#### 1815 Miscellaneous

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### **BY DARIS HOWARD**

Our old horse died, and my wife and my children wanted another one. I finally agreed, but insisted that we find one that was gentle, but not too old. My wife searched and eventually told me she had found the perfect one.

At the horse farm, the owner took us to a pasture full of horses. She pointed out a beautiful gelding. "That's the horse. He is really gentle.

"Why are you selling him?" I asked.

"Because he has no fire," she replied.

'What do you mean?" I asked. "I'm a barrel racer in the rodeo," she answered. "Some horses have such a competitive spirit that they will work to win with or without their rider. But competition is not a big deal to this horse. In fact, he's low man in the herd. He lets all of the other horses push him around."

I could see what she meant. The other horses would nip at him, and he would immediately back off, not wanting to cause trouble. Still, a person could tell he was irritated at being at the bottom of the pecking order.

We bought him and named him Caspian. I put him in the pasture with our old cow, Leah. He ran around the pasture for a brief time, then approached Leah cautiously. She backed away, and Caspian seemed surprised. None of the horses backed away from him. Suddenly, he saw his chance to assert himself to the top of the pecking order. He moved aggressively toward Leah, and she responded by turning and running. He chased her.

I knew this would not be good for her milk production, so I tied him up and built a fence to split the pasture. The fence kept them apart, but if Caspian ever got in with Leah, he would chase her to make sure she remembered he was in charge

When it was getting close to time for Leah to have a calf, we realized we needed another cow. Our youngest daughter could drink raw milk

**Ensuring Integrity In The IRS Workforce** 

### **BY REP. KRISTI NOEM**

It is commonsense: if someone at your workplace has been fired for falsifying documents or violating a client's privacy, they probably won't be rehired. Unless they work at the IRS, that is.

According to a February 2015 report by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, the IRS has rehired "hundreds of former employees" who had prior performance or conduct issues at the agency. Some of these individuals had falsified official forms. Others had a documented misuse of IRS property. Still others inappropriately accessed sensitive taxpayer information. One individual even had a note attached to their personnel file that stated "Do Not Rehire," and still, they were rehired.

Not surprisingly, about 20 percent of those brought back onboard after misconduct continued to have performance issues after being rehired.

It is a completely irresponsible way to run an agency – let alone an organization that manages sensitive taxpayer data. But if IRS leadership won't instill commonsense hiring practices within the agency, I will work to write it into law.

Earlier this month, I introduced the Ensuring Integrity

in the IRS Workforce Act.

rehiring practices are just one example of poor leadership within the IRS.

Inspector General for Tax Administration revealed another set of findings: many of the IRS employees who had violated tax law or engaged in misconduct at work were never even fired in the first place. In fact, more than 60 percent of those who willfully violated tax law kept their jobs.

Moreover, many of these employees went on to receive awards and promotions within the year, including nearly \$145,000 in performance bonuses, 900 hours of time-off awards, more than 30 promotions, and four permanent raises. Taxpayers should never be responsible for giving a performance bonus to an IRS employee who has failed to pay their own taxes. Period.

either. In April of this year, the House Ways and Means

thank you,

Thanks to the good wishes of friends and family our 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary was a day to cherish.

Special thanks to the folks at HyVee and the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library for their

but would break out with a rash from any that was pasteurized. I bought a young cow, and we named her Coco. The farmer I bought her from left me with a warning that Coco was probably coming into heat.

Who's The Boss?

customer service, meaning

16 million fewer taxpayers

received IRS assistance this

tax filing season. What's

more, the IRS continued

to prioritize spending on

employee bonuses and union

activity during this time, us-

ing up resources that could

have helped millions more

I had no sooner put Coco into the pasture with Leah than Caspian was trying to find a way through the fence. He seemed determined to make sure Coco knew he was the boss. As I watched, he searched the fence line. Eventually, he found a gate with a loose latch and popped it open.

He took off at full speed toward Coco. But Coco didn't run away. Quite the opposite; she ran toward him. That was when I realized that she was in heat, and it began to dawn on me what she was thinking. She had always been artificially bred before, so she had never seen a bull. She was thinking Caspian was a bull, and she was instantly in love.

Caspian realized something was wrong and slid to a stop, at which point Coco jumped on him. Suddenly, Caspian realized he wanted

nothing to do with this lovesick cow. He fled back toward his pasture. But much to his chagrin, he found the gate had relatched and he was trapped with this crazy cow.

She chased him, and he whinnied for help. Finally, Coco had him cornered. She jumped all over him until he was able to break free and run for it. Coco continued to chase, corner, and jump on him for some time until I finally took pity on him and went to his rescue.

I unlatched the gate and let Caspian back into his pasture. He ran to the farthest side, trembling from the emotional trauma he had suffered, while Coco paced the fence line trying to get to him.

I returned to the house and told my wife that I didn't think we would have to worry about Caspian chasing the cows anymore. I was right, but we did have to endure Coco's lovesick mooing for a few sleepless nights.

# Legislature Seeks College **Students For Intern Positions**

PIERRE - The South Dakota Legislature is looking for twenty-two ambitious college or university students to serve as legislative interns for the 2016 Legislative Session. The internship positions are open to all college and university students. Applications for the intern positions must be filed with the Legislative Research Council in Pierre by October 14, 2015.

The Legislative Research Council's internship program is designed so students can achieve a greater understanding of the government process, as well as provide assistance to the legislative branch of government. As interns, students will work with the legislative leadership and assist them with bill briefs. constituent services, and other legislative tasks. The students may also earn valuable college credits for their internship and receive up to five thousand dollars in compensation for their services. Additional information regarding the program can be found at the Legislative Research Council's web site, http:// legis.sd.gov/Students\_Page/Intern. There are also legislative intern coordinators located on each campus to assist the student applicants.

Interested students may contact the Legislative Research Council, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-3251.



Committee, of which I am a Unfortunately, the IRS's member, released a report showing the IRS deliberately diverted funding away from

This spring, the Treasurv

It doesn't stop there,

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This legislation strictly prohibits the IRS from rehiring an employee that has been fired for certain forms of STEEL CULVERTS FOR forward as that. SALE: New, All sizes. 605-661-5050 or 605-387-5660. Ulmer

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1850	Agriculture
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1870 Ag Equipment

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For Sale: Two year old laying hens, \$2 each. Call 605-760-0280 after 5pm.



# ual Pancake **Feed and**

All you can eat pancakes, sausages and beverage. \$5 pre-sale. \$6 at the door. Age 5 and under eat FREE.

# Wednesday and Thursday Oct. 14-15, 2015

Serving 11:30am - 1:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm at the Armory next to Lions Park

### Tickets Available At:

Herren-Schempp Bldg. Supply, Vermillion Vision, Pressing Matters, Nook 'n Cranny, American Family Insurance, CorTrust Bank, Ace Hardware, or from any Lions Club member.



## You Can Help:

Currently the Lions Club is collecting basic necessities for displaced children, such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, etc. Drop off your donated items at the W. H. Over Museum, CorTrust Bank, or at the Pancake Feed.





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