

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

General Manager's Newsletter | April 2019



A Letter from the General Manager, Christina Kuzmych

Cuts again!? Unfortunately, yes. President Trump's version of the budget includes cuts to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, among other causes and initiatives.. [Continue reading.](#)



BEHIND THE SCENES



Podcast Presentations in Southeast Wyoming On March 8, Cultural Affairs Producer Erin Jones presented to the Gay-Straight Alliance at Cheyenne Central High School. On March 30, Jones and Cultural Affairs Director Micah Schweizer spoke to Kristen Landreville's multimedia production class at the University of Wyoming about what makes a compelling audio story.



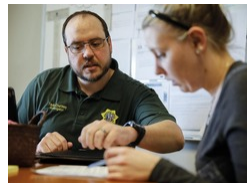
Micah Schweizer Judges FBLA In Laramie On March 22, Cultural Affairs Director Micah Schweizer served as a judge at the Wyoming FBLA State Leadership Conference in Laramie. Schweizer judged the final round of the Electronic Career Portfolio competition, adjudicating students from high schools around the state. This is the second year the WPM staff have served as judges.



Bomb Cyclone Can't Stop Our Team As the Bomb Cyclone dumped feet of snow across Wyoming, roads, businesses, and schools shut down, but the Wyoming Public Media team persisted. Morning Edition Host Caroline Ballard [skied to work](#), General Manager Christina Kuzmych shoveled snow for hours, and Program Director Grady Kirkpatrick walked nearly three miles to keep Wyomingites safe and up to date.



Erin Jones Mentors Communication and Journalism Students Cultural Affairs Producer Erin Jones was asked by UW's Alumni and Career Services Centers to mentor students on career questions. On Thursday, March 28, she took place in their speed-mentoring event, encouraging students who were considering careers in communications and journalism.



Wyoming Public Media and Casper Star-Tribune On Prosecution Tennessee Watson did a reporting partnership with Shane Sanderson of the Casper Star-Tribune looking at child sexual abuse prosecution. Watson looked at [what's happening in Natrona County to effectively prosecute child sexual abuse](#), and Sanderson looked at [how access to those practices across the state are strained](#).



IN THE PRESS



Westmoreland Coal Cuts Benefits in Bankruptcy On March 1, Morning Edition aired a story by Cooper McKim that addressed a recent court case regarding Westmoreland Coal. A [judge confirmed that the bankrupt coal company can end health benefits](#) for hundreds of retired miners and their families. Congress is again weighing whether to help them.



Schweizer's Pick On Heavy Rotation On March 2, NPR released another issue of their "Heavy Rotation: 10 Songs Public Radio Can't Stop Playing." Cultural Affairs Director Micah Schweizer was featured for his submission "Black Myself" by Native Daughters and calls the song a "blend of stunning musicianship and an unflinching telling of the black female experience."



Carbon Capture Contest on All Things Considered On March 5, a report by Cooper McKim on the [NRG COSIA Carbon XPRIZE](#) competition aired nationally. The contest is finding new ways to utilize the carbon produced from mining in the state. Governor Mark Gordon hopes to become a frontrunner in this new technology, saying that investment into reutilizing our coal resources will "give them new life, give them new purpose."



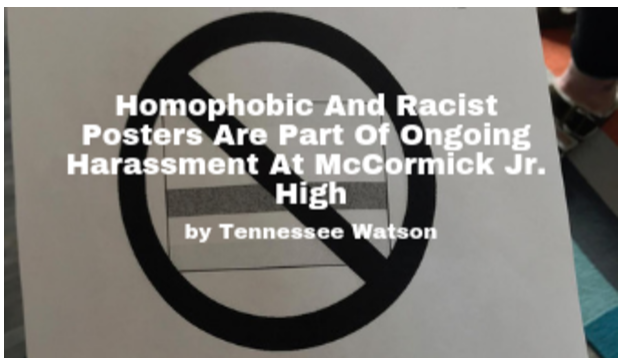
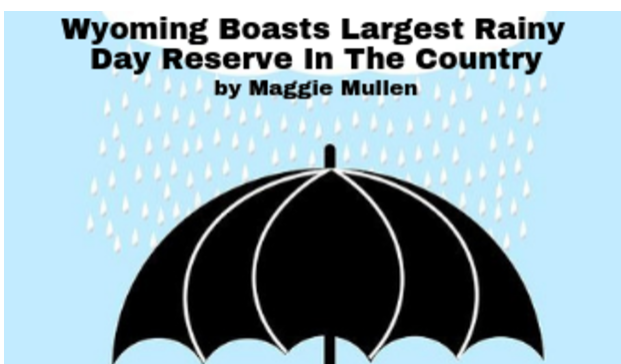
Sikh Trucking Boom on Marketplace On March 7, Maggie Mullen's report on the recent [boom of Sikh truckers in and beyond Wyoming](#) aired nationally. The trucking industry is experiencing a major shortage of drivers. But in the last two years, one demographic has been gravitating towards the industry by the thousands: Indian-American Sikhs.



TOP STORIES



Click the images below to learn more about this month's top stories.



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