

A publication of the Wyoming FFA Foundation

WYOMING FFA TIMES

2013 Fall Edition

2013 Wyoming FFA Camp takes FFAers back to basics



Each year between 150 and 170 Wyoming FFA members attend one of two sessions of the Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp. The event is held at the Fremont County Youth Camp in the mountains above Lander. Courtesy photo

By Amy Andreen & Lindsey Freeman

Lander — Every summer nearly 200 Wyoming FFA members move into the Fremont County Youth Camp to develop valuable leadership skills, network with other FFA members and go camping. In 2013 the Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp celebrated 36 years of making a positive difference in students' lives. Campers and staff marked the occasion by living the theme, "Back to Basics"

Counselors and directors worked to focus on their foundations by looking at their pasts to see where they are today. Campers then set goals for who they want to be in the future. Campers were also given the opportunity to network with other members from throughout the state. They were able to reconnect with counselors, directors, and state officers.

This year, as a new part of the camp program, campers were also given time throughout their sessions to meet

up with their fellow members through a "Chapter Check-In." This gave members a chance to collaborate on tools from camp they could bring home to their chapters and communities. This is just one small addition that camp made in scheduling, and campers were excited to have this connection activity.

A new tradition of welcoming a National FFA officer to camp has begun. Last year the camp welcomed Cain Thurmond from Georgia. Georgia sent us another officer this year in Kalie Hall. Wyoming FFA members had the rare opportunity to interact with one of the organization's six national leaders. Kalie presented a workshop, a reflection, and made numerous individual connections with members. Her blog about her stay in Wyoming can be found on the camp website www.FFACamp.org.

This past summer was also the second year in Court Schilt's two-year term as Wyoming FFA Camp Head

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Wyoming FFA chapters support SD ranchers

Cheyenne — FFA chapters across Wyoming are joining forces to gather donations to help those ranchers affected by the early October storm Atlas.

Donations cans are being placed in locations across the state, thanks to the efforts of local FFA chapters. Early to mid-November, the FFA chapters will gather the cans and bring them to Gillette.

FFA members are gathering there Nov. 15-16 for their fall leadership conference.

Once donations from across Wyoming are gathered, they'll be forwarded on to the Ranchers Relief Fund. The South Dakota Rancher Relief Fund was established on October 8, 2013 by the Black Hills Area Community Foundation (BHACF) to pro-

vide support and relief assistance to those in the agriculture industry impacted by the blizzard of Oct. 4-7, 2013. The fund will be administered by BHACF in cooperation with the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association, the South Dakota Cattlemen's Association and the South Dakota Sheep Growers Association for the direct benefit

of the livestock producers impacted by this devastating blizzard.

Those wishing to support Wyoming FFA's efforts to help South Dakota ranchers are encouraged to look for donation cans in their community. Contact your local FFA Advisor or State FFA Advisor Stacy Broda at 307-630-6094 for additional information.

FFA Building at State Fair gets upgrade

Douglas — FFA supporters at the 2013 Wyoming State Fair & Rodeo were greeted by a new look in the FFA Exhibit Hall.

Leading up the 2013 event, State FFA Advisor Stacy Broda and the 2013-2014 State Officer Team carried out some projects to spruce the building up. Additionally, an FFA museum was created. The museum features several photographs and newspaper clippings from scrapbooks dating back to 1929. The historic blue and yellow officer desks, hauled to convention when convention traveled around the state, are also showcased there.

According to Broda, many photos, documents and scrapbooks are on file at the Wyoming State Archives. "We are excited about preserving Wyoming FFA's history and showcasing it at State Fair. There is no better place than the Wyoming State Fair to display our heritage and history from our agricultural education programs and FFA chapters." Broda adds, "This museum is a work in progress and I have hopes it will expand each year. We're also hoping past

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Northern Wyoming chapters host 2013 Blue Jeans Ball

Sheridan — On Sept. 21 in Sheridan, FFA members and supporters gathered for the 2013 Blue Jeans Ball. The FFA chapters in Sheridan, Clearmont, Buffalo and Tongue River partnered with the Wyoming FFA Foundation to host this year's event.

"Two-hundred and eight guests from across Wyoming were in Sheridan for this year's Blue Jeans Ball," says Wyoming FFA Foundation Chairman Court Schilt. "During the course of the evening we raised over \$17,000 for Wyoming FFA programs. These dollars go to support the National Officer Candidate Fund, the partnering chapters, state officer travel and more. We appreciate FFA supporters who stepped forward to help with this event and support these important programs for Wyoming FFA."

The 2013 Blue Jeans Ball provided an excellent showcase of the skills and talent that exists in agricultural education classrooms across Wyoming. Clearmont FFA contributed a table and chair set featuring Steamboat, the bucking horse on Wyoming license plates. Buffalo FFA contributed a smoker they built in their shop. Glendo FFA members built a fire pit, also featuring bucking horses. Pinedale FFA members contributed planters built in their classroom.

"It was great to see projects from chapters across Wyoming," says Schilt. "Wyoming FFA members and their advisors are carrying out some outstanding work. It's exciting to know that the youth behind these projects are developing skills they'll find beneficial lifelong."

Over 120 items were donated to auction. Among them was a Miley two-horse trailer, donated by Salt Creek Trailer Sales in Casper. Proceeds from the

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Jordan's Western Dining launches FFA fundraiser

Gillette — A new restaurant in Gillette is showing its support for American and Wyoming agriculture through a partnership with the Wyoming FFA Foundation.

Beginning mid-October Jordan's Western Dining is donating 10% of all burgers sales on Wednesdays to the Wyoming FFA Foundation. An inaugural event was held on Wednesday, Oct. 16 with members of the Gillette FFA Officer Team and program supporters in attendance.

"Farm to table is more than a trendy culinary term," said restaurant owner Jordan Fischer. "That's how we're able to eat every day. Literally, if we don't have any farms, we're not going to have food on our tables." Jordan's grandfather was an ag educator and FFA Advisor and her mother grew up on a farm, a history that resulted in the desire to support Wyoming FFA.

"A special thanks goes out to those individuals who gathered at the restaurant to help kick off Burgers for Blue and Gold," says Jennifer Womack, FFA Foundation Executive Director. "It was great to see so many FFA members and supporters at the restaurant that evening."

Additional events are being planned between Wyoming FFA and Jordan's. In January a branding party is going to be held at the restaurant. In November the restaurant is hosting 200 FFA members for a tour of the restaurant and a discussion on the connection between agriculture and the restaurant industry.

Jordan's Western Dining is located at 2721 South Douglas Highway in Gillette. Originally Burgers for Blue & Gold was going to be held on Wednesday evenings. Jordan recently expanded the partnership to include burger sales all day on Wednesdays, opening the opportunity for lunchtime diners to enjoy a great burger for a great cause.



PREZ SAYS

Hello Wyoming FFA Supporters. It's that time again... when we get to put on display some great news about what FFA does for youth in Wyoming, and what youth in Wyoming are doing in FFA. And, what great supporters like you are doing to keep it all going.

In this issue you'll get a preview of National FFA Convention, an appeal for Ranchers relief (an effort spurred by the Wyoming FFA Association), wrap up of state fair and the Cowboy Chuck & Chip golf tournament, a recap of a fantastic Blue Jeans ball, and an introduction to Jordan's Western Dining and Burgers for Blue and Gold. Hang on, it's gonna be a good ride.

Before I get wound up on my soapbox, I want to take a couple of lines and recognize the efforts of a few folks who made the recent Blue Jeans ball a great success. First and foremost, the advisors and chapters you'll read about who hustled up auction items, sold tickets, greeted guests, auctioneered and generally made 200 guests feel at home for the evening. Second I'd like to shout out to the Wyoming state officer team. Although they were guests for dinner we put them to work selling raffle tickets, greeting guests, and showing off auction items. They did a great job. I'd like to offer a special thanks to the Association President, Brett Roth, who co-emceed the evening. He did a great job and kept me from boring the crowd too much. Lastly I want to offer a thanks and congratulations to Jennifer Womack and her crew at Sagebrush Marketing. Jennifer is instrumental in shaping the course and events of the Foundation and truly does an amazing job at all she puts her hand to. Jen, to you, your family and your crew, thank you.

It's fall and I think that's great. I like fall for several reasons. Among them is the beginning of school which, the way I see it, should be a really extraordinary time for young people whether in FFA or not. See it's long been one of my beliefs that High School, and for that matter Jr. High, are much like Baskin Robbins. You ever been to Baskin Robbins? It's been a while for me, but something about the place that just sticks with me is the taste spoons. They have these little spoons you can get and they'll let you try any of the 31derful flavors they have. How great is that? It's really great. Don't like a flavor, don't get more. Like a flavor, get a scoop. Really like it get two scoops or add sprinkles. I'm making me hungry. Ice cream anyone?

I think school is like that, too. As these young people are learning who they are and how they may fit into the bigger picture of life, here they are in a place with much to choose from. As a parent of a sophomore FFA member and a 7th grader, I'm excited to see them grab the taste spoons and explore. Want to try football, give that a try, or maybe wrestling. Not your thing, how about astronomy or chess club? Maybe dance is more your thing, or cheer or student council. Hey, there's a Fellowship of Christian Athletes group here, can I try a spoon of that? FFA, hmm, the blue and gold colors look really appealing, can I taste that? Sure you can, and if you like it, look at all the flavors in there! There are traditional FFA/agriculture competitive events like livestock judging, meats evaluation or mechanics. There are new leadership oriented contests like sales and service, Environment and natural resources, and agriculture issues and more cutting edge events like Agri-Science, all of which emphasize life skills that grow beyond the classroom, the high school and in many cases launch careers. Get your spoons! Dads and moms I encourage you to encourage your students to use many spoons while they can. Students if you're reading this, get your spoon!

My oldest daughter loves horses, or loves the idea of loving horses, or she did. Somewhere along the way she found dance and with it found her passion. I can't tell you how great it is to see your princess of sunshine discover a passion and share that with you. Many of you know this I'm sure, and for those who don't, I hope you see it soon. Hand 'em spoons mom and dad. Grab your spoon young people. There's so much out there to try.

Teams will leave for National FFA Convention in the last week of October. These teams are stocked with FFA members who have found flavors they like and are making the most out of them. From myself and on behalf of the Wyoming FFA Foundation board, I wish each of those representing Wyoming at National Convention a successful trip. Our best wishes go with you.

Thanks for stopping by, I wish each of you a blessed fall.
Until next time,
Court



Court Schilt
FFA Foundation President

Jonah Bank team wins golf tournament

Douglas — On Aug. 13 in Douglas the Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation and the Wyoming FFA Foundation again teamed up to host the Chuck & Chip Golf Tournament.

Now on its fourth year, the tournament is held in conjunction with the Wyoming State Fair and Rodeo. Many natural resource professionals, agriculture educators and Wyoming businesspeople golf in the tournament. Funds raised go to support natural resource and FFA programs in the state of Wyoming. Over two dozen teams golfed in this year's four-man scramble.

Here's a look at the results...



1ST PLACE TEAM – Jonah Bank
Dusty Porter, Richie Bratton, Stuart Atnip and Dominic Madia.



2ND PLACE TEAM – Wyo. Livestock Roundup
Curt Cox, Jeff Boner, Jeff Sun and Chris Zinc



3RD PLACE TEAM – Governor's Office
Nephi Cole, George Cleek, Jim Griffin and Mike Reed



4TH PLACE TEAM – Ag Teachers
Ed Merrill, Dave Hatten, Kevin Teten and Matt Frazier

Men's Longest Drive on Hole 10: Mike Bower
Closest to the pin on Hole 1: Richie Bratton
Closest to the pin on Hole 2: Jeff Boner
Men's longest putt on Hole 16: Richie Bratton

Plans are already underway for the 2014 tournament, tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 12. A \$600 sponsorship includes entries for a team. If you're interested in sponsoring, please contact the Foundation at 307-351-0730 for more details.



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www.WyoFFAFoundation.com

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Toby Lynde, Past Director (2008-11) • Gillette
Dan Cannon, Past Director (2006-07) • Laramie
Court Schilt, Past Director (2002-06, 2012-13) • Cheyenne

Across Wyoming there are over 51 FFA chapters and over 2,000 members. The Wyoming FFA Times is all of Wyoming FFA's publication, featuring the news and happenings within the program. It's laced with the numerous reasons to celebrate the program, features outstanding supporters and hopefully unveils new ideas for the many ambitious members. It's also the publication for those who support Wyoming FFA and want to see it flourish and grow!

Quick Info—
FFA BRIEFS

Casper College judges strong



Casper — The judging team at Casper College is proving itself as a top contender at livestock judging competitions across the nation.

The sophomore team of Cade Christensen, Laddy Trehal, Nick Edelman, Dylan Freeman, Makayla Goodnow, Zoey Taucher, Sierra Crisp, Ethan George, Bailey Skinner, Bill Dalles, Lacie Potter, Emily Hasenauer, Julia Pawlitzka, Josh Ovard, Sam Schulz, Lucas Drake, Chantz Potter, Katie Dodge, BW Ochsner, Colby Hales, Katy Pannell, Lisa Andreen, and Logan Cecil, has attended seven competitions. At the National Barrow Show in Austin, Minnesota, they finished sixth overall and third in reasons. They earned a fifth place finish at the Flint Hills Classic in Manhattan, Kans.

At the American Classic in Wichita, Kans., the team finished in tenth place. At the AK-SAR-BEN the team placed third overall out of 13 teams and 94 individuals. During the Tulsa State Fair in Oklahoma the Casper College Team placed in the top five in all species, third in reasons and second overall. Colby Hales was the top individual at the event. At the State Fair of Texas in Dallas, Texas, the team was second in sheep and beef, won oral reasons and was second overall.

“This team has been the most consistently competitive group in recent memory at Casper College,” says coach Dr. Jeremy Burkett. “The work ethic that these students display will surely pay off in success.” As of press time the team was planning to attend judging events in Colorado, Kansas and Kentucky.

Foundation to host tour

Gillette — The Wyoming FFA Foundation, on Nov. 15 in Gillette, will be hosting a tour for 200 Wyoming FFA members. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour a coal mine, visit with a local restaurant owner and explore career opportunities.



The day will begin with a tour of Cordero Rojo, a coal mine operated by Cloud Peak Energy. FFA members will not only learn about coal mining and its important role in meeting the nation’s energy needs, but learn about several career opportunities in the mining industry. A stop at Jordan’s Western Dining in Gillette will include a discussion about the connection between agriculture and the restaurant industry. Lunch will consist of bison stew made from bison raised at the Durham Buffalo Ranch, located south of Gillette.

The final stop on the tour will be at L&H Industrial. The business began as a “mom and pop” welding shop in the 1960s and today has a global presence. FFA members attending the tour will hear about numerous career opportunities.

A special thanks goes out to the 2013 tour sponsors: L&H Industrial, Durham Buffalo Ranch, Encana Oil & Gas, Jordan’s Western Dining, Cloud Peak Energy and Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

Foundation meeting planned

Gillette — Mid-November the Wyoming FFA Foundation will hold a board meeting in the Gillette area. Those interested in supporting Wyoming FFA are welcome to attend. The Foundation will be planning its 2014 activities and reviewing 2013 events and activities. A review of the bylaws will also be completed.

Following the meeting, vacancies will be advertised to those who may be interested in joining the Board of Directors. At that time, an application will be made available. The Foundation presently has a vacancy in western Wyoming and another in the Big Horn Basin. Those interested in serving can request an application following the mid-November meeting.

The Foundation meeting will be at the Complex in the Energy Hall beginning at 10 a.m. For additional information, please contact Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Womack at 307-351-0730 or Jen@WyoFFAFoundation.com.

Conservancy supports FFA

Alcova — When the Sweetwater River Conservancy, located on Pathfinder Ranches, needed help planting trees to carry out a habitat improvement project along Horse Creek, they called upon the Casper FFA members.



Mid-July around a dozen FFA members spent a few days at the ranch helping plant trees, haul water and erect protective fences. Following the project, the Sweetwater River Conservancy made a \$3,025 donation to Casper FFA Chapter. The funds will help the chapter carry out projects and meet its goals over the coming year.

A special thanks goes out to FFA’s friends at the Conservancy for supporting Wyoming FFA!

FFA SAE funds available

Indianapolis, Ind. — FFA members working to establish a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) project can look to National FFA for a little help. Thanks to the national organization’s effort to gather support, students are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in support. The funds are requested via a competitive grant.



Additional information is available online at www.FFA.org under the “programs” tab. Application deadline for 2013 is Nov. 15.

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Harriet Hageman Reflects on FFA Experience By Sami Jo Heitsch

Cheyenne — Harriet Hageman shares her passion for the agriculture industry that the FFA organization helped instill in her.

Serving as an active member in the FFA organization, Hageman has implemented many life lessons she learned from FFA into her career and has flourished into a successful attorney representing the agriculture industry and the state of Wyo-

ming.

Hageman's FFA membership began as a junior in high school in Lingle, Wyoming. She competed in livestock judging and showed steers as her Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE). Hageman learned more about the pure animal structure through that process.

After high school graduation, Hageman attended Casper College on a livestock judg-

ing scholarship. After her two years at Casper College, Hageman transferred to the University of Wyoming and graduated with a Business Degree in 1986. She then began law school at the University of Wyoming in the fall of 1986. In 1989, Hageman graduated with her law degree and began working for Judge Barrett on the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Judicial Circuit.

After Hageman finished her one-year clerkship she moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan and practiced with an 80-member litigation law firm called Smith, Haughey, Rice & Roegge. Hageman said, "I wanted to be closer to home, so I moved to Denver, Colorado in 1994, and worked for several firms, primarily focusing on litigation."

In 1997 Hageman was hired by the Wyo-

ming Attorney General's Office working on the Nebraska vs. Wyoming lawsuit. After working on that case, Hageman made a big change and in 2000 she and Kara Brighton opened their own practice.

In 2013, Ms. Brighton left the firm and Hageman commenced operations as "Hageman Law P.C." She stated, "My practice almost exclusively focuses on water and natural resource issues, representing irrigation districts, landowners, and industrial operators in a variety of manners." Former national officer, Stacia Berry, and a southern Colorado agriculturalist, Korry Lewis, have joined the firm and are taking part in "Hageman Law P.C." litigation.

It is Hageman's goal to protect landowners, water providers, and the agriculture industry. A lot of Hageman's litigation involves the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), forest management, land use and water rights and administration. Hageman said, "We continue to expose the heavy regulatory burden that is plaguing our state and our country. We need to continue to "push back"

against the federal overreach that has become so apparent in recent years."

Hageman's dedication to the agriculture industry was rooted from her involvement in the FFA organization. She stated, "The FFA program laid the foundation for me to know that I wanted to stay involved in agriculture." Hageman is proud to represent her clients that spend every day taking care of animals, crops, wildlife and real property.

As a successful lawyer, Hageman wants to encourage current FFA members to, "Stay focused on your future, remember that the people you meet in FFA will be a part of your lives forever and most importantly learn as much as you can about the broad spectrum of agricultural professions that exist." Hageman believes that the next generation of agriculturalists will be called upon to defend the agriculture industry, and Hageman wants this generation to learn how to do it well. She stated, "Be a strong, strong, strong advocate for our profession. Push back when people attempt to accuse the agriculture industry of being destructive of the environment. Our agriculture producers are the true environmental stewards and current FFA members need to learn how to do a better job of

ensuring that such a message is heard."

Hageman stated, "I have had so many wonderful experiences participating in the FFA program." She mentioned that at an age of 17-years-old, you don't really believe that your friends will remain "life-long." However, over the years Hageman has experienced it first hand and stated, "I can truly say that the people I met through FFA have remained a part of my life – both professionally and personally."

What surprised Hageman most is the number of FFA alumni who are now involved in the legal field. She stated, "I think that there must be a natural affinity for the legal practice once you have participated in the FFA program."

Hageman is a great example of a past member who applied the FFA's motto by learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live and living to serve. She will continue to serve the agriculture industry, and Hageman's passion certainly makes a statement for all FFA members to pursue their degree in the agriculture industry and share the passion they possess with the people around them.

Hageman was among the FFA alumni featured in the FFA Building at the 2013 Wyoming State Fair.

CAMP continued from Page 1

Director. Court has continued to give his time, his support, and bring his entire family to FFA Camp. His dedication and passion for the cause is phenomenal. Court has given so much to camp for the past 30 years and Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp owes a lot of its success to Court.

This year, we welcome a new leader into the position of Head Director as Lindsey Freeman will step into the role for the next two years. Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp has grown so much over the years, and will only continue to do so as we move into the future. As we look to future camp sessions, we can continue to see the FFA motto, creed, and lifestyle lived out by campers, state officers, counselors, and directors.

Camp would not be possible without the support of counselors, directors, camp cooks, the nurse, and support staff. More importantly camp would not be possible without the commitment of Wyoming FFA members and their supporters. FFA members and enthusiasts around the state, thank you for your support of the Wyoming FFA Foundation and Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp.

Plans are already in the making for 2014 Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp. If you are interested in supporting Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp, contact Jennifer Womack with the Wyoming FFA Foundation. You can also like us on Facebook (www.Facebook.com/FFACamp), follow us on Twitter (www.Twitter.com/FFACamp) or visit our website, www.FFACamp.org.



Photo courtesy of Casper College Public Relations

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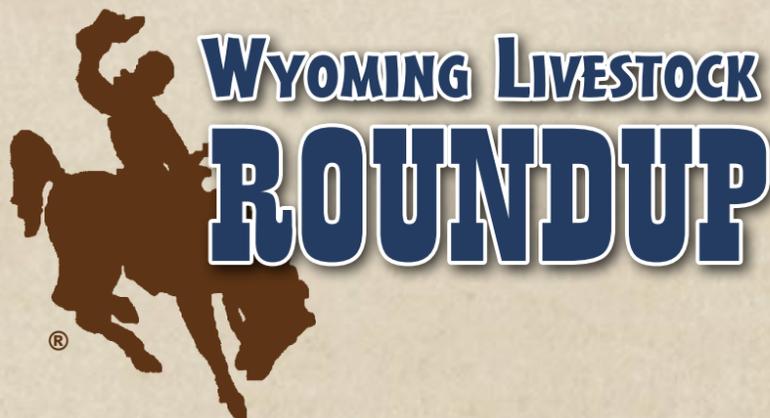
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Sylvester 'Si' West featured in FFA museum

An alumnus of the Laramie FFA, Si West served as an early day State President of Wyoming FFA in the 1930s. Prior to that he served as president of the Snowy Range FFA Chapter in Laramie. His Supervised Agriculture Experience project included dairy goats. His project proved beneficial across the Laramie community as the milk from his goats saved numerous babies who were allergic to cow's milk.



Photos courtesy of the Niobara County Library

During the 2013 Wyoming State Fair, Mr. West's FFA jacket was on display in the FFA museum. His jacket is thought to be the first corduroy jacket worn in Wyoming after the National FFA adopted what is today called official dress.

Following graduation from Laramie High School, Mr. West attended the University of Wyoming where he earned his B.S. in Animal Production. He was a member of the Sigma Alpha Fraternity and won numerous honors

as a member of the livestock judging team. Shortly after marrying his high school sweetheart, Rosamond Logsdon on Jan. 16, 1943, he was deployed to Hawaii for service in World War II.

Following a short stint in Lander, Si and Rosamond moved to Lusk where Si served as the County Agent for 32 years. During the course of his career, he made a positive impact on numerous lives through his knowledge of crops and livestock. His work with youth earned him recognition by the National Hereford Association. Si coached 30 4-H judging teams and had 12 state champion livestock judging teams, eight reserve champion teams, one national champion team and one reserve national champion team. He also had seven state champion wool judging teams and one national champion wool team, three state champion horse teams and one state champion meat judging team.

BJB continued from Page 1

trailer, purchased by Dale and Val Andreen, benefit Wyoming's National Officer Candidate fund. These dollars help the National Officer Candidate, selected annually, in their quest to become a National FFA Officer. Bryce McKenzie of Buffalo will represent Wyoming at the National FFA Convention late October.

"We'd like to extend a hearty thank you to the donors and volunteers who helped make this year's event possible," says Schilt. "It was wonderful to have the 2013-2014 Wyoming FFA Officer team in attendance. We are also grateful to Mr. Nick Siddle for serving as the event auctioneer."

Watch this publica-

tion for details on the 2014 Blue Jeans Ball. Each year the event is held in a different part of the state and co-hosted by the Foundation and area FFA Chapter. Schilt says, "These partnerships are key to the event's success and we truly appreciate all that Mr. Siddle, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Evans, Mrs. Boden, Mrs. Latham and Mr. Gorzalka and their chapters did leading up to the 2013 Blue Jeans Ball in Sheridan."



Tomorrow's Leaders

Working the ranch, showing livestock and engaging in healthy competition help prepare our youth with skills they will use for a lifetime. Whether on the ranch or in an office, our children will be ready to lead in the future with a strong work ethic, solid character and competitive spirit. These same values are at the core of everything we do at Devon.

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American Degree recipients recognized

Louisville, Kent. — During the late October National FFA Convention, thirty outstanding young leaders from Wyoming will be recognized as recipients of the American FFA Degree.

The American FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA and made significant accomplishments in their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs). Approximately 3,500 American FFA Degrees are handed out each year at the National FFA Convention. That number represents less than half of one percent of all FFA members, making it one of the organization's highest honors. In addition to his or her degree, each recipient receives a gold American FFA Degree key.

Congratulations to the 2013 Wyoming recipients:

Buffalo FFA

Brittnee Borgialla

Bryce McKenzie • Lisa Zezas

Burns FFA

Sawyer Burkett

Chief Washakie FFA, Worland

Landan Doyle • Kelli Lockard

Kate Richardson • Alexis M. Salzman

High Plains FFA, Cheyenne

Cameron Berry • Jessica Heller

Jim Bridger FFA

Ty Malone • Halee Salisbury • Marissa Vitt

Crystal Lynn Schleichardt

Pinedale FFA

Kayla Ann Grove • Ryan Rohlfs

Pine Bluffs FFA

Allie Leitza • Taylor Smock

Saratoga FFA

Corson Kerbs

Shoshoni FFA

Jessica Pingetzer

Snowy Range FFA, Laramie

Laurel Austin • Bill Dalles

Logan S. Davis • Colby Hales

Heather Honken

Breanna Mazurie • Taryn Russell

Thermopolis FFA

John James Cramer

Windy City FFA, Casper

Holli Knight

Wright FFA

Mackenzie Fuller

FFA continued from Page 1

FFA members and supporters will share any pieces of Wyoming FFA history they may have."

Thanks to a contribution from Cameco Resources, new tables and chairs were added the building in early August. The tables provided a nice location for FFA members and supporters to gather during the Fair. Fairgoers gathered in the building to visit, something that hasn't happened on a broad scale in recent years due to the lack of seating.

What visitors saw at the 2013 Wyoming State Fair is just the beginning for plans to improve and expand Wyoming FFA's presence at the Wyoming State Fair. Little Snake River Valley FFA members from Baggs are building new shelves to exhibit State Fair entries. New display panels are being ordered and additional tables and chairs may be added.

"We'd like to thank the Wyoming Business Council for helping make the second stage of this project possible," says Wyoming FFA Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Womack. "The Wyoming State Fair provides an immense opportunity to shine a positive light on Wyoming FFA and our talented young people. We appreciate the Business Council's efforts to help us ensure the building is everything it should be."

FFA supporters are invited to the FFA building in August 2014 to see Stage 2 of the project in place. It's the organization's goal to see the FFA building full of activity, brimming with great projects and serving as a showcase that has Wyoming's youth lining up to join the FFA.

If you have photographs, news clippings or items of interest to include in Wyoming FFA's Blue and Gold Museum, please contact Stacy Broda at 307-630-6094.

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Gladson and Womack receive honorary American FFA Degrees

Cheyenne — Each year the Wyoming FFA Association sends two nominees to National FFA for the Honorary American FFA Degree. One nominee is a deserving teacher who has created high-quality agricultural education programs which inspire and motivate their students to strive for success. The other nominee is an individual who has provided exceptional service to agriculture, agricultural

education, or FFA.

Each region nominates two individuals for this honor and then all nominees are voted on by the state's agricultural education teachers. "It truly is an honor to be nominated for this degree and even more so to be chosen," comments State FFA Advisor Stacy Broda, "It is no secret Wyoming's nominees every year are very deserving individuals and this year is no

exception. We are pleased Troy Gladson will be honored as the teacher representative and Jennifer Womack as our other outstanding individual."

Troy Gladson teaches agricultural education in Gillette, Wyoming. This marks Troy's 26th year of teaching in Gillette. Troy has served as a WVATA officer and is no stranger to Wyoming FFA and agricultural education. Growing up, Troy

was a member of the Gillette FFA and went on to serve as a Wyoming FFA State Officer in 1984-1985. It is no surprise the Gillette FFA has over 85 percent FFA membership from their agricultural education classes, and has had over 100 state degree recipients during Troy's tenure. Mr. Gladson has coached state champion teams and served as advisor to several students who were named regional

and state stars. Troy currently serves on the Wyoming FFA Board of Directors and works hard for his students, staying abreast of new technology and changes in the educational field.

Jennifer Womack is a past FFA member, and state and American degree holder from Sundance, Wyo. Along with her husband, and two boys she resides on the family ranch outside of

Newcastle, Wyo. She currently serves as the Wyoming FFA Foundation Executive Director. Jennifer has been instrumental in much of the success of the Wyoming FFA Foundation. The Cowboy State Challenge and Learning by Doing are two different grant funds Jennifer has created for chapters in Wyoming through generous sponsorships. Jennifer is also the creator and editor of the *Wyoming FFA Times*, which is a quarterly publication that shares news of Wyoming FFA and agriculture. Also under her direction the Wyoming FFA Foundation and their partners sponsor over \$20,000 in scholarships to FFA members. In Jennifer's tenure as Foundation Director she has built many positive relationships with the State Association, sponsors, members, parents and supporters.

"These individuals have made an impact in their communities and throughout Wyoming. We're proud to have Jennifer and Troy helping with the success of Wyoming FFA, and excited for them to be honored at National Convention" says Broda.

Gladson and Womack will be awarded their Honorary American Degrees at the 86th National FFA Convention on Friday, November 1, 2013 at 8:00 am in Louisville, Kent.

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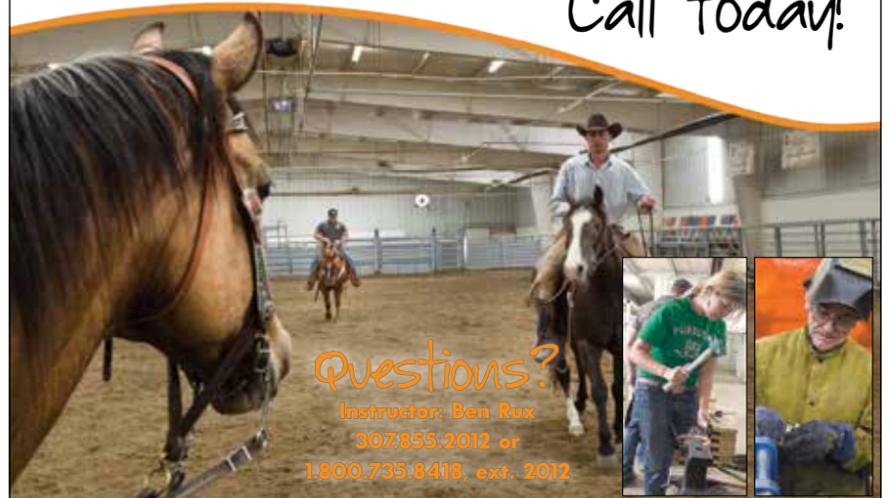
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FFA IN ACTION



Members of the State Officer Team visited the corn maze offered by the Casper FFA. The maze is both a chapter fund-raiser and provides an opportunity to educate others about agriculture. Courtesy photo



In the wake of winterstorm "Atlas," there was much clean-up work to be done. Members of the Casper FFA Chapter helped gather fallen branches in their community. Courtesy photo



The 2013-2014 State Officer Team, joined here by State Advisor Stacy Broda, were on hand to help at the 2013 Wyoming State Fair. From handing out ribbons to helping at shows, the team helps make the annual event a success.



Members of the 2013-2014 State Officer Team and 2013 National Officer Candidate Bryce McKenzie pause for a photograph. Courtesy photo



During the 2013 Blue Jeans Ball, state officers sold two decks of cards for a chance to win a rifle donated by Pathfinder Renewable Wind Energy. Lindsay Utter and Aleasha Gladson, shown here, were among those helping sell the cards.

Thanks to all of the sponsors of the 2013 Cowboy Chuck & Chip Golf Tournament!

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Wyoming FFA members will represent the state at the National FFA Convention Oct. 30 - Nov. 2, 2013 in Louisville, Kentucky. Here's to wishing them a successful trip! This year's theme is **IGNITE: Leadership. Growth. Success.**



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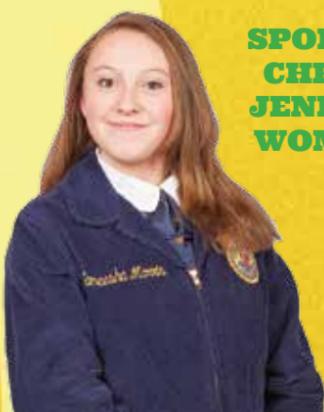
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Wyoming FFAers Louisville bound for National Convention

Louisville, Kent. — National FFA is expecting 55,000 guests at the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky late October. This year's theme is IGNITE! Leadership. Growth. Success. The Convention runs from Oct. 30 to Nov. 2 and

marks the event's 86th year. Among this year's attendees will be several Wyoming FFA chapters. Over a dozen teams from the state qualified to compete at the National FFA Convention and will be representing the Cowboy State in Louisville.

Follow Wyoming FFA on Facebook, or watch your mailbox for an *FFA Times* this November, for results from the event. A special good luck goes out to those students traveling to represent Wyoming at the event. We hope the National FFA Convention

is filled with numerous learning opportunities and experiences.

The keynote speakers are always a convention highlight. This year's convention attendees will have the opportunity to hear from Rick Pitino, a winning basketball coach

who will share his 10-step process for success. He says "success is a choice" on the road to becoming a winner.

Joe Torrillo, a New York City Fire Department veteran, was on his way to a press conference when the first plane hit the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. He rushed to the rescue efforts, was buried alive twice in the twin tower collapses and miraculously survived. Now, Torrillo is on a mission to promote dreaming big and patriotism in the "Re-United States of America."

FFA members will also hear from Katie Pratt, an FFA alumnus who farms with her family in Illinois. Pratt and her family maintain an open door policy at their farm, doing all they can to share agriculture's message. Pratt is dedicated to telling the story of today's farmer.

Josh Sundquist will deliver the keynote during the Friday evening session. At age nine he learned he had a rare form of bone cancer that left him with a 50 percent chance of survival. Chemotherapy treatments and the amputation of his leg by age 13 saved his life. Josh was never deterred by the loss of his leg, and took up ski-racing — eventually competing for the U.S. Paralympic Ski Team. Now, the author of "Just Don't Fall" uses his phrase "one more

thing, one more time," a sharp wit and humor to inspire determination and optimism in audiences everywhere.

Dierks Bentley, with special guest Jana Kramer, will provide this year's convention concert. Bentley has topped the country charts ten different times and received numerous accolades for his music. Most recently, in 2013, he was nominated for "Best Country Solo Performance" with "Home."

At the FFA Expo, members will find 450 exhibitors. The three-day fair provides students an opportunity to explore numerous career and educational opportunities. Different career paths are highlighted in separate areas of the Expo. FFA members can explore careers in animal systems, agribusiness systems, food products and processing systems, natural resource systems, environmental service systems, power, structural and technical systems, plant systems and biotechnology systems. New this year, the "Alumni Nation" section of the Expo will be geared toward former FFA members. Another section, dubbed "Teachers' World," is geared toward the numerous educators attending the National FFA Convention. Other areas feature "Collegiate Connection," "Auto World," and a shopping mall.

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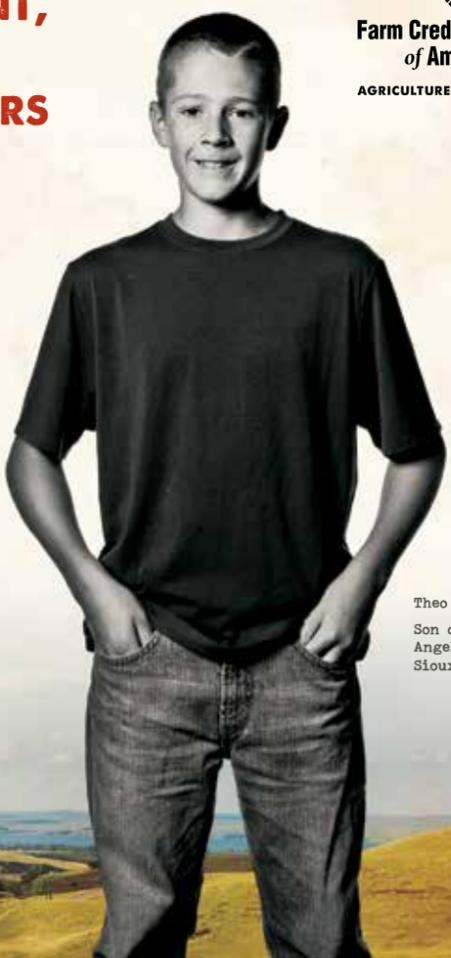
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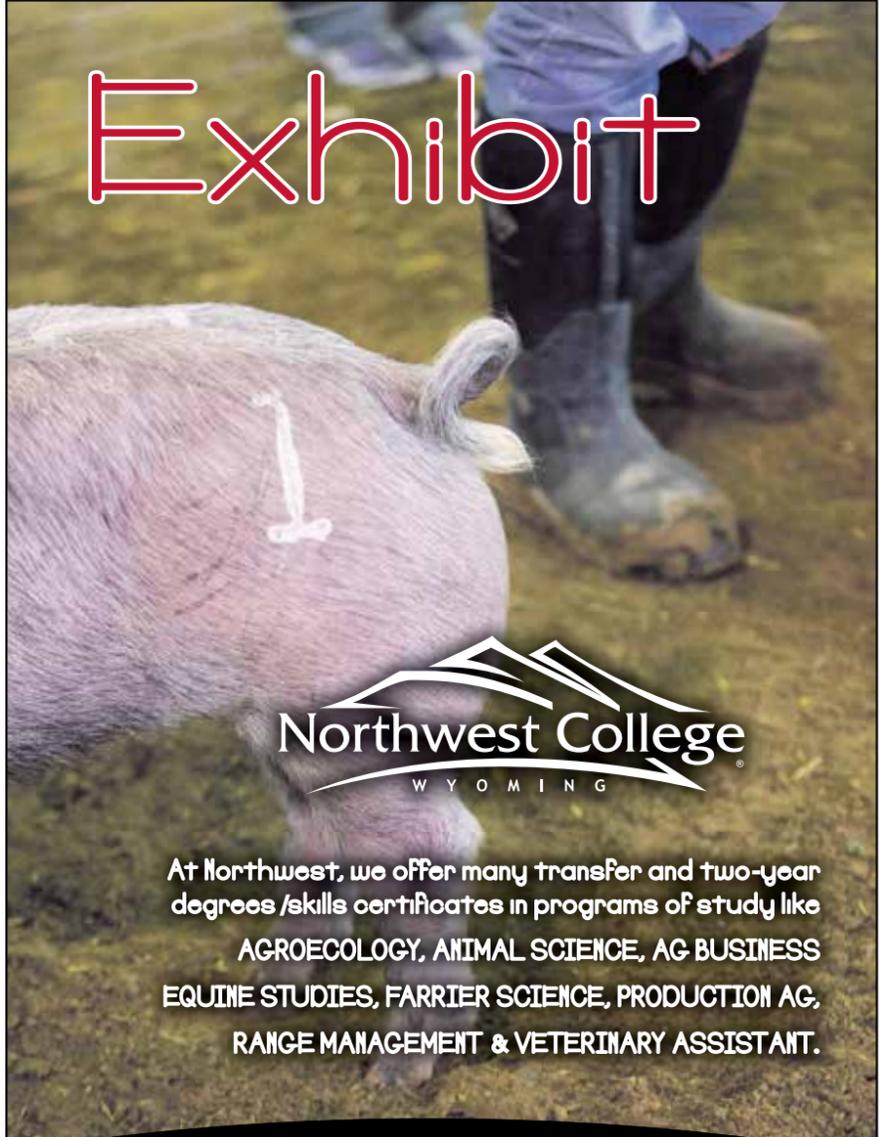
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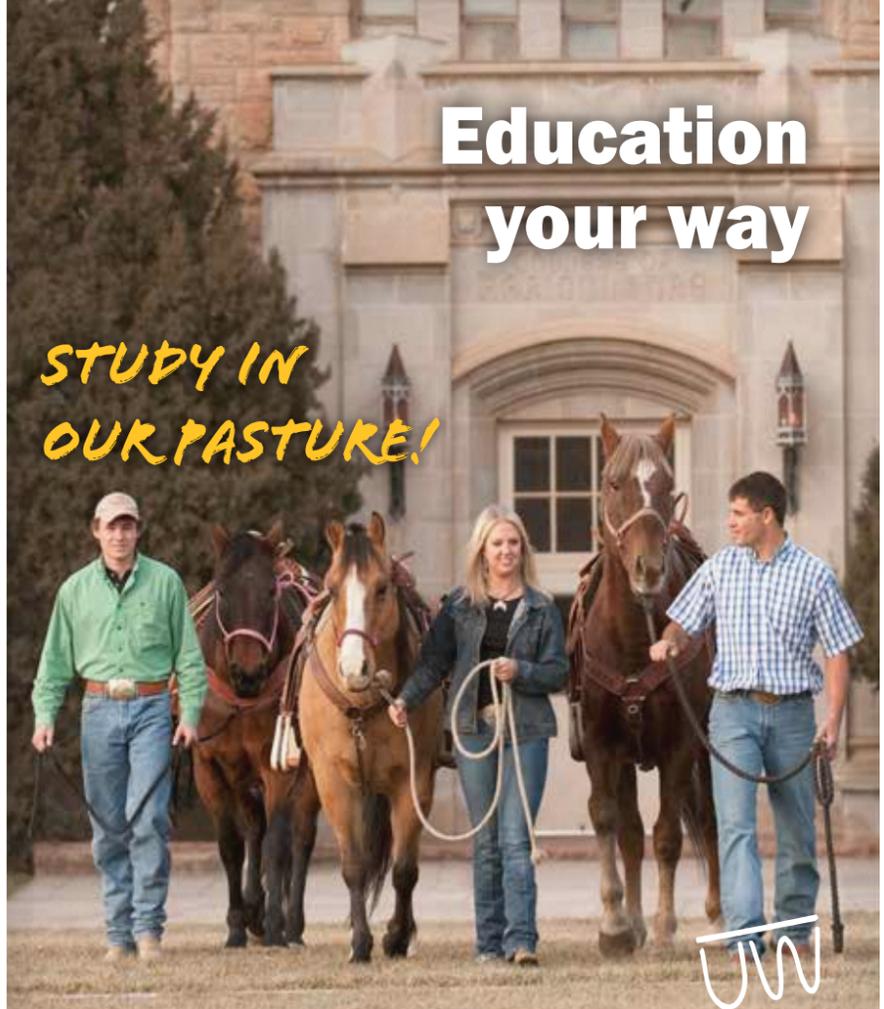
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Learning by Doing dollars help chapters, expand classroom tools

Cheyenne — Thanks to the generous support of sponsors like Encana Oil and Gas, the Wyoming Pork Producers and Cloud Peak Energy, the Wyoming FFA Foundation is able to help ensure Wyoming's agricultural education classrooms have the tools they need.

Over the course of the past twelve months, the Wyoming FFA Foundation has made investments in over a dozen different classrooms. Another round of applications is currently being accepted with plans to award funds before year's end.

Two separate schools drew upon the funds to ensure their agricultural education curriculum remains current. Agricultural Education curricu-

lum in Wyoming, thanks to an earlier project of the Foundation, has been matched to state standards and is maintained annually. Schools subscribe to the curriculum ensuring it is kept current. The Foundation provides funds to help schools that exhibit a need with the cost of covering the curriculum.

Laboratory equipment, enabling students to assess soil pH and more, was added to the agricultural education classroom at Natrona County High School in Casper. In his application for funding, educator Brock Burch said, "This equipment will allow students to complete plant, soil and animal science labs and mechanical labs. The Vernier Labquest is a data collection device. We will be able to com-

plete labs, collect and analyze data and make scientific conclusions." Burch's students have been very successful in FFA's science fair at the national level and the Foundation sees an opportunity for this investment to broaden the students' learning opportunities and success within the FFA program.

Evanston FFA, with support from the Foundation, built a flatbed trailer that includes hydraulic components. Throughout the project students learned welding and construction skills, wiring and hydraulics. Upon completion the chapter put the trailer to work hauling metal for the classroom, hay for SAE projects and more.

Jim Bridger FFA also added a trailer to their program with the help of Learning by Doing dollars.

The chapter purchased an older stock trailer and refurbished it for chapter use. It's been used at a variety of events and to haul chapter members' livestock projects.

Both Kaycee FFA and the High Plains FFA in Cheyenne received dollars to help with their chapter sheep flocks. These investments provide students a hands-on learning opportunity. Students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to work with livestock during their high school years, can do so through these programs.

Students in multiple chapters are benefitting from the investment of dollars to expand project tools available. In New-

castle the Foundation paid for half of a Lincoln Metal Shop Power MIG 256. Ten Sleep FFA earned funds for a new powder coating system and Paintrock FFA was given the dollars to make a much-needed upgrade to their welding helmets.

If you'd like to join the Foundation in its efforts to improve and expand the learning opportunities available in Wyoming's agricultural education classrooms, please contact Jennifer Womack

at 307-351-0730 or Jen@WyoFFAFoundation.com.

For those seeking funds, applications are currently being accepted for the Learning by Doing program. Forms are available on the Foundation website at www.WyoFFAFoundation.com.



Paintrock FFA members and agricultural education students are benefitting from an upgrade in their welding helmets.



Casper students are benefitting from the availability of new lab equipment. Courtesy photo



Mr. Jay Clapper, FFA Advisor at Southeast, helps a student process a piglet. Southeast FFA, using Learning by Doing dollars, built a portable swine hut that allows students who wouldn't otherwise have room for a pig to a sow home with them and raise a litter of pigs. This project was funded with support from the Wyoming Pork Producers Council. Courtesy photo

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UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Calendar of Events **WYOMING FFA** *What's Happening*

Submit material for our next edition by November 15

- OCTOBER**
 30-2 National FFA Convention, Louisville, KY
- NOVEMBER**
 6-7 Cowboy Classic, UW
 11-12 Western National Rangeland Contest, Evanston
 15 WY FFA Foundation tour for 200 FFA members in the Gillette area
 15-16 Midwinter Meeting & F.I.R.E./CPC Leadership Conference- Gillette
 16 Wyoming FFA Foundation Meeting, Gillette
- DECEMBER**
 1 State and National FFA Dues due to State Office
 3-7 NAAE Convention, Las Vegas
- JANUARY**
 2-17 State Officer Visits, as arranged/scheduled
- FEBRUARY**
 TBA State Degree & Proficiency applications due to Regional Chairs as arranged
 10 All chapter applications due in State Office (mail hard copy and email copy)
 15 National FFA Scholarship Applications Due
 15-22 National FFA Week
- MARCH**
 10 Honorary State Degree nominee résumé's due
 10 Talent applications due in State Office (or as arranged)
 10 State Officer Candidates names due in State Office
 24 State Officer Candidate applications due
 24 Nominating Committee applications due
 24 Vet Science Contest, EWC and Torrington/Lingle FFA Contests
 27-28 Powell/Northwest College Contests
 29 Proficiency applications due in Casper
 29 Casper Contests
 TBA Sheridan Contests
 TBA UW Contests and State Agri-Science Fair
- APRIL**
 7-10 State FFA CDE's and Leadership Conference, Cheyenne
 11 Northwest College Sale
 16-19 Region I NAAE Leadership Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii
- MAY**
 15 Honorary American Degree applications due (non-teacher)
 15 Names of members interested in National Officer due
- JUNE**
 2 National Officer Applications due in State Office
 9-12 WACTE/WVATA Summer Conference, Sheridan
 9 American Degree Applications due, bring to WACTE
 9 Proficiency Applications due, bring to WACTE
 15-19 NLCSO for state officers, Cody
 10-14 Session 1, Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp
 17-21 Session 2, Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp

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