



The Minnesota Cattlemans

The Official Newspaper of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association®

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MSCA hosts annual convention

Willmar, Minnesota – Around 260 attendees gathered at the Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention at the Willmar Conference Center on Dec. 9-10. Members of the cattle community came together for an educational event filled with networking, policy discussion and entertainment. Attendees also had the chance to view the trade show and participate in a silent and live auction.

The convention kicked off Dec. 9 with the Cow/Calf Council meeting led by Rachel Gray. Eric Zeltwanger of Morris was elected as the new Cow/Calf Council chairman.

Dr. Kristina Porter, a veterinarian from Huron, South Dakota, presented on low stress

cattle handling during the Cattlemen's Educational Series. Dr. Porter has worked alongside members of the Beef Reproduction Task Force to develop synchronization protocols for the industry and was given their "Service to Industry Award" in 2022 for her contributions.

Multiple leaders from the cattle industry addressed members during lunch, including National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President Don Schiefelbein; Minnesota Cattle Women's Association (MNCW) President Michelle Mouser; American National Cattlemen's Association President Reba Mazak; and U.S. Meat Export Federation Vice President John Hinners.

The Feeder Council meeting led by Angie Ford followed lunch. Josiah Ebeling of Trimont was elected to serve as the new Feeder Council chairman.

Jackson Neil, a growth manager from Performance Livestock Analytics, presented during the meeting. Neil grew up in Northfield on a Hereford cow/calf operation.

He relocated to the Sioux Falls, South Dakota area in the fall of 2020 when he started working for Performance Livestock Analytics. In his role, he is responsible for growth and advancement of Performance Beef and Cattle Krush in southern Minnesota and western Iowa.

Kooima Kooima Varilek Trading President Brad Kooima provided a market outlook during the afternoon. He has been a commodity broker for over 40 years and has been feeding cattle since 1974.

He is a member of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association Feedlot Council, the NCBA Working Group, as well as the six-member subgroup responsible for writing the NCBA policy requiring an increase in negotiated cash trade.

Best of Beef Banquet

The Best of Beef Banquet included dinner, an award ceremony, entertainment and a live auction. The best of the best in Minnesota's cattle industry were recognized during the banquet.

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) recognized the 2022 top recruiters. MSCA top recruiters are advocates of the MSCA,

and because of their hard work and dedication, MSCA is able to continue with the work the organization does for the Minnesota cattle community.

Paul Boyum, Pat Verly, Anna Haas and Mark Malecek were recognized as the MSCA 2022 Top Recruiters.

Josephine Jenson was recognized as the recipient of the 2022 Dennis Bottem Memorial Scholarship, and Sydney Pankonin was recognized as the recipient of the Reid Mason Memorial Scholarship.

Mike Landuyt was announced as the 2022 Cattlemans of the Year for his continued leadership in the beef industry on the state and national levels.

The 2022 Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award was awarded to Minnwest Bank for their substantial contribution to Minnesota's cattle community.

The Best of Beef Banquet closed with entertainment by

Jerrid Sebesta and a live auction. Sebesta is the director of business development at Taatjes Financial Group in Willmar. He has worked as a long-time TV meteorologist, most recently at KARE11 in the Twin Cities.

Sebesta has keynoted over 150 events to audiences ranging from teachers to farmers to corporate executives, and he has a weekly radio show called "True Wealth Radio" on KWLM in Willmar and hosts a podcast called "Retire Repurposed".

The MSCA would like to extend a thank you to all of the convention sponsors, including MNCW, Datamars Livestock, American Foods Group, Ag-Country Farm Credit Services, NCBA, Minnesota Beef Council, Minnesota Corn Growers, Merck Animal Health, Form A Feed and the Minnesota Farm Bureau.

MSCA

MSCA is a grassroots organization consisting of over 20 local cattlemen's groups, providing the greatest opportunity for producer input and policy recommendations

MINNESOTA STATE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
DISTRICT MAP & LOCAL AFFILIATES

1. Central Minnesota Cattlemen
2. Cottonwood Cattle Producers
3. Three Rivers Cattlemen
4. Fillmore County Cattlemen
5. Freeborn County Cattlemen
6. Glacial Ridge Cattlemen
7. Houston County Cattlemen
8. Le Sueur County Area Cattlemen
9. Midwest Cattlemen
10. Minnesota Cattlemen
11. Mississippi Valley Cattlemen
12. Mower County Cattlemen
13. Murray County Cattlemen
14. Northwestern Stockmen
15. Redwood Area Cattlemen
16. Rock-Hobbs Cattlemen
17. Snake River Cattlemen
18. South Central Cattlemen
19. Southwest Cattlemen
20. Tri-County Cattlemen
21. Wabasha County Cattlemen
22. West Central Cattlemen
23. Pipestone Cattlemen

Minnesota State Cattlemen's members, did you know you can pay your local affiliate dues online? Use the link below to renew your membership for the state and local association!

<https://www.mnsca.org/become-a-member/membership-application>



Jerrid Sebesta provided entertainment during the Best of Beef Banquet.



National Cattlemen's Beef Association President Don Schiefelbein spoke during the welcome ceremony on Dec. 9.

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NEWS - TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

See page 11 for more convention news



KAITLYN ROOT
Executive Director
Office: 763-479-1011

Hello members!

I am excited to be working in my new role as executive director of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA), and I am looking forward to what this position will bring.

A little bit on my background; I grew up in Watkins, Minnesota where I attended Eden

Valley Watkins High School. Although I do not come from a cattle background, I was raised helping out on my family's crop farm and always knew I wanted to find a role in the ag community.

My passion for the beef industry really kicked in while I was attending North Dakota State University (NDSU) and learning more about the negative image the beef industry is unfortunately often given in the media. I was constantly seeing misinformation about the beef industry being shared with consumers.

I knew I could use my voice and passion for ag to help share the true story of the work farmers and ranchers do. I view farmers and ranchers as some of the best stewards out there, and I am aware they need to conserve their land in order to

continue operating.

Conservation, environmentalist and sustainability may be new, fancy terms we see portrayed all over in the media, but farmers and ranchers have been the true stewards of the land for hundreds of years. I am proud to represent an industry made up of farmers and ranchers.

After graduating from NDSU with a bachelor's in ag communication and a minor in animal science, I moved out to Wyoming.

I spent the past year working as an editor for the Wyoming Livestock Roundup newspaper in Casper, Wyoming. Although I enjoyed my time out west, I am glad to be back home and am looking forward to working with the cattle community in Minnesota.

These first couple of weeks with the MSCA have been edu-

cational to say the least!

My first week was spent preparing for and attending the Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention in Willmar, where I had the opportunity to meet many of you. Although it was a busy week, I enjoyed learning more about policy and meeting members, and I feel that attending the convention gave me a glimpse of the MSCA in action.

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you, and I can't wait to see where we can take this organization in the next couple of years. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with questions, concerns, new ideas or just to chat!

You can contact me via email at kaitlyn@mnsca.org or by calling the office at (763) 479-1011.



MARK PANKONIN
President

Greetings to producers, associates and friends of the cattle industry. My name is Mark Pankonin. I would like to take this opportunity to further introduce myself.

I was fortunate to have been born into a family farming operation in southwestern Minnesota and raised by parents who were actively involved in their local and state beef associations.

As I reflect back to my

thoughts and perspective from my early adolescence, I am disappointed as to how naive those thoughts were. What I thought farming consisted of back then was a lot of hard work with tasks that would never end. The feeling of working without purpose has now become an occupation and lifestyle I continue to grow more passionate about every sunset and every season.

Beyond the day-to-day involvement with chores and farming activities from age eight to 18, I also took advantage of opportunities through 4-H and FFA to broaden my laboring and leadership skills.

Folks, we (production agriculture) are becoming a smaller percentage of the population every generation. We need to take time to reflect and appreciate

Pankonin ...
continued on page 3



ANGIE FORD
MSCA Membership Director
and Chair of Industry Relations

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Let me repeat that for those people in the back...membership is the lifeblood of our organization! At the September 2022 board meeting, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) President Grant Breitkreutz appointed me as your membership director and chair of industry relations.

In this role, I am tasked with growing our membership and strengthening our relationships with industry supporters across the state and nation.

As you may know, there is strength in numbers; that said, my goal is to double our producer membership by the 2023 convention. In the state of Minnesota, we have over 15,000 cattle producers of all sizes from all sectors of the beef cattle industry.

Our current membership is less than six percent of this overall total. If we look at what this organization has done to support local producers when it comes to legislative wins at the state capitol, imagine what we could do with 20 percent of the producers backing our fight.

Ford ...
continued on page 14



RACHEL GRAY
MSCA Vice President

Greetings from northern Minnesota. I hope you all are staying warm.

Over the past few months, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) has had the opportunity to work on a

grant which was submitted by Virginia Tech to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) called RIPE, which stands for Rural Investment to Protect our Environment.

We know that as farmers and ranchers, the environment is on our minds every day and as a board, we decided to lend our voice to this project proposal. What started as a grant proposal submitted to the USDA has turned into the grant being funded and Minnesota along with North Dakota, Virginia and Arkansas being selected as pilot states for the program.

Gray ...
continued on page 15



ERIC ZELTWANGER
Cow/Calf Council Chair

Hello fellow cattlemen,

My name is Eric Zeltwanger, but many people just call me "Z". I am from west central Minnesota, just south of Morris.

I have been active in the West Central Cattlemen's organiza-

tion for the last 17 years. I also recently served as the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) Region Four director. I am the newly elected MSCA Cow/Calf chairman.

I have been involved in the cow/calf and fed cattle industry for 25 years from seedstock to feedlot. My family and I run 50 cows with the help of Jennings Hidden Acres (Dan and Linda).

I also work for Spring Valley Farms, which is the operation running the original Lenard Wulf feed yard. I oversee the livestock trucking segment of

Zeltwanger ...
continued on page 15

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association
PO Box 12
Maple Plain, MN 55359
763-479-1011
www.mnsca.org
mnsca@mnsca.org

Executive Committee

President - Mark Pankonin
23620 Co Rd 4 Lamberton, MN 56152,
(507) 220-1412, mpank8@yahoo.com

President Elect - Jake Thompson
14610 230th St S Barnsville, MN 56514,
(218) 329-9293, fourhillfarms2@yahoo.com

Vice President - Rachel Gray
27481 Lanit Rd NE Blackduck, MN 56630,
(218) 766-4929, ltimber1616@gmail.com

Past President - Grant Breitkreutz
38270 Kenwood Ave Redwood Falls, MN 56283,
(507) 430-0607, gdbreitkreutz@hotmail.com

Cow-Calf Council Chair - Eric Zeltwanger
47633 250th St Morris, MN 56267,
(320) 766-0066, ericz@springvalley-farms.com

Feeder Council Chair - Josiah Ebeling
251 200th St Trimont, MN 56176,
(507) 236-1511, ebeling7120@gmail.com

Legislative Chair - Krist Wollum
3912 Co 109 Porter, MN 56280,
(507) 530-3854, kkwollum@yahoo.com

Membership Director - Angie Ford
437 141st St Lake Wilson, MN 56151,
(507) 360-7937, angieford7937@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer - Kevin Hoge
32413 280th Place, Aitkin, MN, 56431
(218) 549-3337, flatrock@frontiernet.net

Business Director - Accounting and Membership - Heather DeLong
Maple Plain, (763) 479-1011

Executive Director - Kaitlyn Root
Maple Plain, kaitlyn@mnsca.org,
Office: 763-479-1011

MSCA Regional Directors

Region - 1 Ben Kleinwachter
22160 420th St. NW Strnadquist, MN 56758
(218) 597-2985, bt@wiktel.com

Region - 2 & 3 Eric Mousel
11493 CR 448, Jacobson, MN, 55742
(218) 513-0781, emmousel@umn.edu

Region - 4 Mark Schoenfeld
2524 331st Ave Dawson, MN 56232,
(612) 325-4001, circlescc@hotmail.com

Region - 5 Ralph Hanneken
22348 93rd St Royalton, MN 56373
(320) 630-5095, rchanneken@aol.com

Region - 6 Jeff Stobb
12879 100th St Milaca, MN 56353
(320) 224-6375, jwstobb@stcloudstate.edu

Region - 7 Tom Salentiny
503 S Lafayette Ave Fulda, MN 56131,
(507) 329-2574, thomassalentiny@gmail.com

Region - 8 Jessica Lambrecht
34781 221st Ave LeCenter, MN 56057
(952) 994-1249, jessi.lambrecht@gmail.com

Region - 9 Amanda Armstrong
3791 NE 84th Ave Owatonna, MN 55060
(651) 775-2284, armstrongfarms96@gmail.com

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For Advertising Contact:
Kaitlyn Root, kaitlyn@mnsca.org,
763-479-1011

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Minnesota Cattleman Publications
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MICHELLE MOUSER
CattleWomen President

Blessings to all cattlemen and cattlegirls in 2023. May the legacy and perseverance of the generations that have gone before us spur us on with strength and resiliency to endure the year ahead.

2022 was an outstanding year for the Minnesota CattleWomen as we celebrated our 50th anniversary, hosted incredible events and grew our membership.

Thank you to the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association for their continued support of our lead Senior Beef Ambassador Scholarship. This past year's recipient was Zola Olson of Montevideo, Minnesota.

At the MN Beef Expo this fall, our annual competition was held and five new team members were selected to fill the 2023 MN State Beef Ambassador Team. Team members include: Rachel Dose of Arlington as Senior Team Lead; Alicia Holtz of Little

Falls; Raija Gustin of Aitkin; and Sarah Fisher of Trimont as Senior Team members; and Amelia Tersteeg of Bird Island as the Junior Team member.

They are excited to continue their social media activities and are always looking for more ways to learn and give back to the state beef industry. If you have any opportunities or are looking for help from the team, please reach out to the Beef Ambassador Chair, Rosemary Gustafson.

Looking into the year of 2023, we are especially excited to announce our new event series, CattleWomen 360 (CW360). The CW360 series elevates cattle women through growth and learning by focusing on four pillars to help all cattle women grow in their confidence and knowledge.

This program is designed by engaging in four in-person, hands-on events and virtual education each year for three years around the four main pillars making up the CW360 series.

Through our great executive committee, strong board of directors and outstanding membership, we are looking forward to not only another great immediate year, but building longevity for the next 50 years. As always, stay connected through our Facebook and Instagram social media accounts and website.

Pankonin . . . continued from page 2

ciate how lucky we are to be a part of this great way of life.

Considering our lifestyle and the responsibilities that go with it, we still need a unified voice to protect it. Although we clearly are now the minority with our consumers and lawmakers being one, two or even three generations removed from food production, our industry remains creditable.

I am grateful for the generations before us who founded a grassroots organization to represent our industry publicly and politically. The trail they have blazed is now the road we are responsible to maintain.

My vision is to go beyond basic maintenance to build something more like a superhighway. We have the proper foundation to build on with beef being consumers' protein of choice, humanely produced, beneficial to the environment and healthy for our diet. Factually speaking, our story is a good one.

We simply need our story to be heard and preferably coming from the offensive side as

opposed to ending up on defense all too frequently.

As you have all heard before, this takes a larger membership. My goal will be to have "being a member" of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association and National Cattlemen's Beef Association become a matter of desire and prestige rather than perceived as an obligation. This cannot and would not be possible without the caliber and commitment of the leadership team we have assembled from our executive board to the regional directors, along with each and every local association and the members of which they are made up of.

Please take time to familiarize yourself with these people. They are referenced in the directory of this edition as well as their photos from the December convention.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as the president of this great organization. I personally wish each and every one of you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023!

Thank you, 2023 Beef Alliance

THANK-YOU to the following businesses that have committed to support members of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association as a part of the Minnesota Beef Alliance Program for 2023. If you are interested in learning more about the Beef Alliance program, contact Angie Ford at mnsccmembership@gmail.com.

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Zoetis/Performance Beef Roto-Mix

Choice

Purina (Land O'Lakes)
ADM Animal Nutrition

* Indicates giving above base level for that category!



JOSIAH EBELING
Feeder Council Chair

Holiday Greetings! I am honored to be serving as the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association Feeder Council chairman. Here is a little background on myself.

My name is Josiah Ebeling, and I am a cattle feeder from Trimont, Minnesota. I started my operation right out of Martin County West High School, with 20 head of feeders. I now finish out 1,200 head a year, between my place and a custom yard.

My interest in cattle started when I was very young help-

ing my grandpa Duane Faber milk cows. I am the fifth generation of Ebeling farmers.

I bought my grandpa Keith Ebeling's home farm site in 2018. I modified the dirt lots by putting up a new slatted cattle barn for cattle comfort and to utilize the liquid manure on our crop farm.

After graduating from high school, I worked at the local FCA Co-op and started my own lawn care business. I learned a lot working with cattle, asking a lot of questions from the older cattle feeder/farmers and listening to their input and wisdom.

Their knowledge, plus my dad Layne Ebeling's knowledge, got me off to a good start, and I learned the most when it hurt my checkbook. I was grateful to be part of a good farm management team.

I also worked for a couple years with a local farmer who fed out 3,000 head a year. I learned a lot from him as well.

I eventually sold my lawn care business to a friend and started a custom manure pumping business. There's a lot of pumping and a lot of hours with little sleep, but all the time I am learning more and more about finances, cost, supply and demand with diversified businesses.

I am still pumping manure, and I also started up a trucking business hauling livestock with my younger brother Logan. It keeps us very busy.

I enjoy learning new things and taking on new challenges. I like starting a job and having the satisfaction of seeing it to completion.

Others have passed knowledge on to me, and I hope someday I can pass on to others what I have learned and experienced in the cattle business.

Josiah can be reached at ebeling7120@gmail.com or (507) 236-1511.



GRANT BREITKREUTZ
Past President

On Sept. 19, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) posted a tweet for climate week which suggested that we can help fix the climate by participating in meatless Monday. Their idea of going meatless on Mondays is that it will reduce emissions, but we have the data to counteract those ideas.

This tweet was removed very quickly by the MPCA, and I

was called and given an apology for what had happened. I was the only ag trade group representative in the state that received an apology, and many other ag groups were not going to let this rest without an explanation from MPCA.

A meeting of all ag groups and MPCA was called, and more than just the tweet was discussed. MSCA has continued conversations with MPCA Assistant Commissioner Dana Vanderbosch and other staff with an in-person meeting happening at the recent cattlemen's convention.

During this meeting, several producers expressed their concerns and problems with the current permitting process, which switched to an online version. The online version has been taking way too long to receive answers and there is no human interaction anymore, so

questions are extremely hard to get answered.

Commissioner Vanderbosch and staff took many notes and asked many questions of those in attendance. The hope of MSCA is that by keeping these communications going, we will get the changes needed for our producers to be able to attain new permits faster and help with renewal of permits.

It is always challenging having these conversations and not seeing results, but without these ongoing conversations, MPCA has no idea what we as producers in the state are struggling with.

MSCA has a quarterly meeting with MPCA. If you have any comments or concerns, please let someone on the executive team know so it can be discussed and we can hopefully get you an answer to your concern.

MINNESOTA BEEF COUNCIL



Beef Promotion, Education & Research
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Happy Holidays!

The Minnesota Beef team hopes you had a wonderful holiday season and are staying warm as we kick off 2023!



Pictured left to right, Ashley Kraemer (Communications Director), Heather DeLong (Business Manager), Kaitlyn Root (BQA Coordinator & MSCA Executive Director) and Kelly Schmidt (Chief Executive Officer).

Kaitlyn Root Fills Role as BQA Coordinator for Minnesota Beef Council & MSCA Executive Director

Maple Plain, Minnesota — The Minnesota Beef Council (MBC) has hired Kaitlyn Root to serve as the new Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) coordinator for the MBC and as the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) executive director. Kaitlyn will be responsible for coordination of the BQA program and overall staff management of the MSCA.

Root grew up near Watkins and attended Eden Valley Watkins High School. Growing up, Kaitlyn could be found playing sports, hunting or spending time on the lake fishing with her family. She developed a passion for the agriculture industry while spending time on her family's crop farm, so she decided to attend North Dakota State University (NDSU) to further her education in the agriculture industry.

Kaitlyn graduated from NDSU in December of 2021 with a bach-

elor's in agricultural communication and a minor in animal science. While attending NDSU, Kaitlyn worked at the NDSU Swine Unit as a farmhand and as a caregiver in group homes for people with disabilities. She feels that both jobs added to her unique background and set of skills.

After graduation, Root worked for the Wyoming Livestock Roundup newspaper in Casper, Wyoming, as an editor. She familiarized herself with ranching and gained knowledge on the beef industry during this time.

"Writing for an ag-based newspaper allowed me to really get to know ranchers and understand ag policy," Root said. "It opened my eyes to the challenges cattle producers face and how much they need organizations like the MBC and MSCA to fight for their rights every day."

"Kaitlyn has a great foundation to build from through life experiences and her educational background at NDSU," Mark Pankonin, president of the Cattlemen's Association added. "I look forward to growing with her at the MSCA."

Although she enjoyed her time out West, Root is excited to be back in Minnesota.

"I am looking forward to working closely with producers in Minnesota and representing the beef industry," Kaitlyn said. "I feel that with my experience in journalism and agriculture, I can provide a voice for producers. It is great to be home and I can't wait to get started."

Root's first day on staff with the council was Dec. 5. She can be reached at kaitlyn@mnbeef.org, kaitlyn@mnsca.org or (320) 535-0944.



Kaitlyn Root



Twin Cities Live

Each month, Minnesota Beef Council conducts a beef-focused segment on Twin Cities Live on Channel 5 Eyewitness News (KSTP-TV at 3 p.m. on week-days). Ashley Kraemer, communications director, was on in November with Holiday Side Dish recipes and recently in December to feature three different roasts, sharing fool-proof ways to prepare them.

For more information about how the Minnesota Beef Council is driving the demand for beef, visit mnbeef.org.

MBC Board Meeting

The next Minnesota Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 16, 2023. This meeting will be held virtually. Individuals also have the option to travel to the MBC office in Maple Plain to attend if they would rather.

Minnesota Beef Council EVENTS

- **January 11-13, 2023** – MN Top of Class – Denver, CO
- **January 16, 2023** – MBC Board of Directors Meeting Virtually
- **Feb. 1-3, 2023** – Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show – New Orleans, LA

www.mnbeef.org



MNBC RECIPE

Slow-Cooked Whiskey-Molasses Shredded Beef

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 beef Bottom Round Roast (about 2-1/2 pounds), cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup whiskey
- 1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar, divided
- 1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
- 4 tablespoons packed brown sugar, divided
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper
- 1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
- 2 cups shredded carrots
- 2 cups diced Granny Smith apple

COOKING:

1. Place beef Bottom Round Roast in 4-1/2 to 5-1/2-quart slow cooker. Combine whiskey, 1/4 cup vinegar, tomato paste, 2 tablespoons brown sugar, molasses, salt and pepper; pour over roast. Cover and cook on HIGH 4 to 6 hours or on LOW 8 to 10 hours, or until beef is fork tender.
2. Remove roast from slow cooker; shred with 2 forks. Skim fat from sauce as needed. Return beef to slow cooker; stir to combine with sauce.
3. Meanwhile, combine remaining 2 tablespoons vinegar, remaining 2 tablespoons brown sugar and mustard in large bowl. Add carrots and apples; mix well. Season with salt and black pepper, as desired. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Serve beef with slaw.

Cook's Tip: Thinly sliced pears, celery, red cabbage, green cabbage or bell peppers, or a pre-packaged slaw mix can be used in place of the carrots or apples.

Serving Suggestion: Sandwiches, tacos, nachos or sliders.

ALTERNATE COOKING

METHOD: This recipe can be made in a 6-quart electric pressure cooker. Place beef Bottom Round Roast in pressure cooker; add 1/2 cup beef broth. Close and lock pressure cooker lid. Use beef, stew or high-pressure setting on pressure cooker; program 90 minutes on pressure cooker timer. Use quick-release feature to release pressure; carefully remove lid. Shred beef; return to pressure cooker. Combine cooking liquid, whiskey, 1/4 cup cider vinegar, tomato paste, 2 tablespoons brown sugar, molasses, salt and pepper in small saucepan. Simmer 20 to 25 minutes until desired consistency is reached. Combine sauce and shredded beef. Continue as directed in Step 3. (This recipe variation was tested in an electric pressure cooker at high altitude. Cooking at an altitude of less than 3,000 feet may require slightly less cooking time. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions.)

The Minnesota Beef Council has hundreds of tasty beef recipes to share. To check out all our recipe collections, visit us on the web at mnbeef.org/recipes.



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Grant Available to Help Cattle Producers Attend Educational Events

Centennial, Colorado - Cattle producers are the original stewards of land and livestock and are constantly striving to improve their operations through education and professional development. To help reduce the financial burden of attending conventions and meetings, the National Cattlemen's Foundation and Cargill created the Rancher Resilience Grant, which is administered by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. NCBA grant reimburses producers for registration fees and other expenses at specific educational events, including Cattlemen's College during the 2023 Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show in New Orleans.

"Our industry continually explores technologies and production practices to support more efficient operations that focus on profitability and consistent high-quality beef," said NCBA Senior Executive Director of Producer Education Josh White. "It's exciting to see industry partners come together through a shared commitment to promote the long-term economic wellbeing of farmers and ranchers across the beef value chain while also improving our product and our care for livestock and natural resources."

Since the program began in 2020, the Rancher Resilience Grant has pro-

vided financial support and educational opportunities for hundreds of producers to attend events across the country. Past participating events include Cattlemen's College, the Beef Improvement Federation Symposium, the National Grazing Lands Coalition Conference, Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management events and many more.

The educational events supported by the Rancher Resilience Grant are in place to provide practical tools to help cattle producers manage market shifts, mitigate financial risks, manage natural resources and withstand extreme weather events. Past grant recipients say they not only found the content of the events to be educational, but they also took away action items to implement back home.

"Attending the convention and Cattlemen's College gave me new ideas on how to improve and grow my operation," one grant recipient shared about his experience. "Since returning home I have revised my grazing plan, with the hope to not only improve forage quality but also extend our grazing period."

Producers can apply for the grant to attend the 2023 Cattlemen's College and, if selected, will receive a reim-

bursement of \$1,097 to offset expenses. For more information and to apply, visit ncba.org/producers/rancher-resilience-grant.

NCBA has represented America's cattle producers since 1898, preserving the heritage and strength of the industry through education and public

policy. As the largest association of cattle producers, NCBA works to create new markets and increase demand for beef. Efforts are made possible through membership contributions. To join, contact NCBA at 1-866-BEEF-USA or membership@beef.org.

Important Dates:

- **February 1-3, 2023** – Cattle Industry Convention and NCBA Trade Show #CattleCon – New Orleans, Louisiana
- **February, 2023** – MSCA Quarterly Meeting – date/location TBD
- **July 17** – MSCA Quarterly Meeting – location TBD
- **July 17** – MSCA-PAC Event – 5:30-10 p.m., location TBD
- **July 18** – Summer Tour – hosted by Murray County Cattlemen's Association and Pipestone County Cattlemen's Association

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2022 state election results

By Bruce Kleven, MSCA's legislative advisor

The Nov. 8 elections resulted in a Democratic–Farmer–Labor Party (DFL) sweep of all of the state constitutional offices, including the governor's office. The Minnesota House stayed under DFL control, and in addition, the Minnesota Senate changed from Republican to DFL control with second and third ring suburbs continuing to be the new battleground.

Due to the DFL sweep, Minnesota is no longer under the control of a split legislature; and as a result, members will no longer have to operate from the middle of the political spectrum. And they likely won't.

Despite predictions that Republicans would sweep through the constitutional offices and the Minnesota state houses, the expected red wave did not materialize. The issues of crime and inflation were certainly on the ballot, but the issue making the most difference was the overturning of the *Roe v. Wade* decision giving Democrats a winning message. Other factors

were the record number of retirements and the effects of re-districting.

The 2022 election was incredibly tumultuous and a small fortune was spent on campaigns, but the net effect was that only one seat in the legislature has changed. But this one seat means everything because the DFL Party is now in control of every aspect of state government for the next two years. In many ways, we've become California, but with bad weather.

Governor's race

A total of 2,510,661 million votes were cast in the 2022 gubernatorial race, either in-person or by absentee ballot. This is down by 76,610 votes (2.96 percent) from the number of votes that were cast in the 2018 gubernatorial election.

Incumbent Democrat Tim Walz received 1,312,349 votes (52.27 percent), while Republican candidate Scott Jensen received 1,119,941 votes (44.61 percent). Rounding out the field were James McCaskel of the

Libertarian Party with 29,346 votes (1.17 percent), Steve Patterson of the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party with 22,599 votes (0.9 percent), Hugh McTavish of the Independent Party with 18,156 votes (0.72 percent), Gabrielle Prosser of the Socialist Workers Party with 7,241 votes (0.29 percent) and write-in candidates with 1,029 votes (0.04 percent).

Walz lost support in rural Minnesota. In 2018, he won 22 of the state's 87 counties, but this year he only won in 15 counties. However, his margins in Hennepin and Ramsey counties increased primarily due to the fears raised by the relentless abortion commercials. His victory marks the first time in state history a DFL governor has won four terms in a row.

Minnesota Senate results

Going into the election, Republicans controlled the Minnesota Senate by a margin of 34-31-2. Democrats needed to net three seats to take over the majority, and they got ex-

actly that.

After the election, Democrats control the Senate by a margin of 34-33. A total of 20 DFL incumbents and 22 Republican incumbents were re-elected. There are 25 new members in the Senate (37 percent of the total) – 14 Democrats and 11 Republicans.

Minnesota House results

Going into the election, Democrats controlled the Minnesota House by a margin of 70-64. Republicans needed a net gain of four seats to take over the majority but didn't pick up any.

After the election, although a few seats shuffled, Democrats still control the House by the exact same margin of 70-64. A total of 48 DFL incumbents and 39 Republican incumbents were re-elected. There are 47 new members in the House (35 percent of the total) – 22 Democrats and 25 Republicans.

Leadership

Just days after the election, the House and Senate caucuses met to elect leaders for the

2023-24 legislature. Senate Democrats elected Sen. Kari Dziedzic (D-Minneapolis) as the majority leader and Sen. Bobby Joe Champion (D-Minneapolis) as the president of the Senate.

Republicans elected Sen. Mark Johnson (R-East Grand Forks) as the minority leader. In the House, Democrats re-elected Rep. Melissa Hortman (D-Brooklyn Park) as the speaker of the House and elected Rep. Jamie Long (D-Minneapolis) as the majority leader. Republicans elected Rep. Lisa Demuth (R-Cold Spring) as the minority leader.

While committee membership rosters have not been made public, the chairs of each committee have been released. The Senate Ag Committee will be chaired by Sen. Aric Putnam (D-St. Cloud) while the House Ag Committee will be chaired by Rep. Samantha Vang (D-Brooklyn Center). The 2023 session will begin at noon on Jan. 3, 2023.

MNDNR releases wolf management plan

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has finalized an updated wolf management plan which will guide the state's approach to wolf conservation for the next 10 years.

The updated plan is available on the DNR's wolf plan page. This is the first update to Minnesota's wolf plan since 2001.

The plan includes summary information about Minnesota's wolf population and the history of wolves in the state. It details the diverse and changing public attitudes about wolves, the legal status of wolves, tribal perspectives on wolves and ways to support a healthy wolf population while minimizing conflicts between humans and wolves. The plan also includes a framework for how the state will approach decisions about wolf hunting or trapping if the wolf is delisted federally.

Six goals in the plan are designed to support Minnesota's vision for wolves. The goals are to maintain a well-connected and resilient wolf population, collaborate with diverse partners to collectively support wolf plan implementation, minimize and address human-wolf conflicts, inform and engage the public about wolves in Minnesota, conduct research to inform wolf

management and administer the wolf program to fulfill agency responsibilities and the needs of the public and partners.

"The plan reflects the breadth of input received through the process to update the plan," said Dan Stark, DNR large carnivore specialist. "Information in the plan describes current knowledge of the wolf population, Minnesotans' attitudes toward wolves and guides the approach to the future conservation and management of wolves in Minnesota."

To inform the wolf plan update, the DNR conducted a public opinion survey, consulted with technical experts and tribal staff and convened a 20-member wolf advisory committee. Advisory committee members represented diverse perspectives including hunting and trapping, wolf advocacy and animal rights, livestock and agriculture and other interests related to wolf conservation and management.

The DNR's public engagement efforts for the plan update included input meetings, forums, online questionnaires and public review of a draft plan.

More information about the plan update and a full version of the plan is available on the DNR's wolf plan page at dnr.state.mn.us/wolves/wolf-plan.html.

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Top left: 2022 Cattleman of the Year Mike Landuyt

Top right: Dan Koster with Minnwest Bank accepted the 2022 Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award.

Left: Reid Mason Memorial Scholarship winner Sydney Pankonin

MSCA recognizes award winners

Willmar, Minnesota – The Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention was held at the Willmar Conference Center Dec. 9-10. An awards ceremony took place Dec. 9 recognizing leaders in the cattle community and youth scholars.

Mike Landuyt was named the 2022 Cattleman of the Year. The Cattleman of the Year award recognizes a member or group that has demonstrated outstanding leadership and personal dedication to Minnesota's cattle community.

Qualities and achievements shared by recipients of the Cattleman of the Year award include: leadership and organizational skills; strong record of active promotion of the beef industry; willingness to speak out publicly on behalf of the industry; served in a variety of volunteer, appointed and elected positions of responsibility within Minnesota's beef sector and at the national level; well respected by fellow cattlemen, local community leaders and government officials; and an active participant in and supporter of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA).

"It is very humbling to receive

this award to conclude my 10 years on the MSCA executive board and to be recognized like this by my peers," Landuyt said. "I am truly grateful."

The 2022 Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award was awarded to Minnwest Bank. This award goes to an individual, business or organization that has made a substantial contribution to Minnesota's cattle community. The Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award serves as an avenue for MSCA to recognize and thank these groups for their effort to support and grow the industry in Minnesota.

Each year, two deserving college students are awarded the Dennis Bottem and Reid Mason Memorial scholarships. Josephine Jenson is the recipient of the 2022 Dennis Bottem Memorial Scholarship. Sydney Pankonin received the Reid Mason Memorial Scholarship.

For more information about the MSCA or the 2022 Annual Convention, contact MSCA at mnsca@mnsca.org. The MSCA is a membership-based organization representing cattle farmers and individuals who are part of the cattle community in Minnesota.

MSCA announces new leadership

Willmar, Minnesota – Cattlemen, cattlemen and cattle industry members gathered at the Willmar Conference Center for the 2022 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention, Dec. 9-10. Newly elected Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) leaders were announced during the convention.

Mark Pankonin of Lambertson will serve as president of the MSCA.

"I'm excited to serve during such a prosperous time for the cattle industry," Pankonin said. "We are still dealing with drought relief issues, wolf depredation and will be keeping an eye on the Farm Bill in 2023."

Pankonin succeeds Grant Breikreutz of Redwood Falls as MSCA president, and Breikreutz will now serve as immediate past president of the association.

The MSCA executive committee will also include: Jake Thompson of Barnsville as president-elect; Rachel Gray of Blackduck as vice president; Angie Ford of Lake Wilson as membership director and chair of industry relations; Krist Wollum of Porter as legislative chair and Kevin Hoge of Aitkin as secretary.

The MSCA newly elected leadership team also includes Josiah Ebeling of Trimont as Feeder Council chairman and Eric Zeltwanger of Morris as Cow/Calf Council chairman.



MSCA President Mark Pankonin is handed the gavel by MSCA Immediate Past President Grant Breikreutz to signify Pankonin's start as president.

Regional directors include: Ben Kleinwachter of Strandquist as Region One director; Eric Mousel of Jacobson as Region Two/Three director; Mark Schoenfeld of Dawson as Region Four director; Ralph Hanneken of Royalton as Region Five director; Jeff Stobb of Milaca as Region Six director; Tom Salentiny of Fulda as Region Seven director; Jessica Lambrecht of LeCenter as Region Eight director; and Amanda Armstrong of Owatonna as Region Nine director.

For more information about the MSCA or the 2022 annual convention, contact MSCA at mnsca@mnsca.org.



MSCA's new executive team, pictured left to right, Feeder Council Chairman Josiah Ebeling, Cow/Calf Council Chairman Eric Zeltwanger, President-elect Jake Thompson, President Mark Pankonin, Vice President Rachel Gray, Membership Director and Industry Relations Chair Angie Ford, Executive Director Kaitlyn Root and Immediate Past President Grant Breikreutz.



MSCA Region Directors, pictured left to right, Region Six Director Jeff Stobb, Region Four Director Mark Schoenfeld, Region Two/Three Director Eric Mousel, Region One Director Ben Kleinwachter and MSCA President Mark Pankonin. Not pictured, Region Five Director Ralph Hanneken, Region Seven Director Tom Salentiny, Region Eight Director Jessica Lambrecht and Region Nine Director Amanda Armstrong.



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USDA publishes pesticide data

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) published the 2021 Pesticide Data Program (PDP) Annual Summary on Dec. 21, 2022. The summary shows more than 99 percent of the samples tested had pesticide residues below benchmark levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Each year, USDA and EPA work together to identify foods to be tested on a rotating basis by the PDP. In 2021, tests were conducted on 10,127 samples from 19 commodities of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, dairy and grains. AMS partners with cooperating state agencies to collect and analyze pesticide residue levels on the selected food commodities.

USDA tests a wide variety of domestic and imported foods, with a strong focus on foods that are consumed by infants and children. EPA relies on PDP data to conduct dietary risk assessments and to ensure that any pesticide

residues in foods remain at or below levels the EPA has set. The data also provide regulators, farmers, processors, manufacturers, consumers and scientists with important insights into the levels of pesticide residues found on widely consumed foods.

The annual pesticide residue results are reported to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and EPA in monthly reports as testing takes place throughout the year. FDA and EPA are immediately notified if a PDP test discovers residue levels which could pose a public safety concern.

The 2021 data and summary can be found on the PDP page of the AMS website. Printed copies may be obtained by contacting the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, Science and Technology Program, Monitoring Programs Division by email at amsmpo.data@usda.gov.

For more information about pesticides and food, visit the EPA website and the FDA website.

Secretary Vilsack releases statement

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack released the following statement on Dec. 23 after the U.S. Senate and U.S. House passed the fiscal year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill, sending to President Biden's desk several crucial investments to advance the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) priorities for rural America:

"As we wrap up a successful year advancing USDA's priorities to build more, new and better markets for producers, tackle food and nutrition insecurity, and ensure wealth is created and stays in rural communities, I'm pleased that Congress has come together to pass the Omnibus bill that delivers some resources crucial to continuing our work on behalf of the American people.

"This funding package will support USDA's operations and wide reach into every community across the nation and help make USDA more efficient, effective, and better equipped to advance racial justice, equity and opportunity for the customers we serve. With increases in agricultural research and investments in Rural Development, this Administration will continue to prioritize economic development and growth in rural America, and put producers at the heart of solutions to climate change, including through our Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities initiative, infrastructure, and fairer, more resilient food systems.

"I'm particularly excited to see the creation of a permanent, nationwide summer EBT to

ensure kids receive healthy meals year-round. We will also be able to continue carrying out our critical wildfire suppression and management work, through additional funds for fire suppression and extension of the firefighter pay cap waiver, and support producers grappling with climate disasters through new disaster assistance funds. The bill provides increases for food safety and research, as well as several increases for rural housing programs to fund all expiring rental assistance contracts, for multi-family housing construction and rehabilitation and an expansion of the Tribal Housing Relending Demonstration program. The bill fully funds nutrition programs at a critical time when these programs are all the more important as inflation has increased the cost of groceries for American families.

"I also want to thank the Senate for taking action on nominees crucial to USDA's mission, including Alexis Taylor, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs; Jose Emilio Esteban, Ph.D. as Under Secretary for Food Safety and Doug McKalip, who is departing USDA, but will serve in a crucial role as the Chief Agricultural Negotiator at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

"USDA is ready to hit the ground running in 2023 to keep expanding our economy from the bottom up and middle out and ensure that rural communities, farmers, ranchers, and producers are empowered with the tools necessary to thrive."

Advertise with Us!

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

CONTACT:
kaitlyn@mnsca.org

Ford . . . continued from page 2

MINNESOTA STATE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Minnesota Beef Alliance Program

By contributing to the MN Beef Alliance program, you are listed as an Associate member of the MN State Cattlemen's Association. You have the opportunity to participate in the association's educational seminars, events and various membership opportunities throughout the year.

<p>Prime Level - \$5,000 +</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement in the Minnesota Cattleman Newspaper • 4 half page or 3 full page advertisements • Linked logo on the MSCA website page for 1 year • Event Sponsor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Tour and Trade Show • Standard trade show booth • Bus sponsor • Half page color ad in program • 2 registrations • Sponsor recognition in tour program • Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show • Private trade show booth space • Meal sponsor • 2 individual registrations • Listed as Associate Member in directory and newspaper 	<p>Choice Level - \$4,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement in the Minnesota Cattleman Newspaper • 4 half page or 2 full page advertisements • Event Sponsor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Tour and Trade Show • Standard trade show booth • Half page color ad in program • 2 registrations • Sponsor recognition in tour program • Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show • General trade show booth space • General sponsor • 2 individual registrations • Listed as Associate Member in directory and newspaper 	<p>Select Level - \$3,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement in the Minnesota Cattleman Newspaper • 2 half page advertisements • Event Sponsor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show • General trade show booth space • General sponsor • 2 individual registrations • Listed as Associate Member in directory and newspaper 	<p>Presidential Level - \$2,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement in the Minnesota Cattleman Newspaper • 2 half page advertisements • Listed as Associate Member in directory and newspaper
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Mission: To create and maintain an economic and political climate that provides individual members the opportunity to sustain and grow the cattle industry

The reality is, farmers and ranchers make up less than one percent of the nation's population. In the state of Minnesota, we elected over 200 new legislators in the last midterm election which will be sworn in Jan. 3, 2023.

How many of these incoming men and women grew up on a farm? Or their parents? It is a very small number.

This is exactly why we need to band together as an organization and help these incoming representatives know what we do and how important the beef cattle industry is to the state of Minnesota. With added membership, we can stand strong against any new laws and regulations which could threaten our freedom to farm in the state of Minnesota.

Membership involvement

So how can you help? Talk to your friends and neighbors and tell them about the MSCA. Direct them to our website. Reach out to any of your executive committee to discuss issues in your part of the state. We are here to help.

If you live in the top half of the state and would like to form a new local association, please reach out to me. I've greatly enjoyed helping local associations form and thrive over the past five years.

We need to expand our

membership coverage and share the great things we do on behalf of ALL producers, not just members. Together, we can make a difference.

Industry and stakeholder support

Along with membership being the lifeblood of our organization, allied industry and stakeholder support is the heartbeat keeping us alive. As the result of their generous support of MSCA, they have helped our efforts to invest in the future of Minnesota's beef cattle industry.

I want to thank all the industry vendors who came to the 2022 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention. We look forward to working with you in 2023.

Beef Alliance

An easy way get involved all year long with everything the MSCA does is to become a Beef Alliance member. This program allows you to pick a level: Prime, Choice, Select or Presidential, and not have to worry about missing a deadline for a paper, or booth for an event.

All of my contact information can be found on MSCA's website. Please reach out, I'm here to help!

For questions about MSCA membership or Beef Alliance, email Angie at mnscamembership@gmail.com.

MSCA clarifies their views towards wolf depredation

By Grant Bretkreutz, MSCA immediate past president

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) was approached this past September by Howling for Wolves to promote their Wolf Forgiveness Bonus Program. The MSCA executive team decided to allow Howling for Wolves to advertise the program in our newspaper.

The ad which ran in November did not explain the program and created many questions about if the MSCA was supporting Howling for Wolves. The MSCA does not support Howling for Wolves, but we wanted producers to know about this program.

The best place for producers to look at this program is on the Howling for Wolves website at howlingforwolves.org/node/916 and look for the Wolf Forgiveness Bonus Program. There are many frequently asked questions there and a telephone number to call with further questions.

As for MSCA's stance on wolves, the MSCA policy states:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Agency has delisted the gray wolf in Minnesota from Endangered Species Act protection and delisting has resulted in overall management authority for the gray wolf reverting back to the

State of Minnesota, and WHEREAS, the USDA/APHIS-Wildlife Services Agency has historically been funded for and responded to resolve wolf depredation incidents within Minnesota and Wildlife Services maintains a well-trained and highly effective cadre of depredation control specialists, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 3.737 "Livestock Owners; Compensation For Destroyed Or Crippled Animals" directs the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to compensate livestock owners for livestock destroyed or crippled by a gray wolf, and

WHEREAS, there has been significant and increasing conflicts between livestock and wolves along the boundary between Zone A and Zone B,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, gray wolves are not endangered in Minnesota and should remain de-listed from the endangered species list, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if necessary, the MSCA supports de-listing via Congressional action, and the MSCA opposes reintroduction or release of wolves and other predatory animals, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, MSCA supports

additional funding for USDA Wildlife Services in responding to wolf depredation incidents and providing training to state and contract personnel for wolf depredation control actions after the wolf is de-listed from Endangered Species Act protection, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSCA supports an established hunting and trapping season on wolves, and all fees generated from licenses being deposited into a dedicated wolf management account, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSCA supports increased funding to compensate livestock owners for livestock killed or crippled by gray wolves, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSCA supports compensation being paid within 60 days when there is a preponderance of evidence as determined by an approved investigating officer that indicates the likelihood of a wolf kill, even in the absence of a carcass, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, MSCA requests that the boundary line between Zone A and Zone B be moved further to the north to reduce the conflict between livestock.

"Yellowstone" creator Taylor Sheridan to speak at annual cattle industry convention

Centennial, Colorado – Taylor Sheridan will speak during the Opening General Session of the 2023 Cattle Industry Convention & National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show in New Orleans on Feb. 1. Sheridan will join NCBA President Don Schiefelbein, a Minnesota cattle producer, for a conversation about ranch life.

"My passion for the ranching lifestyle has inspired me to write stories that are rich in history, led by complex characters and focus on family dynamics," said Sheridan. "I'm looking forward to joining you at the cattle industry's largest event."

Sheridan is an Academy Award®-nominated writer and actor as well as a member of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame. A Texas native

himself, Sheridan excels in the Western horse performance industry as an avid supporter and competitor in reining and cutting. He also owns and operates two Texas ranches including the legendary 6666 or Four Sixes Ranch, a 2015 Environmental Stewardship Award Program regional winner, and Bosque Ranch.

Sheridan recently launched Four Sixes® Ranch Brand Beef which retails beef sourced from 6666 and a network of ranches. While the Dutton family continues their personal and business struggles in season five of "Yellowstone," Sheridan has brought prequels "1883" and "1923" to life.

Whether attending for one day or participating in the entire event, a variety of registration options are available at convention.ncba.org.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AT

WWW.MNSCA.ORG

NCBA releases statement on new WOTUS rule

On Dec. 30, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) issued the following statement on the Biden administration's finalized Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule.

"For too long, farmers and ranchers have dealt with the whiplash of shifting WOTUS definitions. Today, the Biden administration sought to finalize a WOTUS definition that will protect both our nation's water supply and cattle producers across the nation," said NCBA Chief Counsel Mary-Thomas Hart. "While the rule retains longstanding, bipartisan WOTUS exclusions for certain agricultural features, it creates new uncertainty for farmers, ranchers and landowners across the nation."

NCBA previously called for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to retain agricultural exclusions for small, isolated and temporary water features which commonly appear on farms and ranches. These

exclusions have broad support and were included in WOTUS rules under both Republican and Democratic administrations.

The rule fails to clearly exempt isolated and ephemeral features from federal jurisdiction and relies on "case-by-case" determinations to assess whether a feature is federally regulated. The rule is a far cry from the regulatory certainty provided by the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, creating a significant and costly burden for agricultural producers.

"The timing of this rule could not be worse," added Hart. "The Supreme Court is currently considering Sackett v. EPA, which will provide much-needed clarity related to the WOTUS definition. Today's final rule seeks to directly preempt ongoing Supreme Court litigation, leaving farmers and ranchers with more questions than answers."

For more information on the new WOTUS rule, visit epa.gov/wotus.

UMN Extension offers training

The University of Minnesota (UMN) Extension is offering training for those who work with or know farm families experiencing stress, loss or tough decisions for their family or business.

Ambiguous loss and farming helps farm families understand and name ambiguous loss, and to provide strategies for moving forward. In the changing farm and rural landscape, loss of land, livestock, changing markets and even relationships can be ambiguous losses leading many to feel "stuck." This facilitator training will prepare people who work with farm families to offer this program and provide support for farm families.

Ambiguous loss and farming facilitator training will be offered at five locations across the state of Minnesota during January. Locations include:

Jan. 10 – St. Cloud Re-

gional Extension Office (3601 18th Street S., St. Cloud, MN)

Jan. 11 – Cloquet Forestry Center - Library Room (175 University Road, Cloquet, MN)

Jan. 17 – Marshall Regional Extension Office (200 S O'Connell St. Suite 500, Marshall, MN)

Jan. 24 – UMN Crookston Campus, Sargeant Student Center - Minnesota Room (2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN)

Jan. 26 – UMN St. Paul Campus - Coffey Hall Room 120 (1420 Eckles Ave., St Paul, MN)

All workshops are scheduled from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. There is no charge to attend, but pre-registration is required. To learn more and to register, visit z.umn.edu/lossand-farming. Questions about the training can be directed to Emily Kregelberg, UMN Extension, at krek0033@umn.edu or 612-756-3977.

NCBA congratulates key agricultural nominees on senate confirmation

On Dec. 22, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) congratulated two key agricultural nominees on their Senate confirmation to senior positions at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

"NCBA extends our congratulations to Doug McKalip on his confirmation as chief agricultural negotiator in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. NCBA is pleased that the Senate confirmed such a qualified nominee who can now get to work promoting new trade opportunities which benefit American cattle producers," said NCBA Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane. "We look forward to working closely with Mr.

McKalip in his new role."

The Senate also confirmed Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban to an under secretary position at USDA.

"NCBA congratulates Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban on his confirmation as USDA under secretary for food safety. Dr. Esteban's role is critical for ensuring consumer confidence in the beef industry. Dr. Esteban has an extensive background in food safety through his work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and USDA, and we are pleased that the Senate confirmed such a highly qualified nominee. NCBA has worked closely with Dr. Esteban in his position as chairman of the Codex Committee for Food Hygiene, and we look forward to future collaboration in his new role," said Lane.

Minnesota FFA experiences unprecedented growth

As the 2023 year approaches, the Minnesota FFA Foundation continues the vital role of supporting the development of young people through Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) programs and the FFA.

Minnesota FFA is experiencing unprecedented growth in the number of schools offering AFNR/FFA programs to their students. Twenty new programs have been added in the past three years, bringing the number of Minnesota schools offering AFNR/FFA programs to more than 210. The growth doesn't stop there, as more than a dozen schools are working to add an AFNR/FFA program for the upcoming school year.

"To support this growth, we ask all those

who have personally been involved with FFA, as well as those who see the benefit of FFA, join us in this important work, with a donation to the Minnesota FFA Foundation," shares Minnesota FFA Foundation Executive Director Val Aarsvold.

Support provided to the Minnesota FFA Foundation is directed toward four main areas, which include Youth Leadership, Teacher Preparation, Scholarships and the Minnesota FFA State Convention.

One-time gifts as well as ongoing and planned gifts are welcome. To discuss giving options, contact Val Aarsvold.

Visit mnffaoundation.org to donate.

Zeltwanger . . . continued from page 2

the farm and drive as well.

When I am not busy in a truck, I can be found south of Glenwood helping with the day-to-day operations of the cowherd or helping Dan and Linda with the sheep flock.

My wife Jenny is very supportive of my passion with a hands-off approach. She stays busy working with the account-

ing team at Riverview LLP.

My children William (11), Henry (9) and Amelia (6) enjoy all aspects of the farm and the animals. If mom didn't make him go to school, you would more than likely find William with me working on the farm.

I carry my phone with me when I am in the truck and have plenty of time to chat

about all things cattle. If I can help you in any way, please give me a shout. I look forward to my time serving the state of Minnesota as part of your executive team.

Eric can be reached at ericz@springvalley-farms.com or (320) 766-0066.

Gray . . . continued from page 2

What RIPE means for cattle producers

Coming this spring, there will be a pilot program announced focusing on conservation practices for cattle producers. The program will have a reasonable rate of return to producers who choose to participate.

The return is \$100 per animal unit or \$100 per acre for participation. We are predicting the enrollment process to

be simple and available to a variety of operation types and sizes.

As with any pilot program, we are still working through the details with the other organizations involved. Please

watch for details in future articles and information to be shared on MSCA's website and in our newspaper.

For more information about the program, visit riperoadmap.org.





MNSCA Summer Tour

Save the Date

July 17 - 18, 2023

Hosted by Murray and Pipestone County Cattlemen's Associations

Tour stops and details coming soon.

www.mnsca.org

Sign Up a New Member Today - Help MSCA Grow!

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association/National Cattlemen's Beef Association

MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

YES I would like to receive the Policy Pen E-Bulletin

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Type Ops: Feeder Cow-Calf Seedstock Stocker Dairy Associate

Method of Payment: Check Credit Card Invoice Me

Credit Card Type: Master Card Visa Discover

Card # _____

Expiration Date ____/____/____ Signature _____

Make Checks Payable to: "MSCA" (No Cash Please)

Return Form & Payment To: MSCA Treasurer

PO Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359

Recruited By: _____

Questions Call: ☎ (763) 479-1011 or email: ✉ mnsca@mnsca.org

MN State Cattlemen's Association Dues \$50

Junior Dues \$25

Local Cattleman Association Dues (Optional)

Local = _____ (Local Dues →) _____

NCBA Membership Dues (Optional)

(Select the appropriate classification and add to MN State Cattlemen dues)

1-100 - \$150 Stocker/feeder - \$150 + \$0.38/head

101-250 - \$300

251-500 - \$450

Associate Dues

501-750 - \$650

Individual - \$150

(NCBA Dues →) _____

751-1000 - \$900

Business - \$200

1001-1250 - \$1150

Student (24 or younger) - \$50

1251 - 1500 - \$1400

1501 - 1750 - \$1600

1751 - 2000 - \$1900

Total Dues Enclosed This Membership _____