

LEHI FFA PRESENTS

BAR J WRANGLER

February 20, 2011 @ Thanksgiving Point Show Barn.

Tickets can be purchased at Lehi High School or on-line at www.lehiffa.org. Lehi High School 180 North 500 East, Lehi, Utah

801-610-8805 ~ 8:00 am -2:30 pm



Bar J Wranglers - left to right:

Bryan Humphrey, Donnie Cook, Danny Rogers, Tim Hodgson, Scott Humphrey

“Some folks call it a western music show; some call it a stand-up comedy show with masterful cowboy music; others call it the best musical experience in the west. - a time of the singing cowboy.”



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Lehi Orem Provo

Dec/Jan 2011-12

The Lehi Ag Journal

DEC/JAN 2011-12



How “Utah’s Own” is helping keep agriculture at home. pg. 6



Lehi FFA members at their best!

Curtis Holbrook, a good friend and member of the Lehi FFA, and a special needs student at Lehi High School is a wonderful agriculture advocate. Third generation farmer, Curtis, loves to help his dad out on their farms in Cedar Valley and Lehi. On his farms, he helps grow wheat, safflower, and hay. We asked Curtis what he likes to do around the farm, he replied, "I help dad with watering the crops, and plant the safflower fields, and be with my dad on the combine." When asked if he wanted to become a farmer when he grew up he was quick to answer, "Yes!"

Curtis not only helps out on the farm, but he promotes agriculture in a much different way. He does not let his challenges stop him from doing what he enjoys - helping dad on the farm. He also loves to share with others about his farm and how he helps his family run their farm. Through his excitement, you can see the true passion and love he has for what his family does.

Curtis loves to play with his neighbor's goats and horses. He loves to tease the goats by pulling on their horns. During the off season of farming, he loves to go snowmobiling, four-wheeling, and going to Disneyland with his family. Last year Curtis was lucky enough to attend the schools choir tour to California, where he visited Disneyland again. He loves Minnie Mouse and his favorite Disney movie is Fox and the Hound. He is very involved in the activities that are going on at Lehi High School and also the FFA club.

As we can see, Curtis is a different kind of farmer with a love for agriculture and is the sweetest farmer you will ever meet. He puts love into everything that he helps grow.

By Addison Beck and Adair Hodgson

Agricultural stock outlook

Over the past years, agricultural products such as, corn and wheat prices have changed drastically. As the population of the world has grown, demands for corn and wheat have gone up and down, depending on the amount available. In years past, the demand for corn was very volatile, as it is today. In 2011, the going rate for a bushel of corn is down on the stock market at a (- 9'4). This indicates farmers that produce corn are not getting the price they deserve

for the corn they produce. Statistics shows that in July 2014, the demand for corn in the United States will be up. It shows the average at a (+3'20). This helps farmers to make more of a profit, but costs the average person a little more than normal corn.

In addition to corn, the wheat prices have had a affect on agriculture. In 2011, the exchange shows that the stock of wheat is down at a (- 12'4). This does not appear good. However, looking ahead at the going rate

for wheat, it is estimated to be around a (-4'4) in 2014. This is showing some hope for wheat producers. By August of 2014, it is projected to go up in value. Just like corn, depending on the demand of quality and quantity available, determines the stock value and prices in stores for these products. *Information was provided from the CME group.*

By Rachele Johnson and Bret Broadhead

Keeping it here at home. Utah's Own!

Here in Utah, we have awesome products, called Utah's Own. When people purchase these products that are locally produced or grown, it helps build Utah's economy. Spending a dollar on a Utah product creates the effect of adding \$4.00-\$6.00 to our economy as well as, helping out the economy. It enhances our environment.

Utah's Own was developed to create a buyers culture by choosing Utah products at retail stores or anywhere else consumers shop. Utah's Own is a variety of products, produced and grown here in Utah. There are many benefits when you purchase Utah's Own products. When you purchase Utah's Own products, you contribute back to your local economy. If you purchase Utah's Own products your money goes back into Utah.

You also are helping your friends and neighbors maintain employment. You can help amplify our tax base as well. You are getting the best quality products because it is all produced here in Utah. You can help maintain a safer food supply because it's all natural. You can keep our heritage here in Utah up and kicking.

The land here in Utah is considered our heritage. We produce and grow things on the land that support our loved ones, careers, and our way of living.

Final and one of the most important, you help maintain food security for your families, friends and neighbors. Utah's Own products are available at many different stores here in Utah. Fresh Market, Dan's, Dick's, Lin's, Macey's, Harmon's, and Smiths are some of the few places that carry Utah's Own products. Meadow Gold is also a Utah's own product as well as Aggie Ice Cream is a Utah's Own product. Utah's Own is also involved with our local farmers markets. Lets keep Utah's agriculture alive by purchasing from local producers.

Look for the image above on products at your local grocery stores to know if it's a Utah's Own product. You can get more information about Utah's Own at utahsown.utah.gov.



By Sabreena Rasmussen and Jake Harper

Highways through farms



With the recent road construction in Lehi, farmland has been used to create new roads. Pioneer Crossing, a recent road construction is widely used, as it allows easier access through towns and quicker routes to main highways. With all this development, farmers are concerned about losing their land without being compensated for the land lost in the construction of new highways. The lost of land that farmers are seeing are con-

cerning and alarming to the safety of their animals and crops. New speed limits and lack of maintenance on the highways have farmers spending more money and time on using chemicals to keep their crops free from unwanted pests and diseases, as well as money and time on maintenance and repair of fences.

The affects of the new road development have not only hit the local farmers, but all the local producers and grocers in Lehi. Businesses on Lehi Main Street are feeling the effects from the road construction. Cliff Kohler, a local grocer, sells his own produce in a local grocery store on Lehi Main Street. He is concerned that he will lose business because of the relocating of traffic. Moving the majority of people onto new highways diverts them from experiencing agriculture in their town.

Developing new highways keeps roads less congested and safe, allows a person to travel and arrive at their destinations faster. However, with the ever-increasing population, we cannot allow them to take away our precious farmland for the expense of allowing someone to travel and arrive at their destination faster. We must look at other alternatives. We must look at the big picture and see the detrimental effects we are creating for our local farmland, which is the provider of all the food and fiber that sustains the world.

By Kimberly Hanks and Emily Webb



Dive into specialty animal production

K and J Fur Farms, a local farm in Lehi. They are not your ordinary farm. K and J is a family owned business, started by Kim Beckstead. The Farm has been going for 29 years raising mink - Mahogany and Black. The mink are fed a mix of full turkey, full fish, full chicken and other proteins that are ground up into a mash. "The feed looks like the maple bar frosting on doughnuts," says Brandon Beckstead. They feed the mink twice a day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. They feed 11-12 lbs a day, or 60-70 thousand lbs a month. In the summertime, they can water their mink up to four times a day if the temperatures get hot enough. The mink are bred in the beginning to mid of March. Through the month of May is when they deliver the babies. Each mink can have up to five babies, which are called kits. By the end of the delivery season, the ranch averages out to having 17,000 new kits. Throughout the months of June and July they separate each new kit into their designated cages. They put two mink, a male and a female, in each cage. This is done because it encourages the mink to exercise more and keeps the fur cleaner. Towards the end of July, they take all the Kits and give them their vaccinations, these include botulism,

distemper, enteritis, and, if needed, pneumonia. In October, they clean the cages and In November, they run blood tests of each mink to check for a certain disease called Aleutian. Aleutian lies dormant in the infected mink until stress or injury brings it out. The result is renal failure, bone marrow suppression, once they contract it they die in a few months. The disease is transferred through body fluid. It can lie on an object for two years and still be contagious. This is a big problem in fur farms around the United States. K and J Farms are getting rid of the disease slowly by finding the ones that have the disease. This makes it easier to decide which few mink will be used for next years breeding season.

The farm then grades the mink. This is when they examine the mink's fur for the size and quality of the pelt. They divide the mink into different grades. They save the healthiest and best colored mink to breed. Towards the end of November they harvest the mink for their pelts (fur). On average, the ranch harvests around 12 hundred pelts a day. They sell the mink pelts in a bundle depending on the grade of the pelt. Each bundle varies in number pelts depending on where they were harvested. Each pelt that is with the bundle is counted for

and priced as an individual. The average price per pelt is about \$100 a male, and \$70 dollars a female. The price is different because of size; the males are generally larger.

In January, a semi comes to haul the pelts to Seattle, where they are processed and cleaned before each sale. The black colored sale in March, and the mahogany color sells in May, China is the largest market for mink fur. Once they are all hauled to Seattle and sold, the cycle begins again for the next year.

We would like to thank K and J farms for giving us a tour of their farms and Brandon Beckstead for the valuable information. We where fortunate enough to a very insightful interview. We learned a lot about the benefits and new technologies used for safety and efficiently.



By Taylir Hutchings and Tommy Smith

Dixie Six, not your ordinary rodeo

By Cody Franson & Tyler Goodman



are dances every weekend on Friday. On the second weekend, there is a prom for the cowgirls and cowboys called "Cowboy Prom." It's all a blast no matter if competing or hanging out. This past weekend was the final two days of the Utah High School Rodeo Association Dixie Six. The Lehi Longhorns rodeo club had very good success.

It gave many of our cowboys and cowgirl a better chance at making silver state and nationals this coming spring at state finals. We talked to one of the cowboys, Wyatt Caldwell, who participated all three weeks. His events are steer wrestling, team roping, and calf roping. We asked him what he enjoyed most about this year in St. George. His response was, "I enjoyed coming down here to hang out with my buddies and to rodeo. I think the cowboy

prom was probably one of my most favorite things down here this year ... I also enjoyed competing and adding more points to my events."

All together, the cowboys and cowgirls totaled up near 300 points in all at this year in St George. This is something they will not forget, because this is the biggest point earning towards state finals in June. The top five point earners from Lehi Longhorns (Cowboys): Dustin Pace, Wyatt Caldwell, Cody Franson, Cooper Martin, and Garrett Walters. Top five point earners from Lehi (Cowgirls): Ashley Allen, Shaylee Thacker, Danielle Pace, Brinkley Phillips, and Jaylynn Gourdin.



The Dixie Six is held in St. George over a three week period through the month of November. All high school rodeo cowboys and cowgirls attend three rodeos a week. What makes the Dixie Six different from the rest is the point system. The whole season you can hit about 17 rodeos in the fall to get point for State Finals, but the last six of those rodeos is the place you can accumulate the most points towards State Finals in the spring.

It is the last rodeo before the April rodeos. There

Calendar of Events

School Winter Events

- Bear Hugs for Christmas: Dec 17 @ 7 am at Lehi High
- Animal Lab Washday: Dec 29 & Lehi High School
- Christmas Break: Dec 19-Jan 1
- January 22 County Steer tagging in Spanish Fork from 9-9:30 am
- FFA Night Skiing: Saturday Jan 29 at Brighton Ski Resort 4-9 pm

Community Winter Events

- Drop & Shop: Dec 17 & Lehi Legacy Center from 9-12:30 am
- Lehi Silver Band Christmas Concert: Dec 21 @ 7 pm at the Lehi Arts Council
- Library closed Dec 24, 26,31, Jan 2
- Winter Workshop will begin Jan. 23. Registration is now available online @ www.lehi-ut-gov

By Jesse Ririe & Cody Kirkham

Sustaining our communities



Farmers around America are reaching out around the world to end world hunger. With help from Heifer International, a non-profit organization whose goal is to end world hunger and poverty in a sustainable fashion, they are working hard every day to teach people how to grow their own food through giving livestock, seeds, trees and extensive training for those in need. The Lehi FFA Chapter and many FFA chapters around the state are taking a stand and are asking the public to help Utah farmers by helping others in the community that are in need of food, many FFA chapters around the state participate in the Food For America Program where they go and teach the youth around the communities how they too can grow their own food.

"Although we do not know what people are going through, American farmers find a challenge and go at it head on, striving to accomplish it in the end," said Kip Tom, a 3rd generation farmer of Indiana and a board member of the Farm Journal Agricultural Foundation. Kip is helping by being one of the leading producers for a national seed production supply chain. American farmers have taken a stand to help people all around to learn how to grow their own food and to feed themselves so they do not have to worry about where their next meal is coming from. They are actively teaching the people that food does not just come from the store; they are also teaching people that striving to end world hunger cannot be done without everyone's help.

The earth's human population of 6.8 billion is estimated to reach 9 billion by 2050. At the rate we are growing in size and the amount of land we are taking up to sustain our growing population we will soon run out according to the Farm Journal Foundation. American farmers are researching and finding new ways to

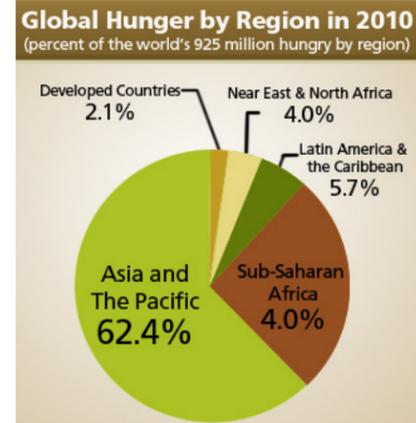
increase our crop production and yield.

On average, a single American farmer feeds about 150 people a day. This is much higher than the 46 people a day in the 1960s. We are feeding 20 percent of the world on 10 percent of the land. (farmersfeedingtheworld.org, 2010) Increasing the numbers of crop production allows the United States to be who we are and is leading the way as an American ideal. "So little can do so much," says James Morris, an honorary co-chair of the Alliance to End World Hunger, and also the president of Pacer Sports and Entertainment. By being the president of Pacer Sports and Entertainment he has the media aspect to advertise and let the world know of the growing problem of world hunger. Richard G. Lugar, Indiana State Senator said, "Farmers lead by producing safe food, this will rally the agriculture industry which then later on helps fight hunger." By producing safe food we are encouraging others to create safe food for themselves.

"Many people around this nation want to help fight world hunger but just do not know how. This is a serious problem in our society," says Kip Tom. You too can make a difference and change the lives of people all around you. You too can help end world hunger by donating to the local food bank, donating to the people in need in your

community, and teaching those around you how to grow their own food. For more information on feeding the world go to www.farmersfeedingtheworld.org and be a small part that makes a large impact on America.

By Addison Beck



FARMERSFEEDING THE WORLD