

# The Ranch Hand

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Fall 2021

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



## 65th Champions Ride Match

The 2021 Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match hit two significant milestones - it's 65th Anniversary and the unveiling of the new bucking chutes and arena. On August 7th, cars were lined up and down the interstate waiting to get through the gate. Data collected showed 1,930 people attended the Match, the highest attendance in nearly 20 years.

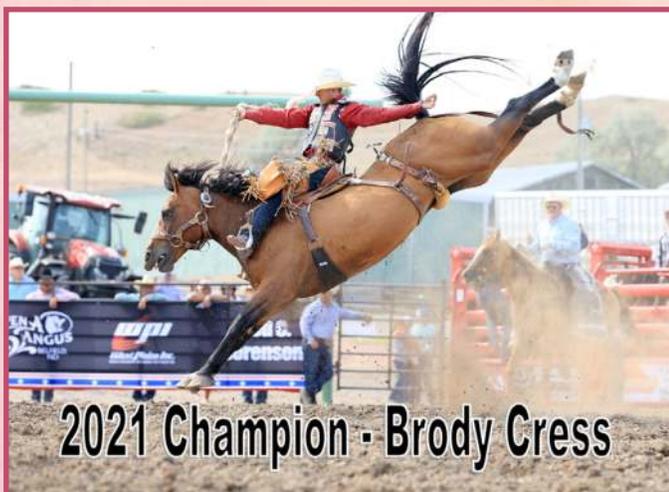
There were many other noticable firsts. This year, 40 PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association) cowboys were competing for the title of Champion, which is up from its usual 32 cowboys. The new arena show-cased a new crows' nest and deck. Finally, wrapped around the arena, both inside and outside, as well as on every gate and even the crows' nest, was a brand new arena wrap! This wrap featured PRCA, Home On The Range and sponsor logos, as well as welcome banners.

Here are just some of the special highlights. We were honored to have Miss Rodeo North Dakota and her royalty come and speak to our youth. Miss Rodeo North Dakota and the queens were instrumental in the presentation of colors and sponsor flags. They did a great job representing the sport of rodeo. Prior to the rodeo, we recognized our local firefighters. They were given complimentary tickets and invited to be in our parade of fire trucks prior to the rodeo. They are our "Heroes" and received a well-deserved standing ovation. During the intermission, we welcomed Children's Western Wish Foundation. Glee Nett, Founder and Executive Director, presented a young man with a cowboy hat autographed by the cowboys and rodeo committee members, a

Bible autographed by Elsie & Clyde Frost, and a Montana silversmith belt buckle. The young man enjoyed his first buggy ride around the arena and waved to the crowd.

At the end of the day, the scores were totaled and Brody Cress, of Hillsdale, Wyoming, was named the 2021 Champion. The Best Bronc Bronze was given to J Bar J's bronc named "In the Lu."

The rodeo was recorded and aired in its entirety on the Cowboy Channel as part of the "100 Rodeos in 100 Days" series.



2021 Champion - Brody Cress

*Photo Credit: Jackie Jensen, PRCA Photographer*

## HOTR Ranch Hand

Official Publication of  
Home On The Range



Fr. Elwood Cassedy, Founder



Fr. Wm. Fahlander, Supt. Emeritus

Laura Feldmann, LCSW, Executive Director  
Jolene Obrigewitch, Dev. Director/Editor  
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### HOTR Board of Directors

Bishop David D. Kagen, Msgr. Gene E. Lindemann, Rev. Daniel J. Berg, Marlo Nelson, Shane Goettle, Brad Gjermundson, Dixie Wagner, Rick Mellmer, Teresa Dvorak, Brian Lardy, Michelle Hardy, Lynn Swanson, Levi Hall, Ron Zachmann, Angel Opdahl, Peter Deichert, Jr., Katherine Heger, Dirk Smultzer, LoAnn Wegh

### Financial Support

HOTR does not receive direct financial support from the Bismarck Catholic Diocese. Care rates charged for services cover approximately 75% of the actual cost. The remainder must be raised through gifts, grants, our agricultural operation, fundraising events, and investments.

### Financial Statements Available

A copy of the most recent HOTR financial statement is available to persons or organizations upon request. Please contact our business office at (701) 872-3745.

### Member:

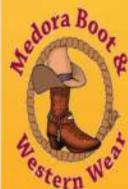
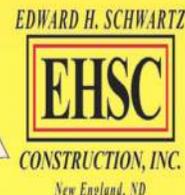
Child Welfare League of America

-- Equal Opportunity Employer --



ACCREDITED COUNCIL  
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SERVICES FOR FAMILIES  
AND CHILDREN, INC.

## Thank you to all our Champions Ride Sponsors!



Fred C. Sorenson  
Perry Zillich

Chad Berger  
Dennis Hansen

Jody & Carla Arthaud  
Robert & Bonnie Tweeten

Your support is what makes this event possible!

## Long Go

Cowboy	Bronc	Score	Place
Brody Cress	Painted J	90	1
Logan James Hay	Carney Girl	88	2
Wade Sundell	Disco Inferno	85.5	3
Lefty Holman	Frontier Justice	85	4/5/6/7
Kolby Wanchuk	Witch Craft	85	4/5/6/7
Zeke Thurston	Shady Lounge	85	4/5/6/7
Layton Green	Knock Out John	85	4/5/6/7
Sterling Crawley	Dirty Lizard	84	8/8
CoBurn Bradshaw	Pulp Fiction	84	8/8

## Short Go

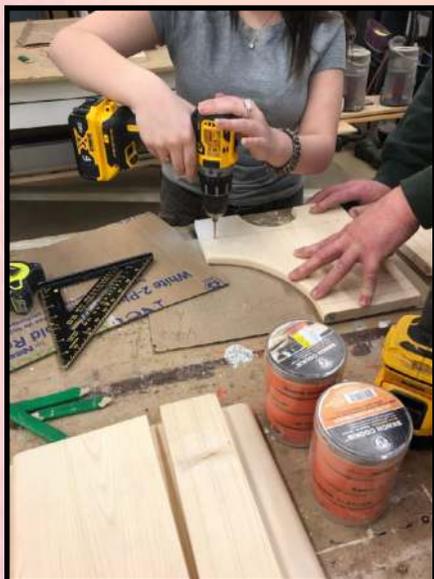
Cowboy	Bronc	Score	Place
Brody Cress	OLS Tubs Magic Carpet	91	1
Logan James Hay	Stacked Deck	89	2
Zeke Thurston	Straight Jacket	88.5	3
Kolby Wanchuk	Lunatic from Hell	88	4/5
Lefty Holman	Bartender	88	4/5
CoBurn Bradshaw	Lunatic Party	86.5	6

***Congratulations to our 2021 Champion with  
181 total points - BRODY CRESS!***





***Bank of the West donates \$5,000 for Life Skills Programs***



Throughout the year, Home On The Range has various life skills programs to teach children different skills, expose them to diverse job opportunities, and help the students earn academic credits. Home On The Range was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Bank of the West to purchase equipment and supplies for its life skills classes.

A few of the courses include car maintenance (changing oil and tires), carpentry (building step stools and park swings), feeding cattle, small engine and lawn mower maintenance, or basic plumbing (assisting with kitchen or bathroom troubleshooting and plumbing issues). Upon completion of the daily task, the students take a test or give a written report on what they learned. The school district keeps track of the hours accumulated and then the child can earn 1/2 credit.



Dakota State Aerie presented a check for \$37,000 to be used to update the Champions Ride concession stands. Pictured L to R: Rick Hanson, HOTR Chairman; Wayne Schatz, Past Dakota State President; Jolene Obrigewitch, HOTR Development Director; and Rick Thompson, Champions Ride Rodeo Committee Member

**The Dickinson Rotary Club donated youth bibles (from CHI St. Alexius Health Center), hard cover bibles (donated by Prairie Winds Church), and hats (donated by Kari Shea, a Rotarian). Thank you Dickinson Rotary Club for your generous donation!**



Scott Harris presented a check to Laura Feldmann, E.D., in the amount of \$2,338.70 for our Adventure Therapy Program. This donation is 5% of his till sales from the Beach American Legion Post #5.

## *Adopt a Highway*

Home On The Range set another milestone in its history. The organization is celebrating their 30th anniversary of adopting a portion of the North Dakota interstate. In 1991, Home On The Range applied to the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to adopt miles along the Interstate and pick up trash in the road ditches and exits. Home On The Range is responsible for 15 miles, or actually 30, because the volunteers pick up trash on both sides of Interstate 94. They start at mile marker 15 and go to the North Dakota/Montana State line. Several times throughout the summer, Home On The Range staff and children pick up trash in the road ditches. You may have seen them working, or the bright florescent trash bags tied to the reflectors, waiting to be picked up.

“We are proud to help NDDOT and be a partner to keep our state clean,” said Laura Feldmann, Executive Director. “This helps the environment and looks nice. It teaches our youth about caring for the land, and helps them develop a sense of pride, responsibility, and even accomplishment after they see what they can get done.”



# 20th Annual Home On The Range's Basket Bash & Auction

**Friday, November 19th**

**Golden Valley County Fairgrounds**

**6:30pm Social**

**7:00pm Silent Auction**

**9:00pm Live Auction**

**Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and wine!  
Games of Chance! Door Prizes! Cash Bar!**

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**To donate a basket or door prize, contact Vanessa at  
701-872-3745 ext. 123 or [vanessau@hotrnd.com](mailto:vanessau@hotrnd.com)**

**Proceeds will be used to buy Christmas presents for our residents!**

## Spiritual Department update

Home On The Range is blessed to have a very active and supportive spiritual department. The staff offer many opportunities and activities for the youth to participate in. The boys and girls can sign up for Prayer groups, Bible study, singing and praise night, or an evening Chapel service. If a child is interested in attending a traditional church service, our staff help with that too.

Sometimes the staff in our spiritual department need to think “outside the box” to find spiritually based activities that the children will find interesting, and make a connection with. Home On The Range recently hosted a Christian concert featuring Big Daddy Weave. Prior to the concert, the band spent time ministering to our boys and girls in the Chapel. Big Daddy sang a special song for our kids. Home On The Range has also had Christian BMX riders and Lighthouse and Champions Forever (unicycle stunt people) perform at Home On The Range. Each month, Bobbi Gray Eagle speaks to the boys and girls about Native American spirituality. Finally, there are several staff with special musical talents. The staff teaches children who are interested how to play the guitar.



Our goal is to help the children overcome their fears, be around positive influences, and teach them to trust and form relationships. The spiritual department provides a safe environment, spiritual opportunities, and plants “seeds” for the children to make changes in their lives so they can be successful.

Sometimes we don't realize we are making a connection until we ask. Below is a testimonial from one of our young ladies who shared her spiritual story and journey.

*“Some of my best memories were when I was little; I used to go to church with my Grandma. She would dress me up in those cute little dresses and make my brother and I look really nice. After a while my mom stopped letting us see our Grandma and my mom didn't believe in God so that meant we stopped going to church too.*



*Up until I got to Home On The Range, I didn't believe either since the ties was cut with my grandma, they seemed to be cut with God as well. I always had this idea that we all had a destiny or a purpose in our lives and that there could be a higher power. When I got to Home On The Range, I wanted nothing to do with God. I was angry and taken away from anything I knew and placed at Home On The Range. I also understand my situation at home was bad enough it wasn't safe for me to be there. When I got to Home On The Range, the last place I wanted to be was a chapel. I made it very clear I wanted nothing to do with church and God.*

*Home On The Range held an event with Lighthouse and they brought in Champions Forever, and a singer named Cade Thompson. I was interested because it seemed really incredible to have a group that was on America's Got Talent show up, and a singer that had a record label. I knew it would probably have something to do with God, but I wanted to see them. So, I showed up! They told their stories about how some of them grew up similar to us but they turned it around. They said they have great things now because they asked God for forgiveness. There were people who sang and preached. It was very inspirational. I was really touched, and I chose to follow Christ along with others.*

*I then started getting close to people who really believe in God and they gave me a Bible and talked about God with me. They talked about their experiences with Him, and I started wanting to learn more. I started attending the spiritual programs that Home On The Range offers regularly. I asked questions, read my Bible and here I am today. I'm so glad I got to make connections with these people and God.”*





HOTR Ranch Hand  
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## Upcoming Events

*20th Annual Basket Bash & Auction*  
*Friday, November 19, 2021*  
*Golden Valley County Fairgrounds*  
*6:30pm*

*Giving Hearts Day*  
*Thursday, February 10, 2022*  
[givingheartday.org](http://givingheartday.org)



Home On The Range is on Facebook and Instagram! Become a fan by searching for “Home On The Range” and “Home on the Range Champions Ride Match” and stay informed of our events and activities.



*Our organization provides a therapeutic ranch environment for boys and girls who are disadvantaged, neglected, problematic, predelinquent and delinquent. Children of all races, creeds, and colors are served at our facility located in Sentinel Butte, North Dakota.*