

Plain & Valley

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Dragging Angels Around

by Chris Istace

Currently touring to promote his second CD **Ends of the Earth**, Blake Berglund the Kennedy-area singer and songwriter says his chosen occupation may not be easy, but he'll never work a day job again.

I'm dragging angels around . . .
I'm running halos in the ground . . .
There's a holy battle cry, when a demon
comes in sight . . .
And in the distance flies a thousand
sets of wings . . .
I'm blessed as hell . . .
That someone's still praying for me.

"Dragging Angels"
by Blake J. Berglund
Ends of the Earth (2010)
Blake Berglund and Kennedy Rodeo

Don't be fooled by the rocky edge to his singing voice. Don't even be mistaken by the way he charges through chords on his acoustic guitar, a Seagull so scratched and worn that he has tapped a hole in its body just below the pick guard.

Despite the alternative blend of country-rock-pop-blues he creates—he doesn't like to have his material pigeon-holed into any genre—there is little doubt that Blake Berglund is a product of the farm. Whether it's his disarming charm with fans at his concerts or his polite, out-going personality, the 27-year-old is combining an intense work ethic and a well-bred, Prairie disposition to make a living with his passion.

"My lifestyle is country and my music is rock and roll," says Berglund, who until earlier this summer was living and working out of Vancouver, B.C. "They bleed into and affect each other very well. Sometimes too much."

Although he has a band—Kennedy Rodeo—Berglund is alone at a quaint coffee shop in Yorkton on Aug. 4 to kick off his cross-country tour promoting his second CD, *Ends of the Earth*. He quietly steps to the front of a small audience of about 20 patrons. They pack the half dozen tables in the cafe, located in a Victorian-era home on the edge of the city's downtown core.

Berglund, with a wisp of a beard on his chin and mussed, short-cropped hair, throws the strap of his gig-worn guitar over his shoulder and bends down to ad-

just the amplifier sitting on the floor. With barely a word of introduction, he is busting into his set.

On this night, his apparel matches his rural personality. He has a western vest over a cowboy shirt, jeans with a large buckle on a leather belt, and cowboy boots. Considering he arrived in Yorkton straight off his parents' farm near Kennedy, it's a fitting wardrobe.

"Oh, geez. My fingernails are still dirty," he says during a conversation before the show. "I was out on the farm all afternoon hauling bales before I realized I better get cleaned up to get here in time. Should have cleaned my hands better."

It's this sort of innocence that draws people to him. I first met Berglund in December of 2009 at The Club, a nightclub run by the Saskatchewan Cultural Exchange Society in Regina.

After performing mostly his own material with a few covers thrown in—including an interesting rendition of Gordon Lightfoot's "If You Could Read My Mind" that he figured out on stage after forgetting the lyrics to a Collective Soul number—a friend and I introduced ourselves to him.

He was interested to learn that we were both originally from Whitewood, just up Highway 9 north of Kennedy where Berglund grew up. I explained that I first heard of him after he was scheduled to play at a bar in Moosomin the previous Good Friday. I didn't see that show, but found him on the Internet and enjoyed his style of music.

"Yeah, my mom sort of gave me the gears for that one," Berglund said about the Good Friday gig while peeking over towards the merchandise table where his mother was helping sell CDs and t-shirts. "But you came all the way from Moosomin to see me tonight?"

"Yeah," I said. "My buddy and I catch several concerts in the city together."

Berglund immediately turned around, grabbed two CDs and plopped them in my hands.

"Man, I really appreciate you coming," he said.

As I drove home the next day, I threw one of the CDs into my car stereo. While his original brand of lyric-filled, countrified rock blared through the speakers, I thought about the gratitude he showed for my attendance and wondered, "Who exactly is this guy?"

I was not only impressed by his attitude, but—having met many less-than-cordial professional musicians before then—was sort of surprised by it.

"He's very appreciative of the people coming out," said his mother Theresa Berglund from her home near Kennedy. "Whether you come out one time or the tenth time, something I've noticed in him is he takes time to show how much he appreciates them being there. He has a passion for music, but also a passion for people."

One of the biggest influences on Berglund's life has been growing up on the Flying B Ranch, the Jack and Theresa Berglund farm located five miles southwest of Kennedy.

The Berglunds moved there when Blake was three and developed a PMU operation that included about 100 quarter-horse mares and other stock. For Jack, it was a return home. He spent his youth in Kennedy.

Berglund is the oldest of four children. As a youth, horses were the centre of Berglund's life. He cared for and trained the animals and was, as described by his father, an avid horseman.

"He spent lots of time with them. He was a chore-boy for sure," Jack says. "Blake is definitely a hand at home. He can dig in and help a lot."

While Berglund's focus on music has scaled back his involvement with horses, his younger brother Jarid continues to train and sell the animals. Jarid is also a high-earner in the Canadian Cowboy Association tie-down roping event.

Berglund may have stepped away from the ranch—returning just enough to help for harvest or when he visits the area—but the farm is still burned deeply within his psyche. He says horses have been instru-

mental in both developing both who he is and what he does.

"When I lived at the ranch growing up, I was surrounded with everything that should never be taken advantage of or for granted, but was; a million horses running around and dirt as far as you could see," he says.

"I wear a cowboy hat when I'm traveling in the van and cowboy boots every night on stage. It's funny how your roots come back into play once you've got through the movement of almost abandoning them. I wish I was the cowboy my brother and father are. Until then, I'll just keep writing about it."

Today, the Flying B Ranch is an organic farm with grain, 100 head of feeder cattle and 50 after-PMU horses. Berglund describes his father as an "agri-preneur" and as the smartest businessman he knows. Before moving to Kennedy, Jack operated an auction company called Berglund Livestock in the Arcola area. Theresa is a full-time speech and language pathologist.

While there was music in the Berglund home, the family couldn't be described as musical. Theresa played a little piano, while Jack never took up an instrument. In his extended family, Berglund remembers his grandfather, Louie Berglund, strumming a bit on the guitar and showing him how to play the mouth harp.

This was when he was three, a time when he also took a liking to the piano.

"We had a piano in the house, but neither Jack or myself played at the time," says Theresa. "I remember Blake would just bounce up there and play something from ear. That's when we enrolled him in lessons."

Barb Bruce was his first teacher and the lessons opened a vast interest in organized musical training that extended into elementary, junior and high school in Kennedy. By the time he graduated in 2001, he had learned to play saxophone with eight years of training from Lynette Kaminski and out-of-school advancement in piano with Jeanette Cross, who pulled Berglund through the Royal Conservatory.

Continued on pages 12-13 *ES*

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Helen Solmes photos

A young bronc rider waves at the crowd from his perch.



This Arabian princess was one of the most uniquely adorned riders to participate in the centennial parade.



Sisters Michelle and Bridgette DeCorby cooked an endless batch of sausages and pancakes for the breakfast that wrapped up before the parade started.



RCMP officers in contemporary and vintage uniform.

Spy Hill celebrates 100 years

A year of planning and hard work paid off when Spy Hill hosted a centennial celebration that will be remembered for years to come.

Past and present residents, out-of-town guests, and hundreds of people from neighboring communities flocked to the village's downtown area and fair grounds during the weekend of Aug. 6-8 to join Spy Hill residents in celebrating the village's 100th birthday.

Weekend activities included fireworks, a pancake breakfast, a parade, baseball, activities for the children, chariot races, a church service, museum displays, a slow pitch tournament, beer garden, and a concession.



Left: An impromptu baseball game with veteran Morley Clark at bat, Ronny Gough as back catcher and Allan Howie as umpire during the Spy Hill Centennial parade.

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8	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
15	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
22	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
29	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10:00 AM
OCTOBER			
6	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10:00 AM
9	SATURDAY	TOPLINE RED ANGUS DISPERSAL	1:00 PM
12	TUESDAY	SHEEP SALE AND HORSE SALE	12:00 PM
13	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
18	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
20	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE ANGUS INFLUENCE SALE	10:00 AM
22	FRIDAY	BRED COW SALE	11:00 AM
25	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
27	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10:00 AM
NOVEMBER			
1	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
3	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE CHAROLAIS INFLUENCE SALE	10:00 AM
5	FRIDAY	BRED COW SALE	11:00 AM
8	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
10	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE ANGUS INFLUENCE SALE	10:00 AM
15	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
17	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10:00 AM
19	FRIDAY	TREASURE CHEST LIMOUSIN SALE	1:00 PM
22	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
24	WEDNESDAY	FEEDER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
26	FRIDAY	BRED COW SALE	11:00 AM
29	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
30	TUESDAY	SHEEP SALE	12:00 PM
DECEMBER			
1	WEDNESDAY	FEEDER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
3	FRIDAY	BRED COW SALE	11:00 AM
6	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
6	MONDAY	BRED COW SALE	1:00 PM
8	WEDNESDAY	FEEDER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
10	FRIDAY	SPRINGCREEK SIMMENTALS & GUESTS FEMALE SALE	1:00 PM
13	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
13	MONDAY	BRED COW SALE	1:00 PM
15	WEDNESDAY	FEEDER CATTLE SALE	9:00 AM
17	FRIDAY	BRED COW SALE	11:00 AM
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CEO's wife hired for position with Sun Country: Hiring review has lots to examine

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The independent review looking into hiring practices in Sun Country Health Region will have more to look at than the hiring of a vice-president of finance who had been fired from a previous job for lying about his credentials.

Sun Country CEO Cal Tant says he was aware when he hired former Vice-President of Finance Hal Schmidt that Schmidt had been fired from IWK Health Centre in Halifax for lying about his credentials. Schmidt had falsely claimed to be a Chartered Accountant when he applied for the job at IWK.

When the World-Spectator reported on Schmidt's past and contacted Schmidt, he at first said he had never claimed to be a chartered accountant when he applied at IWK. But the World-Spectator obtained a copy of the CV he submitted to IWK, in which he clearly claimed to have received his CA designation, and claimed to have articulated a firm in Sudbury, Ont. before being hired "post-designation," by a client, meaning after he received his CA designation.

Schmidt had lied about his credentials to other employers, and held several positions for which a CA designation was required.

Both CEO Cal Tant and board chair Sharon Bauche stood by the hiring of Schmidt after the information was published.

Based on information gained through the World-Spectator's reporting, the provincial health ministry first asked for a report from board chair Sharon Bauche on how Schmidt had been hired,

then asked for a meeting with Bauche and Tant on the hiring, then ordered an independent review into hiring practices in Sun Country.

After the review was ordered, the World-Spectator uncovered additional information about Schmidt—that he had lent himself \$75,000 in public funds from St. Mary's Hospital in New Westminster, B.C., didn't repay the loan, was sued by the Fraser Health Authority to recover the funds plus interest, and that he has never paid the outstanding judgement against him.

In the wake of those articles, Schmidt resigned from his position with Sun Country.

The independent review will look into whether proper procedures were followed in the hiring of Schmidt, and will also look into other aspects of hiring practices in Sun Country.

The World-Spectator has been asked to provide information for the review. Among allegations that have been made by Sun Country employees to the World-Spectator are that CEO Tant's wife, a dietician, was hired as regional director of primary care, that an associate of Tant was hired for a newly created position with no clear job duties, and that Tant routinely brings in friends and associates as contractors to do work that Sun Country employees say could be done by existing employees.

The allegations have been repeated by several different Sun Country employees.

One Sun Country employee, who provided information on the condition of anonymity, asks "What are the processes

for tenders for contracts that the CEO recommends and uses and VP of finance oversees? The CEO appears to arbitrarily hire friends and acquaintances for projects that could be done by employees and managers. Who oversees the process for awarding these?"

The review is expected to be completed by mid-September.

Moosomin MLA Don Toth said he hopes the review finds the problem with the hiring process and ways to resolve it. "One has to wonder what kind of information was presented to the board," Toth said. "Over time you build up some confidence that when administrators come to you they give you all the information available. No doubt the board members have learned they should be ensuring they have all the information they need."

Board chair Sharon Bauche said she wasn't concerned any special oversight was needed over the hiring of the CEO's wife.

"She reports to somebody else and was hired by somebody else so it really isn't an issue," said Bauche. She said she hopes the review unveils all the issues with staffing. "The reviewer said staff have been very open with him, so I'm hoping this reveals what the concerns of the staff are."

She said the board hasn't identified any changes it could make to its policies to ensure a hiring like Schmidt's doesn't happen again. "We don't know until we see this. Until we have the facts from an outside source we don't know if we have anything we need to change."

Work continues

Construction is continuing on the \$2.8 billion expansion of PotashCorp Rocanville. This photo of the new headframe was taken last week. The headframe will be at the top of the new service shaft. The existing service shaft will be converted to an second production shaft.



Kevin Weedmark photo

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Red means stop, green means go, yellow means . . . ?

I went through a yellow light today. I'd glanced away at the wrong moment, looked up to see the light had gone yellow, and realized I couldn't stop without slamming on the brakes and probably skidding into the intersection.

Later, I was crossing a street downtown when a van went through the yellow in front of me. It looked to me like the driver had plenty of time to stop—but no doubt he had his own excuse.

It's a rare driver who doesn't run through a yellow light on occasion, and in most cases it's barely even a conscious decision. You have a split second to decide to brake, keep going . . . or even speed up.

So how do we make that decision?

A transportation engineering graduate student at the University of Cincinnati recently decided to see what he could learn about the factors influencing the decision to run a yellow light.

In cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation and with the help of his advisor, Professor Heng Wei, Zhixia Li conducted research at research in Akron, Cleves and Fairfield, Ohio. The results were set forth in a paper called "Analysis of Drivers' Stopping Behaviors Associated with the Yellow Phase Dilemma Zone—An Empirical Study in Fairfield, OH," and were presented at the 2010 American Society of Highway Engineers National Conference held last week in Cincinnati.

Unfortunately the paper itself is not yet online, but a press release about his findings was put out a few days ago.

According to the release, Li found that lane position, type of vehicle, travel speed, speed limit and the timing of the light all figure in the running of yellow lights.

For example, he found that people in the right lane are 1.6 times more likely to speed through a yellow light



Edward Willett

than drivers in the left lane.

Drivers in heavy trucks are more likely to pass through a yellow light than drivers of automobiles, SUVs, vans or pickup trucks. I suspect that's a matter of momentum: it takes a heavy vehicle longer to stop than a lighter one, and once it's stopped, it's harder to get going again.

I also suspect, though Li's research has nothing to say on the matter, that in Saskatchewan in the winter time the incidence of people running yellow lights increases dramatically because suddenly all of us are dealing with the problem of momentum: brake too hard on an icy road and you'll skid through the intersection, possibly out of control. Even if you do manage to stop, you may find it almost impossible to get going again. In effect, winter turns us all into heavy trucks. (Er, turns our vehicles into heavy trucks. Although, after a month of Christmas goodies . . .)

Travel speed is a pretty obvious factor—the faster a vehicle is travelling at the onset of the yellow light, the more likely it is to pass through it. And that naturally means that the higher the posted speed limit, the more likely vehicles are to pass through the yellow light at an intersection.

Finally, there's the timing of the light.

Yellow lights are typically set to last somewhere from three to five seconds. Drivers coming to an intersec-

tion with a longer yellow light are more likely to pass through it (presumably because they're familiar with the intersection and know how long the light is going to be).

In fact, Li found that for every additional second a yellow light persists, drivers are three times more likely to pass through the intersection under yellow. In other words, drivers are three times more likely to pass through a four-second yellow than they are a three-second yellow, and three times more likely than that to pass through a five-second light, which if my math is right, means that they're a whopping nine times more likely to pass through a five-second yellow than a three-second one.

This kind of empirical data should be of great use to traffic engineers attempting to make better, smoother and safer the flow of traffic through cities.

It might even, the press release suggests, "help drivers consider their own actions when in the yellow-light dilemma zone."

But that, I'll believe when I see.

Edward Willett is a freelance writer in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Harvest delayed by flooding, rain

Flooding has delayed or washed out seeding across a wide swath of the Prairies, and more wet weather is now slowing the harvest.

According to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly crop report, just eight per cent of the 2010 crop has been combined—far below the 28 per cent average for this time of year.

John Lyons, spokesman for the Canadian Wheat Board, says the situation was already "pretty dire" for many farmers because of the flooding and now there's an increased risk of frost damaging the crop.

Lyons says farmers need a repeat of last year, when parts of the Prairies baked in the warmest September ever.

Environment Canada senior climatologist David Phillips calls it a "bummer of a summer" and says if nature was truly fair, there would be a repeat performance of the heat from last September.

But Phillips says farmers shouldn't expect that heat to help the crops catch up this year.



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Sunlight and victory

I'm going to war . . . again.

Every year, the same battle begins at the same time. Each time I enter into this most frustrating of campaigns, I promise myself and my dreadful enemy that I will be victorious.

The war usually begins with a peach. Yes, the luscious Okanagan-grown delicacy that tempts me every time I enter the grocery store in the dying days of summer. I dream of making peach pies, constructing peach cobblers and pouring heavy whipping cream over the juicy fruit. But, before I can get to any of that, I invariably put the peaches on my kitchen counter. And that's when the enemy strikes. By sunrise the next day, a fleet of opponents is waiting for me right in my very own kitchen.

Now, I don't know how they get in, I don't know how they sense that the peaches have arrived and



Christalee Froese

I have no idea how they build up their ranks so fast. But as each day of the long war drags on, they manage to replace their troops as fast as I can eliminate them.

The first attack is usually an offensive on my part, and it is always unplanned. It goes a little something like this—I spot the enemy in the vicinity of my peaches, and I start swatting uncontrollably with my hands, hoping to crush my adversaries before I crush my peaches (adversary - 1, me - 0, peaches - bruised).

I've used the "flailing-arm offensive" for years, and despite the fact that fruit flies move painfully

slow, I still cannot manage to eliminate the sneaky little creatures.

But over the years, I've gotten smarter—oh yes, the plans of attack have become much more complex. A few years ago I figured out that if I put my peaches in a plastic bag, the fruit flies will come, but they can't get in. So I embed myself at the edge of the kitchen counter, I raise my fly swatter and I wait. When they arrive, I attack immediately with force and with precision. And while this works, with the flies being squashed by my strength, the peaches don't fare so well.

So last year, I brought in a new weapon—Sun-

light. No, not the kind that streams through the windows onto my peaches in the morning, the kind that comes in a yellow bottle. I drop a piece of "decoy" fruit in a jar, I put a few drops of Sunlight in the trap and I fill it part way with water. The final step is placing Saran Wrap tightly over the jar mouth, then poking a few small holes in the wrap.

All this adds up to a clever fruit fly trap. The sneaky little peach-eaters make their way to the decoy fruit, but when they try to leave, they can't. I don't know if it's the Sunlight fumes that get them, or if it's the sticky detergent on their wings. But you know what, I don't care. It works.

I'm going to war again, but this time I've got Sunlight on my side.

Christalee Froese welcomes comments at Lcfroese@sasktel.net or visit www.westwords.net.



Back in the swing of things

Kids across the Prairies are back in school; Jaclyn Fafard spends recess on the swings with her friends at Rocanville School.

Miranda Minassian photo

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Above: Six combines lined up and waiting to start harvesting for the Crossborder Community Project. Nine combines in total were donated for the day.

Left: People line up for a big harvest lunch in the field.

Monique McKay photos

Community project harvests for Pakistan

BY MONIQUE MCKAY
Eighteen years ago Art Neufeld of Kola, Manitoba formed the not-for-profit organization, Crossborder Community Project (CCP), because "he always held the assumption that we live in a land of plenty," said his son, Don Neufeld.

Every year the CCP plants and harvests grain destined for less privileged places around the globe.

"If we were on the other side of the globe, we would want help too," said Neufeld.

Neufeld and five other members of the volunteer group have carried on the

work that Art started, and on August 20 approximately 130 people gathered to help with and witness the harvest of 275 acres of wheat, which will be destined for flood-stricken Pakistan this year.

The floods, triggered by heavier than normal monsoon rains, have killed more than 1,500 people in the last couple of weeks and left 20 million homeless, according to government estimates.

The crops, upon which the population depends, have been utterly destroyed.

Just east of Kola, the wheat was seeded on April 20 on land donated by Helen Koop.

"She's in her eighties," said a representative of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, responsible for distributing the grain. "Sadly, she's in the hospital right now. Last year she was up in a combine."

Through a four-to-one program with the Canadian

International Development Agency (CIDA), donating these 275 acres will become the equivalent of donating 1,375 acres of grain.

"I'm anticipating 60 bushels an acre," said Neufeld. "The local community is very good about supporting this growing project," he said.

Nine combines, six semis, and three grain carts were among the equipment donated by individual farmers and farm implement businesses to assist in the harvest.

"It's our way of supporting the community," said Karen Cartwright with BDO.

"As a Christian, I cannot stand idly by and not help people around the globe," said Neufeld.

"I just love it," said Kola Café owner Frieda Doerksen. "I closed down the café so everyone could come here instead. We—Canadians—are a helping people. It's what we do."

"I came to watch Chad

Lesnar combine," teased Dave Stormoen, up on vacation from Minnesota. Then his face sobered, and he said quietly, "I love it. It's wonderful."

The CCP consists of only six members now, but Neufeld points out that farms have grown bigger in the 20 years since his father started the project.

"It's still a strong group," he said, adding that he expects it will survive into the future as the next generation picks it up.

"I have a son and two daughters. They're very interested, the whole community is very interested and supportive."

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is made up of 15 Canadian churches and church organizations working to end hunger in developing countries by increasing and deepening the involvement of Canadians in efforts to end hunger.

On behalf of its membership, the CFB collects grain and cash donations, pro-

vides funds and expert advice for projects submitted by member agencies and their partners, manages the procurement and supply of

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Massive components of wind turbines for the Red Lily Wind Farm just west of Moosomin sit on a CP Rail siding west of Virden last week. A temporary injunction was granted preventing construction on the \$60 million wind farm, then lifted one week later.



Stephanie Lange photo

Injunction granted, then lifted against wind farm

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Work stopped for six days on the Red Lily Wind Farm just west of Moosomin as a temporary injunction was granted against any further construction on the wind farm, then lifted a week later. The \$60 million 25 megawatt wind farm is being built in the RMs of Martin and Moosomin. The project has been in the works for several years. It has passed all environmental reviews, and construction was approved by the two RM councils earlier this year.

Opposition sprang up among some local residents early this year. A petition was taken to the RM of Martin council, which struck a committee to study the issues raised before the RM council approved the development.

Much of the site preparation work has been completed, foundations have been poured, and parts of the massive Vestas turbines now sit waiting on a siding west of Virden.

An ex parte order issued by the Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatoon on Wednesday, Aug. 25 granted the plaintiff, David McKinnon, an interim injunction preventing further construction on the Red Lily Wind Energy Project. The defendants in the case—the Red Lily Power Limited Partnership, the Red Lily Wind Energy Corp. and the RMs of Martin and Moosomin—were not informed in advance that McKinnon would be seeking an injunction on Aug. 25 and were not represented before the judge.

Red Lily's lawyer applied to overturn the injunction and one week later, on Wednesday, Sept. 1, the judge lifted the injunction after hearing from both sides, and ordered McKinnon to pay the defendants' legal costs.

According to McKinnon's lawyer, Bradley Jamieson of Saskatoon, "The primary issue with respect to this matter is the lack of setbacks from which the Red Lily Wind Energy Corp. is permitted to construct wind turbines from individual residences."

The application to the court asks for a 2,000-metre—or two kilometre—separation between wind turbines, which would rule out the current project.

Saskatchewan has no legislated setbacks between wind turbines and homes. Ontario has legislated setbacks of 400 metres. The Red Lily turbines are all more than 500 metres from any home and some are over 600 metres away from any home.



The concrete base of one of the wind turbine towers for the Red Lily Wind Farm. This photo was taken Wednesday, when construction was halted by an injunction.

McKinnon's application to the court was supported by affidavits from local residents Troy Smith and Ray Donald, and Dr. Michael Nissenbaum of Mars Hill, Maine.

Nissenbaum is a radiologist who opposed a wind farm near his home in Mars Hill, Maine. The wind farm went ahead and Nissenbaum conducted a study in which he claims people near the wind farm suffer from anger and stress.

RM of Martin Reeve Mark Bateman said he was surprised when notice arrived that a court had ordered the injunction.

McKinnon's application to the court was supported by affidavits from local residents Troy Smith and Ray Donald, and Dr. Michael Nissenbaum of Mars Hill, Maine.

Nissenbaum is a radiologist who opposed a wind farm near his home in Mars Hill, Maine. The wind farm went ahead and Nissenbaum conducted a study in which he claims people near the wind farm suffer from anger and stress and there is no stress or anger among people who live three miles from a wind farm. The study has never been published in a peer review journal and has been widely criticized by researchers for poor methodology.

Jamieson said his clients don't want to stop the wind farm, although their application to not allow towers within two kilometres of a home would make it impossible.

"They don't want to stop the project, they're just concerned about people's health," he said. "The whole issue is setbacks. There are no setbacks at all proposed by Red Lily or the RMs. That's the whole essence of their issue. They're not against wind farms. They're quite happy with the project. They're just concerned with people's health."

RM of Martin Reeve Mark Bateman said he was surprised when notice arrived that a court had ordered the injunction.

"It arrived Thursday afternoon late," said Bateman. "It came from a lawyer's office in Saskatoon Thursday. We had absolutely no idea until then. The concrete pour was in progress, and it couldn't be stopped, but no construction went on Friday."

The decision overturning the temporary injunction came at 5 p.m. last Wednesday. Work resumed on the project Thursday.

Bateman said news of the temporary injunction surprised him. "This project passed through all the hoops. It passed the government's environmental review. It was a unanimous decision of council to proceed," he said. "We certainly didn't expect this. I thought when the motion went ahead that it was over, but I guess not."

Michael Morris is the lawyer representing the RMs of Martin and Moosomin.

He said the ex parte order initially issued is very unusual. The order was issued without the RMs or Red Lily having any representation because the plaintiff's lawyer argued the issue was an emergency and there was no way to contact the defendants. "I believe this is very unusual. The judge's comment was it was only the second time he had issued an ex parte order," said Morris.

"To obtain an ex parte order they had to demonstrate there was some great urgency to the order and there was no way to notify the other side. The gist of the argument was that there would be irreparable harm if this wasn't done. The judge must have assumed the turbines were built already and causing harm. It's possible that the judge wasn't aware that the turbines had not yet been erected and

were not operational.

"Once he had some further information, he saw there wasn't quite the urgency he was led to believe and he lifted the order."

A hearing is scheduled for Sept. 14 in Saskatoon for both sides to present their cases.

Doug Hodson is the lawyer for Red Lily. He agrees the original ex parte application was extremely unusual.

"That they would seek to have an injunction ordered without notice is a bit unusual," he said.

Hodson said he was pleased to see the judge overturn the injunction and award costs

to Red Lily and the RMs.

"The judge asked what the urgency and I did too," said Hodson. "Why they would go to court without giving us notice?"

"The judge said he was satisfied that the injunction need not be in place. We're pleased the judge saw fit to award costs to us. Mr. McKinnon, when he filed his claim, undertook to pay any damages, and that is certainly something our client is considering, to recover the damages. Our client filed an affidavit with the court that the cost of having construction delayed is \$74,000 per day that the injunction was in place. It was in place for six days, so that's about \$450,000 in costs to our client for the delay."

Hodson said in seeking an ex parte injunction, the plaintiff normally assumes responsibility for any damages. "In granting an interim injunction or an ex parte injunction, the court normally requires an undertaking to abide by any order the court may make regarding damages, and Mr. McKinnon agreed to that in this case. The court could find him liable for damages caused by this undertaking."

Hodson said he is optimistic the court will reject the application for the injunction when both sides are in court Sept. 14. "We will be opposing the application on evidentiary grounds, and on legal grounds," he said.

"We don't think there's any basis for the court to order an injunction. There is no Saskatchewan law being broken here. We have a proper permit, this meets all regulations, it has been approved by the proper authorities."

"Mr. McKinnon is asking the court to shut us down because he thinks there should be a 2,000-metre setback from his residence."

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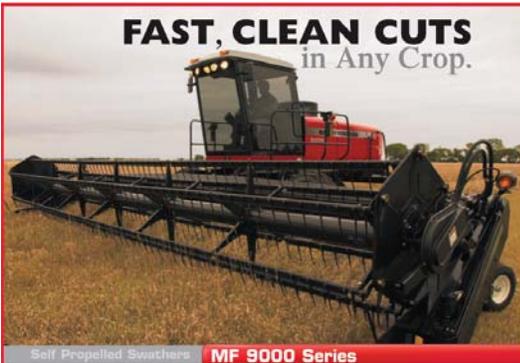




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"I'm addicted to movement," Burglund says. "Maybe it's even to give myself the feeling that I'm physically chasing a dream."



Continued from page 11
 "Both are very talented and amazing women," says Burglund.
 Meanwhile, taped music was always being played in the background of the Berglund house. "My parents could never agree on what style," he said. "Mom played a lot of Neil Diamond, ABBA, Elvis Presley and Madonna, while Dad played a lot of George Strait... Well, only George Strait."
 Not once in the family performed in public, though, did he make an impression on the public stage, though, it makes him question what motivated his choice of career.

"It's kind of hard to see where this passion of mine originated from, but I really only come to a performance within 30 minutes of any one of (the family) and they won't be in the audience," he says.
 In 1991, Berglund discovered his desire for audience appreciation after listening to the discos remaining for the band AC/DC on a live album.
 On Burglund's 10th birthday in 1993, he received a music tape from his aunt. Burglund calls this "the door opening" to his full-on love of music. The cassette included "Sweet Home Alabama" by Lynyrd Skynyrd, "Mrs. Robinson" by Simon and Garfunkel, "Loser" by Beck, "Rude" with Butterfly Wings by The Smashing Pumpkins, "Alive" by Pearl Jam and other various songs.

"This tape blew my mind," says Burglund. "We had a tape deck and small system wired into our old camper and I remember sitting in there in the heat of the middle of August listening to that tape over and over."
 In about Grade 6, Berglund purchased a Fender Squier starter pack, which included a little guitar and strap, an amp, a guitar case, picks and a few other items.
 "That was a huge moment in my musical journey, and it wasn't until a gift from Kipling led me to hanging out at an amazing friend's house—that started writing original music," he says. "It's a funny looking back at those initial songs, I made such an attempt to make the most profound lyrics and deep thoughts as possible."

Although Burglund had performed piano recitals from the age of five, his first experience with a band didn't come until Grade 10. By then, he had picked up the drums as well, but hadn't developed his vocal talent yet.
 The group was called Blowing by Danny and he remembers playing a gig at the Kennedy High School junior drama night. The band played music by Pearl Jam and Bush.

"They covered those top three of the Kennedy 'Island Night' Burglund played lead guitar for 'Hard as a Rock' by AC/DC and piano for Neil Diamond's 'Cherry, Cherry.'"
 "Since then, I've played with Theory of a Deadman and Emerson Drive, over 500 shows," he says.

As he developed his on-stage style and taken by playing cover songs, he continued to write material. At his own home, Berglund wrote about living in Los Angeles and sleeping under the Hollywood sign and about losing the deepest loves of his life.

Today, he laughs about those first attempts at songwriting.
 "I was what, 17 years old. Like I had the slight idea of what I was talking about," he says. "Nothing really hyped up in life that would make for an honest lyric, so you just made stuff up."
 However, this is where Berglund learned several basics of the songwriting trade, such as writing down ideas as soon as they come to him. If his lyrics aren't coming as easily, he has also learned to take a few minutes and know something through his gut.

"Writing is an art and a craft. It seems like the 'art' aspects during the most surprising time and the craft can always be worked on," he says. "I've written every single day—on the bus, on the train, on the way to work."
 Burglund believes the process he took to developing his thriving, writing and singing career can't be put in order of rank. He learned to play with a band, developing a sense of rhythm and how to make his music sound better. He learned how to compliment his bass player rather than step into his with the volume of his guitar. "I think the best bands in the world are the ones where each individual is contributing to the music to play together with his brothers on stage," Burglund says.

"Eric Clapton, Bill King, George Strait, Pink Floyd, Willie Nelson. You'd, every member in those bands are playing as audibly quiet as they can without sacrificing the song. The musician who learns an instrument on their own, secluded, without a bunch of guys around them doing the same thing plays different than the ones that form as a group."

As Berglund progressed through secondary school in Kennedy, he and his friend would start rapping concerts on their own by renting the town hall, tickets for the shows were \$10 and they'd sell drugs and beer.

"We were 14 to 20 years in age and we'd work with a music money that any of our peers would have full-time jobs," Berglund remembers. "We also played a lot of small town bars, lots of night clubs and then broke into the opening act scene, which was pretty cool. From Business with Theory of a Deadman to house concerts with Valley."
 By that time, Berglund was singing, although he paid no attention to how the activity was affecting his vocal chords. Considering that his style turns gritty and loud at times, these first shows took a toll on his voice.

"With my mom being a speech pathologist, I had more knowledge on the matter than not," he says. "But it was just young ignorance and that drove to improve a crowd that helped me to sing all night. I'd be home for the following week. After our early shows, we'd physically be exhausted for the sake of a performance. Our drummer couldn't hold a pencil because his hands were so inflated!"

After graduating from high school, Berglund had planned on entering the field of dentistry, but after two years of school at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, he decided to "temporarily" step away from his education to pursue his passion for music.

It was a decision that caused some short-term oversleep back at home in Kennedy.
 "We worried him to be a dentist, but he was a bright boy in school and his teachers always said it doesn't matter what Blake chose to do, he'd be a success at it," says Lark. "He's a leader, not a follower. We just left it up to him and stayed out of his life."
 At first, Thomas thought Blake may be sacrificing too much.

"Parents have goals for their children and when they don't follow those goals, you think they may be doing something that could harm them, personally, professionally, financially," says Thomas. "We wanted him to do something more traditional like..."
 Her opinion of Burglund's career path has changed, though.

"I talked to a friend of mine and explained how Blake had just university to pursue his dreams. She looked at me and said emphatically, 'It has dreams,'" Thomas says. "We fully support him now. He has a working very hard at it and he's very committed to succeeding."

"The artists who influence me musically change daily, but it always boils down to the ones that write their own music and express their true thoughts..."

This was in 2002, a time when the business side of the music industry began to interest Berglund.
 "I found the act of getting on the phone and convincing someone to let you play their nightclub, live you for a barbecue or hold your new album in their stores gave almost as much satisfaction as performing live events," he says.

And as he stepped deeper into the realm of entertainment, he took on roles that had little to no previous experience in. In one group, he became the primary writer, while others would give him agent or managerial duties. Instead of a formal education in dentistry—he has not returned to university since making the decision to quit over seven years ago. Berglund has acquired extensive knowledge of the independent music industry by diversifying his responsibilities with his bands.

Before the creation of Blake Berglund and Kennedy Rodeo, Berglund caught his first break by opening for Emerson Drive the same year he left university. At the time, he played with Spirit, a group of musicians originally from Windsor, but now living in Medicine Hat, Alta. The band included Berglund, Tyson Bacher, Denis Bacher and Mitch Haxler.

"It was one of those shows that really propels a career and really looks good on a resume!," says Berglund.

Spirit played before a crowd of about 800 that night. Following the show, Emerson Drive lead singer Brad Males came and stood beside Berglund as he loaded equipment into an SUV. Males told them they had a great set and invited them into the Emerson Drive bar for beverages.



"The entire band treated us like we were perfect equals to them in every way, shape and form," says Berglund. "It was actually astounding. I've run into Druick, their guitarist, since and nothing has changed. They keep getting bigger and bigger and they still treat you as if you're the ones they need to impress."
 Back at home in Kennedy, Spirit would play at the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo beer gardens. The Sunday night gig netted them \$600 after a hat was passed around to keep them playing. About a half dozen sets and 15 renditions of "Sweet Home Alabama" later, they were finished.

Playing with Spirit was Berglund's first experience of playing alongside musicians who considered their music to be more than just a hobby. They took on gigs wherever they could: "Sleeping on stage with instruments to prove," Berglund says with a laugh.
 The band's drummer was only 14 years old at the time. Nevertheless, Spirit would play about as often when security would escort the youth to his spot on stage, stand nearby during the performance and the him backstage when they were finished.

There were also shows in nightclubs, running until 1 a.m. that had the kid mingling with women twice his age.
 "We'd write him, day and know exactly what was going on in each other's head on stage at any given moment. It was like clockwork," says Berglund.

"I think it easier, Berglund tells people that they're going to get a cruise between Bill Simon and Willie Nelson. He's with his band, Kennedy Rodeo, to bring up Tom Petty, Neil Young and Bruce Springsteen."

Of all of them, Nelson has had the most influence

over his singing and songwriting. However, Berglund is a self-described biography fanatic, reading books on everyone from the Grateful Dead to Marilyn Monroe—the latter being "an amazing track."
 "The artists who influence me musically change daily, but it always boils down to the ones that write their own music and express their true thoughts," he says. "You know very well that 'Fanny Hill: Time Slips Away' (Willie Nelson) was written with someone in mind and Willie 'won't' just making it up."

When it comes to songwriting, Berglund considers his commitment to daily writing, one of the key reasons he has continued moving forward in his career. In fact, it's a point of pride with him.
 "On the days when I really can't say a line, I work on some lyrics, structure a few chords, or sit down and play the piano," he says. "But it's done to stay on top of my game. Some days I write the cases with which the lyrics came of a chord structure is used that I've never used before."
 However, Berglund notes that in a good state, mentally and emotionally to write more effectively. He remembers going through a tough breakup with a girlfriend and, although the experience should have led to some great song material, nothing he put to paper seemed to work.

"It's not to say that I don't use my experiences like that one to create songs. We just stuff the emotional angst into the corner of his mind and pull it out when things are going better for me."
 "When I'm in a good place, I can flow out great songs in the moment," he says. "If I'm in a bad place, I sit on the emotion for a bit, understand what it really means, and then attempt to describe it."
 An example of this method is the song "Years and Years Ago" which was recorded on Blake Berglund and Kennedy Rodeo's newest CD, Ends of the Earth. Burglund says that was a song that had been around for a while, but then he decided to write it.

"I'm actually quite nervous," he says. "I'm actually quite nervous." Burglund says he seems to intentionally position himself or accept an easier tone in order to ease the pain he encountered.
 "I'm actually quite nervous," he says. "I'm actually quite nervous." Burglund says he seems to intentionally position himself or accept an easier tone in order to ease the pain he encountered.

"Sometimes I do feel like it's like to smooth or constant. It may be a drastic change in order to ease the pain of having something to write about," he says. "It's actually quite nervous."
 Burglund has long drawn material from experiences that surround him. They're not too mundane or predictable, he'll change them. This is why he travels so much—he's currently on the tail-end of a six-week, four-province tour to promote Ends of the Earth.

"I'm addicted to movement," he says. "Maybe it's even to give myself the feeling that I'm physically chasing a dream."
 Burglund and Kennedy Rodeo broke into the recording end of the music industry with a self-titled CD in 2007, the same time Berglund stepped away from his job and became a full-time musician.

The band has sold more than 8,000 copies of the 13-track album, much of it due to Berglund's lack of fear for hard work, a trait developed on the farm in Kennedy. He actually sold the bulk of those CDs going door-to-door in Regina, Saskatoon, Vancouver and other communities in the West.

Saloman is one of the many he holds with the band.
 "I'm fun here all these roles (singer, guitarist, songwriter, agent, manager) condensed when starting Blake Berglund and Kennedy Rodeo. If I only had one of those roles in this group, I guess I wouldn't have enough work to do to consider this a full-time job," Berglund says.

"But I'm the furthest thing from a 'one-man show.' There's an amazing team behind the name that I'm so grateful for. One guy in particular is Travis Harris. He's been my sound man, web designer, graphic designer, van driver, merchandise man, and go-to guy since I was 19 years old."
 Kennedy Rodeo includes Justin Boochon on drums, Travis Rennebohm on electric guitar, Johnny Gagnon on a variety of instruments from guitar to bass, banjo, mandolin and slide guitar, Mitch Hansen on bass, Julian Kohn on harp, Darcy Stamp on fiddle, and Tim Herman on pedal steel guitar.

Helping Berglund with vocals are Amanda Macleod, Kristina and Gagnon.
 The band's sophomore CD, Ends of the Earth, portrays Rennebohm's love of the farm and horses. The first single has him singing about a horse trained by his brother, Jarrid. On the back flap is an impressively vivid photograph of Coo running

fast speed across a field carrying Berglund and his guitar.
 The photography, shot at the Flying B Ranch by Regina-based photographer Jason Clavier, won an annual award.

There are 11 tracks on Ends of the Earth. The first to be released to Canadian country radio, which occurred last month, was "Banned on the Whiskey," a mid-tempo, country song that Berglund says had an enormous weight lift the chest when he wrote it.

Other notable songs include hard-sounding rock tunes like "As Fast As We Can," and "Draggin' Around," the Beach Boys-esque "Going to the Beach," and the stripped-down, acoustically driven "Sweet Lamentation."
 "I no longer playing the bars as much as festivals and private events, particularly when he is playing with the band behind him."

"The focus right now is going to be tailoring the live shows to act as a supporting act at an opening act for bigger bands this fall. That will mainly be theaters, nightclubs and concert venues," he says.
 "I always want to have my music as an outlet and not just a product. I will be very adamant in that regard," he says.

"I mean, it's no 'the devil is in the tool' deal appearing when you play 'Stairway to Heaven' backwards, but it's something that a little deeper than just having another song on another album. It'd be very challenging and exciting to write an album with a socially-aware message to it, but for now, the message is simple: 'The world is going to end tomorrow. What do you wanna do?' That's what I thought."

"Ends of the Earth—or any album created by Berglund and his band—arrived similar to the way he decides to go on tour. Berglund says when he feels like he misses recording, it's time to put together another CD. It's the music he starts working the phone and books a few weeks with shows.
 However, the group Berglund had together before the CD shows him to record as well, including some new talent.

"We play so well together and each path in such a unique production sense that I felt like I needed to get it recorded as soon as I possibly could," he says. "Like anything, there needs to be guidance, but as far as how the album sounds, it was each musician just doing their thing on my songs."
 Despite their tumultuous relationship, Berglund and Travis Rennebohm seem to be creatively in tune with each other. Berglund says arguments with Rennebohm over production directions or some other matter have actually devolved into fist fights, but they're still together after several projects.

"There's that age old cliché that being in business with somebody is like a marriage, and that couldn't be more true when considering the relationship between Travis and myself," Berglund says. "We've probably sworn to ourselves that we would never play with the other again at least 10 times... But for some reason, he's one of the toughest, we're almost always on the same page musically."
 In fact, Rennebohm's influence on Berglund's musical endeavors runs deeper than any well-established or "famous" artist. The Kennedy Rodeo guitarist is also a background vocalist, and co-songwriter for "Foot," and "Going to the Beach." However, their first CD and Ends of the Earth, Rennebohm is the only member of the band who was involved in both.

"After touring to promote the album until Sept. 17 through Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario, Berglund plans to book more dates through to November, when he is scheduled to move to Austin, Texas for the winter."
 "I no longer playing the bars as much as festivals and private events, particularly when he is playing with the band behind him."

"The focus right now is going to be tailoring the live shows to act as a supporting act at an opening act for bigger bands this fall. That will mainly be theaters, nightclubs and concert venues," he says.
 "I always want to have my music as an outlet and not just a product. I will be very adamant in that regard," he says.

"Any artist is lying if they say that they've never stepped into a daydream that they are the most successful musician on Earth, or have never had a moment where they wondered what that would be like. I do it daily."
 Berglund notes that the industry is getting more and more crowded every day, especially with television-based "talent" competitions—his words—being pumped into every home in North America.
 "The sky is large enough for all the stars," he says.

Can't get enough of Blake Berglund and Kennedy Rodeo? For upcoming tour dates, contests, blog posts, photos, videos and tons more fun stuff, go to:
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West of Rocanville, Sask., some fields have been cut while others lie flooded.

Harvest late, not lost

BY MONIQUE MCKAY
Men and women in agriculture are facing a sweeping variety of unique challenges this season.

Craig Roy, who runs a mixed operation, harvests a variety of crops on land from Maryfield to Red Jacket. He said, "The yields depend on the lay of the land. If the field has good drainage, we've had a good yield."

Despite the continuing wet weather, there is still lots of optimism among most area producers.

"The overall average for the cereal crops this year is going to be good," said Jeff Skulmoski, also of Moosomin.

"Last year I was combining into November; we're sitting all right as long as it warms up. I know it's stressful to sit with all that crop on the ground, but we get it (warmer weather) every year."

Several farmers agreed that overall quality could be a concern.

"The yields this year are surprising," said Roy. "Be-

fore the rain a lot of the wheat was coming off number one; after this rain I don't know. All of our barley was malt grade before the rain too."

"Everything we have in the bin right now is on air," said Skulmoski.

"The yield has been really good; we just haven't harvested much dry grain yet."

"We're finding the fields a little tricky to navigate," said Roy. "Combines and grain carts are getting stuck in the fields—we don't get stuck very often, but this year it's already happened three or four times."

Murray Reid runs a mixed farm near Welwyn.

"We're well behind," he said. "We're wetter in this corner than most; we didn't get any cereals in at all. The peas are a wreck. We lucked out on the hay; we yielded about four times what we did last year. Straw is going to be an issue though; we'll use flax straw instead. We never got the oats in."

"We baled up some wheat straw," said Roy. "We got

three to four bales per acre but it was so tough it was hard to put through the combine."

"Although there should be lots of feed on the market this year, buyers are advised to look carefully at what they're bringing home."

"We just didn't get enough of a break," said Woods. "Nothing had a chance to cure."

To a large extent, despite the gray skies and challenges in the field, local producers still expect a decent year.

"We'll be average to above average this year," said Roy. "Prices seem to be holding."

"It's only the beginning of September," said Bateman.

"When I grew up harvest always was in September. With earlier seeding and earlier maturing varieties if everything hasn't come off in August everyone gets into a panic. Fall is still over two weeks away on the calendar and last year we were still going strong in November. I think it's still early in harvest."

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Monique McKay

There are times when I think some of my neighbors are among the most resilient, self-sufficient people I've ever met.

My neighbors are also knowledgeable, resourceful, and generous.

I'm always looking for an opportunity to help them out if I can; I'd like a chance to prove myself useful to people who have done so much for me.

Ironically, when you're surrounded by such capable, resourceful, individualistic people, it can sometimes be pretty difficult to recommend yourself.

Doc and Nellie Johnson live just north of our ranch. They pretty much define resilient self-sufficiency. More than once I've stopped by to find Nellie milling the wheat they've grown to bake into one her famous organic loaves; more than one person has sworn to me that Nellie's bread alone can sustain life.

They have a nice operation. I pass by their place on my way to the ranch every day. Their purebred Hereford herd is sleek and healthy, their equipment neatly stowed. Even their big red truck always looks like it came straight from the car wash instead of just off the grid road.

Doc is pretty awesome. He taught me a cure for pneumonia in calves that I'm almost eager to try for the first time. When our baby, Cruz, suffered chronic eczema last winter, Doc navigated my unshoveled sidewalk and icy steps to bring us fresh colostrum and colloidal silver. My dogs, who are unruly at the best of times, sit in a patient row when he comes by, mouths agape and tails gently wagging. I don't know how the doc does that.

Late last winter I went out to the ranch at around nine o'clock at night. As I passed the Johnson place, I saw their truck out in the yard, parked in the corral in front of their big barn.

"It's an odd time of night for Doc and Nellie to be doing chores," I thought as I sped past.

When I came back about forty-five minutes later, the truck was still in the corral and another was in the drive.

"At last!" I thought. "An opportunity to help!"

I parked the van in the drive. I know better than to walk through the corrals; Nellie has told me in no uncertain terms that her cows are used to her, and they don't like strangers. I certainly wasn't going to disturb Nellie's cattle.

Instead, I went on the north side of the corrals, around the barn, and slipped through a gap in the fence. A man from further east, Jack, was standing in the headlights illuminating the scene. It was freezing and windy, and the snow blew like fine, frozen dust around a huge cow that was in obvious distress. She was halted snugly up to

Doc's truck, and Jack was standing by the rope, ready to deal with her if anything went awry. Doc Johnson was on his knees in his snowsuit, examining the cow, and Nellie was standing over him, holding a flashlight because of the harsh shadows cast despite the headlights.

Because of the howling wind, Jack noticed me first because he saw me first. He waved cheerfully. Doc looked up, and didn't seem surprised.

"Milk fever!" he announced over the wind.

"I'm very surprised; it's very rare in a Hereford!"

Nellie looked at me . . . exasperated. I immediately felt a little abashed—Nellie knows how particularly useless I can be when it comes to cattle, even more so than her now.

"Shouldn't you be at home?" she asked me pointedly.

I pretended I couldn't hear her. I think when I'm being more than usually obtuse, she pretends she can't hear me, and I wasn't convinced there wasn't at least something I could do.

"Go back to the truck and get the magnesium and phosphorus," Doc instructed his wife as he snugged a chain up around the cow's neck.

Nellie started to turn towards the truck, but I'm not ashamed to say that I was faster. I'd read about milk fever, and I when I saw the drip bag and rubber tubing, I knew that's what Doc wanted.

I admit I was a little smug when I handed the rig over to the doctor. He straightened out the line and tried reaching in his pocket for a spike. He handed the bag of medicine to Nellie, who had to balance it and the flashlight. I sidled a little closer to her.

"Oh, you might as well hold this if you're not going home to your family!" she said, thrusting the flashlight at me.

"Don't shine it in his eyes, and don't get sick in this wind! You're probably freezing!"

I carefully directed the light towards the cow's neck, while Doc lifted a shining syringe tip up high. He looked up at me and smiled.

"This'll spray a bit," he said confidently.

The spike swung down, sure and fast. There was a small spray of blood, and Doc silently reached out to Nellie for the end of the tube. He removed the rubber stopper while

Nellie pinched the line, and expertly fit the end onto the open butt of the needle, protruding stiffly from the motionless cow.

The cow looked dead.

You could tell from the way Doc and Nellie worked seamlessly and silently together that they had performed a similar dance many times before.

When I had read about milk fever and the treatment that Doc had administered, I had also read about the almost miraculous recovery that would occur.

The enormous cow began to stir. Jack quickly untied her so that she could rise, and Nellie backed up. Doc had been almost lying in the snow, and was still on his knees, reaching for his cane as the cow came around. Nellie silently slid his cane towards him, and as he and the cow struggled to their feet it took all of my will power not to bodily lift the doctor out what I perceived as harm's way.

Nellie was looking at me with an almost impish grin on her face.

And, of course, she had been correct; I was freezing. Out of politeness I stood in the wind and listened as Doc expounded upon the virtues of Hereford cows, their hardiness, fine maternal qualities, and quick recoveries. Then Doc, Nellie, Jack, and I shook hands all around.

"Well, at least you learned something," Nellie sniffed at me.

I thanked her and the doctor heartily.

To return to the drive, Doc and Nellie had to open and close three gates. I offered to walk through in front of them and take care of the gates, thinking they would be back in their house within minutes if Nellie didn't have to climb in and out of the cab so many times, and struggle with the frozen metal gates.

"Why would we need you to do that?" she asked me, fixing me with a wide stare.

I had no answer.

Jack walked me back to my van. I said good-bye and watched in the dark as Nellie climbed back into the truck, this side of the first gate. A silhouette under the yard light, the cow was already nosing around the frozen ground for something to chew on.

I really admire the Johnsons. And Nellie was right (again); I did learn something. I had treated some calves before that, but caused them more grief than relief with my soft-hearted jabs at their hides. Now, every time I have to needle a cow, I close my eyes and visualize Doc's gloved hand high in the light, the syringe tip coming down fast, sure, and strong. My needles don't bounce out anymore.

I'd like to do more for Doc and Nellie than just say thanks, but . . . thanks.

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Man breaks into home, holds garage sale

• Randy Cassingham called it "Advanced Anatomy." After Texas Tech Health Sciences Center Professor Rod Hicks, 50, finished lecturing students via a video connection, he left the channel open and students watched as he viewed websites of an "adult" nature. As a result, Hicks, who held a chair with a \$1 million endowment at the school, was directed to "immediately vacate the designation of the UMC Endowed Chair in Patient Safety." Hicks has since resigned.



Gene Hauta

• A study says that King Tut's chariot was like an ancient times Ferrari that was sophisticated with modern technology. "Apparently the problem with the teenage Pharaoh was that he would get distracted by writing hieroglyphics on papyrus to his friends while driving," wrote comedian Jim Barach. "An Atlanta woman who was tied up during a home invasion used her toes to send an Instant Message for help on her laptop. Apparently she got the idea because it's the same way she sends out text messages on her cell phone while driving."

• In Sarnia, police have identified a suspect who is alleged to have broken into a home and then held a garage sale on the front yard. Greg Kemmis, 62, was out of town on June 17 when someone broke into the rental home and garage and sold thousands of dollars worth of woodworking machinery and tools in broad daylight. Witnesses told police the thief set up a wooden sign offering "tools for sale" and stayed in front of the home from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. There was about \$40,000 worth of tools. Kail Russell Stokes, 26, who happened to already be in custody on other mat-

ters, was charged.

• Alabama's Birmingham-Southern College plans to lay off 80 of its staff, reduce salaries and benefits, and shut down five subject areas to cover a \$10 million budget shortfall. This is because school officials have discovered that for some years, they have been accidentally adding Pell Grant funds to financial aid packages, rather than subtracting them. The five subject areas that will be shut down affect about 150 students, and include accounting, computer science, dance, French, and German.

• When gunshots broke out in the quiet neighbourhood in Roberts, Wisconsin at 4 a.m., residents were stunned. Deputies report that Archie R. Stone, 40, who was visiting his mother, was, to put it bluntly, "not in touch with reality." Stone truly believed evil clowns were attacking his mother's home, so he grabbed a shotgun to repel them. He ended up hammering 22 rounds into the walls and ceilings, and claimed he had killed a number of the clowns. Meanwhile, his parents fled for their lives, and he shot at them, as well. Stone eventually admitted that he was, in fact, "stoned" on

an unspecified hallucinogen. He has pleaded not guilty to reckless endangerment and firearms charges, and is undergoing psychiatric examination.

• Police in Melbourne, Florida, finally accepted that the shooting was accidental, but they were sure puzzled as to how Patricia Morris, 72, was shot by her husband, Arnold. The elderly couple had been practising a "robbery drill" to figure out how they would react to an intruder situation. The two had little experience with guns and Mrs. Morris is recovering after surgery.

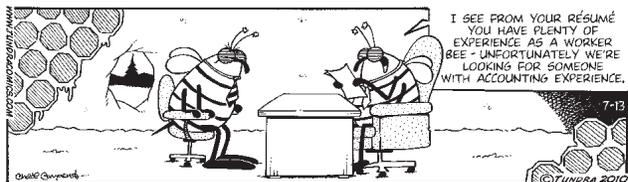
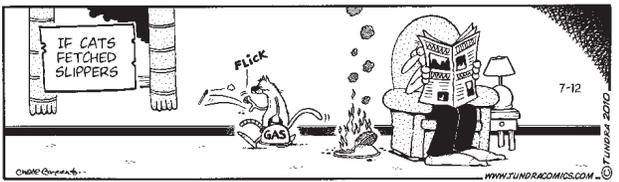
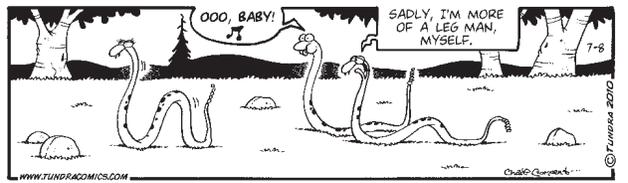
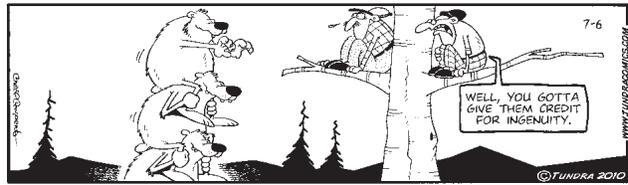
• Randy Cassingham had another down story. The driver of an armored car in Gillingham, Kent, England called in the chilling news, "This van is under attack." Two police officers arrived to help. The first opened an escape hatch and climbed in the back to check the guard. He was promptly locked in. The other officer went to the front of the vehicle to check the driver, and was also promptly locked in. It turned out there was no robbery: the van crew had apparently accidentally triggered the anti-robbery system. "I kept thinking some TV presenter and a camera crew will come along in a minute," said witness Craig Scott, 21, who watched as more and more people got stuck in the van. "It was one of the funniest things I have seen."

• The Arizona Diamondbacks game at CitiField in New York was interrupted when two men ran onto the field waving a Mexican flag. "Cops did nothing," reported Argus Hamilton. "It's considered racial profiling in New York to arrest anyone carrying a Mexican flag unless he looks Muslim."

• Until next time . . . keep reading between the lines . . .

Tundra

Chad Carpenter



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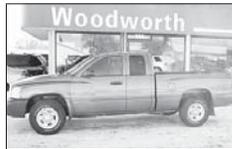
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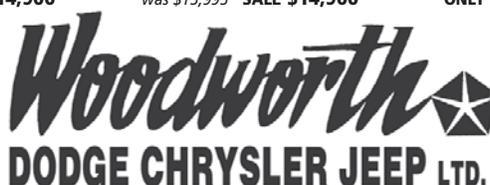
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Changes for Bethlehem Live 2010

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Moosomin's fourth annual Bethlehem Live is coming up at the end of November, and co-ordinator Lynn McGonigal says there will be lots of changes to keep the event fresh.

The event, which attracts about 800 visitors each year, is scheduled for Nov. 26 and 27.

Bethlehem Live is a live, interactive nativity event. It involves dozens of actors and even a few animals. Visitors find themselves in surroundings meant to resemble biblical Bethlehem. They encounter Roman soldiers on horseback, beggars, a prophet, and visit the local market, alive with the sights and sounds of the Holy Land, before coming to a stable where they encounter Mary, Joseph, and their new baby.

The first Bethel Live was held at St. Alban's Anglican Church, and was the brainchild of Marie Everett, who wanted to keep the event fresh and continually get new people involved by having a different church host it each year.

It has been organized by Moosomin's Anglican, Baptist and Catholic churches and this year it is the United Church's turn.

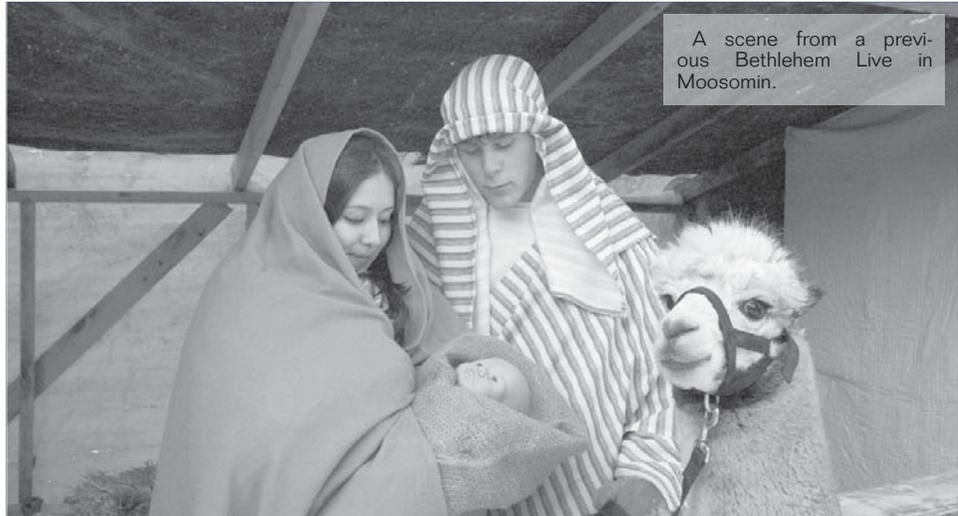
McGonigal said she was not involved with the event in previous years, but wanted to do her part this year, and fell into a leadership role without planning to.

"I signed myself up on the list of people interested—it was a very short list," she says with a laugh.

"I called the first meeting, and everyone said you're doing a pretty good job, you can keep doing it."

McGonigal said there are lots of ideas for changes to the event this year, but perhaps the biggest change is a new location. For the first three years Bethlehem Live was presented in and around St. Alban's Church, but this year it will be held at Bethel United Church.

"The sanctuary is bigger, so it can accommodate more people," said McGonigal. "It



A scene from a previous Bethlehem Live in Moosomin.

will be the same setup as at the Anglican Church—people will come into the sanctuary, we'll have some entertainment, and then they'll go outside from there."

McGonigal says there have been a couple of meetings so far to prepare for this year's Bethlehem Live, but the bulk of the work will come as the dates of the production approach.

"The crunch time is the last few weeks and the last few days, just to make sure everything is in place," she said.

Many United Church members have become involved with the production this year. "They're not completely new committees," she said. "It's nice to have some of the experienced committee members too. It's good to have a mix of new ideas

and experience."

Among the committee chairs this year, Jennifer Hagedorn, Crystal Purdey and Hal Garrett will be the directors, Kerry Coleman will look after the entertainment, Dave Miller is in charge of set up and take down, the UCW is handling the hospitality, Karen Hebert, Layne and Holly McFarlane are responsible for logistics, David Dahlgren is in charge of promotion, Dennis and Cathy Lonsdale will be responsible for the marketplace, Tim Hovdestad is looking after set design, and Sheilagh Garrett is in charge of costumes.

McGonigal thinks Bethlehem Live has gone well for the first three years and she hopes the changes improve it this year.

"When Marie was first talking about it I

thought this could be a really good thing. I was finally able to partake as a visitor last year and I really enjoyed it.

"I'm excited to be part of it this year. From talking to people and hearing people in the street it sounds like many people are looking forward to it—to participating as a guide or as a visitor. It has become something to look forward to for a lot of people."

McGonigal is optimistic Bethlehem Live will come together well.

"I anticipate some rough spots but I anticipate the Lord's grace will help us overcome anything that needs to be overcome," she said.

Anyone who wants to help in any way can contact McGonigal at 435-3680.



Bethlehem Live

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