

# GRASS & GRAIN

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## Area Boer goat raiser finds strong market for fresh meat

By Beth Gaines- Riffel,  
Editor

For Debbie Whittle, it all started innocently enough. A single dairy-influenced bottle goat got her hooked. Now, almost two decades later the Haven stockwoman has a diversified business that has tripled.

And it's not just goats on the hoof that Whittle markets from her farm — but also the end product. What started out as a personal business relationship, with M. Azad — selling him a few goats for his own family's consumption — now keeps Whittle busy year-round supplying fresh goat meat, that meets Halal requirements for many of his customers.

"My business has nearly tripled," the owner of the Asia Bazaar noted during a recent interview visit. "They know that on Tuesday I have a fresh supply."

Whittle explained that providing the ethnic market a fresh, quality goat product has been a challenge as she has worked to establish her business.

Hurdles such as finding a local processor that was

willing to harvest the goats for her — according to the process which is required for the meat to be labeled "Halal" or essentially blessed by those of the Muslim faith.

"Finding a processor was difficult," she said. After visiting with various processors in the region she finally struck a deal with Yoder Meats at Yoder to harvest market-ready wethers on a weekly basis to supply Whittle's customers with caprine carcasses. These hanging halves are then further cut to the customers specifications.

For Azad's customers, which are primarily of Asian decent — Pakistani, Indian and others — the meat is cut into small cubes — including meat and bone which are ideal for curry dishes.

Azad noted that he often gets requests for entire halves which are suitable for larger celebrations and barbecues.

Finding custom-processors that are willing to deal in goat is challenging because goats are very "escape-prone" and facilities that will easily contain cat-



M. Azad, owner of the Asia Bazaar, visits with Debbie Whittle recently about the the fresh goat offered for sale. Whittle has been raising goats and marketing the meat for the past 15 years.

tle, hogs or even sheep are no match for goats. Whittle explained that often the goats leave the trailer and go directly to the slaughter floor to prevent any escapes.

The other part of the equation that poses problems is the disposal of offal.

"National Byproducts will not take goats," she explained. "It has to be

disposed of in a landfill or by other means."

And despite these stumbling blocks, Whittle's business is booming.

"There isn't enough goat being produced in the U.S. to meet the demand," she said. "We're importing a lot of goat from Australia and New Zealand."

She added that the product that is imported is frozen

and that her customers recognize the quality of a fresh product.

Azad's fresh goat meat is currently retailing for \$4.69 per pound.

And while he does offer other fresh meats to his customers, his reputation for goat is growing — mainly by word of mouth.

And as the demand grows, so does the number of goats needed each week to meet that demand.

But it's just not any goat that will do.

Whittle's customers want large, grain-finished wethers. "4-H projects are ideal and I've tried to be an active buyer. It's just too bad that the county fairs aren't more spread out," she said.

Goats will dress out at about 50 percent, so a 120-pound finished goat will hang a carcass approximately 60 pounds.

"I've gotten goats from Texas that have worked quite well, although they didn't like the cold Kansas weather," she said. "But those goats hung really well."

Whittle, because of her extensive marketing of ani-

mals for their carcasses as well on the hoof, has been able to view the differences in various goat breeds.

She noted that some of the dairy breeds produce a much darker-colored meat compared to the Boer cross which has a bright red color.

"The Boer is really quite ideal," she said.

And the Boer is the breed she has selected for her own purebred herd. She sells a few goats to other breeders as well as selling wether goats to area 4-H members for projects.

"I tell the kids when I sell them the goats to be sure to let me know when their county fair is because I want the opportunity to buy the goats back."

Goat demand is year-round so Whittle has contacts both to the South and East to help keep a supply of market-ready goats in her pen — and ultimately on the tables of Wichita area families.

The Asia Bazaar is located on the corner of 21st and Woodlawn in Wichita.

Whittle has a website, where she can be contacted, at [www.debbiesboers.com](http://www.debbiesboers.com)

## Farm machinery in tight supply

By Cindy Baldwin

Sold out. That's the word from area equipment dealerships when asked about availability of new combines and tractors.

Farmers who were waiting to see if the rising commodity prices were a fluke or for real before visiting their local dealers are learning that they have missed the boat — at least for this year. While smaller tractors, most tillage equipment and hay equipment are available, Kansas equipment dealers are reporting that the 2008 production year for combines and most series of field tractors are sold out. Planters are also in scarce supply. Delivery dates for already ordered equipment are from three to six months out or more and even those farmers who have equipment on order may be disappointed.

"We have equipment sold that isn't going to get here (when needed this summer). We're doing all we can to have the delivery moved up," said Darrel Pankratz, director of sales with PrairieLand Partners, a John Deere dealership with locations in McPherson, Marion, Emporia, Hutchinson, Winfield, Wichita and Anthony. The dealership has been assured that the company is working at full capacity plus to fill the orders. PrairieLand Partners CEO Doug Neufeld said that



Troy Cottam, combine sales person for PrairieLand Partners' McPherson location, stands in front of one of the few used combines the dealership has in current inventory. Short supplies of 2008 combines and tractor inventories have left producers waiting for new equipment delivery and increased demands for used equipment in dealerships and at auctions across the region.

equipment now coming off the production lines is already sold. Orders for new John Deere equipment with the highest demand will not be taken by the factories until ordering is opened up for the 2009 production year, which will happen sometime in June or July. There is a good possibility that farmers wanting to order for end-of-year delivery to take advantage of IRS Section 179 deductions will not be able to get equipment in on time, even with early orders, he said.

Equipment dealers across the state report a

similar supply situation regardless of the color of the machinery or the region of the state.

Leroy Schmidt, co-owner of Schmidt and Sons in Andale and Mt Hope, is looking at September or October delivery dates for the Gleaner combines the dealership has already sold. Delivery dates on 100 hp or higher Agco tractors are at 150 days out, increasing from previous years when it was typically 90 days from order to delivery. Like most dealers interviewed, Schmidt said there are smaller tractors still avail-

able. He has been able to accommodate his customers up to this point, but is now sold out of new machinery unless he can transfer equipment from another dealer with inventory on hand. That is not likely, according to Schmidt. "Dealers are calling to find excess inventory so it can be transferred and there just isn't much out there," Schmidt said. He believes, as does Neufeld, that this will be the situation for the foreseeable future as manufacturers have to forecast out several years in advance to ramp up production — it just can't be done overnight, he said. "It's difficult, but I'm telling my customers they might as well put their name on the list."

Northeast Kansas implement dealer Gary Henry of Henry Brothers Implement, said the company's locations in Holton, Seneca and Hiawatha have seen a higher level of traffic over the past few months as customers upgrade. The demand is there if he could get the equipment. The Case-IH dealership sold tractors in February with an anticipated 90-100 day delivery period. But, to get a new combine on the lot for a customer now requires finding a dealer in a distressed area who is willing to transfer the equipment, and that avenue is more or less dried up.

Alan Bruna, president of

Bruna Implement, also a Case-IH dealer with locations in Marysville, Clay Center and Washington, said that anyone ordering new machinery in this market should expect delivery to be six to eight months out. Farmers should not expect to walk on to a dealer lot and purchase something in inventory on the spot. "Almost the only way (for a dealer) to get equipment is to have it sold and the order have a customer's name on it," Bruna said. "Sold retail means sold to a customer, and that's the only guarantee a dealer who places an order has that he will get it. With these fast and furious retail sales, the plants can't produce enough equipment to keep up with the demand. The sooner the farmer decides to sign an order with his name on it, the sooner he'll get it. It may be four to six months, but until he signs the order, there is no guarantee."

Those considering leasing rather than purchasing will also find few options for this harvest if arrangements haven't already been made.

Customary leasing options with dealers are slim. All the dealers interviewed said the high demand for combines and tractors has increased pressure on sales of used equipment as well. While there is still used inventory on most lots, for the most part, they are not planning to hold new or used

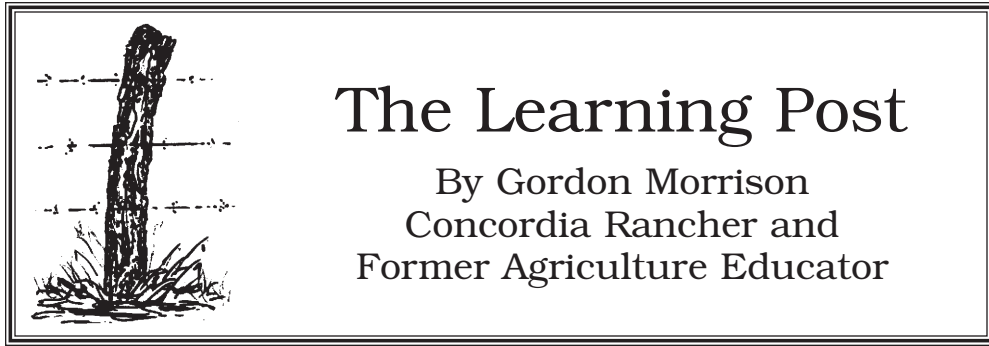
equipment for lease this year if it can be sold. "Good, clean used equipment is highly sought after and very hard to come by," Schmidt said. "I can find good and used, but not good used."

Bruna Implement is an exception, holding some lease combines for customers, but Bruna said farmers who have not made plans for harvest should do so now. "Coming in (at harvest time) and buying it ain't going to get it."

Machinery Link, which owns a fleet of 260 combines

Continued on page 16





## The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison  
Concordia Rancher and  
Former Agriculture Educator

### Groundbreaking For Wind

A raw north wind blew at gusts of 40 mph, blowing hard at the tent where around three hundred people huddled to celebrate the groundbreaking for the Meridian Way wind farm. I heard no complaints about the wind, for these same winds will be turning Vestas V90-3.0 MW turbines, the largest onshore wind turbines in this country today, in Cloud County before the year is out. If you drive up four-lane Highway 81 next Christmas, you should be able to see 67 of these huge turbines turning in the wind eight or nine miles south of Concordia and to the east and the west of the highway.

At the present time, county roads are being improved to accommodate the huge loads that will be moving over them, and the deep and wide concrete pads are being poured. The towers will arrive to be put up in July and August by huge cranes. By the end of the year, transmission of electrons — enough to supply 60,000 homes with electricity — will have begun.

Empire District Electric Company, based in Joplin, Missouri, and Westar Energy, based in Topeka, have signed power purchase agreements; thus, the wind farm will begin producing 201 megawatts of electricity in December. It is the goal of these providers to purchase 15 percent of their energy needs from green power (wind) in 2009 and supply the balance with fossil fuels. This is considered to be a good mix. Since wind and solar energy are not constant but intermittent because the wind does not always blow and the sun is not always shining, other sources of energy such as coal, nuclear, or hydroelectric are needed.

The huge advantage of wind and sun is that these sources are free, and the price never goes up. After the initial construction, inflation is not a factor. The towers should last 20 to 30 years if properly maintained by trained windsmiths.

A two-year course in Wind Energy Technology is now being offered at Cloud County Community College to train technicians in construction, repair, and maintenance of the wind turbines. The Meridian Way wind farm will be the laboratory to help train these students. I understand the pay scale will offer \$20 or more per hour upon graduation, and the demand is large for these skills and services. It will require about 250 workers to construct this wind farm and around eight to maintain it after construction. The income generated by this large wind farm to the county is great.

Community wind will not be ignored either, for already plans are being completed for a big wind turbine is to be built near the campus of CCCC for the energy needs of the college, and for class studies and research. I predict that within ten years, many schools, hospitals, industrial plants, small towns, large farms and elevators will be producing their own power with smaller wind turbines. Battery-powered cars could have their batteries recharged at night by small wind chargers to go 80 miles before having to switch to

gas, if need be. There is a lot of wind in Kansas to be harnessed.

As I see the development of wind power in this county becoming a reality, I am reminded of my introduction to wind energy and the potential for its use in Kansas. Then to see the slow but gradual progress to this day is gratifying. It was in July of 2000, when the state of Kansas held its first energy conference on the campus of K-State University. State representative Joan Freeborn, Kirk Lowell of CloudCorp, and four other men from this area, including myself, attended. From the excellent presentations by state and national energy people and professors, we caught the vision of wind energy.

As a result, a county wind energy committee was formed. For the next four years, members on the committee attended energy meetings in Topeka, Salina, Minnesota and Colorado and visited wind farms in Montezuma, Kansas, and the Blue Canyon in Oklahoma. They read everything they could find on wind energy and talked with anyone who could give more enlightenment on the subject.

From these beginnings, others were added to the team. Through CloudCorp, connections were made with power companies, who began showing interest in Cloud County because it proved to have good wind and had fair transmission lines. Engineers and other professionals from the wind energy industry came on the scene. They found that the community was almost one hundred percent receptive to wind and some saw the towers as being graceful and majestic.

Even though the community was willing, there were still hurdles to overcome — leasing the land, financing, and finding buyers for the power. Just having a willing group of land-owners and a great plan will not get the job done — some group must be willing to invest big dollars in the venture for green energy and someone else must be willing to purchase the electricity. Finally Horizon Wind Energy came up with all the ingredients to build the wind farm and market the electrons.

It takes team effort, from the beginning stages of people with vision and a dream to a receptive community, to technicians and engineers to determine the feasibility, to investors and buyers, to educators and trainees, to bold politicians, to construction hard-hat people, and finally to maintenance people to keep them running for years. My hat goes off to each segment of a winning team.

The goal of Kansas is to have 20 percent of its energy produced by wind power by 2020. With the various wind farms and community wind being developed across the state, I believe it can happen. Kansas is a slow starter in wind energy production but a strong finisher.

The book *Views from the Learning Post* can be ordered from Gordon Morrison, 1268 Key Road, Concordia, KS 66901 or may be available in a store near you. For information, call 785-243-3833.

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## Over the Barn Gate

By Beth Gaines-Riffel

The day was nearly perfect. Light wind in the appropriate direction. Dry. Neighbors ready. Gear loaded. It was time to burn pasture.

And we weren't the only ones in pasture-burning mode. It seemed that the winter that didn't want to let go had everyone in the mood to get on with the spring chore of native grass preparation last week. And it was high time. Because as we know, once the weather really does become more seasonal in nature, the grass is going to grow...well, like wildfire. And with a careful eye on the forecast, it would seem that calm days appropriate for burning grass would be limited, so it was time to act.

As I worked around the yard, moving goat babies from their individual pens to group housing you could smell the acrid smoke of burning grass being carried on the light breeze. As night set in and the humidity rose, a faint fog of white rolled into the yard and hung under the illumination of the mercury yard light. I knew that by morning, the fierce winds that the weatherman had predicted would move the cloud of smoke miles from the place it had been initially created. While I don't doubt the need for the practice, the notion of global warming and the impact of pollutants do have me a bit concerned. It will be critical, in my opinion, to be proactive to keep the management practice available for farmers and ranchers. A couple of years ago when I was in Oregon attending an editors' meeting, the farmers that were growing grass seed told of the legal change where they were prevented from burning the straw residue from their fields after the seed had been harvested. True, they were able to find other outlets for the product — including baling the material — but what if that came into play in regard to our pastures? Not really feasible to bale up some of the rough hills and canyons of the Flint Hills. And moreover, it does nothing to address the weed and brush control component.

So, as the hills turn from brown to black and finally to the lush green of spring, keep in mind that we need to continually educate and share with those who may not be familiar with the practice of burning how important it is to the health of the prairie.

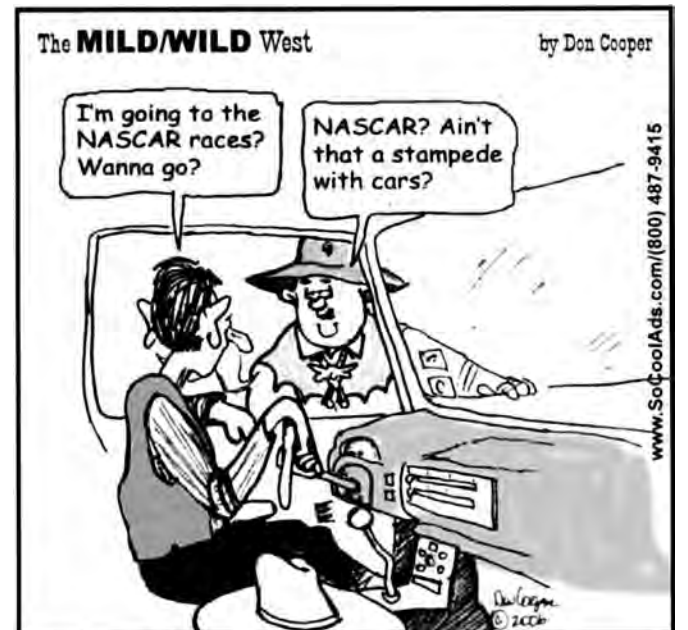
That's all for now. I'll chat with you next week, "Over the Barn Gate!"

**Be of good cheer. Do not think of today's failures, but of the success that may come tomorrow. You have set yourselves a difficult task, but you will succeed if you persevere; and you will find a joy in overcoming obstacles.**

— Helen Keller

**"If we study the lives of great men and women carefully and unemotionally we find that, invariably, greatness was developed, tested and revealed through the darker periods of their lives. One of the largest tributaries of the river of greatness is always the stream of adversity."**

— Cavett Robert





# Agronomist gives tips for judging wheat freeze injury symptoms

A hard freeze in parts of Kansas in the early morning hours of April 14 may have damaged the most advanced tillers in earlier planted wheat in south central and southeast Kansas, but hopefully the damage will not be as severe or as widespread as the freeze damage in April of 2007, said Jim Shroyer, K-State Research and Extension agronomy state leader.

"The wheat is not as far along in development this year as it was at the time of last year's freeze, and the temperatures did not get as cold this year. Where some of the tillers have been damaged, there is still plenty of time for undamaged tillers to compensate and minimize any potential yield loss," said Shroyer.

Wheat in the jointing stage can sustain damage from temperatures in the low 20s for several hours, he said. In the boot stage, wheat is susceptible to damage from two hours or

more of temperatures in the upper 20s. Some of the early-planted wheat in south central and south-east Kansas was at the jointing stage on April 14, and primary tillers may have been damaged in some cases. Later-planted wheat is less developed and should have escaped damage.

The best thing producers can do for the first few days is simply walk the fields to observe lodging, crimped stems, and damaged leaves, the agronomist said.

"Be patient. Do not take any immediate actions as a result of this freeze, such as destroying the field for recropping. It will take several days of warm weather to accurately evaluate the extent of damage," Shroyer said. "After several days, producers should split open some stems and check the developing head. If the head is green or light greenish in color and seems firm, it is probably fine. If the head

is yellowish and mushy, it may have freeze injury."

There are some early signs producers might have noticed right away.

**Silage smell.** If a field of wheat is giving off the aroma of silage, that indicates that leaves have been damaged.

**Ice in the stems.** If there was ice in the stems below the first node the morning of the freeze, those tillers will probably be damaged (although not always) and may not produce grain.

**Lodging.** If the wheat lodged immediately after the freeze, that indicates stem damage. Later tillers may eventually cover the damaged tillers.

Producers should re-

member that even if primary tillers are damaged, less-developed secondary tillers may be fine, Shroyer said.

"If there are enough secondary tillers that survive, these tillers should be able to compensate and keep yield losses to a minimum — assuming temperatures did not get into the teens," he explained.

More information on freeze damage to wheat is available in "Spring Freeze Injury to Kansas Wheat," K-State Research and Extension publication C646, available at county and district Extension offices and on the Web at: <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/crpsl2/c646.pdf>.



It was a packed house for the recent Benoit Angus production sale held at the ranch near Esbon.

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## AUCTION

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 10:00 AM**

Offering for sale at public auction, located at 88 20th Ave., from the 4-way stop in MOUNDRIDGE, KS 1 mile South, 2 miles West and 1/4 mile South.

**TRACTORS & FARM MACHINERY**

2003 John Deere 8420 MFWA diesel tractor, 4 hyd. remotes, PTO, quick hitch, 480/80R50 rear duals, 16.9 R34 fronts, fully weighted, equipped with Green Star, 2,029 hrs., immaculate; 1992 John Deere 4955 MFWA diesel tractor, trip. hyd. remotes, PTO, quick hitch, 480/80R46 rear duals, 14.9 R30 fronts, fully weighted, cab shades, 4,195 hrs., clean; 2005 John Deere 6420 MFWA diesel tractor with John Deere 640 self leveling loader and pallet forks, trip. hyd. remotes, quick hitch, 460/85R38 rear tires, 380/85R24 fronts, 330 hrs., like new; 2004 John Deere 455 30' folding rain drill, 7.5" spacing, Yetter markers, clean; Krause 5630 40' field cultivator with 5 bar spike harrow; 1996 John Deere 650 28' folding disc, FB 21", BB 22.5"; White 445 19 shank chop chisel with harrow; John Deere 2800 6 btm. plow with on land hitch; Kent 32' field cultivator with 3 bar spike harrow; Krause 2800 19 shank chisel; Noble 39' back fold spring-tooth; Big Ox 10' 3 pt. hyd. adj. blade; Big Ox 9' 3 pt. blade; 2 Kory Farm Equipment gravity wagons with 6" hyd. augers and roll over tarps; 4 wheel bale trailer; John Deere 307 6' rotary mower; John Deere 7' sickle mower; 12.5'x6.5' utility trailer with ramps; 2 - 2 wheel trailers.

**VEHICLES & FARM RELATED ITEMS**

2007 GMC Sierra SLT 4x4 Z71 ext. cab short bed pickup with tool box, cattle guard, bed rails, only 709 miles, like new condition; 2005 Cadillac STS 4 door car, loaded, sun roof, On Star system, 29,246 miles, clean; 2005 John Deere gator HPX 4x4 with 234 hrs.; Grasshopper 725 riding mower with 61" deck; Grasshopper dozer blade; Club Car gas powered golf cart; 2 - 300 gal. fuel tanks and stands; pickup fuel tanks; 3,000 sq. ft. new vinyl siding; Werner step ladder; Craftsman 4 hp. air compressor; Stihl MS 180 chain saw; Pittsburgh 14 pc. combination wrench sets; new Clarke HD roll away tool box; Little Giant folding ladder; Miller 125 welder; Lincoln grease gun; 2 trailers of farm misc. and hand tools.

**FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

Dining room table; oak china hutch; glider rocker; sofa and chairs; end tables; 3 pc. bedroom set; 3 iron beds; dresser; 2 wash stands; hall tree; wooden shelving; kitchen dinette and chairs; 41" flat screen TV; DVD and VCR players; 2 recliner chairs; hospital bed; trunk; file cabinets; Frigidaire 22 cu. ft. upright freezer; Kenmore dryer; Speed Queen washer; Hot Point range; signature upright freezer; Whirlpool refrigerator; Char-Broil gas grill; microwaves; coffee makers; books; baskets; iron stone dishes; enamelware; Fostoria; painted bowls; Sandicast dog collection; new products; pots and pans; toys and games; oil lamps; trailer loads of household goods.

**TERMS: Cash day of sale. Statements made day of sale take precedence over advertised statements. Lunch by Eden Mary Martha Circle.. Schmidt Clerks and Cashiers.**

## LAND AUCTION

**FRIDAY, APRIL 25 — 1:00 PM**

Offering for sale at public auction, located at Memorial Home Wellness/Activity Center, 86 22nd ave., MOUNDRIDGE, KS

**480 +/- Acres of Harvey & McPherson County Land**

**TRACT 1:** The NE 1/4 of 10-22-2W. This tract contains 160 acres +/- Harvey Co. land. Located 3 miles South of Moundridge, KS. This tract has 157.5 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 156.7, yield 41 bu. This tract is all in Wheat.

**TRACT 2:** The W 1/2 of the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of 9-22-2W. This tract contains 40 acres +/- Harvey Co. land. Located three miles south & 1 1/2 miles west of Moundridge, KS. This tract has 37.1 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 30.1, yield 36 bu., Grain Sorghum base 7 acres, yield 52 bu. This tract is currently in Wheat.

**TRACT 3:** The E 1/2 of the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of 9-22-2W. This tract contains 42 acres +/- Harvey Co. land. Located three miles south & one mile west of Moundridge, Kansas. This tract has 41.2 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 28.8, yield 36 bu., Grain Sorghum base 9.2 acres, yield 52 bu., Waterway acres of 1.47. This tract is all in Wheat.

**TRACT 4:** The W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of 33-21-2W, except 4 acre Farmstead. This tract contains 76 acres +/- McPherson County land. Located one mile south & two miles west of Moundridge, Kansas. This tract has 74.5 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 72.3, yield 40 bu., Soybean base .5 acres, yield 13 bu. This tract is currently in Wheat.

**TRACT 5:** The NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of 32-21-2W. This tract contains 40 acres +/- McPherson County land. Located one mile south & two miles west of Moundridge, Kansas. This tract has 39.1 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 38.7, yield 40 bu., Soybean base .4 acres, yield 13 bu. This tract is all in Wheat.

**TRACT 6:** The NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of 32-21-2W. This tract contains 40 acres +/- McPherson County land. Located one mile south & 2 1/2 miles west of Moundridge, Kansas. This tract has 39.6 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 39.6, yield 40 bu. This tract is currently in Wheat.

**TRACT 7:** The W 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of 29-21-2W. This tract contains 80 acres +/- with Farmstead McPherson County land. This tract has 62.6 acres of cropland; Wheat base acreage of 24.1, yield 40 bu., balance of acreage in Farmstead, creek & trees. 24.1 acres currently in Wheat. The property is located at 1962 Arapaho Rd., two miles west, one mile south & 1/2 mile west of Moundridge, Kansas. Property is improved with a 1,928 sq. ft. home built in 1900. Tract 7 will be offered individually & as a unit. Open House: Sunday, April 20, 2008 from 3:00-4:00 P.M.

**TRACT 8:** Farmstead located at 193 20th Ave., two miles west & 1/8 mile south of Moundridge, Kansas. Property is improved with a 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,248 sq. ft. home built in 1949. Open House: Sunday, April 20, 2008 from 3:00-4:00 P.M.

**TRACT 9:** Property located at 213 W. Ruth St., Moundridge, Kansas. Property is improved with a 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,308 sq. ft. home built in 1920. Open House: Sunday, April 20, 2008 from 1:00-2:00 P.M.

**TRACT 10:** Property located at 218 & 220 W. Lincoln St., Moundridge, Kansas. Each Duplex is improved with a 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 661 sq. ft. unit built in 1950. Open House: Sunday, April 20, 2008 from 1:00-2:00 P.M.

**TRACT 11:** Property located at 209 W. Pack St., Moundridge, Kansas. Property is improved with a 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 828 sq. ft. home built in 1920. Open House: Sunday, April 20, 2008 from 1:00-2:00 P.M.

**TERMS OF SALE: 10% of purchase price down day of auction, balance due as of closing date May 27, 2008. The seller will provide an owner's policy of title insurance in the amount of the purchase price. The cost of such title insurance and any escrow closing services will be shared equally by the seller and buyer. Sale is not contingent upon buyer financing. All mineral interests owned by the seller, if any, will be conveyed to the buyer. Real estate taxes will be prorated the day of closing on houses sold. 2008 Real estate taxes on agricultural land will be paid by the seller. Possession of the wheat acres after the 2008 wheat harvest. Farmers National Company are acting as agent of the seller. For more information call Van Schmidt, 620-367-3800 or Farmers National Company, 402-496-3276.**

**TERMS: Statements made day of sale take precedence over advertised statements.**

**LARRY D. WEDEL ESTATE, SELLER**  
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## AUCTION

**SATURDAY MAY 3 — 10:00 AM**  
407 N. Maple — FRANKFORT, KANSAS

**FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD:** China hutch, early American style; drop leaf table w/4 chairs; chrome kitchen table w/4 chairs; brown rocker recliner; beige La-Z-Boy recliner; lift chair; coffee table; end tables; lamps; corner cabinet, 5 shelves; couch; 3 shelf book case, glass front; desk; blond bedroom suit, 3 piece, dbl. bed; blanket stand; dresser; chest; dbl bed; Murphy cedar chest; 5 drawer chest; 8 drawer chest; Kenmore sewing machine; sewing supplies; wood rocker; iron beds; night stand; knick-knacks; canister set; bowls; kitchen plunger; glasses; cups; dishes; Corelle dishes; card table; old safe; blankets; Christmas decorations.

**APPLIANCES:** Amana 18 refrigerator; microwave; Crosley upright freezer; Sunbeam mixer; Maytag washer; Kenmore dryer; Orek XL vacuum.

**TOOLS & OUTSIDE:** Rakes; shovels; ext. cords; few hand tools; handy-man jack; kerosene heater.

**CAR:** 1998 Oldsmobile 88 LS. 4dr, V6, 36,500 one-owner miles.

**GUNS:** Winchester model 67 single shot 22; Remington 12 ga. Model 1100, 2 3/4".

**COLLECTIBLE:** three sets cream & sugar; jewel tea bowl; pattern back chair; small roll-top desk; kitchen cupboard; 12 gal. Red Wing crock; Tonka fuel delivery truck.

**VEHICLES & FARM RELATED ITEMS**

2007 GMC Sierra SLT 4x4 Z71 ext. cab short bed pickup with

**TERMS: Cash day of sale. Statements made day of sale take precedence over advertised statements. Lunch by Eden Mary Martha Circle.. Schmidt Clerks and Cashiers.**

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# GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

\*\*\*\*\* By G&G Area Cooks \*\*\*\*\*

## This Week's Recipe Contest Prize Goes To Mildred Goehring Of Manhattan

Winner Mildred Goehring, Manhattan: "Serve this with tossed salad and Texas toast for a complete meal."  
**COUNTRY SALISBURY STEAK**

- 1 1/2 pounds extra lean ground beef
- 1 box Stove Top Stuffing Mix (chicken)
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 3/4 cup chopped onion
- 1 packages mushrooms, sliced
- 1/2 cup barbecue sauce

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Mix meat, stuffing mix, 1 1/4 cups water and onions until well blended. Shape into 1/2-inch thick patties. Place in greased pan and bake 25 minutes. Meanwhile spray non-stick skillet with cooking spray. Cook mushrooms until lightly browned, stirring often. Add barbecue sauce and 1/4 cup water. Simmer 1 to 2 minutes. Serve over patties.

\*\*\*\*\*

Ms. Jo Hetzke, Barnes:  
**VIM & VIGOR**

- 2 1/2 quarts popped corn
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup dried milk
- Salt to taste

Heat honey, peanut butter and dried milk; stir well, being careful it doesn't scorch. Pour over corn that has been kept hot.

\*\*\*\*\*

Margaret Trojan, Beaver Crossing, Neb.:

**RHUBARB CREAM PIE**

- Pastry for 9-inch pie shell, unbaked
- 4 cups sliced rhubarb
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup half & half cream
- 1 1/4 cups sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Mix beaten eggs, cream,

sugar, flour and salt. Put rhubarb in pie shell. Pour egg mixture over rhubarb. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

\*\*\*\*\*

Marlene Schwartz, Randolph: "This is a nice, different change from the usual soups."

**STUFFED GREEN PEPPER SOUP**

- 2 pounds ground beef
- 2 quarts water (I use more tomato juice for part of water)
- 28-ounce can diced tomatoes, undrained
- 29-ounce can tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice (or 2 cups cooked rice)
- 2 cups chopped green bell peppers (about 2)
- 2 beef bouillon cubes
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar

Mix and simmer 1 to 2 minutes. Serve over patties.

2 teaspoons salt  
 1 teaspoon pepper  
 In a 6-quart saucepan or Dutch oven brown beef and drain. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a boil and simmer 30 to 40 minutes or until tender.

\*\*\*\*\*

Karen Saner, Burns:  
**SUGAR-FREE GELATIN**

- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin
- 1 package of Kool-Aid
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 1/2 teaspoons Stevia
- 1/4 cup Splenda
- 1/2 cup cold water or 1/2 cup juice

Soften the 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin in 1/2 cup cold water. Add to this mixture a package of Kool-Aid. If the gelatin has too strong of a flavor, put less in. Use any favor that you like. Add the Stevia (Stevita Spoonable Stevia) and Splenda. Mix in 1 cup hot water and stir until dissolved. Add 1/2 cup cold water or juice.

**NOTE:** If you add juice, you will add sugar.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kellee Rogers, Topeka:  
**RANCH POTATO CHIPS**

- 9-ounce bag kettle cooked potato chips
  - 1 tablespoon dry ranch dressing mix
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place chips in a 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Bake 5 minutes. Remove from oven and immediately sprinkle with dressing; mix, tossing gently to coat. Let cool completely before serving.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sandy Hill, Eskridge:  
 "This soup is quick to make."

Convenience items such as canned soup and process cheese simplify the preparation. Very comforting soup."

**CHEESY POTATO SOUP**

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 6 med. potatoes, peeled & cubed
- 5 cups water
- 2 cups milk
- 10 3/4-ounce can condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 12 ounces process cheese (Velveeta), cubed
- Minced fresh parsley

In a Dutch oven or soup kettle, saute onion in butter. Add potatoes and water. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 15 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Stir in the milk, soup, garlic salt and pepper; heat through. Add cheese, stir until cheese is melted. Sprinkle with parsley. Yield: 10 servings, 2 1/2 quarts.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mary Rogers, Topeka:  
**SPICY WEDGES**

- 1/4 cup oil
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 1/2 pounds large red potatoes, cut into wedges

In a bowl combine all ingredients but potatoes. Add potatoes and toss to coat. Arrange in a single layer on greased baking sheets. Bake at 400 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes or until potatoes are tender and golden brown, turning once.

\*\*\*\*\*

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**ANTIQUUE AUCTION**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 4 — 10:00 AM**  
 Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Fairgrounds in SALINA, KANSAS

**COLLECTABLES & GLASS**  
 Carnival glass (Northwood compote, butter dishes, vases); depression glass (pink lemonade pitchers, green candlesticks, sherbets, dishes, white opal plates); flow blue (teapot, plates, cups & saucers); Tiffin glass; Shawnee Dumbo elephant pitcher; large Roseville vase w/handles; Haviland Limoges covered serving dish & plates; piano babies; chocolate & purple slag; large collection salt cellars & master salts & spoons; Lefton figurines & large egg; Capodimonte statue & wall flower hanging set; Oriental tea set; Dragoon tea set; old mudmen; snuff bottles; Oriental screen; Imperial glass (large footed carnival bowl, candlesticks, rose bowl, toothpick holders); Limoges tray; Nippon; collection cups & saucers (German & Nippon); blue willow; vaseline glass (cruets, plates, water set, toothpicks); green jade covered turtle dish; large blue crystal footed bowl; Queen Anne lace crystal; Westward Ho glass; brides basket; syrup pitchers; large glass canes; hair receivers; Fenton glass (blue hobnail sugar & creamer, Jack In the Pulpit vase, baskets, candy dish, fairy lamps, snoball vase, cat); cranberry glass (barber bowl, vases); Polish pottery; Latticino glass; several barber bottles; head vases; Lundberg glass; spooners; 3 face candy jar; Orient & Pflume vase; Czech ruby red water set; red Bohemian glass pitcher & vase; Amberina glass; turkey platter; paperweights; tumble-up; Gerber cups; large colbalt Westmoreland bull dog; child's punch sets; miniature oil lamps; kerosene lamps (white opal dot, red satin); Czech art glass lamp; Lundberg w/lady base lamp; Victorian metal floor lamp; blown out roses glass shade lamps; lamps w/fringe beads; dolls (Hamelton, Little Rascal dolls, bride & groom composition); ladies compacts; hatpins; beaded hand bags; perfume bottles (German, Czech, Art Deco); jewelry caskets; large assortment jewelry; display mirrors; Victorian shoes; maniquinn; vintage baby & doll items; Victorian dresses; linens; fancy work; antique lace cloths; hand quilts; pin cushion dolls; inkwell; vintage books; "Sparkle Plenty" clothes sprinkler; large spongeware crock bowl; wood carved elephants w/ivory tusks; vintage & retro dinner dishes & glasses; 50's canister set; antique clock; Kit Kat clock; Halloween & Christmas items; Westmorland glass sleighs; iron trivets; braided rugs; apple salt & pepper; Flamingo mirror; chalk dog; Joe Dimaggio baseball; metal battery camel; Coke truck; saddle strups; White Mountain ice cream maker; Coleman gas lantern; Ford on Steel sign; graniteware (red & white swirl teapot, green & white swirl pan, blue & white swirl dipper, yellow & white swirl tray, plates, coffee pot); stain glass lamps; framed pictures & oil painting; Victorian piano scarfs; wicker bed tray; wrenches; cabinet hardware; assortment of other collectables.

**FURNITURE**  
 Oak dining table w/leaves & twisted claw ball feet; 2 oak ornate dining chairs; white kitchen cupboard; pine kitchen table; large glass front cabinet; marble top coffee table; marble top stepback end table; glass end tables w/lights; glass top wrought iron coffee & end tables; child's etergere; wood easel; bentwood child's rocker & chair; wicker child's rocking chair & curved back chair; assortment child's & doll chairs; doll trunk; leather buggy & horse; Victorian sofa & chaise lounge.

**NOTE:** This is a very large auction, there are many pieces of glass & collectables. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

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# Preparation Is Key For The Perfect Lamb Dish

## ROASTING A RACK ROAST

For a rack roast, season or marinate the lamb with your favorite flavors like garlic, fresh mint, or rosemary. Sear the lamb in a large skillet over medium-high heat for about 2 minutes per side or until the lamb is browned all over. Transfer to a 450-degree preheated oven and roast for 8-10 minutes turning once for medium rare. Remove from the oven and let rest for 5 minutes. Carve the rack into individual rib chops and serve 2-3 chops per person.

## ROASTED RACK OF AMERICAN LAMB & WATERCRESS SALAD

- 1/2 American Lamb rack (should be an eight-bone rack)
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup coarse salt
- 1/4 cup red chile powder
- 1/4 cup fresh rosemary, chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1/4 cup coarse pepper
- 1/4 cup water
- Salad:
- 2 bunches watercress
- Juice from one whole lime
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Salt & pepper to taste

Preheat oven at 350 degrees. Mix salt, chile powder, pepper, rosemary, cilantro, and water in a bowl to make a paste. Pack the paste all around the rack of lamb. Heat the oil in a heavy skillet on medium heat. Place rack in skillet and sear for 2 minutes on each side. Place skillet in the oven with lamb fat side up for 18 to 20 minutes. Remove rack from oven and left rest for five minutes. Clean the watercress and mix with lime juice, olive oil and salt and pepper to taste. Slice the rack into individual chops. Serve two chops per serving with the salad.

\*\*\*

## THE PERFECT ROASTED LEG OF LAMB

A flavorful leg of lamb is a great mealtime solution for today's hectic lifestyles and provides the added bonus of great leftover meat for a future meal. Reduce your time in the kitchen by creating delicious salads, soups, or sandwiches with the leftover roasted lamb meat.

Don't rush a large leg roast by cooking it at a constant high temperature — it can cook unevenly — underdone in the center and overdone just below the surface. It is best to sear the roast first followed by low, slow roasting. Start the meat in a hot (450/500-degree) oven for 15-20 minutes until a crust forms that will seal in the juices. Reduce the oven heat to about 300 degrees to complete the cooking. For medium rare, roast approximately 20 minutes per pound at 300 degrees for a bone-in roast and 25 minutes per pound for a boneless roast. Use a meat thermometer to determine doneness. Remove from oven and let rest for 20 minutes before carving. A cooling period will allow the meat's juices to settle and make carving easier. Carve the roast against the grain so the meat will be tender. Cut thick slices — a naturally tender cut like leg should be sliced about one half inch thick.

\*\*\*\*\*

**QUICK FACT:**  
American lamb is a good source of protein, niacin, zinc, iron and Vitamin B-12.

Today's consumer is looking for healthy alternatives to other meats. Why not serve American Lamb to your customers? Below are some reasons to add American Lamb to your menu:

**Trend**  
More menu variety, signature dishes

Upscaling, enhanced quality of restaurants  
Red meat making comeback

Consumer concerns for health and nutrition  
Ethnic dishes

Spicier foods

Classical dishes

Increased grilling, broiling vs. frying

Reprinted from americanlambboard.org

### Lamb's Role

Lamb offers a distinctive alternative to everyday beef, fish and poultry dishes. For example, lamb leg steaks, lamb fajitas, lamb kebabs, Denver ribs.

Lamb is appreciated as an upscale product, can help upgrade any menu.

Lamb offers benefits of red meat, without the fat. American lamb has very little fat marbling thought the meat. With most fat limited to outside edges, it's easily trimmed.

American Lamb is a good source of protein, niacin, zinc, iron and Vitamin B-12. Lamb complements many popular ethnic cuisines; e.g. Middle Eastern, Mediterranean.

Lamb pairs well with simple seasoning (lemon pepper, garlic salt, etc.) as well as pungent flavors (mustard, rosemary, thyme, fennel, etc.)

Rack of lamb, loin chops and leg roasts are still traditional favorites.

Lamb can be broiled or grilled to perfection in just minutes

## LAND AUCTION

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# AUCTION

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 10:00 AM**

**Auction will be held in the 4-H Building in RUSSELL, KANSAS**

### ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & GUNS

Springfield 22 model 86 rifle, Ruger 22 model 10 w/Bushnell scope, Mossburg 22 model R rifle, Ithaca 22 model M-48, Ithaca 20 ga model M66 super single, Daisy model 96 BB gun; 18 cast iron seats, Rock Island, Buckeye, Stoddard, Empire, Champion, Deering, Taylor, large cast iron kettle; JD pedal tractor w/trailer; JD 520 tractor; 20's walnut buffet; 20's walnut bar; 40's porcelain kitchen table; Davey

Crocket lamp; 10 gal Red Wing crock; 3 gal Red Wing churn; 50's play pen; child's collectable toys; railroad lantern; Dazey churn; cream cans inc.: Russell Creamery; 1900's Life magazines; whistling train set; goat wagon; assortment of collectibles.

### FIESTA, JEWEL T & GLASS

Jewel T; 80 pieces Fiesta; Fenton; Fostoria; assortment pressed glass; Fire King pieces; Davy Crockett & other glasses; Eggshell china set;

Avon doll decanter collection; clown dolls; Barbie dolls; other dolls.

### HOUSEHOLD

Entertainment cabinet; 4 drawer filing cabinet; Linton electric stove; Child's wood craft items; child's rocking chair, bench & picnic table; holiday items; assortment kitchen items; new Trophy smoker & grill; Brinkman smok-n-pit bb utensils; security lanterns; lawn & garden tools; yard ornaments.

*See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.*

**Note: Check our web site at [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com) for pictures. This is a large auction with many nice collectables.**

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## Free Weekly Recipe Available Online

Included as part of Grass & Grain's website is a "Free Weekly Recipe." You need not be a subscriber to view this recipe. Go to [www.grassandgrain.com](http://www.grassandgrain.com) and at the bottom left click on Our Daily Bread Free Weekly Recipe.

Some recipes will be selected from submissions received from area cooks while others may be suggested favorites. You may also share the recipe with friends and family by clicking on the "email page" button.

*This week's Free Weekly Recipe is from Mary Rogers of Topeka and is for Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies.*

## Break The Fast ... Enjoy Morning Meal

After a span of approximately 10 hours between the evening meal and breakfast the next morning, your body is ready for some energy to help get it started in the morning. Adults and children who eat breakfast are more likely to meet their daily nutritional needs, maintain a healthy

body weight and perform better in school or at work. Fixing a quick and healthy breakfast doesn't have to be hard. A bowl of cereal with skim milk, fresh fruit, a granola bar, toast with peanut butter or even last night's leftover pizza will give you the energy you need to start your day.

## Prize for MAY

### "Our Daily Bread" Recipe Contest Prize

### DECORATIVE PIG BAG HOLDER

This pig design bag holder keeps your shopping bags handy. Just place the bags in the top opening and pull them out the bottom when you need them. Made of hand washable 100% cotton. Measures 15" x 7" empty.

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## APRIL

### "Our Daily Bread" Recipe Contest Prize

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1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions are clear.
2. Be sure your name, address and phone number are on the entry. Please include a street address with your recipe entries. A post office box number is not sufficient for prize delivery. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.
3. Send it to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505.  
OR e-mail at: [agpress2@agpress.com](mailto:agpress2@agpress.com)

The winner each week is selected from the recipes printed.

Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-you.





# Letters to the Editor

**LETTER TO ED**

Animal disease research will be safely accomplished in the heartland

With a project of the magnitude of the \$451 million National Bio and Agro-defense Facility, or NBAF, there are bound to be questions about what impact it will have on the community and region, including, "How safe is it to study animal diseases in a location near people and animals?"

The answer is, thanks to modern research methods and facilities, this research is extremely safe — and urgently needed.

The NBAF will provide a modern and secure laboratory environment for protecting America's farm animals and food supply. The facility will be built in accordance with the highest safety standards that have kept tens of millions of residents safe in places where labs studying diseases already exist.

That's right: Federal labs in the middle of Frederick, Md., and Atlanta, Ga., have worked on the most dangerous human diseases for decades. Not a single community outbreak has occurred in these cities. In ad-

dition, a lab in Winnipeg, Canada, studies the highly contagious foot-and-mouth disease virus just across the border from North Dakota. Foot-and-mouth disease has not spread to livestock outside that facility.

The great news is that modern biocontainment technology has eliminated the need for locating animal disease research on an island, as was done decades ago at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, a few miles off the coast of New York.

This brings us to the issue facing us today. We

know our nation needs to significantly upgrade its capacity to prevent disease outbreaks in animals, yet the half-century old Plum Island Animal Disease Center is outdated and has limited capacity. It simply doesn't have the research or diagnostic capabilities needed to address animal diseases that could be introduced into the U.S., which is why an advanced facility on the mainland — the NBAF — is now on the slate.

Two years ago, the federal government asked communities with established animal research programs to step forward. Last summer, in recognition of our state's expertise, a site on Kansas State University's campus made the short list of poten-

tial places for the NBAF. Other sites are in Georgia, North Carolina, Mississippi and Texas, all of which have prompted questions about bringing animal disease research to areas near livestock.

The fact is that research at the NBAF will protect those very animals. That's the purpose of the NBAF — to develop vaccines and other countermeasures to animal diseases that threaten animal health, the nation's food supply, the U.S. economy and the health of the American public.

At the moment, our country does not have sufficient facilities to conduct research on many of the most devastating foreign animal

diseases, some of which pose health risks to people as well. Thus, required vaccines cannot be produced in a timely fashion, and solutions to potential human health threats cannot be developed.

A decision to build the NBAF in an isolated location — away from animals and people — would significantly increase the cost of building, maintaining and operating the lab, and would continue to limit the availability of researchers willing to do this important work — and there's no need to do so.

When you marry state-of-the-art biocontainment

*Continued on page 7*

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Continued from page 6  
structures, solid physical security and technological know-how with proven safety protocols and personal protection, research on animal and human diseases can be conducted safely in facilities located near animals and people. Protecting animals and people from disease — making communities more secure and safe — is the goal, and it is a challenge our country is ready and able to undertake.

**Ron Trewyn, K-State vice president for research**

## Biofuels pay at the pump

Recently, Merrill Lynch commodity strategist Francisco Blanch said gasoline prices would be 15 percent higher if biofuel production wasn't increasing. That's good to know, especially in light of news last week from the U.S. Department on Energy that gas prices could peak at close to \$4 a gallon this year.

Fuel costs impact every facet of our daily lives, whether it's filling up the car we drive to work, or the incremental increases we

see in food costs at the grocery store.

Gas and diesel prices are closely tied to the prices we pay for crude oil, their base source. According to the U.S. Department on Energy, oil is expected to average \$101 a barrel this year, despite an expected drop in overall consumption in the United States in response to climbing prices. That's because increasing demand from China, India, Russia and the Middle East continue to exert pressure on crude oil supplies, which keeps prices high.

But what does all this mean for consumers like you and me?

The national average number of miles any one of us drives in a year is 12,578, while the average fuel efficiency for all vehicles on American roads is 23.7 miles per gallon. Given these averages, it is safe to assume that American motorists use about 527 gallons of gasoline a year, or just over 10 gallons a week.

If gas prices remained steady at \$3.25 a gallon, and the positive net impact of biofuel production on gas

prices remained at 15 percent, Kansas motorists would spend roughly \$5 less a week on gas than they would without biofuels supplementing our gasoline supplies. That \$5-a-week saving computes to \$263 a year per motorist. If you live in a two-car household like me, the saving is \$526 per household per year.

My simplified equation might not take into account every possible variable, but it does illustrate the positive economic impact biofuels has on each of us. The impact is even more profound when you look at state and national numbers.

Just over 1 billion gallons of gasoline were sold in Kansas last year. If you consider the same 50 cent per gallon saving, Kansans are spending about \$500 million less a year on gasoline than they would if biofuels weren't part of the mix. On a national scale, we are spending \$71 billion less.

Most of us already feel good about the positive impact renewable fuels have on our environment. Now we know they also have a significant impact on

what we pay at the pump.

**Adrian Polansky, Kansas Secretary of Agriculture**

**Dear Editor,**

One of many of the main problems with farming today is the fact there are too many "experts" wishing to put their two cents worth into both production, and the selling of a farmer's production. There are always hundreds of USDA "specialists" spouting off their predictions, then many "K-State" experts, then every other Ag college representative, plus every Tom, Dick and Harry not even involved with "production" agriculture shouting out their predictions.

To top that off, every elected official has his or her predictions beyond all the aforementioned ones. Total this all up, and there are thousands upon thousands, predicting the future planting estimates, and future pricing of a product that is not even in the ground yet. That, along with the corporation farmers of today, and production agriculture is no longer agriculture. It is a "big government

business," operating the same as the old "commune" farms of the USSR variety. It consists of the same "basic" rewards system and all. "Do what we say and you will be rewarded good, step out of line and you will be punished severely."

It is too late now, but if so many of the farmers had not become greedy, and had worked together like they did before several of the big cooperatives' greedy CEOs decided to line their own pockets first, I guarantee you, farming would still be a decent and profitable business a person could be proud to be involved with. Farming is not an occupation any longer. It is just like

every other big business concern. It operates on the assumption of greed and largesse — Wal-Mart, etc.

I promise you large farmers this, no matter how large you get, there is always someone larger than you out there working to put you out of business tomorrow. And believe me, your huge implement dealer is not your friend, nor is he working in your best interest. While he is explaining to you what you need to be cost-conscious or more productive, he is also giving this very same sales pitch to your larger competitor/neighbor.

**Thank you, Bob Hoferer, Jr. St. Marys,**

# REAL ESTATE AUCTION

**TUESDAY, APRIL 29 — 6:00 PM**

**Building and Lot SELL AT 6:00 PM**

We will sell the former Dairy Queen and Twister restaurant building, lot and contents at the facility located at 204 W. Court in CLAY CENTER, KANSAS

This property consists of a 116.1 x 148 ft. paved parking lot with a 39x52 ft. former DQ building built in 1975.

This is a nice facility located just West of downtown Clay Center. This property is suited to a wide variety of business and personal uses.

Announcements made sale day to take precedence over printed matter. The auction firm is working for the seller.

**RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES: TO SELL AFTER REAL ESTATE**

See last week's Grass & Grain for complete details & listings.

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Auction conducted by Clay County Real Estate.  
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## JOHN DEERE ANTIQUE TRACTOR AUCTION

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 11:00 AM**  
13168 174TH — NORTONVILLE, KS

From Oskaloosa, KS take US-59 North 7.5 miles to K-16 West, go 2.4 miles turn North on Nemaha Rd. and travel 1.4 miles. On the corner of 174th and Nemaha Rd. Watch for signs.

PARTS FOR MODELS A, B, H, 40, G and more; 1929 Model GP (#223369), Brass tag; 1952 Model 50 (#5009260), Restored; 1937 Model AR (#254966), Restored, WF; 1954 Model 40S (#62465), Restored.

See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.  
AUCTION NOTE: Tractors sell first at 11 AM.

**SELLERS: ED & AMY BUDY**

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# HEARTLAND PREMIER PRODUCTION SALE II

Friday, May 9, 2008 10:30 a.m. At the farm, Seneca, Kansas



**Heartland Jenetta Bill Phoenix, E-90%**  
Fresh in November and milking 88 lbs. on her March test day. Dam is a VG-88% "Klassik" with 20,000 lbs. milk.



**Heartland Jace Addison-ET, VG-84%**  
Projected to 20,723—1,033—801 ME at 1-9 She is a sister to "Phoenix." Their grandam is a VG-87% "Flyer."

## 100 lots of PURE PRODUCTION GENETICS

Bred generation after generation for functional type and production.



**Heartland Golden Poppy, E-92%**  
3-4 293 3x 18,420 6.0% 1,096 3.9% 713 Her VG-85% "Brazo" sister sells with over 20,000M at 2-0. Milking 109 lbs. daily.



**Heartland Nathan Texas-ET, VG-87%**  
Projected to 23,583—1,027—877 ME at 1-9 Her P9 "Militia" senior calf will sell. Dam is "Mor Tulsa" who sold in the first sale.

January 2008 Rolling Herd Average: 20,199M, 957F, 353P on 353 cows  
Herd ranks 67<sup>th</sup> in the nation for JPI on 318 cows +498M, +22F, +17P JPI +81

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# AUCTION

**SATURDAY, MAY 3 — 10:00 AM**

Auction will be held on Main Street in CLYDE, KANSAS

### COLLECTABLES, TOOLS & OTHER

12 video games inc. (Pac Man, Kicks, Cosmic Invaders, Gorf, Joker Poker); 60's Pepsi machine; assortment parts for video games; Coke fountain dispenser; 2 Rockola 442 jute boxes; 3-1983 Rockola jute boxes; several hundred 45 records (70's, 80's & 90's); 6' table top showcase; 8' store base cabinet; 6' wooden tables; beige gas granite cook stove; 3 cast iron gas parlor stoves; life top desk; German cradle; yellow chrome dinette table & chairs; overhead bathroom stool; 20 beer signs; neon signs; Spud, bottle, pool lights; Budweiser glasses;

Coors glasses, ash trays & coasters; beer steins; 60's carnival punch bowl & serving pieces; several cardboard roller skate signs; flue covers; Singer treadle sewing machine; wood bookcase; painted dresser; wooden pulley; several wooden doors; screen doors; several wood & metal beds; flat top trunk; lead glass window; china chandelier; blonde cabinet; office desk; office chairs; metal lateral file cabinet; 10' restaurant bar; restaurant table's; stainless steam table w/sandwich prep area; stainless pots; restaurant steak plates & other dishes; pressure cooker; cake pans & decorating items; ro-

tary telephones; steel guitar & amplifier; speakers; pool sticks; wood bamboo curtains; many clamp on roller skates; skate parts; assortment wood shelving; several wood parts bins; ping pong table; hub caps; new TV antennas; several roller track pieces; jack stands; overhead furnace; used tires; 3 pt. 1/2 sack cement mixer; JD 36" tiller for garden tractor; Johnson & Chrysler boat motor's; large assortment of other items.

### TRACTOR

1957 John Deere 720 propane Wheatland tractor, total restoration, power steering, with 3-16 pull plow, very nice.

### DAVE & ALICE HUGHES

Immediately following the Hughes auction we will move to South Chestnut in Clyde

### HOUSEHOLD, COLLECTABLES & TOOLS

Oak white divan, loveseat & chair; brown stripe divan; beige recliner; Whirlpool portable dishwasher; pine corner cabinet; blue chair; brown love seat; sectional divan; 3 twin beds; entertainment center; chest drawers; blonde chest & vanity; drop leaf table & chairs; pine hall case; corner shelf; bar stools; pr. end tables; pr. wicker rockers; plant stand; magazine rack; sewing cabinet; 30's ma-

hogany desk; elephant end table; cabinet sewing machine; quilt rack; Hoover upright vacuum; Bissell canister vacuum; Enviracaire air machine; table lamps; card table & chairs; cast iron dutch oven; Jewell T platter, salt & pepper; lady lamps; pink swirl plates, goblets; set Homestyle china; cake plate; Fenton glass basket; 4 Shawnee card ash tray cup holders; punch bowl; bedding; Christmas items; 8 place set brown crock dishes; egg plate; pots & pans; grill; meat

slicer; TOOLS inc.: Snapper 4 hp mower; wheel barrow; Shopsmith model 610; gas weed eater; saw table; sander; tool cabinet; assortment hand tools; electric hedge trimmer; shop vacuum; car ramps; aluminum 4' ladder; 10 pieces 8' fiberglass roofing; fishing poles; shovels; 10' aluminum step ladder; aluminum extension ladder; air bubble; tow hitch & receiver hitch; ladies bikes; assortment of other items.

Note: We will sell the Hughes items first followed by the Morrissitte items. Hughes had a video and jute box route for many years, there are several machines. Check our web site for pictures at [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com).

### MAYO MORRISSITTE ESTATE

Auction Conducted By  
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## Homeground & Other Geographies by Tom Parker

### Movements in the heavens and on the earth

The Nexrad radar image showed bright bluish splotches that resembled nothing more than algae blooms spreading over alpine boulders. Each splotch was an irregular circle, some darker than others, some larger, the circles arrayed in a sweeping arc leading from the southern tip of Texas across the center of the continent to the Great Lakes. Most of Texas

was blanketed, and Oklahoma, and a good half of Kansas. It was 10 p.m. on the night of April 13 and weather radar picked up the movement not of advancing storms, but of millions of birds. Heading north.

There are 158 operational Nexrad radar systems in the United States, each with a maximum range of 250 nautical miles. Established to warn people of se-

vere weather, the network serves in an unintended capacity to alert birders of migration patterns and surges. For weeks birds had been straggling northward against an implacable wind, but now the wind had shifted to the south, picked up steam and raged like a hurricane. And birds, eager for a free ride, took to the night skies to sail effortlessly toward their nesting grounds.

I didn't know this when I went out to get the mail the next day, but I slipped my binoculars around my neck just in case. This is more habit than anything and happens only for several weeks each year during spring and fall migration. One week ago I'd taken my binoculars outside on a small errand and had the fortune of seeing a low-flying northern goshawk directly overhead. The gos is an irregular visitor to northeast Kansas, which translates in birder jargon to a "zootie." The origins of the term are nebulous at best but several years ago my good friend Warren Buss, a farmer from Linn, embarked on a literary quest to unearth the word's origins. After reams of notes he finally lapsed into an allusion to zoot suits, at which time I figured Warren had

hit the sauce a little too hard. Remembering he wasn't a drinker, I briefly questioned the hallucinogenic properties of fresh milk, if any, before deciding upon a long nap as a sort of defense mechanism against arcane and convoluted reasoning.

A little brown bird fled from the Austrian pine to our thicket, a 40x80-foot rectangle of woods that was once a dream of a huge garden. I tracked it with my binoculars until it landed, the background a blur of greening fields, dirt road and heavy equipment. The latter was clustered around a huge pile of dirt where the foundation of a house is being built, something my own Doppler radar had warned against. As if to remind me of the distasteful fact, the bird

alighted in an elm sapling and allowed me to study it. Its heavy breast streaking, malar stripe and face pattern meant song sparrow, but then something else entirely appeared in focus. Behind the bird was a man, and he was watching me with what can only be described as a quizzical, if not hostile, glare.

No, I wanted to say, I am not watching you. If anything, I'm trying to ignore you. Please go away and leave me in peace.

Another bird flushed below the song sparrow, this one a vesper sparrow. For many birders, sparrows are relegated to the fringes of bird-dom; sometimes difficult to identify, with complex songs and lack of colorful plumage, they're

*Continued on page 9*

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

MONDAY, MAY 5 — 7:00 PM

Auction will be held in American Legion Building in HUNTER, KANSAS

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NW 1/4 5-10-11, Osborne, Co. Kansas

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** 155 acres broke ground, 149.3 cropland with 125.2 wheat base 33 yield, 19.9 grain sorghum base 37 yield.

**POSSESSION:** Purchaser will receive possession after 2008 wheat harvest. Seller will retain the rent for the 2008 wheat crop.

**TAXES:** Seller will pay 1/2 and Purchaser will

pay 1/2 of 2008 taxes based on 2007 taxes. 2007 taxes were \$938.36.

**Terms will be 20% of purchase price as down payment day of auction, the balance will be due upon closing on or before June 30, 2008. All mineral and wind rights will go with the farm.**

All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material. Thummel Real Estate & Auction is acting as seller agent.

**SHARON & MARY KRALICEK, OWNERS**

Auction Conducted By  
**THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION**  
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## FIESTA, MARBLE & COKE ADVERTISING AUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo Center, in SALINA, KS.

### FIESTA

Selling will be 300 pieces of Fiesta; Kitchen Kraft stacking refrigerator units, Tom & Jerry mugs.

### MARBLES

89 lots of marbles.

### COKE & ADVERTISING

Selling is a large collection of new old stock Coke advertising (cardboard, metal, plastic); 4' Coke fishtail sign; 1952 Donald Duck decals; Phillips 66 & Shell calendars; Louis

Armstrong book; We Give American Stamps sign; Land O Lakes tray; Finley Lumber thermometer; Texaco Fire Chief hat; Autolite spark plug box; Gates sign; WPA Ford Co. sign.

*See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.*

**NOTE:** This is a very quality collection. We will sell the Fiesta at 10:00, followed by the marbles. We will start on the Coke and advertising at 12:00. The Coke items are all new old stock found in a Warehouse. Check our web site for pictures of the Coke and a more complete list of the Fiesta & marbles.

Auction Conducted By  
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## Now what?

For three decades, the Muir family had built an extensive farming operation in Northwest Kansas. Before they were prepared, Bill Muir and his sister, Betty, became absentee landowners with tenant farmers.

Now what? Here's their story:

When their father passed away, both grandfathers' and Dad's estates passed to Bill and Betty, meaning that they inherited more than 2,000 acres of farmland.

"The option of long-distance ownership and share cropping was not attractive," Bill said. "So, we began looking for options. Crop shares provided very little return, considering the property's value, and selling it would have cost us thousands in taxes."

The answer: Bill and Betty created a pair of charitable remainder unitrusts (CRUTs) with the Kansas State University Foundation.

"We used our land to make a gift that preserved the land's wealth — as opposed to paying capital gains tax — and we have more than doubled our annual income. The people and programs we care about will win. The IRS didn't."

Eventually, the unitrusts will create seven new scholarships at K-State, as selected by Bill and Betty. Such gifts can support scholarships, research, teaching or extension programs.

To learn more about using farmland to create a gift that makes a difference at K-State and reduces your taxes, contact Gordon Dowell, KSU Foundation Gift Planning Officer for Extension and Real Estate at 800-432-1578 or [gordond@found.ksu.edu](mailto:gordond@found.ksu.edu).



4th generation  
Republic County  
farmer/stockman



Continued from page 8

# Producers disagree over proposed changes in milk labeling

lumped together under the single sobriquet of LBJ, or Little Brown Job. I've always liked sparrows, not least because there are more of them than, say, resplendent quetzals, at least in my neck of the woods.

Having two sparrows made me want more. Within a short time I identified seven species of sparrows, a personal record for our property in a single day. Another bird of note was a Bewick's wren, whose song was enervating. The season's first tree and barn swallows vectored the sky above, followed by a steady influx of pelicans, cormorants and vultures riding thermals lifting from the ridges south of town.

Work pulled me back into that other world I inhabit, but that evening I saw the images from the weather radar and knew that the great migration was upon us. Cyclonic storms, precipitation, patterns of wind and masses of birds, movements in the heavens portending the changing seasons, all fall under the godlike eye of Nexrad. The rest is up to us.

TOPEKA (AP) — Proposed changes in milk labels have Kansas producers at odds over whether the alterations are needed.

The issue arose earlier this year, when legislators were considering a bill to prohibit producers from putting labels on milk saying it's free of artificial hormones. That means that the milk did not come from cows that were injected with rGBH, a growth hormone that increases milk production.

Some producers want to say their milk contains no rGBH. Others see no need for it, saying the hormone occurs naturally.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is trying to find a middle ground by developing new labeling regulations.

Agriculture officials

have proposed allowing milk producers to continue stating on their bottles that the product is free of artificial hormones. But the department also would require the disclaimer that the milk isn't different from that produced by hormone-injected cows.

A hearing is set for next week to get public comment. "We can live with it, but we wanted more," said Jim Reed, president of the Kansas Dairy Association, which supported a ban on any hormone-free labeling.

Donn Teske, president of the Kansas Farmers Union, which opposes the change, said the regulations went too far.

"It's not the worst thing, but where was the need?" he asked. "Where were the lawsuits? Who was complaining?"

A bill similar to what agriculture officials are proposing failed to make it out of the Senate Agriculture Committee and is likely dead for the session.

Supporters of the labeling restrictions say they are needed because the labels could be misleading, suggesting that the milk with the hormone is less safe.

"Whether or not cows are injected, there is no way to prove that because both milks are identical," Reed said.

Opponents to the legislative effort said it was a matter of consumer choice.

"Do I use hormones in my cows?" asked Tim Iwig, owner of the Iwig Family Dairy in Tecumseh. "No, I don't, and I

should be able to say that."

The draft regulations were developed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture after the bill stalled, said spokeswoman Lisa Taylor.

"We're advocates for choice," she said. "If a dairy producer wants to use rBGH, they should be able to, but we under-

stand that consumers should have choice, too."

The issue is part of a national push to restrict hormone-free labeling by American Farmers for the Advancement and Conservation of Technology. The group is sponsored in part by Monsanto, Co., which manufactures the growth hormone.

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**AUCTION**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 10:00 AM

1503 Thompson Dr. — JUNCTION CITY, KS

VEHICLE, WILL SELL AT 1:00 PM; FURNITURE/APPLIANCES; COLLECTIBLES; TOOLS & OTHERS.

See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.

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**ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 10:00 AM**

**MORRIS COUNTY 4-H BUILDING 612 US HWY 56**  
**COUNCIL GROVE, KS**

**DIRECTIONS: 1 mile East of Council Grove on US Hwy. 56. WATCH FOR SIGNS**

**FURNITURE**  
Brass bed, ornate; 2 iron beds; walnut dresser w/marble top; painted back wooden chair; 2 red velvet chairs; 2 floor lamps; table lamp in Tiffany style; oval coffee table; parlor table, round; drop front desk; spool cabinet; record cabinet; platform rocker; fainting couch; dining room table; 4 kitchen chairs; heavy wooden arm chair; wing chair; easy chair w/ottoman; hide-a-bed, full size; small pine desk w/matching dresser; glass display cabinet, maple; workshop desk, wooden; magazine rack; oak dresser; oak veneer roll top desk; walnut office chair; king size bed, good; sofa; maple dresser & chest of drawers; Singer sewing machine in cabinet; Maytag stacking washer/dryer, good condition; military library table.

**ANTIQUE/COLLECTIBLES**  
Oak framed mirror; oval picture frame w/convex glass; glass net float, large; various glassware; old brass microscope; 2 iron match-holders; 1900 "Fairy" calendar, framed; watches; brass ship's clock, Seth Thomas; mantle clock; school clock, regulator type; 3 hand stitched quilts; bronze clock case; bottles; blue swirl enamelware; 12 brass balance weights in wood block; "Purple Power" decanter, 1971; 2 game bird whiskey decanters, 1969; iron buffalo bank; iron

**"Barney Google" spark plug bank; 2 crock jugs; flour bin for Hoosier-style cabinet; Crockett bit; Buermann star steel bit; 2 Mexican bits, hand-forged; mechanical bit "U.S. BRIDAL BIT CO. pat. March 3, 03, KANSAS CITY, MO"; pair of antique iron stirrups; leather hobbles.**

**SOUTHWEST ITEMS**  
INCLUDING: Skookum doll; 2 small fully beaded dolls; Kachina; small sand painting; 3 stone effigy pieces; framed 1930 Santa Fe calendar "The Kachina Doll"; ancient Indian pot; woven basket; ceremonial pipe with ivory bowl; beaded fossil bison bone; loom; sheep bell.

**JEWELRY & WATCH ITEMS**  
Watchmaker's bench; set of Swartchild watch springs in fine

wooden case; C. & E. Marshall watch, crystal case; K & D Co. staking tool set in wooden case; New Hermes portable, elec. motor/flexible shaft; Fisher balance, glass-covered; Timex watches; electric alarm clocks.

**GUNS & MISC.**  
Steven's Favorite 22 rifle w/tang site; Remington Model 514 22 rifle single shot; Topper M48 Herington & Richardson 16 ga. shotgun, single shot case colored receiver; Pacific 20 ga. re-loader; 357 mag. ammo & dies golf clubs; Web TV; Apple computer; 2 tool boxes; various hand tools; 2 electric drills; set Corelle dishes; Hoover sweeper; various kitchen and cooling items; towels & linens.

**1972 Volkswagon Bug, body is in good condition.**

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# Hey Neighbor For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

## Big Palomino Quarter Horse Dances To Spanish Tunes As Trainer Sings Along

It was reminiscent of a movie trailer with Trigger dancing and being guided by singing cowboy Roy Rogers at the International Livestock Show Parade in Chicago.

Then we recalled again seeing Trigger in real life as the palomino Tennessee Walking Horse stallion strutted his stuff at the Mid-America Fair in Topeka, with Rogers again mounted on his silver saddle, giving the cues.

That particular day, a half-dozen matching palominos, including Trigger Jr. and Little Trigger, performed at liberty to modern dance tunes under the direction of renowned trainer Glenn Randall of Hollywood fame.

However, this time it was none other than the big beautiful palomino registered Quarter Horse gelding named Golden dancing to every style of music known, and world famous trainer Al Ragusin in the Aussie saddle giving the cues and singing along.

The Dancing Horse Show was at the EquiFest of Kansas in Wichita, where Ragusin, from McAllen, Texas, sang country, rock and Mexican music as Golden matched the rhythm of each song, dancing to the beat.

"You do have to be able to know music and match the beat yourself in order to train a dancing horse," Ragusin freely admitted

before entering the pavilion.

Before becoming a dancing horse, Golden, standing 16-plus hands tall, was a rodeo rope horse. "He just didn't like that, and I was able to purchase him for \$750. I recently turned down an offer for him for \$100,000. Actually, the man said he'd give me a blank check. Golden just isn't for sale. I really couldn't

Texas horse trainer Al Ragusin put the 16-plus hand former rope horse failure through his paces in 12 dance steps to a wide range of music during the EquiFest.

replace him," Ragusin insisted.

Some people think dancing horses must be a gaited breed, but according to Ragusin that definitely is not the case. "It will depend on what you want to do with your horse," he evaluated. "Different breeds have different movements. Personally, I never look at the breeds or their crosses.

"I look at the individual and his particular movements. I also check his abil-



Continued on page 11

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Continued from page 10

ity to want to learn, and if he has the conformation to make the movements I need," Ragusin clarified.

Golden, now 21 years old, is considered Ragusin's best dancing horse. "Some successful dancing horses can do four dance steps, but Golden does 12 dance steps," Ragusin informed. "It takes a minimum of five years to train a dancing horse."

When Ragusin was competing on Golden, they beat many different breeds. Ragusin's horse training career, spanning nearly 50 years, started in the Quarter

Horse show ring competing in halter, cutting, reining, western pleasure and gymkhana events. He's collected over 300 trophies and awards.

Proud of his Spanish heritage, Ragusin, who has been a successful rodeo competitor as well, is a champion charro or Mexican cowboy. He's also a rejaneador, meaning he's a bullfighter on horseback using the Portuguese bloodless method of bullfighting.

Ragusin has trained horses in nine different disciplines including dressage. He claimed, "My horses are the only true dancing horses in the world."

"Of course, I love all Spanish horses, and I do have an Andalusian that I dance with. I really like the breed. They seem to have higher movements in the legs, which I can use with different songs.

"It's kind of like a man and a woman having four sons. Each one is different. Well, the same is true with horses," Ragusin emphasized.

Singing and dancing to songs ranging from Michael Jackson to Hank Williams to the rumba and boogie to Spanish tunes which Ragusin sang in Spanish, the pair brought loud applause from the responsive audi-

ence. With reins, spurs and a light quirt, Ragusin cued Golden to make his dozen maneuvers to precision.

"Golden slobbers some, and people often ask me why? I guess he's just excited about dancing," Ragusin suggested.

Admitting he loves being a horseman, Ragusin insisted, "I really like getting into the mind of my horses, so that we can work together as one."

Ragusin's riding and training has been featured in all media, including shows on CBS, Real-TV and RFD-TV. With his dancing horses, Ragusin has performed at the Rose

Bowl and is an annual participant in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif.

He's in demand for his dancing horse show and training clinics throughout the United States and Mexico. With 8,000 subscribers to his e-mail Train Your Own Horse column, Ragusin responds to training questions at ragusin@dancinghorseshow.com.

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 2004 Dodge diesel pickup with duals, 4x4 auto, 104,000 miles, needs motor work; 1999 Toyota Tacoma, 6 cyl., 5 spd., 4x4 regular cab, 146,200 miles; 1984 GMC tandem truck, 10 speed Road Ranger, 427 gas with 14' all steel bed and hoist, air brakes, "Sold as is", has not been run for several years; 1954 Chevrolet truck with Brannen winch and gin poles, 4x2 spd. trans., all glass broke out, sold as is; 2000 ATV Polaris No. 325 - Trailboss.

**SKIDSTEER LOADER SELLS AT 11:30**  
 Bobcat No. 5185 skidsteer, SN525019976, 990 hours, high-flo hydraulics, cab, additional attachments for Bobcat will be sold separately; 2003 McMillen post hole digger with 12" and 24" augers, nearly new; tree shearer, Tree Terminator; gravel bucket.

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 Allis D-15 Series II with 3 pt.; 8N Ford tractor, needs tires; 2007 Frontier box scraper, 6 ft., NEW; 5 ft. BMB rotary mower; 10 ft. John Deere disc; 8 ft. JD No. 656 rake, 4 bar; 4 section harrow; cement mixer, 2 cubic feet; stationary core saw for cutting brick and blocks; portable paint sprayer; 2 horse trailer.

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# Russell County youth helps with state water quality project

The interaction between production agriculture and the environment receives quite a bit of attention these days and will likely get more attention in the future. If the work of a Russell County 4-H member is any indication, the future may be in good hands.

Jeffrey Blundon, 11, has been monitoring water quality on his parents' property for nearly two years. He adopted what has become a big 4-H project when K-State Research and Extension watershed specialists built a rock channel crossing on Big Creek in July 2006.

When the channel was

built, Stacie Minson, watershed specialist for the Smoky Hill River Kanopolis Lake watershed near Hays, mentioned to Glen and Marcia Blundon she could use some help monitoring water quality at the crossing. That, according to Jeffrey, is when his name came up. His parents said he could probably help out.

"You have to blame dad, I guess," said Glen.

"He has really taken the project and run with it," said Minson. "He's had a lot of fun with it."

Jeffrey helps Minson by taking water samples from the site and testing for bacteria, nitrate, phosphorous and

other elements every two weeks and after rainfall events. He sends his results to Minson, who replaces the supplies as needed. The project, Jeffrey said, has been a great learning experience.

"It's fun to do," he said. "I have a binder I put the stuff in that I can go through and read some more about. It tells me how to do my sampling."

Jeffrey, who is a fifth grader at Bickerdyke Elementary School, has learned there are a lot of things in water he didn't know about. But the education hasn't stopped with him.

"I think my parents have

learned that, too," he said. "It (the project) helps keep them on track."

Glen said he has learned how where he feeds and winters cattle can affect water quality. Jeffrey has also shared his new-found knowledge with others in the community. A display outlining his work won grand champion at the county fair and a gold award at a school science fair.

For the fair project, Jeffrey researched the topic of water quality and related what he learned from reading about the subject to what he found through his water quality tests. He has also presented his findings along with other things he's learned about water quality management to the local Kiwanis club.

Minson said she is impressed by how involved Jeffrey has been with the project, how far he's taken it and how well he's kept up.

"He is an amazing youth and has really taken this project on and run with it," she said.

Of course, the project isn't the only thing Jeffrey has going on. He is the secretary of the Big Creek 4-H club, enjoys playing baseball, football and just about all sports and helps out on the farm; especially during wheat harvest, which is his

favorite time of year on the operation. But even with all the distractions an 11-year-old faces, it only takes some occasional, gentle prodding from Mom and Dad to make sure he stays on top of getting things done.

And, Minson said, he is learning something that could lay an excellent groundwork for the future.

"If he stays as interested in this as he is now and becomes a producer, he'll know exactly what to do to protect water quality," she said.

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# BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

## Cell Phone Overcharge

The Deputy Sheriff looked at the coordinates on his GPS and the Verizon customer's complaint sheet again. He was in the exact spot, but it was an empty field.

This story began a year and a half ago according to John. Technology had swept through the valley and drawn JG into its zephyr. The telephone company modernized his irrigation system by incorporating cellular phones. With a call to a cell phone attached to his sprinkler he could give instructions to turn it off when the wind blew, turn it on after fixing a gear box and by doing so, he could save lots of gas and time.

In addition, the sprinkler could call JG's monitor cell phone to report a problem like a break in the line or frozen pipes. The programmer put a nice lady's voice as the interlocutor between JG's monitor cell and the one on the sprinkler. She sounded like a cross be-

tween Tokyo Rose and C3PO!

Valley Sprinkler even donated used cell phones to JG out of the goodness of their heart and agreed to bill him annually since the calls were so few. When JG received his second annual bill he was astounded! It was over three hundred dollars! Someone had been calling his monitor cell phone. Not once or twice, but two pages worth! He had no memory of so many calls. Fortunately, the number of the caller was listed right on the bill, over and over and over!

In an angrious mood he punched in the number. A lady answered. JG intro-

duced himself and immediately began castigating her, "I do not appreciate your constant calls to my private line," he said, "You are costing me hundreds of dollars and I don't like it!" He thought it best to avoid trying to explain the sprinkler cell phone connection.

"Oh, oh, oh! Dear Lord, I don't believe this! Please don't hang up; I'm in Colorado Springs! (100 miles away). Your phone has been calling me for a year. Late at night, in the early spring and late fall. I've called back over and

over only to get this crazy computer woman's voice asking me to enter my code!" She sounded horrified. "I've been crazy with this harassment. I've called the District Attorney, the Sheriff's Office, Verizon, even Art Bell! She raged on hysterically until she broke into tears. JG assured her it would never happen again.

Turns out that on cold nights the sprinkler phone would call JG to give him a freeze-warning shutdown alert. It happened so often that he just turned his phone off after dark.

But, it was programmed to call a secondary number if one was available. And, it turns out that the used cell phone had never been cleared properly and it faithfully put the sprinkler through to the nice lady in Colorado Springs, time after time after time, driving her bananas.

JG quickly hung up and found the delete button on his phone. The beleaguered woman didn't press charges, and to this day the Deputy still drives by the empty field now and then secretly hoping to spot a UFO!

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## Northwind INVITATIONAL Club Lamb Sale

**Sunday, April 27, 2008**  
**1:30 PM**  
**Douglas County Fairgrounds, Lawrence, Kansas**  
25 miles West of Kansas City on Hi-Way 10


### 85 head of Wethers and Ewe lambs

Suffolks, Hampshires, Dorsets Natural Colored and Crossbreds.

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American Royal Champion 2007



2007 Reserve Overall Missouri State Fair Shown by Jake Campbell Sired by Ultra's Ego


**Sale contact will be: Kristy Wempe 785-766-1601**

Division I Crossbred Champion 2007 American Royal Shown by Reagan Kays  
Sired By: Ultra's Ego

Res. Champ Mid South Fair, TN Class Winner AR, The Reserve Champion of the Mid South Fair

**CONSIGNORS:**

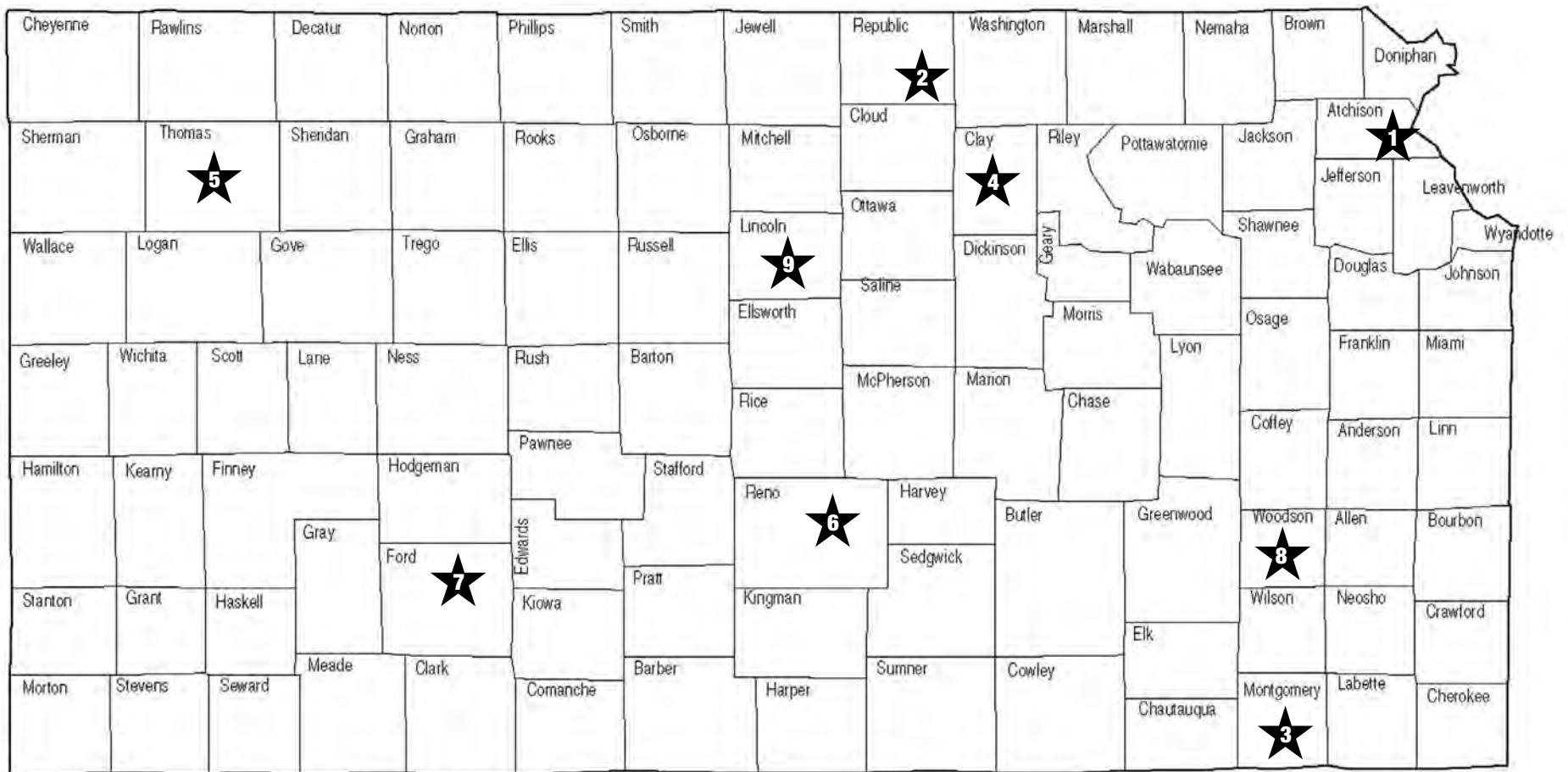
ABELDT CLUB LAMBS, KS - BILL MEIN, MEIN CLUB LAMBS, KS - JERRY SUDERMAN, SUDERMAN CLUB LAMBS, KS - CRAIG AND LORI SCOTT, CLS CLUB LAMBS, KS - THE ALLEMAND AND ROOKSTOOL FAMILIES, MEADOW CREEK CLUB LAMBS, KS - BRUCE CLARK, CLARK SHOW LAMBS, KS - ANDY JETT, JETT CLUB LAMBS, OK - SYNDICATE CLUB LAMBS - SILVER SUMMIT FARM, ROCKY SWEARINGEN AND FAMILY, KS - SYNDICATE CLUB LAMBS - LITTLE CREEK FARM, PETE AND JOANN WEMPE, KS



Champion AOB Lamb Kansas State Fair 2007 Shown by Jamie Briscoe

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Mitch Langvardt  
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★ **M&M SOUTHWESTERN LIVESTOCK, INC.**  
Dodge City, Kansas  
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Clinton Mong  
Cell: 620-617-5520  
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★ **WOODSON COUNTY SHEEP AUCTION**  
Yates Center, Kansas  
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Dale Lanham  
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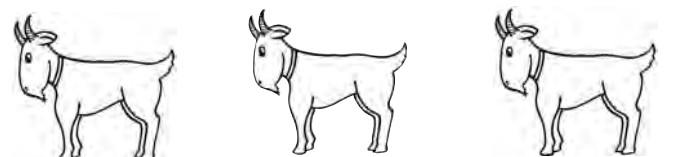
★ **BELLEVILLE 81 LIVESTOCK SALES**  
Belleville, Kansas  
Last Saturday of each month, 6 PM  
Barry Kort  
785-527-2258 • www.belleville81.com

★ **COLBY LIVESTOCK AUCTION**  
Colby, Kansas  
1st Monday, 3rd Thursday Every Month  
Leland Wilson  
Home: 785-462-3769 • 785-460-3231  
Cell: 785-443-0272

★ **SYLVAN SALES COMMISSION, LLC**  
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Held 2nd Saturday of Month (May only this year 1st Saturday of month)  
Toby Meyer  
785-526-7123

★ **COFFEYVILLE LIVESTOCK MARKET**  
Coffeyville, Kansas  
Goat Sale Held 2nd & 4th Tuesday Monthly  
Brian Little & Jimmy King  
620-251-5460

★ **HUTCHINSON COMMISSION CO.**  
South Hutchinson, Kansas  
3rd Saturday of Month - 12 Noon  
Donald & Ronald Jordan • Jason Cuiksa  
620-662-3371





## KARL elects board members

The board of directors that oversees the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) Program has undergone a leadership change.

During KARL board's annual meeting in Hutchinson, Daniel Synder, Lyons, was recognized for six years of service to the board. During his tenure, the KARL Program had its most successful fund development event, The Flinchbaugh Roast, which raised more than \$50,000 in net proceeds to the Flinchbaugh Endowment Fund of the KARL Foundation. Snyder served as planning chairman for the event.

Three new members were elected to the board including, Raymond Flickner, Wichita, an officer of the Zions Agriculture Finance Company; Terry Nelson, Long Island, a farmer and stockman/swine production owner and Irwin Porter, Quinter, a farmer with Porter Farms. KARL has an all volunteer board of directors.

KARL president Jack Lindquist said, "board members promote the program, construct and evaluate the curriculum, assist in raising funds and set policy for the program and organizational structure."

In addition, Lindquist announced the program's officers for 2008-09. They are Jim Bassett, Dover, chairman; Lance Woodbury, Garden City, vice chairman; Clark Boyer, Kingman, treasurer; and Carolyn Harms, Derby, secretary.

KARL is a non-profit, intensive two-year study and training program for emerging leaders of the agricultural industry and rural communities of Kansas. Class members' training includes nine in-state seminars, a national study tour to a blue chip corporation, a study tour to Washington, D.C. and a 12-day international study tour.

Since the office opened in 1990, KARL has helped 270 Kansans from 93 counties improve their leadership skills. The two-year cost per adult participant is \$15,000 with class members paying a tuition fee of \$3,000. The remaining \$12,000 per person is supported by donations.

For more information, interested persons may contact Lindquist at the KARL office on the campus of Kansas State University at 785-532-6300, or visit the program's website at <http://www.karlprogram.com>.

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8 a.m. • July 5-6, 2008

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**NEW**

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Saturday, July 5th

following the ABGA show judged by Coni Ross

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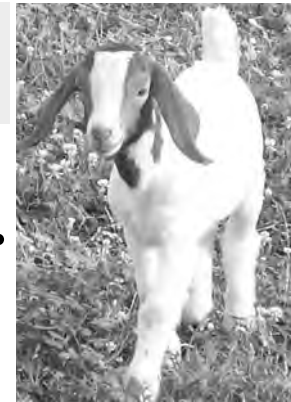
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# GRASS & GRAIN Auction Sales Scheduled

check out the on-line schedule at [www.grassandgrain.com](http://www.grassandgrain.com)

April 22 — Furniture, appliances, dolls, dishes, household items, fishing equip., garden & hand tools, computer systems at Manhattan for Estate of Elisabeth "Betty" Thompson, Bailey Moving & Storage, USD 383. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

April 24 — Antiques, household goods, furniture & misc. at Concordia for Bobbie Paulsen. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

April 24 — Cropland & CRP at Gypsum for Loren Burch Trust I & Lois Burch McBeth Trust I. Auctioneers: Omli & Associates, Inc.

April 24 — SUV, trailers, boat, tools & shop equip., leather tools, JD collectibles, furniture, music instruments, household & elec. wheelchair at Emporia. Auctioneers: Hancock Auctions.

April 25 — Republic Co. land at Munden for Katharine Kelly. Auctioneers: Roger Novak Real Estate & Auctions.

April 26 — Show Pig Sale-Number 2 at Abilene for The Wuthnow Family Show Pigs. Auctioneer: Craig Heinen.

April 26 — Complete dispersal-Holsteins at Hillsboro for Rock Home Holsteins. Auctioneers: Burton Fellers Sales.

April 26 — Tractors, hay equip., ATV, trailers, motorhome, farm equip., livestock equip., riding mower, tools & misc. at Basehor. Auctioneers: Seebree Auctions.

April 26 — Household, antiques & farm related items E. of Wilson for Alice Pekarek Estate. Auctioneers: Victor Brothers Auction & Realty, Inc.

April 26 — JD antique tractors at Nortonville for Ed & Amy Budy. Auctioneers: RS Auctions.

April 26 — Vehicle, furniture, appliances, collectibles, Nowakowski collection & tools at Junction City for Margarete & The Late Ski Nowakowski. Auctioneers: RW Auctions.

April 26 — House & household at Marysville for Dona Preyl Estate. Auctioneers: Don Prell Auctions.

April 26 — Antiques, collectibles, guns, Fiesta, Jewel T, glass & household at Russell for R&A Schmidt Estate. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

April 26 — Auto, farm equip., tools, antiques, collectibles, furniture & household at Manhattan for Bill Willis. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

April 26 — Household, furniture, appliances, glassware, pottery, antiques & collectibles at Lebo for The Late Mary Evelyn Knight Trust. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

April 26 — Furniture, antiques, collectibles, Southwest items, jewelry, watch items, guns & misc. at Council Grove for Paul Torrence Estate & Gwen Knott Estate. Auctioneers: Hallgren Auctions.

April 26 — Household, glassware, guns, collectibles, tools & misc. at Meriden for Gene & Pam

Oswalt. Auctioneers: Kooser Auctions.

April 27 — Antique cars, parts, shop equipment, antique toys & misc. at Holton. Auctioneers: Simmitt Brothers.

April 27 — Real Estate, household & farm items near Alta Vista for Bob & Cheryl Thomas. Auctioneers: Macy Realty & Auction.

April 27 — Fiesta, marbles, Coke & advertising at Salina. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

April 27 — Farm machinery & equipment, lawn & garden items, hand, shop & woodworking tools, guns at Manhattan for William R. & Donna J. Sabo. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

April 27 — Farm machinery & equipment, antiques, household, silverware, jewelry & misc. at Reading for Mrs. Bill Miles. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp.

April 28 — Farm consignment auction at Council Grove for Council Grove High School Vo Ag Dept. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions, LLC.

April 28 — Farm consignment auction at Council Grove for Council Grove High School Vo-Ag Department. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions.

April 29 — Commercial real estate & restaurant equipment at Clay Center for Larry & Joy Lund. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz & Gail Hauserman.

April 29 — Jefferson & Thayer Counties land at Fairbury, NE for Clegg Family Trust. Auctioneers: Schultis & Son Auctions.

May 1 — Complete dispersal & livestock & equipment at Sioux City, IA for Wragge Dairy-Jeff & Jack Wragge. Auctioneers: Burton-Fellers Sales.

May 1 — Car, furniture, sterling silverware, china, collection of old decoys, sewing machine, jewelry, collectibles, mobility scooter & misc. at Manhattan for Birdie Schaffer Estate, John & Earlene Martin. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

May 3 — Furniture & miscellaneous at Salina for Windsor Apartments. Auctioneers: Roger A. Johnson & Sons.

May 3 — Older machinery, trucks & farm related items SE of Wilson for Leo Brokes Estate. Auctioneers: Victor Brothers Auction & Realty, Inc.

May 3 — Real Estate & personal property at Cottonwood Falls for Cleta M. Scott. Auctioneers: Rick Griffin Auctions.

May 3 — Household & collectibles at Washington for Keith & Alberta Welch. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott, Lee Holtmeier & Luke Bott.

May 3 — Tractor, trucks, pickup, boat, trailer, welder, generator, farm related items & misc. at Wilson for Leo Brokes Estate. Auctioneers: Victor Brothers Auctions.

May 3 — Tractors, small machinery, farm related items, household, antiques & collectibles at Abilene for Gerald & Leta Meats. Auctioneers:

Yocum Realty & Auction Service.

May 3 — Household at Frankfort for Mrs. Ellen Harrington. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Auctions.

May 3 — Trucks, skidsteer loader, equipment for lumber finishing, native lumber, tractors & equipment at Emporia for Robert (Bob) C. Pugh Estate. Auctioneers: John Flott & Larry McIlvain Auctions.

May 3 — Collectibles, tools, tractor, household, collectibles & tools at Clyde for Dave & Alice Hughes & Mayo Morrissitte Estate. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

May 3 — Missouri land-Johnson & Ray counties at Warrensburg, MO & Richmond, MO for Bollinger Farms LLC. Auctioneers: Wheeler Auction & Real Estate-Williams Cattle & Land Auction.

May 3 — Real Estate, meat smoker, shop items, lamp collection, pictures, dolls, toys, kitchenwares & misc. at Maple Hill for Ruby & Rocky Zeller. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

May 4 — Business liquidation auction at Topeka. Auctioneers: Simmitt Brothers Auctions.

May 4 — Collectibles, glass & furniture at Salina. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

May 4 — Classic cars, car parts, shop equipment & tools, vintage pedal cars & toys and misc. household & lawn items at Holton. Auctioneers: Simmitt Brothers Auctions.

May 4 — Real Estate, furniture, appliances, household, collectibles, lawn & garden items & misc. at Rossville for Bill & Dorothy Becker Estate. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

May 5 — Real Estate at Hunter for Sharon & Mary Kralicek. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

May 6 — Household & collectibles at Clay Center for Mrs. Alfred (Irma) Burger. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

May 9 — Heartland Premier Production Sale II at Seneca for Jerry & Sue Spielman.

May 9 — Harper Co. land at Attica. Auctioneers: Weigand & Sons.

May 9 — Trucks, tractors, farm equipment, trailers, livestock equipment & misc. at Lockwood, MO for ERT Cattle Co. (Miller Division). Auctioneers: Wheeler Auctions & Williams Land & Cattle Auctions.

May 9 — Primitives, crocks, pinball machine, antiques, collectibles, coffee grinders, adv. tins & scales at Abilene for George & Kay Etherington. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

May 10 — Real Estate, collectibles & household at Greenleaf for Marjorie Hatesohl. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

May 10 — Farm machinery, truck, tractor, livestock equipment, cattle equipment SE of Corning for Don Alexander Estate. Auctioneers: Deters Auctions.

May 10 — Greenwood Co. & Elk Co. land at Eureka. Auctioneers: Jeremy &

Joe Sundgren Auctions.

May 10 — Furniture, store counters, lamps, pictures & misc. at Abilene for George & Kay Etherington. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

May 15 — Real Estate at Topeka. Auctioneers: Pearl Real Estate & Appraisal.

May 18 — Contractor tools & supplies, used tools & equipment at Topeka for Knox Supply, Inc. Quilting Business. Auctioneers: Simmitt Brothers Auctions.

May 21 — Grain elevator at Formoso for Jeff Strnad. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

May 24 — Show Pig Sale-Number 3 at Abilene for The Wuthnow Family Show Pigs. Auctioneer: Craig Heinen.

May 24 — Real Estate, tools, equipment, collectibles & household items NW of Clifton for Creative Evangelism Inc. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

May 26 — 15th annual Memorial Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

May 31 — Large collection of collectible dolls, doll furniture, doll clothes, doll houses (large doll auction) at Junction City for Mona Kessinger Estate. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

June 1 — Antique tractors, other equipment & vehicles at Washington for the Washington Swap Meet & Tractor Show. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott, Lee Holtmeier & Luke Bott.

June 7 — 13th Annual Wildflower Tour at Fredonia for Wilson Co. Conservation District & Conservation.

June 7 — Restaurant & bakery equipment at Washington for Schooky's Deli. Auctioneers: Uhlik Auctions.

June 7 — Household & collectibles at Barnes for the Estate of Betty Wesche. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott, Lee Holtmeier & Luke Bott.

June 14 — 7th annual consignment auction at Abilene for The Mid-America Pony & Miniature Ponies. Auctioneers: Don Chegwidan & Charley Konig.

June 14 — Loader-backhoe, dump trucks, dozer, semi's, trailers, dirt working equip. & shop tools at Plainville for Plainville Trenching & Backhoe LLC. Auctioneers: Ashley's Auctions.

June 14 — Victorian furniture & glassware at Junction City for Mona Kessinger Estate. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

June 21 — Lots of vintage clothing, primitives, book collection & misc. at Junction City for Mona Kessinger Estate. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

August 2 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

August 16 — Annual Hanover Firemans consignment auction at Hanover.

August 23 — Leather & tack shop items, antiques & collectibles, general household at Clay Center for Paul Williams. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

August 23 — Leather shop, household & collectibles

at Clay Center for Paul Williams. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

September 1 — 13th annual Labor Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

September 6 — Fall machinery auction at Clay

Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

November 1 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

November 15 — Late fall machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

## CONSIGNMENTS WANTED

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Auction held on our lot located just East of 191st & 169 Hwy., Spring Hill, KS

Auction Date: **Wed., May 21, 9:30 AM**

Ad Deadline: **Mon., May 5**  
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OFFICE: 913-592-2004

[www.countrywidetractor.com](http://www.countrywidetractor.com)

## AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 — 10:30 AM

Located from LEBO, KS, 4 miles East on Old Hwy. 50

Antique kitchen cabinet; antique oak pedestal dining table; 6 oak straight back chairs; maple rocker, nice; three piece bedroom suite, 1940's; antique drop front desk; antique oak buffet; antique dresser and chest; Coronado cabinet radio/record player; 2 hump back trunks; Weller vase, G-13; 2 old dolls; 12 old quilts; selection of marbles; 3 Aladdin

lamps; 2 kerosene lamps; child's chair, old; Frigidaire refrigerator, good; Maytag auto washer; 2 living room chairs; brass Elevator grain scale, old; IH cream separator; Yard Machine 14.5, 42 in. mower; assortment of cloth, crocheted, linen, kitchen, sewing items, etc.; several chicken feeders; good assortment of glassware and pottery pieces.

NOTE: Very interesting auction with many collectibles and antiques. Plan to come early and spend the day. Many, many other items. Inspection day of sale only.

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MARY EVELYN KNIGHT TRUST

Beatty & Wischropp Auctions, Lyndon, KS  
785-828-4212  
website: [www.beattyandwischropp.com](http://www.beattyandwischropp.com)

## AUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 — 12:30 PM

Due to the death of my husband, the following sells located from the East city limits of READING, KS at Hwy. 75 and S. Carlson Rd., 2 miles North on S. Carlson Rd., then 1/2 m. West on W285th, then follow Rd. Y Northernly along river bends 2 1/2 miles, then 3/8 m. West on Rd. 290.

IH "M" tractor, WFE with New Idea loader, SN56798; IH "C" tractor, SN105430; Continental post hole digger; Fimco 50 gal. PTO sprayer; 1949 Chevy 3600 pickup with 8 ft. flatbed; steel corn sheller; Fairbanks platform scale; 90 plus sheets of used tin; 13 wooden feed bunks; 2 cross cut saws; several old branding irons; 2 old saddles, needing repair; 4 old Standard Oil cans; antique brass bed; 7 antique stand tables; large antique 2 piece cabinet; 3 old trunks; 7 stone jugs or crocks; antique cabinet; 2 bassinets, old; assortment of books, bedding, linen, fancy work, pictures, what nots, silverware, jewelry, watches, etc..

NOTE: Storage areas unopened, sure to be some nice additions. Plan to be on time and spend the afternoon at the auction. Inspection day of sale only. Many, many other items.

MRS. BILL MILES, — OWNER  
Beatty & Wischropp Auctions, Lyndon, KS  
785-828-4212  
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Lyndon, Kansas

Ad Deadline is May 14

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Continued from page 1

for lease to farmers during the harvest season, is fully subscribed — in other words, has no availability — for the early wheat harvest season in Oklahoma and Kansas, according to Landon Morris, vice president of marketing for the company with headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., and field offices in Pratt and North Sioux City, S. D. The company does have 70 new machines in its fleet, but, Morris said, the company was able to do that because they order replacement combines 9 to 12 months in advance. There are no plans to have additional combines available for this harvest.

The demand for equipment has trickled down to the auction market as well, according to Harold Mugler who owns Mugler Auction

Service in Clay Center.

“The market has been a little bit stronger, maybe up 10 percent over last year,” Mugler said. “If an item is in good shape, good paint and lower hours, there is strong demand and active bidding.” He added that the best equipment has been coming out of estate sales and most of the combines he has sold have been 1980s models. He expects market demand to continue if commodity prices stay up. The tight supply of equipment, particularly combines and higher horsepower tractors, is not expected to ease any time soon. Most Kansans are pointing to current high commodity prices and difficult production years during the past decade, which caused many producers to put off upgrading equipment, as the primary factors behind the problem.

Neufeld said high commodity prices have encouraged Kansas producers to upgrade, believing they will have the money to purchase new equipment and that the value of the crop makes planting and gathering it as efficiently as possible a priority.

However, the current supply situation is much more complicated, he said, involving both production issues as well as global economics. Kansas is now part of a global agricultural market with demands of emerging economies around the world impacting American farmers. American-produced equipment is being sold to that international market and regional demands no longer have as much impact on regional supply.

Martin Richenhagen, Chairman, President and

CEO of Agco, headquartered in Duluth, Minn., would agree with Neufeld's assessment of the situation. Agco has seen a 26 percent growth in its top line equipment in 2007. Combine lines — which are all produced as they are ordered — are currently 3 to 6 months out for delivery and tractors, which are produced in France, are looking at end of year delivery if ordered now, he said. Agco, which operates a production facility in Hesston producing Gleaner, Massey Ferguson and Challenger combines and Hesston hay equipment, saw the current market demand coming as early as 2004 and launched a new strategy for growth. But, it takes time to ramp up production capacity, Richenhagen said. Production of equipment involves coordination of components

suppliers and the availability of steel, tires, and workers — any of which can add to production time if delays or shortfalls occur.

Richenhagen believes that the current demand for farm equipment will be the norm for the foreseeable future.

“Typically in the United States we see business as cyclical. I believe demand (for agricultural commodities and products) will stay up for the future,” he said. “Many farm experts are questioning the (high commodity price) situation, looking too much to the recent past when supply was higher than demand. But, things are changing. There are another 70 million people each year. Emerging markets are increasing the demand for more protein. There is demand coming from renewable fuels. And,

there are 200 acres of farmland lost each day. I'm confident it's good to be a farmer. There are new technologies (which will improve production) and the world is not standing still. But, I'm optimistic.”

Richenhagen recommends that producers consider that the current high-demand market for new equipment will continue. Equipment purchases for 2009 should be planned early, he said.

Local equipment dealers would agree with both Richenhagen's assessment and his recommendation.

“Plan ahead as best you can,” Neufeld said. “There are tools that can be used to do that. Farmers have to take some chances that they are going to raise the crop and order early if they want to be sure they will get the equipment they want.”

# REAL ESTATE AUCTION

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 — 7:00 PM**  
Auction will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in  
**TIPTON, KANSAS**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** SE 1/4 & E 1/2 SW 1/4 15-8-11, Osborne, Kansas

240 acres of grass located 3 miles West, 1 mile North of Tipton, Ks. on Highway 181 with good fence, 3 ponds, rural water benefit connection.

Possession will be upon closing on or before May 30, 2008. The purchaser will pay all of 2008 taxes. 2007 taxes were \$357.18.

Terms 20% of purchase price as down payment day of auction, the balance will be due upon closing on or before May 30, 2008.

All mineral rights go to the purchaser.

All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material.

Thummel Real Estate & Auction is acting as seller agent.

**JOSEPHINE BECKER, OWNER**

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Hemi, 4WD, Auto, 53K **\$17,495**

**2004 CHEVY BOX TRUCK**

6.0 V8, Auto, AC **\$13,995**

**2006 FORD F-250 EXT CAB**

13,000 miles, Lariat, 4WD, Powerstroke **\$29,900**

**2006 FORD F-350**

Reg Cab, 4x4, 6 spd, XL, 38,000 miles

~~\$25,900~~ **\$24,500**

**2004 DODGE RAM 2500**

4x4, Auto, Cummins, 54,000 miles

~~\$27,900~~ **\$26,900**

**2004 DODGE RAM 2500**

4WD, Hemi, leather! **\$19,995**

~~\$19,995~~ **\$16,995**

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