

# The Ranch Hand

Volume 38, Number 4

Fall 2019

**“Providing a safe home for youth who have experienced physical or emotional trauma, where every act is done with love to help them discover the dignity of the human person and learn the skills to manage life’s challenges.”**

## *New Academic School Year*

This school term, Home On The Range youth are experiencing an academic first. More specifically, HOCR has partnered with Beach High School to successfully create a single gender, split day school schedule, that increases the likelihood our youth will experience success by limiting seat time and decreasing distractions that often interfere with their ability to stay focused and on task.

The newly designed, split day schedule has HOCR boys attending school from 8:00am-11:15am, Monday through Friday, at either the on-site classroom or in town at Beach High School. During this part of the day, our girls are participating in various therapeutic activities conducted on campus. After lunch, which takes place from 11:15 - 12:00pm, the schedule “flips” with girls attending academic studies from 12:00 - 3:00, while the boys attend different therapy groups and activities.

The school portion of the day consists of seven 23 minute periods, which allows HOCR students to work on all core and elective subjects. Shortening each period in this manner more effectively addresses attentional difficulties so many of our youth experience, which makes it difficult for them to maintain concentration for longer periods of time. An increased number of study hall periods have also been incorporated into the day to provide additional time for students to complete school related assignments.

Establishing single gender classrooms has resulted in smaller classroom numbers, greater access to teacher support and a more supportive learning environment. Two HOCR staff members are in classrooms daily (at both the on and off-site settings) to augment educational support and assist students when they encounter behavioral difficulties.

During the therapeutic segment of the day, each boy and girl attends three of the following therapy options: CBSIA (drug and alcohol program), Experiential Equine therapy, Making a Connection (Animal-assisted equine therapy), Independent Living, Cooking, Animal Assisted Canine Therapy, Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), Girl’s/Boy’s Circle group (basic insight/life skills development), Crafts, Study Hall, Adventure Therapy (Biking with a Purpose and Rock Wall Climbing), OT (Occupational Therapy) Movement and Workout group.

Although we are in the early stages of implementing this major revision, feedback received from students, teachers and HOCR staff members has been very positive. Key indicators that suggest these sweeping changes are benefitting our students consist of higher GPAs across the board, a marked decrease in suspensions and student’s completing and submitting their work in a timely manner. We will keep you posted on how our collaboration with Beach High School progresses throughout the school year.

# *Praise on the Range*

It was a beautiful setting and evening for the “Praise on the Range” concert at Home On The Range. Below our Cassidy Hill, Christian rapper SERV and Christian rock band Citizen Way performed Live. In between sessions and songs, they also took the time to minister and share special, personal, inspirational stories. During the performances, two of our students were invited on stage. One of our young ladies was invited to “rap” with SERV. One young man has been given the gift of dance, and he shared his talent while everyone cheered for him.

It was much more than a concert. The artists spent quite a bit of time in the Chapel with our boys and girls, getting to know them on a personal level. The artists themselves shared stories about their own trials and challenges, and how they overcame them with the power of God’s help and music. A unique bond was formed that night. Some of the children were moved to tears and had an emotional break through. The night was special to Citizen Way too. They were so touched, they donated a percentage of their t-shirt and merchandise sales back to Home On The Range.

The guests in attendance raved about the performance and what a great concert it was! The concert was sponsored by Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation and The Connection 103.7, Dickinson. All the proceeds from the concert will be used by the spiritual department for the 2020 Praise on the Range. The upcoming concert is scheduled for June 15, 2020. Watch for more information and details.



## *Farm & Ranch Update*

It was an exceptionally wet season, and we didn’t finish haying until September, but it was a bountiful crop! Thanks to West Plains, Inc. and Plains Ag, their donated equipment enabled us to make 1200 grass and alfalfa round bales, 100 second cutting round bales, and 300 square bales. We are blessed to have a lot of hay to feed the cattle and horses this winter!



## *Resident Testimonial*

*“My name is “Amber” and I’m 17 years old. I was born in Tanzania, a state in Africa. I have 7 siblings, six older and one younger. I am a returning resident to Home on the Range. I am here again because there are some things in my past that I need to work through so that I can continue to move forwards instead of backwards.*

*The first time that I was here I did really good, some might say too good. I honestly just wanted to do what I had to do to go home without working on anything. I think the reason I’m back here is because I had unfinished business. They have really good treatment here but at that time in my life I was physically there, but not mentally. I went through the day with a smile on my face and I was known as being really happy. Deep down that wasn’t true so when I left here on May 24, 2018, I did good for a little while and then got back into what I was doing before. I got back into using drugs and alcohol as a way to deal with all the things that I didn’t talk about the first time through. I got sent to another group home in West Fargo and that didn’t work for me either. I was still close to places where I could get those drugs to feel better so whenever I had the chance to go out and relieve some stress, that’s exactly what I did. When I couldn’t get to the drugs that I originally wanted, I started turning to pills to make myself feel better. All they did was make me feel worse, but I took risking my health and overdosing twice, just to use pills that would take a little of my pain away.*

*When I came back here, I was thinking that maybe I could just fly through it, but by letting some of the things I’ve been keeping to myself out, I started to realize that I can’t hide behind this wall again. I’m finally getting to the point where I actually want to sit down and discuss some of the things that have been heavy on my heart. I’ve learned so much about myself already and letting myself do things that I’ve never done before is kind of scary, but I learned from someone, that you know when you’re growing when you’re uncomfortable and in new skin.*

*One way I have been opening up out here is through the spiritual program. We have a group that we call Prayer Group, where anyone is welcome. It’s a group of girls in the dorm and we sit down and make prayers about things that have been heavy on our hearts. After writing our prayers, if we choose, we can share out loud with everyone. When someone is done sharing, we give them positive feedback about what they prayed about and we are all just there for support and to help lift each other up and let everyone in the group know that they’re not alone. I enjoy going to prayer group because for me, that’s where I see the most growth happening inside of the girls. When I’m in prayer group, I feel secure and safe to share the things that are on my mind. It has helped me see who I really am and helps show that even when there is darkness, there are all these kids and adults that are here to listen and care.*

*We also have an on-campus church called Freedom Church. When we get together on Tuesdays, we are all here with no judgment and it’s a free place where we are allowed to feel like we can ask any questions we want without feeling judged. Anyone is welcome on the ranch to attend this Church. You’re allowed to wear what you want, you’re allowed to get up and dance in worship even if you’re not that great at dancing. The point of this church is to make it our own so that everyone has a part of something great. I was asked to lead the music of the church and what I do is I pick spiritual songs that I can sing and I perform them and everyone is allowed to join in at any time and express themselves. I really enjoy feeling like I’m a part of something. This Church allows anyone to take the role of a leader if they feel up to it and it has helped me get out of my comfort zone and try something new. The spiritual leaders out here at Home on the Range do a good job of making everyone feel welcome and comfortable. They also care about us as people and it’s great to always know that someone has your back when you can’t have your own.”*

## HOTR Ranch Hand

Official Publication of  
Home on the Range



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### Financial Support

*HOTR does not receive direct financial support from the Bismarck Catholic Diocese. Care rates charged for services cover approximately 75% of the actual cost. The remainder must be raised through gifts, grants, our agricultural operation, fundraising events, and investments.*

### Financial Statements Available

*A copy of the most recent HOTR financial statement is available to persons or organizations upon request. Please contact our business office at (701) 872-3745.*

**CWLA**

### Member:

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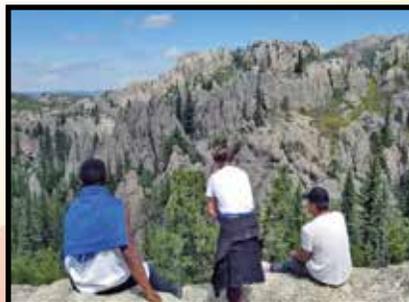
# National Eagles visits



This past August, we were honored to have both the Fraternal Order of Eagles Grand Worthy President (GWP) and Grand Madam President (GMP) visit us.

GWP Ron Malz and his wife Maureen, were here to celebrate our 70th Anniversary. They appreciated a tour of our facility, and even a special wagon ride prior to the rodeo. They then enjoyed the company of the Dakota Eagles at the rodeo's concession stand.

GMP Gloria Williams was escorted by Dakota State Madam President Lynn Rud to Home On The Range. Both Madam Presidents were impressed with our programs and stated they would help share the good news about our work.



## Adventure Therapy

This summer we had the opportunity to canoe, hike and rock climb for the Capstone Trip in South Dakota (Custer State Park, Sylvan Lake and Lake Pactola).



19th Annual  
**Basket Bash & Auction**

**Friday, November 22nd**  
Golden Valley County Fairgrounds  
6:30pm Social  
7:00pm Silent Auction  
9:00pm Live Auction

**Hors d'oeuvres and wine! Games of Chance!  
Door Prizes! Cash Bar!  
FREE ADMISSION!**



To donate a basket or door prize, contact  
Vanessa at 701-872-3745 ext. 123 or  
vanessau@hotrnd.com

**Proceeds will be used to buy Christmas presents for our residents!**

*Join us for the 5th Annual*

**Mouse House**

Saturday, December 7th 9:00am-1:00pm  
Grace Church Gymnasium (1060 3rd Ave. NW)  
Preschool - 8th graders can come shop for their families!

*Kids pick presents from \$.50 - \$5 tables. Presents will also be wrapped and ready to go under the tree!*

**We are looking for NEW donated items, such as candles, purses, tote bags, journal books, slippers, perfume, coffee cups, picture frames, knick knacks, hats, gloves, tools, etc. Please contact Vanessa at 701-872-3745 or [vanessau@hotrnd.com](mailto:vanessau@hotrnd.com) if you have items to donate.**

**Items can be dropped off at Beach City Hall or Home On The Range.**



*All donations would be greatly appreciated!*

Home On The Range is on Facebook and Instagram!  
Become a fan by searching for "Home On The Range"  
and stay informed of our events and activities.

**FOLLOW US!**



# 63<sup>rd</sup> Champions Ride Results

It was a typical hot day for the 63rd Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match. But that didn't dampen the spirits of the cowboys, broncs or guests in attendance. Many people said it was even better than last year!

The day opened up with Live music performed by Sid Stromme and his band. They sang old cowboy songs and even songs about Home On The Range and the early Champions Ride cowboys. We were honored to have Special Guest Amberley Snyder join us. Amberley's story was featured on the Netflix movie "Walk. Ride. Rodeo." She met and had lunch with the residents and spoke during intermission.

Prior to the rodeo, the Champions Ride honored the North Dakota servicemen noted as Missing in Action. There were eight white, empty chairs placed in the center of the arena, noting these eight soldiers were missing from their families. Announcer, Barney Sheridan, shared a special message while an oversized American Flag was lowered into the arena. The Beach American Legion Honor Guard stood at attention, saluting the flag and chairs. It was a privilege to honor all the men and women who are missing in action, served, or are enlisted and serving, in the military services.

After many spectacular rides and a few re-rides, the crowd favorite, Wade Sundell, was crowned the 2019 Champion! Although he was suffering from an injury, he spurred a 91.0 point ride on Burch Rodeo's 873 Lunatic from Hell.

The highest marked horse of the day was Flying 5's 788 Spring Planting. Flying 5 was presented with a unique bronze statue of a bronc, with the title of "2019 Best Bucking Bronc."

The 64th Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match will take place on August 1, 2020!

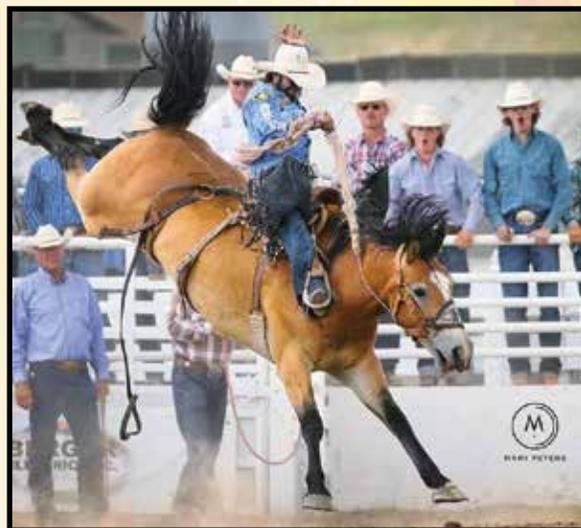
## Long Go

Cowboy	Bronc	Score	Place
Wade Sundell	Spotted Blues	88	1
Dawson Hay	Professional Lunatic	86	2/3
Shorty Garrett	James Bond	86	2/3
Jake Finlay	Broken Camp	84	4/5
JJ Elshere	Red Robin	84	4/5
Dusty Hausauer	Holy Holly	83.5	6
CoBurn Bradshaw	Holy Moccasin	81	7/8
Brody Cress	Loose Cinches	81	7/8

## Short Go

Cowboy	Bronc	Score	Place
Wade Sundell	Lunatic from Hell	91	1
Dawson Hay	In the Lu	90	2
CoBurn Bradshaw	Kool Toddy	89	3
Jake Finlay	Major Hucklebee	86.5	4
Brody Cress	Hell on Hooves	86	5/6
Dusty Hausauer	Spring Planting	86	5/6

**Congratulations to our 2019 Champion with 179.0 total points WADE SUNDELL!**



Above: Wade Sundell on Burch Rodeo's Lunatic from Hell 91 point ride



Guest Amberley Snyder riding in the wagon during Grand Entry.



Beach American Legion Honor Guard honoring servicemen noted as Missing in Action.

More Champions Ride Pictures



Champion Wade Sundell with trophy rifle and saddle



Stock Contractor Flying 5 Rodeo presented with the Best Bucking Bronc Bronze, sponsored by Big S Contracting



Photographer Mary Peters with rodeo coordinators Jolene Obrigewitch and Vanessa Ueckert



Wade Sundell with Jacket Sponsor Wald Fencing



Wade Sundell with Short-Go Round Jacket Sponsor Tescher Fencing



Champions Ride Rodeo Committee with Amberley Snyder



Special Guest Amberley Snyder



Wade Sundell with Trophy Saddle Sponsors (Ryan Obergfell, Gary & Ardis Tescher, Pam Reichert and Saddle Up Western Wear)



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*Our organization provides a therapeutic ranch environment for boys and girls who are disadvantaged, neglected, problematic, predelinquent and delinquent. Children of all races, creeds, and colors are served at our facility located in Sentinel Butte, North Dakota.*

## Upcoming Events:

**\*19th Annual Basket Bash**  
Golden Valley County Fairgrounds  
*Friday, November 22, 2019*

**\*5th Annual Mouse House**  
Grace Church Gymnasium  
*Saturday, December 7, 2019*

**\*Giving Hearts Day**  
[www.givingheartsday.org](http://www.givingheartsday.org)  
*February 13, 2020*  
*24 Hour Online Fundraising Event*

**\*HOTR Spring Banquet & Awards Program**  
*Friday, May 15, 2020*

**\*64th Annual Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match**  
*Saturday, August 1, 2020*