



# Wyoming Agriculture

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## 2022 Legislative Meeting in review

BY KERIN CLARK

Meeting with legislators one-on-one and hearing current issues updates from speakers were the highlights of the 2022 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Legislative Meeting held March 1-2 in Cheyenne. While legislative bills were the main area of discussion, WyFB members also heard from a variety of speakers on current issues.

The meeting began with a luncheon sponsored by Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company. After a great lunch, members heard from Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Sen. Brian Boner. Sen. Boner talked about legislation related to agriculture and answered questions during the luncheon.

WyFB President Todd Fornstrom kicked off the meeting with an address sharing his work on the state and national level.

Next, Farm Bureau members heard from newly appointed Wyoming State Engineer Brandon Gebhart. Gebhart was appointed interim State Engineer Dec. 6, 2021 and appointed as the State Engineer on Feb. 25, 2022. Prior to this position, Gebhart was the Director of Water Development. He also spent more than 20 years in consulting engineering, primarily working in the field of water resources.

WyFB lobbyists Brett Moline and Ken Hamilton provided a legislative update on bills on which the organization was working on during the session. Next, WyFB Membership Coordinator Brooke Roes talked about member benefits and how to access them through the Farm Bureau Benefits app on your phone.

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Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Hallie Hasel visits with WyFB Director of Public and Government Affairs Brett Moline at the 2022 WyFB Legislative Meeting. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.

## Overview of 2022 Legislature

BY BRETT MOLINE

The 2022 legislative budget session is over and now we are waiting to see what bills the Governor will sign. This update is valid as of 3/21/22. As always, the stance taken by the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) depends on policy developed by WyFB members.

This session was a budget session, so the two-year budget was the highest priority. Given that mineral prices have rebounded, there was little appetite to increase fees or taxes. No bills came out of introduction to increase or add taxes or fees.

Many bills supported by WyFB died early in the process. Many times, legislators will bring bills to judge support on the issue, with the idea to bring the same topic for the general session.

Water was a hot topic in the 2022 session. The Governor has signed HB 4, Water Permits- Livestock on Federal Land. This bill outlines that any livestock water right developed on federal lands will have the grazing permittee's name on the right along with the federal government. Should the grazing permit change hands, the new permittee will have the water permit as well. This bill has been signed into law. WyFB supports this law.

Another water bill, SF 81, Clarification of Existing State Ownership of Groundwater, would have put into law that the state of Wyoming does indeed own groundwater. We have always assumed the State does own the groundwater, but some feel our constitution is a little vague and having a law would be a good thing. WyFB supported this bill, but the bill died on third reading in the House. This topic will likely come up again in the interim.

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## Sharing agriculture's story through ag literacy

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation members and staff met with Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon at the Wyoming Capitol during "Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week," the first week of March. The formal proclamation signing with the Governor was March 2. The proclamation raises awareness of the importance of agricultural literacy that is promoted through the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee's "Ag Book for Kids" project. From left to right: Brett Moline, WyFB; Kerin Clark, WyFB; Dee Brewer, WyFB; Cody Alps, WyFB YF&R Committee; Gov. Gordon; Kelli Chouinard, WyFB YF&R state chair; Todd Fornstrom, WyFB president; Frank Eathorne, Converse County; Brooke Roes, WyFB; and Ken Hamilton, WyFB.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE PHOTO.

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[www.wyfb.org](http://www.wyfb.org)



CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS

- April**  
1 "Ag Books for Kids" county contest deadline  
19 "Ag Books for Kids" district contest deadline
- June**  
1 WyFB Membership Committee Meeting-Casper
- November**  
10-12 WyFB 103rd Annual Meeting-Casper

Visit [wyfb.org](http://wyfb.org) for calendar updates

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Investing in the  
Future of Agriculture

Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President



I often share how I first got outside my fencerows as a young farmer after complaining to my dad about all the problems I was facing in the dairy business. He took me to a Farm Bureau meeting where the members elected me to chair my county Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee. I wasn't quite sure what I had gotten into, but that meeting was a pivotal moment in my life.

As a member of our YF&R Committee, I was immersed in training, conferences and networking opportunities all over the country. As a young farmer, I never would have imagined that I would one day be the president of the American Farm Bureau. And I wouldn't be if it weren't for the leadership development programs and opportunities at every level of Farm Bureau. These programs can introduce young people to other Farm Bureau members from around the country and help them develop leadership skills to use in the organization and their communities.

Long before I was a member of Farm Bureau, and in the decades since that

first meeting, our organization has continued to invest in our young members because they are the future of farming and ranching. We should always leave something in better shape than we found it, and I want to leave this organization in a better position for the future than when I was elected in 2016. Investing in our young farmers and ranchers is time and resources well spent, which is why I want to make sure that our YF&R Committees at every level have all they need to be successful and pursue their goals both on and off the farm.

Around 800 young farmers and ranchers gathered in Louisville recently for the national Young Farmers & Ranchers Leadership Conference. There they worked on building their leadership skills and being better farmers. But most importantly, they were building relationships with each other. I shared with these young people how we can't overcome challenges on our own. We all need help at different times throughout our lives. And every successful person has had someone lifting them up when

they are struggling or encouraging them when they feel like giving up.

These young farmers are helping to lift up their communities too. Last year, young farmers from across the country collected enough food and funds to provide 30.5 million meals to those in need as part of our Harvest for All program. And many county and state committees work in their communities to raise funds for scholarships, support local organizations and step up to help community members after disasters. These men and women are shining examples of how Farm Bureau is committed to strengthening farmers and ranchers and our rural communities.

I'm proud of the work all our grassroots members are doing across the country. You all are helping make rural America an even better place to live and start a family. And just as we work together to invest in our communities for a better future, we can ensure a bright future for American agriculture by creating opportunities for the next generation of farmers and ranchers and giving them the tools they need to succeed. ■

Reality needs  
to drive decisions

Ken Hamilton

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President



Under capitalism, companies compete with each other, and when one company gains a competitive edge, it can, and sometimes does, gobble up its competition. In the U.S., it seems the trend is for this to happen until there are only a few giant companies manufacturing or producing products consumed by our citizens. As our transportation networks have become more advanced, we see this translating into the same issue worldwide. For a number of years, there were three U.S. car manufacturers building cars for U.S. consumers. This changed when Fiat came along and purchased Chrysler to create Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, one of the three remaining companies. GM and Ford got into the act by buying other car manufacturing facilities or forming strategic partnerships with companies throughout the world. They also outsourced the manufacturing of many of their components to other countries in an effort to gain an economic advantage. The label "made in America" for automobiles is tenuous at best.

Economists have theorized that in mature economies, manufacturing and other industries trend towards a top three or four companies. This provides some tremendous efficiencies that give these companies a continued edge over their

counterparts.

Unfortunately, as we've seen, this also opens the process to supply chain problems. When you have three or four companies producing computer chips for cars and you put restrictions on computer chips from one country while having a fire in the computer chip factory in another, you suddenly find yourself with some very modern looking cars that can only serve as large paperweights. Worldwide, these disruptions are causing serious problems.

One of our Legislative Meeting speakers talked about energy issues and pointed out "how we want things to be" doesn't always fit with reality for energy. The energy sector is a prime example of how we in the U.S. are using the "how we want things to be" instead of "how they are" thinking process. With the change in administration, we saw a big focus on renewable energy while at the same time instituting policies to move away from fossil fuels. For those folks who are concerned about man-caused climate change, this effort is moving ahead without a full understanding of reality. As our speaker pointed out, if the U.S. stopped using fossil fuels tomorrow, it would only slow the growth of carbon emissions worldwide by a couple of years. However, ignoring the contribution of fossil fuels to our energy needs and setting about to cripple that

source of energy before we have a substitute can have tremendous consequences for our country.

Our European neighbors have been charging down the renewable energy path a lot longer than the U.S. With the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the subsequent reaction of other countries, they are suddenly facing the reality that fossil fuels still make up a huge portion of their energy source. While the U.S. can supply our energy needs through domestic sources if there is the political will, our allies have found that their move away from local energy sources has left them at the mercy of those countries who have been selling them their fossil fuels. This is the downside of the global economy. It certainly was cheaper for those countries to source their energy from other countries and worldwide - we seem to have just a few sources of fossil-based energy exporters. Unfortunately, that also has significant impacts when one country decides to invade another country.

This lesson needs to be taken to heart by our politicians. We have to learn that some items are critical to our country's well-being. Energy is certainly one of those needs and food is another. Nor can we decide policies on "how we wish things to be" but must instead operate on "how they are." ■

# WyFB welcomes Lillian Power as intern

BY KERIN CLARK

University of Wyoming (UW) senior Lillian Power joined the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation staff as an intern on March 1. Power will be graduating in May with a degree in agriculture business management. Following graduation, she is planning an October 22, 2022, wedding to Chance Wolfe.

From Montrose, Colorado, Power found her love of agriculture through her 10 years as a 4-H member. According to Power, shooting sports is where she spent most of her time during 4-H. "It took a long time

for me to convince my parents to let me have livestock," she explained. "I started out with pigs and then chickens and now also have a mini-Hereford operation with my dad."

Power explains that she is a first-generation college student. "Through my time in 4-H and one year in FFA, I knew I wanted a career in agriculture, but just wasn't sure what that career would be," she said.

Power has been an active student while at UW, participating in multiple collegiate clubs and as a competing member of the UW Shotgun Team. She has held leader-

ship positions, including chair, in the professional agriculture sorority Sigma Alpha. Other club involvement includes the Collegiate Farm Bureau, Collegiate Cattlemen's Association and the Agriculture Teacher's Association.

She is looking forward to her internship with the Federation. "I want to learn as much as I can about the legislature and how it works with agriculture," Power stated. "I'm working to broaden my scope in agriculture outside of just farming and ranching and learn more of what is going on at a state and federal level." ■



Lillian Power



## Member-CENTS

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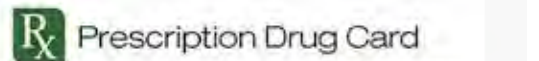
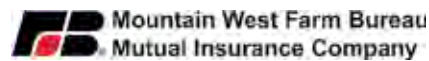
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Whether you are a farmer, rancher or a consumer of food...membership is a good investment to secure stability of agriculture here in Wyoming. As a member, WyFB provides you with exclusive benefits as a way to say thank you. These benefits may pay your annual membership fee many times over.

Current members may access member benefits at [www.wyfb.org](http://www.wyfb.org) and click on the **"Benefits"** tab.

You may also utilize the Farm Bureau Member Benefits app on your phone to access your benefits.

Questions: email [broes@wyfb.org](mailto:broes@wyfb.org) or call 307-721-7723.



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# Involvement in YF&R brings many opportunities

By KELLI CHOUINARD, WyFB YF&R STATE CHAIR

When you share with others about your involvement in the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, what sort of things do you include? Meetings? Food? Activities? Travel? Networking? Socializing?

It is easy for me to remember many people telling me that you only get out of an organization what you put into it. These words could not be more true. In the past few months, the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation has seen and done a lot; both near and far. WyFB Young Farmers and Ranchers hosted their joint conference with South Dakota Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers. The American Farm Bureau Federation held its annual convention in Atlanta, Ga. Wyoming was represented by our state leadership and staff. The American Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers held their conference in Louisville, Ky., where Hannah and Zack Guild joined me to network and learn valuable leadership skills that will not only help us as individuals, but also the WyFB Young Farmers and Ranchers program and initiatives. As a state Farm Bureau, we recently held a Legislative Meeting in Cheyenne, Wyo. Many speakers shared various aspects of the current legislative policies that will have an effect on Wyoming agriculture.

It is a true blessing to be able to travel to, interact at, and be physically present at these various events. Covid has had a dramatic impact on so much of our society that it is easy to get bogged down. Thankfully, we are now able to recover and get back to a similar "normal" to what we experienced before 2020.

As I am sitting in an airport writing this, I can't help but thank the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation for the opportunities I have been afforded to experience and grow as an individual and leader. The AFBF YF&R Conference hosted nearly 800 individuals from all across the country. With speakers like Delatorro McNeal, Braxten Nielsen, and Zippy Duvall, it was an inspiring and uplifting event. Breakout sessions that ranged in topics from retirement planning and marketing strategies, to policy updates and "How to" information sessions, encouraged attendees and emphasized the value of community.

One thing that will continue to amaze me is the vastness of our agricultural community. While hosting the state's YF&R conference in January, I was blessed to meet some amazing leaders. We connect-



Kelli Chouinard, WyFB YF&R State Chair

ed in Louisville at the national YF&R conference and expanded our network out to leaders from other states. While we don't all produce the same commodities, we all are dedicated to producing a safe and healthy product for our consumers. Many of my counterparts shared their stories, some being from multi-generational operations, others are first generation, some are large scale, some are small, some have very specific marketing plans, others don't. But we are all here to learn and grow.

As I look forward to the coming few months, I am excited to work with the WyFB's YF&R Committee to implement things learned at the events in the past few months. What ideas do you have that we could try? What can we do to help you prosper and grow, as an individual and group? ■



Chouinard cattle



Kelli and Shawn Chouinard

*About the author: Kelli and Shawn Chouinard live in Powell, Wyo., where they are building their cattle operation with the goal of providing quality protein to their community. Kelli also works at George Farms and Shawn works for Halliburton Company.*



## 'Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week' Proclamation

WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee Members Cody Alps and Kelli Chouinard visited with Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon during "Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week." The proclamation signing is an opportunity to share about the agricultural outreach through the WyFB YF&R "Ag Books for Kids" program. Gov. Gordon signed three books that will be awarded to the state winners in the "Ag Books for Kids" contests. Wyoming students in kindergarten through fifth grade are eligible to enter the contests by April 1. Contest details are at wyfb.org (Education tab). KERIN CLARK PHOTO.



## AFBF YF&R Conference in Kentucky

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee Members Kelli Chouinard and Hannah and Zack Guild attended the 2022 American Farm Bureau YF&R Conference mid-February in Louisville, Ky. They joined nearly 800 other young farmers and ranchers in an event full of networking, learning, fun, tours and a trip to the Kentucky Derby Museum.



**LEGISLATIVE MEETING ... From Page 1**

Tuesday afternoon's meeting closed out with a presentation by the Central High Plains FFA Ag Issues team. As part of the contest, the team presents to groups and takes questions and answers prior to the state FFA convention. This team spoke on 30x30 and took questions from the audience.

The Legislative Mixer was held Tuesday evening jointly with the Wyoming Rural Electric Association. Thank you to all who attended. It is a great opportunity for our members to visit one-one-one with legislators and elected officials.

Wednesday morning included a speaker's forum and a trip to the Capitol where Farm Bureau members were recognized for "Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week." The speaker's forum included Dr. Hallie Hasel, Wyoming State Veterinarian; Ramesh Sivanpillai with the University of Wyoming; and WREA Executive Director Shawn Taylor.

Newly appointed Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Hallie Hasel spoke about animal health and regulatory veterinary medicine. (See related article in this issue.)

An overview of the science behind and the benefits to landowners from remote sensing was presented by Ramesh Sivanpillai, PhD. Sivanpillai is the GIS program director & senior research scientist at the University of Wyoming (UW). He teaches an applied remote sensing class at UW, where students conduct case studies to apply what they are learning.

"Remotely sensed images are useful for monitoring crop fields, range lands, forests and more," Dr. Sivanpillai said. "It doesn't show an individual tree, but you can get a broad picture."

"Remote sensing measures light interaction to detect deviations from normal," he continued. "Producers can use this information for making decisions."

According to Sivanpillai, digital satellite images when he started work on remote sensing cost \$4,800 per image. "Now the images are free, and you can look at any area, anywhere in the world," he explained. "I do most of my work with satellite images. Handheld sensors and drones that collect data in the infrared spectrum are expensive."

Sivanpillai mentioned that if a student doesn't come from a rural area, they are looking to pair up with a farmer or rancher to do the remote sensing and provide a report. Contact Sivanpillai directly at sivan@uwyo.edu if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.

The final speaker of the meeting was Wyoming Rural Electric Association (WREA) Executive Director Shawn Taylor. Taylor addressed energy policy issues. "We're in a battle of ideas for U.S. energy and electric power sectors," Taylor said. "U.S. climate policy will influence U.S. energy policy, which will influence the future of the U.S. electric power sector, direction of U.S. energy technology development and U.S. national security."

Taylor talked about energy consumption and electricity production and what that means for carbon dioxide trends. "China will not put any restrictions on coal-fired production," he continued. "We already have been leading on CO2 emissions, but if we keep hammering our fossil-based production, it won't make a world of difference on global CO2 emissions but will impact Wyoming and the U.S."

Thank you to all the Farm Bureau members who took the time to leave your farms and ranches for a couple of days to participate in the legislative process and hear from the WyFB Legislative Meeting speakers. ■



Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Sen. Brian Boner addressed agriculture legislation during a noon luncheon at the WyFB Legislative Meeting. Thank you to Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company for sponsoring the luncheon for Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation members. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.



The Central High Plains FFA Ag Issues team with WyFB board members following their presentation at the Legislative Meeting. Front row (l to r): Lane Hageman, Todd Fornstrom, Cole Coxbill, and Kevin Baars. Back row (l to r): Justin Ellis at left, Ag Issues team, and Kelli Chouinard at right. KEN HAMILTON PHOTO.



WREA Executive Director Shawn Taylor talked energy issues at the Legislative Meeting. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.



Ramesh Sivanpillai from the University of Wyoming spoke about remote sensing opportunities and how the technology can benefit farmers and ranchers. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.



WyFB Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton (right) thanked Wyoming State Engineer Brandon Gebhart following his talk on water issues in the state of Wyoming. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.

**LEGISLATIVE REVIEW ... From Page 1**

Another bill, SF 82 Supplemental Water Development Funding, would allocate funding for large water projects, including for the Goshen Irrigation District to fix problems with their tunnels and for the LaPrele dam rebuilding. WyFB supports this bill. This bill has not been signed yet as of March 21.

This session had two bills dealing with feral horses. HB 5, Wild Horse and Burro Management, is waiting for the Governor to sign. This bill would request the federal government to pay for grazing feral horses and burros on State land. WyFB supports this bill.

The other feral horse bill, HB 24 Wild Horse and Burro Management-2, would

have had the State take over management of feral horses and burros within Wyoming. WyFB supported this bill but preferred HB 5. HB 24 did not pass the House.

Several bills that did not come forward dealt with trespassing issues. HB 19, Painted Fenceposts-No Trespassing, would have allowed landowners to paint fence posts either hunting orange or pink to designate private lands. HB103 Prohibit Travel Across Private Land for Hunting Purposes, would have clarified traveling through private property is against the law for hunting. There are concerns that travel thorough private lands is difficult to prosecute. HB 128, Trespass by Drone, would have established that flying a drone below 200 feet in the air across

private land would be trespassing. None of these three bills were introduced in the session. WyFB supported these bills. These topics were suggested for interim topics for the legislature.

Two pieces of legislation dealing with run-off elections were filed. Neither piece went forward. HB 74 would have amended current statutes to allow a run-off election between the top two candidates in the primary for each party. This bill would need to be passed each year after redistricting. Another piece of legislation, House Joint Resolution 3, would have changed the State Constitution to facilitate run-off elections. To keep from needing to run a bill each session after redistricting, the State Constitution would need to be worked. WyFB supported both

pieces of legislation.

Redistricting was another topic covered in the 2022 session. By State Constitution, the first session after the completion of the census, the legislature is charged with redistricting the state. As per a United States Supreme Court ruling, the deviation between the smallest and largest district must be less than 10 percent. The House supported having 62 House Districts and 31 Senate Districts. The Senate version kept 60 House and 30 Senate districts. The compromise reached is 62 House and 31 Senate seats.

Interim subjects for the 2023 legislative session have been submitted to the Legislature's Management Council. These subjects will be finalized on April 8, 2022. ■



# The People of the Farm Bureau Federation

## Meet the volunteer leader Lane Hageman

County: Goshen  
Farm Bureau Leadership

- Positions:
- WyFB YF&R Committee Southeast District Representative
  - Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member
  - Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Board Director-at-Large.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** Describe your ranch background.

**Hageman:** My family has deep roots in Wyoming agriculture. My great-grandad brought the first trail herds from Texas in the late 1800s and ended up settling near Orin, Wyo. Two generations later, in 1960, my grandparents moved to Goshen County where they started the ranch I am on now, near Ft. Laramie, Wyo. Over the years it was expanded by my dad and grandad into what it is today. We have mainly a cow/calf operation, run some yearlings, and put up all of our winter feed. We also raise horses mostly to use on the ranch but sell a few as well.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** Family, education, hobbies.

**Hageman:** I graduated from high school in 2014 and went to the University of Wyoming where in 2018 I received a bachelor's degree in ag econ: farm and ranch management and a minor in economics. I now live and work on my family ranch with my dad and brother. We find a lot of enjoyment, as a family, in working to grow and improve this ranch and preserve the cowboy way of life. In doing so, I enjoy raising and training all of my own horses and working to build and improve my cow herd. I also enjoy doing some leather work and braid and sell halters and other tack. When time allows, I don't mind doing a little hunting, fishing, and roping either.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** How did you get involved in Farm Bureau Federation leadership?

**Hageman:** The first involvement I had with the federation leadership was through the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher program.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** Why do you make the time to be involved in Farm Bureau Federation leadership?

**Hageman:** The main reason I take time to be involved in Farm Bureau is a call to serve. This nation was founded by those who served their fellow man. It is important for each generation to do their part in fighting for and protecting their way of life not only for themselves but for the next generation. Countless individuals before me have served and sacrificed their time and some their lives to build the world I live in today and we are responsible for fighting to uphold that. Our freedoms and our way of life are under attack more than ever and it is important for me to be involved. The Farm Bureau Federation is one of the last organizations we have that holds fast to the very values and principles



Lane Hageman, WyFB Director-at-Large and WyFB YF&R Committee Member

Lane Hageman ranches near Ft. Laramie on a generational family ranch.



that this country was founded on, and we should all rally around that. I believe in its policy and its mission to advance and improve agricultural interests of the State of Wyoming and the nation, and its goal of protecting private property rights. Farm Bureau still understands the role we have in feeding the world, understands the importance of social and economic issues, and embraces our God-given rights.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** What advice do you have on how individuals can make a difference for Wyoming agriculture through the Farm Bureau Federation?

**Hageman:** I would encourage individuals to be informed on the issues. Understand the needs for the survival of their operation and know how the decisions made by our lawmakers will affect them. The existing policy of the Farm Bureau Federation is a solid foundation for protecting ag, but always needs to grow as we face new issues. It is not an organization to be idolized for its name. If you believe in its policy and its mission, it welcomes you to bring your concerns to the county and state levels, where all of its policy begins, making it a true grassroots organization. With a grouping of like-minded individuals, policy development sparks

debate which hopefully leads to understanding and new ideas. Ultimately, many producers face the same obstacles and it is important for individuals to come together and talk about them.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** What are some of the issues facing farmers and ranchers in your county/district/state?

**Hageman:** There are many issues facing farmers and ranchers today at our local, state, and national levels. Farmers and ranchers have always been able to adapt to changing times whether that be consumer preferences, market fluctuations, or harmful legislation. With narrowing margins, agriculture is getting hit hard with inflation and higher input costs. Folks need to remember, individuals in production agriculture are price takers. New taxes and other increased expenses are passed down the line until they get to us. Those in production ag are hurting, and more are going out of business every day. Those outside of agriculture have to start realizing how so many of the decisions that they make affect agriculture. We all need to understand the role agriculture plays in our everyday lives. In Wyoming for instance, we all need to be proud of our Ag industry and do everything we can to protect

it. Agriculture is seeing the consequences of bad policy more than ever. Another serious issue facing farmers and ranchers in this country is Biden's executive order #14008, which is a plan to preserve 30% of America's land and oceans by 2030. We must understand the avenues which they will go through to achieve this goal and at all costs fight to protect and preserve our private property rights. This unconstitutional land grab will undoubtedly allow more government control and could lead to worldwide starvation in the name of 'Tackling the climate crisis at home and abroad,' as stated by the American Stewards of Liberty.

**Wyoming Agriculture:** How important is each member of the Federation?

**Hageman:** Individual members are very important to the federation and play a key role in its grassroots process of policy development. It is unique in the fact that each member has a voice, and as part of the process, they need to express their ideas and concerns. This makes it important for each individual member to understand the issues so that they may hold our representation accountable and guide our lobbyists at the state and national level to speak on our behalf. ■



# Cooking with the Modern Ranch Wife

## Lemon Loaf

BY: CONNIE WERNER

### Ingredients

1 pkg. yellow cake mix	1/2 cup vegetable oil	<b>ICING:</b>
2 lrg. (4.3oz) pkgs., Cook and Serve Lemon Pudding mix	4 large eggs	3 tbsp. lemon juice
	8oz sour cream	2-2. 1/2 cups confectioners sugar
	1/2. cup Milk	
	6 tbsp. lemon juice	

### Directions

1. Heat the oven to 350°. Spray two loaf pans with cooking spray.
2. Combine cake mix, pudding mixes, oil, eggs, sour cream, milk, and 6 tbsp. lemon juice into a bowl or stand mixer.
3. Mix for 2 minutes. Then pour into the greased loaf pans.
4. Bake for approximately 45 minutes or until a tester comes out clean.
5. Leave in the pans until completely cool.
6. Mix together the lemon juice and confectioners sugar until the desired consistency for icing. Pour over the loaves.
7. Place in the fridge until chilled or at least 30 minutes.
8. Once the icing has set, slice the loaf in the pan. Keep refrigerated.
9. These can be wrapped individually with cling wrap and frozen. Simply thaw and enjoy.



Source: [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)

For more recipes visit [www.modernranchwife.com](http://www.modernranchwife.com)

## Annual industry study underscores the vital role food & ag sectors play in Wyoming's economy

Laramie, Wyoming/March 22, 2022 –Thirty food and agriculture groups released the sixth annual Feeding the Economy report on March 22, 2022, a historic farm-to-fork economic analysis revealing how these sectors influence the local and broader United States economies. Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's study highlights how the industries remained resilient to provide Americans with jobs, economic opportunity and safe food.

This study sheds light for policymakers on how the food and agriculture sector not only feeds Americans, but also feeds the U.S. economy. The economic disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic has only served to further highlight the critical importance of the food and ag industries.

The economic impact study released March 22 shows that 17.77% of the nation's economy and 29.14% of American jobs are linked to the food and agriculture sectors, either directly or indirectly. Additionally, the analysis broke down the food and agriculture sectors' economic impact by state and congressional district. Here are the key findings for Wyoming.

- Total Jobs:** 86,821
- Total Wages:** \$3.3 B
- Total Taxes:** \$671.3 MM
- Exports:** \$19.0 MM
- Total Food and Industry Economic Impact:** \$12.4 B

"The food and agriculture industries' vital role in feeding Americans is well known, but less talked about is their incredible impact in growing the nation's economy. The Feeding the Economy report allows us to quantify our industry's role in supporting the U.S. economy and better understand how we can continue to

promote those contributions," said Todd Fornstrom, WyFB president.

To measure the total economic impact of the sectors, the analysis also includes the direct and indirect economic activity surrounding these industries, capturing both upstream and downstream activity. For example, when a farm equipment retailer hires new employees because farmers are buying more tractors, experts consider the new salaries an indirect impact. Similarly, when a retail associate spends her paycheck, an induced economic impact occurs. Together, these have a multiplier effect on the already formidable direct impact of food and agriculture.

The full analysis underscores the importance the food and agriculture industries have on jobs, wages, exports, and taxes in our nation. The data provided includes the indirect and induced economy activity surrounding these industries.

Visit [www.FeedingTheEconomy.com](http://www.FeedingTheEconomy.com) to view the entire report.

Sponsoring Organizations include: American Bakers Association, American Beverage Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, American Feed Industry Association, American Soybean Association, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, BIO, Corn Refiners Association, CropLife America, FMI - The Food Industry Association, Global Cold Chain Alliance, Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils, International Dairy Foods Association, International Fresh Produce Association, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA), National Corn Growers Association, National Grain and Feed Association, National Milk Producers Federation, National Oilseed Processors Association, National Pork Producers Council, National Restaurant Association, NCA - The National Confectioners Association, North American Meat Institute, Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Assn (PTNPA), SNAC International, The Fertilizer Institute, The Sugar Association Inc., U.S. Dairy Export Council, and the U.S. Grains Council. ■

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# AFBF issues advisory committee meetings

BY KERIN CLARK

Key issues discussed at the 2022 meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Environmental Regulations Issues Advisory Committee (IAC) included greenhouse gas emissions perceptions, chemical registration licensing and the term conservation as used in the "America the Beautiful" executive order.

The AFBF IAC are specialized groups of Farm Bureau voting members from around the nation who serve as a direct contact for the AFBF Board for the specific interests of their committee. Committee members are nominated by their state Farm Bureau and approved by the AFBF Board of Directors. There are 14 specialized IAC committees who meet and discuss policy issues. They met in late February near Washington, D.C.

Regarding the term conservation, Coxbill said the IAC is developing a definition. "We want a standard definition of what we believe in agriculture is conservation," Coxbill stated. "That way we in agriculture define what it is that we do rather than having someone else define the work we do for conservation."

Farm Bureau's policy development process is what guides the work of the organization at the local, state and national level. The input of Farm Bureau members who are affected by the issues is key to driving policy development discussion. Each year resolutions begin at the grassroots level and, if approved by voting delegates, the resolutions proceed to the state and national levels. Each year provides a new opportunity for members to bring forth new policy or change existing policy. Once voting delegates approve policy that is the direction the state and national boards follow for the coming year.

Wyoming has two representatives on the AFBF Issues Advisory Committees. Retired Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Jim Logan serves on the AFBF Animal Care IAC. Watch for a newsnote on the Animal Care IAC in the next issue of *Wyoming Agriculture*. WyFB Vice President and Goshen



Goshen County Farmer and WyFB Vice President Cole Coxbill serves as the chair of the American Farm Bureau Federation Issues Advisory Committee for Environmental Regulations. Coxbill is at left in this photo with some of his fellow committee members from around the nation. JASON FLOWERS PHOTO.

County farmer Cole Coxbill serves as the national chair of the AFBF Environmental Regulations IAC.

According to Coxbill, involvement on these national committees is fun and he finds it rewarding to be a part of the high-level conversations. "It is helpful to learn the whole process of the implementation part of a law," Coxbill explained. "I've learned to be more detailed on resolutions and what we are asking to be done about an issue. So many times, the issue is with the rules that are developed because of a law, but those rules keep changing a lot so it's not just the law to focus on."

"The networking and friendship building is also a

huge asset to me as a committee member," Coxbill continued.

According to Coxbill, in addition to information gleaned from these committee meetings the members also make recommendations to the AFBF board and can take information back to their county level. "If we have a resolution that our committee is pushing, we can take it back to our counties and push it through the grassroots process," Coxbill said.

The Environmental Regulations AFBF IAC consists of 14 members from across the country. The committee will continue to meet throughout the year via video conference. ■

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# Legislative Meeting Membership Awards

BY KERIN CLARK

County Farm Bureau Federation volunteers work year-round on membership acquisition and retention. Grassroots membership strength drives the Federation in the work we do for agriculture and rural Wyoming.

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Membership Committee sets annual quota goals and award incentives to recognize membership success at the local level. The Gold and Silver Quota awards, the Outstanding Membership Secretary awards and Ken Hamilton's Gold Club Membership award were presented at the WyFB Legislative Meeting March 1 in Cheyenne.

The Fremont County Farm Bureau Federation won the Gold Quota Award for the 2021 membership year. This award recognizes the county achieving the greatest percentage of quota for the 2021 membership year, including a new young Regular member.

The Silver Quota Award recognizes the county having the greatest percentage of Regular member quota for the 2021 membership year. The Washakie County Farm Bureau Federation won the award for reaching 96 percent of their 2021 Regular member quota.

While the Gold Quota and Silver Quota recognize membership numbers, the Outstanding Membership Secretary awards recognize the volunteers who work behind the scenes. County Farm Bureau Federation membership secretaries maintain an accurate record of the county's mem-



Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member Lane Hageman (center) accepts the award of Ken Hamilton's (left) Gold Club Membership from Hamilton and WyFB Membership Committee Vice Chair Kevin Baars (right). KERINCLARKPHOTO.



WyFB Membership Committee Vice Chair Kevin Baars presents Washakie County Farm Bureau Federation President Angus Powell with the Silver Quota Award at the 2022 WyFB Legislative Meeting. KERINCLARKPHOTO.

ber database and assist in the collection and processing of member dues. Three membership secretaries are recognized each year at the Legislative Meeting. The award selections are based on performance, quality of transmittals, neatness, accuracy, membership acquisition and an outstanding effort towards reaching membership quota. The recipients are awarded a \$100 cash prize. This year's "Outstand-

ing Membership Secretaries" are Lauree Schmeltzer, Washakie County; Ray Shaffer, Hot Springs County; and Mary Whaley, Big Horn County.

The final membership award presented at the Legislative Meeting recognizes the county with the greatest gain of Regular members over the 2021 membership year. The Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation won this category and will re-

ceive the county's portion of WyFB Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton's Gold Club membership for this year.

Congratulations to these award winners! We offer our continuous appreciation to all the volunteers and county Farm Bureau Federations who unite as one voice to work together to keep agriculture strong through membership in the Federation. ■

## New Wyoming State Veterinarian speaks to WyFB members

BY KERIN CLARK

Dr. Hallie Hasel (pronounced Hazel) may be new to the position of Wyoming State Veterinarian, but she is not new to animal disease issues. Dr. Hasel came to Wyoming in July 2020 and was selected as the new state veterinarian in July 2021. She spoke with Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) members at our Legislative Meeting on March 2 in Cheyenne.

Dr. Hasel has extensive experience in regulatory veterinary medicine both in the field and in administration. Prior to joining the Wyoming Livestock Board as the Assistant State Veterinarian in July 2020, Dr. Hasel worked for USDA APHIS Veterinary Services including six years as Director of the Cattle Fever Tick Eradication program on the Texas/Mexico border.

"The issues faced by cattle producers with Fever Tick in Texas and Brucellosis in Wyoming may be thousands of miles apart, but in all honesty, there are a lot of similarities," Dr. Hasel stated. "If there is a disease outbreak the cattle markets plummet."

Brucellosis causes abortion in cattle, elk and bison. "It can also cause decreased milk production or polyarthritis in calves," she explained. "The disease causes other issues we don't just see from the naked eye."

"The other point I make is when we vaccinate cattle for brucellosis that vaccine protects against abortion, but it may not protect against the disease 100 per-

cent," she continued. "Brucellosis mitigation herd plans are how we navigate the disease in the Designated Surveillance Areas."

According to Dr. Hasel, the last few years have seen 30 states with new state veterinarians, many due to retirement. "That means there are 30 states right now looking at rules and trying to come to uniformity," she explained. "The boundaries for the Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) in Wyoming are not scheduled to change right now. Montana's boundaries have expanded due to elk issues."

"Another area of review is looking at roles for vets in the DSAs and bringing import/export rules up-to-date," she continued.

Regarding the Wyoming Livestock Board staffing and offices, Dr. Hasel said the Riverton office is now closed since the work can be done in the field. Dr. Brad DeGroot is the Assistant State Veterinarian. A new field veterinarian will start work in June and will be the one who will communicate with those producers in the DSA. This position also works closely with the USDA and they have three field veterinarians on staff for Wyoming.

Dr. Hasel also addressed the use of 840 tags, otherwise known as RFID tags. "The RFID tag rule, animal disease traceability, may come into effect this summer/early fall," she stated. "Any animal that crosses state lines will be required to have this tag."

STATE VETERINARIAN ... Page 12



Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Hallie Hasel at the WyFB Legislative Meeting. KERINCLARKPHOTO.



## Wyoming Classifieds

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS must be received by the 10th of each month to appear in the next issue. Members may place two (2) complimentary ads, up to 40 words each, per issue. Real estate sales not included. Complimentary ads will run for three issues unless requested otherwise. Non-members may submit an ad at a minimum rate of \$5.00 per ad (50 cents per word). The appearance of any ad in *Wyoming Agriculture* does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the product or service offered. TO SUBMIT ADS, send your ad along with your name, phone number and member number or member county to [kclark@wyfb.org](mailto:kclark@wyfb.org) or mail to WyFB, ATTN: Classifieds, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073.

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**BIG HORN**  
Vickie & Gerald George, Burlington; Cory Baker, Byron; Connie Werbelow, Greybull; Zachary Tippets (REG), Lovell; Chris Dalin, Greybull; Tyli & Tate Anderson, Greybull; Susan & Jay Neves (REG), Otto

**CAMPBELL**  
Monica & Zachery Diede, Gillette; Pamela & Jamey Huffman, Gillette; Randall Flint (REG), Weston

**CARBON**  
Roxanna Findlay (REG), Savery

**CONVERSE**  
Stephanie & Shawn Penwarden, Glenrock; Trevor Sorg, Douglas; Penni Haney,

Douglas; Coleen & John Ferguson, Gillette; Zane Rusk, Douglas; Ranae & Matthew Layher, Douglas

**CROOK**  
Steven Brazas, Sundance; Winter & Jeff Carter, Rozet; Beverly & Rene Watts, Sundance

**FREMONT**  
Ben Hegwer, Pavillion; Sherri Palmeno, Lander; Melissa & Carl Horn (REG), Riverton; Cassandra Kofoid (REG), Lander

**GOSHEN**  
Kendra O'Bryan & Randall Jaren, Torrington

**JOHNSON**  
Sullivan Properties LLC (REG), Buffalo; Jeanine Briscoe, Buffalo; Connie & Albert Rumpfelt, Buffalo; Cheryl & Donald Larsen,


Buffalo; Jackie & Tyler Benton (REG), Buffalo; Jennifer & Curtis Rasmuson, Buffalo

**LARAMIE**  
Jason Lease, Cheyenne; Sara Fleenor, Sundance; AJ McDaniel, Cheyenne; Brian Stecklein, Cheyenne; Pamela & Bryce Freeman (REG), Cheyenne; Drew Hubbard, Cheyenne; Jean & Jack Mitchell, Cheyenne; Annie McGlothlin, Cheyenne; Merideth & Adam Kinney, Cheyenne; Steven Pineda, Cheyenne; Julie & Daniel Taylor, Cheyenne; Renee & Troy Krawiec, Cheyenne; Susan & Timothy Havner, Cheyenne; Robert Blade, Burns; Elizabeth & Cody Loyd (REG), Carpenter; Julie & Ron Rabou (Reg), Albin; Mary & Jay Cole, Cheyenne; Phyllis & Bill Gross (REG), Pine Bluffs; Patricia & Thomas Bennett, Cheyenne; Sabra Fowler, Cheyenne; Stephen Harvick, Cheyenne Carrie Smith, Cheyenne

**LINCOLN**  
Richard Carroll, Kemmerer; Taylor Wilkes, Afton; Jim Tobul, Jackson; Devry Taylor, Afton; Chynell & Greg Nate (REG), Cokeville; Jodie & John King, Kemmerer; Marfca & Tim Brewington, Etna; Jlene & Jay Buck, Kemmerer; Arthur Johnson (REG), Rawlins; Lynn Call (REG), Afton; Nharma & Kent Eischen (REG), Smoot

**NATRONA**  
Laura & Keith Austin, Casper; Caitlin & Brian Dixon, Casper; Carina Ready, Casper; Dennis Voyzey, Casper; Kallie & Clayton Roberts, Casper; Douglas Hudson, Casper; Ted Harvell, Casper; Patricia Harshman, Casper; Tanner Vivian, Casper; Dennis Ranch LTD, Casper; Mary & Brett Johnson, Casper; Lisa & Terry Uhrich, Casper; Robin & Stephen Brown (REG), Casper; Pam & Pat Hopkins, Casper; Marvin Crumbliss, Casper

NEW MEMBERS ... Page 12




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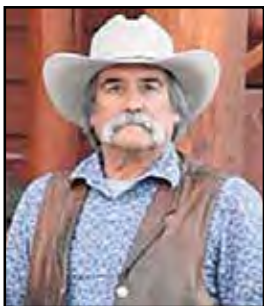
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# Wyoming Livestock Board Chapter rules out for public comment

The Wyoming Livestock Board voted at its Jan. 20, 2022 board meeting to amend its Chapter 9 rules governing brand inspection and brand recording fees. The proposed changes would offset cuts made to the General Fund portion of the brand inspection program's budget. The Wyoming Livestock Board also voted to amend its Chapter 21 rules governing recording, transfer, and renewal of livestock brands. The proposed changes would make it easier for a person to obtain an abandoned brand that was originally recorded for multiple species. Further information on the proposed rules is in the Statement of Reasons.

## STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR REVISIONS TO CHAPTERS 9 AND 21 OF THE WYOMING LIVESTOCK BOARD'S RULES

### Proposed Revisions to Chapter 9: Brand Inspection Fees Rules and Regulations

There have been significant cuts to the Board's Brand Inspection program in the last several fiscal years. The proposed increases in brand recording and brand inspection fees are designed to offset most of the cuts in funding for the program that have already been implemented.

The majority of the changes proposed would be to brand recording fees. Traditionally, brand recording fees in Wyoming have been among the lowest in the nation and that would continue even if

these fee increases are adopted. There are also some small increases in the brand inspection fees, which would mostly affect fees for some horse inspections, the brand inspection per visit surcharge, the permanent brand inspection fee, and for in-state movement permits and out-of-state accustomed range permits. The changes proposed are in the following sections:

#### Section 4. Brand Inspection Fees.

The fee for brand inspection horses, mules and asses would increase from \$13.50 to \$15. The brand inspection surcharge fees would increase from \$11.25 per visit to \$12. The permanent brand inspection fees would increase from \$23 to \$25.

#### Section 6. Range Permits.

The fee for an in-state range movement permit would increase from \$80.50 for the first permit to \$100. The fee for any additional permit issued to a permittee would increase from \$69 to \$85. The rate for inspection for an out-of-state accustomed range permit would increase from 30% of a regular brand inspection, to 35% of a regular brand inspection.

#### Section 7. Brand Recording Fees.

The fee to apply for a new brand would increase from \$165 to \$200, and adding an additional species would increase from \$82.50 to \$100. The fee for recording a previously recorded brand would increase from \$330 to \$400. The fee for extending a brand's active term past the standard ten year renewal would

increase to \$400 for each renewal period up to 50 years (20 to 50 year renewals), and after 50 years (for 60 to 100 year renewals), the rate would increase an additional \$250. The fee to record a bill of sale or other transfer of ownership would increase from \$110 to \$137.50.

#### Section 8. Fees for Modifying a Brand's Active Term.

The fees for modifying a brand's active term are prorated into future renewals. For example, if a person has two or more brands and wished them to be renewed at the same time, they can elect to move a brand into a future renewal, at a prorated cost. The fee to modify a brand's active term for two years would increase from \$66 to \$80. The fee to modify a brand's active term for four years would increase from \$132 to \$160. The fee to modify a brand's active term for six years would increase from \$198 to \$240. The fee to modify a brand's active term for eight years would increase from \$264 to \$320.

#### Proposed Revisions to Chapter 21: Rules Governing the Recording, Transfer, and Renewal of Livestock Brands

The only proposed change to the Chapter 21 rules is in Section 6. Following long term Board policy, the current rules state that if a person applies for reissuance of an abandoned brand, the Board can only reissue it exactly the way it was previously recorded, which means for the same species and in the same locations on

those species. Many times a person has applied for reissuance of an abandoned brand, but could not get the brand reissued because there may be a conflict on one species of a multi-species brand. Additionally, an applicant often times wants the brand for only one of the species that does not have a conflict, but the Board cannot approve that application because current rules state that reissuance of an abandoned brand is all or nothing. The Board has received several requests from the public to change this part of the rule.

The proposed change in the rule would allow an applicant to ask for reissuance of a multi-species abandoned brand for fewer species than it was originally recorded for, which would address both issues. For example, if an applicant wants an abandoned brand for horses, but that abandoned brand was originally recorded for use on horses and cattle, the Board could reissue it as just a horse brand, provided that there are no conflicts with other active brands for horses.

To view the proposed rules please visit the rules.wyo.gov or wlsb.state.wy.us websites. To submit a comment, please mail to: WLSB, c/o Rule Comments, 1934 WYott Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82007, or email wlsb-rules@wyo.gov.

If you have questions regarding the revision of these rules, please contact the Wyoming Livestock Board at 307-777-6443 and ask for Brand Commissioner Lee Romsa or Livestock Board Director Steve True. We will be accepting public comment on these rules until April 13, 2022. ■

#### NEW MEMBERS ... From Page 10

##### PARK

Bendene & David Engelhardt, Cody; Terri & Todd Bray, Cody; Joan & Fred Moller, Cody; Loraine & Dean Steppe, Cody; Debra & Timothy Benton, Cody; Janice & Tony Sorenson, Cody; Courtney & Kyle Kingman, Cody; Rachel & Chris Williams, Cody; Hat 2 Limited Partnership (REG), Meeteetse; Melinda & Drew Aiken, Cody; Krystal & John Knowles, Cody; Pat & Dale Nelson, Cody; Katharine Steves, Cody; Marty Mononi, Powell; Greg Kealey, Cody; Melodie & Robert Ferri, Cody; Linda & James Davis, Powell; Linda & Charles Fisher (REG), Cody

##### PLATTE

Teresa Hoover (REG), Wheatland; Good Cattle LLC, Wheatland

##### SHERIDAN

Jenelle Green & Matthew Smedley, Banner; Elizabeth & Mark Koltiska, Sheridan; Susan Dow (REG), Sheridan; Stacy & Justin Heide, Sheridan; Robert Beckman (REG), Sheridan; Rebecca & Joshua Deen, Dayton; Joseph Bales, Sheridan; WYTX Cattle Company, LLC (REG), Sheridan; Elizabeth & Jesse Martini, Sheridan; Amy &

Michael Albrecht, Sheridan; Sierra & Stacy Arnold, Sheridan; Kristine & Jimmy Adams, Sheridan; Lynda & Jeffrey Green (REG), Dayton

##### SUBLETTE

Donna & David Lavin, Pinedale; Madeleine Murdock/ Murdock Cattle Company (REG), Pinedale; Jenifer & Alfred Defosche, Big Piney

##### SWEETWATER

Susan & Todd Heslep, Green River; David Johnson, Reliance

##### TETON

Bull Creek Esponda, LLC (REG), Jackson; Anna & Quinn Mommsen, Jackson; Suzanne & Erik Ekvall, Dallas; Karen & Joe Bressler, Alpine

##### UINTA

Marissa Cheney, Mountain View; Veronica & William Sommerville, Evanston; Kara & Slade Olson (REG), Fort Bridger; Brecia & Jason Hansen, Lyman; Sarah Kissling, Fort Bridger; Robert Kidman, Fort Bridger

##### WASHAKIE

Charleen & Jerry Fields, Worland

##### WESTON

Weston County Friends of Fair, Newcastle; Valerie & Leroy Giesinger, Newcastle

#### STATE VETERINARIAN ... From Page 9

"There are free tags available right now, but once it becomes a rule, they won't be free tags," she explained. "Contact the Wyoming Livestock Board with any questions."

According to Dr. Hasel, the animal disease traceability rule was introduced during the last presidential administration. "The issues then were brought up because they hadn't gone through the entire comment process, so the rule came back and went through the comment process and they are hoping it goes into effect in fall 2022 or shortly thereafter," she explained. "The rule will require whenever you change ownership of livestock (sheep, goats, pigs, cattle) or cross state lines (with the exception of feeder cattle under 18 months of age) you have to have a tag that can be read electronically."

Switching gears from livestock to poultry Dr. Hasel shared that Avian influenza, otherwise known as bird flu, will have a large impact on turkeys and chickens this year. "Avian influenza comes through migratory birds, so it is important to Wyoming because of the migratory bird route," she explained. "It has hit the East Coast and by March already killed a million turkeys and a million chickens and we expect it to continue to come across the U.S."

"Biosecurity is very important to prevent your domestic flock from being infected," she

said. "You need to keep the wild birds out of your domestic birds."

Dr. Hasel asks Wyoming residents to watch for it in your chickens and in game birds and let the office of the state vet know if you have any concerns. "There is no cost to the producer for us to come check on your chickens," she said. For more information, search for the "Defend the Flock" page on the USDA APHIS website.

Regarding horses, Dr. Hasel spoke about three different diseases. Dr. Hasel stated in 2021 there were 87 new cases in 14 states of Equine Infections Anemia (EIA) with the closest case to Wyoming being in Utah.

The second disease she mentioned was EHV-1, equine herpes virus. "The neurological disease in horses is not uncommon, but we do have an outbreak in the Cody area and on the West coast in California," she said. "There is not a good vaccine for the neurological form of EHV, but there is a vaccine for EHV-4 the respiratory form."

Third, Dr. Hasel talked about Vesicular Stomatitis (VS). This disease tends to spread along areas of water. Dr. Hasel reminded folks that there is no cost for initial diagnosis of VS from the state vet's office.

The Legislative Meeting provided a great opportunity for Farm Bureau members to meet, hear from and visit one-on-one with Dr. Hasel. ■



## Obituaries



## Bonnie Lucille Anderson

February 15, 1935 – February 20, 2022

**B**onnie Lucille Anderson, 87, of Pine Bluffs, died on February 20, 2022 at home. She was born on February 15, 1935 in Salem, Indiana.

Bonnie operated Peterson Grain and Buckboard Grain in Greeley, Colorado. She was a member of the Christian Women's Club

teaching bible study classes as well as public speaking at churches around the country. She attended several churches and was a follower of Christ. Bonnie was also affiliated with the Wyoming Women's Legislative Auxiliary

She is survived by her husband, Rodney "Pete" Anderson, daughter, Debra Anderson

(Jim D.); grandchildren, Travis and Kristine Anderson; great grandchildren, Wesley, Emily and Luke Anderson, Sawyer and Archer Laird, Jerry Cornils, Jim L. Anderson, Linda Sue Tee-eters; brothers, Donald and Leroy Elliott; sister, Ellen Bradley; and many more grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents, William and Ruth Elliott; her first husband, Darryl Peterson; and a sister, Wane-ta Elliott.

Services were held February 25 at Cross-roads Community Church in Pine Bluffs. Burial is at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Greeley. ■



## Robert 'Bob' Amos Swander

January 13, 1933 – March 2, 2022

**R**obert Amos "Bob" Swander passed away peacefully at the New Horizons Care Center in Lovell, Wyoming on March 2, 2022. As he was fond of saying, he lived a "pretty good life!"

Bob was born January 13, 1933 in Worland, Wyoming. Adopted by Amos Henry Swander and Ida Bell (Burr) Swander, Bob was a blessing and gift for them. He was preceded in death by a sister, Melvina, in 1912.

He was raised in Worland, first in town and later on West River Road where he fell in love with farming. He reminisced of harnessing horse teams for the harvest, stacking hay and working on equipment alongside his father as a child. Their venture in muskrat farming premium Louisiana muskrats came to a bitter end due to a Spring ice-out, when ice floes along the Bighorn River wiped out the ponds, releasing larger and darker muskrats!

Bob drove a school bus during his last three years of high school and was active in FFA. He was honored to be the Pacific Region recipient of the FFA Farm Mechanics Proficiency Award, and traveled by train with his FFA Advisor, Ray "Pappy" Lowe to Kansas City to be recognized for that achievement. He leased and farmed two farms the summer of his junior/senior year of high school, then turned down an Ag Scholarship his senior year (1951) at Worland High School because he enjoyed farming far more than school! He shared many stories of driving livestock

trucks early on with "the Geis boys" for Geis Trucking along with his best friend, Jerry Geis and stories of the early days about Ma, Homer and the rest of what seemed to be his extended family.

Bob met Kay Lyman, his life-long sweetheart, at a dance in the old Ten Sleep Well's Garage and set his heart on marrying her. Eloping to Billings, they married July 14, 1955 and were later sealed in the Idaho Falls Temple. They took a quick spin through Yellowstone before returning to their Worland farm. Their early years were filled with square dancing, enjoying weekly dances up and down the Bighorn River valley.

They moved to Ten Sleep early on where the family worked side by side, ranching until 1979. Bob was recognized by the Wyoming Farm Bureau several times in the mid-1960's for his ag development and production skills. Bob served as chair of the WyFB Ag Tax Committee in the 1970s. He was a founding member of the Otter Creek Grazing Association, a Washakie County Commissioner 1965-1984, a founding member and past-President of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association, a member of the Park County [Wyoming] Planning and Zoning Commission, and a key player in the development of the Washakie County Museum, now the Washakie Museum and Cultural Center.

Following the ranching years, Bob became a real estate agent, first at Worland's Hake Agency, then Casper's Luker Realty,

followed by a short stint selling insurance. Returning to real estate, they moved to West Jordan, Utah for a year, then settled in Cody. He wrapped up his 36 years as the Broker-Owner of Big West Realty and co-owner of Coldwell Banker Antlers Realty, with his focus on farm/ranch/recreation sales and management. He enjoyed brokering deals while growing and sharing his knowledge of Wyoming water rights and regional history, and was a Past-President of the Northwest Wyoming Board of Realtors.

Bob was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, serving as Branch President of the Ten Sleep Branch, then on the Worland Stake Council, a Sunday School teacher in West Jordan, Utah, and as Bishop of the Cody 4th Ward.

He was preceded in death by his wife Kay, son Donald, grandson Dusty Swander, sister Melvina Swander, and parents, Amos and Ida (Peggy) Swander. He is survived by four children: Sandra (Bryant) Howe of Sandy, Utah, Steve (Caryl) Swander of Powell, Roy (Darla) Swander of Greybull, and Julie (David) Nelson of Denver, Colorado; his sister, Donna Tidemann (Bud) Stayman; his remaining grandchildren are Alicia, Taylor, Megan, Miquelle, Alex, Autumn, Kelsey, Justin, Brandon, and Kaylene, and 11 great-grandchildren plus one more on the way!

Funeral services were held March 8 at the East Chapel, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Lovell. Memorial donations may be made out to the Ten Sleep FFA. Please send checks to PO Box 524 Worland, WY 82401. Online condolences may be made at <http://www.bryantfuneralhomeonline.com>. ■



## Richard Snider

July 27, 1928 – March 5, 2022

**R**ichard E. Snider, 94, formerly of Sheridan, passed away on Saturday, March 5, 2022 in Texas. Graveside Services will be held May 4,

2022 at 2:00 PM at the Sheridan Municipal Cemetery.

Kane Funeral Home has been entrusted with local arrangements. ■





## Big Horn County supports local FFA



Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation President Tim Beck (right) presents the organization's donation to the Lovell FFA. The county Farm Bureau donated twelve oxygen-acetylene torch tips. *COURTESY PHOTO.*



## Ag Books for Kids in Johnson County



Johnson County kindergarten students participating in "Ag Books for Kids." Technology allowed them to watch a virtual book reading by the author of the 2022 "Ag Books for Kids" book of the year. *SUBMITTED BY CARMEN RODRIGUEZ, JOHNSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION*



## Fremont County FBF gives to local youth

**H**ere at Fremont County Farm Bureau Federation we are proud to support our local youth. This year we chose each FFA chapter in Fremont County and awarded them with a \$1,000 check to help with the costs of various chapter projects. This photo collage includes a FCFBF board member with each chapter and some of their chapter members! Thank you for all your hard work for the youth agriculture community! ■



Lander FFA



Riverton FFA



Wind River FFA



Shosoni FFA

*SUBMITTED BY TRACI HELTON, FCFBF BOARD MEMBER*



## Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation accepting requests for charitable contributions

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is accepting requests for 2022 charitable contributions. Each year, the organization is able to make charitable contributions thanks to a program offered by FBL Financial Group, Inc.

“Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is happy to continue the tradition of offering financial assistance to Wyoming’s ag-oriented organizations through our charitable contributions fund,” said WyFB President Todd Fornstrom. “We hope the funds will be a resource that will benefit agriculture within the State of Wyoming.”

Requests will be considered for organizations that meet the following criteria:

- The organization must be classified as 501 (c) (3) by the IRS.
- The organization must:
  - Serve Farm Bureau members; or

- Be an industry educational organization that provides direct or indirect benefit to Farm Bureau; or
- Be a health organization that promotes practices or educational programs beneficial to Farm Bureau.

Visit wyfb.org and click on the calendar date of May 15 for request proposal requirements. Charitable Contribution requests must be submitted in hard copy format and postmarked by May 15 or received in the Wyoming Farm Bureau state office by May 15, 2022.

Mail hard copy requests to: Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, Attn: Dee Brewer, PO Box 1348, Laramie WY 82073. For questions, call (307) 721.7719 or email dbrewer1@wyfb.org

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is the state’s largest general agriculture organization. As a grassroots advocacy

organization, our members work together to develop agricultural policy, programs, and services to enhance the rural lifestyle of Wyoming. ■

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## UW research project seeks state residents’ input on community needs through pictures

The University of Wyoming’s “Profiles in Wyoming Resilience” research project is gathering citizen input to help obtain a better picture -- documented through submitted photographs -- of the opportunities and barriers the Cowboy State’s residents face in the areas of academic attainment, employment opportunities and community resilience, as related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Professor Jean Garrison and Assistant Professor Jason McConnell -- both in the UW School of Politics, Public Affairs and International Studies -- head the project, sponsored by UW’s Malcolm Wallop Civic Engagement Program.

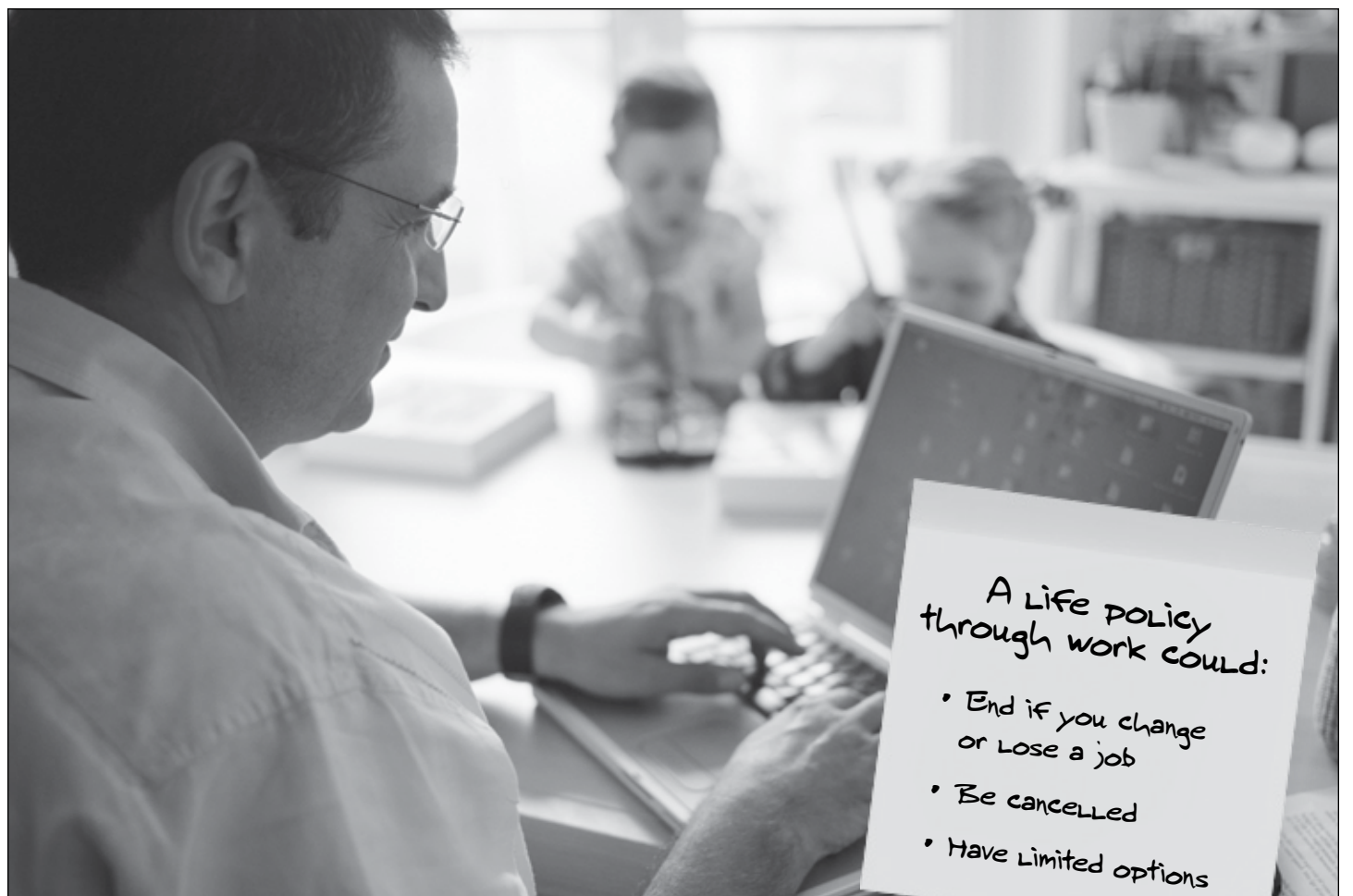
“Our project team cordially invites Wyomingites to provide photos along with short descriptions of what each picture means to you, thus sharing your view of your community,” Garrison says.

The goals of the Profiles in Wyoming Resilience research project are:

- To empower Wyoming communities to help one another by identifying common problems and ways to overcome adversity.
- To provide a way for the public and private sectors to use the project findings to evaluate and guide decisions. The gathered photos and testimonials are an opportunity to create an index of where the barriers and opportunities to academic achievement, employment opportunities and community resilience exist around the state.
- To help map out where those challenges are not yet addressed and to help share profiles about how citizens see their communities.

For more about the Wyoming resilience project, visit <http://www.uwyo.edu/wallop/resiliency-project/index.html>; email [wallop@uwyo.edu](mailto:wallop@uwyo.edu); or follow on social media

For more information about the Malcolm Wallop Civic Engagement Program, visit [www.uwyo.edu/wallop/](http://www.uwyo.edu/wallop/). ■



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