

Stations KAJX and KCJX (Aspen Public Radio)
Quarterly Listing of Community Issues and Programs
[October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020]

CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Polis Extends Statewide Mask Mandate Another 30 Days

Issue: combating coronavirus in state and locally

Reporter: ARIEL VAN CLEAVE, SCOTT FRANZ & ALEX HAGER

Date: OCT 10, 2020

Time: 6:04 AM, 7:04 AM, 8:04 AM

Description: Concerned by a recent spike in coronavirus cases, Governor Jared Polis says he will extend the statewide mask mandate for a third time. That means residents will be required to wear face coverings in public at least through mid-November.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Hospitals Worry About An Overwhelming Winter As Pandemic Surges in Roaring Fork Valley

Issue: hospital capacity during pandemic

Reporter: ALEX HAGER

Date: NOV 12, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: All three counties in the Roaring Fork Valley are experiencing their highest rates of new COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began about nine months ago. Area hospitals are worried that increasing spread of the virus could bring an overwhelming burden in the coming months and bracing for a grim road ahead.

Program: breaking news--live press conference

Story Title: Governor Polis addresses state

Issue: coronavirus spread in state and government response

Date: 11/13/2020

Time: 12:40 - 1:50 PM.

Description: live feed of press conference held by Colorado Governor Jared Polis discussing emergency due to coronavirus spread in our state and state and local government response, as well as orders and recommendations to state residents. Today he discussed a surge in cases in Colorado.

Program: breaking news--live press conference
Story Title: Governor Polis addresses state
Issue: coronavirus spread in state and government response
Date: 11/17/2020
Time: 12:45 - 1:30 PM.

Description: live feed of press conference held by Colorado Governor Jared Polis discussing emergency due to coronavirus spread in our state and state and local government response, as well as orders and recommendations to state residents. Today he discussed a surge in cases in Colorado.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered
Story Title: Reflections On The Pandemic From Pitkin County's Outgoing Public Health Director
Issue: managing pandemic response and dealing with hostile people took a toll on local public health director
Reporter: ALEX HAGER
Date: DEC 4, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.
Description: Karen Koenemann, Pitkin County public health director, will spend her last day in the position on Friday, Dec. 4. She has held the position since the department's inception in early 2017. Koenemann spoke with Aspen Public Radio about the ups and downs of guiding the department through the pandemic.

Program: breaking news--live press conference
Story Title: Governor Polis addresses state
Issue: coronavirus spread in state and government response
Date: 12/30/2020
Time: 10:15 - 11:06 AM.

Description: live feed of press conference held by Colorado Governor Jared Polis discussing emergency due to coronavirus spread in our state and state and local government response, as well as orders and recommendations to state residents. Today he discussed the arrival of a different strain of the virus and high number of cases in Colorado.

WILDFIRES AND GRIZZLY CREEK FIRE

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: In Yellowstone, America's 'First Water Park,' Decades-Old Blaze Marked Start Of Megafire Era

Issue: wildfire and water supplies in the west

Reporter: ROBYN VINCENT

Date: OCT 12, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 1 of Fire and Water, a collaborative series looking at where water and wildfire intersect in the West. When a series of lightning strikes sparked the 1988 fires that torched more than a third of America's first national park, the nation was captivated. The wildfires had implications that stretched beyond the park's boundaries. They marked a paradigm shift, ushering in a new chapter of massive, frequent fires that communities across the American West face today.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Homeowners Who Avoid Wildfire Damage Can Find Themselves In New Flood Zone

Issue: wildfire and water supplies in the west

Reporter: ALEX HAGER

Date: OCT 13, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 2 of Fire and Water, a collaborative series looking at where water and wildfire intersect in the West. Major wildfires have burned through the Western U.S. in 2020, breaking records for their scale and damage. As firefighters tamp down their immediate effects, those who live nearby are coming to grips with the lingering danger of wildfires. Even long after the flames are gone, residents face a serious increase in the threat of flooding.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: For The West's Drinking Water, Wildfire Concerns Linger Long After Smoke Clears

Issue: wildfire and water supplies in the west

Reporter: LUKE RUNYON

Date: OCT 14, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 3 of Fire and Water, a collaborative series looking at where water and wildfire intersect in the West. For many communities in the West, the water that flows out of kitchen faucets and bathroom showerheads starts high up in the mountains, as snowpack tucked under canopies of spruce and pine trees. This summer's record-breaking wildfires have reduced some

of those headwater forests to burnt trees and heaps of ash. In high alpine ecosystems, climate change has tipped the scales toward drier forests, lessened snowpack, hotter summers and extended fire seasons. Wildfires don't just cause problems while they're burning. For municipal drinking water systems, fires are felt for years after they're snuffed out.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: In Grasslands Plagued By Invasives And Drought, Wildfires Fuel Calls For New Solutions

Issue: wildfire and water supplies in the west

Reporter: CATHERINE WHEELER

Date: OCT 15, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 4 of Fire and Water, a collaborative series looking at where water and wildfire intersect in the West. Rangelands may not capture as much coverage, but can be just as landscape-altering as forest fires. Plus, they can spread more rapidly, and in some cases, cause more damage than fires in forested areas. Across the West, the increasing prevalence of invasive plants, and the growing influence of climate change, is changing the relationship between vast rangelands, drought, and wildfire.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: As Western Fires Burn, Focus Narrows On Forest Management. But It's Easier Said Than Done

Issue: wildfire and water supplies in the west

Reporter: RON DUNGAN

Date: OCT 16, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 5 of Fire and Water, a collaborative series looking at where water and wildfire intersect in the West. There is too much fuel in the forest, a buildup that began more than a century ago. People agree that something needed to be done to prevent the next big fire. But correcting mistakes of the past is often tougher than it sounds. Almost two decades later, those involved in responding to the Rodeo-Chediski say they're still learning what it will take to get ahead of wildfires, and the effects they have on headwater forests.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Grizzly Creek Fire Still Smoldering, Even After Snowfall

Issue: Grizzly Creek Fire, wildfire, drought

Reporter: Alex Hager

Date: OCT 30, 2020

Time: 6:04 AM, 7:04 AM, 8:04 AM

Description: Follow-up story from coverage of local wildfire in summer. In a normal year, a foot of snow in late October would mean the end of fire season. But with Western Colorado experiencing its driest summer on record, this year is anything but normal. As a result, the last remaining vestiges of the Grizzly Creek Fire are still smoldering.

GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: One Local Freelancer Says She's Voting For 'Sanity' This Election

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: OCT 20, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Before the pandemic, freelancers accounted for about a quarter of the workforce, and that number has only grown since COVID-19 hit. Millions more have joined the gig economy this year as employers have shed part and full-time positions—over a third of American workers now say they're part of the gig economy. Some economists say that within 10 years, half the American workforce will be freelance workers. So, what do freelancers in the Roaring Fork Valley think about this year's election?

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Local Latina Voters Are Pushing For A More Inclusive Future This Election

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: OCT 21, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: With election day less than two weeks away, many in Colorado are looking to a growing group of Latino voters who could be a big part of deciding the outcome. According to the Pew Research Center, Latino voters are the largest non-white voting demographic this year, making up 16% of Colorado voters in 2018. And yet, Latinos have been historically underrepresented in political office in the Roaring Fork and Colorado River Valleys.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Fight Over Gallagher Amendment Could Impact Your Checkbook, And Your Fire Department's Budget

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: SCOTT FRANZ

Date: OCT 1, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Of the 11 ballot questions Colorado voters will decide in November, Amendment B is by far the most complicated. It seeks to repeal a 38-year-old state law affecting how much residents must pay in property taxes. If you own a home or commercial property, your bank account has been affected by the Gallagher Amendment in some way. Voters approved the amendment in 1982 to put more of the property tax burden on businesses, which must pay 55% of the state's property taxes. Meanwhile, homeowners pay 45%.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Will Voters In Colorado's CD3 Pick The Veteran Lawmaker, Or Political Newcomer?

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: SCOTT FRANZ

Date: OCT 19, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Voters in Colorado's sprawling 3rd Congressional District have the choice of two very different candidates to represent them in Congress. The race is a clash between a young, political newcomer aligned with President Trump and a veteran state lawmaker who believes in pragmatism over polarization.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: As Wildfires Burn Across Colorado, We Ask An Expert About Climate Change Policies

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: ALEX HAGER

Date: OCT 22, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: It's impossible to miss the signs of climate change as the state has experienced hundreds of thousands of acres of wildfire this season, along with drought in every part of Colorado. But how do issues of climate change manifest on the ballot? For the answer to that question, Aspen Public Radio spoke with Max Boykoff, a professor at the University of Colorado Boulder who studies cultural politics and environmental governance.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: How Should We Use Public Lands? Voters Will Help Decide

Issue: public lands management

Reporter: Alex Hager

Date: October 23, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: More than a third of Colorado is made up of public land and controlled by agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management. Decisions about how to use that land can be contentious, as conservationists and private industry vie for their preferred use on those millions of acres.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Local Races Have Mix Of Clear Winners, Contests Too Close To Call

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: ARIEL VAN CLEAVE, KIRSTEN DOBROTH & ALEX HAGER

Date: NOV 4, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: State Sen. Bob Rankin has won his reelection bid after a close content between him and Democratic challenge Karl Hanlon. Hanlon called Rankin to concede Thursday morning.

There were about 1,000 votes separating the two men, according to the latest, unofficial returns.

After two days of counting votes, Republican incumbents Mike Samson and John Martin are on track to retain their seats on the Garfield County Board of Commissioners.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Wolves Poised To Make A Comeback In Colorado After Passage Of Prop 114

Issue: local election coverage and results

Reporter: Scott Franz

Date: NOV 5, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Colorado voters have decided to bring back a wild animal that was eradicated from the state in the 1940s because of the threats it posed to livestock and ranchers' livelihoods. But don't expect to hear a gray wolf howl on Colorado's West Slope just yet. Following the narrow passage of Proposition 114, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will now spend the next three years coming up with a plan for how to reintroduce the animals by 2023. The planning process will include public hearings to help determine how many wolves will be released in Colorado, and where.

ECONOMY/JOB/POVERTY

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: A Lack Of J-1 Visa Workers Sends Local Businesses Scrambling For Seasonal Help

Issue: local businesses having difficulty filling positions due to visa changes

Reporter: ALEX HAGER

Date: OCT 2, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: This winter in Aspen will look a lot less international. Every year, more than 800 seasonal workers come to the Roaring Fork Valley as part of the J-1 visa program. After the Trump administration put a hold on the cultural exchange program in June, local businesses are scrambling to hire enough people for peak season, and hopeful workers are left stuck abroad.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: With Mid-Pandemic Winter Tourism Gearing Up, A Look Back At Aspen's Summer

Issue: pandemic continues to challenge local businesses

Reporter: ALEX HAGER

Date: NOV 30, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: The ski mountains are open and Christmas is less than a month away. In Aspen, many businesses reliant on tourists and the dollars they bring during the snowier months will face a bevy of new challenges in a mid-pandemic winter.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Local Creative Industries Feeling 'Cautious, But Optimistic' About Their Economic Footing

Issue: how local arts and culture economy is faring in pandemic

Reporter: KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: DEC 18, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Before COVID-19 hit, arts and cultural events and institutions made up 12 percent of the Pitkin County economy, according to a 2019 study recently released by the Aspen Chamber Resort Association. That equals nearly half a billion dollars in economic output, and it is higher than the statewide average. The monetary value ripples up and down the valley, and data from 2018 point to over 3,000 jobs within the Roaring Fork Valley coming from the creative economy.

HEALTH/ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY/SCIENCE

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Meet The 'Goat Gypsy' Working To Restore The Land And Prevent Wildfires

Issue: local residents are at higher risk of mental health issues

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: OCT 5, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: As temperatures rise and wildfires continue to burn across the West, many in Colorado are turning their attention to fire prevention. There's a woman who comes to the Roaring Fork Valley every year known as the "goat gypsy." Lani Malmberg and her herd of 1,200 Spanish cashmere goats help with fire mitigation, land restoration and weed control on private and public lands across all 13 Western states.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: With Smiles And Waves, City Of Rifle Unveils Public Kindness Campaign

Issue: maintaining and improving community during pandemic

Reporter: KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: NOV 24, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Even before the pandemic effectively scuttled human interaction, city officials in Rifle say they noticed that neighbors just weren't being that neighborly anymore. People were looking at their phones instead of saying hello to each other on the street; COVID-19 only made things worse.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: High Risk At High Altitude: Finding Ways To Improve Your Mental Health While 'Living In Limbo'

Issue: local residents are at higher risk of mental health issues

Reporter: ARIEL VAN CLEAVE

Date: DEC 1, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 1 of local mental health series, High Risk at High Altitude. Many people feel like the last several months have completely turned their world upside down. From shutdowns, to civil unrest, to new rules popping up all the time, to a seemingly unending presidential election, people are run down.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: High Risk At High Altitude: How Do Kids And Their Families Find Balance In The Middle Of A Storm?

Issue: local residents are at higher risk of mental health issues

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: DEC 15, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Part 2 of local mental health series, High Risk at High Altitude. For many of us, the ongoing pandemic has impacted our mental health in surprising ways, and this includes young people. In the latest conversation from our "High Risk At High Altitude" series, Aspen Public Radio talked with local behavioral intervention specialist Sonja Linman about what she's learned from her work with local kids and their families.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Christmas Bird Count Helps To Understand Impacts Of Climate Change On Birds In Roaring Fork Valley

Issue: how is climate change affecting local wildlife and environment

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: DEC 23, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Every year around this time, Roaring Fork Valley locals join tens of thousands of people to record all the birds they see or hear in a 15-mile radius. The Christmas Bird Count started in the 1900s and has been going on for 121 years.

EMERGENCY/PUBLIC SAFETY/CRIME

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Thousands Affected By Power Outage Following Snowfall

Issue: widespread and extended power outage, weaknesses in local power infrastructure

Reporter: ARIEL VAN CLEAVE, ALEX HAGER, KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: OCT 26, 2020

Time: 9:04 AM, 11:04 AM, 5:04 PM

Description: Emergency updates on power outage. Roughly 21,000 Holy Cross Energy members throughout the Roaring Fork Valley are without power Monday. Xcel Energy has lost the transmission feed to the valley, which supplies HCE's power supply.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Gas Service Restored In Aspen, Police Continue Investigating 'Intentional' Tampering

Issue: tampering with gas system caused days-long outage, leaving residents without heat or hot water

Reporter: ARIEL VAN CLEAVE & ALEX HAGER

Date: DEC 29, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Aspen Police are investigating the intentional tampering over the weekend with help from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which gets involved in matters of “critical infrastructure.” Bill Linn, assistant police chief, said a person or multiple people tampered with the flow of gas lines at three different locations Sunday night – two in Pitkin County and one in Aspen. In a call with reporters, he said a vandal would “have to have some familiarity” with the gas equipment to have caused such a disruption.

EDUCATION

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Local Schools Face Difficult Choices Ahead As COVID-19 Spikes In Roaring Fork Valley

Issue: how pandemic is affecting local schools

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: NOV 16, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: As COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the valley, local schools are having to rethink their plans for the winter months. As of last week, nearly 250 students were quarantined in the Roaring Fork School District and the entire Roaring Fork High School moved to online learning for the week after several staff were exposed to the virus.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Local Musician Jackson Emmer Releases Third Studio Album ‘Alpine Coda’

Issue: how pandemic has affected local arts and culture community

Reporter: KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: OCT 1, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: Things are a little different since the last time Carbondale-based singer and songwriter Jackson Emmer released an album. That was in 2018, when his sophomore album

“Jukebox” received national attention, and live concerts were part of his touring schedule. His newest album, “Alpine Coda,” comes out Friday, Oct. 2, and he’ll be hitting the virtual road to promote it.

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: Aspen FilmFest Returns With In-Person, Virtual and Drive-In Screenings

Issue: how pandemic has affected local arts and culture community

Reporter: KIRSTEN DOBROTH

Date: OCT 12, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: When Aspen Film kicks off its 41st annual FilmFest on Thursday, Oct. 15 , it might be nostalgic for local filmgoers; the festival is hosting its opening and closing night screenings in-person at Aspen’s Isis Theatre.

SOCIAL ISSUES/ RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story Title: English In Action Finds Silver Lining During Pandemic With Virtual Tutoring For Local Immigrants

Issue: how pandemic has affected local non-profit organizations

Reporter: ELEANOR BENNETT

Date: NOV 25, 2020

Time: 6:45 - 6:50 AM, 8:45 - 8:50 AM, and 5:44 - 5:49 PM.

Description: With no end in sight for the pandemic and cases surging in the Roaring Fork Valley, many nonprofits have had to shift online and rethink the way they operate. And for some, that’s had an unexpected silver lining. That’s the case for the local English tutoring and cultural exchange organization, English In Action. They help match adult immigrants with trained volunteer tutors in the Roaring Fork Valley. Despite the technological challenges, Vargas says she was surprised to find that it was actually easier for some participants to attend.