

Quarterly

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Beyond the Fencerows

Clock Ticking for Farmers on Tax Reform

By Zippy Duvall
President American Farm
Bureau Federation



Farming doesn't come with a steady paycheck or a guaranteed salary. Yet, America's farmers and ranchers work hard every day to keep our nation's food supply secure and affordable, all while bearing the brunt of the risks involved in our high-input, capital-intensive businesses.

A lot is at stake for farmers and ranchers, es-

pecially when it comes to tax reform. We need a tax code that gives us flexibility to keep our businesses running from one season to the next. We can't predict the markets or the weather when we plan for a growing season, but the right tools can help us manage the risks we face through good times and bad. Our tax system should encourage entrepreneurship, not punish people for their success. Farm Bureau is calling on lawmakers to work together to revise our tax code in a way that treats all businesses fairly and boosts our local economies.

See DUVALL, page 12

The President's Desk

Beware of Misleading Labels

By Bryan Searle
President Idaho Farm
Bureau Federation



In late June we toured a potato fresh-pack shed and noticed the company's cartons contained a label stating "Non-GMO," and "Gluten Free."

The butterfly seal of the Non-GMO Project on food packages is also becoming more prevalent in our local grocery stores. And as with the boxes of Idaho potatoes

mentioned above, these claims are meaningless and only serve to confuse customers. Food companies are using these labels to insinuate quality and safety, but in reality, it's marketing and nothing more.

There is no gluten in potatoes. Gluten is a protein complex that comes from grains including wheat, barley and rye. It is the major protein component in bread and many other baked goods and it gives dough its elasticity and viscosity.

See SEARLE, page 7

Inside Farm Bureau

10 Mega Myths About Farming

By Rick Keller
CEO Idaho Farm
Bureau Federation



Recently, an article written by Jenna Gallegos was published in the Washington Post about agriculture. Surprisingly to me, because of past Post articles, Ms. Gallegos' article was refreshing. The article was published in the 'Speaking of Science' section of the paper, which added to the astonishment.

The author identifies "10 modern myths" about farming with a narrative with each one. Gallego's myths and a summation of her narratives are as follows:

1. Most farms are corporate-owned. Nearly 99 percent of U.S. farms are family-owned.
2. Food is expensive. Americans spend among the least amount worldwide on food as a percent of income.

See KELLER, page 12



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Cover: Irish exchange students Ruth Farnan, left, and Kim White, right, both from Dublin, are studying bees in Canyon County this summer.

Photo by Steve Ritter





Vineyard owner Ron Bitner and other grape growers in the Sunnyslope area of southwest Idaho, experienced harsh winter-kill of vines in January.
Photo by Steve Ritter

Harsh Winter Takes Out 2017 Wine Crop

By Jake Putnam

Thirty-six years ago Ron Bitner planted a block of chardonnay grapes at his vineyard, but this season there is not a single grape on the vine.

“This winter it was 18-degrees below zero the first 10 days of January and it killed the plants to the snow line,” said Bitner. “Luckily it only killed the tops of the vines and we will continue with the same vines I planted back in 1981.”

While the vines today look thin in the summer heat, they’re alive, green and thriving. But to save his vineyards Bitner had to use a chainsaw on his prized chardonnay vines.

“The hard part for farmers this year is that

all the vines are thick and as big as a tree trunk. I cut the old vines out and hauled them off, but it literally cost more to take out this old vineyard than starting a new one. But I’m glad that most of the old vines survived,” said Bitner.

This summer producers are training the new vines to run up the catch wire in their vineyards. “The operation has been successful so far and there are fruit spurs for next year,” said Bitner. He says they’ll be back to a 1-ton (per acre) crop in 2018, and 2-3 tons the year after that.

Idaho Wine Commission Executive Director Moya Shatz-Dolsby says wine grapes in northern, and eastern Idaho are ok with the most severe damage in the Sunnyslope

area of Canyon County.

“That’s where the majority of Idaho’s vineyards and wineries are located and it’ll have a major impact on the state’s total wine-grape tonnage this year,” said Shatz-Dolsby.

Bitner says he’s lucky the cold snap didn’t kill everything.

“Even though it killed everything above, we’re re-training the original suckers back up,” he said. “My red block looks healthy but there’s no fruit on them. They made it through the winter but then lost the fruit bud, so there’s no crop on that,” he said.

The biggest Sunnyslope vineyard lost 480

See WINE CROP p. 6

Bitner Vineyard hosts Bee Researchers

By Jake Putnam

At the Bitner winery south of Caldwell, Ron Bitner not only knows wine, he's one of the foremost authorities on bees in the Pacific Northwest.

Bitner hunches over an orange flowering plant at the edge of his vineyard with two exchange students from Ireland. They're watching a burrowing bee at the base of the plant.

"The bee burrows a tiny little hole down six inches and they will gather pollen, lay the egg on it and then will come up and cover it," Bitner said. "There were hundreds of them here early in the spring. I never used to have them until I planted these flowers six years ago."

And that's the point. Bitner has planted flower beds along the border of his chardonnay vineyard and his house. The flower beds are ten feet wide and stretch for about 100 yards. Bitner says they're designed for bee diversity and to build native bee populations.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture released a report saying that parasites and disease have threatened bee populations and that enhanced genetic diversity is needed in bee colonies. Bitner's flower beds will help that and also helping are two exchange students staying at the vineyard from Ireland. Both are interested in bee research and learning as much as they can from Bitner.

Ruth Farnan from Dublin is studying out of the University of Idaho Agriculture Extension office in Parma.

"I think a lot more research needs to be done with mites and maybe how they transfer to native populations as well," she said. "Although people are worried about the commercial pollinators, they're forgetting about the pollinators that pollinate other plants. Bees are really important to plants and crops and they might be affected as

well. That's why we're studying them."

The USDA estimates that one-third of all food and beverages in the United States come directly as a result of bee pollination. Canyon County is one of the most important counties in the nation because a lot of the nation's seed crops come from the area.

Farnan says something as simple as bee gardens could help bring populations back to sustainable levels.

"You can start a pollinator garden," she said. "There's a lot of information on the net, about what plants are good for your area and you can find good ones for wild pollinators, not just the honey bees and they are important too. There are a lot of products you can buy and look into that and buy organic sustainable food that supports pollinators. We need more pollinator programs. It's important for all of us to look out after the bees."

Student Kim White of Dublin says she's

impressed with the U of I Extension program, and she's now considering writing her thesis on bees.

"I just want a good experience," she said. "I want to bring some of things I learn here back to Ireland back to my studies. We do a lot of lab based research, we don't get that much opportunity in Ireland, so that is what I want to do and bring it back to Ireland and possibly find a title for my thesis."

"Working with Ron Bitner has been interesting because I'm learning about the leaf cutter bee and alfalfa," said Farnan. "We don't have the leaf cutter bee in Ireland and it's been very unique. I definitely have an interest in apiology. I think that's something I might look into doing for a living."

A decline in bee colonies puts pressure on agriculture in Canyon County. The alfalfa that powers the state dairy industry is pollinated by bees. Bitner vineyards and the young researchers are working to find answers to curb bee mortality.



Vineyard owner Ron Bitner shows flowers he planted to attract and support bees on his farm.

Photo by Steve Ritter

WINE CROP

Continued from page 5



2017 will be remembered as a tough year at Bitner Vineyards due to winter-kill of vines. However, the winemakers have plenty of older vintages to market this year and in the future.

Photo by Steve Ritter

acres of grapes after that epic cold snap. And many vineyards will have to go their reserves.

“Most of the red grapes are in the barrel, even for the other guys. But the ’17 vintage is really going to be light and some producers will have to go get another source of grapes, probably Washington and that’s going to be expensive,” said Bitner.

While the harsh winter killed the vines above, snowpack saved vine roots below. University of Idaho research assistant Tom Elias says that the snow cover acted as an insulator and the roots didn’t get damaged. “But everything above that snow cover just got toasted,” he said.

In more than three decades producers had the best and will now have the worst years back to back.

“The 2016 harvest was huge and what’s in the tank will hopefully carry a lot of people through,” Shatz-Dolsby said. “Last year still stands as a grape bumper crop in Idaho, or at least a crop that yielded an unusually productive harvest.”

Idaho vineyards reported a 50-percent increase last year while Skyline Vineyard doubled production last year according to a Commission news release on Idaho’s 2016 wine grape harvest.

Bitner says he still has good vintages to market.

“We won’t have to bring in outside grapes. So we’re releasing some of our 2012 vintage and I still have my ’13, ’14, ’15 vintages along with a strong ’16, vintage to fall back on. But my ’17, sadly I’m out. We’re gonna be okay because we sell most of our wine on the deck at the winery. We’ll still get out 1,500-2,000 cases of wine. We will still sell to a few restaurants in the valley, so we have a lot to do and we’ll be busy,” added Bitner.

Through it all producers are taking the loss of the ’17 crop in stride.

“It’s just farming, we will survive,” said Bitner.

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

Using a gluten-free label on a box of Idaho spuds is big lie. Many food companies think consumers are gullible enough to believe the label and many others like it, actually mean something. But in reality, they could put the same label on a box of the slimy, green substance that comes from the back end of a cow and it would have an equally accurate and useful meaning.

It's no different when the Non-GMO Project puts its label on a box of orange juice, tomatoes, or even coffee. They're technically correct, those foods don't contain any biotechnology. But neither does a wooden door, or a basketball shoe or a box full of the slimy, green substance

able. Many people don't seem to understand that without profitability, sustainability is just another word, similar to what you see on many food labels.

We understand that a trip to the grocery store can be daunting. As an illustration of the complexity in this discussion, let's look at one of nature's most simple and complete sources of protein, the chicken egg. It's made up of a shell, a series of membranes, the albumen or egg white, which contains about 40 different individual proteins, and a yolk which contains fat, vitamins, phosphorous, calcium and riboflavin. If you look at the color of the yolk you can tell a bit about what the chicken ate. Some chickens eat corn and soymeal from biotech crops.

products would not be available without the use of biotechnology. For instance, insulin is a product of biotechnology and cutting-edge agriculture saved the Hawaiian papaya industry from a virus that threatened to wipe the crop out. DNA fingerprinting for paternity testing and identification of criminals would not be possible without biotechnology.

USA Today reports the overall social and environmental benefits of biotech crops in 2011 alone reduced CO2 emissions at the same rate as removing 10.2 million cars from the world's roads. They also saved 108.7 million hectares of land and lifted 15 million rural farmers and their families out of poverty.

While professional protesters attempt to peddle ignorance to frighten the public about essential sources of food, please keep in mind that knowledge is power and education about these issues will simplify your trips to the grocery store.

Since 1996 when the first biotech crops were cultivated on a broad scale, acreage has steadily increased worldwide. And we've barely begun to scratch the surface of their amazing potential. DNA synthesis and genome editing are currently leading another wave of innovation in the biotech industry with applications in medicine and pest control that will provide vast benefits to society and the global economy.

USA Today reports the overall social and environmental benefits of biotech crops in 2011 alone reduced CO2 emissions at the same rate as removing 10.2 million cars from the world's roads. They also saved 108.7 million hectares of land and lifted 15 million rural farmers and their families out of poverty.

mentioned above.

From a farmer's perspective, it's maddening to see food companies use ambiguous terms to confuse consumers. American farmers have shown a keen ability to adapt to meet the demands of the marketplace. We work hard to produce the safest, most abundant and affordable food supply available anywhere. And we use technology to help make our farms more efficient and sustainable. But we aren't sustainable unless we are profit-

But there is no trace of biotechnology in the eggs they lay. There is no such thing as a GMO egg, whether the package it's in carries a label or not.

This rule applies universally for all animal products. Regardless of what that cow, chicken, pig, duck or pigeon ate, the meat, milk, or any other products derived, will not contain any detectable amount of biotechnology.

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Bill Nye, The Science Guy, recently reconsidered his position on biotechnology in crops. He explains the change of opinion on his new show, Bill Nye Saves the World, currently airing on Netflix.

Biotech Crops Benefit from Celebrity Endorsement

By John Thompson

Within the realm of today's media, biotech crops are generally given the same treatment as stray dogs and dirty hitchhikers.

Consumers are uncertain about their safety and that uncertainty is fed by special interest groups with images like the one we've all seen of a tomato with a syringe stuck in it. Although biotech crops are a big part of our food supply, no one outside agriculture and the biotech industry has much good to say about the evolution of these genetically-engineered plants that can resist pests

and applications of weed-killer.

But sometimes credibility comes from unsuspecting places.

Bill Nye, a.k.a. "The Science Guy," recently reversed previous comments and in a broadcast seen by millions of consumers, he said biotechnology is an important tool in the production of safe food.

"I've been eating genetically modified food for decades and I'm fine, look at me," Nye said. "Science shows that genetically-modified crops are not riskier than other farmed crops."

During his program, Bill Nye Saves the World, currently airing on Netflix, Nye explores the evolution of biotechnology, spells out how biotech crops work to reduce the environmental impact of agriculture, and how they make farms more efficient. Further, Nye discusses social perspectives with a panel of experts including an Iowa farmer, a university extension professor and an executive from the Monsanto Corporation.

In addition to Nye, another rising star in the world of media and science, Neil deGrasse Tyson, is narrating a new docu-

mentary called Food Evolution. DeGrasse Tyson is listed on Wikipedia as an astrophysicist, author and science communicator. The movie, released in selected cities in late June, attempts to end the controversy over biotechnology in crops by replacing emotion with hard science, according to a press release.

Over time, deGrasse Tyson has built trust among his fan base because of his ability to interpret complicated concepts. And this isn't the first time he's been outspoken on the topic of biotechnology. Previously he posted a YouTube video defending biotechnology and dressing down critics for shortsighted views. Here's a link to the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNtCV67biBA>

In that video, deGrasse Tyson states the following: "... It smacks of the fear factor that exists in every new emerging science where people don't fully understand it or don't fully embrace its consequences. So what people don't fully understand is nearly every food you can buy in a store for consumption is genetically modified. There are no wild seedless watermelons, there's no wild long stem roses. List every food you buy and ask yourself if it has a wild counterpart. If so, it's not as sweet, not as juicy, and there's way more seeds in it. We have systematically genetically modified everything we eat since we began cultivating it."

What deGrasse Tyson is getting at is nature naturally selects for stronger traits in plants and as humans began the act of cultivation they furthered that selection process

by choosing seeds from stronger, more hearty and better yielding plants. The first hybrid plants were created about 10,000 years ago. As science came to the forefront in agriculture, plant breeders began to use cross-pollination in cereal crops in the early 1890's. In the 1920's, plant breeders developed cytoplasmic male sterility in corn, a process that produces sterile male corn plants which allows for selective hybridization and eliminates a labor-intensive de-tasseling process.

Later, the study of molecular genetics allowed scientists to manipulate DNA by inserting genetic material into plants. Among the most common practices used today is inserting bacillus thuringiensis or BT, a soil-borne bacteria that is toxic to some insects, into plants. BT is approved by USDA for use on organic crops and has been used as a pesticide for several years. Plants altered by this biotechnological process produce BT on their own.

Nye's program also delves into the history of plant breeding and how science and agriculture evolved together. Although these two scientists are working to shed light on this controversial subject, they've been roundly criticized for speaking out. One website called Nye a "corporate whore," because he met with Monsanto executives prior to changing his mind about biotechnology, while others criticized deGrasse Tyson for being overly simplistic in comparing plant trait selection practices with manipulating DNA in a laboratory.

An excellent resource for

consumers who want to learn more about biotechnology is a website called GMO Answers, found at <https://gmoanswers.com/>. Remember that only a few crops, including corn, soybeans, cotton, sugarbeets, alfalfa, papaya, some squash varieties, and canola are the main crops grown using biotechnology. There are new varieties of apples and potatoes that are starting to become commercially available but it's a small percentage at this time.

In addition, a list of celebrities against GMO was published in 2015 by Organic Lifestyle Magazine. Among them, rock and roll icon Neil Young penned a song that includes the lyrics: "Yeah, I want a cup of coffee but I don't want a GMO."

I like to start my day off without helping Monsanto."

The factual problem with Young's lyric is there is no genetically modified coffee. But it's a common misperception, similar to the photograph of the syringe stuck in the tomato. There are no genetically modified tomatoes. For more on that topic look for an article in this magazine titled "The non-GMO Project: Creating Fake News at the Grocery Store."

Other celebrities whom added their names to the Organic Lifestyle Magazine list include Gwyneth Paltrow, Chuck Norris, Jennifer Garner, Roseanne Barr, Dave Matthews and Bill Maher.

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	Yield	.650	.750	.850	.950	1.26	1.56	1.86
\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999	Rate	.700	.800	.900	1.00	1.30	1.60	1.90
	Yield	.700	.800	.900	1.00	1.31	1.61	1.91
\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999	Rate	.750	.850	.950	1.05	1.35	1.65	1.95
	Yield	.750	.850	.950	1.05	1.36	1.66	1.96
\$ 10,000 - \$ 24,999	Rate	.800	.900	1.00	1.10	1.40	1.70	2.00
	Yield	.800	.900	1.00	1.10	1.41	1.71	2.02
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The Teunissen family, owners of Beranna Dairy, were recently named the Canyon County Farm Family of the year. Left to right are sons Derek, and B.J., and parents Anna and Bernie. Photo by Steve Ritter

Dairy Owners Named Farm Family of the Year

By Jake Putnam

High on a hill overlooking Lake Lowell you'll find this year's Canyon County Farm Family of the Year.

Everything at Beranna Dairy is large scale, from the flag that proudly flies above the dairy to the massive daily feed operation, this farm is high tech and an industry leader.

"We milk 3,800 Holstein cows here, all our milk goes into cheese," said patriarch Bernie Teunissen. "We have no control over what we get paid because our product is a commodity driven by cheese prices. So we focus on the production side. For us it's about making a commodity and making it efficient in economies of scale."

Bernie and Anna Teunissen moved to Canyon County back in 2000 from Chino, Cal-

ifornia with three kids in tow. They came up with the dairy's name Beranna by combining their first names.

"It's a complex place because we need manufacturing plants to process the milk," said Bernie. "We need grain production and rails for feed. And of course the alfalfa hay is some of the best in the world. Not only that but we have the perfect climate with abundant water. That's why we're here."

Sons B.J. and Derek Teunissen have taken over the day to day operation of the farm, making them the family's fourth generation of dairy farmers.

"Milk prices are good enough to make money but not large enough for record profits. But it's in a good place right now not too high or not too low," said Derek.

While Beranna dairy works on a big scale,

they're known for innovation.

The most talked about feature at Beranna is the milking parlor. It features a large carousel that milks 75 cows at a time. Cows enter the carousel, then a worker cleans the teats with an iodine pre-dip to kill bacteria. The carousel rotates and another worker wipes off the iodine, squeezes the udder testing the milk and checks the smell to make sure it's healthy. After another rotation, the next worker attaches tubes to the udders to take the flowing milk. At the end of the rotation another worker cleans and seals the udders with an iodine post-dip that stops infection.

"So instead of a cow walking down the line like a typical milking parlor, the cows go in one stall and the carousel moves the cow to a worker," said Derek. "In return we have a lot of consistency and each station is timed appropriately. It's the optimal amount of

time and there's no variance in-between. And it's also much more consistent for employees and it makes our life easy on that front as well."

Derek is the 'tech guy,' of the family, according to Bernie. He tracks operations from a laptop computer and utilizes various programs to monitor all aspects of the dairy.

Yet the farm bucks the perception of the modern dairy. Many think dairies are large corporate operations. While Beranna milks 3,800 cows and they're large, but very much a small family operation that looks out for the families working for them.

"We set each employee up to be efficient," said Derek. "We can pay better and give our workers the opportunity to advance. We're able to keep a good crew here. We have low turnover and we've kept 90 percent of our employees the last few years."

Beranna's incentives help with employee retention but

that's not all. Workers have the chance to advance and earn things they need.

"Beranna offers employee benefits with stuff like boots, new tires, tools anything they need to be successful," said Derek. "We try and help them out with it. Obviously we try and give them the best equipment on the job we don't want breakdowns or anything that might slow the operation down. Basically give them the tools they need to do a good job. I try and make it hard for them to do a bad job. In fact we make it easy for them to do the right thing. That's my management philosophy and it makes our lives easier."

Dairies operate around the clock and around the calendar. Having no down time is both a blessing and a curse.

"The good thing and bad thing about the dairy conversation is that it never shuts down," said Derek. "The good thing is that we always have a harvest twice



Cattle are milked twice a day on a carousel platform at Beranna Dairy in Canyon County.

See BERANNA DAIRY page 14



Beranna Dairy recently hosted a tour for local school teachers. The event provided an opportunity for educators to learn more about the dairy industry. Photo by Steve Ritter

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

The clock is ticking for Congress and comprehensive tax reform. The seeds were planted and watered when several members of Congress introduced a Blueprint for Tax Reform a year ago this summer. Now the crop is ready for harvest. And if lawmakers don't act this fall, tax reform could die on the vine. Your representatives and senators need to hear from you when they're home this August. Now is the time to tell them what tax reform means for your family, your farm and your livelihood.

All farmers and ranchers

deserve fair treatment under the tax code. Ninety-nine percent of farms are family owned today, and more than 95 percent of farms and ranches are treated the same as individual taxpayers by the IRS. No matter its size, no farm should be shut out from the deductions and provisions that are designed to help businesses create jobs and boost the economy.

Lawmakers can't change the markets and the weather, but they can enact policies to support and preserve agriculture.

As important as lower tax

rates are, they shouldn't come at the cost of other provisions agriculture depends on. Farmers and ranchers can't afford to lose deductions, credits and exemptions such as cash accounting, deductions for interest expense, stepped-up basis for capital gains, and like-kind exchanges.

Tax code provisions like these allow farmers to manage their cash flow, control the timing of their expenses, replace equipment and secure business loans. Cutting out any of these provisions from the tax code will mean

higher taxes for farmers and ranchers.

Farmers and ranchers aren't asking for a pass on taxes. We're asking for lawmakers to write a fair and simple tax code that recognizes the unique needs of our businesses and the value of our work. We know the importance of being good stewards of all our resources, and we know our farm dollars yield a greater harvest for all of us when we're free to invest in growing the food, fuel and fiber our nation needs to be secure.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

3. Farming is traditional and low tech. Self-driving cars are still out of reach for consumers, but tractors have been driving themselves around farms for a few years now.
4. A pesticide is a pesticide is a pesticide. Pesticide is a generic term for a range of compounds. Different classes target certain types of pests. Pesticides fight bugs and weeds in organic and conventional fields. The difference is that organic pesticides cannot be synthesized artificially. Some pesticides are toxic at relatively low levels. Others are safe even at very high doses. Pesticides also differ in how quickly they break down in the environment.
5. Organic farmers and conventional farmers don't get along.

Many farm families actually grow organic and conventional crops on different fields.

6. A GMO is a GMO is a GMO. There are many ways to genetically modify a crop inside and outside a lab. Yet the term GMO and the regulations that go with it are restricted to particular types of genetic engineering.
7. Only meat with a "hormone-free" label is hormone free. No meat is hormone-free, because animals (and plants) naturally produce hormones. Use of added hormones is prohibited in all pork and chicken operations.
8. Only meat with an "antibiotic-free" label is antibiotic free. All the meat in your grocery store is antibiotic-free. An animal treated with antibiotics cannot be slaughtered until the drugs have cleared its system.

9. Foods labeled "natural" are produced differently. Natural food labels don't actually mean anything.

10. Chemicals are the biggest threat to food safety. Biological contaminants are by far the most common food safety issue, such as E. coli, salmonella or listeria. Thorough cooking, cleaning, and proper food storage are the best defense against these pathogens. Chemicals make their way into foods much less often and are regularly monitored by the USDA and EPA.

Gallegos' article should be repeated and shared many times over. Often, an uninformed public is making consumer decisions, based on ignorance, fear and false information. I find this hard to say, but "thank you" Washington Post.



Don't let high taxes shatter your retirement plans.

Retirement is your reward for years of hard work, and the last thing you want is a big chunk of your nest egg going to taxes.

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BERANNA DAIRY

Continued from page 11

a day and have cash flow. The bad thing is that it never stops. We never have a day where we can just stop and fix it. So we always have to maintain things as we're working. So we use a lot of sub-contract work. We have a construction firm that's always here fixing things or when we need expansion."

At Beranna they're all about happy cows and that starts with delicious feed and lots of it. The feed is composed of corn silage, cotton seed, grain and hay that are mixed together on the farm.

"We will disperse about a 100-110 pounds of food per cow, per day. So that's roughly 400,000 pounds of feed per day. Each of these cows will eat about 53 dry matter pounds. So we look at the amount of feed in the bunk, we take the water out of the feed so it's consistent. Each

cow gives us an average of 80 pounds of milk per day," said Derek.

Beranna dairy crews milk twice a day.

"You can milk your cows twice a day or three times a day," says Derek. "We choose to milk twice a day. So for a twice a day dairy, our output is on the high side. On a three-time a day dairy, 80-pounds of milk per cow is on the low side. It kind of depends on your management style."

Bernie says they don't operate in a vacuum. They wouldn't be successful without a successful community and successful neighbors.

"There's so many repairs, so much maintenance and so much support that's needed from both the industrial and agricultural sectors," said Bernie. "We have two farm fami-



Dairyman Bernie Teunissen.

lies that do our feed crops, silage and alfalfa hay. These are wonderful families that are as qualified as we are for this award. The manufacturing side and the industrial side are huge supports for this industry and it makes this a great place to run a dairy."

Derek and B.J. Teunissen say they'll work hard to preserve

the farm family legacy. While Bernie still works on the farm every day, even on his busiest days he'll glance at Lake Lowell in the distance.

"I think we have this beautiful dairy. We're just three 4 miles from Lake Lowell. The Treasure Valley is a great place to live. We feel fortunate to be here," said Bernie.

Correction

In our last edition of *Idaho Farm Bureau Quarterly*, (Spring 2017) the names and artwork of our second and third place winners in the Idaho Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee art contest were reversed. Below they are the corrected. Idaho Farm Bureau regrets the error.



Mary Swore, 2nd place



Casey Ashcraft, 3rd place

Gubernatorial Candidates Speak to Idaho Farm Bureau Federation County Presidents

By John Thompson

Two of the three declared candidates in the race to become Idaho's next governor spoke to Idaho Farm Bureau's County Presidents during a meeting in Burley in late July.

One candidate, an insider in Idaho government for several years, believes Idaho is welcoming for new business and positioned strategically for future growth. The other, a political newcomer, says Idaho has a lot of room for improvement in the business sector and in managing the tax dollars it collects.

Idaho Lt. Governor Brad Little spoke to the room full of farmers and ranchers as one of them. He discussed the hard winter of 2016-17, and the resulting challenges faced by farmers and ranchers. Little spoke about his experience as an "agriculturist," and how he was excited to see his son take over the family's ranch allowing him to pursue a future in politics.

Political newcomer Tommy Ahlquist says Idaho needs better fiscal discipline, that the state can do a lot more to attract and support small business. First on that list would be to reduce regula-



Tommy Ahlquist

tions that get the State out of the business sector's way. Early in the race, Ahlquist made a promise to cut \$100 million from the state budget in his first 100 days in office. A promise that was met with skepticism among many state elected officials. However, he did not specifically discuss the promise with Farm Bureau county presidents.

Little is a native Idahoan and a third-generation farmer and rancher. He was appointed to the lieutenant governor position in 2009 by Gov. Butch Otter. Prior to that he was appointed as a state senator by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to fill an open position in District 8 which later changed to District 11 due to redistricting. He was re-elected to that position four times. He managed his family's ranching operation, Little Land and Livestock for 30 years, prior to his son taking over the operation in 2009. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Idaho.

Ahlquist, who grew up on a small farm in Utah, came to Idaho to play basketball at Rick's College in Rexburg. He later attended the University of Utah and the University of Arizona and after completing his medical training became an emergency room doctor, working in Treasure Valley and Magic Valley for several years. He has also worked as a commercial real estate developer and an entrepreneur, starting a pharmacy, a primary care clinic and a national medical technology company called Stat Pads.

Little said state revenues for the current fiscal year came in between eight and nine percent over the forecast, a result of conserva-

tive fiscal management.

"If the federal government did that, half of the deficit would go away," he said. "In all of our barometers for job growth, income, and small business survival rates, Idaho, Colorado and Utah surpassed the rest of the country by a huge magnitude. To me that's a good indication that entrepreneurs can get started in agriculture or other small businesses here."

However, rural Idaho is facing an altogether different set of challenges, he added.

"Better technology in agriculture and irrigation in particular has supplanted a lot of jobs in rural Idaho that we used to have," Little said. "It doesn't require as much labor and farms have gotten bigger, which is challenging for our rural communities."

Little, who has been a strong supporter of small business throughout his time as Lt. Governor, recently returned from a trip to Washington D.C. where he attended the Select USA Conference. He said he met with several mayors of rural towns to discuss investment opportunities and hear examples of business creation and growth.

"The interest in Idaho was unbelievable," he said. "It was exciting to me to see the interest in capital investment and in adding value to all of our commodity streams including grain and dairy. That investment is part of a long-term solution to rural Idaho's problems. I don't think we can stop the trend toward better technology, but we can replace those jobs with value-added opportunities in our rural areas."



Brad Little

As an example, Little cited Wood-grain Millwork's recent purchase of Gem Forest Products in Emmett. He said the mill will produce lumber that will be turned into value-added products at nearby processing facilities in Fruitland and Nampa. In addition, it will help improve forest health on private, state and federal land, he said.

"That's what we need to do is capture value and keep it here in Idaho. We have the workforce, we have the work ethic," he said.

Little also mentioned opportunities exist to add value to Idaho's beef, potato and malt barley production.

"That's a big part of sustainability and profitability for rural Idaho," he said. "We want those jobs in rural areas so our kids and grandkids don't have to leave. It's critically important in rural communities to continue to drive dynamism so it does not gravitate out of Idaho."

Ahlquist, who said he has attend-

See *CANDIDATES* p. 26

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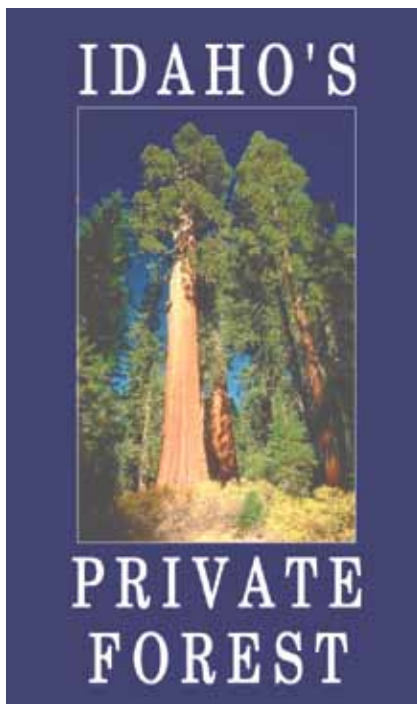


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Meridian	307 East Fairview Ave.
Nampa	816 3rd Street South
Twin Falls	1280 East Filer
Ontario, Oregon	94 West Idaho Ave



Wildfire Preparedness for Pets and Livestock

of planning, preparedness and practice. The accepted sequence for safe evacuation is people first, then pets, livestock and finally property.

Identify evacuation routes. Fires can move quickly, so it is best to identify at least two evacuation routes. If towing trailers, drive all routes to ensure compatibility with the road's width and grade before a disaster strikes - a stuck trailer could prevent others from using the same way out.

Know where to take your animals. Most evacuation centers cannot accept animals (service animals are permitted). Contact your local fairgrounds, stockyards, equestrian centers and/or friends about their ability to shelter animals in an emergency.

Have transportation. Keep stock trailers in good repair and make sure your vehicle is tow-ready. If you don't have your own truck and trailer, make arrangements with local companies or neighbors. It takes extra time to evacuate animals, so practice loading trailers before wildfire threatens.

Share your plan. Family and neighbors should have a copy of your plan in the event you are not home when a wildfire evacuation is ordered for your area. Make sure everyone has all contact numbers (cell phone, work, home, etc.).

Prepare emergency kits for pets and livestock. When building the kit, choose a container that is easily loaded into vehicles. Keep your emergency kits in an easily accessible, dry location where temperatures do not get hot or below freezing.

Emergency Preparedness Kit for Animals

To begin, gather some handy tools:

- Large bin or tote with lid (preferably waterproof)

- Clear, waterproof, sealable plastic bags

- A permanent marker for labeling contents

- Pen/pencil and notepad for documenting special details and needs

Your kit should include:

Identification. All pets should be wearing properly fitted collars with personal identification, license and rabies registration tags. Include a relative's phone number in case you and your pet get separated. Provide ID for larger animals by using a livestock crayon or permanent marker to write your name, phone number and address on the animal or on their non-nylon halter. You could also shave your phone number into the animal's coat, braid a temporary ID tag into their mane or attach a neck band.

Copies of important papers and phone numbers. Cell phones and Internet access could be temporarily out of service, so include a paper list of all important phone numbers (veterinarian, animal shelter/boarding facility, neighbors/friends). Also include:



Many emergency shelters do not allow pets other than service animals.

Photo courtesy of FEMA

By Yvonne Barkley

It's fire season and you have taken steps to keep your family and home fire safe, but what about your animals? Most families own pets and many also keep small numbers of horses, goats, chickens, sheep and/or cattle whose emergency needs must be addressed. When battling a wildfire, firefighters will do what they can, but they are not responsible for evacuating animals - that responsibility is yours.

Just as wildfire preparedness for you and your family begins with the home, all the places where your pets, commercial or noncommercial livestock spend their days and nights should be prepared as well.

Structures such as barns, coops and kennels, as well as corrals and pastures, should be just as Firewise as your home and its surrounding landscape. All structures and their surroundings should be included in your defensible space or have defensible space of their own. Links to information about how to make your structures and surrounding landscape Firewise are listed at the end of this article.

A good evacuation plan should include your pets, noncommercial and/or commercial livestock. Preparing animals for a wildfire evacuation requires an extra level



Many counties will open their fairgrounds for emergency large animal evacuations.

Photo courtesy of FEMA

Copies of current vaccination/medical records and health certificates, proof of ownership, pet health insurance policies, breed registration papers, brand inspection, photos of brands, bills of sale and current photos of each animal showing unique markings or tattoos.

A list of all current medicines and doses.

Written permission to care for your animals and instructions for accessing animal emergency kit(s).

Food and water. Store a three to seven day supply of food and water for each animal. Include non-spill bowls, buckets, can openers and spoons.

First-aid kit. Include cotton bandage rolls and tape, scissors, antibiotic ointment, medical-type gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. If possible, keep an extra supply of medications your animals take on a regular basis. Ensure each is labeled with the animal's name and description. Include a list of each animal's current physical disabilities or ill-

nesses, emotional or behavioral problems and how to deal with them, special feeding schedule/requirements, dietary restrictions and/or allergies.

Waste disposal. Pack a small cat litter box, scoop and litter, plastic bags for waste disposal, newspapers, paper towels and disinfectants. For larger animals include dry shavings for stalls, a pitchfork, shovel, fly spray and masks, towels, trash bags, spray cleaner and hand sanitizer.

Miscellaneous items. Having personal items such as blankets, toys and treats can help calm your animals. Include:

Non-nylon leads, ropes and halters

Leather gloves

Muzzle(s) (if needed)

Grooming supplies, hoof pick, leg wraps

Wire cutters and a sharp knife

Portable radio

Batteries

Flashlights

In the event of a wildfire

The call has come and you have been told to evacuate. Don't wait. Leaving early is the best way to ensure human and animal safety.

Dress for safety. Put on socks, closed-toed leather shoes or boots, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Leather gloves, a bandanna and a hat can be handy.

Ready your vehicles. Hitch up trailers and park all vehicles facing the direction of escape. Put emergency kits into vehicles and leave keys in the ignition.

Ready your animals. At the earliest signs of a wildfire, your pets should be brought inside and/or kenneled and other animals brought into barns, pastures or coops. Once an evacuation notice is issued, put pets in individual carriers and load larger animals into trailers. Birds, rodents and reptiles should be transported in cages. Cover kennels and cages with a light cloth to minimize fear.

Contact the neighbors. Check with neighbors to see if they need assistance and tell them when you'll leaving and where you'll go.

During a wildfire, local animal rescue organizations work with law enforcement and fire departments to evacuate as many animals as they can, but sometimes landowners have to leave their animals behind.

If you cannot evacuate your pets, bring them indoors.

Never leave pets chained or kenneled outdoors; the smoke and heat from flying embers are not only scary but dangerous to your pet's health.

Put pets in an easily cleaned room that has adequate ventilation but NO windows (utility room, garage or bathroom).

Do not restrain pets.

Leave dry food and fresh water in non-spill containers. If possible, let a faucet drip water into

See UI FORESTRY, page 30



Pets should be put in individual crates or kennels.

Photo courtesy of FEMA



Focus on Agriculture 'Just a Farmer'

By John Schlageck

While I hoped I'd never hear this phrase roll of the lips off a farmer or rancher again, I did the other day. I heard someone say, "I'm just a farmer."

We've all heard these words before. We've heard them said at the grain elevator, the grocery store, the local café, church and just about everywhere else in rural America.

I heard them for the first time in years at a local co-op in the southwestern part of our state. They were uttered by an articulate, bright young man.

When asked for his name, he cheerfully told me. When asked his occupation, the man dressed in jeans, a flannel shirt and seed cap looked down at his boots, well-worn and nicked and replied softly, "Just a farmer."

Just a farmer.

With those three words, he revealed his uncertainty about the value of his profession. As if because of his occupation, his comments wouldn't count.

There is no such occupation as, "Just a farmer." In my home state of Kansas and other states across our country, farming is a proud and cherished lifestyle. It is also an industry that supports 21 million jobs

across our country.

Farmers are responsible for the food we buy in our grocery stores and serve to our families each day.

Farmers sow more than seeds in the ground – they establish the roots that anchor our communities. They also supply many other items from their farms that are used in our nation's industry.

Travel through rural America, and you'll meet and talk to farmers and ranchers who not only care about their land but the towns where they live. They not only work to grow crops and livestock, but to make their communities a better place to live.

Without question, rural communities thrive and prosper when farmers, ranchers and community businesses work together for the common good. Probably the single greatest roadblock for success and growth in any community is a lack of organized leadership with vision and the determination to implement forward thinking. Fortunately, farmers and ranchers have always adhered to a "can do" attitude.

We continue to build on a long and proud heritage of self-help and self-responsibility by investing in our farms, ranches, businesses, communities and the people we employ. We believe our communities and our way of life can continue to be a part

of a livable frontier – a community and state of mind where there is always room to grow and prosper.

And when weather calamities devastate a region of our state, people pull together and help one another survive while looking to better times ahead.

Yes, as I have always said, "No one is 'just' a farmer, teacher, mailman, lawyer or grocer. Everyone is important, especially the American farmer and rancher when it comes to putting the most nutritious, abundant food on our kitchen tables."

Stand up, revel in your vocation. Be proud. Providing food, fuel and fiber for the people of this world is without a doubt, the most noble profession one can be a part of.

So, the next time you're asked, "What is your profession?" you might consider responding like this:

"Yes, I'm a farmer stockman and there's nothing I'd rather be. There's not a better place I'd rather live, work and raise my family. My vocation involves helping feed the world and I have dedicated my life to doing so."

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. This is a reprint of an earlier version of his Kansas Farm Bureau Insights column.

Creating Fake News at the Grocery Store

By Randy Krotz, USFRA CEO

Going to the grocery store has become a parallel experience to reading political opinions online – half truths, emotional visuals, and the ability to exist in an echo chamber only interacting with others just like you. This means true transparency, science and understanding is being eliminated from the consumer experience.

I am increasingly finding items that are labeled “Non-GMO

What are GMOs?

Genetically modified organism: an organism or microorganism whose genetic material has been altered by means of genetic engineering.

Project Verified.” It seems as if the “orange butterfly logo” has made its way to products on every aisle of the grocery store. I’ve encountered the logo on tomatoes, orange juice, blueberries, coffee products, and even water. But there are no GM (genetically modified) tomatoes, orange juice, blueberries, coffee beans or water. The 10 GM crops that are or soon will be commercially available in the U.S. include – squash, cotton, soybeans, sweet and field corn, papaya, alfalfa, sugar beets, canola, potatoes and apples.

The Non-GMO Project isn’t telling consumers that many of the products labeled “Non-GMO Project Verified” don’t even have a GM derived ingredient. Instead, the group is using its brand to fuel a business model that is based on fear and lack of information. That’s the opposite of transparency.

To date, more than 43,000 products bear the Non-GMO Project Verified seal, which according to the organization is “North America’s most trusted seal for GMO avoidance.” On that

same website, the Non-GMO Project also states pretty bluntly the following: “There is no scientific consensus on the safety of GMOs.” This is fake news at its best.

In complete contrast, all of the following organizations have said GMOs are safe: The World Health Organization, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the American Medical Association, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, The National Academy of Sciences, The European Commission, The French Academy of Science and the Union of German Academics of Sciences and Humanities as well as 107 Nobel Laureates, among others.

That seems like a scientific consensus of the world’s most respected organizations. Why would the Non-GMO Project not include that information so consumers can make up their own minds on scientific consensus? Could it be because it wants to sell more of its logo to food companies catering to scared and confused consumers?

Sharing “facts” that leave out parts of the story is a classic tactic for political or financial gain. The Non-GMO Project verification effort is simply a business venture that is creating consumer confusion in the name of transparency. Unfortunately, it is creating an environment that is based on inaccurate information and doesn’t take into account the benefits of biotechnology.

Personally this is painful for me because I represent America’s farmers and ranchers – many of whom choose to grow GM crops because they recognize and have experienced the environmental and sustainability benefits first hand on their own farms. And by villainizing these seeds, the symbol



Randy Krotz

telling people GMOs are not safe attacks farmers and scientists who dedicate their lives to bring healthy choices to Americans.

And when I see food companies and even agriculture companies cave to the pressure to be “Non-GMO” certified even when they know that symbol is not based on science or critical thinking but on emotional manipulation, my heart breaks a little.

Let’s think twice about purchasing items simply based on the “marketing speak,” and instead support real transparency so that consumers can make educated choices about what they’re feeding themselves and their families.



American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall, center, meets with Idaho Farm Bureau members at Rider Ranch near Coeur D' Alene.
Photo by Steve Ritter

AFBF President Visits Idaho

By John Thompson

Idaho is the 42nd state visited by American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall.

Duvall vowed to visit all 50 states during his first term in office. If travel plans come together as expected he'll reach his goal.

During the last week of June in Idaho Falls, he told a group of eastern Idaho Farm Bureau members he's here to listen to their concerns and learn about the issues they face.

"My commitment is to visit all 50 states in the first two years of my presidency and to get out in the grassroots and talk to farm-

ers and volunteers all across the country so that I can represent their issues by experiencing it with them and hearing their stories," Duvall said. "You never know, who I might be sitting with in a week in Washington D.C., it could be a senator or a chairman of a committee, or even the President of the United States. It's great to be able to share our grassroots opinions and issues with those people."

Duvall discussed several issues including labor, trade, regulatory reform taxes, and the Trump Administration. He said Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue was a solid choice and he expects a strong working

relationship inside USDA going forward. Perdue is the 30th U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, but only the fourth that actually farmed during his, or her adult life.

"He knows how to make payroll, he knows how to pay taxes and make a living off the land," Duvall said. "He's also educated as a veterinarian which makes him a scientist. We always say if you're going to develop policy, do it around sound science. I'm confident he will lead in that area."

The foremost issue brought up in rural ar-

See DUVALL VISITS IDAHO, page 24



The group made a stop at the Idaho Statehouse during AFBF President Zippy Duvall and his wife Bonnie's tour of Idaho.

Photo by Steve Ritter



The group also made a stop at a new beef processing plant near Kuna, a potato packing shed near Shelley, a potato processing plant in Canyon County, the Port of Lewiston, the Great Feeder Canal, the Interagency Fire Center in Boise, the Panhandle Forest Service Main Office in Coeur D' Alene, the USDA Center in Idaho Falls, and enjoyed meals sponsored by Bonneville County Farm Bureau, Bingham County Farm Bureau, and the Kootenai-Shoshone County Farm Bureau.

Photo by Steve Ritter



AFBF President Zippy Duvall and his wife Bonnie tour the Chilco Mill in Kootenai County. Duvall toured the state of Idaho in late June.

Photo by Steve Ritter



AFBF President Zippy Duvall meets with Latah County Farm Bureau members in Moscow.

Photo by Steve Ritter

DUVALL VISITS IDAHO

Continued from page 22

issues around the country right now is labor. After that is regulatory reform. Duvall is confident these issues will improve under the Trump Administration. He's also hearing about the slow pace of appointments being made within USDA, such as undersecretaries and Farm Service Administration (FSA) state directors. Most of those appointments are expected in the September / October time frame.

Duvall mentioned the recent controversy over the Environ-

mental Protection Agency's attempt to rewrite the Clean Water Act and redefine waters of the U.S. He warned agriculture producers to stay engaged on that issue. Although the attempt to rewrite the rule was turned back, now it must be rewritten and that requires a public comment period.

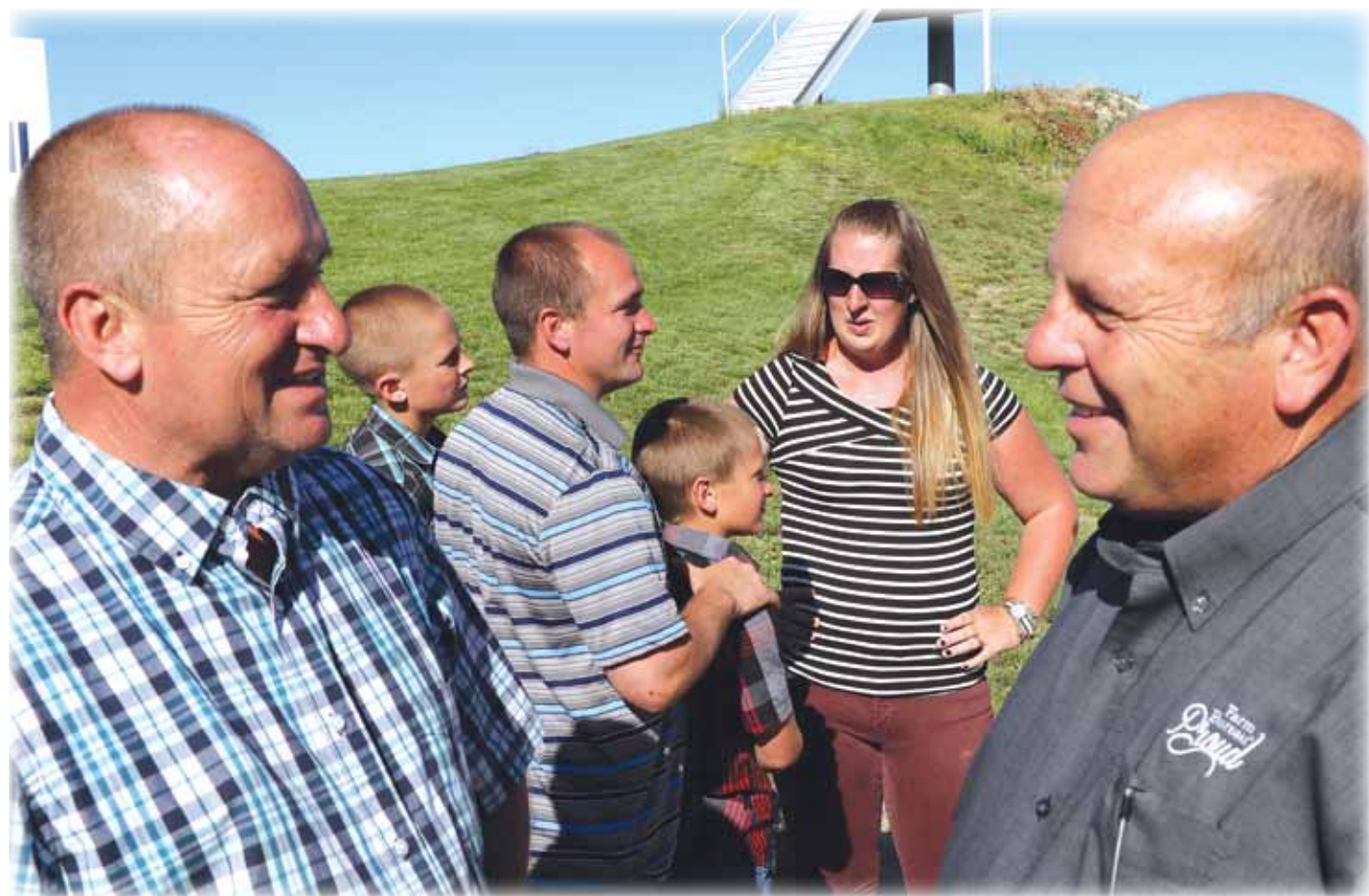
During the first day of the tour, Duvall and his wife Bonnie toured the GPOD potato packing shed near Shelley where they met with GPOD Sales Manager Ryan Bybee. The

shed ships Russet Burbank potatoes mainly to East Coast markets. Bybee discussed the politics of food and food marketing and laid out all of the important statistics about Idaho's most famous crop.

Later they met Tina Gresham, USDA director of the Pale Cyst Nematode Program in Idaho Falls. Gresham outlined the life cycle of the bug and its history in Idaho. The group also visited the Great Feeder Canal where Danny Ferguson, a local farmer and IFBF State Board

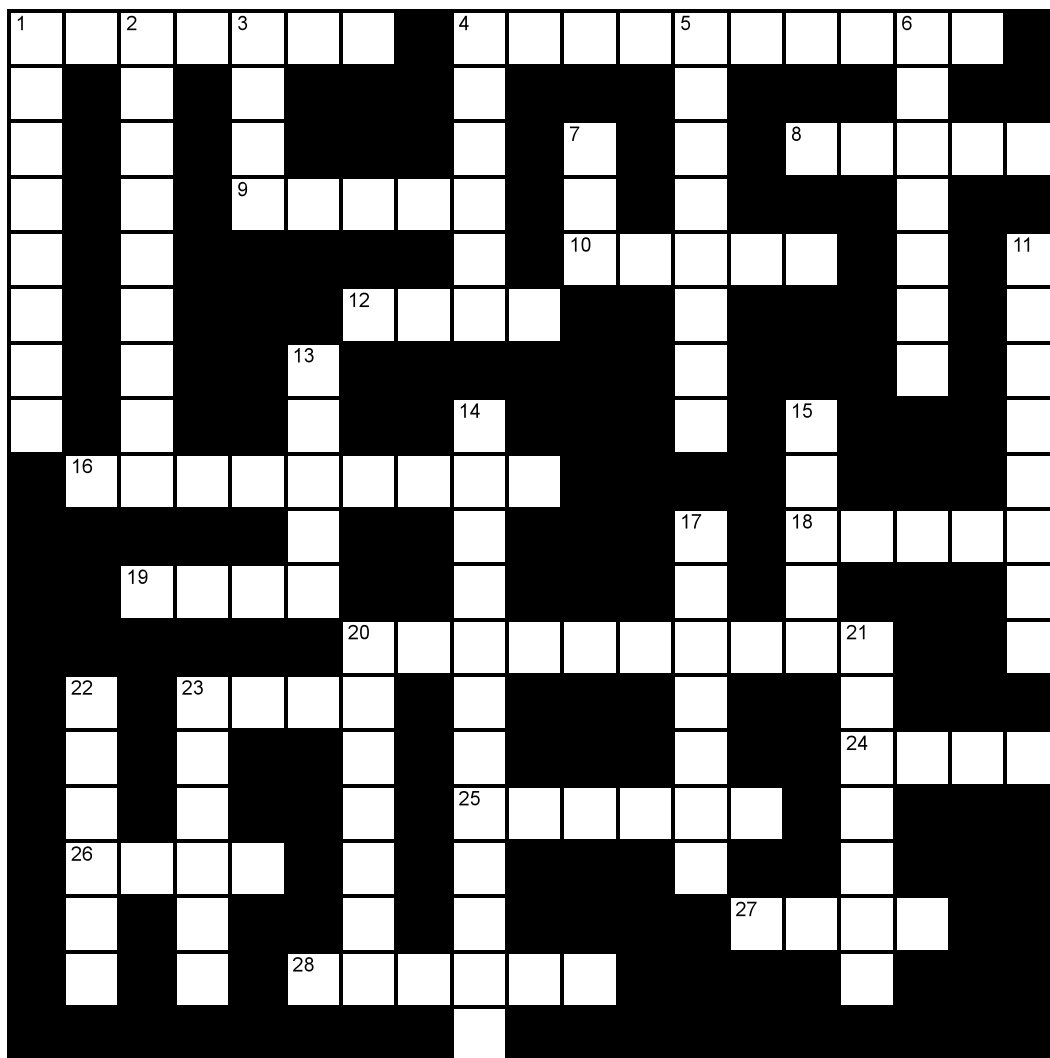
member presented facts and discussion on the history of irrigation in the area as well as the agricultural economy of the area.

In the evening they attended the Bingham County Farm Bureau annual picnic at Jensen's Grove. Later in the week they visited farms and processing facilities in the Treasure Valley, the Port of Lewiston, Chilco Mill near Coeur d' Alene and Rider Ranch.



AFBF President Zippy Duvall, right, speaks with Neil Durrant, an Ada County farmer, during a dinner sponsored by Ada County Farm Bureau and held at Durrant's Big D Farm. Photo by Steve Ritter

CROSSWORD PUZZLE: Farm Facts



Across

1. Popular snack at the movies
4. An essential ingredient in fireworks
8. An acre of well-fertilized, low lying pasture can easily yield 500,000 of these
9. Pigs can't do this
10. Major ingredient in bread
12. Product planted to produce crops
16. Fuel made from a variety of agricultural products
18. Gala is a popular variety

19. Farmers grow this on every continent except Antarctica

20. Soil scientist
23. Male bovine
24. A football field is the same size as one
25. The peach is related to what nut
26. Great source of calcium
27. A natural fiber grown from sheep
28. Great source of potassium

Down

1. This crop is grown in all 50 states
2. The most popular pizza topping in America
3. Popular grain that helps lower cholesterol
4. They have four compartments to their stomachs
5. The most widely used vegetable oil is made from this
6. Great source of vitamin A
7. Female bovine
11. Known as both broilers and layers
13. Contains a mild antibiotic that

fights infections when eaten

14. Animal doctor
15. A great source of protein and used as a meat substitute in some diets
17. Farm machinery used to harvest crops
20. The oldest known plant used for livestock feed
21. A piece of machinery found on most farms
22. Person who produces crops and livestock for a living
23. Feed and malting are the two varieties of this grown in Idaho

ANSWERS ON PAGE 29

CANDIDATES

Continued from page 15



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Young Powersports

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Warning: The Polaris RANGER is not intended for on-highway use. Driver must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license to operate. Passengers must be at least 12 years old and tall enough to sit with feet firmly on the floor. All SXS drivers should take a safety training course. Contact ROHVA at www.rohva.org or (949) 255-2560 for additional information regarding safety training. Polaris recommends that drivers and passengers wear helmets, eye protection, and protective clothing, especially for trail riding and other recreational use. Always wear seat belts. Be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Never engage in stunt driving, and avoid excessive speeds and sharp turns. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Check local laws before riding on trails.

ed to more than 40,000 emergency room patients during his career as a physician, also said he considers himself more of a businessman than a physician. While he enjoys medicine and meeting new patients, the business of helping people get well is a challenge due to government interference.

Over the last few years he has purchased land and developed 2.5 million square-feet of commercial real estate. He said he knows how to create jobs. "I come from the real world and have seen the difficulties in working with state government," he said. "We have an amazing state with great people and heritage. But there is a need for people with a fresh approach. Our economy rests on the backs of small business, but if government is going to be involved in small business we should demand the same excellence out of government that we demand from ourselves and I don't see that. In state government I see mediocrity."

Despite years of talking about education and increasing funding for education, Idaho remains 49th in per pupil spending and only 19 percent of Idaho students are ready for college upon graduating high school, he said. Ahlquist recently visited 97 Idaho cities and talked with 40 school district superintendents along the way. In spite of increased funding in getting back to pre-recession levels, Idaho's student achievement remains poor. Ahlquist says Idaho should be leading the nation in education.

"The answers to our education problems are not more federal mandates," he said. "We need clearer definitions of student achievement and we need to give teachers and administrators clearer objectives."

He described labor and health care premiums as "the issues of our day." The federal government needs to stop meddling in trying to fix the problems of our health care system. "Obamacare doubled down on every principle that made no sense for the last two decades," he said. "Now we have to claw our way back. One general principle I believe is the closer the giver is to the receiver the better life is. The longer we continue down the path with the federal government the bigger the disaster becomes."

Ahlquist also brought up the fact that Idaho is 63 percent federal land. He believes state agencies could manage the land better but stopped short of endorsing state takeover of federal land. He stressed that a lot of Idaho residents hold their right to hunt and fish dearly and access to the land is critical.

"Our forefathers would roll over in their graves if they knew Idaho was 63 percent federally managed," he said. "I think we can graze and use the land to create opportunity but we must maintain the access that we currently have. We have a tremendous opportunity to use the land and manage it more effectively right now with the Trump Administration in place, but it seems we are asleep at the wheel."

The third candidate in the race for Idaho Governor, Rep. Raul Labrador, who currently represents Idaho's First Congressional District, did not attend the meeting due to a family emergency, according to his staff.

INSURANCE MATTERS

MIKE MYERS — *Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. of Idaho*

Understanding the Rules and Regulations Surrounding UAV's

As a drone owner, it's your job to know and understand your responsibilities and liabilities while flying.

Photographers, firefighters, law enforcement, farmers and hobbyists are taking to the skies as drones become more available and affordable. The Federal Aviation Administration estimates more than 1.2 million drones were sold in the U.S. during the 2016 holiday season alone. Whether for personal or commercial use, there are a number of critical issues to consider ranging from personal injury and property damage to criminal trespassing that aren't exactly clear.

While many states are still scrambling to establish laws concerning unmanned aircraft, Idaho took a progressive lead in the creation and adaptation of drone laws back in 2013. Idaho law provides that, absent a warrant and except for emergencies, no person or state agency can use an unmanned aircraft to intentionally conduct surveillance of or gather information about a targeted person or property without written consent. If you are a drone owner, it's your job to know and understand your responsibilities and liabilities while flying. Damages occurring from negligent use may not be covered by insurance and can open up the possibilities of lawsuits.

The FAA and you

With hobby drones weighing as much as 55 pounds, a fall from the sky can cause significant damage to property or bystanders. The FAA has issued these guidelines for drone hobbyists:

Don't fly higher than 400 feet and stay clear of surrounding obstacles.

Keep the aircraft in sight at all times.

Keep away from manned aircraft operations.

Don't fly within five miles of an airport unless you contact the airport and control tower before flying.



Do NOT fly near people, stadiums, concerts or any large public gathering.

Don't fly an aircraft that weighs more than 55 pounds without seeking permission from the FAA.

If you fly, or are planning on flying a drone in Idaho, looking over the FAA guidelines can help you avoid any costly legal or ethical issues.

Privacy overview

One of the biggest concerns with the increase in drone ownership is privacy and trespassing laws. Trespass is defined as "tort against possession committed when one, without permission, interferes with another's exclusive right to possession of the property." Since property in Idaho includes the air space above it, a person flying a drone into airspace owned by another without permission is trespassing. An Idaho private property owner can bring common-law and statutory action for civil trespass, or notify the police that a criminal trespass has been committed. The laws states: If a person without permission enters the real property of another with notice that such entry is a trespass, "and nonetheless continues his tres-

pass, the landowner plaintiff may be entitled to punitive damages." And since drones are usually fitted with on-board cameras and other data-collection capabilities, cases of trespassing can easily turn to more serious civil or criminal charges like defamation of character, slander, and even stalking.

Damages to person or property

Since drones are operated remotely, there's no risk to pilot, passengers or crew. However, drones present a significant risk to property and life on the ground in the event of an accident. Drones crash due to inappropriate or irresponsible operation, mechanical defects and component failure. Losses and damages could involve bodily injury to humans and animals as well as buildings and other structures.

Drones and other remote controlled aircraft can be fun toys in the backyard or useful tools for your business, but understanding your legal rights and responsibilities while flying is an essential step in ownership. Following some basic guidelines and showing consideration for your neighbor's privacy will help you get the most of your aircraft without costly hassles or lawsuits.

Production

Agriculture Is More Than Food

Many products we use in our everyday lives are plant and animal byproducts of foods produced by America's farmers and ranchers.

MANUFACTURING: Adhesives, lubricants, solvents, detergents, polymers

CONSTRUCTION: Lumber, paints, brushes, tar paper, drywall, tool handles, particleboard

HEALTHCARE: Pharmaceuticals, surgical sutures, ointments, latex gloves, X-ray film

PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS: Shampoo, soap, cosmetics, lotions, fingernail polish, toothpaste

TRANSPORTATION: Biofuels including ethanol and biodiesel, lubricants, antifreeze, tires, upholstery, packing materials

SPORTS: Uniforms, baseball bats, leather equipment and balls, shoes

PRINTING: Paper, ink

EDUCATION: Crayons, textbooks, chalk, desks, pencils, paper

ENTERTAINMENT: Strings for musical instruments

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Source: USDA's Amber Waves Magazine



TOP FARM BUREAU AGENTS

Agent of the Month:



Jerry Petersen
East Idaho Region

Rookie of the Month:



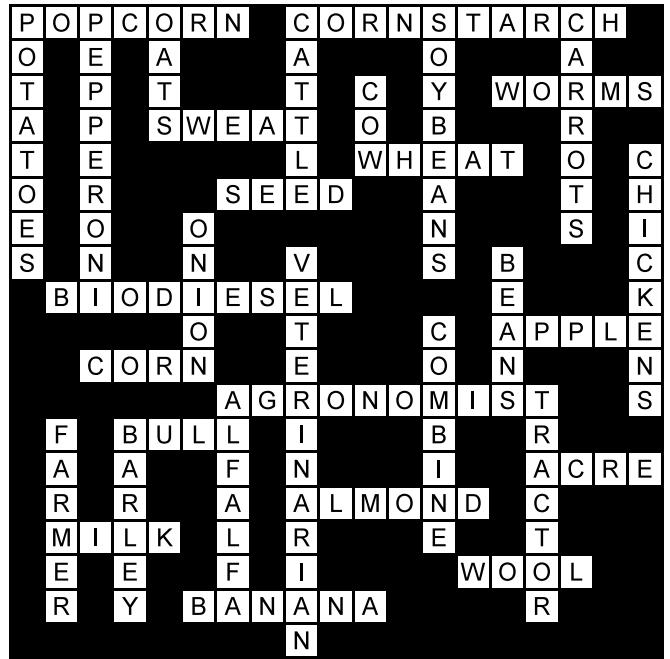
John Nishimoto
North Idaho Region



Region of the Month:
Vance Nielsen
(Regional Executive)
East Idaho Region

CROSSWORD

ANSWERS from page 25



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UI FORESTRY

Continued from page 19

a large container or partially fill a bathtub with water.

Put a sign on your house on or near entrances informing responders that there are animals inside.

If you cannot evacuate your noncommercial and commercial livestock, *turn them loose*.

Remove halters made out of nylon material as they can melt and injure your animals.

Close, but do not lock, doors and gates so animals cannot re-enter barns and pastures.

Hang a clipboard of important contact numbers in a highly visible area.

Firefighters may cut fences or open gates to free trapped animals, so providing identification on each animal is important.

Caring for your animals after wildfire

Once you are given the “all clear,” there are things you need to know, and do, to make your return safe. Dress for safety and do an initial inspection of your property. Identify unstable trees and power poles, downed live power lines, spot fires, smoldering debris and ash pits.

Once you have secured the area, locate your animals. Animals are very sensitive and will respond to a fire that is anywhere within their sensory range. Normal reactions range from nervousness to panic and aggressive escape attempts.

Immediately provide clean water and a high-quality forage with a protein and mineral sup-

plement to offset stress. Then:

Check animals for injuries. Animals are often injured or killed by running into fences and barriers while fleeing. Burns, lung inflammation and edema from smoke inhalation are common health problems. Have animals inspected by your veterinarian ASAP. Monitor animals for several weeks afterwards.

Report missing animals. Provide local authorities with the last known location, identification and disposition of any missing animals, especially if they are aggressive.

Provide safe pasture. Pasture animals safely away from areas that may experience flash and post-fire flooding. Animals have a natural instinct to seek higher ground when flooding occurs; ensure maximum access to minimize injury and death.

For those living in the wildland/urban interface areas of Idaho, there is no such thing as being too prepared for a wildfire event. Thorough planning and preparation safeguards not only the health and well-being of you and your family, but of your treasured pets and larger animals too.

For more information go to:

UI Extension Forestry - <http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry/topic/fire>

Idaho Firewise – www.idaho-firewise.org

Yvonne Barkley is an associate extension forester for the University of Idaho. She can be reached at yvonnec@uidaho.edu

Video Contest

Show off your creativity!

Enter your video reflecting the theme: “The Many Roads of Idaho Agriculture” for a chance to **win up to \$100!**

Entries will be accepted through: **October 2nd, 2017.**

The contest is open to all residents of the state of Idaho.

For an entry form and a full list of official rules, visit:



<https://goo.gl/fD5Qmk>

Contest is brought to you by the IFBF Women's Leadership Committee.
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Sydney Butler named Miss Rodeo Idaho

By Jake Putnam

Sydney Butler, 21, of Boise, was named Miss Rodeo Idaho at the Conclusion of the Snake River Stampede in Nampa the last weekend of July.

After five days of scorching heat, dust and stiff competition Butler was crowned. She says Miss Rodeo Idaho was the culmination of hard work and dreams.

“I really didn’t know how it was going during the competition,” said Butler. “I did know I did my best all week and I was proud of that but I wasn’t sure if I had it in the bag,” she said. “When they started listing off category winners and one by one and slowly I kept checking them off in my mind and when they called my name, it was just surreal. I had so many friends and family there supporting and was just a burst of family and friends. There were hugs all around, and then they had to get all of these pictures and it was a whirlwind.”

Butler says her favorite part of the competition involved dust, the arena and riding skills and adds it was also the hardest.

“My favorite event was horsemanship,” she said. “It’s the event I worked the hardest for and I actually ended up winning that category, so that was exciting for me. We rode horses we had never seen before, so here we were in the horsemanship contest on horses that we’ve never ridden. We had to do a pattern on one horse and then got on another horse and then we did some rail work, but it was really fun. It was competitive and all the girls did well but I was lucky to pull it off.”

The recent college graduate won things she’ll value all her life, a trophy saddle and a chance to further her education.

“First off, Simplot generously donated a saddle. The former Miss Rodeo Idaho sponsored a bridle, headstall. Overall I won \$5,500 in scholarships sponsored by a few individuals and the Snake River Stampede and the Miss Rodeo Board. I walked away with some jewelry from Dales Jewelry. So



lots of pretty things, lots of useful things and the scholarships. It’s all so amazing and I’m thankful,” said Butler.

From here on Butler says she’ll take a week off and then hit the road with a new perspective.

“As of now I’m still a lady in waiting to the Miss Rodeo Idaho. I will go down and support her at the Miss Rodeo America pageant in Vegas in December before taking over the crown myself in January. From there I’ll be going to rodeos, school visits and media interviews. I’ll have talking ap-

pearances all over the state and the nation, traveling with the other state queens. It will all culminate with the Miss Rodeo America pageant down in Las Vegas in December of 2018,” said Butler.

The Miss Rodeo Idaho in waiting, says the honor hasn’t fully set in.

“It’s incredible and I can’t wait to represent the State of Idaho, the Snake River Stampede and Miss Rodeo Idaho. Next year I’m wondering if I need a job to hold me over in the meantime, but I’ll be plenty busy,” she said.

IDAHO FFA—GROWING AGRICULTURAL LEADERS

Why FFA



With the world population expected to near 10 billion by the year 2050, every facet of agriculture must grow to meet the increasing demands for the world's food supply. FFA members are students who are preparing to help meet local and global challenges through careers in agricultural sciences, business and technology to through their participation in high school agricultural education and FFA.

FFA has been an integral part of agriculture programs in Idaho high schools since 1929, currently with over 12,000 Idaho agricultural education students, 92 active chartered Idaho FFA chapters, and over 4,700 Idaho FFA members. Agricultural Education is delivered through classroom and laboratory instruction, Supervised Agricultural Experience programs or work-based learning, and student leadership through the FFA organization.

FFA has provided a formal structure for thousands of members over the years to acquire leadership and public speaking skills, and learn the importance of goal setting, the value of hard work, honesty and community service. Many of our current leaders in education, business, agriculture and government got their start in FFA.

The Idaho FFA Foundation was established in 1980 as the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for the Idaho FFA Association and is proud to provide ongoing financial support to career development events and leadership activities that help students develop their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success**.

www.idffafoundation.org



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Meridian, ID 83680

Questions? Phone: 208-861-2467,
or Email: lwilder@idffafoundation.org
www.idffafoundation.org



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FFA—Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success through Agricultural Education

Climate Extortion

By Russ Hendricks

We're repeatedly told that unavoidable environmental catastrophe is now assured based upon President Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Climate treaty. Really? It's time someone called a spade a spade. The scaremongers' unsubstantiated claims are intended to panic us into doing things we wouldn't otherwise do. They want us to force reductions in U.S. energy consumption which will inevitably reduce our standard of living. Energy is progress. Sadly, those efforts will have no actual effect on the climate.

Even if we accept that human produced CO2 is a problem, (although a vast and growing body of evidence shows that it is not), neither the U.S. nor even the world can possibly reduce CO2 emissions enough to make any meaningful difference. For instance, one volcanic eruption can emit far more CO2 than the entire U.S. does annually.

The Paris Treaty seeks a 50 percent reduction in global CO2 emissions and at least an 80 percent reduction in U.S. CO2 emissions by 2050. This is literally impossible to achieve. Let's review the numbers.

Global CO2 emissions in 2014 totaled 35,270 million metric tons (MMT). China and India emitted 36 percent combined, while the U.S., Europe, Russia and Japan account for another 34 percent. The entire rest of the world combined emits 30 percent of global CO2 as they are mostly "developing nations." Since China, India and other developing nations are allowed by the Paris accord to actually increase their CO2 emissions, they will continue to do so as they strive to feed their populations and industrialize.

Therefore, even if the U.S., Europe, Russia and Japan all cut their emissions by 100 percent, it would only amount to 11,900 MMT, nowhere near the 17,635 MMT reductions the treaty calls for. It simply isn't

going to happen despite our most valiant efforts.

For the U.S. to cut 80 percent of its CO2 emissions would require closing 43 percent of all electrical generation, removing 208 million cars from the roads, plus deep cuts in all other sectors. How will we travel to work? Electric vehicles require electricity. Our standard of living would plummet. Our economy would grind to a halt. Are you willing to go without electricity or a car or both? Would you enjoy living like the pioneers did?

Fortunately, President Trump understands these numbers and is unwilling to force Americans to waste their time and money on efforts that can never succeed.

Deceiving Americans is the only way for this radical agenda to advance. Environmentalist Stephen Schneider told *Discover* magazine in 1989, "We have to offer up scary scenarios, make simplified, dramatic statements, and make little mention of the doubts we have. . . . Each of us has to decide what the right balance is between being effective and being honest." That says a lot; he admits they have to lie to be effective.

Besides, didn't we all learn in elementary school that dinosaurs lived during a much hotter period on the planet? Didn't woolly mammoths live in a subsequent period which was much colder than today? I don't recall any cavemen driving SUVs or operating coal fired power plants way back during those extreme world-wide temperature swings in the past. Could it be that our climate naturally changes over time? While human actions may have some trivial effect, we are deceiving ourselves if we think we could actually control the climate.

Unfortunately, even for most people who should know better, it's not the results that count, but the intentions of the advocates. As long as "they mean well" we mustn't question their motives. What nonsense.



Russ Hendricks

If

someone were to stick a gun in your face and tell you to hand over \$2,000, you would be outraged. But when hordes of "do gooders," in some vain attempt to "save the planet," force the closure of clean, cheap, reliable, coal-fired power plants, causing our energy bills to increase by \$2,000 per year, we simply go along and compliment them on at least "doing something." Unfortunately, it will do nothing except take money from your wallet.

Before you buy into these well-orchestrated deceptions, just ask yourself: Would I do this on my own without being forced to do so? Or, would the hundreds of billions we are wasting on schemes to address climate change be better spent on problems we can actually do something about?

The earth has adapted over millennia to a constantly changing climate. It will continue to adapt. We, on the other hand, must have the freedom and capitol necessary to implement the best solutions as we also adapt.

Russ Hendricks is director of governmental affairs for the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation. He can be reached at rhendricks@idahofb.org.



A recent survey conducted by the U.S. Farmers Ranchers Alliance asked consumers, farmers and ranchers about sustainability and the future of agriculture. *Photo by Steve Ritter*

Survey Shows Agriculture Gains in Sustainability

By John Thompson

Sustainability is a term often discussed in relation to agriculture. But not unlike many others including free-range, all natural, and GMO-free, its definition is dubious.

The U.S. Farmers Ranchers Alliance (USFRA) recently conducted a couple of different surveys to find out what sustainable means to consumers and to agriculture producers. The results were somewhat surprising.

From a purely agricultural perspective, sustainable and profitable have an intrinsic link. You can't have one without the other.

However, most consumers don't make the obvious connection.

USFRA represents a coalition of commodity and farm groups (including the American Farm Bureau Federation), agribusinesses and partners with food and retail companies. This first-ever sustainability report sheds light on what sustainable food production means and shows practical application of how it applies to U.S. agriculture.

"This sustainability report builds on key insights from recent USFRA research that aims to identify and gain a clearer understanding of consumers' perception of sustainability in U.S. food and agriculture,"

the report states. "Through this research, we found that consumers struggle to define sustainability. Moreover, the topic is best understood by consumers when we explain the tangible ways they are improving the water, soil, air and habitat on and around our farms and ranches."

One consistency that shows up throughout the report is that U.S. agriculture is producing more food with less resources.

News Coverage Audit

USFRA conducted a six-month long media and communications audit of U.S. news coverage from leading national, regional, trade and online publications. The

audit revealed that media and consumers are unclear on how terms like “natural,” “local,” “organic,” or “conventional,” fit into the definition of sustainable food. One newspaper noted, “In a time when we argue about what it means when menus claim to be ‘local,’ when farmers would rather call their agricultural methods ‘sustainable’ than wrestle with the regulations of the word ‘organic,’ it’s getting harder to define what anything means beyond ‘this is what it means to me.’”

The perception of organic food remains the gold standard for consumers when it comes to sustainable food, the audit found. Many companies have announced new sustainability initiatives in response to consumers seeking more information about agricultural practices and where their food comes from.

Consumer Priorities

Consumers listed the following as top priorities in relation to sustainability in farming and ranching practices:

Protecting the environment most impacted by farming practices – specifically water, soil, air and habitat – to keep the land healthy for future generations.

Doing more with less by responsibly managing and replenishing the finite resources used to grow our food and raise our animals

Ensuring our food nourishes all people regardless of socioeconomic status by making it accessible, affordable and healthy

Enhancing local communities by contributing to economic growth

A majority of consumers said they consider the sustainability of how food is grown and raised when making purchasing decisions.

A majority of consumers ranked water preservation as a top priority and an essential component of sustainable farming and ranching. The study states that while 39 percent of water usage in the U.S. is for irrigation, farmers have reduced usage and increased irrigation efficiency.

Biotechnology has also increased irrigation efficiency. Biotech crops have caused a shift toward no-till practices in many parts of the country which has reduced erosion from farm fields. Buffer strips between crops and waterways also help filter nutrients and prevent nitrogen from seeping into rivers and streams.

Air quality was listed as another top priority. Technological advancements in agriculture help diesel engines run cleaner. Global positioning technology has made pesticide application more efficient and decreased the amount of chemicals used on crops. The report states that farmers and ranchers have reduced pesticide use by 18 percent.

Soil health is another important consideration. Consumers understand the importance of responsibly managing this resource. In fact, 56 percent of consumers said farmers and ranchers are already using new technologies and innovations to protect the environment. Many of these innovations directly help monitor and improve soil health, according to the report.

Many farmers have implemented a soil sampling program that reduces fertilizer application and helps define exactly which nutrients the soil lacks.

Farmer and Rancher Sustainability Survey

Among the farmer / rancher respondents to the survey, 52 percent raise both crops and livestock, 31 percent raise crops only and 18 percent raise livestock only. Overall, those surveyed agreed that consumers have little understanding of how their practices affect sustainable food production.

81 percent agreed that consumers are growing more concerned and focused on the environmental sustainability of the products they buy.

87 percent believe current practices met the environmentally sustainable production standards demanded by end-users like food companies, restaurants and manufacturing companies.

74 percent believe the agriculture industry has reached a level of environmental sustainability in production of U.S. crops and livestock that should satisfy food companies.

63 percent believe the food industry understands that U.S. agriculture has become increasingly more sustainable in the last 10 years and 68 percent don’t believe the food industry understands enough about how food is grown and raised to demand that certain practices be used by farmers and ranchers.

Care of the soil was listed among farmer respondents as the most significant positive environmental impact over the last 10 years. Advancements that helped foster that advancement were listed as new technology, improved production systems and biotechnology. However, 18 percent of respondents answered “unsure,” on this question.

When asked about the focus food processing companies are placing on environmental sustainability, a majority of respondents said those companies are out of touch and do not understand farming and ranching. Nearly 20 percent of respondents answered marketing for their production and an equal number (18 percent) said food processing companies are providing products their customers want and profit and performance of the company are reasons why food companies are focused on the topic.

About half of the farmers and ranchers participating in the survey believe conventional agriculture operations are more sustainable than organic operations. About 30 percent said they are the same and 16 percent said conventional operations are less sustainable than organic.

The survey also contains specific questions and statistics about the sustainability of individual crops and livestock including cotton, soybeans, corn, sugarbeets, beef, dairy and poultry. The survey in its entirety can be seen at <http://usfarmersandranchers.org/research/>

County Happenings



Marcos Rodriguez, right, is the 2017 second quarter winner in the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Idaho Referral Contest. Justin Nichols is his insurance agent.



University of Idaho students taught dairy science to children during the Moscow Farmers Market.
Photo by Bob Smathers

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION NEWS

Farm Bureau Presents Farm Bill Goals to Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congress must counter a steep, four-year drop in commodity prices that has left farmers and ranchers in worse shape than any time since the farm depression of the 1980s, Kentucky Farm Bureau President Mark Haney told the Senate Agriculture Committee in late July.

Haney's testimony cited growing losses in farm country that increasingly threaten the livelihoods of millions of Americans.

"2017 and 2018 will be a critical period for farmers and ranchers," Haney told the committee. "Farmers and ranchers are tightening their belts and paying very close attention to their individual financial situations. Simply put, they are in greater need of strong, secure safety net programs and risk management tools than has been the case for several years."

To offset the effects of deteriorating farm and ranch conditions, Haney said,

Congress should:

Protect current farm bill spending.

Maintain a unified farm bill that includes nutrition programs and farm programs together.

Ensure any changes to current farm legislation be an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 or the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Prioritize top funding concerns -- risk management

tools, which include both federal crop insurance and Title I commodity programs.

Ensure programs are compliant with World Trade Organization agreements.

Haney also urged Congress to maintain robust funding for conservation programs that encourage environmentally sensitive farming practices as well as the periodic withdrawal of land from active use.



When a friend you refer purchases a policy from us, you'll receive a **\$25 MasterCard® Gift Card** and be entered into our quarterly drawing for a **\$500 Gift Card**.* Our latest \$500 drawing winner is **Marcos Rodriguez** from Idaho Falls. Congratulations Marcos!

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*Certain restrictions apply. Please see the Rewards Program flyer available from your Farm Bureau Insurance agent for complete details.



All-American July 4th Cookout Down Slightly, Remains Under \$6 Per Person

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 26, 2017 – A cookout of Americans’ favorite foods for the Fourth of July, including hot dogs, cheeseburgers, pork spare ribs, potato salad, baked beans, lemonade and chocolate milk, will cost slightly less this year, coming in at less than \$6 per person, says the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Farm Bureau’s informal survey reveals the average cost of a summer cookout for 10 people is \$55.70, or \$5.57 per person. The cost for the cookout is down slightly (less than 1 percent) from last year.

“As expected, higher production has pushed retail meat prices down,” said AFBF Director of Market Intelligence Dr. John Newton.

Competition in the meat case is making grilling for July 4th even more affordable for consumers this year, Newton noted.

“Retail pork prices also declined in 2017, largely due to more pork on the market and ample supplies of other animal proteins available for domestic consumption. Lower beef prices are most likely putting downward pressure on pork prices,” he said.

AFBF’s summer cookout menu for 10 people consists of hot dogs and buns, cheeseburgers and buns, pork spare ribs, deli potato salad, baked beans, corn chips, lemonade, chocolate milk, ketchup, mustard and watermelon for dessert.

With regard to drivers behind

the moderate decrease in dairy prices, Newton said, “We continue to see stability in dairy prices because of the improving export market. Chocolate milk will be a little more affordable this July 4th, in part because some retailers are promoting it as a sports recovery drink superior to other sports drinks and water.

He also noted the retail price of American cheese has declined due to very large inventories and a lot of competition in the cheese case.

Newton said retail dairy and meat prices included in the survey are consistent with recent trends and are expected to continue to be stable.

Commenting on watermelon prices, Newton said, “Although

U.S. farmers continue to increase watermelon production, consumer demand has also increased, contributing to higher retail prices.”

A total of 97 Farm Bureau members in 25 states served as volunteer shoppers to check retail prices for summer cookout foods at their local grocery stores for this informal survey.

The summer cookout survey is part of the Farm Bureau marketbasket series, which also includes the popular annual Thanksgiving Dinner Cost Survey and two additional surveys of common food staples Americans use to prepare meals at home.

The year-to-year direction of the marketbasket survey tracks closely with the federal govern-

ment's Consumer Price Index report for food at home. As retail grocery prices have increased gradually over time, the share of the average food dollar that America's farm and ranch families receive has dropped.

“Through the mid-1970s, farmers received about one-third of consumer retail food expenditures for food eaten at home and away from home, on average. That figure has decreased steadily and is now about 16 percent, according to the Ag-

riculture Department's revised Food Dollar Series,” Newton said.

Using the “food at home and away from home” percentage across-the-board, the farmer's share of this \$55.70 marketbasket would be \$8.74.

AFBF is the nation's largest general farm organization with member families in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Learn more at <http://facebook.com/AmericanFarmBureau> or follow @FarmBureau on Twitter.



	Items	Amount	2015 Price	2016 Price	2017 Price	% change
1	Ground Round	2 pounds	\$ 9.10	\$ 8.80	\$ 8.69	-1.0%
2	Pork Spare Ribs	4 pounds	\$ 13.44	\$ 13.36	\$ 12.76	-4.0%
3	Hot Dogs	1 pound	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.09	\$ 2.19	+5.0%
4	Deli Potato Salad	3 pounds	\$ 8.58	\$ 8.76	\$ 8.93	2.0%
5	Baked Beans	28 ounces	\$ 1.83	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.88	-1.0%
6	Corn Chips	15 ounces	\$ 3.26	\$ 3.17	\$ 3.26	+3.0%
7	Lemonade	0.5 gallons	\$ 2.05	\$ 2.04	\$ 2.12	4.0%
8	Chocolate Milk	0.5 gallons	\$ 2.65	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.45	-2.0%
9	Watermelon	4 pounds	\$ 4.21	\$ 4.49	\$ 4.67	4.0%
10	Hot Dog Buns	1 package	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.61	\$ 1.63	1.0%
11	Hamburger Buns	1 package	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.61	1.0%
12	Ketchup	20 ounces	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.53	+6.0%
13	Mustard	16 ounces	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.24	\$ 1.16	6.0%
14	American Cheese	1 pound	\$ 2.86	\$ 3.07	\$ 2.83	-8.0%
	Total		\$ 55.84	\$ 56.06	\$ 55.70	- 1.0%
	Per Person	10	\$ 5.58	\$ 5.61	\$ 5.57	-1.0%

American Farm Bureau Federation®

2017 Summer Cookout

TOTAL \$55.70

Down less than 1% compared to a year ago.



SUMMER COOKOUT MENU FOR 10 PEOPLE:


- 8 hot dogs (1-pound) and buns
- 8 ¼-pound hamburgers (2 pounds pre-cooked weight) and buns w/cheese slices
- Pork spare ribs (4 pounds)
- Ketchup and mustard
- Deli potato salad (3 pounds)
- Baked beans (28 ounces)
- Corn chips (15 ounces)
- Lemonade, 2 quarts
- Chocolate milk, 2 quarts
- Watermelon for dessert (4 pounds)

Source/Graphic: American Farm Bureau Federation® newsroom.fb.org

LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

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USDA Opens Land for Emergency Haying and Grazing

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue recently announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is authorizing the use of additional Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands for emergency grazing and haying in and around portions of Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota affected by severe drought. USDA is adding the ability for farmers and ranchers in these areas to hay and graze CRP wetland and buffer practices.

“We are working to immediately address the dire straits facing drought-stricken farmers and ranchers,” said Perdue. “USDA is fully considering and authorizing any federal programs or related provisions we have available to meet the immediate needs of impacted producers.”

For CRP practices previously announced, including those authorized today, Secretary Perdue is allowing this emergency

action during and after the primary nesting season, where local drought conditions warrant in parts of Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota that have reached D2, or “severe”, drought level or greater according to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#). This includes counties with any part of their border located within 150 miles of authorized counties within the three states, and may extend into Idaho, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Wyoming. All emergency grazing must end Sept. 30, 2017 and emergency haying must end Aug. 31, 2017.

The Secretary said that epic dry conditions, as high as D4 in some areas, coupled with an intense heatwave have left pastures in poor or very poor condition resulting in the need for ranchers to, at best, supplement grain and hay and at worst, sell their herds.

Landowners interested in emergency haying or grazing of CRP acres should contact

the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office and meet with the local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff to obtain a modified conservation plan to include emergency haying/grazing. Individual conservation plans will take into consideration wildlife needs. CRP participants are reminded that a certain percentage of fields must be left unharmed or ungrazed.

Additional information about the counties approved for emergency haying and grazing and the eligible CRP practices in this area is available at www.fsa.usda.gov/emergency-hayingandgraze.

For more information on CRP emergency grazing and haying, or other disaster assistance programs and loans, contact your local USDA Service Center, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Farmers and Ranchers Push for Comprehensive Tax Reform

Tax policies to support and preserve agriculture are essential to every farmer and rancher in America, a group of Farm Bureau members in Washington, D.C., recently to meet with lawmakers say.

“Tax reform is critical for farmers and ranchers,” said Isabella Chism, a corn and soybean farmer and Farm Bureau member from Indiana who is vice chair of the AFB Women’s Leadership Committee. “Reform is absolutely necessary so we can pass our farms and ranches down to our sons and daughters.”

Kalena Bruce, a Farm Bureau member from Missouri, said “Farming is very risky. There are several big unknowns, like the weather

and markets. Congress can help farmers and ranchers with permanent tax reform that lowers the effective tax rate across the board for farmers and ranchers. For me, that means continuing cash accounting and the business interest expense deduction and allowing immediate expensing.” Bruce, who operates a commercial beef ranch and u-pick berry patch, is also a certified public accountant and serves as chair of AFBF’s Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee.

Andy Hill, a Farm Bureau member and farmer from Iowa who grows corn and soybeans and serves on AFBF’s Budget and Economy Issue Advisory Committee, is especially concerned about the need for estate

tax repeal and capital gains tax reform.

“Both of those have limited the options available—both to agriculture as a whole and to my family. I’m particularly concerned about capital gains taxes preventing my family from keeping our century farm,” Hill said.

Farm Bureau is seeking tax reform that will help all types of farm and ranch businesses: sole-proprietors, partnerships, sub-S and C corporations. In addition, Farm Bureau supports replacing the current federal income tax with a fair and equitable tax system that encourages success, savings, investment and entrepreneurship. Learn more at <http://www.fb.org/issues/tax-reform/agriculture-and-tax-reform/>.



Sign your vehicles up for the Idaho Farm Bureau/Jiffy Lube Signature Service Oil Change \$10 Discount* program.

*This is a stand alone discount and is not stackable with any other Jiffy Lube promotions or discount offers. Once an Idaho Farm Bureau membership is confirmed on the first oil change, the discount remains in effect for that specific vehicle (using fleet #102851).

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BOISE
1206 BROADWAY AVE
3606 W STATE ST

BOISE (cont.)
1484 S WEIDEMAN AVE
5007 OVERLAND RD
8401 W FRANKLIN RD
CALDWELL
1204 CLEVELAND BLVD
CHUBBUCK
4674 YELLOWSTONE AVE

EAGLE
1516 E. STATE STREET
FRUITLAND
903 NW 16TH ST
HAYDEN
8655 N. GOVERNMENT WAY
IDAHO FALLS
185 S WOODRUFF AVE
570 PANCHERI DR
1546 W BROADWAY ST

MERIDIAN
360 E FAIRVIEW AVE
1645 S SPRINGVALLEY LANE
MOSCOW
326 TROY ROAD
NAMPA
1130 CALDWELL BLVD
824 12th AVE RD

POCATELLO
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CLASSIFIEDS

Animals

Yearling Beefmaster bulls for sale. Quality and performance. \$1800. Nampa, Id. Call Jody at 208-576-3209.

Texel ram lambs for sale. \$400 each plus \$40 for health papers if you live outside of Idaho. fishertexels@gmail.com. Call 208-642-7131.

Farm Equipment

Professional Sheep Shearing Equipment all or part. \$450.00 for all. Buhl, Id. Home 208-788-4280 Cell: 208-721-8573.

John Deere 1948 Model A tractor. Good condition. New tires. \$2,500. Located in Boise, ID. Call terry at 208-861-7029.

CAT D4D dozer, 1965, direct start, direct drive, winch, square blade hydraulic tilt, brush/rock blade attachment, brush sweeps, manuals. \$10,500; Zetor 7711 tractor, 1994, 2 wheel drive, 2258 hrs. Full cab, good condition \$12,500. Ellis, Id. Call Mike 208-876-4073.

Rodenator Model 2000. Wand, hoses, gauges, 2 helmets, manual. \$970 - See Rodenator.com. Similar to current RL model. Chesterfield. 208-251-1363.

2012 Massey Ferguson/Hesston 9740 Swather, 718 hours (like new) 16 ft sickle head; R23A Vermeer Rake. Challis, ID 208-339-2434.

New Squeeze chute, green, hand pull, \$1,300. Midvale, Id 208-355-3780.

Balewagons: New Holland self-propelled or pull-type models. Also interested in buying balewagons. Will consider any model. Call Jim Wilhite at 208-880-2889 anytime.

Hay

2nd crop hay, small bales. \$135.00 ton. Preston, Id. 208-681-3581.

Hay Alfalfa/Grass Mix 1st cutting \$5.00 per bale. Wilder, Idaho 208-482-6865.

Household

Two twin Hollywood bed frames \$50 each. Two twin mattress sets, \$25 each set. Both in good condition. Pocatello, Id. 208-240-3202.

Miscellaneous

Two Scooters D/C with Chargers. One 3 wheeler, one 4 wheeler; Two ramps 8 ft & 6 ft; In & out lift, D/C - scooter carrier. Serious callers only. Kamiah, Id. 208-983-0534.

Fielding Cemetery in Idaho Falls - 6 plots reduced to \$350 each. 208-681-3454.

Woodmaster outdoor wood stove. Comes with pump and draft fan. Stove heats your home and hot water. Works in conjunction with existing furnace or as standalone heat. Lower your heating costs and increase your comfort. Horseshoe Bend, Id. John 208-781-0691.

Real Estate/Acreage

6 acres includes pasture, house built for two. Two division rights, 20 water shares. Moreland, Id. 208-242-7716.

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Building Lot or for New Manufactured Home. City water, Gas, Utilities available. Must obtain permits for water hook-up & septic system. Shelley area. Call 528-5337.

Beautiful log home on 1.0 acre in Caribou-Targhee Forest. Two bdrm, 1 bath, 1408 sq.ft. Separate 1000 sq.ft. garage/shop. All well-built, landscaped and clean. No pets or smoke. Outdoor activities abound. Snake River, Yellowstone and Jackson Hole nearby. 208-351-4686.

Horse Property in N. Idaho 19+ acres, hay or pasture, 4B 3b 3600 sq ft home. 40x80 barn, 4 indoor stalls, covered feed area. 20x30 heated shop, 42x60 equip. shed. \$629,500. Terry 208-699-0816 or ctmaple@deary-id.com.

St. Joe River lot on the "Shadow St. Joe River. 115' x 360' buildable lot in Cottonwood Subd. Water, sewer, phone, electricity, paved county road about ten-minute drive north of St. Maries, Id. 208-245-2477.

Three bdrm, two bthrm on thirteen acres. Listed on Zillow.com (2902 W. 2350 N.) Arco, Idaho. Detached two car garage w/ shop space. 24'x40' enclosed carport, 16'x20' hobby shop w/upstairs office. AC, mature trees, mountain views, concrete walkways. Ernie at 208-589-3202.

Real Estate/Acreage

Two properties: 20.93 Acres on Boehner Rd, Wilder, Id, planted in alfalfa, \$165,000; 3.74 acres on Boehner Rd in Wilder, Id. Beautiful hilltop home site, manufactured home allowed. Off quite road with no nearby neighbors. \$119,900. 208-482-6865.

Recreational

1990 Dodge camper van, V8, electric air conditioner/heater, 3-way refrigerator, Propane stove, furnace, water heater. Tub / shower, lots of storage, sleeps 4, runs good. Sylvia 208-731-0545.

Vehicles

2009 Harley Davidson Fatboy motorcycle. Excellent condition, new battery, windshield, about 700 actual miles. Metallic purple/silver paint. Asking price \$13,000. Aberdeen, Id call or text 208-680-3445.

1994 Dodge 12 valve Cummins turbo diesel 5 speed standard. 337,000 miles. Runs good. \$6500.00. 1990 Ford dually, 7.3 diesel, automatic, flatbed w/removable sides, 28,000 actual miles. Great shape! \$4500.00. More equipment available. Preston, Id. 208-681-3581.

**DEADLINE DATES:
ADS MUST BE
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FOR NEXT ISSUE OF
PRODUCER**

Wanted

Looking for vertical lift single stage impeller pump. 16" to 24" diameter. 10' to 15' long. Bonners Ferry, Id. 208-267-7414.

Looking for a 3 point V ditcher for small acreage, pulled behind 630 Disc tractor. Pocatello, Id call Larry 208-251-7875.

Paying cash for old cork top embossed bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

Paying cash for German & Japanese war relics/souvenirs! Pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, flags, scopes, optical equipment, uniforms, helmets, machine guns (ATF rules apply) medals, flags, etc. 549-3841 (evenings) or 208-405-9338.

Paying cash for old cork top bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

Old License Plates Wanted: Also key chain license plates, old signs, light fixtures. Will pay cash. Please email, call or write. Gary Peterson, 130 E Pecan, Genesee, Id 83832. gearlep@gmail.com. 208-285-1258

Our Idaho family loves old wood barns and would like to restore/rebuild your barn on our Idaho farm. Would you like to see your barn restored/rebuilt rather than rot and fall down? Call Ken & Corrie 208-425-3225.

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Non commercial classified ads are free to Idaho Farm Bureau members. Must include membership number for free ad. Forty (40) words maximum. Non-member cost- 50 cents per word. You may advertise your own crops, livestock, used machinery, household items, vehicles, etc. Ads will not be accepted by phone. Ads run one time only and must be re-submitted in each subsequent issue. We reserve the right to refuse to run any ad. Please type or print clearly. Proof-read your ad.

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Regular Adult/Child \$28

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