

# Kerin Clark Selected as Executive Vice President

Special for Wyoming Agriculture  
By **JULIE MURPHREE,**  
**ARIZONA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION**  
**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

**W**yoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) is pleased to announce Kerin Clark is the next Executive Vice President for the organization. Clark began transitioning to her new role on July 17.

Bringing years of Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation experience to her new role, Clark currently works as the media and member relations director for Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation and coordinator for the Young Farmer and Rancher (YF&R) Program. Additionally, she serves as a field representative for 11 county Farm Bureaus in eastern Wyoming to provide county Farm Bureau teams with leadership board training and serve as a liaison for the state office. She began her career with WyFB as an intern in July 1994.

“Anytime we have the opportunity to select leadership that has experience, talent and motivation, we win,” said Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation President Todd Fornstrom. “Kerin has been a part of the Farm Bureau Family in Wyoming for nearly 30 years and is a natural fit. She has proven over the years that she has a genuine talent for advocacy with a wonderful work ethic.”

“I am honored and humbled to be selected as the next executive vice president of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation,” said Clark. “To impact the or-

ganization, Wyoming agriculture, WyFB members, WyFB staff and more as executive vice president is an opportunity I take on with reverence for those who have made the organization what it is today. To add the effect of my leadership to the strong foundation of this centennial organization is an incredible honor.”

While Clark started in July, she’ll partner with outgoing Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton through October when he officially retires. The organization will take this period to thoroughly onboard and transition to its new leadership.

“Ken and Kerin have worked together for years which should help our goal of having Kerin fully transition into the position by the end of October,” explained Fornstrom. “WyFB has been in great hands for Ken’s entire tenure, and I see Kerin as more of the same quality leadership.”

Added outgoing Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton, “With Kerin’s 30-year history with the organization, there will be very little that she won’t already know about when it comes to the people and issues WyFB has been working on. Kerin’s history with the county Farm Bureaus will mean she can move into the EVP role with a lot of knowledge about both the county and state Farm Bureau. In looking toward the future it’s also important to know where we’ve come from, and Kerin can certainly fill that role.”

Looking forward to his guidance during the transition Clark added, “Ken is a remarkable leader of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation. His knowledge



Kerin Clark

and experience working on agriculture issues has been a part of this organization for over 40 years, 20 of those as executive vice president. I am thankful to have worked with and for Ken for 30 years. His mentorship on the work we do for Farm Bureau Federation members and all of agriculture, and his support of family has greatly impacted my career and life.”

Added President Fornstrom, “When I think of WyFB, I automatically think of Ken Hamilton. He reflects what Wyoming agriculture holds important. He is

hard working, loyal, honest and has an unsurpassed passion for the advocacy of Wyoming agriculture.”

Centered around public relations, leadership, organizational development and management in her director role, Clark will apply these skills in addition to collaboration, teamwork and vision casting as she leads the organization into the future as the executive vice president.

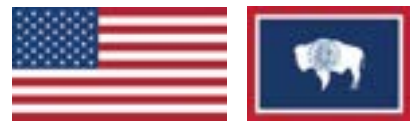
“I am excited to apply my skills and the experiences I have gained during my tenure with the organization, as well as new ideas, to this position,” explained Clark. “I cherish the opportunity to continue working with our members and staff advocating for agriculture in Wyoming.”

A graduate of the University of Wyoming, Clark holds a degree in agricultural communications with a minor in farm and ranch management. Growing up on her family’s ranch 30 miles north of Laramie, the values of hard work and integrity were instilled in her from a young age. Faith and family drive Clark in all she does.

Her husband, Jake, served as the Eastern Wyoming College Rodeo Coach for 25 years. Retiring from coaching in June of 2022, he currently is a math instructor at the college. The Clarks have two children. Kadra, 22, graduated from Chadron State College where she competed in college rodeo. She owns a photography business. Kyler, 19, is studying communications at the University of Wyoming and competes in college rodeo. Rooted in agriculture and all things rodeo, the Clark family is fully embedded in Wyoming. ■

## A message from Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation President Todd Fornstrom

SPECIAL  
ELECTION ISSUE:



**WYOMING  
PRIMARY  
ELECTION**

**V**ote. That’s it, just vote. The end. Easy to say, but vote for which candidate, retain which judge, say yes to what amendment? All valid questions, but still not a reason to give up.

How much money do we pay our city, county, state and federal governments for the services that are provided to the general public should be reason enough to spend time researching who and what are on our election ballots.

Identifying your views and beliefs is a great way to start the process. What issues are important to you? Which candidate fits those beliefs? What kind

of experience do the candidates have? Have their beliefs changed overtime? How much knowledge of the issues do the candidates have? Are their values consistent? Is there any proof of their voting record? What do the candidates say about their opponents and is it accurate? Who is donating to their campaign? All good questions to ask and a good place to start.

The task seems daunting, but it is important to make the time to do the



Todd Fornstrom

research. Remember every decision that affects the condition of your street, and what gets taught in the local school all the way to how much money is spent on national defense is influenced by your vote. In this special election issue of *Wyoming Agriculture*, candidates on the national level have been provided the opportunity to share position statements with our

members. Remember our representatives form the direction our country will move towards by the way we all vote. ■

CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS

- July**  
30-31 Joint Minerals Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Casper
- August**  
20 Primary Election
- September**  
12 Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting at 5:30 p.m.-Emblem Gymnasium in Emblem  
14 Wyoming Needs Agriculture at UW Football Pregame-Laramie  
16 Niobrara County Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting at 5:30 p.m.—Niobrara County Fairgrounds in Lusk
- October**  
4 Natrona County Farm & Ranch Bureau Annual Banquet
- November**  
5 General Election  
7-9 WyFB 105th Annual Meeting-Ramkota Hotel in Casper
- January 2025**  
16-18 WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Conference-Cody  
24-29 American Farm Bureau Convention-San Antonio, Texas
- March 2025**  
7-10 AFBF YF&R/Fusion Conference-Denver, Colorado

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



**Wyoming**  
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# ‘Step Up, Drive Forward’ to the 2025 American Farm Bureau Convention

Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President



Farmers and ranchers are always looking to the future, whether that’s finding ways we can be more innovative and efficient or building up our local communities. Often, it’s both—and more! The 2025 American Farm Bureau Convention will showcase that spirit across agriculture and the Farm Bureau family as we step up and drive forward together. I hope you already have your calendar marked to join us in San Antonio, Jan. 24-29. I’d like to give you a few reasons to get excited, and to encourage everyone to join us. You will not want to miss out on this premier event!

Our American Farm Bureau team is already gearing up for our time together at our biggest Farm Bureau family reunion of the year. It might only be summer, but our team is all in to ensure the 2025 AFBF Convention is enjoyable, educational and inspiring for all. You can be on the lookout for a full lineup of engaging workshops

covering topics like leadership training, member development, consumer trends, and policy insights. While we don’t have a crystal ball for all you and your farm may face in 2025, we will have the best tools and resources to ensure you are ready to drive forward in the new year.

You can also expect all your favorite Farm Bureau events and friendly competitions. Young farmers and ranchers from across the country will showcase how they’re stepping up as leaders through our Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag, and Ag Achievement award competitions.

The latest agricultural innovations will take the spotlight at our Trade Show with exhibits from across the country, and at center stage will be our Ag Innovation Challenge. Farm Bureau is proud to continue to partner with Farm Credit and our generous sponsors to spur on new, innovative businesses as they help drive agriculture and rural America forward.

Finally, I am especially looking forward to recognizing and celebrating our county presidents from across Farm Bureau. As you have likely heard me say throughout this year already, I have declared this the Year of the County President. Our county presidents are the unsung heroes of Farm Bureau, but that needs to change. This is a leading role in our organization, as these dedicated men and women drive solutions and change at the local level, leading to broader impacts on the state and national level. If you’re a county president, I hope you will make every effort to join us, so that we can celebrate how you are stepping up in your community and driving agriculture forward.

Stay tuned for more exciting announcements leading up to the 2025 American Farm Bureau Convention. In the meantime, mark your calendars for Jan. 24-29, 2025. I hope to see you in San Antonio! ■

# Balance of power restored

Ken Hamilton

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President



There’s been a lot in the news lately about the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision regarding some of the actions against former President Trump. Another case that hasn’t received as much media play was the body’s decision against what has been termed “the Chevron Deference” which could have a long-lasting effect on how the administrative state does things.

For folks who follow challenges to the administrative state, the Chevron Deference (decided in 1984) has provided administrative agencies a huge leg up over those citizens who were affected by the agency’s actions by allowing the agencies to interpret ambiguous sections of laws passed by Congress. The Chevron Deference doctrine was a decision by the Supreme Court in *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council*. In that decision the Supreme Court initiated a process that has governed administrative rules for the last 40 years.

The Chevron Deference initiated a two-step process, the second of which declared that “... in a case in which ‘the statute [was] silent or ambiguous with respect to the spe-

cific issue’ at hand, a reviewing court could not ‘simply impose its own construction on the statute.’” (*Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*).

The Supreme Court ruled, “... The deference that Chevron requires of courts reviewing agency action cannot be squared with the APA” (Administrative Procedures Act). The justices noted that “Congress in 1946 enacted the APA ‘as a check upon administrators whose zeal might otherwise have carried them to excesses not contemplated in legislation creating their office.’”

The impact this decision will have in curbing the excesses of the administrative state could be significant. Since 1984 the courts have given agencies a strong arm when it came to interpreting rules for Congressional Acts which contain ambiguous language. The ongoing controversy about what constitutes a “water of the U.S.” is a case in point. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corp (EPA was part of the Chevron Deference case) have expanded the definition of waters of the US to take in dry washes in Wyoming.

Courts, who have struggled with this action, have ruled on the ambiguous wording in the Clean Water Act and then applied the Chevron Deference in favor of the agencies.

In their ruling the Justices wrote, “*Chevron* insists on more than the ‘respect’ historically given to Executive Branch interpretations; it demands that courts mechanically afford binding deference to agency interpretations, including those that have been inconsistent over time.”

Unfortunately, I don’t foresee administrative agencies giving up the power the Chevron Deference gave them forty years ago without a fight. These agencies can rightly rely upon the regulated citizens finite financial resources to avoid a protracted legal battle. The agency can also rely on the taxpayer to pay for that agency’s legal bills. Even with the overturning of the Chevron Deference, citizens will struggle with the financial leg up the federal government has available.

It will be interesting to see if in these situations the Equal Access to Justice Act will come into play. ■



September 14, 2024

University of Wyoming Indoor Practice Field  
Laramie, Wyoming





# National news updates

By Kelly Carpenter

## Chevron Deference Over

On June 28, 2024, the U.S. Supreme Court decided to end the Chevron deference stopping 40 years of tipping the scales in favor of federal agencies for statute interpretation. The Chevron deference has emboldened the executive branch to pursue its agendas often at the expense of the individual. This decision is a step towards restoring the separation of powers.

## BLM Public Lands Rule

Sen. John Barrasso (WY) and Sen. John Hoeven (ND) recently introduced a Congressional Review Act resolution to repeal the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Public Lands Rule. As previously reported, the rule stands to upend the multiple use on BLM lands in Wyoming dealing a devastating blow to the state's legacy industries, like agriculture.

## Electronic Identification in Cattle and Bison

Rep. Harriet Hageman (WY) and Sen. Cynthia Lummis (WY) (Sen. John Barrasso as an original co-sponsor) introduced a joint resolution of disapproval through the Congressional Review Act (CRA) process regarding the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) rule mandating electronic identification for cattle and bison moving interstate on June 13. ■

# Wyoming to Washington, D.C. in July



The American Farm Bureau Federation Council of Presidents and Public Policy Conference is held annually in July in Washington, D.C. The meeting provides an opportunity for issues updates, meeting with AFBF and other state Farm Bureau presidents and staff and the opportunity to share Wyoming's voice in our Nation's Capital. Shown here are Kelly Carpenter, WyFB National Affairs Associate; Laura Fornstrom, Laramie County Farm Bureau Federation President; Congresswoman Harriet Hageman; and Todd Fornstrom, WyFB President.

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The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation believes constitutional government, the competitive enterprise system, property rights and individual freedom are necessary components for a strong agriculture, a strong Wyoming and a strong America. We are a centennial grassroots organization that cares about your future. Whether you are a farmer, rancher or a consumer of food...membership is a good investment to secure stability of agriculture here in Wyoming. As a member, WyFB provides you with exclusive benefits as a way to say thank you. These benefits may pay your annual membership fee many times over.

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# A beneficial leap

BY SPENCER AXTELL,  
WyFB YF&R COMMITTEE  
REPRESENTATIVE-AT-LARGE

My name is Spencer Axtell, I am 22 years old. I was born and raised in Thermopolis, Wyo. I am fifth generation on my family's cattle ranch and the oldest of four siblings. We run cow/calf pairs as well as farm a couple hundred acres of alfalfa and grass hay. When I was in high school, I was an active member of my county 4-H and FFA chapter. I grew up surrounded by livestock and agriculture and developed a love for it. I knew I wanted to continue this lifestyle and stay a part of the family ranch as I got older. After graduating high school, I attended Casper College and earned my degree in diesel mechanics and animal science. I decided after college that I wanted to return home and work on the ranch full time.

Last summer my dad mentioned to me getting involved on the county Farm Bureau board, which led me to the state Farm Bureau Federation Convention last November and there I was honored to be voted on the YF&R committee as the representative-at-large. I have since had the opportunity to attend the state YF&R conference in Laramie last February as well as the National YF&R Conference in Omaha last March. Since taking the leap and getting involved with Farm Bureau, I have grown as an individual, it has helped me to get out of my comfort zone and to meet so many new people in the AG communi-



Spencer Axtell

ty. As a growing businessman, I have expanded my knowledge of ranching in my community, in my state, and in the world. I have learned so much just in the few conferences I have attended and can apply so much of it to my own business and everyday life. Farm Bureau has been a great way for me to grow as a leader and become a member of the YF&R Committee which has been a way for me to collaborate and meet other farmers and ranchers.

We recently moved all our cow/calf pairs, bulls, and replacement heifers up the mountain to their summer mountain pastures. This time of year, the grass is thick and tall, and the mountain is covered in wildflowers. It is so beautiful to be



Spencer (right) and his fiancée Hannah moving cattle.

up there this time of year. We frequently take salt and mineral up and put them in tubs about every two weeks to keep the cows healthy. We have a couple of big projects going on this summer such as tearing down and putting in new fence with the help of a few high school boys that were hired on for the summer. We also have a water line project going in on the mountain to preserve water and expand and improve grazing throughout the pasture. As well as the construction of a new feedlot pen to feed out the newly weaned calves in the fall. Besides all the new projects going on, keeping cattle healthy and where they need to be can be a full-time chore. My fiancée Hannah and I spend two or three days a week on a horse doctoring and moving cattle. We try to have everything squared away before September when it's time to wean and ship calves. All the calves are sorted by gender before being brought off the mountain to be weaned. Then they are loaded onto a truck to be shipped to finisher feedlots and the momma cows are taken back up the mountain until November. As long as the corrals hold out and the animals stay healthy it's usually a busy but smooth time of the year.

Life on the ranch can be chaotic but it is unlike any job I have ever worked, and it is different every day. From training horses and dogs, welding and fabricating, to business and range manage-



Moving cattle to summer pasture.

ment, the ranch life has avenues into many jobs all rolled up in one blessed career. ■



Horseback is where you will often find fifth generation Hot Springs County Rancher Spencer Axtell.

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# WyFB YF&R Committee holds spring meeting

BY KERIN CLARK

Connection. Leadership. Empowerment. Involvement. Personal and Professional Growth. Networking. Advocate. Representation. Policy Development. Education. Experience. These were a few of the key words used at a recent meeting to describe the opportunities available to young farmers and ranchers in Wyoming through the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher program. The WyFB YF&R Committee 2024 spring meeting held in May was action packed. The committee planned programs for the coming year, spent time on leadership and personal development, and volunteered at the Food Bank of Wyoming. Wondering how you can get involved? Want to learn more?! Send an email to [kclark@wyfb.org](mailto:kclark@wyfb.org) or visit us at [wyfb.org](http://wyfb.org).



In just a little over an hour volunteering at the Food Bank of Wyoming in May, the WyFB YF&R Committee packed 414 boxes of food for those facing hunger in Wyoming. From left to right: Kerin Clark, WyFB; Hannah and Zack Guild, Uinta County; Laura Dockery, Fremont County; Seth Allen, Niobrara County; Cody Alps, Goshen County; Tucker and Annie Hamilton, Weston County. The WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee is in its 21st year of joining with the American Farm Bureau Federation YF&R Committee in what is called a "Harvest for All." Throughout the program's twenty-one-year span, the WyFB YF&R Committee has partnered with Farm Bureau Federation members to raise 6,044 pounds of food, \$36,278 and 134 hours of volunteer time to help those facing hunger in Wyoming. *FOOD BANK OF WYOMING PHOTO.*



Leadership Trainer Sarah J. Bohnenkamp (left) led an Executive Communication & Negotiation interactive workshop for the WyFB YF&R Committee during their spring meeting. This powerful training session was an epic leadership development opportunity for the young farmers and ranchers. From left to right: Bohnenkamp; Annie and Tucker Hamilton; Hannah and Zack Guild; Laura Dockery; Seth Allen; and Cody Alps. *KERIN CLARK PHOTO.*



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# New boot presented for Bronze Boot Award

**BY KERIN CLARK**

These boots are made for working and for recognizing the first county Farm Bureau Federation to reach membership quota and sign one new regular member who is between the ages of 18-35! To turn one of these dusty boots into an award, we may just have to dust off the selected boot a bit before it is bronzed.

In 2023, the Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation won the Bronze Boot award for the third year in a row earning the right to keep the traveling trophy permanently. They also earned the right to donate the next boot to be bronzed. During the May 31 WyFB Membership Committee Meeting, Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member Mary Whaley presented the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation with an array of boot options to choose from for the next traveling trophy. Whaley (left) made the presentation to WyFB Membership Committee Chair Kevin Baars and WyFB Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton.

The selected boot will look a bit different come November when it is awarded to the first county Farm Bureau Federation to reach membership quota and sign a new regular member between the ages of 18-35.

You can help your county Farm Bureau Federation strengthen your future through membership. Join or renew today at [wyfb.org](http://wyfb.org). Whether you are a farmer, rancher or a consumer of food membership is a good investment to secure stability of agriculture here in Wyoming. Your membership works to keep agriculture strong in Wyoming. ■



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# Amended ADT Rule

MAY 22, 2024  
WYOMING LIVESTOCK  
BOARD NEWS

**U**SDA has amended the animal disease traceability (ADT) rule in relation to official identification requirements for cattle and bison moving interstate. These requirements will take effect on Nov. 5, 2024.

**Main rule amendment:**

- Requires official eartags to be visually and electronically readable for interstate movement of certain cattle and bison

**Amended rule pertains to the following classes of animals:**

- Sexually intact cattle and bison that are 18 months of age and older
- All dairy cattle of any age
- All cattle and bison of any age used for show, exhibition, rodeos, or recreational events

**Key points relating to the use of electronic identification devices (EID):**

- An official EID may be applied to an animal that is already officially identified with a non-electronically readable official eartag (i.e. metal bangs tag or silver NUES tag).
- At any point in time, an animal should only have one official EID in place.

**\*\*The USDA has allocated \$15 million for electronic identification and related infrastructure to improve animal disease traceability. These dollars are intended to help producers financially transition to electronic ID use for interstate movement of cattle and bison.\*\***

**USDA Allocation of EID Tags**

As per a June 5 notice from the Wyoming Livestock Board, the Wyoming Livestock Board received a new allocation of electronic identification tags (EID) from USDA. RFID tags are a form of EID. Free tags may be ordered by veterinarians through our office. For official calfhood vaccination (OCV) or regular (non-OCV) 840 RFID tags:

Contact WLSB at (307) 777-7515 or [lsbforms-applications@wyo.gov](mailto:lsbforms-applications@wyo.gov).

**CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICIAL RFIDS:**

1. The animal identification number starts with 840.
2. There is a US shield on the tag.
3. The tag is electronically and visually readable.

Please contact WLSB at (307) 777-7515 or [lsbforms-applications@wyo.gov](mailto:lsbforms-applications@wyo.gov) with any questions or concerns. ■

*Cooking With the Modern Ranch Wife*

## Smoked Leg of Lamb

RECIPE BY J.J. WERNER

**Ingredients**

- 1 Leg of lamb bone in or Butterflied
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tbsp lemon pepper
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 7 tbsp chopped garlic

**Instructions**

1. Add all ingredients into a Ziploc bag. Massage to combine.
2. Marinate in the fridge for 12-24 hours. Flipping occasionally.
3. Remove lamb from the Ziploc bag and sprinkle with salt and pepper.
4. Place on the smoker at 275 -300 degrees for 3-4 hours or until the internal temperature is 140-145 degrees. Remove from smoker. Cover and Let rest for 15 minutes before carving.
5. Serve with your favorite sides.

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# WyFB awards college scholarships, part 2

Each year we award \$5,500 in college scholarships to nine Farm Bureau Federation members and/or the children of Farm Bureau Federation members. WyFB recognized the recipients of the five WyFB scholarships (\$500 each) and the Livingston-King scholarship (\$1,500) in the June issue of *Wyoming*

*Agriculture*. In this issue, we recognize the three recipients of the Continuing Education scholarships valued at \$500 each. As part of the application, scholarship applicants were asked to respond to the question: “What career path do you plan to take with

your chosen course of study, and how will it affect rural America?” An excerpt from each of the winning applications is included in the individual stories. The future of agriculture is bright. We are proud to honor these outstanding individuals with college scholarships to play a small part in helping them achieve their goals.

By Kerin Clark

## Jordan Anderson

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

Jordan Anderson will be a senior at the University of Wyoming (UW) studying agriculture communications. Anderson is a member of the Albany County Ranch & Farm Bureau Federation through the UW Collegiate Farm Bureau. Her parents are Dr. Donald and Angela Anderson of Pennsylvania.

Jordan serves as president of the UW Collegiate Farm Bureau and is a UW College of Agriculture Ambassador. At UW, she also participates in Campus Ventures and is a Cowboy Coach (student-peer mentor). Jordan grew up in Central Pennsylvania on her family’s farm. She served as a Pennsylvania FFA State Officer and was involved in 4-H. She is active in her church at home and at college.

Essay excerpt: “I plan to pursue a career in agriculture communications where I can be an advocate for the agriculture industry and help to bridge the gap between producers and consumers. Wherever I go on this journey of life, I aspire to be a voice for agriculture, follow the Lord’s plan for my life, and love the community that surrounds me.”



Jordan Anderson

## Dane Catlin

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

Dane Catlin will be a junior at the University of Wyoming studying kinesiology with the goal of becoming a neurosurgeon. His parents are Steve and Dana Catlin of Mountain View.

Dane is the fourth generation of his family with Farm Bureau Federation involvement. He grew up learning about and appreciating Farm Bureau and the many people he has had the opportunity to meet. Dane’s grandmother Karen Henry served as WyFB President for 11 years and his grandfather Garie Henry served as the WyFB NER Committee Chair and on the WyFB Board of Directors.

Dane works on the family ranch during the summers and weekends. He has also worked a variety of other jobs and served as a tutor. During high school he was involved in sports, FFA and his church.

Essay excerpt: “I know the importance of quality medical care and look forward to being available in rural America. My family taught me the importance of agriculture and I plan to continue to support ag by helping physically while finishing my degree and financially as soon as I can begin my working career.”



Dane Catlin

## Maylee Potas

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

Maylee Potas will be a junior at the University of Wyoming pursuing a degree in kinesiology. Her goal is to attend medical school to pursue orthopedic surgery. Her parents are Mike and Molly Potas.

At UW, Maylee is an active member of campus activities including Chi Omega, Campus Ventures, Bible Study, intramural lacrosse and intramural basketball. She graduated from Meeteetse High School where she was active in FFA and 4-H.

Essay excerpt: “My goal is to be able to keep medicine and practices available to rural areas. As I have grown up in Wyoming, I would like to return and practice medicine here as well as help make new advancements. I also have an interest in biomedical engineering, and I hope to be able to incorporate the two to be able to make a difference not only in medicine, but in my home state.” ■



Maylee Potas

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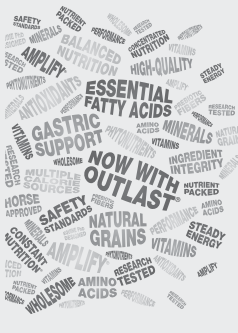





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# Legislative Interim Updates

BY BRETT MOLINE

### Telecommunications Act

The Corporations Committee of the Wyoming Legislature is working on the Telecommunications Act in state statutes. This Act outlines the Universal Service Fund and the Carrier of Last Resort. The Universal Service Fund implements a surcharge on all telephone lines, land and cellular. This fund is used to equalize the basic telephone landline fees across all landline users in areas of the state where no competition exists for companies providing landline services. The Carrier of Last Resort is a provision in law that outlines a company cannot say they are not able to provide landline service to a customer based on the cost of providing that service. This Act also deals with regulation of broadband service.

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation has been working with a group of telephone service providers and broadband providers to update this Act. WyFB policy asks to keep the Universal Service Fund. As the draft language of the bill stands, this aspect of the law will be kept in the bill. The Universal Service Fund tax is small, approximately 1%, and affects a small portion of the state.

At this point of the process, broadband will not be regulated by the Public Service Commission. WyFB policy is silent on regulation of broadband and WyFB policy

calls for less governmental regulation. This issue will be brought to the Corporations Committee at their next meeting later this year.

### Temporary Change in Use for Water

The Agriculture Committee worked on the temporary change in use of water topic again. This was an issue the committee worked on in the last legislative session. As the proposed draft legislation stands, a water right holder can apply for a temporary change in use, which if granted would be for up to a five-year period. The user could apply for an additional five-year change in use at the end of the five-year period, for a maximum of ten years. If the change in use would be desired for a longer period, the user would have to apply for a permanent change in use. Before a temporary change in use was granted, the user would have to prove all other users in the affected water system were not harmed. WyFB will continue to keep abreast of this issue.

### Right To Repair

The Agriculture Committee also worked on the topic of the right to repair farm machinery. Some groups want the State of Wyoming to have legislation which would require equipment companies to make available all computer codes so persons other than company personnel can work on agricultural related equipment, similar to what Colorado

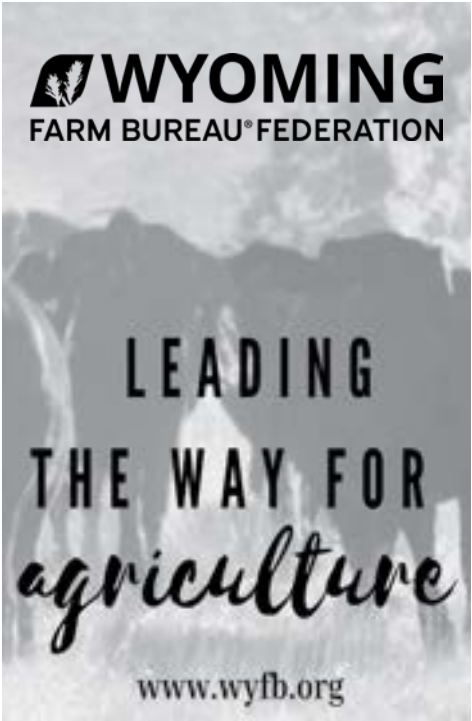
has passed. Grassroots members in Wyoming and across the nation called on the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) to work with agriculture equipment manufacturers to find a solution for this issue. AFBF has worked with the major equipment manufacturers and hammered out MOUs outlining the companies will make the computer codes available. AFBF signed the first MOU in January 2023 and approximately three quarters of agricultural machinery sold in the U.S. are now covered under right to repair MOUs. These MOUs give farmers, ranchers and independent mechanics access to the needed tools and information to repair their machinery.


The Committee voted to hear a draft bill at their next meeting. WyFB will oppose taking the issue forward, given the issue has been worked out through AFBF's work with the equipment manufacturers.

### Predator Control

A working group appointed by the Governor was formed to deal with the issue of harboring a wild animal for display purposes. This working group was established in reaction to the incident where an individual recreationally ran over a wolf with a snowmobile and took it out in the public rather than quickly dispatching the wolf. The working group will take forward a recommendation that if a person intentionally runs over a predator and does not euthanize that animal


as quickly as possible, that person will be subject to a fine and possible jail time. This working group decided to not work on the issue of using snowmobiles to control predators. The group was educated that the isolated incident in question was not part of predator control, but was done recreationally by an individual. WyFB will oppose any attempt to outlaw the use of machines to control predators. ■





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# Wyoming Primary Election

**Editor's Note:** All candidates for Wyoming United States Senator and Wyoming United States Representative were provided the opportunity to submit a position statement (no more than 600 words). In the position statement, the candidates were asked to **"Please address agriculture issues to show our members your vision to support food production in Wyoming and America."** Those candidates (in alphabetical order) who replied have their responses printed as received in this special election issue.

## CANDIDATES FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR

### John Barrasso, Republican

**A**griculture is the heart of Wyoming. It is the foundation of Wyoming's economy, energy and natural resource industries, and families across the state. I am proud to represent Wyoming and to continue working for a better future for our family producers.

In the last decade, we have seen a shift across the nation where the gap between consumers and producers has become larger than ever before. Urban areas control a mass majority of politics in many states and in our Capitol. Policies from Washington continue to overlook our rural agriculture producers.

Between the Rock Springs Resource Management Plan, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Public Land Health Rule and the proposed Greater Sage Grouse Resource Plans, it is clear the policies coming out of the Biden administration are written with no regard for the people who live and work on the land every day.

Our federal lands make up nearly half of the state of Wyoming. We don't need the BLM to mandate conservation – it's always been a big part of everything we do. Wyoming landowners and leaseholders have proven to be the best stewards of the land. Despite our incredible track record, the Biden administration continues to roll out rules and plans aimed at turning

Wyoming's federal lands from "multiple-use" to "non-use." The people of Wyoming depend on access to these lands for our livelihoods – including energy and mineral production, grazing, and recreation. I continue to lead the fight to stop this attack on our Wyoming way of life.

In the Senate, I've introduced legislation that makes it easier for ranchers to make range improvements on federal land. We need to streamline the permitting process and ensure a timelier response from federal agencies for our ranchers. Right now, ranchers who hold grazing permits, either with the BLM or the U.S. Forest Service, must renegotiate their permit to make range improvements not outlined in their original agreement. I'm working to remove this restriction on ranchers and allow producers to continue conducting their operations while still protecting our lands from unapproved changes.

I have long said that the BLM must rely on local experts in Wyoming and across the West as it updates its Greater Sage Grouse Resource Plan. This one-size-fits-all approach to land management is a disaster for local experts and officials. It will create even more strife for stakeholders with vested interests in these acres that are de-facto withdrawn from development. BLM must

continue the good faith understanding between state and local governments and impacted communities and preserve flexible management practices.

Throughout my time working for you in the U.S. Senate, I've supported pro-growth policies that cut taxes for farmers, ranchers, and working families. I've fought against the punishing and supercharged death tax proposals which would wipe out generationally owned Ag operations and family businesses. I've also sponsored legislation to protect the small business pass-through deduction which has benefited farmers and Main Street businesses. And I've supported and introduced legislation to help accelerate tax write-offs for purchases of equipment and machinery that help American farmers and ranchers put clothes on our backs and food on our tables.

In Wyoming, our agriculture industry has a long and proud history. We know if agriculture is strong, so are our western communities. I will continue the fight to eliminate destructive regulations hurting our communities. This will ensure Wyoming's farmers and ranchers can focus on running their operations - not dealing with Washington red tape.

John Barrasso, M.D.  
U.S. Senator

### John Holtz, Republican

**I** am an Eagle Scout and a member of the Christian Legal Society since law school. I obtained the first double-digit firm fixed-price contract in the history of the Hughes Aircraft Company; and I was the head of the team to redesign the fire control system; consisting of the laser range finder, ballistic computer and thermal imaging system of the Army's main battle tank, the M60A3. I was in the Electro Optical and Space Division of the Hughes Aircraft Company.

My grandmother met my grandfather in Gillette in 1919 and her brothers had the livery stable.

My grandfather wouldn't let my dad become a navy pilot because cousin Earl Holtz was killed in a crash with Doyen Wardwell, the head of the Wyoming Aeronautical Commission at the Casper airport in 1929. My dad had to enlist in the Marines in World War II.

I was one of the youngest judges in Wyoming history and helped establish the Circuit Court system of today. I was president of my college fraternity and the president of the Alumni Association of the Delta Gamma chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity at the University of Wyoming from 1988 to 1992.

I was instrumental in placing the carrying of concealed weapon without a permit for Wyoming residents on the Wyoming Republican platform in 2010. I am a life member of the NRA.

I was class president at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, where the Japanese first developed kamikaze tactics as a mass weapon of war. I was on the Bataan Death March 20th anniversary march with three of the original survivors and received the historic trail award.

My grandmother and grandfather moved to Omaha after living in Gillette. I was born in Omaha and my father was in the Air Force. We lived all over the world. I began kindergarten on a base in Anchorage when Alaska was still a territory.

My father was an OSI agent and we spent many years in Del Rio, Texas, where our family friend, Major Rudolph Anderson, was the first casualty of the Cold War. He was shot down over Cuba in a U2 when we were at Clark in the Philippines.

I graduated high school in Omaha and began college at the University of Maryland, in Munich when my father received orders to be Deputy Inspector General of

Security for the United States Air Force in Wiesbaden. I graduated from the University of Wyoming and went to law school at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. I was a judge for many years in Douglas. I was a Space Systems Operations Officer in the United States Air Force. I am passionate about strengthening America's defense and reducing the deficit before we experience hyperinflation.

Government is best that governs least. I will strengthen America's defense and reduce the deficit. I would make Social Security non-taxable once again. I would export our resources to Europe and Israel through the Straits of Gibraltar to broaden our opportunities. Wyoming is an energy treasure trove in an energy short world. Our natural resources should help our friends, not our enemies.

I have international experience and qualifications unmatched by others. I would cut social programs. I support Wyoming agriculture, absolutely.

I will follow the Constitution. I will strengthen America's defense and reduce the deficit and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America. I am not afraid to risk my career to do the right thing.

CANDIDATES FOR **US SENATOR** CONTINUED ON **PAGE 11**

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# Wyoming Primary Election

CANDIDATES FOR **US SENATOR** CONTINUED FROM **PAGE 10**

## Scott Morrow, Democratic

No response received.

## Reid Rasner, Republican

As a fourth-generation Wyomingite, I understand the pressures on everyday people from higher food prices, declining food standards, and increased dependence on foreign interests for food, fertilizer, and various farming products that used to be made right here in America. It's high time we stop outsourcing our best bet at winning the future and start making these products at home.

Our farmers rely on subsidies, many of which Democrats in Congress threaten to cut. We cannot allow that to happen. Maintaining and protecting our domestic farming industry is crucial for our national security and economic security. The U.S. is the leader in food availability and selection around the world, and protecting our farmers is paramount to our national identity. Consider this: American farmers contribute over \$136 billion annually to the economy, and agriculture employs

more than 22 million Americans, directly and indirectly. Yet, 30% of our fertilizer is imported, increasing our vulnerability to global market fluctuations and foreign policy issues. By revitalizing our domestic production, we can reduce these dependencies and strengthen our food security. From day one, I will fight tooth and nail to protect our farmers. They are the backbone of our nation, and ensuring their success is vital for our future.

# CANDIDATES FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

## Kyle G. Cameron, Democratic

Wyoming, with its vast landscapes and sparse population, plays a pivotal role in the United States' agricultural framework, particularly in livestock and increasingly in crop production. Despite its contributions, the state faces significant challenges that threaten the sustainability and efficiency of its agricultural sector. Addressing these issues is crucial not only for Wyoming's economic well-being but also for national food security. This position statement highlights the main challenges and proposes a comprehensive strategy to bolster agricultural practices in Wyoming and the wider U.S. Water scarcity stands as a critical challenge for Wyoming's agriculture. The state's semi-arid climate and the increasing unpredictability of water availability necessitate innovative water management and conservation strategies. Emphasizing efficient irrigation techniques, enhancing water storage, and developing drought-resistant crops are essential steps toward mitigating this issue. Soil erosion, particularly from wind, threatens Wyoming's agricultural productivity by depleting fertile topsoil. Addressing this requires the adoption of soil conservation practices such as cover cropping, reduced tillage, and the preservation of natural vegetation to prevent erosion and improve soil health. Fluctuating commodity prices, high operational costs, and limited market access place significant economic strain on Wyoming's farmers and ranchers. Enhancing local and regional food systems, fostering cooperative marketing efforts, and promoting value-

added agriculture could alleviate some of these financial challenges. The agricultural sector in Wyoming, reflective of a nationwide trend, grapples with labor shortages. The demanding nature of farm work and the rural setting of operations complicate efforts to attract and retain a stable workforce. Solutions include investing in agricultural education, offering worker incentives, and exploring the potential of mechanization and automation to fill labor gaps. The effects of increased temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, and more frequent extreme weather events, are already being felt in Wyoming. Adopting adaptive strategies, diversifying crops, and implementing climate-smart agricultural practices are vital for the sector's resilience and sustainability. To support and enhance Wyoming's agricultural sector and its contribution to U.S. food production, a multifaceted approach focusing on sustainable water use, soil health, economic stability, labor solutions, and climate adaptation is necessary. Promoting modern irrigation technologies, encouraging regenerative agricultural practices, strengthening local food systems, investing in agricultural education and workforce development, and incentivizing climate-smart agriculture are key components of this strategy. Advancements in irrigation technology and water-saving practices can significantly reduce water wastage, while the development of drought-resistant crops can ensure consistent yields despite water scarcity.

A statewide initiative promoting soil health through regenerative practices such as crop rotation and agroforestry can improve soil fertility, reduce erosion, and enhance water retention. Developing local and regional food systems can offer farmers more stable markets, reduce dependency on distant markets, and support local economies through direct-to-consumer sales and local food procurement policies. Enhancing agricultural education and offering training in modern agricultural technologies and practices can attract new talent to the sector and prepare the workforce for future challenges. Encouraging practices that increase carbon sequestration, improve water management, and enhance resilience to climate variability is essential. Providing incentives and support for farmers adopting these practices can drive the transition towards a more sustainable agricultural model. Addressing the agricultural issues in Wyoming requires a multifaceted approach that embraces sustainability, innovation, and resilience. By focusing on water management, soil health, economic viability, labor solutions, and climate adaptation, Wyoming can strengthen its agricultural sector and contribute significantly to the United States' food production. This vision for the future calls for collaboration among farmers, policymakers, researchers, and communities to create a resilient and prosperous agricultural landscape in Wyoming and beyond. Vote for me in November and I'll vote for you in Washington. As always, El

CANDIDATES FOR **US REPRESENTATIVE** CONTINUED ON **PAGE 12**



# Wyoming Primary Election

CANDIDATES FOR **US REPRESENTATIVE** CONTINUED FROM **PAGE 11**

## Harriet Hageman, Republican

While I frequently discuss the importance of domestic energy production to national security- the same can be said of our ag industry. The relationship between affordable and reliable energy and our ability to produce affordable, abundant food is obvious. Our food producers are often the hardest hit whenever the cost of gasoline, diesel, natural gas, and electricity goes up. Increasing energy costs translates to an immediate increase in the cost of operating center pivots, buying fertilizer, and purchasing livestock feed. Thus, we should support our ag industry's ability to produce high quality food and fiber, our government bureaucrats are saddling them with ever increasing red tape and cumbersome regulations, putting them out of business.

We have witnessed the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) purchasing our farmland. Our pork and poultry industries have been largely corporatized, with just a few big names controlling the supply chain. Our beef industry is being vertically integrated, with independent producers being squeezed out because of higher production costs, while three of our largest meat packers are foreign owned. These developments spell a potential disaster for our food supply and must be addressed, but we must also acknowledge that the relentless drive to

destroy production of affordable and reliable energy is at the heart of this destabilization.

Congress can and should address the food/energy relationship and bring common sense back into vogue. I am working with like-minded conservatives to prohibit foreign entities from buying land and introduced a bill to mandate "country of origin" labeling or "MCOOL" for meat. With the Biden administration's new regulations targeting our food and energy industries (his "war on the west"), however, we must do more, including blocking the BLM from using the "Conservation and Landscape Health" rule to deny access, management, use and development of our public lands. This BLM rule would redefine "multiple-use" to elevate their definition of "conservation" above the long-standing statutory uses under FLPMA, including livestock grazing. We must fight the BLM's illegal Rock Springs and Buffalo RMPs, the USDA's EID mandate (requiring the use of electronic eartags), and the EPA's war on everything (water use, land use, energy production, food production). These are a few important policies, but there are many more.

Despite these challenges, I remain optimistic. America is blessed with an abundance of natural resources, water, and high-quality lands for producing food and energy. We are blessed with a climate and weather patterns from north to south and west to

east that allow us to maximize food production; raise millions of head of livestock; and provide the resources for an abundance of wildlife, waterfowl, flora and fauna. We lead the world in protecting our environment, while having the highest standard of living and prosperity. In the last 100 years-with commercial production of affordable energy and food-we have dramatically increased our life expectancy, reduced infant mortality, and been at the forefront of every major innovation in healthcare, technology, manufacturing, and agriculture.

America has made these advances despite the overbearing regulatory state, not because of it. The Biden administration's onslaught of regulations has created a tipping point for whether we will continue to be "the bright shining city on the hill," including with regard to food production.

The upcoming election is monumentally important at both the federal and state levels. I encourage you to study the voting records and history of those seeking office. Ensure that everyone's actions align with their words, and demand accountability. We can then take back our country, restore our Constitutional Republic, and protect those who have dedicated their lives to providing us with the highest quality agriculture products in the world.

## Steven R. Helling, Republican

Thank you for this opportunity to submit a position statement. I am a Christian, very pro-life, and a huge Donald Trump supporter. Farming and ranching are a big part of our Wyoming heritage, but family operations are under great pressure from inflation and Big Agra. Wyoming lost 500,000 acres of farm and ranch land last year. Reducing energy costs and low inflation are critical to keep family operations affordable. I am a supporter of the use of fossil fuels, which have provided clean and reliable energy for years. I am opposed to the construction of new nuclear power plants, including the highly experimental plant in Kemmerer until such time as there is first a permanent storage site for the resulting nuclear waste.

President Joe Biden wants a rapid expansion of civil nuclear deployment in the United States, even if there is no permanent storage site for the nuclear waste. TerraPower has agreed with Joe Biden and has already requested an expedited review of its application in Kemmerer. Meanwhile, Joe Biden has repeatedly shown he does not care about the best interests of this country and its people. In addition to promoting

open borders (and even flying to foreign airports to bring in hundreds of thousands of additional illegal migrants), and thereby allowing terrorists, criminals, mental patients, and others to enter our country, he has depleted our strategic petroleum reserves from 638 million barrels (Jan. 2017) to 367 million barrels (May 2024). He wants us to have electric tanks in our military. He wants biological men to be able to participate in women's sports.

The people of Wyoming should not trust Joe Biden. There is no place to permanently store nuclear waste, which remains dangerously radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years. We must not burden thousands of future generations with the problem of dealing with our nuclear waste. The nuclear waste in Kemmerer will remain in Kemmerer. There is a possibility Kemmerer will become the permanent nuclear waste storage dump for the entire nation. In Germany, where they shut down their last nuclear reactor in 2023, after Germans got fed up with the lies, cover-ups, and radiation poisoning, a government official was quoted as saying 3 generations of Germans had

received benefit from nuclear power and about 30,000 generations of Germans would have to deal with the resulting nuclear waste. There was concern about how to label any nuclear waste storage site so that people 100,000 or more years from now could be warned of the danger, as languages and signs could change over hundreds of thousands of years.

Wyoming will be one catastrophe away from thousands of square miles of nuclear radiation poisoning. Twelve states already have nuclear moratoriums against new nuclear construction until such time as the United States has a permanent storage site for nuclear waste. The whole country should have such a moratorium. President Reagan, in a different context, once stated "history will record with astonishment that those who had the most to lose did the least to prevent its happening." Wyomingites must not sit back and simply let Joe Biden, Bill Gates, and TerraPower build their experimental nuclear power plant in Kemmerer. We need to "fight like Helling" to keep this from happening. Steve Helling, Wyoming Republican Candidate for U.S. House.

VOTE • AUGUST 20



## Crook County Farm Bureau Announces 2024 Scholarship Winners

SUBMITTED BY CASSIE PICKREL, CCFBF SECRETARY

The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation has selected the winners for two scholarships awarded for 2024. The scholarship committee reviewed all applications submitted, five in total. Based on the course of study, recommendation letters, extracurricular involvement, and the desire for higher education and need, two scholarships were awarded. Determining the recipient of the Crook County Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship is always a very difficult decision and is based on many factors.

The first-place winner of the \$2,000 scholarship is Keaton Mills. Keaton was in the 2024 graduating class from Sundance Wy with a 4.0 GPA. He is involved in a wide array of activities, including being the 2023-2024 Sundance-Bearlodge FFA Chapter president, Honor Society Member, football, basketball, track, FCA, band/choir, student council, and youth group at Pine Ridge Community Church and Black Hills Cowboy Church. He has made All-Confer-

ence in all participating sports and gained an All-State title in football, basketball, and track. Keaton plans to attend Chadron State College to study Business Administration while playing football for the Eagles. After graduation, he plans to attend Lineman school and return to the Black Hills area.

The second-place winner of the \$1,500 scholarship is Hayes Haiar. Hayes was also in the 2024 graduating class from Sundance Wy with a 4.0 GPA. He was recently named the recipient of the College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition Program Award for outstanding academic achievement. In April, he was awarded the FFA Discovery and Greenhand Award at the State FFA Convention in Cheyenne. He has held an officer position for student council as the treasurer, was a two-time varsity letter winner on the football team and joined the golf team his senior year. Hayes is a member of the Spearfish United Methodist Church and has volunteered in the community on a wide array of projects. Hayes plans to attend the University of Wyoming and pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy.



Keaton Mills



Hayes Haiar

We would like to congratulate both young men and encourage all applicants to apply again in 2025. The Federation would also like to thank both the com-

mittee and judges that helped to review each applicant. This is not an easy task, and we are grateful for the time and dedication. ■

## Crook County Kids Participate in Ag Books for Kids 2024

SUBMITTED BY CASSIE PICKREL, CROOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION SECRETARY

The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation promoted a program called Ag Books for Kids into the Crook County elementary school classrooms. This year's book was "Seed, Soil, and Sun" by Cris Peterson. The purpose: to instill the knowledge that many of our daily necessities come from agriculture! American agriculture provides us with the food we eat, the clothes we wear and so much more.

Every year, the Crook County Farm Bureau Federation delivers copies of the book to classrooms, kindergarten through fifth grade. This year, Crook County had 167 total entries from Hulett, Moorcroft and Sundance elementary schools. The top three contest entries went on to compete in Districts, and then on to the state level. Every student that participated in the contest was given a packet of flower seeds and instructions on how to plant them at home, a way to put their knowledge to work! The county winners for Crook County also received a cash prize and were acknowledged in front of their classmates by a member/s of the county board. The Crook County winners were as follows:

Coloring Contest: 1st Place- Lucy G. Neiman- Hulett Wy Kindergarten, 2nd Place- James Williamson- Sundance Wy First Grade, 3rd Place- Luna Gillis- Sundance Wy First Grade

Poster Contest: 1st Place- Maya Buckman- Sundance Wy Second Grader, 2nd Place- Marshall Williamson- Moorcroft Wy Third Grade, 3rd Place- Aspen McDonald- Sundance Wy Second Grade



County VP JW Moore, Luna Gillis, James Williamson, and County Treasurer Keith Haiar



Lucy G Neiman, Parker Hamilton, Rilee Bears, County Agent Andrea Robinson, and County Secretary Cassie Pickrel



Marshall Williamson and County Secretary Cassie Pickrel

Marketing Ad Contest: 1st Place- Parker Hamilton- Hulett Wy Fourth Grade, 2nd Place- Bella East- Sundance Wy Fourth Grade- 3rd Place- Rilee Bears- Hulett Wy Fifth Grade

Three students from Crook County went on to place at the district level, where they were awarded with their own copy of "Seed, Soil, and Sun" and their entries were forwarded to the state contest. Lucy G. Neiman from Hulett Wy was the District First Place Coloring Contest Winner, Maya Buckman from Sundance Wy was the

District Second Place Poster Contest Winner, and Parker Hamilton from Hulett Wy was third at Districts for the Marketing Ad Contest.

The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation Board would like to thank all the teachers, educators, volunteers and board members for their participation in this program to assure agriculture stays alive in our classrooms! Thank you to every child that participated in the contests this year and a job well done to all winners at the county and district levels! ■

## Sheridan County Ranch & Farm Bureau Federation News

SUBMITTED BY ANDY GREER

Earlier this year Andy and Brenda Greer read the "Ag Books for Kids" book of the year to Story Elementary School classes. Story Elementary School had 100% participation in the associated contests. They were rewarded with DQ Dilly Bars that they enjoyed at a school-wide assembly. District and state prizes were awarded to Gus Ivory, state runner up in the poster contest. His teacher was Miss Aksamit. Addy Cooley and Ember Barnes were district winners in the marketing ad contest. Their teacher was Mrs. Debban. ■





## Wyoming Classifieds

## ALL CLASSIFIED ADS

must be received by the 10th of each month to appear in the next issue. Members may place two (2) complimentary ads, up to 40 words each, per issue. Real estate sales not included. Complimentary ads will run for three issues unless requested otherwise. Non-members may submit an ad at a minimum rate of \$5 per ad (50 cents per word). The appearance of any ad in *Wyoming Agriculture* does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the product or service offered.

**TO SUBMIT ADS**, send your ad along with your name, phone number and member number or member county to [kclark@wyfb.org](mailto:kclark@wyfb.org) or mail to WyFB, ATTN: Classifieds, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073.

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## EQUIPMENT

**RHINO GPD30** Ranch-Pro Hand Held T Post Driver. Honda 4-Stroke 35.8CC. New unused in factory sealed box. \$1,600. 307-467-5310.

**JOHN DEERE CLAMP ON DUALS.** Set of 2 with Firestone Performer 460/85 R38 tires mounted on rims. Clamps included. Almost new condition. Located outside of Casper, WY. \$3900 (or best offer). Call 307-577-5406 and please leave message if no answer.

**2017 FORD SUPER DUTY LARIAT**, 6.2 liter GAS engine, heated/cooled leather seats. 55,678 miles, well maintained- no longer needed to pull camper. Will email the VIN report and text pictures. Asking \$45,000. Call or text Ellie anytime 307-723-1915.

**ANDERSON ROCK PICKER.** 540 PTO, gear box to dual shaft to chain drive, pin hitch, 3 hydraulic connections, 56 inch wide pick-up, 4 rollers with 13 teeth each, 7.5 inch call teeth by 3.4 inch thick, manual hopper lock, hydraulic operated dump. Pictures available. Text or call 307-899-9070. Located in Cody, Wyo.

**2019 JOHN DEERE TRACTOR 5055 E**, 4-wheel drive. Canopy Hardware Kit fender extensions put on. Loader prep package. Two remotes. Power shuttle. 380 hours. Kept in the shed when not being used. It is very nice and clean. Asking \$29,500. Call for pictures. 308/641-2362. Located near Torrington, Wyo.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**HERITAGE SPRING WHEAT** by the pound or bushel to grind for home use available post harvest late July, early August. Call Baker Farms 307-422-3502 or email [tkbaker541@gmail.com](mailto:tkbaker541@gmail.com) for details.

**PRAIRIE PIES (GRANOLA BARS)** available at Chugwater businesses plus at Thrifty Foods and Interstate Gas in Wheatland, and Riverbend Nursery in Cheyenne. Baked by Teresa Baker, the Occasional Baker, Baker Farms on-farm Bakery, Chugwater.

**GATED IRRIGATION PIPE 12"** approx. 86 lengths - 3 navigators excellent condition well kept almost new condition. \$160.00 per length (or best offer) in Riverton, WY. Call Bob at 435-671-0386.

## CUSTOM HAYING

**CUSTOM HAY SERVICES OFFERED.** We are looking for acres of hay that farmers need put up in 3x4 bales around Lyman, Neb. and Huntley, Wyo. area. We will swath, rake, bale and stack hay. Call Dan Hill at 308-641-2362 or 308-641-2500.

## HAY

**GRASS HAY FOR SALE.** Certified weed free, small bales, high altitude grown, barn stored, no rain. Encampment Wyoming area. 307-340-0551 text or call.

## BRANDS

**BRAND FOR SALE.** Right shoulder of cattle, ear mark. Has never been used on cattle. Very nice looking brand. Renewed thru March 1, 2031. Sweetwater County. \$1,500. OBO. 307-362-2688.



## New Members

## ALBANY

Bell Otte Ranch (REG), Laramie; Christopher Bowen, Laramie; Anna & Brian Armstrong, Laramie; Augustin Stronum, Laramie; Kenneth Swain, Laramie; Jewel & Jason Barreno, Laramie; Bridger Bleak, Laramie; Bailey Shields, Laramie; Robert Boerstler, Laramie

## BIG HORN

Ashley Gobel, Cody; David Hayes, Cowley; Joe Paumer, Manderson; Ben Zeller/ Zeller & Sons, LLC (REG), Lovell; Helen Ward, Basin; Eric Aguilar (REG), Emblem; Jim French (REG), Greybull; Erin Williams, Manderson; Marilyn Edeler, Greybull; Curtis McNiven,

Burlington; Nicole Bertolini, Greybull; David Collingwood, Greybull; Timothy Scott, Basin; Michael Harrington, Burlington; Carolyn Jorgensen, Basin; Jerome Hopkin, Burlington; Lesley & Russell Boardman (REG), Frannie

## CAMPBELL

Sydney & Kevin Wilson (Reg), Weston; Guy Montgomery, Gillette; Dalton Thurman, Gillette; Lisa & David Tescher (REG), Oshoto; Tina & Jerry Gustafson, Gillette; Ty Pond (REG), Gillette; Bev Suedkamp (REG), Gillette; Lacy & Zebedee Davis, Gillette; Janie & Donald Dooley, Wright; Joseph Maycock (REG), Gillette; Alberta & Rodney Maki (REG), Gillette; Ashley & Bryan Miller, Gillette; Kathy & Robert Holum, Gillette; Linda & Thomas Mohr, Gillette; Cherie & Mykal Hamilton, Gillette; Kelcie & Kyle Oltmanns, Gillette; Justin Dooley, Wright; Keely & Daniel Morin, Sheridan; Vanessa & Justin Boyd (REG), Gillette

## CARBON

Danielle & Jacob Miller, Green River; Sandra & Larry Weickum, Rawlins; Haylee Shueller, Rawlins; Joan Toupal, Cheyenne; Lisa & Robert Fluty, Saratoga; Amber & Robbie Collins, Rawlins; Patricia Davis (REG), Encampment; Leonard Sawyer, Rawlins; Elizabeth Campbell, Dixon; Stanley DeVore Jr, Casper; John Meyer, Saratoga; Kim Lorenzen, Saratoga; Garrett Petersen, Rawlins; Heather & Greg Bartlett (REG), Saratoga; Cindy & Robert Faulkner (REG), Saratoga; Vickie Stolns, Saratoga; Margaret Kelley, Encampment

## CONVERSE

Stetson Weber, Glenrock; Tyler Tille, Glenrock; Nicholas Diesher, Glenrock; Ramiro Robles, Douglas; Karon Elisson, Glenrock; Christy Schell, Douglas

## CROOK

David Ayer (REG), Beulah; Winter & Jeff Carter, Rozet; Kelli & Paul Baker (REG), Moorcroft; Michael Stevens (REG), Hulett; Charles Steele, Sundance; Bobby Hauber (Reg), Hulett; Edward Scott, Moorcroft; Virginia & John Costello, Sundance; Pamela Garman (REG), Sundance; Bryce Conzelman (REG), Sundance; Connie Matthews, Pine Haven; Kimberly & Gregory Davis, Sundance

## FREMONT

Bill Freese (REG), Lander; Whitney Milek, Lander; Jerry Dilts & Elizabeth Philp (REG), Shoshoni; Joyce Dockham (REG), Worland; Steve Lee, Lander; Anita Roman, Riverton; Roger Smith, Sheridan; Kim & Jim Bridle (REG), Shoshoni; James Kraft, Riverton; Clyde Woolery (REG), Kinneer; Gloria Scott (REG), Lander; Kathleen Henderson, Lander; Tyler Woodward, Riverton

## GOSHEN

Lance Griggs (REG), Torrington; Erin Daly, Torrington; Donald Williams (REG), Guernsey; Judith & James Wodahl, Torrington; Amy Lozano, Torrington; Kylie Youtz, Cheyenne; Holly & Joe Hatley, Torrington; Eric Kler (REG), Torrington; Titus Graber (REG), Torrington; Tanner Hort (REG), Torrington; Anthony Mendoza, Casper; Nina & Robert Ward (REG), Lagrange; Mary Rodriguez, Torrington; Kellie & Matthew Cearns, Torrington; Jennifer & Karl Emigh, Torrington; Andria Nicolay, Torrington; Joel Hartman (REG), Torrington; Cheryl & Boyd Yeik (REG), Yoder; Jennifer Reffalt (REG), Fort Laramie; Kathy & Galen Herdt (REG), Veteran; Cindy & Mike Block (REG), Guernsey

## HOT SPRINGS

Gary Peterman, Thermopolis; Angela & Justin Ritchey (REG), Thermopolis; Maryann & Daryl Mathern, Thermopolis; David Bain (REG), Thermopolis



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NEW MEMBERS... From Page 14

JOHNSON

Stanley Iverson, Buffalo; Kerri & Ben Shoup, Buffalo; Kristin Ellis & Darrin McKenzie, Buffalo; Linda & Juan Maya, Kaycee; Roberta Schrater, Buffalo; Terri & Russell Brock (REG), Kaycee; Clayton Borgiali, Buffalo; Erik Strom, Buffalo; Ginnie & Matthew Wing, Buffalo; Lisa & Wade Wagner, Buffalo; Chelsey & Rodolfo Sta Maria, Buffalo; Tim Moyes (REG), Buffalo; Eldon Clifford, Sheridan; Earl Madsen (REG), Buffalo; Bonnie & Loren Peyrot (REG), Buffalo; Lester Adams, Buffalo; Teresa & Scott Bartlett, Buffalo

LARAMIE

Anna & Brodie Eklund, Albin; Ledominic Hernandez, Cheyenne; Gregory George, Cheyenne; Patty & Gregory Smith, Burns; Wendy Koc, Cheyenne; Tatiana & Richard Steele, Cheyenne; Robert Louis Lanter, Cheyenne; Robin Coppinger, Cheyenne; Lynda Hunt, Cheyenne; Thomas Lif, Pine Bluffs; Miriam Bennett, Cheyenne; James Mayash, Cheyenne; Jean & Jack Mitchell, Cheyenne; Tanya Barcelona, Cheyenne; Marlyn & Patrick Macy (REG), Cheyenne; Joe Cox (REG), Cheyenne; Casey Madsen, Pine Bluffs; Jeffery Weller, Pine Bluffs; Suzanne & Rickey Kempter (REG), Cheyenne; Kristopher Mitchell, Cheyenne; Lisa Glick, Cheyenne; Nancy Fresquez, Cheyenne; Melissa Harding (REG), Burns; Justin Whipple, Cheyenne; Michael McDaniels, Carpenter; Edward Himelhoch, Carpenter; Mark Head, Pine Bluffs; Philip Sanchez (REG), Albin;

Eileen Obsuth, Cheyenne; Heather & Matthew Madrid, Cheyenne; Nicole Palmer, Cheyenne; Merlyn & Debra Harrison, Cheyenne; Scott Meier, Cheyenne; Chisum Volk (REG), Pine Bluffs; Ellen Palser, Cheyenne; Michael & Whitney Anaya, Cheyenne; Meradith & Jay Bondurant, Cheyenne; Jamie Lobato, Cheyenne; Grace Kinkade, Hillsdale; Deena & Duwane Floy, Cheyenne; Tony Gagliardi (REG), Broomfield, CO; Jennifer & Thomas Porter (REG), Hawk Springs; Brandie & Allen Burki, Cheyenne; Linda Stewart, Cheyenne; Michelle & Josh Johnson, Cheyenne; Margaret & Tim Bath (REG), Burns; Wendy Puls, Cheyenne; Dennis Michaud, Pine Bluffs; Jillian Balow, Cheyenne; Rosalyn Reifschneider, Carpenter; Sammie Smith, Cheyenne

LINCOLN

Devry Taylor, Afton; Melody & Larry Rosenwinkel, Alpine; Bruce Ellett (REG), Kemmerer; Kim Hallam (REG), Kemmerer; Kole Wines, Thayne; Woodrow Studt, La Barge; Lynn Call (REG), Afton; Kyle Kisling, Etna; Phillip Clauson, Alpine; Taylor Lewis, Afton; Roy Runion, Kemmerer; Casey Parry, Afton; Alan Haderlie (REG), Afton

NATRONA

Merrill Weikum, Casper; Robert Stark, Casper; Eric Price, Evansville; Jacci & Trey Warne, Casper; Nancy Taylor, Casper; Geraldine Ketchum, Casper; Tammy & Clayton Thomas (REG), Casper; Bruce Demcheck, Evansville; Sherina Noblitt (REG), Casper

PARK

Bonnie & Stephen Emery (REG), Cody; Jim Fortune, Cody; Kirk Bennett, Meeteetse; Thomas Grimes, Wapiti; Walter Riley, Cody; Brooke Robertson, Cody; Diana Coombs, Powell; James Jolovich, Cody

PLATTE

Robert Robley, Wheatland; Troy Cochran (REG), Wheatland; Brian Neely, Wheatland

SHERIDAN

Brian Taylor, Sheridan; Arlie Johnson, Sheridan; Craig McKenzie, Sheridan; David Ackerman, Story; David Keister (REG), Powell; George Williams, Sheridan; Rick Lee, Banner; William Riesen, Sheridan; Regina Leath (REG), Banner; Jenna & Neel Shodapkar, Sheridan; Don Schulthess, Sheridan; Larry Thiel, Sheridan; Adam Granger, Sheridan; Dennis Emond, Sheridan; Donna Bass, Banner; Chandra & James Legerski, Sheridan; Ryan Walker, Sheridan; Tyler McKinley, Sheridan; Gerald Kaul (REG), Sheridan; Linda Schwamb, Sheridan; Alli Peterson, Banner; Amy & Jacob Blumenstock, Ranchester; Angela Loguidice, Sheridan; Bart Byrd, Sheridan; Carol Miech, Sheridan; David Oleson, Sheridan; Jeremia Attebury, Sheridan; Kelly Fjell, Sheridan; Stanley Nelson, Sheridan; Wesley Beavers, Sheridan; Chester Burton, Sheridan; Hidie McCune, Sheridan; Laura & Waylon Wuitschick, Sheridan; Samuel Western, Sheridan; Duane Norwood, Sheridan; Raymond Mikus, Gina Raptoulis, Sheridan; Gary Joy, Sheridan; James Kerr, Sheridan;

Jennifer Lowe, Greybull; Jodie Merkey, Sheridan; Kathryn Good, Ranchester; Megan Powers, Sheridan; Paden Tomac, Sheridan; Darylene & Robert Mahoney, Sheridan; George Baker, Sheridan; Ronald Dare, Ranchester; Billie Jo & Michael Raneri (REG), Cheyenne; Roxanne Tervola, Big Horn; Ryan Gillis, Sheridan; Belita & Jo Asher, Sheridan; Mike Harum, Dayton; James Lomax (REG), Dayton; Verdine Davis, Sheridan; Mimi Tate & Him Smith (REG), Sheridan; Rebecca Lynch, Sheridan; Kelly Greenough & Marvin Robb, Sheridan; Clark Rosenlund, Sheridan; Janella & Carl Stark, Sheridan; Margaret & Donald Aksamit, Dayton; Douglas Rustad, Sheridan; Ward Strang, Dayton; Donna & Jayson Drury, Ranchester; Judy Morrow, Sheridan; Heather Berry, Sheridan; Alexis & Andrew Nikirk, Sheridan; June & Tony Laing, Sheridan; Becky & Tod Olson, Sheridan; Robert Barnes, Story; Stephanie & Rich Buehler, Big Horn; Carean & Leo Goss (REG), Sheridan; Denise & Stephen Masters (REG), Ranchester; Deb & William Sustrich (REG), Sheridan; Jeffrey Tift (REG), Banner; Dwight Stanislaw, Sheridan; Kittipong Jaroenchisakon, Sheridan; Melissa & Jeffrey Mowry, Sheridan; Justin Bishop, Sheridan; Coralee & Robert Davis, Big Horn; Edward Kamensky, Sheridan; Karla & Jarett Olsen, Ranchester; Natasha Dotson, Sheridan; Shelli Haaf, Sheridan; Joyce & Steven Carroll, Sheridan; Lori & Homer Scott, Sheridan; Edward Kline, Story; John Hininger, Sheridan; Diana Garland, Big Horn; Mary & Joseph Tanner, Sheridan

NEW MEMBERS ... Page 17

WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR GOAT!

2024 FREMONT COUNTY FAIR

Saturday, July 27

Event Starts 7:30 p.m.

HOG N' MUD WRESTLING

Presented by PLAINS FLOORING

Admission: Adults \$12.00, Children \$8.00

Wednesday, July 31

Event Starts 7:30 p.m.

RANCH RODEO – 16 Year of Family Tradition

Presented by FIRST INTERSTATE BANK

Admission: Adults \$12.00, Children \$8.00

Sunday, July 28

Starts at 12:00 noon

FREMONT FAMILY DAY

Presented by FREMONT COUNTY PREVENTION PROGRAM & BUNKS BBQ

Free Lunch - Bounce Houses - Family Fun

Thursday, Aug 1

Event Starts 7:30 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF VALOUR

Presented by

Admission: Adults \$12.00, Children \$8.00

Monday, July 29

Event Starts 7:30 p.m.

Wind River Rodeo Round Up - PRCA Ram Rodeo

Admission per night: Adults \$15.00, Children \$8.00

Friday, Aug 2

Event Starts 6:30 p.m.

FIGURE 8 RACES

Presented by

Admission: Adults \$15.00, Children \$8.00

Tuesday, July 30

Event Starts 7:30 p.m.

Wind River Rodeo Round Up - PRCA Ram Rodeo

Admission per night: Adults \$15.00, Children \$8.00

Saturday, Aug 3

Event Starts 6:30 p.m.

FIGURE 8 RACES

Presented by BAILEY ENTERPRISES

Admission: Adults \$15.00, Children \$8.00

Whatever Floats Your Goat

July 27 - Aug 3, 2024

Wind River

HOTEL • CASINO

Tickets available online at

www.fremontcountyfair.org



Obituaries



Lorraine Davis  
September 10, 1932 – June 11, 2024

Louella Lorraine (Hansen) Davis, also known as Mimi, age 91, died June 11, 2024, at home. Lorraine was born on September 10, 1932, to Carl and Ella (Toth) Hansen eight miles northwest of Newcastle, WY in Pedro, WY.

While Lorraine was growing up with her seven siblings, she spent her summers on the family ranch which is located northwest of Newcastle, WY on Highway 585. In the winters the family lived in Newcastle.

Lorraine attended Newcastle schools and graduated from Newcastle High in 1950. On August 22, 1953, she married Russell Davis.

In 1962, Russell & Lorraine purchased part of the Edward Thomson ranch on Beaver Creek where cattle, crops, and two children

were raised. Lorraine worked for many years at the Weston County Court House in the Clerk's office, but her true passion was the ranching lifestyle. She passed away on her favorite day of the year, June 11. This was the day she faithfully trailed her cows to the summer pasture. She could be found trailing cows on her horse up to the age of 89.

She was active in Chapter X, P.E.O.; 21st Century Club; Cowbelles; Farm Bureau and the First United Methodist Church of Newcastle.

Hours before her death she woke enough to declare the glorious and beautiful sight of heaven. She then repeatedly stated "You can't take ANYTHING with you." While she could not take anything with her, she left a host of

friends and family behind who will never forget her and can't thank her enough for all she did for us.

Lorraine is survived by her daughter, Dana (Harold) Tysdal, Newcastle, WY; son Grant Davis, Powell, WY; granddaughter, Kyla (Micah) Popma, Newcastle, WY; great-grandson, Josiah Popma, Newcastle, WY; siblings, Rose Allen, Saucier, MS; Helen Nicolls, Shirley Borgialli, Jack (Betty) Hansen, sister-in-law, Barb Hansen, all of Newcastle; numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Russell (deceased 2015); brothers: Bill Hansen, Jimmy Hansen and Fred Hansen; grandson, Garrett Tysdal.

A Celebration of Life was held June 24 at the First United Methodist Church of Newcastle with a dinner afterwards.

A memorial has been established to the First United Methodist Church of Newcastle. ■



Tom Jones  
December 14, 1934 – June 12, 2024

Tom Jones saddled his horse and rode over the "divide" at the ranch on his beloved Dead Horse Creek, on June 12, 2024, where he lived for 79 years.

Born to homesteading parents, Harry & Dorothy, on December 14, 1934, he was the last original settler on the Creek. Wearing his signature red suspenders, riding anything that had hair on it, he ran wild horses in the Breaks with his Dad, caught rabbits for a hunting ground in Wisconsin, hunted bobcats with his track hounds, pulled sheep out of bogs, and with his Dad built every mile of fence on the ranch. In later years, he ran Longhorn cattle and enjoyed the many friendships he made with other producers.

He raised 17 wayward young men who would have been in jail or prison. Without much money, he fed them sourdough pancakes, venison, and bread and gravy. He taught them the Code of the West, which he lived by until the day he died. Some of those men are here today.

Tom was very active in the Johnson County Farm Bureau, a lifetime member of the Wyoming Farm Bureau, and together with Helen, was awarded the 2007 Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award. He was a Charter member of the Wyoming Longhorn Association, a Lifetime NRA member, and served over 20 years on the Johnson County Predator Board doing whatever he could to annihilate the coyotes he hated so much.

Tom loved kids and helping them rope and catch at brandings. His specialty, "Sit up straight and throw your rope hard!" The result, a thumbs up! His favorite saying was "You ride him and I'll whip 'em".

The bugle of a bull elk on a frosty October morning, a new fresh snow to run bobcats, and a new spotted Longhorn calf were among his favorite things.

His motto: The family that hunts together stays together! He considered his longtime friend, Bill Jenkins, part of this family. Bill originally came to hunt 43 years ago.

Tom was always up for a story, good joke, or a laugh with a twinkle in his eye. He loved kisses from ladies and telling of the experiences in 1949 with Dolly Iberlin as his teacher.

Tom is survived by Helen, his wife of 34 years. His sister Martha (and her sons Tom & Bill). His children: John (Tracey), Butch (Ronda), Joyce (Craig), Dolly (Bob), Cody (Tynie), Chuck (Sandi). Numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and a great great grandchild also complete his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter (Cori), and a granddaughter (Bridgette).

A public viewing with a celebration of life for Tom was held Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at Johnson County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall with Joan Smith officiating. A private family interment will be held at the ranch at a later date. Honorary pallbearers were his many friends.

Memorial Contributions in Tom's name may be made to: Bighorn Bluegrass Camp, c/o Karen Blaney, 950 N. Main St., Buffalo, WY 82834 and/or Kalif Shrine, P.O. Box K, Sheridan, WY 82801. Online condolences may be written at [www.championfh.com](http://www.championfh.com). ■

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NEW MEMBERS... From Page 15

SUBLETTE

Diane & David Willson (REG), Pinedale; Shelbi & Shawn Kautzsch, Pinedale; Chandra Stough, Pinedale; Lazaro Garza, Daniel; P McGuire, Pinedale

SWEETWATER

Noel Florencio, Rock Springs; Janice Meeks, Rock Springs; Steve Davis, Rock Springs; Julee & Dale Dreben, Rock Springs; Lulu & Daniel Hellickson, Rock Springs; Julie Piper, Rock Springs; Eric Shantz, Green River; Gabriel Baca, Green River; Martha Tabolt, Rock Springs; Adam Davies, Green River; Tenny & Michael Hanson, Green River; Branda Nutt, Rock Springs; Clay & Amy Allen, Farson; Donna Stotts, Rock Springs; Gary Beyers, Rock Springs; Nadine & Wayne Stotts, Farson

TETON

Amy & Scott Evans, Jackson; Charles Ryland, Dallas, TX; Janet & Joe Kravetsky, Star Valley; Wendy Carlson-Koll, Jackson; Sean Clark, Jackson; Melissa Morton, Jackson; Brit Ross, Jackson; Laura & William Davenport, Kelly; Annie Johnson, Thayne; Spotted Horse Ranch (REG), Jackson; Jeffrey Tibbitts, Jackson

UINTA

Lynn & Dustin Rees (REG) Fort Bridger; Skylar Robinson (REG), Evanston; Ashlee & Ford Wakley (REG), Lyman; Kenneth Fackrell (REG), Mountain View; Jane & Douglas Malone, Robertson; Casey Martin, Mountain View; Robert Lyons, Lyman; Daegon Clegg, Fort Bridger; Donna Henrie, Mountain View; Laiken & Devan Pope (REG), Lyman; Corey Bell, Mountain View

WASHAKIE

Monica & Howard Schriber, Worland; Garrett Michel, Worland; Tyler Measles, Worland; Eric Bower (REG), Worland; Hanna Bayha- Mountford & Carson Mountford, Worland; Stefnie Harris, Worland; Ryver & Mason Stone, Worland; Sandell Harry, Worland; Alexander Cowie, Worland; Tag Double H Cattle Company (REG), Carmel, IN; Beth Johnsey, Worland; Tauna Thiel Worland; Todd Smolnik, Ten Sleep

WESTON

John Drost, Newcastle; Jerry Riggs (REG), Newcastle; Scott Johnson (REG), Newcastle; Laurie & Tony Farella, Newcastle; Rick Wehri (REG), Newcastle; Shane Bodemann, Newcastle

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- Rebuild Wyoming's Mining Industry
- Fight Woke Anti-Energy Regulations

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*Let's put Wyoming First.*

*John Barrasso*

**John Barrasso**  
U.S. SENATE

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## GIVE A GOOD HOME TO A Wild Horse or Burro

### Wild Horse & Burro Events

#### EVENT DETAILS

Wyoming / Nebraska 2024

**Elm Creek Wild Horse and Burro Corrals, Elm Creek NE**  
July 19 & Aug. 16

**Cheyenne Frontier Days @ Lions Park, Cheyenne WY**  
July 19 - 28

**Mustang & Burro Days, Wheatland WY**  
Aug. 24 - 25

**Wind River Wild Horse Ranch Day & Adoptions, Lander WY**  
Sept. 7

**Wyoming Honor Farm Adoptions, Riverton WY**  
Sept. 13-14

**Wheatland Off Range Corral, Wheatland WY**  
Sept. 20 & Oct. 18

**Deerwood Open Ranch Days, Centennial WY**  
Sept. 28

**Mantle Ranch, Wheatland WY**  
To make an adoption appointment, please call:  
(815) 566-1233 or (307) 331-1311.

**Rock Springs Wild Horse Holding Facility, Rock Springs WY**  
To make an adoption appointment for Thursday or Friday.  
Please call (307) 352-0292.

**Elm Creek Wild Horse and Burro Corrals, Elm Creek NE**  
To make an adoption appointment, please call (308) 856-4498.

Call (307) 775-6162 for more information about these adoption events.

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**\$125** Minimum fee

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Bureau of Land Management  
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**Justin Hatfield**  
Agent  
Douglas  
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**Becky Pearson\***  
Agent  
Gillette  
307-682-4454



**Justin Hatfield**  
Agent  
Glenrock  
307-436-8402



**Ellary Kelly\***  
Agent  
Greybull  
307-765-4621



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



**Tamey Peternal\***  
Agent  
Kemmerer  
307-877-5582



**Jake Huhnke\***  
Agent  
Lander  
307-332-3295



**Justin Jeffers\***  
Agent  
Laramie  
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**Zack Jacobsen\***  
Agent  
Laramie  
307-742-4847



**Holly Borton**  
Agent  
Newcastle  
307-746-4471



**Jak Tanner**  
Agent  
Pinedale  
307-367-2141



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



**Andrea Robinson\***  
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# How do western states federal lands work?

WESTERN STATES PODCAST

Almost half of the land in the western United States is owned by the Federal Government, compared to only 4% of land east of the Mississippi. Obviously, there is a story to tell on this topic. With hosts Cam Hammond and Ott Clark, a panel takes us through an honest conversation about the pros, cons, victories, frustrations, benefits, and limitations of living near and working on these federal lands. If you don't know what federal lands are, no worries. They will explain that, too.

The panel consists of Amanda Kaster, Director of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Keith Hamilton, a fourth-generation rancher and farmer from Wyoming; and Ben Menges, a fifth-generation farmer from Arizona.


"Grass is a renewable resource...we as ranchers are out there every day seeing the water developed properly, cattle moved on time, fences maintained along with all that comes to the wild-



life that benefit from the work we do," Hamilton says during the recording. Download and subscribe wherever podcasts are found or listen in at wyfb.org.


This podcast was created by the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation with a collaboration of multiple western state Farm Bureau Federations. ■

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# AFBF challenges BLM rule that destabilizes ranching

JULY 12, 2024

A lawsuit filed July 12, 2024 by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation and 10 other groups challenges the lawfulness of the Bureau of Land Management’s Public Lands Rule, which threatens the future of ranching in the U.S. by destabilizing a decades-old tradition of grazing on federal lands.

Gary Heibertshausen, a sheep rancher in Montana and Farm Bureau member, says access to public lands for livestock grazing is crucial to the success of his ranch. “If Willow Creek Partners could not graze its livestock on federal land, we would be forced to sell our sheep and cease operating as a ranch.”

Heibertshausen and his partners hold six grazing permits covering several thousand acres of federal lands. He is supporting the case, saying the BLM rule creates substantial risk and uncertainty for ranchers, adding, “Under the rule, we can no longer be certain that the public lands on which we currently rely for grazing will remain available for grazing over the coming years.”

BLM issued the final rule in May with a stated goal of increasing the health and resilience of public lands, but a lack of clarity in the rule and changes in policy that are not authorized by law make it unacceptable. The rule also makes it more difficult for ranchers to play an important role in the stewardship of public lands.

AFBF President Zippy Duvall said, “Further restricting grazing on public lands

takes us backward not forward because ranchers are delivering a return on the trust placed in them to care for public lands. They are clearing brush that could fuel wildfires, controlling invasive species, and bringing overall health benefits to the land.”

The benefits of grazing range from reducing wildfire risk and slowing the spread of invasive weeds to building robust root systems and spurring forage growth for native species. The misguided Public Lands Rule threatens the important balance our country has achieved on public lands, as well as the future stability of the many ranches that depend on grazing permits.

BLM oversees approximately 245 million acres of property in the West, which amounts to one-tenth of all U.S. land. For nearly a century, farmers and ranchers have worked with the federal government to ensure Western land can be used for both public enjoyment and agricultural use. So the rule’s changes to the management of public lands have broad implications for agriculture and the future for America’s ranchers.

AFBF is joined by the American Exploration & Mining Association, American Forest Resource Council, American Petroleum Institute, American Sheep Industry Association, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, National Mining Association, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Natrona County Farm & Ranch Bureau, Public Lands Council, Western Energy Alliance and Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation in its court challenge of the rule, which can be found at wyfb.org at the news tab. ■



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