIDE PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING 2Q 2021: POSITIVELY MONTANA

- Report on a Corvallis high school student who overcame many challenges and was awarded a Chip Evans scholarship for his ongoing employment at a local prestigious golf course.
- Report on an Ulm eighth grader who earned top honors in an international Dell Technologies-sponsored competition because of the educational game she designed which focuses on trees and conservation.
- Report on a group of Broadwater High School students in the Construction Technology course whose year-long assignment consists of working on large construction projects.

• ISSUE: HEALTH/SAFETY

 Report on a Missoula nurse who had been working in rehab for 35 years but who switched her focus to Covid patients once the pandemic set in.

6/6/21

HOST: Tom Wylie (KRTV, Great Falls MT)

- ISSUE: COMMUNITY
 - Report on how a Lewis & Clark County sheriff organized a community effort to feed
 58 horses seized as part of an animal neglect investigation.
 - Report on Missoula's fifty year-old "Five Valley Chorus Sweet Adelines" singing group and how they managed to practice during the pandemic without being able to rehearse in-person.
 - Report on how the Myrna Loy Center in Helena received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for a new creative project that tells people's stories through photography.

• ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH

- Report on an eight year-old Butte boy who was sworn in as a Butte Police Officer for a day.
- A report on a Flathead High School activities director with thirty years' experience who continually seeks solutions to holding school events while adhering to Covid-safe protocols.
- Report on a program "Pull Your Share" in Great Falls that recruits Simms high school students to remove the invasive species such as Knapweed from the Sun River Valley.

• ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS

 Report on how Senator Steve Daines presented a Congressional record recognizing military service to a Great Falls WWII veteran who turned 100 on the anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 2021.

• ISSUE: HEALTH/SAFETY

- Report on a cardiac arrest survivor in Gore Hill who was recognized for his quick intervention by applying CPR when his neighbor was having a heart attack.
- Report on how St.Peter's Health and the Holter Museum of Art in Helena partnered to provide healing art services for the patients in the Behavioral Health Unit.

6/13/21

HOST: Chet Layman (KBZK, Bozeman MT)

ISSUE: COMMUNITY

- Report on how the non-profit Puppies for Patriots in Ennis is using service dogs to help detect physical and mental problems in veterans.
- Report on a new resident in Polson who is participating in the Upward Bound program at Salish Kootenai college and volunteering at other local non-profits.

ISSUE: ECONOMY

- Report on how a local coffee roaster in Whitefish helped expand his coffee company stay afloat during the pandemic by increasing online sales.
- Report on the purchase of the 1903 John O'Brien Mansion in Summers and how the new owners plan to renovate and transform the mansion into an event venue that specializes in weddings.
- Report on Cookies and Cream, a new business opening in Missoula, and how the two owners are two high school seniors.

ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH

- Report on a Billings high school student whose mural won the "War of the Walls" competition because of its message of inclusivity and diversity.
- Report on a Montana State University student biochemistry major who won the Daniel Voyage community involvement award tutoring students at the American Indian Success Center Tutoring.
- Report on a Native American non-traditional student at Montana State University who
 won the Phyllis Berger Award For Leadership given out by the Department of Native
 American Studies and who plans on attending law school at the University of
 Montana.

ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS

 Report on how Senator Steve Daines presented a Congressional record recognizing military service to a Great Falls WWII veteran who turned 100 on the anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 2021.

6/20/21

HOST: Jill Valley (KPAX, Missoula MT)

- ISSUE: ECONOMY ISSUE: COMMUNITY
 - Report on a Bozeman non-profit, Dog Tag Buddies, that pairs veterans suffering from PTSD with service dogs.
 - Report on how the Lewis and Clark Humane society is trying to find homes for 14 cats in Helena.
 - Report on a woman who helped save a local 7 year-old boy and his babysitter from being attacked by a bear while they walked on a street in Ronan.
 - Report on a chef and a pizza restaurant in White Sulphur Springs who are providing free meals to people displaced by recent wildfires as well as to those who are fighting the firefighters.

ISSUE: ECONOMY

 Report on a Helena non-profit "Stuff The Bus" that collects school supplies and distributes them to local students whose families experienced negative financial impacts due to the pandemic.

• ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH

- Report on a thirteen year-old boy from Missoula who has pediatric cancer and is undergoing treatment in Boston while still receiving much support from the Missoula community.
- Report on an 11 year-old boy in Kalispell who is donating his hair to the local non-profit "Wigs for Kids" which provides custom-fitted wigs to kids with cancer.

ISSUE: GOVERNMENT/POLITICS

 Report on a Montana Department of Transportation officer in Shelby who was awarded a Meritorious Service award by Governor Greg Gianforte for saving the lives of several victims in a multiple-vehicle crash outside of Conrad.

ISSUE: HEALTH/SAFETY

 Report on how two employees at an assisted living facility in Whitefish managed to keep facility's seventy patients healthy and well-maintained during the pandemic.

6/27/21

HOST: Marian Davidson (KTVH, Helena MT)

ISSUE: COMMUNITY

- Report on a Montana Highway Patrol Trooper who helped victims of a helicopter crash in Broadwater County escape.
- o Interview with an eighty-eight year-old Hamilton man, a former mountain climber from Italy, who is writing his fourth book.
- Report on a Native American who hosts reenactments of the 1872 Battle of the Little Bighorn battle on his family's land in Medicine Tail near Garryowen and Crow Agency.
- Report on Lewis & Clark county air patrolman who was given the Amelia Earhart award for Civil Air Patrol Cadets for exemplary leadership skills, technical knowledge and fitness.
- Report on a Great Falls Special Olympics athlete who was awarded a "Spirt of Montana" award by Governor Gianforte.
- Report on a photographer who traveled across Montana and photographed the ornate wooden interiors of old-time drinking establishments for a book that looks back on the history of bars and saloons.

ISSUE: EDUCATION/YOUTH

 Report on how a camp in Montana helps children in foster care system to overcome challenges such as trust issues.