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Rural Life Report

Young farmers face hurdles

One by one young farmers are packing their bags, moving on to the metropolitan areas, in search of high paying jobs. Economics is the major obstacle for those who cannot pursue the American Dream of taking over the family farm. A survey of 700 young farmers nationwide finds unpaid student loans are one of the reasons.

A survey was conducted by the Hudson, New York based National Young Farmers Coalition, which works to help young farmers get started and succeed. The organization is a major booster of newly introduced federal legislation that seeks to make farming a more attractive career. The Young Farmer Success Act (House Bill 2590) would add farmers to the existing Public Service Loan Forgiveness Programs, which currently include occupations such as government service, teaching and nursing. The

program allows public service professionals who make 10 years of income-driven student loan payments to have the balance of their loans forgiven.

The Young Farmer Success Act applies to any farmer with annual gross revenue of at least \$35,000 from farm products--a limitation to exclude hobby farmers and others who don't farm as a career, according to information from the National Young Farmers Coalition.

Among the finding of the organization's survey are some interesting facts: respondents had an average student loan debt of \$35,000; thirty percent say college debt is delaying or preventing them from farming; 53 percent are farming but struggling to pay their student loans; 20 percent can't get other credit because of student loan debt; respondents continue to value their college education, despite its



By Mary Ann Unruh
North Dakota

cost, and think it will help make them better farmers.

"Farming is a capital-intensive career with slim margins," Lindsey Lusher Shute, the organizations executive director and co-founder, says in a new release. "Faced with student loan debt, many decide farming is unaffordable. In some cases, the bank makes the decision for them by not giving the finances they will need for land and equipment.

The National Young Farmers Coalition, noting that the average age of U.S. farmers overall is 58, would try to recruit at least 100,000 new farmers to replace the existing producers that are of retirement age and older.

President's Report



By Linda Newman
Montana

4-H, FFA invaluable for youth's ag education

It's raining, it's pouring---great moisture coming down in Roundup, MT as I am writing this report! Of course, everyone is in various stages of harvesting wheat, hauling hay, etc., but, for the most part, these rains are welcome in Montana as we just never know when we may get them.

We just spent three days at the Central MT Fair in Lewistown this past week watching our little granddaughter, Laynee show her first 4-H animal--a pig. When I was in 4-H many, many years ago, my projects were sewing and fat steers--I guess I didn't pay any attention to the technique of showing pigs! First of all, her other grandmother (the one that

knew something about showing pigs) gave her a pink show stick. Well, that started the whole process--we had to have several pink tools, including a pink sparkly brush, which she had to use about every five minutes because Sparkle (the pig) always wanted to take a nap in the stall right before going out to show.

Then the "free for all" began--out came about 10 pigs and 10 little kids trying to get their little pig to go in a certain pattern--just by tapping them on the side of the head with said "pink stick," opposite the direction they willed them to go! All was well, until certain unruly pigs decided to just go wherever. I quickly decided that swine judging has to be a very difficult job! But, all of the little showmen kept their wits about them and got the job done.

So, after watching the confirmation judging of the pig the first day,

the showmanship judging the second day, and the sale the third day, I was worn out! But watching all those dedicated kids take care of and show their animals made me realize, again, how valuable 4-H and FFA are in preparing our kids for future agricultural roles.

Those kids were up at daybreak washing, feeding, and preparing all of their animals for whatever contest they were competing in that day. Many of the members had several animals in competition but they took it all in stride and did what it took to get the job done!

Needless to say, this Grandma was very proud of our little 4-Her--she got all blue ribbons on the confirmation judging and the showmanship. She had the "stick turning" down quite well, and that cute little smile while making "eye contact" with the judge! By the time the sale rolled around, she was getting quite tired of the whole ordeal, but came into the ring "all smiles" again and netted \$5.75 per pound for her efforts--so fatigue quickly vanished and she is ready to do it all over again next year.

I guess the moral of this story is to encourage as many young people as you can to take part in 4-H, FFA, and other similar programs, because that is where Ag education begins and with all of the resistance agriculture is getting from all angles these days, we have to make sure our kids are equipped to combat those issues for agriculture to be sustainable for the future.



Laynee and her 4-H pigs



By Pam Potthoff
Nebraska

Trade Report

Canada's import protections may exclude them from TPP

For decades Canada has protected its dairy farmers from imports and wishes to continue to do so under the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). Several U.S. senators are pushing trade representative Michael Froman to drop Canada from TPP negotiations if they will not lift their dairy import protection. Agriculture is expected to be the biggest winner among traditional U.S. industries in the TPP. Opening up the Canadian dairy, poultry and egg markets would be an additional win for our agricultural producers.

A few years ago the U.S. dairy industry changed some policies that made exporting easier and more lucrative. Exports more than doubled in the past seven years to \$7.25 billion in 2014. We now send four times more dairy products to Mexico than to Canada even though Canada is our biggest trading partner.

It is difficult to understand how Canada thinks they can assess billions of dollars of retaliation fees for the assumed damages done to their farmers from COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) but there is no compensation for our dairy and poultry farmers for the lack of access to Canadian markets. Someone doesn't seem to be looking out for our farmers. If this isn't changed, it could be a deal-breaker with Canada not included in the TPP.

A reality of global warming, if

that is what this is, is it doesn't matter where on the earth the practice that causes excessive carbon in the atmosphere exists, the results for the planet is the same. Cows in Brazil pass as much gas as cows in the United States. However, electric production facilities and manufacturing in China produce much more emission than do those in the United States,

yet the all affect the atmosphere. Hopefully, negotiation for the TPP will include some requirements to lower pollution.

Foot and mouth, a highly contagious and devastating disease, is an accident just waiting to happen. First, the research facility is being moved to Manhattan, Kansas, right in the middle of tornado alley. Then the Obama Administration announced it is opening the market for importation of fresh and frozen beef from Brazil and Argentina, countries with a long history of foot and mouth. In the past two years the U.S. has lost 8 million hogs to the PED virus, and 50 million chickens and turkeys to avian flu. Will our beef herds be the next victim of an imported disease? The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) admits an effective plan to prevent the spread of Foot and Mouth has not been formulated. Indeed, experts agree that confining an outbreak might be impossible.

The House has voted to repeal COOL for chicken, beef, and pork. Two different approaches to COOL are being pushed in the Senate—one would be an outright repeal and the other would allow voluntary labeling. Since voluntary labeling was available prior to mandatory labeling and no packers volunteered, both approaches would pretty much get rid of the consumers' right to know where their meat originated. WIFE continues to support a mandatory COOL. Now is the time to contact your congressmen and tell them to KEEP COOL.

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Feed Grains Report



By Donna Bolz
Nebraska

Lacking import approval, Syngenta is hit with lawsuits

If you raise corn, you have probably received a lot of mail from lawyers/law firms wanting you to sign up with them as they file a lawsuit against Syngenta for their role in the biggest drop in corn prices in American history. I just returned from an informational meeting by one of the law firms. The following information is from the meeting I attended and several other sources; Syngenta's response is at the end of this article:

In a nutshell this is what happened according to the lawyer at the meeting. In 2009, Syngenta released a new strain of corn seed into the United States markets before receiving import approval from China. Without import approval for this strain, known as Agrisure Viptera, China rejected U.S. corn shipments in 2013 and 2014, causing a global collapse in U.S. corn prices. The name of the corn trait is MIR162, which was said to be genetically engineered to protect corn against damage from insects such as the corn borer and corn rootworm. Without China's approval, China stopped purchasing the corn. The export disruptions with China cost U.S. farmers billions of dollars.

So what is the big deal about China not buying U.S. corn? The U.S. farmer raises more corn than can be consumed, fed to livestock, used in ethanol, etc. About one-third of the corn grown is shipped overseas with China being a major buyer. It is estimated that Syngenta's actions caused more than 5 billion dollars in damage to the U.S. corn market.

When the case goes to trial, economists and the lawyers will argue back and forth to determine an exact amount lost per bushel, which is estimated to range from 22 cents to more than one dollar in 2013 and 2014. During this time Syngenta maintained that approval was imminent. In April 2012, Syngenta's CEO stated, "On the import approval, it has import approval in all of the major markets. There isn't outstanding approval for China, which we expect to have quite frankly within the matter of a couple of days." However, import approval was not ultimately granted until December 2014. Without approval of the new corn trait, China destroyed multiple shipments of genetically modified corn from the U.S. At least one media outlet reported that several large shipments were destroyed by the Chinese government. By April 2014, the rejected corn tonnage had reached 1,450,000.

China was not the only country that rejected this genetically modified corn. 3.3 million metric tons of U.S. corn was rejected globally as of March 2014. The export market disruptions with China cost U.S. farmers billions of dollars. More importantly, more than 30 percent of our export partners have banned genetically modified crops.

In September 2014, Cargill filed a lawsuit against Syngenta over their commercialization of MIR162 before receiving import approval. Also in September 2014, Trans Coastal Supply Co., a major exporter of livestock feed, filed a lawsuit alleging damages of \$41 million because of Syngenta's actions. In November 2014, Archer-Daniels Midland announced they would take legal action against Syngenta, saying the company didn't take "reasonable stewardship practices." There are currently

lawsuits pending against Syngenta in 22 states due to their commercialization of MIR162 without import approval from China.

Today, thousands of corn farmers across the United States have filed suit. According to the Center for Rural Affairs, a local organization that has supported the family farmer for years, be sure to check these law firms and lawsuits out completely before signing up. If you sign up for this one and other issues surface you could lose your ability to be part of that action.

I contacted Syngenta directly and this is the reply I received: "Syngenta believes the lawsuits are without merit and strongly upholds the right of growers to have access to approved new technologies that can increase both their productivity and their profitability. The Agrisure Viptera® trait (MIR162) was approved for cultivation in the USA in 2010. Syngenta commercialized the trait in full compliance with regulatory and legal requirements. Syngenta also obtained import approval from major corn importing countries. Syngenta has been fully transparent in commercializing the trait over the last four years. During this time Agrisure Viptera® has demonstrated major benefits for growers, preventing significant yield and grain quality losses resulting from damage by a broad spectrum of lepidopteran pests. We think everyone who is interested deserves a place to go for information about Agrisure Viptera® and the Viptera China lawsuits so they can draw their own conclusions about these important issues. We encourage those interested to visit www.VipteraChinaFacts.com, as an information resource, as we believe the facts show we launched Agrisure Viptera appropriately."



By Jean Wach
Nebraska

Cereal Grains Report

Health study shows vast benefits of cereal fiber

In a study, which involved more than 367,000 U.S. adults ages 50 to 71, people were asked how frequently they ate certain foods, including whole-grain bread, cereals, and pasta. The participants were then divided into five groups based on how much whole grains they consumed, as well as how much fiber they consumed from grains, known as “cereal fiber.

People in the group that consumed the most whole grains were 17 percent less likely to die over a 14-year period, compared with those who ate the least amount of whole grains. But the people who consumed the most cereal fiber were 19 percent less likely to die during the study, compared with those who ate the least cereal fiber. The results “indicate that intake of whole grains and cereal fiber may reduce the risk of all-cause mortality and death from chronic diseases,” the researchers said.” In addition, the findings suggest that “cereal fiber partly accounts for the protective effects of whole grains,” they said.

The researchers also looked at people’s risk of dying from specific diseases during the study period. They found that those who ate a diet high in whole grains were about half as likely to die from diabetes as those who ate the least amount of whole grains. High consumption of

whole grains was also linked with an 11 percent reduced risk of dying from respiratory disease, a 17 percent reduced risk of dying from cardiovascular disease and a 15 percent reduced risk of dying from cancer during the study period. But after the researchers took into account people’s consumption of cereal fiber, they found that these benefits of whole grains were either reduced or went away. In other words, the

benefits of whole grains seemed to be due, at least in part, to the cereal fiber within them.

Grains are seeds that people cultivate to eat, and whole grains contain the entire grain, meaning they include the bran (the tough outer layer), as well as the germ (the part of the seed that would grow into a plant) and the endosperm (which nourishes the seed). Cereal fibers are found in the bran part of whole grains, so all whole-grain products contain cereal fibers but products with added fiber would not necessarily contain whole grains.

The new findings agree with previous research linking consumption of whole grains to a reduced risk of premature death and chronic diseases. A study published last month found that people who ate at least 20 grams of whole grains a day had a reduced risk of death over a 25-year period. However the new study cannot prove that eating whole grains or cereal fibers directly contributes to a reduced risk of early death or chronic diseases.

Although the study took into account many factors that could affect a person’s risk of death and chronic disease, such as physical activity, body mass index, and smoking, alcohol consumption, other factors not taken into account by the study might explain the link. In addition, the study assessed people’s eating habits at one point in time, and it’s possible that their eating habits could have changed during the study period (Journal BMC Medicine).

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**By Marlene Kouba
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Homeland Security Report

Illegal immigrants may reap benefits from Social Security

The Obama administration has announced it will further scale back the detention of families who arrive illegally at the U.S.-Mexico border. Jeh Johnson, secretary of Homeland Security stated, "Once a family has established eligibility for asylum or other relief under our laws, long-term detention is an inefficient use of our resources and should be discontinued." The new rule applies to all those who illegally crossed the border as family units. More than 96 percent of the border surge arrivals over the last 10 months are still here. Approximately 450,000 people entered the U.S. illegally last year, and another 1.1 million enter legally, making for the most robust immigration policy of any nation in the world. A record-high 43.1 million immigrants now live in the United States. The U.S. attracts about 20 percent of the world's international migrants, even as it represents less than five percent of the global population.

A memo from the Congressional Research Service indicates that illegal immigrants will be able to tap into our Social Security system and receive payments, according to Obama's amnesty plan. The memo says illegal immigrants would also be given credit for time they've been working in the United States illegally. Under the November 20, 2014 memorandum, foreign nationals who receive deferred action status may be eligible for work authorization. As a result, a foreign national may be able to have all of his or her Social Security-covered earnings count toward qualifying for a Social Security benefit. The benefits will include retirement, disability and survivorship.

President Obama, whose push for immigration was recently halted by a federal court in Texas, would gain vast new powers to change immigration law and practice under a new trade agreement. The documentation reveals the removal of an economic needs test for visa applications and a shorter time limit for processing applications. The existence of these 10 pages on immigration in the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA) makes it clear that the administration is negotiating immigration. The administration has negotiated the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). An analysis found that TISA includes a listing of about 40 industries "where potentially the U.S. visa processes would have to change to accommodate the requirements within the agreement. The terms don't have an economic needs based test, which currently U.S. law requires for some types of visa applications. But it also states, "The period of processing applications may not exceed 30 days." Many visa applications take longer than 30 days. There appears to be an opening to create agreements that extend for more than seven years, which would be a change in current U.S. law. TISA is even more secretive than the TPP. Lawmakers can review the text of TPP in a secret, secured room inside the Capitol but with TISA, no such draft text is available. But then the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced the extension of a program allowing spouses of certain visa holders to obtain work permits, which will, in 90 days, allow some 180,000 immigrants to be eligible for the benefit in the first year.

The backlog of 77,000 cases in Houston can take as long as 636 days, per case. Funding for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) grew to

\$18 billion in 2013 and the Immigration Review office budget increased to \$304 million. About 280 judges are needed to handle the backlog. Immigration detention centers have been built but we pay between \$122 and \$164 a day to detain an immigrant. A human smuggling ring has been stopped that funneled thousands of workers to 650 restaurants in 29 states with a contract in three languages, to work.

About 97 percent of the illegal immigrants cross the nearly 2,000-mile Mexican border but only 20 percent are caught. Of the 61,529 criminal cases initiated by federal prosecutors in 2013, more than 40 percent were filed in court districts neighboring the border. Nearly 22 percent were drug-related, 19.7 percent were violent crimes, and 10.2 percent involved white-collar offenses. About 57 percent of the 76 fugitive murderers wanted by the FBI in 2009 were foreign-born. In Maricopa County in Arizona, 22 percent of felons are illegal immigrants.

About 4.5 million illegal aliens in the U.S. drive on a regular basis, many without licenses or insurance or even the ability to read road signs written in English. In Arizona, 63 percent of cited drivers have no license, no insurance, and no registration for the vehicle, and 97 percent of them are illegal aliens. Of the 188,380 deportations of illegal aliens in one recent year, 23 percent had committed criminal traffic offenses, primarily driving under the influence. Rep. Steve King of Iowa has estimated that illegal alien drunk drivers kill 13 Americans every day.

In Pinal County, Arizona, about 70 miles from the Mexican border, marijuana seizures went from about 19,000 pounds in 2008 to more than 45,500 pounds in 2010. The Mexican drug car-

Homeland Security: Continued on Page 9



By Barbara Broberg
Montana

Energy Report

Today's energy boosters aren't what they used to be

Welcome to this Energy Report. Here is a follow-up to the railroad tank car workshop, reported on in an earlier column: There was a move to change the design of tank cars to create more safety, in light of some tank car train derailments. Ken Grantham has written a commentary stating that corrosion is a preventable problem. The tank car can be weakened by corrosion. Corrosion is ongoing with certain materials and that corrosion is a cause of tank cars losing their contents.

Instead of newly designed tank cars made out of the usual stuff (he calls traditional steel old-fashioned), he recommends getting metallurgists and material engineers on the problem. The modern material "will [. . .] be applied to the energy, chemical and petrochemical industries. By being proactive, accepting modern chemical advancements and allowing these next generation materials to boost corrosion prevention and maintenance, the next generation of our workforce will be able to take these industries to unprecedented levels of safety and success" (www.impomag.com/articles/2015/07/whats-missing-tank-car-safety-discussion).

A young man on a harvest crew was going to use the truck he brought up from another state to haul proprietary barley on a Montana farm. There was still wheat from the last job in the other state in the corners of his truck. Thankfully, the excitable grain auger operator noticed this and made

the young man dump the wheat--on the ground. "On the ground?" he asked, On the ground. The auger operator asked the young man about his background and some other things--he was curious why this person had come on the crew. Mixing wheat and barley would not be normal for a person with a farm background. The reasons were typical--he needed a job, didn't care to stay in his own turf for the summer, new country to see, etc. The overwhelming reason, which he stated with sincere excitement, was "the food." The food that the harvest crew cook prepared was THE reason to endure the sweat, work, and drama that comes with harvest. As has been said many times, "the farm works on its stomach."

Today, though, this has some real teeth. "There is a spectrum of consumers with decision fatigue, they're sick of thinking about what they want to eat, and if you can take that away by just having a simple substance you can drink, they're happy to do it," says Mike Walsh, a futurist, author and CEO of Innovation. He was quoted in an article written by Monica Watrous, published on July 21, 2015 at www.foodbusinessnews.net/articles/news. This consumer group is made up of people who have never lived without a smart phone and find it hard to believe that we used to drink milk.

And what does this have to do with energy? If you have cooked for a harvest crew, you know shopping, cooking, and delivering meals takes energy at every stage.. If you are in the food business, you know how quickly food ingredients can be made unusable and what it takes to keep

ingredients in top condition (drying, cooling, cooking, heating, baking, refrigerating). All of this uses energy. And if you are the person thinking about eating food, it is wonderful to see the dinner person arrive.

Think about the food-like item in the form of a liquid beverage described above. Would you want Soylent (powdered meal replacement beverage), or some of the new whey drinks, instead of prepared food? Have you seen the energy drink category at the store? Have you seen what people bring for lunch when the program says "bring your own lunch and join us?" Have you had people recoil when you bring a Pepsi? It is a whole new world of what people consider healthy or what they eat, even if they don't consider their health!

This is the same thing as the tank car man talking in the first paragraph--the answer is different than you think. We are farming to bring food, fuel, fiber, and feed. And what will be done with those products? As for me, if I'm on harvest meals this harvest I'm going to be preparing food with a little more enthusiasm. Maybe we will all drink beverages for meals someday...but having seen what a good meal does to a harvest crew, I'm going to say that 'technology' has already brought unprecedented success and innovation. And maybe this next generation in the workforce can absorb some of the stuff that brought us forward from the good ole days. At least this is what is to be hoped, otherwise traditional harvest cooks will need to get educated on Monster drinks, and granola bark and hot peanut curry.

Natural Resources Report

Nine states sue over WOTUS rule

CLEAN WATER ACT: WATERS OF THE U.S.

The rule, as was proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers, was published in the Federal Register in the late part of June, making it official and opening it up to litigation. The agencies continue to say the exemptions for agricultural activities for farmers and ranchers will not change.

The final determination for any issue is open to the interpretation of the government. The old adage goes “we are here from the government and we are here to help you.” As it has been proven, “at what cost will it be for those who they are here to help?” Ag groups highly question what those interpretations will be.

The rule has really opened the door for lawsuits. Nine states have sued the Obama administration over

the rule asserting power over small waterways and wetlands. The lawsuit says the EPA has violated the Clean Water Act, other laws and Supreme Court decisions when it declared the tributaries and other small waters are subject to federal jurisdiction and pollution control laws. The states filing these lawsuits are South Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Utah, and Wisconsin. Other lawsuits came from Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

The issue needs to be closely watched and monitored.

SAGE GROUSE LISTING

A provision in the National Defense Authorization Act includes



language that was introduced in the House version by Rep. Rob Bishop (UT) that would “bar the Fish and Wildlife Service from issuing an Endangered Species Act finding for greater sage grouse for a decade and roll back federal sage grouse conservation plans spanning more than 50 million acres of the West.” The language is not in the Senate bill so it has gone to conference.

A pro-conservation veterans group is opposing the provision stating that “The sagebrush lands are kind of the backdrop for the American Western Landscape—it’s what we call home. The same habitat used by the bird is used by service members for recreation; healing and spending time with family” said the Veterans spokesperson Garrett Reppenhagen.

Republicans have warned that restrictions imposed by listing the sage grouse’s 165 million acres of habitat could impede Department of Defense training exercises. The Natural Resource Committee has provided reports from the Army, Navy and Air Force that spell out several ways in which the listing will impede military exercises and increase compliance costs in Nevada, California, Washington, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho. The Department of Defense has said they have no concerns about the listing. President Obama has threatened to veto both the Senate and House bills.

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By Klodette Stroh
Wyoming

Sugar Report

Disappointment among U.S. sugar producers grows

Last year Mexico exported highly subsidized sugar into the U.S. market. Excess sugar imported from Mexico under NAFTA (North America Free Trade Agreement) cost the U.S. government \$250 million just in 2014. The excess sugar coming into U.S. breaks the 2008 Farm Bill provision of the sugar program.

To be fair to sugar farmers, the U.S. and Mexican government had reached a reasonable settlement. American sugar growers were disappointed because the Department of Commerce (DOC) had decided to continue investigating the Mexican sugar industry despite the fact that the vast majority of parties involved, including the U.S. and Mexican governments, were counting on their March agreement to monitor the importation of subsidized sugar into the U.S. market.

On March 19, 2015 the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) honored the agreements between U.S. and Mexican governments to stop subsidized Mexican sugar from being dumped onto the U.S. market. The ITC was asked to determine whether the governments' settlement adequately removed the injury caused by unfairly traded Mexican sugar.

Farmers invest in their crops. Crude oil prices drove the cost of fertilizer, fuel, chemical, parts, and tires sky high, which since, have remained at the same levels since 2009. According to the American Sugar Alliance

(ASA) the International Sugar Organization examined wholesale sugar prices in 80 countries and found that other developed nations have paid, on average, 41 cents per pound for sugar over the past 10 years. By comparison, the current U.S. price is 34 cents per pound, which is almost identical to current world averages.

Agricultural exports had hit a record high of \$152.5 billion in January of 2015.

U.S. farms have been here to provide food and jobs and to put our country back on its feet. Farmers and their lands have always protected our nation's security. America needs to protect her first industry, agriculture.

Homeland Security: Cont. from Page 6

tels have almost toppled the Mexican government and they are crossing into Arizona at will. Pinal County has seen mass murders, execution-style slayings, sexual assaults, kidnappings, shootings, armed robberies, burglaries, and more — all tied to illegal immigration.

In 2010, the Border Patrol reported that 212,000 illegals were caught in the Tucson, AZ sector alone, and as many as 30 percent of them already had a criminal record in the U.S. A study of 55,000 illegal aliens found that they were arrested at least 459,614 times, averaging about eight arrests per alien but about one-quarter of them had 11 or more arrests.

The number of people prosecuted for coming into the country illegally after being deported has increased by 175 percent since 2005. Arrests by the Border Patrol of illegal immigrants from countries other than Mexico increased from 59,000 in 2010 to 99,000 in 2012 and 75 percent of those on the most wanted criminals list in Los Angeles, Phoenix, and Albuquerque are illegal aliens.

Mothers with children are being released by ICE from Texas detention centers more quickly since the nation's new policy changed, with far more being given ankle-monitoring bracelets in lieu of paying bonds. One newspaper reported at least 200 Central Americans were released in mid-June. ICE generally will not detain mothers with children who have a credible fear of persecution in their home countries, as long as they can provide an address and are not deemed a national security or flight risk.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposes to expand the class of aliens who may be eligible for a provisional waiver beyond immediate relatives of U.S. citizens to aliens in all statutorily eligible immigrant visa categories. Such aliens include family-sponsored immigrants, employment-based immigrants, certain special immigrants, and Diversity Visa program selectees, together with their derivative spouses and children. Under federal law, if an immigrant comes into the United States and stays for less than one year, they are banned from returning for three years. If they stay longer than a year, then they aren't supposed to be allowed back in the country for 10 years. Under the waiver program, illegal immigrants can avoid these penalties. The DHS proposal is now pending a 60-day public comment period.

Reports show that 63 percent of Americans want the U.S. to gain control of the border (Arizona Republic, World News Daily, Newsmax).

WIFE Updates

Mark your Calendars

- The 2015 National WIFE Convention has been set for November 5-7 in Bismarck, North Dakota. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, visit with old friends and get involved in the policies of WIFE!
- Candidate bios are due to Cathy Scherler, Nominations Chairman, at cscherler@fairpoint.net by August 25, in order to be printed in next month's issue of the WIFEline. If you're running for a national office position or commodity chairman, you don't want to miss this deadline!



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