

SARE Offering Farmer/Rancher Grants

The deadline to apply for the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program grants is Dec. 6.



An important part of the SARE grant program is having producers share information about their project. (NDSU photo)



By NDSU Agriculture Communication

Farmers and ranchers in the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program's North Central Region (NCR-SARE) have until Dec. 6 to submit grant proposals to explore sustainable agriculture solutions to problems on the farm or ranch.

"Proposals should show how farmers and ranchers plan to use their own innovative ideas to explore sustainable agriculture options and how they will share project results," says Karl Hoppe, a North Dakota State University Extension livestock systems specialist and North Dakota SARE coordinator.

"Sustainable agriculture is good for the environment, profitable and socially responsible," he adds. "Projects should emphasize research or education/demonstration."

The North Central Region consists of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota,

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin. The NCR-SARE program receives its funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

NCR-SARE offers three types of competitive grants for the Farmer Rancher Grant Program: individual grants (\$9,000 maximum), team-of-two grants for two farmers/ranchers from separate operations who are working together (\$18,000 maximum) and group grants for three or more farmers/ranchers from separate operations who are working together (\$27,000 maximum). NCR-SARE expects to fund about 40 projects in the 12-state North Central Region with this round of grants. A total of approximately \$600,000 is available for this program.

NCR-SARE will accept online submissions for the grants. Visit https://tinyurl.com/SARE-Farmer-RancherGrants for details or to submit an application. Proposals are due by 4 p.m. CST on Dec. 6.

For more information, contact:

- Hoppe in Carrington at 701-652-2951 or karl. hoppe@ndsu.edu
- North Dakota SARE coordinator Bill Hodous in Devils Lake at 701-662-7030 or bill.hodous@ndsu.edu
- North Dakota SARE coordinator Clair Keene in Williston at 701-774-4315 or clair.keene@ndsu.edu
- Joan Benjamin, SARE Farmer Rancher Grant Program coordinator in Jefferson City, Mo., at 573-681-5545 or toll-free at 800-529-1342, or BenjaminJ@ lincolnu.edu



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Four Generations Of James Family Lefse



Marilyn James, 91, is the family matriarch and is still enjoying life. (Photo by Kathy James)

Bonnie
Guenther,
Kelci Rolfstad,
Kathy James,
Jessica Hanna,
Marilyn James
and Lohgan
Hanna getting
together for
a Norwegian
family
tradition.
(Photo by
Kathy James)

Kelci
Rolfstad
and Lohgan
Hanna
having fun
making lefse
at a family
get together.
Grandma
Marilyn is
in the back.
(Photo
by Kathy
James)



By Jaymi Loobey

This October 28, just before Halloween, four generations from the James family did something they've done through the years when they can get together. Kathy (Jess) James, her 91-year-old mother Marilyn James, sister Bonnie Guenther and her daughter Kelci Rolfstad, Kathy's niece Jessica Hanna and her daughter Lohgan gathered at Bonnie's lake house and amid much talking and laughter made lefse together.

Even though Marilyn is Norwegian and German, she had never made lefse before she married her husband, Frederick James. When Marilyn married him in 1949 they moved to the James homestead farm and ranch in Alexander, North Dakota. There, she learned how to make lefse from her sisters-in-law and Ladies Aid at the church. She has been making it ever since. While in Alexander, Marilyn would get together with the local women and make it every holiday season. Now that she has moved into the Arbor House assisted living in Williston, North Dakota, she makes it there. This year she also got to make it with family.

Lefse is a popular Norwegian tradition in the MonDak region. Many immigrants

from Norway settled in Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota bringing their customs with them. According to the Library of Congress' website, www.loc.gov, nearly one million Norwegian immigrants came to the United States between 1820 and 1920. That's the largest percentage of the population of any Scandinavian country. Although lefse is native to Norway the kind we know of here in the states is a fairly recent addition. According to www.norwegianamerican.com, potatoes are native to the Andes mountains of South America and did not arrive in Norway until about 1750. Before that, a flatbread was made in Norway and still is. According to www. lefsetime.com it was made from wheat flour, was like a cracker and would not go bad for the whole season. The lefse we know in the states is a simple concoction of potatoes, flour, butter, cream or milk, salt, and sugar. The potatoes can be mashed, riced, flour or instant depending on the recipe and is usually cooked on a griddle.

"It was Kelci's idea," Kathy told me. "She's an optometrist in Billings and wanted to make lefse with her grandmother, mom, and extended family." Kathy owns the James Gang Java coffee shop at the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum in Alexander North Dakota. It is open during the summer months.

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Christmas Tree Magic

Outside, there was snow on the ground and a chill was in the air. This was the special day I had been waiting for all year. This was the day we would go looking for the perfect Christmas tree. We dress warm for the cold and head on out to the pickup to take the trip down the long winding narrow road in the badlands to find the magical tree that would help fill our living room with the spirit of this special time of year.

The hunt for the perfect Christmas tree during my childhood was one I will always remember as being a special, magical time of the year for me. My Dad would drive down a long, winding road through the badlands as we would hunt for the perfect tree. Even though the weather was cold, the excitement of searching for the one special tree would make me forget the cold. To make it even better, you would always keep a lookout for the very special tree with the berries on its branches. Finding the berries would make the season more magical than ever. After looking at so many trees and finally picking the perfect

one for us, my dad would cut it down and we would make the trip back to the house to place this special magical tree in its rightful place in front of the living room window. The delightful scent from the tree would fill the room and make it the beginning of a wonderful time for me.

Next would come the decorating of this most magnificent tree. Out would come the Christmas decorations, starting with the strings of lights. The lights had to be placed just right on the tree to make sure our two bubble lights were in front so at night I could watch them bubble with wide eyed wonder. Next would come the beautiful decorations that had been saved from season to season over the years. I would take my time placing each ornament with careful thought of where it would look best on the tree. I would also string popcorn for that touch of white against the green of this spectacular tree. And last, but far from being least, the tinsel, and the placing of the tinsel would have to be just right so the lights of the tree would make the tinsel sparkle at night when only the Christmas lights would be glowing.

I remember many nights sitting by the tree watching the reflection of the beautiful lights on the tinsel and ornaments and being fascinated with the bubble lights and thinking that this was the most wonderful, magical, mystical time of the year.

Then presents wrapped with special Christmas paper, ribbons and bows would be placed under the tree throughout the season waiting for that special morning when everyone would gather around the tree and open their gifts. And of course, on the occasion when no one was watching, the shaking of the gifts wondering what wonderful treasures they might hold inside.

Finally, after Christmas was over, the sad day came to take down the tree. The decorations were put away once more in their boxes and each piece of tinsel was saved and packed away for the next Christmas season. And Dad would take out the tree. It was bitter sweet, knowing the season was over and it was time to prepare for the New Year but yet, in the back of your mind, saying this will be done again next year and the magic of the Christmas tree will enchant our living room once again.

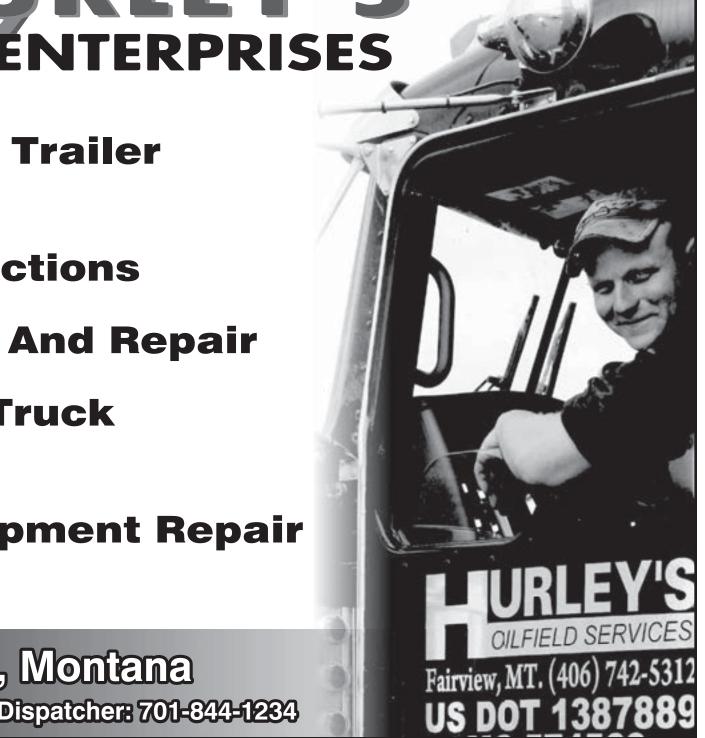




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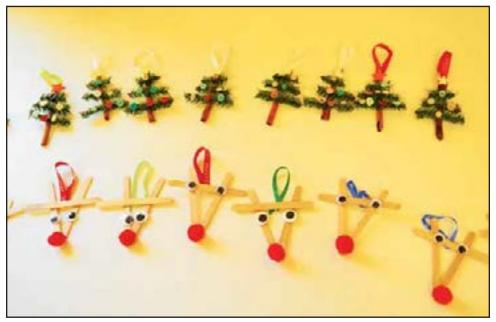
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Three Buttes Christmas Project



The Three Buttes 4-H club made Christmas Ornaments to give away, designed by 4-Her Addison Foss. The Christmas trees were made using cinnamon sticks and buttons, glued to the branches. The raindeer were made using sticks, googly eyes and a red pom-pom for the nose. (Submitted by Amariah Hier)

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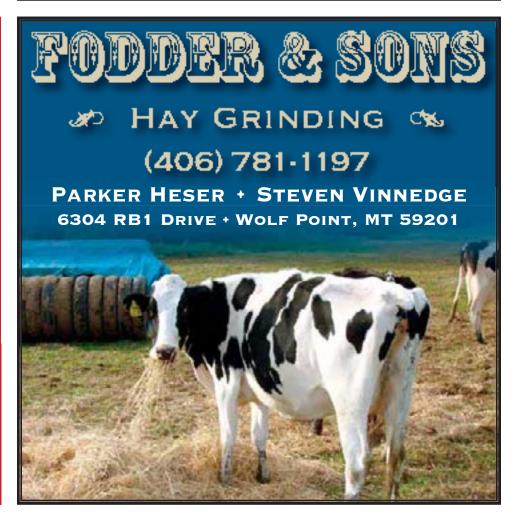






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Proposals for Pulse Research & Market Development Program Due December 8

Helena, Mont. – The Montana Pulse Crop Committee (MPCC) is seeking proposals for the Montana Pulse Research & Market Development Program. The MPCC invites proposals to fund research projects, market development projects and educational projects designed to address Montana's pulse industry.

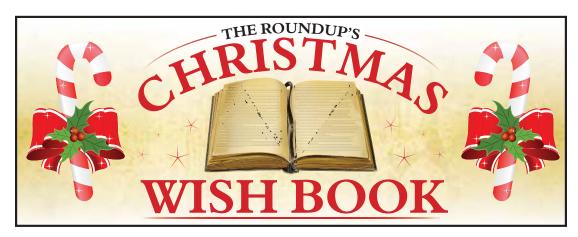
Research proposals are to be submitted through the US Dry Pea and Lentil Council (USADPLC) and are due December 8th. The Research review process will be held February 12-14, 2019 in Fargo, ND. USADPLC will finalize its budget by June 30, 2019 and award notices will be sent out in July 2019. For more information on research proposals, see the USADPLC Request for Proposals at: https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2002/2018/10/20181004_RequestForProposals.pdf

Proposals submitted for market development or education projects must be received by the MPCC on or before March 1, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Proposals must be submitted through the Webgrants system at fundingmt.org. Instructions on using Webgrants can be found at: https://agr.mt.gov/Commodities/Checkoff/Pulse

Visit https://agr.mt.gov/Portals/168/Documents/Pulse/2019PulseRFP.pdf for a complete list of guidelines and eligibility requirements. Questions on applications should be directed to the Montana Pulse Crop Committee, PO Box 200201, Helena, MT 59620-0201 or by contacting Zach Coccoli at (406) 444-0132 or via email at Z.Coccoli@mt.gov.

The Montana Department of Agriculture's mission is to protect producers and consumers, and to enhance and develop agriculture and allied industries. For more information on the Montana Department of Agriculture, visit agr.mt.gov.









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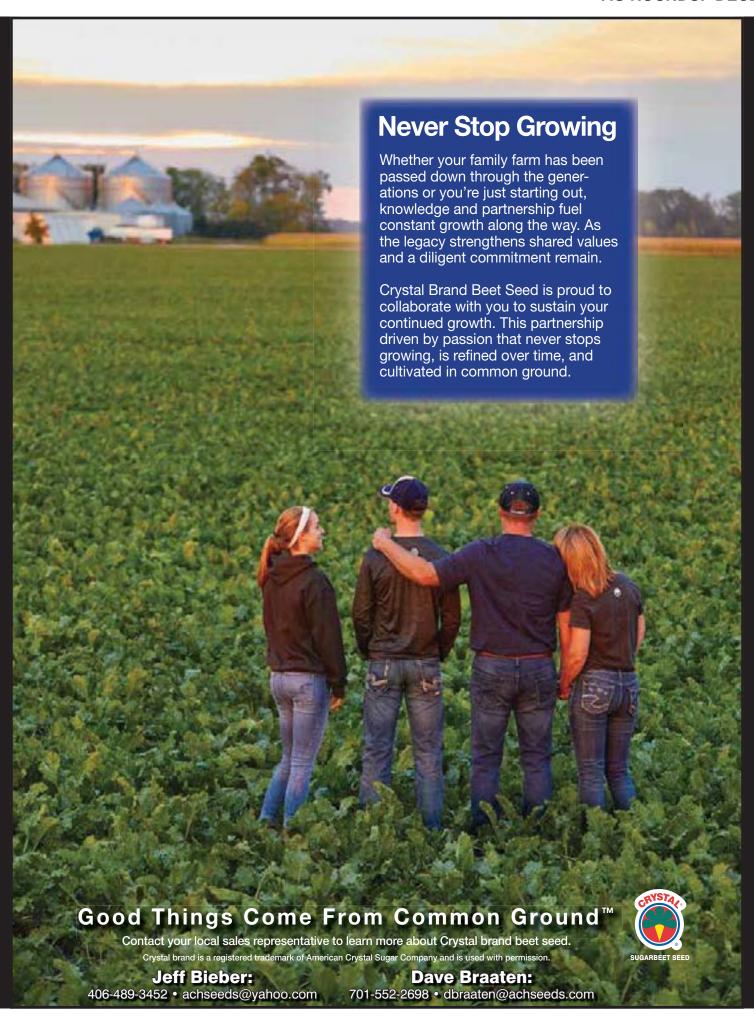
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McKenzie County Continues Christmas Traditions



Jim Konsor, at the Bakken Oil Rush Ministry Christmas Outreach. (Submitted photo.)

By Jordan Hall

The Roundup spoke to Marcia Hellandsaas, the McKenzie County Extension Agent, about how the local area celebrates the Christmas Season in their own unique way. Hellandsaas explained that McKenzie County residents typically celebrate the holiday with family, food and generosity-filled traditions.

Hellandsaas explained, "We're a very generous community that remembers the people who struggle. We do have a pretty large population that struggles in the oil boom. In the Bakken, we always have people here who struggle."

She continued with the various ways the community comes together to help, saying, "We have the Blue Santa, which is in conjunction with law enforcement and the Eagle's Club and give away presents there for kids. Social services does a great job and gives a lot to families. The Salvation Army rings bells at Cash Wise, and we're looking for volunteers to ring the bells. That's a tradition we've had for many years."

Hellandsaas continued, "Another one is the Bakken Oil Rush and their Christmas celebration coming up. They have a program. They give away a lot of presents. They have surprises for folks who come. That is located out north of the Post Office. They sell at very reduced prices, things like clothing, furniture, household items, all kinds of things. Their celebration seems to be growing every year. It is thriving. They have a meal, too."

The Bakken Oil Rush Ministry is run by Pastor Jim Konsor and his wife, Kathie. The ministry hosts the annual event with volunteers and corporate sponsors from the community.

Speaking of such festive giving, Hellandsaas said, "I think a lot of our Christmas surrounds that kind of generous atmosphere."

Hellendsaas, who grew up in the southwest part of the state, explained her own family traditions. They mirror the mirth and rich tradition celebrated by the rest of the community.

"We get together with both sides of our families," Hellandsaas explained. "I think we're really traditional like a lot of local people and families. We have quite a few relatives here. There is a lot of family. We are Norwegians, so there are a lot of us and we have Norwegian food and a fun Norwegian meal. We get together and exchange gifts."

She explained further, "That's our Christmas Eve traditionally. We go to church services. That's another one that we do, a lot of our family members attend. There's Christmas Eve service, but also Christmas day services that many of us attend."

"There are also a lot of families for whom it's traditional to get together and bake. They bake lefse. It's very traditional to make that dish. I don't know if they do it any more, but they used to do it at the Legion, senior citizens would come together and make it and give it away to friends and family."

Hellandsaas also wanted to clarify that the holiday for most local residents wasn't just about family, food and philanthropy. It is also about the birth of Jesus.

She told The Roundup, "Well, I think we really have to think about the religious meaning. That's when Jesus was born, and it's to celebrate his birth. It's not all just about traditions and presents. It's about his birth. "

Montana and Wyoming Malt Barley and Sugar Beet Symposium set for Jan. 8-9 in Billings

By MSU News Service

BOZEMAN — Registration is now open for the 2019 Montana and Wyoming Malt Barley and Sugar Beet Symposium, which will be held Jan. 8-9 at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center in Billings. The event is hosted by the Mountain States Crop Education Association, or MSCEA, which is comprised of industry representatives as well as Montana State University Extension faculty members.

The first day of the event will focus on barley production topics related to seed treatments and grain storage, as well as soil conservation and precision agriculture. Featured speakers include Raj Khosla, professor of precision agriculture at Colorado State University, and Frankie Crutcher, plant pathologist at the MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center. The second day will focus on sugar beet production, with Luther Markwart, executive vice president of the American Sugarbeet Growers Association, serving as the keynote speaker.

Additional speakers include Andrew Kniss, professor of weed science at the University of Wyoming; Chris Augustin, North Dakota State University Extension specialist of soil health; Mark Boetel, NDSU research and Extension entomologist; Alan Dyer, MSU professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology; and Ashok Chandra, associate professor at the University of Minnesota.

Pesticide applicator credits will be available.

Pre-registration for the event is \$20 per day and on-site registration will be \$25 per day. Please note that a \$5 convenience fee will be added to online transactions. A special hotel rate of \$92 is available until Dec. 30.

Symposium registration and other details are available online at mountainstateag. org/.

For more information, contact Callie Cooley, MSU Extension agent in Yellowstone County, at 406-256-2828 or callie.cooley@montana.edu.

Report Highlights MSU's Ag Research in 2018

By MSU News Service

BOZEMAN — Montana State University has released a report summarizing the university's agricultural research on subjects ranging from beef breeding to optimizing the protein content of pea crops.

The 2018 Research Report, authored by MSU Extension and MSU's College of Agriculture, highlights 11 studies conducted by MSU faculty throughout Montana.

"It's practical information that we make readily available so it can be easily used," said Megan Van Emon, assistant professor in MSU's Department of Animal and Range Sciences and a beef cattle specialist in MSU Extension.

"Each year, we hear back from producers and Extension agents that this report is extremely helpful with answering their questions," Van Emon said. The report has been published annually since 2015.

Each chapter of the report summarizes findings from MSU studies that have been, or will be, published in peer-reviewed science journals. Topics include soil fertility management for pulse crops, breeding of South African Meat Merino sheep, behaviors of sheep guard dogs and using beavers for restoring riparian areas.

"Everything is presented in layman's terms," Van Emon said. "We write this for a wide audience."

The goal of the report is to enhance agricultural production in Montana by providing information that can help producers make decisions, Van Emon said, adding that producers are encouraged to offer their feedback and suggestions for future research.

The 2018 research report is online at http://coa.msuextension.org.



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