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PREMA

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

STRATEGY FEEDERS

STORY WRITTEN BY DAVE SCHROTH



If you have traveled east of Alliance towards Antioch in the recent months you may have seen an uncommon sight just north of Highway 2. We are Liz and Dave Schroth owners of Strategy Feeders LLC, we custom feed and finish beef cattle but specialize in bison.

We purchased the feed yard in May this past year and officially made Nebraska our home in June. We are a family operation, Liz and I along with our four children own and manage Strategy Feeders and Strategy Bison. Liz grew up in Northeastern South Dakota on a farm/beef feedlot and attended South Dakota State University earning a B.S. degree in Animal Science and a minor in Ag Business. I grew up in Eastern Colorado on a farm/ranch and attended National American University earning a B.S. degree in Ranch Resource management with an emphasis in Business Administration. Liz and I met in Brookings, SD and were married ten years ago.

Almost immediately we started dreaming of owning our own ranch and being cow/calf producers, we value the lifestyle, the hard work and morals that come with agriculture, then reality struck. To own or lease enough grass to make a living and then stock it with cows just wasn't feasible for us, especially with a family that continued to grow. After bouncing around managing bison and beef ranches and feedlots from Canada to Wyoming we finally struck out on our own in 2019 and leased a feedlot in South Dakota. After leasing the South Dakota yard for a year, we still had a strong desire to own our own operation and began looking for something that would work. We began searching in South Dakota and realized everything was either too expensive or in the wrong location, so we expanded our search and found this place. Ironically for the eight years we lived in Cheyenne and traveled back to South Dakota we would pass through Alliance and Liz would always comment what a nice town it is and how she thought it was cute. Though we didn't know it at the time we truly believe that God was preparing our hearts to reside in this community. Since moving here we finally have a sense of home. The community has been very welcoming and friendly, our kids love going to school at Saint Agnes and we are continuing to meet wonderful neighbors and community members. Though skeptical at first, we know God has placed us here for a reason, this is where we want to raise our family and build our legacy.

If you're ever in the area stop in, the coffee is always on, and there is always plenty to talk about!

Let The Sunshine In

One of the easiest ways to warm up your home during the late winter and early spring: Open the window drapes.

Energy savings isn't the only benefit of adding natural daylight to your rooms. Daylight is a natural stimulant that makes people feel better.

Here are five ways the sun can help you save energy on heating bills:

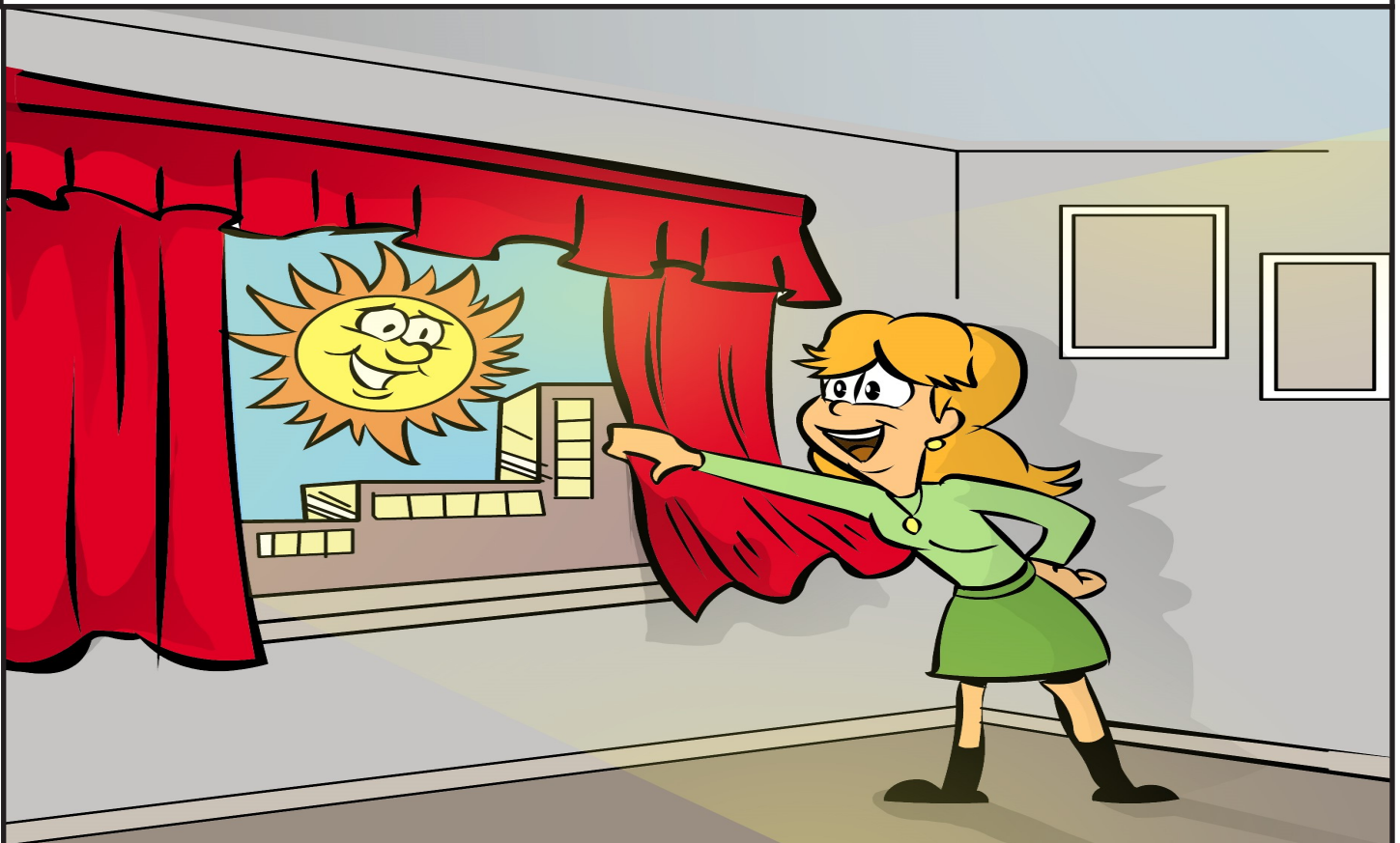
1. Open the curtains or blinds during the day and close them once the sun goes down. The heat from the sun's rays could warm up the room enough to remain comfortable even if you lower the thermostat. South-facing windows are the best for letting sunlight in during the winter. A side benefit: You won't have to turn any lamps on in sunlit rooms.

2. Clean your windows. Nobody likes that chore, but dirty windows can block natural light from finding its way into the home. Wipe down the indoor glass panes once a month year-round and the outdoor panes once a year.

3. Install a skylight in an otherwise shaded room. The rooftop windows aren't cheap, but they let the sun into the room and give you a view of the sky.

4. Replace any single-pane windows with energy-efficient, double-pane models. They not only let in the light; they keep your home's heated air from leaking outside.

5. As spring arrives and the weather starts warming up, an abundance of natural light in your rooms could allow you to turn the thermostat off a bit sooner.



Notices

Capital Credit checks were mailed September 24, 2020. Numerous checks from 2019 and 2020 have not been cashed. If you are unable to locate your uncashed check, please send a request for a check re-issue to Allison at the PREMA office. Send an email to billing@prema.coop or mail to P.O. Box 677, Alliance, NE 69301. If you have any questions, please call Allison at 308-762-1311.

Reminder

If you will be making any changes to your irrigation arrangements, such as rentals, leasing, etc., it is important to make PREMA aware of these changes by April so the correct name and address will be billed. Also this is a great time to notify our office if your contact numbers have changed or if there are additional phone numbers that need to be added to your account. Please contact Allison at our office 308-762-1311. Thank you.

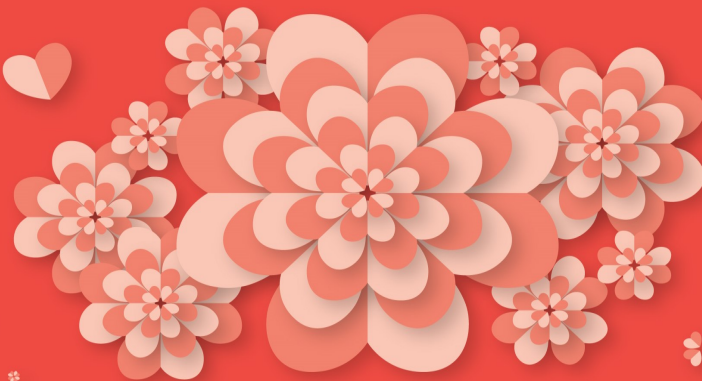
PREMA Scholarship Applications are due February 12th in the PREMA Office by 4:30pm.

Support Local Farmers

You and the farmers in your community each has something the other one needs during this pandemic. Families are cooking at home more often, so they need fresh produce and meat. And farmers—and anyone who is trying to stay in business while everyone is limiting trips to the store—need your support to keep their heads above water. To stay safe while visiting a local farmer's market, keep a few commonsense precautions in mind:

1. Do some research before you go to any farmer's market. Call around and ask the organizers what measures they are taking to keep their customers and vendors safe. Are they enforcing social distancing? Requiring masks for entry?
2. Shop at a open-air market rather than at an enclosed one.
3. Avoid the rush. Schedule your visit during off-peak hours, like first thing in the morning. If you arrive and find that the market is overly crowded, abandon the trip.
4. Shop alone so you don't contribute to overcrowding. If you do bring a friend or family member, split up so each of you covers half of the booths.
5. Don't touch anything that you don't intend to buy.
6. Do not taste any free samples.
7. Wear a mask and stay six feet away from the people around you.
8. Look for pre-bagged items, which have been handled by fewer people than loose produce.
9. Sanitize your hands as soon as you're finished shopping.
10. Thoroughly wash the produce you buy as soon as you get home.

You're at the heart of everything we do.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
FROM OUR CO-OP FAMILY TO YOURS!

Notes from Load Management

The Load Management informational letter has been mailed out. Owners and operators of irrigation accounts should have received this letter outlining the 2021 guidelines for Load Management. The deadline to enroll in Load Management is March 12th.

If you have not received the Load Management letter or have questions, please call the office at 308-762-1311



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