

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA ISSUES REPORT 2nd QUARTER 2020

Issue: COVID 19

Topic: As more cases of the coronavirus are confirmed throughout the state, it's putting pressure on supplies for health care workers. So Wyoming creators, coders, engineers and others are working on ways to help local hospitals make sure they don't run out. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

The governor has banned gathering together with more than ten people because of the COVID-19 pandemic. That makes it hard for places of faith to worship every Sunday. But some churches in Wyoming are finding creative solutions to keep everyone feeling like they are together. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: Grocery store workers are on the front lines, putting their health at risk to keep store shelves stocked and grocery carts full. Late last week [3/20] at least one grocery chain announced it's offering all hourly employees an appreciation pay of \$2 more an hour. Noah Glick talked to some store workers and filed this report.

Time: 3 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: Countless businesses nationwide are closed right now due to COVID-19. But many have to stay open - from groceries stores to coal mines. And while there are safety guidelines in place, some workers don't feel it's enough. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports that many are speaking out.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: Despite putting in place restrictions before anyone else, Teton County's numbers continue to jump. It's consistently ranked as one of the top two or three places with confirmed positive tests in place. Although health care providers also say it's a place where lots of testing has taken place. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska spoke with Teton County Health Officer Dr. Travis Riddell who joined us from his home in Jackson. He says he knew the area would get hit hard by the coronavirus.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: Between shuttered businesses and skyrocketing unemployment figures, the COVID-19 pandemic has put some folks at risk of losing their livelihood. Wyoming Public Radio's Jeff

Victor reports that will hurt Wyoming's rental tenants ... and it's unclear what, if any, assistance might be coming.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: Nationally New York, South Dakota and many other states are experiencing an overwhelming number of COVID-19 patients. But Wyoming isn't projected to reach its peak number of coronavirus cases until early May. So while small, rural hospitals wait for an influx of those people, they are preparing to try to make sure they have all the resources they need to keep them alive. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: In this time of COVID-19, relatively routine tasks and procedures have become a little more scary. And that includes something like childbirth. Typically, expectant mothers would have a lot of face to face interaction with her doctor. But times have changed. Wyoming Public Radio's Naina Rao explains.

Time: 6 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming is one of the states with the fewest number of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases. That's good news. But officials say the state still needs to be careful and not fall into a false sense of security that could cause a second wave and end up being disastrous to the health and economy of the state. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon.

Topic: Our state is one of a handful that never issued a stay-at-home order to slow the spread of COVID-19. But the two tribes on the Wind River Reservation have taken a different approach. Tribal members face fines and even jail time for violating a stay-at-home order there. And as Wyoming begins to lift statewide restrictions, the reservation is locking down even tighter. The Wyoming Public Radio's Savannah Maher reports.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon

Topic: As Wyoming slowly begins to reopen, the department of health says widespread testing is critical. In the simplest terms, the COVID-19 test works by taking a sample from a potentially infected individual and it's scanned for the virus. But it turns out like any test - the COVID-19 test is NOT 100 percent accurate. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska spoke with University of Wyoming associate professor of community and public health Dr. Christine Porter about why it matters that there is a possibility of false negatives.

Time: 7 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon

Topic: In early March, a few members of the Wheeler family visited a relative at the Showboat retirement center in Lander. Days later, it was announced there was a COVID-19 outbreak there. Before long 14 members of the extended Wheeler family had tested positive for COVID-19, and 5 were hospitalized.

On April 20, the family lost three loved ones to the illness. Larry and Gloria Wheeler, who had been married more than 50 years, passed away hours before their 55-year-old daughter Dawn Wheeler also died. Wyoming Public Radio's Savannah Maher asked a dozen relatives to share their memories of Larry, Gloria and Dawn, and how COVID-19 has taken a toll on the family.

Time: 10 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon

Topic: One of the first people in Wyoming to die of COVID-19 was Jackson resident Bill Sweney. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen has this memorial.

Time: 4 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon

Topic: Hospital finances around the nation have been hit hard during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes Wyoming hospitals as they had to stop providing the non-essential services that make up a huge percentage of their revenue for a period of time. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska speaks with the president of the Wyoming Hospital Association on how hospitals in our state were particularly impacted financially by the pandemic.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon

Topic: Following more than a month of shuttered businesses and strict social distancing measures, the state began to reopen in May. That shift has been accompanied by a marked increase in COVID-19-related deaths. Wyoming Public Radio's Jeff Victor reports public health experts are saying the two are likely related.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon

Topic: In early 2020, very few people had ever heard of Dr. Alexia Harrist. Since that time, the State Health officer has become a well-known as she tries to guide the state through the COVID-19 pandemic. Harrist has lately been opening things up. She told Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck that she's optimistic as the state deals with tourists and other challenges.

Time: 10 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon

Topic: Like most health care providers across the state, Jackson Doctor Brent Blue wants people to take precautions and follow rules for social distancing. What he doesn't want to see is people panic over COVID-19. Dr. Blue tells Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck that numbers are going up in the state and there are logical reasons for that.

Time: 7 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon

Issue: Economy

The number of people getting laid off from their jobs in Wyoming skyrocketed over the last few weeks. It's up over 800 percent just since the middle of March. Like other tourist destination states, Wyoming's economy is extra vulnerable with large numbers of people working in the service industry. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards talked with some Wyomingites who are feeling the fresh pain of unemployment.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: As the number of cases of COVID-19 continues to rise and people leave their houses less and less, local businesses have to find new ways to cope. And one industry that has seen drastic changes in the past few weeks is the service industry. Wyoming Public Radio's Ivy Engel has more on the ways many restaurants are dealing with this shock.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: More than 500 tribal casinos are shut down due to the coronavirus pandemic. And that means many tribal governments have lost their primary source of revenue. Joseph Kalt with Harvard University's Project on American Indian Economic Development spoke with Wyoming Public Radio's Savannah Maher. He said the pandemic could set back 30 years of economic progress brought forth by tribal gaming.

Time: 7 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: The Wind River Reservation has been hit hard by COVID-19. The pandemic has also stalled the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes' primary economic engines. Wyoming Public Radio's Savannah Maher reports on what that means for the reservation and its border communities.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon.

Topic: Not too long ago, the small oil reliant city of Douglas was booming to the benefit of the state's coffers. But since the oil price crash, it's transformed. Hotels have emptied, projects were left abandoned, and traffic disappeared. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports how Douglas is handling the change.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon.

Topic: You've probably heard about all the companies stepping up to help deal with the COVID-19 crisis. In that vein a military contractor in Pinedale that normally designs products and services for governments is now manufacturing mobile hospital rooms using shipping containers. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards spoke with Enviremedial Services President Geoff Keogh and the company's sales director Sam Sumrall.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon.

Topic: Riverton has seemingly returned to normal from months of closed businesses, social distancing, and mask-wearing. This while Fremont County has the highest number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the state. Wyoming Public Radio's Tylar Stagner reports that some rules exist, but it remains to be seen if they'll be enforced.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Topic: A new state program seeks to help Wyoming residents as many struggle to make rent or mortgage payments during the pandemic. Wyoming Public Radio's Jeff Victor reports the program is off to a slow start, but could grow more critical throughout the summer.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Topic: Access to affordable health care is always an issue, but especially at a time when people are losing their jobs or working less. In Gillette, a local reproductive health clinic recently lost its county funding that likely will impact the type of health care low income people will receive. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler explains.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-26-20 at 3pm and 6-28-20 at noon.

Topic: On February 17, Gov. Mark Gordon announced the state was considering the purchase of about a million acres of surface land across southern Wyoming and 4 million acres of mineral rights from Occidental Petroleum. Now, the company has set a July 1 deadline for entities to make a bid. On May 6, Occidental confirmed it had 13 bidders. Bob Beck has more.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-26-20 at 3pm and 6-28-20 at noon

Topic: The Trump administration has aggressively moved to unwind an array of federal regulations since the coronavirus pandemic hit America, and that's in line with what Wyoming's federal lawmakers have wanted all along. But Matt Laslo reports from Washington that one of them is contradicting President Trump and says more testing is the key to recovery.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-26-20 at 3pm and 6-28-20 at noon

Issue: Social Issues

Topic: For many of us, being asked to stay home during the pandemic is inconvenient. For others, it is down right dangerous. Wyoming Public Radio's Megan Feighery spoke with Sydney Allred, executive director of the Fremont County Alliance Against Domestic Violence and

Sexual Assault, who says social distancing is putting those already living with domestic violence at greater risk.

Time: 7 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon.

Topic: The pandemic has highlighted who has support and who doesn't. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen spoke with Wyoming State Representative and Executive Director of Wyoming Equality's Sara Burlingame about what life looks like for many LGBTQ folks across the state.

Time: 7 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon.

Topic: It's been three weeks since George Floyd was killed by a Minneapolis police officer who kneeled on his neck for more than eight minutes. Floyd's killing has sparked unrest across America, including in parts of Wyoming that aren't used to seeing protests. From Laramie and Casper to Gillette, Riverton, and even small towns like Dubois and Pinedale, people in our state are speaking out against racism and police violence against Black people. At many of these vigils, marches and demonstrations, Black Wyomingites are leading the way.

Time: 6 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen reported from several nights of the protests in Laramie, and brings us the voices of some of the young, Black Wyomingites leading the marches.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon.

Topic: Black Lives Matter protests have picked up steam across Wyoming as citizens speak out against pervasive police violence and systemic racism against Black people. A near constant presence at the events, though, have been small bands of gun-wielding counter-protesters. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports. A warning, this story contains racist language.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon.

Topic: The pandemic has caused thousands of people to file for unemployment. But for many immigrant workers--that's not an option. Even with the new Supreme Court ruling about DACA. And as Megan Feighery reports, a recent federal rule discourages even those that could apply.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Topic: The nationwide wave of protests that has followed the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and other Black Americans by police officers has reached all 50 states, and every corner

of Wyoming.. including many small towns that have never seen protests before. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler and Savannah Maher have more.

Time: 8 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Topic: Protests against racism and police brutality are NOT new to the US or to our region. However, large, sustained turnout, especially in small, mostly-white towns, is something we've not seen before. For many of those protestors, it's been their first time demonstrating--ever. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen spoke to some of them in Laramie.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Issue: Politics

Topic: Even if Wyoming's two senators aren't here in Washington, they're working overtime these days. After helping pass a \$2.2 trillion stimulus package last month, this week they tried to give the administration another \$250 billion so it could aide struggling or shuttered small businesses. Wyoming Senator John Barrasso says these massive stimulus bills are essential right now.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon says despite calls to reopen businesses he prefers to take a more conservative approach as Wyoming approaches the COVID-19 peak for the state. He speaks to Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck.

Time: 12 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: Before coronavirus shut down much of the U.S. economy leaders in the Republican Party were slowly adapting their policies to address climate change, because young folks of all stripes say they want elected leaders to address it. But, as Matt Laslo reports from Washington, Wyoming lawmakers are torn on how their party should address the political - and scientific - problem.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon.

Topic: This is a tough financial time for a lot of Wyomingites. But impacts on the general public also impact funding for local governments, which directly impacts a wide variety of services from law enforcement to streets. Bob Beck reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon.

Topic: While many businesses are losing money in the state, so are some Wyoming agencies. One that's getting the hardest hit is the Wyoming Department of Transportation. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler explains.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming Congresswoman Liz Cheney has been urging people to social distance and to follow health orders ever since COVID-19 became an issue in this country. This sets her apart from some of her Republican colleagues. She joins Bob Beck to discuss COVID-19 and what we might expect in the future.

Time: 10 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming's senators spent the week fighting a bill that would permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, along with funding a portion of the maintenance backlog at national parks across the nation. Correspondent Matt Laslo has the story from Washington.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon.

Issue: Education

Topic: If you've spent time on a college campus lately, you may have encountered a land acknowledgment - recognition of the tribes whose ancestral land the institution is built on. But land-grant universities, originally created to educate America's working class, also owe their founding to the seizure and sale of Indigenous land. The 1862 Morrill Act granted over 17 million acres for states to sell and raise endowment principal for the institutions. Savannah Maher has more.

Time: 7 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted lives around the state of Wyoming. Maybe no one as much as international students attending the University of Wyoming. Wyoming Public Radio's Naina Rao talks to a couple of students who are trying to navigate life far away from home.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: Governor Mark Gordon's order to close public places through April 30th means that schools have to quickly adapt with many districts relying on technology to communicate and teach. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler reports on how districts and parents are handling the switch.

Time: 6 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: This week, all 48 Wyoming school districts launched their adapted learning plans. For some, that means leaning more heavily on online tools that had already been incorporated into the curriculum. But other districts, including many on the Wind River Reservation, are starting from scratch. Savannah Maher reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: As the COVID-19 pandemic keeps most people cooped up at home, ranchers are in a unique position to mostly continue with the status quo. In fact, it might even be a little bit better as they have kids at home to help with the numerous spring chores. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim talks to two families who are navigating the balance of ranch and school work.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: Traditionally, spring is a time for transformation, take college students. Say a freshman who's now used to living away from home. Or a senior getting ready to graduate and begin a new chapter in their life. But things look different this year. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen spoke with two college students about a changed reality and an experience cut short.

Time: 4 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon.

Topic: The coronavirus pandemic has upended everyone's lives. But as Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler found out, for high school seniors across the state it's been especially impactful. She collected their voices and brings us this collage.

Time: 11 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon

Topic: College students are leaving the University of Wyoming into an unknown job market. Normally students would have jobs lined up, but these are not normal times. Jo Chytka is UW's Director of Advising, Career and Exploratory Studies. She joins Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck to discuss the situation.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon

Topic: Over the past two years, the Fort Washakie School has revived a tradition called the 5 Buffalo Days, a week-long celebration of the cultural and ecological significance of buffalo for Plains Native people. This year's celebration had to be moved online, but tribal educators say the lessons students learn during the 5 buffalo days are more important than ever. Wyoming Public Radio's Savannah Maher spoke with one of those educators.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon

Issue: Women's suffrage anniversary

Topic: There's an ongoing debate in the American West about which state granted women the right to vote first. Wyoming ratified the decision first...in 1869 but didn't vote until the fall of the next year. But Utah women actually went to the polls seven months earlier than that. But either way, it was Western states that made the leap... and a new book called *No Place For A Woman: The Struggle for Suffrage in the Wild West* explores what it was about Western women that made them such suffragists. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards interviewed the book's author Chris Enss.

Time: 8 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming: First In Women's Suffrage, Last In Female Representation

In Wyoming history, women have won only 133 legislative races. Since about half the state is made up of women, it means they seriously lack representation. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck says the problem has been talked about for years.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: How Did Wyoming's Suffrage Movement Affect Women Of Color?

Even though women were allowed to run for office and get involved in politics in 1870, it took much longer after that for women of color to get elected. Wyoming Public Radio's Naina Rao reports.

Time: 4 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: First Woman Publisher At Sheridan Press Focuses On Community

Men continue to dominate the American media landscape. According to a 2019 Women's Media Center report, men have a higher share of bylines, credit and hold more leadership positions. But in Sheridan, Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler reports the head of the local newspaper is leading by example.

Time: 4 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: What Role Journalism Played In Wyoming's Female Suffrage Movement

In 1869, journalism looked very different than it does today. There weren't the quotes or perspectives from both sides. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim dug into the archives to try and use journalism to learn more about women's suffrage. What he found wasn't much, but found out it was critical. Jennifer Helton, a Wyoming native and expert in the state's suffrage history, gives some background to the state was like in 1869 and how she used journalism to learn more about it.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: Petticoat Rulers: 1920 All Women Jackson Town Council Inspires Women Today
One hundred years ago the first all women town council was elected in the state. The town of Jackson was just six years old. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska looks at how the petticoat rulers influenced today's Jackson Hole women political leaders.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: Two Women Lead University Of Wyoming's Student Government
The University of Wyoming's student government, also known as ASUW, has historically been male-dominated. This year, two women were elected to President and Vice President. That may be for the first time ever. But there's no way to know, since ASUW records don't always account for gender. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen spoke with President Riley Talamantes and Vice President Courtney Titus about what it was like to be one of the few, if only, two-women tickets to win the election.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Topic: Voting Rights Don't Always Mean Voting Access-How Does Wyoming Measure Up?
The legal right to vote doesn't always translate to the ability to vote. There can be barriers to the polls, says Susan Simpson, the president of the League of Women Voters of Wyoming. That's a nonpartisan organization that provides information on political candidates and works for higher participation in the political process. Simpson talked with Wyoming Public Radio's Erin Jones about how Wyoming measures up when it comes to voting access.

Time: 4 min

Date: 6-5-20 at 3pm and 6-7-20 at noon.

Issue: Arts and Culture

Topic: With most public spaces still closed across the state until April 30th, people in the performing arts are doing what they do best—getting creative. Wyoming Public Radio's Megan Feighery has more on how the arts are adapting during the pandemic.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-17-20 at 3pm and 4-19-20 at noon

Summer is coming up which usually means people are getting ready for wedding season. But as Wyoming Public Radio's Megan Feighery reports, this summer will be very different.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon

Topic: By some accounts, Shakespeare wrote King Lear while he was physical distancing during the plague. But that puts a lot of pressure on anyone trying to do creative work while life is in

limbo. Wyoming Public Radio's Erin Jones wondered how Wyoming writers are coping with quarantine in 2020 and what we can learn from them about creativity in times of stress.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-1-20 at 3pm and 5-3-20 at noon

Topic: *The Riven Country of Senga Munro* tells the story of an herbal healer, who tragically loses her daughter. Most of the story is set in contemporary Northeast Wyoming, where the book's author Renee Carrier has lived for more than 32 years. Her novel takes on themes of place, grief and magic realism. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler spoke with Carrier first about why the setting is important to the story.

Time: 6 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon

Topic: Last year was the launch of the Wyoming Art Drop...a curated box of six unique pieces from local artists that can be shipped nationwide. Wyoming Public Radio's Megan Feighery spoke to creator Laurie Hunter about tourism, upcycling and the unique pressures facing Wyoming artists. She says the first obstacle is location.

Time: 5 min

Date: 6-26-20 at 3pm and 6-28-20 at noon.

Issue: Agriculture

Topic: In many towns across our region, COVID-19 is shuttering non-essential businesses. Things like hospitals and grocery stores are staying open of course. But as it turns out so are livestock auctions. Madelyn Beck reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: Dealing with threats to their livestock is part of a rancher's daily life. And one of the hardest threats to deal with is depredation - especially if the animal killing their stock is a protected species. Wyoming Public Radio's Ivy Engel has more about the battle between ranchers and one predator in particular.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-8-20 at 3pm and 5-10-20 at noon

Topic: Being gay in Wyoming can be challenging, but LGBTQ activist, and performing artist, Andrew Munz has decided to stay and try to make things better. Wyoming Public Radio's Megan Feighery spoke to Munz about art, activism, and growing up in the cowboy state.

Time: 5 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon

Issue: Law Enforcement

Topic: This week the Casper Star-Tribune broke a story about a lawsuit against the Albany County Sheriff's Office, over the alleged mishandling of a sexual assault investigation. Wyoming Public Radio has an interview with the plaintiff, as well as audio of the law enforcement interview at the heart of the complaint. Tennessee Watson has more.

Time: 8 min

Date: 4-10-20 at 3pm and 4-12-20 at noon.

Topic: As the protests erupt, some law enforcement officials have come out speaking against the way George Floyd was killed. Cody Police Chief Chuck Baker released a joint statement with the Powell Police and Park County Sheriff departments describing themselves appalled by the use of force. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska sat down with the Cody police chief to hear what he learned from being present at the rally.

Time: 7 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon.

Issue: Census

Amidst a global pandemic and a presidential election, there's another big issue that will affect Americans for years to come: the 2020 Census. Nate Hegyi and Catherine Wheeler take a look.

Time: 8 min

Date: 4-3-20 at 3pm and 4-5-20 at noon

Topic: Every 10 years, the U.S. Constitution mandates the government count the people living in this country. That count helps to shape aspects of our lives at the national, state and local levels, including local funding for our communities. So far, Wyoming's self-response rate is 55 percent. But Wyoming Economic Analysis Division principal economist Amy Bittner said that isn't a reason to worry right now. Bittner spoke to Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler about how Wyoming's response rate is stacking up against the rest of the country.

Time: 7 min

Date: 6-19 20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon.

Issue: Recreation and Tourism

Topic: State Parks are opening this weekend to Wyoming residents only. To ensure that this is the case the Department of Outdoor Recreation and State Parks has instituted a reservation process that's only opened to Wyoming residents. Deputy Director Dave Glenn discusses the plan with Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck.

6 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon

Topic: It's not just state parks considering the safest way to welcome tourists. As national parks prepare to open up, everybody is trying to figure out new and more inventive ways to track the virus. Gateway communities have come up with a truly unique approach...testing their community's poop. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska explains.

5 min

Date: 5-15-20 at 3pm and 5-17-20 at noon

Topic: Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks partially re-opened this week and visitors from around the country are already flocking to the celebrated destinations. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim speaks with Joan Anzelmo... a 35-year veteran of the National Park Service and a Wyoming resident. They discuss the challenges and opportunities of re-opening the parks during a global pandemic... especially as Memorial Day weekend is upon us.

5 min

Date: 5-22-20 at 3pm and 5-24-20 at noon

Topic: Governor Mark Gordon and leaders from some of the top rodeos in the state this month announced that the major events would be canceled this year. That's due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the health safety measures that would have to be put in place for those events. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler spoke with Billy Craft and Zane Garstad, who head the Sheridan WYO Rodeo. First, Craft explains why they came to the decision to put the 90th anniversary celebration on hold this year.

7 min

Date: 6-12-20 at 3pm and 6-14-20 at noon

Topic: Tourism is the second largest industry in the state. The summer of 2019 was a big year for the industry. More than three billion dollars were spent in the state and tourism generated \$230 million in tax revenues. Wyoming Office Of Tourism Executive Director Diane Shober said the state had set even loftier goals for 2020. But when Shober spoke with Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska, she said this year COVID-19 has hit tourism hard but there is hope that things could improve.

7 min

Date: 6-19-20 at 3pm and 6-21-20 at noon