

Headline	Description	Authors	Primary Section	Link	Runtime	Publish Date
Jon Tester presses DHS head about Montana's ports of entry hours	Montana Sen. Jon Tester this week asked Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas about returning Montana's ports of entry to pre-pandemic hours.	Kay Erickson	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-31/jon-tester-presses-dhs-head-about-montanas-ports-of-entry-hours	0:57	Fri Mar 31 19:35:42 EDT 2023
Train derails in south Billings; MRL says no hazardous materials involved	A spokesperson for Montana Rail Link says the train was moving at a slow speed when it derailed. No injuries were reported and no hazardous materials were involved.	Nadya Faulx	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-31/train-derails-in-south-billings-mrl-says-no-hazardous-materials-involved		Fri Mar 31 19:27:01 EDT 2023
Sugarbeet farmers in Sidney evaluate future crop plans in light of factory closure	One of Montana's two sugarbeet processors is ending its operations in Sidney, where farmers have been planting the crop for decades. Now, producers in Richland County are planning for a future without sugarbeets.	Kayla Desroches	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-31/sugar-beet-farmers-in-sidney-evaluate-future-crop-plans-in-light-of-factory-closure	4:42	Fri Mar 31 16:11:39 EDT 2023
Facing 'significant' ag losses, Wyoming asks USDA for help	For the last couple of months, persistent windy winter weather conditions and none of the snow melt you'd usually see during a typical Wyoming winter has forced producers to make difficult decisions says state ag department spokesman Derek Grant.	Kay Erickson	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-30/facing-significant-ag-losses-wyoming-asks-usda-for-help		Thu Mar 30 13:03:48 EDT 2023
Billings seeks input for transportation plan	Billings area residents have an opportunity to help prioritize future transportation needs.	Orlinda Worthington	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-03-30/billings-seeks-input-for-transportation-plan		Thu Mar 30 11:24:07 EDT 2023
Forest service moving forward with proposed timber project near West Yellowstone	A conservation group is worried the project near Yellowstone's West Entrance will harm grizzly bears. In documents released earlier this month forest officials found no significant impact for the South Plateau Landscape Area Treatment Project.	Olivia Weitz	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-03-28/forest-service-moving-forward-with-proposed-timber-project-near-west-yellowstone		Tue Mar 28 20:12:33 EDT 2023
The Session: GOP controls the budget and lawmakers collaborate on elk management	A \$14 billion budget passed out of the Montana House with support from the Republican supermajority	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-27/the-session-gop-controls-the-budget-and-lawmakers-collaborate-on-elk-management	9:23	Mon Mar 27 07:00:00 EDT 2023
SWAT officer shoots, kills woman after standoff in Billings	According to the Billings Police Department, officers responded Saturday afternoon to a disturbance at a business involving the 35-year-old woman. BPD says the woman displayed a firearm, shot a round in the air and then fled in a stolen vehicle.	Nadya Faulx	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-03-27/swat-officer-shoots-kills-woman-after-standoff-in-billings		Mon Mar 27 14:19:47 EDT 2023
Billings photographer receives congressional honor	Larry Mayer, a photographer with the Billings Gazette, along with videographer Chase Doak, published the first photos of the suspected Chinese spy balloon that floated over Montana in February.	Orlinda Worthington	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-03-27/billings-photographer-receives-congressional-honor		Mon Mar 27 12:32:54 EDT 2023
In Gallatin County, childcare options fall short of demand	A new Montana Department of Labor and Industry report shows there is more demand for childcare in Gallatin County than there are slots available.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-24/in-gallatin-county-childcare-options-fall-short-of-demand	1:08	Fri Mar 24 17:55:28 EDT 2023
FWP purchase opens Yellowstone River island complex to public use	The conservation-focused investment firm Beartooth Group initially bought the two island parcels as part of a larger ranch purchase. The firm's founder says selling the island properties to the state helps ensure they continue to be wildlife habitat and maintain river health.	Olivia Weitz	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-03-24/fwp-purchase-opens-yellowstone-river-island-complex-to-public-use	1:26	Fri Mar 24 14:47:04 EDT 2023
Enhanced breast cancer detection coming to Beartooth Billings Clinic	New technology at Beartooth Billings Clinic in Red Lodge will give patients greater accuracy in detecting breast cancer.	Orlinda Worthington	Health	https://www.ypradio.org/health/2023-03-22/enhanced-breast-cancer-detection-coming-to-beartooth-billings-clinic		Wed Mar 22 14:45:34 EDT 2023
Communities await results of 'point in time' count of unhoused Montanans	Data from the count helps cities develop strategies for ending homelessness and connect people with housing and vital services.	Orlinda Worthington	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-03-21/communities-await-results-of-point-in-time-count-of-unhoused-montanans	1:59	Tue Mar 21 19:20:03 EDT 2023
Remodeling at Billings airport adds gates, runways — and someday, flights	Passengers at Billings Logan International Airport will see construction there for the rest of this year and beyond.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-20/remodeling-at-billings-airport-adds-gates-runways-and-someday-flights		Mon Mar 20 18:55:39 EDT 2023
Montana University System rolling out accelerated 'sprint degrees'	The Montana University System is preparing to roll out a new accelerated degree program.	Nadya Faulx	Education	https://www.ypradio.org/education/2023-03-20/montana-university-system-rolling-out-accelerated-sprint-degrees		Mon Mar 20 15:20:07 EDT 2023
The Session: Health care funding, childcare initiatives and vaccine bills	Lawmakers have spent the last week digging into budget negotiations as House Bill 2, the state's primary budget bill, takes shape. Some of the highest profile debates have been about health care access and how much the state pays Medicaid providers.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-20/the-session-health-care-funding-childcare-initiatives-and-vaccine-bills	12:35	Mon Mar 20 12:12:19 EDT 2023
Housing report shows continued decline in affordability in Gallatin County	Continued high prices and mortgage rate increases have further deteriorated housing affordability in Gallatin County, according to the 2023 Gallatin Valley housing report released earlier this month.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-17/housing-report-shows-continued-decline-in-affordability-in-gallatin-county	1:31	Fri Mar 17 19:26:35 EDT 2023

Not just 'Yellowstone': Billings sites, residents shine on-screen too	Western Montana has been the focus of television and movie production in recent years— most notably the Bitterroot Valley as the setting for <i>Yellowstone.</i> But farther east, Billings and its residents have also had opportunities in front of the camera lens over the years.	Kay Erickson	Arts & Culture	https://www.ypradio.org/arts-culture/2023-03-15/not-just-yellowstone-billings-sites-residents-shine-on-screen-too	3:51 Wed Mar 15 19:57:57 EDT 2023
Tinworks Art in Bozeman hires new director as gallery looks to expand to year-around programming	Jenny Moore joined Tinworks Art as founding director this month and says the organization seeks to create inclusive, immersive experiences that you won't find in a traditional art gallery.	Olivia Weitz	Arts & Culture	https://www.ypradio.org/arts-culture/2023-03-15/tinworks-art-in-bozeman-hires-new-director-as-gallery-looks-to-expand-to-year-around-programming	1:22 Wed Mar 15 19:18:34 EDT 2023
Skijoring athletes race through Red Lodge for national final	If you've never seen skijoring, picture water skiing meets snow racing meets rodeo.	Orlinda Worthington	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-03-15/skijoring-races-glide-through-red-lodge-for-national-final	Wed Mar 15 18:46:25 EDT 2023
Yellowstone County District Judge Michael Moses to retire	Moses was appointed by Democratic former Gov. Steve Bullock and sworn in as a judge for the Thirteenth Judicial District in 2014.	Orlinda Worthington	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-03-14/yellowstone-county-district-judge-michael-moses-to-retire	Tue Mar 14 18:09:49 EDT 2023
The Session: Past halfway point, lawmakers buckle down on the budget	Hundreds of bills were left on the cutting room floor at the legislative session's midway point. Now, as lawmakers head into the second half, they're turning more of their attention to finalizing the state's next two-year budget.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-13/the-session-past-halfway-point-lawmakers-buckle-down-on-the-budget	8:13 Mon Mar 13 12:00:00 EDT 2023
Could anti-abortion laws hurt business? CEOs, top Montana lawmaker disagree	Montana lawmakers are considering about a half-dozen bills that would restrict abortion services. Some business leaders say that could make Montana a less attractive place for employees, but Speaker of the House Matt Regier says the bills won't impact business.	Olivia Weitz	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-10/could-anti-abortion-laws-hurt-business-ceos-top-montana-lawmaker-disagree	5:36 Fri Mar 10 19:43:07 EST 2023
Montana, Wyoming high school students hopeful their idea will launch into space	Montana and Wyoming high school students were in Billings this week pitching projects they hope will make it into space.	Orlinda Worthington	Environment & Science	https://www.ypradio.org/environment-science/2023-03-09/montana-wyoming-high-school-students-hopeful-their-idea-will-launch-into-space	1:46 Thu Mar 09 19:35:48 EST 2023
First Yellowstone grizzly emerges from hibernation	In a news release Tuesday Yellowstone officials say a park wildlife biologist on a tracking flight spotted the first grizzly to emerge from hibernation.	Kay Erickson	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-03-07/first-yellowstone-grizzly-emerges-from-hibernation	Tue Mar 07 19:10:45 EST 2023
Montana regulators prepare for evaluation of NWE resource plan	NorthWestern Energy updates its 20-year plan for meeting customer needs every three years and is soon due to submit the document to Montana regulators	Kayla Desroches	Energy	https://www.ypradio.org/energy/2023-04-04/montana-regulators-prepare-for-evaluation-of-nwe-resource-plan	1:19 Tue Mar 07 18:49:59 EST 2023
Planned Montana-Dakota transmission line to connect eastern and western electric grids	U.S. energy companies are working to build new infrastructure and modernize electric grids.	Kayla Desroches	Energy	ypradio.org/energy/2023-03-07/planned-montana-dakota-transmission-line-to-connect-eastern-and-western-electric-grids	1:04 Tue Mar 07 12:33:53 EST 2023
Montanans react to the balloon that brought national attention to the state	Montanans are still talking about the Chinese balloon that floated through its airspace last month. But they are talking about more local matters as well.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-04/people-in-montana-react-to-the-balloon-that-brought-national-attention-to-the-state	3:33 Mon Mar 06 16:31:06 EST 2023
Gun violence, firearm-related convictions up in Montana	Members of law enforcement and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Montana spoke about gun violence at an event in Billings this week.	Kayla Desroches	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-03-03/gun-violence-firearm-related-convictions-up-in-montana	1:02 Fri Mar 03 18:54:38 EST 2023
Watch The Session Live: A look at the first 45 days	Reporters from Montana Public Radio and Montana Free Press recap the major developments from the Montana Legislature's first 45 days, and look ahead to the second half of the session. 	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-03-02/the-session-live-a-look-at-the-first-45-days	Thu Mar 02 19:47:11 EST 2023
Montana companies tell lawmakers restricting abortion would be bad for business	Twenty high-growth companies, representing hundreds of jobs and average wages close to \$100,000, have signed a statement urging lawmakers not to pass legislation that would interfere with access to reproductive healthcare.	Olivia Weitz	Business & Economics	https://www.ypradio.org/business-economics/2023-03-02/montana-companies-tell-lawmakers-restricting-abortion-would-be-bad-for-business	6:44 Thu Mar 02 14:36:40 EST 2023
Gianforte visits Billings irrigation canal, calls on lawmakers to pass disaster emergency fund	Leaders in Yellowstone County, along with Gov. Gianforte, say an irrigation canal that runs through Billings is at risk of flooding – and they're calling on state legislators to fund repairs.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-03-01/gianforte-visits-billings-irrigation-canal-calls-on-lawmakers-to-pass-disaster-emergency-fund	Wed Mar 01 20:15:02 EST 2023
Rural critical access hospital to build new facility in central Montana	A critical access hospital in rural central Montana will use millions of federal dollars to build a new facility in the community it serves.	Kayla Desroches	Health	https://www.ypradio.org/health/2023-03-01/rural-critical-access-hospital-to-build-new-facility-in-central-montana	1:04 Wed Mar 01 19:29:58 EST 2023
Yellowstone visitation down 32% in 2022	Year-end data from Yellowstone National park show visitation in 2022 was down about a third from 2021, the park's busiest year on record.	Olivia Weitz	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-03-01/yellowstone-visitation-down-32-in-2022	Wed Mar 01 12:26:32 EST 2023
The Session: Deadline rush includes abortion access debate	Reporters Mara Silvers and Shaylee Ragar discuss this week's deadline for lawmakers to pass general bills out of their original chamber. There's a lot of policy to consider, including rules about access to abortion.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-27/the-session-deadline-rush-includes-abortion-access-debate	13:06 Mon Feb 27 07:00:00 EST 2023
Winter cold snaps putting financial pressure on Bozeman shelter	The nonprofit that runs the warming center in Bozeman says operating in cold temperatures has put financial strain on the shelter.	Olivia Weitz	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-02-24/winter-cold-snaps-putting-financial-pressure-on-bozeman-shelter	1:17 Fri Feb 24 19:47:04 EST 2023

Proposal would call Montana lawmakers to study electricity reserves, past service interruptions	A proposal before the Montana state Legislature would call for lawmakers to study electricity reserves and past service interruptions in order to find ways to avoid controlled outages in the case of an emergency.	Kayla Desroches	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-24/proposal-would-call-montana-lawmakers-to-study-electricity-reserves-past-service-interruptions	Fri Feb 24 19:34:46 EST 2023
Montana conservation leader says preserving private land is key to maintaining wildlife	As more lands become developed in the Gallatin Valley, some wildlife habitat is being lost.	Olivia Weitz	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-02-22/montana-conservation-leader-says-preserving-private-land-is-key-to-maintaining-wildlife	1:14 Wed Feb 22 18:51:18 EST 2023
At town hall, tenant group demands Bozeman City Commission ban some types of short-term rentals	During the discussion on incentivizing property owners to rent local, Commissioner Jennifer Madgic highlighted how the rent local program in Big Sky is funded in part by the Big Sky Resort resort tax.	Olivia Weitz	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-02-22/at-town-hall-tenant-group-demands-bozeman-city-commission-ban-some-types-of-short-term-rentals	1:17 Wed Feb 22 17:00:43 EST 2023
Tester announces 2024 Senate re-election bid	Montana Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Tester announced Wednesday he's seeking a fourth term.	YPR News	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-22/tester-announces-2024-senate-re-election-bid	Wed Feb 22 10:52:27 EST 2023
New fund asks Gallatin County businesses to invest in creating more housing supply	As Gallatin County businesses continue to struggle to hire employees with the high cost of housing in the area, a new housing fund will allow those businesses to become part of the solution.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-21/new-fund-asks-gallatin-county-businesses-to-invest-in-creating-more-housing-supply	1:29 Tue Feb 21 19:39:18 EST 2023
The Session: Indigenous Peoples Day, property taxes and redistricting	A bill to establish Indigenous Peoples Day in Montana is defeated, but some lawmakers are moving to Plan B. Plus, a debate stirs over property taxes, and Republicans say new legislative districts put them at a disadvantage.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-20/the-session-indigenous-peoples-day-property-taxes-and-redistricting	12:14 Mon Feb 20 11:46:17 EST 2023
Billings boy and his dad recall balloon sighting: 'I thought it was the comet'	Two Montana photographers are now known all around the world for the first published photos of the balloon seen over Billings. But a fifth-grader thinks he may have actually scooped them.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-20/billings-boy-and-his-dad-recall-balloon-sighting-i-thought-it-was-the-comet	1:29 Mon Feb 20 05:00:00 EST 2023
Judge reverses Signal Peak mine expansion approval	The expansion of an underground coal mine in central Montana is on pause amid legal challenges from conservation groups that say regulators failed to fully consider environmental impacts.	Kayla Desroches	Energy	https://www.ypradio.org/energy/2023-02-17/judge-reverses-signal-peak-mine-expansion-approval	1:15 Fri Feb 17 18:30:54 EST 2023
Montana is prepping to remove flood debris from state waterways. Here's what residents should know	Emergency managers say they're on track to complete some debris cleanup at state-managed river sites in southcentral Montana by the first anniversary of last June's flood.	Kayla Desroches	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-16/montana-is-prepping-to-remove-flood-debris-from-state-waterways-heres-what-residents-should-know	:58 Thu Feb 16 20:55:14 EST 2023
R-Y Timber to close sawmill in Livingston after second fire in six months	One of Montana's top timber manufacturers is closing its last remaining sawmill in the state after it caught fire for the second time in six months.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-15/r-y-timber-to-close-sawmill-in-livingston-after-second-fire-in-six-months	1:18 Wed Feb 15 17:54:08 EST 2023
Manhattan residents show resistance towards becoming a 'sanctuary for the unborn'	An ordinance before the Manhattan, Montana, town council sought to allow residents to sue those who receive abortion pills by mail.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-15/manhattan-residents-show-resistance-towards-becoming-a-sanctuary-for-the-unborn	1:36 Wed Feb 15 11:22:26 EST 2023
Eastern Montana Community Mental Health Center implementing care model lawmakers want to expand statewide	Montana lawmakers are considering a publicly funded mental health model that advocates say could increase access to care.	Kayla Desroches	Health	https://www.ypradio.org/health/2023-02-14/eastern-montana-community-mental-health-center-implementing-care-model-lawmakers-want-to-expand-statewide	1:21 Tue Feb 14 18:24:39 EST 2023
Yellowstone relocates 112 bison to Fort Peck	The move was the single largest transfer under the Bison Conservation Transfer Program, which relocates Yellowstone bison to Native American tribes around Montana and the country.	Nadya Faulx	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-02-14/yellowstone-relocates-112-bison-to-fort-peck	Tue Feb 14 18:18:35 EST 2023
Ticketing changes at AMC will change movie-going experience, Billings media professor says	Movie goers to AMC Theaters will see a ticket price increase for the "best seats in the house" in coming months.	Kay Erickson	Business & Economics	https://www.ypradio.org/business-economics/2023-02-10/ticketing-changes-at-amc-will-change-movie-going-experience-billings-media-professor-says	1:48 Fri Feb 10 19:42:50 EST 2023
A woman of many 'firsts' and an author of the American West honored at Montana Capitol	The gallery was established by the Montana Legislature in 1979 to pay homage to Treasure State citizens who made contributions of state or national significance.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-10/a-woman-of-many-firsts-and-an-author-of-the-american-west-honored-at-montana-capitol	Fri Feb 10 18:07:03 EST 2023
In committee hearing, Tester demands answers on Chinese spy balloon	Montana's Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Tester led the first public briefing demanding answers from Biden administration officials on the Chinese spy balloon that was first publicly reported in U.S. airspace above Billings.	Orlinda Worthington	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-10/in-committee-hearing-tester-demands-answers-on-chinese-spy-balloon	Fri Feb 10 17:30:44 EST 2023
'I never thought that something I shot would lead to major international news': First balloon photographers reflect on historic images	Two Montana photographers were the first to publish images of the big, white object floating over Billings last week — an object later identified as a suspected Chinese surveillance balloon. Larry Mayer and Chase Doak spoke with Yellowstone Public Radio's Orlinda Worthington about how their lives have changed since that day.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-09/i-never-thought-that-something-i-shot-would-lead-to-major-international-news-first-balloon-photographers-reflect-on-historic-images	19:42 Thu Feb 09 20:29:20 EST 2023

Manhattan, Montana, to consider city-level abortion restrictions	A move to make Manhattan a “sanctuary for the unborn” seeks to criminalize receiving abortion pills by mail.	Olivia Weitz	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-09/manhattan-montana-to-consider-city-level-abortion-restrictions	Thu Feb 09 14:34:43 EST 2023
Community, workers 'shocked' by impending closure of historic Sidney sugar beet factory	Minnesota-based ag cooperative American Crystal Sugar Company bought the facility in 2002 and said in a news release announcing the closure that "due to an ongoing insufficient supply of sugar beets from the local growers," the operation is no longer financially sustainable.	Kayla Desroches	Business & Economics	https://www.ypradio.org/business-economics/2023-02-07/community-workers-shocked-by-impending-closure-of-historic-sidney-sugar-beet-factory	1:14 Wed Feb 08 01:52:42 EST 2023
Montana in consideration for federal solar program	Federal land managers are updating a program that helps streamline development of large solar energy facilities on public lands.	Kayla Desroches	Energy	https://www.ypradio.org/energy/2023-02-07/montana-in-consideration-for-federal-solar-program	0:55 Tue Feb 07 14:35:11 EST 2023
Pine Creek Lodge owner eyes alternatives as area parking ban moves forward	If given final approval, the ban would go into effect June 1 – a couple of months later than commissioners had originally said. Pine Creek Lodge owner Jenny Arr says having more time is helpful as they figure out another parking plan.	Olivia Weitz	Business & Economics	https://www.ypradio.org/business-economics/2023-02-06/pine-creek-lodge-owner-eyes-alternatives-as-area-parking-ban-moves-forward	Mon Feb 06 12:35:09 EST 2023
The Session: The judiciary, tax rebates and the budget surplus	Host Mara Silvers talks to reporters Arren Kimbel-Sannit, Eric Dietrich and Shaylee Ragar about changes to the judicial branch, the budget surplus and tax proposals. 	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press		https://www.ypradio.org/2023-02-06/the-session-the-judiciary-tax-rebates-and-the-budget-surplus	10:34 Mon Feb 06 07:01:00 EST 2023
Montana lawmakers press Biden administration for answers on Chinese spy balloon	Members of Montana’s congressional delegation and local lawmakers are pressing the Biden administration for answers about the Chinese balloon currently moving eastward over the U.S.	Nadya Faulx	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-02-03/montana-lawmakers-press-biden-administration-for-answers-on-chinese-spy-balloon	Fri Feb 03 19:45:46 EST 2023
EPA collects final samples from a Billings superfund site	Environmental regulators are in Billings this month wrapping up testing within a plume of groundwater contamination from nearby dry cleaning operations.	Kayla Desroches	Environment & Science	https://www.ypradio.org/environment-science/2023-02-03/epa-collects-final-samples-from-a-billings-superfund-site	1:20 Fri Feb 03 18:31:46 EST 2023
Billings’ Art House Cinema to close for remodel	Art House Cinema and Pub, located in the old Central Lanes Bowling Alley in downtown Billings, is going dark next month — for a good reason.	Kay Erickson	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-02-03/billings-art-house-cinema-to-close-for-remodel	1:20 Fri Feb 03 15:07:05 EST 2023
'Live Wire' comes to YPR	Beginning Feb. 11, <i>Live Wire</i> will take over the 11a.m. hour after the producers of <i>Says You!</i> made the decision to cease radio distribution of their long-running quiz show.	Yellowstone Public Radio		https://www.ypradio.org/2023-02-03/live-wire-comes-to-ypr	Fri Feb 03 14:22:48 EST 2023
Orb spotted over Billings is suspected Chinese surveillance balloon	A statement from Pentagon press secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder confirmed officials, including with NORAD, detected and are tracking a “high altitude surveillance balloon” moving over the U.S.	Nadya Faulx	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-02/orb-spotted-over-billings-is-suspected-chinese-surveillance-balloon	Thu Feb 02 20:42:34 EST 2023
Longtime Billings meteorologist Keith Meier reflects on career and a changing industry	Billings Meteorologist in Charge Keith Meier is retiring after more than 30 years with the National Weather Service.	Kay Erickson	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-02/longtime-billings-meteorologist-keith-meier-reflects-on-career-and-a-changing-industry	8:19 Thu Feb 02 18:50:29 EST 2023
Bill allowing churches to serve as emergency shelters advances in Montana Legislature	SB 195 would allow churches to provide temporary overnight shelter without needing expensive upgrades to their fire sprinkler systems.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-02-02/bill-allowing-churches-to-serve-as-emergency-shelters-advances-in-montana-legislature	Thu Feb 02 18:27:38 EST 2023
New housing coalition forms to develop more affordable housing solutions in Gallatin County	A community foundation in southwest Montana is launching a coalition to help develop affordable housing solutions in the area.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-31/new-housing-coalition-forms-to-develop-more-affordable-housing-solutions-in-gallatin-county	1:15 Tue Jan 31 14:41:00 EST 2023
The Session: A speech, a crowded hearing room and the cost of defending laws	Gov. Greg Gianforte delivers a State of the State address that focuses on economic growth, but lawmakers are turning their attention to social issues.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-30/the-session-a-speech-a-crowded-hearing-room-and-the-cost-of-defending-laws	11:26 Mon Jan 30 07:01:00 EST 2023
Montana leaders, environmentalists react to Colstrip acquisition	NorthWestern Energy announced this month that it’s acquiring co-owner Avista Utilities’ stake in the Colstrip coal-fired power plant. Colstrip's mayor says it's a relief, but environmentalists say it's a step in the wrong direction.	Kayla Desroches	Environment & Science	https://www.ypradio.org/environment-science/2023-01-29/montana-leaders-environmentalists-react-to-colstrip-acquisition	4:22 Sun Jan 29 15:17:50 EST 2023
In State of the City address, Bozeman mayor says affordable housing remains a top priority	Bozeman Mayor Cyndy Andrus says creating more affordable housing will continue to be a top priority for the city commission in the year ahead.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-27/in-state-of-the-city-address-bozeman-mayor-says-affordable-housing-remains-a-top-priority	Fri Jan 27 18:45:50 EST 2023
Western bumble bee declines linked to climate change, pesticides and land cover	A study published this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences finds that climate change, pesticides and shifting land cover over the last two decades are connected with a decrease in the western bumble bee’s presence across Montana.	Kayla Desroches	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-01-27/western-bumble-bee-declines-linked-to-climate-change-pesticides-and-land-cover	1:31 Fri Jan 27 18:33:43 EST 2023
Bozeman's Bridger View neighborhood aims to be an example for sustainability and affordability	Bridger View is being regarded as one of the most sustainable in the Rocky Mountain West. The neighborhood also aims to be a model of affordability — half of the eight-acre development's 62 homes are priced below market.	Olivia Weitz	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-01-26/bozemans-bridger-view-neighborhood-aims-to-be-an-example-for-sustainability-and-affordability	5:58 Thu Jan 26 19:52:56 EST 2023
Montana restaurants, chefs are among the semifinalists for James Beard Awards	The James Beard Foundation's list of semifinalists for the prestigious James Beard Awards included nearly a dozen chefs and eateries from under the Big Sky.	Stella Fong	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-25/montana-restaurants-chefs	Wed Jan 25 19:54:16 EST 2023

County commission considers parking restrictions near Pine Creek Lodge	More than 40 people testified at a hearing Tuesday on a proposal to limit parking near a concert venue and restaurant in Paradise Valley.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-25/county-commission-considers-parking-restrictions-near-pine-creek-lodge	1:30 Wed Jan 25 19:19:25 EST 2023
Missing WWII soldier from Montana identified	Corporal Franklin Bennett, from Glendive, was among the U.S. personnel who surrendered in the Philippines in December of 1941. The Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency announced Friday the Department of Defense confirmed his remains this past summer.	Orlinda Worthington	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-23/missing-wwii-soldier-from-montana-identified	Mon Jan 23 20:09:21 EST 2023
Yellowstone County, court workers reach tentative contract, avert strike	Yellowstone County has avoided a courthouse strike over contract language that the local union said left it out of pay discussions. 	Kayla Desroches	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-01-23/yellowstone-county-court-workers-reach-tentative-contract-avert-strike	1:07 Mon Jan 23 13:57:13 EST 2023
MMIW documentary set in Big Horn County premieres at 2023 Sundance Film Festival	A three-part documentary focused on four missing and murdered Indigenous women from Montana premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in Utah.	Kay Erickson	Tribal Issues	https://www.ypradio.org/tribal-affairs/2023-01-20/mmiw-documentary-set-in-big-horn-county-premieres-at-2023-sundance-film-festival	1:38 Fri Jan 20 19:24:42 EST 2023
Northwestern Energy to double ownership in Colstrip plant	Montana's largest utility announced this week it will acquire 222 megawatts of the Colstrip coal-fired power plant from Washington-based Avista Utilities.	Kayla Desroches	Energy	https://www.ypradio.org/energy/2023-01-19/northwestern-energy-to-double-ownership-in-colstrip-plant	1:11 Thu Jan 19 15:07:22 EST 2023
Iconic boot repair shop moves out of downtown Bozeman	A mainstay in downtown Bozeman for nearly three decades, Carter's Boots and Repair has moved.	Olivia Weitz	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-01-18/iconic-boot-repair-shop-moves-out-of-downtown-bozeman	1:29 Wed Jan 18 19:37:26 EST 2023
Havre schools first in Montana to receive electric buses	Two electric buses are now carrying some students to and from school in Hill County in north-central Montana.	Kayla Desroches	Environment & Science	https://www.ypradio.org/environment-science/2023-01-18/havre-schools-first-in-montana-to-receive-electric-buses	1:09 Wed Jan 18 18:57:32 EST 2023
Videoconferences offer opportunity to visit with Montana lawmakers	People in the Billings area will have the opportunity to visit with local lawmakers in Helena through legislative videoconference sessions hosted by the Billings Chamber of Commerce and Montana State University Billings.	Orlinda Worthington	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-18/videoconferences-offer-opportunity-to-visit-with-montanalawmakers	Wed Jan 18 13:58:03 EST 2023
Cases of canine brucella up across Montana	Although antibiotics can be used to help control the infection, there is no cure for dogs with the illness.	Orlinda Worthington	Health	https://www.ypradio.org/health/2023-01-17/cases-of-canine-brucella-up-across-montana	Tue Jan 17 14:25:58 EST 2023
The Session Week 2: Taxes, missing persons and child welfare	Host Mara Silvers and reporters Ellis Juhlin and Shaylee Ragar discuss the legislation they're watching this week — along with the schisms between and within the parties that are starting to form.	YPR News, Montana Free Press, MTPR News	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/2023-01-16/the-session-week-2-taxes-missing-persons-and-child-welfare	10:40 Mon Jan 16 12:33:27 EST 2023
As human trafficking rises in Montana, here's what to look for – and how to help	January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. While it is easy to think of human trafficking as something that only happens in big cities, or other countries, it is a crime that can happen anywhere, and to anyone. 	Orlinda Worthington	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-01-16/as-human-trafficking-rises-in-montana-heres-what-to-look-for-and-how-to-help	4:37 Mon Jan 16 12:30:42 EST 2023
Yellowstone County law enforcement flags jail space, staff as public safety priorities	Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte was in Billings Wednesday to discuss public safety and his budget proposals with law enforcement officials from around Yellowstone County.	Kayla Desroches	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-13/yellowstone-county-law-enforcement-flags-jail-space-staff-as-public-safety-priorities	1:07 Fri Jan 13 12:53:28 EST 2023
Ahead of 2024 conference, Methodist churches grapple with question of inclusivity	United Methodist churches around the country are voting to disaffiliate from the large Protestant denomination over a fundamental approach to human sexuality.	Kay Erickson	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-12/ahead-of-2024-conference-methodist-churches-grapple-with-question-of-inclusivity	4:09 Thu Jan 12 19:40:31 EST 2023
Bozeman Public Schools eyes tax levy to help reduce budget shortfall	The district wants to ask taxpayers to help make up for a budget shortfall in its K-12 general fund.	Olivia Weitz	Education	https://www.ypradio.org/education/2023-01-11/bozeman-public-schools-eyes-tax-levy-to-help-reduce-budget-shortfall	Wed Jan 11 19:35:20 EST 2023
Electric vehicle fee proposal moving through Montana Legislature	A bill to charge registration fees on electric vehicles has advanced out committee.	Kayla Desroches	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-11/electric-vehicle-fee-proposal-moving-through-montana-legislature	1:24 Wed Jan 11 19:17:54 EST 2023
As Red Lodge recovers from spring floods, new law could improve forecasting	A new law puts federal resources into improving forecasting for natural disasters, like the flooding that destroyed homes and downed bridges in some parts of Montana last spring.	Kayla Desroches	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-10/as-red-lodge-recovers-from-spring-floods-new-law-could-improve-forecasting	1:28 Tue Jan 10 19:16:51 EST 2023
Yellowstone County, city leaders establish new public health board	Representatives from Yellowstone County, Billings and Laurel signed a memorandum of understanding last month to establish a Local Governing Authority made up of council and commission members from each of the three communities.	Kayla Desroches	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-10/yellowstone-county-city-leaders-establish-new-public-health-board	1:17 Tue Jan 10 18:53:26 EST 2023
Billings police standoff ends in arrest, homicide investigation	The unnamed suspect is being detained on suspicion of deliberate homicide, attempted deliberate homicide and robbery.	Nadya Faulx, Orlinda Worthington	Crime & Courts	https://www.ypradio.org/crime-courts/2023-01-09/billings-police-standoff-ends-in-arrest-homicide-investigation	Mon Jan 09 19:30:50 EST 2023
Montana group creates fund to help ranchers offset quarantine costs of brucellosis transmission	If you drive through Montana's Paradise Valley this time of year you'll likely see elk in their winter range. A new fund will help offset the cost ranchers who provide elk habitat could accrue if their herd contracts brucellosis.	Olivia Weitz	Wildlife & outdoors	https://www.ypradio.org/wildlife-outdoors/2023-01-09/montana-group-creates-fund-to-help-ranchers-offset-quarantine-costs-of-brucellosis-transmission	1:18 Mon Jan 09 12:16:36 EST 2023

The Session Week 1: 'The House is ready for business'	Montana lawmakers take their oaths of office and begin their work in the state capitol.	YPR News, MTPR News, Montana Free Press	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-09/the-session-week-1-the-house-is-ready-for-business	12:49 Mon Jan 09 07:00:00 EST 2023
Assessment pins mental wellness as a primary Yellowstone County health need	Billings Clinic, the Rehabilitation Hospital of Montana, RiverStone Health and St. Vincent Healthcare published the county's sixth community needs assessment since 2005 on Wednesday.	Kayla Desroches	Health	https://www.ypradio.org/health/2023-01-06/assessment-pins-mental-wellness-as-a-primary-yellowstone-county-health-need	Fri Jan 06 19:42:01 EST 2023
Gianforte calls on Montana universities to block TikTok	In a letter to the state board of regents released publicly this week, Gianforte requests that the board block the university system and its campuses from using the popular social media app, and prevent its use while connected to a Montana University System network.	Nadya Faulx	Government & Politics	https://www.ypradio.org/government-politics/2023-01-06/gianforte-calls-on-montana-universities-to-block-tiktok	Fri Jan 06 15:35:52 EST 2023
Bozeman nonprofit invests grant in new shelter, programming	The Human Resource Development Council was awarded \$5 million from the Bezos Day 1 Families fund, a philanthropic organization started by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos. The grant is the largest gift the nonprofit has received in its nearly 50-year history.	Olivia Weitz	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-01-06/bozeman-nonprofit-invests-grant-in-new-shelter-programming	1:33 Fri Jan 06 15:16:01 EST 2023
Housing program in Big Sky funds 84 rental units for local workforce	A housing program in Big Sky is close to reaching its goal of adding 100 rental units for local workers by 2023.	Olivia Weitz	Regional News	https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-01-06/housing-program-in-big-sky-funds-84-rental-units-for-local-workforce	1:25 Fri Jan 06 14:53:05 EST 2023
Montana woman reflects on work delivering medical supplies to Ukraine	Valerie Hellerman is the founder of Hands On Global, a nonprofit organization based in Helena that provides basic health care to remote underserved areas and refugee camps around the world. She returned in December from a trip delivering crucial medical supplies to western Ukraine and spoke to Yellowstone Public Radio's Orlinda Worthington about her experience.	Orlinda Worthington	Community	https://www.ypradio.org/community/2023-01-04/montana-woman-reflects-on-work-delivering-medical-supplies-to-ukraine	4:55 Wed Jan 04 16:57:34 EST 2023
Bozeman superintendent against closing elementary school as district looks to trim budget	To avoid emergency funding cuts, Bozeman Public Schools is looking to cut \$4.1 million from its \$57 million K-12 general fund budget. Superintendent Casey Bertram says the disruption of closing elementary school would not be worth saving \$300,000.	Olivia Weitz	Education	https://www.ypradio.org/education/2023-01-04/bozeman-superintendent-against-closing-elementary-school-as-district-looks-to-trim-budget	1:19 Wed Jan 04 14:56:40 EST 2023