

ON THE HORIZON

FALL 2015

> **Fall Update From Your CEO**

Page 4

> **20/20 Professional Center**

Page 16

> **Tasty Autumn Recipes**

Page 28



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Table of Contents



FEATURES

Fall Update From Your CEO	4
Rise Up Together	6
Sudoku Puzzle	13
Discovering Guam	14
20/20 Professional Center	16
Relay for Life	18
Father Mows Best Winner	23
Summer Fill Winner	23
Sudoku Answers	25
Employee Spotlight	26
Tasty Autumn Recipes	28



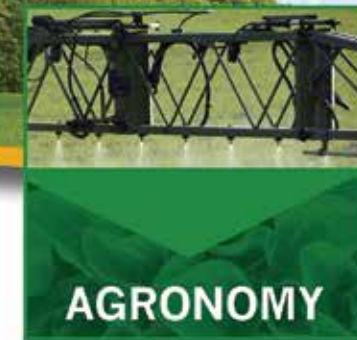
RETAIL & ENERGY

Inside Fall Retail	21
--------------------	----



GRAIN

Forage Analysis: An Important Tool	24
------------------------------------	----



AGRONOMY

Early Spring Means Early Fall	10
-------------------------------	----

Advertisers

American State Bank	2	WCCU	22	Missouri River Irrigation	31
Trinity Health	12	Basin Brokers	25	Border Plains, LLC	31
Manger Insurance	13	Farm Credit Services	25		
Horizon Resources	13	Cenex®	27		
Norstar Manufacturing	20	Horizon Resources	30		



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Fall Update

From Your CEO

In the last issue of *On the Horizon* I wrote about the disappointment that the Horizon Resources Board of Directors and I have had with recent actions taken by the CHS Board, the nation's largest agricultural supplier. The decision we were most upset with was that CHS decided to issue stock amounting to approximately 14 percent of their earnings for the last two fiscal years in the form of non-qualified stock with no revolvment plan attached to it. I am pleased to announce that the CHS Board issued a letter in July that stated that they would not be continuing with the recent year's plan of issuing non-qualified stock. Additionally, they would be examining ways of potentially redeeming the stock that had been previously withheld.

As you may have heard recently, the CHS Board has announced that they are moving away from the plan to build a nitrogen production plant in Spiritwood, North Dakota. There were various relevant factors that have changed since the original plan, including construction cost and a very complex water supply problem. This combined with the amount of time to get a plant like this operational makes this a wise choice by the CHS Board, in my opinion.

Coinciding with the announcement to vacate the Spiritwood plant plan, CHS announced a \$2.8 billion dollar investment that they were making in CF Industries Nitrogen LLC. This will allow them to establish a position in nitrogen manufacturing,

supply and distribution to member co-ops and ultimately to America's farmers. This seems to be a much safer plan than the Spiritwood proposal and still reaches the same objective with a much more immediate return on their investment.

By now you might be asking yourself, "Why all of the news and discussion about CHS in your cooperative's magazine?" As stated previously in this article, CHS is the nation's largest agricultural cooperative. It is based out of Minnesota and is a combination as a result of a merger of Cenex and Harvest States. Horizon Resources is one of the largest stockholders of CHS, which obviously ties directly into you, our stockholder. Your Board of Directors and I are very passionate about the way and manner in which CHS conducts their business. Any and all decisions

that their board makes affects the traditional cooperative values that we feel have allowed CHS to become the nation's largest agricultural cooperative.

Since the last article I wrote, which was the spring planting issue, we have seen spring and summer come and go. Once again, we saw a typical western North Dakota and eastern Montana harvest, which quite simply means there is little continuity from field to field in yield or quality of grain harvested. Areas that had more moisture are burdened with quality issues, and those that had less moisture also have less of a crop. The saga of this areas grain farmer continues. I appreciate the resiliency that our area growers have and the way that they handle the highs and lows of production agriculture. That perseverance is what sets cooperatives apart from other privately owned ag businesses.

“We are blessed to have a strong agricultural base and foundation that we are built on.”

I wish that I had great news to update you with in regards to our financial performance for this fiscal year at Horizon Resources. Don't get me wrong, it certainly is not doom and gloom for us. We will still have a decent year financially and will return significant cash to you, our owners. It just won't be quite as good as the last couple of years (the boom years). Yes, the oil drilling slowdown is having an impact on your cooperative as it does all other businesses in this region. We are blessed to have a strong agricultural base and foundation that we are built on. That helps us during periods such as this. That is precisely why our focus will always remain on agriculture, but we will certainly continue to take advantage of other market opportunities as they may arise.

Until next time, be safe in whatever you do. Enjoy the fall season for whatever it brings, and take time to spend with your family and friends after coming through another hectic agricultural season. ■



Jeff Wagner
President/CEO



RISE UP

TOGETHER
ELCA YOUTH
GATHERING
DETROIT - 2015



Jim Radtke
CFO



"...you have to go beyond your comfort zone to make a difference..."

The scope of an ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) youth gathering dictates that it happens every three years. With over 30,000 youth and chaperones in attendance, it takes countless hours to organize with the logistics of travel, hotels, meeting areas, speakers and transportation, just to name a few. For 19 youth and seven chaperones from Williston, the ELCA youth conference meant a year of fundraising and planning, culminating with a 10 day trip to Detroit to attend "Rise Up Together." Three of the youth that attended, Alysse and Ellie Ogaard and Blaine Radke, along with three of their chaperones, Ryan Ogaard and Jim and Holly Radke, sat down one evening to talk about the event, and how it would change their lives forever. "It was just a high energy event from start to finish," starts Ryan Ogaard. Then Ellie Ogaard quickly added in, "It was amazing! There were people from all 50 states and Puerto Rico."

Most of the convention took place in COBO Center in downtown Detroit, with evening gatherings at Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions. A majority of those who attended from the Williston area were members of First Lutheran Church in Williston, with some youth and chaperones from Gloria Dei also traveling and attending with the Williston contingent.

After being in New Orleans for the past two gatherings, the ELCA made the decision to move to Detroit. The gatherings not only feature speakers and seminars for the youth, but they also harness the energy of the thousands in attendance to work service projects, which included cleaning up and restoring neighborhoods either abandoned or destroyed as a product of the downturn in the Detroit area economy. Given bright orange shirts for identity, youth and chaperones were introduced to manual tools to reclaim grown over sidewalks and streets. "It was mostly manual labor,"

says Jim Radke, "As an example, we actually had to share shovels because there weren't enough to go around." For Jim's son Blaine, a lasting memory would be dragging old tires out of backyards and piling them on the street for disposal. "We formed a line and just rolled the tires out to the street. There were over 100 tires!" All three youth were amazed that two ladies who lived across the street from each other had never met. "Once we cleaned up the street, they met and now they are best friends," shared Ellie. The power of many hands working together will certainly be felt for many years to come. As they shared stories of witnessing firsthand that people took only what they could when the neighborhoods were abandoned, the group talked about the emotion of seeing stuffed toys left behind as people packed what would fit in their car and just left the rest behind. "I wish we could have had another service day," Ellie shared. "I think we all agree that we definitely made a difference," added Jim Radke. His son, Blaine, was also

able to spend some of his free time building walls for homes inside COBO center. The goal was to finish the walls for four homes that would be donated to Habitat for Humanity and moved to a Detroit neighborhood.

As impactful as the service days were during the convention, just as impactful were the evenings spent together at Ford Field. "The energy of over 30,000 people gathering was unforgettable," according to chaperone Holly Radke. For Jim, a church musician at First Lutheran, "The music was great." Some of the most popular Christian musicians were in attendance and kept the evening alive with their songs of faith. Groups like AGAPE, Skillet and Royal Tailor joined artists Bobby Siegfried and Blanca, just to name a few, to entertain an appreciative audience of all ages and from all small towns and larger neighborhoods all over America. Long lines would form for the chance to be one of 5,000 chosen to view

Rise Up Together...continued on page 8.



the proceedings from the floor of Ford Field. "The huge cross in the middle of the field was awesome," said Alysse Ogaard. On the final service held on Sunday morning, July 19, the group was served communion. As much of a challenge as this would seem, "It just worked; it went very smooth," according to Holly. There were over 1,500 communion assistants helping out.

Rise Up Together had a focus of giving in many ways. Service time, fellowship, faith and even blood and hair. Over 609 units of blood were donated with the potential to save 1,593 lives in the Detroit community. There were 650 people, including Alysse Ogaard, donated at least eight inches of hair to be made into wigs to donate to children who have lost hair due to medical challenges. The participants filled over 1,425 backpacks to be donated to needy children.

A popular activity was the Walk for Water. Women in Sub-Saharan Africa walk an average of three miles each day to fetch clean water for their families. At **ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water**, youth and adult leaders will have the chance to experience an unforgettable walk around a track, designed to simulate the experience of collecting water miles away from home, while raising questions about access to water here in the United States, too.

With a goal to raise \$500,000 for ELCA World Hunger-supported water projects around the world, together the participants at the gathering made a difference. Their gifts will provide water for drinking, growing crops and sanitation, as well as ongoing maintenance and training, to create healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope.

"There were long lines waiting to get in to the Walk for Water activity," Ellie said, "but it gave you an idea of just how much work it was."

For both youth and chaperones, the ELCA youth gathering was a life-changing event.

"It was the best vacation we have ever taken," shares Blaine.

"Oh my gosh, you just wouldn't believe the experience," according to Alysse.

"I'd go back tomorrow," ads Ellie.

For whatever reason they chose to attend, all 27 who attended the Rise Up Together ELCA youth gathering, including Pastor Marty Mock and Youth Director Vicki Hazard, learned that sometimes you have to give to receive, you have to go beyond your comfort zone to make a difference, you can share your faith with others, even though you may have never met them before... and probably most important, by making a difference to a community like Detroit, or New Orleans, you learn how to make a difference in your community by reaching out a helping hand when needed. •

Gathering by the Numbers

PEOPLE

Almost **20,000 people moved** each night in more than **400 buses**

6,961 calls to the InfoLine and Transportation Line

113 hotels in and around Detroit hosted gathering participants

62 Bishops attended

497 MYLE participants

38 DAYLE participants

1,500 Communion assistants

300 people in Sunday morning's processional

5,000 people participated in **mass casts**

11 ½ kegs of root beer consumed at the reformation space in Proclaim Community

858 Volunteers with people serving as Community Life, Servant Companions, Gathering Volunteer Core and Local Volunteers

15 Planning Teams consisting of **462 people**

PLACES

3,200 vacant lots cleared of debris

319 vacant homes boarded

26 dumpsters filled

600 neighborhood block clubs affected

36 urban gardens installed

99 picnic tables built

CREATED

2,033 mural boards created to beauty Detroit

4,000 hats made

1,600 collages created

5,200 bracelets made

6,000 beaded bookmarks created

DONATED

609 units of blood collected with the potential to help save 1,593 lives in the Detroit community

650 people donated at least **8 inches of hair** for a minimum of **433 feet**

More than **1 million diapers** collected

1,425 backpacks filled and distributed

\$296,000 collected in **Sunday's offering**

\$402,000 collected for **Walk 4 Water** as of 7/29/15



Early
Spring

Means

Early
Fall...



John Salvevold
Agronomy Division Manager

2015 will go down in my records as the fastest crop season I have ever seen. Our spring planting season started in early April, and most people were done seeding by about the middle of May. This is the first year I can remember in the 20 years I have been here that I took Sunday and Monday off during Memorial Day weekend because most people were done with seeding. We have taken Memorial Day off before, but that usually meant it was raining or too wet to do anything. Not this year. At harvest, we kind of wish we would have had that problem.

Our crops hung in fairly decent with the little amount of rain and subsoil moisture we had, but the heat took its toll in late June and early July. Our yields were cut in half in a lot of our trade territory. Yes, I would call what we saw a drought. It was not widespread across our state, as I have heard of record crops in the Bowman and Dickinson area. The northern part of our trade area to the Canadian border saw excellent crops, too. I hate to say it, but the bullseye was pretty much on the Williston area. We could see this with our weather patterns this summer regarding thunderstorms, too. There were some pretty heavy storms brewing in eastern Montana that just kind of stalled out at the Montana border, then went over Williams County without dropping much or any rain, then built up again east of us and pounded Bismarck. I have heard the statement that it can be too dry to rain, and that is exactly what we saw happen to most of Williams County this past summer.

With not a lot of rain and plenty of hot temperatures, our crops were pushed to the point that yields were lost and harvest was just as quick as our seeding season. Most farmers went non-stop again at harvest without much for shutdowns on the count of rain. Humidity levels were low, and even the morning dew did not keep people out of the fields for much of the mornings. Once farmers started cutting, they did not have to stop much for green crop or any moisture problems. I guess that is what happens with 100 degrees and wind. Most crops were off the fields before the first of September, other than the irrigated crops. With almost a month of growing season left, we even had the luxury of telling growers to take some time off before starting their fall work in early September. With the nice rains over Labor Day weekend, we should have some excellent results with our fall spraying after weeds were revived and perked up after the rain.

With low grain prices this fall, I would expect to see an increase in alternative crops for 2016 including pulse crops and canola. Fall is by far the best time to spray most of the pre-plant products. Some are only labeled for fall use or just need that much time before planting certain crops. We have seen night and day differences in peas

and lentils with Prowl H2O being applied in the fall versus spring application. Valor is another one that we have seen fairly good results with, and timing will dictate rates with this product, too. Fall spraying is probably the best time for perennial weed control and will also help clean up the winter annuals if timed right. We will probably have a little winter wheat in the ground by now and this, along with irrigated land spreading, will take a little pressure off our fertilizer work load, but we hope to see some fall NH3 start moving in the next few weeks to freeze up.

Every spring ends up being a challenge with logistics and allocations with anhydrous ammonia, so any tons we get put down in the fall both frees up our nurse tanks and lessens our annual spring problems. We basically have two terminals that we can purchase our anhydrous ammonia from, and I can guarantee that we will be put on allocation every year, because of poor management on the manufacturer's part. Once every dealer commits their money to this supplier, they

either break down or they have sold too much product to fill contracts, so they limit how many tons we can have that we have paid for months ago. This switches about half or more of the original scheduled trucks to go to the other terminal and then sit in line for up to 15 hours to get loaded. This is our yearly nightmare with anhydrous ammonia, but that is just how they operate their businesses and we are the ones that pay for it. You know there are problems with your suppliers when you can predict with 100 percent confidence that they will break down and limit how and when you get the product that you had paid for months ago. The only way I have found to fix this problem is to switch your drill or your fertilizer plans to dry fertilizer. The supply is way more dependable, safer and we have way more control over the tons we can store, purchase and deliver to our customers.

Now is the time to get your fall spraying done, your fall fertilizer spread or applied and then try to spend some time in the great outdoors of western North Dakota and eastern Montana. This is my favorite time of year and our opportunities are endless if you like to hunt or fish and just enjoy our seasons. You can't have a bad day sitting in a boat and listening to nothing but nature. All you hear is the water moving in the river, honking of the local geese moving from feeding areas back to water, and the cackling of a rooster pheasant in the willows. My 13-year-old daughter just passed hunter safety this fall, so I hope to watch her shoot one of these roosters after my lab has pointed it for her. These are the only things that take away the frustration of buying and selling anhydrous ammonia in western North Dakota. Take some time to enjoy the great outdoors this fall and make some memories. ■

“Take some time to enjoy the great outdoors this fall and make some memories.”

Accident (minor) | Allergy | Athlete's Foot | Backache | Broken Bone

From A to Z

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Sudoku Puzzle

		3		8		5		7
				3			9	
2			1					
6	7				5		8	2
	2				1		3	
		8		2	4	1		9
	8		9	4				
					8		2	
1	4				6			8

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

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Discovering Guam

Horizon Resources Manager's Travels Take Him a World Away

It's not every day you get the opportunity to travel outside the borders of the United States, let alone globe trot to the other side of the world. But for Horizon Resources Energy Division Manager Jeff Watts the opportunity arose when he and his wife Lynette made the journey to visit their daughter, granddaughter and son-in-law who is stationed at Anderson Air Force Base in Guam.

"My daughter and her husband moved to Guam in January this past year," says Jeff. "Her husband is in the Air Force and she is a teacher on base." Jeff and his wife made the trip to Guam this past April where they stayed for 15 days. We spoke to Jeff about some of the trip highlights and asked him his thoughts on his adventure that took him so far from home.

How was the flight from North Dakota to Guam?

Jeff: We flew out of Minot on April 2, and it was snowing at the time. Total time in transit was around 27 hours or so, with stops in Minneapolis and Tokyo. I believe we left on a Friday and arrived sometime on Sunday in Guam. It was definitely a long time for me to sit still. However, once we arrived, I did well and really had no issues with jet lag.

What were your first impressions of Guam?

Jeff: I always knew that it was warm in Guam, however the thing that hit you as soon as you left the airport terminal and the doors opened was the humidity. By our standards, it was pretty overwhelming and took us a few days just to get acclimated. The climate there is categorized as tropical and it was just that with temperatures in the mid 80's that did not fluctuate much throughout the day or evening. You might get a short rain shower here or there, but it stayed consistent; very hot and humid throughout our stay.

What were some of your trip highlights?

Jeff: I took the opportunity to go on a deep sea fishing trip with my son-in-law and some of his friends. We chartered a boat and went after some Bonito and Mahi-Mahi, which I can tell you put up a pretty decent fight. At one point during the outing, one of the crew members even prepared some sushi from one of the fresh caught tuna right

then and there. Not necessarily my cup of tea, but my son-in-law and his friends all thought it tasted great. Guam is also home to a fair amount of World War II National Parks, which we visited. As you travel around the island, you can see various historical landmarks including caves where the Japanese soldiers lived during their occupation of the island during the war. It was very interesting to see. I was also in awe of the jungles there and how thick the vegetation was. It amazes me to think how someone would even attempt to navigate such terrain.

Did you enjoy any of the local food?

Jeff: Funny enough, I do remember spotting a McDonald's that was made out of a shipping container and a tarp, but we did not eat there. Overall, I would say seafood heavily influenced the local fare. You saw a lot of fish being served and I did get a picture of some larger squid that you could grill as well.

Any similarities you found with North Dakota?

Jeff: I thought the people were very friendly and willing to go out of their way for you. Also, similar to the western part of North Dakota in recent years, Guam is a place that has a lot of people coming together from different places. Specifically in Guam, you see a lot of Japanese and U.S. nationals. One difference to North Dakota I could point out would be the fact that, as an island nation, many of Guam's structures are built to withstand typhoons. As a result, you see a lot of concrete buildings. Also, the highest posted speed limit I saw the entire time we were there was only 35 mph.

Would you go back again?

Jeff: Yes, our daughter and her family plan on being there for the next four years, so we know there will be another trip in the future. However, the next time we visit, it will be in January when it is freezing cold here at home. That way the heat and humidity will feel wonderful! ■

GUAM; AT A GLANCE

- Territory of the United States
- Capital; Hagåtña
- Official language; English, Chamorro
- Total Area; 209 sq. mi
- Population; 159,358
- Currency; U.S. dollar (USD)
- Climate; Tropical Marine with an average annual temperature between 86 and 76 degrees Fahrenheit and an average annual rainfall of 96 inches (2,180 mm). The dry season runs from December through June. The remaining months (July through November) constitute the rainy season.

*Source - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guam>



Jeff Watts
Energy Division Manager



20/20 PROFESSIONAL CENTER

NEW BUILDING TAKING SHAPE IN WILLISTON



“Dr. Fearing hopes the 20/20 Professional Center remains a vital facility within the community for years to come.”



Growth and expansion are nothing new to the city of Williston. As the needs of the community grow, so too does the need for additional services. For local optometrist Dr. Mitch Fearing, OD, he and a group of fellow optometrists saw an opportunity to not only grow their eye care practice, but also provide additional services to the community.

For years, Dr. Fearing's business, The Williston Basin Eyecare Associates, was part of the Trinity Health system in Minot. Then in 2011, he and a group of practicing partners decided to go independent and were in need of a new location. “Our first thought was to build a small, single story office, approximately 15,000 square feet, which would house both a local pharmacy and our group,” recalls Dr. Fearing. “We were then approached by Mercy Hospital, who at the time was running out of office space. They asked if we would consider constructing a bigger building to assist them with some of their needs.” Dr. Fearing states that the group's initial idea shifted its focus instead to building a three story building at 20,000 square feet per level, with Mercy Medical Center taking the entire third floor and signing a long-term lease.

The group consulted an architect by the name of Mark Schneider with Lightowler Johnson Associates, Inc. based in Fargo, with a local branch office in Williston. Dr. Fearing says they eventually agreed to build the larger facility on land the hospital already owned. Then, in the spring of 2013, construction began and eventually concluded with the move in taking place in October of 2014. Today, the Williston Basin Eyecare Associates and G&G Pharmacy

are located on the first floor, with Mercy Medical Center utilizing the entire third floor for some of their specialty and rehabilitative services. “With regards to the second floor usage, we decided not to have the building entirely medical because we wanted to have as much opportunity to fill space,” says Dr. Fearing. “This is how the 20/20 Professional Center name came about.” Dr. Fearing does state however that the building could one day still expand into a full medical only facility, but for now his group is happy with the diverse offerings the facility offers.

Dr. Fearing goes on to say that the second floor of the 20/20 Professional Building is currently home to Ameriprise Financial, NextEra Energy and Titan Energy, with 3,000 square feet to still build out. Also located on the second floor are 16 fully furnished executive suites designed for short-term leasing anywhere from a day to a year. The executive suites are fully furnished and include key card entry, use of conference room, phone, WiFi, Hi-speed internet, break room with coffee, utilities and janitorial service, receptionist to direct clients and use of copy services. Flex offices can be reserved on a daily basis if available.

“From an aesthetic perspective, the building has a unique design on the outside with some distinctive features,” says Dr. Fearing. “Plus when it comes to convenience, we are excited to have G&G Pharmacy, the only drive-through pharmacy in town.”

Dr. Fearing describes the philosophy behind the 20/20 Professional Center as striving to provide the



best professional office space available in Williston with state-of-the-art facilities. “We tried to go high-tech in just about everything from heating and cooling to our phone and Internet capabilities,” he states. “We have also made it a point to try and use as many local vendors as possible for this facility, including financing from American State Bank.”

Dr. Fearing also states the 20/20 Professional Center has a fairly centralized location that is easy to get to in Williston, right off the Highway 2 bypass, on the Mercy Medical Center campus. Looking ahead to the future, Dr.

Fearing hopes the 20/20 Professional Center remains a vital facility within the community for years to come. “We always envisioned building a top quality center for professional offices, and we are excited to continue helping provide a location for businesses to thrive and continue serving the people of the community.”

For more information on the 20/20 Professional Center, visit www.2020professionalcenter.com or email 2020professionalcenter@gmail.com. ■





The Upper Missouri Relay For Life

was held on July 31, at Williston State College. For the second year, our company team, *A Cure on the Horizon*, participated and raised as a team \$5,976.81. Thank you to everyone that supported our fundraisers throughout the year and donated in our collection jars located in some of our locations. As an event, a total of \$251,168.31 was raised by the 44 teams that were registered. This year the event was held on the front lawn of Williston State College. This turned out to be a wonderful location, and next year's event will also be held there. If you are interested in learning more about The Upper Missouri Relay For Life, please check us out at www.uppermissourirelay.org or at our Facebook page **Upper Missouri Relay For Life**.



HOPE

RELAYFORLIFE2015

The Rugged West

Relay For Life was held on June 5, at the McKenzie County Fairgrounds. Once again, we had a very successful year raising roughly \$75,000.



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Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. It is the start of a lot of things going on, and winter is not far off. The cold will be here soon, so I am going to start off with the hunting season. For hunting it looks like there should not be any problems with ammo this year, but the .22 Rimfire is still really off and on. We will get some in, but then we will have wait a while before we see some again. It looks like we should have a good pheasant season, and we will have a good supply of game loads from Remington® and Federal®, and also a supply of steel shots for the duck and goose season. Don't forget, if you need a new rifle or shotgun, stop in and check out our inventory. We have a really good price on the Benelli Vinci® this year, but only while supplies last.

I know we don't want to think about cold weather, but winter is right around the corner. We will have the Honda and Snapper® snow blowers, but again this will be a first come, first served, as usually we can't do a reorder because they will be in the process of getting ready for spring.



Mike Leach
Retail Division Manager

Don't forget about the Traeger® grills this fall and winter for cooking any of your game. If you are a deer hunter or bird hunter, there is nothing better than having them being smoked and cooked on the Traeger®.

“ I know we don't want to think about cold weather, but winter is right around the corner. ”

As for anything new with Traeger® the new Traeger Pro Series® has some really nice features like two heat probes, so you can cook two different types of meats and check the internal temp on each piece your are cooking. It also comes with a grill rack for placing stuff off of the main grate.

Also remember that we carry a variety of boots for the fall and winter time, too. If you're looking for a work or hunting boot, we have the Danner® line of boots. Most will be an insulated boot from 200 gram to 600 gram. We also have Tony Lama® for a work boot and for casual wear. If we do not have your size let me know, and I will see if I can get it for you. We will also have the Walls winter wear like bibs and jackets, along with some Walls and Dri Duck® camouflage clothing.

I look forward to seeing you soon when you stop in get gas or diesel, grab a cup of coffee and a snack for the road, or better yet, grab some lunch. I hope everyone has a great fall and an even better winter! ■

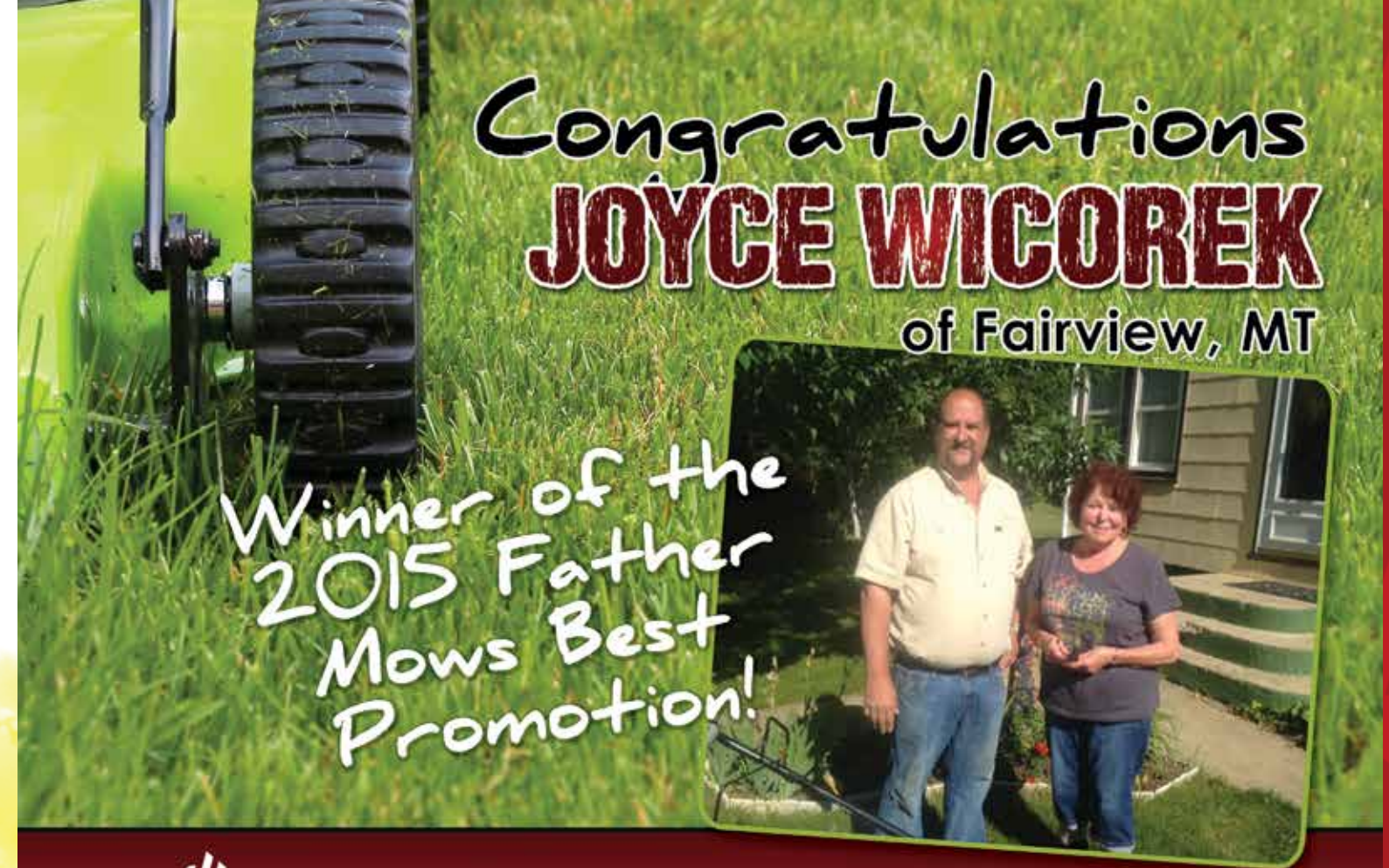
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Thank you to everyone who entered in this year's promotions!

Congratulations

Steve Jensen
of Williston, ND

WINNER
of the
Summer Keep Fill
Grill Giveaway!



FORAGE ANALYSIS: AN IMPORTANT TOOL

Forage specialists say that every livestock operation should have a feed analysis. Forages should be tested to curb costs and insure the health of your animals. Forage testing measures the nutrient content of hay or pasture. If

you know what you are feeding, you can make the decision whether supplements will be necessary to your operation. When hay is averaging \$60-\$100 a ton, there is no need to overfeed protein. An example would be 16-protein alfalfa and four protein wheat straw. An average range cow does not require a 16-protein diet. This is the case where the forage testing would be advised to blend those two products, save on the alfalfa and use that more as a protein supplement than a full diet.

Hay analysis forms generally start with the moisture content. Hay should be baled when the moisture content is less than 20 percent. Crude protein is next on a hay analysis. This is the nitrogen and the amino acid in the feeds. The animal rumen uses this to digest the forage. Many labs record available and unavailable protein. If the feed is heated, some of the protein may become unavailable when it is tied up; for example, damp hay causing it to heat. Forage tests also include the major minerals and the trace minerals. This is a very important part of that analysis. ADF (acid detergent fiber) and NDF

“This year, I have seen some excellent feed samples off of a lot of different varieties of hay.”

(neutral detergent fiber) are indicators of digestibility; the higher the number, the lower the digestibility, for example, a good alfalfa sample would be 20 protein, 30 ADF and 40 NDF. A CRP hay sample could be seven protein, 40 ADF and 60 NDF. The CRP sample would definitely need to be supplemented.

This year, I have seen some excellent feed samples off of a lot of different varieties of hay. I am seeing CRP hay samples coming in at three to four points higher protein than the previous year. With the unusually cool summer, hays are better quality and more abundant. One thing I have noticed on a lot of the feed samples is low phosphorus content. You may have adequate protein and energy in her forages, but I would suggest that you have them checked for mineral content as that seems to be low again this year. I carry hay testing equipment with me at all times and also water testing equipment. If you need these services, contact your local Horizon Resources dealer, and they will get in touch with me, and I will come out to your farm and do it.

Weaning time will be on us before we know it. We have weaning feeds available, complete feeds or supplements. Let me know what your needs are, and I can put a ration together for you for weaning and backgrounding calves, and also a winter cow ration. ■



Dick Sorensen
Feed Consultant
CHS Nutrition

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Sudoku Answers

4	9	3	6	8	2	5	1	7
8	1	5	4	3	7	2	9	6
2	6	7	1	5	9	8	4	3
6	7	1	3	9	5	4	8	2
9	2	4	8	6	1	7	3	5
3	5	8	7	2	4	1	6	9
5	8	2	9	4	3	6	7	1
7	3	6	5	1	8	9	2	4
1	4	9	2	7	6	3	5	8

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

Lyle Peters

SALES AGRONOMIST
FAIRVIEW, MONTANA



Running a cooperative requires a lot of hard working people. Luckily for Horizon Resources, our employees go the extra mile to assist our customers every day. They understand it is their job to help both the customer and the cooperative thrive from season to season.

We spoke with Lyle Peters, Sales Agronomist in Fairview, Montana and asked him to answer a few questions describing his time as an employee here at Horizon Resources.

What is your title and what duties do you perform?

Lyle: "I am the Sales Agronomist at Horizon Resources in Fairview. I develop nutrient recommendations and cropping plans, while also working closely with farmers to help them yield a stronger crop. Customer service is a big part of my job and I am here to help farmers no matter the season."

How long have you been with Horizon Resources?

Lyle: "I have been with Horizon Resources for over three years. I started back in February of 2012. Both farming and ranching were a big part of my life growing up. I later went to Montana State University for Agronomy. After moving back home, I began talking to Horizon Resources and soon found a job with them."

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Lyle: "I enjoy many aspects of my job. From visiting with customers, to making recommendations that help farmers grow better crops for a stronger yield."

How important is customer service to you?

Lyle: "I think customer service is important. It's a large portion of what I do. Creating positive customer relations in agronomy is critical. People count on my recommendations, and my job is to deliver a trusted product and service to help make them successful."

What does a typical day on the job consist of?

Lyle: "It's hard to say what a typical day is because I just don't have typical days. Farmers have different needs in different seasons, so my days change as their needs change. Depending on the time of year, I make nutrient recommendations or herbicide, insecticide and fungicide recommendations. I also field a lot of phone calls throughout the day, answering questions customers have."

What do you do in your spare time?

Lyle: "When I'm not at work, I like spending time with my family. I also enjoy hunting whenever I get the chance." ■



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TASTY AUTUMN RECIPES

GRILLED SWEET POTATO PLANKS

Courtesy of traegergrills.com

INGREDIENTS

- 5 large sweet potatoes
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- ½ teaspoon onion powder

PREPARATION

Wash and peel the sweet potatoes, then cut them lengthwise into eighths.

Toss them in the oil, salt, pepper and onion powder.

When ready to cook, start the Traeger® on smoke with the lid open until the fire is established (4 to 5 minutes). Set the temperature to 450 degrees F and preheat, lid closed, for 10 to 15 minutes.

Place the sweet potatoes directly on the grill; they will get a great sear by placing them in the very front and in the very back on the grill. After they have good grill marks move them to the center and continue to cook for about 15 to 20 minutes. Serve.



CHILI LIME GRILLED CORN

Courtesy of traegergrills.com

INGREDIENTS

- 8 ears of corn
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon smoked paprika
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 limes
- 1 tablespoon lime zest
- Butter to taste

PREPARATION

First, husk and wash your corn. Mix the garlic powder, smoked paprika, onion powder, lime zest, cayenne, salt and chili powder in a small bowl and set aside.

Start the Traeger on smoke with the lid open until the fire is established (4 to 5 minutes). Set the temperature to 450 degrees F and preheat, lid closed, for 10 to 15 minutes.

Place corn on grill, rotate corn every 5 minutes until desired color (about 15-20 minutes).

Roll corn in butter, sprinkle on the seasoning mixture, then place back on grill for 5 more minutes. Finish with a squeeze of fresh lime juice and serve immediately.

APRICOT-GLAZED HAM

Courtesy of traegergrills.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 8- to 10-pound boneless or semi-boneless cured ham (fully cooked)
- 1 cup apricot preserves
- ½ cup apricot brandy
- ¼ cup honey
- ¼ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- 6 ounces bottled apricot nectar or ginger ale
- Parsley sprigs and whole fresh apricots or dried apricot halves for garnish (optional)

PREPARATION

When ready to cook, start the Traeger grill on smoke with the lid open until the fire is established (4 to 5 minutes). Set the temperature to 325 degrees F and preheat, lid closed, for 10 to 15 minutes.

Place the ham on a rack in a roasting pan. (Line the pan with heavy duty aluminum foil for easier clean-up.)

In a saucepan, stir together the apricot preserves, apricot brandy, honey, brown sugar, cloves and apricot nectar and simmer over medium heat until the preserves, honey and brown sugar have melted. Set aside and keep warm.

Arrange the roasting pan on the grill grate and bake the ham for 1 hour. Baste it with the apricot mixture. Continue basting every 30 minutes until the ham is richly glazed and the internal temperature has reached 140 degrees, 1-1/2 to 2 hours more.

Let the ham rest for 15 minutes before carving. Garnish the platter with the parsley and apricots, if desired.



PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

Courtesy of food.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 ½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- 5 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 cup sugar, plus
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 3 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 ¼ teaspoon allspice
- Whipped cream

PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Make the crust by combining the graham cracker crumbs with the melted butter and 1 tablespoon sugar in a medium bowl. Stir well enough to coat all of the crumbs with the butter, but not so much as to turn the mixture into paste. Keep it crumbly.

Put foil partway up the outside part of an 8-inch spring form pan. Press the crumbs onto the bottom and about two-thirds of the way up the sides of the springform pan. You don't want the crust to form all of the way up the back of each slice of cheesecake.

Bake the crust for 5 minutes, then set aside until you are ready to fill it.

In a large mixing bowl combine the cream cheese, 1 cup sugar and vanilla. Mix with an electric mixer until smooth.

Add the pumpkin, eggs, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice and continue beating until smooth and creamy. Pour the filling into the pan.

Bake for 60-70 minutes. The top will turn a bit darker at this point.

Remove from the oven and allow the cheesecake to cool. When the cheesecake has come to room temperature, put it into the refrigerator.

When the cheesecake has chilled, remove the pan sides and cut the cake into 8 equal pieces. Serve with a generous portion of whipped cream on top.



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