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Examples of different styles used in branding. From left, "A," "Crazy A," "Lazy A," "Walking A" and a "Flying A."

Letters on fire

Brands have long history of twisting alphabets

By Joshua Wood

As far as most people are concerned, the alphabet is just that—the alphabet. Nothing too terribly special about it aside from how we use it to communicate with each other via text. Enter the world of brand inspection and one goes beyond the 26 common letters learned in school.

Flying alphabets, running alphabets, forked alphabets, braided alphabets and the list goes on. That's just the typography. How the letters are sitting has a lot to do with the brand as well. Put the letter "E" on its head and it becomes "crazy E," while if the number 3 is on its back it becomes lazy and flip an "R" around it is now called a "reverse R."

James F. Johnson, better known as Jim Johnson, has been inspecting brands for two decades for the Wyoming Livestock Board (WLB) and is one of seven inspectors within Carbon County.

"When I started they called me up and asked me if I would like to have the job," said Johnson.

Times have changed, of course, and brand inspectors now must apply for the job with preference given to those applicants who have experience within the livestock industry.

Johnson, or any other brand inspector, is supposed to be horses are being sold or will be crossing county or state lines. approval, an inspector must perform a physical inspection of the animals being moved or sold for the brand and own-

The inspection of brands on horses may be a surprise to some people. According to Johnson, however, most horses will only have one inspection called a lifetime inspectionthat is good for either the life of the horse or until it changes ownership. While a lifetime inspection can be done on cattle and sheep, it is very rare as both animals are sold on a regular basis.

The concept of branding, though most commonly associated with the iconography of



Photo courtesy Grand Encampment Museum

A branding is in progress in this historical photo from the Grand Encampment Museum archives.

the West, has been around for thousands of years. According to an article in the Smithsonian written by Jimmy Stamp in April 2013, livestock branding dates back to 2700 BC with the Ancient Egyptians.

In the Dec. 15, 2016 edition of *True West*, Marshall Trimble explained in his column "Ask the Marshall" that the concept of branding was introduced in the United States in the 1500s by Spanish and Mexican vaqueros. Branding was, and still is, essential to the livestock industry.

"We still have cattle disappearing here and there and cattle rustling at times," said Johnson, "30 or 40 years ago we had a couple instances right here in the Valley."

While Johnson has the aucalled when cattle, sheep or thority to inspect brands he doesn't have any law enforcement authority nor do the oth-Normally, before giving their er brand inspectors throughout the state. The WLB has only one law enforcement official, Ken Richardson, who lives in Kaycee. Should Johnson require help from law enforcement, he can call Richardson or local authorities such as the Carbon County Sheriff's Office.

The need to call authorities,

however, is rare. "We're dealing with people who know what they're doing and for the most part we get along. It's really rare we have a problem," Johnson said.

Brands, just like branding, have a history as well. Their history, however, can become lost at times as they become abandoned or smaller ranches are bought out by large ones.

Big Creek Ranch, for example, acquired a half dozen brands over the years but usually only uses "4 up 4 down" for their branding.

Johnson himself has two brands under his name. One, the reverse E L, once belonged to William Henry Wolfard who was the great-grandfather of Johnson's late wife, Roxana. Wolfard homesteaded Encampment in 1886 and built the Wolfard Schoolhouse which now sits at the Grand Encampment Museum (GEM). The other brand owned by Johnson is the XJ. Of the two, Johnson says he prefers to use the brand that once belonged to Wolfard.

While the Wolfard brand may be registered to Johnson, and he was married to Wolfard's great-granddaughter for nearly 50 years, not even he is sure as to why Wolfard chose the reverse E L as his brand. It is more than likely that the brand was chosen because it not only looked good on paper, but on cattle as well with it's open spaces.

"Some of them look pretty on paper, but not so pretty on a cow," Johnson said.

The WLB releases a new brand book every year to reflect changes in laws and changes in brands, though these changes are often minimal. The 2015 edition can be found at https://wlsb.state. wy.us/public/brand-recording and is over a thousand pages, though not every brand in the book is currently being

Larger ranches, like the aforementioned Big Creek Ranch, will continue to register the brands acquired over the years while families who are no longer involved with livestock may renew the brand to keep it as a family crest of sorts. Still others may register novelty brands, brands that they may not ever plan to use but which are a way to reflect some aspect of their lives.

While the WLB's brand book is released every year, brands are renewed every 10 years at a cost of \$300 per brand. According to Johnson, the cost of registering is a fairly recent change by the WLB in an attempt to free up brands that are no longer being used.

With 20 years under his belt, Johnson has become rather proficient at interpretation of western heraldry.

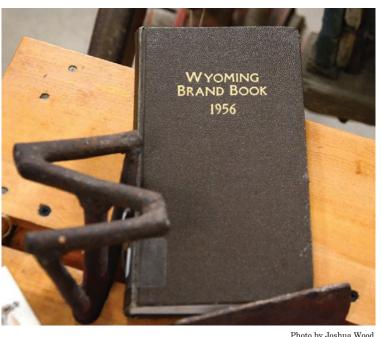
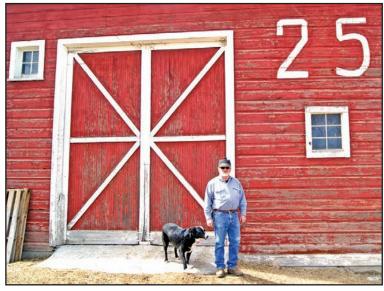


Photo by Joshua Wood

A 1956 Wyoming Brand Book is on display in the livery at the Grand Encampment Museum along with branding irons from local ranches.





Bob Heward leaves his barn as he heads towards his house after finishing up morning chores.

Two-Bit ranch gets windy

By Mike Armstrong

here from England."

holdings of about 25,000 the Valley, it was more cattle. acres and their nephew Todd acres.

"The original homestead is the place where Todd lives," had an uncle living in Elk Bob said. "Then over the Mountain and came over to years, our family bought visit. Bob's grandfather liked other homesteads to create what he saw and sent for the our ranch."

Bob explained the ranches over. are connected, but are run separately.

gether, if that makes sense," gether when it comes to help-raising sheep. ing each other."

Angus cattle."

Sharon said the reason her nephew runs Angus is sheep was dominant until the herd is more north and around the 1960s. exposed to more snow. The reflection from the sun can up to the foreign markets, I cause sunburn on the bags think it really hurt the U.S. of cattle that don't have the sheep industry," Sharon said. terrain.

Bob said there is not noticeable difference taste in shear the sheep still left are the meat of the breeds, but from Australia and Mexico. because of some excellent marketing by the Angus beef ranch in the 1970s because organization, this breed is the patriarch that ruled the more well known to many ranch passed away. He had consumers.

"30 to 20 years ago a salesman who must have known Todd, but not in the numbers what he was doing promoted they once were. Angus and he did a great job for the breed," Bob said.

way they marbled and he iment was not successful. eliminated the junk beef."

difference in taste is attribut- and that might have somehow they are handled in the owner gave up," Bob said. "I feedlots.

"When a feedlot has both breeds, Herefords mature by Bob's father. faster than Angus as far as the marbling and they (Her- Bow all his life with the exefords) get to their peak so ception of the years he was in while waiting for the Angus the military. to hit their peak, the Herexplained. "They needed to then later came to live in separate the breeds so when the Herefords were ready, they could go at their best."

Cattle was not the dom-"Our family has been here inant livestock when the since 1909," Bob Heward, ranch was founded a century owner of the Two Bit Ranch ago. The Hewards said the said. "My grandfather came country between Rock River and Medicine Bow to Rawlins The Heward ranch is family was predominantly used for owned, but is comprised of raising sheep. Between Lara-Bob and Sharon Heward's mie and Rock River and in

This was probably a factor Heward with another 25,000 for Heward's grandfather attraction to the land.

> Bob said his grandfather family in England to come

"They had a farm in England and sold everything to "We are separate, but to- come to America," Bob said.

The Hewards said when the Bob said. "We all work to- family came over they started

"At one time, this whole "We have our own herds," country, was all sheep," Bob Sharon said. "We run Her- said. "All the big families and eford cattle and they run ranches were into sheep out here "

The Hewards said raising

"I think when they opened darker skin, so Angus is bet- "Also it got to the point it beter suited for that part of the came difficult to find people to shear your sheep."

She said crews that come to

Cattle came to the Heward been opposed to cattle.

Sheep are still raised by

The ranch Sharon and Bob of getting name recognition live on was purchased in the 1950's. The former owner "He set a standard for the had put in a huge root cellar beef." Sharon said. "There because he believed he could was a certain way that those grow potatoes on the land. cattle were raised and the The Hewards said the exper-

"We've grown potatoes Bob said in his opinion the here, but they aren't large ed to what cattle were fed and thing to do with why the really don't know."

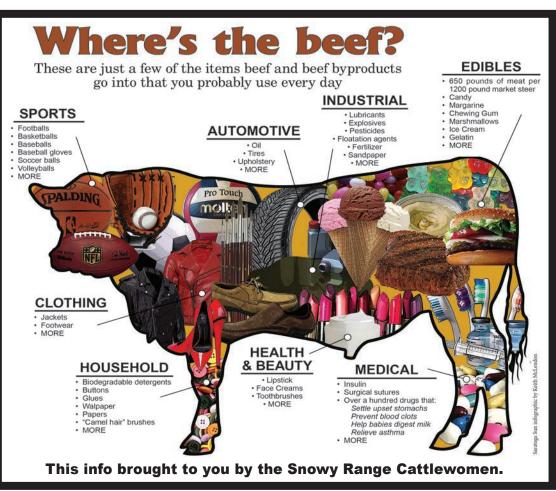
The root cellar got filled in

Bob has lived in Medicine

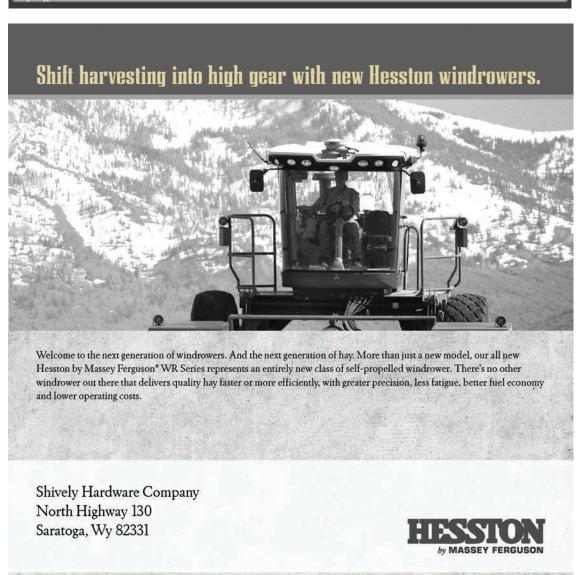
Sharon said she was raised eford go past theirs," Bob as a child in Rock River and

> See 'Two-Bit' on page 7 in the Ag edition









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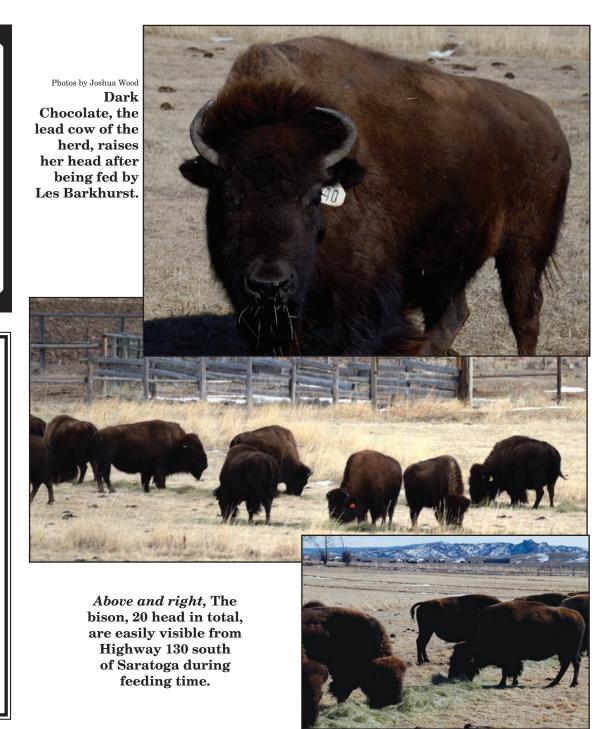
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Buffalo jump

Iron Creek Bison Co. makes leap in adding buffalo to herd

By Joshua Wood

The ranch lands and meadows that run between the Platte River and Wyoming Highway 130 south of Saratoga are a familiar sight to those who travel the stretch of road on a regular basis. Laying at the foot of the Snowy Range, it is not uncommon to see herds of deer and pronghorn head of cattle. In December 2017, however, regular travsight as they passed Ride on Faith Ministries - just a half mile from the Snowy Range turnoff.

aura about them that the Americans look up to and they are so majestic," said Les Barkhurst.

fourth-generation of his famranch, and his wife, Tammy, began discussing the idea uary 2017. After months of research conducted by Tammy Barkhurst through the National Bison Association, the family finally decided to move forward with their plan and purchased 20 head of cow bison from Kearney, Neb. and established the Iron Creek Bison Company.

in the beef industry that are not in the bison industry, yet, and I find that refreshing,' said Barkhurst.

Les and Tammy Barkhurst are not going at it alone, however. Byron Barkhurst, who is the fifth-generation to work on the ranch, has been right by their side.

"We saw it as a challenge and a blessing and an opportunity to maybe position our posterity for a little bit better situation financially," said Byron Barkhurst.

Barkhurst and Byron of the herd away from him.

Barkhurst, the beef industry many ranchers don't see said Byron Barkhurst. as much of a profit margin as they used to. This issue, cattle and bison is how they however, is not present in the react in a storm. bison industry.

Ranchers don't need to be because they'll face the wind." around the bison all the time

comes time for immunization. Iron Man. Despite the amount of

those," said Byron Barkhurst.

One of the major lessons with cattle.

In one instance, Byron Barkhurst. Barkhurst was in the process of feeding the bison when he ed Byron Barkhurst. decided to record some video that the lead cow, Dark Choc- is aware of this. olate, had gone from feeding

"There's a tremendous has evolved to the point that amount of intelligence there,"

A large difference between

"When a storm comes, the "Economically, because we beef will turn and head the don't see the things in the same direction as the storm," bison industry that are in the said Les Barkhurst, "The bibeef industry, the bison are a son are just the opposite and mingling with the countless more legitimate business ven-they will turn and face the ture," said Byron Barkhurst. wind. They'll face the storm. The bison are, on average, We've been told that's how elers were greeted by a new less labor intensive than cat- come the Wyoming flag has tle with a high profit margin. a bison facing the flag post,

Along with the 20 head of when they calve nor do they cow bison from Nebraska, the "The bison have this iconic need to take the time to brand Barkhurst family also purthem. What often involves chased a 2-year-old bull from the most work is when it Canada they have named

Another addition to the Les Barkhurst, who is the research done on the ani- challenges the Barkhurst mals, the Barkhurst family family faces is providing ily to manage the Barkhurst is learning new things about beef and bison meat to the the bison everyday. Byron tables of Firewater Public Barkhurst makes a weekly House and its patrons. While of purchasing bison in Jan- post to his personal Facebook Danny Burau, owner of Firepage in an attempt to share water, waits for the bison information with those in the the Barkhursts have agreed to prepare some of their beef 'We've learned a lot of cows for harvest that will be things and we try to share produced and packaged to Burau's specifications.

"Our work is cut out for us the family has learned since because I believe there are a purchasing the bison is be- lot of connoisseurs of beef who ing far more aware of their know a good piece of meat "There are things going on movements than they are from bad and we're going to have to perform," said Les

"The pressure's high," add-

Bison are not new to the on his smartphone. As he area nor are the Barkhursts changed his position from the first ranchers to attempt his vantage point he noticed to raise them and the family

"We're not blazing the way to staring at him. In another for anybody. We're not doing instance, Les Barkhurst was anything spectacular, out observing the bison drinking of the box, for other people. and moved to grab his smart- We're doing it for us and for phone for a photo. The sudden our family. It's not only been movement, however, caused a challenge, but a reward-According to both Les the lead cow to lead the rest ing challenge," said Byron Barkhurst.



Hooves and horse health

Equine fitness first priority of Encampment farrier

By Joshua Wood

"The hardest thing about out what's working."

riery - the art of being a trades. farrier - around the age shoe their horses or people all the shoes and nails. would bring their horses to the Munroe ranch to be enough, I thought I was place almost everyday,"

hardly gives the occupa- movies." tion justice. On a regular basis, a farrier combines according to Munroe, many sometimes he's called in the skills of a blacksmith of them are hungry for after someone attempted and the knowledge of a vet- work and will take on any erinarian as they carry out client which leads to expetheir task of ensuring the rience with both good and themselves a lot. Somemaintenance and health of bad horses. Injuries are a times they do okay, somea horse's hooves.

a custom shoe I'll do it out an experience and move of two different shoes," on while others may end

Munroe said.

For centuries, the job of ended. a horse is they can't talk a farrier and a blacksmith to you and tell you what were considered to be prac- Munroe was shoeing the hurts and what doesn't tically the same. Farriers horse of a friend in Colo. hurt, so it's kind of a trial in colonial America and when the animal acted and error until you figure before the Industrial Rev- up and knocked him out. olution would fabricate The horse's two front feet Lisle Munroe has been and repair tools along with landed on Munroe's face, taking care of horses for shoeing horses. As time breaking his nose and 25 years. A graduate of progressed, however, farri- driving a horseshoe nail Encampment High School, ers focused more and more through the top of his nose. and a former bareback on equine care and farriers bronc rider, Munroe first and blacksmiths became in some manner of fashbecame involved with far- recognized as separate ion," said Munroe.

of 13. His mother, Cheryl shoeing horses, he charged Munroe has become more Munroe, would take him a total of \$25 for all four in demand throughout the to neighboring ranches to hooves as well as supplying Valley.

making a killing," said Munroe said. The Merriam-Webster Munroe, "I thought mak-Dictionary defines a farri- ing that \$25 was awesome was at the A-Bar-A Guest er as "a person who shoes because it gave me money Ranch shoeing over 100 horses," but that definition to go rodeo or go to the horses. He also shoes hors-

given in the trade and some times they don't. When "Usually if I have to do farriers will take from things go bad, that's when

up having their careers

Just a few years ago,

"You can always be hurt

Since the days of his When Munroe first began youth and charging \$25,

"I'm on seven days a "When I was young week and I'm gone to a new

Two weeks ago, Munroe es for many of the smaller When farriers start out, ranches in the area and to shoe a horse themselves.

"Some people try do it

See 'Farrier' on page 12

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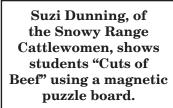


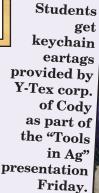
School goes Agi

Saratoga Elementary students rotated through several agricultural-related activities, presentations and 'Bingo for Books' on Friday



Noel Manning reads off bingo numbers during "Bingo for Books".







Micayla Crimmins shows off a fencing tool and barbed wire during her "Tools in Ag" presentation Friday.



Berger watches as Kaden Westring throws his rope Friday.

Kirby

and Dixie Berger Friday.



Darrin Jennings gets applause for the presenters of Friday's activities before breaking the students into groups.



Tim Bishop, Medicine Bow Lodge owner, tells of the different skills needed to be successful in Ag during the "What Hat?" presentation Friday. S R D at a c c R W C c fr "" F at a a

Saratoga Encampment Rawlins Conservation District office manager and education coordinator Jean Runner asks students what part of the cow a product came from during her "Agriculture" activity Friday. A correct answer got the student a treat.



Photos by Keith McLendon

UW Extension
Educator Abby
Perry shows off a
bug box during her
"Entomology" talk
Friday.

Students decide which books they want during "Bingo for Books" Friday.





$Two\text{-Bit} \dots \text{Continued from page 15 of the Ag edition}$

Medicine Bow. She can re- cattle for the summer range," vibrant towns.

"I can remember in Rock "I call them squatters," next to it. There were a lot to not do it." Medicine Bow."

shutting down gets the blame ranchers. did the true damage.

ron said. "This area would be a living." had stayed on this route."

The Hewards have been reason.

of the mining did not make it of anything." easy for ranchers.

ers versus miners, and it was their wind farms. tough to keep up with the inflation."

it is not easy.

months."

Bob said a recent problem Sharon said she underowners who lock it all up and unattractive. "I liked the windmills up." land.

member when both Rock Bob said. "We just stopped River and Medicine Bow were doing that a few years back because of all the trouble."

River when there was a big Sharon said. "I don't mean three story hotel where the that disrespectfully, but here post office is now," Sharon are these owners of 40 acres said. "There was a large here and there, stopping us truck stop, called Max's Cafe, from using the traditional and there were motel units trails. It just became easier

of businesses around back The Hewards said the outthen in both Rock River and of-staters don't often share the comradely once common-Sharon said often the mines place between the all the

for the decline of the northern "Everybody helped every-Carbon County communities, one else and it still does but she believes it was the happen to a certain extent," opening of interstate 80 that Sharon said. "Basically most of these ranchers are using "It was I-80 because this these places as a tax write was the main route going off. They are saying they arwest and it really hurt these en't making any money, but towns when it came in," Sha- they aren't trying to do it for

very different if the highway Bob is not happy with some of these ranchers for another

married 47 years and have "These billionaires that buy seen many changes for ranch- these properties don't put ers in northern Carbon Coun- any money into these places," Bob said. "Fences are falling Sharon said the boom times down and they don't take care

The Hewards realize times "Things were more expen- are changing for ranches sive because there was more around Medicine Bow and a demand," Sharon said. "We major one is the wind turbine had lower incomes as ranch- companies needing land for

"We weren't wild about leasing our land, but we re-The Hewards said ranching alized they were going to be has been basically stable, but around us whether we said yes or not," Bob said. "Neigh-"You have up and downs of bors talked to us first about cattle prices," Sharon said. four years ago and we were "The hardest thing to get resistant, but as I said, once used to is getting paid once we realized they were going a year. You have to budget to be next to us, we decided to go through the next 11 to take advantage of the compensation."

for ranching is the purchas- stands their usefulness to



Photos by Mike Armstrong

The Two Bit Ranch entrance can be seen off US 30 leaving Medicine Bow heading towards Laramie.



Equipment used in the past creates a rustic scene at the Two Bit Ranch outside of **Medicine Bow**

down."

The Hewards are currently leasing the land to Invenergy although the windmills are

"We don't know how many they are talking about building because it depends on which size they go with," Bob said. "The larger one will need less windmills to hit their goal, whereas the

as far as income along with and wind. funds they receive for the land leases.

for their grandchildren.

"We have a lot of grand- have the ranch to come to."

Allen Lake," Sharon said. "It much money they will re- The Two Bit ranch has before us around here, that "Traditionally, we used was the world's largest wind ceive, but they know it will seen change before. First it the times are changing." to go places and hunt, trail turbine before it was taken be a small percentage of was sheep, then it was cattle.

what the windmill generates and sheep. Now it is cattle

"Living on a ranch has been a wonderful experience even They said the biggest rea- with the hardships," Sharon son they did this is because said. "I couldn't imagine raisthey want to leave something ing my children in town and I am glad my grandchildren

children," Sharon laughed. "We are going to benefit "It is nice to have a little from the wind farm finansomething coming in, because cially even though we were es of ranches by out of state the area, but she finds them smaller model will need more ranching is not inexpensive, reluctant to have them on our especially when you have to land," Bob said. "We just have won't let ranchers cross their look of the windmill by East — They have no idea how replace equipment." — to accept, like generations did

TA Ranch

Carrying on the tradition of agriculture in the **Platte River** Valley!





Buggy and beneficial: Insects in Agriculture

By Abby Perry UW Extension Educator, Range Management

cattle, sheep, maybe even tles reduce available dung for hay, but how often do we flies which indirectly reduces though insects aren't often livestock producers to control. on the forefront of our minds, Flies can be a very problemagriculture.

the dung into their tunnels. effect daily gain. Dwellers live within the dung However, not all flies are en dung fly is a predator to pile or right below it, and roll- pests. There is a family of flies horn flies and filth flies. Horn stand and recognize the in- flies aiding in Integrated Pest ers roll up the dung and then called Tachinidae that are flies are huge contributors to roll it away from the pile.

matter to the soil which adds often plant damaging insects. water infiltration. By removculture we often think about and consumption, dung bee-

they are definitely a part of atic pest of livestock producers. Biting flies can cause ma-If you've kicked very many jor losses in production both cow patties out in the pas- in the amount of money spent ture, you've probably seen a trying to control the flies, but dung beetle or two. There are also in cattle efficiency losses. actually three different kinds If cattle are getting bit by flies of dung beetles: tunnelers, they spend less time eating dwellers, and rollers. Tun- and more time swishing and nelers tunnel under the dung twitching. They are also more in the soil and then bring stressed which in turn can the golden dung fly (Scatho-

parasitic of other insects in livestock production losses. Dung beetles are benefitheir larvae stage, and then Golden dung fly larvae also cial insects in the ecosystem pollinate as adults. The in- help recycle manure and has

nutrients and helps improve By having tachinids present, plant damaging pests can be When we think about agri- ing dung, both by tunneling reduced, which can reduce the amount of forage damage by insects.

Another beneficial fly is the think about insects? Even the number of flies around for robber fly (family Asilidae). Robber flies predate other insects, some of which are also plant damaging pests. So again, by having robber flies, insects that cause plant damage can be reduced, and in turn there is less forage damage. If you are in the business of raising livestock, or growing food for animals or people, this is great news.

> A third beneficial insect is phaga stercoraria). The gold-



Abby Perry, *left*, shows off a collection of insects at the Saratoga Elementary School Friday.

traits of dung beetles.

sects that may be in your Management. region and how they may be Take a closer look and see effected by treatment meth- what aid you may be receivods used for controlling pests. ing; they may be small, but because they add organic sects the larvae parasites' are some of the same beneficial It's great to have contributors every bit helps.

like dung beetles building soil It's important to under- organic matter, and beneficial

Plates for wildlife

New license plates fund wildlife and roadway mitigation projects

Staff Report

Thanks to a collaborative effort including a full spectrum of conservation organizations from across the state of Wyoming, the Wyoming legislature passed House Bill 0039. The bill, headed to Gov. Matt Mead for his signature, designates a specific license plate to fund wildlife and roadway mitigation projects.

The license plate will be available to all Wyoming residents for use on personal vehicles. The initial purchase price for the plate will be \$150 roadway mitigation efforts.

The bill was drafted and life Federation.

introduced with the help of the Muley Fanatic Foundation founder of the Muley Fanatic and sponsored by Rep. Stan Blake of Green River.

"The Wyoming Wildlife Federation and the Muley Fanatic will be something Wyoming Foundation want to offer a residents and wildlife popuspecial thank you to Rep. lations will see the benefits Blake for his unwavering of for generations to come. support and steadfast determination to see this bill through for wildlife conservation in the legislative process. We'd also like to recognize that the bill's passage would not have ation Public Land Coordinabeen possible without the incredible public support - from active in lobbying for the phone call, letters, and emails bill throughout the entire with an additional \$50 fee each - our state lawmakers heard legislative process, added year for renewal-100 percent from the people of Wyoming "passing this bill is a big win of which will be directed into in support of HB0039." Said for wildlife, hunters, anglers, a fund specific to wildlife and Dwayne Meadows, Executive and anyone who values safe Director of the Wyoming Wild- roads and wildlife. Wyoming

Joshua Coursey, CEO and Foundation, offers that "this bill and the awareness it has garnered around the state This is a huge step forward Wyoming."

Wyoming Wildlife Federtor Jessi Johnson, who was has created a new funding Photos courtesy of Landon Blanchard

The new license plate is shown by Wyoming Wildlife **Federation Public Lands** Coordinator Jessi Johnson and Muley **Fanatic** Foundation CEO Josh. Coursey.



source to begin work on a opportunities. Founded in this state faces".

eration works to conserve in Wyoming. Learn more at wildlife, habitat, and outdoor wyomingwildlife.org

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solution for the ever-present 1937, the federation is the wildlife and roadway conflicts oldest, largest, and most influential sportsmen advocacy The Wyoming Wildlife Fed- and conservation organization

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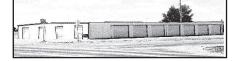
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Drummer

drummer earns following in St. Louis area

at Saratoga Elementary a music company. derived the ranking from a first rock band at age 14. readers poll.

room Blues Band and said festival." he plays blues music rudimentary.

"I put a lot of rolls in my more, Rathbun said.

Continued from page 23

playing because I practice hours a day and developed by A former Saratoga own style," he said in the inband student has begun terview. Ryan and his band to make his mark as a play at St. Louis area tavdrummer in the midwest. erns and nightclubs about Jim Ryan, who at age 10 three nights a week. He also started learning the drums gives instruction to about 40 as a student of Bill Rathbun students at his home and for

School, has been named He told the newspaper he "Spotlight" magazine's No. was a soloist for a concert 1 drummer in the St. Lou- and at age 12, which was is area for 1992. The local the Saratoga Middle School entertainment magazine band, and that he formed his

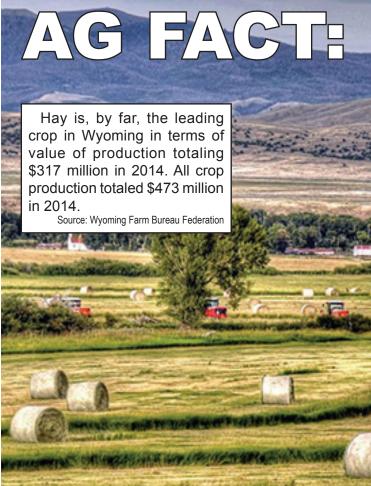
Rathbun said Ryan was In an interview in the an excellent drum student, Oakville-Melville Sunday "One of those kids who came Home Journal Ryan was in after school and practiced. quoted as saying his unique He and Sam Lunt were two style earned him the honor. fantastic drummers who Ryan, 30, is drummer for earned superior ratings in Buffalo Bob and the Bed- a duet played for the music

> Ryan's family left the area when he was about a sopho-



Community Minded... Just like you!





Farrier ... Continued from page 17

we get called," said Munroe. have been easier, and likely end of the world." first place.

censed. In the U.S., however, ing hunters in the fall. no such legislation exists nor for farriers.

has grown, so has the differey," said Munroe. The latter, manufactured respect for the animal.

by Kerckhaert, is Munroe's preferred shoe to use. shoe to use, Munroe has a animal."

preferred horse to shoe.

"I like doing ranchers' When that happens, a far- horses because in one aspect rier is usually left with two we look at them as just a decisions with the positive tool," Munroe said, "If you outcome being that a farrier do certain horses for certain can find a way to repair the people, if something happens damage done to the hoof. to them - it might not even be In many cases, it would something you did - it's the

cheaper, for the owner to Even in an area like the have called a farrier in the Upper Platte River Valley, where agriculture is part Outside the United States of the daily business, being and Canada, in countries a farrier isn't a year-round like the United Kingdom, it job. Munroe usually sees a is against the law for anyone lull in business during the to call themselves a farrier winter and so the off-season or carry out farriery work is spent night-calving for without being properly li- neighboring ranches or guid-

"You don't really get days does any legal certification. off out here. If you're going There are, however, organi- to be just a farrier out here zations that maintain volun- you're going to have all wintary certification programs ter off, you need to find other things to do or you really As Munroe's experience need to be saving your mon-

ent types of shoes he carries. Munroe will be turning 39 According to Munroe, he car- this year and, despite being ries nearly 50 different type around horses his entire of shoes including eventers, life, he finds himself still in bar stock, rims and SX8. awe and holding a healthy

"They're an amazing animal. They really are, but Just as he has a preferred they can also be a dangerous