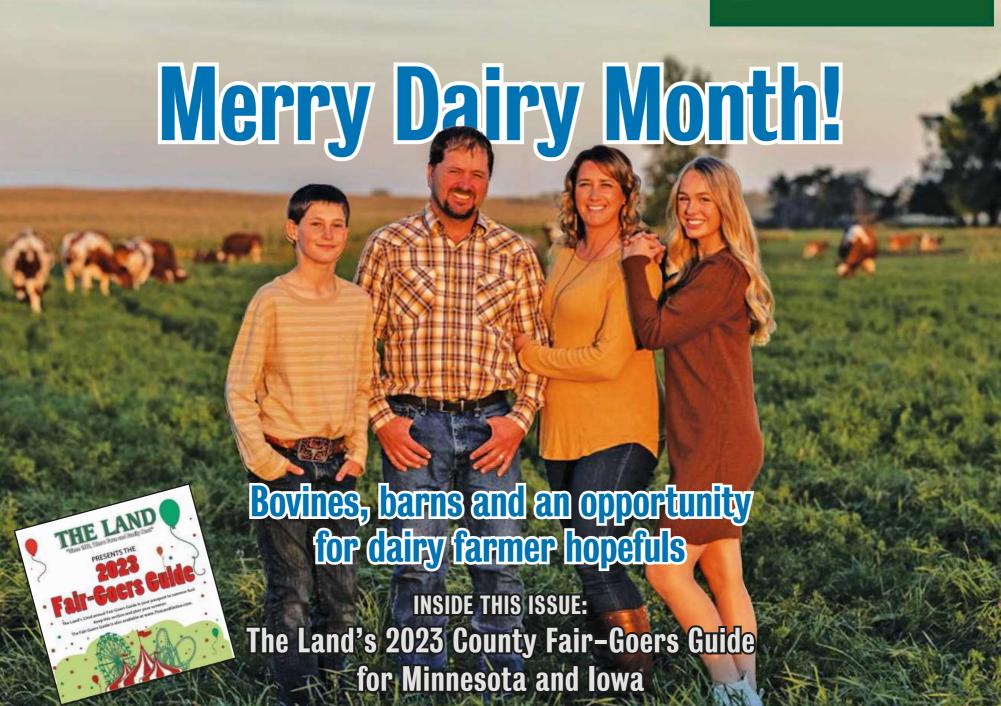
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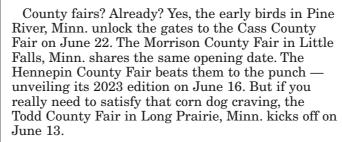
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June is busting out all over

While we're still 11 days from the Summer Solstice, summer is in full swing in The Land territory. Our "From The Fields" reporters have finished planting crops and are in the process of harvesting the first cutting of hay. Of course, June is Dairy Month. By now, calves have been weaned and are enjoying their inaugural romp in the pasture - kicking their heels, free from the confines of the pens and barns. And if anyone needs a reminder of how fast the summer season is flying by, this issue contains The Land's annual guide to county fairs taking place in Minnesota and Iowa.



Even the pragmatic Iowans sneak in a few June county fair openings. You can be sure our Staff Writer Emeritus Dick Hagen will be taking in the Worth County Fair in his new hometown of Northwood, Iowa on June 14. The Wapello County Regional Fair in Eldon, Iowa shares the June 14 opening date. The Allamakee Big Four Fair in Postville, Iowa has a June 16 start. The Jefferson County Fair in Fairfield, Iowa gets underway on June 20 along with the Benton County Fair in Vinton; and The Mighty Howard County Fair in Cresco, Iowa starts on June 21. Also on the docket for a June 21 start is the Butler County Fair in Allison, Iowa.

I don't have to tell you that Mother Nature is already supplying a healthy dose of summer-like weather. This should be expected, of course, since hot temperatures and baling hay always seem to go hand-in-hand. Haying during hot weather had its advantages. Fields could be cut one day, raked into neat rows the next, and possibly be in the barn on day three.

The elevator my dad used to fill the corn cribs in the fall pulled double duty transporting hay bales up to the loft in the barn. The bales had to be loaded onto the elevator at the right angle to survive the trip. Because of this, my dad or uncle unloaded the wagons while the younger set stacked the bales inside the barn.

Or that's what we were told.



LAND MINDS

By Paul Malchow

OPINION

Even on the most sweltering day, lugging hay bales outdoors offered at least the slightest chance of catching a cooling breeze now and then. Not so in the loft. The itchy combination of sweat and alfalfa dust was a constant companion in the hay loft; and if black clouds forecasted an approaching summer downpour, the bales arrived in the loft at a rapid pace. (My uncle Harry in particular found occasional humor in loading as many bales as possible on the elevator for short periods of time — just to keep us on our

That being said, one of my most treasured haying memories took place during my early teen years. Harry and my dad would enjoy a cold beer in the shade during an afternoon break. This in itself was out of the ordinary as neither man was much of a drinker. One particularly hot afternoon, after the hay wagons were unloaded and we sat on the lawn catching our breath, my dad handed me a beer. In that brief moment, I became one of the men. Even though I was still relegated to hay loft duty, the bales were a little lighter that day.

Dairy Month was hardly observed at our farm during those days of my youth. Every day was dairy day; every month was dairy month. The work load was a little lighter as the cows spent their days out in pasture and took most of their poop with them. I always thought their temperament was a bit more bovine-like during the summer months. The cows seemed more willing to tolerate the milking process — knowing they would soon return outside away from the biting flies. While the milking machines clacked along in their steady rhythm, one could stand outside the barn and daydream a bit or listen to the Twins play baseball on the radio.

There was no shortage of cold milk to toast Dairy Month and large pails of ice cream awaited in the deep freeze. The fellow who picked up the cans of milk to take to the creamery also delivered a steady supply of cheese and butter. Today, in a world of soy milk, almond milk, oat milk, etc., there is still something comforting about the memories of good old cow's milk which came from the barn less than 100 feet away from the house.

Dairy farming might be technically different from those days, but the basics are still the same: caring for the animals which in turn took care of you.

So during the month of June, take a moment to appreciate the complexities and simplicities of our dairy farms. And say hello to a cow or two while you're at the county fair.

Paul Malchow is the managing editor of The Land. He may be reached at editor@TheLandOnline.com. ❖

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Life on the Farm: Readers' Photos



Even though the "drought" word is creeping back into the news these days, it wasn't long ago when farms in south and central Minnesota had plenty of rain. Shortly before Memorial Day, faithful contributor Rose Wurtzberger of New Ulm, Minn. sent us a few snapshots of conditions around her farm. "These are scenes that were repeated up and down the Little Cottonwood River in Brown County," Rose writes. "We measured 6.7 inches in our gauge. I heard as much as 11 inches in places. Lots of ponds in the fields. Some farms even got lake front property! A lot of replanting will be going on."









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Happy bacon, unhappy blueberries and D.C.'s revolving door

American organic fruit and vegetable

Department of Agriculture's ever-shifting

buyers would love to have that level of

final-word clarity on the United States

organic food rules. Recent rule changes,

growers, have brought massive changes

For example, USDA's rule to permit

soil-free, hydroponic production of vege-

years, clobbered small U.S. organic

tables and fruit has, in just a few short

designed to benefit corporate organic

to the American organic landscape.

So what do bacon, blueberries, and Capitol Hill's fast-spinning revolving door have in common?

Newsies know: All have been covered in this space over the past year, all have ties to Washington, D.C., and all are in the news again. Let's go first to the tasty bacon news from the suddenly-very dishy U.S. Supreme Court.

In a 5-4 decision on May 11, the court ruled against the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Pork Producers Council, and the Biden Administration and for California's

"humanely" raised pork law. The Big Ag plaintiffs wanted the state law declared unconstitutional because, they alleged, its practical effect (was) to control commercial conduct beyond California's boundaries.

In the frying pan was a three-times approved (twice by voters, once by the state legislature) ban on "California businesses from selling 'eggs and uncooked pork and veal" as noted here last September, "from 'animals housed in ways' that did not meet the new state standards."

Some of those "ways" — like sow farrowing crates and battery cages for hens — are mainstays of modern livestock production. The NPPC, AFBF and the White House fought for the crates and cages, claiming the California law violated interstate commerce.

Writing for the court's majority, however, Justice Neil M. Gorsuch rejected their argument to create any "new and more aggressive constitutional restrictions on the ability of States to regulate goods sold within their borders," noted the *Washington Post*.

Gorsuch punctuated his majority opinion with some uncourtly snarkiness: "While the Constitution addresses many weighty issues," he wrote, "the type of pork chops California merchants sell is not on that list." Boom.

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FARM & FOOD FILE

By Alan Guebert

OPINION

Peru, reports the Real Organic Project, has largely displaced most U.S. blueberry growers because farmers there can grow blueberries faster and cheaper under USDA's recently changed rules meant to boost American corporate hydroponic producers.

blueberry farmers.

In fact, reported the BBC recently, Peru — a

nation which grew virtually no blueberries a decade ago — is now the world's top blueberry exporter, selling \$1.4 billion of the fruit overseas in 2022.

This is just "Another example of how degrading the definition of 'organic' has real consequences," explained ROP. Had the USDA standard remained soil-based and not opened the market to hydroponically-grown blueberries, it argues, U.S. growers would continue "to sell high-value late-season fruit."

Under the hydroponic rules (rules ROP fought against because "organic," by definition, means soil) "U.S. (blueberry) producers have been hit hard" and "most of that imported production is hydroponic."

How did that happen?

Enter Washington's legislator-to-lobbyist revolving door — or, more accurately, open barn door — where it's nearly impossible to distinguish lawmakers from law shakers.

See GUEBERT, pg. 8

Letters to the editor are always welcome.

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Editor, The Land

418 South Second St., Mankato, MN 56001

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All letters must be signed and accompanied by a phone number (not for publication) to verify authenticity.

Letter: Skaters provided a lesson in life

To the Editor,

I read with interest Mr. King's column on race and the rural area ("Land Minds: Racially, it's a new Minnesota," *The Land*, May 26, 2023).

I would like to tell an actual story that happened to me. It has been at least 63 years since I have roller skated, so I wanted to get back on skates. My wife told me, "If anything breaks, don't call me!"

There are only a couple of rinks at present, Primgar and Esterville, Iowa, so Esterville it was. Esterville has a diverse population. As I was lacing up, I noticed two Hispanic families, one group of Caucasian juveniles (all celebrating birthday parties) and a couple and their family from India.

The rink manager asked if he should walk with me. My 32-year-old brain said, "no, I got this" as my body started mentioning the brain is an IDIOT! We made a couple rounds, so off I go on a solo, picked up a lot of speed headed for the floor. Whump! My hard hat flew off, walking stick in the opposite direction. I retrieved the hard hat with the stick; but my next problem was how am I'm going to get up off the floor?

Not to worry. A young girl, 9 or 10 years old,

stopped by. "I'm not too good on skates," she said, "but do you need some help?"

No, I assured her from the prone position on the floor as my 32-year-old ego answered.

Next thing I realized there were hands, arms lifting me up onto my skates — white arms, tan arms, black arms — all concerned of my well being!

I headed to the safety rail to rest a little. As I was hanging on — contemplating my next foray —this little girl from India, 6 or 7 years old, long black hair, deep brown complexion, coal black eyes that sparkled, asked me, "when you fell down, did you get hurt?"

My heart melted. She was concerned for me at my age of 81! The Hispanic guys inquired also.

I thought about this lately. What we could accomplish, and improve our daily lives by asking "when you fell down, did you get hurt?"

Take care everyone.

Best regards,

John Nauerth III Lakefield, Minn.

Celebrate America's love for dairy during Dairy Month Dairy's foes have tried to challenge it, but butter in particular has not succeeded. integrity in dairy labeling from the American

Dairy's foes have tried to challenge it, but June remains Dairy Month because U.S. dairy farmers keep on keeping on and because consumers know the value and wholesomeness of real cow's milk and dairy products made from it. The U.S. dairy industry has also done much to insure that Americans keep getting a safe, healthy, and yes a sustainable food and beverage supply to enjoy.

Plant-based competitors are striving to cut in on fluid milk consumption and they have been mildly successful; but their effort to entice America's love for real cheese and ture und



By Lee Mielke

Plant-based manufactured products are hard pressed to match the inherent nutritional package cow's milk and real dairy products offer. A casual read of the ingredients on the box of any of these plant-based imposters is all the evidence one really needs.

ielke The myth that plant-based "milk" is

healthier than cow's milk is just not true. Kathleen Merrigan, professor of sustainable food systems at Arizona

State University and a deputy secretary of agriculture under President Barack Obama, has stated the case in a recent press release from the National Milk Producers Federation.

"Plant-based beverages have much-lower protein, numerous additives of dubious value, and a lack of uniform quality that should give anyone pause," according to Merrigan, "but it's also not shocking the misinformation continues. Money talks, and the plant-based sector is well funded with plenty of media allies and a ready-made base of support in a vegan community that insists a diet that's impossibly difficult to follow and prone to malnourishment should be adopted by everyone."

"It also comes down to the names of the products themselves. If whatever substance of the moment is put in front of the word "milk," then a false impression of nutritional equivalence, if not superiority, is easy to create. If that weren't the intention, the plant-based beverage peddlers wouldn't be doing it."

"The good news," says Merrigan, "is nutrition experts are seeing through it, hence endorsement of

integrity in dairy labeling from the American Academy of Pediatrics and others. And consumers are seeing through it, which is why we're seeing data like this, in which after years of gains, the plant-based tide is starting to recede."

It's unfortunate for farmers and for consumers that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not taken a more definitive stand on the labeling of artificial plant based products, and backed up the FDA's own standards of identity so the dairy industry must do a better job of educating the public.

Yes, fluid milk consumption has declined. Many beverages are competing for shelf space in today's grocery stores and consumer lifestyles and preferences have changed. However, contrary to what the plant-based manufactures would have you believe, U.S. milk consumption continues to increase albeit in other forms — primarily cheese.

Professional cooks and high end restaurants know there is no compromise and no substitute for real dairy cheese and real dairy butter. They not only taste better, they are better for you, for your family, and yes for the very earth we walk on.

Cow's milk and beef on the hoof are indeed the original and best plant-based choice you can make, made and grown on the farm, not a test tube. As I have said before, let the cows eat the grass. Give yourself the dairy best and celebrate June Dairy Month once again.

Lee Mielke is a syndicated columnist who resides in Everson, Wash. His weekly column is featured in newspapers across the country and he may be reached at lkmielke@juno.com.

Calendar of Events

Visit www.TheLandOnline.com to view our complete calendar and enter your own events, or send an e-mail with your event's details to editor@thelandonline.com.

June 14 — Hickory Hill Farm Tour — Hospers, Iowa — This family-friendly event will include opportunities to see where cows are milked, where they are housed and fed plus learn about the dietary role of milk and dairy products. For more information, visit wiadairy.com or "Western Iowa Dairy Alliance" on Facebook.

June 21 — Practical Farmers of lowa Field Day — Spencer, lowa — The topic will be Creating On-Farm Habitat to Foster Wildlife Diversity and will be hosted by Bev & Dwight Rutter. For more information, please visit practicalfarmers.org/field-days.

June 22 — June Field Day — Kanawha, Iowa — The day will include comments from individuals with ISU Extension and Outreach, an update on the capital campaign and field tours. Contact Angie Rieck-Hinz at amrieck@iastate.edu or (515) 231-2830.

June 22 — Organic Dairy & Swine Day — Morris, Minn. — Topics will include substituting hybrid rye in a traditional corn-soy swine diet, organic hybrid rye production, feeding and grazing organic dairy cows, and pasture walks. Contact West Central Research and Outreach Center at (320) 589-1711.

June 23 — West Central Dairy Days Cattle Show — Willmar, Minn. — Ages 5-21 (as of January 1st) can exhibit. There are classes for all eight dairy breeds, Junior and Grand Champion Overall, plus Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship. Contact Mary Swart at rmswart@tds.net or (320) 220-0904 or Lane Johnson at (320) 815-1276.

June 28 — Beef Pasture Walk — Elk River, Minn. — Learn and converse about establishing and restoring pastures, managing grazing, identifying plants, cattle health, body condition scoring, and responding to forage emergencies and drought. For more information, please visit z.umn. edu/2023beefpasturewalk.



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Where do U.S. health care priorities lie?

The cost of health insurance and healthcare in the United States is approximately twice that of other modern, prosperous countries (those with living standards similar to the United States). At the same time, U.S. healthcare outcomes are inferior to the outcomes in those countries. This is clearly an unsatisfactory situation. This month I will dissect some aspects of why the United States has this cost problem.



FOCUS

By Mark Brakke

The government has not yet decided to By Managotiate all drug prices for all government health programs (Medicare, Medicaid, Indian

Health service, CHIPS, Tricare). The government does negotiate drug prices for the Veterans Administration with significant cost savings.

What about commercial health insurance, ie what an employer or an individual buys? The health insurance companies own the Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) and extract large profits while functioning as a wholesaler. As the insurance companies benefit from high drug prices they are not interested in effectively negotiating lower drug prices.

The unplanned nature of U.S. healthcare has produced a situation in which administrative costs are exorbitant. It is the excess administrative costs which I will be further evaluating in this column.

The accompanying graph shows how excessive administrative costs are in the United States.

The excess administrative costs occur for several reasons. Health insurance companies have contracts with hospitals and clinics determining what they will pay for each charged service or treatment. These contracts all need to be negotiated and managed. Each hospital has a coding and billing department which keeps track of hospital charges for each patient and bills the insurance

companies. If the insurance company rejects a charge, the hospital coding/billing department will recode and try again. One hospital administrator reported the coding and billing process is so complex that his hospital has as many employees in coding/billing as they had nurses.

The insurance companies advertise aggressively to attract new customers and retain existing customers.

Advertising and marketing is expensive. The for-profit insurance companies are also using premium dollars to generate profits for their shareholders.

lems are insured. ricing is uniform and the complication of multiple contracts with varying discounts is eliminated. Furthermore, one does not have insurance companies spending premium dollars on advertising and marketing. Premium dollars are not used for shareholder profits. Hospitals and clinics have much smaller business offices.

It is important to remember how unique the healthcare market is. Healthcare has changed dramatically over the last few generations. In the 1950s, most medical bills were modest and health insurance was not very expensive. Since then, modern drugs, more sophisticated surgeries, organ transplants, intensive care unit care, etc. have

greatly increased the potential cost of medical care.

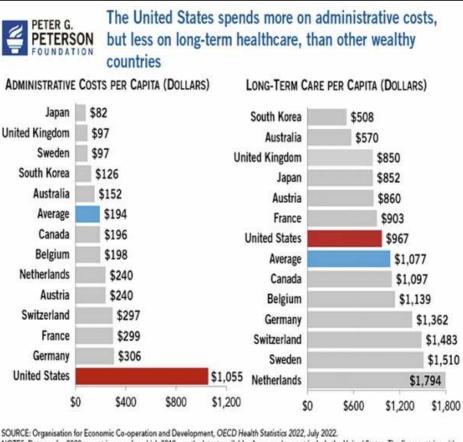
None of us know what our medical problems will be over a lifetime. Contrast this with another type of insurance. If we buy a boat, we can manage the insurance expenses based on the size of the boat and how it is used. We can self insure if we wish. We can sell the boat if its costs become too great. What works for insurance for discretionary items like boats is very different from what is sensible for health insurance where a serious illness can lead to hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs. As we cannot significantly control most healthcare risks we all need comprehensive health insurance.

In the United States we have grown up with the current inefficient health insurance situation and consequently it seems normal to us. If health insurance was a small expense, excess administrative spending could be overlooked; but health insurance is a big expense and the consequence of this wasteful situation is very significant for each of us.

As a society we have a choice. Do we prioritize the financial and medical health of our citizens or the ability of health insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers and hospital systems to maximize their revenues? The example of

other prosperous countries shows us it is possible to have better health for our citizens at the same time as we have more reasonable prices.

Mark Brakke is a retired family practice physician. He cared for patients in Coon Rapids, Minn. for 41 years during which time he was on the boards of directors of two health insurance companies. He currently is on the board of the educational non profit Health Care for All Minnesota (HCA-MN.org).



NOTES: Data are for 2020 except in cases for which 2019 was the latest available. Average does not include the United States. The five countries with the largest economies and those with both an above median GDP and GDP per capita, relative to all OECD countries, were included. Chart uses purchasing power parities to convert data into U.S. dollars.

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In 2017 there were 907 health insurance companies registered in the United States.

There are about 6,000 hospitals in the United States. Even taking into account that some of these hospitals are part of a system, imagine the complexity of all the contracts between health insurance companies, hospitals and clinics. Managing this complex set of contracts requires lots of staff and much administrative expense.

Contrast this with a country which has a planned healthcare system. The insurance in a planned system is comprehensive. All significant medical prob-

Farmers have nearby resources for mental health

Agriculture and ag-related businesses are leading industries in Minnesota and are typically the lifeline that keeps rural communities alive. Drive through any rural area in Minnesota, and you'll see miles of row crops and hay, grain elevators, co-ops, livestock production, and farm sites. Turn towards the

north, and your scenery might change — showing you a different side of agriculture with more logging and mining, but it's agriculture nonetheless.

So often, we see the industry's products; but rarely do folks who pass through see the hardworking individuals behind them. Our beloved Minnesota needs the agricultural industry; but even more, she needs the people who drive the industry.

During April and May, I had the opportunity to attend a class for rural clergy and ministry leaders regarding suicide prevention. The Minnesota Departments of Ag and Health partnered with Living Works Faith to offer a five-week, interactive Zoom course.

I was saddened and astounded by the lack of training offered on the subject of suicide, the suicide statistics in rural areas, and the social stigma which is still present around the topics of mental health and suicide. However, I also have hope for our rural areas as training like this becomes more available and widespread. I was proud that the MDA and MDH recognized that rural ministry leaders are often the people who rural folks turn to in times of trouble and distress.

Some of the teaching points in the course included sharing statistics for rural areas that, to me, were staggering. For example, the suicide rates in rural areas are 2.5 to three times



DEEP ROOTS

By Whitney Nesse

higher than those in metro areas; and the people group most affected by suicide in rural areas is middle-aged men. Those statistics were attributed to the lack of help available to people outside of the metro areas and the extremely highstress, high-demand, and financially risky agricultural work environments.

At first, I couldn't believe my ears; but with more thought and discussion, reality set in. For many, working in agriculture is not just a job — it's a lifestyle, and they've never known anything else. At least, that is true for me. I grew up on the farm and have worked ag-related jobs my whole life. I have found myself in impossible situations, at the mercy of the markets, where the balance sheets are all red, and the thought of letting go of the only lifestyle I have ever known is present. It is frightening and hopeless.

During the class, a poll was taken, asking the ministry leaders how much suicide prevention training they have. For most, the answer was less than six hours of training.

In another poll, the question of how many in the class have been affected by the suicide of another person or have had suicidal thoughts themselves, and the answer was 100 percent. Therefore, every person in the class has been affected by suicide in one way or another. For this reason, I am so glad that the MDH and MDA were willing to recognize faith's vital role — specifically in rural areas — and partner with a faith-based learning center to provide training.

So frequently, in rural areas, ministry leaders offer counsel to those in their communities. Now, many of us are better equipped to come alongside individuals and families to offer sup-

port and are more confident in our role of breaking the silence tied to the subject of suicide.

One of the passages that gripped me as the class was looking at the topic of suicide through the lens of Scripture was from Acts 16. While the Apostle Paul and Silas were imprisoned, they began to worship God with hymns and prayer. While they worshipped, a violent earthquake caused the prison doors to open and everyone's chains to come loose. When the jailer woke up and saw what had happened, he assumed all the prisoners escaped and was about to fall on his sword. Verse 28 says, "But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" The jailer stopped his actions and allowed himself to be ministered to by Paul and Silas.

I want to encourage you if you feel desperate, hopeless, or out of options. We are all here! Whether you are a person of faith or not, ministry leaders across the state are here! We are willing to walk alongside you during the darkest moments of your life.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, help is available. Call or text 988; chat online at 988lifeline.org/chat/; call the Minnesota Farm and Rural Helpline at 1-833-600-2670; text the word FarmStress to 898211; contact Farm and Rural Counselors Ted Matthews at (320) 266-2390 or Monica McConkey at (218) 280-7785; or contact a ministry leader from your area.

Whitney Nesse is a sixth-generation livestock farmer who is deeply rooted in her faith and family. She writes from her central Minnesota farm.



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Global Workforce: Solving The Talent Shortage

You would be hard-pressed to toss a rock without hitting a business with a "for hire" sign in the window. Hyperbole aside, the unemployment rate in the Blue Earth and Nicollet County region was 2.5 percent in March of this year — well below the already-low national average of 3.5 percent.

While this may affirm the work ethic of our workforce and the quality of jobs available in our region, there is another side to low unemployment that paints a bleak picture for food and agriculture businesses with everything they need to thrive — except the people to make it happen.

Of over 200 respondents to GreenSeam's 2023 State of Ag survey (all with connections to agriculture), a considerable majority find the talent shortage to be the primary inhibitor of business growth. One respondent stated, "Without people, we cannot be sustainable and certainly cannot be equipped for growth."

Many small and mid-sized rural businesses are running out of incentives to attract and retain hires from urban areas. In the words of another respondent, "We simply do not have enough people looking to move to some of these areas to work."

A promising solution is to welcome global talent into these vacant positions — qualified candidates from outside the United States who may already call our communities home. They may be displaced employees at risk of losing their immigration status or recent graduates hoping to stay here to work. Extending unfilled positions to the global workforce is a solution that promises sustainable economic growth and community enrichment — removing the growth ceiling imposed by a talent shortage and diversifying our human capital portfolio.

But many small to mid-sized businesses feel daunted by the legal implications of hiring an employee who may need work authorization, no matter how qualified they may be.

Erin Shutte Wadzinski is an immigration attorney and owner of Kivu Immigration Law in Worthington, Minn. Shutte Wadzinski wants to dispel the intimidation factor experienced by business owners consid-





IN THE GREENSEAM

By Holly Callaghan

employment-based visas or temporary worker status. "It's not scary to hire an international student or graduate, and there's a lot of potential for long-term employment opportunities as well. We have a lot of expertise in universities and colleges. There are a lot of people who can help facilitate this process."

ering hiring recent graduates in need of

Colleges and universities connecting international students to internships see these misconceptions can cause organiza-

tions to miss out on highly educated and dedicated hires. "Something that has never changed is the notion that it's just too much work to hire an international student," says Jacy Fry, Director of Minnesota State University's Kearney International Center. Fry added there are several types of work authorization available to international students which require no added time or expense for employers, because the school and student have already done the work for them. For example, students with eligible STEM degrees can spend up to three years practicing in their field without needing an employment-based visa.

When the time comes to sponsor a work visa, international students are highly knowledgeable about the process. Kim Phillips, senior human resources manager for AGCO Corp in Jackson, Minn., works with many international hires and affirms "They know their visas and they know where they need to go and what they are supposed to do when they come into an organization."

While adequate legal counsel is imperative, well-informed international hires alleviate some pressure from HR departments unfamiliar with the process of work visa sponsorship.

Once a business recognizes the legal feasibility of hiring global talent, there is the financial investment to consider — namely consulting and federal application fees. According to Phillips, the cost of

high employee turnover outweighs the cost of sponsoring a work visa. "It costs me \$5,000 to hire an assembler or welder, and that's just within the first 30 days."

Also keep in mind retention rates among international hires trend higher than their local counterparts, making them a better investment for the business long-term.

For small businesses grappling with the cost of legal and HR guidance, financial support is available. As part of a Small Business Administration-funded program, Mainstreet Businesses Focused on Food & Ag, GreenSeam will cover up to \$3,000 of legal and HR consulting fees for food and agricultural businesses interested in hiring global talent. To qualify for support, businesses must have 500 or fewer employees and must be located or regularly conduct business within Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca or Watonwan County. Registration is open through Sept. 1.

Economic prosperity in the GreenSeam depends on brave businesses to lead the charge and welcome global talent into the food and agricultural sectors. The talent shortage is the most urgent and costly challenge affecting southern Minnesota businesses.

While local universities and immigration attorneys' offices work to demystify the legal process, organizations like GreenSeam clear the path for businesses struggling to fill talent vacancies. Welcoming the global workforce into our businesses presents a solution with exciting potential to sustainably grow our industry and elevate our region as a world-class food and agribusiness epicenter.

For more information, visit www.greenseam.org and click "MBFFA Global Workforce Program."

Talent in the GreenSeam focuses on developing talent and promoting careers in agriculture and food. Holly Callaghan can be reached via email at HCallaghan@greenseam.org.

Lobbyists are plentiful on Capitol Hill

GUEBERT, from pg. 3

In fact, according to opensecrets.org, a non-partisan, non-profit group which tracks money and influence in American politics, a staggering 467 former House and Senate members lobbied Capitol Hill during the 115th Congress to "attempt to influence the very federal government in which they used to serve."

Think about that: Four years ago (the latest published numbers), the 467 former lawmakers asking one-time colleagues for a favor nearly equaled the number of one-time colleagues, 535, they asked.

number of one-time colleagues, 535, they asked.

Why? Because all that grinning, gripping, and greasing works, explained U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree,

a Maine Democrat on the House Ag Committee and

a certified organic farmer.

"(T)here are 1,200 lobbyists on the Hill that work for the agriculture and food processing industry," she told the ROP podcast. "They spend about \$350 million a year on forming opinions in Washington. And that's more than the defense industry, so don't underestimate their power."

For proof, just look at USDA's organic hydroponics rule. Lobbyists pushed that choice, not voters, and American farmers are paying the price.

The Farm and Food File is published weekly through the United States and Canada. Past columns, events and contact information are posted at www.farmandfoodfile.com.

Learn by doing: Apprentice program grooms future herdsmen

By RICHARD SIEMERS

The Land Correspondent

Adam Gillins's farm experience was limited to working with his cousins on his uncle's dairy farm while he was in high school.

"I started milking when I was 14, but I never really paid attention to anything," Gillins said. "We were there to have fun and get some cash."



After nine years working in the corporate world with supply chain management, he was let go during the pandemic. He decided he didn't want to do that lifestyle any more, and remembered how much time he spent working with his uncle, and how much time his cousins got to spend working with their

He had started his own handyman construction business, but then he and his wife found a calf-raising facility for

"We were looking into loans to buy it, but even though I had business and management experience, I didn't have direct dairy experience, so I wouldn't qualify for those loans," he said.

Finding the way to get the experience was not easy when he didn't have connections.

"When we decided to get back into dairy, nobody we knew was in it. It's really hard to get your foot in the door. To get started we were really looking for someone to give us a shot, and this is a great way to start networking and talking to people."

What Gillins is talking about is the Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship (DGA). He is three-quarters of the way through his two-year apprenticeship on the Westport farm of Nate and Angie

DGA was a Wisconsin program that

became an independent nonprofit operating on a national level. In 2014 it registered its program as a National Apprenticeship with the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. The structured program requires two years of working with an established and experienced dairy grazer, taking on-line classes, and attending area

education events. When the requirements are met, they graduate and become journeymen.

DGA works with state organizations to manage the program. In Minnesota, that entity is the Sustainable Farming Association. Angie Walter is the SFA Education Coordinator in Minnesota. She works to pair mentors and apprentices, monitors how the relationship is working, sees that an apprentice is on track to graduate in two years, and organizes educational events.

Nate and Angie are the third generation on the Walter farm. They have two children. Laureen, 18, attends South Dakota State University majoring in ag business. Levi, 15, is still in high school. Both have been very involved in 4-H and FFA, so there is always the possibility of a fourth generation on the

Grazing is not a new venture for them. Nate's father started rotational grazing in the mid-1980s.

"That gives us a big advantage to look back on history and what to do," Nate said. "We're very confident in grazing. We took over in 2002 with 80 cows and 160 acres. We transitioned organic in 2013. Currently we have 100 cows and 390 acres that we own, and rent another 30 acres of pasture."

Their herd is a cross of Red Holstein, Norwegian Red, and Guernsey.

"We have very little permanent pasture," Angie said.

Of the 390 acres, about 300 are tillable acres, but a lot of those tillable acres get grazed, depending on the

"We blend our crop rotation and the rotational grazing together," Nate said. "A field might be hay for two years, pasture for two years, and then corn for two years. The cows are on different fields in different years."

There are multiple benefits to the system, they said. The pastures stay productive and fresh, nutrients are recycled, and it helps with weed pressure for the organics.

"If you hay a field for a couple of years, you're doing your weed control while you're cutting hay," Nate said, "so there aren't many weeds when it's pasture for a couple years."

The pastures are their own mix of alfalfa, clover, and a blend of grasses.

Obviously, their grazing is more than turning cattle into a pasture. That's why it is called managed grazing; or a term they use, adaptive grazing, because they adapt to the conditions.

"It depends on the weather," Angie said. "You might have a lot of rain and get a flush of grass and you can move the cows faster. If you're in a drought, you have to adapt and try to plan ahead and work with what you have."

There's a science to this, but Nate said that in some ways it's more art than science.

"It's always changing. Where grazing depends on the weather, you never do it the same twice. You've got to be adjustable, adaptive. And the right answer isn't the same right answer on every

"You don't want to graze the grass too

- Farm Drainage

short," Angie said. "That's where the science part comes in."

The more plant material you leave above ground, she explained, the greater benefit to the root structure below ground, so the grass will rebound that much quicker. For the farmer, that's a hard mentality because they feel they're leaving all that feed out there; but "it benefits them in the long run."

This is the knowledge and experience grazers try to pass on when they mentor an apprentice. Adam Gillins is their second apprentice. Their first apprentice doesn't yet have his own farm but is managing a dairy in Wisconsin.

The Walters have the advantage of having a second house on the farm, so the apprentice and his/her family can live there.

"They're here learning everything day-to-day; they get to experience what it is really like to own a farm," Angie said. "It works good for both of us because it allows us a little time off."

Nate also spoke of the mutual advantage of having an apprentice.

"They're getting paid to learn, and we're getting better-than-average help, and a two year commitment out of the help instead of training in someone new every few months."

There are 38 grazers enrolled in Minnesota's DGA program, but not all are looking for an apprentice. Some are there for the learning and networking. There is only one apprentice currently in the Minnesota program. Angie thinks there could be more, but some farmers don't have the money to employ one right now.

For Gillins, the hands-on experience is the real learning, a lot of things he couldn't get from a book or YouTube

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See APPRENTICE, pg. 11

- Equipment Sales & Service



ON THE COVER:

The Walters family runs a third generation dairy in Westport, Minn. Their herd is an unusual cross of Red Holstein, Norwegian Red and Guernsey. Pictured are (left to right) Levi, Nate, Angie and Laureen Walters.



Robotic milking is keeping these two farms in dairy

By WHITNEY NESSE

The Land Correspondent

Livestock producers are always looking for ways to get their products to market in the most energy, labor, and cost-efficient ways. For dairymen Rick Heuer and Jim Dieball, the tug-o-war is no different, but their weapons of warfare are. Rick Heuer of Heuer Farms in rural Lester Prairie, Minn., and Jim Dieball of Dieball Dairy near Green Isle, Minn., have invested in robotic milking systems.

Heuer Farms retrofitted their tie-stall barn to accommodate a robot, whereas Dieball Dairy decided to go the new construction route. I had the opportunity to catch up with each of them to compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of their building preferences.

Dieball Dairy

Jim Dieball is a third-generation dairyman. He grew up on the farm, went to college, and returned after two and a half years. "It's all I've ever known. It's all I've ever done," he reflected. "[But] if the

robots weren't here, the cows wouldn't be here," he added. So Dieballs went from milking in a parlor to the robotic milking system, which has been for the better.

In 2018, Dieball Dairy installed three Lely A4 robots into their newly constructed free-stall barn. Their previous free-stall barn was nearing 45 years old, and a shift needed to happen. "We looked into utilizing that [old] barn with the robots, but the layout didn't work," he said. Plus, they were going to need a facility for heifers. So Jim and his wife Wendy, along with his parents Karl and Rosemary, decided a new barn for the cows was the better option. "It was, pretty much, build a new barn or plan an exit strategy," he his dairy operation in 2018.

Dieballs now house heifers in the old free-stall barn, dry cows in a hoop barn, and the milking herd in a new free-stall barn. Since building the new milking facility, Dieballs have also increased the herds' size. Jim said they went from milking 120 in the old barn to milking 204 in the new facility. "We mostly grew from within. However, we did purchase a few animals," he said.

In discussing the cost efficiency of the new construction, Jim confidently stated, "Typically, the money is in the dairy cows, not the heifers. You have to have a decent place to raise your heifers; but I know we wouldn't be getting the same [milk] production in the old barn as we are in the new."

Not only did Dieball install the robots, but they also made significant cow-comfort changes. In the new barn, they went with sand bedding, automatic ally scrapers, headlocks, drive-by feeding, and cross ventilation. "The sand bedding was the biggest change," Jim noted as we talked about cow-comfort changes. "The cows really like it," he added.

> The sand bedding has brought challenges, however. Dieball said handling the sand and figuring out how to clean out their manure storage pit has been a learning curve. "The first year, we were stubborn and thought we could just pump [out the pit]. But we're learning, and now we have a system figured out, and it works very well for us," he added.

A higher cell count, attributed to the sand bedding, has also been a challenge for Dieballs. "There again, we're still learning," he said. Dieballs have started grooming the beds more often, Jim said. And as their herd grows, Jim said he would like to do more selective culling, getting rid of the high cell count cows faster. "We're still in expansion mode, so we're not culling all of the

high cell count cows because we don't have the replacements vet."

Regarding production, with the installation of the robotic milking system and the cow-comfort upgrades in the new barn, Jim said that production is up. "Production is up 14 to 15 percent. We were at two times per day milking [in the old parlor], and now we're up to 2.7 times per day," he shared. "Our components are up, hoof health, and feet and legs are much better, too. It's just way, way better for the cows."

With increased cow comfort in the new barn,



Sensors worn around the cows' necks monitor the animals' activities and vital signs.

Dieball is seeing better production and reproduction. "Pregnant cows, at the right time, are profitable cows," Dieball stressed. "We use activity monitors and the G6G synchronization program," he said.

Jim said that the combination of a well-managed synchronization program, activity monitors, and the less stressful and more comfortable environment all attribute to increased conception and reproduction.

"Milking in a parlor in extreme conditions is very unpleasant, and it takes more time," said Jim. "Having the robots is still work, but it's more management. Now, one person can manage if events are going on or if there is other field work to do. I can come out and do chores at 10 o'clock at night; the cows don't care! As long as they have feed and the robots are working."

Another perk of the new construction is Dieballs have the option to add on to the barn. Jim and Wendy's daughter Aly is very interested in returning to the farm after she completes college, while their younger daughter Shelby will pursue a degree in early childhood education. Jim said they do not have any plans for expanding yet; they'll wait and see what the future holds. However, Dieball is delighted with their decision to invest in a newly constructed free-stall barn and the installation of the robotic milking system.

Heuer Farms

"I've been milking since I was 15," recalled Rick Heuer of Heuer Farms. "My dad died, so I milked through high school with my brother. My brother, who is a year older, is on the home farm, and he's still dairy farming," added Rick.

After a short stint away from rural life, Rick returned. "I just didn't like the city. So I bought a herd of cows and rented a barn," he said. In 1995 he

See ROBOTIC DAIRIES, pg. 11



Jim Dieball built new when he incorporated robotics in

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Robots free up time that was being spent on milking

ROBOTIC DAIRIES, from pg. 10

purchased a farm of his own and has been there ever since.

From 1995 until 2022, Rick, who does all of the milking solo, was up and down milking two times per day in a tie-stall barn. "I was thinking of quitting milking. My body was getting worn out. But at the last hour, I decided to put in a robot and keep going," Heuer said.

His reason for putting in a robot is pointed, "If I milk until I'm 66, then want to quit, I can sell the robotics yet."

Heuer installed one Lely A5 robot into his existing barn, which he retrofitted to house 60 cows. "I gutted the barn," commented Rick. Only the shell of the building and the manure storage system remained the same.

At the start of the barn renovation, Rick added a new milk house and a maternity and calving pen with headlocks. He said he used the maternity pen for milking for two months while the rest of the barn was retrofitted and the robot was installed. "The [milking] cows were housed in the dry cow barn during that time. It was a long two months!" he laughed. "It was terrible!"

In the retrofitted barn, Rick now has

38 headlocks and 51 free stalls. "Obviously, they can't all eat at once, but with a robotic barn, [the cows] are all doing something different anyway," Rick stated. "With a parlor, that wouldn't work; you would need more headlocks. But it's working here."

He also installed water beds for cow comfort, which he grooms daily, adding dehydrated lime or sawdust. "I still have my exercise lot," Rick said. That's where the cows go while he grooms stalls; and even then, the cows have access to the robot.

were a challenge, attrib-

uting to a higher cell count. But Heuer said it is coming down. He has learned it is helpful to let all of the cows into the exercise lot and empty the barn once per day. That way, he can sweep the mangers and groom the stalls, giving the cows a clean slate every day. Rick said his cell count is still slightly



At first, the new stalls Rick Heuer gutted his existing barn to install a Lely robotic milking system.

higher than it was before switching to the robot. "But now, I know [which individual cows] are high. That helps."

In addition, the Lely robot gives individual cell count readings for each milking, which helps Heuer monitor those cows more closely.

Currently, Heuer's herd is milking three times per day with the robot. "Production is up 15 to 20 pounds," he said of his herd. Heuer's cows give 90 pounds of milk daily, and he hopes to hit 100 pounds as he freshens more

"What I really enjoy is the activity monitors!" Heuer said his herd had always been on shot synchronization programs for breeding. "Now, I very seldom give a shot. The activity monitors are very accurate [for heat detection]."

In addition to adding the robotic milker, Heuer added a robotic manure vacuum. The manure vacuum runs slowly up and down the ally doing exactly what one would think: it vacuums the manure. It then empties itself into the manure pit.

One of the main reasons Heuer retrofitted his barn, besides preserving his body, was the location. "I kind of like that I can come out in my pajamas and push in feed," he said. "It's close to the house, and I liked where the barn was. This way, if it's the middle of the

night, I can come out if needed. With cows, you need to be here anyway."

Heuer also likes the flexibility the robotic milking system offers. He no longer has to stop field work or decline social invitations because it conflicts with milking. With the robot, Rick can fetch the two or three cows that need to be reminded to get milked a little earlier or a little later. "I'm not tied down to four hours of chores in the middle of everything. It's really convenient that way," he said.

Both Dieball and Heuer agreed that dairying is in their blood. "Sometimes I wish it wasn't," Heuer joked, "but I guess it is." So, the cows stayed at both farms, and the love for the industry continues to thrive.

Gillins' goal to have own tarm

APPRENTICE, from pg. 9

videos. "One of the best things is having somebody I can bounce ideas off of," Gillins said. "Nate's real good about listening to me and then bringing up things I maybe hadn't thought of. Even

if they are ideas he wouldn't do, having somebody who has been grazing a lot of years who can see the benefit, or ask what about this, what about that —

that's a huge benefit."

While the ultimate goal of Gillins and his wife is to have their own farm, farm ownership is not the case with all apprentices, Angie said. Some are satisfied to manage someone else's dairy. Some have used the knowledge of grazing to raise beef instead of dairy. Some go on to learn cheese and butter making — hoping eventually to have a micro-dairy to direct market their own products.

Angie has worked with four journey workers (DGA graduates) and one is in the process of purchasing the farm from his mentor.

"That's the great part of the program, my favorite part," Angie said, "seeing that happen, the good working relationship [between apprentice and mentor], and then the success of transitioning into ownership."

Even when that doesn't happen, since managed rotational grazing is an economical way to get into dairy, the Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship is a practical first step to increase the possibility of

For information about mentorship or apprenticeship, contact Angie Walter at angie@sfa-mn.org or at (320) 815-9293.

For more complete information on Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship, their website is dga-national.org.



Kurzawski: Federal benchmark milk prices are 'ugly'

This column was written for the marketing week ending June 2.

Happy June Dairy Month consumers! It is not a happy month for dairy farmers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the May Federal order Class III benchmark milk price at \$16.11 per hundredweight. This is down \$2.41 from April (due to sharply lower cheese and dry whey prices), \$9.10 below May 2022, and is the lowest Class III price since August 2021.

The five-month Class III average stands at \$17.99, down from \$22.67 at this time a year ago, but compares to \$16.94 in 2021. Bottom line is, very few if any dairy farmers can make milk at current prices.

Class III futures as of late morning on June 2 portend a June price at \$15.33; July, \$16.17; and August at \$17.02, with a peak at \$18.68 in November.

The May Class IV milk price is \$18.10, up 15 cents from April, but \$6.89 below a year ago. Its five-month average is at \$18.66, down from \$24.44 a year ago and compares to \$14.54 in 2021.

StoneX dairy broker Dave Kurzawski called the situation "ugly" in the June 5 "Dairy Radio Now" broadcast. Farmers have told him that it feels like



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY

By Lee Mielke

2009, when milk prices plummeted and he admitted "I don't have a great response to this."

Typically lows are in May or June, he explained, so it's a seasonal norm. "The good news is that we are seeing a number of buyers step in to buy loads of cheese at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and they are getting a fantastic deal."

That's good for them, but the lower prices are attracting more export interest in third quarter, he said. The USDA also solicited bids to purchase 47 million pounds of cheese through June 5 and will award them June 14. He believes that purchase will all be made before Christmas and result in more price stabilization.

The All Milk Price average fell for the sixth consecutive month, falling to \$20.70 per hundred-weight, down 40 cents from March, and \$6.30 below April 2022.

News and information for Minnesota and Northern lowa dairy producers

Income over feed costs in April were below the \$8 per cwt. level needed for steady to increasing milk production for the third month in a row, according to dairy economist Bill Brooks of Stoneheart Consulting in Dearborn, Mo. "Input prices were mixed when compared to all-time record high prices in April," he said, "but all three commodities were in the top three for April all time. Feed costs were the highest ever for the month of April and the fourth highest all time."

"For 2023, milk income over feed costs (using May 31 CME settling futures prices for Class III milk, corn, and soybeans plus the Stoneheart forecast for alfalfa hay) are expected to be \$7.60 per cwt., a loss of 43 cents per cwt. vs. last month's estimate. 2023 income over feed would be below the level needed to maintain or grow milk production, and down \$4.39 per cwt. from 2022's level."

Milk income over feed costs for 2024 are expected to be \$9.43 per cwt., a gain of \$1.83 per cwt. vs. the 2023 estimate. Income over feed in 2024 would be above the level needed to maintain or grow milk production," writes Brooks.

Meanwhile, the latest Margin Watch from Chicago-based Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC. says, "Dairy margins continued to erode over the second half of May on a further decline in milk prices that more than offset the impact of lower projected feed costs. In addition to abundant supplies of cheese, whey prices have also pressured Class III milk values as they continue to drop."

Block cheddar, in five successive declines, fell to \$1.42 per pound on May 31, the lowest CME price since May 11, 2020 when it traded at \$1.3875. It regained 7.25 cents the next day, but gave some back June 2 to close the Memorial Day holiday-shortened week at \$1.43. This is down 4.75 cents and 84 cents below a year ago.

CME butter climbed to \$2.465 per pound on the first day of June (the highest since Dec. 22, 2022), but it closed June 2 at \$2.445. This is up a cent and a half on the week, while 47 cents below a year ago. Sales totaled six cars for the week and 29 for May, down from 38 in April. A car of butter is also about 40,000 pounds.

Lee Mielke is a syndicated columnist who resides in Everson, Wash. His weekly column is featured in newspapers across the country and he may be reached at lkmielke@juno.com.

COUNTY FAIR WORD SEARCH

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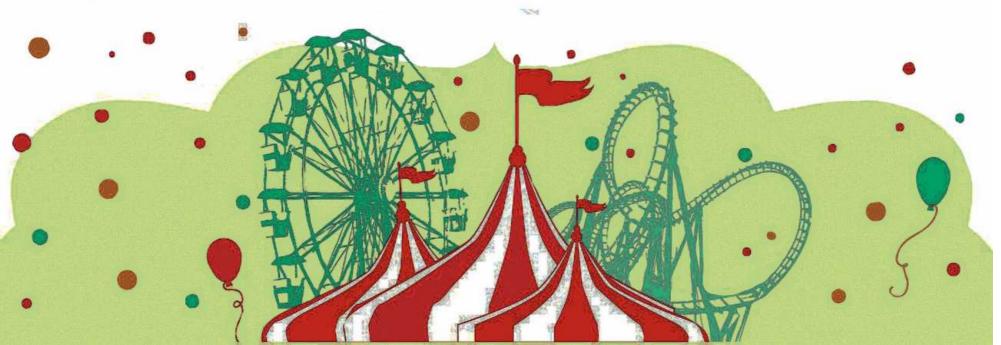
Answers located in Classified Section



The Land's 22nd annual Fair-Goers Guide is your passport to summer fun!

Keep this section and plan your summer.

The Fair-Goers Guide is also available at www.TheLandOnline.com.





The following county fair information is courtesy of the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs website — www.mfcf.com — and is subject to change. Where available, information includes a fair's dates, fairgrounds location, phone number and website.

Aitkin County Fair July 5-8

632 Minnesota Ave. N Aitkin, Minn. www.aitkincountyfair.com

Anoka County Fair July 25-30

3200 St. Francis Blvd. Anoka, Minn. www.anokacountyfair.com (763) 427-4070

Becker County Fair July 26-29

1310 Rossman Ave. Detroit Lakes, Minn. https://beckercountyfair.com (218) 847-5587

Beltrami County Fair Aug. 9-13

7223 Fairgrounds Rd. NW Bemidji, Minn. www.beltramicountyfair.org (218) 444-8169)

Benton County Fair Aug. 1-6

1410 Third Ave. S Sauk Rapids, Minn. www.bentonfairmn.com (320) 253-5649

Big Stone County Fair July 13-16

220 Fair St. Clinton, Minn. www.bigstonecountyfair.com (320) 325-FAIR

Blue Earth County Fair July 20-23

340 Fairgrounds St.
Garden City, Minn.
www.blueearthcountyfair.org

Brown County Free Fair Aug. 9-13

1201 N State St. New Ulm, Minn. www.browncountyfreefair.com (507) 354-2223

Cannon Valley Fair July 1-4

800 N Ninth St. Cannon Falls, Minn. www.cannonvalleyfair.org (507) 263-3548

Carlton County Fair Aug. 17-20

3770 Front St. Barnum, Minn. www.carltoncountyfairmn.com (218) 389-6737

Carver County Fair Aug. 9-13

501 W Third St. Waconia, Minn. www.carvercountyfair.com (952) 442-2333

Cass County Fair-Pillager July 13-15

207 East Second St. S Pillager, Minn. www.pillagerfair.com (218) 746-3348

Cass County Fair-Pine River June 22-25

198 Main St.
Pine River, Minn.
www.thecasscountyfairmn.org

Chippewa County Fair July 26-30

592 S First St. Montevideo, Minn. www.chippewacofair.com (320) 793-6727

Chisago County Fair July 20-23

905 W Fourth St. Rush City, Minn. www.chisagocountyfair.org (612) 251-6388)

Clay County Fair July 13-16

102-124 Sixth St. SE Barnesville, Minn. www.mnclaycountyfair.com (218) 354-2675

Clearwater County Fair Aug. 2-6

36283 Fairgrounds Rd. Bagley, Minn. https://clearwatercountyfair.net (218) 694-2780

Cottonwood County Fair Aug. 9-12

1480 Eighth Ave. Windom, Minn. https://cottonwoodcountyfair.org (507) 831-0023





Crow Wing County Fair Aug. 1-5

2000 13th St. SE Brainerd, Minn. www.crowwingcountyfair.com (218) 829-6680

Dakota County Fair Aug. 7-13

4008 220th St. W Farmington, Minn. www.dakotacountyfair.org (651) 463-8818

Dodge County Fair July 12-16

62922 Hwy. 57 N Kasson, Minn. www.dodgecountyfreefair.com (507) 634-7736

Douglas County Fair Aug. 16-19

300 Fairgrounds Rd. Alexandria, Minn. www.dcmnfair.com (866) 656-FAIR

Faribault County Fair July 26-29

235 Midway Rd. Blue Earth, Minn. www.faribaultcountyfair.com (507) 340-7539

Fillmore County Fair July 17-23

413 E Fillmore St. Preston, Minn. www.fillmorecountyfair.com (507) 254-2665

Freeborn County Fair Aug. 1-6

1031 Bridge Ave. Albert Lea, Minn. https://www.co.freeborn.mn. us/490/Freeborn-County-Fair (507) 373-6965

Goodhue County Fair Aug. 8-12

44279 County 6 Blvd. Zumbrota, Minn. www.goodhuecountyfair.com (507) 732-5001

Grant County Fair July 20-23

605 Vienna Ave. Herman, Minn. www.grantcountyfairmn.com (320) 677-2284

Hennepin County Fair June 16-18

19101 County Road 10 Hamel, Minn. www.hennepincountyfair.com (763) 478-6785)

Houston County Fair Aug. 16-20

203 History Lane Caledonia, Minn. www.houstoncountyfair.com (507) 725-3397

Hubbard County Fair July 11-15

201 Fair Ave. Park Rapids, Minn. www.hubbardcountyfair.com (218) 252-0264

Isanti County Fair July 19-23

3101 Hwy. 95 NE Cambridge, Minn. www.isanticountyfair.com (763) 689-2555)

Itasca County Fair Aug. 16-20

1336 NE Third Ave. Grand Rapids, Minn. (218) 326-6470

Jackson County Fair July 25-29

78748 550th Ave. Jackson, Minn. www.jacksoncountyfairmn.com (507) 849-7222



Kanabec County Fair July 26-30

South Union St. Mora. Minn. https://kanabecfair.com (320) 679-3371

Kandiyohi County Fair Aug. 9-12

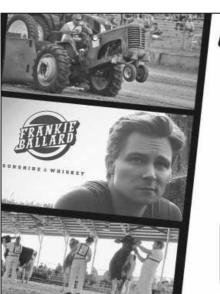
907 Seventh St. NW Willmar, Minn. www.kandifair.com (320) 235-0886

Kittson County Fair July 26-30

127 Free Gate Hallock, Minn. www.kittsoncountyfair.org

Koochiching County Fair Aug. 11-13

12103 Hwy. 71 N Northome, Minn. www.koochichingcountyfair.org (218) 897-5205



Meeker County Fair Litchfield, MN www.meekerfair.com Auaust 2-6. 2023

LIVESTOCK **FAIR FOOD** CARNIVAL **FAIR FRENZY RAFFLE** BEER GARDEN

Grandstand Shows

TRACTOR PULL FRANKIE BALLARD Fri. @ 7:30 PM MOTOKAZIE **DEMO DERBY**

Thurs. @ 7:00 PM Sat. @ 6:00 PM Sun. @ 1:00 PM





Lac Qui Parle Sept. 7-10

705 Fair St. Madison, Minn. https://lapfair.com (320) 598-3989

Lake County Fair Aug. 10-13

1381 Fairground Rd. Two Harbors, Minn. www.thelakecountyfair.com

Lake of the Woods **County Fair** July 12-16

Baudette, Minn. https://lotwfair.com (218) 634-1437

LeSueur County Fair Aug. 17-20

320 Plut Ave. Le Center, Minn. www.lesueurcountyfair.org (507) 357-6500

Lincoln County Fair July 27-30

200 W Strong St. Tyler, Minn. www.lincolncountyfairmn.com (507) 247-5151

Lyon County Fair Aug. 9-13

524 Fairgrounds Rd. Marshall, Minn. www.lyoncountyfairmn.com

Mahnomen County Fair June 28-July 2

Mahnomen, Minn,

Marshall County Fair July 19-23

520 N Eighth St. Warren, Minn. www.marshallcountyfair.org (218) 745-4445

Martin County Fair Aug. 14-20

1300 N Bixby Rd. Fairmont, Minn. https://www.mnotherbigfair.com (507) 235-9576

McLeod County Fair Aug. 17-20

840 Century Ave. SW Hutchinson, Minn. www.mcleodcountyfair.com (320) 587-2499

Compeer awards grants for county fair facility improvements

Compeer Financial's Fund for Rural America is supporting county fairs with grants to improve facilities and experiences offered to communities across the Upper Midwest. Fairs received grants of up to \$4,000.

"Fairs are a cornerstone of summer in rural communities, but many face barriers to maintaining updated facilities," said Karen Schieler, senior corporate giving specialist at Compeer Financial.

This year's grant recipients reported the average age of fairground buildings was 47 years old. Many reported that no updates have been made since they

were first built. Fair organizations rely heavily on community volunteers. One third of fairs have no paid staff.

Minnesota county fairs which received funding include the Aitkin County Ag Society for repairing The Anoka County Fair was able to improve drainage around the 4-H building and update the sound system in the 4-H and barn areas. Blue Earth County Fair Association added sand in the beef and sheep barns. The Cass County Agricultural Association was able to purchase new lighting in the horse arena and grandstand area.

Society now has a handicap-accessible viewing area in the fairground's show pavilion. The Dodge County Free Fair is expanding the animal wash bay in the goat, hog and sheep building. The Fillmore County Agricultural Society is upgrading the sound system in the livestock building and show arena.

New pens for a livestock building are coming to the Goodhue County Fair and the Cannon Valley Fair has new pens for sheep and goats. The Houston County Agricultural Society is enclosing the fairground's poultry and rabbit building. The Isanti County Agricultural Society is updating the wash racks and purchasing fans for the swine barn. Martin County Fair is replacing the curtain on the horse barn.

Mille Lacs County Fair plans to install asphalt pavement under swine pens in the livestock pavilion and a new speaker system for horse arena. The Morrison County Ag Society is replacing the announcer's stand in the 4-H livestock show arena, replacing boards on the livestock show ring bleachers, making more 4-H livestock pens, and purchasing sunshades for the side of the 4-H cattle barn.

The Nicollet County Agriculture Society is upgrading the manure station and cattle wash rack, and install-

Cottonwood County Agricultural ing a new water line to the sheep and poultry barn. The Olmsted County Agriculture Association is repairing sheep, beef and horse pens. South St. Louis County Fair will see a new roof for the rabbit and poultry barn. Sibley County Fair is replacing old wood goat pens with manufactured metal pens.

The Stearns County Fair is receiving a new wash rack. The Steele County Agricultural Society is repairing the roof on the swine building. The Waseca County Free Fair will see new gates in the cattle barn and the Winona County Fair is improving and upgrading the lighting in the 4-H building.

The Compeer Financial Fund for Rural America is the corporate giving program of Compeer Financial, structured to support Compeer Financial's mission to enrich agriculture and rural America. Compeer Financial's Board of Directors has dedicated one percent of annual net earnings to support the Fund's focus areas of agricultural advocacy and development, agriculture education, cooperative initiatives, rural development and community enrichment; and youth engagement.

More information about opportunities available through the Fund can be found at Compeer.com/giving-back.

This article was submitted by Compeer Financial.



ADMISSION PRICES AND HOURS Gates are open 10 am-10 pm daily

Daily Tickets: \$7 Ages 12 and under are FREE Season Pass: \$15 Available for purchase at the front gate

FREE admission for Veteran's and Active Military with proof

RENVILLE COUNTY FAIR Bird Island, MN · August 9-11 2023



ATV BARREL RACING: Wednesday Night (7pm) **BULL RIDING:** Thursday Night (7pm) **DEMOLITION DERBY:** Friday Night (7pm) BEER GARDEN: Everyday (1pm-12am)

INFLATABLES: Everyday **ANIMAL EXHIBITS:** Everyday

Meeker County Fair Aug. 2-6

1230 N Armstrong Ave. Litchfield, Minn. www.meekerfair.com (320) 593-3247

Mille Lacs County Fair Aug. 9-13

1400 Third St. N Princeton, Minn. www.millelacscountyfair.com (763) 389-3138

Morrison County Fair June 22-24

15575 Hawthorn Rd. Little Falls, Minn. www.morrisonfair.com (320) 632-1040

Mower County Free Fair Aug. 8-13

700 12th St. SW Austin, Minn. www.mowercountyfair.com (507) 433-1868

Murray County Fair Aug. 14-20

3032 Linden Slayton, Minn. www.murraycountyfair.com (507) 836-6303

Nicollet County Fair Aug. 9-13

400 W Union St. St. Peter, Minn. www.nicolletcountyfair.com (507) 934-2684

Nobles County Fair Aug. 2-6

1602 Stower Dr.
Worthington, Minn.
https://www.facebook.com/
Noblescountyfairgrounds

Norman County Fair June 21-24

503 W Thorpe Ave. Ada, Minn. www.normancountyfair.com (218) 784-4984

Northern Minnesota District Fair July 7-9

4940 Fairwood Ave. Littlefork, Minn.

https://www.facebook.com/ northernmndistrictfair

Olmsted County Fair July 24-30

1403 Third Ave. SE Rochester, Minn. www.olmstedcountyfair.com (507) 282-9862

Otter Tail County Fair-East July 20-23

445 Fourth Ave. SE Perham, Minn. www.eotcountyfair.org (218) 346-2750

Otter Tail County Fair-West July 19-22

1812 Pebble Lake Rd. Fergus Falls, Minn. www.wotcountyfair.com (218) 736-0272



Pennington County Fair July 12-16

524 Barzen Ave. S Thief River Falls, Minn. https://penningtoncountyfair.org (218) 653-1500



Wed., August 9 -Sun., August 13, 2023 Fairgrounds 400 West Union, St. Peter

Website:

Like Us On Facebook to get all the updates! Carnival: Crescent City Amusements

GRANDSTAND EVENTS:

Thursday - 6:30 pm • Truck & Tractor Pull
Friday - 7:00 pm • Demolition Derby
Saturday - 5:30 pm • Demolition Derby
Sunday - 12:00 pm • Auto Races

Music, Food and Fun for All Ages!!

Go to the website and Facebook for details!!





Pine County Fair Aug. 2-6

707 First Ave. NW Pine City, Minn. www.pinecountyfair.com (320) 629-3408

Pipestone County Fair Aug. 2-5

10th Ave. SE Pipestone, Minn. www.pipestonecountyfair.com (507) 348-4919

Polk County Fair July 5-9

200 Polk Ave. SE Fertile, Minn. www.polkcountyfairfertilemn.com (218) 945-6708

Pope County Fair Aug. 2-5

230 Minnesota Ave. W Glenwood, Minn. www.popecountyfair.org (320) 634-4855

Ramsey County Fair Canceled

Red Lake County Fair June 22-25 Oklee, Minn.

Facebook: Red Lake County

Redwood County Fair July 13-16

201 N Dekalb St. Redwood Falls, Minn. www.redwoodcountyfair.com (507) 627-2801

Renville County Fair Aug. 9-11

County Road 5 Bird Island, Minn. https://renvillecountyfair.org (320) 365-3242

Rice County Fair July 19-23

1814 NW Second Ave. Faribault, Minn. www.ricecountyfair.net (507) 332-2470

Rock County Fair July 26-29

South Freeman Ave. Luverne, Minn. www.rockcountyfair.org (507) 449-FAIR

GRANDSTAND EVENTS

Wed. 6:30pm Water Wars on 8th Ave.
Thurs. 7:30pm Great Frontier Bull Riding
Fri. 6:30pm Demolition Derby
Sat. 6pm Enduro Auto Race

BEER GARDEN

Beer Garden "Free" Entertainment Nightly Full Liquor

Wed. 8:30pm The Johnny Holm Band

Thurs. 8:30pm Fri. 8:30pm

Ragtown Triple Dog Dare

Sat. 8:30pm The Local Hooligans

FREE ENTERTAINMENT ALL WEEK LONG!!!

Kids' Power Pedal Tractor Pull
Kiddie Coin Find
The Looney Lutherans
Music in the Food Court
Waseca County Sings!
Antique Tractors on display daily

Many other fine performers & contests daily!

"AMUSEMENT ATTRACTIONS"

Providing larger, more exciting rides for all ages!

Advanced Sale Only Digital Tickets

10 rides for \$20

Go to our website or our Facebook page for the link to purchase advanced sale ride tickets now!

For more information, visit www.wasecacountyfreefair.com or check out our Facebook page. Fair books will be available at various businesses

throughout Waseca County.

Also available at the fairgrounds, and online!







Free Entertainment
All Week Long!!



THURSDAY, JULY 27th

OPEN CLASS ENTRY DAY

10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. **NEON GYPSY**

8:00 P.M. OUTDOOR FREE STAGE

FRIDAY, JULY 28th

ECOLOGY BUS CENTER 1-8 P.M.

RED LETTER BAND

7:00 P.M. OUTDOOR FREE STAGE

GREAT SELECTION OF INFLATABLES

WRISTBAND TIMES: THURSDAY & FRIDAY 5:30-9:30 P.M. SATURDAY

12:30-4:30 AND 5:30-9:30 P.M. MEGA BAND AVAILABLE

FOR ALL 4 SESSIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 29th

LINCOLN COUNTY CORN & SOYBEAN GROWERS ANNUAL AG AWARENESS BREAKFAST ONLY 40°

7:00-10:00 A.M. OR UNTIL ALL GONE, 4-H PAVILION

LINCOLN COMMUNITY FAIR BAKE-OFF

RANCH RODEO - 1:00 P.M. HORSE ARENA

SKIPPING STONES - 3:00 P.M.

LARRY OLSEN BAND

4:30-6:30 P.M. RAINBOW PAVILION

KIDS' TRACTOR PULL - 5:00 P.M.

ANNUAL BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT - 6:30 P.M.
"LIZZY" COMEDY STAGE HYPNOTIST

7:00 P.M. OUTDOOR FREE STAGE

SUNDAY, JULY 30th

LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H AUCTION

12:30 P.M.

SMALL ANIMAL SHOW FOLLOWING THE 4-H AUCTION LONNIE CARPENTER

2:30-4:30 P.M. OUTDOOR FREE STAGE

ANNUAL DEMOLITION DERBY

3:00 P.M. GRANDSTAND

GAGA BALL ... BINGO ... CONCESSIONS ... LINGEN DAIRY ... MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DISPLAYS

Roseau County Fair July 16-21

500 Fourth Ave. NW Roseau, Minn.

www.roseaucountyfair.com

Scott County Fair July 26-30

Jordan, Minn. https://scottcountyfair.org (952) 492-2436

Sherburne County Fair July 20-23

13372 Business Center Dr.

Elk River, Minn.

www.sherburnecountyfair.org (763) 441-3610

Sibley County Fair Aug. 2-6

801 W Chandler St. Arlington, Minn. www.sibleycountyfair.com (507) 964-5698

South St Louis County Fair (Proctor) July 6-9

800 Boundary Ave.
Duluth, Minn.
www.proctorduluthfair.com
(218) 628-2401

St Louis County Fair Aug. 2-6

1100 E 25th St. Hibbing, Minn. www.stlofair.org (218) 263-4256

Stearns County Fair July 26-30

1105 Ash St. S Sauk Centre, Minn. www.stearnscountyfair.com (320) 352-2482

Minnesota State Fair 2023 Aug

The Minnesota State Fair is Aug. 24 to Sept. 4 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. Visit www. mnstatefair.org for more information.

Grandstand events

Aug. 24: The Black Keys with special guest The Velveteers

Aug. 25: The Chicks with special guest Wild Rivers

Aug. 26: Keith Urban with special guest Lindsay Ell

Aug. 27: Boyz II Men and Chaka Chan

Aug. 28: Happy Together Tour 2023 featuring The Turtles, Little Anthony, Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Vogues, The Classics IV and The Cowsills

Aug. 29: Brandi Carlile with special guest Wynona Judd

Aug. 30: Yung Gravy with special guest bbno\$

Aug. 31: Duran Duran with special guests Bastille and Nile Rodgers & Chic

Sept. 1: Jonas Brothers

Sept. 2: The Current's Music On-A-Stick featuring The Hold Steady with special guests Bob Mould Band and Dillinger Four

Sept. 3: MSF 50th annual Amateur Talent Contest Finals — FREE

Sept. 4: Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour

Tickets for Grandstand events are available through Etix at etix.com or by calling (800) 514-3849. In addition, tickets may be purchased at the State Fairgrounds Ticket Office. Visit www.mnstatefair.org to purchase online. For additional State Fair ticket information, call (651) 288-4427. Fair admission must be purchased in addition to your Grandstand ticket.

This article was submitted by the Minnesota State Fair.

Steele County Free Fair Aug. 15-20

1525 S Cedar St. Owatonna, Minn. www.scff.org (507) 451-5305

Stevens County Fair Aug. 8-13

177 County Road 22 Morris, Minn. https://www.stevenscountyfair.org (320) 589-1062

SW St Louis County Fair Aug. 24-26

Floodwood, Minn. http://swstlouiscountyfair.com



Swift County Fair Aug. 16-20

500 W Reuss Ave. Appleton, Minn. www.swiftcountyfair.org (320) 289-6090



"The Little Minnesota State Fair"

Celebrate the Tradition 150 Years of Fair Fun!

MOLLIE B AND SQUEEZEBOX WITH TED LANGE
HAIRBALL • WHITE SIDEWALLS • \$15,000 PURSE DEMO
"BIG AIR SHOW" • FABULOUS ARMADILLOS • FIREWORKS
HOLY ROCKA ROLLEZ • THE MEMORIES • CHAMPIONS FOREVER
MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOL RODEO • DIVAS GONE COUNTRY

WWW.LOPFAIR.COM



Todd County Fair June 13-16

Ninth St. NE Long Prairie, Minn. www.toddcountyfair.com (320) 732-2739

Traverse County Fair Aug. 24-27

407 Seventh St. S Wheaton, Minn.

https://www.co.traverse.mn.us/ community/traverse-county-fair/

Tri-County Fair & Auction Aug. 16

600 Hope St.

Mankato, Minn.

https://extension.umn.edu/local/ blue-earth

https://extension.umn.edu/local/ nicollet

(507) 327-7679

Count JULY 26-30, 2023 Stearns County Fairgrounds | Sauk Centre, MN FREE GATE! Featuring Crescent City Amusements STAR www.stearnscountyfair.com **Publications**

Wabasha County Fair July 19-22

99 Coulee Way Wabasha, Minn.

www.wabashacountyfair.org

Wadena County Fair June 22-25

400 Ash Ave.

Wadena, Minn.

https://www.wadenacountyfairmn.com

(218) 639-0760

Waseca County Free Fair July 12-16

409 Eighth Ave. NE Waseca, Minn.

https://www.wasecacountyfreefair.com

(507) 461-0314

Washington County Fair Aug. 2-6

12300 40th St. N Stillwater, Minn. www.washingtoncountyfair.org (651) 436-6009

Watonwan County Fair July 13-16

53 S 11th St. St. James. Minn. www.watonwancountyfair.com (507) 375-5515

Wilkin County Fair Aug. 17-20

101 Nebraska Ave.

Breckenridge, Minn. https://www.facebook.com/wilkincountyfair

(701) 640-6644

Winona County Fair July 12-16

506 W Sixth St. St. Charles, Minn. www.winonacountyfair.com (507) 932-3074

Wright County Fair July 19-23

1010 First St. Howard Lake, Minn. www.wrightcountyfair.org (320) 543-2111

Yellow Medicine County Fair July 20-22

Fairgrounds Rd. Canby, Minn. www.ymcfair.org (507) 223-5852

JOIN US FOR THE 111th ANNUAL



FULL SCHEDULE, TICKETS & MORE AT fy o WWW.CARVERCOUNTYFAIR.COM

Adair County Fair July 12-16

900 NE Elm Greenfield, Iowa www.adaircountyfair.org (641) 743-2856

Adams County 4-H and FFA Éair July 7-11

1200 John St. Corning, Iowa https://www.facebook.com/ AdamsCountyFair | (641) 322-4817

Allamakee-Big Four Fair June 16-18

Postville, Iowa FB: Big Four Fair-Postville, IA (563) 864-7486

327 N Maple St.

Allamakee County Fair July 19-23

705 Allamakee St. Waukon, Iowa www.allamakeecountyfair.org (563) 568-2667

Appanoose County Fair July 17-22

703 W Franklin St. Centerville, Iowa http://appanoosecountyfair.org (641) 856-2646

Audubon County Fair July 12-16

400 North Division St. W Audubon, Iowa https://auduboncountyfair.wixsite.com/audubon-county-fair (712) 563-3126

Benton County Fair June 20-25

South Second Ave. Vinton, Iowa (319) 472-3517

Black Hawk-National Cattle Congress Fair Sept. 20-24

250 Ansborough Ave. Waterloo, Iowa www.nationalcattlecongress.com (319) 234-7515

Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair July 16-20

250 Ansborough Ave. Waterloo, Iowa (319) 234-7515

Boone County Fair July 20-23

1601 Industrial Park Rd. Boone, Iowa www.boonecountyfairia.com (515) 432-5899

Bremer County Fair July 23-29

717 5th Ave SW Waverly, Iowa www.bremercountyfair.com (319) 939-4895

Buchanan County Fair July 5-9

204 12th St. NE Independence, Iowa www.buchanancountyfair.org (319) 334-6656



Buena Vista County Fair July 6-10

5800 55th Ave. Alta. Iowa www.bvcountyfair.com (712) 284-2561



AUGUST 17TH - 20TH, 2023

Demo Derby Friday @ 7 pm Truck & Tractor Pull Saturday@6pm





Big Ideas Trailer Friday & Saturday 1-5 pm



will be there!

Enjoy Live music by:

Doug Traxler & The Hired Hands Little Chicago*, Open Highway Larry Novotny-One Man Band, Smokescreen & more



FULL SCHEDULE

WWW.FARIBAULTCOUNTYFAIR.COM



Butler County Fair June 21-25

101 S. Main St. Allison, Iowa https://butlercountyfair.org (319) 267-2775

Calhoun County Expo July 5-9

Fourth and High St.
Rockwell City, Iowa
www.calhouncountyexpo.com

Carroll County Fair July 11-16

214 Eighth Ave. Coon Rapids, Iowa http://www.iowaccfair.com (712) 999-7447

Cass County Fair July 27-Aug. 1 805 W. 10th St.

Atlantic, Iowa
https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair
(712) 243-1132

Cedar County Fair July 12-16

1195 210th St. Tipton, Iowa www.thecedarcountyfair.com (563) 886-6170

Cerro Gordo-North Iowa Fair July 19-23

3700 Fourth St. SW Mason City, Iowa www.northiowaeventscenter.org (641) 423-3811

Cherokee-Marcus Community Fair Aug. 10-13

301 S Maple Marcus, Iowa www.marcuscommunityfair.com (712) 376-2316

Cherokee County Fair July 19-23

200 Linden St. Cherokee, Iowa www.cherokeecountyfair.net (712) 225-5843

Clarke County 4-H Fair July 10-17

2070 Hwy. 34 W Osceola, Iowa (641) 342-2927

Clay County Fair Sept. 9-17

800 W 18th St. Spencer, Iowa www.claycountyfair.com (712) 580-3000

Clayton County Fair Aug. 2-6

26143 Ivory Rd. Garnavillo, Iowa www.claytoncountyfair.com (563) 964-2671

Clinton County Fair July 19-23

328 E Eighth St. DeWitt, Iowa www.clintoncountyiowafair.com (563) 659-1624

Crawford County Fair July 19-23

800 Hwy. 39 N Denison, Iowa https://www.crawfordcountyiowafair.com (712) 263-5306

Dallas County 4-H Fair July 12-16

28057 Fairgrounds Rd. Adel, Iowa www.dallascountyfair.com (515) 993-3728

Davis County Fair July 11-16

20471 Old Hwy. 2 Bloomfield, Iowa www.daviscountyfair.org (641) 664-3712

Decatur County 4-H & FFA Fair July 19-24

1700 NW Church St. Leon, Iowa (641) 446-4648

Delaware County Fair July 10-16

200 E Acers St. Manchester, Iowa www.delawarecofair.com (563) 927-6449

Des Moines County Fair July 26-31

1015 S Gear Ave. West Burlington, Iowa www.desmoinescountyfair.com (641) 295-3194

Iowa State Fair 2023

The Iowa State Fair is Aug. 10-20, in Des Moines. Fairgrounds are open each day 8 a.m. to midnight. Buildings are open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, visit www. iowastatefair.org.

Grandstand entertainment

Aug. 10: For King + Country with special guest We The Kingdom

Aug. 11: Tyler Hubbard of Florida Georgia Line with special guest Parmalee

Aug. 12: New Kids on the Block

Aug. 13: Eric Churck with special guest Jackson Dean

Aug. 14: The Black Keys with special guest The Velveteers

Aug. 15: Jeff Dunham: Still Not Cancelled Tour

Aug. 16: Lindsey Stirling with special guest Walk Off The Earth

Aug. 17: Maren Morris with special guest Lindsay Ell

Aug. 18: Chris "Ludacris" Bridges with special guest Sean Kingston

Aug. 19: The Chicks with special guest Ben Harper

Aug. 20: Jason Aldean with special guest Corey Kent

Tickets for Grandstand concerts and events are on sale through www. etix.com or by phone at (800) 514-3849. Grandstand tickets do not include admission to the Fair, but can be purchased at www.iowastatefair. org.

Wednesday, August 9

- Veterans Day Heritage Square StageVeteran's Program and Meal
 Prairie Winds Summer Band,
- Sawyer's Dream
 Freddie Justice Planets Funniest
 Humotist
- Hypnotist
 Out Door Arena Great Frontier Bull Riding
 Eli Alger & The Faster Horses Band

Thursday, August 10

- Senior Citizens Day Free Sweet Corn Feed
- Heritage Square Stage Freddie Justice Planets Funniest
 Hypnotist Radio Acoustic
 Grandstand -
 - KRA Stock Car Racing
- Friday, August 11
 Heritage Square Stage Ava Hanson Dam Jammers
- Grandstand:

 Antique Tractor and Truck Pull



August 9-12, 2023

Kandiyohi
County Fair

Saturday, August 12

- Kids Day Kids Pedal Pull
- Games, Activities and Prizes,
- Kids Lego Building Contest

Heritage Square Stage: • Our Tyme with the Beaches.

- Jeff James,
 Modd Hose Jackson
- Madd Hoss Jackson
- Grandstand -
- NTPA Tractor and Truck Pulling

DAILY EVENTS:

- Greater Midwest Carnaval Glass Blowing Demonstrations
- Majestic Spectacular
 Motorcycle Stunt Show
 New DNR Fish Area
 - Knocker Ball
 Beer Garden
- Cash Drawings at 6pm and 10pm
 2 Monster Coloring Boards
- Exhibit and Commercial Buildings
 Visit our website at
 www.kandifair.com

Dickinson County Fair July 15-20

1602 15th St. Spirit Lake, Iowa www.dickinsoncountyfairgrounds.com (712) 336-0479

Dubuque County Fair July 25-30

14569 Old Hwy. Rd. Dubuque, Iowa www.dbqfair.com (563) 588-1406

Emmet County Agricultural Show July 26-30

1600 Third Ave. S Estherville, Iowa https://pfangus.wixsite.com/ theemmetcountyfair/schedule (712) 362-7163

Fayette County Fair July 18-22

504 S Vine West Union, Iowa www.fayettecoiafair.com (563) 294-0338

Floyd County Fair July 19-23

2516 Seven Mile Rd. Charles City, Iowa www.floydcountyfair.org (641) 228-1300

Franklin County Fair July 12-16

1008 Central Ave. W Hampton, Iowa www.franklincountyfair.com (641) 456-2049

Fremont County Fair July 12-17

1004 Legion Park Rd. Sidney, Iowa (712) 374-2715

Greene County Fair July 11-17

601 E Lincoln Way Jefferson, Iowa www.greenecountyiowafair.com (515) 386-4317

Grundy County Fair July 17-22

1308 Fourth St. Grundy Center, Iowa www.grundycountyfair.com (319) 404-8856)

Guthrie County Fair Aug. 31-Sept. 4

Hwy. 44 West Guthrie Center, Iowa www.guthriecountyfair.com (641) 332-2230

Hamilton County Fair July 25-30

1200 Bluff St. Webster City, Iowa www.hamcoexpo.com (515) 832-1443

Hancock County Fair July 25-31

2210 Jewel Ave. Britt, Iowa www.hancockcountyfair.com (641) 843-3820



Hardin County Fair July 19-23

301 11th Ave. Eldora, Iowa www.hardincountyfair.net (641) 858-3901





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Grandstand Events

 Aug 8
 Motokazie Supercross
 7 pm

 Aug 9
 Autocross
 7 pm

 Aug 10
 NTPA Tractor Pull
 7 pm

 Aug 11 & 12
 Bull Riding
 7 pm

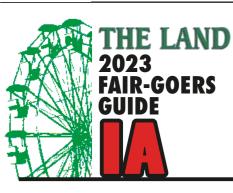
 Aug 13
 Demolition Derby
 2 pm

NEW This Year

- Thorni Ridge Exotic Petting Zoo
- Jurassic Kingdom Lockdown.

Fair Square

- Brad Boice
- · Fiddler's Band
- LP & the 45's
- Rockin Hep Cats
- Robby Vee
- Denny Charnecki & the DC Drifters



Harrison County Fair July 20-23

Missouri Valley City Park Missouri Valley, Iowa www.harrisoncofair.com (712) 642-3866

Henry County Fair July 9-17

S Locust/S Walnut Mount Pleasant, Iowa www.henrycountyiowafair.com

The Mighty Howard County Fair June 21-25

220 W Seventh St. Cresco, Iowa www.mhcfair.com (563) 547-3400

Humboldt County Fair July 25-31

311 Sixth Ave. N Humboldt, Iowa www.humboldtcountyfair.com (515) 332-5154

Ida County Fair July 20-25 2332 Hwv. 59

Ida Grove, Iowa
https://www.facebook.com/idacountyfairiowa
(712) 364-2500

Iowa County Fair July 12-16

800 E Marion St. Marengo, Iowa www.theiowacountyfair.org (319) 642-5406

Jackson County Fair July 25-30

1212 E Quarry St. Maquoketa, Iowa www.jacksoncountyiowafair.com (563) 652-4282

Jasper County Fair July 14-20

359 N Walnut Colfax, Iowa www.jaspercofair.com (641) 792-6433

Jefferson County Fair June 20-26

2606 W Burlington Fairfield, Iowa www.jeffersoncofair.com (641) 472-4959

Johnson County 4-H & FFA Fair July 23-26

4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd. SE lowa City, Iowa www.thejohnsoncountyfair.com (319) 325-4049

Great Jones County Fair & Food Fest July 19-23

800 N Maple St. Monticello, Iowa www.greatjonescountyfair.com (319) 465-3275

Jones-Wyoming Fair July 7-9

409 E Green St. Wyoming, Iowa http://wyomingiafair.com (563) 488-3497

Keokuk County Expo July 9-15

22400 220th Ave. Sigourney, Iowa www.expokeokukco.com (641) 660-4408

Keokuk County Fair July 7-9

13061 170th St. What Cheer, Iowa www.keokukcountyfair.com (319) 269-1871

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED IN 2023

2023 Grandstand Entertainment







<u>Tues., Aug.15</u> <u>6:00 PM</u>

Steele County

August 15-20, 2023

Free Fair

FFA Alumni Antique Tractor Pull

Wed., Aug.16 7:00 PM

LOCASH with special guest Drake Milligan

Thurs., Aug. 17 7:00 PM

Hairball with special guest Strange Daze

<u>Fri., Aug. 18</u> 7:00 PM

Craig Morgan with special guest Ashley Barron

<u>Sat., Aug. 19</u> <u>7:30 PM</u>

Bulls N Barrels with local Mutton Bustin

<u>Sun., Aug. 20</u> <u>2:00 PM</u>

IMP Demolition Derby



GET YOUR TICKETS ONLINE www.tickets.scff.org



Grandstand Events

12th - Rice Bull Riding Challenge - 7p

16th - New Auto Cross Races - 3p

Fireworks to follow

13th - Thunderbird Open Stock Car Races - 7p

14th - Dodge Mayhem Trailer Races - 7p 15th - DC Championship Demo Derby - 6p

New Attractions

Balloon Artist Mandana The Bubbler • Ragtown MN Amateur Talent Contest

Attention Open Class Exhibitors

Open Class Registration for Building Exhibits is now MONDAY, July 10th 12pm to 8pm

Visit www.dodgecountyfreefair.com or call 507-634-7736 for more information.
Check us out on Facebook and Instagram, too!

Kossuth County Fair Aug. 1-5

700 E Fair St. Algona, Iowa www.kossuthcountyfair.com (515) 395-FAIR

Lee County Fair July 5-9

1100 N Main St. Donnellson, Iowa www.leecountyfairiowa.com (319) 280-4631

Linn County Fair June 28-July 2

201 Central City Rd. Central City, Iowa www.thelinncountyfair.com (319) 929-FAIR

Louisa County Fair July 25-29

101 Fairground Rd. Columbus Junction, Iowa http://louisacountyfair.org (319) 728-2527



THE LAND magazine offers its readers feature stories and other articles about farmers in Minnesota and Northern Iowa, their farming techniques and their way of life; news about farming issues; technical agricultural information; and regular columns. We focus on the family down the road, as well as presenting the hard news and technical information on farmers running their operations.

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Lucas County Fair July 22-26

48293 Hy-Vee Rd.
Chariton, Iowa
https://www.lucascountyfairia.com

(641) 774-2016

Lyon County Fair July 16-20

S Fifth Ave. & Tama St. Rock Rapids, Iowa http://lyoncofair.com (712) 472-2064

Madison County Livestock Show & Fair July 19-23

1146 W Summit St. Winterset, Iowa www.madisoncountyfair.net (515) 462-1295

Mahaska-Southern Iowa Fair July 17-22

615 North I St. Oskaloosa, Iowa www.southerniowafair.com (641) 673-7004



Marion County Fair July 14-20

1000 N Lincoln Knoxville, Iowa www.knoxvilleraceway.com (641) 842-5431

Marshall-Central Iowa Fair July 12-15

1308 E Olive St. Marshalltown, Iowa www.centraliowafairgrounds.net (641) 753-3671

Mills County Fair July 7-11

61317 315th St. Malvern, Iowa (712) 624-8616



155th Annual Jackson County Fair

www increasing instruction of the control of the co

July 25-29th, 2023

Tuesday: Kids'Tractor Pull and Barrel Racing **Wednesday:** 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Kid's Day

7:30 p.m. Rice Bull Riding - Horse Arena 8:00 p.m. Solitaryman-Karaoke-BARnyard

Thursday: Freddie Justice Comedy Hypnosis

Deuces Wild Dueling Pianos-BARnyard

Friday: 4H Steak Supper

360 Challenge Midwest Power Series

Jeremy DeWall Band

Saturday: 9:00 p.m. Coyote Wild-BARnyard

Obstacle Challenge Grilling Contest Bean Bag Tournament Car and Tractor show

Children's Barnyard, DSM Inflatables & Rides, Tanzanite Acrobats, Lion's Bingo, 4H Livestock & lots of Food, MN History Teller

Where Friends And Family Gather For Fun!



Mitchell County Fair Aug. 2-6

1006 Chestnut St. Osage, Iowa www.mitchellcountyfair.org (641) 220-4446

Monona County Fair July 11-16

1201-1323 Gaukel Dr. Onawa, Iowa www.mononacountyfair.com (712) 423-2014

Monroe County 4-H & FFA Fair July 27-31

6393 170th St. Albia, Iowa https://monroecountyiafair.com (641) 932-7096

Montgomery County Fair July 17-23

1809 N Fourth St. Red Oak, Iowa www.montgomerycountyiafair. com

(712) 623-5207

Muscatine County Fair July 19-23

101 N Clay St. West Liberty, Iowa www.muscatinecountyfair.com (319) 627-2414

O'Brien County Fair July 22-27

555 Third St. SE Primghar, Iowa www.obriencountyfairiowa.com (712) 957-FAIR

Osceola County Fair July 17-22

209 W Ninth St. Sibley, Iowa https://www.facebook.com/ OscCoFairNWIA (712) 754-3407

Page County Fair July 25-30

Sixth & Grant St. Clarinda, Iowa https://www.facebook.com/ pagecountyfair (712) 542-3873

Palo Alto County Fair July 20-23

2101 Madison St. Emmetsburg, Iowa www.paloaltocountyfair.com (712) 490-6611

Plymouth County Fair July 26-30

500 Fourth Ave. NE Le Mars, Iowa www.plymouthcountyfair.org (712) 546-7835

Pocahontas County 4-H & FFA Fair July 14-16

310 NE First St. Pocahontas, Iowa Site on Facebook

Polk County 4-H & FFA Fair July 15-21

East 30th & University
Des Moines, Iowa
www.polkcountyfairiowa.com
(515) 262-3111

Pottawattamie-Westfair July 27-Aug. 1

22984 Hwy. 6 Council Bluffs, Iowa www.westfairevents.com (712) 322-3400

Pottawattamie County Fair July 19-24

321 Oakland Ave. Avoca, Iowa https://www.facebook.com/ EastPottawattamieCountyFair

Poweshiek County 4-H & FFA Fair July 8 & 11-16

425 East St. S Grinnell, Iowa www.poweshiekcountyfair.org (641) 236-7959

Ringgold County Fair July 11-16

2214 US Hwy. 169 Mount Ayr, Iowa www.ringgoldcountyfair.com

Sac County Fair July 25-29

416 Park Ave. Sac City, Iowa www.saccountyfair.com (712) 660-9756

Scott-Mississippi Valley Fair Aug. 1-6

2815 W Locust St. Davenport, Iowa www.mvfair.com (563) 326-5338

Shelby County Fair July 12-16

314 Fourth St. Harlan, Iowa www.shelbycountyiowafair.org (712) 269-0124

Sioux County Youth Fair July 9-13

701 13th Ave. NE Sioux Center, Iowa www.siouxcountyfair.org (712) 722-4411

Story County Youth Fair July 19-23

220 H Ave. Nevada, Iowa https://sc-fair.weebly.com

Watonwan County Fair

Fairgrounds-St. James, MN. July 13th-16th Check us out at www.watonwancountyfair.com

Thursday, July 13th
J&K Amusement - 4pm
Bingo - 5pm
Teen Dance - DJ Blake - 7pm
Free Movie in the
Grandstand - Dusk
Softball Tour

Friday, July 14th
Tractorkade - meet at 7:30am
J&K Amusement - 4pm
Bingo - 5pm
Tractor & Truck Pull - 6pm
Dart Tournament - 6pm

Band - Fat City All Stars - 9pm

Saturday, July 15th
Softball Tournament - 8am
Butterfield FFA Free Pancake Breakfast 8am
J&K Amusement - noon
Pony Rides
Dart Tournament - 1pm
Ranch Rodeo - 1pm
Bingo - 1pm
Demolition Derby - 5pm
Band - Out of Line - 8:30pm

Fireworks - 10:15pm

Sunday, July 16th
Horse Fun Show - 11am
NMMTPA Mini Tractors 11AM

J&K Amusement - noon

Kids Pedal Pull -12:30 Registration

Kids Medallion Hunt - 3pm Music - Steve Lang - 12:30pm

Sr. Recognition/Farm Family - 1pm

Fair Closes - 4pm

Tama County Fair July 10-16

1217 175th Gladbrook, Iowa (641) 473-3225

Taylor County Fair July 12-16

2719 Linwood Ave.

Bedford, Iowa

https://www.facebook.com/ TaylorCountyIowaFair

(712) 523-2326

Union County Fair July 20-26

211 S Grace St.

Afton, Iowa https://www.unioncountyfairgrounds.com

(641) 347-5272

Van Buren County Fair July 19-24

20493 Hwy. 1 Keosauqua, Iowa www.vanburencountyfairia.com (319) 293-3745

Wapello County **Regional Fair** June 14-18

300 Water St. Eldon, Iowa www.wapellocountyfair.com (641) 652-7521

Warren County Fair July 26-31

1400 W Second Ave. (W Second Ave. is Hwy. 92) Indianola, Iowa www.warrencofair.com (515) 961-5861

Washington County Fair July 16-21

611 Hwy. 1 S Washington, Iowa www.washingtoncountyfairia.com Worth County Fair (319) 653-2552

Wayne County Fair July 24-31

800 Second Ave. Corydon, Iowa www.waynecofair.com (641) 872-1611

Webster County Fair July 12-16

22770 Old Hwy. 169 Fort Dodge, Iowa www.webstercountyfairgroundsia.com (515) 955-3764

Winnebago County Fair **July 13-16**

264 Fairgrounds Dr. Thompson, Iowa www.winnebagocoiowafair.com (641) 584-2011

Midwestern Construction Family Fun, 163 years in the making! welcomes you to the ATV/Motorcycle Barrel Racing Gut-N-Go Derby ompact Car Races For more information go to our websitewww.blueearthcountvfair.org

Winneshiek County Fair July 11-15

900 E Main St. Decorah, Iowa www.winneshiekcountyfair.org (563) 412-1902

Woodbury County Fair Aug. 2-6

206 Fair St. Moville, Iowa (712) 873-3707

June 14-18

1206 Third Ave. N Northwood, Iowa www.worthcountyfair.com (641) 323-7300



Wright County Fair July 12-16

1000 E Broadway Eagle Grove, Iowa www.wrightcofair.com (515) 448-3351

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MARKETING

Grain Outlook

No holiday lull for corn market

The following marketing analysis is for the week ending June 2.

CORN — Despite being a holiday-shortened week, there was enough action in the markets to satisfy everyone! These markets are not for the faint of heart. Corn and soybeans got off to a soft start after Memorial Day weekend, keeping with the tendency

Memorial Day weekend, keeping for lower closes the day after the holiday. The weather looked non-threatening, demand was non-existent, and concern over the debt ceiling issue kept buyers on the sidelines. The weekly crop progress report showed corn planting at 92 percent complete and 8 percent ahead of the five-year average. Corn emergence at 72 percent was well above the average guess of 52 and 63 percent on average. The first corn condition report of the year showed 69 percent of the crop



PHYLLIS NYSTROM
CHS HEDGING INC.
St. Paul

was in good/excellent condition compared to last year's 73 percent on its first report as of June 6. This was the lowest initial rating in the last four years. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as of May 30, 34 percent of the U.S. corn areas are in drought. This was an increase of 8 percent week-on-week.

And in the Black Sea, the United Nations has proposed Ukraine, Russia and Turkey begin to work toward the transit of Russian ammonia through the Ukrainian port of Pivdennyi. Ukraine would like to have more ports and commodities added to the grain agreement. According to reports, shipments of grain out of the approved ports in the grain deal have virtually been shut down due to Russia's failure to register vessels for inspections. Russia continues to threaten to end the grain deal when it expires on July 18 if their needs aren't met.

This week's export sales report was within expectations at 7.3 million bushels for old crop and 12.3 million bushels for new crop. Old sales commitments now total 1.5 billion bushels and continue to run 36 percent behind last year. The USDA is predicting year-on-year exports to be down 28 percent this year. Mexico was the leading buyer of old crop this week with China seeing some switching of sales, but nothing new. We need to average 14.2 million bushels of sales per week to hit the USDA's 1.775 billion bushel outlook. New crop sales commitments are 120.7 million bushels and are nearly half of last year's 224 million bushels by this date. There were no daily

Cash Grain Markets

С	corn/change*		soybeans/change	
Stewartville	\$6.11	+.24	\$13.38	+.35
Edgerton	\$6.52	+.17	\$13.26	+.18
Jackson	\$6.33	+.21	\$13.43	+.33
Норе	\$6.30	+.24	\$13.32	+.31
Cannon Falls	\$6.02	+.15	\$13.23	+.20
Sleepy Eye	\$6.28	+.21	\$13.33	+.26
St. Cloud	\$6.14	+.26	\$13.24	+.31
Madison	\$6.13	+.30	\$12.86	+.08
Redwood Falls	\$6.33	+.25	\$13.33	+.30
Fergus Falls	\$6.08	+.30	\$12.88	+.20
Morris	\$6.10	+.22	\$12.86	+.02
Tracy	\$6.35	+.14	\$13.16	+.09
Average:	\$6	.23	\$13.	20
Year Ago Average: \$7.51			\$16.	62

Grain prices are effective cash close on June 6.
*Cash grain price change represents a two-week period.

export sales flashes during the week.

Weekly ethanol production was up 21,000 barrels per day to 1 million bpd and a six-week high. We continue to run below what is needed to reach the USDA's outlook. Ethanol stocks were up 291,000 barrels at 22.3 million barrels and the second lowest in the last five years.

Gasoline demand fell by 339,000 bpd to 9.1 million bpd. The four-week average gasoline demand is up 3.5 percent from a year ago. The April National Agricultural Statistics Service crush report at 415 million bushels was below the average guess of 423 million bushels.

The June 2 non-farm payroll report was sharply higher than expected with 339,000 jobs added vs. 190,000 estimated. Unemployment, however, rose to 3.7 percent and the highest since October 2022. This may bring up the possibility of the Federal Reserve second-guessing its indication to halt interest rate increases at its next meeting.

Argentina's corn harvest is 43 percent complete according to the Argentina Ag Secretary while the Buenos Aires Grain Exchange puts it at 28.6 percent complete. The three-year average is 55 percent complete.

Outlook: Weather will continue to dominate the headlines and affect corn more than soybeans at this time of year. The National Weather Service's June outlook showed below-average rain for the heart of the Corn Belt with above-average temperatures.

The June World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates report will be released on June 9 and many expect the export line to be lowered. With corn conditions only slightly below last year, the yield may likely be unchanged at 181.5 bushels per acre. Demand has been suspect so any support should be

led by weather, technical considerations, and how large a short funds want to carry. The next big report will be the June WASDE on June 12th and it could be expected to see a cut to exports and an increase in carryout. Also, keep an eye on the outcome from the June 4 OPEC meeting which may include a production cut and have a short-term effect on prices.

December corn traded to its highest since April 27 in a late week rally. For the week, July corn finished a nickel higher at \$6.09 and December was 6.75 cents higher at \$5.41.25 per bushel.

SOYBEANS — The soybeans and products took significant hits in post-holiday trading as they moved to fresh five-month lows in July soybeans and nearly two-year lows in the November soybean contract. The low in the July contract at \$12.70.75 per bushel was the lowest for a lead contract since 2021 as we closed out May. July meal fell to its lowest since August 2022 and July soyoil since April 2021.

There were rumors of Chinese interest after the sell-off, but nothing was confirmed. China's official purchasing managers index was disappointing at 48.8, which indicates contraction. This doesn't bode well for increased demand.

Cheap Brazilian soybeans work into the U.S. southeast. It's been reported that three Brazilian soybean vessels with 120,000 metric tons will be reaching the United States between June 4 and June 11. This would be the largest U.S. importation of Brazilian soybeans since 2021 when we imported 178,000 metric tons.

U.S. soybean planting as of May 30 was 83 percent complete compared to 65 percent on average. Emergence was 56 percent compared to the 40 percent average. According to the USDA as of May 30, 28 percent of the U.S. soybean area is under drought which is an increase of 8 percent for the week. The first soybean condition report is expected on June 5.

Weekly export sales were 4.5 million bushels for old crop and 11.1 million bushels for new crop. The leading old crop buyer was Mexico with nothing for China. Total old crop commitments are 1.87 billion bushels and down 14 percent from last year. The USDA is forecasting year-on-year exports to decline by 7 percent this year. We need to average 8 million bushels of sales per week to achieve the USDA outlook for 2.015 billion bushels of exports. New crop commitments total 104.8 million bushels and are only 24 percent of what we had sold last year by this date. As in corn, there were no daily export sales flashes for the soy complex this week.

The April NASS Oilseed Crush was a record for the month at 187 million bushels when the trade was anticipating 184.8 million bushels. Soyoil stocks were 2.5 billion pounds and nearly as expected. This was a 14-month high and the second highest in 36 months.

14-month high and the second highest in 36 months.

Argentina's soybean harvest is 86 percent complete

See NYSTROM, pg. 15

Farm income levels remained strong in 2022



FARM PROGRAMS

By Kent Thiesse

The University of Minnesota recently reported the average net farm income for southern Minnesota farmers in 2022 was \$311,240. This was the highest average net farm income on record, surpassing the 2021 level of \$280,900.

The very positive net farm income levels from 2020-2022 followed seven years (2013-2019) in a row of sup-par net farm income levels in the region. The 2021 and 2022 net farm income levels in southern and west central Minnesota have been enhanced by robust crop profits resulting from average to above average crop yields and the highest grain market prices since 2012. Livestock profit margins in 2022 in southern Minnesota were mixed and typical livestock profit levels were at much more modest levels than the crop profits.

The Farm Business
Management summary for southern and west central Minnesota is prepared by the Farm Business Management Instructors. This summary includes an analysis of the farm business records from farm businesses of all types and sizes in southern and western Minnesota. This annual farm business summary is probably one of the best gauges of the prof-

FIVE-YEAR FARM BUSISNESS MANAGEMENT COMPARISON (2018-2022)

(Data from the 2022 Southern Minnesota Farm Business Management Annual Report)

Farm Income Data	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Gross Farm Sales	\$759,254	\$771,105	\$830,344	\$967,436	\$1,077,094
Total Farm Cash Expense	\$675,400	\$675,013	\$700,336	\$790,104	\$884,679
Average Net Farm Income	\$ 32,866	\$ 78,167	\$175,216	\$280,900	\$311,240
Median Net Farm Income	\$ 20,655	\$ 36,547	\$102,848	\$176,426	\$177,614
Top 20 Percent Median Net Farm Income	\$158,785	\$242,696	\$401,000	\$620,578	\$728,237
Low 20 Percent Median Net Farm Income	(\$ 79,757)	(\$ 43,183)	\$ 369	\$ 12,706	\$ 13,238
Financial Ratios (Average) Operating Profit Margin	3.2 %	10.1%	20.6%	27.5%	26.2%
Current Ratio	151%	156%	198%	247%	283%
Working Capital/Gross Income Ratio	23.2%	23.8%	32.6%	41.3%	49.4%
Farm Debt/Asset Ratio	49 %	46 %	44%	44%	43%
Term Debt Coverage Ratio	91 %	148%	274%	389%	372%
Crop Data — Corn (Cash Rent Land) Yield/Acre	179	183	206	203	213
Price/Bushel	\$3.48	\$3.75	\$4.04	\$5.36	\$6.29
Gross Revenue/Acre	\$674.25	\$789.72	\$896.62	\$1,107.53	\$1,347.06
Direct and Overhead Costs per Acre	\$731.51	\$745.92	\$735.65	\$791.94	\$967.91
Cost Per Bushel Produced	\$4.08	\$4.08	\$3.58	\$3.90	\$4.55
Net Return Per Acre	(\$57.26)	+\$43.80	+\$160.97	\$315.59	\$379.35
Crop Data — Soybeans (Cash Rent La					
Yield/Acre	54	51	60	61	60
Price Per Bushel	\$8.73	\$8.82	\$10.21	\$12.50	\$14.17
Gross Revenue/Acre (*)	\$588.80	\$538.87	\$664.06	\$767.12	\$852.42
Direct and Overhead Costs per Acre	\$495.13	\$498.27	\$497.51	\$536.18	\$613.82
Cost Per Bushel Produced	\$9.17	\$9.71	\$8.32	\$8.	\$10.28
Net Return Per Acre	+\$93.11	+\$40.60	+\$166.65	\$230.94	\$238.60
Livestock Data — Net Return Over Expairy – Per Cow	penses (\$38)	+\$403	+\$964	+\$208	+\$686
Beef Cow - Per Cow(\$54)(\$223)(\$29)	(\$166)	(\$236)			
Beef Finishing — Per Head	(\$4.19)	+\$1.47	+\$8.03	+\$3.53	+\$42.90
Hog Finishing — Per Cwt.	(\$4.01)	+\$2.53	+\$8.69	+\$6.79	(\$.51)
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Notes: Net returns for crops and livestock are before labor and management charges. Crop net returns include crop insurance and government farm program payments.

(*) Note: The Gross Revenue per Acre for 2019 and 2020 includes fairly high levels of one-time government farm program payments.

Table was developed by Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst





itability and financial health of farm businesses in the region on an annual basis.

Following are some of the key points from the data in the 2022 FBM summary:

Background data

The "Net Farm Income" is the return to labor and management after crop and livestock inventory adjustments, capital adjustments, depreciation, etc. have been accounted for. This is the amount that remains for family living, non-farm capital purchases, income tax payments, and for principal payments on farm real estate and term loans. The average net farm income in 2022 was +\$311,240.

The median net farm income is the midpoint net farm income of all farm operations included in the FBM summary. Half of the farms have a higher net farm income and half have a lower net income. The average median net farm income in 2022 was +\$177,614.

A total of 1,476 farms from throughout south central, southwest, southeast, and west central Minnesota were included in the 2022 FBM Summary. The average farm size was 683 acres. The top 20 percent net income farms averaged 1,667 acres, while the bottom 20 percent net income farms had 205 acres.

Sixty-three percent of the farm operations were cash crop farms, 12 percent were single entity livestock operations, and the balance are various combinations of crop, livestock and other enterprises.

Three hundred fifty-two farms (24 percent) were under \$250,000 in gross farm sales in 2022; 274 farms (18 percent) were between

\$250,000 and \$500,000 in gross sales; 361 farms (25 percent) were between \$500,000 and \$1 million in gross sales; and 489 farms (33 percent) were above \$1 million in gross sales.

In 2022, the average farm business received \$14,606 in government program payments, which includes CRP and conservation payments. This was down considerably from 2021 when the average was \$58,196 in government payments which included many one-time payments related to the Covid pandemic and 2019 crop disaster payments. In addition,

See THIESSE, pg. 15

Some replanting needed, hay is on the horizon



Corey Hanson Gary, Minn. June 2

Since his last report, Corey Hanson was able to finish planting corn pretty quickly, but he stated soybeans went a little more slowly due to rain. He finished on May 28.

"We've been in the blast furnace of 90 degrees plus," Hanson reported on June 2. He's getting his sprayer ready while he waits for the wind and temperature to go down. The cattle have been vaccinated and were sorted into pastures on May 29.

Hanson stated his wheat saw some hail and heavy rain the week prior. Overall, the crops are not looking bad, but he would prefer they get drinks of water as opposed to hard showers. His area has very little subsoil moisture to work with and the more severe

weather impacts the topsoil. He reported fieldwork has been spotty depending on the location of the showers. On one recent occasion, a farm a mile and a half away received three inches of rain while Hanson said he didn't get a drop.

Through Minnesota Soybean, Hanson is looking forward to hand-delivering pairs of soy-based Sketchers to local hospital and nursing home employees. Having distributed the footwear previously, Hanson stated he was "so over-whelmed" by the recipients' appreciation. Thankful for the work of nurses and doctors, he is also glad to give back to the vital housekeepers, cooks, and janitorial staff at the facilities.

On June 20, the Tuesday before Norman County Fair's opening day, Hanson may be seen grilling for the public at Ag Appreciation Night. With water on hand to stay hydrated, he's happy to do it!





On June 1, Nick Pooch spent some time helping a neighbor haul cattle in order to sell his calf crop. Pooch stated there can be thin margins for the cow calf man, and is glad it looks like his neighbor will do well.

Since the last From the Fields update, Pooch's farm has seen rain twice. They received one-tenth of an inch on Memorial Day and two-tenths on May 31. "We're awful dry, though," he stated. Temps have been in the upper 80s/low 90s and wind has been constant. He stated the rain helped, "but it's gonna take more than that."

"We started beans on the 19th and finished on the 24th," Pooch said. He remarked this has been one of the few years they haven't had a wet spot or two to go around, and he

wasn't stuck once with the task of digging mud out of a planter wheel.

The plan is to cut hay next week with hopes of preserving moisture for the following cutting. He has also been scouting his fields. He stated he hasn't found bugs yet, but knows that can change quickly.

Pooch reported 10 days of solid wind has kept them from spraying corn. His brother, Austin, has been getting the sprayer ready for when the winds die down.

With school out, Pooch's son, Blake, and nephew, Dawson, have had extra time to work with their sheep and calves. Their county fair isn't until August, but they plan to attend some open jackpot shows prior to get additional show ring experience.







David Tauer Hanska, Minn. June 1

"We had to replant a lot of corn, but things have dried up nicely," David Tauer reported. His family farm in Brown County received nine inches of rain between May 5 and 13. Sixty acres out of 150 were replanted the week of May 21. As of June 1, Tauer reported the entire new crop has emerged. He's thankful that at least the rework happened early in the season.

On May 29, Tauer stated the farm received six-tenths of an inch of rain. "That's been the only rain since the big event," he commented, adding it was a nice rain and also dried up fast.

The oats are currently about eight inches tall. Tauer stated they started out a little yellow, but are now a little better color. "We need to cut alfalfa," he said of his task on deck. "We'll hopefully start tomorrow or Saturday." From this point forward, Tauer explained they will have crops to harvest fairly continuously into the fall.

What the weather will be is "the golden question," as Tauer put it. He stated the upcoming days hold a chance for rain in his area, but a better chance there won't be. "You just gotta go with it."

The Tauers' vet routinely comes to the farm every two weeks, and had made a visit earlier in the day of June 1. The cows are doing well, and currently, 21 are pregnant. On average they calve about 15 a month this time of year. Beginning in late August through November, they'll calve 40-50 a month. "We stay pretty busy," Tauer concluded.



Jim Hagen Lake Mills, Iowa June 1

Jim Hagen wasn't the only farmer whose soybeans planted on May 10 didn't turn out due to rainfall received later that night. He replanted on May 27 and is waiting for them to emerge.

"Everybody's in the same boat," he stated of the farmers in his area.

With everyone's crops pretty much in now, Hagen said a few people have been cutting hay. So far his crops are looking good, despite not having received any rain since May 10. "I was hoping if I picked rock, I'd get rained on, but it hasn't happened so far," Hagen stated on June 1.

Earlier in the day, Hagen had been spraying corn and reported he's three-fourths of the way done. When the wind is up, he uses the time to deliver loads to the elevator.

Side-dressing nitrogen is coming up on the schedule. Hagen took care of the first half of the application pre-plant and will complete the second half when the corn is about a foot high. He'll also be looking to spray beans, but commented there aren't weeds when there hasn't been moisture. "It's foolish to spray dirt." Hagen has managed to find time to drive a few softball and baseball teams to their away games in the last couple of weeks.

Between him and his wife, Christy, they have five children along with seven grandchildren and another due later in the year. They're spread out over a few different states, including California. A grandson from Florida will be visiting for two weeks over the Fourth of July, which Hagen is looking forward to.

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Livestock profitability won't keep up with crop figures

THIESSE, from pg. 14

the average farm operation received \$7,792 in crop insurance payments in 2022, which was considerably lower than the level of crop insurance payments from 2018-2020. The combination of farm program payments and crop insurance payments accounted for approximately 4.7 percent of the 2022 average net farm income. This compares to 2020, when government payments and crop insurance payments totaled over \$126,000 and made up about 74 percent of the average net farm income

The average family living expense in 2022 was \$71,375, which increased slightly compared to recent years. The average non-farm income in 2022 was \$45,240, which represents about 38 percent of total annual non-farm expenses (\$121,163) by families for family living and other uses.

In 2022, the average farm business spent \$1,281,210 for farm business operating expenses, capital purchases, and non-farm expenses. Most of these dollars were spent in local communities across the region, helping support the area's overall economy.

Farm financial analysis

(Note: Refer to the accompanying table for a five-year (2018-2022) comparison of various average farm-related financial data, as well as average crop and livestock data.)

The average net farm income for southern and west central Minnesota for 2022 was \$311,240, while the median net farm income for the region was \$177,614. This compares to median net farm income levels of \$176,426

in 2021, \$102,848 in 2020, \$36,547 in 2019, and \$20,655 in 2018.

As usual, there was large variation in median farm income in 2022, with top 20 percent profitability farms averaging a median net farm income of +\$728,237, and the low 20 percent profitability farms with an average median net farm income of only +\$13,238.

The variation in 2022 median net farm income also tracked very closely with the gross farm receipts of farms. Farms with \$1 to \$2 million in gross receipts had a median net farm income of +\$433,787, compared to +\$224,828 for farms with a gross of \$500,000 to \$1 million, +\$125,428 for farms with a gross of \$250,000 to \$500,000, and +\$56,528 for farms with a gross of \$100,00 to \$250,000. Interestingly, there was very little difference in the profit margin between the income groups. The \$100,000 to \$250,000 group was at 25.1 percent profit margin, the \$250,000 to \$500,000 group at 28.4 percent profit margin, the \$500,000 to \$1 million group at 27.4 percent profit margin, and the \$1 to \$2 million group at 27.6 percent profit margin.

The average farm business showed working capital of +\$601,008 in 2022, which is three times higher than the average working capital three years ago in 2019. The current ratio (current assets divided by current expenses) for 2022 was 283 percent, which compares to 247 percent in 2022, 198 percent in 2020, and 156 percent in 2019. The working capital to gross revenue ratio for 2022 was 49.4 percent, which is more than double the level in 2018

and 2019. The working capital had declined to concerning levels for many farm operations prior to 2020, before showing significant improvement from 2020-2022.

Another measure of the financial health of a farm operation is the term debt coverage ratio, which measures the ability of farm operations to generate adequate net farm income to cover the principal and interest payments on existing real estate and term loans. If that ratio falls below 100 percent, it results in the farm business being required to use working capital or nonfarm income sources to cover the difference. The average term debt coverage ratio for 2022 was at the healthy level of 372 percent, which compares to average ratios 389 percent in 2021, 274 percent in 2020, 148 percent in 2019, and 91 percent in 2018. However, the low 20 percent profitability farms had a term debt coverage ratio of only 85 percent in 2022.

Any additional cash flow dollars over and above the term debt principal and interest payments earned by farm operation are available for machinery replacement or other capital improvements. In 2022, the average farm had \$224,856 available for those purposes, while high 20 percent profitability farms had \$726,122 available. This helps explain the strong demand for new and used farm machinery, the many plans for grain system improve-

ments, and other farm and non-farm upgrades which have occurred in recent months.

Bottom line...

Overall, net returns from crop operations in 2022 were among the best ever. However, livestock profitability was much more modest. As usual, there was a wide variation in farm profit levels from the top one-third of net farm income operations as compared to other farms.

The overall average financial health of many farm businesses has improved significantly during the period from 2020-2022, after declining for several years due to low profit levels.

Farm profit levels were quite favorable in 2022. However, there are some "caution flags" on the horizon. These include rapidly increasing input expenses and land costs, potential declines in grain and livestock market prices, and lower levels of government payments.

Complete farm business management results are available through the University of Minnesota Center for Farm Management FINBIN Program at http://www.finbin.umn.edu/.

Kent Thiesse is a government farm programs analyst and a vice president at MinnStar Bank in Lake Crystal, Minn. He may be reached at (507) 726-2137 or kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com.

Soybeans see slight turnaround

NYSTROM, from pg. 13

compared to 95 percent on the threeyear average.

China approved Argentina as an origin for corn imports, joining Brazil which was approved in the last several months. Industry association group Airlines for America expects U.S. air travel to serve a record number of passengers this summer which would increase demand for jet fuel and oil. They estimate 257 million passengers will fly from June through August.

Outlook: A technical reversal higher in the soyoil this week lent general support to soybeans. July soybeans traded to their lowest since January 2022 before bouncing late in the week. November soybeans traded to their lowest since August 2021 before the turnaround into the weekend. Into the

weekend, November soybeans managed to string together two higher closes for the first time in a month.

OPEC+ will meet on June 4 and the latest talk is they could cut production by another 1 million bpd. If they would, it could provide short-term support to the energy markets and could spill over to ag commodities.

For the week, July soybeans rallied 15.25 cents to \$13.52.5, and November soybeans fell 5.75 cents to \$11.83.75 per bushel. July soyoil was 68 ticks higher at \$49.50 and July meal was \$4.40 lower at \$397.80.

Weekly price changes in July wheat for the week ended June 2: Chicago wheat eked out a 3-cent gain to \$6.19, Kansas City fell 7 cents to \$8.12.25, and Minneapolis dropped 10.25 cents to \$8.07.75 per bushel.



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Look for the annual Farmfest section coming soon in The Land! Call 507-345-4523 for advertising information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023 @ 5:00 PM LOCATED AT 66856 440TH STREET, ODIN, MN

TRACTORS: JD 8400 MFD, 4,630 hrs., loaded; JD 7930 MFD 2,450 hrs., IVT; Bobcat 310 Skid Steer; IH 300 Utility COMBINE: CIH 1666; 1020 Beanhead & CIH 2206 6-30 Cornhead TRUCKS: 2000 Freightliner Semi, 389,000 miles; '11 Maurer 40' Hopper, like new; '76 Ford L800 20' box & hoist EQUIPMENT: JD 1760 12-30 Planter, loaded: JD 2410 20' Chisel, like new; JD 520 Stalk Cutter; JD 980 36' FC; Fast 9613N Sprayer 60-90 Booms; DMI 527 5sh Ripper; CIH 1830 12-30 Cult; Brent 544 & 640 Gravity Wagons; 4 Gravity Wagons; 4 Augers: Livestock Equip: Honda Foreman 4x4 Wheeler & much much more, very clean line! Online bidding available at equipmentfacts.com or proxibid.com. Only 20 minutes of small items, so be on time!

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For Sale

160 ± acres Farmland • \$2,252,140 Norfolk Twp, Renville Co, MN

151.66 ± acres Farmland • \$1,774,422 South Branch Twp, Watonwan Co, MN

160 ± acres Farmland • \$1,960,000 South Branch Twp, Watonwan Co, MN

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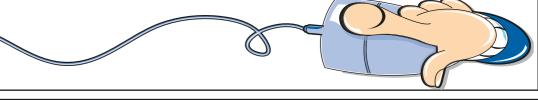
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ONLINE ONLY - FARM EQUIPMENT, LAWN & GARDEN Ending Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:00 pm Load Out: June 22nd between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm Items located at 29424 US Hwy 14, Lamberton, MN Note: Contact James (612-210-3256) for estions on auction items Loader will be available during specified loadout day/times only. Redwood Falls, MN 56283 Office - 507-644-8433 Zac Kerkhoff - 507-829-3924

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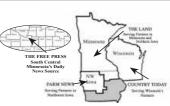
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Kandiyohi Co Farmland Auction Live Auction With An Online Bidding Option Tues., June 20th, 2023 at 11 AM

154.3 +/- Surveyed Acres, 146.31+/- Tillable Acres of High-Quality Farmland Located in Roseland Twp, Kandiyohi Co.

This land is located in the SW 1/4 of Section 23. Twp 117, Range 35 and has an impressive CPI=92.4. (Excludes the building site.)

This land has tile and great road access.

Owners: R & D Land Partners, LLP

Go to FladeboeLand.com for details



Kristine Fladeboe Duininck 320-212-9379 Kristine@FladeboeLand.com Dale Fladeboe, Lic. 34-12 **Award Winning Auctioneers**

FARMLAND AUCTION

381.60 Acres +/- of Bare Farmland in Riverdale Twp., Watonwan Co., MN Friday, June 23, 2023 @ 10:00 AM Auction to be held at the St. James American Legion

620 1st Avenue S, St. James, MN PROPERTY LOCATIONS: From St. James MN: Head E on Co Hwy 27/Hammond Hwy for approx. 3/4 miles, then head N for 3 3/4 miles

PROPERTY LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS: Located in Sections 30 & 31 of Riverdale Township, Watonwan County, MN T107N, R31W

For full flyer, informational booklet and bidding details, visit www.landservicesunlimited.com!

OWNERS: Harold & Jerry Noren Family

AUCTIONEERS AND SALES STAFF

DUSTYN HARTUNG-507-236-7629 KEVIN KAHLER 507-920-8060 ALLEN, RYAN & CHRIS KAHLER, DOUG WEDEL & SCOTT CHRISTOPHER





Kandiyohi Co Farmland Auction Wed., July 26th, 2023 at 11 AM

156+/- Deeded Acres, 151,87+/- Tillable Acres (as per FSA) of Farmland Located in Lake Lillian Twp, Kandiyohi Co

This land has a CPI=89.3, private tile & an excellent outlet.

Legal Description: The NE1/4 except the building site, Section 29, Twp 117, Range 34

Land Location: Take Hwy 7 south of Blomkest east 2 miles to Co Rd 44, go south 1 mile to Co Rd 78 (210th Ave SE), go east 0.5 miles to NW corner of the land. Watch for auction signs.

Owners: The Family of Bernard & Verna Anderson

Go to **FladeboeLand.com** for details



Kristine Fladeboe Duininck 320-212-9379 Kristine@FladeboeLand.com Glen Fladeboe • 651-208-3262 Glen@FladeboeLand.com Dale Fladeboe, Lic. 34-12 **Award Winning Auctioneers**

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PRIME RENVILLE COUNTY **FARMLAND AUCTION**

Live Auction With An Online Bidding Option Wednesday, June 28, 2023 · 11:00 AM

152.68 Surveyed Acres: 149.71+/- Tillable Acres

SW1/4 except building site in Sec 34, Twp 115, Range 36, Emmet Twp, Renville Co.

- CPI=90.7
- · This Land Has Tile & An Outlet
 - Great Road Access
- This Land Has Been Surveyed

We are pleased to present the Gens Land Trust Farmland for sale by auction. This is a rare opportunity to own highly productive farmland located close to Renville, MN. This land has been in the Gens Family for over 100 years. You won't want to miss the rare chance to bid on this top-quality farmland.

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UPCOMING AUCTIONS:

KANDIYOHI CO FARMLAND AUCTION TUES., JUNE 20TH, 2023 - 11 AM

154.3 Surveyed Acres, 146.31+/- Tillable Acres, CPI=92.4, located in Roseland Twp, Kandiyohi Co SW1/4 exc bld site, Sec 23, Twp 117, R 35. This land has tile & great road access. Land Location: At Hwy 71 & Hwy 7 intersection,

take Hwy 71 South 0.5 miles. Watch for signs on the East side of the road. R & D Land Partners, Owners

Russell & Delores Schow Estate

RENVILLE CO FARMLAND AUCTION WED., JUNE 28TH, 2023 - 11 AM

152.68 Surveyed Acres; 149.71+/- Tillable Acres; CPI=90.7, located in Emmet Twp, Renville Co SW1/4, exc bld site, Sec 34, Twp 115, R 36. This land has tile, an outlet & great road access. Land Location: From Renville: Hwy 212 east 2 miles to Co Rd 21, go south for 5 miles, turn west onto 780th Ave, go 0.5 miles to the SE corner of the parcel. **Gens Land Trust, Owners**

CHIPPEWA CO FARMLAND AUCTION MON., JULY 24TH, 2023 - 11 AM

75.44 Surveyed Acres, 68.77+/- Tillable Acres, CPI=93.9, located in Rosewood Twp, Chippewa Co. E1/2 of the NE1/4, exc part, Sec 33, Twp 118, R 40. Land Location: From Montevideo go east on Hwy 7 to 40th Ave SW. Go north on 40th Ave SW 2.5 miles. The land is on the west side of the road.

Underwood Family Farm, Owners

KANDIYOHI CO FARMLAND AUCTION WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023 - 11 AM

156+/- Deeded Acres, 151.87+/- Tillable Acres, CPI=89.3, located in Lake Lillian Twp, Kandiyohi Co. NE1/4, exc bld site, Sec 29, Twp 117, R 34. Watch for more info. Survey in process. Land Location: Take Hwy 7 south of Blomkest east 2 miles to Co Rd 44, go south 1 mile to Co Rd 78 (210th Ave SE), go east 0.5 miles to NW corner of the land.

> KANDIYOHI CO AUCTION FRI., JULY 28TH, 2023 - 1 PM

Family of Bernard & Verna Anderson, Owners

93.72 Surveyed Acres of land located in Burbank Twp, Kandiyohi Co. SW1/4 of the NE1/4 & W1/2 of SE1/4, exc part, Section 29, Twp 122, Range 34.

hunting & wooded recreational land. Great location NW of New London, near Lake Monongalia. Land Location: From Junction of Hwy 71 & Co Rd 9 NE (North of Willmar), go east on Co Rd 9 for 2 miles, turn north on Co Rd 33/52nd St NE, go 1.3 miles to intersection with 240th Ave NE, turn west. The land will be on the north side of the road. Tom Kubesh, Owner

The land includes income producing CRP acres,

2 PARCEL KANDIYOHI CO AUCTION **AUGUST OF 2023**

Beautiful rural building site with an updated and enovated farmhouse, CRP acreage, mature woods and hunting land that overlooks Lake Kasota. This property is located in Kandiyohi Twp, Kandiyohi Co. It has a trail system throughout the land & a stream that runs through it with dynamic topography & diversity. Watch for more information to be coming soon. Drs Lee and Susan Cafferty, Owners

Go to FladeboeLand.com for more details.

For more information contact Kristine at 320-212-9379 or Kristine@FladeboeLand.com Glen Fladeboe 651-208-3262 Dale Fladeboe 320-894-9392



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HUGE HECTOR - BIRD ISLAND, MN AREA LIVE ONSITE W/ONLINE BIDDING FARM RETIREMENT TUES., JUNE 27, 2023 • 10:30 AM

MILE SOUTH ON COUNTY #3 AND 3/10 MILE WEST ON COUNTY 66 (795TH AVE)
NOTE: OUTSTANDING LINE OF CLEAN LOW HOUR FARM EQUIPMENT FROM THIS 3RD GENERATION FARM. EXCELLENT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM. SEVERAL PIECES PURCHASED NEW FROM LOCAL DEALERS. ONLINE BIDDING ON MAJOR PIECES THROUGH PROXIBID POWERED BY MID-AMERICAN AUCTION CO INC. For complete listing, see: midamericanauctioninc.com NOT MANY MISC. ITEMS, MAJOR ITEMS SELL AT 11 AM.

JOHN DEERE TRACTORS, COMBINE & HEADS, GPS EQUIPMENT

08 JD 9430 4WD, 42" RUBBER, DUALS, 18/2 PS., AUTO TRAC READY, 4 HYD., SHOWS 2838 HOURS; 02 JD 8120

MFWD, PS, AUTO STEER READY, 50 INCH REAR RUBBER, DUALS, SHOWS 3484 HOURS; 1990 JOHN DEERE

4555 2 WHL. DR. SG BODY, 3 HYD., QUAD, SHOWING 7065 HOURS; SHARP 2004 JD 9660 STS COMBINE,
RWA, CONTOUR MASTER, JD-ATU, BROWN BOX, SHOWING 3131 ENGINE & 2090 SEPARATOR HOURS; JD

630-F FLEX HEAD, SINGLE POINT HOOK UP; JD 893 CH W/CONVERSION TO 8 R X 22 ROWS, OIL BATH, KNIFE

ROLLS; JD STARFIRE 6000 GLOBE SF1 & SF3; JD 2600 DISPLAY, BASIC AND AUTO TRAC; JD STARFIRE 3000 GLOBE, JD BROWN BOX WITH KEY CARD, AUTO STEER READY

TRUCKS, TRAILERS
05 IH 9200-I TWIN SCREW SEMI TRACTOR, DAY CAB, CUNNINS ISX, 10 SPEED, SHOWS 624,851 MI.; 85 IH
S-1900 TWIN SCREW GRAIN TRUCK, FRONT AX AIR UP AND DOWN, ALLISON AUTO., 22 FT. STEEL GRAIN
BOX, HOIST, SHOWS 136,328 MI.; 96 TIMPTE SUPER HOPPER 40 FT. GRAIN TRAILER; 18 FT. TANDEM AXLE

PLANTING AND TILLAGE
2011 JD DB 44 24 R X 22 INCH CORN PLANTER, CCS SEED DELIVERS, LIQUID, PRO-MAX PLATES, ONE OWN-ER, PLANTED APPROX. 8,000 ACRES; JD 980 44.5 FT. DOUBLE FOLD FIELD CULTIVATOR; JD 2700 9 SHANK DISC RIPPER: JD # 200 45 FT. HYD. FOLD CRUMBLER: SUNFLOWER 27 FT. CUSHION GANG DISC: FLEXICOIL #200 33 FT. FIELD CULTIVATOR; YETTER 46 FT. HYD. FLAT FOLD ROTARY HOE; TEBBEN 12 R X 22 3POINT CULTIVATOR

DRYER, GRAIN VAC SYSTEM, GENERAL FARM EQUIP., FUEL BARRELS & MSC.
FARM FANS 190 CF-AB CONT. FLOW AUTO BATCH DRYER, 2661 HRS.; 4" DMC TRANSFER 700 GRAIN TRANSFER
SYSTEM, 300" +/- OF TUBING; WESTFIELD MKX 13" X 74' SWING HOPPER AUGER; WESTFIELD 10X61 SWING
HOPPER AUGER; WOODS S22 12R X 22 SEMI. MT. STALK CHOPPER; GRAVITY BOXES, COLLECTIBLE EQUIP.,
1000 GAL. FUEL BARREL W/PUMP, 1000 GAL. PROPANE TANK & MUCH MORE



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OUTSTANDING RAYMOND-CLARA CITY, MN AREA LIVE ONSITE WITH ONLINE BIDDING FARM RETIREMENT THURS., JUNE 29, 2023 • 10 AM

Located: 2 MILES WEST OF RAYMOND, MN ON MN STATE HWY 23, THEN 2 MILES SOUTH ON 160TH AVE SE, OR 4 MILES EAST OF CLARA CITY, MN ON MN. STATE HWY 23, THEN 2 MILES NORTH ON 160TH AVE SE TO

FARM # 3040
NOTE: THE MEYERS HAVE FARMED ON THIS FARM 62 YEARS AND HAVE FARMED ONLY 400 ACRES PER YEAR
SINCE 1980. EXCEPTIONAL LINE OF LOW HOUR WELL MAINTAINED FARM EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS AND FARM
SUPPORT ITEMS. SEVERAL PIECES PURCHASED NEW FROM LOCAL DEALERS.
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SHARP LOW HOUR JOHN DEERE TRACTORS, COMBINE & HEADS

2014 JD 6140R MFWD, P QUAD, LH REVERSER, 34" RUBBER, HUB DUALS, INT. AUTO- STEER, ONLY
512 ONE OWNER HRS; 2008 JD 8430T TRACK TRACTOR, P. SHIFT, 4 HYD., 3 PT. CLIMA TRAK, ONLY
3057 HRS SHOWING; 1982 JD 4040, CAB, QUAD, 2 HYD., 46 INC. REAR RUBBER, 4625 HRS SHOWING; JD 5200 TWO WHEEL DR., OPEN STATION, 3 PT. 4006 HRS SHOWING; 66 JD 4020 DSL, OPEN
STATION, SYNCHRO, 3500 HRS ON NEW ENGINE, SOLD WJD 48 ALL HYD. LOADER; 04 JD 9660
STS COMBINE, CONTOUR MASTER, SINGLE POINT HOOK UP, BROWN BOX WITH KEY CARD, AUTO
TRAC, FIELD DOC, HARVEST DOC, MAPPING, JD AUTO TRAC UNIVERSAL STEERING 200, SHOWS
3110 ENGINE & 2123 SEPARATOR HRS. EXC. COND.; 14 JD 608C 8 R X 30 STALK MASTER CHOPPING
CH, SINGLE POINT HOOK UP; 05 JD 630F HYDRA FLEX HEAD, POLY DIVIDERS, SINGLE POINT HOOK
UP; KILLBROS 30 FT. LOW PROFILE HEADER TRAILER

10 JD 2210 30FT. FIELD CULT., 61 SHANIK, 200 LBS SHANIKS, 2 BAR HARROW, ROLLING BASKETS,
ONE OWNER; 18 JD 2410 16 FT. TRUE DEPTH CHISEL PLOW, 7 IN. KNOCK ON SWEEPS, ONE OWNER,
EXC. UNIT; JD 3710 7 BOTTOM VARIABLE WIDTH PT ON LAND PLOW; 12 JD 1760 MAX EMERGE XP
12 R X 30 PLANTER, LIQUID, ROW CLEANERS, JD 350 MONITOR, ONE OWNER, HAS PLANTED LESS
THAN 2000 ACRES; FRIESEN 2 BOX TITAN 2 SEED TENDER, POLY CUP AUGER; 09 HARDI MODEL
2200 - 600 GALLON SPRAYER, 60 FT. BOOMS; JD 12 R X 20 GROP CULTIVATOR;
PLUS MORE

GENRAL FARM EQUIPMENT & BINS

GENRAL FARM EQUIPMENT & BINS

(2) EZ TRAIL 3400 GRAVITY BOXES ON EZ TRAIL HD GEARS, EXT. POLES, 22.5 RUBBER; JD # 200 7FT.

3 PT. DISC MOWER, ONE OWNER: 13 WOODS 8 FT. SNOW BLOWER; WESTFIELD 10 X 61 AND 8 X
51 SWING HOPPER AUGERS; 6 MOSTLY SIOUX GRAIN BINS FROM 3200 TO 15,000 BUSHEL, SIOUX
10,000 BUSEL DRYING BIN, UNLOADING AUGERS, SWEEPS AND BIN ACCESSORIES; FLAT RACKS,
WAGONS, TANKS, LARGE AMOUNT OF GOOD TOOLS, SHOP EQUIPMENT AND MISC. ITEMS

TRUCKS, ATV'S, GPS EQUIPMENT

86 GMC TWIN SCREW W/ 20 FT. STEEL BOX & HOIST, 72,452 MILES SHOWING; 75 FORD F 880 TWIN
SCREW, 20 FT. STEEL BOX & HOIST, 72,501 MILES SHOWING; IH F 2010 TWIN SCREW, 16 FT. FLAT
BED, (2) 1200 GALLON POLY TANKS, TRANSFER PUMP; BIG TEX 83 IN. X 16 FT. TANDEM FLAT BED,
RAMPS: 2022 JD STARFIRE 6000 GLOBE, SF3, PRUCHASED NEW, NEVER USED; (2) JD STARFIRE
3000 GLOBES, SF1, JD BROWN BOX WITH KEY CARD-AUTO TRAK; JD 6 X 4 DIESEL GATOR, 552
HOURS; 13 HONDA RANCHER 4 WHEELER 515 HOURS.

PLUS: COLLECTIBLE ORGAN, HOUSEHOLD AND HUGE AMOUNT OF MISC. ITEMS



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TAKING CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION FOR: **SUMMER CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**

BIDDING ENDS: TUESDAY, JULY 18TH

55780 St Hwy 19, Winthrop, MN

Advertising deadline is June 19th

Auctioneer, Matt Mages: 507-276-7002

Auction Manager, Maria Miller: 507-441-5496

Office: 507-647-3800

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HUGE UPSALA, MN AREA LIVE **ONSITE WITH ONLINE** BIDDING FARM ESTATE



FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023 • 10 AM

Located: 1.6 MILES SW OF UPSALA, MN ON COUNTY RD # 230, THEN 1.7 WEST ON AARDVARK RD. OUTSTANDING AUCTION FEATURING WORKING AND COLLECTIBLE MASSEY HARRIS & JD TRAC-TORS, WORKING & COLLECTIBLE FARM EQUIP., VEHICLES, COLLECTIBLES & MUCH MORE.

ONLINE BIDDING ON MAJOR ITEMS THROUGH PROXIBID. FOR COMPLETE LISTING SEE: midamericanauctioninc.com, MAJOR ITEMS SELL AT 11:30 AM

• WORKING AND COLLECTIBLE TRACTORS, SKID LOADER, VEHICLES • • TRACTORS ARE SHEDDED AND IN RUNNING COND. ORIGINAL AND OLDER RESTORATIONS • 83 MF 285 W/4220 ONE OWNER HOURS, 81 MF 2705 W/2355 ONE OWNER HOURS, MASSEY HARRIS COLLECTION INC. 30 ROW CROP, 30 STANDARD, 20, 22, 44 W/ WF, 55 W/WF, 56 333, JD 630, JD 530, JD 40, 37 B, NICE 57 FARMALL 350, CASE 1840 SKID LOADER, 1620 HRS, JD 3 POINT FOR 530-630,

JD 40, 37 B, NICE 57 FARMALL 350, CASE 1840 SKID LOADER, 1620 HRS, JD 3 POINT FOR 530-630, MH MOUNTED CULTIVATORS, VERY CLEAN 79 CHEV CAPRICE W/124,000 MILES, 95 FORD F-150 XLT 4 x 4 PICKUP, 96 FORD F-150-4 X 4, 81 ABU 20 FT. PT UTILITY TRAILER LIKE NEW PLUS MORE.

• WORKING FARM EQUIPMENT •

H&S 235 SPREADER, NH 352 GRINDER MIXER, INLAND SNOW BLOWER, JD 800 WINDROWER, JD 336 BALER WITH EJECT., NH 268 BALER, NICE H&S 235 MANURE SPREADER, (2) NH 256 RAKES, IH 10 FT. DRILL, JD 56 4RW PLANTER, HARROWS, PLOWS, AND MUCH MORE

• COLLECTIBLE FARM EQUIPMENT & ANTIQUES •
EXCELLENT MCCORMICK 22 INCH THRESHING MACHINE, CASE A6 COMBINE, SEVERAL JD PLOWS, JD GRAIN BINDER, IH #7 & #9 SILAGE CUTTERS, JD 290 PLANTER, NEW IDEA SHREDDER, MH 333 PEDAL TRACTOR, FIREARMS, HUGE AMOUNT OF RELATED & MISC. ITEMS.



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Look for the County Fair Guide in today's edition of The Land!

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June 9, 2023 June 23, 2023 July 7, 2023

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This week's Back Roads is the work of The Land Correspondent Tim King. Photos by Jan King.

Love on the lakes



e'd highly recommend a visit to the Legacy of the Lakes Museum and Gardens if you're in, or near, Alexandria, in central Minnesota. Locals call it "The Boat Museum" but beautiful wooden boats of many sizes are just the glue that holds a

large, multifaceted historical display about Minnesotans love affair with our lakes over the last century and a half.

When we visited, the first thing we saw upon entering the large, spacious, multi-roomed dis-

play area was a temporary exhibit of vintage photos and text which told the story of generations of Minnesotans going to a summer lake cabin or resort. The exhibit is one of several that will rotate through the museum this year.

Further into the museum hall are sleek and gleaming cedar strip boats made by a number of Minnesota's wooden boat builders.







Among them is the 21-foot six inch cedar Garbo built by Dodge boats in 1930. The Garbo was powered by an eight cylinder 150 horse power engine.

Minnesota's boat builders didn't just make boats for the wealthy, however.

"The early boats were clearly meant to be rowed to their destination or pulled to their hot fishing spot by a launch owned by the resort. They would

them off, one at a time, and then come back at the end of the day to retrieve them," one of the museum's many interpretive displays explains.

Wander through the exhibits, from room to room and you'll

form a chain of boats and drop

from room to room, and you'll learn about the transition from row boats to out-

row boats to outboard motors and the role Minnesota boat makers played in the transformation from wooden boats to the less expensive mass produced aluminum and fiberglass craft.

Most museum tours are self-guided and it's easy for the

casual visitor to be overwhelmed.

"A good way to start is to just take in the first room completely before moving on to the others," Kaci Johnson, the museum's communications and programs director said. Some of the children's programing is designed to help young visitors take away bite-sized bits of learning.

"We provide activity sheets to visiting kids

and to school tours that come in," Johnson said. "The younger kid's version includes a scavenger hunt, boat part identification, and signal flag activity for out in our garden. The older kids' version is similar, but more difficult."

Learn more about the museum and view a calendar of summer activities at legacyofthelakes.org. The museum phone is (320) 759-1114.



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FarmFest, August 1st-3rd, Booth #1016
Meeker County Fair, August 2nd-6th
Sibley County Fair, August 2nd-6th
Renville County Fair, August 9th-11th
Kandiyohi County Fair, August 9th-12th
Brown County Fair, August 9th-13th
McLeod County Fair, August 17th-20th
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