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A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY
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LUNCHEON SPEAKERS OFFER DAILY LIFE MESSAGES

Those attending the Wheat Show February 2nd and 3rd will have the opportunity to hear 20 speakers discuss as many topics. Folks staying for the noon lunches will be treated to some strong daily life messages from two seasoned and professionally qualified presenters.

This year's keynote speaker, Dr. Ron Hanson of the University of Nebraska, will take the podium during Tuesday's (Feb. 2nd) luncheon. The title of his message is "The Unspoken Words". Using a humorous and motivational approach, Dr. Hanson will talk about the people most of us often take for granted. He says, "Too often the hectic pace, the burdensome workload, and the numerous stresses of the farm business or any family business itself prevent family members from expressing their actual feelings and needs for each other".

During his career, Dr. Hanson has observed that often times the contribution by the farm wife and other family members (and even employees) are quickly taken for granted and the personal words of appreciation are never spoken. Although his core message deals with many human sensitivities, it will be delivered in a very humorous and entertaining manner.

Wednesday's (Feb. 3rd) noon recognition luncheon coordinated by the agri-business committee of the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce will feature Dr. Bob Edwards, Senior Pastor of Minot's First Presbyterian Church. He will be speaking on "Living Up in a Down World".

Dr. Edwards came to North Dakota to direct the ministry of the Samaritan Counseling Center. He has served in the military, has been a corporate vice-president for marketing, served as a psychiatric chaplain and as a private therapist. He holds a doctorate in psychology and counseling and is a

certified suicide specialist, state licensed therapist and a nationally certified marriage and family therapist.

I can't help but wind down this week's column with a reminder that Dr. Hanson will discuss other issues relating to farm ownership succession during the four hours he will be with us during the Wheat Show on Tuesday, February 2nd.

One of the sessions will focus on the key elements required for developing a farm business ownership succession strategy by addressing the following questions: Which children will have the chance to gain ownership of the family farming operation? What is a fair selling price for the farm itself within the family if the parents are willing to sell? What are years of sweat and equity worth that have been invested in a family farm? How will the other children (not involved in the farming operation) be treated fairly? Will their feeling be recognized? What if the in-laws decide to get involved in this farm family ownership succession plan? How does the farming daughter-in-law fit into this situation? What if the parents pass on ownership but will not give control of their farm business?

The above are just a few of the "what ifs" that Dr. Hanson will address. For more information about his presentations and those of other speakers I suggest you visit our web site www.ag.ndsu.edu/williamscountyextension