

UW students gain policy perspective through Farm Bureau

BY CALLIE HANSON

University of Wyoming Collegiate Farm Bureau students recently traveled to Washington, D.C., where they explored policy, advocacy and the broader role of their organization on a national scale.

“The goal was for UW students to get the opportunity to see our nation’s capital, to see our government in action and to make connections with people in policy—specifically within American Farm Bureau,” said Jordan Anderson, a recent UW graduate and former Collegiate Farm Bureau president.

The group’s week was divided between historical sightseeing and professional networking. Students toured major landmarks, visited the Department of the Interior and the Capitol, and sat down with representatives from American Farm Bureau and even the Mexican Embassy.

“It was really valuable to learn more about Farm Bureau at the national level and how that filters down to us as collegiate members,” Anderson said. “We learned about the different committees, how the structure works, and how we as students fit into that.”

For Anderson, seeing policy discussions in real time brought abstract issues to life.

“Sometimes as a college student, if you’re not familiar with the Farm Bureau structure, it’s hard to understand what being a collegiate member really means,” she said. “But being able to see the broader scope of what Farm Bureau is doing—and how we can fit into that—was really valuable.”

UW DC TRIP ... Page 13



The UW Collegiate Farm Bureau group visited the American Farm Bureau Federation headquarters, where they enjoyed a rooftop view of Washington, D.C., following a day of policy briefings.

Ag Books for Kids 2025 winners

BY CALLIE HANSON

Agriculture does more than fill our plates—it fuels our lives. From the clothes we wear to the crayons our kids use, farm and ranch products show up in unexpected ways. Even the paper used in this year’s “Ag Books for Kids” entries comes from forestry, a vital part of the agriculture industry.

This year’s featured book, *Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car* by Peggy Thomas, brings that idea to life through the true story of how Henry Ford used soybeans to help build cars. His creative blend of farming and innovation helped shape an entire industry—and serves as a powerful example of how agriculture stretches far beyond the field.

AG BOOKS FOR KIDS ... Page 5

Most Americans today are generations removed from the farm. With less than two percent of the population actively involved in farming or ranching, helping young people understand how agriculture impacts their everyday lives is more important than ever.

That’s where the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee’s “Ag Books for Kids” program comes in. Since 2004, the program has helped put accurate, engaging agriculture books in elementary classrooms across the state—opening doors to learning and sparking curiosity through stories rooted in real life.

USDA closes border amid rising screwworm risk; Wyoming urged to stay vigilant

BY CALLIE HANSON

The resurgence of the New World screwworm (NWS) in Mexico and Central America has raised alarms among U.S. animal health officials. While Wyoming benefits from its distance from the southern border, the state’s vast grazing lands and limited surveillance infrastructure make the state particularly vulnerable to such outbreaks.

In response to the escalating threat, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced on May 11, 2025, a temporary suspension of live animal imports—including cattle, horses, and bison—through ports of entry along the southern border. “The potential for rapid spread of this dangerous parasite into our livestock systems cannot be taken lightly,” Rollins said

in the announcement. The decision, which is being evaluated on a monthly basis, is part of a broader federal effort to prevent the introduction of NWS into the United States.

The USDA emphasized the move is a precautionary measure to protect both animal health and the rural economy, citing the parasite’s destructive nature and the speed with which it can move through herds. The NWS is a parasitic fly whose larvae feed on the living tissue of warm-blooded animals.

Infestations can lead to severe tissue damage, secondary infections, and, if untreated, death. The economic implications are substantial, with historical estimates indicating losses exceeding \$100 million annually during previous U.S. outbreaks.

Dr. Hallie Hasel, Wyoming’s State Veterinarian, expressed concern over the state’s preparedness to handle a potential NWS incursion. “Wyoming is currently unprepared for a NWS detection,” Hasel stated. “The Wyoming Livestock Board has limited staffing, and the state does not have a designated agriculture emergency coordinator.”

The challenge is compounded by the nature of Wyoming’s livestock operations. “With Wyoming livestock grazing on large pastures and allotments, undetected NWS could spread rapidly during the summer months,” Hasel noted. “The state’s expansive and remote grazing areas make early detection and rapid response particularly challenging.”

SCREWWORM ... Page 15

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June**
5-6 Joint Travel, Recreation, and Tourism Committee - Dubois
10-11 Joint Agricultural Legislative Interim Committee - Powell
17 Fremont County Picnic - TBD
19 Joint Federal Natural Resources Management Committee-Pinedale
27 Albany County Ranch & Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting - Laramie
- August**
5-7 Joint Select Water Committee - TBD
12 Joint Federal Natural Resources Management Committee - Buffalo
12-16 Wyoming State Fair - Douglas
26-27 Joint Agriculture Legislative Interim Committee - Casper
- September**
13 Wyoming Needs Agriculture at UW Football Pregame - Laramie
13 Fremont County Annual Meeting - TBD
- November**
13-15 WyFB 106th Annual Meeting- Gillette

Visit wyfb.org for event updates

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Celebrating America's Farm Dogs

Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President



Farm dogs play a special role on farms and ranches across the country. These animals are more than beloved pets for farm families. Farm dogs take on important jobs, pitching in and lifting spirits. That's why Farm Bureau is a proud partner with Nestlé Purina PetCare on the Farm Dog of the Year contest for the eighth year in a row.

This contest has become a highlight of the AFBF Convention every year, and for good reason. This is a chance for us to celebrate our four-legged friends who show up, day in and day out, tails wagging and eager to help. From rounding up and protecting livestock to opening gates and chasing off pests, there's a broad range of jobs, which farmers and ranchers rely on their trusted dogs for. Some dogs are even trained to sniff out crop diseases. Dogs like my red heeler, Ziggy, can also serve as the welcoming committee to the farm.

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Farm Bureau Farm Dog of the Year contest, and I cannot wait to see who gets named top dog next January. I know for each farm and ranch family, though, your dog will be "farm dog of the year" every year for the help and joy they bring. Because it is so hard to pick just one winner, we also have the People's Choice Pup contest. Stay tuned for that popular social media contest this September when profiles of several dogs from the running for Farm Dog of the Year will be shared for the public to vote on.

This contest is important for families off the farm as well. Shining a spotlight on our dogs and their special place on our farms and in our hearts helps us connect with folks outside our fencerows. Affection for our furry, four-legged friends is something we hold in common with folks from urban, suburban and rural areas alike. With that common ground, this contest of-

fers folks who have never been on a farm another way to connect with agriculture. You might even say that we could add another farm job to the list for our dogs, agricultural ambassador. But if your dogs are anything like my Ziggy, they might need a bath first. I've never seen a dog happier than when he is caked in mud and ready to join in to help with farm chores. Truly, farm dogs are some of the hardest workers around, and they are up to any task.

So, does your farm dog have what it takes to be the next Farm Bureau Farm Dog of the Year? You can encourage your friends and neighbors to apply too. Just get those nominations in by July 11. The grand prize winner, selected by a panel of judges, will take home \$5,000 in prize money and a year's worth of Purina Pro Plan dog food. For more on the contest, to learn about past winners, and to submit a nomination, visit our website. ■

The Future of Agriculture

Kerin Clark

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President



The future of agriculture is our youth. This statement has rung true for generations. For today's generation, this statement can be interpreted in several ways. The future of agriculture rests with our youth who will continue the tradition of farming and ranching in Wyoming. Our youth hold the future of agriculture, whether as advocates in their chosen professions or as informed consumers and voters.

As a centennial agriculture organization celebrating 106 years in 2025, we have spent over a century eyeing the future of agriculture. We represent Wyoming farmers and ranchers through advocacy, education and leadership development. All three are important components of the work we do to meet the mission of the organization.

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation values all avenues of agricultural education, from supporting youth events and academic goals to helping Wyoming's young people learn about agriculture. Just like our policy development process is strengthened through grassroots involvement, agriculture education is also strengthened through grassroots involvement. Farm Bureau Federation members across Wyoming support the young people of our state through youth events, college scholarships and the "Ag Books for Kids" program.

The future of agriculture through the tradition of farming and ranching

Through support of 4-H and FFA events at the county and state levels, the Farm Bureau Federation recognizes the work Wyoming's agriculture youth put into their agricultural pursuits. It is important to support the youth of agriculture as they grow in their farming and ranching skills as well as their agricultural leadership skills.

The future of agriculture through educational scholarships

Wyoming agriculture youth are our future and supporting their educational pursuits is a priority across all levels of WyFB. Agriculture youth are important to the future of agriculture whether they return to the farm or ranch or advocate for agriculture in whatever career they pursue. With less than two percent of our population working in agriculture, it is so important to have agriculture advocates wherever their career takes them in life. I know I'm sure thankful for the scholarships that supported my educational pursuit including the Albany County Farm Bureau Federation scholarship and the H.J. King/H.D. Livingston Memorial Scholarship awarded to me for my educational pursuits.

The future of agriculture through "Ag Books for Kids"

Educating Wyoming's youth about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives through reading accurate agriculture books is the heart of the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee "Ag Books for Kids" program. Over 700 new books about agriculture make their way into Wyoming elementary classrooms each year, thanks to the work of local Farm Bureau Federations. Local farmers and ranchers read the agriculture books to elementary classrooms providing Wyoming students with a great learning opportunity as well as the opportunity to ask a farmer or rancher a question or two. Jennifer Womack was a mother of elementary-aged children when this program began 21 years ago. Recognizing the need for accurate agricultural books in Wyoming's school libraries, she brought the concept to the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee—and it took root. From there, the Committee brainstormed and developed the program now known as "Ag Books for Kids." Literacy is important for school children and accurate books are an important tool to teach children about the world around them.

Yes, the future of agriculture is our youth, which we can support with the work we do in the present. This is why we invest into these important educational efforts. The time is now to make a difference for our future. ■

Grizzly bear rule, habitat definitions, and trade progress in focus

BY KELLY CARPENTER,
POLICY ADVOCACY DIRECTOR
Comments submitted

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) submitted comments in opposition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) maintaining the listing of the grizzly bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with a proposed 4(d) rule. The proposal also considers expanding the Distinct Population Segment (DPS), which is critical for bear protection under the ESA. The implications of DPS expansion would mean more landowners would be within an area that could result in increased regulatory burden in relation to bear management.

Additionally, the WyFB submitted comments in favor of the USFWS proposed

rule to rescind the definition of “harm” in relation to habitat modification for listed species. We urged the USFWS to consider making a durable definition of “take” and “harm” to help the regulated community move forward with certainty should the rule become final.

Federal Legislation of Interest

The WyFB policy team regularly contacts the Wyoming Congressional Delegation to request their support or opposition for many bills directly and indirectly related to Wyoming agriculture. One recent bill to spotlight that we support is the Strengthening Tactics to Obstruct the Population (STOP) of Screwworms Act.

The STOP Screwworm Act would authorize funds for and direct the U.S. Department

of Agriculture to begin construction on a new sterile fly production facility in the United States to combat the growing New World screwworm outbreak that threatens to wreak havoc on the American cattle and livestock industry, per the office of Rep. Tony Gonzales (TX). Some members of our delegation supported Rep. Gonzales’ bill that would close the border with Mexico to cattle, bison and horse imports, this topic is increasingly important to the United States cattle industry.

Tariffs

AFBF President Zippy Duvall commented recently on the announced trade deal between the United States and the United Kingdom.

“Farm Bureau appreciates the work between the administration and the United Kingdom to secure a new trade agreement. We have long advocated for new trade deals, and this is an important first step in expanding markets in the four countries. More work is needed, however, to remove the arbitrary barriers that have excluded American-grown food from grocery stores in the U.K.

“America’s farmers and ranchers grow the safest and most affordable food in the world. We’re encouraged by progress to create market opportunities for farmers. We urge the administration to build on this success to pursue more trade agreements, and resolve current disputes, so farmers can continue to feed families here at home and overseas.” ■

WyFB watching interim legislative topics across key committees

BY BRETT MOLINE,
POLICY ADVOCACY DIRECTOR

The legislature has developed the topics each legislative committee will work on during the interim. Below are many of the topics WyFB will be keeping an eye on.

The Judiciary Committee will work on tracing mineral ownership of severed mineral estates. The committee will review how other states deal with this issue.

The Appropriations Committee will work on wildfire response, prevention, and management funding and the state’s role. This topic will include working with local fire districts and federal agencies. This committee will also work on sales and use tax distribution to provide a consistent funding source for local governments.

The Revenue Committee will continue working on property tax issues, such as tax reform, market value determination and implementing the latest constitutional

amendment. This committee will also examine the state’s tax structure and administration.

The Agriculture Committee will again work on eminent domain issues, including when and how eminent domain can be used on private property. This committee will also work on preventing orphaned water rights associated with land development. In addition, this committee will take a look at the effectiveness of the 2023 legislation dealing with subleasing state trust lands for grazing. They will also investigate the effectiveness of cloud seeding and learn what impacts cloud seeding has on wildlife and human health. Finally this committee will take up veterinary technician licensing.

The Travel Recreation Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee will work on industrial siting-wildlife mitigation. This committee will also study issues associated with accessing public lands and corner crossing.

The Corporations Committee will work again on election, electricity, and emergency services issues.

The Transportation Committee will study how Wyoming Department of Transportation is funded, and look at how to address the department’s funding shortfalls. This committee will work on the permanent trailer registration issue.

The Select Federal Natural Resources Management Committee will discuss federal agencies’ policies on wildfire.

The Select Water Committee will discuss the possibility of establishing a voluntary water conservation program in the Wyoming portion of the Colorado River

Basin. This committee will also work on issues dealing with aging irrigation and municipal water systems. This committee will also discuss prescriptive easements for irrigation systems.

All committees will also receive reports from state agencies.

This is not a comprehensive list of topics the legislature’s committees will work on. These are topics WyFB will definitely be engaging with. The details will be developed when the committees meet and work on the issues. Stay tuned for further information. You may also visit wyoleg.gov to view the full interim topics list. ■



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Carrying on the culture of the cowboy state

BY CODY ALPS, WYFB YF&R CHAIR

If you ask any Wyomingite what they consider to be the culture of our state, many people would probably respond with identical answers or at least quite similar answers. Some of the expected answers would likely include a sense of community across the state, our states western heritage, the rugged agriculture and energy industries that drive the state, the jaw dropping sceneries and expansive ranches that call Wyoming home, or the strong willed and hardworking people that live here and steward the land they are entrusted with.

The American West is undoubtedly showcased in Wyoming with our own unique spin. With that uniqueness comes a vast amount of interest from people outside of our state. Although some of these people might understand and agree with the culture we have in our state, that is not the case for all of them.

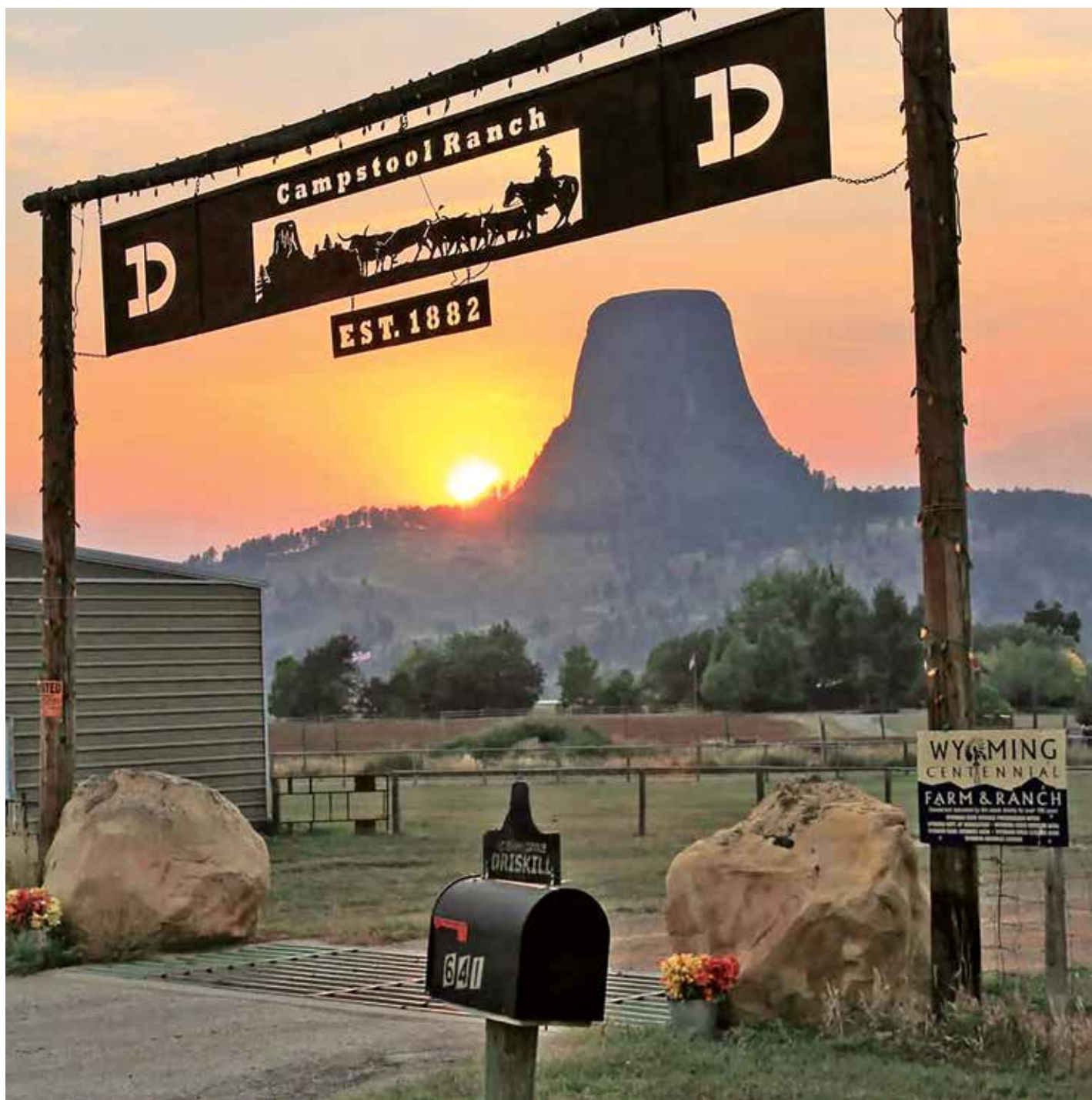
For the past eight months I, along with thirteen other participants from around the state, have traveled across the state through the Wyoming L.E.A.D. Program. Our seminars have covered a variety of topics including value-added agriculture, natural resources, energy, state and federal government, Agri-tourism, and timber. Regardless of who we were meeting with or the topic at hand the culture of our state was evident; however, it wasn't until our seminar in Hulett that the culture of our state was a major conversation point.

While we were in Hulett, we had the opportunity to tour the historic Campstool Ranch. Due to the wonderful Wyoming weather, we were unable to tour the full ranch, but with the drought we have been in no one dared to complain about the rain. With Devils Tower towering behind the Campstool Ranch, our hosts Andrea and Lincoln shared how the ranch was founded and how it evolved over the years. Andrea manages the Devils Tower KOA campground, which is part of the Campstool Ranch. Managing the Devils Tower KOA campground has inevitably led her to have interactions with numerous people visiting from outside of Wyoming.

She noted many of them didn't understand the way of life in our state, or the reasoning of why we do things the way we do, or the culture we carry in our state. While it's easier said than done, Andrea told us that most of these people left with a new understanding and appreciation of Wyoming and the people that live here after her conversations with them and showing them our way of life.

Since our time in the northeast corner of the state I have reflected on all our tours, but the Campstool Ranch stands out to me the most. Partially because looking out over the ranch and seeing Devils Tower right there next to the ranch is an amazing view, but mainly because of the conversations we had there. Hearing the history of a seventh-generation ranch and seeing how it operates today truly is an incredible story. Hearing firsthand examples about how a conversation with a local can change how people from outside our state perceive us was eye opening.

It's easy to blow off the thought of finding common ground with outsiders or convincing them that our way of life surely is great and should be cherished with the thought that they're set in their ways and so are we. The best way to carry on our culture is to share it with others, and yes that means sharing it with people from outside of Wyoming (and no I'm not meaning share it with them as in having them flooding into our state to live here, I simply mean showing them our way of life and why it matters). ■



L.E.A.D. Participants, including several of our YF&R members, tour Campstool Ranch near Hulett, with Devils Tower in the background — an iconic setting for conversations on Wyoming's ranching culture.

Stories of Wyoming's ranching heritage came to life at Campstool Ranch, where L.E.A.D. participants explored the connection between land, legacy, and culture.

AG BOOKS FOR KIDS... From Page 1

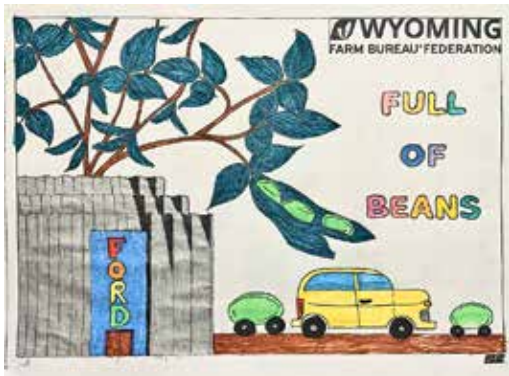
“Ag Books for Kids is a great way for local communities to promote farming and ranching to young students,” said Seth Allen, a rancher from Niobrara County. Allen chairs the Promotions Sub-Committee of the WyFB Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, which oversees the Ag Books for Kids program.

“Introducing the value of agriculture early on helps shape a positive view for the next generation,” Allen said. “It’s been exciting to see the growth of the program and how students at all grade levels are engaging in conversations about agriculture.”

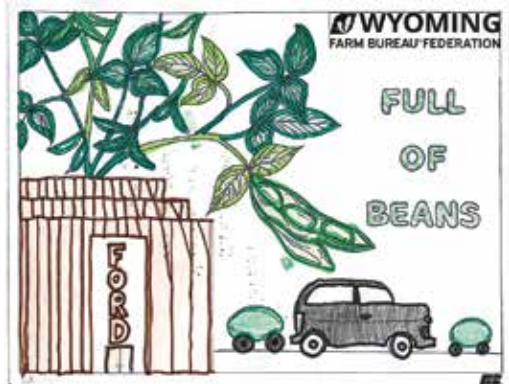
In the last 21 years, over 12,000 agriculture books have been donated to Wyoming elementary schools through the “Ag Books for Kids” program. In 2025, county Farm Bureau Federations across the state donated 734 copies of *Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car* books to Wyoming elementary schools. Contests are held in association with the book of the year to encourage students to learn even more about agriculture. The contests included: Coloring Contest for kindergarten and first grade; Poster Contest for second and third grades; and a Marketing Ad Contest for fourth and fifth grades.

Goshen County Rancher Cody Alps serves as the WyFB YF&R Committee State Chair. Alps says the “Ag Books for Kids is an outstanding program that makes kids interested in ag and excited to learn about ag. It also adds great value to our Young Farmers & Ranchers program by providing an opportunity to play an important role in our state.”

In its 21st year, the “Ag Books for Kids” program is a project of the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee. Throughout the years, 12,309 books have been donated to elementary schools by the county Farm Bureau Federations. The grassroots efforts



Ag Books for Kids State Coloring Contest Winner:
Kinley Carlson, Goshen County



Ag Books for Kids State Coloring Contest Runner-Up:
Maddie Mullen, Johnson County



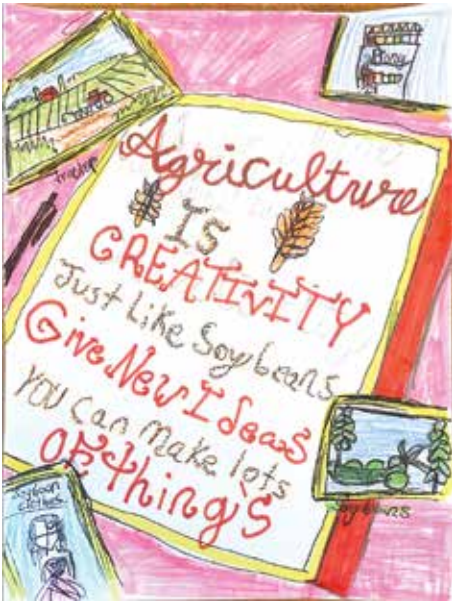
Ag Books for Kids State Poster Contest Winner:
Zoe Rasmussen, Lincoln County



Ag Books for Kids State Poster Contest Runner-Up:
Rhett Nunn, Lincoln County



Ag Books for Kids State Marketing Ad Contest Winner:
Tyree Hubbard, Niobrara County



Ag Books for Kids State Marketing Ad Contest Runner-up:
Hilda Reza, Laramie County

of the county Farm Bureau Federations, who donate the books and help educate about agriculture, contribute greatly to the program’s success. The program’s purpose is to build the collection of agriculture reading materials in Wyoming elementary schools and educate children about agriculture and its importance to us all. ■

Young Farmer & Rancher Committee

2025 ‘Ag Books for Kids’ contests

2025 “AG BOOKS FOR KIDS” STATE WINNERS

Coloring Contest:
State Winner: Kinley Carlson, Goshen County (Southeast District)
State Runner-up: Maddie Mullen, Johnson County (Northeast District)

Poster Contest:
State Winner: Zoe Rasmussen, Lincoln County (Southwest District)
State Runner-up: Rhett Nunn, Lincoln County (Southwest District)

Marketing Ad Contest:
State Winner: Tyree Hubbard, Niobrara County (Southeast District)
State Runner-up: Hilda Reza, Laramie County (Southeast District)

2025 “AG BOOKS FOR KIDS” DISTRICT WINNERS

Northeast District Winners

Coloring Contest:
● Maddie Mullen, Johnson County
● Shaye Wagner, Crook County
● Ainsley Ligget, Weston County

Poster Contest:
● Wes Warner, Sheridan County
● Annabel Larsen, Sheridan County
● Jaxson Didier, Crook County

Marketing Ad Contest:
● Emma Githens, Sheridan County
● Jaden Wagner, Crook County
● Dustin Walter, Crook County

Northwest District Winners

Coloring Contest:
● Abel Shaffer, Washakie County
● Sunny Ferguson, Washakie County
● Elias Amos, Fremont County

Poster Contest:
● Kal Gossens, Washakie County
● Jexy Haun, Washakie County
● Brody Miller, Washakie County

Marketing Ad Contest:
● Zoe Jansma, Washakie County
● Scarlet McIntosh, Washakie County
● Sylvia Pique, Fremont County

Southeast District Winners

Coloring Contest:
● Berkely Hodge, Niobrara County
● Lucynda Quiroz, Laramie County
● Kinley Carlson, Goshen County

Poster Contest:
● Emma Gordon, Niobrara County
● Lila Conklin, Laramie County
● Elouise Gregory, Laramie County

Marketing Ad Contest:
● Charity Chechuck, Laramie County
● Hilda Reza, Laramie County
● Tyree Hubbard, Niobrara County

Southwest District Winners

Coloring Contest:
● Ray Lepper, Lincoln County
● Arabella Cummings, Uinta County
● Shayd Pope, Lincoln County

Poster Contest:
● Rhett Nunn, Lincoln County
● Zoey Rasmussen, Lincoln County
● Lane Fotheringham, Uinta County

Marketing Ad Contest:
● Cayson Nelson, Uinta County
● Quoi Chadwich, Lincoln County
● Jake, Uinta County

CENTRAL DISTRICT:

Coloring Contest:
● Sawyer Bartolic, Natrona County
● Rosalie Bartolic, Natrona County
● Bradlie Crandall, Natrona County

WyFB awards college scholarships

BY CALLIE HANSON

Supporting the next generation of leaders is a priority for the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation. Each year, WyFB invests in the future of agriculture by awarding \$5,500 in college scholarships to nine deserving students who are either members themselves or the children of active Farm Bureau members.

The Livingston-King Scholarship, our highest award at \$1,500, honors the legacy of former WyFB Presidents Herbert D. Livingston and H.J. King, along with Buddy

and Norma Livingston, parents of former President Perry Livingston. Their contributions to agriculture and Farm Bureau leadership continue to inspire the next generation.

In addition to the Livingston-King award, five Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarships and three Continuing Education Scholarships are awarded at \$500 each. The Continuing Education Scholarships are designated for students entering their sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate year of college.

As part of the application process, students were asked to answer the question: “What career path do you plan to take with your chosen course of study, and how will it affect rural America?” Excerpts from their responses are included in the individual profiles that follow.

The future of rural communities and agriculture depends on dedicated, informed young people. WyFB is proud to support these promising individuals as they pursue their goals and give back to the communities they call home.

Cora Grant

Livingston Family and H.J. King Memorial Scholarship
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Cora Grant, of Glenrock, is the recipient of the Livingston Family and H.J. King Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$1,500. Additionally, Grant was selected to receive a \$500 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship. Grant is the daughter of Rachel and William Grant.



Cora Grant

Through her time at Glenrock High School, she was involved in cross country and track. She has held several positions in her local 4-H chapter, where she has been the president for three years. Grant plans to become a 4-H volunteer and assist with the leathercrafts program in the coming years.

Grant plans to pursue a degree in Agriculture Business and Animal Science along with Farm and Ranch Mangement at Eastern Wyoming College. She hopes to learn new methods of farming and ranching to bring back to her family ranch.

“While I believe traditional practices are valuable, I believe these programs will help me recognize new beneficial methods for farming and ranching,” she said in her application. “I believe small rural operations are the backbone of our country, and I am excited to contribute to their progress and sustainability.”

Quinn Harman

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Quinn Harman, of Clearmont, plans to attend Sheridan College in pursuit of a General Science/Pre-Pharmacy degree. She is the daughter of Larry and Beth Harman. Harman was awarded a \$500 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship.

Harman’s leadership experiences include serving as the vice president of her 4-H club as well as memberships with the



Quinn Harman

National Honor Society and Phi Theta Kappa. She is also involved with Sources of Strength, where she advocates for mental health awareness among her peers.

Inspired by her own experiences growing up in rural Wyoming, Harman hopes to become a pharmacist so she can serve the needs of rural communities and empower them to make informed health decisions and have access to life-saving medication.

“I have seen how limited resources and long travel distances create barriers to medical care,” she said. “These challenges inspired me to pursue a career in pharmacy, where I can directly impact individuals and communities facing these obstacles.”

Megan Hedges

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Casper resident Megan Hedges is the recipient of a \$500 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship. Hedges will graduate from Natrona County High School and pursue a degree in Agricultural Business at Casper College. She is the daughter of Tony and Rachel Hedges.



Megan Hedges

During her time at Natrona County, Hedges was heavily involved in FFA where she held several leadership positions. In addition, Hedges has competed nationally in both Conduct of Chapter Meeting and Marketing Plan, where she placed 5th in the nation.

Armed with a degree in agricultural business, Hedges hopes to strengthen her family farm’s long-term viability. In her application she wrote, “My college experience will help me discover my path and better understand my future on our family farm, enabling me to contribute innovative ideas to preserve family farms and promote economic stability in rural America.”

Gunner Henrie

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

A senior at Encampment High School, Gunner Henrie is the recipient of a \$500 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship. Upon graduation, Henrie will attend UW to pursue a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology. He is the son of Amanda and Ridge Knotwell.

Henrie spent his high school years serving as a class officer and student



Gunner Henrie

council representative for his senior class. In addition, he was involved in FFA and 4-H, where he showed swine and cattle. Henrie was also heavily involved in sports where he was awarded all-conference and all-state honors in football and basketball.

Henrie has a passion for wildlife and looks forward to working with farmers and ranchers towards conservation efforts within the state of Wyoming. In his application he stated, “With this degree, I believe I can contribute to rural Wyoming by managing the habitats for fish and wildlife. Maintaining a good relationship between landowners and game and fish would allow for better management overall.”

Allyster Ingraham

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Allyster Ingraham, of Saratoga, plans to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Wyoming, with hopes to work in nuclear power to bring clean energy to rural communities like the one he calls home. He is the recipient of a \$500 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship. Ingraham is the son of Hillery Ingleby and Trevor Ingraham.



Allyster Ingraham

Ingraham served as his class president for two years and was a member of FBLA for four years. He excelled in football, wrestling, and track and was able to assist his middle school wrestling team as an assistant coach. In the summer of 2024, Ingraham qualified to represent Wyoming on the national level in freestyle Greco wrestling.

In his application, Ingraham stated he hopes to serve rural communities as an engineer. “I hope to use my education to expand and develop clean energy production,” he stated. “The development of clean energy will limit pollution and conserve the nature of America, which rural communities rely on for things like agriculture and tourism.”



Mikayla Alexander

Continuing Education Scholarship

Mikayla Alexander, of McFadden, is the recipient of a \$500 continuing education scholarship. Alexander is pursuing a degree in Animal Science/Ranch Management and Agricultural Leadership at Central Wyoming College. She is the daughter of Ryon and Heather Alexander.



Mikayla Alexander

Alexander is highly involved at CWC where she is a member of the Lady Rustler volleyball team and has plans to join the ranch horse team. She plans to transfer to the University of Wyoming in the Fall of 2025 to continue her studies.

In her essay, Alexander noted she hopes to continue to be a voice for agriculture.

“The future of agriculture depends on my generation to keep educating others, fighting for our rights and beliefs, and promoting the industry,” she wrote. “Honesty, integrity and compassion are all morals people in agriculture are known for. I want to make sure I live up to that.”

Maylee Potas

Continuing Education Scholarship

Originally from Meeteetse, Maylee Potas is a senior at University of Wyoming studying Kinesiology-Pre Med, with hopes to attend medical school following graduation. She is the daughter of Mike and Molly Potas and the recipient of a \$500 continuing education scholarship.



Maylee Potas

During her time at UW, she has assisted with teaching anatomy, been a research assistant for cancer/exercise and an active member of Chi Omega. She recently completed an internship with Ivinson Memorial Hospital and will work with Billings Clinic over the summer.

She looks forward to eventually practicing medicine in rural Wyoming. In her application she said, “My goal is to keep medicine and practices available to rural areas of Wyoming. Having grown up here, I would like to return and practice medicine and hopefully make new advancements.”

Megan Sagner

Continuing Education Scholarship

Originally from Chugwater, Megan Sagner is a student at Sheridan College pursuing degrees in Animal Science, Biology and Farrier Science. The daughter of Jeff and Tricia Sagner, she will receive a \$500 continuing education scholarship.



Megan Sagner

Sagner has been heavily involved with the Collegiate Farm Bureau while at at Sheridan College, where she serves as the chapter secretary. She was recently named the 2025 state champion in the collegiate discussion meet and represented the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation at the national competition.

Upon her graduation from Sheridan College, Sagner plans to continue her education at West Texas A&M University and eventually attend veterinary school. In her application, she noted she plans to return to Wyoming to serve rural ranchers. “I will use my education to innovate production practices and herd health to ensure quality products for consumers,” she wrote. ■

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BIG HORN

Matthew Allee, Greybull; Jeffery & Matthew Bassett (REG), Lovell; Wendy & Jared Boardman (REG), Manderson; Larry Bouse, Lovell; Ricardo Calvo (REG), Burlington; Audra Crouse/ Triangle T LLC (REG), Basin; Christopher Durney, Powell; Shane Foote, Worland; Julie Greer, Greybull; Sheri & Phillip Hartman (REG), Basin; Stephen Helburn (REG), Greybull; Reynold Henderson, Basin; Landon McWilliams, Burlington; Constantino

Mendez (REG), Basin; Anna Mendez, Burlington; Anthony Rosser, Greybull; Charles Valceschini (REG), Basin; Dianna Wiles, Burlington; Jacqueline Willson, Greybull

CAMPBELL

Dennis Vanhorn, Gillette; Gerald Diedrich, Gillette; Christine & James Frey, Upton; Ashlee & Deaver Arrants (REG), Gillette; Werner Land Corp (REG), Recluse; Mary & Francis Silvernell, Recluse; Beth Howard, Gillette; Juli & Monte Sandvick, Gillette; Angela & Erick Bjordahl, Gillette; TJ Wesley (REG), Oshoto; Gregory Trana, Gillette; Ignacio Villarreal, Gillette; Linda Duvall, Laramie; Roberta Daly, Gillette; Colin Lynn, Gillette; Deb Tonn, Gillette; Suzie & Bryan Renken, Gillette; Aaron Dey,

Gillette; Ashley & Devin Peterson, Gillette; Latasha Bertsch, Gillette; Jessica Stewart, Gillette; Tressa & David Horning, Gillette; Michael Baumert, Gillette

CARBON

Ciarra & Kai Schulze, Baggs; Cherri & John Moore, Saratoga; Amy & Scott Bach, Rawlins; Leslie Wade, Rawlins; Dane Herring, Lusk

CONVERSE

Joseph Perko, Rolling Hills; Bobbie Jo Gibbs (REG), Douglas; Victoria Meyer (REG), Douglas; Tammy Rothleutner, Douglas; Sandra & Larry Smith, Casper; Sahriisa & Cody Negri, Douglas; Justin Freeman, Glenrock; Renee Radman, Casper; Benjean Braun (REG), Douglas; Jamie Niethammer, Casper; Mike Ward, Glenrock; David Jones (REG), Glenrock; Shawn & Stephanie Penwarden, Glenrock; Kylie Wolford (REG), Douglas; Andrew Fenton, Glenrock

CROOK

Kristi Arambel (REG), Beulah; Colter Ellsbury/ Ellsbury Ranch LLC (REG), Sundance; Stephen Hartl (REG), Sundance; Eric Amdahl (REG), Moorcroft; Emily Valora, Moorcroft

FREMONT

Bessie & Jason Cantrell, Riverton; Colter Wise, Riverton; Linda & Warren Fleming (REG), Crowheart; Crystal & Jason Laird, Lander; Cody Arnoldt, Riverton; Becky & Royal Enos (REG), Fort Washakie; Erica & Chris Mazurie, Laramie; Vergie Branna, Lander; Cole Horton, Riverton; Jade Barrett, Shoshoni; Ryan McConnaughey, Casper; Sarah & Ethan Remacle, Pavillion; Pamela & Jacob Briggs, Riverton; Linda Klaus & Anthony Baeten, Lander; Leigh & Bertram Tuckey (REG), Crowheart; Laura & Lyle Hill, Riverton; Miranda & Randy Townsend, Riverton

GOSHEN

Brett Wilker (REG), Yoder; Michelle & Travis Rodewald (REG), Casper; Karen Stonecyper, Torrington; Levi Freeburg, Lingle; Tomi & Darren Youngs (REG), Veteran; Charles Stoeger, Torrington; Carla & Russell Sturgeon, Torrington; Chandler & Marvin Jones (REG), Torrington; Rebecca & Dennis Eisenbarth (REG), Torrington

HOT SPRINGS

Daniel Fahrenkrug, Thermopolis; Lisa Reesy, Thermopolis; Maralee Smith, Thermopolis; Kathryn & Colin Jones, Thermopolis; Jean Lewis, Thermopolis;

Corey Johnston, Thermopolis; Terri & Mitchell Geissinger, Thermopolis; Lois & Harvey Seidel (REG), Thermopolis; Sean Kaplan, Thermopolis; Madison & Benjamin Van Heule (REG), Thermopolis; Lavita & Roger Kraushaar, Thermopolis; Carolyn & Danny Spann, Thermopolis; Cassie & TJ Owsley (REG), Thermopolis; Riley Whitt, Thermopolis

JOHNSON

Jack Marton (REG), Buffalo; William Long (REG), Buffalo; Cheryl & Donald Larsen, Buffal; Judy & Steve Johnson (REG), Buffalo; George Clark, Buffalo; Laurie & Mike Vernier, Buffalo; Paul Carney, Buffalo; Tammy Quest, Buffalo; Talking Waters LLC (REG), Buffalo; Rick Litzel, Buffalo; Katsie & Morgan McConnaughey, Riverton; Heather Gorman Haas, Buffalo

LARAMIE

Cherie Schlumpf, Cheyenne ; Emily Whetstone, Cheyenne; Tiffany Jastorff Gillies & Paul Graf, Cheyenne; Laura & William Steele Cheyenne; Jordan Cooper, Cheyenne; Sharon Kopf, Cheyenne; Andrew Kelly, Cheyenne; Ruth & Ed Ferguson (REG), Carpenter; John Lenhart, Torrington; John McNiff, Cheyenne; Rosemary Burch, Cheyenne; Teresa Walling, Cheyenne ; Peggy & Kenneth Tilton, Cheyenne ; James Burns, Cheyenne; Renee Scott, Cheyenne; Julie Emswiler & Jimmy Winchester, Cheyenne ; Ellen Kub, Cheyenne; Alyssa & Jason Shutt, Cheyenne; Shelly & Donald Ellenbecker, Cheyenne; Karen & Eric Wiltanger (REG), Cheyenne; Kathleen Peterson, Cheyenne; Kathleen & James Zitek, Pine Bluffs; Wendy Stokes, Cheyenne; Jacqueline Walno, Cheyenne; Matt Bell, Cheyenne; Katie Hozian, Cheyenne; Beau Delancey, Cheyenne; Spencer Rabou (REG), Albin

LINCOLN

Kenneth Simkin, Thayne; Ada Harmon, Afton; Eric Sheue, Etna; Angela Turner, Afton; Robert Wagner, Alpine; Cynthia & Raymond Bergstrom, Thayne; Bryon Thomas (REG), Green River; Sarah Stock (REG), Fairview; Kathleen Hunt (REG), Kemmerer; Isaac Cordova, Etna; Paige Savarese, Etna; Tara & Mark Hysell, Kemmerer; Janusz, Filieiak, Smoot; Beverly & Brent Simpson, Bedford; Melinda Lym, Afton; Sharee & Samuel Page, Smoot; Tammy Tuschoff, Alpine; Bobby Dickerson, Star Valley Ranch; Sarolta Ferencz & Paul Frassinelli, Alpine; Judith Baillie, Star Valley Ranch; Adam Floyd, Freedom



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Travis Amerson, Casper; Eric Hansen, Casper; Harold Mason, Evansville; Dianne & Dwain Park (REG), Casper; Gary Perry, Casper; Kristen & Daniel Randolph, Casper; Michael Mitton, Casper; Margaret & Howard Swink, Casper; Gigi & John Leman (REG), Douglas; Vicki & James Smith, Mills; Kaylee & Andrew Brus, Casper; Katherine Sandoval, Casper; Charlie Sadler (REG), Casper; Danielle & Hector Arevalo, Casper; Lori Gerschoffer, Casper; Christopher Levitt, Casper

NIOBRARA

Christopher Pzinski (REG), Lusk; Doris & Billy Robinson, Lusk; Eilish Hanson/ Traphagan Ranch, LLC (REG), Cheyenne

PARK

Allison & Zachary Thompson (REG), Powell; Kristine & David Fales, Cody; Elise Cook, Cody; Kylar Rose, Powell; Lance Martin, Powell; Phyllis Bohm, Cody; Brenda & Samuel Hurlburt, Powell; Willem Verstraete (REG), Powell; Thomas Pettinger (REG), Cody; Tina Bloxham & Shiloh Wallingford (REG), Cody; Daniel Blaney, Powell; Greg Kealey, Cody; Jeff Greaham, Powell; Taren Baxter (REG), Wapiti; Sandra Albertson, Powell; Aracelie & Jose Villanueva (REG), Powell; Dave Wadman (REG), Powell; Marc Rodriguez (REG), Powell; Teresa & Kelly Merager (REG), Cody; David Light, Powell; Emma & Blaise Allen, Basin; Theodora & Ronald Jones (REG), Powell; Koster Family Trust, Cody; Patricia Startin, Powell; Kelly & Landis Webber (REG), Cody; Tyson Sullivan, Cody; Deena & Waleryan Wisniewski (REG), Powell

PLATTE

Donna & Jerry Davis, Wheatland; Werner Weber, Wheatland; Janelle Williams (REG), Wheatland; Chase Irvine, Wheatland; Good Cattle LLC (REG), Wheatland; Brenda & Daryl Unrein (REG), Wheatland

SHERIDAN

Trina Kopman, Ranchester; Cheyna Bradshaw, Sheridan; David Crowder, Story; Gracie Etter, Ranchester; Amanda Carroll-Beil (REG), Ranchester; Tyler Sellers/ Triple 7 Farms LLC (REG), Parkman; Janice & Terry Wagner, Sheridan; Myria & Josh Burgess, Sheridan; Kathy Watson, Sheridan; Marcia Suranyi, Sheridan; Gracie Etter, Ranchester; Brad Walden/ Iron Man Investments LLC(REG), Sheridan; Janice & Terry Wagner, Sheridan; Myria & Josh Burgess, Sheridan; Kathy Watson, Sheridan; Marcia Suranyi, Sheridan; Christy & Scott Kirchner, Sheridan; Lynette

Whitehead, Sheridan; Kimberly Keim & Scott Bailey, Banner; Cora Turner, Sheridan; Megan Sagner, Chugwater; Molly Lund, Ross, ND; Becka Nutting, Sheridan; Arline & Raymond Burrige, Ranchester; Logan Martinez, Sheridan; Brandi & Jesse Gray, Sheridan; Rachel Staff, Sheridan; Layne Liggett, Sheridan; Mark Kirkham, Sheridan; Melody & Robert Whyard, Big Horn, Seth Larson, Sheridan; Andrew Ward (REG), Sheridan; James O'Hayre, Story; Robert Chapman, Sheridan; Dean Sellars, Sheridan; Jenna Bevers, Sheridan; Jaime & Brandan Bougie, Sheridan; Brittany Carroll, Ranchester; Carol & Jim Bass, Dayton; Charlene & Leon Thomas, Sheridan; Sarah Pugliano (REG), Ranchester; Douglass Reimer, Sheridan; Alison Larsen, Sheridan; Christian Nissen, Sheridan; Yonkee Land & Livestock (REG), Parkman, Ann & Joel Hendrickson, Big Horn; Brad Scherer, Wellington, FL; Martha & Steve Harker, Sheridan; Bo J Rederth, Rozet; Karl Hunt, Sheridan; Lisa & Mark Stutzman, Ranchester; Jessica Culligan, Sheridan;

Beverly Bernard, Sheridan; Jennifer & Troy Bower, Sheridan; Britni & Trenton Burrup, Sheridan; Kelli Heator, Sheridan; Natalie & Joseph Steger, Big Horn; Anne & Arthur Baures, Sheridan; Gary Shelton, Banner; Joseph Grass (REG), Sheridan

SUBLETTE

Travis Bingham, Pinedale

SWEETWATER

Tracy & Michael Baker, Rock Springs; Holly & Jacob Troester, Rock Springs; Ken Rose, Farson; Tanner Anderson, Green River; Rubi & Arturo Duran, Rock Springs; Tom McGuire, Farson; Casey Foote, Rock Springs; Ruby Wilkison & David Pedri, Rock Springs; Chelsey Andrew, Rock Springs; Miranda & James Short, Rock Springs; Tiffany & Kristopher Sellers (REG), Farson; Ron Stevens, Big Piney

TETON

Shannon Brennan, Jackson; Samantha Keipert, Jackson; Edward Kimmel, Wilson;

Robyne Befeld, Jackson; Rebekkah & Marc Kelley, Jackson; Jessica & Reed Chambers, Jackson

UINTA

Bret Harvey, Mountain View; ChrisAnn Walker (REG), Lonetree; Greg Moretti, Lyman; Duane Loesch, Mountain View, Arden & Clark Lawler (REG), Evanston; Ryan Norris (REG), Evanston; Tyrell Gilmore, Mountain View; Robert Tynsky, Kemmerer; Kiley Ingersoll, Evanston

WASHAKIE

Janet & Benjamin, Worland; Jacque Michel, Thermopolis

WESTON

Mary Webeck, Newcastle; David Sudbrink (REG), Newcastle; Georgia & Garth Fisher (REG), Newcastle; Thomas Henschel, Newcastle; Robin & John Henwood, Upton; Whitney & Randy Rawhouser, Newcastle; Sara Loebe, Osage

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Albany County Ranch & Farm Bureau to host annual meeting June 27

LARAMIE
The Albany County Ranch & Farm Bureau Federation (ACRFBF) will host its Annual Meeting on Friday, June 27 at 6 p.m. at the Eppson Center, located at 1560 N. 3rd Street in Laramie. This year’s featured speaker is Derek Scasta, Ph.D., University of Wyoming Extension Rangeland Specialist. Dr. Scasta will present, “Is Bigger Better When It Comes to Cow Size?”. This presentation will include practical implications for cattle producers and grazing land managers.

The evening will include the election of county officers and board members, as well as an opportunity for members to submit policy resolutions for consideration at the state level.

Dinner will feature tri-tip beef and baked potatoes provided by ACRFBF. Drinks will also be provided. Guests are invited to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share.

Families, friends and community members are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Todd Christensen at a.c.farmbureauafederation@gmail.com. ■



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INGREDIENTS:

- 5 medium sized russet potatoes, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 tsp salt, divided
- ¼ tsp black pepper
- ½ cup fineley diced onion
- 2 boiled eggs, cooled and finely diced
- 2-3 tbsp sweet relish
- ½ tsp sugar
- ½ tbsp yellow mustard
- 1 tsp onion powder
- ½ cup Kraft mayo
- Paprika, for garnish

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Add peeled and cut pototoes to a medium sized pot. Rinse and cover with water.
- Add ½ tsp salt to the potatoes and cook over medium heat until fork tender, approximately 15 minutes. Drain and allow to cool.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine onion, eggs, ½ tsp salt, pepper, relish, yellow mustard, sugar, onion powder and mayo. Mix to combine.
- Add the cooled potatoes and gently mix to combine. Adjust seasonings to desired taste.
- Sprinkle the top with Paprika.
- Chill and Enjoy.



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Cowboy Country

2025 Crook County Fair

July 26th - Aug 2nd, 2025
Sundance, Wyoming

Youth Rodeo/Youth Horse Show
Saturday, July 26th 9:00 am

Team Roping
Saturday, July 26th TBA

Ranch Rodeo
Tuesday, July 29th
Calcutta – 6:00 pm
Rodeo – 6:30 pm

Story Time with Miss Tonia
Wednesday & Thursday
July 30 & 31 10:30 am

Adventure Zone & Pirates Rebellion
Tuesday through Saturday
July 29th - August 2nd
12:00 to 7:00 pm



Youth Rough Stock Rodeo
Thursday, July 31st 5:30 pm

Bike Relay
Saturday, August 2nd 8:30 am

Fair Parade
Saturday, August 2nd 10:00 am

Buyer & Community BBQ
Saturday, August 2nd 12:00 pm

Junior Livestock Sale
Saturday, August 2nd 2:00 pm

Chad Bushnell Concert
Saturday, August 2nd 7:30 PM



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Barrasso, Capito introduce Growing America’s Small Businesses and Manufacturing Act

Bill will make it more affordable for farmers, ranchers and small businesses to purchase much-needed equipment, build their operations, and support their employees

WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S. Senators John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) introduced pro-growth legislation to boost investment in American manufacturing and help small businesses, farmers, and ranchers purchase the equipment and supplies they need to build their operations and support their employees.

The Growing America’s Small Businesses and Manufacturing Act will reduce tax bills for business owners looking to purchase equipment—including machinery, farming equipment, energy infrastructure, building upgrades, commercial vehicles, mining equipment, and more. This will free up resources to go toward employee salaries, materials, and other critical business expenditures.

“Wyoming’s small businesses are what keeps our economy going strong. We want to make sure they have every opportunity to succeed,” Sen. Barrasso said. “Right now, they face an uphill battle with high prices and a mountain of new regulations. The Growing America’s Small Businesses and Manufacturing Act will go a long way in helping Wyoming’s farmers, ranchers and small businesses expand their operations, better compete and hire more workers.”

“West Virginia’s manufacturers and small business owners are the backbone of our economy,” Senator Capito said. “The Growing America’s Small Businesses and Manufacturing Act will give them the tools they need to compete, grow, and hire. By allowing greater investment in equipment and operations, this bill strengthens our global competitiveness and supports the hardworking Americans driving innovation and economic growth across the country.”

“The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation appreciates Senator Barrasso’s commitment to easing the tax burden for farmers and ranchers in Wyoming and across the nation. The provisions of this Act would help support the financial viability of farms and ranches which is important for maintaining rural communities and food security. The provision to expand Section 179 of the US Tax Code would assist farmers and ranchers, and all small businesses, as they make capital investments to keep their businesses operating.” – Kerin Clark, Executive Vice President, Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation. ■



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June 21 & Oct 18

Cheyenne Frontier Days @ Lions Park, Cheyenne WY
July 22-July 26

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Wyoming Honor Farm Adoptions, Riverton WY
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UW DC TRIP... From Page 1

The group also learned more about current agricultural issues, including Farm Bill negotiations.

“It was cool to see the people who are actually working on those issues and talk to them,” she said. “There’s just a lot of value in seeing it firsthand.”

Some of the most impactful moments weren’t scheduled. While touring the Capitol with an intern from Sen. John Barrasso’s office, the group was joined by a family from Los Angeles.

“They were told Collegiate Farm Bureau students would be joining the tour,” Anderson said. “When we showed up in suits and professional clothes, they were surprised. I 100% think they expected us to be in boots, a cowboy hat and flannel.”

Those small encounters, Anderson said, gave students a chance to be ambassadors for agriculture in everyday settings.

“Just being a voice for agriculture in those small, unplanned moments was really impactful,” she said. “Even things like conversations in restaurants gave us the chance to represent the ag community and help people better understand who we are.”

For Anderson, the D.C. trip was a culmination of years of work to revive Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW.

“When I first came to UW in 2022, there were conversations about Collegiate Farm Bureau, but it had really died off,” she said. “After COVID, the people who were involved had graduated. It wasn’t officially a club anymore.”

Rebuilding the organization took time, persistence and a lot of behind-the-scenes work.



Members of the University of Wyoming Collegiate Farm Bureau met with representatives at the Mexican Embassy to discuss agricultural relations and international policy.

“It took us about a year and a half to get all of that official paperwork done,” Anderson said. “We had to find the old constitution, the bank account—our advisor had retired. There were a lot of hoops to jump through to get reinstated with the university.”

Anderson served as president for two years and watched the club grow from a handful of students showing up for pizza to a more engaged and active presence on campus.

“This club has been a stepping stone for me,” she said. “I grew up with my parents being involved in Farm Bureau, and I really enjoyed the opportunity to get involved myself in college.”

Although she’s originally from Pennsylvania, Anderson said participating in Collegiate Farm Bureau in Wyoming gave her a broader un-

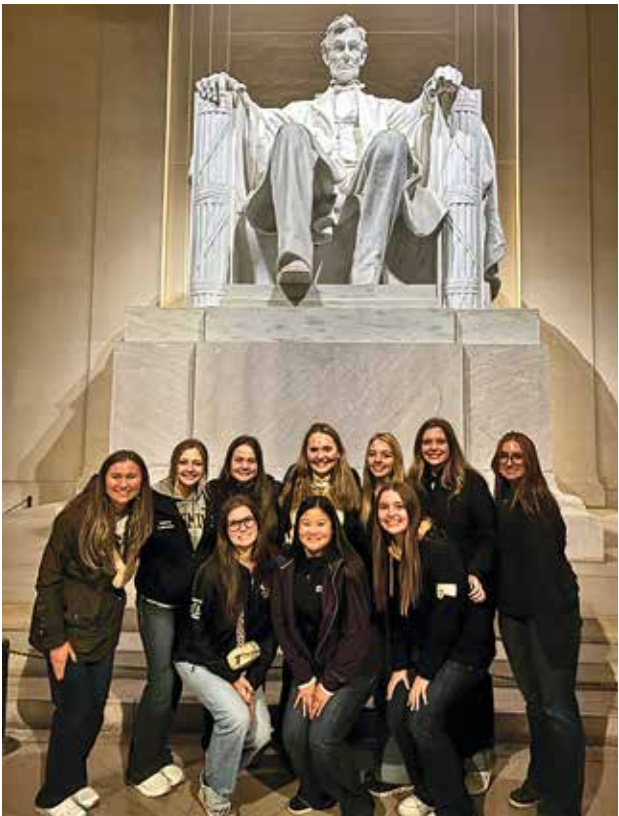
derstanding of agricultural issues across the country.

“It’s the same organization, but the things that are important to farmers and ranchers here are different than at home,” she said. “It’s been fun to get a glimpse of that.”

Anderson said her time in the organization—especially opportunities like the D.C. trip—helped prepare her for a career in communications and marketing.

“My experiences with Farm Bureau have helped me get more comfortable talking to people and sharing my story—sharing agriculture’s story,” she said. “Wanting to tell the story of agriculture and actually knowing how to do it are two different things.”

She credits her involvement with helping her land a job, too. After in-

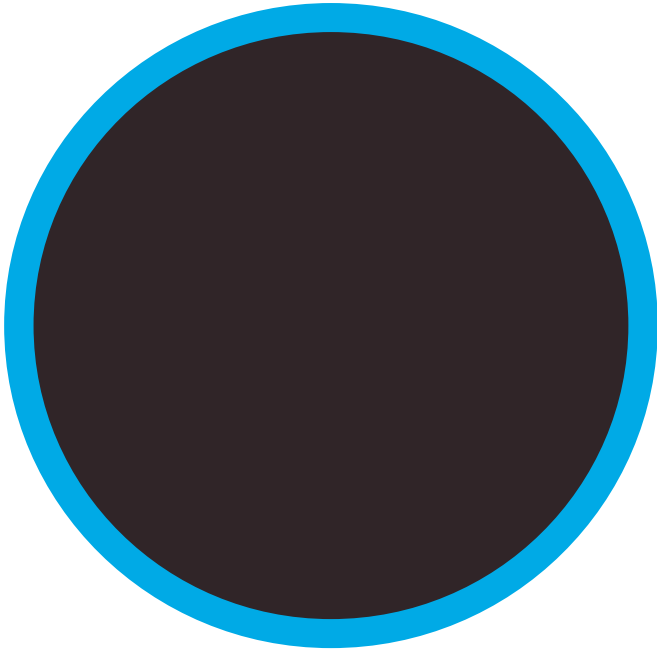


During a guided tour of national monuments, students explored the historical foundations of American governance and civic engagement.

turning with the Center for Dairy Excellence in the summer of 2023, Anderson stayed on in a part-time role. This spring, she was offered a full-time position starting Sept. 1.

As she transitions into her career, Anderson plans to stay involved with Farm Bureau through her local county chapter.

“I feel prepared and excited for that next step,” she said. “It’s about finding your place in agriculture. Whether you’re from a ranch, a dairy, or grew up in town, there’s a spot for you. It’s a place to learn, grow, and advocate.” ■



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Criminal charges dropped in Maude case, but questions remain about federal overreach

BY CALLIE HANSON

The U.S. Department of Justice has dropped criminal charges against Charles and Heather Maude, a ranching couple from western South Dakota, following months of public outcry, congressional pressure, and support from agricultural advocacy groups across the West.

The Maudes had been facing individual felony charges of theft of government property in connection with approximately 50 acres of land—25 acres cultivated, and another 25 grazed—that sit on the boundary of their family ranch and the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands. The disputed fence line has been in place for roughly 75 years.

On April 28, 2025, the Trump administration announced the dismissal of the charges, emphasizing the administration’s commitment to ending what it described as “government regulation by prosecution.”

“The prosecution of the Maudes should never have happened... it is a fire bell in the night. We must awaken to what it means that this appeal and recourse were even necessary at all,” Rollins said in an April 30 press conference following the release of criminal charges. “We are ending regulation by prosecution in America and investigating how and why this wrongful prosecution ever occurred in the first



Sec. of Agriculture Brooke Rollins celebrates the dropping of criminal charges against the Maude family during a press conference held in DC. *CALLIE HANSON PHOTO.*

place. We must ensure that our farmers and our ranchers have not and will not be targeted for living the American way of life.”

In her address to the media, Heather Maude spoke on behalf of her family, noting she and her husband have nearly 250 years of production agriculture experience between their two families.

“We are both fifth-generation farmers and ranchers—our families have a combined 250-plus years in production agriculture.

“When this unnecessary grievance came to our family, we knew that we were innocent of any wrongdoing, and we sought to find a resolution, and that was not forthcoming from the other side.”

She continued, “Our neighbors stood up for us at the threat of retribution to their own operations... and we are so thankful for the efforts that are being rolled out today to help make progress in the right direction.”

According to court documents, the Maudes were indicted June 24, 2024—just weeks after trying to resolve the issue administratively with local USFS officials. They say they were blindsided by the criminal indictments after initiating conversations about clarifying the fence line and even proposing a land trade.

The charges alleged the couple knowingly used the land without au-

thorization, a claim that Heather’s mother, Randi Hamilton, said fails to account for generations of shared understanding and cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

WyFB President Todd Fornstrom had previously written a letter of support to Secretary Rollins and said the outcome of the case sets a meaningful precedent.

“It’s critical for agencies to work with long-time permittees to resolve conflicts without dragging them into the judicial system,” Fornstrom said. “WyFB policy opposes the abuse of power and overreach of any enforcement or investigative department of any U.S. Executive Branch Agency, including USFS. WyFB also supports strict consequence of permanent ban of federal employment of any individual found guilty of abusing power and to be held responsible for any financial cost incurred.”

WyFB Executive Vice President Kerin Clark said the Maude case highlights the broader issue of unchecked government enforcement.

“We are thankful to see this abuse of power by the federal government overturned,” Clark said. “The government overreach and abuse of power asserted against the Maude family should have never happened. The efforts by this

MAUDE CASE ... Page 15

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MAUDE CASE ... From Page 14

administration to end regulation through prosecution in America are welcomed and necessary for American citizens.”

Though the criminal charges have been dropped, questions remain in the case and the way this was handled by the Forest Service cast a long shadow over the regulatory process. “Agencies need to provide avenues to remedy situations like this in a manner that is efficient, effective and appropriate,” said Fornstrom. “If honest efforts to resolve an issue lead to indictments, that breaks down trust—and that hurts everyone.”

In response to the dismissal of the criminal charges in the case, Sec. Rollins announced the launch of a portal for farmers and ranchers to report such incidents going forward.

“We are excited to announce USDA is launching a portal at [USDA.gov](https://www.usda.gov) for all American farmers, ranchers, and producers who are subject to similar egregious lawfare from the Biden administration,” said Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins. “We will work with our counterparts to address any other government overreach in situations like this.”

“We applaud the announcement that efforts are in progress to find resolution to remedy situations like this to avoid regulation through prosecution and the wrongful targeting of hard-working American citizens,” Clark concluded. ■



Maude's children were able to introduce themselves at Sec. Rollins' press conference. CALLIE HANSON PHOTO.



Wyoming State Rep. Harriet Hageman showed her support for ranchers in our neighboring state of South Dakota. CALLIE HANSON PHOTO.

SCREWWORM ... From Page 1

Originally eradicated from the U.S. in 1966 through an aggressive sterile insect technique program, the parasite has remained largely at bay due to a long-standing biological barrier maintained in Panama. That barrier, established through international cooperation, has kept the pest from reentering North America.

However, in late 2024, Mexico confirmed the presence of NWS in Chiapas, and by early 2025, the pest had been detected as far north as Veracruz—putting it roughly 700 miles from the U.S. border.

In Wyoming, Hasel said the impact of the import suspension is likely to be minimal for most livestock operators. However, some sectors—such as rodeo livestock contractors—could experience disruptions if the closure remains in place long-term. “Rodeo contractors may have difficulty filling contractual obligations should the closure continue for an extended period,” she said.

Still, Hasel emphasized the bigger issue lies in the state’s ability to respond quickly should the parasite reach U.S. soil. To that end, the Wyoming Livestock Board is urging everyone who works with animals to closely inspect wounds that are slow to heal or appear unusual. “We’re asking everyone—whether it’s ranchers, shelter staff, veterinarians, or animal control officers—to take a second look at anything suspicious,” Hasel said.

The USDA has issued similar guidance, encouraging producers to look for maggots in wounds, foul-smelling discharges, behavioral changes, and signs of discomfort in their animals. The parasite’s larvae feed exclusively on living tissue, making them particularly dangerous in comparison to common flystrike or surface infections. Without swift treatment, an infected animal can succumb within days.

The implications for Wyoming’s livestock industry extend beyond animal health. A large-scale outbreak could disrupt markets, prompt regulatory restrictions on move-

How the U.S. Eradicated Screwworms in the 1960s

The New World screwworm, once a devastating pest across the southern United States, was officially eradicated from the country in 1966—thanks to one of the most successful insect control programs in history.

Screwworms are the larvae of the *Cochliomyia hominivorax* fly. Unlike other maggots that feed on decaying flesh, screwworm larvae consume healthy, living tissue, causing deep, festering wounds in livestock and wildlife. Infestations often proved fatal if untreated, and the economic impact on ranchers was severe.

The breakthrough in eradication came with the development of the sterile insect technique (SIT). Pioneered by USDA researchers, the method involved mass-rearing millions of male screwworm flies, sterilizing them with radiation, and releasing them into the wild. Since female flies only mate once in their lifetime, mating with a sterile male meant no offspring—and over time, the population crashed.

The SIT campaign began in Florida in the 1950s and gradually expanded westward. By 1966, screwworms had been eliminated from the U.S., and the program’s success led to continued efforts to push the pest further south. Today, the United States and Panama jointly maintain a biological barrier in the Darién Gap to prevent reinfestation.

ment, and lead to increased costs for surveillance and treatment. Hasel said it would also strain already limited veterinary resources in rural parts of the state.

Hasel stressed this situation is rapidly changing on a near daily basis, and ranchers should stay informed. Educa-

tion, vigilance, and communication will be critical to preventing an outbreak or responding effectively if one occurs. Hasel said the Wyoming Livestock Board will

continue working closely with USDA officials, veterinarians, and industry groups to raise awareness and share the most up-to-date guidance. ■

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