

Conference encourages women to lead

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**
Capital Press

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — The ranks of young women in agriculture are growing but they face unique challenges in balancing the demands of farm and family and need to work together to empower each other to achieve their goals and manage risks.

To address those and other issues, Washington State University Extension held its sixth annual conference aimed at women in agriculture. It was simulcast Saturday to 40 locations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska.

The conference brought in keynote speakers, women with success in agriculture, to fuel local panel discus-

sions, networking and individual plans of actions.

One of this year's keynote speakers was Alexis Taylor, director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Appointed about a year ago, Taylor previously oversaw USDA Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services and led USDA's Women in Ag initiative. Before that, she was a congressional staffer and worked on the 2008 and 2014 farm bills. She also served eight years in the Army National Guard.

Her success has been the result of numerous teachers, supporters and mentors, many of them women, she said.

Growing up on her family's farm in Iowa, which has been operating for 158 years,



Carol Ryan Dumas/Capital Press
Lynette Bowers, left, with the USDA Farm Service Agency in Rupert, Idaho, and Kathleen Whitlock, a Rupert farm owner, take a break from brainstorming during the Women in Agriculture conference in Twin Falls on Nov. 18.

she knew from an early age she didn't want to be a farmer. But she didn't realize there was so much opportu-

nity in agriculture, natural resources and the environment. Of that, new graduates will only fill 61 percent of those spots, she said.

"There's great opportunity, but agriculture will have to look outside the traditional venues to fill those needs. It'll have to look outside of farm youth and beyond traditional male ranks and engage young people to build a pipeline.

"I encourage all of you to use your experience and leadership roles to mentor younger women," she said.

Agriculture needs diversity in leadership, with women serving on committees and commissions and making policy. Women make up half of the population, and they think differently than men.

Having women in the room — asking questions and giving their perspective — could change the outcome, she said.

She encouraged women to lift up other women, setting examples to help them move forward, stepping up to the plate themselves and helping others to step up to the plate.

"We as women need to help other women's voices be heard," to help amplify their voices so those voices resonate louder, she said.

She encouraged women at the conference to formalize strategies to do that and to be intentional so that women have an equal seat at the table and are equally heard.

"I'd really like to challenge all of you to seek out a mentor or be a mentor," she said.

H-2A minimum wage likely to increase

By **DAN WHEAT**
Capital Press

The minimum wage for H-2A visa foreign guest-workers in Washington and Oregon likely will rise 5.53 percent to \$14.12 in 2018, falling from highest to second-highest in the nation.

Hawaii is No. 1 at \$14.37 per hour according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service calculations based on a survey of prevailing wages of field and livestock workers by region across the nation. Utah is likely to be the lowest at \$10.69, down 2.82 percent from \$11.

The NASS calculations usually are adopted in December by the U.S. Department of Labor as the Adverse Effect Wage Rates (AEWRs) for the coming year. The AEWR is above state minimum wages and is intended to prevent wages of domestic workers from being adversely affected by the importation of foreign workers.

In Washington many H-2A workers in tree fruit are paid piece rates that typically are higher than the AEWR. Growers who employ H-2A workers have to use the AEWR as the minimum for all their workers. As the AEWR increases it pushes all wages up, increasing growers' costs, growers have said.

"I think the AEWR is inflated by the wages reported



Dan Wheat/Capital Press
H-2A visa foreign guestworkers tie young apple tree branches to trellis wires at Zirkle Fruit Co.'s CRO Orchard south of Rock Island, Wash., Oct. 4. Zirkle employed 2,970 H-2A workers in 2017.

for supervisors, irrigators and tractor drivers. It's a never ending cycle because next year the reported wages will include the previous year's AEWR plus domestic field worker, livestock worker, irrigator and tractor driver wages which will likely continue to increase the AEWR in those states," said Montse Walker, who left the farm labor association WAF-FA in July and started her own firm, AgBusiness Partners. It offers operations management and H-2A compliance.

Washington's and Oregon's AEWR was \$13.38 in 2017. California's was \$12.57 and now is projected to go up 4.85 percent to \$13.18. Idaho and Wyoming likely will go down 3 cents from \$11.66 to \$11.63.

Nevada and Colorado are estimated to go down 2.82 percent from \$11 to \$10.69 and Arizona down 4.47 percent from \$10.95 to \$10.46.

Washington and California are fourth and fifth in numbers of H-2A workers in 2017, according to DOL statistics recently released. Florida, Georgia and North Carolina were the top three, in that order.

Florida's AEWR next year is likely to be \$11.29, up 1.53 percent; Georgia \$10.95, up 3.11 percent; and North Carolina \$11.46, up 1.69 percent.

Oregon and Idaho do not have surveys to set piece rates but in Washington piece rates are determined by data collected by the state Employment Security Department, Walker said. The survey does not accurately account for tasks which results in highly

inflated an inaccurate piece rate wages, she said.

Jennifer Uranga, owner of Mountain West Ag Consulting, Gameill, Mont., said the USDA survey is skewed by not including specific wages for entry-level, low-skilled farm labor and by including jobs not exclusive to farm labor like irrigators, tractor drivers, sprayers, foremen and managers.

"My clients in Idaho's Treasure Valley were unaware what USDA surveys were used for. Now they are realizing their importance due to their increased participation in H-2A," Uranga said.

The AEWR may have decreased in Idaho for the second year in a row because high-skilled farm laborers are moving into construction, leaving a farm labor force of H-2A, low-skilled and undocumented workers, she said.

"In Washington, farmers are frustrated and do not think they can continue to operate with such high labor wages. Their margins remain the same while costs for labor, chemicals and other inputs are increasing," Uranga said.

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF MARION

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, DOING BUSINESS AS CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR BRONZE CREEK TITLE TRUST 2014-NPL1, A Delaware Trust,
Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN D. GIBSON, an individual; TAMI K. GIBSON, an individual; OREGON DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; and ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 7990 HERON STREET, SALEM, OR 97305.
Defendants.

CASE NO.: 17CV29151

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

To:

ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 7990 HERON STREET, SALEM, OR 97305

LEGAL

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 98

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 11/27/17. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

TRS OREGON INC.
1210 22ND ST SE, SALEM, OR
2001 BMW 330i
VIN = WBAAV534X1FJ65860
Amount due on lien \$3744.00
Reputed owner(s) OCEANA MONTANEZCRUZ, ANGELA LINDLOW
Legal-46-2-1/999

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF MARION

Probate Department IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Harold L. Hayes, Deceased No. 17PB08210

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 319 Sixth Street SW, Albany, OR 97321 within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative.

DATED and first published November 24, 2017.

Personal Representative: DORIS M. Hayes 1064 Camelot Dr. S. Salem, OR 97306

Attorney: DAVID B. BECKHAM 319 Sixth Avenue SW Albany, OR 97321

legal-47-3-1/999

LEGAL

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 98

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 11/28/17. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
1768 13TH ST. SE SALEM, OR
2008 TOYOTA CAMRY 4D
VIN = 4T1B846K78U049859
Amount due on lien \$3106.00
Reputed owner(s) CHRISTIAN GONZALEZ
Legal-46-2-1/999

LEGAL

PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE Salem, Oregon

Sat, December 9, 2017 10AM
1501 Hawthorne Ave NE
Keyla Almestica Looney, 2C54; Tina Barlow, 1A04; Gordon R Bean, 2A65; Debra L Bennett, 2B46; Darrin Cragle, 1G17; Tammy Delfino, 1E43; Carmen Rocio Duran Ramirez, RJ14; Linches Esetok, RE14; Amanda Frechin, 2C65; Erica Salazar, 2C57; Silas Scott, Y1-8; Shallone Sheets, 2G03; Jared Sheridan, 1F42; Brian Siegmund, 2A71, 2A73; Duane W Stalder, 1F34; Keith Weddle Jr, 1F47; Vincent K Wilson, 2D51; Kimberly Wollin, 2B25; Luis Zavala Santana, 2C39
legal-47-3-4/999



Dan Wheat/Capital Press
Electronic sign alternates Wesco hay messages in Chinese and Japanese, useful when buyers from those countries visit. This one, in Japanese, says Wesco has been exporting hay to Japan since 1971.

Hay exports heading for new records

By **DAN WHEAT**
Capital Press

ELLENSBURG, Wash. — While hay exporters in Ellensburg say it's still a long, tough road back from market losses caused by the port slowdown of 2014 and 2015, University of California analysts say West Coast hay exports may set new records exceeding 5 million metric tons and \$1.4 billion in value in 2017.

China and relative newcomer Saudi Arabia are driving the increase, according to an October Alfalfa and Forage News report by UC-Davis Cooperative Extension. Japan remains the largest importer of U.S. hay at 1.57 million metric tons in 2016 but growing only 2.2 percent from 2015 while China/Hong Kong was close on its heels at 1.4 million metric tons up 24.4 percent from 2015, according to the report. South Korea was third at 935,000 metric tons up 3.1 percent and United Arab Emirates was fourth at 399,000 metric tons up 21.4 percent. Saudi Arabia was fifth at 264,000 metric tons up 257.3 percent.

Mark T. Anderson, president of Anderson Hay & Grain Co., a large West Coast exporter in Ellensburg, says tonnage to China is great.

"But given current market dynamics there is no profit in sales to China by growers or processors. Hopefully, this will change as alfalfa supplies tighten up this winter and into new crop

next year," Anderson said.

There is demand from Saudi Arabia, but most of the buying is from one large dairy there with its own operations in Arizona, he said.

"Time will tell on future tons, what comes from the U.S. and how channels get developed," he said. "We see opportunities to grow hay exports, but markets are competitive and other countries are working hard to ramp up production."

Daniel Putnam, UC-Davis Extension alfalfa and forage specialist and one of the report's three authors, said volume of exports has grown 56 percent in the first six months of each year since 2014 and export values 47 percent. He noted that's coming up from a significant slump in 2014 due to work slowdowns at ports.

"The entire alfalfa industry has been slowly coming back from low prices over the past few years as dairy prices increase and inventory and acreage is down," Putnam said.

Don Schilling, president of Wesco International, Ellensburg, said competition will be keen for the Chinese and Middle East markets and that those countries shop around more than Japan did when it entered the market years ago.

"As long as we continue to be the most reliable and safe supplier, we will dominate the market," Schilling said. "But when our prices are too high they will look elsewhere more than they already are and when our roads or ports are congested, we lose."

Saudi demand is increasing because of a three-year program, begun in 2016, to conserve water, according to UC-Davis reports. It has resulted in a reduction of domestic alfalfa, wheat, corn and several other commodities important for dairy and livestock production.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia are regional milk producers and water restrictions in the UAE several years ago increased U.S. hay exports to the UAE from minuscule to 399,000 metric tons in 2016, the reports say.

LEGAL

PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE Albany, Oregon

Sat, December 9, 2017 1PM
1668 Industrial Way SW

Troy Babbitt, J017; Teri Barnett, H063; Chelsey LaMora, H021; Richard Miano, H006; Minnie Reimer, E017
legal-47-3-4/999

LEGAL

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 11/27/2017. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

COPART OF WASHINGTON INC.
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 TOYOTA CAMRY 4DR
VIN = 4T1BF1FK4CU084306
Amount due on lien \$1455.00
Reputed owner(s) FARMERS INS CO OF OREGON
legal-1/999