

Farm & ranch monthly magazine published by The Roundup PO Box 1207 · Sidney, MT 59270 | 406-433-3306 | info@roundupweb.com

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Bronc Miller Memorial Team Roping Happening Saturday, June 17



Above: Test your roping skills June 17 with a 70% payout in both events! (Photo courtesy of Brittany Christopherson)

Right: Bronc Miller Memorial Team Roping is an opportunity to have some fun, win some prizes, and celebrate the life of Bronc Miller. (Photo courtesy of Brittany Christopherson)

By Meagan Dotson

Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual Bronc Miller Memorial Team Roping, Saturday, June 17 at the Burns Creek Arena located seven miles south of Savage off Highway 16.

The first event will be the #11.5 handicap with a pick one/draw one for \$200, 1.5 second handicap per number, capped at 7.5 heeler, and four steer progressive.

The second event is #8.5 roping, with a pick one/draw one for \$100 and three steer progressive. You can enter three times or draw up to six for both events.

Enter the day start by 9 a.m.; roping starts at 10 a.m. Entry fees are cash only.

Prizes include Henry Lever Action .22 rifles to the first in the average in both ropings, trophy spurs which will be awarded to the high money header and heeler of the day, and custom knives made by Kraft Kutters that will be awarded to the fast times of each roping. There will be a 70% payout in both ropings.

The Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers 4-H club will be providing concessions during the day and the bar will be available courtesy of The Wagon Wheel, Glendive.

Merchandise will be on sale soon. Pre-sale sweatshirts and t-shirts will be available for purchase online, with a limited amount being sold at the event.

The Burns Creek Arena was built in 1948 by Willis Wilson, his two sons, and other interested parties such as the Miller family. It is believed that Bronc Miller's father and uncle were two of the founding members of the Burns Creek Riders Club. As he got older, Bronc Miller became a member himself. During the 1990s, interest and involvement in the arena and club dwindled and the arena sat unused for several years.

"We all thought we should do something with the arena because it had just been sitting for so long," said Bryar Lange of his family purchasing the property.

Miller's daughters would later tell of how he would go to the arena every night and watch Bryar Lange, Jordan Skaley, their father Kylee Lange, Taylor and Randy Searer, and other community members work to restore it. Once restored, he went to watch them rope, mentioning that it was the highlight of his last couple years.

Bronc Miller Memorial Team Roping is made possible by several businesses and individuals who have sponsored the event, as well as volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy.

"The community we live in is great," commented Jaycee Searer. "Word got out about fixing up the arena and there were people there every night helping."

For more information, including when merchandise goes on sale, follow them on Facebook.

For other questions, contact Jordan Skaley at 701-595-1580; Bryar Lange at 406-480-3500; or Taylor Searer at 406-480-0309.

"The arena is part of Savage's history and it is a special thing that we all get to come and celebrate Bronc," said Jaycee Searer.



A AG ROUNDUP MAY 2023 Make New McKenzie Co. Fair Memories At New McKenzie Co. Ag Expo, June 14-17

By Meagan Dotson

The McKenzie County Fair is happening Wednesday, June 14-Saturday, June 17. The county fair will be the debut event for McKenzie County Ag Expo, with the ribbon cutting ceremony being held during the Bulls & Broncs event.

The carnival will run Thursday-Saturday; be sure to check out the vendors and take in the exhibits.

There is free admission to the Olaf Leiseth Memorial Draft Horse Event at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14. Events include an obstacle course, pole bending, swamper race, and corn cultivating. For more information, or to enter contact Peggy Hellandsaas at 701-570-9383 or Chris Kubal at 701-307-0516.

Thursday, June 15, is Military Day, 4-H clubs will be showing their animals, and there will also be a parade at 4:30 p.m. on Main Street, and a free beef barbecue at 5:30 p.m. At 7 p.m., Bulls & Broncs will kick off their event and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the McKenzie County Ag Expo will take place that evening.

The Demolition Derby is taking the spotlight on Friday, June 16 with their Back the Blue Night. There will be two classes which are limited weld and chain. Payouts for each are \$3,000 for first place, \$2,000 for second, \$1,000 for third, and \$250 for fourth place. There is an opportunity for an additional \$3,250 for either class that has 10 or more cars; the money will go towards mad dog and additional placing. There are no entry fees for cars; for more information on the Demolition Derby contact Travis Kubal with 223 Promotions at 605-354-5593.

Last, but certainly not least, is the NDRA Rodeo on Saturday, June 17 at 7 p.m., slack at 12 p.m. Saturday is also EMS Day. Admission prices for all events are \$20 for adults, \$10 for ages 7-12, and free admission for those 6 and under.

Groundbreaking for the McKenzie County Ag Expo took place in the fall of 2021, with the intention of giving the fairgrounds a new home. Be sure to take in the sites and visit their exhibit hall, livestock expo, arena and grandstands.

You won't want to miss the tried-and-true tradition of the McKenzie County Fair, or making memories in their new location, McKenzie County Ag Expo located at 12880 25th St. NW, Watford City.

Enter McKenzie County Fair Open Class Show

Submitted by Marcia Hellandsaas

Entry of Open Class exhibits in the McKenzie County Fair is from 1-3 p.m. and from 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, June 13, and 8-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 14, at the McKenzie County Ag Expo, 12880 25th St. NW, Watford City. Judging takes place from 1-4 p.m., Wednesday, June 14. Exhibit books are available at several businesses in Watford City and are also on the NDSU Extension Service/McK-enzie County.

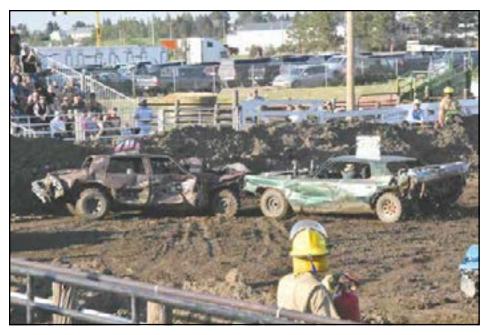
Top exhibit in each class can receive \$10 and monetary awards will be assigned to all exhibits receiving ribbons as follows: Grand: \$5, Purple Ribbon: \$4, Blue Ribbon: \$3, Red Ribbon: \$2 and White Ribbon: \$1.

Age categories for exhibits are: Children's Division: 7 years and younger; Youth Division: 8-18 years; and Adult Division: 19 years and up.

Open Class also features a "For Show Only" area for those who wish to not have their exhibits judged. Please feel free to also share your talents in this way.

Every reasonable precaution will be taken to safeguard entries. The Fair Board and/or Extension Service will not be responsible for injuries, damage or loss to exhibits.

For more information, please contact the McKenzie County Extension Office at 701-444-3451 or e-mail Marcia Hellandsaas at marcia.hellandsaas@gmail.com.



Demolition Derby is taking the spotlight on Friday, June 16 with their Back the Blue Night. (File photo)



Enjoy the carnival, June 15-17, at the McKenzie County Fair. (Photo by Tiffany Terry)

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100th Annual Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede Thurs-Sat, July 6-8, 2023

at the Marvin Brookman Stadium, Wolf Point, MT | Parade at 1:00 pm Fri & Sat



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JULY 10, 2023 7:30 AM REGISTRATION 9:00 AM TEE TIME FREE FOR FARMERS & RANCHERS REGISTER YOUR TEAM IN ADVANCE! CALL THE SIDNEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & AGRICULTURE AT 406.433.1916 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Culbertson Celebrates 60 Years Wolf Point Wild Of Frontier Days & Rodeo



Kenneth Arneson and Hunter Krogedal. (Photo submitted) By Katelyn Sponheim

The weekend of June 9-10, Culbertson will be putting on their annual Frontier Days, with their rodeo followed by a street dance both nights. A true community effort, local businesses and Culbertson Saddle Club members spend their time and money to keep the tradition alive, through rodeo association changes, floods, and maintenance challenges.

A new attraction this year is the Women's Ranch Bronc Riding, with at least ten women entered in the event. They will perform both nights along with the standard events of bull riding, bareback, calf roping, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, barrel racing, team roping, ladies breakaway roping, junior barrel racing, junior breakaway roping, senior men's breakaway roping, and the wild calf race. Slack begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, for those wishing to watch. Big Circle Rodeo will be supplying the bucking stock for the weekend.

While the rodeo will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday, and 7 p.m. Saturday, a community breakfast and lunch will be served Saturday. The Culbertson Fire Department will be serving breakfast Saturday morning at the school, and the Women's Club will be serving their Main Street Meal Saturday at 11 a.m., just before the parade at 12 p.m. There will be a beer garden, beef and cheddar sandwiches, and hot dogs next to the Old Armory. Friday the street dance will be hosted at the Montana Bar, and Saturday it will be held at the Saddle Club itself, at the famous barn.

The barn was renovated in 2014 and 2015, and far from its humble beginnings, now hosts not only the annual dance, but weddings and other events. The original structure was moved from the area between Bainville and Culbertson in the '50s and was used to store safflower for several years to pay for it. A favorite story among older members of the community is that when they moved the big red barn, they were cited by an officer for not putting a red flag on such a large building being moved down the highway. The men moving the barn responded that they felt a red flag would do little to make a large red barn more visible to other vehicles.

So don't miss the event Culbertson has been proud to share for 60 years with the surrounding community. Enjoy the parade, rodeo, and introduce your boots to the dance floor of their historic Saddle Club barn while you're there!

Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede To Celebrate 100 Years Marvin Brookman

Stadium, Wolf Point, MT The Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede will celebrate its 100th year July 5-8, in

I he Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede will celebrate its 100th year July 5-8, in Wolf Point hosted by the Montana Pro Rodeo Circuit 2020 Medium Rodeo of the Year Stampede committee, along with the many dedicated Stadium committee and community volunteers.

The weekend festivities will start Wednesday evening July 5 with a steak fondue at the Big Sky Corral and the Wild Horse Ranch Rodeo at 6 p.m., followed by the Kyle Shobe & The Walk 'Em Boys concert, located at Marvin Brookman Stadium.

Grand marshals chosen for the 100th are Clint and Arlyss Long, 40-year Wild Horse Stampede Committee members, who served as chairman and secretary for many years. In setting the standards that pro rodeo demands, the Long's Stampede legacy and what they are most proud of in their tenure, is the overall renovation of the arena and rodeo grounds at the Marvin Brookman Stadium. In Arlyss's assertive words to the committee many years ago - "We are building a facility."

Under their leadership the Stampede committee received numerous awards including WPRA's Small Rodeo Committee of the Year twice and Justin Boots Best Footing Award three times, Montana Pro Rodeo Circuit "Committee of the Year" 17 times and instrumental to the introduction of the MPRF Contestant Hospitality event.

Clint and Arlyss Long are representative of what is expected, of oneself, to be a dedicated committee member in service to the sport of professional rodeo.

RAM and Cinch jeans & shirts PRCA Rodeo action will be held each evening at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 6-Saturday, July 8.

Other events and festivities set for the 100th weekend celebration include the "100 Years of the Granddaddy of Montana Rodeo" 2-day parade, carnival, cowboy church, street dance entertainment by Jared Stewart & Jarred Hanson, re-enactors, the famous Catholic Hamburger Stand on Main Street, Stampede Fun Run, TETWP Stampede Roundup Golf Tournament Thursday and Tough Enough to Wear Pink Night, museum pancake breakfast, all-day activities at the Wadopana Pow Wow grounds, rodeo event Calcutta each night pre rodeo and Wild Horse Race Calcutta, rodeo specialty act "Haley Proctor" Trick Riding, Kids Stick Horse Rodeo hosted by Miss Rodeo Montana, bouncy house and Art in the Park. Additional events held in conjunction with the 100th Stampede will be announced at a later date.

Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede tickets available after June 21 by calling 406-653-1770 or stop in at the Main Street ticket booth in Wolf Point. For more information or for possible schedule change contact The Wolf Point Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture at 406-653-2012, wolfpointchamber@gmail.com, www. wolfpointchamber.com.

Richland County 4-H Holds Annual Communications Day



Junior Demonstrations (L-R) Beau Becker, Avynn Carda, Sam Snodgrass, Collin Coryell, Kamden Johnson, Briar Hanson, Leddy Larson, Brooke Skov and Kenzley Van Every. Not pictured is Cameron Coryell. (Submitted photo)



Senior Demonstrations (L-R) Addison Foss, Landry Larson, Garrett Larson, Cayla Hanson and Eva Srygley. (Submitted photo)

Annual ROYALTY OWNERS CONVENTION

Radisson Hotel Bismarck Reservations Call 844-202-2204

Wednesday June 14th 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM with a social to follow Ask about new "Intro to Mineral Ownership Class!"

> Thursday June 15th 2023 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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Lynn Helms - Director of the ND department of Mineral Resources

Ron Ness - President of the ND Petroleum Council

Justin Kringstead - Director of the ND Pipeline Authority

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By Josie Evenson, Richland County 4-H/Youth Development Agent

The annual 4-H Communications Day was held on April 18, at Pella Lutheran Church. Speech and Demonstration Day is a local 4-H event, where 4-H members get to practice public speaking skills that build self-confidence and self-esteem in these young people. This year 26 4-H youth competed in this event and were evaluated by 11 community judges.

This year, three Cloverbuds, 4-H members aged 6-8, presented a piece of their choice. Oliver Becker presented a poem entitled "Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall"; Claira Coryell presented the 4-H pledge and Josie Castro gave a demonstration entitled "Mini Cheeseburgers".

A demonstration gives the 4-H member the ability to teach others how to do something that they have learned, they present the step-by-step process to the audience and judges. This year, 11 junior 4-H members aged 9-13 gave demonstrations. The junior members that gave demonstrations were Kinlee Peters, Avynn Carda, Sam Snodgrass, Beau Becker, Kamden Johnson, Collin Coryell, Leddy Larson, Cameron Coryell, Briar Hanson, Kenzley VanEvery and Brooke Skov. Peters, Carda, Becker, Johnson, Coryell, Larson, Coryell, Hanson, VanEvery and Skov received blues, Snodgress received a red and Beau

Pollari. (Submitted
photo)Coryell, Larson, Coryell, Ha
received blues, SnodgressBecker earned honors as the top junior demonstrator.

Communication, Burton

Career

Senior

The Crown Division is comprised of junior members who have, in years previous, already won their respective division. This year, two youth competed in the Crown Demonstration division and taking top honors was Felixe Becker. Matthias Castro received a blue.

This year, three youth members presented a prepared speech. Tegan Turnbull and Elicia Snodgrass received blues and earning honors as the top junior prepared speech was Ayla Riordan. In addition to the prepared speech, we had two members who chose to participate in the impromptu category, both members, Felixe Becker and Hazen Foss, did exceptionally well and tied, both earning honors as the top



Prepared Speech, Elicia Snodgrass and Tegan Turnbull. Not pictured is Ayla Riordan. (Submitted photo)

junior impromptu speech.

In the senior category, Addison Foss, Garrett Larson, Landry Larson, Eva Srygley and Cayla Hanson all gave demonstrations. Foss. Larson. Larson and Hanson all received blues and Srygley received a red. We also had one senior member participate in career communications. In this category, youth get to go through a mock interview for a career of their choice, including an application, cover letter.

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resume and interview. Burton Pollari received a blue.

All top juniors will be honored at this year's Achievement Day that will be held in the Fall. All seniors that received blue ribbons and meet all other requirements are eligible to attend Montana 4-H Congress in the summer to compete for the state title. Richland County 4-H would like to thank all the judges, volunteers and Pella Lutheran Church staff for making this a successful event.



Impromptu Speakers (L-R) Felixe Becker, Hazen Foss. (Submitted photo)



Crown Division, Felixe Becker and Matthias Castro. (Submitted photo)



Cloverbuds (L-R) Josie Castro, Oliver Becker and Claira Coryell. (Submitted photo)

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Grasshoppers Are Hatching

By Marley Manoukian, MSU Richland County Extension

Grasshoppers have started to hatch and now is the time to begin scouting your crops and rangeland.

Grasshopper Life Cycle

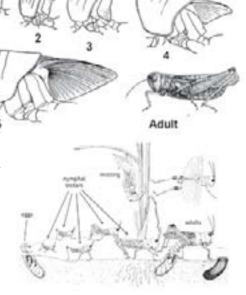
In the fall, adult grasshoppers deposit their eggs in the soil where they overwinter and begin to hatch from May-July. Juvenile grasshoppers develop through five nymphal instar stages (30-40 days) before developing into an adult with fully formed wings. Adults live for 40-60 days. There are a few species of grasshoppers that overwinter as nymphs; however, these species are not economically damaging.

Management

The majority of management options for grasshoppers rely on insecticide applications based on scouting and threshold of the crop. Cultural and biological control options are not generally effective.

Scouting

Crop fields should be scouted at least once a week. High nymphal densities can cause severe defoliation, however newly emerged grasshoppers do not need to be controlled unless their population is at a threatening level. Grasshopper numbers can be estimated using the square foot method by counting



the number of grasshoppers in a visually estimated square foot, and randomly repeating it 18 times while walking in a transect, tally the number and divide by two to get the number per square yard. When grasshoppers are in high numbers, it can be difficult to do the square foot method. Four 180° sweeps with a 15-inch net is equivalent to the number per square yard.

Control

It is easier and more economical to control grasshoppers while they are in their nymphal stages, because they can be killed before damaging crops, treatment prior to maturity can prevent egg deposits, and smaller grasshoppers are more susceptible to insecticides.

Control in Crops

For a list of insecticide options by crop, see the North Dakota Field Crop Insect Management Guide, available online or at the Extension Office.

The following table shows rates based on grasshopper nymph and adult counts. Newly emerged grasshoppers do not usually need to be controlled unless the population is at the "threatening" level or action threshold.

Control on Rangelands

A number of 15-20 grasshoppers per square yard is the economic threshold for treatment of grasshoppers on rangeland. These densities can result in up to 200-500 pounds of forage lost per acre. Reduced Agent and Area Treatment strategies (RAATs) can be used on rangeland to reduce control costs. For more information on RAATs and rangeland grasshopper control, visit https://www.ars. usda.gov/ARSUserFiles/30320505/ARS-PPQ%20Grasshopper_03-29-22.pdf.

Rating of Grasshopper Infestation by Count of Nymphs and Adults

Nymphs per		Square Yard	Adults per Square Yard	
Rating	Margin	Field	Margin	Field
Light	25-35	15-25	10-20	3-7
Threatening	50-75	30-45	21-40	8-14
Severe	100-150	60-90	41-80	15-28
Very Severe	200+	120+	80+	28+

MonDak Area Stockgrowers Association Spring Meeting June 15

By Marley Manoukian, MonDak Area Stockgrowers Secretary/Treasurer

The MonDak Area Stockgrowers Association will host a spring meeting on Thursday, June 15 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Sidney Livestock Market Center. On the agenda will be scholarship presentations, a Montana Stockgrowers Association update, North Dakota Stockmen's Association update, and the Cattlemen's Ball donation to area fire departments.

Meat will be provided by the MonDak Area Stockgrowers Association, but we ask that those whose last name begins with A-K please bring a salad and those whose last name begins with L-Z please bring a dessert.

Please RSVP to either the MonDak Area Stockgrowers Facebook Event or email mondakareastockgrowers@outlook.com.

Have a voice in the cattle business and learn about the current issues facing our industry. We need you to make our association work – your input, your ideas, and your participation will keep the beef industry strong and united. We hope that you will join us on June 15.

Agriculture Development Council To Meet June 9 In Lewistown, MT

Submitted by Logan Kruse, Montana Department of Agriculture

Lewistown, MT - The Agriculture Development Council will meet Friday, June 9, beginning at 8:30 a.m. to review, GTA FY2024, FADC applications, and address general updates.

Meetings will be at the Yogo Inn, Lewistown and on Zoom.

To request information to join the meeting virtually, please email Dani Jones at danielle.jones@mt.gov.

The Agriculture Development Council establishes policies and priorities to enhance the future development of agriculture in Montana. To view an agenda for the meeting and learn more about the governor-appointed council, visit the department's website at agr.mt.gov/GTA.

The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit agr.mt.gov.

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If you MUST exit the machinery for safety reasons, do the following:

1. Jump clear of the vehicle. Don't let any part of your body or clothes touch the ground & the machinery at the same time. 2. Land with feet together & hop away in small steps to minimize the path of electric current & avoid shock. 3. Reach a MINIMUM safe distance 5. Do not re-enter the area until emergency responders & your ele

4. Call for help. Make sure no one gets within 40ft of the downed line.

5. Do not re-enter the area until emergency responders & your electric co-op crews determine it is safe to do so.

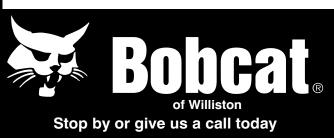
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Bees, Peas & Grasshoppers Featured At 2023 Froid Research Farm Field Day June 22

Submitted by Beth Redlin, Technical Information Specialist - Biol. Sci.

The Froid Research Farm Field Day is back and this year's event features a special presentation on native bees and other pollinators in agricultural systems, along with a special Beekeeping 101 workshop for those interested in adding honeybees on their farms. Grasshoppers, their biology and management, are also a topic of discussion as is new research underway on field pea.

Learn about all of these topics and more at the annual Froid Research Farm Field Day on Thursday afternoon, June 22, beginning at 1 p.m. The event is hosted by the Sheridan and Roosevelt County Conservation Districts. MSU Extension-Roosevelt County, and the USDA-Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) Northern Plains Ag Research Lab, Sidney.

The farm is located eight miles north of Culbertson, on Montana Hwy. 16.

Sidney ARS Pollination Specialist Dr. Joshua Campbell will be discussing his research into native pollinators in the region and their contributions to dryland agricultural systems. In addition, County Extension Agents Wendy Becker and Shelley Mills will be conducting a special workshop on how to effectively add bee hives to your farm, set up a beekeeper's calendar, and use Integrated Pest management to keep the bees and environment healthy. The duo will also discuss how to check for varroa mites, a serious pest of honeybees and considered a contributor to colony collapse disorder. Both Becker and Mills are graduates of University of Montana's master beekeeper program and have been conducting several beekeeping workshops around the region in recent months.

Other insect issues being addressed on the tour: Grasshoppers! These pests remain a key concern for MonDak producers following extensive outbreaks over the past two years. Sidney ARS Research Ecologist Dave Branson will be discussing current studies underway on grasshoppers and grasshopper outbreaks, as well as answering questions from tour participants.

Field pea research evaluating the effects of microbial inoculants on plant agronomics and soil health are also featured during the day with Sidney ARS Research Microbiologist Sakdikshya Dangi and Post Doc Rosalie Calderon. Plant Pathologist Frankie Crutcher, Montana State University's Eastern Agricultural Research Center, Sidney, will also discuss findings from ongoing MSU and NDSU field pea studies looking at Fusarium and Aphanomyces disease incidence under three different scenarios, including peas in a long-term, 2-year rotations with spring wheat; peas in a 3-year rotation sequence study with oilseeds and durum, and peas incorporated into a cover crop mix to replace summer fallow.

But the day is not all insects and legumes. Cheatgrass management with fire and effective greenstripping techniques to aid in wildfire management are also on the agenda, as is a talk on water availability following a cover crop, by ARS scientists, Carissa Wonkka, research plant ecologist; and Brett Allen, dryland research agronomist, respectively. Dr Campbell and ARS Research Ecologist Natalie West will also be discussing their study looking at the regional spread of Russian olive seeds by mammals. Finally, ARS Research Soil Scientist Upendra Sainju will be discussing carbon sequestration under perennial grasses and an annual crop.

The day concludes with a free steak dinner sponsored by the Sheridan and Roosevelt County Conservation Districts. Pesticide points are pending. Additional details to come as plans are finalized.

For more information, contact Beth Redlin at 406-433-2020 or by email at beth. redlin@usda.gov.

Sidney & Williston's Research Extensions Preparing For Annual Field Days

By Katelyn Sponheim

The 2023 EARC Field Day, Sidney, will start at 9 a.m. on July 11. They have an agenda packed with speakers who will be covering their current research projects, all of which affect our local farmers and crop choices.

Marie Dorval, MSU Ph.D. student, will be discussing intercropping chickpea and flax for Ascochyta disease management.

Followed by, Dr. Frankie Crutcher, MSU plant pathologist, will speaking on cover crops affecting pulse crop root diseases.

Dr. Chengci Chen, EARC superintendent and agronomist, will share his findings especially interesting to local growers looking for alternatives to sugar beets. His studies of mung bean, adzuki bean, and dry beans as potential rotation crops for the region include variety selection, planting, harvesting, and weed management. Dr. Chen will present with Dr. Maral Etesami, research professional, their study of camelina and canola as potential rotation crops for dryland and irrigated production systems.

Dr. Gautum Pradhan, NDSU research agronomist, will cover black gram and soybean variety performance; followed by Drs. Jason Cook, Mike Giroux, and several other plant breeders, discussing cereal crop breeding and new released varieties.

Lunch will be served at the EARC building, 1501 N. Central Ave., Sidney.

Williston's NDSU-REC 2023 Field Day will begin July 12, and plans to run from 4-8 p.m., at the Research Extension Center, 14120 Hwy 2, Williston.

Registration begins at 3 p.m. CT for those wishing to attend, with NDSU Vice President Greg Lardy and NDSU President David Cook welcoming attendees before loading the wagon to begin the tour. Speakers and talk titles are tentative currently, and subject to change before June 15.

There are three divisions of the Willistion-REC; Agronomy/Dryland, Horticulture, and the Irrigated Tour.

The Irrigated tour will be held separately on July 13, from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at

the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research and Development Farm, located 23 miles east of Williston on Hwy 1804.

Meals will be served at both, with the dryland and horticulture tour serving a steak and lamb dinner afterwards, and the Irrigation tour plans on offering hamburgers for lunch.

The agronomy, or dryland, section of the tour will host Hannah Worral, Minot Research Center, speaking on pulse breeding and upcoming releases, and Kyle Dragseth, WREC, will share their foundation seedstock pulse varieties at stop 1. At stop 2, Clair Keene will discuss Kernza perennial grain, also considered a sugar beet alternative. Lindsay Malone and Kelsey Griesheim are two planned speakers at this stop, along with Audrey Kalil, NDSU-REC plant pathologist. Kalil will speak on the impact of planting date on root rot of peas.

In fields 3 and 4, the third stop of the tour, they plan five speakers and an optional seed plant tour for those interested. Plotted speakers and topics include Elias Elias on durum varieties and breeding update; Andrew Friskop with a scab update; Charlie Lim with a weed management update; and Gautam Pradhan with guar and black gram trial results. James Rogers is a hopeful, discussing forage grass species selection and production.

The horticulture section of the tour was not able to share their plans at this time, but Tyler Tjelde, Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Farm plans to cover diseases in corn and small grains during their tour. Andrew Friskop, NDSU plant pathologist, will discuss weeds and weed management, especially in resistant varieties. Again, that tour will take place July 13, from 8:30 a.m.-noon., at the Nesson Valley Research Farm.

For producers, the field days provide priceless research updates and information valuable to their daily and future operations. They represent not only the last year's research findings and progress, but decades of scientists and agriculture professionals' labors to better our farming techniques and ultimately, results.

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Watford City FFA Livestock Show Open To McKenzie Co. 4-H Range Judging FFA Members From Any Chapter, June 16 Team Named '23 National Champions



By Meagan Dotson

The second annual Watford City FFA Livestock Show will be held Friday, June 16 during the McKenzie County Fair, Watford City. Watford City High School FFA and Watford City Middle School FFA will be bringing livestock along with static exhibits to the fair.

"Watford City Middle School FFA is officially the first middle school FFA charter in the whole state of North Dakota and we are very proud of this and what it will do for the future of North Dakota FFA as well as our community," added Watford City Middle School Agriculture Education Teacher and FFA Advisor Grace Dragseth.

This year's show will be open to all FFA members from any FFA chapter. There will be a limit of 16 registrants in each of the categories including swine, goats, sheep, and beef.

The Watford City FFA Livestock Show will be located in the main, inside arena at the new McKenzie County Ag Expo and will run from 8-11 a.m. The current schedule is swine starting at 8 a.m., goats at 8:45 a.m., sheep at 9:30 a.m., and beef at 10:15 a.m. Please be advised that this schedule is subject to change should the showings end up running early or late.

The Watford City FFA Livestock Show was started in 2022 by Watford City FFA Advisor Samantha Doneen and Alexander FFA Advisor Nettie Denowh because they recognized there was a lack of opportunities for FFA members to participate in the McKenzie County Fair with their livestock.

"This is a huge opportunity for members to get an extra opportunity to display their animals," commented Doneen.

Due to time constraints and scheduling conflicts with 4-H showings, there will not be a sale based on the Watford City FFA Livestock Show and FFA members will not be able to sell their livestock.

Registration for beef is full, however, there are still openings in goats, sheep and swine. Interested FFA members can register at <u>bit.ly/ffashow</u>. Members will need to show up with their animals prior to the event on Friday morning, be ready to show by 8 a.m., and be wearing a collared shirt. There will be prizes for the best dressed in each species.

Be sure to check out all the hard work and showcasing skills these FFA members have put into their animals and show them your support at the 2023 McKenzie County Fair!



The McKenzie County 4-H Range Judging team at the 2023 National Land and Range judging contest in Oklahoma. At the top (L-R) is Sylvia Boekelman, Ryan Pingel, Luke Smith, Coach Morgan Wisness, Paige Delaney and underneath is Coach Devan Leo. (Submitted photo)

By Meagan Dotson

The McKenzie County 4-H Range Judging team came home as national champions after attending the 2023 National Land and Range Judging Contest in El Reno, OK. The contest was held May 2-4 at the Canadian County Expo Center. The team consists of Paige Delaney, who was named the individual national champion, Ryan Pingel, Luke Smith, Sylvia Boekelman along with Head Coach Morgan Wisness and Coach Devan Leo. Kevin Sedivec assisted with coaching while the team was in Oklahoma.

Range Judging challenges teams and individuals on their knowledge of native and invasive grasses, forbs, trees and shrubs. It also requires knowledge as to if those plants are annuals, perennials, or biennial. They must know which plants increase or decrease under grazing pressure, if it is desirable or undesirable for forage for cattle and grouse, and if each plant makes adequate cover for grouse.

"Ecological sites are a part of range judging. Those sites are marked off and then the 4-Hers assess the plant matter in the site and determine desirable vs. undesirable," explained Leo. "They then estimate percentages of each within the site. Those percentages then help them calculate if this eco site needs to be adjusted in any way if it's not desirable for livestock and grouse."

Judging is based on points and each plant is worth ten points for correctly identifying it and naming its characteristics; if the plant is misidentified, no points are awarded. Plants are denoted with marker flags and individuals work two plant lines, consisting of ten plants per line. They then judge three ecological sites. Each judging is done individually and the top three scores from each team are combined for the team score.

In the long term, Range Judging is a great foundation for anyone interested in becoming a range scientist, ecologist, or any other field that would require someone the ability to "read" the range in order to make appropriate management decisions.

The McKenzie County National Champion Range Judging team was welcomed home and celebrated by their community for all of their hard work and knowledge.

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Century Of Of Rodeo Tradition In Mildeer By Katelyn Sponheim



Photo submitted

A hundred years is a long time

to keep a great show going, but Killdeer has been doing exactly that as of 2023. Sam Rhoades started the event in 1924 with true wild horses off the Porter and McCloud ranches, but today Sparky at J Bar J Pro Rodeo, Circle, MT, and Pickett Pro Rodeo, Fairfield, TX, supply the roughstock. While the rodeo evolving from a wild show of cowboy ability to a professional rodeo on the PRCA Badlands circuit isn't a new change, there are plenty of new events this year!

Kicking off July 1 at 12 p.m. with the Killdeer Mountain Roundup Rodeo Queen Pageant, held at the High Plains Community Center, a full three days of activities is to follow! At 4 p.m., the "Buckin in the Bakken" BBQ competition will be heating up, with a live auction benefiting the KMMR after. At 7:15 p.m., Chancey Williams and Kolby Cooper will be performing live, free of charge. The Mud Butte band will close out the first night, starting their music at 10:45 p.m.

To celebrate 100 years, they plan on 100 horses in the parade on July 4, at 2 p.m. The rodeo will light up the fourth with a cannon shoot and mounted deputies at its opening, and a firework display afterwards.

The Killdeer community businesses generously support the Killdeer Mountain Roundup, and have been vital to its improvements over the century. Originally held at the base of Spectator Hill, it has since moved to its current location and sports new covered grandstands and lights. The purse for contestants has also improved remarkably since its humble beginnings. Originally, the main event winner pocketed \$75, \$30 to \$40 for the other events. Today, event winners will take home around \$10,000 each! The rodeo will feature bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, team roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, and barrel racing.

When planning your fourth of July, don't overlook all the great entertainment that the Killdeer Mountain Rodeo Roundup has to offer in their four-day celebration! From the Long X Wagon Trail Ride, to the comedy show, cornhole tournament, live music and Cowboy Church on Sunday, a full holiday weekend can be found in Killdeer, ND!



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