

2019 1st quarter issues report for Wyoming Public Media

Issue: Politics

Topic: The Wyoming legislative session kicked off this week with over 210 bills and more to come. That's a lot of proposed legislation and since lawmakers always give priority to committee bills, most of that proposed legislation won't go anywhere. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck asked some lawmakers what the top priority is this session and it's a familiar refrain.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Congress just kicked off its new session of Congress and now Democrats control the House, which will change the role Wyoming's delegation plays in Washington. Correspondent Matt Laslo has the story from the nation's capital.

Time: 4 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A private school with some notable political ties has gotten into a fight with Teton County over whether it can build a new campus to accommodate a growing population. The Jackson Hole Classical Academy teaches a back-to-basics curriculum with a slight religious bent. After repeatedly being denied a chance to build its school to a scale that school officials say is needed, the fight has come to Cheyenne and legislators are involved. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-18-20 at 3pm & 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: As lawmakers will now try and reach a compromise with the short term lifting of the government shutdown, Wyoming lawmakers are holding firm with President Trump's demand for a wall. Matt Laslo has the story from Washington.

Time: 4 min

Date: 1-25-20 at 3pm & 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: From time to time people want to do something about Wyoming's primary election. Some hate the time of year, some hate that Democrats have no say, and some don't like that Democrats can cross party lines and have too much of a say. This year is one of those times...if it will lead to anything is anyone's guess. But what's clear is that there's no consensus on what should be done and if the state can afford it. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck explains.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-25-20 at 3pm & 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: For years Wyoming lawmakers have been grappling with how to ensure kids are safe at school. In 2009 they passed anti-bullying legislation. Last year they granted districts the right to decide whether to arm teachers and staff as a defense against violent intruders. This session school violence is once again on the docket. Wyoming Public Radio's education reporter Tennessee Watson sat down with Cheyenne Senator Affie Ellis to discuss her support for a bill that would require all districts to develop comprehensive school safety and security plans.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-25-20 at 3pm & 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: It's not really that unusual for anti-abortion bills to be considered by the legislature but they frequently are defeated in committees or don't get much traction. But it appears that may be changing. Wyoming pro-choice supporters were unnerved by the passage of two bills that set certain requirements on doctors two years ago. This year two more anti-abortion bills have passed the house that people have their eyes on. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck has more.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-8-2019 at 3pm & 2/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: While much of the reaction to President Trump's State of the Union speech fell along party lines, lawmakers from Wyoming are latching onto a few areas where they see common ground. Washington correspondent Matt Laslo has the story from the Capitol.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-8-2019 at 3pm & 2/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Wyoming Senator Eli Bebout is finishing his 12th legislative session in the Senate after 14 years in the House. He was first elected as a Democrat from Fremont County in 1986. A few years later he changed to the Republican Party and became Speaker of the House. Bebout recently served as Senate President making him the only person to be both Speaker of the House and Senate President. For the second time in his career he is serving as the Senate Appropriations Chairman. He joins Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck to discuss his hard-line stance on spending and what's behind his focus on education spending.

Time: 8 min

Date: 2/15/2019 at 3pm and 2/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Governor Mark Gordon's appointee for attorney general is only the second woman to serve in the position. Bridget Hill was sworn in by the State Senate this week, marking an already significant career serving the state of Wyoming. Most recently she directed the Office of State Land and Investments. Wyoming Public Radio's Tennessee Watson, met up with Hill in her Cheyenne office to discuss her new role as Attorney General.

Time: 7 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: With the end of the legislative session, Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon is spending most of his time reviewing bills. He takes a break to join Bob Beck to discuss the past legislative session.

Time: 7 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Wyoming Republican Congresswoman Liz Cheney turned some heads in Washington last week when she opposed a resolution denouncing all forms of hate. She was one of a mere 23 who voted against the measure. Correspondent Matt Laslo has the story from Washington.

Time: 4 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: It's Sunshine Week, where media outfits are discussing public access to meetings and documents. Wyoming has never been a leader in this area, but a new law could change things.

Lawmakers passed an Open Records law this year that requires entities to meet records requests in 30 days.

Time: 6 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Wyoming now has two lawmakers in Washington who are also Republican Party leaders and they're promising to make the progressive Green New Deal on climate change a major part of the debate going forward, even as Democratic Party leaders are trying to change the subject. Correspondent Matt Laslo has the story from Washington.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/29/19 at 3pm and 3/31/19 at noon on WPR. 3/31/19 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Energy

Topic: One industry that's been a key supporter of President Trump is no fan of the federal shutdown. Oil and gas drilling is booming in Wyoming. But the majority of that is on federal lands, and operators worry about the impact - while critics argue they're still getting a better deal than most. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: For the first time in the U.S., a uranium mine may soon be able to use an acid-based solution to commercially recover its resource. And the site is right here in Wyoming. It comes as a last resort for a company suffering under weak uranium prices. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Air traffic [controllers](#) are working without pay, food and drug [inspections](#) are falling behind, and [Native](#) American communities are missing out on federal funding. A restart on all that is unclear in the temporary government re-opening. Meanwhile, an industry close to President Trump's heart has gone largely unaffected. Some Department of Interior employees

who handle drilling permits are working and getting paid. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-25-2019 at 3pm and 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A judge is set to confirm that yet another bankrupt coal company can end health benefits for hundreds of retired miners and their families. Westmoreland is one of the largest coal companies in North America. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Utilities continue to shutter coal-fired power plants at near all-time highs. Last year, two more states committed to 100 percent clean energy — another blow for coal. Now, Wyoming is pushing back... it just passed a bill seeking to keep those plants alive a little bit longer. Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim explains.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm and 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A bi-partisan group of lawmakers in Washington has proposed a bill that would impose a fee on carbon producers, passing that money along to the American people. But the idea of *any* sort of carbon tax is a prickly one. For our series "I Respectfully Disagree," Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards spoke with the Citizen Climate Lobby's Mary Keller—a supporter of the idea—and Robert Godby, an energy economist at the University of Wyoming who has problems with it. Keller starts by explaining how this one is different from other carbon tax proposals.

Time: 8 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Horizontal drilling is changing the game for the oil and gas industry - its also creating a host of new problems. State regulations haven't kept up with the new technology, and it's resulted in a 'race to operator-ship.' Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports the legislature has a plan to tackle it.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Environment

Topic: The Bates Hole Christmas Count is one of the last rural bird counts in the nation. Citizen scientists spend part of the holidays counting birds to help inform trends in bird population. Bird counts like this one have been happening for the last 119 years. Wyoming Public Radio's Taylor Stagner tagged along to see what keeps bird enthusiasts flocking to Bates Hole.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The United States' recycling is piling up in China, and now China says they don't want it anymore. It's also becoming more expensive to collect and ship recycling from very small towns. But as Wyoming Public Radio's London Homer-Wambeam reports, the shift in the recycling landscape may actually be better for the environment.

Time: 6 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Doug Peacock spent much of his life alone in the wilderness in Montana and Wyoming observing grizzly bears. Director Ben Moon just released a short film titled "Grizzly Country" focusing on Peacock's life and connection to grizzlies. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska spoke with Doug Peacock about how grizzly bears helped him after returning from Vietnam and why he believes they need to continue to be protected.

Time: 6 min

Date: 1-25-2019 at 3pm and 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: This week the U.S. Senate passed a sweeping and historic bill that would make the Land and Water Conservation Fund permanent. A feat many hunters and fisherman, along with environmentalists, had thought was impossible after the GOP allowed it to lapse last year.

Time: 4 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm and 2-17-2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Wyoming Game and Fish Director Scott Talbott has retired after 35 years in the department. During his tenure, wolves were taken off Endangered Species Act protections and guided the department towards adopting a new strategic plan. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska asks Talbott what his greatest achievement as director is.

Time: 8 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm and 2-17-2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Back in September - a federal judge ruled the greater Yellowstone grizzlies should be put back under endangered species act protections - which means the federal government has the last say in the bear's management... But during Wyoming's legislative session - Governor Mark Gordon signed a bill that authorizes the Wyoming game and fish commission to manage grizzly bears. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska asks - if the commission does decide to manage the bears, would it be legal?

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The warming climate has some parts of the world tiptoeing on thin ice...and for ice fishermen that's no metaphor. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards went out with some longtime Wyoming fishermen who gave her some tips on staying safe on the ice as temperatures heat up.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm and 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A California condor recently flew from Arizona to Wyoming but died shortly after arriving. California condors are an endangered species. The bird was being tracked and was taken in for a necropsy by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. After that, the University of Wyoming Museum of vertebrates was given the body for research and education. Wyoming Public Radio's London Homer-Wambeam sat down with the museum's curator and collections manager Elizabeth Wommack to find out more about the condor.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm and 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: In wide open spaces like the rural parts of the Mountain West, there's sometimes little known about the secret lives of plants and animals. There are too many square miles and too few scientists. That's where citizen scientists can come to the rescue. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen checked out their role in surveying Moose in one corner of Wyoming.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm and 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: This past year has been turbulent for the greater Yellowstone grizzly bear. It was returned to the threatened species list last fall shortly after the state made plans to begin a grizzly hunt. With the bears continued uncertain status, people who live in grizzly habitat are frustrated and some grizzly experts are fearful that the bear is losing support from its neighbors. As Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports, those experts say local support is vital.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm and 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A journalist wrote about the smog in California as a "sickly yellow haze that obscures the mountains." A western region in Wyoming has become too familiar with that same haze, made up of the pollutant: ozone. While a state agency has made efforts to handle it, Wyoming Public Radio's Cooper McKim reports ozone is back in full force.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/29/2019 at 3pm and 3/31/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/31/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Education

Topic: This session, Wyoming lawmakers killed two different bills that would have required the U.S. Citizenship test to graduate from high school. Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow pushed the idea as a way to strengthen civics education across the state. Critics argued that rather than more exams, kids need more opportunities to experience democracy in action.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-8-2019 at 3pm & 2/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The idea of learning two languages at a young age is growing in popularity. The benefits are wide-ranging, from being more culturally aware to eventually being more competitive in a global economy. In Wyoming, four school districts have dual language immersion programs. In Campbell County, school officials are looking to expand their program after an explosion in interest. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler takes a deep dive.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm & 2/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Two years ago this February, University of Wyoming President Laurie Nichols launched a sexual misconduct task force. This fall the group released a five-year strategic plan that calls for changes like more bystander intervention training and increased support for survivors. Those efforts have been complicated by proposed changes to federal guidelines brought forward by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Wyoming Public Radio's education reporter Tennessee Watson sat down with Sean Blackburn, the UW vice president of student affairs, to check in on the process.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm & 2/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A new law passed by the legislature gives UW the ability and funding for new student housing construction. This bill came about after years of discussion about what to do about student housing. Nolan Behnke reports.

Time: 4 min

Date: 3-15-2019 at 3pm & 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: This week the University of Wyoming announced that President Laurie Nichols will serve out her three-year contract, which ends on June 30. At that point, she'll transition to a faculty position. For many, the news came out of the blue. The 150-word email sent out to faculty, staff and students offered no explanation of the UW Board of Trustees' decision not to renew Nichols' contract. Tennessee Watson reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: Date: 3-29-2019 at 3pm & 3/31/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/31/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Business

Topic: Wyoming's population declined last year while the surrounding states' populations grew. But Cody is an outlier of sorts. In the past decade, there's been an influx of people aged 24 to 34 into Park County. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports a portion of these are women providing a steady income and benefits for their families.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-8-2019 at 3pm & 2/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The rates of people hurt or killed on the job in Wyoming are higher than in any other state and many of those workers are Latino. Nationally, Latinos suffer workplace accidents more than any other group. But as Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards found out, an obscure law on Wyoming's books means undocumented workers rarely get compensation when they get hurt and that could be making workplaces more dangerous for everyone.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm & 2/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: While the Wyoming legislature was busy fighting about private schools, the budget and a few tax issues, it also passed legislation that continues to make the state the place to be for Blockchain technology. While it didn't get a lot of attention in Wyoming those new laws are getting worldwide attention. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3-8-2019 at 3pm & 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The need for technical workers is increasing across the country. Those jobs range from welding to manufacturing. In Northeast Wyoming, instructors say there are more open jobs than they have students to fill them. But in looking around the classroom, they see fewer women compared to men. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler found out how educators are thinking about gender diversity.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3-29-2019 at 3pm & 3/31/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/31/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Recreation

Topic: There's no doubt skiing can be a very expensive sport and there's a concern that mergers and acquisitions could make it even more pricey. So is it increasingly a sport for the wealthy? We visited a couple of very different places – such as Bogus Basin in Idaho. But first, Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska checked out Jackson Hole Mountain Resort.

Time: 4 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Last February Jackson Hole Mountain Resort launched a new extreme skiing competition. At the awards ceremony, the top male won \$5,000 more than the top female. Photos of the winners with their checks drew ridicule on social media and the resort immediately pulled together funds to fill the gap. But as Wyoming Public Radio's Tennessee Watson reports there's nothing that guarantees equal prizes in big mountain skiing.

Time: 4 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The ski industry is an important economic driver in our region, but it's facing a lot of changes. Climate change, for one, is transforming ski resort leaders into activists and lobbyists. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen reports.

Time: 4 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: What do you get when you put together a horse, a pair of skis, and two daredevils? An old sport that is being revived across our region. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen explains.

Time: 4 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: In Northeast Wyoming, the depths of February don't have a great track record for tourism. So this year, one town hosted its first-ever winter rodeo to help bring some excitement and visitors. Wyoming Public Radio's Catherine Wheeler was there for Sheridan's big day.

Time: 4 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm and 3/3/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/3/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Crime and Courts

Topic: Last week a grand jury decided not to indict Albany County Sheriff's officer Derek Colling. In November he shot and killed 39-year-old Laramie resident Robbie Ramirez. The jurors found the officer's use of lethal force was justified. But that doesn't mean the officer didn't have other options. Wyoming Public Radio's Tennessee Watson reports.

Time: 6 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: It's hard to accept, but child sexual abuse can happen in any community. Prosecuting these crimes means that kids have to disclose the details of what happened. As Wyoming Public Radio's Tennessee Watson reports there are things that law enforcement, prosecutors and social services can do to help kids navigate that process.

Time: 6 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: March 10-16, 2019 was Sunshine Week. The annual event recognizes the importance of access to public information, and the journalists who defend a culture of transparency. Wyoming Public Radio News Director Bob Beck sat down with reporter Tennessee Watson to talk about what's behind the struggle to get elected officials in Albany County to talk about a recent officer-involved shooting.

Time: 7 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm and 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The Me Too movement is changing the conversation about sexual violence. For some women it's been empowering but also a painful reminder of buried trauma. And for some men it's been a realization that they want to do more to change the status quo. One victim advocacy group in Wyoming wants to help men make that change by giving them better tools. Maggie Mullen has more.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/29/2019 at 3pm and 3/31/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/31/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Arts and Culture

Topic: The population in Tie Siding, Wyoming is technically zero - it's basically just a post office that serves homes and ranches in this part of southeast Wyoming. Even though the population is tiny, there is not one but two popular mystery writers living there. And they're married to each other. Caroline Ballard reports.

Time: 8 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A new company is bringing live opera to Wyoming. After studying and performing in Las Vegas and New York City, Daniel Quintana now lives in Casper. He and his wife, Emily Quintana, have created Opera Wyoming. Daniel Quintana spoke with Wyoming Public Radio's Erin Jones.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-18-2019 at 3pm and 1/20/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/20/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Luis Alberto Urrea has written 16 books, including the novel *The Hummingbird's Daughter*, and the nonfiction book *The Devil's Highway*, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Urrea will give a talk at the Gateway Center in Laramie on Tuesday, February 19, at 7 p.m. Wyoming Public Radio's Erin Jones talked with Urrea about family, the border, and the story of how he came to write his latest novel, *House of Broken Angels*.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-15-2019 at 3pm & 2/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Earlier this month, students at the University of Wyoming had the opportunity to visit a traveling black history museum. The informative and sometimes provocative gallery of artifacts is curated by historian, activist and former middle school teacher Khalid el-Hakim. Wyoming Public Radio's London Homer-Wambeam has more.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/1/2019 at 3pm & 3/1/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/1/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The American West has inspired countless artists. That holds especially true for one prominent artist from the region. Gabe Leonard is a Gillette native who calls himself the “Cinematic Artist.” His canvases feature noir scenes of cowboys, saloon girls, and gangsters. And his collectors have a style to match, among them Quentin Tarantino. Leonard frequently returns to Wyoming re-immersing himself in its landscape and culture. During his most recent visit, Wyoming Public Radio’s Catherine Wheeler sat down with him to talk about his artwork and its beginnings.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/8/2019 at 3pm & 3/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: If you are a Wild West film fan, then you've probably seen *Winchester '73*, *True Grit* and *High Noon*. Besides being films about the West, all of these films also feature a [Winchester Model 1873 rifle](#). The carbine has widely been credited as being the gun that won the West. Danny Michael, the assistant curator at the Cody Firearms Museum, said the history might be a little iffy on whether the rifle really won the West, but it still may have had an impact.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/15/2019 at 3pm & 3/17/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/17/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: A few years back, one of the world's most beloved children's book authors completed her last book just four days before she passed away at the age of 92. Jean Craighead George was the author of over 100 picture and chapter books. Her final book was about a mountain lion. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards spoke with George's nephew, Charlie Craighead, who talks about the new picture book "Shadow: The Cougar of Flat Creek," and about growing up in a family of animal lovers.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3/29/2019 at 3pm & 3/31/2019 at noon on WPR. 3/31/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Social Issues

Topic: Every year the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault gives out what they call PEACE awards. That’s “promoting excellence in advocacy for change and empowerment.” Back in November, they gave one out for best leadership in policymaking. It went to six Wyoming lawmakers who worked to pass six news laws to better protect survivors of violence. Wyoming Public Radio’s Melodie Edwards takes it from here.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-11-2019 at 3pm and 1/13/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/13/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Cannabidiol or more commonly known as CBD has gained popularity as people use those products for anxiety, back pain and even epilepsy. [CBD is currently illegal in Wyoming](#), but a bill on industrial hemp might resolve that problem. Kamila Kudelska reports

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-25-2019 at 3pm and 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The Wyoming Department of Family Services has been working overtime to issue Wyoming families their food benefits, known as SNAP, a couple weeks early. As Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards reports, that's because with the government reopening for only just three weeks, it's unclear when they'll get them again.

Time: 5 min

Date: 1-25-2019 at 3pm and 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Health Care

Topic: In the early days of psychology, therapists thought mental health disorders were mostly experienced by one gender or the other: for instance, anorexia by women, or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) by men. But in the last couple decades, the thinking has swung hard the other way with attempts to ignore the role of gender in mental health studies. Maggie Mullen reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 2-8-2019 at 3pm & 2/10/2019 at noon on WPR. 2/10/2019 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: At the end of February, a major inpatient psychological unit in Wyoming closed its doors. The PineRidge Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit in Lander had shut down due to federal regulations. Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska reports that a number of people with serious mental illness in northwest Wyoming have nowhere to go.

Time: 5 min

Date: 3-29-2019 at 3pm & 3-31-/2019 at noon on WPR. 3-31-2019 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Native American Issues

Topic: This month, the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne hosted a series of events by Indigenous artists and speakers to explore Native people's concepts of illness and health. One speaker was Laguna Pueblo Tribal Member Lee Francis who owns Red Planet Books and Comics in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lee is also the CEO of the printing press Native Realities. His talk was about Native representation in pop culture. Wyoming Public Radio's Taylar Stagner met with Francis at a local watering hole in downtown Cheyenne to talk about the importance of seeing yourself reflected in the media you consume.

Time: 6 min

Date: 1-25-2019 at 3pm and 1/27/2019 at noon on WPR. 1/27/2019 at 9am on WPM.