The president of Farm Credit Services of America and the owner of a forest products company in Wyoming are this year’s outstanding alumni award recipients from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Doug Stark of Riverton and Jim Neiman of Hulett will receive the alumni awards during Ag Appreciation Weekend September 13-14. Victor McMurry will receive the Legacy Award, the Wyoming Mining Association (WMA) the Outstanding Research Partner Award, and long-time professor of agricultural economics Dale Menkhaus the Andrew Vanvig Lifetime Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award.

The recipients will be honored during Ag Appreciation Weekend events on campus. Full stories are at http://bit.ly/2013agawards.

Outstanding Alumni

Stark, whose family has a dairy farm near Riverton, received his bachelor’s degree in agricultural business in 1980 and joined FCSAmerica. He became president and CEO in 2005. He oversees a loan portfolio of more than $18.5 billion with 60,000 producers. FCSAmerica serves Wyoming, Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

A particular passion is leadership, and he collaborates with Dean Frank Galey in a leadership class each fall at UW.

“It’s a passion I have,” he says. “One of the essences of being an effective leader is inspiring a shared vision. It’s really about getting people to care. Leading is not about a title or position – it’s about action and purpose that really can apply anywhere in any business and in any line or career line of business.”

Leadership is about helping people and the organization maximize their potentials, he says. “Imagine what the world would be like if everybody performed at their maximum capability. I think that is exciting and intriguing.”

Neiman received his range management degree in 1974 and heads Neiman Enterprises Inc., which is a wood products businesses headquartered in Hulett with facilities in Hill City and Spearfish, South Dakota, and Montrose, Colorado.

The company’s sustainability practices, promoted by Neiman, draws praise from the forestry arena.

“Neiman Enterprises has been a regional and national leader in the forest products industry even during the economic downturn of 2008,” says Robert Means, Wyoming Bureau of Land Management state forester and climate change coordinator.

Neiman has a long list of service to the state – including the university. He served on the UW Board of Trustees for 12 years and two years as president.

Neiman reflected upon his volunteering for numerous boards in the state and the university.

“There is something about your alma mater,” he says. “You have to lead by example. How do you go from success to significance? How do you help others? That’s an important part of it.”

Research Partner

The WMA has worked directly with the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and others for many years on annual publications, major projects, and reclamation technology.

(continued on page 2)
“Consistent goals have created long-lasting partnerships between the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the WMA membership,” noted Roger Coupal, department head of agricultural and applied economics.

Legacy Award

Although his father was in the construction business, McMurry chose to attend the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He transferred to UW from Casper College in fall 1967, and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in farm and ranch management in 1970.

“It was a wonderful place. I was entirely comfortable,” says McMurry. “And it’s now even more focused on trying to provide what people across the state need. The UW college of ag is the top in the country as far as I’m concerned.”

His is the lead gift for the Dean’s Excellence Fund in the college of Agriculture and Natural Resources, notes Galey. “Thanks to Vic, the college will be able to pursue new initiatives to address important issues facing Wyoming’s agriculture, renewable resource base, and rural communities,” says Galey.

The fund supports speaker presentations, panel discussions, guest lectures, short courses, and public forums that make science-based information available to the public.

Vanvig Award

This year’s Vanvig award recipient was hired by the award’s namesake – Andrew Vanvig. Professor Dale Menkhaus in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics came to the college in 1973. Since then he’s:

- Published 80 refereed journal articles
- Been cited 847 times in literature
- Received nearly $1.5 million in extramural funding as principal investigator or co-PI
- Mentored 27 graduate students as committee chair
- Served on an additional 61 Ph.D. and master’s student committees
- Received numerous teaching awards
- Was selected as Fulbright Scholar
- Received national and regional awards for outreach and scholarship and has been recognized for his contributions to the Wyoming economy.

“His unassuming nature and quiet leadership have garnered him the lasting respect of countless students, administrators, and colleagues within the university and the agricultural economics discipline,” says colleague, department head, and Associate Professor Roger Coupal in nominating Menkhaus.

The University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ outstanding alumni, research/outreach partner, legacy award, and Vanvig distinguished faculty recipients for 2013 will be honored September 13-14 as part of Ag Appreciation Weekend – a celebration of the importance of agriculture to Wyoming’s history, culture, and economy.

Ag Appreciation Weekend events include:

**Friday, September 13**

Dean’s Ag Appreciation Dinner. Attendance by invitation only.

**Saturday, September 14**

31st annual Ag Appreciation Day Barbecue – Noon-1:30 p.m. at Tailgate Park. Tickets can be purchased at the event or prior by contacting Kelly Wiseman in the Office of Academic and Student Programs at (307) 766-4135.

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources student organizations prepare and serve the meal. Proceeds provide scholarships for College of Agriculture and Natural Resources students and help fund various agricultural college student organizations. Sponsors include the college, local businesses, agricultural groups, and individual donors.

**Football Tickets**

The UW vs. University of Northern Colorado football game begins at 2 p.m. The college has reserved Ag Appreciation Weekend group football tickets. Go to http://bit.ly/foruwtickets and enter the promotional code AGDAY and follow the prompts. Tickets are $28 for adults and $13 for youth.
Organizers hope e-Volution conference inspires innovative technology, distance-education uses

There is no Wizard of Oz offering solutions but weaving technology and teaching along the yellow brick road could enhance learning for students.

e-Volution: Innovations in learning environments and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Western Region Teaching Symposium seeks to help teachers and trainers discover and share innovative ways to use technology to enhance teaching and learning.

The conference is Friday and Saturday, September 13-14, in the Wyoming Union. Its keynote speaker says we’re not in Kansas anymore.

“We need to make sure what we teach and how we teach is reflective of the present, not the past,” notes Gary Moore, professor of agriculture and extension education at North Carolina State University.

His presentation contains images, sound, and video from the “Wizard of Oz.”

Conference partners include the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UW Outreach School, Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning, and UW Libraries. Its theme is Finding the Balance: Technology and the Future of Education.

“Gary Moore is fun, inspiring, and very energetic,” says Professor Karen Williams in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and member of the Western Region Teaching Symposium (WRTS). She is a member of the joint conference committee organizing the conference.

The event includes best practices for integrating social media into the classroom, virtual laboratories, pedagogical innovation with technology, video-conferencing, blogging in the classroom, assistive technology, UW’s new learning management system, and online group projects.

The conference will stream online on its website at www.wyoforum.org.

Williams reflects two firsts for the annual e-Volution conference: the first time e-Volution has partnered with a college on the UW campus, and the first time WRTS has decided to partner.

The financial partnership of WRTS with e-Volution results in no registration fees for WRTS, and e-Volution wants its partnership with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to be a model to partner with a different UW college each year.

The partnership has added different technology and pedagogy to WRTS, says Professor Donna Brown, associate dean and director of the Office of Academic and Student Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. She is also chair of WRTS.

“Such as virtual attendance at many of the sessions,” she says. Her goal is to help faculty members in some of the agriculturally related disciplines see how they can incorporate technology and distance education techniques into their teaching.

The conference isn’t agricultural related.

“For each concurrent session, there will be two options,” says Williams, who also directs the Bachelor of Applied Science Program at UW. “One is by a faculty member in a college of agriculture and one is by a presenter in a different area. However, all the presentations are great for anyone to attend. The content highlights interdisciplinary application for strategies.”

Each presenter from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has been honored repeatedly for excellence in teaching and use of technology in teaching: Williams; Rachel Watson, associate academic professional in molecular biology; Associate Professor Kari Morgan and Professor Randy Weigel in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; and Professor Emeritus Steve Williams in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management.

Other presenters are:
• Athena Kennedy, student engagement coordinator at Colorado State University onlinePlus.
• Debra Beck, longtime teacher for the Outreach Credit Program at UW and a member of the UW College of Education. She incorporates audio, social bookmarking, wikis, and YouTube in her courses.
• Benjamin George, an instructor in landscape architecture and environmental planning at Utah State University.
• Cody Connor, instructional technology educational specialist in the UW Outreach School.
• Wendy Alameda, assistive technology specialist for the WIND Assistive Technology Resources at UW.
SAREC open house shows producers research highlights

Topics from high tunnels to hardy peas were discussed during the open house at the James C. Hageman Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension Center (SAREC) near Lingle Thursday, August 22.

The yearly open house allows researchers to share findings with local producers, students, and academia. SAREC staff assistant Kelly Greenwald says the event is an important way to connect with the farmers and ranchers the center serves.

“If it’s their chance to get connected to the professors in Laramie,” Greenwald explains. “We want public feedback as much as getting the word out so that producers know what we’re doing.”

This year’s 115 attendees sampled 11 different presentations of varying topics to include research by College of Agriculture and Natural Resources faculty members and graduate students.

Greenwald noticed more ranchers than farmers in attendance, and says they were very interested in the data collected by UW Extension beef cattle specialist Steve Paisley on cattle feeding and self-selected diets. The cattle study was chosen from a list compiled from the interests of Wyoming’s agricultural community.

“We’re addressing the research priority list,” says Greenwald. “If producers don’t come – they don’t know we’re addressing the key issues.”

Greenwald counts this year’s open house a success with more producers attending than university members. She hopes for continued inquiries into the happenings at SAREC.

“We encourage people to call out here and visit any time,” states Greenwald. “We have field days and give tours. We want to show what we are doing to help Wyoming’s producers.”
Natural Resources Conservation Service staff members Cameron Clark, left, and Roger Stockton, at Clark’s right, identify the type of clover in a multi-species cover crop at SAREC.

Extension soils specialist Jay Norton, left, and plant sciences graduate student Prakriti Bista, far right, explain findings about microorganism emissions and tillage practices.

Assistant Professor John Ritten and his daughter Ember.

Bill Stump, center, was among those having ice cream on a warm day.

Extension beef cattle specialist Steve Paisley shares his research on cattle feeding habits.

SAREC open house

Brekke Peterson, left, Ph.D. student in plant sciences.

Larry Howe, assistant farm manager at SAREC.
Experts led by groundbreaking author and Time magazine writer Steven Brill will examine sweeping social, legal, and economic consequences of the Affordable Care Act during a Consumer Issues Conference October 2-4 at the University of Wyoming.

The conference also examines the state of innovation and legal issues in the new health care market generally.

The new law, popularly known as “Obamacare,” has several features scheduled to take effect this year and more in 2014. It will bring major changes in the health care market that will affect all American consumers.

“We will provide consumers with the information they need to understand how they will be affected and what they need to do to navigate their way through the complicated and sometimes difficult-to-comprehend provisions of the new health care regulations,” says Virginia Vincenti, professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

She says the UW conference, “Navigating the New Healthcare Market,” will cover innovative directions in the health care industry, legal issues including Medicaid expansion in the states, and consumer issues to help people make wise decisions in determining their health care futures.

Continuing Legal Education and Professional Teaching Standards Board Credits are available. Registration costs $60 on or before Sept. 23 and $70 after that. Discounts offered to seniors and UW employees are free, as are all students from any institution. To register and to see a complete conference schedule, information about speakers, traveling to Laramie and other conference information, visit the website at http://www.uwyo.edu/cic/default.asp.

The “Innovative Directions” track includes topics such as new “patient centric” and “team care” models for patient care, supporting health with information technology, and the use of “telehealth” systems to bring patients in “virtual” contact with distance providers.

The “Legal Issues” track will include discussions on the ACA basics, Medicaid expansion in the states, state implementations of the ACA, and a presentation on last year’s Supreme Court case upholding the new law. Other topics include health care issues affecting gay/lesbian partners, nursing home contracts and other “end of life” issues, and access to health care for immigrants and minorities.

The final track, “Consumer Compass,” will help consumers find direction on health care issues and policies. Speakers will cover such topics as long-term care, health care “literacy” education, mental health needs on campus, and insurance information for college students.

Brill, who wrote the groundbreaking Time magazine article “Bitter Pill: Why Medical Bills Are Killing Us,” will appear by videoconference at 9 a.m. Friday in the Wyoming Union Family Room.

Other keynote speakers are: Stephen Feldman, distinguished professor in the UW College of Law, who will discuss the 2012 U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding the ACA’s constitutionality, Thursday at 12:15 p.m.; Elaine Ryan of the AARP national office, speaking on state implementation of the ACA, Thursday at 9 a.m.; and Bonnie Braun, University of Maryland professor of family sciences, speaking on “Health Care Policy and Health Insurance Literacy,” Thursday at 3 p.m.

A documentary film, “Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare,” will be shown Wednesday, October 2, at 7 p.m., and there will be numerous other highly qualified speakers during concurrent breakout sessions. An exhibit area will be available all day on October 3 and the morning of October 4, and an “interactive health fair” will be offered during the afternoon of October 4.
Wyoming State Fair

Maurice Bush of Ten Sleep, Anne Leonard, and Carolyn Hageman at the college’s booth.

That’s Charlie, Bella, and Emma at the college’s booth.

Kellie Tavegie of Natrona County with children Pate, left, and Tell (hidden) in tow.

Left, Katrina Barnett, Miss Cody Stampede, and Desiree Bridges, Miss Puzzleface Ranch, Jackson, greet 3-year-old Addison Dexter of Douglas.

Ron Cunningham starts the champion of champions market lamb challenge.

4-H’ers and their entrants in goat competition.
Ivory the cat isn’t at all impressed with winning the Best in Show Kitten award. Owner Alana Gudmunson of Cheyenne.

Raul Luna, front, sharpens shears with Jenry Guerra, both of Peru. They were at the wool judging contest.

Maurice Bush of Ten Sleep, left, and Mel Riley, former professor, head of the animal science department at UW.

All eyes on judge Terry Schmaling from Delavan, Wisconsin, in the intermediate hog showmanship competition.

Judge Mike Frick of Eaton, Colorado, eyes the entrants as they enter the ring in the champion of champion market lamb competition.

Jammie Reynolds, left, with Reese’s Peanut Butter Chips, and Merlo Schardt of Fort Laramie.

Gerry Andrews man’s the college’s booth.

Judge Kristopher Fraley of College Station, Texas, watches 4-H’ers and their entrants in goat competition.
President Bob Sternberg, his wife, Karin, and children Samuel, Brittany, and Melody attended the state fair in Douglas. President Sternberg presented the champion and reserve champion ribbons in the champion of champions market lamb challenge.

President Sternberg awarded Corson Kerbs of Carbon County the reserve champion ribbon in the champion of champions market lamb challenge.

President Sternberg was introduced to the crowd at the state fair.

The Sternbergs meet Cowboy Joe.

President Sternberg awarded Corson Kerbs of Carbon County the reserve champion ribbon in the champion of champions market lamb challenge.

The Sternbergs, Anne Leonard, and Frank Galey.

UW President Robert Sternberg presented Braden Wills of Converse County the championship ribbon in the champion of champions market lamb challenge.

President Sternberg sports a Wyoming icon while carrying his children.

Changing Faces, Changing Places
(effective date in parentheses)

Welcome
McKinzie, Brenda: Platte County UW Extension, 4-H educator (8/26)

Ridgely, Kathy: Family and consumer sciences, Cent$ible Nutrition Program (8/19)

Farewell
Wailes, Sadith: Family and consumer sciences, Cent$ible Nutrition Program (8/30)
Monies Awarded

Baumgartner, Robert: $12,000 from various sponsors for “Crop Research,” and $18,170 from Dow AgroSciences for “Seed Trial with Limited Irrigation.”

Beck, Jeffrey: $12,500 from Wyoming Wildlife Foundation for “Red Desert Pronghorn Survival and Reproduction.”

Ehmke, Cole, Tamra Jensen, Justina Russell, Bridger Feuz, Kimberly Chapman, and Mae Smith: $12,382 from Washington State University for “Annie’s Project in Wyoming 2013.”

Ford, Stephen, and Peter Nathaniel: $307,880 from National Institutes of Health (NIH) for “Cortisol Regulation of Perinatal Adipose Tissue and Sheep Neonatal Leptin Peak.”

Galey, Frank: $5,300 from WDA for “Potato Inspection and Seed Potato Certification.”

Garcia y Garcia, Axel: $2,000 from J.R. Simplot for “Corn Variety Trials.”

Kniss, Andrew, and Robert Baumgartner: $1,000 from various sponsors for “Improving the Sustainability of Dry Bean Production.”


Nachtman, Jerry, and Mike Moore: $12,000 from Miller Coors LLC for “Barley Variety Evaluation.”

Norton, Jay, and Kristina Hufford: $12,000 from BLM for “Evaluation of Micro-capillary Barriers and Local-source Seeds for Improved Reestablishment of High Desert Plant Communities on Drastically Disturbed Range-lands.”

Russell, Justina: $83,000 from USDA NIFA for “Wind River Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program.”

Stump, William: $3,000 from BASF Corporation for “Pest Management for the Crops of the High Plains.”


Research across Disciplines and Ecosystem Restoration

Fridays, 2:10-3 p.m., AG 1030

September 6 – Brian Sebade, UW Extension. He will talk about weed management problems.

September 13 – Sam Foster, director, Rocky Mountain Research Station

September 20 – Urszula Norton, Pine Bark Beetle project (tentative)

September 27 – Jacob Houchard, Ph.D. student, “Gray wolf population projection with intraspecific competition”
Laramie Research and Extension Center Open House

LREC director Doug Zalesky welcomes open house attendees.

Greenhouse operations manager Casey Seals leads a tour.

Dwayne and Julie Houchin and Jean Taylor look at what’s next on the schedule for the Laramie Research and Extension Center open house Thursday, August 29.

LREC director Doug Zalesky, left, and Agricultural Experiment Station director Bret Hess

John Tanaka and Gary Moss share a moment.
Anowar Islam, second from right, explains forage research with Ph.D. student Dhruba Dhakal.

Anowar Islam, Axel García y García, and Karen Panter listen to a research presentation during the Laramie Research and Extension Center open house Thursday in Laramie.

Warrie Means, interim head of the Department of Animal Science, left, and Kelcey Christensen, meat laboratory manager, during the open house meal.

Research scientist Carolyn Rasmussen describes her corn research in one of the greenhouses.

Ted Craig of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and Karen Panter.

Jim Freeburn, director of the James C. Hageman Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension Center, and wife, Jolene.