

Wyoming Agriculture

VOL. 40, NO. 7

APRIL 2023

Published by Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation



Wyoming legislature 2023 wrap-up

BY BRETT MOLINE

The 2023 Wyoming Legislature wrap-ped up March 3 after 37 days of legislative work. Over 500 bills were filed by the House and Senate. This is about average for a general session. One thing that was unusual for this session was the number of freshmen. This year there were 27 new members of the House, with two of those having served before. The typical number is usually 15-20. This high number of freshmen meant many committees had a lot of new faces that had not heard the interim topics discussed. For example, of the nine members of the House Agriculture Committee, six were brand new freshmen, one member was new to the committee, and there were two hold-over members. This meant the committee had to be informed more about what the bills did and what the bills did not do. By and large, most freshmen members of the legislature learned procedures quickly and the session went relatively smooth.

Several bills dealing with state school trust lands issues were passed into law. Management of state school trust lands have a management goal of obtaining the highest returns possible for funding the school system.

House Bill (HB) 16 dealt with increasing the dollar amount of improvements a lessee could make without having to get approval from the state lands office. The amount was raised from \$2,000 to \$4,000. HB 21 outlined that whoever leases state trust lands must actually use that land. This bill was a cleanup from work done 15 years ago. A concern this bill addresses is a preservationist type group could out bid all other users and not use the land; this legislation specifies the lessee must actually use the land.

Other bills on this topic include grazing of non-owned livestock, lessee deficiencies, notice of leases, and exchanges of land. By and large, these bills put into law what the state land board was sometimes, sometimes not, doing. Hopefully,

these laws will improve the ways state trust lands are managed.

Regarding livestock disease and other pest programs, two bills were worked that dealt with including the tribes in programs operated in the state to reduce pest and livestock disease problems. One bill allows the tribes to participate in pest management programs and the other bill allows the tribes to participate in the state's infectious livestock disease program. Reducing the chance of pests and diseases moving off the reservation is important to farmers and ranchers outside the reservation.

One disappointment is almost all bills which would have given property tax relief did not pass this session. Bills to reduce the percentage of assessment, to remove personal business property from the tax rolls, and to allow broadened homestead exemptions all died. The only tax relief bills which passed are relief to homeowners whose income is less than 125% of the median of the county

where the taxpayer lives and a proposed constitutional amendment which would separate out residential property from the "any other property" class. The any other class currently includes commercial, residential, and agriculture. The proposed amendment will be voted on in the next general election. WyFB has concerns that adding classes to our property tax system will make it harder to manage and could set some classes up for being targets when state revenues decline.

Another disappointment was the Governor vetoing a bill which would have placed a moratorium on the use of eminent domain for wind generated electricity collector lines. It's ironic that in testimony it was indicated having the power of eminent domain was no big deal, it was never used. Then after the bill passed, we heard without the power of eminent domain some companies would not come to Wyoming.

Contact me at the office for more information on these bills and others in the session. ■

Wyoming Senator Tim Salazar presented with WyFB Distinguished Service Award

BY KERIN CLARK

Wyoming State Sen. Tim Salazar was awarded the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Distinguished Service Award for 2022. The award was presented to Sen. Salazar during the 2023 Wyoming Legislature. The award is given to those who have gone above and beyond in their service to agriculture.

"One of the greatest honors in my time as a Wyoming State Sen. is receiving the Wyoming Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service Award," Sen. Salazar said. "Its value is so cherished because it comes from the hard working, patriotic men and women who provide our country with the abundance of food that the world envies."

Serving as a strong advocate for agriculture and individual rights led to the nomination of Sen. Salazar. "The recipient's dedication to agriculture in Wyoming has shown through

his support of the organization as an Associate Farm Bureau member in Fremont County and in his work as a Wyoming Legislator," said Todd Fornstrom, WyFB president.

Sen. Salazar has served in the Wyoming Senate since 2021 and served in the Wyoming House from 2017-2020. He served our country from 1989-2015 as an Army Infantry Officer and is now retired from the US Military. He and his wife Shannon have one son, Joshua. They call Riverton home.

Sen. Salazar's 2022 Legislative Senate Committee assignments included: Education; Travel, Recreation, Wildlife & Cultural Resources; Select Committee on Tribal Relations; Redistricting and Elections Task Force; and CSG West-Public Safety. In 2023, Sen. Salazar serves as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Fremont County Farm Bureau Federation wrote in their

nomination form that Sen. Salazar is easy to get a hold of with any issue or concern and works to find answers and communicate with constituents. The nomination continued: "Tim has said numerous occasions he has contacted WyFB staff to see where Farm Bureau stands on a bill and then he votes accordingly. Tim said his values align with Farm Bureau and their policies."

"The success and health of our agriculture community is nothing less than the very survival and prosperity of Wyoming. Our farm businesses and food production are also Wyoming's future," Salazar said. "Not only is our Ag community directly a part of rural development; it also continues to play a key role in the world's supply chain and economic growth. Ag has a central role in meeting consumer and business market demands in a world with interconnected economies."

SALAZAR AWARDED ... Page 9



Wyoming Sen. Tim Salazar (left) was honored with the 2022 WyFB Distinguished Service Award. WyFB Director of Public and Governmental Affairs Brett Moline presented the award to Sen. Salazar during the 2023 Wyoming Legislative Session.

Inside:

Property tax tiers	2
Membership awards.....	3
Fusion Conference	4
AFBF CDM	5

Meet the volunteer: Matt Stroh.....	6
Cooking with the Modern Ranch Wife.....	7
AFBF IAC meetings	8

County news	12
Livestock antibiotics.....	14
Right to repair.....	16

www.wyfb.org

CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

April

- 17 "Ag Books for Kids" district contest deadline
- 22 Ranch & Livestock Symposium hosted by the Albany County Farm Bureau Federation at 1:30 p.m.--WyoTech in Laramie

June

- 1 WyFB Membership Committee Meeting – Hilton Garden Inn in Casper

November

- 9-11 WyFB 104th Annual Meeting – Cheyenne

Visit wyfb.org for calendar updates

Wyoming
Agriculture

Volume 40, Issue No. 7
April 2023

USPS 10331 ISSN 1071-0272

Official publication of
the Wyoming Farm Bureau
Federation

307-721-7719
www.wyfb.org

Wyoming Agriculture is published monthly, except for combined July/August and December/January issues, by the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, 931 Boulder Drive, Laramie, WY 82070. Periodicals postage paid at Laramie, WY and additional entry offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *Wyoming Agriculture*, PO Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073.

MISSION: To represent the voices of Wyoming farmers and ranchers through grassroots policy development while focusing on protecting private property rights, strengthening agriculture, and supporting farm and ranch families through advocacy, education, and leadership development.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Ken Hamilton

EDITOR
Kerin Clark
kclark@wyfb.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Todd Fornstrom – *President*
Cole Coxbill – *Vice President*
Lane Hageman, *Director-at-Large*
Tim Pexton, *Central District Director*
Thad Dockery, *Northwest District Director*
Raenell Taylor, *Northeast District Director*
Kevin Baars, *Southeast District Director*
Justin Ellis, *Southwest District Director*
Quade Palm, *YF&R State Chair*

Cultivating leaders
in agriculture

Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President



As farmers, we're no strangers to planting seeds and looking to the future. Some crops take just months to grow, while others take years to bear fruit. The same can be said for what we do at Farm Bureau. Our leadership programs, education initiatives, and projects to engage consumers take time to develop and grow. Like a crop, they take planning, careful nurturing, and someone committed to making them successful.

Farm Bureau leaders bring that same commitment and care to their communities through engagement and advocacy at every level of our organization. Every two years, members and leaders from our Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, Women's Leadership Committee, and the Promotion & Education Committee come together for our FUSION conference. I was thrilled to join these grassroots Farm Bureau leaders—nearly 1000 strong—in Jacksonville this week as they came together for a few days of intense learning and networking. Events like these help our members sharpen the skills they need to cultivate a brighter future for agriculture.

Our members don't just invest in themselves. They invest in their communities too. Our Women's Leadership Committee raised \$78,000 for the Ronald McDonald House last year. That brings their four-year total to over \$550,000. And the Harvest for All campaign, sponsored by Young Farmers & Ranchers Committees around the country, collected over 25 mil-

lion pounds of food, over \$1 million for food banks, and members donated over 13,000 hours of service to their communities. These efforts are helping to cultivate stronger, more resilient rural communities all over the country.

While each Farm Bureau committee has its distinct work, all three come together like the strands of a rope. Each strand can succeed independently, but the three strands are much stronger together, united in one mission: to ensure a safe and sustainable source of food, fiber, and fuel for our country and our world.

Our YF&R committee helps bring in young people and provides a space for them to develop leadership skills and shape the future of Farm Bureau. There we build strong leaders and communicators through training programs, competitions, and many more activities. Our Women's Leadership Committee helps to empower leaders through advocacy and communications training. The Communications Bootcamp graduates are powerful spokespeople for farmers and ranchers in the media, state capitals, and Washington. And our P&E Committee helps to engage consumers in new ways and bridge the divide between rural and urban communities. Consumers are more curious than ever about where their food comes from, and the P&E Committee is doing great work to engage the general public on how their food is safe and sustainably grown.

There is so much more these committees do, all of it grounded in the mission of our organization. Each committee reflects the Farm Bureau family, united in purpose, even though we all bring unique talents and experiences. We might do things a little bit differently, come from different backgrounds, and grow different crops, but we are all united in our desire for a bright future for our families.

As a young farmer, I never would have imagined that I'd be 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. I urge all of our members to make the most of these opportunities and set themselves up for success. At Farm Bureau, there is something for everyone. If you're not a member, I invite you to join your local Farm Bureau today. Our federation and every agricultural trade association is only as strong as its engaged members.

We must plant seeds for the future and then nurture them. Start by getting involved. Attend a leadership program or engagement training - Farm Bureau offers a variety of them. The connections you make in the program and in your communities are like the roots, reaching out to build a strong support network. As that seed starts to sprout, nourish it by attending meetings, welcoming visitors to the farm, and answering questions about agriculture. If we continue to be diligent and intentional - over time- we'll grow to our full potential. ■

Property tax tiers
and trust funds

Ken Hamilton

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President



The Wyoming Legislature adjourned on Friday March 3. There were a couple of items that passed the body that concern me.

One item that concerns me is a proposal to forward a Constitutional Amendment to the voters that would establish another class of property. Senate Joint Resolution 3 (SJ3) will ask voters to approve four classes of property. If passed by the voters, this Constitutional Amendment would add one more property class to the Wyoming Constitution. The class proposed would establish residential real property as a class of property. Another part of the amendment would allow the Legislature to create a subclass of residential real property for owner occupied primary residences.

Currently, under the Constitution, the three classes are 1) minerals and mine products, 2) property used for industrial purposes as defined by the Legislature and 3) all other property, real and personal.

Of course, the biggest part of that "all other" category is homeowners.

Some may remember when Wyoming's property taxing system was found to be unconstitutional because it wasn't uniform. Once the court found our system unconstitutional, the process to establish a constitutional assessment process began. Critical to this system was the establishment of classes of property that could use different systems. We in agriculture fought hard to get agricultural lands assessed based on the lands ability to produce agricultural products. At the time there were two schools of thought; one to only have two classes and the other to have three classes. The big argument at the time was that once we started down the path of having multiple classes then it becomes easier and easier to just keep adding classes until the whole system is so complicated nobody can understand it. Another concern was once you started carving off different classes of property, then those

property owners soon become fair game to pick off when it becomes necessary to raise some money. Our legislative body has been reluctant to raise taxes, even during the downturn, but we've seen in other states where legislators didn't mind raising taxes on small groups of voters.

Wyoming Farm Bureau supported having three classes even though members recognized that a two-class system would be simpler. In 1988 voters amended our Constitution to establish three classes of property valuations. This necessitated the Legislature funding a statewide reappraisal method that would bring uniformity to the established classes. Since then, the State Board of Equalization and County Assessors have worked hard to stay within the Constitutional requirements of uniform valuation within those classes. However, in an effort to provide a mechanism for tax relief to property owners, SJ 3 was passed and signed by the Governor.

PROPERTY TAX TIERS ... Page 9

Winter 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 are typically presented at the WyFB Legislative Meeting in Cheyenne. With impending winter weather and forecasted state-wide travel impacts, the 2023 WyFB Legislative Meeting scheduled for March 1 and 2 was cancelled.

The Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation won the Gold Quota Award for the 2022 membership year. This award recognizes the county achieving the greatest percentage of quota for the 2022 membership year, including a new young Regular Member. The Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation reached 103% of their 2022 total quota.

The Silver Quota Award recognizes the county having the greatest percentage of Regular Member quota for the 2022 membership year. The Sheridan County Farm Bureau Federation won the award for reaching 103% of their 2022 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 member database and assist in the collection and processing of member dues. Three membership secretaries are recognized each year. 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 "Outstanding Membership Secretaries" are: Abby Raymer, Carbon County; Barb Erickson, Goshen County; and Denise Baars, Niobrara County.

The county with the greatest gain of Regular Members over the 2022 membership year is awarded WyFB Executive

Vice President Ken Hamilton's Gold Club membership for the year.

The Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation won this category and will receive the county's portion of Hamilton's Gold Club membership.

Congratulations to these award winners! We offer our 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.

Is your neighbor a member of the Farm Bureau Federation in Wyoming? If not, consider asking them to join today! Welcome them to the Farm Bureau Federation and share how each individual can make a difference through this member-driven grassroots organization. ■



Member-CENTS

Visit wyfb.org and click on the "Benefits" tab for a complete listing of value-added benefits.

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation believes constitutional government, the competitive enterprise system, property rights and individual freedom are necessary components for a strong agriculture, a strong Wyoming and a strong America. We are a centennial grassroots organization that cares about your future.

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 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 or call 307-721-7723.

FEATURED BENEFIT: ALAMO / ENTERPRISE / NATIONAL



Farm Bureau Member Benefits

National Fusion Conference

**BY BRENT HORTON AND JENNIFER TIPPETTS,
WyFB YF&R COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE-AT-LARGE**

It all began with our local Farm Bureau president asking Brent to be involved on the local level. Next thing we know Brent is on the state Farm Bureau committee of the Young Farmers and Ranchers and we are on our way to the National Fusion Conference in Jacksonville, Fla. Brent works as an agronomist and is a partner in a cow/calf ranch. Jenn works for a regional ag based company. We are engaged, with a wedding date set for Aug. 26. Farm Bureau reminds us of the family you always hope to marry into. They are warm, embracing, encouraging and one of your biggest supporters. We are truly blessed to be part of the Farm Bureau and the WyFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee.

The Fusion conference kicked off with American Ninja Warrior Alex Weber. Alex set the tone for the conference with his high energy and continuing determination. Before Alex even began his talk, he walked onto the stage and shared that we as farmers and ranchers are a true force of good upon the world. Alex then went on to encourage us to stack the deck in our favor, as we are our biggest champions. Alex also encouraged surrounding yourself with positive connections, “you are at your best when you need to be needed.” Finally, support your colleagues and build a network. You are and can be your own leader.

Another great speaker was Hope Hart with Syngenta, her topic was “how to talk about GMOs with friends and family.” GMOs are such a tough topic in the world today. People are convinced GMOs are bad, but they are not educated enough about the topic to tell you why, they just think they are bad. Hope walked through what GMO means. Hope spoke regarding how it takes over 13 years of product testing and regulations to be approved. Hope continued to support how safe GMOs are. She said there has never been a proven case against GMOs. They are safe and continue to help farmers and ranchers to feed the world more efficiently. Hope also encouraged all members to buy “I heart GMOs” shirts and wear them to town, but only if you are feeling ready for a conversation, her favorite place to wear hers is to Whole Foods.

Another speaker favorite was our loved American Farm Bureau President, Zippy Duvall. Zippy brought an uplifting personal message, no matter how hard things get, you must persevere. You must start and should never be afraid to take chances. We are all busy but it is important to stay involved.

Florida Congresswoman Kat Cammack shared tips and tricks when meeting with our legislators. Our job is to continue to tell our stories. It’s the relationships we build with our representatives that gives their avocations credibility. Building these relationships locally, regionally, and nationally are the bridges we build that affect change. One tip is to make your message personal, talk about kids, favorite restaurants or ask questions they have probably not been asked. This makes you stand out. Our job is not done, we need to follow up. When entering an office, ask for a phone number, this is your key to following up. We are a resource that our representatives can use to help move that needle forward.

There were many more speakers, and more importantly networking and friendships that were made. Brent and I are so blessed to be a part of agriculture and welcomed into the Farm Bureau family.

Walking away from this conference it was powerful to see 1,000 young members in one room from across the nation. It was impressive to hear how the topics resonated across the different states compared to just hearing issues across our state. One consistent theme with the speakers was to stay positive and continue to tell your message. As we continue as leaders in our community and state, we will use the tips and tricks that Congresswoman Cammack shared. ■



Jennifer Tippetts and Brent Horton touring during the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation FUSION Conference.



Wyoming attendees at the AFBF FUSION Conference enjoyed educational and motivational sessions as well as great networking.



Wyoming had seven attendees at the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation FUSION Conference. Held every other year, the FUSION Conference brings together three program areas of the organization (YF&R, P&E and Women's). The conference was March 3-6, 2023 in Jacksonville, Fla. Shown here are WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee Members with the WyFB YF&R Collegiate Discussion Meet contestant. (l to r): Cody Alps, Goshen County; Giana Biagioni, CWC Student; Kelli and Shawn Chouinard, Park County; and Jenn Tippetts and Brent Horton, Washakie County. Not pictured: Amanda Winchester, CWC Instructor.

CWC student competes in AFBF CDM

BY KERIN CLARK

Central Wyoming College (CWC) Freshman Giana Biagioni represented Wyoming in the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Collegiate Discussion Meet (CDM). The Collegiate Discussion Meet was held during AFBF's FUSION Conference March 3-6 in Jacksonville, Fla. All competitors received a \$100 scholarship courtesy of CHS Foundation in recognition of their efforts and making it to the national level.

"It was an honor to represent Wyoming at the national level," Biagioni said. "It was a very exciting experience to meet other young farmers and ranchers and discuss current issues in agriculture."

Biagioni grew up in Littleton, Mass. and is now studying Farm and Ranch Resource Management at CWC. She won the WyFB YF&R CDM in November 2022 earning an expense paid trip to the national competition.

The Collegiate Discussion Meet is designed to replicate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each participant. Participants are judged on their ability to exchange ideas and information on a pre-determined agricultural topic and seek solutions. Thirty-three competitors participated in this year's national competition.

"The national competition prepared me for my future educational endeavors by allowing me to defend and stand up for my ideas in a formal setting," Biagioni said.

CWC Meats Science Instructor Amanda Winchester agreed. "The students learn how to public speak, prepare for a group meeting and relate to current agriculture issues," said Winchester. "Not only does the discussion encourage the students to look at current issues, but also to find possible solutions. It teaches them to look beyond right now."

Biagioni expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn more about discussing current agriculture issues with fellow college students.

"I've learned that no matter how much thorough preparation you do that there is always someone who will know more than you, and that it is okay," she continued. "Never take the chance to learn more from your peers for granted."

"We are so proud of Giana and her representation of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation," said Kelli Chouinard, WyFB YF&R state vice chair. "She worked so hard to prepare for the national Collegiate Discussion Meet, met and learned from industry leaders around the state, and competed like a champion."

"As one of the youngest competitors, she amazed many spectators in the rooms," Chouinard concluded. "We are excited to see how far she will go in the future with her college and future career."

In addition to the national competition, Biagioni and Winchester participated in the 2023 AFBF FUSION Conference and tours. "I was able to learn new tactics to engage more students to be a part of collegiate Farm Bureau, and I look forward to applying those at my school," Biagioni concluded.

"The breakout sessions allowed the students to find learning opportunities that fit their needs," Winchester said. "I really liked the connection with others in the industry and the support from the WyFB YF&R Committee was the best. They were great mentors for Giana and supported her in every way."

Winchester emphasized the importance of extracurricular activities like the Collegiate Discussion Meet provided by the Farm Bureau. "These experiences give the students' knowledge beyond the classroom and help with exposure to other learning opportunities," Winchester concluded. ■



Central Wyoming College Student Giana Biagioni competed in the AFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet in Jacksonville, Fla. Each national contestant will receive a \$100 scholarship from CHS Foundation.



CWC Student Giana Biagioni and CWC Meat Science Instructor Amanda Winchester at the 2023 AFBF Fusion Conference.



CWC student Giana Biagioni (3rd from left) represented the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation in the AFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet.



Sharing agriculture's story through ag literacy

Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon proclaimed the week of March 6 as "Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week." The proclamation raised awareness of the importance of agricultural literacy that is promoted through the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee's "Ag Book for Kids" project. The grassroots strength of the Farm Bureau Federation enables the "Ag Books for Kids" project to reach across the great state of Wyoming. Each year the county Farm Bureau Federations purchase nearly 800 books to donate to Wyoming elementary schools. Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation members and staff met with Gov. Gordon on March 1 for the formal proclamation signing. (l to r): Ken Hamilton; Brett Moline; Brooke Roes; WyFB President Todd Fornstrom; Governor Gordon; Wyatt Starks; Samantha Starks; Liana Fontano with Meta, Ramy and Deacon; Kelly Carpenter; and Kerin Clark. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE PHOTO.



Enhance Profitability

Uphold Consumer Confidence

Improve Public Image

Increase Marketability



Wyoming Beef Council
307.777.7396
gary.gwin1@wyo.gov

For more information about BQA please contact us.

The people of the Farm Bureau Federation

Meet the volunteer leader Matthew Stroh

County: Weston
Farm Bureau
Leadership
Position(s):

- Weston County FBF Board Member-at-Large
- Northeast District Vice-President
- State General Issues Chair

Wyoming Agriculture:
Describe your ranch and family background.

Stroh: Born and raised on a cow/calf ranch with some hay production. Currently employed as a manager of two ranches running yearlings as well as leasing some grass to run some of my own cows on the side.

Wyoming Agriculture:
Family, hobbies, background information.

Stroh: My wife, Melissa, and I have three children (Josiah 19, Morgan 17, and Calad 13). I have a B.A. in Biblical Studies from Frontier School of The Bible. Hobbies??? I love what I do...cows are my hobby.

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

Stroh: Initially, it was through the prodding of my father. From that point on it happened organically, I was in an organization I believed in and it came natural to fill in where there was a need.

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

Stroh: I believe in what Farm Bureau stands for. We all need to find a place to be involved so that we can maintain the freedoms that we enjoy. With Farm

Bureau we can, collectively, make a difference. Also the people of Farm Bureau are the best on the planet.

Wyoming Agriculture:
Can you share an example of a policy that has had a positive impact on your farm or ranch?

Stroh: Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation's policies on prairie dog management have had a definite impact on my operation. By standing up for our rights to control pests that destroy range land we have seen local, state, and federal agencies assist in control of prairie dogs.

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

Stroh: Attend at the county level. Farm Bureau is all about "grassroots". By having your voice heard at the county level you have opened up the door to having your values represented at the district, state and national levels.

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

Stroh: Many of the issues that face us on the local level are the same throughout the state and nation. I believe that the products that Wyoming and American agriculture produce are the finest in the world. In light of that I believe that our products (specifically beef) deserve to be labeled as a product of the US to allow customers to see that US beef truly is the highest quality and safest product on the market.



The Matthew Stroh Family: Melissa, Morgan, Josiah, Calad and Matt.

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

Stroh: Every member is crucial to having the most

effective Farm Bureau Federation. Each member's voice is a necessary part of representing the values that we in agriculture have. Each of

us has our strengths and we can make a greater impact together, as a whole, than we can if even one member is not heard. ■



Matt Stroh working cattle with his family.



Matt Stroh and kids, Morgan and Josiah feeding a calf.

Cooking with the Modern Ranch Wife

Breakfast Burritos

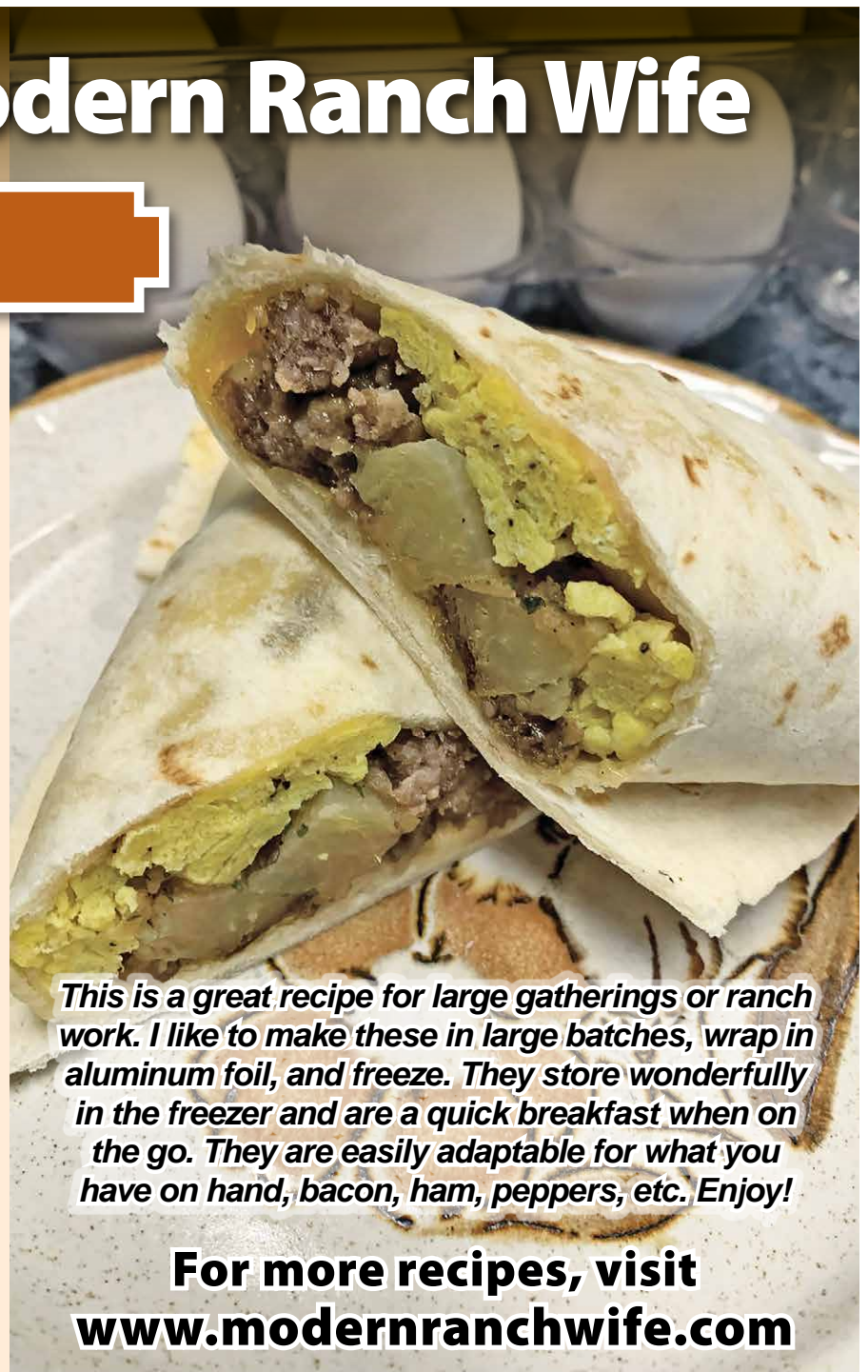
By Connie Werner

Ingredients

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 leftover medium sized baked potatoes, diced into bite size pieces | 1/2 tsp pepper
1 tbsp parsley
2 tbsp olive oil
18 eggs
1/2 cup milk
2 tbsp butter
1 tsp salt
1 tsp garlic powder
1 tsp onion powder | 2 lbs breakfast sausage, cooked, crumbled, and drain grease.
shredded cheddar cheese
16 large burrito shells
Toppings: ketchup, salsa, or hot sauce |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Directions

1. Crack the 18 eggs and put in a large bowl. Add the milk, 1 tsp salt, and 1/2 tsp butter. Beat with a fork until well combined. Set aside.
2. In a large skillet heat the olive oil over medium heat. Add the potatoes. Sprinkle the 1 tsp salt, 1/2 tsp pepper, onion powder, garlic powder, pepper, and dried parsley over the potatoes. Sauté the potatoes until browned. Taste and adjust seasonings as needed. Set aside.
3. In a large skillet add the butter. Once melted add the eggs. Using a spatula move around until the eggs are scrambled and cooked thoroughly. Remove from heat.
4. Begin building the burritos. Take a burrito shell and add egg, sausage, cheese, and potatoes on the bottom 1/3 of the shell. Roll up to form a burrito. Enjoy!



This is a great recipe for large gatherings or ranch work. I like to make these in large batches, wrap in aluminum foil, and freeze. They store wonderfully in the freezer and are a quick breakfast when on the go. They are easily adaptable for what you have on hand, bacon, ham, peppers, etc. Enjoy!

For more recipes, visit www.modernranchwife.com

National news updates

BY KELLY CARPENTER

WOTUS CRA In US House

On March 9, 2023, the U.S. House of Representatives considered H.J. Resolution 27, a Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval of the Biden WOTUS rule. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) defines this resolution as nullifying the rule titled Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States," which was submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency on Jan. 18, 2023. The rule specifies which bodies of water fall under the scope of the Clean Water Act and are thereby under federal jurisdiction. The 2023 rule replaced a 2020 rule that included a narrower and more concrete definition of Waters of the United States.

Rep. Hageman was a listed cosponsor among over 100 other representatives. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved the resolution during the last week of February. The CRA successfully passed the US House on March 9. The Senate has yet to take any legislative action currently. Both chambers must pass the CRA to be considered by the president. Unfortunately, President Biden has commented

on the CRA, mentioning that he plans to veto it should it make it to his desk for consideration.

EID Comments

The WyFB submitted comments in opposition to this USDA proposed rule regarding the use of electronic identification tags for cattle and bison. As our policy states, we oppose mandatory government run programs. Several issues that also stood out are the lack of data security, unaccounted-for costs associated with software infrastructure, among other things contained in the proposed rule. We'll continue to monitor the rulemaking progress and encouraged the USDA to provide added clarification and assurances in the next steps.

FDA Antibiotic Use In Livestock

Effective June 11, 2023, the US Food and Drug Administration will require drug manufacturers to change labels on antibiotics for all animals to require a veterinary prescription. All animal owners will be required to have a veterinary prescription to purchase antibiotics and will need to be purchased from a licensed pharmacy as they will no longer be available over the counter.

Mexico Biotech Corn Dispute

Mexico first indicated through a decree in 2020 that it plans to stop importing genetically modified corn from the United States. As Mexico is one of our biggest export markets for corn, this could have immense negative impacts for US corn growers. During the week of

March 6, 2023, the US Trade Representative's office began action against Mexico regarding the decree that would stop US corn exports, under the authority of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement. There is still a lot of time and steps to take prior to any actions being taken, but it is positive that the USTR Office is acting. ■

What you see:

What we see:

Purina® Omolene® Feeds, now with Outlast® Supplement. The textured feed you're used to has changed for the better. Keep your horse performing with confidence with the same nutritious fuel sources, now with Outlast® Supplement for gastric support and proper pH. Talk to your local Purina retailer, or visit purinamills.com/omolene

**CASPER
NOLAND FEED
307-237-8926
www.nolandfeed.com**

© 2019 Purina Animal Nutrition LLC. All rights reserved. Feed shown is Omolene® 200 Horse Feed. Other feeds may vary.

125 YEARS OF FEEDING GREATNESS

AFBF issues advisory committee meetings

BY KERIN CLARK

Grassroots Farm Bureau volunteers from across the country gathered in Washington, D.C. late February to discuss policy issues and share their expertise on policy-related actions at the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Issues Advisory Committee (IAC) meetings.

The AFBF IACs are specialized groups of Farm Bureau voting members from around the nation who serve as a direct contact for the AFBF Board for the assigned issues of their committee. Committee members are nominated by their state Farm Bureau president and approved by the AFBF Board of Directors. There are ten specialized IAC committees. The committees meet once a year and may hold additional meetings via webinar or conference call as needed. AFBF provides an optional media training for all committee members prior to their daylong meeting.

Wyoming has three representatives on the 2023 AFBF IACs. Those representatives are: 1) Crook County Rancher Keith Haiar serves on the AFBF Federal Lands IAC; 2) Retired Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Jim Logan serves on the AFBF Animal Care IAC; and 3) Goshen County Farmer Cole Coxbill serves on the AFBF Environmental and Water Issues IAC.

Haiar appreciated the media training provided by AFBF prior to the committee meeting. "It was really good," Haiar said. "One takeaway was to have soundbites you can build like blocks to have digestible bits of information."



Retired Wyoming State Veterinarian Dr. Jim Logan serves on the AFBF Animal Care IAC that meets annually to review policy, discuss current issues and receive information from guest speakers.

According to Haiar, he valued the opportunity to talk to and hear from AFBF staff that are doing the work on the Hill. "It was good to have a give and take update from AFBF staffers on what's going on at the Capitol," he explained. "It was nice to be able to talk directly to people who are shaping legislation."

"I'm impressed with the AFBF staff and how they have the relationships and connections to keep a pulse on what is going on at the Capitol," Haiar continued.



Goshen County Farmer Cole Coxbill outside the steps of the nation's Capitol during the AFBF IAC meetings.



Crook County Rancher Keith Haiar visiting about agriculture with a fellow committee member.

Haiar said he also appreciated networking with people from outside the state of Wyoming. "Another benefit of this meeting was to meet ranchers from around the country and hear of the different challenges they face," he said. "One committee member was a rancher from Northern California and his allotments were all burnt out last summer; Utah and Nevada ranchers are dealing with wild horses and wolf issues; and folks from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan were well versed in forestry issues and good neighbor authority."

The meetings also included guest speakers. According to Haiar, his committee had speakers from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and staffers from the US Senate Natural Resources Committee.

According to Logan, the Animal Care IAC had good topics and good speakers. They heard from the American Veterinary Medical Association, legislative updates from the House Ag Committee and Senate Ag Committee, and had a regulatory update from the Undersecretary of the USDA Marketing Regulatory Program.

Logan explained the main topic discussed by his committee was a potential bill that may propose listing Xylazine (Rompun) as a controlled substance. "It was unanimous in our committee to recommend AFBF oppose legislation to enable the Food and Drug Administration to regulate this drug," Logan explained. "Xylazine is a sedative used typically for horses but also for cattle, sheep, dogs and even wild-

life. Listing Xylazine could have major impacts to the ranching/livestock industry."

Other topics discussed in the Animal Care IAC were the Animal Health Protection and Indemnity Act, livestock ID requirements and electronic certificates of vet inspection. Logan explained he discussed the Animal Health and Protection and Indemnity Act because there are several different programs for indemnity within the USDA.

"There is a different way of indemnifying animals that have to be removed from the herd if you are talking about brucellosis or TB or for poultry for HPAI," he said. "I think there is a need to establish some updated better programs for indemnity in different species for disease issues and natural disaster."

Logan said he enjoys serving on this committee. "I'm happy to still be involved in some way on animal care issues," he concluded.

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 concluded. ■

Farm Bureau Members Receive a

\$500 Exclusive Cash Reward*

on an Eligible New Maverick®, Ranger®, F-150® or Super Duty®

Computer-generated images with available features shown.

BUILT Ford TOUGH

* Visit FordRecognizesU.com/FarmBureau today for complete offer details!

We value our long-standing partnership with Farm Bureau and are proud to offer you exclusive savings.

<p>SCOTTSBUFF TRANSWEST FORD 308-635-3701 www.twford.com</p>	<p>SHERIDAN FREMONT FORD SHERIDAN 307-675-1958 www.fremontmotorsheridan.com</p>
<p>WHEATLAND LARAMIE PEAK MOTORS 855-652-8941 www.laramiepeakmotors.com</p>	

* Farm Bureau Recognition Program is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. \$500 Exclusive Cash Reward on the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2022/2023/2024 Ford Maverick, Ranger, F-150 or Super Duty. This incentive is not available on F-150 Lightning®, F-150 Raptor®, F-650 and F-750 Super Duty. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Ford Motor Company private incentives or AXZD-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase or lease and take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by January 2, 2024. Visit FordRecognizesU.com/FarmBureau or see your authorized Ford Dealer for qualifications and complete details. Note to dealer: Claim in VINCENT using #38656.

Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation accepting requests for charitable contributions

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation (WyFB Foundation) is accepting requests for 2023 Charitable Contributions. WyFB Foundation is able to make charitable contributions each year thanks to a program offered by FBL Financial Group, Inc.

“Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation 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 benefits agriculture in 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, 2023, for request proposal requirements.

Charitable Contribution requests must be submitted in hard copy for-

mat and postmarked by May 15, 2023, or received in the WyFB state office by May 15, 2023. Requests can be mailed to:
 Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation
 Attn: Dee Brewer, Office Manager
 PO Box 1348
 Laramie WY 82073

For questions, contact Dee Brewer at (307) 721-7719 or 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. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation supports these efforts. ■

SALAZAR AWARDED... From Page 1

“The state of Wyoming must do all in its power to protect our agriculture businesses for a sustainable future and a lasting legacy to our children and grandchildren who are tomorrow’s farmers and ranchers,” he continued. “I will continue to do all in my power as a state senator to make sure our Ag businesses in Wyoming receive a fair price for their products and a fair playing field on the world market.”

“We are proud to recognize and show our appreciation to Sen. Salazar for his distinguished service to Wyoming agriculture with the 2022 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Distinguished Service Award,” Fornstrom concluded.

“I so value all the members who make up the WyFB. They are heroes to all of us who know just how important every member is to the survival of our nation,” Salazar concluded. “God bless the WyFB and thank you for this tremendous honor.” ■

PROPERTY TAX TIERS... From Page 2

Farm Bureau policy only supports three classes of property. Given the previous arguments about making our system complicated and carving off segments of property, we are concerned SJ 3 may do just that. Not only that, but it is beginning the process of establishing subclasses within a class, something that can add even more complexity to our tax system without providing the envisioned tax relief.

The second item passed by the Legislature that concerns me is the funding of a recreation trust fund. WyFB policy has always opposed establishing trust funds since that basically puts agencies on automatic pilot. The power of the purse is one of the most important powers a legislative body has in its toolbox to guard against a runaway bureaucracy. Once you’ve given an agency a self-funding mechanism, that power is greatly reduced. WyFB argued against the establishment of the wildlife trust fund, we argued against the establishment of a trust fund to support suicide prevention, we’ve argued against a trust fund to fund state land projects and we’ve also argued against automatic cost of living increases for agency budgets because of the importance of holding agencies accountable to the voters. Even when it would have benefited agricultural producers, we’ve not supported such funding mechanisms because of this fundamental belief.

We only have to look at our current US budget and all of the “off budget” items that Congress has provided so they can’t vote on whether to cut an agency or program. It’s not a sound fiscal policy on a national level and it isn’t on a state level. ■



I don't want to leave my family to cover:

- Mortgage debt
- Monthly expenses
- Funeral costs
- Kids' college tuition

I know you say I need **life insurance**, but **do I really?**

Yes! While the reasons for having life insurance vary from person to person, coverage is a smart move no matter what stage of life you’re in. **Talk to your agent about the many ways life insurance can help protect you and your loved ones.**

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

WYOMING FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Visit us at:
wyfb.org

Follow us on:

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. LI193 (1-23)

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 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 or mail to WyFB, ATTN: Classifieds, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073.

LIVESTOCK

20 COMING 2-YEAR OLD LIMOUSIN AND LIM-FLEX BULLS. All are Black and Polled. Great dispositions and balanced EPD's to compliment any program. Add vigor, growth and maternal traits to your cow herd. We market our bulls Private Treaty. We invite you to the ranch to take a look at our offering and have a hot cup of coffee with us. Please contact us at 307-856-4268 or 307-709-4200 to inquire directly, or find us on Facebook. Thank you for your interest in Stoll Limousin.

FEED

HAY FOR SALE. Certified weed free mountain grown grass hay. Barn stored. Small square bales approximately 70 lbs., \$10.00 each. Encampment, Wyoming, 307-340-0551.

LOOKING FOR HAY ACRES TO PUT UP, 3X4 bales, in Lyman, NE/Huntley, WY area. Call Dan Hill at 307/788-1010.

2022 HAY FOR SALE: 2nd cut small bales pure orchard grass; stored under roof; excellent horse hay - \$12/bale. 3rd cut - big bales 3' x 4's; 75% orchard grass/25% alfalfa - 1400 lb average; stored under roof; excellent horse hay - \$280/ton or \$200/bale. Call Kelly Burch at 307-259-2134.

EQUIPMENT

5 - ELECTRIC VERTICAL IRRIGATION PUMP MOTORS. U.S. Electrical Motors brand. 2 @ 100HP 3PH/480V - 1785 RPM; 2 @ 60HP 3PH/480V - 1770 RPM; 1 @ 30HP 3PH/240-480V - 1750 RPM; 2 - Jockey Pumps included with purchase if wanted. Call Scott @ (206) 495-7163

for further information. Located in Casper - Delivery not included. \$5000/ Each or O.B.O.

1955/56 M INTERNATIONAL TRACTOR with an F 11 loader. The rear tires are excellent. The body is fair. The engine runs well. \$2,400 located in Casper, must call 307-797-9785.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED. Bookkeeper/Invoicing clerk needed. Computer experience with Quickbooks preferred. Full time hourly wage and benefits. Call Kim at 307.350-0350. Farson, Wyoming.

HELP WANTED. Farm hand with equipment and haying experience. Pivot system operation a plus. Year round job for the right person. Wage is hourly, with benefits, DOE. Call Kim at 307-350-0350. Farson, Wyoming.

New Members

ALBANY

Sandra Blair, Laramie; James Wahl, Centennial; Larry Ludtke, Burns; Kelli Gatreau, Laramie; William Tyrell (REG), Laramie; Meredith Halweg (REG), Laramie

BIG HORN

Misty Hernandez, Greybull; Tate Edeler (REG), Wayne Mosegard/ Mosegard Farm (REG), Manderson; Kelly & Terry Jones (REG), Otto; Dave Casey, Greybull; Kimberly & Michael Rasmussen (REG), Burlington; Jason Mickelson, Lovell; Charles Hopkin (REG), Basin

CAMPBELL

Keely & Kevin Geer, Gillette; Verna Magee, Gillette; Larry Lane, Gillette; Vicki & Billy Mills, Gillette; Vicki & Joe Schlautmann (REG), Gillette; Carol & Jerry Jandreau, Gillette; Mandy & Daniel Maul, Gillette; Jane & Byron Nelson, Gillette; Sandra Iverson, Gillette; Janice & Allen Mooney (REG), Gillette; Aaron Peltier (REG), Recluse; Diane Morse, Buffalo; Mark Junek, Gillette

CARBON

Lori & Jon Olson, Sinclair; Randi & Nathan Tanner, Rawlins; John Cullen (REG), Saratoga; Curtis Penman, Rawlins; Debra Pinney-Fisher & James Fisher, Laramie

CONVERSE

Jared Halvorsen, Glenrock; Larry Baughman, Glenrock

CROOK

Beth Ellsbury (REG), Sundance; Mary & David Bannister, Sundance; Joyce Eaton (REG), Gillette; Renee & Brian Jensen, Sundance; Robyn Honey, Upton; Cassie & Lonny Bossman, Moorcroft; Robert Latham, Sundance; Crago EX Bar Ranch LLC (REG), Beulah

FREMONT

Brenda Stringham, Riverton; Robert Britain (REG), Lysite; Megan Sims, Riverton; Nadine Graham/ Graham Ranches (REG), Lander; Ronald Disbrow, Lander; Savannah Laird, Riverton; Joyce Dockham (REG), Worland; Curtis Collins, Hudson; Verna Baim, Riverton; Steve Lee, Lander; Keshia & William Martell, Lander; Cody Arnoldt, Riverton; Bobbie Heck (REG), Kinnear

GOSHEN

Amy Lozano, Torrington

HOT SPRINGS

Tyrone Loendorf, Thermopolis; John McFall, Thermopolis; Jerry Lake (REG), Thermopolis

JOHNSON

Penny Corbett, Buffalo; Chris Stuhr, Buffalo; Patrick Long (REG), Buffalo; Brett McCoy, Buffalo

LARAMIE

Toni & Albert Snyder, Cheyenne; Hilary & Jason Wasserburger (REG), Cheyenne; Linda & Shane Hott (REG), Cheyenne; Jayna & Chad Lybeck, Cheyenne; Linda & E James Burke, Carpenter; Sydnie Fornstrom, Pine Bluffs; Colette & Jeffrey Schumm, Cheyenne; Janine & Dan Moore, Cheyenne; Tracy & Jason Pryor, Cheyenne; Sally Slater, Cheyenne; Bob Hoepfner, Granite Canon; Randy Leishman, Albin; Karen Paulus, Cheyenne; Michelle & Torrey Powers, Cheyenne; Ray & James T Dinneen (REG), Cheyenne

LINCOLN

Lisa Wiswell, Diamondville; Phyllis & Senter Timmons, Thayne; Cathy & Todd Bateman, Afton; Daniel Moffat, Afton; Kathy & Don Failoni (REG), Kemmerer;

Melanie Holland, Kemmerer; Jennifer & Kenneth Small, Kemmerer; Kasey & Joe Mackey, Cokeville; Patsy & Milburn Smith, Kemmerer; Sandy Larsen, Kemmerer; Hope & Mason Bell, Thayne; Mikiah Eck, Thayne

NATRONA

Robyn & Craig Gifford, Casper; Kim & Steve Syverts, Casper; Amber Miller, Casper; Silvia & Urbano Amador, Glenrock; Juanita & Harold Walker (REG), Casper; Sharon Rodeman, Casper; Angela & Shawn Boyles, Casper; Michaela Moore, Casper; Kenneth Lacko, Casper; Jodi & Donald Ramsour, Casper

NIOBRARA

Shannon & Jesse Hart, Lance Creek

PARK

Amanda & Nicholas Haney, Powell; Joanne & Nobel Handley, Powell; Kathleen & Scott Heny (REG), Powell; Kevin French, Powell; Elizabeth & Tony Scheu, Cody; Maria & Ildefonso Hernandez, Cody; Beverly Bartels-Winters & Stanley Winters, Cody; Dana & Donald Gillett (REG), Powell; Edmund Shramek, Byron; Kevin Spann, Byron Ann Ruward, Powell; Joshua Dobson & Joseph Porter, Cody; Douglas Rayner, Powell; Teresa & Pat Brown, Cody; Tanya Raile, Cody; Tania Thacker, Cody

PLATTE

Harry Corl (REG), Wheatland

SHERIDAN

Jorge Meza-Ortigoza, Sheridan; Dustin Coryn, Sheridan; Dick Carr, Banner; Carol & Rudolph Kafer, Sheridan; Janelle & Ken Kukuchka, Sheridan; Karley Ross, Sheridan; Cindy Shoop, Sheridan; Paul Mavrakis,

Sheridan; Ryan O'Hara, Sheridan; Tim Kugler, Sheridan; Laverna Baker, Laramie; Ryan Miller, Sheridan; Monique Mueller, Sheridan; Michael Kirkwood, Sheridan; Charles Johnson, Sheridan; Cheryl Nelson (REG), Sheridan; Jackie & Lane Moreland, Saratoga; Jennifer Palser, Sheridan; U Down U Up, LLC (REG), Sheridan; Alisha Koch/ T.A.K. Farms, LLC, Bigfork, MT

SUBLETTE

Steve Jr. & Steve Sr. Losik, Big Piney; Richard Smythe, Pinedale; Sandra & Mark Milleg (REG), Big Piney

SWEETWATER

Luke Brownlee, Green River; Joe Jorgensen, Rock Springs; Katrina Bates, Rock Springs; Brayden Flack, Rock Springs; Tyler Cordes, Green River; Curtis Cheney, Thermopolis; Brian Kelly, Rock Springs; Ellen & Dan Hinesley, Rock Springs; Jonathan Olds, Green River; Barbara Erramouspe, Rock Springs; Deena Poulton (REG), Mountain View

TETON

Nicole & Aaron Ackley, Jackson; Joyce & Robert Hazard, Dubois; Kathryn Stock, Jackson; Mark Havens, Wilson; Melissa Stavn, Jackson

UINTA

7F Family Ranch, LLC (REG), Ogden, UT

WASHAKIE

Lindsay & Kevin Simpson, Thermopolis; Glen Kumm (REG), Worland; Nancy Martinson, Worland

WESTON

Margaret & Robert Simmons, Newcastle



MISSION STATEMENT: To represent the voices of Wyoming farmers and ranchers through grassroots policy development while focusing on protecting private property rights, strengthening agriculture, and supporting farm and ranch families through advocacy, education, and leadership development.



BREED BACK WITH BLUE.

LEADING THE WAY IN REPRODUCTIVE NUTRITION.

Reproductive efficiency is directly linked to herd profitability and fundamental for your beef enterprise. By using Vitalix Breed Back tubs, you can ensure your herd receives the essential nutrition for a productive breeding season.

Learn more at vitalix.com. Contact your local sales manager to learn more!
Ralph Hinton (970) 966-4904 | rhinton@vitalix.com





Royce Robinson, Cassie Pickrel, Lindsey Fosheim, Curtis Hanzlik, Cayna Ruonavaara, Kimber Robinson, Camry Ruonavaara, Jaylin Mills, Madeline Fleenor, and Keith Haiar. Not pictured judge Zeta Nuckolls Anderson.

Crook County Farm Bureau Federation sponsors speech contest

**SUBMITTED BY
ZETA NUCKOLLS ANDERSON**

The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation sponsored their annual county wide FFA Creed and Speech Competition Feb. 21, at Sundance High School. Congratulations to all the participants for a great job representing your chapters.

Creed Speaking contestants recited the FFA Creed and answered questions from the judges. First place went to Madeline Fleenor, second place to Jaylin Mills, both of Bearlodge-Sundance FFA, and third place to Camry Ruonavaara from Whit-

comb-Moorcroft FFA.

Prepared Public Speaking contestants are scored in three areas, a manuscript, 6-8 minute presentation, and response to questions, on an agricultural related topic of their choosing. Cayna Ruonavaara, Whitcomb-Moorcroft FFA, placed first with a presentation on embryo transfer.

Extemporaneous Public Speaking contestants chose a topic from three randomly selected topics, then were given 30 minutes to research and prepare a 4-6-minute speech. First place

was awarded to Lindsey Fosheim speaking about drought, and second place went to Curtis Hanzlik, speaking on effectiveness of videos. Both contestants were from Bearlodge-Sundance FFA.

The high school contestants moved to the next level of competition in their respective contests at the district level.

This was the first year for junior high students to compete and Kimber Robinson, Whitcomb-Moorcroft FFA, placed first in Creed Speaking.



Judges for the contest were Crook County Farm Bureau Federation County Officers Keith Haiar, treasurer and Zeta Nuckolls Anderson, secretary, along with Royce Robinson and Cassie Pickrel. ■

ALBANY COUNTY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Ranch & Livestock Symposium

Saturday April 22, 2023

1:30pm-4:00pm

WyoTech, 1767 Venture Drive, Laramie, WY 82070

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT



Join us as livestock market analyst ShayLe Stewart and husband Jimmy Stewart, of Big Country Genetics, discuss "The Current Cattle Market And What It Means For Your Bottom Line and Profitability In 2023".



FFA members help with ag books for kids in Crook County

**SUBMITTED BY
ZETA NUCKOLLS ANDERSON**

The Whitcomb FFA Officers in Moorcroft read the 2023 Ag Book for Kids book to students in Kindergarten and First Grade at Moorcroft Elementary School. In this picture, Evan Jones is shown reading "Popcorn Country" by Cris Peterson to a classroom. Thanks to Kailee Gill, Hailey Fenner, Kyan Meek, Valerie Burch and Evan Jones for reading as part of the "Ag Books for Kids" program. ■



It's your future. Let's protect it.®

Together we'll create a plan to protect what matters most to you.



Nick Smith
Agent, Financial Advisor
Buffalo
307-684-1300



Jason Bell
Agent, Financial Advisor
Cheyenne
307-632-9008



Justin Hatfield
Agent
Douglas
307-358-3606



Becky Pearson
Agent
Gillette
307-682-4454



Justin Hatfield
Agent
Glenrock
307-436-8402



Ellary Kelly
Agent
Greybull
307-765-4621



Lauren Stelting
Agent, Financial Advisor
Jackson
307-733-3813



Tamey Peternal
Agent
Kemmerer
307-877-5582



Jake Huhnke
Agent
Lander
307-332-3295



Justin Jeffers
Agent
Laramie
307-742-4847



Zack Jacobsen
Agent
Laramie
307-742-4847



Jak Tanner
Agent
Pinedale
307-367-2141



Jordan Cain
Agent
Rawlins
307-328-0094



Sammi Hegwer
Agent, Financial Advisor
Riverton
307-856-9091



Erin Defries
Agent
Sheridan
307-674-7600



Andrea Robinson
Agent
Sundance
307-283-3582



Grant Curry
Agent
Torrington
307-532-3610



Kristopher Mull
Agent
Worland
307-347-3583



Auto | Home | Life | Business | Farm & Ranch | Crop | Financial Planning | fbfs.com

Securities & services offered through FBL Marketing Services, LLC, 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC. Advisory services offered through FBL Wealth Management, LLC. Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company**/West Des Moines, IA. Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/Laramie, WY. Individual must be a registered representative of FBL Marketing Services, LLC to discuss securities products. Individual must be an investment adviser representative with FBL Wealth Management, LLC to discuss advisory services. Individual must be licensed with issuing company to offer insurance products. *Affiliates. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. M199-WY(10-22)

Over-the-counter livestock antibiotics will require prescription after June 11

AgriLife Extension experts answer frequently asked questions to prepare livestock owners

FEB. 13, 2023.
Reprinted with permission. Original publication: Texas A&M AgriLife Today by Kay Ledbetter.

Don't wait. Get to know your local veterinarian now and establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship if you expect to treat livestock in the future, as over-the-counter livestock antibiotics will soon require a prescription.

That is the advice of a team of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts trying to help livestock owners who are used to going to the local feed store to buy some of their antibiotics and administer treatment themselves.

All of that will change on June 11, when these medically important antimicrobial drugs will require veterinary oversight.

The following experts answer some frequently asked questions to let livestock owners know what to expect:

- Tom Hairgrove, DVM, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension cattle veterinary specialist in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Animal Science, Bryan-College Station.

- Joe Paschal, Ph.D., former AgriLife Extension livestock specialist, now representing industry as the executive vice president of the American Brahman Breeders Association, Corpus Christi.

- Billy Zanolini, Ph.D., assistant professor and 4-H and youth development specialist, Bryan-College Station.

What is the new rule?

The Food and Drug Administration recommends manufacturers of medically important antimicrobial drugs that continue to be available over the counter and are approved for use in animals, both companion and food-producing, regardless of delivery mechanism, to voluntarily bring these products under veterinary oversight or prescription marketing status.

By June 11, labels of the remaining over-the-counter antibiotics for livestock use will be required to read: "Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian," and the purchaser must have a prescription or drug order to buy it.

How does this differ from the Veterinary Feed Directive and why are the two confused?

Over-the-counter antibiotics used in animal feed were moved to Veterinary Feed Directive, VFD, in 2017, allowing closer veterinarian oversight of antimicrobial use in animal feeds. All over-the-counter antibiotics placed in the drinking water were moved to prescription status at the same time. This new rule concerns the few antibiotics that remained available over the counter in the form of injectables, intramammary tubes and boluses.

What does medically important mean?

Medically important drugs are essential to human medicine and also used to treat animals.

What antibiotics does this affect?

Prescription-only items will include injectable tylosin, injectable and intramammary penicillin, injectable and oral oxytetracycline, sulfadimethoxine and sulfamethazine, gentamicin, cephalixin and cephalixin benzathine intramammary tubes.

How and where can these items be purchased after the rule goes into effect?

Individuals with veterinarian-client-patient relationships, VCPR, may purchase antibiotics directly from their veterinarian or from a distributor with the vet's prescription.

What constitutes a VCPR?

Three requirements must be met:

(1) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.

(2) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the animal's medical condition. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by examining the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.


(3) The veterinarian is readily available or has arranged emergency coverage and follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen.

ANTIBIOTICS ... Page 16

EDUCATION • EXPERIENCE • EXPERTISE • COMMITMENT

Better Ask...

Is your agronomist or agri-sales professional a Certified Crop Adviser?



Learn more or find a CCA near you:

certifiedcropadviser.org



Rocky Mountain CCA Program



WYOMING AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES MEDIATION PROGRAM

FARM SUCCESSION

Navigate The Transition

Succession coordinators work with families and operations to navigate the transition of the ag operation to the next generation. The coordinators work in tandem with attorneys and accountants to make sure that the succession plan is feasible.



Succession coordinators are available as a service of the Wyoming Agriculture & Natural Resource Mediation Program.

For more information, contact Lucy Pauley at 307-777-8788 or email lucy.pauley@wyo.gov.

Succession coordinators work with the family to identify:

- Where is the operation now?
- Where do you want it to be?
- How do you get there?

Inflation and the Banks

BY ROGER CRYAN, AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION CHIEF ECONOMIST

MARCH 17, 2023, AFBF MARKET INTEL

Mid-March, two banks were in the process of collapsing, and state and federal regulators took them over.

On Sunday (March 12), the Federal Reserve Bank announced more liberal lending to all banks to help them weather the decline in the prices of bonds they hold as bank reserves.

On Monday (March 13), President Biden announced an unprecedented bailout for the depositors of two collapsed banks.

On Tuesday (March 14), the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that consumer prices in February were 6.0% higher than a year ago, the lowest year-over-year inflation rate since September 2021, but still higher than any month before that, going back to December 1990. So-called “core inflation” (inflation minus food and energy – whose prices matter but move more erratically than other prices) was 5.5%, also the lowest since (December) 2021 and also higher than any other month in over 30 years. February’s month-over-month core inflation of 0.5% is higher than any of the last four months.

How are these related?

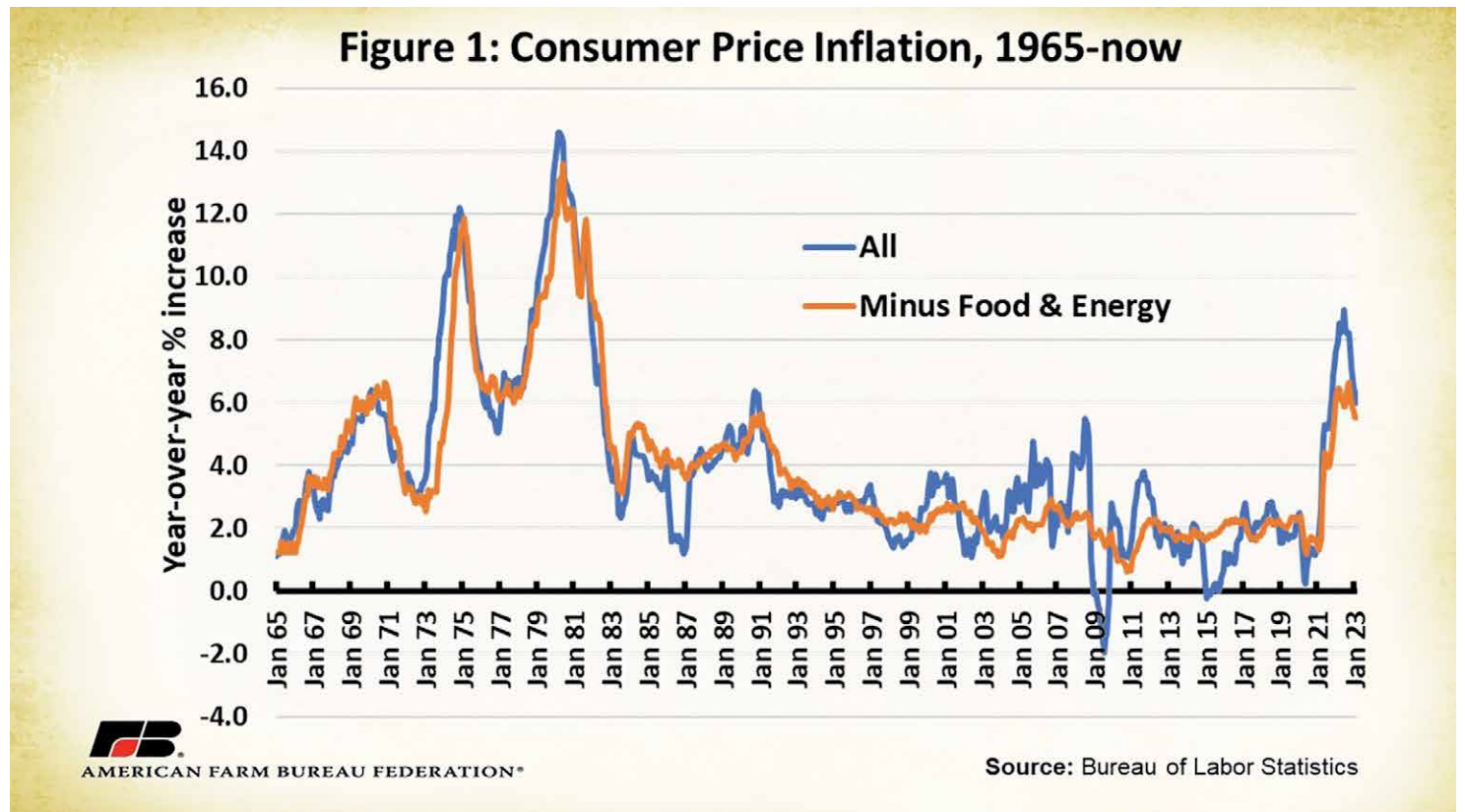
The inflation of 2021 and 2022, as we have talked about before, was caused by the massive amount of new money created by the Federal Reserve Bank (“the Fed”) in 2020 and 2021. The Fed lent trillions of dollars to banks at near-zero interest rates and purchased trillions of dollars in government-backed securities.

This recent modest slowing of inflation is the beginning of the price response, with a similar lag, to the Fed’s tightening of the money supply, by selling some of those securities and by aggressively raising the interest rates they charge banks.

That is, the Fed has followed an unprecedented 40% increase in the money supply in just 2 years with a 2½% decline in the money supply in the 9 months ending in December, which is already unprecedented in the 50+ years since the dollar stopped being tied to the value of gold, and the largest decline in the money supply since 1937, when tight money policy reigned the Great Depression.

The good news is that this dramatic reversal of money supply growth should be sufficient to rein in inflation over the next 6 to 12 months, given the actions that have already been taken and the time required to see their full effects: just as inflation took 12 months and more to show up after the Fed’s expansionary policies began, so does its contractionary effort take 12 months and more to be fully felt in the inflation rate.

The bad news is that the Fed no longer believes that the money supply is significant to inflation, but believes that it must slow the economy until inflation reaches the Fed’s target of 2%. The result is that the Fed continues to raise interest rates with the specific intent of slowing the economy, and only a clear immediate return of inflation to (or toward) the 2% target is likely to stop them.



Based on statements by the Fed’s chair, Jerome Powell, next week’s (March 21-22) meeting of the Fed’s Open Market Committee was expected to bring another aggressive rate increase of one-half percent, which would have brought the effective rate the Fed charges banks to over 5%, after sitting at near zero for much of the last decade.

The only reason that this rate increase may be a quarter percent increase is because the Fed seems shaken by the banking crisis that their rate increases have triggered since the Chair’s earlier statement.

Two banks, the Silicon Valley Bank in California and Signature Bank in New York, were closed and taken over by regulators last week. Banks generally have been squeezed by rising Fed interest rates and depositor withdrawals to spend down balances built up during the peak of the Covid pandemic, when the government was sending out big checks to people who had nothing to spend them on. In the case of Silicon Valley Bank, the rising interest rates caused the short-term value of bonds they held to go down, and the bank became arguably insolvent, in the sense that they couldn’t sell those bonds now for enough to cover withdrawals, and the instant communication of that among their high-tech startup customers led to a very fast run on deposits, accelerated by digital banking which allows millions to be moved to another bank with a phone app. Signature Bank, which had been heavily involved in cryptocurrency banking, in addition to traditional banking, had a similar run apparently based in part on depositor panic caused by the troubles of Silicon Valley Bank.

The government response included two major actions, in addition to taking over the two banks. First, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which normally insures bank deposits up to

\$250,000 guaranteed all deposits in these two banks, as much as 90% of whose deposits were over that limit and so would have not been insured without that change. Second, the Fed opened up a new facility for banks to borrow at a slightly lower rate against the long-term value of bonds whose short-term value has been cut by the higher interest rate the Fed has imposed on the economy.

So what does this all have to do with inflation?

Good question.

We have established, I hope, that today’s inflation was caused by the Fed’s aggressive expansion of the money supply in 2020 and 2021.

That inflation has created price instability and uncertainty in the economy that has made many investment decisions riskier than they would be if inflation had remained low and stable.

The Fed has addressed inflation, not by returning to a steady and stable growth in the money supply, but by using monetary policy to beat the economy over the head until the economy slows down, based on their belief that this is the best way to control prices. (As we’ve said before, this is like swinging the anvil on the hammer, rather than the other way around.) In the past, the Fed would raise interest rates reluctantly as a way slow growth in the money supply (especially before selling off bonds was understood as a good alternative); now, the Fed is raising interest rates explicitly to slow demand in the economy.

That intention of slowing the economy also creates risk and uncertainty in the economy, including banks: no-one knows what the Fed will do. (One possibility is that the Fed keeps raising rates to over 6%, until the inflation reduction that is already in the pipeline shows up in another 6 to 8 months.) For the nearly forty years

though 2019, by contrast, Fed policy had been remarkably stable and predictable, to the benefit of the entire economy.

As mentioned above, the Fed’s interest rate increases have created pressures on banks by depressing the current market value of some of the relatively conservative assets they hold, ironically, to meet regulatory requirements.

The good news in the short run, for farmers and depositors, is that the government’s quick action should shore up otherwise healthy banks across the country, including your community bank. The message from agricultural lenders at community banks I spoke to this week is that, while interest rates are higher and so is credit more expensive, access to that credit won’t be a problem in 2023, especially given the strong outlook for the farm economy. Farm balance sheets are strong, on average, and 2023 looks to be another good year. The high cost of credit may slow expansion of production, and that caution in borrowing is probably prudent.

Community banks also tend to avoid the risky businesses like crypto-currency and high-risk startups, and they welcome depositor visits to the bank and scrutiny of their annual reports for reassurance.

And the government seems to have guaranteed all deposits in all banks, so that shouldn’t be a concern for depositors either.

Whether that is a good long-term policy for the financial system is probably something we will be talking and thinking about for some time. The FDIC relies on healthy banks to pay into a pool, and uses that pool to guarantee depositors. Insuring all deposits could mean responsible banks will be paying more for the action of irresponsible (and unlucky) banks, and doing so in an economic environment made more risky by the Fed’s new approach to its job. ■

ANTIBIOTICS... From Page 14

What's your advice to livestock owners without a VCPR?

Producers who already have a VCPR in place and purchase their animal health products through their veterinary office or through other distributors under an existing prescription system will likely notice little change. However, this may have significant impacts on how the livestock

owners can access antibiotic therapy for their animals, so contact your local veterinarian as soon as possible.

Why shouldn't I go ahead and stock up on antibiotics now?

Do not stock up on these products to avoid needing a prescription once this change takes effect. Animal health products are expensive, have expiration dates and are sensitive to storage time and conditions.

Are there any specific instructions that should be given to livestock show exhibitors?

Livestock exhibitors, like all producers in animal agriculture, are responsible for understanding animal treatment regulations. For junior shows, students complete the "Quality Counts" quality-assurance curriculum that stresses the importance of VCPR.

What health/medical items can livestock owners continue to purchase over the counter?

Most vaccines, dewormers, injectable and oral nutritional supplements, ionophores, pro/prebiotics and topical nonantibiotic treatments will not require a veterinary prescription. However, there are some exceptions. Always read the label. ■

Kay Ledbetter is communications coordinator for Texas A&M AgriLife. Additionally, she is responsible for writing news releases and feature articles from science-based information generated by the agency across the state, as well as the associated media relations.

AFBF signs Right to Repair MOU with Case IH and New Holland

MARCH 9, 2023, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The American Farm Bureau Federation and CNH Industrial brands, Case IH and New Holland, signed a memorandum of understanding March 9 that provides farmers and ranchers the right to repair their own farm equipment. The MOU follows a similar agreement AFBF entered into with John Deere earlier this year.

"Our members urged us to find a private sector-solution that gives them access to repair their own equipment and I'm pleased months of discussions have again paid off," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "Farmers and ranchers are more dependent on technology than ever

before, so it's critical they have access to the tools to keep things running on the farm so the food supply chain keeps running, too."

"We understand the work our customers do is time-sensitive and critical for a safe and abundant food and fiber supply," said Sally Johnson, vice president, New Holland Agriculture North America. "This agreement is the next step in delivering on New Holland's promise to better serve our customers, and in a way that helps them safely and effectively manage and maintain their equipment uptime."

"This agreement underscores CNH Industrial's commitment to empowering

our customers by providing them with resources and tools that allow them to safely self-repair their equipment in a timely matter," said Kurt Coffey, vice president, Case IH North America. "We know that agricultural equipment is one of the most significant investments for the American farmer. As a farmer, Farm Bureau member myself and brand leader, this MOU is a positive step forward in continuing to put the customer at the center of everything Case IH does."

The MOU sets a framework for farmers and independent repair facilities in all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico to access CNH Industrial brand manuals,

tools, product guides and information to self-diagnose and self-repair machines, as well as support from CNH Industrial brands to directly purchase diagnostic tools and order products and parts.

The MOU respects intellectual property rights and recognizes the need to ensure safety controls and emission systems are not altered. CNH Industrial and AFBF will meet semiannually to review the agreement and address ongoing concerns.

The AFBF board of directors unanimously approved the MOU with CNH Industrial brands Case IH and New Holland. ■

<p>South Ash Creek Road Land Ranchester, WY • \$1,750,000 Deeded Acres: 640±</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p>  <p>Beautiful mountain views, privacy, plenty of scenery, water, good grazing and wildlife all located within WY Deer Hunting Area 23.</p>	<p>Triangle S Equestrian Ranch Buffalo, WY • \$4,500,000 Total Acres: 400±</p> <p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>Ride year round in the comfort of the 120' x 240' indoor arena or on the seemingly endless 10,000 acres of State Land that adjoins this beautiful equestrian property.</p>	<p>BB Brooks Ranch Casper, WY • \$10,400,000 Total Acres: 5,700± Deeded Acres: 5,200±</p> <p>EXCITING DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL</p>  <p>As one of the largest privately owned land holdings adjacent to Casper, it lies directly in the path of what would be a potential expansion area for Casper in the future.</p>
<p>N. Fork Shell Creek Recreation Ranch Buffalo, WY • \$3,500,000 Total Acres: 1,760± Deeded Acres: 640±</p> <p>IMPROVED PRICE</p>  <p>Private grazing and recreation ranch land nestled in the shadow of the coveted Bighorn Mountain foothills, completely surrounded by public land.</p>	<p>Hoyt Ranch Home Parcel Lavina, MT • \$1,300,000 Deeded Acres: 922±</p> <p>NEW RANCH LISTING</p>  <p>This end-of-the-county road ranch is located approximately 4 miles southeast of Lavina, MT in a region known for good grass, small grain farming, and oil seed production.</p>	<p>Hoyt Ranch Painted Robe Creek Lavina, MT • \$1,960,000 Deeded Acres: 1,120±</p> <p>SOLD!</p>  <p>This private ranch is known for its scenic and well balanced small cattle and farming operation in a region also known for upland bird and big game hunting.</p>

SELLING WORKING RANCHES & RECREATIONAL PROPERTIES
in Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota & Nebraska



844-WYO-LAND
chasebrothersllc.com

