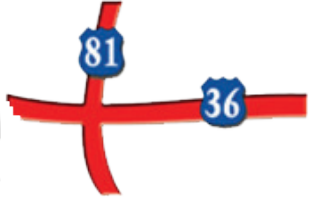




# The Belleville Telescope

At the Crossroads of America



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## Trading Omaha For Farm Boots

Michael and Jordan Hasenkamp, of rural Washington County, gave up a life in north Omaha, NE to move back to the farm. The couple now raises dairy cattle and sells raw milk.

-Telescope Photo by Katy Duryea

## Leaving Pavement Behind For Mud On Their Boots

By Katy Duryea  
Telescope News

Their dream began with two Jersey cows (one of them pregnant).

"I wanted a milk cow," Jordan Hasenkamp of Washington said. "We just kind of dove in."

The Hasenkamp's now find themselves in the dairy business, with no prior knowledge or experience with dairy cattle.

"We purchased both from just a random guy," Michael said. "I do not recommend that."

Jordan and Michael Hasenkamp invested in a third dairy cow from Seneca, Kansas.

Time passed, a baby calf was born from their first heifer.

Now there are four.

Michael, a full-time mechanic, father and

dairy farmer, has hopes to grow their dairy herd.

"We did kind of luck out, and I think her genetics are really nice," Michael said about Cleopatra, the couple's first born-on-the-farm cow.

"It is a thing, in the dairy world, to give each cow a name. When you give your cow a name, a calf that comes from that cow has to have a name that starts with the first letter of their Mom's name," he said. "We, however, made the mistake of naming all of our Momma cows with the first letter of C."

"Cleopatra, Clara, Clementine, and Coozy," said Jordan. "I'm a former school teacher, now part-time infant/toddler interventionist, full-time mother and dairy promoter for the Hasenkamp Farm."

**"We're in the raw milk business."**  
After buying a house and starting a

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## NextEra Will Begin Turbine Tests

By Deb Hadachek  
Telescope News

Testing of wind turbines in the High Banks Wind project is expected to start in the next couple of weeks, Highway Administrator Ken Robbins told Republic County Commissioners Monday.

Robbins said he only had limited information about how the tests would unfold gleaned from weekly project meetings with Blattner Energy developers. NextEra

Energy did not return messages for more information by press time.

Robbins said it is his understanding that the red lights on the wind turbines will flash during the testing phase. Eventually the beacons will be controlled by an Aircraft Detection Lighting System and only flash at night when aircraft are detected within three nautical miles of turbines, developers said early in the project.

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## Three Years In The Making Effort To Rename Portion Of US 81 For Former Telescope Owner Underway

Plans to re-name a portion of US Highway 81 for former owner/publisher of **The Belleville Telescope**, Merle Miller, were announced last week at the meeting of The Belleville Lions Club.

Fred Arnold, current Lions Club president, and owner/publisher of the Telescope, told members of the local service club that it is long past time that Miller was recognized for his lifelong passion of seeing US Highway 81 improved to four-lane status.

"Merle worked tirelessly for decades pushing and promoting US 81, known as The Pan American Highway, to be upgraded to a four-lane running from Mexico to Canada," he said. "He is the reason we are seeing growth and expansion of business, population and industry in Belleville."

Arnold said that Miller planted the seed that current

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## Tireless Promotion

Former longtime Telescope owner, Merle Miller, worked decades to see US Highway 81 upgraded to four-lane status.

-Photo Courtesy Merle Miller family



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