

the Wheat Belt Connection



HAPPY THANKSGIVING - KEEP IT SAFE

NOVEMBER 2018

Yolanda Hruska Joins Wheat Belt as Marketing & Customer Care Representative

Wheat Belt has been fortunate to benefit from the availability of great talent in the Sidney area recently, and is happy to introduce Yolanda Hruska to the Wheat Belt family of employees, and to our customers.

Yolanda was born in Sterling, Colorado, but considers Sidney her home town. She had been employed with the Saint Patrick's church, for many years, before moving to Cabela's, prior to her employment with Wheat Belt.

Yolanda, and her husband, Joe, who is a native of Sidney, enjoy the country life on a farm south of Sidney, where Joe and his father farm and run a feedlot operation.

Yolanda and Joe have three sons, Rob and Beau (wife, Kacie), Hruska of Sidney, and Austin Miller of Lincoln. They have two daughters, Courtney Kaus (husband, Reed), and Kimberly Dailey (husband, Christopher), of Omaha. They enjoy two grandchildren, Kalani and Kobe Dailey.

In her spare time, Yolanda enjoys spending time with family, and Husker and Bronco football. She said something that would surprise us would be that she has sky diving on her bucket list, and obviously is not afraid of heights because she, Joe and Austin enjoyed a hot air balloon ride over Phoenix earlier in the year.

Yolanda will help with all aspects of customer care including new services, service upgrades, customer events, the front office and marketing.



Wheat Belt Connection

Editor
Pam Wieser

In This Issue

Nebraska DEQ Info	Page 12-B
Quotes to Ponder	Page 12-B
Tim's Tidbits	Page 12-C
SafetyFirst	Page 12-D



Drawing Winner

Yolanda Hruska

Congratulations Julie and Rick Kreuter, our "Lucky Winners" for September! Rick and Julie have lived in Big Springs for 17 years. They are the hosts and producers of "Beyond The Hunt" on Outdoor Channel. They have shared their outdoor adventures since 1996, and are proud to help grow a community of outdoor enthusiasts.

For their prompt payment, they received a \$50 credit on their account. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid the \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 18th of the month.

2018 Nebraska DEQ

Clean Diesel Rebates For Diesel Irrigation Engine Replacement

If you have considered electrifying your Diesel Irrigation motor, but found that conversion costs are just too high, you might consider applying for the Clean Diesel Rebate Program.

You can go on line for the application and instructions at <http://deq.ne.gov/publica.nsf/pages/17-016> according to a notice received at Wheat Belt in early October.

There are a number of stipulations that must be met to qualify, and the deadline for the 2018 application process is December 15, 2018. Replacement must not be scheduled prior to September 2021.

**DEADLINE
DECEMBER 15, 2018**

Quotes to Ponder

"Three things tell a man; his eyes, his friends and his favorite quotes."

Immanuel Kant

"People forget years, and remember moments!"

Ann Beattiel

"The secret to success -keep trying"

Unknown

"As a grandparent, I would rather my grandchildren remember the times we shared rather than how clean my house was."

Unknown

"My heart was saying, it was meant to be.

My head was saying, don't be stupid."

Unknown

"You can only forgive so many times, before you become the victim!!"

Unknown

"Your numbness is perhaps something you cannot help. It is what the world has done to you, but your coldness, that is what you do to the world."

Lorrie Moore

REBATES . REBATES

Check on-line at www.wheatbelt.com under the "Energy Efficient" tab or contact the office for current rebates offered by Tri-State G & T and Wheat Belt PPD.

This might be just the right time to purchase a new heat pump.

COMMERCIAL

RESIDENTIAL



JNJ

Steamway



JACK BRUNS - JEFF ADELS
2454 US HWY 385
SIDNEY NE 69162-3124

WATER RESTORATION, CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY

308-254-2987 . 308-249-0097

Moe's

**Brian (Moe)
Moffat**

308-772-3223



Heating
Electric Heat Pumps

P O Box 410
Oshkosh NE 69154
Cell: 308-778-6100

& Air Conditioning



POINTS WEST
Community Bank
A new direction in banking.

Proudly serving western Nebraska
from these convenient locations:

Sidney

809 Illinois Street, Phone: (308)254-7110

420 Glover Road, Phone: (308)254-5100

Dalton

301 Main Street, Phone: (308)377-2313

Kimball

201 South Chestnut, Phone: (308)235-3663

Chappell

774 2nd Street, Phone: (308)874-2215

Lisco

102 Coldwater, Phone: (308)772-3226

Find us on
Facebook

www.pwcbank.com

Member FDIC



Tim Lindahl
General Manager

Tim's Tidbits

Broadband Update



The rural electric program was born in the 1930's to help build a critical infrastructure to every rural resident. Eighty years later, the concept and structure have proven to work extremely well. It solving that challenge, and allows all people to have access to affordable and reliable electricity with pricing very similar to those in urban areas. Rural Nebraska remains the cornerstone to the success of the state, and we all need to continue to work to maintain equal access to critical needs, such as electricity, education, healthcare, transportation, and now communication. Broadband Internet has become a necessity in the modern world, and we continue to see gaps, across the state, with availability of affordable and reliable broadband internet service.

The state Unicameral passed LB 994 this year on a 48-0-1 vote. LB 994 established a rural broadband task force to study possible solutions. The task force is required to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by November 1, 2019. Governor Ricketts was directed, in the law, to appoint members to the task force representing various entities in the rural areas. I am pleased that I was selected to represent the Nebraska electric utility industry. We had our first meeting in September, and plan to meet monthly until we have a solution. Electric utilities in Nebraska will not likely be the sole solution to the challenge, however, there may be items from our



structure, or from our own communication needs, that may become part of a solution. We will be very adamant that whatever role the electric utilities may play in a solution, it will not put any of the cost or risk on the electric consumer.

I will continue to provide updates on the progress of the task force in the coming months. I would also welcome your input on your needs to improve broadband access in our rural areas. The meetings will be streamed live, should you wish to listen. Many parts of the area we serve have good coverage at an acceptable price, however, there are many areas that still do not. Solving this foundational problem could potentially help in many other areas as well.

I look forward to help make rural Nebraska prosper, and advocate that we are on equal ground with our non-rural areas. Below are links to the announcement of the task force, the official website of the task force, and an interesting article that compares rural broadband to the expansion of the railroad in the 1800's.

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/press/governor-ricketts-announces-rural-broadband-task-force-members>

<https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov>
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/broadband-todays-steel-vine-rural-communities-randy-bretz/>

Day & Night Plumbing
24 Hour Emergency Service
308-254-1008

Steve Wintholz, Owner
Plumbing, Heating & Cooling

- .Gas Work
- .Heating Repairs
- .Water Heaters
- .Remodeling
- .Plumbing Repair
- .Air Conditioning
- .New Construction
- .Fixtures

Electric Sewer and Drain Cleaning
Geo Thermal Heat Pumps
Serving the Entire Directory Area

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • INDUSTRIAL

Rood's Tire Center
1744 Illinois
Sidney NE 69162
308-254-6127 or 800-303-6127

- 24 Hr Farm & Road Service
- 4-Wheel Alignment (Cars or Trucks)
- Computer Balance (Cars/Light & Lg Trucks)
- Complete Suspension Work
- Complete Exhaust Work
- Complete Brake Work
- Alignments
- Oil Change & Lube
- Shocks and Struts
- Wheels

Most Major Brand Tires
Michelin • Uniroyal • Firestone • BF Goodrich • Kelley • Good Year




Safety First

BY PAM WIESER

We are Blessed!

When you listen to the news or scroll through Facebook, you can't help but realize how blessed we are to live in Western Nebraska. With the wind and snow and unkept roads, you realize that at least we don't have the turmoil they seem to continually fuel in the cities across this great country. Maybe it is because we are just "too busy" making a living to be a part of it.

In any event, it is a good thing, but we do want to remember to be a part of the process that chooses who we want to take the time for us. That is what the Co-op Vote project is all about. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association recognized that the 42 million rural members in 47 states need to have a voice. Stifling regulations to the farmers or rural businessmen mean very little to the urban or suburban voters.

The responsibility of a fair election by our citizens should be of utmost importance to all Americans, and should be emphasized to our children. Want to register on-line? Go to vote.gov for more information. Technology makes it easy to enroll in grassroot efforts at nrea-action.org and NRECA www.vote.coop. Vote for your future and ours.



Wheat Belt Public Power District
P O Box 177, Sidney, Nebraska
 Serving parts of Cheyenne, Deuel, Morrill, Garden, Arthur and Keith Counties

Board of Directors

President

Bernie Fehringer, Sidney

Vice President

Stuart Morgan, Dalton

Secretary

Marcus Milanuk, Oshkosh

Treasurer

John Gortemaker, Oshkosh

Assistant Secretary

Brian Zimmerman, Big Springs

Directors

Mike Blomenkamp, Broadwater

Doug Smith, Chappell

General Manager

Tim Lindahl

Business Manager

Pam Wieser

Operations Manager/Safety Director

Earl Reilly

Chief Financial Officer

Carolyn Hostetler

Staking/Construction Supervisor

Ryan Borges

Senior Meter Technician

Jeff Rosenbaum

During normal office hours (7:30a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and after hours call:
(308) 254-5871 . (800) 261-7114

Fax: (308) 254-2384

e-mail: wheatbelt@wheatbelt.com

www.wheatbelt.com

STEFFENS HOME INTERIORS, LLC

STEFFENS APPLIANCE CENTER

929 Jackson . 909 King . Sidney, Nebraska

Sales and Installation Competitive Prices and Exceptional Service

Open 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday . 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday

Saturday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

PHONE 308-254-2656 . FAX 308-254-5259



Diann and Jerry Steffens
 email - steffenshomeinteriors@charterinternet.com

Located in Sidney's 10th Street Square

Casual, New York style pizzeria that is dedicated to providing a dining experience based on tradition, good service, family and fun.



Sam & Louie's
 Eat It - Live It - Love It

824 10th Avenue . Phone 308-203-1200



Clip and save
 this ad.
 Present at time
 of order for 10%
 off framing.

The Moose & The Goose Gallery
 Custom Framing & Antiques
 1017 Illinois Street
 Sidney, NE 69162
 (308) 254-0500 or 249-0338

facebook.com/mooseandthegoose

We Buy
 Antiques!