

# The Ranch Hand

Annual Memorial Edition  
Volume 44, Number 1 ~ Winter 2024-2025

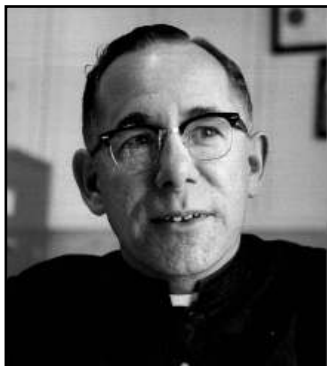
*"Under the guidance of the Catholic Church, provide a safe home for all youth who have experienced physical or emotional trauma, where every act is done with love to help them discover the dignity of the human person and learn the skills to manage life's challenges."*

## Home On The Range for Boys Founded in 1949

*Home On The Range is celebrating 75 years of helping children. It has a rich history and many significant events that have occurred at the ranch.*

*It was December 1949 when Father Elwood Cassedy received word that Ed and Emma Lievens donated their farm of 940 acres near Sentinel Butte for a home for boys. Earlier that year in June, Father Cassedy was giving his reports as Chairman of Youth Guidance Committee at the Dakota Eagle convention. He had experience of working with delinquent boys and wanted to build a place where boys could go, be safe and receive an education. In an article dated January 1, 1950 in the Dakota Catholic Action, Bishop Ryan confirmed the donation of the farm. Folk lore stories passed down for generations of Executive Directors at HOTR says Bishop Ryan accepted the donation on two conditions. 1) the Bismarck Diocese would not help financially support the organization, and 2) that he could choose the name. He named it Home On The Range because allegedly that was his favorite song.*

*Father Cassedy began fundraising for a building designed to house the boys. This ranch*



Father Elwood Cassedy

*style house would include a kitchen, dining hall, recreation room, chapel and 40 dormitory style rooms for the boys. Archive files showed the estimated cost at the time was \$80,000.*

*Father Cassedy began fundraising. The fundraising campaign was publicly announced and immediately financial donations and in-kind items were given to Father Cassedy. Ranchers got together and were able to give Father Cassedy his first herd of cattle - 30 head of purebred herefords. Many benefits and fundraisers were organized. The Bismarck Eagles donated a sizeable donation of \$5,000. A special event was held in Father Cassedy's hometown of Jersey City, New Jersey and the event raised \$6,000. Father Cassedy even planned a visit to the campus of Boys Town in Nebraska to learn about their program, and try to create his own model for his fledgling program.*

*During the construction phase of the building, the first three boys were welcomed and they temporarily lived in a converted wooden granary. Mr. & Mrs. Jim Schmitz were hired as the first staff. He was the general and farm manager, and she was the laundress, cook and nurse. Meanwhile, many individuals and organizations became involved and helped Father Cassedy raise money.*



Ed & Emma Lievens 1948



Father Elwood Cassedy

Continued on page 9



Contributions to Home On The Range In Honor or In Memory of an individual, help ensure that the facility can continue to provide the very best care possible. We notify the honoree, or next of kin, regarding the gift with an appropriate card, as well as sending the donor a receipt or card. The **honorariums and memorials** for this listing were received between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Please note the honoree/memorial is listed in bold, with the donor(s) listed below the name. Memorials and honorariums are welcome throughout the year. Just complete the printable donation form located on our website, [www.hotrnd.com](http://www.hotrnd.com) under "Donate Now" or the back page of this newsletter and mail the form to Home On The Range.

**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, fund-raising events, and investments.

Financial Statement 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.

~ Equal Opportunity Employer ~



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Planned giving and grants involve gifts for the betterment of life. Benefits range from helping others, to reducing taxes for you. Consult your attorney to determine the best option for you. The following have established such a gift to Home On The Range from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

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- John D. & Lucille Decker Endowment**
- Dunn County Commissioners**
- First International Bank & Trust**
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**Robert "Bob" G. Maresh**  
Carolyn Maresh

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Mr. Larry Gjermundson

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**Donna Newcomb**  
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# O

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**Vivian "Maxine" Oakland**  
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**Jake Obergfell**  
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**Anthony Tony Obrigewitch**  
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**Arlan Ost Dahl**  
Mr. Rudolph Maurer  
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**Mark Owens**  
Cynthia Schreiber-Beck

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Ms. Renee Paasch

**Inez Marie Parker**  
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**Gary Parsons**  
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Ms. Lillian Patterson

# Steve B. Patterson

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Mr. & Mrs. Jay Morasko  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Sadorf  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Semerad  
Harold & Judy Simard  
Mr. & Mrs. James Staiger

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Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Dukart  
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Mr. & Mrs. Neal Hoff  
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**Ken & Betty Pavlish**  
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**Marie Perkins**  
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Jendro

**Elizabeth Anne Perry**  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Williams

**Patricia Peters**  
Mrs. Deanna Heinrich

**Holland "Pete" Petro**  
Mrs. Leona Petro

**JoAnn Martha Pettersen**  
Mr. Wayne Mindt  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Erwin Pfenning**  
Mrs. Rosella Seibel

**Melvin Pirkil**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson

**Paul Popiel**  
Ms. Mert Popiel

**Charles "Chuck" Powell**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**John Praska**  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Novak

**Jerry Preuss**  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Jacobson

**Princess**  
Mr. Mark Densmore

**Edwin L. & Clementine M. Privratsky**  
Terry Privratsky

**Jamie Pulkrabek**  
Ms. Melanie Beckman  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Muth

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Mrs. Joanne Quale  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rogers  
Kenneth & Darlene Stultz

**Doug Quilling**  
Mr. & Mrs. Duane A. Anderson

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Ms. Sheri Ragans

**Chantz Ramberg**  
Ms. Bernice Feiring  
Ms. Corrine Redmond

**Dorothy Rebel**  
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Brentrup

**Jack Redmond**  
Ms. Corrine Redmond

**Jerry Redmond**  
Ms. Corrine Redmond

**Stan Reep**  
Ms. Lyla Semenکو

**H. Reichert, M.D.**  
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Reichert

**Dr. & Mrs. Larry Reichert**  
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Reichert

**Orville Donald Reinhart**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Steven Reinhart**  
Mrs. Marilyn Reinhart

**Theodore "Ted" Reitz**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Deb Resler**  
Mr. Donald Resler

**Richard Joseph Reynolds**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**John Richter, NDRA calf roper**  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Schwalbe

**Vicki Ridl**  
Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Hermanson

**Roch grand & great-grandchildren**  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Roch

**Peter & Elsie Roch**  
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Bren

**Deceased Rodeo friends**  
Mr. James Schiele

**Floyd Roehrich**  
Mrs. Rose Marie Wolf

**Joyce Rogness**  
Mr. & Mrs. William Rafferty

**Bob "Bobby" Rognstead**  
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Callahan

**Corrine Romereim**  
Mr. Greg Donaldson

**Violet "Vi" Marie Ronningen**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**August Roth**  
Ms. Jeanne Heilig

**James P. Rouse**  
Mrs. Eileen Rouse

**JR Rufsvold**  
Mr. Steven Johnson

**Cecelia (Tescher) Rutledge**  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rutledge

## S

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Karen Fawbush  
FOE Dakota State Auxiliary  
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Mr. & Mrs. Rick Hanson  
Mrs. Barbara Licari  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Muth  
Mr. Louis F. Rubbelke  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Sollin

**R. Glenn Salisbury**  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Hanson  
Mr. Ralph Hilgemann  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Muth  
Mr. Louis F. Rubbelke

**Patrick Samek**  
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**Judy Sanders**  
Ms. Joyce Avery

**Angela Schatz**  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Brown

**Myrna Scheer**  
Mr. Rudolph Maurer

**LuAnn Metzger-Schiele**  
Mr. James Schiele

**LaDonna Jane Schlenz**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Dave Schmidt**  
Rosalie Voigt

**George E. Schmidt**  
Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Dukart

**Irene Christman Schmierer**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Marsha Schmitt**  
Mr. Dwight Schmitt

**Alvin Schmitz**  
Mr. Michael G. Schmitz

**Michael Anthony Schneider**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Gordon Schnell**  
Mrs. Joanne Anderson  
Berger Electric, Inc.  
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Mr. & Mrs. Gary Conlon  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Erickson  
Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Ferebee  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald D. Galloway  
Mr. & Mrs. Jed Gilbertson  
Kathleen Goeler  
Mr. & Mrs. Butch Goodall  
Ms. Laura Griffin  
Ms. Ivela Jahner  
Mr. Dennis Vaune Johnson  
Mr. Paul Kloster  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Reichert  
Martha Larsen Rustad  
Carla Schnell  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schnell  
Mrs. Linda Schnell  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Selinger  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Sundet  
Ms. Cassie Thompson

**John Schnell**  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Conlon  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schnell

**Raymond & Geneva Schnell**  
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Mr. & Mrs. Jed Gilbertson  
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**Willard Schnell**  
Mrs. Linda Schnell

**Rose Marie Schreiber**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Al Schumacher**  
Mr. Jeff Kapaun

**Anton "Tony" Schumacher**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson

**Richard Kent Schwartz**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Sharon Schwartz**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson

**Jim Schweyen**  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Sollin

**Floyd Seibel**  
Mary Ellen Dockter  
Ms. Sharon Lang  
Mrs. Rosella Seibel  
Mrs. Rose Marie Wolf

**Many friends in Sentinel Butte area**  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Taylor

**Dick & Penny Shannon**  
Fairview Honey

**Robin (Barth) Shipley**  
Mr. & Mrs. Wes Vettel

**Liam Siemieniewski**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Bieber

**Jacob & Juliette Silbernagel**  
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Silbernagel

**Shirley Joyce Simonton**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Ed & Kamy Skalicky**  
Ms. Louise Skalicky

**Ardelle "Dell" Smith**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**James Clifford Smith**  
Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Dukart

**Lee E. Smutzler**  
Ms. Lois Smutzler

**Sandra W. (Dew) Snow**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Sandy Snow**  
Mr. Wayne Mindt

**Don Sokoloski**  
Mrs. Muriel Sokoloski

**Dorvan Solberg**  
Mrs. Marlene Fortier  
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**Ron Sorenson**  
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**Bethine Sperry**  
Jerry & Leslie McMillen

**Jim Lane Squires**  
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**Charles (Chuck) Edgar Steadman**  
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**Frances Irene Steiner**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Garry Dean Steinley**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Brett Robert Stinnett**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Deacon Ralph Stockert**  
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Mrs. Betty Tescher

**Dee Stroh**  
Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Dukart

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**Gloria Hertz Sullivan**  
Mr. Bryan Sullivan

**W.J. & G.P. Sullivan**  
Kennan Sullivan

**JuDean "Sonny" Sundheim**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Larry Swanson**  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Swanson

**Doris May Swenson**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Keith Syvinski**  
Patricia Ann Mullins

## T

**Bob & Gladys Taylor**  
Diane Szudera

**Gladys Taylor**  
Jay & Jolene Obrigewitch  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Olson

**Alvin Tescher Family**  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Robison  
Mrs. Betty Tescher

**Jim Tescher**  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Taylor

**Tom Tescher**  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Taylor

**Thanksgiving for the gift of life**  
Fr. Neil Pfeifer

**David John Theodore**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Dwight Everett Thiessen**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Jill Staffanson Thom**  
Harold & Judy Simard

**Shorty Thorson**  
Mr. & Mrs. Hal Thorson

**Ella Tomanek**  
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Hoger  
Mrs. Rose Marie Wolf

**Margaret Tormaschy**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson

**Katharine Turnquist**  
Jeannie Burman

**Clay Tweeten**  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tweeten

**Jim Tyson**  
Mrs. Deanna Heinrich

## U

**Colin James Ulrich**  
Harold & Judy Simard  
**John A. Unfred**  
Helen Unfred

## V

**Peggy Vaagen**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson  
**Alvin Bud Vaira**  
Mrs. Dixie Vaira  
**Dixie Lee Goode Vaira**  
Harold & Judy Simard  
**Alfonso Valle-Garay**  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Sollin  
**Marlyn & Debbie Vatne**  
Mrs. Marlene Fortier  
**A.D. and Francis Volbrecht**  
Brian M. Bouchard  
**Stanley "Buddy" Vold**  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Simon  
**Charles Volesky**  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Johnson  
**Harley Volk**  
Ms. Carole Mettler  
**Tucker Volk**  
Ms. Carole Mettler

## W

**Anita Wagner**  
Mr. Carl Wagner  
**Doris Wagner**  
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Wagner  
**Mr. & Mrs. Felix Wald**  
Mrs. Jolenta Wald  
**David Walth**  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tollerud  
**Stanley & Jean Waltos**  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Waltos  
**Alvin Wanner**  
Mr. Larry Gjermundson  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Goelzer  
**Dorothy Wanner**  
Thomas & Gayleen Wanner  
**Jim Wanner**  
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Wanner  
**Margaret "Peggy" Wanner**  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Anderson  
**Fr. Reese Weber**  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Schafer  
**Deputy Timothy Wells**  
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**Ester Wendorf**  
Mr. Ralph Wendorf  
**Wade Westin**  
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Jaeger  
**Robert Whiteford**  
Mr. Michael D. Connor  
**Larry Wild**  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Williams  
**Gerald & Agnes Wille**  
Mr. & Mrs. David Wille  
**Sharon A. Williams**  
Harold & Judy Simard  
**Verna Williams**  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Williams  
**Margaret Annette Lee Winhofer**  
Harold & Judy Simard  
**Nancy Wirrenga**  
Ms. Cassie Thompson  
**Fred & Evelyn Wohlers**  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell J. Behm

**Connie Wolf**  
Mr. Michael Wolf  
**Dave Wolf**  
Mr. & Mrs. Al McFarlane  
**Mark Wysocki**  
Mrs. Clara Wysocki

## Z

**Troy Zahn**  
Ms. Sharon Lang  
**Steve & Kathryn Zastoupil**  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Zastoupil

## 2025 Upcoming Events

February 13 - Giving Hearts Day ([givingheartsday.org](http://givingheartsday.org))

August 1 - Calcutta at ND Cowboy Hall of Fame in Medora

August 2 - 69<sup>th</sup> Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match Rodeo

## 69TH ANNUAL CHAMPIONS RIDE SADDLE BRONC MATCH WILL BE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2025 AT 1:00PM (MDT)



**Exit #7 on I-94 16 miles west of Medora**

*Admission Charged at Gate  
Buses Welcome ~ Concessions Available*

**Limited bleacher seating but  
plenty of hillside seating!**

*Cowboy Calcutta - Friday, August 1st at the  
ND Cowboy Hall of Fame in Medora*

**FOR MORE INFO CALL 701-872-3745 OR GO TO  
[WWW.HOTRND.COM](http://WWW.HOTRND.COM)**



Continued from page 1

*Home On The Range is now a working and therapeutic ranch for boys and girls ages 12-17. It provides therapy, education, work and recreational opportunities, and spiritual development. The mission statement reads: "Under the guidance of the Catholic Church, provide a safe home for all 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."*



*Father Cassidy and boys (1950)*



*View of ranch*



*First building (1950)*



*Mrs. Schmitz*



*Hereford herd (1950)*

*Donate online anytime or  
set up an  
automatic monthly  
donation at  
<https://hotrnd.com/>*



*Badlands Learning Center (started June 3rd):*

*51 students served  
87 classed passed  
43.5 credits earned  
2 G.E.D's earned*

*92% of kids have earned at least a .5 credit!!*

## WAYS TO REMEMBER HOME ON THE RANGE

Home On The Range is grateful to our many friend's and organizations that believe in our mission, and financially support our programs through donations, memorials, or honorariums. There may be a time in your life which you wish you could give more, but can't afford it right now for various personal reasons or financial commitments.

There are several ways which you could help the children at Home On The Range through some planned gifting options. It is possible you could actually give a more substantial gift than you had planned. You may wish to consider one of the following options:

- Amend an existing insurance policy to add Home On The Range as an additional beneficiary, or simply purchase a new one for our benefit.
- If you have a group life insurance policy or retirement policy with your employer, add Home On The Range as one of you beneficiaries.
- Instruct your attorney to prepare a simple, inexpensive codicil to your existing will, creating a bequest for Home On The Range, leaving a percentage or a specific dollar amount from your estate.
- Leave written or verbal instructions for your surviving spouse to include Home On The Range when they redraw a new will.
- Consider naming Home On The Range as a contingent beneficiary of your will, insurance and retirement programs, to receive your estate only in the unlikely event that you outlive all of your heirs.
- Consider making a financial contribution to Home On The Range Foundation. This gift will support future projects and services at HOTR. The principal of the Foundation account is never used, only the accrued interest.

At Home On The Range we want you to experience the good feelings of having a well-considered and well-crafted planned giving opportunity. It tells us, and your friends, that you want us to continue to fulfill the mission of Home On The Range. You reveal your vision for our future and encourage us to be good stewards of the new resources you place in our hands.

Please consult your attorney or tax advisor when making any important financial decisions and planning. And also, let us know of your plans. It will enable us to better plan our future, as well as thank you and your family, and acknowledge the wonderful gift you have bestowed upon us.

Like Us On  
Facebook!



Follow Us On  
Instagram!



*Follow  
"Home On The Range"  
on Facebook and  
Instagram!*



**GIVING  
HEARTS  
DAY**

*24-hour secure online  
fundraising event for  
Home On The Range*

*Home On The Range has been chosen by Dakota Medical Foundation  
and Impact Foundation to participate in the 2025 Giving Hearts Day on  
**Thursday, February 13, 2025!***

*All proceeds raised on Giving Hearts Day will go towards therapy and programming needs. These  
funds will ensure our children will continue to receive the care they need!*

*Early Giving is open from January 13 - February 12 at <https://givingheartsday.org/>*

*Checks are also accepted! Checks must be dated 2/13/2025 and received by Home On The Range  
on or before Thursday, February 13, 2025.*

*Here is the direct link to our donation page:*

**[app.givingheartsday.org/#/charity/92](https://app.givingheartsday.org/#/charity/92)**

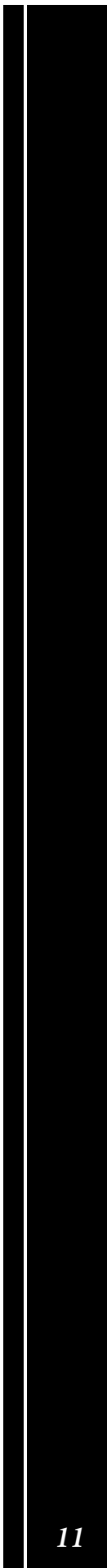


***HOTR Spiritual Update***



Father Nicholas Vetter and the Pastoral Assistant, Nathan Gentry, lead the spiritual program. Their goals are to build relationships with the children. Through these relationships, they model love, respect, and forgiveness to help the children develop their faith. In a recent group, one of the young ladies share this with the group:

*“The spiritual part of HOTR has helped me so much. It educates me and furthers my knowledge about God and what he has done for everyone. It allows me to grow a stronger relationship with him and makes me want to be come a better person and its really opened my eyes about other stuff. Prayer group and youth group give me an opportunity to be with God and really get to know him and how he’s trying to make us better humans so we can go to heaven and have eternal life with him. It’s a free and nonjudgemental space to say what you think and get creative criticism to further your knowledge about God - Jesus the son. Yeah and it just makes me feel at peace with myself knowing I’m trying to do my best and that I might go to heaven. And I’ve been encouraged to start reading the bible on my own. The bible verse that has stuck out the most to me is Psalm 34: 17-18. “The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” Why this piece because there has been a lot of hard times in my life and the more I got closer to God the more I been at peace with life.” V*





HOTR Ranch Hand  
Home On The Range  
16351 I94  
Sentinel Butte, ND 58654  
(701) 872-3745  
www.hotrnd.com

Contributions to Home On The Range in honor or in memory of an individual help ensure that the facility can continue to provide the very best care possible. We notify the honoree, or next of kin, regarding the gift with an appropriate card, as well as sending the donor a receipt or card. Just complete the form below or the printable donation form located on our website. Please note, if we do not receive the name and address of the family, we will not be able to send a notification of the gift.

Memorial  Living Honorarium

Tribute in the Name of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of deceased or honorarium)

*Please notify the family of this gift and mail to:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Giver's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return form and contribution to Home On The Range,  
16351 I-94, Sentinel Butte, ND 58654.*