

Sidney Sugars Holds Retirement Party For Steve Sing



By Lois Kerr

Sidney Sugars staff held a retirement party for General Manager Steve Sing on Tuesday, May 15. Sing, who has served as GM at Sidney Sugars for nearly ten years, retired effective the end of May. Factory employees hosted the retirement gathering to wish Sing well in his retirement.

During his tenure at the factory Sing has witnessed many changes and he has helped initiate and implement goals for the sugar plant. Sing emphasized efficiency and safety as two of his major goals. A high quality product coupled with a safe environment in which to produce this quality product remained his top priorities.

Under Sing's leadership, the factory also branched out to attract new markets. Three years ago Sidney Sugars began producing cordial sugar, a product distillers use to make a clear liquid. Demand for this specialty white sugar product has increased every year for the past three years.

Sidney Sugars has carried out several capital expenditure programs over the course of the last decade, expenditures which allowed the factory to become more efficient.

Sing credits the factory staff for any success that he enjoyed while serving as General Manager. The staff welcomed him when he first arrived ten years ago, and they provided him with support and advice throughout his tenure. Sing appreciates all the help and support he has received since his arrival in Sidney a decade ago.

After he retires, Sing expects to divide his time between Sidney and Minnesota.

The staff at Sidney Sugars hosted a retirement party for Steve Sing, general manager, who retired the end of May.



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Celebrate Dairy Month

National Dairy Month started out as National Milk Month in 1937 as a way to promote milk drinking.

It was created to stabilize the dairy demand when production was at a surplus, but it has developed into an annual tradition that celebrates the contributions the dairy industry has made to the world. After the National Dairy Council stepped in to promote the cause, the name soon changed to "Dairy Month."

National Dairy Month (June) is a great way to start the summer with "3-A-Day" of nutrient-rich dairy foods. From calcium to potassium, dairy products such as milk contain nine essential nutrients that may help better manage your weight, and reduce your risk for high blood pressure, osteoporosis and certain cancers. With protein to help build and repair the muscle tissue of active bodies and vitamin A to help maintain healthy skin, dairy products are a natural nutrient powerhouse.

Those are just a few of the reasons you should celebrate dairy production, not just in June, but all year long.

In the Midwest, dairy farms and families often open their gates to visitors for breakfasts and tours, while grocery stores and other businesses feature dairy products during the month. America's heartland - from North Dakota to Arkansas is home to more than 11,000 dairy farms and the people behind the products: dairy farmers. And while these farms may differ, dairy farmers share a passion for their livelihoods and producing wholesome, nutritious dairy products for people of all ages to enjoy.

Did you ever think about what goes into that glass of milk, bowl of ice cream or piece of cheese? Each dairy farm has a unique story to tell. In North Dakota, you have a chance to see a family farm in action on Saturday, June 23. The Holle families of Kenton and Bobbie Jo, Andrew and Jenni, James and Michael Holle of the Northern Lights Dairy,

Mandan, will host "Breakfast on the Farm." Drive on out to the dairy or catch a bus in Mandan.

June also is the month of dairy royalty. Are you aware that the North Dakota dairy princess program, initiated in 1946, is the longest-running one in the U.S.?

The princess, who serves as a goodwill ambassador for the state's dairy farmers, makes media appearances, talks with children about being healthy through consuming dairy products every day, and visits with consumers in various settings from county fairs to school visits to help them understand the dedication of North Dakota's

dairy farmers to producing wholesome and delicious dairy products, and their commitment to the land and their animals.

Our reigning princess is Rachael Rott from Anamoose. She will be passing her crown during the 66th annual coronation held June 23 in Bismarck.

Other examples of dairy promotion in your area include Fuel Up to Play 60 in grades K-12. Or, in this era of social media, check out the Dairy Makes Sense blog, the many contributions to Twitter and Facebook, and the milk mustache billboards. And who isn't familiar with the most copied ad ever: "got milk?"

One of the greatest challenges of the next generation will be providing nutritious, affordable food to a global population expected to grow to 9 billion by 2050. Dairy is part of the solution. Not only are dairy products, such as milk, cheese and yogurt, nutrient-rich, they also are being produced using fewer resources, and are helping foster healthy people, healthy communities and a healthy planet. And at about 25 cents per glass, milk provides one of the richest sources of well-absorbed calcium in the American diet.

The health of the dairy farmers' checkbook is not as encouraging. The end of May marked five straight months of declining income and high feed costs. Because feed represents 50 to 60 percent of the cost to produce milk, this is not good news for dairy farmers. While most of us just see the cost at the retail shelf and assume profit, the dairy producers have nowhere to pass on their costs. So when you see that dairy farm family member, thank him or her for his or her spirit and contribution to our health.

Here are some dairy facts:

* 98 percent of all North Dakota dairy farms are family owned.

* Dairy is the fourth largest agricultural business in North

Dakota, generating \$49 million a year.

- * North Dakota dairy farms produce more than 44.7 million gallons of milk annually.
- * Typically, milk takes two days to get from the farm to the grocery store.
- *The dairy industry reduced its carbon footprint by 60 percent between 1944 and 2007.
- * The U.S. dairy industry contributes only 2 percent of the total greenhouse emissions and has made a major effort to be even greener in the future.

Here's a cold glass of milk in a salute to the makers of the most nutritious food in the world: dairy products.



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Local Youth Wins Teen Rodeo Queen Honors

By Lois Kerr

A talented, vivacious local young lady has won this year's Miss Southeastern Montana Teen Rodeo Queen title. Jade Brunsvold, Crane, won top honors during this year's Bucking Horse Sale, held at Miles City in May. In order to win the title of Miss Southeastern Montana Teen Rodeo Queen, Brunsvold had to study and know the Professional Rodeo Circuit rules, various winners of rodeo events, deliver a short speech, and ride a horsemanship pattern that included loping, trotting and backing. She also had to demonstrate the 'Queen Buzz' which included galloping her horse around the perimeter of the arena while waving to the crowd, and carrying the flag while on horseback.



City in May.

"This win means a lot

to me," Brunsvold comments. "When I was younger, I always looked up to the rodeo queens because they were so beautiful and were such good role models. Now I have this great opportunity to be a positive role model and to teach kids."

As part of her obligations as teen queen, Brunsvold will travel to rodeos, present flags, and participate in charity work. She looks forward with great enthusiasm to fulfilling her role as teen queen. "I really look forward to the charity work and I'm looking forward to working with kids and with any charity that gets me out into the community," she remarks. "Public speaking and modeling are scary aspects of what I must do, but working to win this title really helped me and just the little bit I've done so far has built my confidence."

Brunsvold has participated in rodeo events for the past several years. 4-H membership introduced her to rodeo and western riding, and she found she enjoyed the speed events. This led her to make the decision to compete in rodeo. She now barrel races and she participates in the pole bending

events in high school rodeo. "Barrel racing is my favorite part of rodeo," she says. "I participate in high school rodeo and I also participate in open rodeos. I will attend the high school rodeo finals as a barrel racer competitor, and I will also fulfill some of the gueen duties at the rodeo as well."

Brunsvold appreciates those who have helped her attain her goals. "I'm really grateful to the people who helped get me started and to those who helped me along the way," she concludes.

To date, Brunsvold has won one saddle and nine buckles in her rodeo career.

Brunsvold will attend all local parades and rodeos and she will ride during the rodeo at the Richland County Fair. She is available for appearances at rodeos and for local charitable events. Brunsvold also will offer a Queen Clinic in June to help other teens who would like to try for the Teen Rodeo Queen title. Brunsvold will teach attendees how to model, she will provide tips on public speaking, help teens learn the art of doing well on an interview, and teach other assorted necessary information.



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McKenzie County Fair A Tradition of Fun, 4-H and Rodeo

By Jaimee Green

Cotton candy. Hot dogs. Folks tempting you to step right up and win a prize. Youth chaotically running with tickets in hand from one ride to the next. Shrills, screams and genuine laughter. Must be fair time!

For McKenzie County Fair Board members and volunteers, its crunch time as they are busily preparing for the annual fair taking place at the fairgrounds east of Watford City July 11-14.

This year's theme is "Bring out the Kid in You."

"The board thought this was a very appropriate theme because fairs are all about enjoying the simple pleasures of being young and silly. We want people to come to the fair and enjoy themselves," said Janel Lee, a board member.

General admission is a \$5 button good for all three days. Some of the entertainment highlights include a rodeo, carnival, Curly the Clown and Funtastic Kid Zone, the Olaf Leiseth Jr. Memorial Draft Horse Competition, Pinewood Derby Car Races, demolition derby, KIDDYUP Goat roping and youth lil' buckaroo rodeos.

Funtime Carnival Company, of Payette, Idaho will be supplying 24 attractions ranging from kiddies rides to whizzing and whirling rides, midway games and carnival food.

This year, new entertainment is on the venue and features NASCAR Remote Control Racing and Sports Zone. A 25 foot inflatable archway will beckon those with a need for speed to try their hand at racing through the small track in an attempt to speed past the competition to the finish line.

"We're pretty excited about this year. We have some really good entertainment lined up. With so many new members in the community we really wanted to create an experience for them and for everybody that really showcases what Watford City and our area is all about. There are a lot of young people who are going to be here and we wanted to offer them a great fair experience this year," said Tim Nelson, president of the fair board.

The traditional free beef barbecue is available to everyone wearing admission buttons and takes place on July 12.

For folks who have never witnessed a draft horse competition, the excitement of watching the massive equine participate in a type of ag-olympics will offer excitement and awe. The annual competition is named after Olaf Leiseth, a long time draft horse teamster and member of the Long X Wagon Team.

Foot traffic at the local junkyard may have increased as drivers prospect for sturdy cars to enter into the third annual demolition derby which will feature drivers smashing vehicles into their opponents as they attempt to leave the arena with the last vehicle running.

Traditionally, the fair has played host to an extensive 4-H youth lineup of livestock showing.

"Our city has always been very big on promoting and supporting our 4-H youth program and its members. McKenzie County has a large program and we like to get our youth involved and keep them active by including their livestock showings and activities into the fair events," Lee said

July 11 kicks off the four days of fun with 4-H activities starting at 10:00 a.m. and lasting throughout the evening.

On Thursday, July 12, 4-H exhibits for swine, goat, sheep, beef breeding and market beef will take place until 10:45 a.m. with judging of the open class taking place throughout the day.

Curly's Funtastic Kid Zone opens at 11:00 a.m. and Ice Cream in a Bag is back by popular demand with limited sessions at both 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The fair parade will make its way down Main Street starting at 4:00 p.m. and will be followed by the beef barbecue at 5:30 p.m.

Registration for the Olaf Leiseth Jr. Memorial Draft Horse Competition closes at 6:00 p.m. and the event takes place at 7:00 p.m. in the rodeo arena.

On Friday, July 13, commercial exhibits open at 9:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day.

Curley's Funtastic Zone reopens at 11:00 a.m. and KIDDYUP goat roping starts at 11:30 a.m.

Remote NASCAR racing starts at 12:30 p.m. in the Kids Zone and face painting is available at 1:00 p.m.

Youth involved in the 4-H exhibits will be presented awards at 1:00 p.m. and a livestock sale starts at 2:00 p.m.

At 3:00 p.m. a candy drop is taking place, sponsored by McKenzie Electric and the McKenzie County Fair.

At 4:30 the pinewood derby car races kick off with all participants needing to register by 3:30 p.m.

Registration for the demolition derby closes at 5:15 p.m. with car inspections following. The derby starts at 6:00 p.m.

On Saturday, July 14, registration for the Great County Fair Mud Run starts at 8:30 a.m. and benefits the MCB Wellness Center.

Commercial exhibits open at 9:00 a.m.

Curly's Funtastic Kid Zone opens at 11:00 a.m. with goat roping at 11:30 a.m.

At 3:00 p.m. the lil' buckaroo rodeo will take place at the livestock show arena.

The NDRA rodeo starts at 6:00 p.m. and will feature saddle bronc and bareback riding, steer wrestling, calf roping ladies barrel racing and ladies and men's breakaway roping

During the year long planning stages of preparing to put on this event, board members attend a winter fair convention as members of the Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs to prospect entertainment for McKenzie County. At the convention they listen to singers and musicians, and other entertainment and book their entertainment choices.

Tickets to the demolition derby or the rodeo cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-13. Children six and under are free.

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Local Dalmatians Win Top Honors At National Show

By Lois Kerr

A love of animals combined with the ability to train those animals leads to a winning combination every time. Peggy Ann Strupp, Crane, trains her Dalmatians for field trials, and in May, her two dogs won first and second places in their class at the Dalmatian Club of America's National Show and Field Trials, held this year in Tulsa, OK from May 3-9.

Strupp's two Dalmatians competed in a class of five judged obedience exercises and in a twelve and a half mile endurance test. Judges rated the dogs based on obedience and on conditioning. The judges are on horseback and so are the competitors, with the competitors' dogs obeying commands as directed.

"There is a 'hock' class which is the same as 'heel' for those on foot," comments Strupp. "Dogs walk in position beside the horse for 200 yards. The second exercise is a 200 yard 'hock with distraction', such as a person walking a dog on leash. The third exercise is 'recall' which is the same as 'come'. Dogs are allowed to run free, and then must return to position by the horse on command. The fourth exercise is a 'stay' which the dog must sit for one minute. In the fifth exercise, the horse runs at a gallop for 100 yards and the dog must keep up. The fifth exercise is based on the days when Dalmatians ran beside horse drawn fire wagons."

She adds, "Teaching a dog to stay when a person is on horseback is difficult for dogs, for some reason. I don't know if it is the height or what, but I train my dogs inside by standing on a table and training them to stay."

The second half of the field trial consists of a twelve and a half mile endurance ride, with a vet check for dogs at the start, middle, and end of the ride. "The vet awards the dog points based on physical health and often a dog wins because of the veterinarian's points," Strupp notes. "Conditioning is very important. Three dogs ended up with the same score in obedience, so the veterinarian's scores decided the winner."

She adds, "To prepare for these trials consists of conditioning as well as obedience. I follow a conditioning program with them and with my horses. We work up to four miles, then we go to six and eight miles, and then two weeks before the event we are up to twelve miles two times a week."

Strupp's interest in training Dalmatians

for field trial work originated in her youth. "I always loved horses, and when I was a child, we couldn't afford horses so I had Dalmatians," she recalls. "I liked the looks of Dalmatians because they are pretty and they had a look to them that reminded me of horses. At that time I had no idea of the connection between Dalmatians and horses."

Strupp owned Dalmatians for five years before she got a horse. She also discovered the unique connection between her chosen dogs and horses, and that sparked her interest in training Dalmatians for the job for which they had originally been bred. As well, the Dalmatian Club of America, after a hiatus of many years, revived in 1989, so Strupp began showing at the National Show. "I generally attend the national show every year," Strupp says, "but there are also a few regional shows each year and sometimes I'll attend one or two of them as well."

Strupp finds training dogs, riding horses, and preparing for competition provides her with enormous satisfaction. "I love animals, I've always loved horses; Dalmatians fit well with horses, and I like training dogs," Strupp concludes. "I also enjoy trail riding, so Dalmatians and horses make a great combination for me. The national event itself motivates me to do more riding than I would do normally. I get more use out of my horse, I get to train dogs, and I love it."



Strupp's dogs took top honors at the field trial, an endurance event on horseback designed to test the Dalmatian ability to "coach", or follow the horses. The dog in the forefront, "Aberdeen's Let's Make A Deal", earned the High in Trial honors at the national event.

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Sidney Chamber Ag Appreciation Golf Tourney July 9

Area farmers and ranchers may be spending a little less time on the back forty and a little more time on the back nine at the Sidney Country Club as they prepare for an upcoming event.

On July 9, the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber's Agriculture Committee, along with local business sponsors will host the Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament at the Sidney Country Club.

Not everyone involved in the 10th annual golf tournament is overly concerned with their skill level when it comes to golfing. In fact, those who are participating are just happy to come out and visit with the community while enjoying a day outdoors playing golf.

The event is free for farmers and ranchers, and there are still plenty of openings on the teams. Just call the Chamber office to get signed up.

Currently, over 50 local businesses have agreed to sponsor the event in an effort to show appreciation to those community members whose livelihood depends on farming and ranching. Those sponsors were given the choice of sponsoring a golf cart, golf hole, or an entire team.

The tournament will consist of a best ball tournament with players teeing off and then playing off of the ball that goes the farthest.

There will be over 30 teams, each consisting of four members put together by a random draw for names.

This year, those coordinating the efforts anticipate about 130 golfers and about 150 total participants for the event including volunteers.

For the fourth year in a row, there will be a drawing for a chance to take a shot to win one million dollars. This event will be sponsored by Seitz Insurance and will take place on hole number 9. To win a chance at taking this shot, you will have to purchase a \$5 ticket to enter your name for the drawing. The drawing will be held at noon, and the shot takes place at 4 p.m.

Registration will be from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the Sidney Country Club. At that time, teams will be designated and players will find out which hole they will be playing on. Golfing will begin at 9 a.m. and is expected to wind down around 3 p.m.

Free food will be available throughout the day with two different areas to eat in.

For those participants who aren't skilled golfers, there is still hope for taking first place. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be chosen from a random draw rather than being based on the best score. Also, hole prizes will be given out throughout the day.

Participants will be required to supply their own golf clubs or rent them at the facility.

Farmers and ranchers can still register the morning of the event if space is available.

For more information contact the Chamber at 406-433-



Above: Jennifer & Bill Davis enjoy the tournament every year. Right: Tim Cayko (middle) won a chance for the \$1 Million hole in one shot sponsored by Seitz Insurance. Posing with Cayko is John Seitz (left) & Jeremy Norby (right) of Seitz Insurance.

aturday, June 16,

LOCATION: From Glendive- Take 200 8 West for 29 miles turn right for 1/2 mile. From Circle, MT-Take Hwy 200 8 East toward Glendive for 17 miles, turn left for 1/2 mile. OWNER: Bob & Barb Peterson FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jim 408-584-7492 Lunch will be available.

WESTCREEK DEERCREEK LUTHERAN COUNTRY CHURCH (TO BE MOVED)

LAWN, HOUSEHOLD & ANTIQUES

- +JD R72 Riding Lawn Move
- Tota push Lawn Mower
 Sears Outfamen Titer
 Wood Exter, Stiff Weed Exter
- e Wheel Burnit
- Table inightes top will chains
 Claw Foot Wood Table will wood chains
- China Hutch
- Corner Dutin Hutch (smell)
 Corner Othina Hutch (smell)
 Cost Rot Top Desix, Rocking Charl
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- Dak Cabinet wigtuss doors.
 3-piece blonde Dechnom Set (headboard.
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- + Wood Stand + PCA Television
- Crystal Glesowere
 Lorge Decorative Wall Mirror Microwaye

- Microsaye
 Upright Deep Freeze
 Roper Double Oven & Range
 Crotégot, Pote & Pers, Kitchen Uterselle
- Electric Heater
 Krup Coffee Maker
 Wagon Running Geer
- Antique Diesser, Antique Lantern
 Antique Cupboard
 Conventional Washing Machine
 All Fernal Grain Cleaner

- Wagot Undercarraige
 Washboard, Aluminum Pid
 Cost Auger
- + Sat Imn
- Platform Scales wiveights
 (2) Copper Bollers, Land Pot, Cleam Cans

- + Rope Stock Pulleys + Beestal Catthers Mask









TRUCKS, PICKUPS, **CAR & TRAILERS**

- + 1970 Ford F600 Truck, 482, 16" box & hold, fintil down stock rack, 37,000 miles
- +1970 Cheny Truck, 482, 15' box & holat, finti-diaer abok tisck, 78,300 miles +1987 Ford F250 Supercab Plosup, 4x4, 4-speed
- Test Front Popo Supertato Protup, 4x4, 4-aps sitoseptive, 460 engine, 86,000 miles ≈ 1984 Ford F100 Supertato Pickup, 4x4, suito, 102.000 miles Dit. DOD miles on: retuill ariginal ≈ 1987 Ford F100 Custom Cab Pickup, 2x4, 4 ≈ 1987 Ford F100 Custom Cab Pickup, 2x4, 4

- speed.
 + 1989 Chery Calebrity 4-9cor Car. 188,300 miles.
 + 1993 Titan 16 bumper-pull Stock Relier.
 Hais 14 Sock Rake (Needs new log).
 + 20 Goosenock Rational Booten Dusty Relier wid.
 Beauertal (Consigned Kenny 406-989-021).



SPRAYER, AUGERS, COMBINE & LIVESTOCK

- Summers Pickup Sprayer, 80' booms, 350 gallon Low Profile Tank, Hunda 5 fp motor « JD Pickup Sprayer, 40' booms, 200 gallon Tans, Honda 5.5 fp motor « Westign 7 let 5 PTO Auger » Sesundas HDG-57 Auger wKotter Magnum 16.

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- Pictup Stock Rack
 Reat Tuff Cattle Chule whealer (consigned 406-(85-2540)



FARM MACHINERY

+JD 4640 dieset Tractor, quad range, 3 hydraulico, PTO, 3 pt, 20 8x36 tres, 3,672 on retailt molor +JD 4430 dieset Tractor, quad range, 2 hydraulico, PTO, 15 4x36 tress, apprais 7,000 hours do singine & Flammund F256 Front-end Laseter wibucket,

grappie & joy stick +JD 4000 clean Tractio. PTO w/Farmhand F21

GUNS, GENERATOR & SHOP

- Winchester 22 bott action Rifle, model 67
 Renington 22 bott action Rifle, sense 4 95162
 Mostberg bott action 12 gauge Shittgun, model 639
 Phyther angle shut 410 Shittgun, model 639
- Flag 190 Surger stress 10 Smorpe, Hope (2) 190 Surger Titlen 6000 dieses Bernergtor (new) Titlen Heavy Outy Tillen Purre, TTP/000 Develop Chris Electric Diff Reminigron Chris Saw, electric Seans 4000 seath Generator

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- «Shovels, Hoes, Rules, Forts, Hammers, Some Tack «Shovels, Hoes, Rules, Forts, Hammers, Some Tack «Sheel Posts, Slarb Wire







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- Model 1000 Swing Tongue wildouble social stree & conditioner
 = D Mild Rotary Moses, put type (NEW)
 = D 500 flag Round Baler
 = NH Haylerer 300 Square Baler, FTO
 = NH 1000 put type flate Wilegon

- - n electric start
- JD Sickle Mover
 Farmfrand 5 wheel Ruke
 Foster Hay Wagon w/Wacomin motor (consigned 406-485-254b)



Bob and Barb have moved from the farm to Miles City the to health resource. They will be offering their full first of equipment at auntion. The equipment is field

nucly. Hope to see you ces Jane 16thl Rick

CONSIGNED - Gary

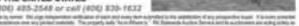
- JD 155 Riding Lawn + Squares
- e (5) Sections of
- Honemade Sculfolding + Stanley Electric Garage Door Opener
 - + 1.16 sack Con
 - Miser w/SAS 11 tp
 - (2) 6' Electric
 - Planers = (2) Power Wiriches Hidraulic Press
 - Deta 900 Arm See
 Rockwell Tools See
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 Cut Of See
 - (2) Air Nail Gurs Deta Doll Press
 - Best Slander Clourse Drifts &
 - Sizes Air Compressor
 - Electric Sharpening

- «Harmon, Save Electric Router +C-Clarge, Files +DH Bits.
- #(5) Lavels +Come-a-long +Cement Trovdis +Lindeum Roters
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- Digger = 5000 watt Light Plant Vise wistend
- Army Cars
 220 volt Extension

* Toobows

- Conts
- Battery Charger Car Rampe Steel Shelving (2) Grain Sin Jacks Aluminum Pipe
- « Aluminum Step. Ladder + Showis, Pakes
- * Hoes . New Pickup Mirro





USDA Announces Results For Conservation Reserve Program General Sign-Up

Interest High in the 26-year-old Conservation Program

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will accept 3.9 million acres offered under the 43rd Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up. During the extended five-week signup, the Department received nearly 48,000 offers on more than 4.5 million acres of land, demonstrating the CRP's continuing leadership as one of our nation's most successful voluntary efforts to conserve land and improve our soil, water, air and wildlife habitat resources. Under Vilsack's leadership, USDA has now enrolled nearly 12 million acres in the CRP since 2009. Currently, there are more than 29.6 million acres enrolled on more than 736,000 contracts.

"For more than 25 years, lands in CRP have helped to support strong incomes for our farmers and ranchers and produce good middle-class jobs throughout the country related to outdoor recreation, hunting, and fishing," said Vilsack. "As the commodities produced by our farmers and ranchers continue to perform strongly in the marketplace supporting 1 out of every 12 jobs here in the United States it is no surprise that American producers also recognize the importance of protecting our nation's most environmentally sensitive land by enrolling in CRP."

Enrollment of the new 3.9 million acres will allow USDA to continue important targeting of CRP acres through continuous sign-up initiatives including those announced earlier this year for highly-erodible land, as well as grasslands and wetlands while also maintaining and enhancing the significant benefits that the program has already achieved. The two continuous sign-ups announced earlier this year will target an additional 1.75 million acres in total.

For the first continuous sign-up program, USDA encourages landowners with land that has an Erosion Index (EI) of 20 or greater to consider participating in the Highly Erodible Land initiative. Lands eligible for this program are typically the least productive land on the farm. In many cases the most cost-effective option to reduce erosion is to put the land into a wildlife friendly cover, which will improve habitat and reduce sediment and nutrient runoff and reduce wind erosion. For the second continuous sign-up program, landowners with sensitive grasslands, wetlands and wildlife habitat are encouraged to participate. The grasslands and wetlands initiative increases acres set aside for specific enrollments that benefit duck nesting habitat, upland birds, wetlands, and wildlife, and provides benefits for specific conservation practices, including new benefits for pollinator practices.

CRP is a voluntary program designed to help farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers protect their envi-

ronmentally sensitive land. Eligible landowners receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland throughout the duration of 10 to 15 year contracts.

CRP has a 25-year legacy of successfully protecting the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States. Under CRP, farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams or rivers. The plantings prevent soil and nutrients from washing into waterways, reduce soil erosion that may otherwise contribute to poor air and water quality, and provide valuable habitat for wildlife. Plant cover established on the acreage accepted into the CRP will reduce nutrient and sediment runoff in our nation's rivers and streams. In 2011, as a result of CRP, nitrogen and phosphorous losses from farm fields were reduced by 623 million pounds and 124 million pounds respectively. The CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and associated buffers and reduces soil erosion by more than 300 million tons per year. CRP also provides \$1.8 billion annually to landowners dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs. In addition, CRP is the largest private lands carbon sequestration program in the country. By placing vulnerable cropland into conservation, CRP sequesters carbon in plants and soil, and reduces both fuel and fertilizer usage. In 2010, CRP resulted in carbon sequestration equal to taking almost 10 million cars off the road.

USDA selected offers for enrollment based on an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) comprised of five environmental factors plus cost. The five environmental factors are: (1) wildlife enhancement, (2) water quality, (3) soil erosion, (4) enduring benefits, and (5) air quality. The minimal acceptable EBI level for this sign-up was 209. The average rental rate per acre for this sign-up is \$51.24.

In 2011, USDA enrolled a record number of acres of private working lands in conservation programs, working with more than 500,000 farmers and ranchers to implement conservation practices that clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, and prevent soil erosion. Moreover, the Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, implement the Farm Bill, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers.



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Enjoy Milk Breaks During June, National Dairy Month

By Julie Garden-Robinson Food and Nutrition Specialist NDSU Extension Service

"Mom, milk break is done this week at school, so I will need something to drink and 24 birthday treats to share with everyone because my birthday is in the summer. Why does my birthday have to be in the summer, anyway?" my 8-year-old daughter exclaimed.

I think she delivered all this "end of the school year" and "don't forget my birthday" information in one breath.

"Sure, we can buy a snack for an early birthday party at school," I replied.

"We can have milk breaks at home, too," I added. "Did you know that a cow drinks 30 to 50 gallons of water a day? That would fill a very large bathtub."

She looked at me and asked: "Why didn't you tell my classmates that interesting information when you visited my class?"

"I didn't think of it. Did you know a cow produces enough milk to fill six gallon-sized jugs a day?" I queried.

"OK, that's nice. Remember, I need 24 birthday snacks," she reminded me.

I guess she was tired of hearing cow trivia, but I was having fun pestering her with questions.

"I have a joke, too. What do you call cheese that isn't yours?" I asked.

She shook her head but looked at me intently. I could almost hear her thinking: "This had better be good."

"Nacho cheese," I replied.

She must have liked the joke because she immediately repeated it to her older sister.

Although the school year is over, milk breaks make good sense for growing children and health-conscious adults. If not a milk break, how about a mozzarella cheese stick break or a yogurt parfait break this summer?

Children and adults benefit from the protein, vitamins and minerals found in milk and other dairy products. Dairy products are notable sources of calcium and most also provide vitamin D. About 60 percent of preteens and 70 percent of teens do not meet the calcium recommendations needed to grow and maintain strong bones.

Most teens, older children and adults need at least 3 cups of milk or the equivalent daily. Children ages 4 to 8 need about 2.5 cups, and children ages 2 to 3 need 2 cups. One cup of yogurt and 1.5 ounces of natural cheese each count as 1 cup of milk.

During June, National Dairy Month, consider these tips: Drink low-fat (1 percent milk) or fat-free (skim) milk. The calcium content is about the same regardless of the type of milk. The only difference is in the amount of fat and calories. Top your cereal with low-fat or fat-free milk. Add a dollop of low-fat plain yogurt to a baked potato.

Choose cheese with less fat by looking for "reduced fat" or "low fat" on the label.

Save calories by swapping fat-free evaporated milk for cream and ricotta cheese as a substitute for cream cheese. Cream cheese, cream and butter do not count toward to the dairy group recommendations.

Be cautious about flavored milks, puddings and frozen yogurt. They are fine as occasional treats, but they contain extra calories from the sweeteners and other flavorings.

Some people cannot digest the lactose (natural sugar found in milk) and experience gastrointestinal problems as a result. If you are lactose-intolerant, try soy milk, lactose-free milk or the tablets that can be added to milk to digest the sugar prior to you drinking it. Some people with lactose intolerance can eat yogurt, or they can drink small amounts of milk with meals.

Be sure you are meeting your calcium and vitamin D needs through foods or with help from dietary supplements. Read nutrition facts labels to know what your other sources are of calcium, vitamin D and other nutrients.

Here is an easy calcium-rich snack or appetizer recipe courtesy of the Midwest Dairy Association. Pair this colorful, tasty recipe with whole-grain crackers, carrot sticks or celery sticks.

Baked Spinach and Artichoke Yogurt Dip

1 (14-ounce) can artichoke hearts, drained and chopped 1 (10-ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained

1 (8-ounce) container plain low-fat yogurt

1 c. shredded low-moisture part-skim Mozzarella cheese

1/4 c. green onion, chopped

1 garlic clove, minced

2 Tbsp. red bell pepper, chopped

Combine all ingredients except red bell pepper and mix well. Pour mixture into a 1-quart casserole dish or 9-inch pie

plate. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes or until heated thoroughly. Sprinkle with red peppers.

Makes eight servings. Each serving has 80 calories, 3 grams (g) of fat, 7 g of carbohydrate, 1 g of fiber, 220 milligrams of sodium and 20 percent of the daily value for calcium.



Baked Spinach and Artichoke Yogurt Dip. (Photo courtesy Midwest Dairy Association)

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. cars · guns · woodworking · antiques · household

1ST DAY OF THE 2-DAY JIM RATH ESTATE AUCTION





LOCATION: From Tarry, MT-Take Road 253 S over Interstate for A/10ths of a mile, turn left lengti on Broadview Beech for 8.5 miles floods will be marked. + Lengt will be marked. evallable: OWNER: CLAUDIA RATH 406-486-5409

#4 Yoke 1885 Large Bell 15' Pole (goes w/Beil)

CARS WILL SELL @ 1:00 P.M. +1995 Zr-T Coope Indy 500 Pera Cor, Trop. 5.7 litter mater, 7,200 actual miles, unly 527 musts (purple, red & white)

+1994 Salarada Teoring Coupe, 2-door, Nurth Ster angine, Sun Reef, lauded,

59,000 entred rollin (peor) white)

*1978 Corvette Indy Pace Cor, 10,300 miles

GUNS, DOLLARS, BELT BUCKLES & MISC

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n/In the Inner Scope Ruger 343WWW77 bub action Bifu

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-Wochester 27 WIR Ring, Blodel 275 pump Rifle w/ As Scope Winchester 72 St. or 18 Model 150 ever action Riflerer/De-Pa-Scope -Workerter 223 Hodel 70 bull action Bills w/4s-12s Simmon

Workester 32W78 Special Model 94

Windnester 02-22 Short Single Shot

Elfe-brought -Baningson 300 WSR Model 700 holt action Rifle, black stock w/3a/9a Salmon Sorger

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Intel

-(1) larger Shooting Benches
-ECE: Numer Enteraining EX, Back
-Outloo Supreme (new)

Semanal May Gurn Court -Cata of America

- 1889 Silver Dollar

<251 Shanhown Dollars (24) Limited Edition Receive Bell Buckle Laborium

(4) Cherle Toront Selt Sociée -(13) Minetone Contennial Sult





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law lest **dichins**

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-Craftsman 10" Table Sew -Craftsman Ruster & Table Power Konit Wood Latte Blands Buffet

Seep or floor model lisables. -Wasel Working Tables on motors -Shop for 1755 Joseph (new)

WOODWORKING

Front Line Darry's Joines -Shop Fox 1 11 by Dutifallicity -Shop Smith 5-8-1

*Corporters Portable No Compress •ESD Conflore Moltiple Total Spend Festionar Power Actuated Tool ~Craftumen 19.2 Combin angle Shill

-Brotish to Nobe [new] Peolode Sectric Roller (new) -Devisit Drills in/charger, 1-8, 9 volls

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-Craftumur Sander, Philiphia «Air Parter Cable Steplies

-New STAirles Sprayer -Pert-a-Hulk Stone -Shop No. 4.5 hp

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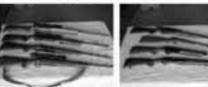
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AUCTIONEERS NOTE This is the 1st day of the TWO DAY Auction, Misst all of the items at this sale are in very good to excellent rendition! Tou will not be disappointed in anything yest are

looking for! We hope to nee yes early as there are more Remy than we could list. See yea on

FRENAY the 22nd. Elick

LAWN & GARDEN "Jours power proposed J to 24" Sees Blower w/Outes

"See G75 22" self-propelled pech Lown "face 21" sall-grapeRed, case larger

-Nadron 37" self-propoled laws

fiel Madies 27" (by Frey 8th Chipper/Shresdor, 845 1150

Roper 17" Bug-ton Tiller, \$15' motor Sale gor Wood Inter Broads Trianner (new)

High Libel Lave Back improved all al

Mix Leve & Gerber Legalise



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SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2012 at 9:30 A.M





JIM RATH ESTATE FARM AUCTION: SATURDAY. JUNE 23, 2012, 9:30 A.M.



Sandborn 60 gallon Air Compressor (like new) •1 ½ hp Band Saw •Century 160 amp Wire Feed Welder •Hydraulic Press

Pipe Vise ∍Chain Hoist

Cherry Picker Jeeper Creepers

Chamberlin Garage Door Opener (new)

Porter Cable 1700 PSI Pressure Washer

•Forney Arc Welder •Acetylene Torch & Bottles ∘AnviÌ

•Large Wrench Set (up to 2")
•1 hp Shallow Well Pump (new) ●Manuel Tire Changer (new) ●Craftsmen Floor model Toolbox

Snap-On Floor model ToolboxPickup Toolboxes Makita Chon Saw w/stand

1" Socket Set (up to 2 15/16ths) (2) ¾" Drive Socket Set (up to 2 ½") Rockford 2 hp Electric Grinder w/stand

Rockford Heavy Duty Drill Press,

bench •2 ¼ ton Floor Jack Lasota 6" Grinder

•Electric Grinders & Motors •Electric Winch (new) •(3) Stihl Chain Saws (1-electric) •(2) McColluch Chain Saws (1-electric)

Pressure Tank Propane Space Heater ∍ΔC Tester

Tractor Shop Manuals Gas Powered Light Generator
 Chains & Chain Boomers

Tractor Chains Misc Battery Chargers

●Air Tank Wrecking Bars, Saws
 Wrench Sets

Pipe Wrenches

Hammers, Screw Drivers, Chisels, Punches

Air Hoses, Extension Cords (2) Air Hose Reels (new) Come-a-longs, Tie down Straps Assorted Wire (some new)

 Submersible Pump Concrete Forms RR Clips & Spikes (many)Bin Cone (for bottom of bin)

Grease Guns •20# Propane Bottles •Forks, Shovels, Picks, Axes

Redi Bolts Truck Tires (some new)

•Misc Tires Several Ladders (some wood & aluminum)

Chevy Heavy Duty Rubber Pickup Box Mats (new)
Lots of Misc Oil (new)

 Lots of Oil Filters (new) Barrel Pumps Tractor Umbrellas

Lots of Sucker Rod •Lots of Oil Well Pipe •Square Tubing, 1 ¼", 1 1/8" (new) MACHINERY

(we will start the machinery line @ 1:00 p.m.) Intl 5488 diesel Tractor, 1000 PTO, 3 pt, 3-hydraulics, 20.8x38 duals, 5,117 Leon Dozer

 Intl 5088 diesel Tractor, dual PTO, 3 pt,
 4,316 hours, 18.4x38 tires (nearly new) & Farmhand F235B Front-end Loade w/bucket & grapple (new teeth & braces)

■Intl 3288 diesel Tractor, dual PTO, 3 pt, 3-hydraulics, 4,924 hrs, 16.9x38 duals (tires nearly new) •Intl 966 Farmall diesel Tractor, dual

PTO, 3 pt, 2-hydraulics, 16.9x38 tires, 5.057 hours

●Du Al Frontend Loader w/ bucket ●Intl Farmall Super C Tractor, PTO, 2 pt, ■Int| Farma|| 200 Tractor, PTO, 2 pt (new

McCormick Farmall Super M-TA Tractor, torque amplifier, PTO, hydraulics (new tires) & Farmall F10 Loader

 Long diesel Tractor w/Frontend Loader w/bucket & Kelly Backhoe Eversman 5 ½ yard Scraper
 (2) Intl 10' Hoe Drills, model 150, 12"

spacing, fertilizer (like new)

Case 7' Double Disc Drill, 6" spacing

(3) 8' Intl Double Disc Drills, 6" spacing w/grass seed attach, model 100
•Sunflower 21' Off Set Disc

 Krause 24' Toolbar w/double wing lift
 (2) Graham Holme 16' Toolbars Morris B3-36 Rodweeder

•Intl 5 gang Ripper •3 pt Track Wacker

3 pt Heavy Duty Snow Blower 3 pt Twin Flow Grass Spreader3 pt Sprayer w/1 50 gallon Poly Tank

 Du Al 3 pt Cement Mixer •Rhino 3 pt 8' Back Blade •2 pt Back Blade

2 pt 2-bottom Plow2 pt Post Hole Digger

 Prost Hole Auger (new)
 Hydraulic Log Splitter
 Brillion 10' Roller Harrow •Kirshman Noble Blade

Drags5-bottom Plow

JD 12' Cultivator (old) Tumble Bug Manure Spreader (old)

Richardton Dump Wagon Foster Straw Catcher

LOCATION: From Terry, MT-Take Road 253 S over Interstate for 8/10ths of a mile, turn left (east) on Broadview Bench for 8.6 miles Roads will be marked. OWNER: CLAUDIA RATH 406-486-5409 Lunch will be available

TANKS, LIVESTOCK, COMBINE, TRUCKS, TACK & BRIDGE PLANKS, RR TIES

•(2) 500 gallon Fuel Tank •300 gallon Fuel Tank w/stand (3) Pickup Fuel Tanks (1-new) 150 gallon Propane Tank •Galvanized Water Tank •Haybuster 256 plus II Round Bale

Shredder Du Al 600 Manure Spreader, tandem

Stroberg Portable Loading Chute (2) WW Cattle Chutes

•Palp Cage, Calf Table
•Calf Creep Feeder, galvanized
•(4 or 5) Portable Calf Creep Feeders (7) Cement Feed Bunks •Wood Feed Bunks

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•Misc Gates, Portable Panels, Feeder Panels •16' Wire Panek

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•(6) Horse Collars •(60+/-) New 5" Round Posts •(75+/-) New 4" Round Posts •(27) Bundle of RR ties (16 per bundle)

(15) 40' Telephone Poles •(60) 23' Telephone Poles •(8) 16' Switch Ties

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rixle w/5th wheel 1966 Chevy C60 single axle Truck, 18' Omnha hox & hoist

To Umana Dox & Noisz =2002 GMC Sierra Z71 step-side Pickup, 4x4, 350 engine, 53,600 miles =1987 GMC Sierra 1500 Pickup, 2x4, 57 I fiter engine, auto, 84,088 miles =1977 Chevy Scottsdale 10 step-side long box Pickup, 2x4, 4-speed, 91,925

*1977 Chevy Scottsdale 10 step-side long box Pickup 4x4, 4-speed, 85,780 miles *2004 Rubicon Honda Foreman ATV,

4x4, 2,204 miles

Honda Four Trax 250 ATV

ATV Sprayer 2006 Cargo Mate 21' Enclosed Trailer
 w/side door & drop-down back door
 1997 Featherlite 7x24 Aluminum

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Trailer

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE This is the 2nd day of the TWO DAY Auction. Nearly all the equipment has been ke inside. Jim took great pride in taking care of his machinery. Most all of the machinery in this sale is in very good to excellent condition. You don't want to miss this sale! See you on Saturday, June 23rd! Rick





















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Ribbon Cutting Held At Intake Dam

By Lois Kerr

The US Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation celebrated the completion of Phase I of the Lower Yellowstone Headworks Project by hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony at Intake Dam on Monday April 30. The \$17.8 million Phase I project saw the completion of a single diversion headworks structure that includes twelve double fish screens, sluice gates, and a new canal. The project allows irrigators within the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project (LYIP) to continue to receive irrigation waters and at the same time the newly installed screens prevent the entry of fish into the LYIP main canal.

Phase II will include the building of a fish passage structure. The Corps designed the entire project

to protect the endangered pallid sturgeon.

"Phase I will exclude fish from the LYIP main canal," says Jerry Nypen, former LYIP manager who witnessed the lengthy process required to bring this Phase I portion of the project to fruition. "The pallid sturgeon was declared endangered in 1990, public meetings were held in 2008, and the design work on the project started that same year. The Corps also began the environmental study that year to determine how pallid sturgeon react with screens and to discover their habits and how they swim."

The Corps made numerous changes to the design before finally reaching consensus with the Bureau and LYIP as to what design would work best.

Ames Construction of Aurora, Colorado won the contract bid to build the Intake Diversion Fish Protection Project. The headworks project has reinforced concrete pile walls and a bridge deck placed on 247 drilled reinforced concrete caissons 36 inches in diameter and 35 feet deep. The structure contains twelve separate fish screens, each with a sluice gate, hydraulic power unit, and controls.

"This was a big job to screen fish out of that amount of water," Nypen notes. "It was a big challenge, a massive undertaking, and it could be complicated to keep it running properly. The gates are fully automated and the technology will have to be kept up to date."

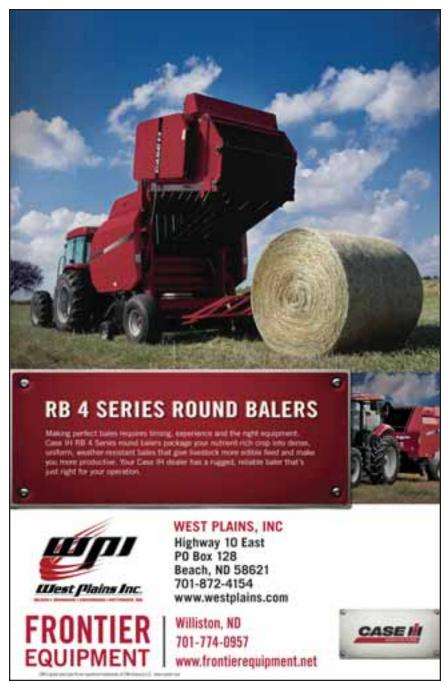
Nypen expresses appreciation to the Corps and to the Bureau of Reclamation, as the project required a lot of cooperation and communication among various interested entities for its successful completion. "Both the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation worked fully with LYIP," Nypen remarks. "LYIP participated in the design and construction, and we were very grateful for the good cooperation we received. I want to acknowledge this coop-

eration; we reached good rapport and an understanding of the needs of all of us, and we all worked together to achieve those needs."

He concludes, "The Army Corps of Engineers doesn't normally build irrigation works, but they undertook this large irriga-



tion feature. They listened to LYIP and incorporated the needs of our water users into their design plans. This was a good project and it took good cooperation among all of us to achieve this result."



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Rex Smelser helped start Pacific Hide & Fur in 1947 or 48, where Prewitt & Co is now. He retired in the 60s and his son Bill took over as manager.

In 1985 Bill was forced out of Pacific, due to his hearing. He and his son Bret both left and started Border Steel in Glendive. Bret's son Brady has worked full time since 2004 and is a partner in the business. Other shares are owned by Bret's sister Cindy Eleson, and his brother Todd's survivors. In the spring of '06, Border Steel opened its facility in Plentywood, expanded to Williston in '07 and came home to Sidney in December 2011.

They are truly happy to be back in Sidney. According to Bret and Brady, they "do it all". From new steel, aluminum and stainless to all your ag and construction and recycling needs, Border Steel & Recycling can take care of you. They also handle new and used iron. "We're adding to what we already had to offer from our other locations and growing on that," Brady said. He added, "This gives us the opportunity to better serve our loyal customers and to build new ones. Competition is healthy, the winners will be public-the consumers." Border Steel & Recycling can be reached at 406-433-7737 or toll free at 1-855-810-2995.



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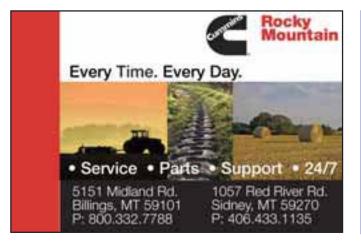
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Farm Gardens Can Help Feed Others

By Lois Kerr

It's time to plant summer gardens, and for those with extra garden space, consider planting a few extra rows of beans, corn, or other vegetables to donate to the Richland County Food Bank. This essential organization has seen an increase in people requiring emergency food, and farmers' gardens provide an ideal way to help fill the food shortages. Remember the Food Bank when faced with abundant garden surpluses.

"We will take garden produce," says Food Bank volunteer Gloria Yockim. "We truly do appreciate all of those who donate any sort of canned food, money, or garden vegetables."

The Richland County Food Bank seeks to serve Richland County residents who for whatever reason find themselves in need of emergency food. The Food Bank actively seeks to keep its shelves stocked with non-perishable food items and to give that food out to individuals or families when unexpected emergencies arise.

The task of keeping a variety of food available never comes easily. Thanks to the postal drive held in April, the Food Bank received over 1521 pounds of food for redistribution. However, the organization also distributed food to 87 adults and 87 children during the month of April, giving those individuals 5800 pounds of food, so the need to actively replenish stocks never ends.

The Food Bank, run entirely by volunteers, always seeks donations of food or money from the public. "Our shelves are currently somewhat adequately stocked," says Yockim. "However, items like peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, and soup are really hard to keep on the shelves. We gave out over 5800 pounds of food last month and if this continues,

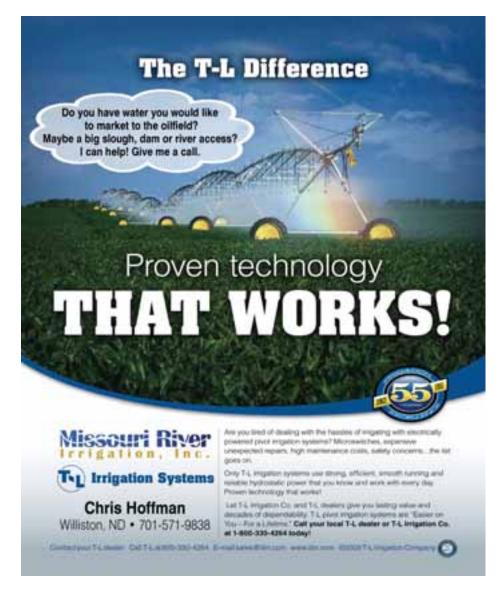
we'll be facing some severe shortages."

The Food Bank accepts donations of money, non-perishable food items, and in season, donations of fresh garden vegetables. Individuals have been a great help, and stores have really been helpful by donating cans of food that have been dented in transit.

Those who wish to donate food items, money, or garden surplus can contact the Food Bank at 433-8142 and leave a message if no one answers. A volunteer will return the call and set up an appointment for the delivery of donated food.

"We are all volunteers here, so there may be no one available to answer the phone when a person calls," Yockim comments. "If no one answers, please leave a message and we will get back to you. There is a lot of time involved and we do the best we can."

Remember that in spite of the oil boom, some people in Richland County have need of emergency food. Those who have time to spare are welcome to volunteer at the Food Bank; those who have cash to spare can make monetary donations, and those who have extra canned goods or who find they have an abundant garden can share their bounty with others by donating it to the Richland County Food Bank.



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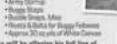
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Increased Wheat Grain Protein Can Be A Financial Boost To Producers

Agricultural scientists with Montana State University Extension are encouraging farmers to consider techniques that can increase wheat grain protein, which can be a financial boost to producers.

In a recently published a bulletin entitled "Practices to Increase Wheat Grain Protein," MSU Extension presents crop and fertilizer management practices that can increase grain protein without sacrificing yield. The bulletin came out of the Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences and was co-authored by Clain Jones, an Extension soil fertility specialist and Kathrin Olson-Rutz, a re-

search associate.

Growing wheat with high grain protein begins with selecting the appropriate variety and providing enough nutrient resources to meet the wheat's requirements for growth and grain yield, according to the Extension bulletin. If resources are sufficient to meet yield goals, then providing adequate available nitrogen may be the most important management factor to produce high grain protein.

"Using cultural practices or adding other nutrients to increase yield without adding additional nitrogen can reduce rather than increase protein through a dilution effect," Jones said.

The bulletin also asserts that applying all the nitrogen required for high yield and grain protein before or at seeding is a risky practice.

"The nitrogen may end up in the air or well water rather than in the wheat," Jones said. In low rainfall years with relatively low yields, excess nitrogen applied early will not get used.

Residual soil nitrate can then become fertilizer dollars lost to leaching if followed by a wet winter and spring. In irrigated production, applying all the necessary nitrogen early in the season can produce excess vegetation rather than grain yield or protein.

The Extension bulletin suggests producers consider in-season nitrogen fertilization to adjust nitrogen rates in a high-yielding year.

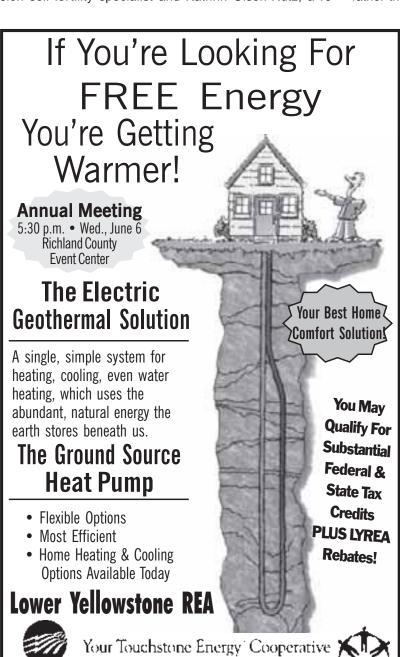
Growers can determine whether an in-season application has a good chance of increasing protein by measuring flag-leaf nitrogen concentration, chlorophyll, or evaluating crop health through aerial photographs.

Protein may get the highest boost with nitrogen applied at flowering. However, Jones stressed that the ability to incorporate fertilizer applied anytime between boot and shortly after flowering, with potential rainfall, is more important than timing the application exactly at flowering.

"In dryland production, nitrogen applied lateseason is nitrogen and money potentially lost if there is insufficient rainfall after application to move the fertilizer into the soil and allow plant uptake of added nitrogen," Jones said.

Producers are encouraged to always use application methods that maximize nitrogen use efficiency, especially by minimizing ammonia loss to the atmosphere.

The decision to apply mid- to late-season nitrogen to increase protein should be based on a number of factors: The ability to apply nitrogen without severely damaging the crop, the potential protein response to late-season nitrogen, and whether protein discounts are sufficiently high to justify the cost. Jones acknowledged that producers have little or no control over the latter two items.



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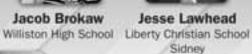


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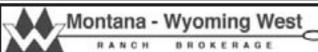


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Do Montanans Really Want More Bison, Or Is The Interest From Outside?

By Watty Taylor Montana Stockgrowers Association president

As the state begins serious discussions about the potential of establishing a "free roaming" herd of bison in Montana, there seems to be a lot of disparity in opinions. Some would like to see us return to the time when bison roamed the plains without the annoyances of modern towns, farms and ranches, or a web of highways and railroads. Others



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King Ranch: This ranch has 3,100 contiguous deeded acres, farms 1,200 acres, and summers 200 cows. The 6,100 sq ft executive 6 bedroom home has outstanding views of the Beartooth and Crazy Mountains. The King Ranch is 20 miles NW of Billings, MT, \$2,690,000. Call Jeff Klaus-406-855-1081

Reservoir Ranch: This 275 cow ranch puts up 2,000 ton of quality hay using 4 pivots (1 new) and side rolls. The large reservoir is used for irrigation and attracts a lot of waterfowl. A large spring supplies irrigation water, and is home for large trout. The ranch fronts HWY 91 and Interstate 15 only 8 miles north of Dillon, MT. Call Clifton 406-860-7319

Philipsburg Valley Ranch: This 550-600 cow ranch has 7 pivots, and puts up 1,600 ton of hay. There are 2 miles of Trout Creek. Elk frequent the ranch in large numbers. Moose, sheep & mountain goats are in this area. Georgetown Lake (summer water skiing) and winter snow skiing at Discovery Basin are 10 minutes away. Phillipsburg, MT. Call Clifton 406-860-7319

Alder Gulch Ranch: This beautiful 566 acre Wyoming ranch is only 12 miles southwest of Sheridan at the base of the Bighorn Mountains. The historic Bozeman Trail crosses this ranch. A polo field is a couple minutes away. Deer and elk have been taken on the ranch. The owners have meticulously managed this cattle operation for several generations. Sheridan, WY. Call Clifton 406-860-7319

Dry Creek Ranch: This 480 acre ranch has irrigated hay meadows and dense pine timber creating a wildlife paradise. The shooting preserve license can be renewed. Pheasants, turkeys, deer, and routinely elk dine here. The modest ranch improvements adjacent to the county road are only 3 mile southwest of Melstone, MT. Call Leff Klaus-406-855-1081

Twin Creeks Ranch: ½ mile of the South Fork of MacDonald Creek and one half mile of Duncan Creek join on the ranch. The 3,700 sq ft home, barn, shop, corrals, and outbuildings are picture perfectly maintained. 18 miles from either Lewistown or Grass Range, or just west of the pristine village of Forest Park, MT. Call Jeff Klaus-406-855-1081

South Willow Creek Pasture: Currently this property is returning \$32,808 annually in CRP payments plus hay and/or grazing income creating an excellent investment. Large mule deer bucks have been taken. There is a well, with electricity, and a pipeline. This 2320 acre fenced property borders Hwy 12 only 5 miles east of Roundup, MT. Call Jeff Klaus-406-855-1081

can see only conflicts with establishing a herd of "wild" bison in the state. It's quite the debate. Our question is: have Montanans expressed a true desire to see more bison, or is the pressure coming from outside our state? We do not know of any area in Montana where the local community is clamoring for a truly free roaming bison herd.

Montana is already home to many significant bison herds. There's the herd at the National Bison Range in Moiese, the wild bison in Yellowstone National Park, and many other private herds that are raised both for conservation purposes and for agricultural purposes. Why do we need to establish another herd, let alone a free roaming one? Is it about preserving genetics of wild bison? Preservation is already happening. People and groups all across the West have been working to preserve the genetic integrity of bison. If genetics is not the issue, then what is? Hunting? There are bison hunting opportunities here in Montana both privately and publicly near Yellowstone National Park. There are also other great opportunities in states like Utah. Is there really that much interest in more hunting opportunities for bison?

Some of the outside interests pushing the hardest for a free roaming bison herd say that because of Montana's proud wildlife heritage, we should restore bison in a free roaming capacity "just because." Ranchers certainly understand the importance of protecting Montana's wildlife heritage. In fact, ranchers work hard to steward the private and public lands that provide the majority of habitat for wildlife in our state. Bison are being conserved in Montana and throughout the West, so the question we should be asking is what benefit will another herd really provide? Or perhaps more importantly: what impact will these animals have on our working lands in Montana that provide the foundation of our economy as well as our beautiful scenery and important wildlife habitat?

Restoring wildlife just for the sake of doing it isn't a good enough reason to move ahead with this effort. Montanans have seen the problems associated with wolf reintroduction and the effects it has had on other wildlife species and on our working lands. It is the private landowners and local communities who typically shoulder the burden when it comes to these efforts. Bison are already being conserved in a responsible manner that takes into consideration genetic diversity, hunting opportunities and the realities of our modern day infrastructure as a state. Let us not allow outside interests to come into our state, dictate what happens here and then leave us high and dry with an unnecessary mess, and bill, to deal with.

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North Dakota FSA Announces CRP Signup 43 Results

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced that it will accept 3.9 million acres offered nationwide under Farm Service Agency's 43rd Conservation Reserve Program general signup. In North Dakota, 190 thousand acres were accepted into CRP.

"2,017 out of 3,513 CRP offers were accepted, which is right around 57% percent," North Dakota State Executive Director Aaron Krauter said. "County offices across North Dakota are preparing written notifications to everybody who submitted offers. Please give the offices a few days to process those notification letters and get them in the mail."

CRP is a voluntary program designed to help farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers protect their environmentally sensitive land. Eligible landowners receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland throughout the duration of 10 to 15 year contracts.

USDA selected offers for enrollment based on an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) comprised of five environmental factors plus cost. The five environmental factors are wildlife enhancement, water quality, soil erosion, enduring benefits and air quality. The minimum selected EBI level for Signup 43 was 209.

Enrollment of the new acres will allow USDA to continue important targeting of CRP acres through continuous signup initiatives including those announced earlier this year for highly-erodible land, as well as grasslands and wetlands while also maintaining and enhancing the significant benefits the program has already achieved. The two continuous signup initiatives announced earlier this year will target an

additional 1.75 million acres nationwide.

As of April 2012, North Dakota had 2.39 million acres enrolled in CRP. After accounting for the newly accepted contracts, more than 645,000 acres are scheduled to come out of CRP in North Dakota this year.

"We would like to remind those producers whose Signup 43 CRP offers were not accepted that they can explore additional options available to them under the Continuous CRP Signup," Krauter said.

Here are the County numbers of accepted offers and acreage:

Billings Co., 4 offers accepted, 955.8 total acres accepted,

Dunn Co., 12 offers accepted, 1,406.9 total acres accepted,

Golden Valley Co., 12 offers accepted, 1,406.9 total acres accepted.

McKenzie Co., 3 offers accepted, 253.7 total acres accepted,

Mountrail Co., 44 offers accepted, 4023.8 total acres accepted,

Ransom Co., 37 offers accepted, 1301.5 total acres accepted,

Sheridan Co., 9 offers accepted, 1,200.0 total acres accepted,

Stark Co., 50 offers accepted, 6,264.7 total acres accepted,

Williams Co., 20 offers accepted, 2,588.9 total acres accepted.

Master Brand Book Now Available Online

The Montana Department of Livestock's master brand book is now up to date and available on the web.

"We've had a lot of calls from people about the new brand book, and now they can see it online," said John Grainger, administrator for the department's Brands Enforcement Division.

The brand book, commonly referred to as the "brands bible," is updated every 10 years after rerecord, and features all of the brands available in the state. It's posted on the department's web site as a 6-part PDF file, which users can view online or download to their computers for off-line review.

The book has never before been available online; those who wanted to see it had to make a trip to the department's Helena headquarters.

"This will make it a lot easier for brand applicants," Grainger said. "Montana is a pretty big state, and it was

tough for some people to make the trip to Helena."

The book includes brands vacated during the recent rerecord, but Grainger cautioned that not all vacated brands will be available for purchase, and that not all of the brands listed in the book will be available.

"All of the brands we issue must be checked for conflicts with other brands, and must be in a format we still issue," Grainger explained.

Checking for conflicts means that the brand the applicant is applying for must be compared to other brands in the applicant's area. If it's too similar - i.e., if it's something that can be easily altered to look like another brand - it can't be issued.

"In other words, just because it's in the brand book doesn't necessarily mean that brand will be available to you." Grainger said.

County brand books, which list issued brands and owners by county, are also up to date and available to order.

About The Ag Roundup



The Ag Roundup is a monthly Farm & Ranch Magazine. It is delivered to over 10,000 farm & ranch families in Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana. The advertising and news deadline for the July issue is June 26.

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Nature Inspires Local Artist

By Lois Kerr

Growing up on a farm can help define a person and shape her perspective of life. For those who have a passion for art, the farm lifestyle can also add depth and feeling to the artwork. North Dakota native and artist Naomi Pannell, who recently moved to the Sidney area with her husband, believes that her farm background fueled her love of animals and the land, both of which are recurring themes in her artwork.

"I grew up on a farm and I developed my love of nature in the process," Pannell says. "The farm was fundamental to my upbringing. My nuclear family and the prairie was my world, and it defined and shaped me. I learned to listen to nature and I try to communicate this in my paintings and artwork."

Pannell, always pulled by the urge to draw, grew up with a pencil in her hand. "I've always had a passion for art; it is part of my environment," she remarks. "My mother was an artist and she was always painting, so art was always a part of my life. I love the smell of charcoal, lead and paints. It gives me great pleasure; it's like the pleasures others may get from eating candy."

Pannell works with a variety of mediums, including pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, acrylics, and enamels, to achieve her end product. She'll also use any available object as the recipient of her drawing and painting. "I paint on anything," she says. "I've painted on walls, canvas, eggs, cars, doors, metal objects, and I've done a painting on a tablecloth. I'll use found articles, such as a door I found at the dumpster, to paint on."

Pannell paints what inspires her, but she favors landscapes, scenery, water, and animals as the main themes of her work. The more detail a picture requires, the better she enjoys the creative process. She also does portraits and she loves painting murals. "Murals impact the aesthetic value of a building," she comments. "I did several murals when I lived in Wisconsin, for both public view and for individuals. I'd love to paint some murals in Sidney, and I've identified a few ideal buildings for these projects."

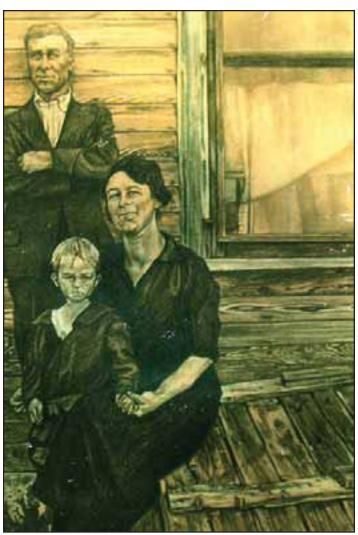
She adds, "I really think murals would be a benefit to Sidney."

Producing fine artwork requires dedication, time, and effort. The work can present a challenge, but Pannell thrives on challenges. "Art is work," she states. "I'm always learning during the process, and there is always something I need to work out in a painting. However, the challenge is fun. It's like Sudoku presents a challenge; it may be difficult but it is fun to do and when the puzzle is solved you have a feeling of accomplishment. Art is the same way."

Focusing on a project helps Pannell develop selfdiscipline and she takes pride in the end product. "There is tactile satisfaction in the process and when I am done, I have accomplished something and created something nice," she says. "I get enjoyment out of disciplining myself and conquering the difficulties I encounter during the creative process. I used to doubt myself but art has helped me develop self-confidence. I can do this and I can produce a work of art."

Pannell also creates jewelry, she produces sculptures, and she does face painting. She considers her sculpture a secondary art form. "I do the sculpting just for fun," she says. "I use a bake in the oven product to make little animals, people, miniature things for my little miniature dioramas that I build. I made a whole little world beginning with my navy brother-in-law's flight deck boot."

Pannell says of her face painting, "I also do face painting for kids' parties, outdoor events, and other occasions. I plan on being at the upcoming art fair as that is a lot of fun. The kids know the spirit of art just like they know the spirit of God, way easier than adults do. They really are joyous and precious."



Pannell painted this portrait of her father as a youngster, along with his parents on the old homestead.



Pannell enjoys painting murals. This is one she painted for a private individual to brighten up a bathroom.

Pannell believes art is an essential part of our lives. "Art is communication," she remarks. "Art is like prayer, and we need to value art in ourselves and in others. Art is not a luxury; it is a necessity like food and drink."

Pannell will participate in the Arts in the Park Festival scheduled for July in Sidney.

Pannell can be contacted at mimipaints 34@yahoo.com.

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Pannell enjoys painting landscapes

A Century Of Advancement

By Lois Kerr

We all know farmers and ranchers continue to implement new technology and that they have the desire to try new methods and ideas which enables them to become more and more efficient in what they do. New technology helps farmers grow better crops with less inputs, and new equipment makes the farming process faster and more efficient.

Stop and consider the enormous strides agriculture has taken in just the last one hundred years. We've gone from horse and oxen power to tractors and equipment that can seed an enormous number of acres in the course of a day. We've moved

from poor seed to reliable, certified seed that not only rewards farmers with an abundant harvest but that also have disease resistance or other desirable traits genetically engineered into the seed.

Knowledge of genetics has enabled livestock owners to develop breeds through improved genetics. Better breeding practices make these animals more productive, more efficient, and provide consumers with a quality end product.

The following pictures illustrate many of the changes that have occurred in the last century, and they also remind us of our roots and how hard our grandparents worked to provide a living for themselves and their families.



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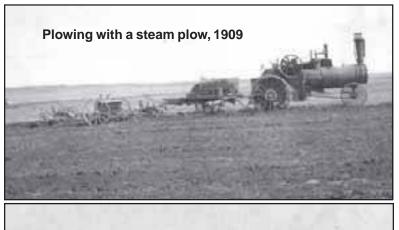




Banking, the American State Way.



Transportation, livestock conformation, landscape, equipment - all have changed dramatically in 100 years.





What a difference water makes to a crop. Just across the road from the stand of wheat shown below, less than 500 feet away, is a non-irrigated field of wheat. July 5, 1910.



Above: First potato planter on the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project, May 17, 1913





MDOL Recovers \$48 Million In Strayed Livestock

During the past 10 years, the Montana Department of Livestock has recovered 41,907 head of stray livestock worth more than \$48 million for livestock producers around the state.

It's a long-standing part of the department's tradition, said John Grainger, MDOL's Brands Enforcement DIvision administrator.

"Recovery of strayed and stolen livestock has historically been a big part of our duties," Grainger said. "We've been doing it for nearly 130 years, and have gotten pretty good at it. The big numbers are a testament to how well our brands system works."

Cattle are most often strayed when they wander off and get mixed with other herds. They're generally identified "in the country" by ranchers or local inspectors, or when taken to market.

That's where brands come in.

"A brand is like a return address for livestock," Grainger said. "If we find a stray with a brand, we're almost certain to find its owner."

But that's not always the case, especially with unbranded livestock. When ownership of livestock cannot be determined – such animals are called estrays – the department must provide public notice of the livestock found in the county where the livestock were found. The animal is then held for 10-30 days before being sold at market; proceeds from the sale are used to cover feed, boarding and other expenses.

"It's a hassle we'd rather avoid," Grainger said.

Livestock producers can take a few simple steps to prevent losing livestock:

Brand your cattle clearly and correctly with an iron of sufficient size (a minimum of 4 inches is recommended);

Rebrand any branded cattle you purchase;

Keep track of your livestock;

Keep fences in good repair;

Know your neighbors;

Know your district investigator and local inspectors.

Strayed livestock should be reported to a local inspector or district investigator, Grainger said, while producers who have missing livestock can check the department's online Strayed & Stolen Bulletin.

Branding livestock is also a good way to avoid any potential problems with theft.

"Theft isn't a big problem here like it is in some states, mostly because our brands system works so well, but it's a simple fact that unbranded livestock are easier to steal than branded livestock," Grainger said.

The department's district investigators investigated 306 felonies the past 10 years, mostly involving stolen cattle and misbranding of cattle.

People suspecting theft or other illegal activities involving livestock can call the department's Crimestopper's hotline at 1-800-503-6084. Callers can remain anonymous, and could be eligible for a cash reward.

New Mystery Set In Medora

North Dakota author Paula F. Winskye has sent her latest novel closer to home. "The Reverend: Murder In Medora" is scheduled for May release, both in paperback and for ereaders such as Kindle and Nook.

This novel is the fourth in her Tony Wagner mystery series, which began with "The Reverend Finds His Calling" in 2007.

When a small plane crashes south of Medora, investigators find bullet holes, illegal weapons, and thousands of dollars. FBI consultant Tony Wagner is brought in to assist with the murder investigation.

Tony's new partner tests his patience from the start. Before the case is solved, he finds his tracking ability, endurance, and survival skills tested as well.

His pursuit of the killer eventually leads him across the border into Montana.

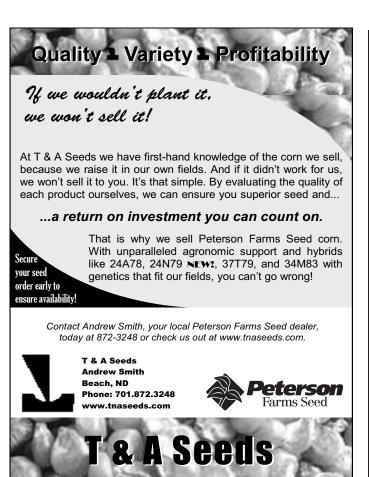
Peter Brandvold, author of The Devils Laughter, says "The Reverend: Murder In Medora", is "an enjoyable, suspenseful mystery tour of the Dakota Badlands."

Terry Shoptaugh, author of "They Were Ready", calls it "... a taut tale of gunrunning and murder that is sure to please her growing host of fans."

Winskye released her first novel in 2003. "The Reverend: Murder In Medora" is her 11th. In addition to mysteries, she has also published romance and family saga novels.

She is currently working on "Gold Star Lee", a middlegrade novel about a girl and her horse, revising a story she first wrote as a teenager.





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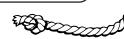
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Meadow Muffins... Gentle As A Dead Pig

By Ken Overcast

The sun was just beginning to set. Dick and Billy were perched out on the porch enjoying a warm evening last spring, when they heard the distinct rattle of a horse trailer coming over the hill.

"Wonder who that could be?" Dick belched as he reached for another barley sandwich. (He'd been on the wagon for a while, but because he and Billy split the groceries 50-50, he had to start drinkin' again just to get his money's worth.)

"I'll be doggoned if 'n it don't look like ol' Slick Jacobson's outfit," Billy slurred in reply as the pickup pulled in the yard. Slick was a horse trader deluxe, and always seemed to have some old plug in his trailer that was lookin' for a home. Ever' once in a while he accidentally came up with a dandy.

Sure enough, it was Slick alright.

"Howdy, boys," Slick called as he slammed the pickup door. "Nice evenin' ain't it?"

"Slick.... I thought that was you. I heard you was down to Arizona monkeyin' around on the racetrack," Billy hollered. "Come on over an' have somethin' to wet yer whistle." Dick dug out a cold one for their visitor.

"I jus' got back.... ran across the best lookin' geldin' I seen in a long time down there. I drug him back up this way an' I thought I'd give you boys the first chance at 'im. I think he's the best son-of-a-gun I ever saw... an' gentle as a dead pig."

After a lengthy visit and a little more liquid supper, Slick backed his geldin' out of the trailer to show the boys. He was a tall long legged thoroughbred lookin' bay.

"Boy, this guy can cover the country," Slick started his pitch. "Only seven years old an' gentle as a dead pig."

"You already tol' me that," Billy belched as he checked the horse's teeth.

After an hour or so of Slick's sales pitch and three or four more barley sandwiches, that horse really did start to look pretty good, and Billy scrawled his name on the bottom of a check. The bay gelding was his.

"I'm gonna name him Slick," Billy slurred at his horsetradin' friend. "That way if he ain't no good ever' one will know where I got him."

"If he's not just like I told you, you don't own him," was Slick's confident reply as he rattled out of the yard. Billy ambled down to tie his new horse in the barn.

The next morning that brand new horse didn't look so

good

"That durn Slick must have doped that nag," Dick chuckled as the bay flashed a white eyeball his way and stood quivering in the stall. "....gentle as a dead pig, my foot. Only thing he's got that resembles a pig is those itty-bitty eyes. You just been rooked, Billy."

Billy was too proud to admit that he may have made a mistake, so he saddled him up and stepped on in the round corral behind the barn.... just in case. It sure was a good thing. Slick took off like he was shot out of a rocket, and stuck Billy's head in the dirt. Now Billy's no slouch, but that gentle-as-a-dead-pig bay gelding bucked him off three times before he finally got him rode that mornin'. Dick could hardly contain his glee, and was thinkin' that this whole show was even better than the county fair.

Billy might be a booze hound but he dang shore isn't a quitter, and he finally got Ol' Slick where he could ride him..... at least most of the time. He spent the whole summer puttin' miles on that cayuse. His dumb pride wouldn't let him call the horse trader up and make him take the nag back. He was determined to make a horse out of him.

One evening this fall, Dick was out behind the house just finishin' up hanging some overalls on the clothesline, when he heard something coming up the lane. Billy was still out putting a few more miles on Ol' Slick, and was due back anytime.

"Sounds like a dad-blamed moter-sickle," Dick says to himself. That seemed a little strange. He couldn't remember anyone ever drivin' one in the yard before.

It was Billy. It seems he'd dropped in on one of the neighbors over across the ridge and traded ol' Slick off on that contraption. He was so glad that he'd found someone that would trade ANYTHING for that jug-headed horse that he'd forgotten the itty-bitty fact he didn't even know how to ride a motorcycle. But then how hard could it be?

Boy, was he a sight for sore eyes. His old hat brim was blowed straight up in the front, and his batwing chaps were floppin' a tune in the breeze. He smoked right through the yard with his saddle tied on the back and made two frantic circles around the chicken coop trying to get 'er stopped. Feathers were flying everywhere with the squawkin' old hens headed for higher ground.

Continued on next page.

Meadow Muffins...

Continued from previous page.

"Whoa!... WHOA!.... WHOA!.... you Japanese &%\$#," Billy yelled at his iron steed, pulling for all he was worth on the handle bars. "Look out Dick! I can't figger out how to stop this durn thing!" Dick jumped out of the way as Billy zoomed past, clipping the corner of the porch; disappearing behind the house.

Somehow he miraculously missed both clothesline poles, but in his haste to dodge between them, Billy forgot that the clothesline was just about neck high. As a matter of fact, it was exactly Adam's Apple deep on a moter-sick-led cowboy. It was an awful wreck.

Billy and his saddle wound up in a pile with Dick's wet overalls and two busted clothesline poles. The loss of its

cargo didn't seem to slow down the demonic motorcycle a bit. It careened headlong another fifty yards and then crashed into the creek.

"Where'd ya get that thing, anyway?" Dick asked.

Billy untangled his head from the clothesline and spit out a tooth. "None o' yer business! If you was a real friend you'd help a fella get that dad-blamed thing strung out so I could take it back home."

Dick bit his lip to keep from laughin' out loud. There's times a fella just has to get all by himself to get really tickled, and this was one of 'em. He fished the motorcycle out of the creek and helped Billy strap his saddle back on and straighten the handlebars.

June Puzzle Answers

Keyword: troubadour

Crypto-list: Florist, farmer, farrier, farm hand, fashion designer, film maker, fireman, flutist, factory worker, framer

Billy wasn't sayin' much. "Just point 'er towards the gate, an' git out of the way," he grumbled. Out of the yard he roared in a cloud of smoke.

A couple of hours later, he trotted back in the yard on a big long legged bay.

"That's about the best lookin' son-of-a-gun I ever saw," Dick grinned.

"Yep," Billy grinned back, his smile freshly missing a tooth. "Gentle as a dead pig, too."

Keep Smilin'....

and don't forget to check yer cinch.

Ken Overcast is a recording cowboy singer that ranches on Lodge Creek in North Central Montana where he raises and dispenses B.S. www.kenovercast.com





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