Ethel Larvick gives Al Larvick a reel of 8mm film, circa early to mid-1950s, in this still taken from the Al Larvick Family Film Collection. (Courtesy Photo)

Preserving pieces of the past
Local man receives grant to convert home movies

By Richard Volesky
Editor/Reporter

MEDORA - Family films that span several decades and are owned by a Medora man are being preserved for future generations.

Milo Thompson, who once lived at Alpha, N.D., which was located south of Beach, provided the films with a total of almost 4,000 feet of footage to The MediaPreserve, a company in Pennsylvania. The preservation is possible through a grant from the Al Larvick Conservation Fund (ALCF), based in New York City. Al Larvick was a native of Emmons County, N.D.

The Thompson home movie collection includes 8 Super 8 films that were shot by Milo Thompson's father, Goodwin “Goody” Thompson, and later, 8 millimeter films made by Milo Thompson himself.

Goody Thompson started filming the family and special events in the 1940s. Like many dads of today, it was a way to capture the kids as they were growing up, said Milo Thompson. Milo Thompson later took up the filming hobby until the 1960s. Milo Thompson said he hasn’t seen the Super 8 films because he doesn’t have that type of projector, so it will be a special aspect of the project when the digital versions become available. The preservation and conversion process is expected to be completed later this year.

The conservation plan includes cleaning and repairing the original films, as well as transferring those films to a digital format. A copy of those transfers will be made available on an Internet archive at archive.org later this year, along with films related to previous grants.

"The fund will not alter what the original film and its camera person captured," said Kirsten Larvick, founder and executive director of ALCF. Al Larvick was her grandfather.

"We feel home movies are important cultural and historical documents that should be preserved as is," said Kirsten Larvick.

However, for live events that take place annually at historical societies and museums, ALCF has edited a few film clips to include narration and music, in collaboration with the film’s owner or grantee. "This is sometimes a good way of adding context to the imagery, especially if they are silent movies. If we do edit them, they are made as copies. The

Preserving (Continued On Page 8)

Legislature heads to halftime

By Mike Jacobs

N.D. Newspaper Association BISMARCK - It's halftime at the Legislature... for state employees. The Senate was along with that.

But this is one case where the money might not be the hard part. Leader Carlson and his colleagues in the House are pushing changes in the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) that might impact the state's own programs.

That issue is back, in two forms. Bills passed out of the Senate continue paying 100 percent of health insurance costs for state employees. Gov. Doug Burgum's budget calls for a 5 percent employee contribution, and that idea has been endorsed by House Republican Leader Carlson.

Burgum also took out raises for state employees. The Senate was along with that.

Another notable example occurred last week when the House defeated a bill to provide money for community impacted by oil development. "It does not need to be decided today," Carlson told the Forum News Service. "It needs to be decided in the second half."

Medical marijuana is another big profile issue that will be decided in the second half. This is high charged - and not just because of the subject matter.

Voters approved medical marijuana via an initiated measure in the 2016 election, but state health officials...

Area artist featured in internationals

By News Staff

SENTINEL BUTTE - Sketches created by Sentinel Butte rancher, cowboy poet and visual artist Bill Lowman are featured in Range magazine's spring edition.

Range's Publisher/Editor C.J. Hadley has chosen a series of winter blizzard scenes from Lowman's original portfolio of caring for ranch cattle in the North Dakota Badlands during long, tough, deep snow winters. Range is published in Carson City, Nev. and distributed throughout the U.S., Canada and other countries.

"C.J. Hadley had seen eight of the drawings hanging in the National Western Folk Life Center in Elko, Nev., and wanted to feature some of my unpublished works," said Lowman. She picked four of those drawings to feature.

Lowman, a lifelong rancher from the Westerheim community, 20 miles north of Sentinel Butte, studied art for two seasons at the Art Institute of Miami, Fla., in the late 1960s. Over the years art collectors have purchased over 300 of his Western original designs across the United States and Europe.

Lowman has been the featured artist twice at the Northeast Nevada Museum and also featured at the National Western Folk Life Center, and the Lewis and Clark Visitors Center.
What's Happening?

Listings for high school sporting events, plus public events that are free to anyone and aren’t fundraisers or aren’t family or business invitational, can be published free of charge in this column.

• Heart River boys varsity basketball, 7 p.m., Feb. 24, vs. Bowman County, at South Heart
  • Beach boys varsity basketball, 7 p.m., Feb. 24, vs. Hettinger/Scranton, at Beach
  • Class B Girls State Basketball Tournament, March 2-4, Grand Forks
  • Boys Varsity Region 7 Basketball Tournament, March 6-9, at Dickinson High School
  • Medora Area Chamber of Commerce meeting, 4:15 p.m., March 9, Medora Community Center
  • Wibaux Health Fair, Wednesday, March 15, from 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Wibaux County High School Gym

Hat Tips

Dean is out of the country and having trouble with his internet access. There will be no article this week. He will have a good story about it next week!

DEADLINES
The deadline for submitted copy and stories and all ad orders is noon on Fridays. Call 872-3755 or e-mail goldenand-billings@gmail.com.

Additional copies of the Golden Valley News are also available at:

- Beach Food Center
- Golva Groc