Scenes from 2024 Champions Ride Match Rodeo







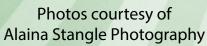




















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"Under the guidance of the Catholic Church, provide a safe home for all youth who have experienced physical or emotional trauma, where every act is done with love to help them discover the dignity of the human person and learn the skills to manage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

Dear Rodeo Fans and Guests.

Welcome to the 69th Annual Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match. Thank you for coming and we hope you enjoy the day because it is going to be exciting!

We are so excited to be celebrating our 75th anniversary and we welcome everyone. We are honored today to welcome members of the Cassedy family who joined us this weekend for the rodeo and our celebration. Our big celebration takes place on August 3rd in our picnic area. We begin at 11:30 with a free, family-friendly BBQ. At 1:00 we will have a short program and some guests will be sharing their most memorable moment or memory of Home On The Range, staff, or Father Fahnlander. We will have yard games for the youth and the young at heart. For the adventurous, feel free to hike to the top of Cassedy Hill and pay your respects to Father Cassedy and Father Fahnlander4, or just enjoy the beautiful view overlooking the ranch.

In honor of our 75th anniversary, there is special merchandise available for sale, today at the west concession stand or tomorrow at the picnic. Take home a coffee mug, note cards or a t-shirt to remember your visit.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the sponsors and advertisers that help make this event possible. You can read more about the sponsors and advertisers in our commemorative program book. Also, special thanks to our rodeo committee who have been working on this event for the past year. They work hard to make sure each year is better than the previous year.

A special thank you to all the volunteers and staff who are willing to help out today. There are many people who are donating their time to work in the concessions, helping direct traffic and parking, bringing their team and wagon for special guests, or working in the arena. We would not be able to put on an event of this magnitude without them, and their time is greatly appreciated.

It is our privilege to welcome Glee Nett, Executive Director of Children's Western Wish Foundation with us today. Glee will be recognizing an individual with a special gift presentation. You can read more about their mission and presentations at www. CWWF.org.

During intermission, make sure to get your friends and family together to participate in our short-go Calcutta. The twelve cowboys with the highest scores will be competing in the short-go round. You bid on the chance that they will win, or place, and then you too, win. We pay out 80% and six places, so you have a 50/50 chance of winning some money back. The remaining 20% Calcutta pool money is given to Home On The Range.

We hope you enjoy your day with us, and realize that the Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match is more than just a rodeo. This event helps raise money to support the program and services for the children we serve. You can read more about our programs and our children's testimonials in this program book. We invite you to come back next year on August 1st, as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Champions Ride Match.

Happy Trails and we hope to see you next year on August 1, 2026.

Lour Fello LOSU

Laura Feldmann, LCSW **Executive Director**

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inside back cover.



A special thank you to our rodeo committee for making our 69th Champions Ride a huge success!

Brad & Jackie Gjermundson
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69th Annual Champions Ride Match

Schedule of Events

1:00 pm Presentation of colors and sponsor flags

National Anthem - Kevin Fugere Canadian Anthem - Ashlyn & Kale Williams

Cowboy Prayer (Father Nicholas Vetter)

Alvin Nelson Long-Go Saddle Bronc Riding - 1st Go, 1st Sect. Saddle Bronc Riding - 1st Go, 2nd Sect.

Saddle Bronc Riding - 2nd Go, 1st Sect. Saddle Bronc Riding - 2nd Go, 2nd Sect.

Intermission

Cowboy Calcutta

Cowboys draw stock

Stock Bios

Jim and Tom Tescher Championship Round

Awards Presentation

PRCA Photography Notice

Livestreaming of any kind, whether through Facebook Live, Periscope or any software sharing similar purposes, is **PROHIBITED.**The PRCA is the sole distributor of any and all rodeo content, and violation will be subject to review and possible legal action.

Only PRCA card/permit-holding photographers and credential media photographers may shoot photos on the rodeo grounds using a professional lens. Fans may take photos from the stands, but only with cell phones and small cameras that have **no extended lens.** Those caught using cameras with a lens attached, will be expelled from the rodeo grounds.

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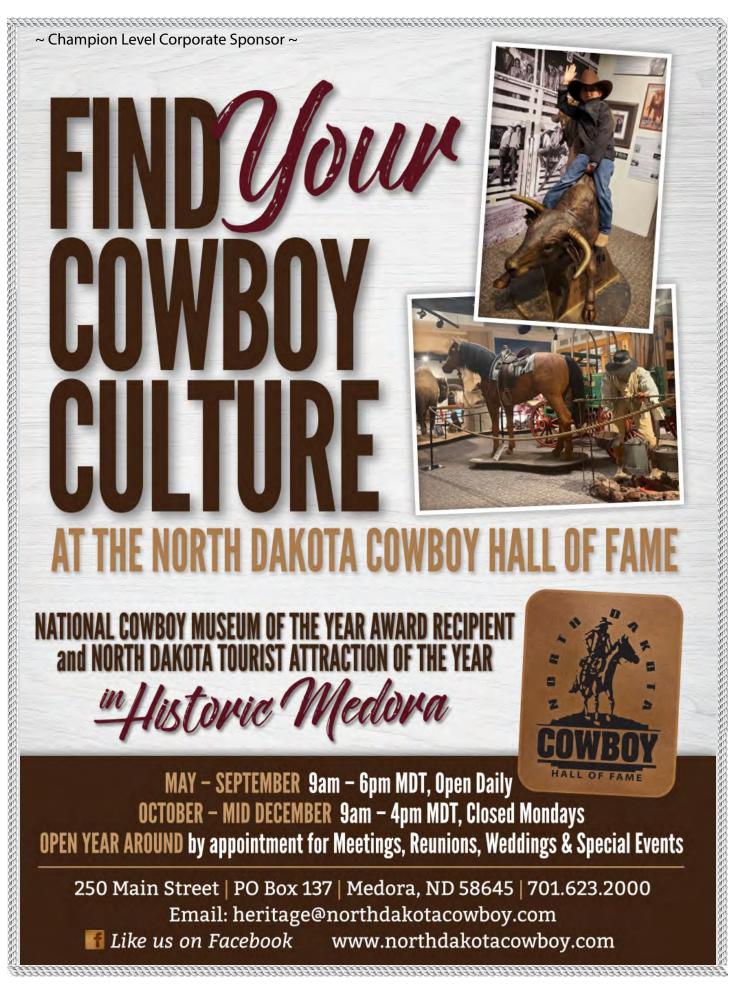
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	Champions Ride Past	Sado	lle Bronc Winners
1957	Alvin Nelson, Grassy Butte, ND	1991	Ty Murray, Stephenville, TX
1958	George Menkenmaier, Burn, OR	1992	Paul Peterson, Edmund, OK
1959	Duane Howard, Minnewaukan, ND	1993	Brad Gjermundson, Marshall, ND
1960	Marty Wood, Bowness, Alberta, Canada	1994	Craig Latham, Goodwell, OK
1961	Benny Reynolds, Melrose, MT	1995	Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, Canada
	& Pete Fredericks, Halliday, ND	1996	Dan Mortensen, Manhattan, MT
1962	Shawn Davis, Whitehall, MT	1997	Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, Canada
1963	Jim Tescher, Sentinel Butte, ND	1998	Jeremy Crane, Bismarck, ND
1964	Shawn Davis, Whitehall, MT	1999	Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, Canada
1965	Jim Tescher, Sentinel Butte, ND		& Glen O'Neill, Water Valley, Alberta, Canada
1966	Jim Tescher, Sentinel Butte, ND	2000	Glen O'Neill, Water Valley, Alberta, Canada
1967	Hugh Chambliss, Albuquerque, NM	2001	Todd Hipsag, Firth, NE
1968	Bill Smith, Cody, WY	2002	Tom Reeves, Stephenville, TX
1969	Larry Mahan, Salem, OR	2003	Dan Mortensen, Dillon, MT
1970	Ralph Maynard, Eagle Butte, SD	2004	Jesse Bail, Camp Crook, SD
1971	Jim Tescher, Sentinel Butte, ND	2005	Jeremy Crane, Baldwin, ND
1972	Bill Pauley, Miles City, MT	2006	Cody Wright, Milford, UT
1973	Hugh Chambliss, Albuquerque, NM	2007	JJ Elshere, Quinn, SD
1974	Wally Badgett, Kinsey, MT	2008	Cody Wright, Milford, UT
1975	Bill Pauley, Miles City, MT	2009	James Irish, Lewistown, MT
1976	John McBeth, Burden, KS	2010	Wade Sundell, Bayholm, IA
1977	J.C. Bonine, Hysham, MT	2011	Cody Wright, Milford, UT
1978	Bill Pauley, Miles City, MT	2012	Chuck Schmidt, Keldron, SD
1979	Bud Pauley, Miles City, MT	2013	Josh Reynolds, Ekalaka, MT
1980	Bud Pauley, Miles City, MT	2014	Cole Elshere, Faith, SD
1981	Rockie Kukla, Killdeer, ND	2015	Wade Sundell, Colman, OK
1982	Butch Small, Dubois, ID	2016	Zeke Thurston, Big Valley, AB
1983	Chuck Fratzke, Watford City, ND	2017	Allen Boore, Axtell, UT
1984	Rockie Kukla, Killdeer, ND	2018	Allen Boore, Axtell, UT
1985	Harry Rose Jr., Clovis, CA	2019	Wade Sundell, Colman, UT
1986	Lewis Feild, Elk Ridge, UT	2020	Zeke Thurston, Big Valley, AB
1987	Marty Jandreau, Kinnebeck, SD	2021	Brody Cress, Hillsdale, WY
	& Tom Reeves, Eagle Butte, SD	2022	Zeke Thurston, Big Valley, AB
1988	Brad Gjermundson, Marshall, ND	2023	Kolby Wanchuk, Sherwood Park, AB
1989	Robert Etbauer, Goodwell, OK	2024	Brody Cress, Weatherford, TX
1990	Dan Mortensen, Billings, MT		

CALCUTTA RULES

We have a Calcutta after the first go round. For those of you not familiar with a Calcutta, it's a live auction of the cowboy's qualifying for the final go round. The payout is 80% and 20% to Champions Ride and it **pays 6 places**. Individuals, groups or businesses can bid on their favorite cowboy and cheer him to be champion, with a chance to win back some money! Bidders will need to pay the secretary at the west-side canopy by the trophy saddle, before the short go round can begin. One social security number is required. If a group is bidding, let us know by coming to the fence or telling a spotter! Payout checks will be dispersed after the rodeo at the HOTR Administration building.

Welcome to the Home On The Range Annual Champions Ride



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE CHAMPIONS RIDE! WE WELCOME YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS REGARDING THIS EVENT.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _				
Have you atten	ded the Cham	pions Ride b	efore?	
Yes, Ho	w Many Times	?		_ No
low did you he	ear about the N	Match?		
Radio Stati	on	New	spaper	Which paper?
	HOTR Ranc			
Facebook	Other			
Vhat did you li	ke most about	the Champi	ions Ride?	
What did you li	ke most about	the Champi	ions Ride?	Poor
				Poor
RATINGS				Poor
RATINGS Announcers				Poor
RATINGS Announcers Concessions				Poor
RATINGS Announcers Concessions Parking				Poor
RATINGS Announcers Concessions Parking Stock				Poor
Announcers Concessions Parking Stock	Excellent	Good	Fair	

Champions Ride?

Champions Ride Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pause, mindful of the many blessings You bestow upon us at Home On The Range, and among our friends gathered here today. We ask that You be with us at the Champions Ride 69th year, and we pray that You will guide us in the arena of life. We don't ask for special favors; we don't ask to draw around a chute-fightin' horse, not to break a barrier, or to never be faced with challenges in our day-to-day lives. We do ask, Lord, for safety of the animals and competitors in the arena and for safe travels following today's event.

Help us, Lord, to live our lives in such a manner, that when we make that last inevitable ride to the country up there, where the grass grows lush, green and stirrup high, and the water runs cool, clear and deep, that You, as our Last Judge, will tell us that our entry fees are paid. Amen.



Barney Sheridan is from the small town of Arlee in Western Montana. A resident for over 30 years, Barney is an announcer with the PRCA, announcing many ProRodeos throughout the year from Washington to Arizona, Idaho, Wyoming, the Dakotas and of course Montana. This year he will work at more than 20 events and more than 50 performances. Barney says "I Love the fact that you have to travel a long way to see most professional sports, But in ProRodeo... we bring the best in the world, right to your backyard! Barney's wife Tara, daughter Nicolle, and son Cody are all members of the PRCA. Tara and Nicolle are both PRCA Music Directors, and his son Cody Sheridan is a Professional Tie Down Roper. "We all get together for a nice dinner in April, and stay in touch throughout the summer season. Everybody going different directions... gets a little crazy at times".

Barney has announced the Turquoise Circuit Finals in Arizona, has received the Western Heritage Award from The University of Montana, and in January 2017 was honored to receive the Western Heritage Award from The Montana ProRodeo Hall And Wall Of Fame. This is Barney's 8th year of announcing at the Champions Ride Match.

West Plains Inc. is a proud supporter of Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match and Home On The Range





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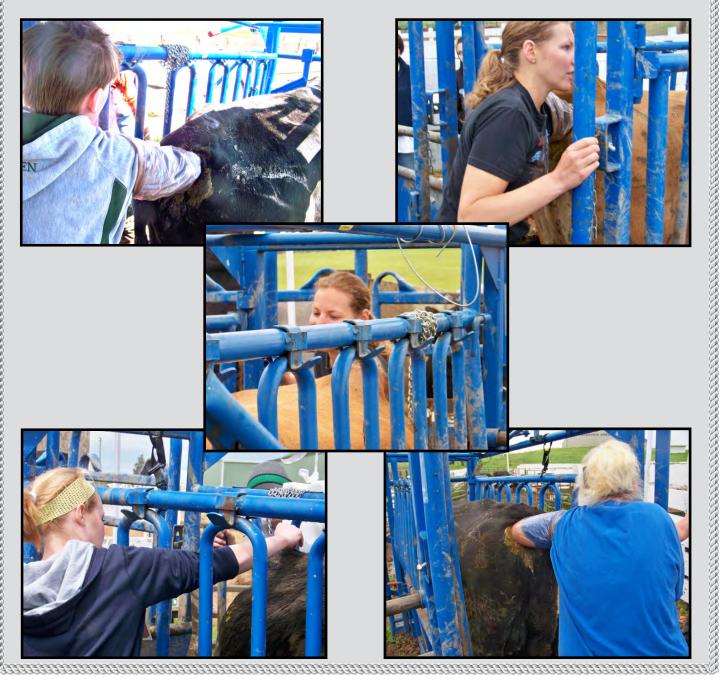


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Bovine Embryo Transfer Program

Since 2008, Home On The Range has been participating in the embryo transfer program. Home On The Range has entered into a contract with Open A Ranch (Jim Arthaud) and Heart River Ranch (Annette Steffan). The staff and children bring the cows in, implant the CIDR (a progesterone impregnated devise), inject a shot of GnRH (gonadotropin hormone), and then remove the CIDR and finally, the embryologist transfers the frozen embryo into the cow's uterus. The children are a little apprehensive at first, never really being around cattle and such a procedure. But once they get comfortable and know what their job is, the children take responsibility and help put on ear tags and even learn how to palpate the cow later to see if she is pregnant. It's a great program for Home On The Range and teaching children about cattle reproduction.



2024 Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Cowboys

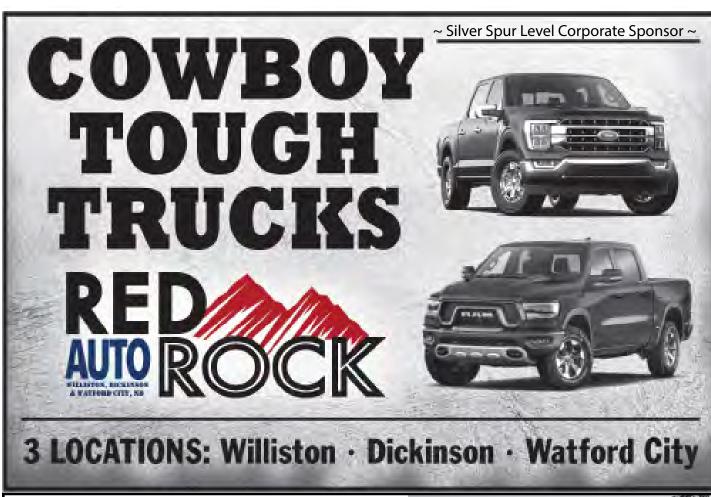


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Jim and Tom Tescher Championship Round 2024 Brody Cress



The final go-round or short round of Champions Ride was renamed in 2004 as a tribute to the two saddle bronc riding brothers, Jim and Tom Tescher, who are credited with starting Champions Ride. Since then, a jacket has been presented to the winner of that round that bears the lettering "Jim and Tom Tescher Championship Round" and the Champions Ride logo on the front. The jacket is sponsored by Tescher Fencing.





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Giving Hearts Day

https://givingheartsday.org/_

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2025 Giving Hearts Day. Home On The Range raised over \$65,000 in online donations! We appreciate your support and hope you will participate in Giving Hearts Day 2026, which will be Thursday, February 12, 2026.

Watch our website and Facebook page for details.



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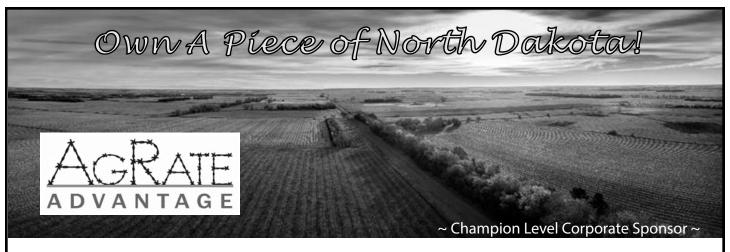
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We are grateful to all our benefactors and donors. You all make a difference and provide support for services, programming and care to our youth.

If you donate each month, maybe it's time to consider setting up an automatic donation online. Most people already use automatic payments, e.g. to pay utilities, internet or cell phone service, insurance, etc. So why not set up a safe and secure monthly donation to Home On The Range? It's simple and convenient; no more writing checks, using expensive stamps, or wondering if the check got lost in the mail and the charity received the check. It's all automatic and at the end of the year, you will be sent a summary of the donations.

To become a monthly donor, simply visit our website, click on Donate Now and select the "monthly donation" option when you sign up. You can enter the amount you wish to give, \$10, \$25, \$100 or any amount you choose. It all adds up and makes a difference. You can set up the donation to be applied to your credit card or deducted from your bank account. It's convenient and hassle-free. You choose the date that works best for you. All the monthly donations add up to support our mission and ensure that we can continue to make a positive impact on our children.

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"Starfish Award"



In honor of our staff who are dedicated to helping our children, we have started the "Starfish Award." Our staff have a challenging job. They form relationships with the children and teach them appropriate behaviors and skills which will help them later in life. After a child graduates from our program, they will be asked which staff made the biggest impression on them. That staff will receive a Starfish Award, which in essence says, "I made a difference in this child's life."

A Child's prayer

Give me clean hands, clean words, clean thoughts. Help me stand for the hard right against the easy wrong. Save me from the habits that harm. Teach me to work as hard and play as fair in Thy sight alone as if the world saw. Forgive me when I am unkind and help me to forgive those who are unkind to me. Keep me ready to help others at some cost

to myself.

Send me chances to do a little good

every day.

And so grow more like Christ.

Home On The Range

A corporation under the auspices of the Bismarck Catholic Diocese of western North Dakota, Home On The Range is a licensed residential child care facility. We provide an around-the-clock therapeutic environment for neglected, disadvantaged, unruly, problematic, and delinquent youth. Many residents are victims of abuse, harbor feelings of anger, have had problems in school, or face drug and alcohol addictions. "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."

Our program offers a caring, safe, and loving environment where youth of all race, creed, religion, and national origin may learn and experience self-worth. Through individually designed treatment plans, residents develop responsible living skills, acknowledging the importance of God, all human beings and His creations.

Home On The Range cares for a total of 26 children at Sentinel Butte, North Dakota. Home On The Range accepts children from states across the nation.

Services to children and families, leadership in the child care field, and the conviction to making a healthier and stronger world, characterize the Home On The Range philosophy. This philosophy is built on a foundation of Christian values and brings healing to families.



Home On The Range Is Putting Kids Back in the Saddle

Are you a John Wayne fan? He's had many notable quotes, and one that may be familiar to many of you is: "Courage is being scared to death and saddling up anyway." This may also accurately describe the attitude of many of our boys and girls.

Home On The Range is licensed to care for boys and girls, ages 12-17. The children have experienced trauma that many people can't even imagine. They may have been traumatized by events that happened to them (verbal, physical or sexual abuse); witnessed situations that happened around them (domestic violence or family members being removed from the home); or maybe they are suffering from environments because it happened and shouldn't have (neglect, lack of food, shelter, supervision, or the sense of feeling safe and cared for).



While the children are at Home On The Range, they can attend school or work on the G.E.D. certificate, participate in spiritual programs, or recreational and work activities. There are many

therapeutic groups the boys and girls can choose from, or be assigned to, to help them heal. The groups also teach the children ways to cope and deal with life's challenges, how to form positive relationships with peers and adults, and give them new life skills to help them feel safe, and become successful in the

One of our successful therapeutic groups

is our equine assisted program. There are many groups under this umbrella, including EAGALA (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association), Rhythmic Riding, mule driving and therapeutic riding. Each group has different activities and goals. The children can be on the ground working with their horses, or riding a horse in the indoor arena keeping up to the beat of music. There is nothing staged or practiced. But there is healing, a realization of where they may need help, and lots of emotions.

communities.



Sometimes there is so much pain, sadness or frustration, the child may not want to move forward. But with the staff's empathy,

understanding, patience and encouragement, the child can face the challenge and learn how to cope, even overcome it. This experience can carry over into other relationships the child has and other groups. It is rewarding to see the look on the child's face and body when they feel happy and confident, knowing they have accomplished something.

It is a process and our goal is to give the child confidence, new-found skillsets, and a foundation to build positive relationships to get them back in the saddle.



Adventure Therapy Program

Adventure Therapy is an experiential therapy approach where members are able to work through their trauma-based challenges through outdoor and healthy living activities. It is an effective tool for overcoming a wide range of mental health challenges including (but not limited to): PTSD, substance abuse, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and traumatic life experiences.

This year we went to Medora and tubed on the Little Missouri River. We tubed first day to our camping site, camped, then tubed the second day to an end point. The girls learned how to maintain safety, work through obstacles along the river, and take items needed to travel with only tubes. Throughout group, we hiked, made camp fires, and learned how to cook over a fire. We are working with the girls in teaching hiking safety, teamwork skills, cooking over a fire and will do our capstone camping trip in Medora to float and swim in the Medora river, as well as experience various hikes and camping. We have also incorporated taking the canine dog with us during hikes as well, which also allows members to work on dog safety and forest preserve rules when it comes to animals and pets. We'd like to thank all of Home On The Range's supporters for their contributions this last year to the Adventure Therapy program. Your generosity and future support makes Adventure Therapy possible and gives the youth in our care the best opportunities to work through their trauma in new, challenging, and exciting ways!















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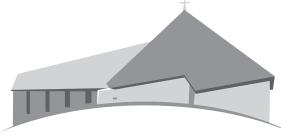
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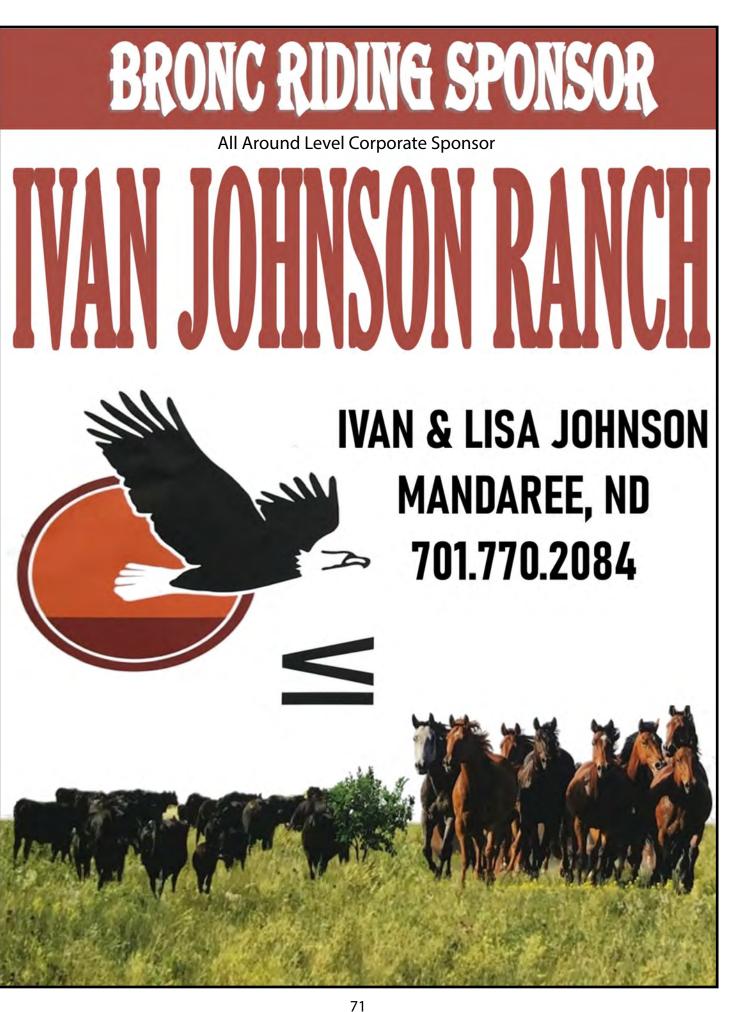
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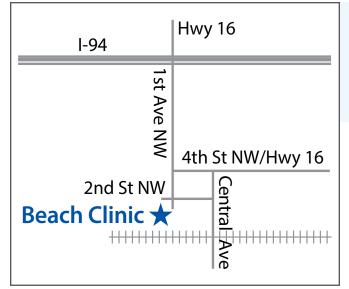
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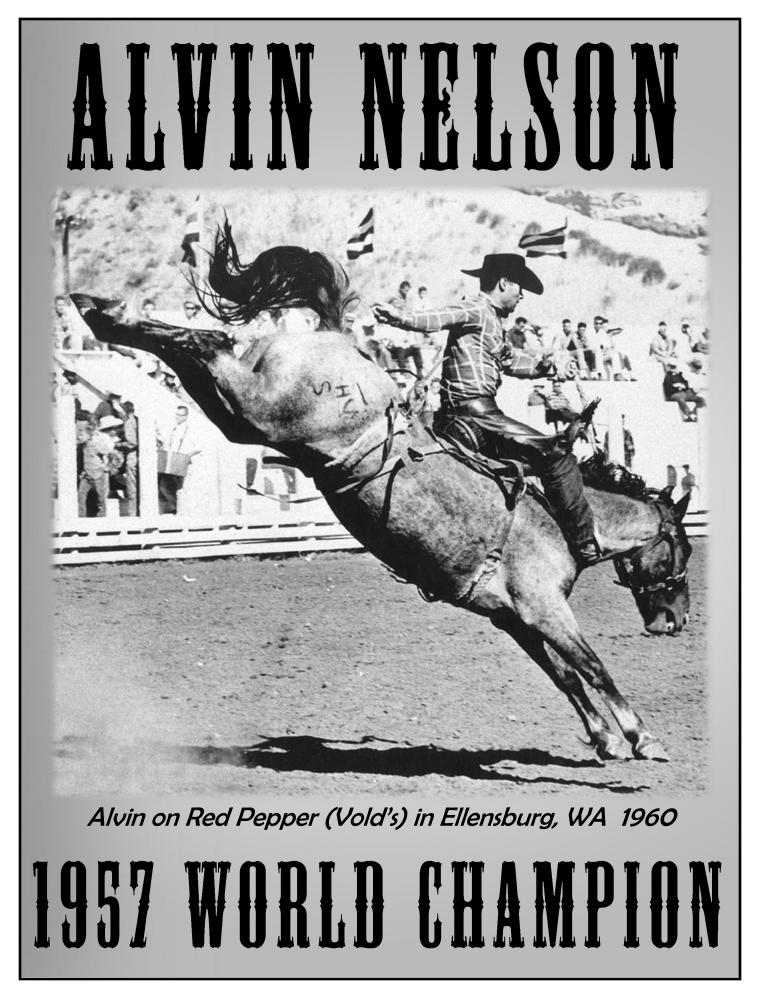
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Rodeo Management and personnel have extensive knowledge and understanding in not only the sport of rodeo, but the livestock industry as well. These people routinely put the needs of the rodeo livestock before their own and have great respect for the animal athletes of rodeo. Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match is proud to be continuing the western way of life and will continue to address issues, especially livestock welfare, with a proactive approach. More information on the Livestock Program of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association can be found

at www.prorodeo.com.'

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Resident Testimonials

We are so proud of our boys and girls when they speak in front of groups and share their stories. It takes a lot of courage and confidence. Here are a few speeches the kids gave at various functions and speaking engagements.

*Text is taken directly from their written testimonials. Grammar and spelling hasn't been corrected or changed. Due to confidentiality reasons, their names have been changed.

"Hi my name is Charlie. I'm 14 I lived in Jacksonville, FL for 9 years, then I moved to Williston, ND. I have 10 siblings. I started smoking weed when I was 9. I started vaping when I was 7. I've been vaping and smoking ever since. When I was growing up I didn't have my parents around a lot. My dad was a alcoholic for a while. My mom was gone most of the time doing stuff. My dad was always working to make money for us, so me and my siblings kind of had free rain for a while so we really did what we wanted to. Then during the beginning of the summer of 2021 my mom left us and left my dad. They were married for 20+ years so it was hard for my dad and all of us older siblings new what was going on so we told the younger kids lies to protect them, but I was so busy focusing on everybody else I didn't take time for me, so I started to blame my dad for my mom leaving us then I started to smoke, drink and vape more. I started to sneak out with my friends and my ex. I started car hopping. I started stealing food from stores to help my family survive. I stole guns to sell for money. I went around doing stuff I shouldn't have. I started skipping school. When I did go, I would vape and smoke weed in the bathroom. I would get in fights at school too and my siblings saw the things I was doing, so they started to follow in my foot steps. They all look up to me and I didn't realize that. My dad kept telling me that all summer and I didn't listen. I went to the YAC and I kept running away from there so I got sent to YCC for a few days. They did that to scare me so I went back to the YAC. Then on November 14 I came to Home On The Range. Since I've been here I've learned how to read a clock on the wall. I learned how to change oil and I've learned some coping skills. I've learned how to calm my stress down by thinking about the people I love and getting in fights won't help me get out of here, so that has helped me through a lot. Home On The Range has also taught me that I'll have to work with people I might not like or get along with, so they have prepaired me for a job outside of here. So these are the things they have taught me. So far I am happy to be at Home On The Range."

"Hi my name is George. I'm from Minnesapolis, MN. I lived there till I was 12 years old. My mom moved my siblings and I to Jamestown, ND. When we got there I started getting into trouble. When I turned 13 I got sent to the youth correctional center in Mandan. I was there for 2 months and after that I got sent to DBGR in Bismarck. When I left I was 15 and went into foster care. I didn't get along with my foster family and was there for about three months because I started getting into trouble with selling weed and I had a problem with alcohol. I got caught and got sent to YCC again. I was at YCC for a year and 11 months. I left when I turned 17 and went to another foster family. They were in Devils Lake. When I got there I got off to a bad start. I started skipping classes and I had a nicotine addiction and I started smoking weed again and I started drinking again. I got told that I will end up getting sent away again if I keep failing to follow my community placement agreement so I got a job at Dairy Queen and tried to stay in classes but it wasn't enough and I got sent to Home On The Range. While I've been here though I've learned how to change oil on cars. I help with feeding the cows. I'm doing my GED. Once I'm finished with my GED I'm going to start working full time on the work crew and my IL worker has helped me with a lot of stuff like teaching me how to pay taxes. I've signed up for the selective services and he helped me get an apartment set up for me in Devils Lake for when I get out. Home On The Range has helped me more in the 2 months that I've been here than YCC helped me in the year and 11 months. It's taught me how to be more mature and responsible and how to succeed in life."

ALVIN NELSON Changed Saddle Bronc Riding FOREVER!!!



Just who is this Alvin Nelson? The inimitable George Williams – 2008 Rodeo Hall of Fame honoree in Oklahoma City's National Cowboy Hall of Fame – is unequivocally the richest source of deeply educated (as in "rode, walked and competed more miles in deep arena dirt") and trustworthy information on everything having to do with rodeo. Listen to these written/published commentaries of George's from 1957, referring to Alvin Nelson as "Ole": "Starting in '57, January, at Odessa, TX, where the horses really bucked, when the draw went on the wall, and 'Ole' had *Pretty Boy*, I told them of Alvin Nelson, 'Boys, be sure and don't miss this one. It's likely to be the greatest bronc ride you ever saw.' He marked 208, a record I believe 'til yet. 'That summer at Casper, WY, he rode a new horse called *Goodbye Now* that brought 'em from the kitchen. Doyle Cobbler, who flanked him, turned to me and asked, 'What would you have marked

his ride?' My jaw hanging slack, I said, 'I was so busy watching that horse buck, I

couldn't tell you if he spurred him once.' It was the rankest horse I ever saw anyone

make the whistle on. A big stout, fast, ducking, bad headed horse that spun a couple

of rounds and kicked right square out to the side. I didn't see how the saddle stayed on. Jo Weeks of Abilene, TX exclaimed, "That was the best bronc ride I ever saw!"

"Ole' gave them all a hardware bath and you couldn't buck him off. He rode Jake, considered just about unrideable at that time, three times! In Dickinson, ND, Alvin rode a terribly dirty horse that caused Bill Linderman to exclaim, "I'm glad I saw that. That's the most I ever saw anybody spur a horse that was that hard to ride." (*George Williams*) Not long after hanging the 1957 World Champion Bronc Rider buckle on his belt, Alvin was drafted to the Army. In 1960, barely home from military service, he nearly won the title again! The National Finals Rodeo (NFR) had been born while Alvin was across the pond, wearing Army green. He found it much to his liking – competing there five times, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964, and 1966 –winning his event average in both 1961 and 1962; plus the Dallas NFR All Around Title in 1961. Yes, you read that right - while Alvin's forte was decidedly bronc riding, he rode barebacks and bulls with a similar flair. His style and control awarded him plenty of winning scores in both.

Alvin's win at New York's legendary Madison Square Garden the fall of 1957 set an all-time record for the most money won at a single bronc riding event... a record that held for an unbelievable 23 years! The North Dakota ranch cowboy's brilliant discovery and pioneer development of "quarter binds" for stirrups on his saddle was a game-changing miracle, revolutionizing bronc riding forever. In retrospect Alvin pondered, "I shouldn't have told my friends - the other saddle bronc riders - about it!" He need not have worried. The bronc riding wizardry Alvin Nelson accomplished in that saddle has yet to be equaled! A couple years ago Kaye and some video experts in North Dakota created a compilation of still photos Alvin had bought from rodeo photographers across his years of competition. Set to music, that video is the epitome of bronc riding perfection...an ethereal dance that should stream on a wall twelve feet tall as moving backdrop to every stage where the Russion Royal Ballet performs - *to enchance their dance!*

When Alvin got tapped off it was excellence, perfection! This slight-built North Dakota ranch cowboy magically transposed the bone-jarring athletic gyrations of bred-to-buck broncs into the flawless supernatural dance of a *centaur!* During his unbelievably lengthy, amazing sports career, Alvin rode saddle broncs professionally from 1957 through 1973...plus making some very memorable, winning bull and bareback conquests. Across that 17-year span he won and placed at all of America's biggest rodeos! Far from ready to leave the arena, Alvin continued team roping into the 1990s, a legacy now perpetuated by his son Louis. A song sung by Bette Midler on a 1990 film soundtrack garnered high musical honors. The world loves, and will never stop singing "Wind Beneath My Wings." To me it epitomizes the story of a blonde, beautiful ranch girl wearing a 1957 Miss Rodeo North Dakota crown on her stylish hat at the Cow Palace rodeo in California when Casey Tibbs casually asked her if she'd met Alvin Nelson. Kaye answered, "No, but I would like to." Casey gathered up the shy ranch cowboy and made the introduction that began one of the West's great, decadeslong love stories...and that was the moment the wonderful warm wind that never left him first caressed Alvin Nelson's bronc riding wings!

(Written by Rhonda Sterns)

Thank you to our Board of Directors for their guidance and governing of Home On The Range

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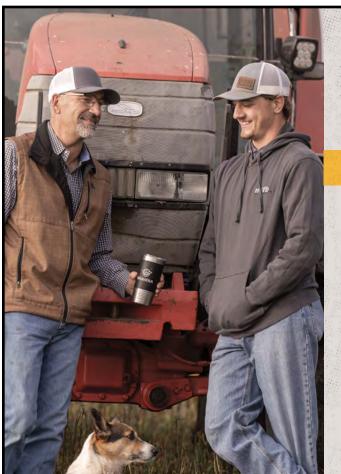
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A history of serving troubled youth since 1950

... "Home, home on the range..." This old folk song still rings true today. For 26 boys and girls, Home On The Range is a home to them while they receive the care they need.

Children are referred to Home On The Range for many different reasons. They may have been victims of abuse, have drug or alcohol addictions, not be attending school on a regular basis, or have inappropriate behavior. Home On The Range has adopted our version of Trauma Informed Care (TIC) - "Relational Habilitation Model." This is an approach to engage people with histories of trauma that recognizes the presence of trauma symptoms and acknowledges the role that trauma has played in their lives. TIC is remembering nothing that the kid does is as important as what happened to him/her. TIC focuses on where the kid is in his/her development, not where we think someone that age should be.

Other important components of our program include work programs and recreation. Every boy and girl is assigned to a work crew and given a task. It could be mowing, fencing, cleaning, kitchen work, or working with the forest service or a business in town. When they complete the job, they are given an allowance to spend or put in their savings account. Recreation is vital to

happiness and good health. The kids participate in many activities, including fishing, basketball, horseshoes, swimming, camping, horseback riding, movies, softball, hiking, golf, and crafts.

Our program wouldn't be complete without education – both scholastically and spiritually, which are equally important. A healthy mind makes a healthy body. The residents go to school in nearby Beach. When they need extra help with their schoolwork or assignments, they can attend an evening study hall and receive help from the teaching staff. Our spiritual program is a strong part of our program. In fact, our mission statement says it all — "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." By giving the children spiritual guidance and development, they accept God into their lives and learn to forgive and go on with their lives in a more positive direction.

"...where seldom is heard, a discouraging word, and the skies are not cloudy all day." There is no such thing as a bad child, just bad behavior. At Home On The Range, we encourage the children to change their behavior and find the good within themselves.

HOME ON THE RANGE DRUG & ALCOHOL PROGRAM

Our drug and alcohol program is a combination of abstinence based, non-abstinence based, support group, and education. The platform is a 12-week program with youth who are working on making changes and being able to continue in the support group for as long as they want.

Components of the drug and alcohol program are:

~ Stages of Change

~ Harm Reduction vs. Abstinence

~Goals

~Pharmacology

~Cues, Triggers, Coping Skills

~Sex Education

~ Family History

~ Legal Issues/Responsibility

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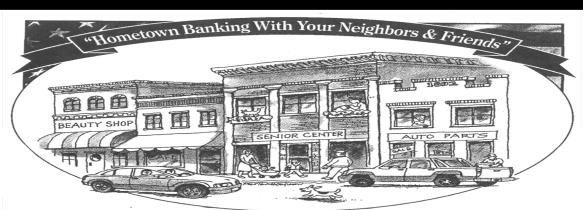
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2024 Rodeo Results

Name
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Place

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Home On The Range is grateful to all its benefactors and friends who support the programs and services which help neglected and disadvantaged children. A wonderful way to help Home On The Range and honor loved ones is with memorial gifts. A gift may be given in memory of or in honor of a loved one or special friend. It can commemorate a special occasion or holiday or be a memorial in lieu of flowers following a death. We will gladly acknowledge the family of your gift. The honoree's name(s) is listed in our annual commemorative issue of the Ranch Hand. Please feel free to contact the Development Office or use the coupon below.

This is a
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Thank you!

The residents take a very active role in taking care of the animals at Home On The Range. They feed bum calves, horses, and grain to the cattle.



Thank you to Alaina Stangle 2025 Champions Ride Photographer!



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During March, in honor of St.
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and all who contributed to the
annual Shamrock fundraiser!

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Holidays



The children get excited about holidays such as Halloween and Christmas.

For Halloween, the kids carved pumpkins and put them on display.

During the Christmas season, the kids do seasonal activities. Most of the children were able to go home to their families

for Christmas. For the few that were here over the holidays, Santa came on Christmas morning and handed out Christmas gifts. The children and staff enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner of turkey and the trimmings.

Once all the kids return from break, we have a New Year's Day party. The kids play lots of different games and win prizes such as liters of pop, games, movies, toys, blankets, footballs, etc. Our children really enjoy this and have a great time!









2024 Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Champion **Brody Cress**



Trophy Rifle Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of Mandan - Dickinson, North Dakota -





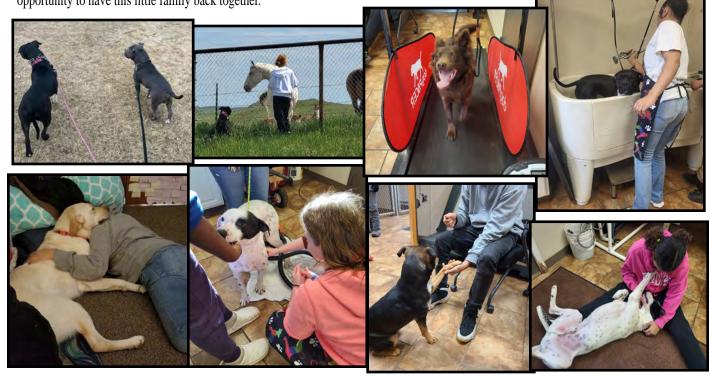
* Home On The Range Canine Therapy Program **



The Home On The Range Canine Program partners with rescue shelters along with neighboring foster homes to assist both dogs and children. The canine program is an 8-week experiential program, teaming residents with dogs to assist residents in building coping skills, self-control, patience, responsibility, and relationship skills. Each week focuses on a different treatment skill such as compassion, communication or team work. Members of the canine program assess each dog. Residents in the canine program learn to identify the needs of their canine partners. They also learn responsibility by taking care of the dogs daily, ensuring that the dogs are fed, watered, exercised, learning the needed skills and living in a safe and clean kennel area. Through their treatment plans, the dogs learn loose leash walking, and they learn basic commands such as sit, down and stay. They also learn how to focus on their handler, along with place and crate training. The dogs learn to overcome fear while residents work with them through agility obstacle courses. Additionally, the dogs learn to trust and bond with their handler. Over the course of the last couple of years, residents in the canine program have helped 24 dogs find forever homes. We currently are working with rescue dogs and local shelters and in the past we were also able to work with K9 crew leader, Joe Fluge's retired explosive detection dog, Shia. Residents worked on active seaches with Shia around campus which was built on helping residents continue to develop their skills mentioned above and also gave them an opportunity to not only work on training dogs to prepare them for adoption, but experience working with a highly trained working detection dog. Graduates from the canine program state that they learn trust while working with the dogs, they love dogs, and learn that dogs want relationships with them. Graduates of the canine program state that the dogs helped them learn patience. One resident stated that he gets stressed easily and that working with the dogs helps him work on controlling his anger. Another resident stated that a session that focused on communication skills was useful for him because "I need to learn how to communicate nice sometimes." A second resident observed that the session on communication helped him to do better in school. Additionally, a resident stated that this group taught her that others can love her because the dogs can love her and that "there will always be a bump in the road and that there is fun and happiness in the world." Finally, a recent youth stated that working with the dogs "keeps me sane."

Finally, we had a beautiful recent adoption success story below. If you have any questions, please contact Brittany Williams at 701-872-3745, ext. 7120. THANK YOU for all of your support for our loving canines and the youth we serve at HOTR!

Xena (whose name was Rhea originally) was reunited with her family and is now back home (her original owner when she was a puppy who did not know what happened to her after he rehomed her)! She is happily enjoying her brother and lots of love. This is what her owner is saying about her adoption: "Home On The Range has done an amazing job with Rhea/Xena. She likes to go on walks, she listens well, and she hasn't lost the way she likes to cuddle. They took care of her for about a year, building her up, and making sure she was ready for adoption and luckily I was able to get her back. She goes on daily walks with me and Titan and acts as though she never left. I appreciate Home On The Range for taking her in when I didn't know what happened to her, and for them posting her on Facebook so I could have the opportunity to have this little family back together."

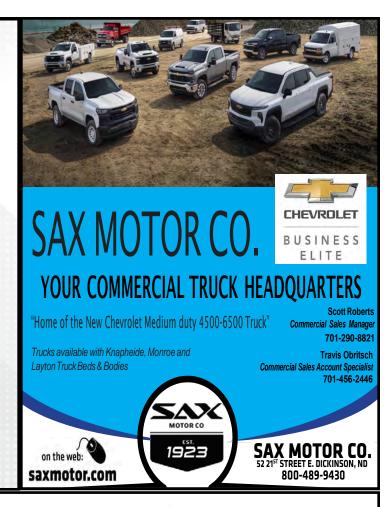




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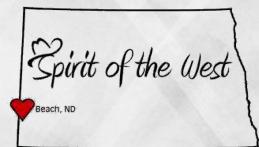
28



Are you interested in what we do at Home On The Range? Sign up for our Ranch Hand newsletter at

hotrnd.com

Thank you Spirit of the West for your continued support of the Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match!



www.spiritofthewestfest.com

Spirit of the West is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, formed in 2002, through strategic planning for Beach and the surrounding area. Spirit of the West was created to promote and sustain the Home On The Range rodeo, give local businesses and organizations an opportunity to prosper, and encourage people to visit our area.



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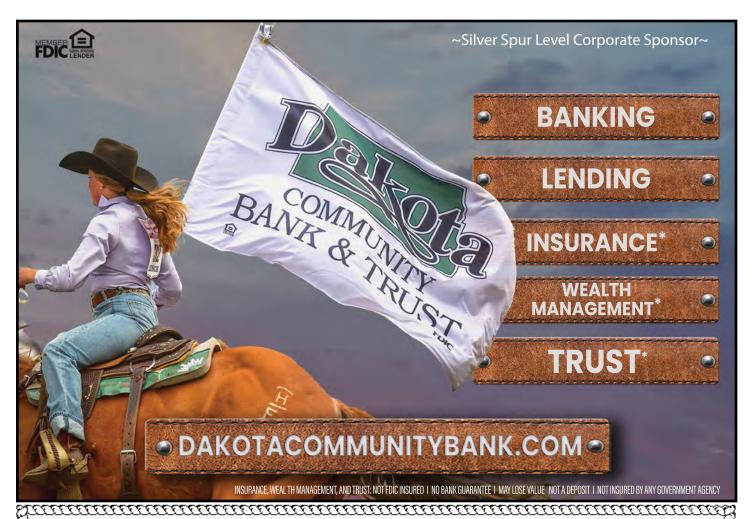
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Good luck to all the participants!



30

Hopper bottom grain bins cake bins Frac sand bins



The goals of daily recreational activities are to teach youth how to structure free time by having fun, learning new skills, and enhancing self-esteem. Indoor and outdoor recreational activities, both on- and off-site, offer a variety of organized and leisure-time activities. Some of the activities include basketball, fishing, swimming, bike riding, hiking through the hills of Home On The Range, and

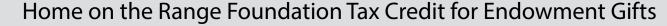
barbecues.











Businesses (C corporations, S corporations, estates, limited liability companies, trusts and financial institutions) that pay state income tax may receive a 49% credit up to a maximum credit of \$10,000 for contributions to a qualified ND endowment. Even better, the unused portion of that tax credit can be carried forward for three years.

Individuals may receive a state tax credit for a contribution of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year) to a qualified ND endowment. The tax credit is 40% per tax payer of the charitable deduction allowed by the IRS up to a maximum credit of \$10,000 per year taxpayer or \$20,000 per year per couple filing jointly.

See ND Century Code 57-38-01.21 and 57-35.3 for details.

Take a look at the following example:

A North Dakota taxpayer in the 25% tax bracket makes a donation of......\$25,000 After taking advantage of an estimated federal tax savings of \$6,250 and a ND Income tax credit of \$10,000, the cost of that \$25,000 donation is just......\$8,750!

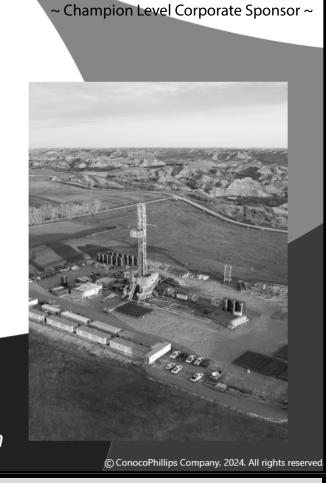
This information is provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your own attorney, accountant or financial advisor for advice on your situation.



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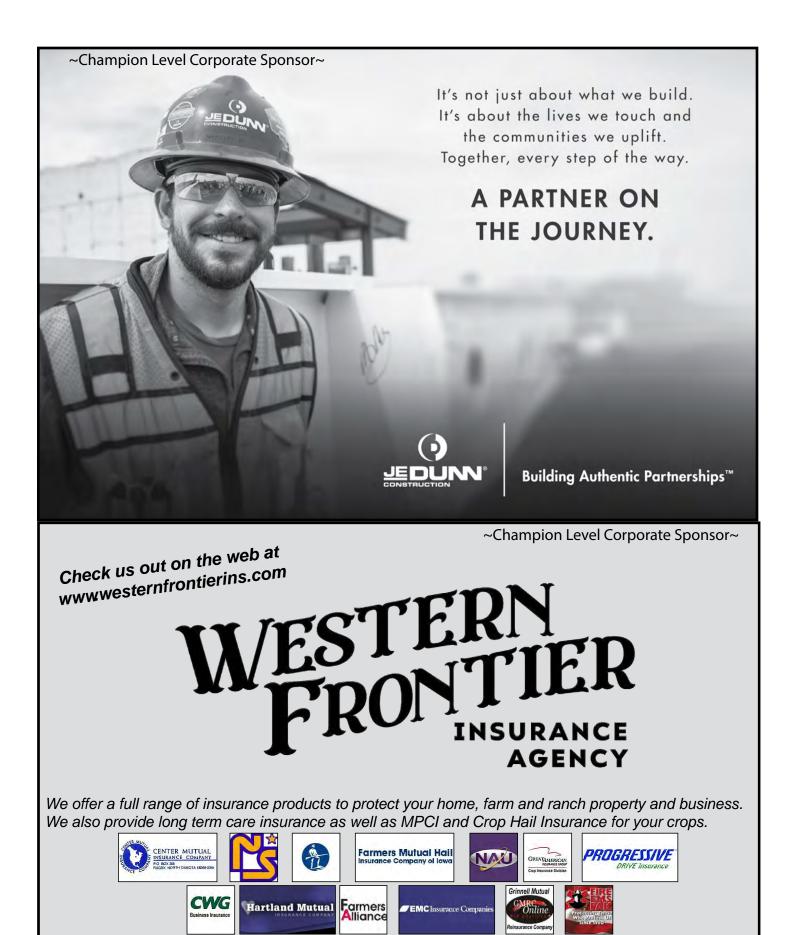




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Thank you to the **Amazing Grace Lutheran Church** for helping with the hospitality tent for our cowboys!



HOTR Bible Camp Submitted by Nathan Gentry, Pastoral Assistant

For most of us, we can remember a Bible camp, youth retreat, or something of the like that was a ton of fun and impacted us on a spiritual level. The goal of our two-day Bible Camp was for the kids to have a lot of fun, know the love Jesus has for them, be poured into, and have the opportunity to make the decision to follow God. Our hope was that our youth would walk away with that amazing memory.

Home On The Range changed the schedule entirely for two days. We had a morning Chapel and evening Chapel both days, with worship and compelling speakers that passionately shared about the love that Jesus has for us and that there is no one that is too far gone. During the afternoon, our youth participated in recreational activities enjoying the nice weather. Both evenings finished with a campfire where many fun and meaningful conversations were held.

I thank God that all that we desired for the camp came to be! Our youth had many powerful conversations about God and faith with our guest speakers and Pastoral Assistant. I have heard praise reports of our youth that made the decision to follow God for the first time! God is truly doing something wonderful in our youth out here right now. Since the camp, we have had momentum with all of our ministry activities. We have been taking larger groups to attend church, and many are seeking to learn and have conversations on how they can follow God.

Please pray with me, that our youth out here would continue to recognize their need for our Savior Jesus Christ. That the momentum of this camp would continue to carry and lead more of our youth to God. That our youth would know the love of our Father and that God does want them. Pray for the healing of our youth mentally, physically, and spiritually. Pray that our Father will continue to pour His blessings out upon Home On The Range's staff and its youth. We ask these things in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.





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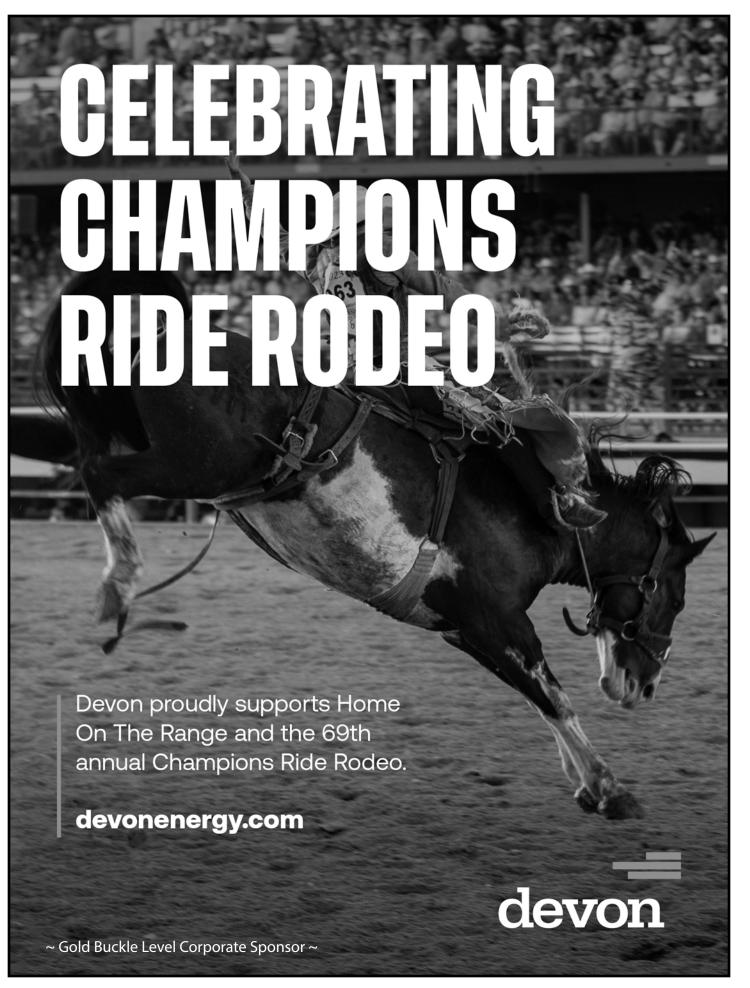
Randy George

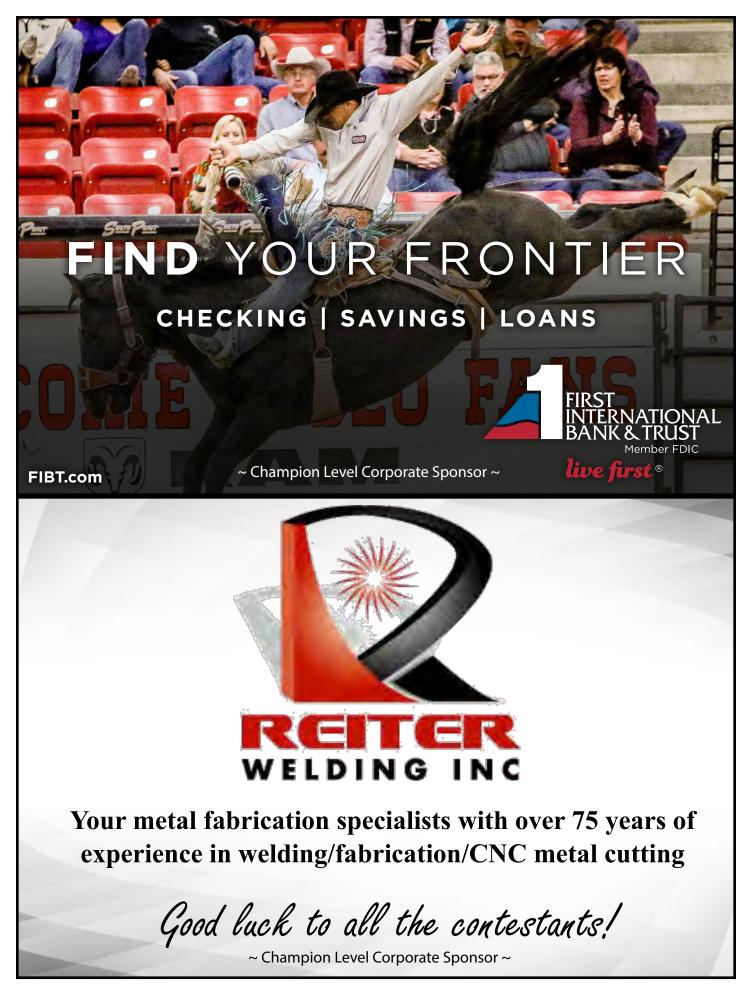
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Adopt-A-Highway

In April 1991, Home On The Range adopted a portion of Interstate 94. Home On The Range is responsible for cleaning the trash in the highway ditches. Home On The Range cleans both sides of the highway from mile marker #1 – mile marker #15. Each spring, residents and staff put on their work clothes and protective clothing and pick up the waste. This not only helps our environment and looks nice, but it teaches our children to take care of the land and have a sense of pride in their accomplishments and hard work.







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Thank you to Beni Paulson for being our pre-rodeo entertainment!





Thank you to the Beach Community Ambulance Crew for being here today!

Programming for youth who have experienced sexual exploitation or trafficking

Home On The Range is licensed to care for 26 children, boys and girls ages 12-17 years old. We offer many therapeutic and evidence-based programs to help the children. One of our niche programming is providing specialty programming for the commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC). According to the our records, in 2024, 57% of the females were confirmed or suspected to be CSEC and 57% of the males had concerns of being CSEC.

HOTR collaborates with other nonprofit agencies and service providers to help the CSEC population. We partner with Youthworks, the ND Human Trafficking Navigator, and Rachel Thomas, founder of Ending The Game, to mentor and guide our youth through the treatment and post-treatment process. We have gained statewide attention for this programming. We provide several groups that are evidenced based, or promising practices in working with these youth including groups like Girls Circle, Becoming Me, My Life My Choice, and Ending The Game. We also work with the youth doing experiential work with horses and dogs to work out their relationship issues that they may have experienced. We address their trauma affected brains by doing bottom up programming. This refers to programming that aims to improve youths' abilities to regulate and develop more control over internal operations including heart rate, breathing, and speech rate. By doing this, the youth is better able to regulate their flight, fight and/or flee responses.

For example, we conduct a Rhythmic Riding group that involves the youth riding bareback in a circle to music. Between songs, a brief meditation, relaxation exercise or guided meditation is conducted. The music begins again, and the youth walk their horses in a circle in the opposite direction. The youth are told they have only one job - to make the rhythm of the music, match the rhythm of their body, match the rhythm of their horses. As youth progress in this program, they typically display improvements of stress tolerance, internal regulation and ability to relax, that are evident to the naked eye. The key then, becomes transitioning this skill to staff and adults, peers and other settings outside of the arena.

Some of the other groups include:

- Ending the Game with an equine component
- Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse
- Social Emotional Learning
- Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) by our trained nurse
- Self Defense
- Trauma Informed Yoga

Bailands Learning Center

We are proud of our boys and girls and all their accomplishments - large or small. We are extremely proud of our children when they are getting educated and passing their classes. Because of Badlands Learning Center, we see our youth achieve academic success!

This past year has been a learning curve for all of us. Our education staff realized we can be even better with some improvements at Badlands Learning Center, especially with the existing space.

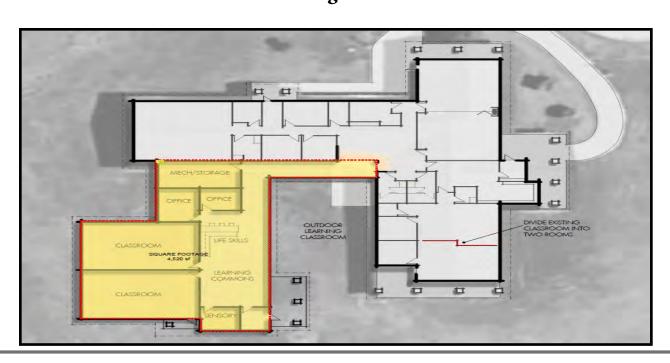
Home On The Range will be adding onto the south side of the building. This addition will include two classrooms, an outdoor living classroom for recreation and group activitiesz, independent living area for skill building pracitcums and a sensory room for occupational therapy. The plan also includes constructing a permanent wall between the two existing classrooms. Finally, the plan restores the employee training room back to its original space.

The estimated cost of this project is \$3 million. Home On The Range has been fundraising and actively seeking grant funds for the project.

If you are interested in contributing to this project and supporting our youth's education, please send your donation to Home On The Range and note "BLC" in the memo line. You may also donate online at hotrnd.com.

<u>Badlands Learning Center stats from June 1, 2024 through June 1, 2025:</u>
We served 70 youth.

95% of those youth passed as least one class while at BLC.
158 classes passed.
79 credits earned.
3 GED graduates.



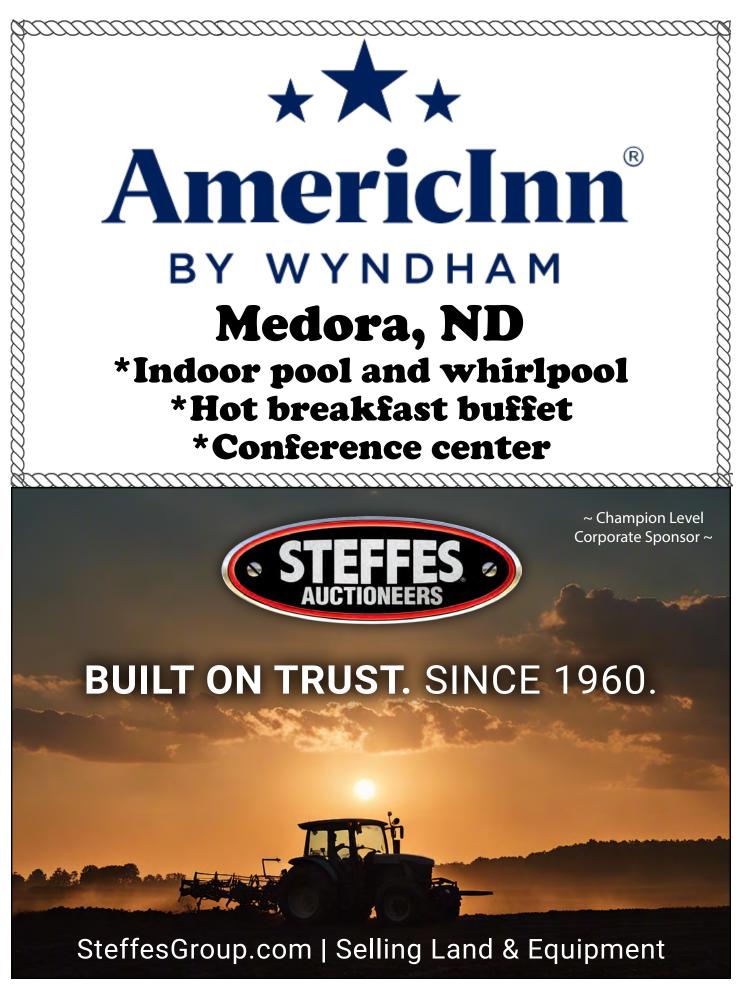
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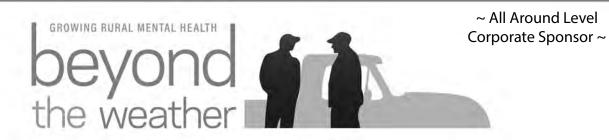




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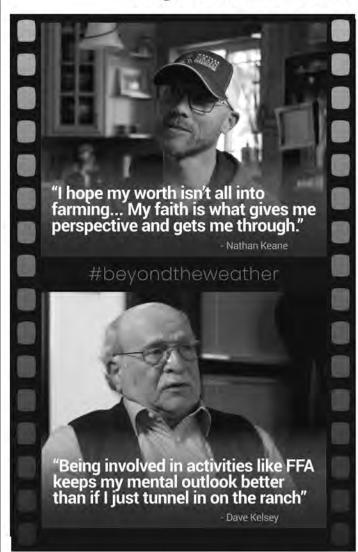
North Dakota locations in Minot and Fargo





Seems like the weather is always top of mind... First thing we ask about when we get together... and often our last prayer at night.

But...do you ever get beyond the weather with your neighbor...ask how they're REALLY doing?





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beyondtheweather.com





It's a BIG Anniversary!

As Home On The Range celebrates 75 years of helping children, the organization shares and reflects on the facility itself, all the buildings, the ranch, and how it has changed.

The first building was built in 1950. This building had a kitchen, dining room, Chapel, Father Cassedy's office and rooms and bathrooms for the boys. As Home On The Range grew over the years, new buildings were needed.

In 1957 the first rodeo arena was created. The arena has been updated a few times. First, in 1991 where bucking chutes were added to the south end and of the arena. Later, in 2021, the old arena was torn down and a new one was put in its place. The arena panels and pens were made of iron and sucker rod, new concession stands and announcer's stand were built, and we added new bucking chutes and lead-up allies.

The next big project was Eagle Hall - the boys' dormitory. Fundraising and construction began in 1960. The building would have two separate wings, a full-size gym, Chapel, classroom/library and a recreation room.

The next couple of years improvements included the addition of a butcher shop, barns for milking cows and laying hens, a horse barn, and a shop building to teach the boys different trades. We also built an addition to the boys' dorm to create a larger kitchen/dining area, and laundry rooms in the basement.

In 1992, Clem Casey Hall was built. This new building started out as staff housing with a kitchen, dining area, and rooms in the basement. In later years, it was designated as an independent living dorm to help boys prepare for leaving Home On The Range.

Home On The Range began serving girls in 1993. A two-level staff housing unit was converted into the dorm. Later in 2001, a fundraising campaign was initiated and Home On The Range raised funds to construct a much larger dormitory. Fahnlander Hall has two separate wings, a dining hall, laundry room, recreation rooms, offices and a conference room.

The Baertsch indoor arena and canine kennels were added to the campus in 2007 and 2008. This facility was uniquely designed to conduct equine and canine assisted therapy. Later, insulation and heating were added to the arena so that it could be used all year-round.

The most recent building which has been added to Home On The Range is the Alwin C. Carus building. The purpose was to design a building with an employee training room, alternative classroom, employee offices, and a weight room. This building now houses our campus school, Badlands Learning Center.

There have been many changes in the campus layout and buildings over the past seven decades; changes, additions, removing of some buildings, etc. Happy 75th Anniversary!







Home On The Range was awarded a generous grant from North Dakota Community Foundation for our aftercare program. Home On The Range has three aftercare specialists. Their primary focus is to help the children (and their families) after the child leaves Home On The Range, to transition into the community. Our staff help the children for up to six months after they have left. The aftercare specialists help the child in the community by connecting them with community services and resources. This includes but is not limited to food banks, churches, social services, school registrations and tours, transportation, independent living and much more. The grant money was used to help our staff with travel and lodging or to purchase necessary items for the child such as phone cards, grocery cards, personal hygiene items, backpacks, coats, etc.

Thank you to North Dakota Community Foundation for investing in our youth and their ongoing care.





LOOKING BACK 75 YEARS

Home On The Range Timeline of Major Projects

1950	First building on HOTR - Father's office, bedrooms, dining room, Chape storage; The building was later converted to a business building and staff offices.
1954	4-H Barn
1957	1st rodeo arena. Added bucking chutes to south end in 1991. In 2021, redone the third time with pipe and suckered panels and over the chute seating.
1960	Construction of new boys' dormitory - Eagle Hall - full gymnasium, Chapel, library, bedrooms, bathrooms, recreation rooms.
1968	Schlosser Building/Butcher Shop
1970 1971	Ray Schnell shop building - 1999 remodeled into alternative classroom
	New dairy barn and chicken laying building
1982	Brunet Hall - kitchen, dining area, laundry services in basement; remodeled again in 2013 for larger kitchen and smaller dining area.
1990	Fahnlander Hall - staff housing 4-plex converted into two-story girls' dormitory
1992	Clem Casey Hall. As a smaller building, this building has had a number of reformations. From staff housing to Independent Living in 2004; girls dorm overflow in 2005; Trauma Recovery Unit in 2016, temporary boys' dorm 2022.
2001	New Fahnlander Hall building - dormitory style housing for maximum of 24 girls dining area, staff offices, laundry, telephone and medical rooms, recreation rooms, TV area
2007	Baertsch indoor arena and dog kennels
2009	Eagle Hall bathroom remodel project
2010	New pump house and hook up to southwest water project
2014	Alwin C. Carus Building - library, classroom, employee training room, weight room, offices. 2024 remodeled for four classrooms for Badlands Learning Center.
2018	Eagle Hall South remodel project
2020	Eagle Hall library converted to staff offices
2022	Eagle Hall East Wing remodel project
2025	Administration building basement rooms converted into nurses' office space and medication rooms
	1

Home On The Range receives accreditation

Home On The Range has achieved national accreditation through COA Accreditation. Organizations pursue accreditation to demonstrate the implementation of best practice stands in the field of human services. COA Accreditation evaluated all aspects of HOTR programs, services, management and administration.

COA Accreditation, a service of Social Current, is an objective, independent and reliable validation of an agency's performance. The accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administration, management, and service delivery functions against international standards of best practice. The standards driving accreditation ensure that services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce. COA Accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement.

Based on their findings, COA Accreditation's volunteer-based Accreditation Commission voted that HOTR had successfully met the criteria for accreditation.

"We are proud to recognize HOTR as an outstanding provider who has met high performance standards and made a commitment to delivering quality services. We wish you the very best in your continuing work with the individuals you serve," stated Jody Levison-Johnson, President & CEO, Social Current.

She continued, "Please extend thanks and congratulations to your board members and staff, who have worked so hard to achieve accreditation. You should all take enormous pride in this accomplishment."

The Loss of Brother Samuel Larson

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Brother Sam Larson. He was an instrumental person in the lives of generations of children served by HOTR, their family members and the staff. Brother Sam worked at Home On The Range for 33 years, and volunteered for many years after. He was a positive influence and impacted innumerable lives through his love for God and His creation.

Birth: February 2, 1933 Profession: March 19, 1950 Death: June 13, 2025

"Eternal rest, grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."

You may read his full obituary at: https://www.silhafuneralhomes.com/obituaries/









Dan Mortensen 1996

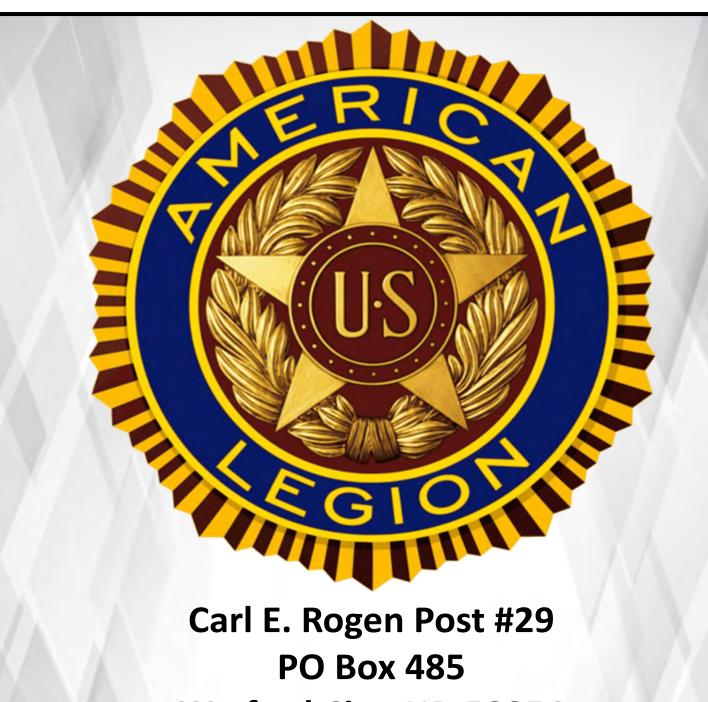
Todd Hipsag 2001

Cody Wright 2006

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