

Each fall a train bell calls riders

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develop children's educational activities to draw new visitors to the farm. She started with story book time and entertaining lessons on growing corn.

"The first year of school tours were in the corn patch," Byron remembered. "Donna made a scarecrow and told the kids when they got off the bus the scarecrow was hiding in the corn. When those finally kids found that scarecrow they whooped and hollered!"

Donna promoted the tours to schools and visitation to the farm slowly increased. In 1997 construction on the farm's signature castle began.

"People saw it under construction and asked what it was," Donna said. "When we told them it was a castle their eyes would light up. People came back and it was the start of making enough money to make improvements each year. We were making enough to add or change something each year."

One year, Donna took a chance when she saw the City of Chewelah selling its tourist train. She purchased the train and each fall you can hear the train bell calling riders.

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