



Serving the
South Loup River Valley

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Winter's Beauty...

What many have been describing as a "true winter" has set in, providing beautiful landscapes and challenges at the same time. Wilda Foran, who with husband Charles, lives on Eureka Valley Road, northeast of Arnold, took the above photo on December 19 after snow collected on the trees, and ice with it. Wilda said this particular area gets heavy frost quite a bit, and they enjoyed this scenery for about three days.

Even with the beauty winter brings, a "true winter" for area cattlemen means something quite different. Pictured right are some Red Angus cross

feeder calves that despite the weather eat every day. During cold weather, cattle require more feed to sustain and feeder calves require even more when the temperatures dip below zero because they are also growing.

Water for the animals also proves to be a day-long chore in some instances, as in cold weather, cattle may drink near the same amount of water that they would on a nice summer day. Not only is the ice thick each day, but many cows are still on cornstalks resulting in some places needing water hauled each day. This proves

difficult because the water totes freeze in a matter of minutes when the temperatures are at or below zero.

And then there's the fun... Colbi Smith's dad, Robbi, took this photo of Colbi after a few rounds of being pulled on a sled by a Polaris Ranger. Colbi's mom, Shelley, said he took full advantage of the holiday break and snow, going several times.

"The cold doesn't seem to phase him, as long as someone will pull him," she said.

Challenges...



SORC Winter Party Set for February 21 at Lincoln

The 11th Annual Sandhills Open Road Challenge Winter Party is scheduled for Saturday, February 21, in Lincoln. Anyone interested in taking part in a pizza lunch, tour of Kuck Motorsports, a shuffleboard tourney, social hour, Famous Dave's catered dinner and the famous live charity auction should act fast; the party is limited to the first 225 people to buy tickets, and the party has sold out the past nine years.

"It's a great time for all to mix with your SORC friends, drivers, navigators, board members, volunteers, landowners, sponsors and car enthusiasts from near and far," said Bruce Younglove of Lincoln.

There will be a special event this year at Kuck Motorsports called "Inside the Car Auction

World." Matt Moravec, one of Mecum's top auctioneers, will be a special guest, along with Mecum Ringman, Mitch Bartunek. Retired former Mecum Marketing and Advertising Manager, now Mecum Consultant Tom Christmann, will add his expertise. Dr. Sam Bryant, veteran SORC racer, will emcee the interview with time for a Q&A session. Matt and Mitch will give a demo and auction off a Winter Party items that everyone will love.

Younglove said 50 bucks will get you in the door of Kuck Motorsports for the party starting at 11:00 a.m. At the auction, professional auctioneer Russ Puchalla of Heartland Auctions will be selling some really fun stuff.

"We already have some really

great items to auction, including a brand new 26-inch Schwinn bicycle, a 50-inch HD flatscreen TV, a C-7 Corvette motorized electric car for kids and lots of other things. We will also auction off a SORC Lifetime grid spot. The lifetime grid spot will guarantee the successful bidder an entry into the SORC events for life."

Proceeds from the auction will be used to enhance the safety of the SORC events and to support the hardworking volunteers who help make the race happen.

If you would like to attend, send your check for \$50.00 payable to Winter Party and mail to: Bruce Younglove, 622 W. Lakeshore Dr., Lincoln NE 68528.

...and Fun



Veterans Day Essays Win at District Level

In November, Veterans Day essays written by APS eighth graders Tatum Cool and Leighton Bubak placed first and second, respectively, in the local contest sponsored by V.F.W. Gene Tullis, who oversees the contest at the local level, said last week that Tatum's essay placed first and Leighton's second at the District level and will now be judged at the State level.

"This is the first time we've had both first and second place

essays go on to win at Districts," said Gene. "I think the last time we had a District winner was clear back when Jeff Preston won. They could go on to win at the National level."

Both Tatum and Leighton and their parents have been invited to receive their District awards and read their essays at Taylor on January 18.

Tatum is the daughter of Shane and Lana Cool, and Leighton is the son of Ted and Renee Bubak.



Third, fourth and fifth grade students at APS learned the importance of collecting Box Tops for Education after cutting, counting and compiling 80,850 Box Tops in one session of activity. Each student who is holding a bag is holding 1,000 Box Tops. Teachers pictured are Berni Crow (far left), who organized the counting, and Kevin and Jamie Neth (far right). (Courtesy photo)

Counting Box Tops Takes "a Brigade"

Before school was out for Christmas break, Arnold fourth grade teacher Berni Crow rallied the troops in third, fourth and fifth grades to help her count and compile the Box Tops that have been collected over the past year.

Mrs. Crow said she ended up with "quite a brigade" of cutters

and counters. Fourth grade students worked together cutting and counting, and fifth graders cut Box Tops, then delivered them to the third grade class, where students compiled bags of 50. When the totals were tallied, they ended up with 80,850 Box Tops, which earned the school \$808.50.

"Who do we have to thank for this?" asked Mrs. Crow, answering her own question by saying, "YOU the parents, patrons and friends and family from surrounding communities. Thank you for collecting these and delivering them to the school."

Each elementary class has a container in their room, and

there are containers in the office for gathering the Box Tops. Reed's Food Center also keeps a container at their checkout counters to make it easier for patrons to drop off Box Tops there. The money goes into a fund and is used for various elementary projects, field trips and so on.

Some purchases are quite large. The first smart board in the elementary was purchased with Box Tops funds.

"You keep the Box Tops coming, and we'll continue collecting, counting and cutting!" she said.