‘Ag Books for Kids’ 2023 winners announced

By Kerin Clark

Nearly 11,000 agriculture books have been donated to Wyoming elementary schools through the 19-year span of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee “Ag Books for Kids” program. In 2023 county Farm Bureau Federations across the state donated 689 “Popcorn Country” books by Cris Peterson to Wyoming elementary schools as part of the WyFB YF&R Committee “Ag Books for Kids” project.

“The Ag Books for Kids program puts informative books about different agriculture commodities into the schools around Wyoming,” said Aletta Grauberger, WyFB YF&R Promotions Sub-Committee Chair. “These books talk about agriculture topics in language and pictures for elementary age groups, so the ideas are grasped well.”

Contests are held each year associated with the book of the year to encourage students to learn even more about agriculture. The contests included: Coloring Contest for kindergarten and first grades; Poster Contest for second and third grades; and a Marketing Ad Contest for fourth and fifth grades.

“I found the creativity and imagination that comes through in each contest entry to be one of the best parts of the program,” Grauberger said. “Often times we will see the same colors used that the book had so you know that the students enjoyed the book.”

2023 Contest Winners

Students from across Wyoming were recently recognized for their participation in the 2023 WyFB “Ag Books for Kids” contests. We appreciate all the teachers and students who participated in the contests. We would also like to thank the county Farm Bureau Federations and YF&R Committee volunteers.

County winners were forwarded to the district where three winners were selected. District winners all received a copy of “Popcorn Country” and were forwarded on to the state contest. See page 5 for district winners.

Coloring Contest

Amelia Dunn, a first grader from Mrs. Elsen’s class at Lincoln Elementary in Goshen County, was the state winner of the coloring contest. Dunn received a $50 gift card from the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation and an agriculture book titled “Popcorn Country.”

WyFB YF&R volunteers at Food Bank of Wyoming

Harvest for All Program in 21st year

By Kerin Clark

Giving back to our communities and helping those in need is a strong value held by Wyom- ingites. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Committee is entering its 21st year of the “Harvest for All” project. The project raises funds, food and encourages volunteer hours to help those facing hunger in Wyoming.

The WyFB YF&R Committee spent a couple of hours volunteering at the Food Bank of Wyoming during the 2023 WyFB YF&R Committee Spring Meeting in Casper May 17-18. The project at hand was to pack food boxes to be delivered to Afton.

In just under two hours, eight volunteers packed 288 boxes full of food. It’s quite a process that really matches with the old saying “many hands make light work.” The Food Bank of Wyoming staff have quite a system set-up for volunteers. The boxes are ready to be assembled, food is stacked on pallets, a manual conveyor belt keeps the boxes rolling down the line for packing food, finished boxes are taped up and then loaded on to pallets for shipment.

Food Bank... Page 15

Ag Books for Kids State Winners

Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation Member Lee Hageman presented prizes for the 2023 “Ag Books for Kids” contests. Goshen County students won all three 2023 state contests. Shown here Hageman congratulated Marketing Ad contest state winner Annabelle Duffy and Poster contest state winner Shaylee Pontarolo.
S farmers and ranchers, we know our work is never fully done. There is always another seed to plant, another crop to harvest, another animal to care for. And our work doesn’t stop at the farm gate either. We must also be actively engaged in shaping the policies that impact agriculture and our rural communities. That’s why it is critical for our grassroots Farm Bureau members to make their voices heard on policies that directly impact their farms and ranches.

Across Farm Bureau, the 2024 policy process has already begun. Our issue advisory committees (IACs) came together in February to kick off this year-long process. These committees, made up of grassroots members and supported by state and national Farm Bureau staff, are tasked with identifying the most pressing issues facing agriculture and developing policy proposals to address them. The reports from these committees are used to inform the policy development work of state and county Farm Bureaus, which eventually make their way to the American Farm Bureau Convention in January, where we finalise our national policy priorities.

Why is this grassroots policy process so important? It is because grassroots organization speaks as the national Voice of Agriculture, and our lawmakers know that the policies we are advocating for are coming straight from farm and ranch families. Whether I am meeting  with Congress to address a policy priority, or having a meal with leaders in Washington, or AFBF staff supporting Americans should be something of concern to all politicians. The Act seeks to address the spending problem by limiting the amount of deficit spending, something most of us would conclude our rural communities and the ability of our representatives—we are telling the story of how federal policy directly impacts our ability to safely and sustainably grow our nation’s food, fiber and fuel.

The heavy anchor of not working or contributing

Chairman Arrington talked about the Limit, Save, Grow Act that laid out a process to reduce our stiffed federal debt and try to bring some sanity back to Washington, D.C. when it comes to our fiscal house. Current negotiations (at the time of this writing mid-May) are between the President, who wants Congress to just pass a debt ceiling increase without any strings attached, and the House who wants this process to try and address our spending problem. The Act seeks to address the spending problem by limiting the amount of deficit spending, something most of us would conclude was reasonable, while at the same time encouraging the economy to grow by at least a modest percent. While limiting spending and allowing the economy to grow we can narrow the income-outgo gap to a more reasonable amount. Another aspect of this proposal would provide incentives for people to seek work. The number of non-employed Americans should be something of concern to all politicians

I recently watched an interview of Dr. Nicholas Eberstadt (American Enterprise Institute) by former Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson (Australia) about his book “Men Without Work”. Dr. Eberstadt dug into information which isn’t reported by government unemployment figures. He found there are approximately seven million men who are not accounted for when analyzing unemployment figures. These men who have basically stopped working and more importantly stopped looking for work.

These are statistics which the Department of Labor apparently doesn’t collect, so Dr. Eberstadt had to gather the information from other sources. What he writes about is troubling. For instance, of the seven million men (he didn’t look at women) there are about one million who have returned to school to further their education. We would presume they would then enter the workforce when they have earned their degree or gained the knowledge they sought. That leaves six million men who are not employed nor are they furthering their education.

In looking at the remaining six million men, he sought out information about what they might possibly be doing with their time. The result was also troubling. They characterized the time they spent as “screen time.” Or in other words video gaming or other such pursuits.
The Department of Interior, Deb Haaland, also questioned Secretary of proposed public lands rule. He also questioned Secretary of Interior, Deb Haaland, in a hearing this spring about the unlawful nature of the rule and if she would consider withdrawing the rule.

Senator Lummis introduced the Agriculture PFAS Liability Protection Act of 2023 earlier in May. This bill will exempt agricultural entities from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) should PFAS materials be found on their property.

Regional food business centers
Recently, the USDA announced $500 million in funding for 12 regional food business centers that will come with cooperative agreements with respective state agencies in agriculture. This effort is meant to provide similar support to the non-meat and poultry processing industry segments.

The centers will be located at:
- Colorado State University
- University of California
- Region Five Development Commission
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Texas A&M AgriLife
- Michigan State University
- Mississippi Delta Council for Farmworker Opportunities
- Rural Action, Inc
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Foundation
- Georgia Minority Outreach Network
- Hawaii Good Food Alliance

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation

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

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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Questions: email broes@wyfb.org or call 307-721-7723.

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Lessons from calving season

BY SETH ALLEN, WyFB YF&R COMMITTEE MEMBER (SOUTHEAST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE)

One of the most interesting things I learned from this last calving season would have to be the Madigan squeeze. A technique developed by John Madigan to treat “Dummy” foals suffering from neonatal maladjustment syndrome. This technique is low risk and helps reset foals and calves who appear healthy yet are disoriented, unresponsive, and having trouble nursing. This technique is to mimic the biochemical switch that happens when a calf is passing through the birth canal.

Throughout our season, we had two cases of unresponsive calves. The first calf we encountered could not stand, most of the time he was flopping around like a fish. He was energetic and could move his legs but could not keep his balance or get them bent under himself to stand. We gave him some colostrum and tried to get his feet under him, and nothing seemed to work. Leaving him for the night with little hope of improvement, we were surprised to find him up and nursing his mother. He was a little dazed but a completely different calf. My Aunt had talked to a neighbor about our peculiar case. They suggested this technique, saying they have had great responses with their goofy calves.

The second case was similar in the fact the calf could not get up and nurse. We decided to use the Madigan squeeze. Typically, this technique takes twenty to forty-five minutes to perform, and the calf should fall asleep or be in a calm state. The only thing you need is a long soft rope and maybe another person to help hold the calf while the loops are tied around the ribs. We tied our first loop across the withers and between the calf’s legs and then made two more half hitches across his chest and pulled the rope. We were not having any success, so as an extra precaution, we did another half hitch further down his back and around the ribs. In all, we spent about forty to fifty minutes with about ten minutes of calm response. Only a slightly calm response. Sad to say our calf did not reset itself. He was awake and too responsive for this technique to work. We consulted our veterinarian and they said we did the technique right but may not have had our loops close enough together which may affect the amount of pressure across the calf’s ribs and shoulders. They also informed us that it doesn’t always work and can take up to two hours. Since we had little response, they thought it wouldn’t work for us.

I do think this technique would work for the right circumstance. Many people seem to have good responses from their calves after performing this technique. There are many resources suggesting the usefulness and success of this technique. One great resource would be Neonatal Maladjustment Syndrome in Foals from the UC Davis Center for Equine Health. I have always had a great interest in animals and their well-being, and this is just an alternative to assist helpless calves. I look forward to trying new things and when the opportunity presents itself why not give it a try. Even though it didn’t work for us I know we will use this technique when the need arises again.

About the Author: Seth Allen is originally from Phoenix, Arizona but is now in Lusk where he is helping his aunt with her Cow Calf operation. Seth Graduated from Chadron State College in 2020 with a degree in rangeland management.

Seth Allen calving in Niobrara County

WyFB YF&R Committee Member Seth Allen, KADRA MARIE PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTO.
Young Farmer & Rancher Committee

2023 ‘Ag Books for Kids’ contests

2023 ‘AG BOOKS FOR KIDS’ STATE WINNERS

Coloring Contest:
State Winner: Amelia Dunn, Goshen County (Southeast District)
State Runner-up: Reese Hokanson, Lincoln County (Southwest District)

Poster Contest:
State Winner: Shaylee Pontarolo, Goshen County (Southeast District)
State Runner-up: Macie Sue Mathews, Uinta County (Northwest District)

Marketing Ad Contest:
State Winner: Annabelle Duffy, Goshen County (Southeast District)
State Runner-up: Macie Sue Mathews, Uinta County (Southwest District)

Northeast District Winners
Coloring Contest:
- Norah Bliss Money, Johnson County
- Kaycie Nelnor, Crook County
- Dayton Haliday, Weston County

Poster Contest:
- Wyatt Amdahl, Crook County
- Teigyn Nelson, Johnson County
- Audrey Crawford, Crook County

Marketing Ad Contest:
- Madison Wolfe, Weston County
- Samantha Amdahl, Crook County
- Jackson Bailey, Weston County

Northwest District Winners
Coloring Contest:
- Melody Forsman, Park County
- Theo Hazen, Big Horn County
- Peyton Clark, Big Horn County

Poster Contest:
- Jocelyn Morgan, Fremont County
- Charlize May, Big Horn County
- Eden Hite, Park County

Marketing Ad Contest:
- Blake Tharp, Park County
- Chloe Cauffman, Big Horn County
- Troi Johnson, Fremont County

Southeast District Winners
Coloring Contest:
- Natalie Campos, Platte County
- Amelia Dunn, Goshen County
- Oliver Martinez, Niobrara County

Poster Contest:
- Shaylee Pontarolo, Goshen County
- Addison Gross, Niobrara County
- Julian Castillo, Laramie County

Marketing Ad Contest:
- Annabelle Duffy, Goshen County
- Vincent Grey, Niobrara County
- Kaydence Weber & Lorelei Zieres, Laramie County

Central District Winners:
Coloring Contest:
- Preston Chien, Albany County

Southwest District Winners
Coloring Contest:
- Reese Hokanson, Lincoln County
- Eliza Lester, Uinta County
- Grace Voss, Lincoln County

Poster Contest:
- Lilia Wilkinson, Lincoln County
- Morgan Forsythe, Lincoln County
- Oaklee Huff, Uinta County

Marketing Ad Contest:
- Macie Sue Mathews, Uinta County
- Mallah Pann, Lincoln County
- Natalie Hoffman, Lincoln County

In its 19th year, the “Ag Books for Kids” program is a project of the WyFB Young Farmer & Rancher Committee. Throughout the years, 10,865 books have been donated to elementary schools by the county Farm Bureau Federations. The grassroots efforts of the county Farm Bureau Federations, who donate the books and help educate about agriculture, contribute greatly to the program’s success. The program’s purpose is to build the collection of agriculture reading materials in Wyoming elementary schools and educate children about agriculture and its importance to us all.

Amelia Dunn...From Page 1

Reese Hokanson, of Lincoln County, was the state runner-up. Hokanson received a $25 gift card and an agriculture book. Her kindergarten teacher is Mrs. Burton at Afton Elementary.

Poster Contest
Shaylee Pontarolo, of Goshen County, won the state poster contest. Pontarolo is a home-schooled third grader. She received a $50 gift card and an agriculture book titled “Popcorn Country.”

Poster Contest Runner-Up
Jocelyn Morgan, of Fremont County, was the state runner-up. Morgan is a home-schooled fourth grader. She received a $25 gift card and an agriculture book.

Marketing Ad Contest
Annabelle Duffy won the marketing ad contest. Duffy, of Goshen County, is a home-schooled fourth grader. She received a $50 gift card from the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation and an agriculture book titled “Popcorn Country.”

Macie Sue Mathews, of Uinta County, was the state runner-up. Mathews is a fourth grader at North Elementary. She received a $25 gift card and an agriculture book.
The people of the Farm Bureau Federation

Meet the volunteer leader

Tim Beck

County: Big Horn
Farm Bureau Leadership Position(s):
- Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation President
- Northwest District President
- WyFB Natural and Environmental Resources Committee Chair

Wyoming Agriculture: Describe ranch background.

Beck: I am a townee kid, raised in a family that was second generation off of the farm, my father having a masonry construction trade. I was blessed and privileged to be able to obtain a college education with multiple diplomas in Education. I have eight children in school who were participating in the leadership process of running the ranch. I had children in school who were participating in sports and I desired the opportunity to travel the state highways, living week-ends in hotels, and eating junk food while watching football, wrestling, and track, much preferred over doing the same all week long while doing construction. Cattle were then at all time high prices, and I thought that ranching looked like easier money than construction, and the work had to be less taxing. WRONG!!! I was fortunate in that when I took over the ranch, I was given “carte-blanche” in the running of the show. I made breeding decisions, crop decisions, irrigation decisions, and marketing decisions. I had grown a garden, even a large garden, but had no idea what I was getting into. Fortunately, we survived the learning curve, some lost and regained revenue, suffered through death loss due to ignorance and gained experience. I’ve been blessed to have forgiving neighbors, friends that are willing to teach, and many gracious associates that have helped when equipment and labor were needed.

Wyoming Agriculture: Education, Hobbies and Other Background.

Beck: I am married and have eight children; all are out of the house now and pursuing their own lives. I love to live life as my hobby. I love to work, play, learn, laugh, eat and get quality sleep. We only get the privilege of living this life one time while here on earth, and although I have a hope and a faith that there is more after this earthly existence, I’m going to give it all that I have while here. Ranching and the lifestyle afford me this great opportunity to bring it all together.

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

Beck: I started by showing up at meetings at the county and the state level.

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

Beck: I had the privilege of being a candidate for public office in the last election cycle. The reason that I believe we all should get involved is that we all need to help, to contribute to the functioning of our society, to assist in the transformation of our culture, and to retain the heritage that we are blessed with. Many before us have sacrificed, and left legacies which have enriched us today. We are so rich and so blessed because of our ancestors and the unimaginable wealth that we could pass to the future generation is mind boggling. Also, the amount of devastation that we could create is also beyond imagination, so I participate in the system, hoping to be a contributor to the good and be a distraction to the bad.

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

Beck: The most impactful policy that has and continues to be a focus is on our ranch is the Waters of the United States, WOTUS. Farm Bureau policy under the Trump administration was sound for ranchers and farmers in the West where water is such a precious resource. The Biden and the Obama administrations have really made individual sovereignty, free market economies, and societal engagement a wasteland. Dependency on federal government policy at the local decision-making process is hurting our communities and I believe our nation. Second-ly, we’ve been engaged in the dialog with federal lands grazing and multiple use regulation. Be it Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and even at the state level with State Lands Board, grazing and the livestock industry seems to be under attack. The Farm Bureau Federation assists and often leads in these ongoing critical issues.

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

Beck: My simple answer to this question is to show up. The world awaits those who show up. The world and society only changes when a few concerned individuals show up. I will add this, show up, stand up, speak up, shut up, and follow up. If we do these simple things, we change the world.

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

Beck: Affordable labor, individual sovereignty, Federal and State regulation with transportation, supply chain accessibility, market dynamics, and access to national and international markets. On the negative side we see illegal immigration, drug trafficking, human trafficking, and affordable food and housing, and mental health as important issues. Not much different than anyone else across the country, but in our low population areas where we know each other the impact is more visible.

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

Beck: Every member is important in that we all have a function in the organization. Some bring encouragement, some bring focus, others bring liveliness, some lead, some invite and organize, and some bring diversity that keeps us all entertained and engaged. We all bring a gift, if not many gifts, to the Federation and when gone each is missed and each will be replaced. Please invite someone new to come and be involved in ADVOCATING FOR AGRICULTURE!!

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WyFB awards nine college scholarships

Investing in the youth of our great state as they work to accomplish their academic goals is important to the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation. Each year we award $5,500 in college scholarships to nine Farm Bureau members and/or the children of Farm Bureau members.

The Livingston-King Scholarship, valued at $1,500, is given in honor of former presidents of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, Herbert D. Livingston and H.J. King, as well as Buddy and Norma Livingston, the parents of former WyFB President Perry Livingston.

Additionally, five WyFB Farm Bureau Federation Scholarships and three Continuing Education Scholarships are awarded at $500 each. The Continuing Education Scholarship recipients must be an entering college sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student.

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship applications are due March 1st each year and are available at www.wyfb.org.

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

Lily Crago
Livingston Family and H.J. King Memorial Scholarship

Lily Crago, of Kaycee, will be a freshman this fall studying political science and agriculture/communications. Her parents are Barry and Kristen Crago.

Lily has been actively involved in 4-H and FFA, Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Students Leading a Ministry. She is involved with three high school choirs and has been accepted into two national choirs. Lily participated in Wyoming Girls State and was selected to represent Wyoming at Girls Nation. A 10-year 4-H member, she shows horses, cattle and sheep.

Annamae Hoopes
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Annamae Hoopes, of Sheridan, will be a freshman at the University of Wyoming in the fall pursuing a degree in agriculture. Her parents are Kendal and Leomore Hoopes.

Annamae expressed that her family values the Wyoming way of life and desires to help preserve our heritage. During high school she participated in choir, marching band, pep band and the winter musical each year. She served on student council and was proud to win the “We the People” state competition her junior year and participate in the national competition. She is involved in her youth group at church and enjoys doing community service with her mother, including making food and helping at the Soup Kitchen and wrapping books for children.

Her recommenders describe her as a happy and kind young lady who has a desire to help others. She is described as a good leader who looks outward to see the needs of those served and invites others to have a say in activities. Annamae knows the value of continued learning and serving her community.

Jacey McDaniel
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Jacey McDaniel, of Wheatland, will be a freshman at the University of Wyoming pursuing a nursing degree in the fall. She is the daughter of Denise McDaniel. Her grandma Linda Willis is a retired Farm Bureau insurance agent.

Jacey is a member of the National Honor Society, which has allowed her to volunteer in many community service activities from collecting food for food drives to making Christmas cards for nursing home residents. She also participated in Close Up and Wyoming History Day.

Her recommenders describe her as a young lady who has high moral character, integrity and dedication. Her ability to think on her feet and apply her skills and knowledge to any situation shows a great level of maturity. She is described as a responsible leader with a great level of determination, diligence and enthusiasm.

By Kerin Clark

Madison Greer
Livingston Family and H.J. King Memorial Scholarship

Madison Greer, of Hyattville, is the recipient of the $1,500 Livingston Family/H.J. King Memorial scholarship. Madison will be a freshman at Sheridan College in the fall studying plant science. Her parents are Tyler and Amber Greer.

Madison is a 4th generation Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Member. Her family has supported the Farm Bureau in legislative ventures over the years.

Madison has been active in a variety of activities throughout high school. She is a member of the Young America’s Foundation where she represented Wyoming at the high school national conference in 2022. Reading, learning, acting and staying active are some favorite activities. Madison has attended agriculture seminars in her home area, participated in Missoula Children’s Theater, competed on the Bible Jeopardy champion team and volunteered as an election judge for the 2022 election. Madison works with her family, which includes three younger siblings, on their ranch. She also works part-time at Paintrock Processing.

Her recommenders describe her as an exceptional young woman with a genuine love for learning, Madison is known for a contagious smile and spirit, good moral character, a strong work ethic and a pleasing attitude.

Kailee Gill
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Kailee Gill, of Moorcroft, will be a freshman at Eastern Wyoming College in the fall, where she will be studying ag business/equine science. Her parents are Gabe and Jenni Gill.

Throughout high school she has participated in student council, basketball, volleyball, FFA, 4-H and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She volunteers at the local food pantry and town clean up and is an assistant coach for recreational basketball.

Kailee’s recommenders describe her as a strong, quiet leader who exemplifies common sense and dignity. Her strong work ethic began at a young age on her family ranch. Some of her many admirable traits include a positive attitude, serving as a role model and a commitment to excellence.

Hannah Lee
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship

Hannah Lee, of Encampment, will be a freshman studying veterinary technology at Eastern Wyoming College in the fall. Her parents are James and Gail Lee.

Hannah served as the Encampment Student Council Reporter. She is a member of the National Honor Society, FCELA, Drama Club, and 4-H. She played basketball and was the team manager for volleyball.

Hannah’s recommenders say her intelligence and willingness to learn new things allow her to conquer any task she may wish to take on. She has strong communication skills, high moral character and a helpful attitude.
Sydnie Fornstrom
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

Sydnie Fornstrom, of Pine Bluffs, will be a senior at the University of Wyoming (UW) studying accounting with minors in agribusiness and human resource management. Her parents are Todd and Laura Fornstrom.

As a third generation Fornstrom family member involved in the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, Sydnie looks forward to the years to come. She has worked as an intern at the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation where she dedicated her time to membership renewals and state convention preparation. Both of her parents have been involved in Farm Bureau the past 30 years and have served in a variety of leadership positions at the county, state and national levels. Her dad, Todd, is serving his seventh term as treasurer. He has served as a tutor. During high school he was involved in sports, FFA and his church.

Her recommenders say she is a professional woman with a great work ethic, leadership and personal traits they note that her character and work ethic are admirable, and that he is a strong encourager who wants others to succeed as much as himself.

Dane Catlin
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

Dane Catlin, of Robertson, is studying kinesiology and health sciences at the University of Wyoming (UW). His goal is to become a neurosurgeon. Dane's parents are Steve and Dana Catlin.

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 had the opportunity to meet. Farm Bureau involvement began with his great grandparents Maurice and Anna May Henry who were involved in the district, county and state levels. Maurice served as WyFB Ag Tax Committee chair for several years. Dane's grandmother Karen Henry served as WyFB President for 31 years. His grandpa Garie Henry served as the WyFB NER Committee Chair and on the WyFB board of directors. Dana has served as county secretary, The Catlins have been Uinta County members for 30 years.

At UW, he was nominated for and became a part of the National Society of Leadership and Success Chapter. Dane works on the family ranch during the summers and weekends. He has also worked a variety of jobs and served as a tutor. During high school he was involved in sports, FFA and his church.

His recommenders describe him as a stellar young man who is dedicated to school, family and extracurricular obligations. Dane is described as a goal oriented, driven student who wants to give back to society and those around him. Among his many strong traits they note that his character and work ethic are admirable, and that he is a strong encourager who wants others to succeed as much as himself.

McKinly Ann Hepp
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Continuing Education Scholarship

McKinly Hepp, of Clearmont, will be a sophomore at Sheridan College this fall where she is studying rangeland management. Her parents are Randy and Kristen Hepp.

McKinly is the vice president of the Sheridan College Range Club and an Agassador. She represented Sheridan College at the Society for Range Management Conference. This past summer McKinly was employed by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture as a Forest Service Summer Capacity employee to provide assistance to the range program on the Bighorn National Forest.

Her recommenders describe her as a team player who wants others to succeed as much as herself. He grew up learning about and appreciating Farm Bureau involvement. She has volunteered at many Farm Bureau events including the Wyoming Needs Agriculture event and the state FFA Convention.

Her recommenders say she is a professional student with a great work ethic. She is described as an accomplished student with great humility. Her recommenders value her as a true team player who contributes to her peer's efforts without the need for recognition. Some of her other admirable traits include her friendly demeanor, positive attitude and a high level of professionalism.

The Wyoming Beef Council’s Digital Advertising Campaign started in October and features #WYBee videos asking Wyoming residents from all walks of life why they eat beef.

Results from Oct. - Apr.

- 208,946 Video Views
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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.

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

NEW MEMBERS

ALBANY
Joseph Izen, Fort Collins, CO; Candace Harris, Laramie; Denise Marquis, Laramie; Megan & Matthew Goetz, Laramie

BIG HORN
Vicki & Michael Juslin/ Eagle Pest Control, Basin; Jack Lindsey (REG), Basin; Anthony Mohan/ Silver Mustang Control, Basin; Anthony Mohan, Rawlins; David Martinez, Rawlins; Ricky Montanez, Rawlins; Barbara & Allen Youngberg, Saratoga

CAMPBELL
Melissa & Jeff Blankenship (REG), Gillette; Shannon Braunagel, Moorcroft; Sonja Brue, Gillette; Carol & James Post, Gillette

CROOK
Lyle Keller, Beauharn, Brenda & Mark Robbins, Beauharn; Stephanie & James Williams (REG), Moorcroft; Bradly Wood/ Wood's Performance Horses (REG), Devils Tower; Jean Jenkins/ Holcomb Ranch LLC (REG), Scottsdale, AZ

FREMONT
Misty Forshee, Riverton; Paul & Todd Fross (REG), Lander; Michael Goad, Aparahoe; Kassie Holden, Riverton; Isabelle Farmer & Stephen Hugus (REG), Pavillion; Princess & David Killebrew (REG), Lander; Brenda & Edward Leonard/ Double L Ranch Inc (REG), Lander; Molly Murphy-Meyer & Tyler Murphyre (REG), Fort Collins, CO; Denise & Dwayne Oldham (REG), Lander; Kristi & Darrell Petersen, Riverton; Paige & Robert Pingtzer (REG), Shoshoni; Shane Moore/ Green Things LLC (REG), Saratoga; Elizabeth & Dana Scott (REG), Lander; Becky & Harley Walters (Reg), Riverton; Nancy & Clyde Woolery (REG), Kinney; Faye & Jerald Yonker (REG), Dubois

GOSHEN
Duane Sylvester, Lingle; Chris & Bill Rader, Fort Laramie

HOT SPRINGS
Sandra & Ronald Luther (REG), Thermopolis; Scott Werbelow (REG), Meeteetse; Ralph Jager, Thermopolis

JOHNSON
Kelsey & Jayson Foley, Casper; Richard Marble, Buffalo; April & John Constantine, Story; Russell, Shipley, Buffalo; Collin Beecher, Buffalo

LARAMIE
Richelle Harmsen, Cheyenne; Connie & Lane Jonson, Carpenter; Roberto Zerck, Pine Bluffs; Patrick Macy (REG), Cheyenne; Kristen Kent-Hauger, Cheyenne; Cheryl Cameron, Cheyenne; Margaret & Donald Kinney, Cheyenne; Victoria Roodhouse, Cheyenne; David Cox, Granite Canyon; Derek Hols Hirsg & Thomas Hirsg, Cheyenne; Becky & David Gruver, Cheyenne; Christopher Jones, Cheyenne; David Stephens, Cheyenne; Chelsie Schlbs, Cheyenne

LINCOLN
Sarah Adams, Cokkeville; David Bigge, Thayne; Kelly Blue, Kemmerer; Adam Calkins, Kemmerer; Joshua Davis, Thayne; Miriam & Joshua Feeley, Kemmerer; Vanette & Dan Jensen (REG), Afton; James Keller, Alpine; Louise Lowder, Kemmerer; Remington Roberts, Kemmerer; Shelley & Jim Seibbach (REG), Smoot

NATRONA
Sharon & Floyd Calver, Casper; Marnie & Jason Camp, Casper; Ronald Cudmore, Casper; Monica Janssen, Casper; Wyatt Porter, Evanville; Sarah & James Schneider, Casper; Tammy & Don Sell, Powder River; Melanie & David True (REG), Casper; Jami Welch (REG), Casper; Dana & Scott Wirtz, Casper

NIOBRARA
Boe Kotzwitz (REG), Lusk; Stan Rennard (REG), Lusk

PARK
Ron Arnall (REG), Powell; Margaret & James Bateman, Cody; Karl Bear/ One Comerstone LLC (REG), Powell; Addison Braten, Powell; Debra Bushey, Powell; Terry Thompson, Powell; Cody Wyoming Trout Ranch LLC (REG), Cody

PLATTE
Marie & Keith Geis (REG), Wheatland; Clayton Cochran, Wheatland; Don Farrier, Wheatland; Kyle Mayne, Wheatland; Lloyd Baker, Wheatland; Werner Weber, Wheatland

SHERIDAN
Colter Czaralli, Banner; Troy Coy (REG), Cleavon; Linda & Rene Deluna, Sheridan; Neil Fancher, Sheridan; Frank Felton (REG), Sheridan; Lance Fletcher (REG), Sheridan; Tamara & Philip Granger, Sheridan; Caroline & Clayton Hamilton, Sheridan; Karl Hunt, Sheridan; Amber & Daniel Itey, Banner; Jeriann & Ark Jacobson, Sheridan; Christa & David Jensen, Sheridan; Jan Jordan, Sheridan; Karlon Knudson (REG), Arvada; Lori McDuffee, Sheridan; Lora Munroe (REG), Sheridan; Sandra & Scott Nicholson, Banner; JT Richer, Sheridan; William Riesen (REG), Sheridan; Tracy Swanson, Big Horn; Twyla & Brent Switzer, Ranchester; Charisse Westphal, Sheridan; Ben Wetzel, Sheridan

NEW MEMBERS... Page 11
Proposed BLM rule threatens multiple use

By Kelly Carpenter

We’ve all heard that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but the common phrase now applies to our public lands through a different lens, the lens of conservation. It can easily be said that conservation is in the eye of the beholder. Many land use activities, like livestock grazing, not only use the natural resources of the land, but also give back benefits many times over maintaining resilience of the landscapes. Landscape resiliency is the alleged impetus for the currently debated Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposed rule.

Late March 2023, the BLM released the commonly known “Public Lands Rule”. This proposed rule will focus on a three-pronged approach to implementing changes to management of federally managed landscapes. These approaches are (1) applying land health standards to all BLM-managed public lands and uses, (2) clarify conservation as a “Use” within Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA)’s multiple-use framework, and (3) revise existing regulations to better meet FLPMA’s requirement of BLM prioritizing designations of protections (3) revise existing regulations to better meet FLPMA’s requirement of BLM prioritizing designations of protections of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

The three broad objectives are being proposed under the guise of promoting ecosystem resilience on public lands and the first applies land health standards to all BLM-managed public lands and uses, and the BLM did not indicate that it would be changing these compliance measures. Other resource users may encounter difficulties with this change, but this prong of the proposed rule seems innocuous to the agricultural community.

The second prong of the proposed rule would put “conservation” on equal footing as other land and resource uses outlined in FLPMA. However, after reviewing FLPMA, conservation is outside of the scope of the multiple-use framework that Congress intended to cover with this law. In FLPMA, when it broaches the topic of conservation, but only for certain carved out geographic areas. Congressional intent in FLPMA regarding conservation is clear that it is not on equal footing as the other uses enumerated in the Act. As FLPMA is one of the primary governing documents for the BLM, conservation is addressed in the carve outs, not the uses. As others have stated, this rule stands to make conservation a “non-use” into a use. That makes no sense to those of us outside of agency bureaucracies. Without amending FLPMA— which would take an act of Congress, and that’s almost as rare as an act of God these days— conservation cannot be integrated into BLM management. Putting conservation on an equal footing with other uses to accomplish FLPMA’s mission is certainly misguided, but the final prong of the proposed rule could provide equal to or more devastating than those previously mentioned.

In addition to clarifying conservation as a “Use” under FLPMA, the BLM is proposing conservation leases. This newer concept would allow for ten-year lease terms for protection or restoration efforts on federally owned land. It is concerning that perhaps this could be a competing use of land. In the rule, it’s unclear if it would or wouldn’t be, but it’s something to be vigilant about. The proposed rule also nebulously broaches the topic of allowing state agencies to bid for conservation leases, which could hinder agricultural use on the landscape and further tax-payer subsidization of preferences given to the environmental agenda over agriculture.

Finally, an increased emphasis on ACEC’s designations could prove to be disastrous for agriculture on federal lands. ACEC’s could lock up thousands (if not millions) of acres for protection. The new trend of migration corridors might play a role in some ACEC determinations as well, which would impact large swaths of land currently used for agriculture and other related purposes outlined in FLPMA. In the proposed rule, the BLM also suggests eliminating one avenue of public comment that is normally offered during the proposal of an ACEC making it a seemingly more covert decision for designation. ACEC’s have already been implemented in large-scale to make non-use of land a priority.

This simple look at the proposed rule only skims the surface of what is wrong with the BLM “Public Lands Rule” and why it should be withdrawn or, alternatively, not implemented. Conservation, ecosystem resilience, and non-use of lands are already happening. We don’t need to extend the heavy hand of government any further into paying to not use our lands.
It’s your future. Let’s protect it.®
Together we’ll create a plan to protect what matters most to you.
The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation has selected the winners for their scholarships for 2023. This year’s winners are Kailee Gill and FaithHoney Anderson.

The first-place winner is Kailee Gill, selected to receive a $2000 scholarship from the Crook County Farm Bureau Federation. Kailee played basketball and volleyball for Moorcroft High School, was a member of the Whitcomb FFA chapter and 4-H club, and showed horses, goats, and beef. She was also a leader in Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Kailee has maintained a 4.0 GPA. She will be attending Eastern Wyoming College to study Ag Business and Equine Science. Kailee is the daughter of Gabe and Jenni Gill of Moorcroft, Wyoming.

In second place, FaithHoney Anderson was selected to receive a $1500 scholarship from the Crook County Farm Bureau Federation. In high school, FaithHoney was the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Vice President of Development, earned her Bronze, Silver, and Gold Congressional Award medals, and served on the State 4-H Leadership Team and State 4-H Honors Club. Her involvement has continued in college as a Resident Assistant and Lead Campus Tour Guide at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. She is pursuing a Communication degree, minoring in Organizational Leadership and looks forward to returning to Wyoming upon graduating to be an advocate for mental health awareness in the state. FaithHoney is the daughter of Gary and Zeta Anderson of Devils Tower, Wyoming.

Congratulations to these very deserving recipients! ■

Platte County Awards Scholarships

Submitted by Sandy Dovey, Platte County

Platte County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member Sandy Dovey (center) presented college scholarship awards to the 2023 recipients Savanna Metz and Jacey McDaniel. ■

Park County News: Two students awarded Farm Bureau scholarships

Originally posted April 27, 2023 by the Powell Tribune

By CJ Baker, Powell Tribune

A pair of local high school graduates are getting a boost toward their college educations from the Park County Farm Bureau. The bureau recently awarded $750 scholarships to Powell High School senior Holden Cooper and Cody High School senior Mel Hopkin.

Cooper and Hopkin were chosen from “a great pool of applicants,” said past Park County Farm Bureau Vice President Abby Shuler. “We were really impressed with our choices,” Shuler said, adding, “It was a really difficult decision on choosing who our winners were.”

To qualify for the scholarship, students must post GPAs of 2.5 or higher and either they or their parents must be Farm Bureau members, which preference given to regular members. The student also must be heading to one of Wyoming’s junior colleges or the University of Wyoming, with preference given to Northwest College. That worked out well for Hopkin and Cooper, who are both planning to attend NWC. Assuming they continue to meet the GPA requirements, they’ll be able to renew the scholarship for an additional year. ■
Chocoalte Chip Cookies

Recipe by Connie Werner

INGREDIENTS:
• 1 cup butter, softened
• 3/4 cup sugar
• 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
• 1 tsp vanilla extract
• 2 large eggs
• 1 tsp salt
• 1 tsp baking soda
• 2 3/4 cups all purpose flour
• 2 cups chocolate chips
(Semi-Sweet, Dark, or Milk)

PREPARATION:
1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees
2. Mix together butter, granulated sugar, and brown sugar until creamy.
3. Add eggs and mix well. Then add in vanilla, salt, and baking soda.
4. Gradually add in flour. Once all the flour has been incorporated add in the chocolate chips.
5. Bake by rounded spoonful or scoop until edges begin to brown about 8-10 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to rest on the pan for 3-4 minutes.
6. Store in an airtight container. Enjoy!

FOR MORE RECIPES VISIT: www.modernranchwife.com
**New right to repair MOUs bring industry coverage to 70%**

WASHINGTON, MAY 22, 2023

The American Farm Bureau Federation signed two more memoranda of understanding with two agricultural equipment manufacturers, AGCO and Kubota, providing farmers and ranchers the right to repair their own farm equipment. The MOUs, which were negotiated independently with each manufacturer, follow similar agreements AFBF entered into with John Deere and CNH Industrial Brands earlier this year. Combined, the four MOUs cover roughly 70% of the agricultural machinery sold in the United States.

“The American Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to announce new agreements with AGCO and Kubota,” said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. “Farmers and ranchers urged us to find a private sector-solution to the challenges of repairing their own equipment. These agreements represent ongoing efforts to ensure farmers have access to the tools necessary to keep their equipment running, and to keep food on the table for families across America.”

AGCO Vice President of Customer Support Barry O’Shea said, “AGCO’s farmer-first focus guides us in everything we do, and we support farmers’ ability to repair the equipment they own. We are dedicated to being their most trusted partner for smart farming solutions, and this MOU with Farm Bureau is an outcome of that commitment. We appreciated the American Farm Bureau’s diligence, and we will continue delivering tools farmers can use to diagnose, maintain, and repair their AGCO machinery.”

Todd Stucke, Senior Vice President of Marketing for Kubota Tractor Corporation, said, “Kubota is pleased to join the AFBF in signing a memorandum of understanding to ensure our customers are empowered with the information and tools needed to safely maintain, diagnose and make repairs on their own equipment. Through our network of over 1,100 dealers, Kubota makes available the shop tools, parts, guides and manuals to owners who choose to work directly on their machines. We strive to ensure that our equipment is manufactured to the highest engineering standards to maximize performance for our customers, and this agreement is a good step toward further protecting their safety while operating, maintaining and repairing it.”

The MOUs respect the intellectual property rights of the manufacturers while setting a framework for farmers and independent repair facilities in all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico to access AGCO and Kubota manuals, tools, product guides and information to self-diagnose and self-repair machines, as well as support from the manufacturers to directly purchase or lease diagnostic tools and order products and parts.

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FOOD BANK... From Page 1

It is amazing what can be done in just a couple of hours to lighten the load for the Food Bank of Wyoming. In 2023, they distributed over 9.2 million pounds of food to Wyoming communities. Smiles and laughter accompanied the assembly line while the pallets of wrapped food disappear into the completed food boxes.

This volunteer service project marks the beginning of the 21st year of the WyFB YF&R Harvest for All program. Two of the volunteers at this project were also at the early volunteer projects and remember the days when the WyFB YF&R Committee painted lines on the floor of the old warehouse for the Food Bank of Wyoming and filled food boxes on the floor. A lot has changed in the last 21 years to make filling boxes a lot easier. The Food Bank of Wyoming has a new warehouse. The manual conveyor belt speeds up the process and helps with ease of movement too. What hasn’t changed is the need of those in Wyoming communities and the joy one finds in giving a few hours out of the day to put a small dent in meeting those needs.

Throughout the program’s 21-year span, the WyFB YF&R Committee has partnered with Farm Bureau Federation members to raise 6,044 pounds of food, $33,864 in donations, and donate 93 hours of volunteer time to fight hunger in Wyoming.

According to the Food Bank of Wyoming, in 2022 they distributed over 9.2 million pounds of food to Wyomingites experiencing hunger. That equates to more than 7.4 million meals to help individuals, families and communities in Wyoming. It takes all of us to make a difference. We are proud of the work done by Wyoming farmers and ranchers to grow food and care for the land. Like everyone, Wyoming farmers and ranchers have busy schedules, and we are appreciative and grateful for the volunteer hours given to the Harvest for All projects throughout the years to help Wyoming communities.

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HEAVY ANCHOR... From Page 2

How can this be possible? Well apparently, we have a good enough system of support that six million men can avoid anything productive and still live, although not comfortably as he points out, well enough to continue doing what they want to do. The information Dr. Eberstadt collected showed these individuals don’t even volunteer for community service type programs. They aren’t volunteering to help others through a church or other group, they aren’t serving as little league coaches, they aren’t doing anything remotely productive.

This perhaps explains that while government figures show low unemployment numbers we see help wanted signs in businesses and even some businesses closing their doors due to labor shortages. John Anderson couldn’t help but observe that the seven million men is about the number of the entire work force in Australia.

Encouraging members of society to be productive members of that society was something that wasn’t even thought to be necessary in our grandparents’ era. Encouraging people to be non-productive members of society should concern all of us. Our political representatives should understand the threat if we encourage citizens to not contribute to our country’s well-being but instead serve as an anchor for those who are. What happens to our nation when the anchors get too heavy? I know I need life insurance, but I don’t think I can afford it.

You’re not alone. Many people overestimate the price, but life insurance can cost as little as a dollar a day.1 When it comes to coverage, there are options to fit your needs and budget. Contact your agent to learn more.

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1Individual eligibility for all product promotions is subject to underwriting review and approval. Estimated premium payment is for 20-year term Life Guaranteed Issue Plan, Standard, 30-year-old male or female, non-smoker. Amount is for demonstrative purposes only. Contact your Farm Bureau agent for a quote on your actual monthly premium payment. Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA.

2Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. (2/201) (3-21)
County Farm Bureau Federations have been making award presentations around the state for the 2023 “Ag Books for Kids” contests. Elementary students have the opportunity to compete in contests for their respective grades. Awards are given on the county, district and state levels. Here’s a glimpse at some of those presentations provided by local Farm Bureau Federation members.

Ag Books for Kids Contest winners in Hulett: Kaycie Neiman, Wyatt Amdahl, Madison Mattley, Samantha Amdahl, Cabe Volkman. Hulett School librarian, Twila Pilcher. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ZETA NUCKOLLS ANDERSON.

Kindergarten classes from Moorcroft Elementary received a bag of popcorn to recognize their participation in the 2023 “Ag Books for Kids” coloring contest. This class had a county winner recognized—Kordell Watson. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ZETA NUCKOLLS ANDERSON.

Valley Christian School Principal Crystal Woehlke (left) and Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation Member Lee Hageman (right) congratulated Valley Christian School students Slate Vaughan and Cason Carlson for winning the county level poster contest. KERIN CLARK PHOTO.

Lingle-Ft. Laramie Elementary Librarian Denise Jackson (center) congratulates students Lydia Speckner and Brinkley Hoffmann for winning the Goshen County marketing ad contest. LEE HAGEMAN PHOTO.

Big Horn County Farm Bureau Federation Member Mary Whaley presents an “Ag Books for Kids” contest award to Chloe Cauffman from Burlington. Chloe was a winner at the county and district level in the marketing ad contest.

The Crook County Farm Bureau Federation had 236 entries submitted for the 2023 “Ag Books for Kids” contests. Here’s the breakdown according to CCFBF Board Secretary Zeta Nuckolls Anderson:
- Hulett Elementary - Librarian Twila Pilcher read Popcorn Country to K-5 grades - 69 students participated
- Whitcomb FFA in Moorcroft - chapter members read the Popcorn Country book to kindergarten classes - 60 kindergarteners participated
- Sundance - 107 students participated

Tongue River Retreat
Sheridan, WY * $1,800,000
Deeded Acres: 385

Triangle S Ranch
Buffalo, WY * $4,500,000
Total Acres: 400

BB Brooks Ranch
Casper, WY * $10,400,000
Total Acres 5,000; Deeded Acres 5,000

NEW LISTING

Almost a mile of Tongue River frontage and only about 15 minutes to downtown.

N. Fork Shell Creek
Buffalo, WY * $3,500,000
Total Acres: 1.560; Deeded Acres: 640

PENDING SALE

If you missed out on this one, call us about the Cottonwood Lodge and Events Center in Montana.

South Ash Creek
Ranchester, WY * $1,750,000
Deeded Acres: 440

GRAZING & INVESTMENT LAND

Great buy and hold property...Borders Casper City limits.

Sage Ridge
Clearmont, WY * $1,200,000
Deeded Acres: 60

SCENIC & PRIVATE

Rare Bighorn mountain foothill offering and it's completely surrounded by State land.

RANCH & WILDLIFE

Privacy, scenic, water, grass, lots of wildlife, and only about 15 minutes to town.

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