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CATTLELOG

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From the Editor

Dear Arizona Cattle Growers' Association Family,

As I reflect on my third-year journey with ACGA, I had envisioned writing this anniversary letter under different circumstances. However, it is with a heavy heart that I share this news with you. After serving as your editor for the past three years, a role I have cherished deeply, I have decided to formally resign as Communication Director of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, effective January 30, 2025.

This decision was not made lightly. My time at ACGA has been both profoundly challenging and immensely rewarding, offering countless opportunities for growth. However, after much reflection, I've come to realize that the board's current priorities do not align with my understanding of the association's mission and vision.

I cannot fully express how grateful I am for the privilege of working for and alongside you. The dedication and accomplishments of our members have consistently inspired me and fueled my passion for serving this incredible community. I am deeply thankful for the trust, guidance, and encouragement I've received during my tenure.

I want to extend special gratitude to President Mike Gannuscio, whose steadfast leadership and unwavering support as a volunteer have been invaluable to me.

When I accepted this position, my goal was to support the cattle industry and serve ranchers through research, education, and legislation. While I remain deeply committed to those values, I believe that me pursuing a new career path, in my new position better aligns with my long-term and personal aspirations.

As you begin 2025, I wish the association and the cattle industry continued success in all its endeavors. I look forward to seeing the positive impact this community will continue to make.

Best Regards,

Ali Schindler
602 267 1129
communications@azcattlegrowers.org



ON THE COVER

This month's cover photo was taken by Steve Carter from Western Lifestyle Photography. This was a heifer from the Commercial Ranch Heifer/ Bull Sale at the 2024 Arizona National Livestock Show.

Arizona Cattle Growers' Association
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Bulls Available At:

Arizona Angus Invitational Bull Sale, Marana Stockyards
March 1, 2025

Willcox Livestock Auction Bull Sale
March 10, 2025

Cattlemen's Weekend Bull Sale - Chino Valley, AZ
March 15, 2025

Private Treaty at the Ranch



PRESIDENT'S *Letter*

By MIKE GANNUSCIO *ACGA President*



“Now is the time for us to stand united.”

Greetings, Friends and Members of ACGA!

As we roll into February 2025, many of us are facing the challenges of a very dry winter. While forecasts hint at potential moisture in the coming months and a more favorable monsoon season than we've seen in years, much of our state remains critically dry. Now is the time for us to stand united. On a positive note, cattle prices are at historic highs—something I've never seen in my time in the industry. I pray for all of you that this dry spell will pass, and that water will soon come to replenish our lands.

Looking ahead, we have several things to be hopeful for with the new administration. There is optimism for lower fuel prices, improved border security, and a potential trickle-down effect that could bring relief by lowering the cost of commodities and goods—something sorely needed after the past four years.

Our legislative efforts remain active, and we are working on several key bills in partnership with our lobbyist and legislators. Among the critical issues on our radar are:

- Water
- Proposition 123
- Elections
- Newly Elected Officials
- Senate Confirmations for the Governor's Agency Leaders

We are also continuing to address long-standing challenges like solar development and off-highway vehicle (OHV) issues. With the guidance of our lobbyist, we hope to find solutions and work toward mutual understanding with other stakeholders. While success has eluded us in past years, we remain steadfast in ensuring our industry has a voice at the table.

A quick reminder about our Annual Winter Legislative Meeting on **February 19, 2025!** This is the premier opportunity to represent not only the association but also

the cattle industry in front of both returning and newly elected legislators. The meeting will once again be held at the Industrial Commission Building, and we'll conclude the day with our Legislative Steak Dinner at Frasher's Tavern, whose hospitality last year was unmatched. A special thanks to our beef donors, **Arizona Grass Raised Beef Co.** and **JBS Processing**, for their generous contributions.

Our 2025 Nomination Committee has been established. While we are still awaiting representation from a few counties, we anticipate filling those spots near the Winter Meeting. The committee meeting will be held following the conclusion of the Winter Meeting day program. If you are interested in joining the Executive Committee, please let me or your county representative know, and we will notify the committee.

We also welcome Ken Ligon as our new interim director, appointed by the board at the January meeting. Ken will help guide the association as we work toward hiring a full-time executive director this July to lead ACGA into the future.

On a bittersweet note, we are saying goodbye to our Communications Director, Ali Schindler, who has tirelessly supported our organization. Ali leaves on the best of terms, and we wish her nothing but success as she pursues her life and career goals. Personally, I will miss her greatly, and I know I speak for many when I say she will always have a home with us at ACGA.

We hope to see you at the Winter Meeting, and until then, stay warm and take care.

Best Regards ,

Mike Gannuscio
928 715 2235
mikeg@azcattlegrowers.org

ACGA Leadership

Executive Committee

Mike Gannuscio - President
Brian deGanahl - 1st Vice President
Bopper Cannon - 2nd Vice President
Jared Lyman - Treasurer
Stephanie Teskey - Secretary
Ben Menges - Member-At-Large
Tim Petersen - Member-At-Large
Andy Groseta - Imm. Past President

Board of Directors

Vacant - Apache
Steve Layton - AZ Strip
Tim Klump - Cochise
Mike Macauley - Coconino
Peter Oddonetto - Gila
Bill Sollers - Graham
Ginger Cheney - Greenlee
Marty Byrne - La Paz

Lisa Khan - Maricopa

John Harris - Mohave

Ron Flake - Navajo

Vacant - SACPA

Scott Pilchard - Business Rep

Trinia Sue Riggs - AZ Cowbells

Trevor Hall - The Foundation

Vacant- Native American

Nate Brawley - Ranchers for Tomorrow

34th Annual Roswell Brangus Bull & Female Sale

Saturday February 22, 2025

Females sell at 11am — Bulls sell at 1pm

Roswell Livestock Auction

900 N. Garden St. Roswell, NM

Online Bidding Now Available!!
www.xitwesternproductions.com



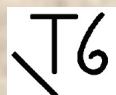
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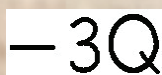
**For a sale catalog or more
information please contact:
Bill Morrison at
575-760-7263**

**Accommodations:
Candlewood Suites
575-623-4300**

**4 Military Heights Drive Roswell, NM 88201
Mention the Roswell Brangus Sale
for special rates!!**



Floyd Brangus



Lack-Morrison Brangus



UBAR Brangus



Townsend Brangus



Brown Brothers Ranch

COLLABORATING FOR WATER: ARIZONA RANCHERS AND THE HPC PROGRAM

Provided by Arizona Game & Fish Department

Arizona's ranchers and the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) face a shared challenge: unprecedented drought conditions. For over 30 years, ranchers have been a key partner with AZGFD to help address this challenge. Through the AZGFD's Habitat Partnership Committee (HPC) Program, ranchers are encouraged to submit habitat enhancement projects that benefit both their livestock operations and Arizona's big game populations.

A recent project example is the "GMU Unit 21 Phase 2 Water Project." As the name suggests, this initiative builds on the first phase of a pipeline project partially funded by the HPC program and completed in 2021. The second phase, funded by HPC and AZGFD's Landowner Relations Program (LRP), received \$71,000 in support, with matching contributions from the cooperator and the U.S. Forest Service totaling over \$115,000.

This project focuses on improving water distribution across the range. Outdated water systems were upgraded with modern infrastructure. The improvements include solar-powered pumps, three miles of new pipeline, strategically placed storage tanks, and four new wildlife-friendly drinkers. These upgrades not only ensure consistent water access for cattle but also provide essential watering points for wildlife across the area.

The Project highlights the importance of collaboration. As drought conditions continue, partnerships like these are becoming more and more necessary. By working together, Arizona's ranching community and the HPC program are helping to sustain our agricultural operations and wildlife resources.

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Arizona Angus Invitational Sale

at Marana Stockyards

Saturday, March 1, 2025, 12 pm

Viewing on Friday 2/28/25 & Saturday 3/1/25 until sale time.

BIDDER APPROVAL DEADLINE NOON, THURSDAY, 2/27/25

Bidders who have not done business with MSY before must contact Clay Parsons no later than Noon, Thursday, February 27, 2025, to make arrangements to bid.

Offering 45 range-ready Angus Bulls

Sire lines represented include the following:



GAR Dual Threat



Connealy National



Tehama Testament



Yon County Road H1389



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Riverbend Promontory



**Heifer Bulls • Growth Bulls • Carcass Merit • Feed Efficiency
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Contacts:

Clay Parsons: 520-444-7650
Eddie McClure 520-306-1574

**Online bidding through
CATTLEUSA.COM**

www.MaranaStockyards.com • office@maranastockyards.com

Office: 520-682-4400

ACGA CALF ROLLOVER AT NOON BEFORE BULL SALE

MONDAY,
MARCH 10TH, 2025
BULL SALE AT NOON

VENDORS AND EVENTS STARTING AT 9AM



Annual All-Breed
48TH
BULL SALE
WILLCOX • LIVESTOCK • AUCTION



Bull Sale Ambassadors
Kayla Wilson & Dean Fish



WILLCOX LIVESTOCK AUCTION IS PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE
48TH ANNUAL ALL-BREED BULL SALE!

"BREAKFAST & BULL TALK"
JOIN US AT 9AM FOR A SPONSORED BREAKFAST TO DISCUSS
"ALL THINGS BULLS"!

WE HAVE A AMAZING THINGS PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE THE
YEARS OF DEDICATION TO OUR RANCHERS, AND LIFESTYLE! WE
WOULD LOVE TO SHARE THAT HISTORY WITH YOU!
JOIN US FOR THIS PUBLIC EVENT!



“

“WILLCOX LIVESTOCK AUCTION IS THE OLDEST RUNNING LIVESTOCK AUCTION IN ARIZONA. WHEN SONNY SHORES SR., MY DAD, TOOK OVER THE WLA BACK IN THE 70'S, HE NOTICED A NEED FOR BETTER GENETICS. RANCHERS AT THAT TIME, WERE STILL TRADING BULL CALVES. HE DECIDED THAT HE WOULD MAKE A WAY TO BRING BETTER BULLS TO THE RANCHERS LOCALLY AND MUCH MORE CONVENIENTLY WHICH IS HOW THE BULL SALE HERE AT WILLCOX LIVESTOCK AUCTION GOT STARTED. SINCE THEN, NOW 48 YEARS LATER, WE HAVE SEEN A HUGE TRANSITION IN THE QUALITY OF CATTLE IN OUR AREA OVERALL BECAUSE OF THE UPGRADE IN GENETICS. WE PLAN TO PURSUE THIS ANNUAL SALE IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THIS TREND OF GREAT CATTLE AS WELL AS SERVING OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS AND LOCAL RANCHING FAMILIES WITH THE CONVENIENCE OF TOP-NOTCH BULLS TO CHOOSE FROM RIGHT HERE AT THEIR LOCAL AUCTION BARN!”

”

-SONNY SHORES JR.

Photos from 47th Annual Bull Sale-2024 Photos by Karyn Carrillo

WWW.WILLCOXLIVESTOCKAUCTION.COM

USDA FINALIZES THIRD NEW REGULATION UNDER THE BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY FOR CONTRACT FARMERS

Immediate Press Release from U.S. Department of Agriculture

Packers & Stockyards rules are part of a suite of new policies to give farmers better insight into key aspects of the agricultural system, from genetic components and pricing of seeds they purchase, to livestock market rates, so they can achieve fairer returns and plan better for their businesses.

(WASHINGTON, January 14, 2025) — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the third installment in a series of regulatory reforms under the Packers and Stockyards Act that, in combination with other updates finalized under the Biden-Harris Administration, is intended to level the playing field for farmers who raise chicken, turkeys, hogs, cattle, and sheep under contract or for sale to meat and poultry processing companies.

Specifically, the rule announced today will give chicken farmers better insight into companies' payment rates for their birds, will institute stability and fairness in what is commonly known as the 'tournament system,' will provide farmers with key information on capital improvements the companies require farmers to make in order to keep or renew contracts, and give farmers stronger leverage when companies do not adhere to the rules.

"During my time as Secretary of Agriculture, time and again USDA has been confronted with the stories of farmers who lost their life's savings or went bankrupt because of an unfair system they entered into when they agreed to raise animals for a major meat conglomerate. It is USDA's job to advocate for farmers, and these regulatory improvements give us the strongest tools we've ever had to meet our obligations under the Packers & Stockyards Act," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "While there is still work to be done, I am immensely proud that the Biden-Harris Administration has taken historic action to level the playing field for farmers. This complements other ways we've worked to enhance competition across the agriculture sector, from investing in independent processing capacity, to shoring up domestic fertilizer production, to promoting transparency around seed technology and markets. As the bedrock of so much that our society depends on, and the pillar of rural economies, farmers deserve honesty, certainty and options when it comes to their hard work."

Over the course of the Biden-Harris Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has finalized two other rules that strengthen enforcement of the Packers & Stockyards Act and seek to create a fairer dynamic between integrated processing companies and the farmers who raise animals for them. These include:

- ***Inclusive Competition and Market Integrity*** under the Packers and Stockyards Act, finalized March 2024, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of certain other basic characteristics and bans companies from retaliating against farmers over basic activities like communicating with government agencies, joining producer or grower associations, and asserting legal and contractual rights;

it also offers protection against deceptive contracting that are false, misleading, and result in harm to producers.

In June 2024, USDA proposed *Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets*, which sought to define unfair practices under the Packers & Stockyards Act. USDA received more than 13,000 public comments on the proposal. Due to the complexity and length of time needed to finalize that regulation, USDA is withdrawing the proposal to preserve its ability to re-examine these important issues in the future and enable the Agency to explore with stakeholders regarding how best to implement the requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

"This Administration's landmark competition efforts show it's possible to ensure that a little bit more of the food dollar stays with the farmers and ranchers who make America's agricultural trading markets the envy of the world," said Senior Advisor for Fair and Competitive Markets Andy Green. "This final Packers & Stockyards rule builds on a historic record of partnership between USDA and the Department of Justice, including landmark cases to reform the tournament system and to put a stop to unfair and anticompetitive practices in the poultry industry, as well as the extraordinary whole-of-government achievements of the White House Competition Council."

Enhanced Enforcement of the Packers & Stockyards Act

USDA has worked closely with DOJ to enforce the Packers & Stockyards Act in the poultry sector. As a result of this close partnership, DOJ has obtained two consent decrees with large poultry integrators that increase protections for growers and decrease unfair, deceptive, and anticompetitive conduct in poultry markets.

In November of 2023 DOJ reached a *consent decree* with Koch foods holding the firm responsible for violating the Packers & Stockyards Act for imposing excessive termination fees on growers who attempted to contract with other integrators. These fees effectively served as unlawful non-compete clauses. As a result of this consent decree, growers were reimbursed for all termination penalties and out-of-pocket expenses incurred, and Koch foods agreed to refrain for such conduct moving forward. and Poultry Markets

Additionally, with the assistance of USDA, in July of 2022 DOJ obtained a *consent decree* with Cargill, Sanderson, and Wayne Farms around antitrust wage-fixing and violations of the Packers & Stockyard Act. In addition to the \$85 million to poultry workers to make up for suppressed wages and a court-imposed antitrust monitor, the consent decree barred Sanderson and Wayne Farms from deducting farmers' base pay based on performance, imposed a 25% cap on tournament performance relative to total grower pay, and required certain additional disclosures to growers consistent with USDA rules.

Continue on page 15...

NATIONAL OLD-GROWTH AMENDMENT

Immediate Press Release from Chief Randy Moore, of the U.S. Forest Service

(January 7, 2025) Over the past two and a half years, we have worked to better understand mature and old-growth forests, where they are located across the National Forest System, assess the threats they face, and learn more about how we can better steward these forests and the values they represent for current and future generations. Our goal has been to improve our ability to consistently steward old growth forests so that they are present, high-functioning and resilient into the future and can contribute to ecological integrity, alongside other key elements of ecological integrity.

Since this work started, we have learned much through this process. We have gained a wealth of information and perspectives, and we deeply appreciate the input we received from so many. This process has helped us to identify the best available scientific information and given us the opportunity to engage with various individuals and groups to gain important insights that can help to guide our future stewardship of these special forests.

I have decided to withdraw the notice of intent to prepare a National Old Growth Amendment environmental impact statement. A notice will be published in the Federal Register on Friday, Jan. 10, 2025. However, the learning and insights we have gained will help us to better steward old growth forests into the future.

Moving forward, we have the opportunity to identify where old growth conditions may be departed from desired conditions or vulnerable to reasonably foreseeable threats, versus where

conditions are high-functioning and less vulnerable to threats. Understanding these differences will enable us to make intentional management decisions so that we can provide for ecological integrity and maintain, conserve, recruit and steward old growth forest conditions with ecologically appropriate representation, distribution and abundance, based on place-based assessments of what is most needed.

I am sharing some of the learning and feedback we gained, with the intent that we can make use of this learning to inform place-based conversations for planning and project management to successfully steward old growth forests into the future.

I would be remiss in failing to recognize the dedicated team of leaders from across the Forest Service who have contributed their time, energy and expertise over the past two and half years as we embarked on this work. Your dedication and professionalism have been invaluable. The information gleaned and the lessons learned will continue to benefit our agency long into the future.

I continue to appreciate the conservation values at the heart of our stewardship of our nation's forests and grasslands. Thank you for your continued commitment to protecting these vital forest resources for future generations.

An official notice to withdraw the agency's plans was published in the Federal Register on Friday, January 10, 2025.



Arizona Cattle Growers' Association Ranchers for Tomorrow, along with Arizona Cooperative Extension would like to invite you out for lunch at Salinas's Smoke Street BBQ. Come discuss the challenges for young ranchers in the Arizona beef industry!

Wednesday February 12th 2025

Smoke Street BBQ

999 N. Broad St
Globe, AZ 85501

12-1:30PM

Door Prizes to include ACGA merchandise and additional others



Lunch provided by the Arizona Cattle Industry Foundation
For questions and to RSVP please reach out to Nate Brawley @ 928-965-3188
Or to Juan Arias @ 928-961-2441



Cooperative Extension

2025 ACGA Annual Calf Rollover Auctions

March 10, 2025

WILLCOX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

1020 N Haskell Ave, Willcox, AZ 85643

May 20, 2025

PRESCOTT LIVESTOCK AUCTION

855 Auction Dr, Chino Valley, AZ 86323

If you are interested in donating a calf or making a pledge on the day of the sale, please contact the ACGA office at 602-267-1129.



Photo By
Stene Carter

White Mountain Herefords

Bulls for Sale: Horned & Polled

Not pampered, range-raised

Developed on dry-range grass and lick tubs

Good selection of yearling bull calves available at the ranch

Semen and Trich Tested, BVD-PI Negative

Free Delivery

These bulls won't fall apart!

**10 Horned 2-year-old
bulls and 9 yearlings
currently available**



Daric & Patty Knight
Springerville, Arizona

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ACGA 2025 WINTER MEETING

Ranching Resilience: Advocating for Tomorrow

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

AGENDA

Arizona Industrial Commissions Building | 800 W Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85007

8:30 a.m. Registration
9:15 a.m. Welcome Mike Gannuscio, President
9:20 a.m. AZ Department of Agriculture, Paul Brierley
9:50 a.m. Arizona Game and Fish Department, Dan Sturla
10:20 a.m. 15 - Minute Break
10:35 a.m. NRCS Conservation Easements

6:00 p.m. Reception at Frasher's Tavern
4180 N Drinkwater Blvd,
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Legislative Steak Dinner
7:00 p.m. **Steaks Donated by JBS Processing**

11:05 a.m. Lunch and Bills Currently Affecting Ranchers
Beef donated by AZ Grass Raised Beef

12:05 p.m. **"Post Election Tax and Financial Outlook"** Jason
Thomas, Frost PLLC.

12:35 p.m. General Membership Meeting and Policy
Discussion

*Agenda is subject to change

Thursday, February 20th

9 a.m. ACGA Board of Directors Meeting
U OF A Scottsdale Center
7135 E Camelback Rd Ste, 2d
floor, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Additional Names: _____

Please register by 2/14/2025. Prices increase on day of the event!

Lodging: The Monarch 4000 N Drinkwater Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (623) 352-7272

Winter Meeting- February 19th
Includes Lunch & Legislative Steak
Dinner at Frasher's Tavern

	# of people	Total
Winter Meeting- February 19th Includes Lunch & Legislative Steak Dinner at Frasher's Tavern	\$175 x _____	= _____
	Grand Total =	_____

Registrations can be made online or mail this form to the office with a check.

Please make checks payable to ACGA; Memo: Winter Meeting

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office: 602 267 1129

Mailing Address - PO BOX 1267 Buckeye, AZ 85326 | www.azcattlegrowers.org

PLC POLICY UPDATE: HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING IN 2025

Provided by STEVE JOHNSON, Associate Director, Policy Communications, Center for Public Policy at NCBA

The 118th Congress was one of the least productive legislative sessions in modern history and 2024 will be known as a year of extreme partisan gridlock in Washington. Yet, at the end of 2024 and the start of 2025 we saw major policy movements both good and bad, showing that the tide is turning, and this year is already shaping up to be one of the busiest years for substantial policy advancement in recent memory. PLC is working proactively with the new Congress and Administration to secure regulatory relief, increase grazing flexibility, and safeguard grazing rights for generations to come. PLC is working diligently to make 2025 a big year for federal lands ranchers.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be accepting public comments on their Monarch Butterfly listing under the Endangered Species Act, until March 12, 2025. PLC will be filing comments to ensure the agency recognizes the voluntary conservation work that ranchers do every day to care for America's vast natural resources providing the regulatory certainty necessary for ranchers to manage their operations. While USFWS' plan includes section 4(d) flexibilities this proposed listing is concerning due to the amount of land across the country, not just in the West that monarchs occupy. PLC is urging USFWS to increase partnerships with livestock producers throughout this process recognizing their work managing the landscape because recent studies have shown that grazing and animal agriculture in general, builds robust habitat, increases insect populations, and manages invasive species on America's rangeland.

PLC fought hard against another USFWS rulemaking that would have expanded the ability to push grazing and other agricultural uses off National Wildlife Refuge land. PLC submitted formal comments and helped to organize ranchers to submit their input. Thanks to these grassroots efforts, USFWS withdrew this misguided rule that if it had been finalized it would have changed portions of the Biological Integrity, Diversity & Environmental Health policy (BIDEH). This could have had the unintended consequences of degrading rangeland, increasing the risk of catastrophic wildfires, and hurting animal agriculture, which is a key economic driver for rural communities in the West. While the amount of grazing on National Refuge land is relatively small, this rule could have been abused by future administrations to reduce grazing access and violate the multiple use mandate with near absolute impunity. Due to PLC's work, USFWS listened to public input from federal lands ranchers and industry stakeholders and not the environmental groups whose main goal with this rule was to target producers and force cattle off the landscape.

It is no secret that federal lands ranching has been targeted over the last four years. From weaponized Endangered Species Act listings and critical habitat designations to rulemakings that upend the multiple use mandate and threaten to push livestock off the landscape. PLC has utilized every legislative and legal tool in the toolbox to defend federal lands ranchers but now it is the time to go on the offensive. This means enacting pro-rancher legislation and rulemakings as well as rolling back bad policies that we have seen from the past administration to ensure working lands stay in working hands.

PLC is excited to work with all the new and returning members of Congress. The 119th Congress well underway, and PLC is focused on working with the Trump Administration, House, and Senate to restore transparency to the federal rulemaking process and promote grazing flexibility as the best tool in the toolbox for land and wildlife conservation. Ranchers are in dire need of regulatory relief and PLC is excited to make meaningful progress in streamlining the federal permitting process to improve the health of America's vast rangeland in the 119th Congress.

SC

ARIZONA CATTLE INDUSTRY
RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIP DUE

MARCH 15, 2025



Find the fillable application on
www.azcattlegrowers.org/aciref

Call the ACGA office at 602-267-1129
if you have any questions.

THANK YOU SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE!



the
MANZANO
difference

Manzano Monsoon 6787
8 years old



Manzano Well Planned 9103 Son



Manzano Tycoon 0120 Son



McCumber La Joya 098 Son

2024 DATA

9-13 yr old cows 102 of 104 bred
2 yr olds 72 of 75 bred

Average Cow Wt	Average Wean Wt	Percent Weaned
1260	650	52%
1080	580	54%

29th Annual

ANGUS BULL SALE
MARCH 4, 2025

ESTANCIA, NM @ 1:00 PM

Longevity / Fertility / Efficient Performance

125+ ANGUS BULLS
20 PAP TESTED 2YR OLDS



GARDNER FAMILY - ESTANCIA, NM

Bill (505) 705-2856 // Cole (575) 910-5952



Clayton (505) 934-8742
manzanoangus@gmail.com



ALL NEW PUREBRED PLATFORM
Bid.SuperiorLivestock.com

RED ANGUS &
BALDY
COMPOSITE
BULLS ALSO
AVAILABLE
THIS SPRING.

Continue from page 9...

Other Initiatives to Spur Competition and Fairness for Farmers

These actions under the Packers & Stockyards Act complement a range of other steps USDA has taken over the last four years to enhance competition. USDA has made landmark *investments* in *meat and poultry processing* capacity and *domestic, sustainable fertilizer capacity*, revised the “*Product of USA*” label and updated its *animal-raising claims* guidance, and established a *Cattle Contract Library*. USDA has taken multiple steps to enhance competition and transparency in the seeds and other *inputs* sectors, established a first-ever partnership with more than 30 bipartisan state *attorney generals* focused on fairness and competition enforcement, and enhanced its enforcement relationship with the Department of Justice through several high-impact cases and *collaborations*. And, USDA put forward *possible strategies* to enhance price discovery and fairness in the cattle industry and released an *interim report* that assesses competitive conditions in the meat retail industry, identifying hidden fees and unjust or anticompetitive pricing strategies present in the beef market, among other steps.

This rule takes effect on July 1, 2026, following publication in the Federal Register. A preview of the final rule, and a summary and FAQ are available on the Poultry Grower Payment Systems and Capital Improvement Systems webpage.

More about the proposed rule Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets

On June 28, 2024, AMS issued the proposed rule Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets, which

sought to specify general practices that are unfair and in violation of section 202(a) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (“P&S Act”). The proposed rule defined unfair conduct to encompass the spectrum of conduct that harms market participants and harms the market.

Although this proposal is being withdrawn, AMS continues to support the intent and purpose of the proposed rule, and the Department is not withdrawing this proposed rule based upon a change in agency interpretation of its authority of the P&S Act. This withdrawal action does not affect AMS’ ongoing application of existing statutory and regulatory requirements or its responsibility to faithfully administer the P&S Act.

A preview of the withdrawal notice is available on the *Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets* webpage. The official withdrawal notice will be published in the Federal Register.

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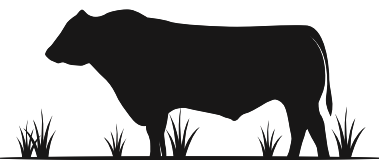
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ANDY AND MARY BETH GROSETA 2024 PIONEER STOCKMAN OF THE YEAR

From the Yavapai Cattle Growers' Association Press Release & Janice Bryson



Above L to R: Tiffany Selchow, President of ANLS recognizing Andy & Mary Beth Groseta

Andy and Mary Beth Groseta were recognized as the 2024 Arizona Pioneer Stockman of the Year at the 48th Annual Pioneer Stockman's Luncheon held on December 30, 2024. The Pioneer Luncheon was hosted by the 77th Annual Arizona National Livestock Show (ANLS) in Phoenix. December 30, 2024. The ANLS had 6,815 Junior (4-H, FFA, youth) senior and open livestock entries from 35 states.

The Pioneer Stockman Association has recognized families who have been in the cattle ranching business for decades from throughout Arizona. Andy and Mary Beth said "we are privileged, humbled, and honored to be a part of this prestigious group."

Peter Andrew "Andy" Groseta, a third-generation rancher from the Verde Valley, has a legacy deeply rooted in Arizona's history. His family immigrated from Austria-Hungary in 1898, eventually settling in Middle Verde, where his grandfather, Peter Groseta Sr., established Groseta Ranch in 1922. The ranch supplied beef, lamb, poultry, and produce to Jerome's miners during its copper boom. Over the years, the family expanded their operations, grazing cattle along the Verde River and acquiring additional properties, including the W Dart Cow Outfit and Pine Creek Ranch. Despite challenges like elk overpopulation, the Grosetas maintained a resilient commitment to ranching, marking over a century in the industry.

Andy's career is marked by a passion for education and agriculture. After earning degrees in Agricultural Education and Animal Science from the University of Arizona, he taught high school agriculture and became involved in real estate specializing in agribusiness. Alongside his wife, Mary Beth, who has been equally active in agricultural and community organizations, Andy continues to manage the W Dart Ranch with their son, Paul, and their extended family. The ranch has earned numerous accolades, including recognition as an Arizona Farm Bureau Centennial Ranch and receiving honors for its contributions to agriculture.

Throughout his career, Andy has held leadership roles in state and national organizations, including the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). His advocacy efforts have extended to

international affairs, such as his involvement in reopening South Korea to U.S. beef imports in 2008. Dedicated to community and industry service, Andy has been honored with awards like the Arizona Agriculturist of the Year, Lifetime Achievement Award, and induction into the Arizona Farming and Ranching Hall of Fame. As a tireless advocate for ranching and agriculture, Andy continues to shape the industry while embracing the hard work he loves.

Andy says "The word 'retire' is not in my vocabulary. I love to work. I'm a workaholic. I enjoy hard work. It doesn't feel like work to me – It's fun."

AC



Above: Groseta Family: L to R Front Row – Richard Wright, Perry Aja, Mary Beth and Andy Groseta, Andy Aja, Katherine Wright L to R Second Row – Kelly and Katy Wright, Basilio Aja, Anna Aja, Bass Aja, Paul Groseta



Above L to R: Karen Lowe, Shane Burgess, Andy Groseta, Jenny Burgess, Tim Lowe



Above: Arizona Pioneer Stockman – December 30, 2024

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Mary Kathy Ruskin **1953-2025**

Source: www.azcentral.com/obituaries



Mary Kathy Ruskin, a pioneering cable television executive and a beloved wife and mother, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, January 4, 2025. She was 71. Diagnosed with cancer six months ago, Mary opted against treatment, and bravely faced her illness with strength and grace.

Born in Chicago in 1953, Mary attended a Catholic convent school for the first 12 years of her education. While many of her classmates did not pursue higher education, Mary worked her way through Southern Illinois University as a communications major, and then earned an MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business.

After completing her studies, Mary began her career with Capital Cities in cable television. When Capital Cities acquired ABC in 1986, the company had to divest several properties, and its cable division was transferred to The Washington Post, which renamed it Post-Newsweek Cable. In 1986, the company relocated its cable headquarters to Phoenix, which is where Mary's journey in Arizona began.

As Vice President for Regulatory and Compliance Affairs at Post-Newsweek Cable, Mary oversaw the company's nationwide regulatory requirements, ensuring that each system adhered to overnment guidelines., Mary excelled in this high-pressure role. She was the highest-ranking woman in the cable division, and earned the respect of her colleagues. She worked abroad extensively for the company to secure additional cable franchises.

Although Post-Newsweek Cable never had a franchise in Phoenix, the company managed cable systems in many rural parts of Arizona, and eventually as CableOne and later Sparklight. Mary was instrumental in helping the company navigate the regulatory landscape and grow within the industry.

Mary was also deeply involved in the local cable industry. She was a founding member of the Valley of the Sun Cable Club and the Arizona Women in Cable Chapter, and she served as President of the Arizona Cable TV Association. Her advocacy for smaller, rural cable systems across the U.S. helped shape the development of the cable industry in Arizona and beyond. In Phoenix, Mary met Fred Ruskin, and they married in 1991. Mary enjoyed Fred's family's cattle ranch in Northern Arizona. Together, they shared a love of travel and adventure. They visited

many parts of the world, including Scandinavia when Mary was six months pregnant with Lewis, their first child. Within two years, two more children, James and Suzie, joined the family. Over the years, the family traveled widely to destinations in Asia, South America, and ski resorts. Mary especially cherished winter trips to the slopes.

Fred and Mary were members of Christ Church of the Ascension, and later became founding members of Christ Church Anglican. Mary served in many roles for the church, including on the vestry, and made lasting friendships throughout the years.

In recent years Mary enjoyed her book club, bible study, and tennis and Mah Jong games with her friends.

Mary is survived by her brother, Alfred, of Chicago; her devoted husband, Fred; and their three children, Lewis, James, and Suzie. The family is deeply grateful for the compassionate care she received from Hospice of the Valley, as well as the many visits from her friends during her final months.

A memorial service will be held on February 8, 2025, at 10 a.m. at Christ Church Anglican, 5811 N. 20th St., Phoenix, AZ 85016.
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CATTLE GROWERS' APPROVED *Recipe*

YAKI SOBA NOODLES WITH BEEF

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds beef Top Round Steak, cut into 1/8-inch thick strips
- 3 packages beef-flavored instant ramen noodles, divided
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/4 cup sesame oil
- 1 Spanish onion, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons fresh minced ginger
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 package (16 ounce) coleslaw
- 3 bell peppers, thinly sliced
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
- 1/2 cup stir-fry sauce
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions

COOKING

1. Cook noodles in boiling water according to package directions; drain and rinse. Combine beef with canola oil and

one seasoning packet.

2. In a large nonstick skillet or wok, heat sesame oil over medium-high heat until hot. Add beef (1/2 at a time) and stir-fry 1 to 2 minutes or until outside surface is no longer pink. (Do not overcook). Add onion, ginger and garlic; cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes or until onion is tender and mixture is fragrant.
3. Add coleslaw, bell peppers and shredded carrots. Cook and stir another 2 to 3 minutes. Add cooked noodles, corn, stir-fry sauce and remaining two seasoning packets. Cook, stirring occasionally until internal temperature reaches 165°F as measured by a thermometer.
4. Sprinkle with green onions. Serve.



Recipe courtesy of the Beef Checkoff www.beefitswhatsfordinner.com

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RANGER GAL

By BRYCE ANGELL, email: angellranch62@gmail.com

I rolled out of my sleeping bag. 'Twas almost six o'clock. My tent was by the campfire, and I'd slept hard, like a rock.

I threw the horses hay, and then I headed for the john, a rickety old outhouse. One worn hole to sit upon.

Right then I started thinking, there's a restroom down the road! So, I grabbed two other cowboys. Next stop, a warm commode.

But then a dang old ranger dude came walking out the door. He said, "The restrooms aren't for free. Don't use them anymore."

I didn't want to make a scene. He had authority. But the parking lot was empty just as far as one could see.

We didn't have a pass to get into the park that day. Just wanted nice warm bathrooms, but we didn't want to pay.

So, we left there griping, made a solemn vow to come back soon. The ranger was a marshmallow. We'd show the big buffoon.

That afternoon at four o'clock we climbed into the truck and drove down to the restrooms. This time we'd have some luck.

We pulled up to the gate. Now there were six of us in all. We were mighty fearsome cowboys, prob'ly felt like ten feet tall.

But then the cutest ranger gal walked up to our truck door. She winked at me and then she smiled. My jaw 'bout hit the floor.

She said, "We'd like it if you'd pay. We hope you weren't misled." I didn't have a word to say. My brain had left my head.

She said, "It cost five dollars for the park facility." You should have seen the wallets flying out to pay the fee.

We paid our fee and said, "We sure would like to keep the rules." She could have asked five hundred. We were dumbstruck cowboy fools.

We tipped our hats and drove away with egg on every face. The little ranger gal had put us smack, right in our place.

That night we sat around the fire. By then no one was mute. We slapped each other on the back and said, "She sure was cute!"

And then the men reflected how she'd played 'em all like toys. 'Cuz on that day one ranger gal made mush of six cowboys.

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Proposed BRANDS

The official location for notice of proposed brands is the Arizona Department of Agriculture's website at <http://searchagriculture.az.gov/mastercontent/brandsnotice.aspx>. To view the complete list of proposed brands, be sure to check the AZDA website. Below are a few of the brands submitted in accordance with A.R.S § 3-1261(C).

These brands are not available for sale by the Arizona Department of Agriculture. The "End Date" shown is the deadline for receiving protests for the proposed brand. All protests or objections must be submitted in writing and postmarked before the "End Date" in the chart below. Protests that are postmarked after the End Date will not be considered.

Brand	Brand No. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20032 End Date: 2/28/2025	Cattle: LT Horse: LT Sheep: LR Goat: LR
	Brand No.: 20029 End Date: 2/21/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: RH Goat: RH
	Brand No.: 20026 End Date: 2/12/2025	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: LS Goat: LS

Brand	Brand No. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20031 End Date: 2/28/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20028 End Date: 2/15/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO

Brand	Brand No. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20030 End Date: 2/28/2025	Cattle: NO Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20027 End Date: 2/12/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO

CHECKING IN ON YOUR CHECKOFF:

BEEFING UP HOPE: ARIZONA BEEF COUNCIL JOINS ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK FOR THANKSGIVING GIVING



On November 25th, the Arizona Beef Council (ABC) staff and a team of volunteers from across the Arizona agriculture community joined forces at St. Mary's Food Bank to spread hope and kindness ahead of Thanksgiving. This annual initiative is part of the food bank's mission to ensure that families across Arizona have food on their tables during the holiday season.

The ABC team and volunteers spent the day assisting in packing food boxes that would be distributed to families in need across the state. Together, this hardworking group packed 1,350 food boxes making a significant impact by contributing to the food bank's goal of reaching as many individuals as possible during this critical time of year.

A group of 13 volunteers joined the effort, and their contributions were invaluable. We would like to recognize the following individuals for their generosity and hard work: Ashley Chambers, Arizona Families for Vaccines; Clint Gladden, dairy farmer, Beef Council board member; Hannah Varnell, Heritage Vet Partners; Ann Henderson, Arizona State Cowbelles; Arizona Farm Bureau staff Licia Allen, Brittney Morse, Katie Aikins, Alicia Guterrez, Sandy McNutt, and Chad Smith; Lauren Maehling and Tiffany Selchow, Arizona Beef Council.

In addition to volunteer efforts, the Arizona Beef Council has supported St. Mary's Food Bank in past campaigns through the creation and sale of custom t-shirts in partnership with State Forty Eight. Proceeds from these sales were donated directly to

the food bank, specifically earmarked for the purchase of beef to help provide high-quality protein to those in need. These campaigns have been another way for ABC to extend its mission of promoting beef while giving back to the community.

St. Mary's Food Bank, established in 1967, is not only one of the nation's largest food banks but also a pioneer in the fight against hunger. Their programs reach thousands of families each year, providing much-needed assistance through food distributions, school meal programs, and partnerships with local organizations. This Thanksgiving season alone, they aimed to distribute millions of meals, a feat made possible through the help of dedicated volunteers and supporters.

As the day came to a close, the group reflected on the impact of their work. The volunteers left with a sense of fulfillment, knowing they had contributed to a cause larger than themselves. One participant summed it up perfectly: "This experience reminds us of how much good can be accomplished when we come together. It's not just about the food we're distributing; it's about the hope and care we're sharing with our neighbors."

The Arizona Beef Council extends its heartfelt gratitude to St. Mary's Food Bank for their ongoing work to fight hunger and to the volunteers who gave their time to support this important cause. Together, we can build stronger communities, one meal at a time.



To read more about these programs and others, visit bit.ly/azbeefnews



RESPECT

By GINGER CHENEY *Greenlee County Cattle Growers President*

I was having a conversation with my dad a few weeks ago about respect or the lack thereof in today's society. We talked about coming into a house and leaving a hat on, holding doors, and even dancing with a woman with a hat on. Back in the day, a man dang sure didn't dance with a woman with a hat on. Times change, along with what is deemed as "acceptable."

What worries me is that the core value of respect is slipping away. So many people don't think twice about dropping the f-bomb around women and children or on TV. In fact, it seems to be a part of many people's regular vocabulary. It's used in everyday conversation and I don't like that it is considered acceptable. The way that people talk to and around others astounds me at times. Out of respect, I can't imagine talking like that around certain people, but to many it isn't a big deal. Trust me, I'm not sitting here holier than thou saying I never cuss, however it is not "acceptable" to me in many situations.

How people talk to others really does bother me at times. I guess I miss the Golden Rule of treating others the way you want to be treated. I feel our society is really missing out on something very important with this loss of respect. I can't blame young people for all of this, because it is prevalent in my generation and it's sad. People compliment my boys because they take their hat off when they meet a woman or hug her. I appreciate the compliments, but it saddens me that isn't the norm.

I'm hoping as we go into 2025 that some common sense begins to prevail again. I hope that with that common sense that respect will once again become important. We can disagree with someone, but we don't have to disrespect them. The Golden Rule needs to be reinstated. Every year I'm always busy taking photos during shipping. My dad always tips his hat to me. It always makes me smile and I'm afraid that it is something we won't see in another generation.

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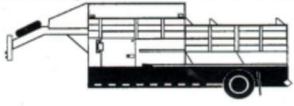
Current Market Report: January 23, 2025

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 12, 2025 - R4T Lunch and Learn Series *Globe*

February 19, 2025 - ACGA Winter Meeting *Phoenix*

February 20, 2025 - ACGA Monthly Board Meeting
Scottsdale & Zoom

March 1, 2025 - Greenlee County Cattle Growers' Winter Meeting

March 10, 2025 - WLA Annual Bull Sale & ACGA Rollover Auction *Willcox*

March 22, 2025 - Arizona Farm & Ranch Group Hall of Fame Dinner *Chandler*

March 29, 2025 - YCGA Benefit Team Roping *Camp Verde*

April 4, 2025 - ACGA Monthly Board Meeting *Zoom*

May 20, 2025 - ACGA Rollover Auction *Chino Valley*

July 24-25, 2025 - ACGA Summer Convention

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DROUGHT= **Extra Expense and** **Loss of Income**



Contact
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120 Balancer x Stabilizer

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