Christmas traditions vary from country to country. Christmas celebrations for many nations include the installing and lighting of Christmas trees, the hanging of Advent wreaths, Christmas stockings, candy canes, and the creation of Nativity scenes depicting the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas carols may be sung and stories told about such figures as the Baby Jesus, St Nicholas, Santa Claus, Father Christmas, Christkind or Grandfather Frost. The sending and exchange of Christmas card greetings, observance of fasting and special religious observances such as a midnight Mass or Vespers on Christmas Eve, the burning of a Yule log, and the giving and receiving of presents. Along with Easter, Christmas is one of the most important periods on the Christian calendar, and is often closely connected to other holidays at this time of year, such as Advent, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, St Nicholas Day, St. Stephen's Day, New Year's, and the Feast of the Epiphany.

- Apple cider
- Boiled custard
- Candy canes
- Champagne, or sparkling apple cider
- Chocolate fudge
- Christmas cookies
- Cranberry sauce
- Eggnog
- Fish as part of the Feast of the Seven Fishes
- Fruitcake
- Gingerbread, often in the form of a gingerbread house or gingerbread man
- Christmas ham
- Hot buttered rum
- Hot chocolate
- Mashed potato
- Mixed nuts
- Oyster stew, composed of oysters simmered in cream or milk and butter.
- Persimmon pudding
- Pie
  - Apple pie
  - Pecan pie
  - Pumpkin pie
  - Sweet potato pie
- Prime Rib
- Russian tea cakes
- Tamales
- Tom and Jerry
- Roast turkey, less often roast duck, goose, or pheasant
- Stuffing, also known as dressing, particularly in the Southern U.S.
Greeting Wyoming ANFP members,

As the holidays approach I like to take time and reflect on the things that I am the most thankful for. I am extremely grateful for all of you. I appreciate the hard work you do each day to care for your patients, customers, residents and coworkers. I appreciate the fact that a lot of the time you don’t get the appreciation that you deserve yet you get up each day and do your jobs with passion and commitment. I appreciate the quality of knowledge and experience that you bring to your teams. I also appreciate you for your commitment to the CDM credential, the hours of education and traveling that often go hand in hand with obtaining your credit hours. I appreciate your dedication to ensure that you are at the leading edge of food safety and quality. As your state President these past couple years I appreciate the grace you have shown me as I learned my role, I appreciate the knowledge and kindness you have shown me and our members. I am proud to be part of such a great group of professionals and to represent you in all areas of my life. What you do is not unnoticed, just sometime unsung. You make a difference each and every day to those you serve. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being YOU, a CDM!! Have a very Merry Christmas and safe holiday season, and God bless each and every one of you for being leaders in our field.

Never Stop Growing.
2016 – 2017 Board of Leaders

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Our FoodService Rewards points total stands at 17,923 points. e-mail codes and expiration date may be sent to Robin Hilbird at: rhilbird@mhccwyo.org
Wyoming ANFP is on-line and on Facebook. Be sure to visit the Wyoming ANFP website at: www.ANFPonline.org for the National ANFP website.

As of October 31, 2016, the Wyoming ANFP is 57 members strong; 54 Certified Professional members, 4 Professional non-certified members. Please contact our Membership Leader, Ronda Krouch (rmkrouch@yahoo.com) or any officer, if you know of a new member or student, so we know who they are and how to keep them informed about events taking place in the Wyoming ANFP.

21st – Christina Dierking
23rd – Shelley Blake
31st – Kay Boese

Happy Birthday to All!
From the Desk of Our State Spokesperson
TJ Schoenewald, CDM, CFPP

Moving On

What lies beyond now that the new Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services regulations have been approved and enacted recognizing the CDM CFPP in facilities receiving CMS reimbursement?

The Association of Nutrition and Food Service Professionals has and will continue the organization’s efforts in finding U.S. Senate sponsors for a companion bill before this session of congress ends. In the meantime, plans are being made by ANFP to begin a state level campaign to recognize the CDM, CFPP credential in state regulations.

You will recall that WYANFP President-Elect and WYANFP CDM of the Year Steve Owen has been the catalyst for our successful Day at the Capitol in Cheyenne the last two years. With a new ANFP plan forthcoming that will emphasize the CDM CFPP at the state level the need for your involvement in DATC is imperative. The presence of 10 members is far more powerful than the same four members showing up every year. Attending is important to show the strength of conviction of the roll of the CDM. There is also the opportunity to network and prove to our lawmakers that WYANFP has an interest in our state government. This mutual admiration sometimes takes years. ANFPs perseverance over the years with our federal government resulted in the new CMS regulations. Now it is our turn to make a difference at our state levels. Please consider attending DATC to show your support. DATC is scheduled for February 6, 2017. Contact Steve Owen for more information at stevelanderwyo@gmail.com.
It’s an amazing time of the year! People putting up lights, decorating for Christmas, Christmas carols, shopping for that special gift for that special person and the list goes on and on.

December has come and with it all the joys of Holidays. But what is the real meaning of the Holidays? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, dinners with family and friends, snow in the yard, stockings hanging in the living room, and shouts of "Happy Holidays" to those who pass us in the streets? Is this really the Holidays?

For many people, the Holidays is a time of sorrow. They don’t have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened at Holiday time when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Family dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some.

Yet, the Holiday can be a season of great joy. Rather than stressing yourself out over the holidays, take time to reflect on all the blessings you have been given over all the years. Help a person or family that may be struggling right now and make their holidays a little brighter. Think of the joy that will bring to them and yourself. Give to your favorite charity or fix a special dinner or tray of holiday treats for an aging neighbor that may be alone.

Overall, what you put into the Holidays, you will get back ten-fold in the feeling that you made someone else’s Holidays just a little brighter! Happy Holidays Everybody!

Until next month…..Live long, and Never Stop Giving!

February 6, 2017 ……. Day at the Capitol

February 6 - 10, 2017 …Pride in Foodservice Week & Tour

April 10 -14, 2017 ……. Hunger Week

April 2016 ………………. Wyoming ANFP Spring Conference, Thermopolis, WY, Days Inn

June 6-9, 2017 ….ANFP Annual Conference & Expo, Las Vegas, Nevada

September 6-8, 2017…..Wyoming ANFP Fall Conference, Casper, WY, Ramkota Casper

June 1-4, 2018 … ANFP Annual Conference & Expo, Orlando, Florida
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It is difficult to believe that 2016 is coming to an end. This has been an excellent year for Wyoming ANFP. Thank you to everyone for your leadership, support, participation and attendance. We all make a great team together!

Thanksgiving is now part of history… and this is always a wonderful time with our family & friends as well as with those whom we serve in our facilities…. And now we look forward to celebrating Christmas and beginning the new year of 2017 with all of its challenges and opportunities. May the Lord bless you as we enter this very special time of the year.

1. ANFP DAY AT THE CAPITOL 2017

Our 3rd annual DATC will be held in Cheyenne Monday, February 6, 2017. This coming year is a policy session with 40 days rather 20 days like last year for the budget session. Plans for our DATC include:

* Attend both House & Senate Health Committee meetings

* Distribute updated WY ANFP brochure and healthy snack to 60 state representatives & 30 state senators

* “Pride In Foodservice Week” Luncheon with state elected officials, House & Senate Health Committee members, reps of Senators Enzi & Barrasso, Congresswoman-Elect Cheney, and area dietary managers and administrators.

* Photo Op with perhaps Governor and Chairs of House & Senate Health Committees

Let us know if you would like to attend and help with this great event. We have the potential of having 4-5 ANFP members participating. I will be in Cheyenne January 3 to attend the Wyoming State Long Term Care meeting and work on final plans for our DATC.

2. SPRING CONFERENCE

We are making good progress with plans for our Spring Conference - April 26-28 in Thermopolis. We are planning an outdoor BBQ at the Kiwanis Shelter in the Hot Springs State Park as our welcome event on Wednesday evening at 5:30 PM. Feel free to bring your swimming suit and plan on soaking in the hot mineral springs before or even after the BBQ or when you are free during our time in Thermopolis.

We will be installing new officers during our Spring Conference:

3. NATIONAL ANFP ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO (ACE)

The ANFP National Annual Conference & Expo (ACE) will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada June 6-9, 2017. We are very excited with the prospect of sending 5 - 6 delegates from Wyoming… which is a record for Wyoming ANFP! Please let Felicia or me know if you would like to attend and would like more information.
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Happy Holidays!

To our sponsors for the continuous support you show to Wyoming ANFP every year!

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Thank you for all you do!