

MONTHLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ASPEN PUBLIC RADIO NEWS

YEAR 2014

APRIL 2014-JUNE 2014

GOVERNMENT

Program: Morning News

Date: April 15

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The public is weighing in how to solve the problem of less water in the future. People offered suggestions for Governor Hickenlooper's Colorado Water Plan at a town hall meeting in Aspen Thursday. A growing population and climate change are straining the resource in Colorado, and an enormous water gap is projected, between how much water Colorado has and how much it needs. The Water Plan will use information collected by nine basin roundtables organized around various watersheds. Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen spoke with Jim Pokrandt. He chairs of the basin roundtable for the Colorado River.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: May 27

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: State Representative Millie Hamner carried three times the number of bills this legislative session, than she did in the previous session. The democrat, who represents several Western Slope counties including Pitkin County, chairs the House education committee. She told Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen that she's most proud of two measures that bring hundreds of millions of dollars to Colorado schools.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: June 20

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: There's often a divide between Colorado's rural lawmakers and those representing larger communities along the urban Front Range. That dynamic was apparent during the 2014 legislative session with Republicans routinely blaming Democrats for waging what they said is a "war on rural Colorado."

Reporter: Bente Birkeland

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

Program: Morning News

Date: April 14

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Getting around Glenwood Springs can be tricky in places. The main bridge on Grand Avenue across town is narrow. And intersections getting on and off Interstate 70 can be confusing. Plus, the bridge isn't safe... that's according to the Colorado Department of Transportation, or CDOT. So a new bridge and interchange are in the works.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: May 27

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Heavy-duty construction begins on Highway 133 in Carbondale today, Tuesday May 29th. The plan is to widen the road in certain spots and put a roundabout in at the intersection with Main Street. Everything is supposed to wrap up before next year, and a Carbondale business group hopes it won't spell trouble for local establishments.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: June 18

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A loophole in Pitkin County's land-use code allowed a huge wedding on the backside of Aspen mountain last weekend. The size of the ceremony angered area residents. Now, Pitkin County Commissioners are scrambling to close the loophole. How they plan to do that is still up in the air.
Reporter: Marci Krivonen

SOCIAL ISSUES

Program: Morning News

Date: April 7

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Roaring Fork Valley is part of a national effort to tackle mental health problems. Locals met with state mental health leaders this weekend to talk about what the key issues are here. The goal is to help figure out the best way to solve them.
Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: May 29

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Governor John Hickenlooper has signed a new law creating a commission to tackle the issue of suicide in Colorado. Members are to be chosen within the next two months, and will include representatives from mental health, law enforcement, education, and other sectors. The commission comes as providers in the Roaring Fork Valley are also trying to figure out how to keep people from committing suicide. Representatives from the mid Valley met in Carbondale on Wednesday to continue brainstorming and educating the public.
Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: June 19

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: It's been six months since selling marijuana officially became legal in Colorado. And now county sheriffs across Colorado are dealing with how to enforce the new law. That issue played out during a bi-annual sheriffs' conference held in Aspen last week. Dorothy Atkins has the story.
Reporter: Dorothy Atkins

ENVIRONMENT

Program: Morning News

Date: April 17

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The public is getting a chance this week to comment on what happens to existing oil and gas leases in Garfield, Pitkin and Mesa Counties. Sixty-five leases within the White River National Forest are up for review. Just eight of them hold active infrastructure, like gas wells. The Bureau of Land Management handles the leases and is soliciting feedback on what do with them.
Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: May 29

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A top administrator in the EPA's Office of Water was in the Roaring Fork Valley on Wednesday, touring local rivers and drumming up interest for a proposed Clean Water Act rule. Acting Administrator Nancy Stoner says the so-called "Waters of the U.S." rulemaking clarifies what types of waterbodies get federal protection. Before she discussed the rule with local residents, she traveled up the Frying Pan river.
Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: June 12

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Thompson Creek watershed that flows through the contested Thompson Divide area, received a special designation this week. On Tuesday, the state's Water Quality Control Commission approved an "Outstanding Waters" designation for several branches of Thompson Creek, near Carbondale.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

EMERGENCY / BREAKING NEWS / CRIME

Program: Morning News

Date: April 2

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: It's still not clear when to expect the first significant court hearings in the alleged murder of Aspen native Nancy Pfister. Attorneys, the prosecution, and a district Judge met yesterday, Wednesday April 2nd, to put those hearings on the calendar... but now that's been pushed back to Wednesday, April 23rd.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: April 17

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: There's lots of questions surrounding the death of Nancy Pfister. The Aspenite passed away in February, and details have been locked up tight so far... by the Pitkin County Sheriff's office and the courts. The Pitkin County Coroner released a report Wednesday, April 16th, about how Pfister died. Coroner Steve Ayers says a forensic pathologist did the autopsy, and described the findings in a short statement.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: June 20

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: All charges have been dropped for Kathy Carpenter. But, the investigation into her possible involvement in the death of Nancy Pfister continues. Carpenter's attorneys plan to show what they call "false information" was used in her arrest.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

EDUCATION

Program: Morning News

Date: May 5

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: One of the researchers trying to better understand how Alzheimer's works is Dr. Huntington Potter. He's a researcher and Professor of Neurology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver. Dr. Potter recently spoke with APR's Elise Thatcher, as part of a series with health experts. She asked him what we know now about treating Alzheimer's.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: May 6

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Third grade reading scores from statewide standardized testing were released today (Tuesday 5-6-2014) and there is good news for the Roaring Fork School District. Three quarters of

third graders in the district are proficient or advanced in reading comprehension. That, says superintendent Diana Sirko, shows continued improvement.
Reporter: Roger Adams

Program: Morning News

Date: May 27

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: State Representative Millie Hamner carried three times the number of bills this legislative session, than she did in the previous session. The democrat, who represents several Western Slope counties including Pitkin County, chairs the House education committee. She told Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen that she's most proud of two measures that bring hundreds of millions of dollars to Colorado schools.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

NONPROFITS

Program: Morning News

Date: April 28

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A non profit in the Mid-valley is ramping up for growing season. This will be the second year *Growing Food Forward* uses gardening to help feed the region's hungry. The organization grows crops for area food pantries, distributes food and seeds to low-income families, and works with schools that have high numbers of kids who use the "free and reduced lunch" program. Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen spoke with Kim Wille, the founder and executive director of the non-profit. She says they manage more than 35 gardens from Aspen to Rifle.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: May 26

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Carbondale Clay Center has been a central player in Carbondale's art community for 17 years. Still, like many non-profit organizations, there's a desire to expand, grow, and improve. Executive Director Jill Oberman, Ceramicist Alex Knipe, Founder Diane Keanie, and Board Advisor, Doug Casebeer, discuss the future of the clay center. To learn more about the Carbondale Clay Center, visit their website: www.carbondaleclay.org.

Reporter: Cornelia Carpenter

Program: Morning News

Date: June 16

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Jamie Cundiff is the Forest Programs Director at the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies (ACES). In 2012, For the Forest merged with ACES to create a powerful voice for more than just the trees of the Roaring Fork Valley, but also for those in Colorado and the West. Cundiff explains the actions ACES is taking to ensure the health of the forests in the valley, as well as large-scale projects designed to predict the future of forests and tree species based on different carbon out-puts in the coming decades.

Reporter: Cornelia Carpenter

ARTS AND CULTURE

Program: Morning News

Date: April 9

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: One of Aspen's Jewish leaders was named recently as one of the country's most inspiring rabbis. The Jewish Daily Forward listed David Segal in its annual list. Segal leads the Aspen

Jewish Congregation, based at the Aspen Chapel. He received the accolade for holding services outside and increasing attendance. Segal says his wife, Cantor Rollin Simmons, also plays a role in what happens at the synagogue. APR's Elise Thatcher spoke with them both... and she asked Segal what his reaction was when he heard news about his commendation.
Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: April 3

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: During World War II, one of this country's secret weapons was a group of hardy outdoorsmen known as the 10th Mountain Division. Many of its veterans went on to pioneer the US ski industry as we know it. Now, there's a film that takes a closer look at what the soldiers went through, and later accomplished.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: June 16

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: When Theater Aspen's season kicks off next week (6-24-2014) the company will have ten apprentices working in all aspects of the productions. This is the second year of the Theater Aspen Apprentice Program. It is a chance for young actors as well as lighting, sound and costume designers who are just getting started to work in a professional setting. David Gram is associate artistic director and coordinator of the apprentice program at Theater Aspen, actor Allie Walsh was one of ten apprentices last year in the inaugural program. She has returned this summer to work with the company. They spoke with APR's Roger Adams.

Reporter: Roger Adams

ENERGY

Program: Morning News

Date: April 29

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Garfield County recently released a report showing air pollution is on a decreasing trend. County officials attribute the decline in part, to improvements in how oil and gas companies operate in the region. As Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen reports, some county residents don't think the numbers tell the whole story.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: May 6

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A set of meetings on how to manage dozens of oil and gas leases in Western Colorado wrapped up last week, and opinions vary wildly. The Bureau of Land Management held the meetings in April and May to solicit public feedback. Sixty-five leases are at issue, and a chunk of them are in the Thompson Divide, where entities like the Pitkin County Commissioners have made it clear they don't want any drilling. Dennis Webb, a writer for the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel attended the BLM's fourth and final public meeting on Thursday, where the pro-energy side turned out.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: June 13

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Governor John Hickenlooper's office said he's still in discussions about whether to call lawmakers back to the state capitol for a special session on oil and gas issues. The goal would be to pass a compromise bill and avoid a fight at the ballot box.
Reporter: Bente Birkeland

SCIENCE

Program: Morning News

Date: April 11

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Colorado's Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic is subsiding but a new threat is on the rise. The Spruce beetle has killed large swaths of forests in Colorado's southwest and a new report shows the Roaring Fork watershed is at risk. Drought and climate change are weakening trees, giving this native beetle a larger area to attack. Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen spoke with Jamie Cundiff. She's the Forest Programs Director for the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: May 27

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The area where the Collbran mudslide happened has seen similar slides in the past. Geologists say relatively weak rock and steep terrain create a recipe for such natural disasters. Still, Colorado in general is less vulnerable to slides than wetter areas, like the west coast.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: June 9

Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Water officials in Ridgway, Colorado officially commissioned their new hydropower project on Friday. The City of Aspen is an integral player in the project, which is already providing power to many communities on the Western Slope.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen