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## **Media Release**

## 2023 Ag Excellence Award Recipient Announced

For Immediate Release

Billings, Mont., Dec. 29, 2023: The Billings Chamber of Commerce announces that Jann Parker of Billings Livestock Commission Horse Sales, has been selected as the Billings Chamber 2023 recipient of the Award for Agriculture Excellence.

Parker is a champion for agriculture and Billings—billing it as the first-choice destination in the nation for purchasing a horse, whether it be for roping, riding, ranching or recreating. As such she is the epitome of this award which is presented by Stockman Bank and recognizes an individual, business or organization that has made outstanding contributions to the Billings agricultural community with a nod to their demonstrated excellence in their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, and participation in civic, service and community organizations. The recipient is nominated by their peers and selected by the Billings Chamber Ag Committee and Board of Directors.

"Jann and her late husband, Bill Parker, started BLS Horse Sale in 1998 and to date have held over 280 sales with over 180,000 horses to customers in the U.S. and in Canada," shares her nominator. "Billings is the longest standing monthly horse sale in the nation and Jann is a big proponent of the western and cowboy lifestyle, and Billings in general with a far-reaching name and reputation."

Parker has continued the legacy of being a premier horse sale, instilling confidence in consignors to get top dollar for their horses and providing the right horses to a variety of customers, the majority of whom attend the sales from outside Yellowstone County, which serves as an economic driver for the local economy. Her continued industry success can be attributed to fostering relationships, coupled with her keen marketing skills and staying on the cutting edge of technology. This motivated and outgoing ag industry advocate gives back through mentorship, supporting area youth rodeos, 4-H programs, and partnerships with those looking to get started in the horse business.

Parker will be honored during the 2024 Billings Chamber Ag Celebration Banquet on January 26, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the MetraPark Pavilion. Tickets for this event can be purchased at BillingsChamber.com.

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**Catalyst. Convener. Champion.** The Billings Chamber of Commerce represents our 1,100 members who employ more than 45,000 people. We are a catalyst for business growth, a convener of leaders and influencers and a champion for a thriving community.