



# **“AMERICA’S HEARTLAND”**

**- SHOW # AH-105 -**

**- INITIAL FEED DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 06, 2017 -**

## **S Y N O P S I S**

Viewers are taken to one of America’s organic farms—MaryJane’s Farm in northern Idaho. Correspondent Jason Shoultz explores the rich, troubled history of the Creole farmers of old Louisiana. The Creoles were central to an agricultural area established even before New Orleans; among them was the state’s first cotton farmer. Direct descendants tell the story and viewers get a tour of the historic Melrose Plantation house. From Ohio, correspondent Pat McConahay reports on the production of some of America’s finest Swiss cheese at a business in which the local Amish community plays a central role.

(This show is closed-captioned)

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# “AMERICA’S HEARTLAND”

**- SHOW # AH-106 -**

**- INITIAL FEED DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017 -**

## SYNOPSIS

Correspondent Pat McConahay visits Pennsylvania with a man who once made his living demolishing old barns, but now devoted his life to saving them. Viewers learn about traditional barn construction and the intricacies of restoring old barns from the ravages of work and weather. Host Paul Ryan visits Gloucester, Massachusetts with descendants of the hard-working, hard-living Gloucester fisherman. It’s the story of generations of men and women sailing hundreds of miles into the dangerous North Atlantic to earn a living, and the stories and legacy they left behind. A modern Gloucester fisherman tells of the respect he feels for his predecessors and the challenges and freedom of the work. Correspondent Jason Shoultz heads back out to the Midwest and Illinois to visit Muller’s Farm – an 11-acre family farm operating in much the same way family farms did more than a century ago; that is, mostly by horse and hand power.

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# **“AMERICA’S HEARTLAND”**

**- SHOW # AH-107 -**

**- INITIAL FEED DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017 -**

## **S Y N O P S I S**

The Montana rancher is a storied icon of western agriculture. Correspondent Jason Shoultz’ meets a modern Montana cattle breeder who mixes the rough-and-ready lifestyle with science to build a better stock. Host Paul Ryan introduces viewers to an Illinois couple who imported a small herd of reindeer to their ranch, which in turn are attracting visitors by the busload. It’s another example of how agri-tourism is taking root in the Heartland.

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# “AMERICA’S HEARTLAND”

- SHOW # AH-108 -

- INITIAL FEED DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017 -

## SYNOPSIS

Two of the largest and most important crops in Montana are wheat and barley. Host Paul Ryan takes us to the heart of Big Sky country to meet a family that has harvested the grains for decades, but stands at a crossroads now as the youngest generation decides whether to stay with the farm or move on to other pursuits. A lesser-known crop growing in the heart of Nebraska is simply... grass. Viewers learn how one farmer has turned turf into a lucrative nationwide business, and why Nebraska is the right place to be home-based.

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