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WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

WREN

★
ERIC WILHELM

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WREN

MAGAZINE

THE WREN MAGAZINE WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

The official publication of the
Wyoming Rural Electric Association

The WREN Magazine, Wyoming Rural Electric News, volume 66, number 3, April 2020 (ISSN 1098-2876) is published monthly except for January for \$12 per year by Linden Press, Inc., 214 West Lincolnway, Suite 21C, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Periodicals postage paid at Cheyenne, WY (original entry office) and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER – Send address changes to: The WREN Magazine, Wyoming Rural Electric News, c/o Linden Press, Inc., 223 S. Howes St., Fort Collins, CO 80521, [970] 221-5232. Include 3-digit co-op code.

WREN Magazine is owned and controlled by rural electric cooperatives in the interest of the economic progress of rural areas specifically and the entire population of Wyoming and the nation generally. WREN Magazine has a total average monthly paid circulation of 40,985 for 11 months ending September 2019. WREN Magazine is delivered to rural electric member/consumers and other subscribers throughout the entire state of Wyoming and the nation.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$12 per year, Single copies \$1.50 each

ADVERTISING

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OFFICE OF WREN OWNER

2312 Carey Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

OFFICE OF WREN PUBLISHER

Linden Press, Inc., 214 West Lincolnway,
Suite 21C, Cheyenne, WY 82001

PRINTED WITH VEGETABLE INK



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Passion for Hunting

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‘Do. Or do not. There is no try.’



SHAWN TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

These wise words are from Jedi Master Yoda to Jedi-in-training Luke Skywalker in “The Empire Strikes Back” when Luke says he’ll try to unlearn what he has learned. These are also wise words in these uncertain times. I struggled with what to write about this month because I said in my last column that I would update you all on what went on during the legislative session. That seems like a lifetime ago given what we’ve all been dealing with since then. Suffice it to say that nothing was passed that will hurt the cooperatives, and a few bills passed that will help us when dealing with natural disasters and outages.

Instead I want to focus on the words of Yoda with regard to the new coronavirus, or COVID-19. With the guidelines released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for preventive measures (washing hands, social distancing, etc.), we need to heed Yoda’s words and do; don’t try. This is much easier said than done, and I’m the first to admit that I’m a social guy and it’s hard to not get out and about and hang out with friends. But we have to do it in order to help everybody stay safe.

I saw a meme the other day that said “introverts please check on your friends who are extroverts – we’re having a tough time.” It made me laugh because I have a mixed house. I’m an extrovert, my wife is more of an introvert and our three kids

are a mixed bag (in a lot of different ways!). But under the current normal it is very important for all of us to check in on each other. I know there are random, and sometimes not so random, acts of kindness happening all over Wyoming these days, and we all need to be vigilant about continuing these acts, checking on friends and family and even complete strangers, while at the same time practicing appropriate social distancing and protecting ourselves and our families.

I can tell you that for my family and I, some of the good that will come out this craziness is how we’ve gotten closer to one another. When you remove, like it or not, the chaos that comes with hockey practices, soccer practices, piano, homework, actual work for the parents, and everything that comes with modern-day family life, in the end what you have left is family. But for me this includes my co-op family, and while I can’t be quarantined with all of you, know that you and your families are in the Taylor family’s thoughts and prayers.

Please stay healthy and happy and remember the words of Yoda when it comes to taking the necessary health precautions during this time. We’ll see you all on the other side of COVID-19.



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CO-OP YOUTH

Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives are proud to support our youth, giving college scholarships and lineman scholarships. In addition, our co-ops sponsor high school students on the NRECA Youth Tour in June and Youth Leadership Camp in July.

THIS MONTH:

Carbon Power and Light nominated Logan Wells, who attended the 2019 Youth Leadership Camp in Clark, Colorado.



Interested in applying for a scholarship, D.C. Youth Tour and/or Leadership Camp? Contact your local rural electric cooperative! See the insert in the center of the magazine for contact information.



LOGAN WELLS



HOMETOWN:
Saratoga

HIGH SCHOOL:
Saratoga Middle/High School

YEAR OF GRADUATION:
2020

FUTURE PLANS:
Military/Air Force

WREN: Tell us about your studies and interests.

LW: I always wanted to become a marine biologist in the field of shock study but this last summer I decided that I wanted to go into the military in the Air Force. I want to be in a civil engineering squadron in the Air Force for six years then use the GI Bill to attend college.

WREN: How have your hometown, family and/or friends influenced you?

LW: My family has really influenced a lot of the things that I decide to do. They always have my back with any decision or choice that I wanted to make. I'm just glad to know that my family has my back with my decision to join the military. I know that it's hard for them especially but I know it's going to be good for me in the end.

WREN: What are your plans for the future?

LW: After leaving the military I'm going to go to college for shark studies in marine biology and if that doesn't work out the way that I plan, I hope to become a civil engineer. I want to live in Texas or Fort Collins.

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Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives are part of a much larger network of cooperatives that strive to provide the safest, most reliable electricity possible to their members. The cooperative difference is that you, the members, own your electricity provider, and your needs drive the cooperative.

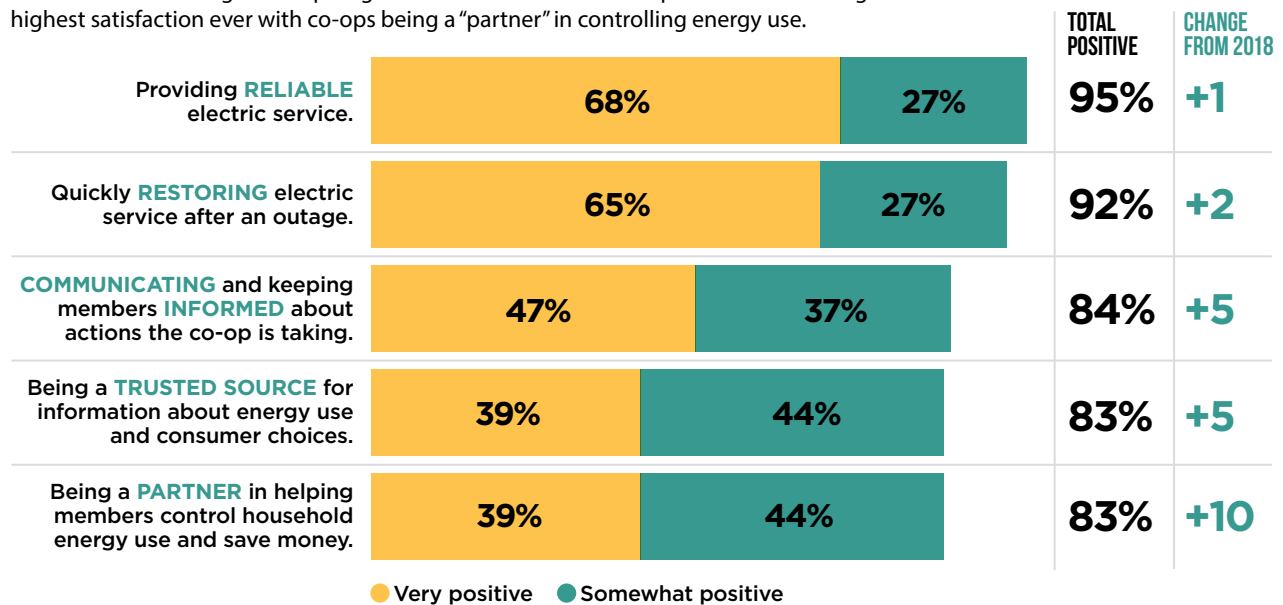
The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) recently commissioned a national telephone survey to find whether cooperative members are satisfied, and engaged, with their cooperative. This month, we'll look at survey results regarding members' opinions of their co-op. We'll finish the series in May with results from a price satisfaction survey.

NEW REPORT

MEMBERS HAVE A HIGH OPINION OF THEIR CO-OP

CO-OP PERFORMANCE ON SPECIFIC TRAITS

Consumer-members give co-ops high marks across the board for performance but registered their highest satisfaction ever with co-ops being a "partner" in controlling energy use.



Source: Survey of 750 electric co-op members, July 2019, margin of error +/-3.6% by Frederick Polls



TENNESSEE LINEMEN MAKE HARROWING RESCUE

FROM THE NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION



Tennessee linemen Rick Courtner and Cody Bryant rescue Cathy Souder after a tree and mudslide swept her pickup into a flooded creek.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT BLEVINS



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Lineworkers in Wyoming do a fantastic job at keeping us safe. They are part of a nationwide network of heroes, as shown in this photo captured in February in Tennessee. In honor of Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 13 (April 18 for some associations), co-ops across Wyoming, and the nation, are honoring our own local line crews.

A Tennessee woman who was trapped inside her pickup truck by rushing floodwaters is hailing electric cooperative line crews as her heroes after they rescued her from her nearly submerged vehicle.

Mountain Electric Cooperative lineworkers Rick Courtner and Cody Bryant swung the bucket of a co-op truck to free Cathy Souder of northeast Tennessee after a mudslide and a tree pushed her pickup off the road and into swirling floodwaters in February.

"I am just fortunate to be here today. They saved my life," Souder told local reporters.

Courtner, Bryant and Mollie Ingle, a Mountain Electric meterperson, headed to Nashville later that week, where they were honored by state legislators.

Officials said Souder's truck washed 300 yards downstream before becoming lodged in the middle of Laurel Creek, which was swollen by several days of rain so heavy that the Tennessee Valley Authority was forced to use its 49-dam network to move water down the Tennessee River to minimize flooding.

"I was on a service call at a house where the accident initially happened and just saw a [downed] tree at first," said Ingle. "I called 911 but at that point I didn't know there was actually a vehicle in the river until a neighbor came out and told me."

Ingle directed traffic with help from a bystander and contacted co-op crews for assistance when she realized that first responders' communications equipment wasn't getting a signal.

Courtner and Bryant rushed to the scene with lineworkers Dakota Tester and Charlie Grindstaff in a large bucket truck – a wise decision that paid off.

Annual Meeting ROUNDUP



Garland Light and Power board president Jerry Thompson and Manager Molly Lynn draw names for door prizes during the annual meeting.



Barbara Smith, right, signals that she won a door prize while Jessi Timmons and her daughter, Tristan, 5, look on during the Garland Light and Power annual meeting.

Every March, five of the Wyoming Rural Electric Association's 11 cooperatives host their own annual meeting. The meeting is a time to share a meal, make collective decisions and greet other members. The threat of the quickly-spreading novel coronavirus (COVID-19) created problems for almost all of the five March meetings.

LIVELY MEETING IN POWELL

On Thursday March 12, more than 100 people attended Garland Light and Power's annual meeting in Powell. During the meeting, members participated in a lively question and answer session on Garland's rate structure changes. Manager Molly Lynn and board member Ike Eastman explained that the co-op made the changes with information from a study that was done at no cost by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. Also during the meeting, members voted to retain Jerry Thompson and Peggy Ruble in their current positions on the board.

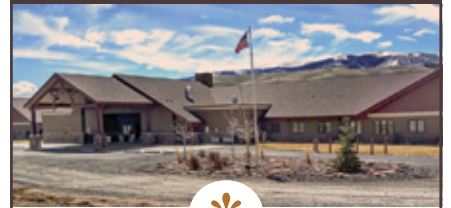
STATE OF EMERGENCY

On Friday March 13, Gov. Mark Gordon declared a state of emergency in Wyoming as the state was confirming its second case of COVID-19. The governor cited concerns for vulnerable and elderly populations.

During the week following the governor's action, High Plains Power, Big Horn Rural Electric Company, Wheatland Rural Electric Association and Wyrulec Company postponed their March annual meetings.

"To err on the side of caution the board of directors has decided to postpone the 2020 Annual Meeting. It is recommended that social distancing will help slow the spread of COVID-19. As part of the cooperative principles – Concern for Community – we feel this is the responsible thing to do," High Plains Power Manager Marlene Morss wrote on March 13.

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WREA Annual Meeting



The Wyoming Rural Electric Association's (WREA) annual meeting took place in Cheyenne Feb. 26-27. The board of directors, along with co-op managers and associates, gathered to learn from guest speakers, share insights and conduct cooperative business. The meeting concluded with a legislative reception and quilt presentation for Gov. Mark Gordon.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KELLY ETZEL DOUGLAS

QUILT COLLECTOR

The WREA presented Gov. Mark Gordon with a quilt made by Ruth Rees, board member from Bridger Valley. Pictured from left are: Niobrara's Andy Greer, Big Horn's William Bridges, Garland's Scott Smith, Gordon, Rees, Wheatland's Sandra Hrachak, Executive Director Shawn Taylor, former board member and Craig Thomas Cooperative Service Award winner Linda Schmidt, High West's Michael Lerwick, PRECorp's Mike Lohse and Wyrulec's Dewey Hageman.



SCHMIDT, LARSEN HONORED

The Craig Thomas Cooperative Spirit Award was given to two recipients this year.

Linda Schmidt was honored for a lifetime of commitment to her cooperative. Schmidt was hired by Lower Valley Energy in 1967, working first as an office clerk and then as a staking engineer. After retiring, Schmidt returned to Lower Valley as an elected member of the board of directors from 2002 to 2017, serving as a member of the WREA board of directors from 2007-2017, including time as WREA board president.

“She led the board through what has been described as a tumultuous time for WREA with the same qualities she has always exhibited: determination, efficiency, and careful consideration of what is right versus wrong,” Lower Valley President/CEO Jim Webb wrote on her nomination.

Chuck Larsen, former Carbon Power and Light manager and current WREN writer, also received the award. Larsen, a former lineman, spent 36 years as an employee at Carbon, 23 of those years as general manager. After retiring he moved to Hulett, where he continues to write and perform cowboy poetry.

“Chuck’s ability to provide levity and concise wording to any situation is one of the hallmarks he has provided us with. WREA’s position statements and resolutions reflect this,” current Carbon General Manager Russell Waldner wrote on Larsen’s nomination.

Larsen wrote this position statement for Carbon in 2001; it’s still in use today, “Continually Communicate our Commitment to Community, Plan Productively, Perfect our Potential, and be Passionate about our Member-Owners’ Perspective. Learn, Lead and Light the way to a better quality of Life for our Member-Owners.”

CAPITOL TOUR

WREA members and associates visited the Capitol during the annual meeting. More than 30 WREA members came to the legislature to see the newly renovated Capitol and to greet their local representatives. The annual meeting concluded with an evening reception for state legislators.



THE COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MODEL

One year ago, Wyoming Rural Electric Association (WREA) representatives were discussing an idea to stand up a university-level class on the cooperative business model. In February, Milt Geiger gave a presentation about his experience instructing the inaugural course at the University of Wyoming in fall 2019.

"I didn't have to fail anybody. They showed up and they did the work. They engaged," Geiger said of his 23 students. He noted that there were only four absences the entire duration of the course.

The class took place on campus on Tuesday evenings, often with a guest speaker. Wyrulec General Manager Ryan Schilreff and Tri-State Generation

and Transmission CEO Duane Highley both took time to speak with the class. Between classes, students were to read assigned text, write 400-word essays and write questions for the upcoming speaker. At the end of the semester, students created business models for their idea of a brand-new cooperative.

The most important lesson for students might have been that a co-op has to maintain economic viability. "No margin, no mission," Geiger said.

The class will be offered again in fall 2020.

Moving forward, Geiger had a very specific request of the WREA: "If someone's looking for a summer activity in the evenings, please write a textbook."



PHOTO COURTESY OF JODI STIEHL

Jodi Stiehl and her father, Don Vincent, on her wedding day.

CHAMPION FOR CO-OPS

Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative board member Jodi Stiehl came from Idaho to attend the WREA annual meeting. Her co-op is an associate member of the WREA, but her heart is with all rural electric cooperatives after her father lost his cooperative years ago in Alberta, Canada.

"An [investor-owned utility], ATCO Power, put pressure on members to sell the [rural electric association] and to Dad's dismay members voted to sell. Power bills instantly doubled," Stiehl wrote in an email.

After that, Stiehl's father, Don Vincent, spoke with other co-ops around the province and convinced them not to sell. The co-ops he visited remain in place today, she said.

Dick Clifton, of Carbon Power and Light, was recognized for his service as WREA board president. The next board president will be Scott Smith of Garland Light and Power.



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2020 CENSUS

The census data provides monetary funds for Wyoming. Wyoming towns and counties each received about **\$600/person** from state tax distribution based on census data in the 2019 fiscal year.

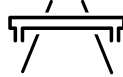
CENSUS INFORMATION IS USED IN WYOMING FOR PLANNING AND FUNDING



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The census will not be mailed to P.O. Box addresses. Instead, a census worker will bring a postcard or questionnaire to your home.

How to identify a census field representative:

The representative must present an I.D. badge with:



THEIR PHOTOGRAPH



A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WATERMARK



AN EXPIRATION DATE

The representative will have a letter from the director of the U.S. Census Bureau and can provide the number for the regional office for verification. Wyoming residents can also call 211 for census information.

THE CENSUS IS SAFE

The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to keep your answers strictly confidential. Data cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine personal eligibility for government benefits.

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CENSUS TIMELINE

2010	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JULY 31	2020
The last census took place 10 years ago.	You will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 census. Some households will receive a postcard, others will receive a questionnaire.	If you haven't responded yet, you will receive a reminder letter and paper questionnaire.	Census workers begin visiting homes that haven't responded. Home visits may be delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Census closed.	The next census will take place 10 years later.

★ MAKE SURE YOU COUNT!

Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives encourage you to participate in the 2020 Census.

For more information call 211, log onto 2020census.gov or visit your local library.

Sources: Wyoming Department of Administration & Information Economic Analysis Division, Wyoming State Library.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UW INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

HERBARIUM MOUNTS 1 MILLIONTH SPECIMEN



FROM UW INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

The University of Wyoming's Rocky Mountain Herbarium mounted its 1 millionth specimen in January. Members of the UW Board of Trustees were on hand in the Aven Nelson Building to witness the historic event.

"The addition of a millionth specimen to a herbarium is a major accomplishment," Director Greg Brown said. "The Rocky Mountain Herbarium is the most significant natural history collection in Wyoming and the dominant, most important herbarium in the entire Rocky Mountain region. It was important to have the board of trustees in attendance not only because of these facts, but to recognize the fact that this is an area of modern science where UW is a recognized leader and truly on the cutting edge of science."

Above: Rocky Mountain Herbarium volunteer Madison Dale glues and mounts the 1 millionth plant specimen, a Wyoming Indian paintbrush.

The specimen chosen to be 1 millionth was *Castilleja linariifolia*, which is Wyoming's state flower and is commonly known as Indian paintbrush. This species can be found in many locations across the state.

Established in the fall semester of 1899, the Rocky Mountain Herbarium is the largest facility of its kind between St. Louis and the West Coast. It is the fifth largest herbarium at a public U.S. university.

The herbarium is rich in specimens throughout the United States, Canada and northern Europe, but it specifically boasts the largest collection of Wyoming and Rocky Mountain plants in the world to reflect the region's biological diversity and evolutionary history.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WYDOT

SNOWPLOW COLLISIONS RISE

FROM THE WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wyoming has experienced a higher-than-normal number of snowplow collisions for the 2019-2020 winter season and is asking motorists to be extra vigilant when traveling. Twenty-two vehicles collided with WYDOT snowplows between October 2019 and March 10, 2020.

“Our mission is to ensure the safety of the entire traveling public, including the men and women of WYDOT who are out maintaining the roads during wintry weather,” said WYDOT Director K. Luke Reiner. “We want everyone to get to their destinations safely and we urge everyone to slow down for conditions and be aware of their surroundings.”

The data WYDOT uses for snowplow crashes is during the winter season, which typically runs from October through April. For the other winter seasons, there were eight crashes for 2018-2019, eight for 2017-2018, three for 2016-2017, seven for 2015-2016 and 13 for 2014-2015.

Bank Branches Not Accessible?

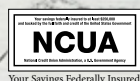
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‘We can’t all take
the month of October off!’



WEATHERBY

COMES TO WYOMING



WORKING IN THE FIREARMS INDUSTRY IN SHERIDAN HAS BEEN
A DREAM COME TRUE FOR JOHN THOM, AN ASSEMBLER FOR
WEATHERBY’S HIGH-END MARK V RIFLE LINE.

“The people who work here are the best part of this job,” Thom said. “We’re a community, a family-like environment, with shared interests. You can turn to the person next to you and share shooting and hunting stories from the weekend.”

Thom, a firearms enthusiast who grew up in Buffalo, couldn’t imagine living anywhere else than at the base of the Bighorn Mountains. He was working at a salvage yard in Buffalo when he applied to Weatherby in 2018.

“Working here comes with a sense of pride,” added Thom, who was one of Weatherby’s first hires from the Sheridan/Buffalo area. “It’s a dream come true for me.”



BY RACHEL GIRT

STRATEGIC RESET

Founded in 1945 in California, Weatherby announced its decision to relocate its entire operation to the more gun-friendly Wyoming in January 2018. The move gave Weatherby the opportunity to undergo a strategic reset of its culture and grow its brand, said Brenda Weatherby who, as the director of people and culture, handles human resources and facilities. Before the move, Ed Weatherby had hired most of the employees. In January 2017, Ed handed over the company's leadership to his son Adam, Brenda's husband.

"Every generation of a family business has a little bit of a different culture depending upon the leader," she explained. "Adam and I knew that this was a very strategic time for us to rebuild our culture knowing that we were going to replace many of our employees if they didn't want to come with us."



PHOTOS BY RACHEL GIRT

Brenda Weatherby holding the Limited Edition Mark V Wyoming Commemorative Rifle. There are two versions, the Gold and Silver models.



With only 18 of the 70 employees willing to move, Brenda began the daunting task of hiring 50 employees from more than 3,500 submitted applications. She spent longer on the recruiting and interview process, searching for individuals with the right skills who understood the brand and even lived that lifestyle.

About 75 percent of Weatherby's workforce in Sheridan, expected to soon rise to 90 employees, shares a passion for hunting, Brenda said. "That's hugely different than our California workforce, which up to 20 percent were actively engaged in hunting as a hobby."

Of course, that makes hunting season, one of the busier times for Weatherby, interesting. "We can't all take the month of October off," Brenda said, laughing. She explained

John Thom works as Mark V Assembler 2.



that the company works with employees to stagger shifts and, "We encourage a lot of weekend hunting trips. With the Bighorns so close, that's where most go hunting anyway."

Customer service representative Colter Kinner, who is from Sheridan, added that Weatherby is a special place to work. "Employees here are passionate about what they do and care about Weatherby's future."

Kinner also runs the showroom and visitor's center, which gets up to 40 visitors a day during the hunting season. Some long-time Weatherby customers have even gotten teary-eyed while visiting the showroom. "They say that they always wanted to visit Weatherby," Kinner said.

Steve Otter preps stocks at Weatherby.



MOVING A FACTORY

Starting in 2018, the company first moved its offices into a temporary location in Sheridan while its new headquarters and production facility was being built on nine acres on the outskirts of town.

The Wyoming Business Council worked with the Sheridan Economic and Education Development Authority (SEEDA) joint powers board to develop an attractive grant package. The joint powers board used the money to build an 75,000 square-foot building in the Sheridan High-Tech Business Park. SEEDA owns the facility, and Weatherby has a lease-purchase agreement for the building, in addition to making their own investments in the facility.

On March 1, 2019, five semi-trailers filled with machines, equipment and supplies showed up at the new facility. "The next couple months were complete chaos, trying to get new employees trained, machines and employees productive and trying to find things amongst the masses of boxes," Brenda said.

With the move costing about \$2 million, Weatherby needed to get production up and running, Brenda said. Wyoming Workforce Development training funds significantly helped Weatherby train new employees and have them contributing at a high level more quickly, she added.



Justin Eckland,
manufacturing engineer

A key goal of the move was to allow Weatherby to become more vertically integrated, and move more functions in-house like video content producers, engineering and all sorts of manufacturing labor, Brenda said. "That is why we built about twice the square footage than we had in California. Our plan was to expand our firearm production capability, increase our flexibility and have less reliance on suppliers."

The headquarters houses customer service, sales, marketing, human resources, finances, engineering and gunsmithing, as well as the assembly and manufacturing side. The majority of the stock finishing is done in-house, so the facility includes stock dipping and painting. For testing, the facility has its two underground proof ranges: a 100-yard range and a 300-yard range.

MACHINISTS AND ENGINEERS

This year Weatherby added a new machining area to bring more processes in-house. "Six months ago, we only had one machinist, and now we're up to five machinists doing CNC [computer numerically controlled] programming and operations," Brenda said.

Bringing its engineering team in-house has aided the grand synthesis of multiple departments working together, Brenda said. "There is something about having an engineering team in house living and breathing Weatherby."

Prior to its move, Weatherby had difficulty convincing gun engineers to move to California and ended up contracting out to different engineering groups in the country, she explained. The attraction of living near the Bighorn Mountains and all the outdoor amenities surrounding Sheridan has changed that.

Justin Eckland, originally from Dubois, was living in Sterling, Colorado with his wife and two sons when he heard about Weatherby's move to Sheridan and immediately applied. "I was so excited to get the call as hunting was one of my hobbies," he said.

As a manufacturing engineer, Eckland focuses on the assembly process, trying to make production faster while adhering to Weatherby's high-quality standards. The engineering department also has a role in testing new products. "We try to break things, looking for points of failure in order to fix problems before our products reach our customers," Eckland explained.

The firearms industry is very competitive, especially in Weatherby's market niche, which is focused on being lighter and faster, Brenda added. "Ballistic superiority put Weatherby on the map, and that's what Adam's grandfather built the company on and what we continue to innovate for." **W**

Rachel Girt is a freelance writer and owner of Girt Communications based in Cheyenne.

ERIC WILHELM



Outfitter Shares Passion for Hunting

BY RACHEL GIRT

PHOTO BY RACHEL GIRT

Eric Wilhelm
scouts for mule
deer near Ucross.



“There is a difference between being able to get yourself into a position to harvest an animal and getting someone else in that position.”

After spotting a few bucks, he encouraged his client to belly crawl through sagebrush to the crest of a nearby hill and wait. A shot rang out, and the animal dropped.

Every day is a “good day” as an outfitter, but some are just better than others, Wilhelm said.

“When I can watch the beautiful sun rise and the same sun set with my clients, surrounded by the beauty and the animals that God has blessed us with, when everyone is back to camp safe, sitting around reliving the day’s stories and enjoying the camaraderie and bond that hunters have, that is a good day,” Wilhelm explained.

Wilhelm, along with his wife Vickie, run Ucross Outfitters 1, which provides hunting related services to a diverse clientele hailing from around the nation.

The couple also manages the Ranch at Ucross, a guest ranch located 20 miles northeast of Buffalo in the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains in Powder River Energy Corporation’s service area. The Ranch at Ucross is home to the Wyoming Women’s Antelope Hunt, which Wilhelm serves as the outfitter on record, coordinating the guides and all the hunts.

Shifting his cowboy hat, outfitter Eric Wilhelm peered through binoculars, looking for a mule deer moving among the golden brown hues of the hills surrounding Ucross.

Eric Wilhelm hunts birds with his dogs in the Ucross area.

Katie, Vicki and Eric Wilhelm pose with their dogs, Amy and Loki.



PHOTO BY STEVEN GIRT

“We personalize every hunt as much as we can,” Wilhelm said, describing the outfitting business. “I put a lot of thought into the area our client will hunt, who his or her guide should be, and what is their physical ability, hunting knowledge and how they can be most successful.”

Clients stay in deluxe accommodations at the guest ranch or sometimes in a wall tent, depending upon the type and location of the hunt. Options include hunting elk, deer, antelope, turkeys, prairie dogs and black bear on horseback, on ATVs or hiking.

Although Wyoming has an abundance of wildlife and a large amount of public lands, not all of that land is easily accessible, Wilhelm said.

“Outfitters live here every day, see the changes that may affect the hunting that fall, and know the land, the weather and the habits of the animals they wish to pursue,” Wilhelm said, explaining the benefits of hiring an outfitter.

Most people from other states don’t have the time to come out and research the hunt areas in Wyoming so they turn to an outfitter to help, Wilhelm explained. He also assists clients with navigating the state’s license and preference point system.

With most public lands tending to be overcrowded, outfitters like Wilhelm can gain access to private property. Wilhelm praised landowners’ willingness to work with them during hunting season.

“We have built relationships founded on respect with landowners,” Wilhelm explained. “We help the landowners who we partner with achieve their wildlife management goals like trimming down their whitetail herd while maintaining the integrity of their property.”

A Lifetime Spent Outdoors

Ever since boyhood, fishing and hunting naturally flowed in Wilhelm’s veins, as well as a serious passion for German shorthaired pointers, gregarious hunting dogs which he raises.

Growing up above Central City, Colorado, Wilhelm developed an ingrained love of everything outdoors. He and his sister ran wild through the mountains surrounding the family’s small Colorado ranch, exploring every nook and cranny. “Every opportunity I had, I was outdoors,” he said.

“I read every outdoor magazine and book I could get my hands on, watched ‘Jeremiah Johnson’ a thousand times and waited anxiously for the fall and hunting season to arrive when we would hunt deer, antelope and elk,” Wilhelm said.

Wilhelm’s love of the outdoors continued to grow with his family’s move to eastern Colorado. When his grandfather visited, they would chase rabbits or doves, trap ground squirrels or go fishing at the pond. He spent every Thanksgiving break with his friends on the Kansas border hunting birds.

“My one buddy got an early Christmas present of a German shorthaired pointer, and from that day on, I was hooked on both birds and shorthairs,” Wilhelm said.

“When I was 22, I followed a job to Wyoming and knew I had found my heaven on earth,” Wilhelm said.

Wilhelm wound up managing a ranch in northwestern Wyoming for a private family who he took hunting. “It was during this time that I realized I had a talent not only to be a successful hunter myself but also to be able to help others become successful.”

Not every hunter can be a good guide, Wilhelm explained. “There is a difference between being able to get yourself into a position to harvest an animal and getting someone else in that position.”

In the early 2000s, Wilhelm and his wife Vickie moved to Ucross, located a few miles east of Buffalo, to manage the Ranch at Ucross. In 2010, the couple started the outfitting business, which partners with the guest ranch on hunting and accommodations.

Over the years, many of the Wilhelms’ clients have become good friends and return to the ranch, he said.

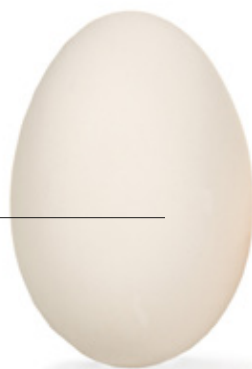
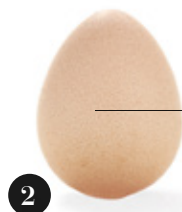
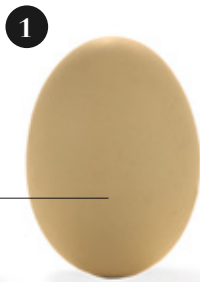
“I have watched several young men and women grow up that have harvested their first animal with us; that is special and is one of my favorite parts of this job,” Wilhelm added. **W**

Rachel Girt is a freelance writer and owner of Girt Communications based in Cheyenne.

BY TIFFANY WHITSITT

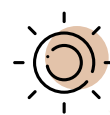
Chick it out!

What came first, the chicken or the egg? Yolking aside, see if you can name the bird that would lay each of the following eggs. Find the answers on page 35.



BIRD BANK:

- ☐ Australorp chicken
☐ Leghorn chicken ☐ Thrush
☐ Ostrich ☐ Duck ☐ Goose
☐ Guinea Fowl ☐ Quail ☐ Turkey



Did you know?

Egg color is influenced by the local climate. Eggs are more likely to be darker shades of brown in colder climates. These darker colors trap heat and allow parents to leave the nest for longer periods of time.

Theodore Roosevelt & Bison Restoration on the Great Plains

BY KEITH AUNE
& GLENN PLUMB

Rapidly disappearing bison in the late 1800s prompted progressive thinkers to call for the preservation of wild lands and wildlife in North America. Following a legendary hunt for the last wild bison in central Montana, Dr. William Hornady sought to immortalize the West's most iconic species. Activists like Theodore Roosevelt rose to the call, initiating a restoration plan that seemed almost incomprehensible in that era. Follow the journey from the first animals bred at the Bronx Zoo to today's National Bison Range. Glenn Plumb, retired National Park Service chief wildlife biologist, and Keith Aune, retired Wildlife Conservation Society director of bison programs, detail Roosevelt's conservation legacy and the landmark efforts of many others.

DESCRIPTION BY ARCADIA PUBLISHING

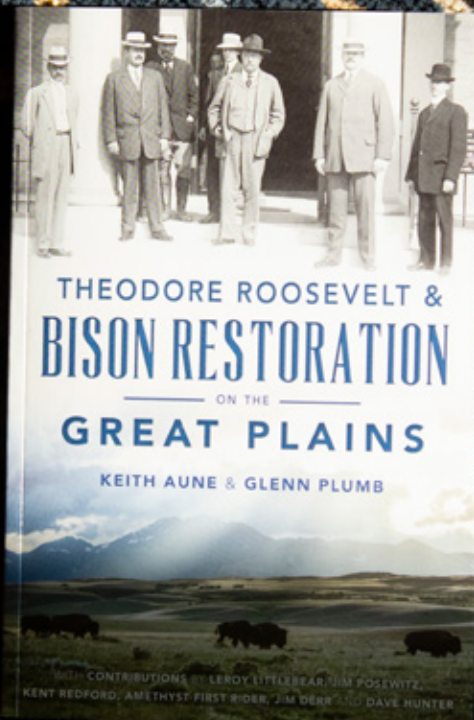
ORDERING INFORMATION:

2019 | 144p.
\$21.99 paperback

ISBN: 9781467135696

Publisher: ARCADIA PUBLISHING AND
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The First One

BY DR. BRUCE CONNALLY

It was a weekend of firsts. This was my first job as a practicing veterinarian. As the culmination of my first full month as a veterinarian in Lander I was on call on the weekend by myself for the first time. My boss had decided to go to a two-day team roping in Rock Springs.

I did not sleep a lot on Friday night. The thought of running the clinic without backup from my boss, and only a single technician to help me was terrifying. I unlocked the door at 9 a.m. The snow sparkled under a brilliant but ineffective February sun. Maybe that 10 degree below zero temperature would keep people home, I thought hopefully. The squeak of cold tires in the snow dispelled that notion. A lady emerged from a red Jeep Wagoneer with a big black lab in tow and entered through the glass door.

"I need to board Jasper until Tuesday," she announced. Dawn, the veterinary technician, took Jasper to the kennels. The lady left and I breathed a sigh of relief. The first client through the door was easy. I relaxed a little after that as people came in for simple things. A poodle needed a rabies shot. A beautiful black cat with yellow eyes was due for his feline distemper vaccination. While I was working on a golden retriever with an ear infection, the phone rang. Dawn poked her head through the exam room door.

"This is Ray on the phone," she announced. "He has a cow with pneumonia that he wants to bring in."

“We can do that,”

I replied confidently while cleaning the golden's left ear. “When is he coming?”

“He said about an hour,” Dawn replied.

I finished cleaning the ear and gave the client some ointment. We talked about using the ointment twice a day and trying to keep the dog from scratching at the ear.

“You can tape an old sock on that back foot to protect the ear from his claws.” I suggested, helpful as ever with my one month of veterinary experience.

He opened the back gate of the truck and a big black and white Holstein cow ambled down the chute.

There was a little break in the client flow and I took the chance to research bovine pneumonia in my internal medicine textbook. Armed with information about antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs, I felt confident that I could treat my first case of pneumonia in a cow.

An old Dodge truck with a tall red stock rack rattled down the driveway and backed expertly up to the loading chute. A man with a gray beard and the tall rubber boots of a dairy farmer emerged from the truck.

“My name is Ray,” he announced. “I brought the cow in with pneumonia.”

As a young veterinarian I thought I was supposed to make the diagnosis, but this man seemed to know what he was doing so I simply said, “let’s get her unloaded and into the clinic.”

He opened the back gate of the truck and a big black and white Holstein cow ambled down the chute and into the clinic. She looked bad. She was thin and had a dull look

in her eye. Mucus was coming from her nose and mouth as she worked to breathe. She stood quietly as I took her temperature. It was high. I reached for my stethoscope to listen to her lungs when she coughed and suddenly began bleeding profusely from her mouth. ➡

In these uncertain times, Cheyenne Regional Medical Group is here for you. We offer **flexible appointment options in specialty and primary care** to meet your healthcare needs.

MyChart's online SmartExam feature has been expanded to serve patients four years of age and older.

SmartExams are provided by:

Cheyenne Plaza Primary Care, Cheyenne Family Medicine
Cheyenne Plaza Internal Medicine, Cheyenne Children's Clinic,
Family First

In addition to in-office appointments, **patients can now meet with their specialty or primary care providers via telephone or video visits. Please contact your provider to see which type of visit is appropriate for you.**

We are in this together.



Cheyenne Regional
Medical Group

cheyenneregional.org/smartexam

“An abscess in her lungs has eroded into an artery!” I said in my best professional panicked-young-veterinarian voice. “We have to get her out of here before she bleeds to death.”

Blood is slippery. Ray and I struggled on the suddenly red-coated concrete floor to back the bleeding cow 20 feet out of the building and up the loading chute. She went down and died just before reaching the truck.

“It’s okay,” Ray said matter-of-factly to the devastated young veterinarian standing beside him. “The first one I take to a new vet always dies.” He climbed into his old Dodge truck and drove away leaving me staring down at my first dead patient.

We closed the clinic at noon on Saturday with a dead cow in the loading chute. The little Toyota vet truck could not pull her out. I was going to have to wait for my boss to come home with his big four-wheel drive pickup before we could dispose of the body. There were no emergency calls

the rest of Saturday or Sunday morning so I did not have to explain to clients why there was a dead cow in my loading chute. My luck ran out Sunday evening when Lonnie called.

A life had ended but for the first time I had helped complete the cycle of life by delivering a new life into the world.

“I have a cow that needs a cesarean,” Lonnie said. “I can bring her into the clinic in about an hour.”

My first cesarean by myself! Adrenaline pumped through my veins as I raced out to the clinic to get everything ready. When I drove down the driveway

toward the door my headlights shown on the loading chute.

“I hope he brings that cow in a trailer so we do not have to use the chute,” I said to no one in particular. Thirty minutes later the tray of instruments and drugs was ready for the surgery. Lights flashed in the window and a green 3/4-ton Chevy pickup with a stock rack and a cow in the back came down the driveway and stopped in front of the loading chute.

“I see that one didn’t make it,” was Lonnie’s greeting to me.

“She bled to death,” I explained to the man I was meeting for the first time. “And I cannot move her with the little vet truck.”

Lonnie did not show the misgivings he must have felt about this new veterinarian standing in front of him.

“I have a chain in the truck. I think I can pull her out of the way so we can unload my cow,” he said simply.

And he did just that. We brought his cow into the clinic and delivered a healthy black Angus calf through a cesarean section. After the surgery we loaded his cow back into his pickup and put the still damp new calf onto the floorboards on the passenger side of the cab for the cold ride home.

“Thank you,” he said as we shook hands. He climbed in the Chevy and drove toward Fort Washakie. I stood in the frigid air watching the taillights disappear down the highway. It had been my first weekend on call by myself. I had lost my first patient. And I had

my first client who trusted me to do my best, even when things looked bad. A life had ended but for the first time I had helped complete the cycle of life by delivering a new life into the world. **W**

Dr. Bruce Connally practices equine medicine in central Wyoming and northern Colorado from his home in Berthoud, Colorado.



EGGS

CUPCAKE OMELET

10 LARGE EGGS
3/4 CUP CHOPPED VEGETABLES
OF CHOICE (ONION, CELERY,
BELL PEPPER ETC.)
1/3 CUP CHOPPED GREEN ONIONS
1 - 1/2 CUP GRATED CHEESE
6 TO 8 OZ DELI MEAT OF CHOICE,
CHOPPED OR DICED
DASH OF SALT
BLACK PEPPER AS DESIRED

Whisk all the ingredients together and divide into a greased muffin pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes.

RUTH ZELLER ★ LOVELL

EGG & DATE SANDWICHES FOR TWO

2 HARDBOILED EGGS (ROOM TEMPERATURE & SLICED)
2+ TBS MAYONNAISE
2 PIECES HEARTY MULTIGRAIN OR WHEAT BREAD (TOASTED)
2 SLICES PEPPERJACK CHEESE
4-6 CHOPPED DATES

Place toasted wheat bread on a flat sheet pan covered with aluminum foil, spread 1 TBS mayo each slice of toast, top each with one sliced egg, and sprinkle each with 2-3 chopped dates, top each toast with a slice of cheese.

Place under broiler for 1-2 minutes until the cheese is melted, just bubbling and lightly browning, remove from heat, plate, cut in half or quarters and enjoy!

BETSY JENSEN ★ POWELL

CHILI RELLENO BAKE

1/2 LB GROUND BEEF
1/2 LB PORK SAUSAGE
1 CUP ONION, CHOPPED
2 CLOVES GARLIC, CHOPPED
2 CANS (4 OZ. EACH) WHOLE
GREEN CHILIES, DRAINED,
SPLIT AND SEEDED
2 CUPS SHREDDED SHARP
CHEDDAR CHEESE, DIVIDED
4 EGGS
1/4 CUP FLOUR
1 - 1/2 CUP MILK
SALT TO TASTE
HOT SAUCE (OPTIONAL)

Cook ground beef and sausage together, crumbled, until browned. Add onion and garlic, cook till limp.

Line a 9x9 inch baking dish with half the chilies. Top with 1 - 1/2 cups cheese.

Add meat mixture and top with remaining chilies; set aside.

Beat eggs and flour until smooth: add milk, salt, hot sauce. Blend well. Pour egg mixture over casserole. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for about 40 minutes or until egg is set. Sprinkle remaining 1/2 cup cheese on top. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

RITA COSSITT MUELLER ★ WESTON



SWEET POTATO BAKED EGGS

1 TSP OLIVE OIL
1/2 CUP CUBED SWEET POTATOES
3 ASPARAGUS SPEARS, CHOPPED
1/2 TSP CHOPPED FRESH ROSEMARY
1 TSP CHOPPED FRESH THYME
PINCH CRUSHED RED PEPPER
1 CUP CHOPPED FRESH SPINACH

OLIVE OIL SPRAY

3 LARGE EGGS, BEATEN OR 5 EGG WHITES,
BEATEN

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

Heat a medium skillet over medium heat, coat with the olive oil. Add the sweet potatoes and cover. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the asparagus, rosemary, thyme and crushed red pepper. Sauté for another 3 minutes. Add the spinach and stir until wilted. Remove from the heat.

Lightly coat a ramekin or small baking dish with olive oil spray. Pour in the potato and vegetable mixture and add the eggs. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until the eggs are fully cooked.

You could scramble the eggs and potato/veggie mix and it would taste just as yummy, but baking it in a ramekin is an elegant presentation and a small gift to yourself at the beginning of the day.

SUE PETRIE ★ CHEYENNE

JUNE:
PORK

SUBMIT
A RECIPE

Send complete recipe by May 10!

Please include your name, address and phone number.

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01



02



03

- 01 | Grandpa's gangster car, Vicki Olson, Powell
- 02 | Dozers at Komatsu demo days, Gary Nix, Mountain View
- 03 | The original dishwashing machine, Kara Badura, Riverton
- 04 | Grandchildren Jace and Ava cruising in their Jeep, Denette Price, Newcastle
- 05 | Quent's line truck, Gregg Moretti, Lyman
- 06 | 1930 manure spreader, Marilyn Repshire, Hillsdale



04



05



06

JUST PICTURE IT

THIS MONTH:

MACHINES



JUN (DUE MAY 10):

FIRE

JUL (DUE JUN 10):

FISHING



07

07 | Waiting for work at 75,
David Kruger, Laramie

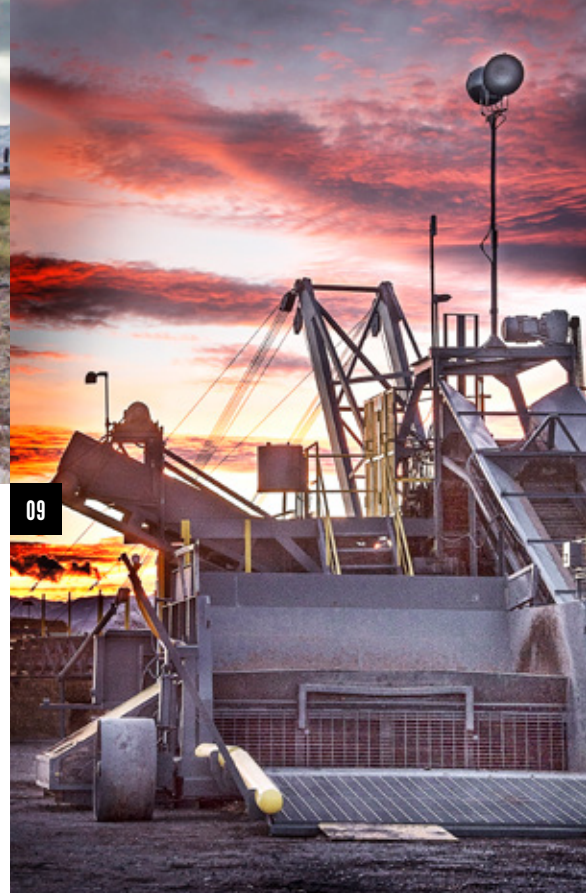


08

08 | Engine, Carole Martinez, Kaycee

09 | Off duty beet piler, Vicki Olson,
Powell

10 | Irrigation meets machinery,
Jerry Thompson, Powell



09

10

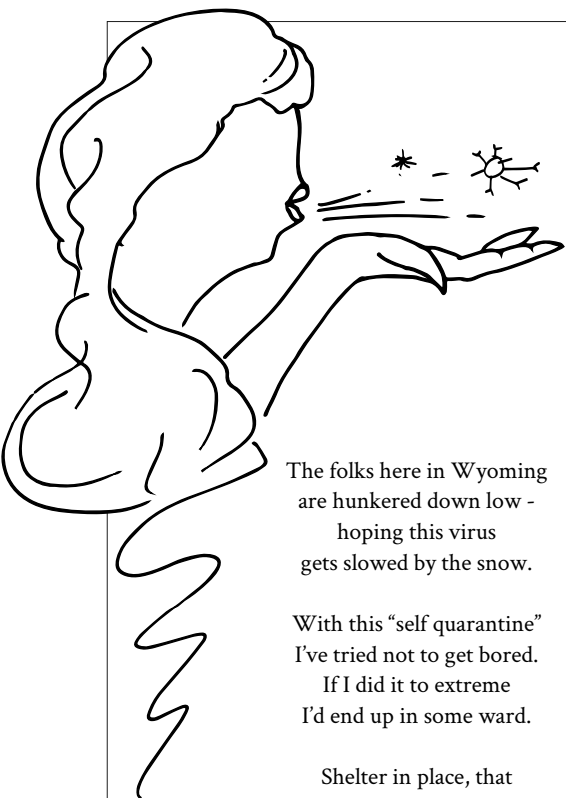


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Please include your name, hometown and a title.

Please submit high-quality digital files* or an original we can scan, as well as details about the artwork, the artist's name, and the co-op. *Use the highest quality setting on your camera, or save digital artwork as a .jpg or .tif file with at least 300 dpi resolution. Don't use Kodak Easy Share®.

If you would like your work returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



COVID-19

Blow on Past!

PAT LYNCH ★ ENCAMPMENT

The folks here in Wyoming
are hunkered down low -
hoping this virus
gets slowed by the snow.

With this "self quarantine"
I've tried not to get bored.
If I did it to extreme
I'd end up in some ward.

Shelter in place, that
is OK with me.
There're jobs I can do
which beat watching TV.

I've cleaned out the pickup.
Ain't done that before.
It's amazing the things
that I found on the floor!

Spruced up the wife's Jeep.
Chipped off mud that had dried.
I pulled out a big dent
on the passenger side.

Washed our old dog
five times this past week.
I notice he walks now
with an audible squeak.

Painted the bedroom
and also the hall.
If this lasts too much longer,
I'll be painting it all.

Cleaned all the house windows.
(There's about 24.)
Greased all the rollers
on the sliding barn door.

I'm following the rules
as Mike Pence has said.
Washed my hands so darn much
that my fingers have bled.

It sometimes is hard
being six feet away.
That's a bit far for me
to hear what people say.

My whiskers are long
since I can't touch my face.
And my hands are stark white
from Cloroxing the place.

I really don't mind
keeping everything clean.
And with this food shortage
I'm now handsomely lean.

That "small groups of ten"
rule is easy to do.
With few folks in this county,
a big group size is two.

The virus can't transfer
by horse or by cow.
If it could, in Wyoming,
we'd all have it by now.

Toilet paper shortage
should be no big scare.
Those lesser used tissues
we surely can share.

My wife thinks she won't catch this.
And she's right, I've no doubt.
Stays submerged in the bathtub -
just her nose sticking out.

I think I'm safe, too,
but there's no way to know it.
After all, up in Heaven,
God may need one more poet.

And, finally, there's a question
I've been meaning to ask ya'.
"Won't our Wyoming winds
blow this past - to Nebraska?"

We share a selection of WREN readers' creative writing (poems, limericks, haiku, short verse, and prose) every issue as space and content allow. To be considered for publication, please include the author's consent to be submitted, his or her mailing address, and confirmation that the work has not been published elsewhere. If you would like us to return your work, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

SUBMIT
A PIECE

Put Your Pen to Paper!

Please include your name, address, and phone number.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING REGIONAL MAP



01 | SOUTHEAST

LARAMIE

APRIL 24, 26

Laramie – Colors of the Past:

Unexpected Company Senior Theatre presents historical play. 7p Fri, 3p Sun, Alice Hardie Stevens Center, \$20. Info 307-742-4323.

MEDICINE BOW

FOURTH TUESDAYS

Bingo: 7p, Community Hall, info 307-710-4045.

SARATOGA

APRIL 23

Plein Air Painting:

Lori Kostur will teach beginning oils in outdoor setting at Saratoga Museum workshop. \$20, advance registration required 307-326-5511.

APRIL 24

Canning from your garden:

Saratoga Museum, advance registration required 307-710-3226.

APRIL 25

Fly tying for beginners: Saratoga Museum, advance registration required 307-710-3226.

TORRINGTON

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Rex Young Rock Club: 7-8p, Senior Friendship Center, info 308-632-5574.

02 | NORTHEAST

CLEARMONT

ONGOING

Historical Center: Center open Thu 2-4p, 1250 Front St, free. Historical Group meets 2p first Mon of the month at Clearmont

Library, 1p third Mon of the month at Sheridan Library, info 307-758-4430.

GILLETTE

APRIL 24-25

WyoPoets Workshop: Poetry readings and workshops at this annual event. Ramada Plaza, info wyopoets.org.

SATURDAYS

Black & Yellow Theatre: Experience designed to allow guests the opportunity to interact with subject matter, events and people that have shaped the Powder River Basin from pre-history to modern day. 11a-2p, Campbell County Rockpile Museum, free, info 307-682-5723, szacharias@ccgov.net, rockpilemuseum.com.



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, events may be postponed or canceled. Please call ahead before attending events.

THROUGH DECEMBER

Campbell County Women in World War II:

Nearly 350,000 American women served in uniform during the war and the women of northeast Wyoming were no exception. 9a-5p Mon-Sat, Campbell County Rockpile Museum, free, info 307-682-5723, abeenken@ccgov.net.

HULETT

ONGOING

Hulett Museum and Art Gallery: 8a-4p Mon-Fri, free, info 307-467-5292.

MOORCROFT

ONGOING

Library events: Story hour 10a Wed; Book clubs 1p third Thu and 6p fourth Tue. Info 307-756-3232, moorlibrary@rtconnect.net.

ONGOING

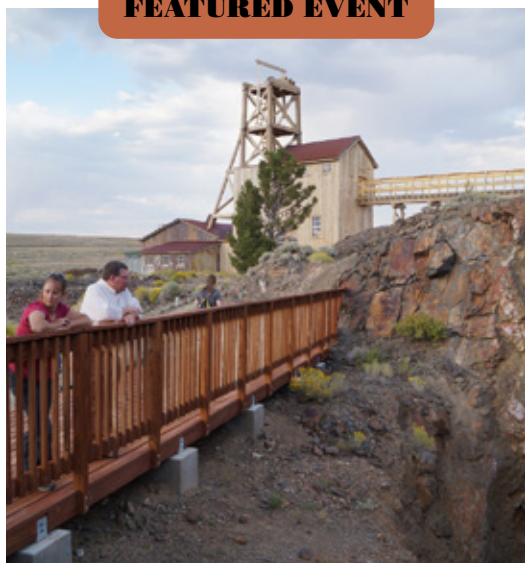
Senior Center Events: Third Thu Birthday and Anniversary Dinner, meat provided, bring a side dish. 5p social hour, 6p dinner; fourth Thu toenail clinic 9a, info 307-756-9550.

NEWCASTLE

FRIDAYS

Bingo: 7:30p, VFW Hall, free.

FEATURED EVENT



CARISSA GOLD MINE MILL TOURS

MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY

THU-SUN 2-4P

SOUTH PASS

\$5, \$3 WY residents, under 18 free. No kids under 8. Reservations recommended.

307-332-3684 | info@southpasscity.com
southpasscity.com/tours

NORTHWEST

SHERIDAN

APRIL 21

Banff Mountain Film Festival:

6:30p, WYO Performing Arts & Education Center, \$20, \$10 students, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

MAY 8

Spotlight on Sheridan: The Two Tracks with opener JT & Elizabeth Craft will play. 7:30p, WYO Performing Arts & Education Center, \$18, \$11 students, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

APRIL 16-19, 23-26

The Underpants: Times vary, WYO Performing Arts & Education Center, \$15, \$12 students, senior and military, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

SUNDANCE

ONGOING

Library Events: Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers 10:30a Wed; Lunch Bunch book discussion group 11a fourth Thu; UFOs (Unfinished Objects) 6-8p last Mon. Crook County Library, info 307-283-1006 or crookcountylib@rangeweb.net.

UPTON

WEDNESDAYS

All You Can Eat Buffet: Drinks and desserts included, 5-8p, Upton Golf Course, \$10, \$7 seniors, info 307-468-2847.

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

Zumba: 4p, Senior Center, \$5, info 307-391-0223.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Indoor Archery: 12-8:30p, 2741 N. Hwy 116, \$5, info 307-468-2506.

03 | NORTHWEST

DUBOIS

APRIL 21

Petroglyphs of Dinwoody and Torrey Valleys: These sacred images were pecked into stone

by past peoples. 9a-4p, Dubois Museum, \$10, advanced registration required. 307-455-2284, fremontcountymuseums.com.

MAY 7

Sasquatch in the Dubois Area:

Wildlife biologist for the North American Ape Project John Mionczynski has investigated the subject for five decades. 7p, Dennison Lodge, free, info 307-455-2284.

ONGOING

Library Activities: Family Movie Night 6p Apr 24, Storytime for birth-5 years 10:30a Fri; Lego Duplo Club for toddlers and preschoolers 11a Fri; book fair 2nd Saturdays; Lego Club for grades K-5, 3:30p April 21, May 5, 19. Dubois Public Library, info 307-455-2992.

LANDER

APRIL 23

Esther Hobart Morris: Author Kathryn Swim Cummings will discuss women's suffrage and life at South Pass City. 7p, Pioneer Museum, free, info 307-332-3373, fremontcountymuseums.com.

APRIL 25

Garden Expo: Workshops, vendors, advice, kids' activities, petting zoo, horse-drawn wagon rides at Popo Agie Conservation District event. Concessions available. 9a-3p, Lander Valley High School, free, info popoagie.org.

MAY 7

Images that Shaped America:

Journalist Clint Saunders discusses famous and infamous Vietnam era images. 7p, Pioneer Museum, free, info 307-332-3339.

SATURDAYS TO MAY 25

Winter Farmers' Market: Local seasonal produce, dairy, baked goods, locally raised meat, coffee, art and crafts. 1-3p. Lander VFW, info landervalleyfarmersmarket@gmail.com.



SUBMIT
AN EVENT

Send complete
information for the June
issue's events by
MAY 10!

Please remember that events
from the 20th of June to the
20th of July are included
in the June issue.

Be sure to include the date,
title, description, time, cost,
location, address and contact
information for each event.

Photos are always welcome.



Look for more events at
wyomingrea.org/news.

QUESTIONS &
SUBMISSIONS:

✉ wren@wyomingrea.org

☎ [307] 772-1968

✉ 214 W. Lincolnway
Ste. 21C
Cheyenne, WY 82001

💻 wyomingrea.org/wren-submissions

ONGOING

First Friday: New artist and local musician each month. Art show reception 5p, music 6p. Middle Fork Restaurant. Info 307-335-5035, facebook.com/MiddleForkCafe.

POWELL

MAY 9

Tea & Table Settings: Catered luncheon with decorated table settings and button artwork, gift shop at Homesteader Museum fundraiser. 11a, The Commons, \$30, info 307-754-9481, homesteader@bresnan.net.

RIVERTON

APRIL 23

Antiquarian Book Sale: Fremont County Library, info 307-856-3556.

MAY 9

Oatmeal Box Cameras: Students fifth grade and above will build working cameras and develop photographs. 2-4p, Riverton Museum, \$10, info 307-856-2665.

MAY 23-34

Wyoming Weapons Collectors: 9a, Fremont County Fairgrounds, \$6, kids under 12 free with an adult, info 307-742-4630.

ONGOING TO APRIL 30

Library Events: PreK Tales & Tunes Tue 10:30a; Starlight Storytime Wed 5:30p; Toddler Move and Groove Thu 10:30a; LEGO Club Thu 3-4:45p. Fremont County Library, free, info 307-856-3556.

SHOSHONI

APRIL 25

Cowboy Poetry Gathering:

2-4p, Fire Hall's Community Room, free, info 307-876-2777, shoshoniwychamber.com.

TEN SLEEP

ONGOING

Live Music Winter Hours: Open Mic Night second Sun 3-5p, Jam Night third Thu 7p. All ages welcome, Ten Sleep Brewing Co., info tensleepbrewingco.com.

04 | SOUTHWEST

FORT BRIDGER

MAY 25

Memorial Day Flag Raising Ceremony:

Remember those who lost their lives serving our country through a flag raising ceremony conducted at the flag pole by volunteers from the American Legion and VFW. 8a, Fort Bridger State Historic Site, free, info 307-782-3842.

TUESDAYS

Bingo: 6p, American Legion Hall, info 307-780-5489.

JACKSON

APRIL 25

Service Academy Information Day:

1p, Jackson Hole High School, info 307-261-6413.

LYMAN

SECOND FRIDAYS

Storytime: 11a, Lyman Branch Library, all ages are welcome, free, info 307-787-6556, uinalibrary.org.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

WEDNESDAYS

Storytime: 11a, Uinta County Library, info 307-782-3161.

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Chamber of Commerce Community

Luncheon: For business owners and individuals alike. \$15/plate, noon, Mountain View Town Hall, RSVP bvchamber@bvea.net, 307-787-6378.

ONGOING

Community Classes: Fitness, computer, workforce and kids' classes are available. Valley Learning Center, times and prices vary. Info valleylearningcenter.coursestorm.com or 307-782-6401.

ROCK SPRINGS

MAY 2

Service Academy Information Day:

1p, Rock Springs High School, info 307-261-6413.

CHICK IT OUT



1. Australorp chicken
2. Guinea Fowl
3. Duck
4. Leghorn chicken
5. Quail
6. Turkey
7. Goose
8. Ostrich
9. Thrush

PUZZLE ON PAGE 24

HONESTY.

It's been at the core of our company values since we were founded in 1948. You can count on us to be honest with you about your insurance needs and coverages.

Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company

HOME | FARM & RANCH | AUTO | BUSINESS

www.mwfb.com

Property-casualty insurance products offered through Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/Laramie, Wyoming.

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- Easy to use



Available for free download at the Apple App Store.

Available for free download at the Google Play Store.

The big train


BY ROBERT L. FOSTER

Union Pacific (UP) Engine 4014 earned the nickname “Big Boy” for its sheer size. The monster locomotive stretches a record breaking 132 feet and weighs 1.2 million pounds. To generate enough steam to move its giant pistons requires a 56,000-pound coal capacity and a 24,000-gallon water supply, both of which provide Big Boy with 7000 horsepower.

The Big Boy era has faded into history, having ceased operation in 1960. Back in the early 1940s, 25 Big Boys were built for UP to haul freight over the Wasatch Range between Ogden, Utah, and Green River, Wyoming. Seven of those Big Boys survive today, most on nonfunctional display at parks and museums around the country.

After slumbering in museums for over 50 years this unique steam engine, a relic of a bygone era, roared to life in Cheyenne in May 2019, and rumbled west, destined for Ogden, Utah, to participate in the 150th anniversary celebration of the driving of the golden spike on May 10, 1869. Hammering in that special spike completed the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad, joining America’s Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Many train enthusiasts, including me, had no idea that the old engine would ever roll along the tracks again. However, due to five years



**John Wayne is gone
now, as are the days of
railroad building and
the men who faced
the almost impossible
challenge of moving
the rails forward.**

of tireless efforts of Union Pacific (UP) designers, machinists, engineers and others who had the technical expertise with steam, the tired old engine was restored to its former glory and brought back to life. It now seemed almost eager to pull out of Cheyenne and rumble down the tracks to Utah, though it did stop along the way for a few minutes in Wyoming and Utah so curious onlookers could get a closer look at this huge piece of railroad machinery.

I watched Big Boy steaming toward us along UP's tracks along with hundreds of other spectators lining the I-80 freeway near Ogden. To say I was totally mesmerized by the sight of that gigantic machine would be an understatement. It reminded me of the first time I saw and boarded a Navy ship. Gaping up in open-mouthed wonder at its massive superstructure I doubted that anything so huge, made of solid steel, could float! But it could and it did.

As huge as Big Boy is, it clacked along as effortlessly as a marathon runner. Though I've seen dozens of steam engines in my time, I've never seen one that even comes close to matching the Big Boy engine. Living near railroad tracks when I was a youngster I often waved at engineers as their trains rolled by, and those good men waved back. I wondered if the Big Boy engineer would return a wave and a smile? He did, to the delight of all of us spellbound spectators cheering Big Boy on. It's not every day you get to see or wave at a Big Boy engineer.

CELEBRATING THE RAILROAD

Thousands of spectators greeted Big Boy as it slowly pulled into Ogden's Union Station on May 9, 2019, to be the centerpiece of the Ogden Heritage Festival and other festivities surrounding the 150th anniversary celebration of the Transcontinental Railroad's completion.

Celebrations of the joining of the rails at Promontory Summit, Utah, have always been well attended. For example, at the Golden Spike Centennial Celebration on May 10, 1969 it is estimated at over 12,000 attended this "wedding of the rails." I happened to be one of those fascinated spectators, along with my wife and youngsters. We enjoyed all the festivities the celebration had to offer. Probably my most poignant memory of that event was an up close look at the movie actor John Wayne, who was in Salt Lake City for the premier of his newest movie "True Grit." Utah's governor and others invited Wayne to attend the railroad centennial, which he graciously accepted. While at Promontory he cordially strolled through the crowd and shook a few hands. I happened to be in the right place at the right time and got a firm handshake from him.

John Wayne is gone now, as are the days of railroad building and the men who faced the almost impossible challenge of moving the rails forward. When the Transcontinental Railroad was completed two steam locomotives, Union Pacific's #119 from the east and Central Pacific's Jupiter from the west, nosed together at Promontory Summit. Engineers met and shook hands and popped champagne, surrounded by a cheering crowd of railroad workers. Sadly, historic photos of that particular event do not show even one of the thousands of valiant Chinese workers of the Central Pacific Railroad who met the challenge of building a railroad east from Sacramento over and through California's mighty Sierra Range.

Perhaps the author Stephen E. Ambrose described construction and financing of the railroad best in the title of his fascinating, page-turning, best-selling book, "Nothing Like it in the World." Maybe next time you are speeding along I-80, gazing over at a mile-long UP container train on tracks paralleling the freeway, you'll reminisce for a moment about all those hardy men of long ago whose grit and back breaking labor made the Transcontinental Railroad possible. **W**

Robert L. Foster is a writer based in Utah.

CATEGORIES

01. EQUIPMENT
02. FOR SALE
03. HORSES
04. LIVESTOCK
05. POULTRY
06. REAL ESTATE
07. WANTED
08. CRAFTS
09. OPPORTUNITIES
10. MISCELLANEOUS
11. BUSINESS CONSULTING
12. FOR RENT
13. HELP WANTED
14. DOGS
15. EMPLOYMENT SOUGHT
16. BUILDING SUPPLIES
17. TRAVEL & RECREATION
18. HEALTH
19. PERSONAL
20. FREE

02|FOR SALE

Brokenbackranchqh.com 2019 AQHA, APHA and quality grade quarter horse colts/fillies. Roans, Bay, Sorrels, Tobiano, Gray. 307-272-5509. Ten Sleep, 82442.

New & Used Coal Stokers, parts, service & advice. Available for most makes. Thanks. 307-754-3757.

Pre-inoculated Alfalfa seeds for sale. Ranger, Vernema, Perry, Surpass, Wrangler and TV Blend. \$3.25/lb. Call Richard at 307-856-5748 or 307-851-9830.

Shaver Outdoor Wood Boiler Furnace. Aermotor Windmills and parts, cylinders, pipe, rod, submersible pumps, motors, control boxes, Hastings 12 ga. bottomless stock tanks and more. In business for more than 74 years. Herren Bros., Box 187, Harrison NE. 1-308-668-2582.

Surplus Equipment New and Used: Generators, air heaters, engine driven pumps, (all sizes), solar pumps, 3" and 4" polypipe, etc. A variety of types and sizes available. Call for pricing and details: Premier PowerPlants & Pumps, Farson, WY 307-273- 9591.

03|HORSES

Dubois author Tory Taylor announces his latest book "Elk, Women, Horses, Yellowstone." The book is Taylor's collection of his articles, essays, letters, poetry, and stories. Available @ Amazon.com.

07|WANTED

Antique Collector Looking For Oil Company Gas Pumps, Globes And Signs. Will pay fair market value! Also looking for general antiques for our antique shop. Please go to our website FrontierAutoMuseum.com. Located in Gillette WY, our passion is to preserve Wyoming history and the nostalgia of the past, especially Parco, Sinclair, Frontier, Husky and any car dealership along with all brands. We are also always looking for WY license plates and WY highway signs and State Park signs. Please call Jeff Wandler 307-680-8647 wandlerfrontier@gmail.com or daughter Briana Brewer 307-660-2402 bbrewer@frontierauto.net.

Want to purchase minerals & other oil/gas interests. Send details to: PO Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201.

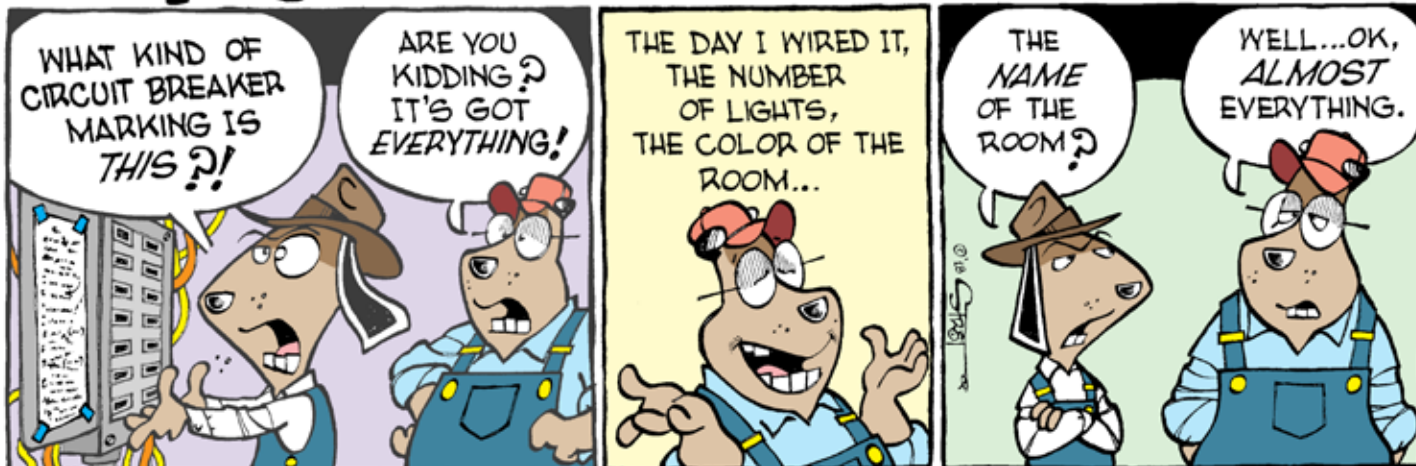
09|OPPORTUNITIES

Apply for CNA positions full or part time, Warm Valley Lodge Assisted Living, Dubois WY, download application www.warmvalleylodgewy.com. Email warmvalleylodge@wyoming.com or call 307-455-2645.

20|FREE

Soon Church/Government uniting, suppressing "Religious Liberty" enforcing "National Sunday Law." Be Informed! Needing Mailing address. TSBM Box 99, Lenoir City, TN 37771, thebiblesaystruth@yahoo.com, 1-888-211-1715.

Murphy





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NUTRITION FOR STRONG & HEALTHY BODIES



It's important that your kids eat a rainbow of fruits, proteins, vegetables, and fats, and that they stay hydrated, too!

Here are some easy, balanced snack ideas to support their healthy bodies and healthy minds.



FRUIT

- Banana
- Apple
- Blueberry
- Grape
- Raspberry

PROTEIN

- Yogurt
- Egg
- Tofu
- Beans
- Whole Nuts

FAT

- Hummus
- Avocado
- Cheese
- Rice/Quinoa/Couscous
- Peanut Butter

VEGGIE

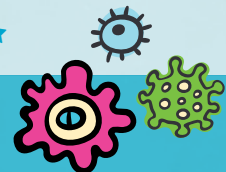
- Purple Cabbage
- Red Pepper
- Carrot
- Yellow Squash
- Broccoli



★ For activities that support your kids' strong and healthy bodies, visit wyqualitycounts.org/wren ★

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITY

GERM GAMES!



WY Quality Counts, housed in the Department of Workforce Services, helps Wyoming parents and child care providers identify and create quality learning experiences for children, thanks to the funding of the Wyoming Legislature.



All WY Quality Counts activities are supported by the Wyoming Early Learning Foundations and Guidelines, as well as the Domains of Development, which include:

COMMUNICATION

SENSE OF SELF & RELATIONSHIPS

CURIOUS MINDS

STRONG & HEALTHY BODIES