

2022 4th Quarter Issues for Wyoming Public Media

ISSUE: Environment

Topic: About 20 years ago, scientists discovered a new thermal area in Yellowstone. It was actually by accident – the area is off the beaten path in the eastern side of the park. But some infrared satellite imagery showed that the area had warm ground, which indicated things were changing. Twenty years later, scientists are still studying the Tern Lake thermal area to further understand it.

Time: 7 min

Date: 10/14/22 at 3pm and 10/16/22 at noon.

Topic: Warmer falls have made hunting harder, especially elk. This is affecting the Wyoming Game and Fish Department managing elk.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/28/22 at 3pm and 10/30/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Elections

Topic: On election night, Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards had the chance to speak with Harriet Hageman only moments after she learned she'd won Wyoming's lone seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Edwards asked her about bringing the state together after a contentious run against Liz Cheney and Democrat Lynette Grey Bull, and about her first priorities. Here's what Hageman had to say.

Time: 6 min

Date: 11/18/22 at 3pm and 11/20/22 at noon.

Topic: The 2022 general election is just a few days away and this year, several Republican candidates that lost their primary bids are running as write-ins or Independents. And while this has occurred in previous elections, this year is different from the rest.

Time: 5 min

Date: 11/4/22 at 3pm and 11/6/22 at noon.

Topic: There has been a lot of national attention on the upcoming general elections. But here in Wyoming, University of Wyoming political scientist Jim King told Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska that this election season isn't that different from past ones. But, King said there was one unusual thing in the primaries.

Time: 8 min

Date: 11/4/22 at 3pm and 11/6/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Agriculture

Topic: Students in Weston County schools are eating locally grown and raised foods and learning about the role of local agriculture as part of a nationwide Farm to School program.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/28/22 at 3pm and 10/30/22 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming's many family owned ranches and farms do not always have an easy go of it and it is not always profitable. But a few are starting to look to "agri-tourism" as inspiration for some supplemental income.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/28/22 at 3pm and 10/30/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Housing

Topic: Animal Shelters in Wyoming have seen an increase in surrenders and stray animals in the past year leading to high-capacity issues. Recently, a University of Florida report found that in many places, this high capacity is due to the decrease in spay and neuter surgeries during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in Wyoming, there's more to it than just that.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/7/22 at 3pm and 10/9/22 at noon.

Topic: Home renters and home buyers in Wyoming are facing a crisis. Some people are homeless or on the verge of being homeless. Others cannot afford existing homes or are just one misfortune away from housing instability. While for many first-time home buyers, housing

is simply not available. Melissa Noah works with the Wyoming Housing Network, a nonprofit that develops affordable housing across the state. She spoke to Wyoming Public Radio's Friday Otuya.

Time: 6 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

Topic: The Sheridan Foster Parent Exchange is an organization that serves children in crisis and provides material support to families and foster parents taking care of them in Sheridan and Johnson counties. The demand for their services has risen this year and is expected to continue into the next. Wyoming Public Radio's Hugh Cook spoke with the Exchange's Carla Crayton about what they're doing this holiday season and what they're preparing for next year.

Time: 7 min

Date: 12/23/22 at 3pm and 12/25/22 at noon.

Topic: The Riverton Peace Mission's winter clothes drive provided around 50 people with items like coats, sleeping bags, and winter weather gear. It was the first time the Riverton Peace Mission held a clothes drive. Carol Harper helped collect donations and said the recent death of a community member made their group want to take action.

Time: 5 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Wildlife

Topic: A new study highlights the importance of both protected and private lands in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) for wildlife migration. The study specifically focuses on elk in the GYE, which includes much of western Wyoming and is 'one of the largest nearly intact temperate-zone ecosystems on Earth,' according to the National Park Service. Lead researcher Laura Gigliotti spoke with Wyoming Public Radio's Caitlin Tan.

Time: 7 min

Date: 12/9/22 at 3pm and 12/11/22 at noon.

Topic: A new podcast from Montana State University Extension and the Western Landowners Alliance digs into the controversy of wolves. Co-host Alex Few said "Working Wild University" is

for those who are passionate about open spaces and wildlife in the West and the healthy communities that sustain people and wildlife in the West. She told Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska that those values are not understood everywhere.

Time: 9 min

Date: 12/9/22 at 3pm and 12/11/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Community issues

Topic: Cooke City is a small mountain town in the southwest corner of Montana that is known for being the snowiest town in the state and is also a gateway town to Yellowstone National Park. In the winter, there is only one driving road into the town from the west, because to the east is a nine mile stretch of highway that is not plowed. That nine miles has created a lot of controversy amongst locals.

Time: 6 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

Topic: On an early December afternoon, grandkids, parents and grandparents huddled together in the waiting area near a Christmas tree in the Jackson Hole Airport. They were just outside of the security line taking the last minutes to spend time with each other before some of them boarded.

Time: 6 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

Topic: With sirens blaring and lights flashing, about 30 different law enforcement vehicles gathered in the corner of the Laramie Walmart parking lot last week. These officers and their elementary-aged passengers were part of Shop with a Cop. About 30 kids rode along with the officers to Walmart.

Time: 4 min

Date: 12/23/22 at 3pm and 12/25/22 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming Public Radio's Will Walkey recently went on a "listening tour," where he visited Casper, Sheridan, Gillette and Douglas. He brings us this report from the road.

Time: 5 min

Date: 11/4/22 at 3pm and 11/6/22 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming Public Radio asked listeners to share their holiday traditions – whether that be favorite foods or activities, both new and old. And lucky for us, we got a variety of answers.

Time: 16:24

Date: 12/23/22 at 3pm and 12/25/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Inflation

Topic: Inflation has hit paychecks pretty hard this year as it is at a 40-year high . Decision makers in Washington, D.C. are hoping to see inflation go down. In fact, the Federal Reserve hiked interest rates by another three-quarters of a percentage point in October, putting the rate at 3.75 percentage points, up from zero in March. And while fuel prices have slowly decreased from record levels nationally and statewide, the average price of gas in Wyoming is \$3.62 per gallon, up from \$3.49 a year ago. Jared Bernstein is a member of the Council of Economic Advisers for the White House, and tackling inflation is part of his job. Wyoming Public Radio's Caitlin Tan asked him how the White House is thinking about tackling inflation and increased fuel prices in rural areas.

Time: 8 min

Date: 11/18/22 at 3pm and 11/20/22 at noon.

Topic: The cost of goods has increased in America by about nine percent over the last year, which is the largest increase in 40 years. It has affected the price of everything, including groceries, gas, clothes and hay, an essential good for livestock in our region.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/7/22 at 3pm and 10/9/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Native American Issues

Topic: Jordan Dresser was on the Northern Arapaho Business Council as chairman for two years. He has developed quite the resume. He was appointed to a federal solutions committee, named one of the young leaders in Indian Country at large, and he's a filmmaker. However, he

was not reelected to the council. Wyoming Public Radio's Taylor Stagner caught up with Dresser in a Lander coffee shop to find out what's next for him.

Time: 8 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

Topic: In 2018, the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation purchased land in Southeastern Idaho. For decades it was used for farming. But that hid a much darker history. Now, there are efforts to restore the land.

Time: 5 min

Date: 12/9/22 at 3pm and 12/11/22 at noon.

ISSUE: LGBTQ +

Topic: Casper is joining a handful of towns in Wyoming with a nondiscrimination ordinance. Without a statewide hate crime bill or non discrimination bill, the ordinance brings local protections to the towns rural queer community. The ordinance was a suggestion from Casper's LGBTQ + advisory council. That suggestion was originally made 18 months ago.

Time: 6 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

Topic: State Rep. Cathy Connolly (D-Laramie) is retiring from two prominent positions. She is stepping down from both her seat in Cheyenne and as a professor at the University of Wyoming. Connolly is the first openly gay faculty member at UW, as well as the first openly gay legislator in Wyoming.

Time: 7 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Healthcare

Topic: Vaping and e-cigarettes have increased in popularity in recent years, largely due to the misconception that they are healthier than cigarettes. University of Wyoming researcher

Guanglong He is looking into how vaping can cause cardiac failure. Wyoming Public Radio's Taylor Stagner talked with He about his ongoing research.

Time: 7 min

Date: 12/9/22 at 3pm and 12/11/22 at noon

Topic: Phones rang and patients filed through the waiting room at the Women's Health & Family Care Clinic in Jackson on Nov. 30. It was a typical Wednesday at the clinic - which just so happens to be the only place to get an abortion in Wyoming.

Time: 5 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

Topic: When a nurse comes to a new mother's home to help with nutrition and developmental milestones, it's called a home visit. A federal program funds home visits for low-income families in the state. But as reporter Madelyn Beck found out for Wyofile, that program may lose its funding before the end of the year. Beck said there's a bill proposed to increase funding but it hasn't advanced. She said groups have been concerned for a while now.

Time 8 min

Date: 10/28/22 at 3pm and 10/30/22 at noon

ISSUE: Business and industry

Topic: The University of Wyoming recently welcomed Aziz Abu Sarah to speak at the campus. He grew up as a Palestinian in Jerusalem and is known internationally for his work in conflict resolution, peace building and using tourism as a way to educate people. Abu Sarah has been featured in a TED talk, National Geographic and the New York Times. He recently sat down with Wyoming Public Radio's Caitlin Tan.

Time: 14 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

Topic: The Ford Wyoming Center, formerly known as the Casper Events Center, is celebrating its 40 anniversary this year. It's hosted some of the biggest names in entertainment, music, politics, and sports over the last four decades. Wyoming Public Radio's Hugh Cook spoke with Brad Murphy, the facility's general manager, about its history, how it's celebrating 40 years, and its future.

Time: 8 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

Topic: A new currency is gaining popularity in several states in our region. The company that makes it is using new technology to simplify buying and reselling a precious metal.

Time: 5 min

Date: 12/2/22 at 3pm and 12/4/22 at noon.

Topic: This summer, Yellowstone National Park was hit by a historic flood that made international headlines. Now, construction crews are in a race to rebuild roadways before winter sets in.

Time: 5 min

Date: 10/14/22 at 3pm and 10/16/22 at noon.

ISSUE: Education:

Topic: Earlier this week, Governor Mark Gordon's Reimaging and Innovating the Delivery of Education Advisory, group (RIDE), released its final report. It provides recommendations on how to improve the state's education system. Wyoming Public Radio's Hugh Cook spoke with John Masters, the group's chairman.

Time: 9 min

Date: 12/16/22 at 3pm and 12/18/22 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming will elect a new superintendent of public instruction next month. Wyoming Public Radio's Taylar Stagner talked with Republican candidate Megan Degenfelder about teacher shortages, transparency, and the future of education.

Time: 11 min

Date: 10/28/22 at 3pm and 10/30/33 at noon.

ISSUE: Sports

Topic: On November 19, a voice that was heard by generations of Wyoming Cowboy fans at War Memorial Stadium called his final game: the Cowboys against Boise State. Wyoming Public Radio's Hugh Cook spoke with longtime public address announcer Jack Nokes about his four decades of sports announcing.

Time: 9 min

Date: Date: 12/9/22 at 3pm and 12/11/22 at noon.

Topic: Wyoming basketball will be showcased this season multiple times both in-person and on the big screen. The women's team got a spot on Fox Sports 1 - the first time the squad has been featured on national television during the regular season since 2012. The men's team has dates reserved on Fox and CBS.

Time: 5 min

Date: 11/4/22 at 3pm and 11/6/22 at noon.