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Wash your cucumbers and thinly slice off the blossom end (the blossoms have an enzyme that will make your pickles soft). Add 3/4 cup salt dissolved in 2 gallons water. Soak cucumbers in water for 12 hours. Drain cucumbers and get your canning supplies together:

Gather your canning supplies

- \* water bath canner
- \* canning jars
- \* canning seals and rings
- \* jar lifter
- \* canning funnel
- \* large pot
- \* bowls
- \* large spoons
- \* sharp knife
- \* towels and dish cloths
- \* pot or kettle for the brine
- \* ladle

Get the water in your canner heating while you prepare your pickles. Combine vinegar, 1/2 cup salt, sugar, and 2 quarts of water. Place pickling spices in a cheesecloth and place in your vinegar brine. Heat brine to boiling.

Tip: Try a stainless steel teapot to make the brine, it makes filling the jars super easy!

Fill jars with drained cucumbers. Add:

- \* 1 tsp mustard seed and
- \* 1 head fresh dill or 1 tsp dill seed per pint.

Fill jars with hot pickling brine. Leave a 1/2 inch head space.

Hot Water Bath Processing

Processing time will vary according to your elevation.

Altitude - processing time:

0-1000 ft - 10 minutes

1000-6000 ft - 15 minutes

over 6000 ft - 20 minutes

■ *By Julie Eickhoff*

## ■ COMMUNITY continued from page 10

BHSU offers an Associate's Degree in Engineering Technology and three Certificates in Computer Aided Drafting, Lean Management, and Management and Leadership; RTEC provides American Welding Society (AWS) welding classes; and MTI offers a diploma in Industrial Maintenance Technology.

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To learn more about the programs offered by BHSU, RTEC, and MTI, call 605.668.5700 or visit RTEC located at 1200 West 21st Street in Yankton. Visit the BHSU website at <http://www.bhsu.edu/Academics/ProgramsMajors/Business/EngineeringTechnology/Yankton/tabid/8631/Default.aspx>

### Sources

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■ *By Chauntel Wright-Moore*



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