

# What's inside of you

Maybe I get a little too philosophical. But I do so for one reason: because most days I am sitting across from people and asking them about their lives.

For example, this week we are in Cheyenne, Wyoming with three camera people and an assistant/photographer and I, set up at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum. We are interviewing five people a day for two days for 10 new Wild Rides or Special Cowboy Moments episodes that will air in the future on the Cowboy Channel, Cowgirl Channel and RFD-TV.

That means that although these people are looking at me and answering my questions, as if we're having a friendly conversation in a coffee shop, the fact is that there are four cameras of various types pointing at them from almost every angle.

Plus, there are lights pointed at them that are bright enough to make them feel like they are staring into a sunrise. And the knowledge that our conversation is going to eventually find its way into over 100 million households.

My job is to make them forget about all of that and concentrate only on the deeply personal questions that I am about to ask them.

For example,



Kevin Holten

we interviewed the Governor of Wyoming, Mark Gordon. He's a ranch-raised, deeply thoughtful man who never thought he'd be in politics and is totally focused on making life better for his Wyoming constituents.

And I asked him, many minutes into the one-hour interview, what had been the most difficult event in his life that taught him how to face all the other challenges that would eventually come way.

I tried to approach the question very gingerly because, sure enough, it was the death of his wife Sally years ago, when their two daughters were very young that he talked about. And yes, his answer induced a flow of moisture in not only his eyes.

Thankfully, he eventually met his current wife Jennie, who also has two boys, and they became one big happy family. But none of that happened overnight. And along the way there were plenty of sleepless

nights.

We also interviewed the CEO of Cheyenne Frontier Days, Tom Hirsig, whose great uncle was a founder of the event in the late 1800s. And since then, throughout the decades, there has always been a Hirsig family member involved, to make sure that their rodeo in Cheyenne continued to be one of the top two in the world. And he said, its like he's working for his family.

Plus, we interviewed Candy Moulton who is the Executive Director of the Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame. And as such she is responsible for a lot of Wyoming cowboy history, which is precious because history, like it or not, has a big impact on future history.

And we interviewed a noted rancher, Charlie Farthing, the museum's historian, Michael Kassel, Laramie County Community College rodeo coach, Dean Finnerty plus two of his rodeo team members, along with Bob Budd, Executive Director of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust, and more.

Great people doing great things for great people with every interview being a moving experience and a very precious moment and that's what makes me philosophical.

It all somehow reminds me of a quote by philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson who once said that what lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.

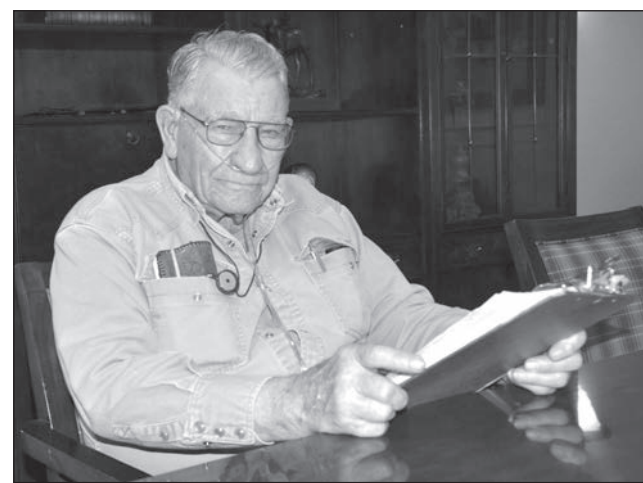
And our interviews seem to always be about what's inside of them.

# Dakota DATEBOOK Buying his ranch on time

James's earliest memory is of a trip to Moorhead, Minnesota, to see what was left of his father's Minnesota family. "I was laying on the back seat of the old Model T sleeping. I remember waking up, and I got to smelling smoke. Dad was a cigarette smoker at that time, and apparently the fire, maybe even the cigarette, had blown away from him. I don't remember. Anyway, it lit right down along my shoulder in the back seat and burnt a hole that would cover your hand. He stopped the car and put out the fire. I think he had a water jug, if I remember right. He dumped it on the area. That is my first memory."

"Well, I'm supposed to have a high school education," James responds to a question about his education. "The military took me out of high school. That is how I could not finish. When I first went into the service, hell, I went to school a month of two. Well, they gave me a diploma hoping I wouldn't come back."

He was in the military for 21 months. He



James Fritz  
June 4, 2013

helped to rebuild the USS Saratoga, "You probably heard of her in World War II. She came back in the port at Seattle at that time and she had just taken five of them Kamikazes and she was burnt out inside.

"A neighbor ask if I wanted to buy his ranch. I said, 'I don't have no damn money.' 'You don't need no damn money,' he said. 'Just come out, and we will make a deal.' I did. I went out and worked for him. He sold me the ranch on time. I

think it was 2,500 acres. He gave me a contract, and you know I just can't remember what the contract was but it ran about \$18 an acre."

He married Donna Hafele in 1956, and to their union were born two children. His advice to his grandkids is: "Try to get an education would be the first thing, as much as you could, sure as hell try to stay out of debt because the God damn interest would really eat you up."

## Nov. 19-Nov. 22 Oil Report

The following information was gathered from the Daily Activity Reports on the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources website and pertains to the week of November 19th through November 22nd. Only information listed for Billings County, Golden Valley County and Stark County is given here.

**November 19th**  
Permits Approved:  
#41355 - Five States Operating Company, LLC, BC 2-21H,

SESW 16-138N-99W, Stark County, 250' FSL and 1320' FWL, Development, 'Confidential', Bull Creek, 2688' Ground, Bottom Hole Location: SESW, SWSW 21-138N-99W, API - 33089-00916, Spacing Unit: W/2 of Section 21, Township 138 North, Range 99 West.

Temporarily Abandoned Well Plugged: #15120 - Medora Minerals, LLC, Davis Creek 2-32H, NESE 32-139N-100W,

Billings County.  
**November 20th**  
Producing Wells Completed: #40328 - Petro-Hunt, L.L.C., State 144-98-16A-21-3H, SESW 09-144N-98W, Billings County, 399 BOPD, 1251 BWPD.

**November 21st**  
Disposal Now Abandoned: #09200 - Compass SWD, LLC, Kordonowy-Twin 34-31, SWSE 31-142N-98W, Billings County.

Temporarily Abandoned Wells Plugged: #15679 - FH Petroleum Corp., Brown 42-28, SENE 28-142N-103W, Golden Valley County; #29400 - Lime Rock Resources III-A, L.P., State Gresz 4-26-35H-143-98, NENW 26-143N98W, Billings County.

As of November 22nd, the active rig count was 38. The Active Drilling Rig Report did not contain rigs located in the three counties. Active rigs are rigs being drilled and/or being prepared for production.

For more detailed information, go to the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources website and subscribe to their Basic or Premium Services.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF BILLINGS  
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TODD CORNEIL, DECEASED

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Ella-Jo Corneil, Personal Representative of the Estate, or filed with the Court.

/s/ Ella-Jo Corneil  
Personal Representative

Sandra K. Kuntz,  
Attorney #05816  
Legal Edge Solutions, PLLC  
536 West Villard Street  
Dickinson, ND 58601  
Attorneys for Personal Representative

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## \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*

Please take note that with the upcoming holidays, certain issues will have earlier deadlines for ads & news items

**DEADLINE**

**Dec. 26th issue - Thursday, Dec. 19th**  
**Jan. 2 issue - Thursday, Dec. 26th**

Items may be emailed to:  
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or call 701-872-3755 or 701-351-6717 with questions

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