

About 307 Wyoming Sentinel / Publisher Marie Hamilton



The *Wyoming Sentinel* is an independent, community-centered news organization serving Southeast Wyoming — including Platte, Goshen, Laramie, Albany, Converse, Niobrara, Carbon and Natrona counties. Built on the principle that strong communities depend on informed citizens, the Sentinel delivers fact-based journalism that both celebrates Wyoming's people and holds public institutions accountable.

As its name implies, the *Sentinel* stands watch. The publication is rooted in the tradition of **watchdog journalism** — ensuring that local government, public agencies and elected officials remain transparent and responsible to the people they serve. Through its print editions, online platform and multimedia features, the *Wyoming Sentinel* preserves the history, values and integrity of the High Plains while embracing modern storytelling that connects communities across the state.



Mission

To improve lives by informing Wyoming citizens of the important information they will not receive anywhere else, with a focus on agriculture and rural community needs.

Vision

To become the first choice for online and print news in the state of Wyoming and to partner with the University of Wyoming Journalism program to offer top tier practical student intern experience and thereby retain journalistic talent and future employees within Wyoming, starting right here in southeast Wyoming and located in Chugwater.

Values

Honesty & Accuracy: We are committed to honesty and accuracy in every aspect of our work as this is the foundation of how we earn and maintain public trust.

Integrity: We are consistent and principled, ensuring that every story reflects fairness, independence and responsibility to the communities we serve.

Ethical: We adhere to the highest journalistic standards shaped by a strong moral compass and guided by respect and responsibility to all.

Watchdog: We diligently investigate and report and protect the public's right to know.

Motto

Independent. Local. Unafraid.



About the Owner, Publisher and Managing Editor – Marie Hamilton



Marie Hamilton is the Owner, Publisher and Managing Editor of the *307 Wyoming Sentinel* (*Southeast Wyoming Sentinel*), where she leads the publication's editorial direction, community engagement and operations across Southeast Wyoming. With **26 years of experience in journalism**, Hamilton began her career at **USA Today** before realizing her true calling: **rural journalism**. She is a multi-award-winning journalist. She found that the greatest need for honest, independent reporting exists not in the nation's largest newsrooms but in its small towns, agricultural hubs and close-knit communities.

Over the course of her career, Hamilton has worked for newspapers across **Arizona, Wyoming**

and Nebraska, covering education, agriculture, courts and local government. She is widely respected for her commitment to **nonpartisan, watchdog journalism**, with a proven record of holding elected officials from all sides of the political spectrum accountable for their words, deeds and actions.



Hamilton is a proud graduate of the **Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University**, holding a **Bachelor's, Master's and PhD in Journalism**. She is currently pursuing her **Juris Doctorate in Media Law** at the **University of Wyoming**, specializing in First Amendment protections, open records and the legal frameworks that uphold a free and independent press.

Raised in a **multi-generational agricultural family**, Hamilton's roots run deep across **Wyoming, Arizona, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana**. Her family has farmed, ranched and worked the land for generations — and she proudly carries that mantle forward today. That foundation instilled in her an enduring respect for rural values: hard work, honesty and stewardship of both the land and the truth.

Hamilton also comes from a **deeply military and law enforcement family**. Every generation of her Hamilton and paternal lineage has served in the **U.S. Armed Forces**, from the **Revolutionary War to current global conflicts**. One of her sons is now preparing to continue that legacy of service. Marie's reverence for the nation runs deep — she often says that *"whether or not I agree with the government, I will always stand for the Flag, a Veteran and this Nation."*



Recently, Hamilton became a member of Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR) (Platte County), Daughters of the Confederacy (DCV) and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW).

Beyond the newsroom, Hamilton enjoys **riding and raising horses** and spending time outdoors with her sons — **camping, fishing, baseball and marching band** are frequent family favorites. She is also an avid **genealogist**, tracing and preserving her family's story as a **proud Scotswoman** with **deep Slavic and Middle Eastern Jewish ancestry**. She married her high school sweetheart and together they are raising their three boys.

"I believe in rural journalism because we have big city problems in our small towns that deserve the same vigorous watchdog journalism any American citizen is deserving of under the First Amendment," Hamilton said. "My family history as generational ranchers, farmers, along with my career and education make me uniquely the best qualified to cover these issues and to be the



watchdog our communities deserve."

Adding, "I am unafraid to hold the accountable — accountable — and I have faced my fair share of credible threats, attempts to intimidate, blackmail and discredit because I refuse to allow elected-officials to have a 'get-out-of-jail-free card'."

"I will not be deterred from providing the highest level of ethical, credible and factual watchdog journalism Wyoming needs and wants," Hamilton said. "In the words of one of my favorite authors, George Orwell: 'Journalism is printing what someone does not want printed — everything else is public relations' and I believe that is my core journalism identity."

"I'm simply not interested in the no-information and no-answer answer press releases — I'm interested in what Wyomingites really have to say and the issues most important to Wyomingites,

especially rural Wyomingites," Hamilton added. "At the end of the day, that is what *The Sentinel* is about — being the voice of Wyomingites."

Through every story she tells, Hamilton carries forward the legacy of her family, her faith in community and her unwavering belief in the importance of truth, transparency and the rural American spirit.

