

## Editor's Notebook



**Mark Newhall**  
Editor

### Trying To Stop Wind Power

Today's giant wind towers are a far cry from the picturesque water-pumping windmills that stood on farms across North America until electricity came along. Many people who have to live next to giant wind farms today report sickness from flickering light as the sun sets or rises behind them as well as constant low-frequency noise and vibrations that are strong enough to rattle windows. There's also the danger of giant flying propellers or falling towers if the behemoths should ever fail.

A group of Australians started a website in 2012 called "Stop These Things" to document problems with wind power across the world. They put out a daily newsletter which is a compendium of news stories about groups across the U.S., Canada, Australia and other areas who are fighting to keep big wind farms out of their areas. The site documents stories of people forced from their homes due to problems with wind turbines and the steam-rolling by governments and environmental forces who would rather not hear the concerns of people - usually farmers and ranchers - who have to live near the giant towers.

I think it's amazing to be able to generate "free" power from wind and have always been awed by the sight of a field full of windmills. But when you read the stories of people who have to live next to them - or who are asking valid questions about proposed new windfarms - it makes you think about things a little differently. ([www.stopthesethings.com](http://www.stopthesethings.com))



Concern has been growing worldwide about health and safety risks of living next to giant wind farms.



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### 40,000-Acre Farm Goes Organic

A big grain farmer in Western Canada is in the process of converting his entire 40,000-acre operation to organic, according to a recent report in *Western Producer*.

Travis Heide of Waldron, Sask., is already 75 percent organic and plans to be 100 percent by next year. His motivation? The high cost of inputs and the fact that most people don't think it can be done. What he discovered is that once you start making the change, it's easier to just keep going so you don't have to maintain two sets of equipment. Any equipment used for both conventional and organic must be cleaned between uses to maintain certification.

Along with his brother, Garret, Heide has 15 full-time employees and more than 550,000 bu. of storage in his farmyard and two other grain storage yards in remote locations. He started a company called Organics Canada Ltd. and plans to produce and market wheat, barley, oats, lentils, peas, and hemp. Many of the employees are friends who moved to the area to work with Heide, who manages thousands of acres for a businessman in Calgary. They're planning to add livestock to the operation, which will generate manure needed for crops. To read the entire article, go to [www.producer.com](http://www.producer.com) and search for "Travis Heide".

### Ride The Water In Style

We're not sure who built this semi truck pontoon boat, but it caught our eye as a great way to cruise the water come summer. One thing you'd know for sure is that no other boat would look like yours!



Wasp nest: \$159

Wheat: \$9.50

Bucket of rocks: \$14.95

Oak leaves: \$7.95

Branches: \$12

Box of sticks: \$159

### Selling Nature On eBay

I got distracted recently looking at eBay on my computer and I was surprised to see that people are selling stuff you can find in your backyard. It might be a good money-making project for kids this summer. Some of the things for sale right now include: wasp nests, boxes of sticks, buckets of rocks, bugs of all kinds, colorful branches of all kinds, leaves, feathers, and much more.

### Liberty Quotes

"The best way to put more money in people's wallets is to leave it there in the first place." *Edwin Feulner*

"Those who suppress freedom always do so in the name of law and order." *John V. Lindsay*

"When buying and selling are controlled by legislation, the first things bought and sold are legislators." *P.J. O'Rourke*

"The only time my education was interrupted was when I was in school." *George Bernard Shaw*

"Without criticism and reliable and intelligent reporting, the government cannot govern." *Walter Lippmann*

"Liberty is never out of bounds or off limits; it spreads where it can capture the imagination of men." *E.B. White*

"But when no risk is taken there is no freedom. It is thus that, in an industrial society, the plethora of laws made for our personal safety convert the land into a nursery, and policemen hired to protect us becoming self-serving busybodies." *Aran Watts*

"Democracy does not guarantee equality of conditions - it only guarantees equality of opportunity." *Irving Kristol*

"The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience." *Harper Lee*

"Coercion by government, the main fear of our founding fathers, is now its most common attribute." *Philip K. Howard*

"Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich, by promising to protect each from the other." *Oscar Ameringer*

### My Mother Taught Me:

- **To appreciate a job well done:**  
"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
- **Religion:**  
"You better pray that comes out of the carpet!"
- **Logic:**  
"Because I said so, that's why!"
- **Irony:**  
"Keep laughing and I'll give you something to cry about!"
- **Stamina:**  
"You'll sit there 'til that spinach is finished."
- **Time travel:**  
"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
- **Weather:**  
"It looks like a tornado swept through your room."
- **Hypocrisy:**  
"If I've told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
- **The circle of life:**  
"I brought you into this world and I can take you out."
- **Behavior modification:**  
"Stop acting like your father!"
- **Envy:**  
"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do!"

### Remember Your Dad On His Day

My dad, Bill Newhall, is still alive and doing well at age 93. He grew up on a farm near Owatonna, Minn., served in the Pacific during World War II, and spent his working years at a large turkey processing plant while also raising a couple of barns full of turkeys in his spare time. He taught us a lot growing up, but I've learned much more during these last 20 years or so when he's had time to relax and reflect back on life.

If you're lucky enough to still have your father around, don't forget him this Father's Day. One way to treat him is with a subscription to FARM SHOW or one of our books. Check out the order envelope inserted into this issue or go to our website - [www.farmshow.com](http://www.farmshow.com) - 24/7.

### Points To Ponder

- "Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once." *William Shakespeare*
- "Let us not forget that the cultivation of the earth is the most important labor of man. When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization." *Daniel Webster*
- "A man is not old until regrets take the place of dreams." *John Barrymore*
- "People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do." *Isaac Asimov*
- "If you only read the books that everyone else is reading, you can only think what everyone else is thinking." *Haruki Murakami*
- "Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the airplane, the pessimist the parachute." *George Bernard Shaw*
- "Moving fast is not the same as going somewhere." *Robert Anthony*
- "Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michaelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein." *H. Jackson Brown, Jr.*

**Ole and Sven were walking down the street one day.** Ole said, "Hey, Sven, did yew know dat I'm a walking economy." Sven replied, "What do yew mean Ole?" "Vell, it's like dis," said Ole. "My hairline is in recession, my stomach is a victim of inflation, and both of dose tings is putting me into a deep depression."

**A passer-by noticed an old man - named Ole - sitting on his front step and stopped by to chat.** "I couldn't help noticing how happy you look! What's your secret for such a long, happy life?"

"Vell, I smoke 4 packs of cigarettes a day," Ole said. "Before I go ta bed, I drink up a bottle of Jack Daniels, and I eat only junk food. On da weekends I take lots of pills and do no exercise at all."

"That's absolutely amazing at your age!" says the passerby. "How old are you anyway?"

"I jüst turnt 24," replied Ole.

**Ole's was getting married** and his prospective father-in-law asked him, "Young man, can you support a family?"

The surprised groom-to-be replied, "Vell, no. I vas just planning ta support yer daughter. Da rest of yew vill have to fend for yerselves."