



# Guardians of the Range

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& the American Way of Life*

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## **News for Immediate Release: Guardians to Present Historic Family Ranch Awards**

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Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Subject: Guardians of the Range to present Historic Family Ranch Awards, July 25, in  
Hyattville, Wyoming

**Hyattville, Wyoming** – On Saturday, July 25, the Guardians of the Range will honor families who have owned their ranches for 100 years or more. The Guardians will present the Historic Family Ranch Awards during the National Day of the American Cowboy (NDAC) & 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Old Timer's Day in Hyattville, at the Award Ceremony, about 6pm.

“Ranchers have survived drought, blizzards, disease, pests, and threats from radical environmentalists and complicated public policy,” says Echo Renner, Co-Chair of the Guardians of the Range National Day of the American Cowboy committee, and coordinator of the Guardians’ Historic Family Ranch Award program.

“Ranchers produce livestock and crops for human and animal consumption, contributing to the economy of the Cowboy State and this great nation, as well as feed people all over the world. Ranching and livestock production is a way of life, but more importantly, we provide a safe and healthy food supply for billions of people world-wide,” Renner comments.

“Most people eat beef and lamb, but they don’t realize beef and sheep by-products are in items we use everyday, like soaps and deodorants, toothpaste and cosmetics, pet food, dry wall and paint, photo film, printing ink and high gloss for magazines. Beef by-products are even used in asphalt and automobile tires, industrial cleaners and fertilizers, yogurt and Jello, as well as clothing, insulin, and a wide range of pharmaceuticals. Sheep by-products – aside from meat and wool - include tennis balls and tennis racquet strings, baseballs, yarn, upholstery, footwear, carpet, felt, woolen products – even chewing gum.”

She adds, “Ranchers also maintain open spaces, and provide food, water, and shelter for wildlife – things most folks take for granted. As ranches are sold, weeds and subdivisions cover the

landscape, diminishing precious wildlife habitat.”

The Guardians of the Range are a non-profit organization dedicated to keeping ranchers on their grazing permits managed by the Cody and Worland Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Management Areas, and the Shoshone and Bighorn National Forests.

“Wyoming’s family ranches, and federally managed grazing lands, are vanishing at a disturbing rate,” Renner says. “The Guardians work tirelessly to keep these ranches operating within the family over time, so it makes sense that we recognize time-tested family ranches who have reached this historic milestone.” She adds, “Ranching is part of our rich history, and a part of our future.”

To qualify for the Historic Family Ranch Award, a working ranch must be owned by the same family for 100 years or more, and be located in northwest Wyoming, within the area the Guardians serve – in the Big Horn Basin, the Big Horn Mountains, and surrounding communities. Applicants are not required to be members of Guardians of the Range or to have grazing permits on the BLM or Forest.

The Historic Family Ranch Awards will be presented during the NDAC Awards Ceremony, about 6pm on Saturday, July 25, in Hyattville.

Application / Nomination forms and more information are available at [www.guardiansoftherange.org](http://www.guardiansoftherange.org), or by contacting Echo Renner at 307-868-9232 or [echo00@tctwest.net](mailto:echo00@tctwest.net). Forms should be mailed by July 17.

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