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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### ***American Doorstop Project Announces Stockman Bank as New Lasting Legacy Partner for Montana Agriculture History Book;***

Montana's Largest Agricultural Bank Prepares to Celebrate 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018

**BILLINGS, MT – Oct. 25, 2017 –Melody Dobson and Jody L. Lamp of Lamp Public Relations & Marketing, LLC**, co-founders of the ***American Doorstop Project***, and authors of *A History of Nebraska Agriculture: A Life Worth Living*, announce **Stockman Bank**, Montana's largest private, family-owned community bank with 34 locations statewide, as a **Lasting Legacy Sponsor Partner** for their next history book on Montana agriculture.

**Stockman Bank** is proud of its founding western values and long-standing relationships through integrity, expertise and results. "Like Montana, our roots run deep in agriculture, making our partnership with the **American Doorstop Project** a natural fit," says **Bill Coffee, CEO and president of Stockman Bank**. "We look forward to learning more about the rich culture of Montana, and know this book will be an educational resource for future generations."

**"Montana's Big Sky Agriculture: A Life of Discovery,"** is the working title for the new ***American Doorstop Project MONTANA Agriculture History Book***. Published by **The History Press** with an expected printing of **Fall 2018**, the Montana book is the second in a series of books produced by the **American Doorstop Project** founders and authors.

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The first book, "***A History of Nebraska Agriculture: A Life Worth Living***," debuted earlier this year on June 12<sup>th</sup> in Grand Island, Neb. The third book about **NORTH DAKOTA** agriculture history is planned for release in 2019.

"During and after the Great Depression, many eastern Montana farm and ranch families who homesteaded up to 320 acres at the turn of the century were struggling with the rest of America as many traditional banking institutions no longer extended credit for agriculture operations," says **Melody Dobson**, who hails from a fourth generation farm in northeastern Montana.

"Those who survived relied on each other and others, like **Stockman Bank founder, Bill Nefsy**, who served the needs of their entire communities, including business people and the rural farmers and ranchers who supported Montana's small-town economies," she says. "We're proud to write, share and preserve these agriculture stories of hard-working Montanans who came as immigrants to make a go of it in America's last frontier."

The ***American Doorstop Project*** books bring a spotlight to local, regional and national Agriculture stories that shaped the development of America through the Agrarian Discipline to connect readers through the identification formula of the **S.P.I.C.E – Spaces, Places, Inventions, Commodities or Events – and the People** that made America what it is today.

Through sponsorships and partnerships, the ***American Doorstop Project*** fund development plan for the **NEBRASKA, MONTANA and NORTH DAKOTA** Agriculture History Books include creating accompanied video vignettes to be featured at [www.AmericanDoorstopProject.com](http://www.AmericanDoorstopProject.com). The **Montana History Foundation** is the fiscal sponsor for ***American Doorstop Project***, allowing all philanthropists, individual donors, institutions, corporations and grantors, **within and outside Montana, a tax-deductible benefit for their contributions towards the project**. In addition to video vignettes, funds received through the **Montana History Foundation** helps the team elaborate each story for agricultural advocacy and education with integrated social media, national and community engagement events, signage, and oral history narratives.

To learn more about the ***American Doorstop Project*** and to find out about how **you can make a tax-deductible financial contribution** to share your story, help honor the legacies of our past and shed light on our nation's agricultural history, visit the [www.AmericanDoorstopProject.com](http://www.AmericanDoorstopProject.com) website.

For more information about sponsorship packages, media interviews, speaking appearances, **call Jody L. Lamp**, at (406) 698-9675 or by email [jody@AmericanDoorstopProject.com](mailto:jody@AmericanDoorstopProject.com).

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**About American Doorstop Project:** The *American Doorstop Project* is a joint-venture agriculture advocacy collaboration between co-founders and authors, **Melody Dobson** and **Jody L. Lamp**. The project preserves and promotes historical stories through the identification formula of the *Space, Place, Invention, Commodity or Event, and the People* that have shaped our country over the past hundreds of years. *American Doorstop Project* features a collection of stories that were instrumental in shaping America's agricultural roots and had they not happened, America, as we know it, would be different than it is today. The partners have teamed up with The History Press to launch a series of agricultural history books beginning with ***A History of Nebraska Agriculture: A Life Worth Living***. The **Montana History Foundation** serves as the fiscal sponsor for **American Doorstop Project**, allowing all philanthropists, individual donors, institutions, corporations and grantors, within and outside Montana, **a tax-deductible benefit for their contributions** towards the project.

#### Resource Links

**Website& Blog:** <http://www.americandoorstopproject.com/>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/ShareAgHistory?lang=en>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanDoorstopProject>

**Pinterest:** <https://www.pinterest.com/shareaghistory/>

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCijrIr3NPyKIVMnWDNbBvrA>

**Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/americandoorstopproject/>



**THE MONTANA HISTORY**  
FOUNDATION

#### About Montana History Foundation:

Established in 1985, the **Montana History Foundation** is an independent, non-profit corporation preserving the rich legacy of Montana's past -- one story, one community, one project at a time. We grant funds, mobilize the generosity of donors and collaborate with individuals and organizations to explore and honor Montana history.

#### Resource Links

**Website:** <http://www.mthistory.org/index.html>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/mthistoryfoundation?ref=hl>

**About the Authors:**

Jody Lamp's career in agriculture journalism begins in Nebraska. Born and raised in Scotts Bluff County, Jody earned her bachelor of journalism degree from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in December 1993 and has minors in psychology, anthropology and history. She worked as a photographer for the *Daily Nebraskan* and as an agriculture writer for the Department of Ag Communications with the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

After college, she was hired as the agricultural reporter and photographer for the *Beatrice Daily Sun* and later was recruited by Bader Rutter & Associates, the leading agricultural-based public relations and advertising agency in the United States. She moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and lived there for three years before moving to Montana, where she continued to work for the agency. In 2009, Jody opened Lamp Public Relations & Marketing and continues to maintain the office she started at Billings Livestock Commission. Jody and her husband, Mike, moved to Mitchell, Nebraska, in May 2015 and are the proud parents of Mark and Jessie. In 2016, Jody was selected to join the Humanities Nebraska Speaker's Bureau.

In 2012, Jody began collaborating on local and national projects with Montana native Melody Dobson, and together the team created a strategic planning program called "Your One Powerful Voice," designed to help businesses, organizations and individuals collaborate to create a credible resource of influence. Lamp and Dobson worked as the national strategic plan developers for the U.S. Custom Harvesters Inc., and as the national executive co-coordinators for the *Great American Wheat Harvest* documentary film— coordinating the strategic plans, fund development for production and public awareness—before launching the American Doorstop Project on July 1, 2015.

Melody served as a signature event coordinator for the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial's "Clark on the Yellowstone Signature Event" and the "National Day of Honor" from 2004 to 2007. The events commemorated the 200th Anniversary of Captain William Clark signing his name at Pompeys Pillar. Melody served as a member of the Pompeys Pillar Historical Association Board of Directors and was inducted on October 1, 2016, into the "Honor Garden" for her dedication to the development and preservation of the monument. Melody comes from a fourth-generation farm and ranch in northeastern Montana and raised her four children—Sheldon, Christopher, Scott and Elizabeth—with her late husband, Terry D. Dobson, in Billings. She has experience in network radio on-air management, as a personality and as news director, as well as in sales. She received her bachelor of communications arts degree from Montana State University–Billings, formerly Eastern Montana College.