

Inductions Made Into Hereford Crossroads Hall Of Fame



LINDA TEAHON PHOTOS

The Pederson family was inducted into the Hereford Crossroads Hall of Fame. Steve's widow, Helen, is pictured holding the poster surrounded by family members.



The children of Norbert Borwege, l-r: Colleen, Larry, Diane, and Sharon, along with other family members are pictured receiving the induction into the Hereford Crossroads Hall of Fame.

TERRI LICKING

Hereford Crossroads #5 drew a large crowd at the One Box Convention Center in Broken Bow. Only one other crossroads event drew more people.

A group of dedicated Nebraska Hereford enthusiasts met in 2015 with the purpose of hosting an evening for past and present Hereford breeders at Thedford. Richard Brown and Gerri Monahan, Lincoln, Linda Teahon, Dunning, Ken Stephens, Valentine, and Dixie Hoffman and Terri Licking, Thedford, also wanted to begin a journey of keeping the love of the breed alive for future generations. Hereford Crossroads #1 drew over 120 people that first year. Other host sites have been Alliance, Taylor, and Mullen.

Hereford memorabilia display tables were set up for Colonel Art Thompson, a renown auctioneer, who in his later years, called strictly Hereford sales; Ken Stephens of KEG Hereford, Valentine, who was the emcee for HC #5; Cain Land and Livestock, Broken Bow; Pederson Hereford Ranch, Berwyn; Borwege Herefords, Roseland; Mousel Brothers, Cambridge; Diamond Ring Herefords, Taylor; and historic photos from Lila (Drybread) Churchill, Valentine. Gerri Monahan, historian for the newly formed Nebraskans for Hereford Heritage, also put their collections of the last five years on a table for viewing. Nebraskans for Hereford Heritage received their official title last year and also achieved 501c3 status.

Each year prominent families have been recognized in the Nebraska Hereford Hall of Fame. Members select herd sires that have contributed to the breed's progeny.

This year's inductees included an auctioneer, two Hereford families, one with decades of distinction and one whose family has the distinction of the oldest Hereford ranch in Custer County, where the third generation, a son, made his mark in



Golden Aster 068 was inducted into the Hereford Crossroads Hall of Fame. He was owned by Harold Harms of Valentine. Pictured above are members of the Harms family, l-r: Heather, Jim and John Harms, all of Valentine.

less than a decade.

Colonel Art Thompson started crying farm sales and auctions in 1906 in York County. Eventually he sold purebred swine, lambs, and cattle at venues, including the Chicago International Stock Show, the Denver Stock Show, the Kansas City American Royal, the San Francisco Cow Palace, and the National Ram Show in Salt Lake City, Utah. In later years, he specialized in Black Angus and Hereford cattle and eventually, from 1943 until his retirement in 1953, in Herefords exclusively.

Col. Thompson's impact on the livestock industry went beyond the sales arena. As an advocate of modern methods in animal husbandry, he worked closely with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, now institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, to spread his message. He used the proof of his sales record, his knowledge of livestock values, and the pulpit of the auctioneer, to urge constantly and convincingly farmers, ranchers and purebred cattlemen to upgrade the quality of their livestock. He encouraged and influenced the annual 4-H sales at the Nebraska State Fair. He 'cried' the first Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H sale and did so, again for no fee, for many years thereafter.

In 1950, *Time* magazine wrote, 'brisk, blue-eyed 'Colonel' Arthur Weimer Thompson, dean of U.S. cattle auctioneers -

Thompson has probably done more than anyone else to make Herefords the highest-priced cattle breed. In the last 42 years, Auctioneer Thompson has knocked down \$250 million worth of cattle at more than 7,000 sales all over the U.S. His record \$506,000 for a single day's selling set at the auction of Colorado rancher Dan Thorton's Hereford herd in 1947, still stands - as does the \$65,000 bid at which he sold the prize bull Baca Duke II last year. Only eight Hereford bulls have ever been sold for more than \$50,000. Colonel Thompson has auctioned them all.'

In 1947, Colonel Thompson and his wife established the Arthur W. and Viola Thompson Scholarship at the University of Nebraska. It is given to outstanding second semester sophomore or junior Animal Science majors.

In 1950, with a captive crowd of cattle buyers and sellers, he told them, "You men are the backbone of America. Burn all the cities down - you farmers and ranchers will live. Tear up the farms and ranches - that's the end of everybody."

The Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission deemed Colonel Thompson met their selection criteria for the Nebraska Hall of Fame, where busts of prominent Nebraskans greet visitors on the second floor of the state capitol. Simply, "to bring to

See Hereford
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Wind farm moves forward



KENDRA CUTLER - THOMAS COUNTY HERALD

MARCIA HORA

A 19 wind turbine project near Kilgore moved forward after Cherry County Commissioners revised five of the 12 conditions in the application of the Conditional Use Permit application #003/18 BSH Kilgore, LLC. The commissioners planned to approve the revised regulations for the conditional use permit at their next meeting on October 29.

No public comment was allowed at the special meeting held Tuesday, October 15, as a public hearing had been held regarding the project proposed by BSH Kilgore LLC and Bluestem Sandhills LLC.

The 12 conditions included:

- Warnings at all gates allowing access to the project.
- Solid waste removal from the site and specifics of hazardous or flammable materials and where waste would be stored and disposed of.
- Any plan that is developed for reutilization of the WECS must be submitted within six months of the notification of halted energy production and said plan would require a new conditional use approval.
- During decommissioning the owner will indicate to the County where and how all waste materials will be disposed of.
- Installation of manufacturer approved fire suppression equipment on each individual tower.
- All roads be returned to prior condition at the cost of the applicant.
- A satisfactory decommissioning agreement; development of a fire suppression/control plan with local fire departments, with the cost for training the local fire departments, being paid by the applicant.
- All requirements outlined and required by Cherry County Zoning Regulations must be completed and approved by the Board of Commissioners prior to the commencement of construction.

The number four condition states energy from the proposed project is to be marketed to NPPD, that the applicant receive NPPD's approval, that NPPD notify the County Clerk within 10 days of stoppage of energy production at the site so that the County will know when the one-year decommissioning time clock starts.

The net decommissioning will be based on applicant's engineer certified cost times 125%, minus applicant's estimated salvage value, for a total of \$4,123,500. Ten percent of the net decommissioning costs, \$412,350, to be a cash deposit in an interest bearing account with a Cherry County financial institution approved by the Commissioners with the balance to be secured with an irrevocable letter of credit with a financial institution approved by the Board of Commissioners. The deposit is subject to a satisfactory deposit agreement that specifies the terms for access to deposits.

The October 15 vote came after a three and a half year battle over wind turbines and industrialization in the sandhills, including the Kilgore project and Cherry County Wind. Preserve the Sandhills, a group of 500 ranchers, property owners and residents working to protect the area, has sued Cherry County and the three Cherry County Commissioners, contending Martin DeNaeyer and Tanya Storer have a conflict of interest in the project and should not be allowed to vote on permit approval.

Craig Andresen, spokesperson for Preserve the Sandhills, said the conflict of interest lawsuit has now been amended to an abuse of power lawsuit that will be decided in a court of law. "We are also examining the conflict of interest law and calling it into question," Andresen said. "We feel the commissioners are not looking out for the best interest of the county, and their ties to the project would mean financial gain for their families. It has been a process, but for over three years now we have been able to keep this project from happening."

Judge Mark Kozisek had

decided two months ago to allow Preserve the Sandhills attorney, Jason Bruno to do discovery in the lawsuit, and at a court hearing Friday, October 18, the judge took testimony under advisement. He will continue to look into backgrounds and family ties of the commissioners to wind companies and vice versa.

Andresen said Judge Kozisek stated the commissioners voted at their own peril on the permit application. A ruling may take anywhere from two weeks to a month or longer.

Andresen said there is no teeth in the conditions approved by the commissioners and the actual cost of decommissioning would be over half a million dollars per turbine.

"An existing building permit for a home was not even looked at and the proposed turbines are too close to the structure," he said.

Those against the industrialization of the area cite health issues associated with wind turbines, devaluing land, tearing up of volatile grass, and protecting scenic views found only in the sandhills.

Proponents of wind energy say money generated goes to property owners and local governments. They say wind power is a clean, cheaper alternative to other energy sources.

Andresen said Preserve the Sandhills also stands with those who have taken legal action against the proposed NPPD R-project transmission line. Two ranches between Paxton and Sutherland have joined in a federal lawsuit against U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' June approval of an "incidental take permit" of the endangered American burying beetle.

"If NPPD exercises eminent domain there will also be a state lawsuit," Andresen said.

All 12 conditions of the conditional use permit application will be included in the draft form of Zoning Resolution #Z-81 and will be discussed and revised by the Cherry County Commissioners prior to the adoption of the resolution.

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- Thomas County School Land Lease Sale
- Notice To Contractors Tree Topping
- Be An Informed Citizen Read The Legals

Flag Retirement

A flag retirement ceremony and lunch will be held Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. at the Legion Building in Thedford.

Please join the American Legion & Auxiliary!