



AG NEW MEXICO  
FARM CREDIT

# The Loop

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2017

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Older American Need Your Help
- Ag Community Calendar
- New Hires: Berry, Lambie and Lee
- AgNM Out-and-About

## Older Americans Need Your Help

Belen office employee Jody Rigoni spent her holiday season purchasing gifts for strangers-homebound seniors living alone without family support.

Jody and her friend Deborah Sue made 20 gift bags, each with 3 bags, for the neediest seniors of Valencia County. Each gift bag was filled with essentials like shampoo, conditioner, tissue, razors and shaving cream as well as food items like crackers, trail mix and fresh oranges donated by Garden Fresh Produce. It wouldn't be like Jody to give a gift without some fun things too, so they also added playing cards, candles, teddy bears, and Christmas ornaments. Jody also included a \$5 bill and 8 postage stamps in each Christmas card for the seniors. The gifts were customized to each individual's needs and the Valencia County Older Americans Program helped with coordination and delivery of the gifts.

Word spread quickly about Jody's project and it quickly grew, local borrowers and others throughout the community contacted Jody to see how they could also help. The Jody and Deborah Sue's grand total for donations was over \$750! An Ag New Mexico Farm Credit borrower provided an additional 10 baskets totaling over \$600!

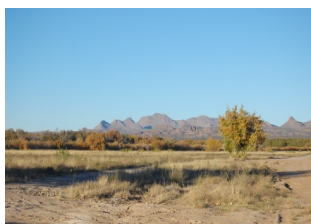
An employee with Valencia County said "One of the recipients of the gifts was so excited and happy he said the gift made him feel so special. He wanted to express



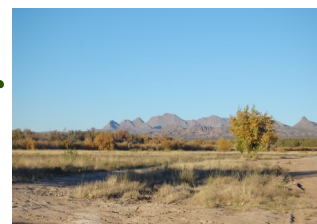
how thankful he was and that the gift made his Christmas so special. He is battling cancer and is all alone as his family lives out of state. Thank you, Jody, for making this Christmas so special for our homebound seniors!"

Jody discovered that "Older Americans" are often invisible and forgotten, many living below the poverty line and have no one. Even with the fantastic efforts of Senior Centers, like the one in Belen, and their wonderful volunteers it falls short of meeting all of the needs (even basic needs) of these citizens. These Older Americans contributed to our heritage, culture, and country. They deserve better.

Please consider helping a senior citizen organization in your area. Jody will attest that it is an eye-opener, and extremely rewarding.



## Ag. Community Calendar



January 11-12

January 16

February 6-7

February 7

February 20

March 5-7

March 24-25

SW Hay and Forage Conference, Ruidoso, NM

AgNM Closed-Martin Luther King Jr. Day

NM Chile Conference, Las Cruces, NM

AgFest, Santa Fe NM

AgNM Closed-President's Day

Western Pecan Growers Conference, Las Cruces, NM

NM Ag Expo, Portales, NM



## Clovis Credit Office New Hire: Shannon Berry

Ag New Mexico Farm Credit recently hired Shannon Berry as a relationship manager in the Clovis credit office.

Berry joins Ag New Mexico with 10 years of banking experience, including a year of Farm Credit experience with Farm Credit of New Mexico. Prior to that, she was employed with Wells Fargo, where she predominantly worked in agricultural lending.

A native of California's San Joaquin Valley, Berry was raised in agriculture. She participated in 4-H and FFA, helped on her family's citrus farm, and raised a menagerie of animals growing up. She holds a bachelor's degree in dairy science and a master's degree in business administration.

Berry and her husband, Major John Strube, reside in Clovis, where he is a pilot in the United States Air Force. In her free time Berry enjoys riding horses, team roping, fishing and camping.

"Agriculture has some of the world's most kind, interesting and hardworking people with a passion for their way of life," Berry says. "It is an absolute pleasure to have the opportunity to work with these folks on a daily basis, and to help them do what they do best."

Here at Ag New Mexico Farm Credit we look forward to working with Shannon given her prior experience and knowledge especially in the dairy industry.

## Country Mortgage New Hire: Chris Lambie

Ag New Mexico Farm Credit recently hired Chris Lambie as a mortgage loan officer for the Country Mortgage division, in the Belen office.

He comes to us with a variety of experience, including retail, social services and mortgage lending. A native of Bossier City, Louisiana, Lambie and his family moved to Albuquerque in 1988, where he

enrolled at the University of New Mexico. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1993.

Lambie and his wife, Kari, now call Rio Rancho home and have four children and two foster children. In his free time he enjoys playing sports, boating at Elephant Butte Lake, swimming, and gardening.

"In my mortgage lending experience, I've enjoyed talking to farm-

ers, ranchers, hunters and fishermen," Lambie says. "The more people I meet at Ag New Mexico, the more I know this is a great place to work."

Our Ag New Mexico Country Mortgage team is excited to welcome Chris to the team.



## Clovis Credit New Hire: Taylor Lee



Ag New Mexico Farm Credit recently hired Taylor Lee as loan officer trainee in the Clovis Credit office.

Lee was born and raised in Clovis, where he grew up helping on his family's dairy farm.

Lee graduated from Eastern New Mexico University in May 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Ag Business with a minor in Accounting.

In his free time Lee enjoys spending time outdoors; going to the mountains, fishing and hunting. He currently raises goats and hopes to

have a full meat-goat operation in the future.

"Long hours on the farm taught me that the price of success is hard work and determination and I'm honored to be part of a team that is dedicated to helping farmers and ranchers. I am looking forward to building relationships with the customers and pursuing a career in agricultural lending," says Lee.

Here at Ag New Mexico Farm Credit we welcome Lee to our Clovis Credit office team and look forward to helping him start his career.



# AgNM Out-and-About



**Kathy Lehecky and John Heckendorn at  
Joint Stockmen's Convention**



**AgNM staff at the Christmas Party**



**AgNM booth at NMSU/NMDA Ag Day**

*Have you seen any of the  
AgNM staff at recent events?  
When you do, please say hi,  
stop by the booth and maybe  
get a new cap or pocket knife!*



**A full house at the Annual meeting**



**Julie Riley, Elizabeth French and Dajah Howell with  
Madison Belcher and her goat at the NM State Fair**



**Elizabeth French, Warren Russell, Dajah Howell and Governor  
Martinez with Kelsey Graves and her goat at the NM State Fair**



# AG NEW MEXICO FARM CREDIT

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## Lending Support in the Land of Enchantment



### AG NEW MEXICO FARM CREDIT

#### Financing for:

- Farms and ranches
- Livestock and equipment
- Operating Capital
- Rural Homes

#### Clovis Credit Office

1-800-357-3545

#### Belen Credit Office

1-800-722-4769

#### Las Cruces Credit Office

575-647-4430

[agnewmexico.com](http://agnewmexico.com)

