Dear Wyoming State Fair Exhibitors for 2017 in the Needlework, Culinary (Foods), Photography/Painting & Drawing, Crafts (Hobbies) and Horticulture/Floriculture (Gardening) Divisions:

First, please allow us to send out a BIG “THANK YOU” to all of you for your past participation in the Wyoming State Fair and with hope of your continued participation with us! We know that each and every one of your projects that you create or make each and every year is very special to you and they are very special to us!!! Without you, we would not be the “showcase” of Wyoming. We need you and we want you to continue to create those memories with us and to allow us to “showcase” your creation.

At this time the Wyoming State Fair staff would like to take this moment to inform all of you of the changes that will be in place during the 2017 Wyoming State Fair. It has been a difficult year, needless to say, with budget cuts made during the Legislative session. Our Wyoming State Fair operating budget was cut by $400,000.00. We realize many other agencies including the Schools and University’s budgets also were cut. Consequently we must make some changes in our Fair to work within our budget restraints, yet hoping to host a wonderful, memory making Wyoming State Fair for everyone involved.

We will continue to offer the best “darn” Fair that we can offer within our allowed budget. We will continue to remember that what makes our Wyoming State Fair a success is “YOU” our exhibitors and of course our attendees! We need each and every one of you to continue to create your special items in the Needlework, Crafts, Culinary, Photography and Floriculture/Horticulture divisions. All of you hold a very important part in the Wyoming State Fair!

We must all work together to make this annual event happen and to make sure that your Wyoming State Fair remains the very best that it can be.

With all of the above said, please find the following changes listed below for this year’s Home Arts Division. We do apologize for getting this information out to you on such a late date, but we had to wait for the approval to move forward with the planning of our Fair, due to our $400,000.00 reduction.

We have also been instructed to raise entry fees from $1.00 per entry to $2.00 per entry.

There are some changes in "when" we will be able to accept entries and some changes in certain divisions as to when Judging will take place.

The following schedule is what we have determined (See below). Please find below the new, revised schedule for entering, judging and viewing:

HOME ARTS SECTIONS INCLUDE:  Needlework, Crafts (Hobbies), Photography (Painting/Drawing), Culinary (Foods), Floriculture/Horticulture (Gardening).

**Sunday, August 13th and Monday, August 14th (Times 11am - 8pm both days)-ENTRY DAYS for Needlework, Culinary, Crafts, Photography.**  EXCEPT in Floriculture/Horticulture entry day will be Sunday, August 13th only due to the fresh flowers and plants. Previously we accepted entries on Saturday and Sunday BUT this year it is Sunday and Monday.

**Monday, August 14th - JUDGING at 8:00 am for Floriculture/Horticulture (Gardening),**

**Tuesday, August 15th-  JUDGING- Starts at 8:00 am for Needlework, Culinary, Crafts and Photography.**  Judging will be closed judging just like it was last year.  We will offer a Q & A session after judging for those that want to ask about their judged entries.

**Wednesday, August 16th thru Saturday, August 19th - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR VIEWING.**  **Building Viewing hours are:  11 am - 9 pm.**   We made these hours the same as our vendors on the grounds so that they are all open at the same time and hopefully causes less confusion as to when everything is open.

We do hope that this helps explain the “why and when” of things happening this year for the 2017 Wyoming State Fair. Once you read this and if you still have questions please do not hesitate to give our office a call at 307-358-2398. We are here for you and to assist you with any of your concerns.

If you would rather email us, the following is a list of all of our WSF email addresses:

James Goodrich, WSF Director: james.goodrich@wyo.gov

Vicki Rupert, Deputy Director: Vicki.rupert@wyo.gov

Peggy Hopkins- Administration: peggy.hopkins@wyo.gov

Bonnie Ramirez- Administration: bonnie.ramirez@wyo.gov

One more item, our website is being reworked this year for a whole new look, so please, please give us a chance to get it up and running, which should be by mid- May.

Again, we ask you to call us with any questions or concerns you may have. We are here for you!

Sincerely,

Wyoming State Fair Staff