



## YOU ARE SMART

by Diane Pendergraft

*"I used to think that the human brain was the most fascinating part of the body. Then I realized, 'Look what's telling me that.'" Emo Philips*

Do you believe the lie that you're not smart enough to homeschool your children? Let's look at who's telling you that:

1. The school system you pay for with your taxes which loses money and influence should you decide to withdraw your children
2. Family and friends who have been indoctrinated by the you-funded school system
3. Your brain, that has been trained by the aforementioned school system to believe there's only one right way to teach children

Well, it's *Did You Know?* time.

Here's an interesting tidbit from Wyoming's Education Statute, Title 21; 21-3-401:

<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf>

"Each district shall annually report to the department of education on the progress of each of its schools toward achieving the goal of eighty-five percent (85%) of all students reading at grade level upon completion of the third grade."

Do you know what each school will have to do if that goal isn't achieved? They'll have to submit an improvement plan! How inconvenient for them.

With the dire threat of report filing hanging over individual schools, they are probably working like crazy toward that 85% goal, making steady progress year by year, right? That's what you would have to do in your business or your job, isn't it? Because you are likely accountable to your customers, a partner or shareholders, or a boss.

...continued on page 3

## From the Chair

Another summer of smoke- alas! I wish I had a magic wand to allow for proper management of our forests, well, all publicly managed lands!

Facilitating change is not a magic wand. It is not something that is accomplished quickly, nor should it be, when the consequences of change affect so many.

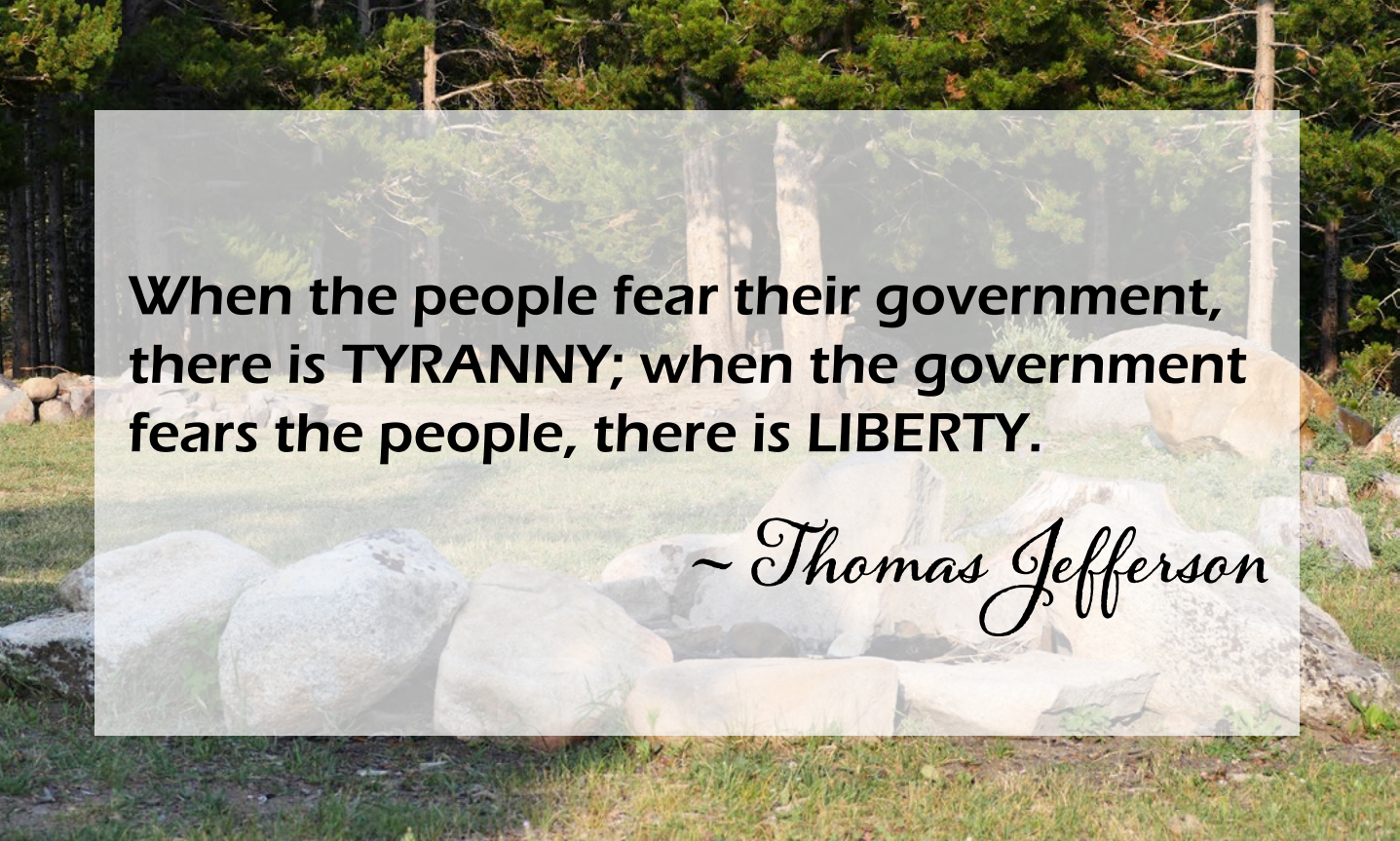
But, each of us see small actions that are adding costs, adding time, decreasing ability to accomplish something. It may be a public land issue, a assessment issue, a library issue, a road problem.

I am guilty of having sat back, expecting someone else to bring an issue to the attention of someone, for way to long. I have had so many people say to me recently, "2020 election really made me look around and see what is going on!" For that alone, we are fortunate to have these experiences!

The thing is, the people we elect are not all knowing, and most of them would tell you this. They cannot possibly take in the experiences we all have, so it is imperative that we share those small actions we see, those small ideas we have, with them! You may be met with a response of "that won't work because...". And yet, you may spark ideas that facilitate changes for our Nation!

And that, folks, is how we Make America Great Again. One idea at a time. One issue at a time. It isn't a fast process, and yet, it is a very rewarding process. It's kind of like managing forests - you have to clean out the dead trees, one at a time!

Ginger Bennett, Chairman  
Fremont County Republican Party



**When the people fear their government,  
there is TYRANNY; when the government  
fears the people, there is LIBERTY.**

*~ Thomas Jefferson*

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Did you know you have access to the same expert report that was submitted to the Wyoming Legislature's Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration December 1, 2020?

[https://wyoleg.gov/docs/SchoolFinance/Combined2020RecalibrationReports\\_Final.pdf](https://wyoleg.gov/docs/SchoolFinance/Combined2020RecalibrationReports_Final.pdf)

Now, if you're not interested in reading over 600 pages of details about how Wyoming's schools are funded, how about looking at a couple of graphs? In Table 1.1 on page 3, you'll find that in the school year 2000-01, Wyoming schools spent \$8,422 per student. In the 2018-19 school year, they spent \$18,610. With that kind of increase, the progress ought to be staggering!

It is.

A quick glance at Table 2.1 on page 13 shows us that, in nearly twenty years, Wyoming schools haven't gotten anywhere near that goal. According to 2019 NAEP results, 40.55% of fourth graders were proficient in reading, 9.80% were advanced. For eighth graders, 33.93% were proficient, with 2.99% advanced.

Even the authors of this report seem a bit dismayed, though they express it with some understatement.

*"Table 1.1 shows that over the past decade the State has provided large increases in funding for its schools, particularly the funding increase resulting from the 2005 recalibration. It would be reasonable to expect a significant improvement in student performance after this notable funding gain. As shown in Chapter 2, data from the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) suggest improvements in student performance have not grown at the same pace as the growth in revenues for education in Wyoming." p.3*

There's no end to the discussion we could have about the above statistics, but that isn't the point of this particular article. The purveyors of the school system with this dismal record want you to believe you aren't capable of adequately educating your own children. Your own family and friends may also want you to believe this. Why would anyone ask a business with such a miserable track record for permission or affirmation for their parenting decisions?

One common hesitation when it comes to deciding to homeschool is fear that it might be difficult legally. So let's look at what the Wyoming Constitution has to say about that.

Article 7, Section 9: "... the legislature shall require that every child of sufficient physical and mental ability shall attend a public school during the period between six and eighteen years for a time equivalent to three years, unless educated by other means."

Those "other means" are what we're talking about.

The comprehensive statute on education is Title 21; <https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf>.

This document is a mere 542 pages, because, how can we possibly function without detailed legislation? But here are the relevant parts:

Article I, 21-4-101, (a); (v) "A home-based educational program means a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one (1) family unit does not constitute a home-based educational program;

(vi) «'Basic academic educational program» is one that provides a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature and science. These

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curriculum requirements do not require any private school or home-based educational program to include in its curriculum any concept, topic or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude from its curriculum any concept, topic or practice consistent with its religious doctrines.”

21-4-102: (b) A home-based educational program shall meet the requirements of a basic academic educational program pursuant to W.S. 21-4-101(a)(vi). It shall be the responsibility of every person administering a home-based educational program to submit a curriculum to the local board of trustees each year showing that the program complies with the requirements of this subsection. Failure to submit a curriculum showing compliance is prima facie evidence that the home-based educational program does not meet the requirements of this article.

Does that sound complicated or intimidating? It's not.

So, what do you do?

1. As the parent, you decide the public school is no longer serving your child's best interests
2. You write a letter to the Board of Trustees of your school district notifying them that you will be homeschooling this year
3. This letter must be submitted annually, and must outline the curriculum you plan to use in order to cover seven basic subjects listed in the above paragraph (vi). There are form letters available online. Curriculum does not need to be complicated or expensive. We'll talk about that later.
4. On the first day of school, 2021, your children sleep in, eat a leisurely breakfast, sharpen their new pencils, inhale deeply of the scent of Pink Pearl erasers and freedom.
5. You find a veteran homeschooler, or a group of them, to help you navigate this new lifestyle (This might also be #1).

Don't forget! You are your child's first, best teacher. You taught your child to speak English. You taught him to walk and use the toilet. You taught her to dress herself and eat with utensils.

You ARE smart enough. You have been teaching since the day your child was born. But we all need encouragement and help with the details. There are homeschoolers all over the state of Wyoming standing by, willing to help you, wanting to help you, waiting to help you. If you reach out, we'll grab your hand. Start with these websites. Search facebook for local groups. You can do this, and you're not alone.

<http://wyhomeschool.com/>

<https://homeschoolersofwy.org/>





Fremont County Republican Party  
**Patriot Day Shoot Out**

September 11, 2021

All Day

Shoshoni Gun Club Range  
 Shoshoni, WY

**Prizes in Each Category!**

Junior  
 Contests

Under 12  
 Contests

.22 LR  
 Contests

Shotgun  
 Contests

Pistol  
 Contests

Contact Terry for More Information  
 307.840.0609

Raffle tickets for the Fremont County Republican Party Patriot Day Shoot Out are being sold, **one for \$5 or five for \$20**. The prizes are **WYOTEC 1/2 Day Personal Instruction Defensive Handgun** or **12 Gauge Rock Island Pump Tactical with 2 Mags**. The drawing will be held at noon on September 11, 2021. You need not be present to win. See Ginger Bennett or Terry Cantrell for tickets.

## Fremont County Meeting Roundup

### FCSD1 August Board Meeting

I had the opportunity to attend the FCSD1 board meeting in August. They discussed the typical beginning of the year pleasantries and reports, and the excitement for the new year was evident. The comment portion of the meeting began with a PA from Lander Medical Clinic inquiring of the board whether any of them had consulted with a medical professional about dealing with covid during this school year. He went on to tell about two Fremont County children who have been hospitalized with the disease. Two of the three board members for masks (even though they weren't masked at the meeting) replied that they had indeed consulted with medical professionals about this, and when the PA added that we have eradicated polio and if we just keep doing the right things (masking and vaxxing)...(this is where I trailed off) one board member replied that there was no place for fear mongering, and the polio comment was fear mongering. Two other members spoke against masks and felt like the schools needed to be getting back to normal, followed by the chair stating that people should have medical choice (with vax and masks), the masks are a constant reminder of fear, and all of this is infringing on our freedoms. Everyone that wants the vax has had a chance to get it, and we must respect everyone's choices and move on. He had done his research and came backed with many facts, which he shared. Very impressive! Even though there was no motion to mandate masks, Mr. Berg, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Jensen, and Mr. Kail believe masks should be optional, while Ms. Escudero, Ms. Hitt, and Ms. Nirider felt like masks should be reinstated (even though they attended the meeting unmasked). Ms. Nirider and Ms. Escudero were disappointed that the district did not have a contingency plan in the event that the district has an outbreak. Mr. Jensen reminded them that they already had their Smart Plan from last year, so they were not unprepared. The item I was concerned about when I left was the quarantine issue. I wrote to the four members who were for freedom about this concern, and one reply stated that the quarantine was set up by WDH and their hands were tied. I replied and encouraged them to push back against the issue, but have not had any further reply. You can see the WDH quarantine infosheet [here](#). Why are they inflicting longer quarantine times for unvaxxed and unmasked when the data shows that the vaxxed are getting covid (see the [Israeli](#) data) and carry a larger viral load than the unvaxxed (read this [article](#) about the study)? Why is nobody speaking about early treatment to get people back on their feet as quickly as possible? Why are they completely disregarding natural immunity and the IFR for school-aged children as seen in this pre-print [study](#)? If education is truly important, shouldn't we be trying to keep children in school rather than using a broad brush to apply policies that create an educational disadvantage for a certain subset of students? It would be interesting indeed to see the WDH's work on this one.

*Tina Clifford*

*The rest of this page is deliberately left blank to encourage others to attend meetings and write about what you see and hear there. The only way we'll be able to know what's going on around the county is to split up so we can cover more ground. I hope that we wind up having several pages of Fremont County news every month! ~ Tina*

20th Anniversary  
Honoring the Fallen of 9-11

# Freedom Festival

Newcastle, WY  
Dow Park  
**SEPT-11-21**  
11am - 3pm

Renew our fight for freedom  
Bring your Faith, Family & Flag  
Speakers on National & Local issues  
Information & food vendors

## Freedom Festival Speakers/Organizations

*9/11 Remembrance*

*Matt Braynard (President Trump's former data and strategy director)*

*State RNC Chair Frank Eathorne (all things state RNC)*

*State Rep. Chip Nieman (election law reforms, WY)*

*Newcastle Mayor Pam Gualtieri*

*"WY Health Freedoms" (mask/vaccine mandates)*

*Newcastle War Memorial*

*"Qualified Listeners" Veterans support group (CO)*

There will be food vendors, music leading up to start of event. Come a bit early and bring chairs to enjoy music and unity, and buy a raffle ticket!

"Yellow Ribbon" Sponsorship event to tie ribbons on trees in Dow Park on September 11.

# Save America

# Rally

Never *Forget*

We *Remember*

**SEP  
11**

Riverton City Park Band Shell  
Riverton, WY  
9 am - Noon

### Calling all Patriots!

Join us again on **October 30th** in City Park from 9 to noon to  
**Save America!**

Bring a sign with an issue you are willing to work for, like  
**Election Integrity • Medical Freedom \* Education**  
and network with others to form a group that you can work with for that common cause!





## America's Cultural Revolution, is it any different than Russia's, China's, or Cuba's?

by David Miller

1968, less than a year after China's Cultural Revolution, I am 15 years old and at the door of the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi. I am attending the American International School in New Delhi. My friend and I had heard of this great cultural revolution going on in China, so we decided to visit the Chinese Embassy in Delhi. We were greeted at the door by a kind Chinese gentleman, who seemed genuinely pleased we had come to visit. He offered us some orange sodas and showered us with Mao pins, Lenin pins and Mao's "Red Book". We had an interesting conversation about the "Peoples Revolution". My favorite quote from the "Red Book", is repeated hundreds of times, "People of the world, unite and defeat the U.S. aggressors and all their running dogs!"

The 10 years of the Chinese Cultural Revolution ended with Mao's death in 1976. The death and destruction of the bourgeoisie, professionals, professors, and other educators devastated China and had the opposite effect on the future China. The current "wokeness" in the US, denouncing anyone "white", even children denouncing their parents, is shockingly like China's Cultural Revolution. As most revolutions go, the Red Guard and other leaders of the revolution were surprised when the revolution turned on them, including Mao's wife, Jiang Qing a member of the Gang of Four that essentially ran the Government during this rein of terror. She was arrested and sentenced to death soon after Mao died (later rescinded to life sentence). Subsequent leaders adopted a more pro-western view, including capitalism, but a different version of capitalism, it was planned and controlled by the "party".

Our universities have been taken over by Marxists and our K-12 schools are close behind. Just look

at the recent comments by former North Korean defector, Yeonmi Park! She attended Yale and said she had to repeat what the leftist professors wanted, "I realized, wow, this is insane. I thought America was different, but I saw so many similarities to what I saw in North Korea that I started worrying." It does not stop at the university; it has now penetrated our elementary schools across the US. Thankfully many people are in an uproar and are starting to attend their school board meetings. Xi Van Fleet spoke at a recent school board meeting in Virginia, "You are now teaching and training our children to be social justice warriors and to loathe our country and our history." She continued, in China during the cultural revolution "we were asked to report if we hear anything about someone saying anything showing that there's a lack of complete loyalty to Mao," she said. "There were people reporting their parents, and their parents ended up in jail."

Toxic critical race theory is the new favorite topic of the leftists.

While history does not repeat itself, it does rhyme! The leftist takeover of our levers of government should be of great concern for all. Freedom of speech is at risk. We currently can still criticize our government, but a free press has nearly disappeared.

Collectivism is the line, not individualism. We all must sacrifice for the common good! Of course, it is all rubbish and straight out of the Communism Manifesto: "From each according to their ability and to each according to their needs"!

Be aware, get involved, it is not too late, to avoid this new generation of "running dogs".

**CARBON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

**RURAL WYOMING MATTERS****U.S. HOUSE CANDIDATE FORUM**

A REAL WYOMING REPUBLICAN FORUM,  
BY REAL WYOMING REPUBLICANS,  
FOR REAL WYOMING REPUBLICANS!

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> — 6PM

THE JEFFREY CENTER — RAWLINS

DOORS OPEN AT 5PM FOR  
CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET

**RURAL  
WYOMING  
MATTERS****YOUR VOTE  
IS YOUR VOICE  
FOR YOUR  
FUTURE!**

# Fremont County Republican Party

## Central Committee Passes Resolution Unanimously

At the August 2021 Central Committee Meeting, a resolution denouncing the authority of public health officers in Wyoming was presented and passed unanimously. The text of the resolution follows below:

### Resolution Denouncing the Authority of Public Health Officers in the State of Wyoming

**WHEREAS**, the Wyoming Republican Party Platform states “All individuals are endowed by their Creator from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death with the rights to Life, Liberty, Property, and the Pursuit of Happiness. The only purpose of government is to protect these rights for all.” And

**WHEREAS**, the Wyoming Republican Party Platform states, “The citizens of the United States are the ultimate authority. Governments possess powers derived only from the consent of the governed.” And

**WHEREAS**, the Wyoming Republican Party Platform states, “The pursuit by an individual to rightfully acquire, keep, and enjoy his own property is foundational. Every individual has the right to develop his own potential, to use and enjoy his own property, tangible or intellectual, and pursue his own interests, free from the restrictions of arbitrary force. Individuals are always presumed to be the best stewards of their property.” Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fremont County Republican party does not recognize the Authority of any County or State health department to place mandates or restrictions on the free citizens of the State of Wyoming, their organizations, companies, businesses, churches, or other groups which would violate their freedom of assembly under the First Amendment and the due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

## Natural Law, History, and Heritage

Some Things Should Never Change

by Donna K. Rice

### Natural Law

Unless you study law or politics you're not likely to be familiar with the concept of Natural Law. If you love the history and legacy of American freedom my guess is Natural Law will resonate deeply with you. Why? Because Natural Law embraces those beliefs that freedom lovers hold dear. Here's a short definition of Natural Law:

“Systems of God-given right and justice that are applied universally, believed to be everlasting, and common for all mankind.”

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## History

America's founding fathers didn't all agree on every point of life in the new nation they were building. They came together and knocked ideas and beliefs down to some basic principles. The concept of Natural Law became key to some of the founding fathers' thoughts, and the wording and principles central to our founding documents reflecting the basic principles on which they could agree.

Consider this phrase from the Declaration of Independence, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Today, let's unpack some of the wording in this statement in light of Natural Law. Words are powerful tools in the human experience. When we're talking about such important matters as freedom and the governing principles of society, understanding builds bridges of communication.

"Truths" - In this context, the founders examined the human experience in light of history, government, and philosophical writings and determined that certain ideas held a quality that could be determined to be true. In our modern-day when so many discussions and ideologies have become fluid, it's worth stopping for a moment and revisiting the concept of truth. What does it mean to conclude something is indisputably true?

"Self-evident" - Closely related to truth is the idea that some truths are recognizable simply by observation. They are so obvious that no explanation is necessary.

The phrase immediately following these two critical words is, "all men are created equal." This bold statement is commonplace to us now after almost two hundred and fifty years of repetition. In the days of America's formation, it was the dream of those who had suffered under tyrannical forms of oppression and government. It was the heart's cry of those who had lived under monarchies that demanded service and homage by those of lesser value than they, by the common man.

History had taught that tyrannical forms of government devalued human life and the brave men and women who fought for a new country wanted a new basis upon which to govern themselves. The first truth they determined to identify was the concept that all men were created equal. While in practice, the new country wasn't fully operating in line with this principle, it's important to recognize it as an underlying thought.

## Heritage

There's an unfortunate reality that humanity tends toward the imperfect treatment of its members. Throughout history, we see abuses, slavery, violence, and oppression. The perfect society probably never has, and never will exist. But, if we can come to an agreement about a principle to strive for and to verbalize as a foundation of thought, we create something to aspire to. That's what our founders did. They created aspirations for a new government and a new society.

In our next post, we'll continue to delve into how the concept of Natural Law became a basis for one of the most powerful phrases of our national heritage. Until then, ponder the ideas of truth and equality.

Reprinted with permission from Donna K. Rice, WYO Conservative ([wyoconservative.com](http://wyoconservative.com))

<https://www.wyoconservative.com/post/natural-law-history-and-heritage>

## Wyoming Hunger Initiative



*First Lady of Wyoming  
Jennie Gordon*

**W**yoming Hunger Initiative was launched in October 2019 with a very specific goal in mind: to do whatever it took to support anti-hunger nonprofit organizations working tirelessly throughout the state. While this goal hasn't changed, the scope of Wyoming Hunger Initiative has grown in ways no one could have imagined. It is comparable to a car being built as it is driven down the road but the car has now traveled many miles and witnessed tremendous strides in the fight against food insecurity in Wyoming during these unprecedented times.

Food insecurity is a largely invisible problem, most typically experienced within the privacy of a home or kept an uncomfortable secret in a school setting. Kids who don't have reliable access to food are much more likely to face unhealthy, unsuccessful, and uncertain futures. Feeding America, the largest anti-hunger nonprofit organization in the U.S., released their latest projections in October 2020 for food insecurity. Wyoming's food insecure population increased at a similar pace as the rest of the country. When Wyoming Hunger Initiative launched, 71,000 Wyoming residents were food insecure. Today, that number is closer to 86,000.

To this end, Wyoming Hunger Initiative has launched four programs under the Wyoming Hunger Initiative banner: Food from the Field, Food from the Farm + Ranch, Wyoming Angel Accounts, and Wyoming Hunger Initiative Grants. These programs have already made a significant impact in our state.

Through Food from the Field, hunters now have a formal structure to donate game meat to local food pantries and nearly 3,800 lbs were donated over the course of the last hunting season. 2021 is shaping up to be an even more impactful season, with the number of Food from the Field processors increasing from two to seven. This year, Riverton Packing joined the lineup for Food from the Field and will be available to accept game meat donations from hunters as every donation must go through proper CWD testing in partnership with the Wyoming Game & Fish Department.

Grow a Little Extra was launched for the first time this year under Food from the Farm + Ranch. This program encouraged local gardeners to grow an extra row or extra produce in their gardens that could be donated to local anti-hunger organizations. Fresh produce is hard to come by for food pantries especially and this program allows anyone in the state to be part of the solution.

75% of school districts in Wyoming have reported school lunch debt and 40% say their debt is growing. Until recently, there was no ongoing work related to solving the school lunch debt crisis in the state. Wyoming Hunger Initiative is committed to working with school districts to determine the amount a family can pay in the form of a payment plan prior to receiving matching funds. While removing the child from the equation, Wyoming Hunger Initiative in partnership with Atlantic City Federal Credit Union in Lander and Mr. Dan Starks from the National Military Museum in Dubois will pay off the remaining lunch debt for all students in Fremont County on September 16th, 2021.

We are so fortunate to live in a state with abundant natural resources and Wyoming solutions to Wyoming challenges. Together, we can make a difference in our state. Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

# Bulletin Board

## Next Meeting

September 16, 2021 • 5:30 pm  
Town Hall Council Chambers • Dubois, WY

## Upcoming Events

**September 11, 2021**

**Patriot Day Shoot Out**

Shoshoni Gun Range • Shoshoni, WY

This is an all-day event

Prizes in 5 Categories!

“Never Forget”

**Save America Rally**

Riverton City Park Band Shell

9 am - Noon

**Freedom Festival**

Dow Park

Newcastle, WY

11 am - 3 pm

**September 17, 2011**

**Rural Wyoming Matters**

**U.S. House Candidate Forum**

The Jeffrey Center

Rawlins, WY

6 pm

Candidate Meet & Greet - 5 pm

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