

# WYOMING AGRICULTURE

Agriculture...Keeping Wyoming Strong

## “Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week” is March 1-6

By Kerin Clark

“It is our goal through our ‘Ag Books for Kids’ program to educate students about where their food comes from and what their life may be like without agriculture,” said Raenell Taylor during the formal proclamation signing for “Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week” 2021. “We can do this through agriculture related books and getting them into the classrooms to share the importance of agriculture.”

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee organizes the program and the county Farm Bureau Federations across the state donate agriculture books to Wyoming elementary school libraries. 2021 marks the 17th year of the program.

In recognition of this effort, Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon declared the week of March 1, 2021 as “Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week.”

“Thank you for your leadership and reminding us just how important agriculture literacy and educa-

tion are here in Wyoming,” Governor Gordon said during the virtual proclamation signing with WyFB volunteers and staff. “Agriculture has to be a part of the future, but it is also part of the solution too.”

The “Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week” proclamation reads: “Literacy is a top priority for school children and non-fiction books are an important tool in teaching children about the world around them.”

The proclamation continues: “Many aspects of our daily lives, including the food we eat, clothes we wear, and medicine we depend on, are made possible because of agriculture. Farmers and ranchers serve as environmental stewards, maintaining and improving soil and natural resources to pass on to future generations.”

As part of the project, elementary classrooms not only receive the book donation at their school, but many have book readings. With school visitor restrictions in place this year, the WyFB YF&R Committee created a video for classrooms to experience a virtual book reading and

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Tatum, Josh, Raenell and Trayden Taylor promoting agricultural literacy and the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation’s “Ag Books for Kids” program in a recent meeting with Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon. The Taylor family are members of the Crook County Farm Bureau Federation and Raenell chairs the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher sub-committee that coordinates the “Ag Books for Kids” program. Courtesy photo.

## 2021 Wyoming Legislature

By Kerin Clark

The 8-day virtual session of the 2021 Wyoming Legislature concluded on Friday, February 5. Standing committees met Feb. 23-25 (after this paper prints). The Legislature will reconvene on March 1 for a one-month hybrid session of in-person and remote participation options for the legislators. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) will continue to serve as your voice for agriculture during the Legislative session whether the meetings are virtual or in-person to ensure Farm Bureau policy is addressed.

Farm Bureau policy supports cost savings measures to assist with budget concerns. House Bill 45, Changes to Water Right Notice Requirements for Hearing, is a bill that accomplishes that goal. This legislation passed both houses during the virtual session and has become an enrolled act.

“This legislation will help cut costs to the State Engineer’s Office,” Moline explained. “They are required to send out registered mail for hearings, so this legislation modifies the notice requirements to allow for electronic notification and regular mail use to help cut costs for not only the agency but the water right holder as well.”

Another bill that became an enrolled act following the virtual session was HB 53, Invasive Plant Species, which WyFB supported. “This bill outlines that county, state and federal entities work together to manage invasive weeds and would allow for more than two pests to be managed under the second mill allocated to the control measures,” Moline said. “Efforts will begin with focus on Medusahead in the Northeastern part of the state to try and get the invasive species controlled and eliminated.”

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# Tax Reform is Top of Mind for Farmers

By Zippy Duvall, American Farm Bureau Federation President

The 2021 legislative session is well under way for members of Congress, from considering the presidential nominations to settling into new committee and leadership positions. Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are outlining their policy priorities and getting to work on making those priorities into law. Our team here in Washington, D.C., is tracking all these issues closely and working to ensure that priorities for U.S. agriculture remain front and center.



Zippy Duvall

One policy that has already emerged as a hot topic for the 117th Congress is tax reform. In fact, our policy experts expect several important pieces of tax reform legislation to be introduced very soon, and we'll keep everyone posted as soon as there's more news.

Estate tax reform is a big one being discussed, as it threatens the economic sustainability of America's family farms.

Sustainability is one of the main conversations taking place in agriculture right now, and while it

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# Role of Farm Bureau even more critical

By Ken Hamilton, Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President

Generally this time of year I would be reporting on what is going on at the Legislature. However, this year our Legislature has changed the schedule around so they met virtually for eight days after the one day they met to fulfill their Constitutional requirements. They are scheduled to come into session on March 1 so stay tuned. This altered schedule has also caused us to cancel our Legislative Meeting we hold to allow members to visit with their Senators and Representatives.



Ken Hamilton

control. Changes in the leadership will certainly have effects on agriculture.

Tom Vilsack appears to be heading back to the Department of Agriculture and in video meetings with state Farm Bureau presidents, he emphasized President Biden's desire to implement programs for agriculture which impact climate change. Early indications for these types of programs include some form of carbon credit program, expansion of conservation reserve type programs and

enhancing or increasing the use of ethanol. There will also be a change in direction to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) which delivers food to those qualifying.

See 'Role of Farm Bureau' page 5

# Food brings everyone to the table

By Todd Fornstrom, Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation President

"Food brings everyone to the table!" That phrase was an understatement when I was growing up. As the youngest of three brothers growing up on a farm, the table was where I learned a lot about life. We were always hungry, and we most likely needed the most direction at that stage in life. Lunch time was first and foremost a time to refuel and recover in preparation for the rest of the day.



Todd Fornstrom

My mother always had the meal ready and my brothers and I had the job of setting and picking up the table. We would all sit down with mom on one end of the table and dad at the other and eat as a family. Whether we talked about what happened earlier in the day or what was supposed to happen the rest of the day, we enjoyed the family time. I suppose the hidden parts of that meal everyday were the planning, feedback and simple responsibilities taught to us young boys through simply eating lunch.

Food is not only nourishment

See 'Food brings everyone to the table' page 11

for the body, but it has been the platform to facilitate meetings and gatherings alike. We as Americans get together to celebrate everything from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Christmas, Thanksgiving, to super bowls, graduations and the common backyard picnics. The reason for getting together varies widely as the type of food being served. From backyard barbecues with our neighbors to Heads of State dinners for our national leaders. The purpose is the sharing of culture, tradition, camaraderie, and common ground through the gathering around a table with food being served.

As a farmer I believe we play a crucial role in how society works together. Food is not only essential to our well-being, but it is also a platform to get everyone to the table. In America, we farmers and ranchers produce the most abundant, safe, and economically priced food supply in the world. With this in mind there are many forces that affect our ability to produce this food. Some of those



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# Calendar of Events

## March

- 1 ..... WyFB scholarship application deadline
- 1 ..... Wyoming Legislature Reconvenes (Hybrid of in-person and remote)
- 1-6 ..... Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week
- 11-13...AFBF Fusion/YF&R Virtual Conference
- 23 ..... National Agriculture Day

## April

- 2 ..... "Ag Books for Kids" county contest deadline
- 2 ..... Wyoming 2021 General Session Adjourns
- 20 ..... "Ag Books for Kids" district contest deadline

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

# AFBF Federal Lands Issues Advisory Committee report

By Kerin Clark

“There is no better ally advocating for our issues on the national level than the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF),” said Keith Hamilton, Big Horn County Rancher. Hamilton represents the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) on the AFBF Issues Advisory Committee (IAC) for Federal Lands.

The AFBF IACs provide for discussions about the critical issues facing America’s farmers and ranchers. Farm Bureau members meet with AFBF staff to provide clarification on policy issues and share views on how the issues impact their local areas. The committee members also hear from guest speakers from the legislative and regulatory branches on pertinent topics.

The AFBF IACs met virtually mid-February. “Serving on the federal lands committee is a real opportunity to be able to sit down with folks from other parts of our country and try to elevate your issues with them,” Hamilton explained.

Hamilton notes it would be difficult to discuss issues and get all of agriculture on the same page without these committee meetings. “It is important in this industry that we step up and serve,” he said. “On the federal lands committee most members have timber in common throughout the states. But how would the members in Georgia and Arkansas that are poultry producers know about invasive species and wild horses?”

With forty-eight percent of land in Wyoming being federally owned, federal lands issues are a high priority for Wyoming residents. Hamilton knows it is important to remain active on issues impacting federal land. The Hamilton Ranch utilizes federal

land and he knows firsthand how important their stewardship is for the betterment of the lands.

Hamilton said wildfire discussion continues to be a major focus of the committee. “We again focused a lot on wildfires as they were a huge issue in 2020,” he said.

“All these years we’ve been burning up the West you always hear everybody wants to do something about it but nothing gets done because we don’t get the ability for timber management,” Hamilton said. “People who live in the East don’t have these wildfire issues because they do it right for the resources where they can manage the forest timber.”

Another issue discussed was the “30 by 30” plan laid out by President Biden in executive order. “The plan calls for 30 percent of land to be conserved in the United States by 2030,” Hamilton said. “We don’t quite know what this means yet, but more federal lands that nobody can manage will be another avenue for increased wildfire impacts.”

Continuing with discussion of impact to the land, Hamilton noted wild horses and burros in Wyoming devastate the land similar to the affects of wildfires in other states. “One of the issues that we in Wyoming deal with big time is wild horses and burros,” he said. “Without proper management more and more of the range resources are being degraded.”

According to Hamilton, in all of the issues discussions the universal theme is that climate change is going to play a role in whatever policy decision comes from this Administration. “It won’t matter whether it is a farming practice or forest management or grazing management it will have climate



Keith Hamilton

change tied to it so we need to be ready,” he said

“AFBF has been on the forefront of this curve to make sure our message is that any regulations must be voluntary with a free market-based approach,” Hamilton explained. “We have to keep sending the message that what we are already doing is good for the environment.”

“We must keep bringing the message about the practices we in agriculture utilize that already use less energy and keeps the carbon sequestered,” Hamilton said. “Proper grazing, proper forest management on private land and proper crop practices are what we already do in agriculture so AFBF will be ahead of the curve communicating what we are already doing.”

Hamilton emphasized it will also be important to continue

working with federal agencies when reviewing land use plans like grazing handbook updates. “We have to be there to share our practices and how we are good stewards of the land,” he said.

The committee also discussed executive orders and cabinet nominees for the United States Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior. “We were reminded that it takes a long time to get regulations put in place and it is going to take just as long to get rid of them as well,” Hamilton said. “Just a review on an issue doesn’t always mean the law gets changed.”

Hamilton is nearing completion of his second and final two-year term. “It was time well spent for me to do this and get acquainted with folks in the other parts of the United States,” Hamilton said.

## Brand Renewal

*Cheyenne, Wyo., February 16, 2021*--The Wyoming Livestock Board would like to remind Brand Owners that the deadline for renewing a brand that is scheduled for this renewal period is fast approaching. To renew a brand before it becomes delinquent, renewals must be postmarked by March 1, 2021. Delinquent brands may not legally be used on livestock and are subject to a delinquent fee before they can be made active again.

For more information or questions please contact the Livestock Board at (307) 777-7515 and ask for the brand recording office.

Join us every Friday in March  
for the WyFB Legislative  
Radio Report on  
Northern Ag Network



[www.wyfb.org/radio-programs/](http://www.wyfb.org/radio-programs/)

# Young Farmer and Rancher News



## Agriculture—worth being proud of what we do

By Caleb Guild, Sixth Generation Cattle Rancher Uinta County, Wyoming

In October of 2018, I along with my wife Ariel had the opportunity of traveling to Washington D.C. with the Young Farmer and Rancher program. As part of the scheduled events, we were privileged to meet with agricultural representatives of the Japanese Embassy. As we discussed various topics of trade and beef production, the question was asked to us, “How do we in America keep younger generations involved in and proud to be a part of Agriculture?” With that question in mind, I would like to elaborate a little on what makes me proud to be a cattle rancher in Uinta County, Wyoming.

As many other ranches in the area, the Guild Ranch got its start with the Homestead Act of 1862. My Great Great Grandfather Charles Guild settled in Piedmont, Wyoming in 1867 where he started running cattle and a mercantile store with locations in Piedmont, Lyman and Rock Springs. As was usual for the day we ran purebred Herefords. Time and generations have molded and changed this ranch, while important things have remained the same. We no longer run purebred Herefords but the ideals and ethics

of generations past have persisted.

Charles started a legacy, like many at the time. Maybe he did not know how long it would last or if future generations would want to be involved. Yet he still did the best with what he had and tried to ensure that it would be something he and future generations would be proud of. I think it is up to us in agriculture to make sure people know we are proud of what we do. We make up such a small part of our nation’s demographic, yet we have such an impact. Isn’t that worth being proud?

In a world where it’s all about making a quick buck, agriculture lends itself to being something more. A way of life that although time and circumstances change, the essence never does. Things like Faith and family are close knit and deeply rooted as we share success and failures together. Life has a sense of urgency and yet simplicity that make it beautiful and worthwhile. I am grateful for the opportunity to raise my family, and work beside them to improve our legacy. Isn’t that what it really is, a legacy? Something passed down from generations and when it comes to us we are mere stewards for a time with an obligation to try and make out better



Uinta County Rancher Caleb Guild, along with his wife Ariel, are Southwest District representatives on the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee.

than when we started. That is Agriculture and to me that is what makes me proud and involved.

Unfortunately, I don’t think there is a catch all answer to the question we got that day. Agriculture is more than an occupation and it sure won’t make you millions. For me it’s the history of it all, the freedom to be

my own boss. The feeling of satisfaction I get when a hard job is done right. It’s in knowing that I’m part of something so great, and yet so few are involved. I am grateful to live in a country that has allowed us these freedoms and opportunities for generations. God Bless America, and God Bless Agriculture.

## AFBF FUSION Virtual Conference open to all

For the first time ever, American Farm Bureau is offering the FUSION Conference for FREE through a virtual conference experience. The FUSION Conference is an opportunity to bring together members of the Young Farmers & Ranchers, Women’s Leadership and Promotion & Education member engagement programs for an opportunity to connect, learn and develop as leaders in Farm Bureau.

Due to this year’s virtual environment, the 2021 Farm Bureau FUSION Reimagined Conference is also an opportunity to share this unique experience with members of the agricultural community who have not yet experienced the benefit of Farm Bureau membership, but who share a passion for the mission of Farm Bureau. American Farm Bureau Federation is the Voice of

Agriculture®. We are farm and ranch families working together to build a sustainable future of safe and abundant food, fiber and renewable fuel for our nation and the world.

During this year’s conference, we hope to inspire the grassroots agricultural community all across the country to engage as members and leaders within Farm Bureau so that together we can influence a stronger future for agriculture.

Attendees can register to attend the virtual convention up until the event ends on Saturday, March 13. All attendees who register prior to the last session on Saturday, March 13 will have access to most event content for 90 days after the event concludes. Register at: <https://www.fb.org/events/2021-fusion-conference/>



# Role of Farm Bureau

From page 2

A number of other ideas may be proposed either by the Administration or Congress.

The Senate Ag Committee has added Senator Cory Booker from New Jersey who is a vegan and has criticized livestock farming. An article in *Agri-Pulse* said he sought a seat on the Ag Committee to address a range of concerns about ag and food policy. He went on to elaborate those concerns include “massive corporate consolidation, “unconscionable” working conditions on farms, and diet-related disease. He also indicated his desire to work on animal welfare concerns. Also appointed to the Senate Ag Committee was Senator Ben Ray Lujan from New Mexico. Senator Lujan has a near perfect record with the League of Conservation Voters when he was in the House.

Information on appointees to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shows a number of them are coming from those environmental organizations who have adverse relationships with agriculture. Recent announcements from EPA highlight that

the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations worked as the Political Director of End Citizens United & Let America Vote and prior to that worked for Climate Action Campaign. The Senior Counselor to the Administrator recently served as Patagonia’s Environmental Advocate. The Deputy Associate Administrator for Congressional Affairs used to work for the Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council. During the confirmation hearing for EPA Administrator Michael Regan, AFBF Senior Director of Regulatory Relations Don Parish said Regan made no bones about the Agency focusing on climate change and environmental justice and reviewing WOTUS rules.

As more appointments come through, I’m sure we will continue to see similar backgrounds in those appointees.

Elections have consequences and with the conclusion of this election we certainly will see a change in policies coming out of the executive branch and the legislative branch. The role of Farm Bureau will become even more critical.

# Tax Reform

From page 2

often refers to environmental sustainability, it is important we don’t overlook economic sustainability. For America’s farms and ranches to continue their important role in absorbing carbon and conserving green space, they must first be able to stay in business.

AFBF economists crunched the numbers, and farm business revenue does not keep up with increasing land values. Nearly half of all farmland in America is at risk of increased liquidation pressure caused by overwhelming tax burdens. As a result, it’s difficult for farmers to pass their family business down to the next generation who desire to follow in the footsteps of their parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles.

As it is, less than 2% of our population is directly engaged in growing the agricultural products that feed, clothe and power not just the United States but the world. At a time when farm bankruptcies are the third-highest they’ve been in a decade, we should all do what we can to reduce barriers for those just starting out, or wanting to get started, in agriculture.

Great strides have been made in recent years toward helping our farmers and ranchers find relief in

the tax code, including the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which AFBF supported. But Congress needs to build on that momentum to make long-lasting, real change to our tax code in order to provide both relief and stability. Even making some temporary provisions from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent would be a great first step, as many of the important provisions in that legislation will expire after 2025.

Other steps toward meaningful tax reform that would give farmers a fairer shake include reducing the capital gains tax, which impacts farmers at a disproportionate rate, and making permanent several temporary tax credit provisions for biodiesel and other renewable energy sources.

Every dollar counts on the farm, and farmers and ranchers need to plan their finances carefully to make it from one season to the next. Not knowing what their tax burden will be adds to the uncertainty which is all too familiar in farming. From unpredictable weather patterns and changing political climates to the COVID-19 pandemic, farmers and ranchers never know what is around the bend. It is beyond time to ensure they find certainty and stability in the tax code.

# U.S. Citizenship Act introduced for immigration proposal

**February 19, 2021**—The U.S. Citizenship Act was introduced late February by Senator Menendez (D-NJ) and Representative Sanchez (D-CA). The Act is President Biden’s immigration proposal.

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), the legislation addresses a broad range of immigration issues including provisions that will directly impact agriculture. A summary from AFBF highlights areas of interest for agriculture.

## • Adjustment of Status

- An agricultural worker can adjust to legal permanent resident (LPR) status if they meet eligibility criteria including criminal and national security background checks, pay applicable fees, submit an application, and have performed agricultural labor or services for at least 2,300 work hours (or 400 work days) in the five-year period immediately preceding the date on which such noncitizen file the application.

- The spouse and children of a noncitizen eligible for adjustment under this section may also adjust to LPR status, provided they meet the eligibility criteria. Spouses and

children do not have any agricultural work requirement.

## • Overtime pay for farmworkers

- Beginning January 1, 2022, overtime pay shall be required after 55 hours in one week, 50 hours beginning in 2023; 45 hours beginning in 2024; and 40 hours beginning in 2025. The effective date of this section for employers with fewer than 25 employees is delayed by three years, to begin in 2025.

## • Removes family farm exemptions

- Minimum wage and maximum hour requirements will now apply to an agricultural employer’s immediate family.

## • Creates a labor law enforcement fund

- The fund is intended to be used for compliance activities such as random audits of employers in industries with a history of significant employment of unauthorized workers or H-2As and H-2Bs.

## • Sets criminal penalties for MSPA violations

## • Establishes a commission on employment authorization



What partners with  
the United States  
Meat Export  
Federation and  
Japanese influencers  
to host live cooking  
seminars that reach  
over 50,000 Japanese  
consumers?

*Your Dollar Does.*



See more from the Wyoming Beef  
Council annual report at  
[wybeef.com](http://wybeef.com).

# “OutSTANDING IN THEIR FIELD”

## News from the County Farm Bureau Federations



### Unable to hold banquet, Farm Bureau aids food pantries instead

By CJ Baker, Powell Tribune (Reprinted with permission)

When COVID-19 forced the Park County Farm Bureau to scrap its annual banquet last year, the organization decided to pay it forward.

Each fall, as the sugar beet harvest comes to a close, the local chapter of the Wyoming Farm Bureau hosts a dinner for its members. More than 100 area farmers typically attend the event, which features a nice meal and a keynote speaker; the 2019 event featured prime rib and Gov. Mark Gordon.

But in 2020, the pandemic severely restricted large indoor gatherings like banquets.

“Because of COVID, we ended up running into roadblocks,” said Park County Farm Bureau President Abby Shuler.

At first, the bureau’s nine-member board thought it could just postpone things until the new year. However, as time went on, COVID-19 infections continued, the public health orders remained in place and the hopes of a banquet faded. Still, Shuler said, “as a board, we decided we wanted to do something.”

At the suggestion of board member Katie Horton, the group took roughly the same amount of money it would have spent on the dinner and donated it to local food pantries; Park County Farm Bureau recently sent off a pair of \$1,000 checks: one to Powell Valley Loaves and Fishes

and another to the Cody Cupboard.

“We’re just trying to do some good for our local community,” Shuler explained. “Just with the curveball that COVID threw, it’s affected a lot of families. And we figured by doing a donation of this sort, we would help a lot of families within Park County.”

The Farm Bureau is best known as an advocacy organization for farmers and ranchers — working to protect private property rights and push for limited taxes, for instance — but giving back to the community is part of its mission. The group offers scholarships to youth, helps provide agriculture education in local classrooms and is a big supporter of the Park County Junior Livestock Sale.

“We try to do something for the community and stay within our local community,” said Shuler.

In the case of the recent donations, she said it was a case of one nonprofit being able to help another; she added that Park County is fortunate to have food pantries available for those who need it.

“Organizations like the Cody Cupboard and the [Powell Valley] Loaves and Fishes, those are always organizations that are helping people,” Shuler said, “but they also need help, too.”

Beyond seeing more demand for services, local pantries were dealt another blow when COVID



led to last year’s biggest food drives being called off. That made it particularly good news when the Park County Farm Bureau turned its canceled banquet into an opportunity to help out. Sometimes, Shuler said, “it works for everybody.”

From left, Powell Valley Loaves and Fishes volunteers Lloyd Snyder, Joe Barski and Peggy Snyder fill a shopping cart with goods at the organization’s storage facility. After the Park County Farm Bureau was unable to host its annual banquet last year, leaders of the group opted to donate the money it would have spent on the event to Loaves and Fishes and the Cody Cupboard. *Tribune Photo By Toby Bonner*

## Sweetwater County FBF presents appreciation gift to James Ramsay

Submitted by Dixie Sudreth, Secretary/Treasurer, Sweetwater County Farm Bureau Federation

Sweetwater County Farm Bureau Federation board member Dick Thoman presented James Ramsay with a centennial jacket in appreciation for his 5 years of service as Sweetwater County Farm Bureau Federation president.



## Crook County Farm Bureau Federation



The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation hosted a February “Meet and Greet” for potential members to learn more about Farm Bureau Federation membership and involvement. Led by CCFBF Vice President Vance Steedley, the event included good food and sharing the good reasons to join the Farm Bureau Federation and get involved at the county and state levels. Shown here Raenell Taylor, Crook County Rancher, shares why she takes time to volunteer through the Farm Bureau Federation. *Kerin Clark photo.*



# 2021 Wyoming Legislature

From page 1

Budget reductions affect every area of Wyoming. There are several bills that would increase taxes and registration fees that WyFB will oppose during the March session. WyFB policy opposes tax increases while calling for spending and government efficiencies to be addressed.

“There are a few tax bills including one to increase fuel taxes

by nine cents,” Moline said. “We will oppose this legislation based on our member’s policy calling for no new taxes.”

The road usage tax, HB 37, is another bill WyFB will oppose. The bill has been received for introduction in the House, but no further action has been taken.

“This bill would establish a per mile fee charge for the use of

public roads,” Moline explained. “Proponents want to make sure electric vehicles and hybrid vehicles pay their share but to institute the road user tax would be so overbearing on all those already paying fuel taxes.”

“Looking at a licensing surcharge on these types of vehicles would be better to address the concern of electric and hybrid vehicles not paying their share of highway maintenance through fuel taxes,” he continued.

WyFB will support legislation to assist with the expansion or construction of meat processing facilities.

Regarding the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, WyFB is supporting Senate File 30 which would review state laws associated with pandemics and review the state’s response to the COVID-19 virus.

WyFB will produce a legisla-

tive update via radio on the Northern Ag Network every Friday in March. If you miss it on your local radio, go to <https://www.wyfb.org/radio-programs/> the following Monday to hear the show.

WyFB also prepares a weekly legislative update that is a benefit of being a Century Club, Silver Club or Gold Club member of the Federation. The update is sent via email and/or mail to those members belonging to these membership tiers. If you are interested in increasing your level of support for Farm Bureau’s work and receiving these weekly legislative updates during the Legislature you can upgrade your current year membership by contacting WyFB Membership Coordinator Brooke Roes at [broes@wyfb.org](mailto:broes@wyfb.org) or 307-721-7723.

To review all bills introduced for 2021 go to: <https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2021>

## Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week

From page 1

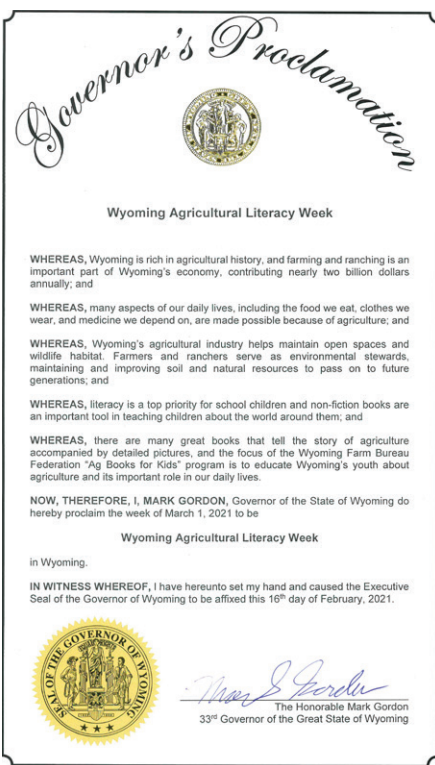
introduction from WyFB YF&R Committee members.

“Even in an agriculture state like Wyoming we have a lot of students that are far removed from agriculture,” Taylor explained. “We always look forward to sharing our agriculture story with elementary students because they are our future.”

“We are so passionate about Wyoming Agricultural Literacy Week to recognize and dedicate time to reading agriculture related books,” she concluded.

WyFB President Todd Fornstrom echoed Taylor’s sentiments about the program when thanking the Governor for recognizing the program through proclamation. “Thank you for the good reminder that education is one of the most important activities we will do,” Fornstrom stated. “One of our main goals with the program is making sure people know where their food comes from and that it is safe and abundant.”

Wyoming students and teach-



ers are encouraged to visit their school’s elementary library to check out the 2021 book “Better Together... ‘Digging It’ with Dairy & Beef, Building Healthy Bodies & Brains!” by Twins Rianna and Sheridan Chaney. You may also visit [www.wyfb.org](http://www.wyfb.org) and click on the education tab for a virtual reading video. Classroom activity ideas and contest rules/details are also available on the website.

Three contests are offered for Wyoming students to encourage use of the book and provide application opportunities for what is learned. The 2021 contests are: Coloring Contest for kindergarten and first graders; Poster Contest for second and third graders; and a Marketing Ad Contest for fourth and fifth graders. The county contest deadline is April 2, 2021.



A RECIPE BY CONNIE WERNER

### Ingredients

- 2 tubes of Crescent Rolls
- 1 pkg sausage
- Shredded Cheddar Cheese approximately 1- 1.5 cups per tube

### Directions

- Heat oven to 350°F.
- Open one tube of crescent rolls and pinch the perforated lines together to create a rectangle.
- Take 1/2 the sausage and spread onto the crescent roll dough.
- Sprinkle with cheddar cheese
- Roll up beginning with the long side.
- Pinch edges and roll to seal all the seams.
- Slice 1/2 - 3/4 inch wide with a serrated knife
- Place on a greased cookie sheet
- Bake for 12-15 minutes or until golden and sausage is cooked
- Repeat with the other tube



FOR MORE RECIPES, VISIT [WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/MODERN\\_RANCH\\_WIFE](http://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/MODERN_RANCH_WIFE)

### Wyoming Teachers & Students K-5th Grades

## "Ag Books for Kids" 2021

*Better Together... "Digging It" with Dairy & Beef*  
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By Twins Rianna and Sheridan Chaney

Step 1: Read this book donated by your county Farm Bureau Federation. NEW this year a VIRTUAL reading by the book authors is available at [wyfb.org/education/ag-books-for-kids/](http://wyfb.org/education/ag-books-for-kids/)

Step 2: Complete contests (details on website) by April 2, 2021

K-1: Coloring  
2-3: Poster  
4-5: Marketing Ad

Questions: [kclark@wyfb.org](mailto:kclark@wyfb.org) or 307-532-2002

# MarketIntel

For the Latest Agricultural Market Intelligence

 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION® [www.fb.org/marketintel](http://www.fb.org/marketintel)

*Market Intel, produced by the Farm Bureau economic analysis team, provides market and policy insight and analysis for our farmer and rancher members nationwide, as well as policymakers on Capitol Hill. Visit [fb.org/market-intel](http://fb.org/market-intel) to view the market and policy analysis and policy insight published frequently.*

### Here is the summary of a recent Market Intel article:

February 16, 2021: With the release of USDA's Farm Labor Survey on February 11, farmers that utilize the H-2A program finally know the minimum wage they must pay their H-2A workers in 2021. Usually, this wage rate, known as the Adverse Effect Wage Rate, is known when the Farm Labor Survey is released in November, but changes in policy that were proposed and then struck down in the courts over the last four months delayed the Farm Labor Survey's release, which in turn held up the AEWV announcement. The FLS reveals an average increase of \$0.63 per hour, or 4.5%, from 2020 to 2021, though there are considerable regional differences.

## Wyoming Classifieds

### NOTICE

#### CLASSIFIED POLICY:

1) Wyoming Farm Bureau members are entitled to free classified advertising in this publication for the purpose of selling items they grow or make themselves, selling used machinery or household items, for posting wanted advertising. Real estate sales not included. Each member family is entitled to two (2) free ads per month, for 3 months, of up to 40 words each. Member ads will be accepted by e-mail to [kclark@wyfb.org](mailto:kclark@wyfb.org) or by mail to WyFB, ATTN: CLASSIFIEDS, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073. Please include member's name and county.

2) Non-Wyoming Farm Bureau members and WyFB members acting as agents or dealers of products produced outside the member's family may purchase commercial classified advertising at \$0.50 per word, at a minimum of \$5.00 per ad. Discounts: 5% for 4 to 9 insertions, 10% for 10 or more insertions. Commercial ads must be submitted in writing, and an agreement regarding payment must be made between Farm Bureau and the advertiser.

#### DEADLINE:

Ads should be received (via mail or email) by the 3rd Thursday of the month in order to appear in the next month's issue. Advertisers are asked to check your ad and report any errors.

Paid ads must be mailed, typed or neatly printed, together with any payment due, to *Wyoming Agriculture*, Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073. Free ads must be resubmitted by mail or e-mail after running three months. Ads for which there is payment due will run according to agreement between Wyoming Farm Bureau and the advertiser. Advance payment is preferred for first-time advertisers.


#### NOTE:

The appearance of any ad in *Wyoming Agriculture* does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the product or service offered. The advertiser is liable for content of the advertisement and any claims arising therefrom against this publication. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation reserves the right to refuse any advertising not considered in keeping with its publication's standards.

### EQUIPMENT

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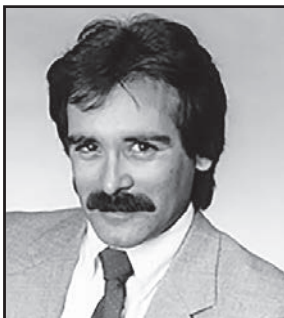
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# New Members

**\*\*Note: (REG) denotes new "Regular" membership**

## ALBANY

Kathleen & Mike Gribble, Laramie; Rylan Harding, Laramie; Timothy Hunt (REG), Tie Siding; Madeline & Davitt Potter, Laramie; Dawn Weber, Laramie; VR Investments, LLC, Laramie

## BIG HORN

Larry Anderson, Shell; Jan & Fred Barnett (REG), Greybull; Brandy & Aaron Bentley, Greybull; Deanna & Timothy Lambeth, Cowley; Renee & Kevin Lewis (REG), Basin; Sharon & Timothy Miller, Shell; Joe Paumer (REG), Manderson; Karen & Gordon Preis (REG), Emblem; Barbie Steinheimer-Hart, Burlington; Renee & Robert Wilkerson (REG), Powell

## CAMPBELL

Peggy & Tim Boardman, Moorcroft; Shy & Monte Brug (REG), Recluse; Cheryl Carter, Gillette; Kathy & John Cattles, Gillette; Jeanette Graves, Moorcroft; Stacey & Michael McCartney, Gillette; Rita & Steve Mueller (REG), Gillette; Jodi & William Sauer, Recluse; Sherman Wood, Gillette

## CARBON

MaryAnn & Edward Boasanac, Rancho Santa Fe; James Bosler, Saratoga; Stephanie & Damien Cesko, Rawlins; Michelle Decelle, Saratoga; Timothy Dziadon, Saratoga; Janice & Rocky Fiedor (REG), Saratoga; Tammy & David Hejduk, Rawlins; Mackie & Rod Johnson (REG), Crowheart; Heather & Tyler Mortensen, Rawlins; Renee & Mark Niska, Alexandria; Diana & John Penrod, Hanna; Whitney Wilder, Rawlins

## CONVERSE

Colleen & David Bolte, Glenrock; Susan & Fay Edison (REG), Douglas; Jason Lee, Douglas; Cade Mariner, Laramie; Tona & Jim Morrison, Evansville; James Shillenn, Douglas; Theresa & Andrew Stellpflug, Glenrock; Lorraine Veith, Glenrock; Riley Stull, Glenrock; Lorraine Veith, Glenrock; Nancy & Allen Wintermote, Douglas

## CROOK

Cathryn Glacken (REG), Sundance; Tammy & Mike McGuckin (REG), Sundance; Dawn Newland (REG), Belle Fourche; Pamela & Douglas Smith (REG), Hulett; Rhonda & Brian Snow (REG), Sundance; Julie & Antone Swanda (REG), Moorcroft; Robin & Curtis Wendling (REG), Moorcroft

## FREMONT

Jeannie & David Banks, Riverton; Gail & Dustan Cash, Riverton; Stacia & Dustin Citron, Alcova; Tim Corbett(REG), Pavilion; Braxton Crofts(REG), Lander; Kenneth Donkersgoed, Boulder; Lindsay & Leif Gasch; Lander, Edward Germond, Lander; Prudence & William Gustafson, Dubois; Lisa & Mickey Harrington(REG), Dubois; Anganette & Bruce Kahl, Riverton; Natalie Korell, Lander; Zachary Lindstadt, Riverton; Shelly & Justin Martin(REG), Crowheart; Heather & Drew Nielsen(REG), Lander; Jean & John Oakley, Lander; Jo Reed, Riverton; Brian Romine(REG), Lander; Julaine Smith, Riverton; Carol & Richard Sorenson, Riverton; Janice & Melroy Vigoren(REG), Riverton; Erica Wood, Lander

## GOSHEN

Erica Wood, Lander; William Bodine Torrington; Margaret Brown, Torrington; Johnny Buchanan, Torrington; Sarah & Luke Chaires, Hawk Springs; Jamie & Jason Cowan, Guernsey; Nina & Tom Grubbs, Lingle; Clay Hiser, Torrington; Pollie Madden, Torrington; Wylie & Marcos Martinez, Torrington; Jason Osback, Torrington; Whit Peterson, Torrington; Charlotte & Mike Steben (REG), Torrington; Steve True, Cheyenne; Delwin Watson, Lingle

## HOT SPRINGS

Darlene Axtell, Thermopolis; Kiamchi & Tucker Capella, Thermopolis; Nancy Collins, Thermopolis; Wade Thronburg, Thermopolis, Kristi Thronburg, Thermopolis

## JOHNSON

Tory Arndt, Buffalo; Angela & Jared Bailey, Buffalo; Sonja Boom & Phil Atwell, Buffalo; Jordan & John Camino, Buffalo; Patricia & Dennis Camino, Buffalo; Ron Chapin, Buffalo; Colette Fenster(REG), Buffalo; Jayson Foley(REG), Buffalo; Wilbur Jones(REG), Kaycee; Elizabeth & David Mauck, Buffalo; Nick Roadifer, Clearmont; Pauline & Donald Stewart, Buffalo; Kathryn & George Stricker, Buffalo; Halo LLC(REG), Buffalo; Harlan Angus LLC(REG), Kaycee; The Stone Yard LLC, Buffalo; Harlan Livestock LLC(REG), Kaycee

## LARAMIE

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## LINCOLN

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## NATRONA

Catherine Ames, Casper; Sierra & Zach Atkinson, Casper; Derek Barsness, Casper; Dustin Beck, Casper; Jordan Belleville, Casper; Meghan & Jacob Bratton, Bar Nunn; Roger Burns, Casper; Tim Conway, Casper; Jamie Cox, Casper; Jim Delinger, Casper; Heirdi Donaldson, Casper; Jamie Dulin, Casper; Brad Edwards, Casper

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## NIOBRARA

Dawn & Benjamin Schwenk (REG), Arvada

## PARK

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## PLATTE

Whitney Balzan, Wheatland; Clayton Cochran, Wheatland; Winston Hoy, Myrtle Beach; Jerry Loeffelbein, Wheatland; Sharon & Gerald Miles, Wheatland; Daniel Nin, Wheatland; Jessica & Paul Norfleet, Chugwater; Jessica & Jason Taliaferro, Hartville; Middle Creek Ranch LLC, Wheatland

## SHERIDAN

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Sheridan; Kyle Tescher, Rancheater; Blake Tietjen,(REG), Clearmont; Darcy Waugh, Sheridan; Laura & Rex Welty, Banner; Samantha & Anthony Wheatcroft, Sheridan; Michelle & Cody Wyant, Sheridan; Shawna & Jason Young, Sheridan; Adam Zimmer Sheridan; J2 Inc(REG), Sheridan

## SUBLETTE

Rhonda & Martin Deleeuw, Pinedale; Kay & Duane Mcearly, Pinedale; Scott Grove, Pinedale; Laurie & Ronald Hanson, Pinedale; Patricia & Michael Henderson, Pinedale; Logan Koltermann, Pinedale; Karen & Rick Noble, Pinedale; Rose & Martin Ross, Pinedale; Christine Kwak & Derek Schultz, Bondurant; Ronald & Pamela Tambourine, Pinedale; Wren Taylor, Pinedale; Dancy & Daniel Tolson, Bondurant; Christine & Jason Zakotnik, Pinedale; Burg & Company LLC(REG), Stuart

## SWEETWATER

Lisa & Troy Aleshire, Green River; Melinda & Spencer Allred, Green River; Amber & Rusty Barnes, Green River; Steven Ferguson, Green River; Steven Ferguson, Green River; Virginia Folks, Rock Springs; Taylor Hibbs, Rock Springs; Taylor Hibbs, Rock Springs; Phillip Mines (REG), Farson; Sue & Lorenzo Romero, Farson, Casey Wylie (REG), Rock Springs

## TETON

Armond Aciri, Jackson; Elizabeth & Colter Donnell, Wilson; Paul Fridman, Jackson; Jennifer & Gilbert Gaudern, Jackson; Erik Johnson, Alta; Shannyn & Martin Levitz, Jackson; Jesse Nagle, Alta; Cammy Patridge, Eastwood; Gretchen Schmid, Jackson; Beatrice & Francois Screve, Wilson; James Sorenson, Wilson

## UINTA

Joli Anderson, Mountain View; Kaitlin & James Bird, Mountain View; Donald Brunski(REG), Mountain View; Breezy & Curtis Cooley, Mountain View; Judy & Paul Dolezal, Fort Bridger; Elana & Peter Ezell, Evanston; Shauna & Derek Gorrell, Fort Bridger; Debbie & Merrill Harward, Lyman; Seth Heller, Evanston; Raini & George Hickey(REG), Mountain View; Bridger Mackey(REG), Afton; Mechelle & Van Reynolds(REG), Evanston; Jessica & Chad Roundy, Lyman; Lacey & Daniel Survey, Lyman; Sandra & Ronald Walker, Lyman; Gage Ward, Evanston

## WASHAKIE

Kristin & Jeffrey Buckman, Worland; Nicole & Ethan Galloway (REG), Ten Sleep; Jan & John Hefenieder, Worland; Melissa & Robert Hefenieder, Worland; Chandler Maddock, Worland; Kimberly & Dustin Vail, Worland; Hefenieder Farm & Cattle LLC(REG), Worland

## WESTON

Donna & Kevin Cote, Newcastle; Jeremiah Decker, Newcastle; Donna & Tracy Hunt (REG), Newcastle; John Liston, Newcastle; Muria & Randal Olson, Upton; Nicole & Preston Perino (REG), Newcastle; Judy & Don Rawhouser(REG), Newcastle; Connie & James Tooman(REG), Newcastle

# Agriculture Climate Alliance Gains Momentum

**February 22, 2021**--American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall commented on February 22 on the increasing momentum behind an alliance co-founded by AFBF, the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance.

“We are encouraged that leaders in both the House and Senate are requesting more detailed guidance to achieve FACA’s climate goals and recommendations. It’s important that any new climate policies respect the people who will be impacted the most – farmers and ranchers. FACA’s 40-plus proposals demonstrate farmers and ranchers must be treated as partners as we work together to build on

the impressive advances already achieved toward climate-smart farming,” Duvall said.

“We also welcome the 34 new members of FACA who represent farmers, agribusinesses, state gov-

ernments and environmental advocates,” Duvall continued. “The growth of alliance members from a wide range of industries shows we are on the right path toward protecting the environment while

ensuring farmers and ranchers can continue growing healthy, affordable food for America’s families.”

Learn more about the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance at [agclimatealliance.com](http://agclimatealliance.com).

## Food brings everyone to the table

From page 2  
forces that play a role include availability of labor, regulation of air, water, fertilizer, and pest control. Those issues along with additional pressures from global trade have an impact on farmers and ranchers.

In today’s day and age the consumers are so far removed from the farm table that they want to know how we produce their food and have many questions. It is our job as farmers and ranchers to not only reassure our customers of their food’s safety, but also help bring them to the table through education on our production processes.

We all should keep in mind that food is part of our overall freedom; without an adequate supply we are dependent on sources outside of our borders and outside of our control.



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# ‘Driving Safety Home’ is Theme of Agricultural Safety Awareness Program Week, Feb. 28 -March 6

**Laramie, Wyoming Feb. 16, 2021** – Sharing resources that will help farmers and ranchers keep safety top-of-mind through the Agricultural Safety Awareness Program is a priority of county and state Farm Bureau leaders across the nation. As part of ASAP, Feb. 28 - March 6 has been designated as Agricultural Safety Awareness Week. U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers will join Farm Bureau in promoting the week with its theme “Driving Safety Home.”

A different safety focus will be highlighted by Farm Bureau and U.S. Ag Centers each day of the week:

- Monday, March 1 – Farmer Roadway Safety
- Tuesday, March 2 – Caretaker Support
- Wednesday, March 3 – General Farmer Wellness
- Thursday, March 4 – Mental Health
- Friday, March 5 – Community Roadway Safety

During this week and throughout the year, Farm Bureau encourages farmers to make safety a priority on the farm.

The Agricultural Safety Awareness Program is a part of the Farm Bureau Health and Safety Network of professionals who share an interest in identifying and decreasing safety and health risks. For more information and resources, visit the ASAP Facebook page.

Visit the Centers’ YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/user/USagCenters](http://www.youtube.com/user/USagCenters)) for new content and fresh ideas about how to stay safe while working in agriculture, forestry and fishing. Join the movement to keep farms safe and share your own safety messages on social media using the hashtags #KeepFarmsSafe, #ASAP21 and #US-AgCenters.

The 11 U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers ([www.cdc.gov/niosh/oep/agctrhom.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/oep/agctrhom.html)) are funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

## AG SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM WEEK



FEB. 28 – MAR. 6, 2021



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Byron was raised on his family's ranch in Campbell County, WY. With a degree in Architectural Engineering he worked as an Assistant Project Manager on large civil projects. In 2008 after receiving his real estate license, Byron and wife Bridgette, managed ranches in the Powder River Basin. He then took a break from real estate for a couple years while his wife Bridgette got her law degree and started as an attorney at Kirven and Kirven in Buffalo, WY.

His ranch upraising and present-day work gives Byron the ability to aid both buyers and sellers with their real estate needs. Byron speaks with conviction about ranching in Wyoming and can offer insight and first hand knowledge about all the the things that come with a real estate transaction.

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*Byron Geis  
& his kids,  
Bridgette is the  
photographer*

*“As a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights. Where an excess of power prevails, property of no sort is duly respected. No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions.” - James Madison*

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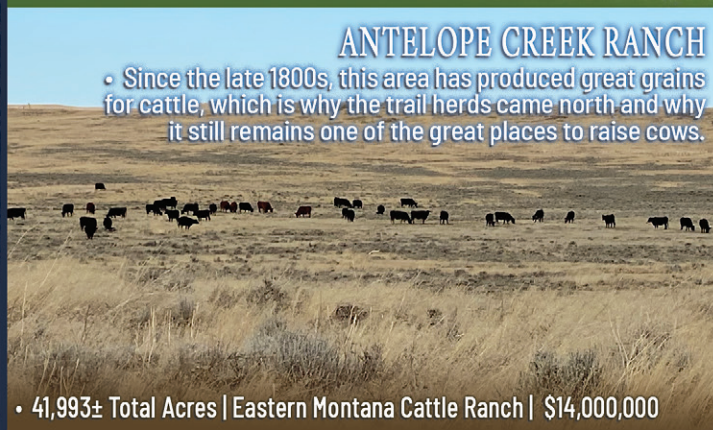
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