

November 2025

# THE HOUSEHOLDER BULLETIN

The Monthly Newsletter of Leut Services, P.C.

## TELL ME ABOUT IT, STUD

The Montana Hutterite Colonies, doing business as Treasure State Sires, LLC, have built a state-of-the-art commercial boar stud--the first of its kind in the state. Deciding factors in the new venture included in-state semen production, genetic control, biosecurity, and self-sufficiency. Located near Havre, the facility will house 412 boars and carry six genetic lines. It includes three quarantine barns and an on-site PCR lab. The facility is also equipped with expansion capacity for an additional 25,000 sows. The MT Colonies have partnered with Pork Storks, who will lease and operate the stud. Treasure State Sires received a \$100,000 loan from the Montana Department of Agriculture for the project. Pork Stork also has locations in Nebraska, Minnesota, and South Dakota.



Photo from swineweb

## A NOTE FROM YOUR *Attorney*

You have likely heard of “work-life balance” (which, in my opinion, you will die trying to achieve), but have you heard of the term “urban-agrarian balance?” Urban-agrarian balance refers to balancing urban development and the preservation of agricultural land. As urban populations increase and cities expand, the availability of natural resources for agriculture, such as land and water, diminishes. To make matters more complicated, fewer people are living on farms, leading to a greater disconnect in knowing where their food comes from and how it is raised. This situation creates a multitude of problems. Let’s examine the situation in Colorado. Many residents of Colorado, particularly those in rural areas, believe metro areas of Denver and Boulder control who is elected, the laws passed, and the regulations made(continued on next page).

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# ACTIVIST FOUND GUILTY

At the end of October, 23-year-old Zoe Rosenberg was convicted of conspiracy and misdemeanor charges stemming from an incident at a Perdue Farms poultry facility. The California animal rights activist stole four chickens from the farm, claiming she was rescuing “Poppy, Ivy, Aster, and Azalea from abuse.” Rosenberg gained access to the facility by disguising herself as a poultry worker and using a fake badge. She entered the farm four times and attached GPS devices to 12 vehicles before taking the chickens. Her attorney argued that her actions were justified, as she believed the chickens were “incredibly ill” and “in distress.” Conversely, prosecutors contended she stole the chickens as part of a publicity stunt for Direct Action Everywhere (DxE), an animal rights group based in California, whose mission is to destroy animal agriculture. She faces up to four and a half years in jail, with the possibility of parole.

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## EAD RENEWAL CHANGES

The Department of Homeland Security has announced a policy change regarding Employment Authorization Documents (EAD). Starting on October 30, applicants renewing their EAD will no longer receive an automatic extension of their employment authorization. The new rule’s purpose is to enhance the screening and vetting processes for foreign nationals. This rule change is anticipated to lead to longer waiting times for applicants. Before the new rule, some EAD applications took over a year to process. However, EAD renewal applications can only be submitted no earlier than six months before their expiration date. This change does not apply to the spouses of L-1, E-1, E-2, and E-3 nonimmigrant visa holders.

*(Note from Your Attorney continued)*

Let’s look at their track record:

- Ballot Initiative IP 16 sought to criminalize certain animal husbandry, reproductive, and medical practices (failed);
- Wolf reintroduction is causing livestock-killing sprees; and
- Denver ballot initiatives to ban meat processing facilities in the city (failed) and ban the sale of fur products, including felt cowboy hats (failed).

Colorado is neglecting its people who feed, clothe, and power the country, a \$47 billion industry in Colorado. And if ag land isn’t going toward housing, it is being used for wind, solar, and data centers to fuel urban areas. One large data center can use 1.8 billion gallons of water annually. Like work-life balance, I believe we will die trying to achieve an urban-agrarian balance. Our country is heading towards a great divide, that is not necessarily red versus blue. Solutions need to be addressed because once you run asphalt over a cornfield, you will never get it back. So, what’s the solution? Managing priorities and integration. Different areas and times demand different priorities. Recently, Agriculture Protection Zones have emerged within local governments. These zones designate areas where farming is the primary land use and discourage other land uses. These zones and other legal measures help keep farmland farming. Integration is inevitable. While urban agriculture faces its fair share of skepticism, it allows consumers who don’t live in rural areas to gain insight into the joys and discomforts of the agricultural way of life. For example, a family that euthanizes their backyard flock due to a positive HPAI test should recognize the toll HPAI has on farmers. We cannot give up our voice. “The squeaky wheel gets the grease.” Our elected officials will not know our priorities unless we talk about them. They can’t read our minds. Just like last November, we can still make a big impact.

As always, Consult Your Attorney,

*Kiera Leddy*

# DID YOU KNOW

## *with Grandpa Joe*

Established in 1950, Forest River Colony is a daughter of New Rosedale Colony (MB) and is about 50 minutes northwest of Grand Forks. Shortly after its founding, 36 members of the Society of Brothers relocated from Paraguay to Forest River. The Society of Brothers, also known as the Bruderhof movement, is an Anabaptist Christian communal movement that originated in Germany in 1920, founded by Eberhard Arnold. Upon discovering the existence of the Hutterites, Arnold visited them. From May to December 1930, he visited all 33 Hutterite colonies in South Dakota, Manitoba, and Alberta. In 1950, a meeting was held between the two groups, where they concluded their differences outweighed their similarities, making a merger unfeasible. However, not everyone shared this perspective. The arrival of the 36 Society members at Forest River sparked significant controversy. In 1955, the Schmiedeleut ministers imposed sanctions and excommunicated Forest River and the Society, resulting in division and discord within the leut. Tensions began to settle in 1962. Ultimately, the Society members departed Forest River to establish a new colony in Pennsylvania. Nonetheless, Forest River persevered. Today, they grow crops and are a powerhouse in potato production. They raise and sell eggs from their 70,000 layers and are a large pork producer. They also offer demolition and salvage services and refurbish semi-trucks. *P.S. We skipped Millerdale Colony because we cannot locate any historical photos. If you have one or two, please send them our way!*



Future Forest River members at New Rosedale. Do you recognize anyone?



### *Hutterite winners*

Two members of the Forest River, N.D., Hutterite sect were winners at the Grand Forks County Fairgrounds this week when they took a break from their labors at the colony to attend the annual carnival. (AP)

*Zack and Elizabeth Hofer (Interlake Colony, MB) checked out the fair while visiting Forest River.*



*Joseph Maendel poses with a truckload of bees while in Mississippi (1941).*



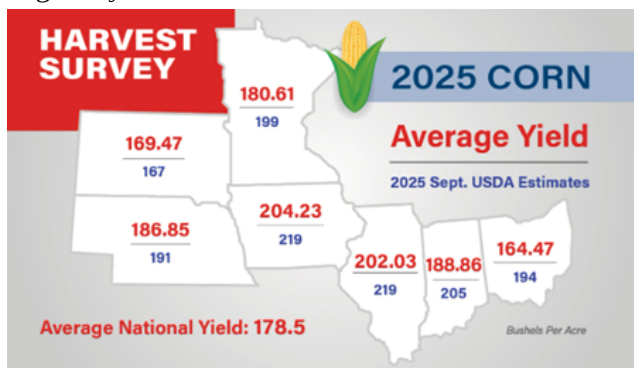
## HEAR THE DIFFERENCE?



**B&G Acoustical Ceiling** from Tea, SD, recently installed sound panels in our meeting space. Bruce and his team were responsive, knowledgeable, and timely. They have excellent customer service and know their stuff. They recently won an award for work done at the Tri-Valley School. For your sound panel needs, contact Bruce at 605-940-4406 or email [eric@bandgacoustical.com](mailto:eric@bandgacoustical.com)

## HARVEST YIELDS

The government shutdown has halted USDA's data collection, but others are stepping in to fill the gap. Farm Journal found that corn yields are lower than the USDA's September estimates. The national corn yield for 2025 may be lower than that of 2024 due to disease pressure and dry conditions. Significant yield reductions are in the "I" states (Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa), while Minnesota and South Dakota have higher yields.



## FOREIGN BIZ REGISTRATIONS

A foreign business registration is the process of registering a business in a state where it was not originally formed, and allows that business to legally operate outside its home state. In a sense, it provides permission to operate in one or more other states. The term "foreign business" can be misleading, as it does not refer to business from another country. Foreign business indicates the business was formed in a different state than the one it is operating in. Failing to register can result in fines and penalties, which may be influenced by the duration of unregistration and sales volume. Additionally, you could face back taxes, have a contract invalidated by a court, or be denied the ability to pursue legal action in state court. Let's pretend you sell \$50,000 worth of product to a customer in Nebraska. The customer does not pay. After sending letters and making calls with no response, you decide to file a collections lawsuit. However, if you are not registered to conduct business in Nebraska, you may be prevented from filing the lawsuit there, or the customer could use your lack of foreign registration as a defense. (*Embarrassing!*) The cost of these registration filings is quite minimal compared to the potential headache of not filing. For example, in Nebraska, the filing fee is \$100 for an LLC. You will also need to hire a company to serve as a registered agent. Each state has its own requirements regarding foreign business registrations. If you collect sales tax from that state, have a physical store or shop there, or employ individuals in that state, you'd better register as a foreign business. If you need assistance filing this registration, we would be happy to assist.

## DAIRY DISPUTE

The state of North Dakota issued a permit to Riverview to establish a 25,000-head dairy farm near Hillsboro. However, this permit is currently facing legal challenges. The Dakota Resource Council filed a lawsuit against the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality and Riverview ND, LLP, alleging non-compliance with Clean Water Act regulations. The Council, a North Dakota-based organization, advocates for “the sustainable use of natural resources and family-owned agriculture.” The Council argues that the dairy operation poses a threat to the Red River and Lake Winnipeg in Canada, as well as jeopardizes the safety of 15 nearby homes. They claim that pollutants from the dairy could contaminate these waterways. The dairy is expected to produce 204-235 million gallons of liquid manure and wastewater annually. In September 2025, the state of North Dakota released a 641-page final decision regarding the permit, justifying why a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit was deemed unnecessary. The Dakota Resource Council is urging the state to reconsider its permit decision. Riverview LLP manages farms across Arizona, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, and South Dakota. As of 2022, North Dakota had approximately 14,191 dairy cattle, and Riverview's expansion could potentially triple that number by adding more farms in the state.

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## SSI INCREASE

The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments will increase by 2.8% in 2026. Starting in January, benefits will increase by about \$56 per month. The increase is a result of a cost-of-living adjustment.

## SO LONG, FAREWELL

South Dakota's State Veterinarian, Dr. Beth Thompson, is leaving South Dakota for a teaching position at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. A South Dakota native, Dr. Thompson was an attorney until a career change led her to the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine. After earning her degree, she worked with a farming operation before joining the state of Minnesota's veterinary staff. In 2022, she returned to South Dakota, taking on the roles of state veterinarian and executive secretary for the South Dakota Animal Industry Board. During her tenure in South Dakota, she made significant contributions, including managing the response to the HPAI outbreak in poultry and dairy, serving as president of the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials, and offering valuable insights for regulatory changes. In her new role, she will teach regulatory veterinary medicine. And so we say, so long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, and thank you, Dr. Thompson!

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## CAFO CONTROVERSY

Eleven environmental organizations appealed a D.C. court's decision to exempt animal agriculture facilities from reporting air emissions under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). The organizations claim the EPA misinterpreted EPCRA, which supposedly requires concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) to report emissions of ammonia and hydrogen sulfide. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia will now decide whether EPCRA requires CAFOS to report air emissions.

# TOP 5 OFFICE NECESSITIES

By Kellie Ripp

Can you believe the holidays are just around the corner? It feels like just yesterday was my first day at Leut Services, and suddenly, we are approaching the end of the year. Since May, I have learned that good office supplies and software make a huge impact. I never realized everyday tasks could be made easier with simple office supplies or software on the computer. With Black Friday this month, we've decided to share our "Top 5 Office Necessities" that we use daily. We believe these items are worth every penny, and you should snag them while they are on sale to implement into your daily routine.

## SCAN SNAP



[LINK](#)

One of Leut Services' most consistent employees of the month 😊. Scan Snap can scan any receipt, document, driver's license, passport, etc. The documents are scanned in as a PDF. Does not take up a lot of space, therefore sits nicely on your desk. With the iX1600 Receipt Edition, you can scan invoices directly into QBO.

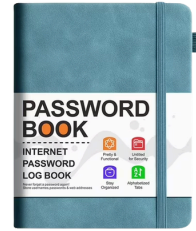
## SMEAD FILER



[LINK](#)

This filer is great for organizing monthly bills by due date or vendor. Open the organizer to the date or alphabetical letter when ready to pay bills. There are two options: 1-31 or A-Z.

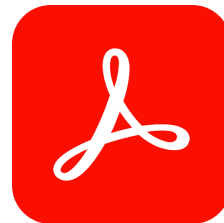
## PASSWORD BOOK



[LINK](#)

This is an overlooked necessity. A password book allows you to keep all your passwords in one, organized place. You will no longer have to play the "guessing game" or reset forgotten passwords.

## ADOBE



[LINK](#)

Adobe makes us feel like we have magic powers. In this app, we can request & sign documents by e-signature. Along with redact, fill, merge, and compress PDFs. This app is the true definition of "work smarter, not harder."

## LABELER



[LINK](#)

A labeler will be your best friend when filing. This gadget allows you to label anything needing to be organized: files, folders, cabinets, desk drawers, etc. There are many different kinds, but this one is our favorite.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Pumpkin Spice Cake

*Skip the pumpkin pie at Thanksgiving this year and make this cake. No one will miss the pie, and everyone will be talking about this cake.*

#### **Cake**

1 stick butter, melted  
½ cup brown sugar  
¾ cup pumpkin butter  
1 can of pumpkin puree  
2 eggs  
1 tbsp vanilla extract  
1 ½ cup all-purpose flour  
1 ½ tsp pumpkin pie spice  
½ tsp cinnamon  
1 ½ tsp baking powder  
½ tsp baking soda  
½ tsp salt  
2 tbsp hot espresso  
*-I mixed 1 tsp instant coffee into 2 tbsp water*

#### **Frosting**

1 ½ sticks butter, at room temperature  
4 oz cream cheese, at room temperature  
2 cups powdered sugar  
¼ cup maple syrup  
1 tsp vanilla extract

Preheat the oven to 350° F. Line a 9×9-inch cake pan with parchment paper. In a bowl, whisk together the melted butter, brown sugar, pumpkin butter, pumpkin puree, eggs, and vanilla. Sift the flour, pumpkin spice, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, and salt together. Add the dry ingredients to the wet. Mix until fully combined. Stir in the hot espresso. Pour the batter into the prepared pan. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until the center is set. Frosting: Melt the butter and allow it to cool to room temperature. Add the cream cheese and beat with the butter until very creamy. Beat in the powdered sugar and maple syrup until light and fluffy. Add the vanilla and beat until combined. If the frosting feels too loose, add powdered sugar to thicken. Spread the frosting over the cooled cake. *Recipe by Half Baked Harvest.*

## PRIVACY, PLEASE



Thank you to Nespor Fence from Mitchell, SD, for our new white fence! They were great to work with. We appreciate the diligent work and great customer service.

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Nov. 7-8 // South Dakota Local Foods Conference (Aberdeen)  
Nov. 11 // Veterans Day (Federal Holiday)  
Nov. 13 // Sales Tax Seminar (Shoffice)  
Nov. 14 // Compost Training Course (Watertown)  
Nov. 27-28 // Shoffice Closed (Thanksgiving)  
Dec. 1 // FSA Committee Ballots Due  
Dec. 4 // AgOutlook (Sioux Falls)  
Dec. 4-5 // SD Grassland Annual Conf. (Box Elder, SD)  
Dec. 24-26 // Shoffice Closed (Christmas)  
Dec. 31-Jan. 1 // Shoffice Closed (New Year)  
Jan. 14-15 // SD Pork Congress  
Jan. 21-22 // IA Pork Congress

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