



# Canyon County FARM BUREAU

## 2014 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Hello,

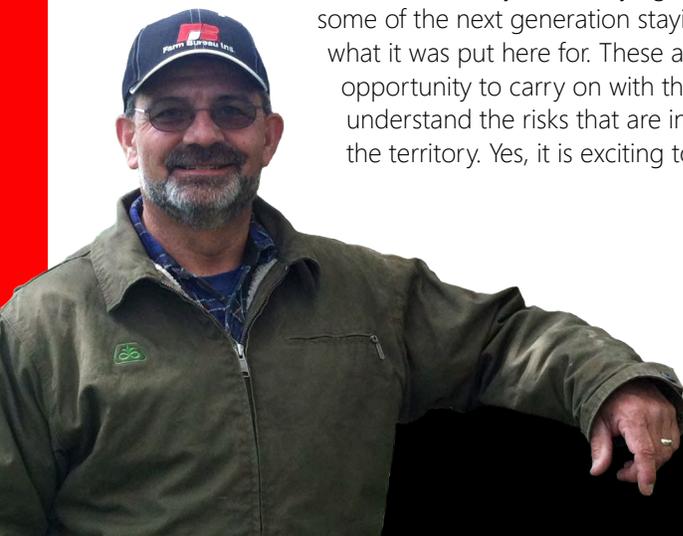
I hope you are all having a happy and wonderful spring. We finally got enough precipitation to give us a brighter outlook on our irrigation water needs here in Canyon County. I know our neighbors in Owyhee County are still in a very dire situation, so let's keep them in our prayers as we move forward into this crop year.

2014 is going to be a great year for the Canyon County Farm Bureau. We have re-established our woman's committee, with our new woman's committee chair Kristie Dorsey. She and her husband Matt, who happens to be our 1st Vice President, farm in the Sunny Slope area with Matt's father, Tom. Kristie has already hit the ground running. She chaired our speech contest back in January, and organized the Canyon County Ag-Baby promotion on March 20, the first day of spring.

We are looking forward to having T.J. Platt chair our Young Farmer and Rancher's (YF&R) committee, which will get a lot of our attention this coming year. We feel the need to contact as many farmers and ranchers under the ripe old age of 35 within our county, and hopefully bring them into the fold of the Farm Bureau. It is our intention to teach them what the Farm Bureau Federation is all about, and how it can help them in every aspect of their operations.

By doing this, we are taking a page out of the history book of probably the greatest Canyon County Farm Bureau President, and one of the greatest agriculture leaders the state of Idaho has ever known, former Idaho Agriculture Director, Pat Takasugi, God bless his soul. Over 30 years ago, Pat invited a robust, unknowing, group of young farmer's and rancher's to some meetings, and many of them became very productive Canyon County Farm Bureau board members. In fact one of them T.J. Platt's father, Ron, was a prodigy of that era and has been a board member for 33 years. Pat Takasugi was very adamant that when you left the board you were to make sure that you had a worthy replacement. Well, Ron Platt is hanging up his Farm Bureau board member hat, and I do believe that we have that very worthy replacement for him. Greg Payne from Middleton has graciously taken Ron's seat around our board room table. Greg and his wife Pam, farm with his father Jim, and his brother Jerry, here in the northern parts of Canyon County. We are plum tickled to have Greg and Pam as part of our Canyon County Farm Bureau board family.

The future for Canyon County agriculture has never looked brighter. We have seen a great deal of interest in some of the next generation staying on the farm and utilizing Canyon County's soils to the fullest intent of what it was put here for. These are very bright young men and women, who are actually excited about the opportunity to carry on with the family business of farming. They are technologically savvy and know and understand the risks that are involved, but are willing and able to take on the challenges that come with the territory. Yes, it is exciting to say the least! You all have a great spring.



Sincerely,

Sid Freeman, *President of Canyon County Farm Bureau*



## CANYON COUNTY FAIR / JULY 24-27, 2014

Happy Spring to everyone!! With Spring here, the time is approaching for the 2014 Canyon County Fair. This year, the Canyon County Farm Bureau Federation will continue our long tradition of being involved in the fair.

The Canyon County Farm Bureau Federation in 2014 will continue being a main sponsor of the Canyon County Fair.

Returning in 2014, will be the 3rd Annual Ag Country, featuring Agriculture Commodity groups to educate the community about agricultural production in Canyon County. In 2013, over 7,500 people participated by attending Ag Country.

CCFB sponsors awards at the Fair, along with purchasing animals at the Fair's Market Sale. Due to scheduling and facility conflicts, the Canyon County Farm Bureau Tractor Driving Contest has been cancelled for this year's fair, hopefully to return in 2015.

The main goal for this year, will be to gain new membership in the Canyon County Farm Bureau Federation by providing information to visitors of the Ag Country Pavilion at the Fair. Information provided to prospective members will inform them about the program discounts, services provided, and other member benefits provided by a Canyon County Farm Bureau Membership.

Dennis Lincoln, *Fair Committee Chairman*

# \$1.00 OFF

**YOUR FAIR ADMISSION  
WHEN YOU SHOW YOUR  
CANYON COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
MEMBERSHIP CARD**

## FIRST SPRING BABY BORN AT WEST VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER CANYON COUNTY FARM BUREAU RECOGNIZES AG BABY

**CALDWELL, Idaho** – Representatives from the Canyon County Farm Bureau presented proud mother, Tristen Booth, with a gift basket of baby items in recognition of having the first Spring baby born in Canyon County. The baby girl, Heather, was born at West Valley Medical Center at 5:19am on Thursday, March 20, 2014.

The Canyon County Farm Bureau gives this annual gift in recognition of the Spring Equinox which represents the first day of the agriculture season.



PICTURED ABOVE (from left to right)

Kristie Dorsey (CCFB Women's Committee Chair); Sid Freeman (CCFB President); Maurine Johnson (CCFB Women's Committee Member); Heather Lee (Ag Baby); and Tristen Booth (Mother).

# P&E REPORT

Canyon County Farm Bureau has been very active this winter in our promotion and education of agriculture. We partnered with Ada County Farm Bureau again this year and sponsored the FFA public service announcement on television, in February just ahead of the Winter Olympics. We have partnered with them again this year on our Road Safety PSA's, with our spring run having already finished. We will be bringing the Idaho State Police into the partnership this fall as a spokes person on the Harvest PSA as last year ended up being one of the worst we saw as far as fatalities. We cannot urge folks enough to be extremely cautious when traveling through the rural areas where farming activities are taking place.

This year we had a great opportunity to be a major sponsor of the first annual Nampa Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Forum. The idea has come about as a means of raising inner city business owner's awareness of how important a strong agriculture economy is to their businesses in town. The Idaho Department of Agriculture gave an outstanding report on the ag economy on a state-wide basis, and Wells Fargo gave a report on a global basis. It was a great success attended by over 200 people from the inner city business owners, to area farmer and ranchers, and agri-business representatives.

Sid Freeman, *CCFB President*

## BUREAU BITS

### AGRIPAC COMMITTEE

*Matt Dorsey*

CCFB is gearing up for the busy campaign season. AgriPAC held candidate interviews on April 14, 2014 to ensure educated endorsements are made by the CCFB Board.

### MAC TRAILER COMMITTEE

*Matt & Kristie Dorsey*

The Farm Bureau MAC Trailer has been showcased and utilized at numerous schools and community events across the county and state. If you would like the MAC Trailer to come to your school or community event please contact Kristie Dorsey at 208-573-2045 or Matt Dorsey at 208-573-2047.

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

*Curt Krantz*

CCFB has completed its review of Scholarship Applications and awarded 3 Canyon County students higher education scholarships totaling \$2,500.

## BE *aware* OF THE UNEXPECTED

Canyon County is known for all that is right with Agriculture. The vast variety of crops grown here is not matched by many other counties in the United States. We as four Canyon County Highway Districts support the needs of producers. We also appreciate the support of our farms. The twelve Canyon County Highway District Commissioners are in one way or another involved in agriculture. Our responsibility is to do our best to provide adequate and safe transportation routes for business and agriculture, and the general motoring public.

The Highway Districts understand at times, unexpected obstacles can occur. We ask that you as drivers be prepared for unexpected events in farming and ranching operations. Most farmers and ranchers are good stewards and diligently strive to keep our road ways safe, but unforeseen circumstances can occur. Water flooding the roadway and sprinklers can be an issue at times. Movement of large farm tractors, equipment, and cattle are also common in our agricultural communities.

The Four Canyon County Highway Districts would also like to remind you as drivers that we constantly have crews working, maintain our roadways and we ask that that you watch for our employees and equipment.

The safety of the motoring public and in Canyon County always remains a priority. We ask that you always drive defensively in our rural areas.

Thank you.

The Association of Canyon County of Highway Districts

*Nampa Highway District #1*

*Notus-Parma Highway District#2*

*Golden Gate Highway District #3*

*Canyon Highway District #4*

# CANYON COUNTY FARM BUREAU SPEECH CONTEST

The Canyon County Farm Bureau hosted a speech contest on Saturday, January 18, 2014. The three participants were: Klancie Seiler, Esther Frederick, and Emily Hicks. The 2014 theme for the speeches is: "Looking Through the Window of Idaho Agriculture", set by the Idaho Farm Bureau. All three participants gave fabulous speeches. Thank you to the speech judges who had the difficult task of judging the competition.

The top two speeches from the Canyon County Farm Bureau speech contest advance to the Idaho Farm Bureau District IV Competition which will be held on Saturday, January 25, in Fruitland, Idaho. Emily Hicks and Esther Frederick will represent the Canyon County Farm Bureau at the District IV Competition. The first place winner in each district will then compete at the final speech contest which will be in Boise on Monday, February 3, at the Idaho State Capital.



PICTURED ABOVE (from left to right)

Sid Freeman (Canyon County Farm Bureau Board President), Klancie Seiler, Emily Hicks, Kristie Dorsey (CCFB Women's Committee Chair). Not pictured: Esther Frederick

## Canyon County **FARM BUREAU** **2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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## **CANYON COUNTY LEGISLATORS HONORED BY IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION**

Canyon County Representatives Gayle Batt, (R-Wilder) District 11, Brandon Hixon, (R-Caldwell) District 10, Brent Crane (R-Nampa), District 13, and Gary Collins (R-Nampa), District 13 have recently received the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation's (IFBF) "Friend of Agriculture" award.

In a former news release, IFBF President Frank Priestly stated, "The Idaho Farm Bureau is pleased to announce the support of these elected officials for their outstanding voting record on selected bills that were important to agriculture and our members over the past few years."

Every two years IFBF reviews the votes Legislators cast on selected bills that are important to its membership. These bills are used to determine which Legislators will receive the prestigious IFBF "Friend of Agriculture" award. This year six Idaho Senators and twenty Idaho Representatives will receive the coveted award.

Legislators such as Representative Batt, Hixon, Crane, and Collins take the time to study these important issues to make informed decisions." Priestly said. "Agriculture is so important to our economy in Idaho. We believe it is important to let the community know who those lawmakers are that support it."

With over 70,000 Idaho families as members, the Farm Bureau is the largest general farm organization in Idaho. It is a voluntary, grassroots, dues-financed organization dedicated to strengthening agriculture and protecting the rights, values and property of our member families and their neighbors.

*(Picture from left to right: Russ Hendricks (IFBF), and Canyon County Legislators: Representative Gary Collins, Representative Brandon Hixon, Representative Brent Crane, and Representative Gayle Batt)*

