WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

General Manager's Newsletter | April 2020

A Letter from the General Manager, Christina Kuzmych

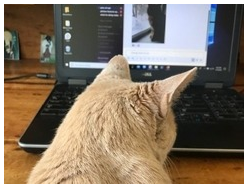
Emergency broadcasting is routine, but a pandemic is a challenge! Though we're equipped to broadcast in emergencies, pandemics are something you think about and pray they never happen to you. Our first task was to keep bringing public media into Wyoming homes via radio and digital formats, and we set up a 3-Stage protocol to protect our national and local delivery systems. The goal was to leave no Wyomingite without public media. **Continue reading.**

BEHIND THE SCENES

New Morning Edition Host & Reporter Wyoming Public Media welcomes new reporter! Naina Rao comes to Wyoming Public Radio from Jakarta, Indonesia. She has worked at NPR for Story Lab and the nationally syndicated show, "1A". Naina graduated from Michigan State University in 2018 with a B.A. in Journalism. Naina enjoys swimming, listening to podcasts and watching Bollywood movies.

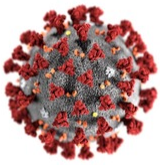
Big Hollow Blues It is not a music native to this part of the United States; however, bits and pieces can be heard in the dancehall tunes or country & western songs brought this way by decades of migrations from the east and south. The music is a way of dealing with the weight our world brings us. Your remedy comes along every Saturday on Wyoming Sounds from 5-8pm. Celebrate "Public Radio Music Day" April 16.

***StoryCorps* Reaches Out** *StoryCorps* celebrates the experiences of Americans from all walks of life, gives people hope, reminds them what matters in life, and takes comfort in our shared humanity. Listen to the *StoryCorps* weekly stories, available here or Friday mornings on NPR, to reclaim a sense of optimism, calm, and hope. View Wyoming *StoryCorps* interviews here.



Virtual Wyoming Are you working from home? Are you performing from home? Are you teaching workshops from home? Are you socializing from home? Share online with Wyoming listeners. Post your virtual cultural programs, concerts, readings, and plays, as well as healthcare supply drives and fundraisers in the Wyoming Public Media Virtual Events Calendar.

Coronavirus In Wyoming: Resources & News Wyoming Public Media is here to keep you current on the news surrounding the coronavirus pandemic. Do you have specific questions about the virus in Wyoming, your family's health, what this means for



your job, your home and your town's economy? Please submit them here, and we'll do our best to report the information you need.

NATIONAL STORIES

FCC Visits Wind River Reservation to Discuss Broadband Access National Native News aired a story by Savannah Maher on March 4 about FCC Chairman Ajit Pai checking in on broadband expansion during a Wind River visit. A $4.1 million grant from the FCC has allowed the Northern Arapaho-owned company Wind River Internet to begin a broadband expansion project on the reservation. Chairman Pai is shown here with Wind River Internet employees Marcus Friday and Tara Friday.

Revenue Hit, Bankruptcies In Play With Plummeting Oil Prices National Public Radio's Newscast aired a spot by Cooper McKim on March 9 & 10 about the 25 percent drop in oil prices March 9, the steepest drop since 1991. The record decline raises concerns of lasting impacts to Wyoming's revenues and energy producers in the state. COVID-19 led to an unprecedented drop in demand in just a month.

Strategic Petroleum Reserve to Add New Demand for Oil A story by Cooper McKim aired on National Public Radio's Newscast on March 13 about a US oil bailout through the strategic petroleum reserve. Oil prices have plummeted amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and an international dispute with Saudi Arabia and Russia. The Trump Administration opened up the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to increase demand for oil and hopefully improve prices.

Wyoming Agencies Adjust Internally Amidst COVID-19 National Public Radio's Newscast aired a spot by Cooper McKim on March 20 about the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continuing its oil and gas lease sales. The BLM is instructing employees to telework and practice social distancing. The agency expects to receive public comment and execute oil and gas lease sales as normal.

MUST LISTEN

Click the image below to learn more about this month's *must listen* story.

Thanks to our new and renewing underwriters!

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