

County in the top 10 birding destinations in the U.S. This symposium was developed to inform and enlighten those who attend about the many attributes of this unique region, the largest of its kind in the world.”

The symposium gave people a chance to discover the uniqueness of the region and the possible rural business opportunities that it provides, according to Kathleen Tweeten, director of the Center for Community Vitality.

Attendees learned about the Coteau's geology, archeology, early and current residents, wildlife and agriculture; the impact of invasive plant species on the area's mixed-grass prairie; opportunities for tourism and other economic development; the future of natural resource development and NDSU's role in that development; and the future of the region's natural resources.

Faculty from NDSU, United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck and Minot State University-Bottineau; state legislators; a representative from the North Dakota Division of Tourism; and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's director of Native American programs were among the speakers.

The event wrapped up with a performance by Keith Bear, a world-renowned flute player, flute maker and storyteller from the Three Affiliated Tribes in Fort Berthold.

Horizons celebration recognizes 21 North Dakota communities



Walhalla was one of 21 communities recognized at a July 9 celebration in Bismarck for completing the Horizons program led by the NDSU Extension Service. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Kevin Dvorak, president and CEO, North Dakota Community Foundation; Deanna Arce, Northwest Area Foundation interim program director; Deirdre Lee; Gov. John Hoeven; (front row) D.C. Coston, NDSU vice president for agriculture and university extension; Kathy Stremick; Leann Zeller.

Twenty-one North Dakota communities were recognized on July 9 in Bismarck for completing the Horizons program. Horizons is an 18-month project for rural communities of fewer than 5,000 with poverty rates of at least 10 percent. The program is supported by the NDSU Extension Service and funded by the Northwest Area Foundation with the goal of helping communities move from poverty to hope, from population and economic decline to prosperity.

At the celebration, project director Lynette Flage recognized the communities that have completed the program: Anamoose, Bowdon, Cando, Cooperstown, Dodge, Gackle, Grant County, Harvey, Hazelton, Lidgerwood, Linton, Maddock, McKenzie County, New Town, Rock Lake, Rolette, Rutland, Sheyenne, Stanley, Steele and Walhalla.

Gov. John Hoeven congratulated the representatives for providing the leadership their communities need to develop not just economically, but also socially. D.C. Coston, vice president for agriculture and university extension, explained how the communities' work melds with NDSU's Grow 21 efforts.

The communities accomplished a variety of tasks for their Horizons projects. Just a few examples:

- Steele formed a nonprofit organization for its local food pantry.
- Cooperstown, Anamoose and Harvey set up community foundations for long-term philanthropic efforts.
- Lidgerwood gained high-speed Internet access in its public library for individual use at all income levels.
- Rolette developed a walking trail for family activity.
- Stanley has two new certified child care facilities to assist the children of working families.
- Gackle, Anamoose, Sheyenne, Cando and Bowdon now have farmers markets to assist local produce entrepreneurs and to help people receive fresh produce.
- New Town has started a Neighborhood Watch program.

To learn more about the Horizons project and accomplishments on the communities' blogs, see www.ag.ndsu.edu/horizons.

PEOPLE

Faculty present research at Society for the Study of Reproduction meeting

Members of the Center for Nutrition and Pregnancy and the Department of Animal Science presented research at the 41st annual Society for the Study of Reproduction conference May 27-30 in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

Larry Reynolds, professor of animal sciences and director of the center, gave a presentation titled, "Vascularization and Expression of Fibroblast Growth Factor (FGF)2 and FGF Receptor (FGFR) 2 IIIc Protein in Uterine Tissues During Early Pregnancy in Sheep," co-written by Pawel P. Borowicz, Joel S. Caton, Anna T. Grazul-Bilska, Justin S. Luther, Jacqueline M. Wallace and Dale A. Redmer.

Grazul-Bilska, associate professor of animal sciences, gave a presentation titled, "Expression of Luteinizing Hormone Receptor (LHR) and mTOR Protein in Sheep Corpora Lutea during the Estrous Cycle and Prostaglandin F2a (PGF)-Induced Luteal Regression," co-written by Jerzy J. Bilski, Jessica Nyberg, Kurt Rudolph, Ewa Borowczyk, Reynolds and Redmer.

Bilski, research specialist, gave a presentation titled, "Maternal Dietary Restriction Affects Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH) Receptor (R) Protein Expression in Fetal Ovaries of Sheep," co-written by Melissa Erickson, Rebekah Caton, Kimberly A. Vonnahme, Caton, Borowicz, Reynolds, Redmer and Grazul-Bilska.

Redmer, professor of animal sciences, gave a presentation titled, "Influence of Maternal Nutrition on Placental mRNA Expression of Angiogenic Factors (AF) and Their Receptors (AFR) in Adolescent Sheep at days 50 and 75 of Pregnancy," co-written by Raymond Aitken, John Milne, Mary Lynn Johnson, David Carlson, Reynolds and Wallace.