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## Ranchers trying to keep steak on the dinner table

DENVER (AP) — Changing demographics, new values and a tight economy with rising layoffs are changing American's taste for beef, a researcher told attendees at the International Livestock Congress-USA last Tuesday.

Health and nutrition are becoming more important to consumers, convenience is driving how families buy food, and people have higher expectations for taste, consistency and food safety, said John Lundeen, executive director of market research for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

And then there's the economy.

Perceptions that people have less money to spend are affecting how willing consumers are to splurge on steak dinners. "Whatever they perceive is how they shop," Lundeen said. "We need to keep people excited about steaks on the plate for dinner in the recession."

Though beef has kept its place on restaurant menus, diners are eating fewer ribeyes, tenderloins and New York strips, Lundeen said, and the amount of all cuts being served is down, except for ground beef. Even ground beef prices have risen, though, as producers coped with rising energy, feed and fertilizer costs.

A survey of consumers in September showed 61 percent said they are changing their food purchases because of higher food prices, he said. Of those, almost half said they were eating less beef, either by cutting it out altogether or by trading down to hamburgers from steaks, for example.

One key for keeping beef at the dinner table may be offering more frozen and ready-to-eat options, as busy households scrap fresh-cooked suppers for quick meals, in many cases prepared and sold at supermarkets.

"Are we a convenient product that you can make a steak on a Tuesday night?" Lundeen said. Charlie Moore, vice president of Denver-based Maverick Ranch Natural Meats, said it's time to get more creative in developing products that meet customers' needs. This week Maverick Ranch is launching seasoned ground beef, so customers can buy taco, fajita and chili-flavored beef ready to go.

Meanwhile consumers are growing increasingly more concerned about sustainability and what goes into their food, showing there is demand for higher-priced organic and natural meat, Lundeen said.

However in British markets, organic beef is selling at prices close to those for regular beef, said Monty Brown, a processing-retail consultant in Europe for the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

While tight budgets are making it harder for people to buy organic now, surveys suggest long-term demand for it will remain, Lundeen said.

"People afford what they want," said Lowell B. Catlett, dean for the College of Agriculture and Home Economics at New Mexico University, said earlier Tuesday.

*Continued on page 3*

## Researcher explains novel beef production option with crops focus

By Beth Gaines-Riffel,  
Editor

Kansas has long been known as cattle country. From the rolling Flint Hills, with the hills painted a lush green each spring and the subsequent grazing that follows, to the confined feeding operations of the southwest and the cow-calf producers scattered in nearly every county in-between there is no doubt that beef production is a significant portion of the agriculture economy. In fact, on Jan. 1, 2008, according to the National Ag Statistics Service, Kansas ranked third in the nation with 6.7 million head of cattle in feedlots and on ranches. Furthermore, 54 percent of the 2007 Kansas ag cash receipts were linked to the beef industry according to the Kansas Ag Statistics Service.

But for all its significance, most of the cows are managed in traditional forage-based grazing systems. But Dr. Vern Anderson from North Dakota State University presented an alternative production scheme for beef cows during the Four-State Beef Conference. The Kansas session took place on Wednesday at Washington.

Anderson, who oversees the Carrington Research Extension Center, told the group that the drylot cow/calf method of production has proven successful.

"We established the drylot herd in 1972," Anderson explained. The premise of the production scheme was

to utilize crop residues — including corn silage and alfalfa hay. "We've fed a lot of things," he explained.

It's not just as simple as putting cows into a confined feeding situation, according to the Anderson. He noted that to be successful the cows must be matched to the resources available. He indicated that livestock is a fairly minor part of the overall farm economy, with only about 20 percent of the income being derived from animal production in North Dakota.

It is also a very labor-intensive cow management technique.

"If you've got a son or daughter that wants to return to the operation this could be a valuable addition with limited space resources," he added.

The system of running the breeding cycle in a confined situation is management intense. Success is largely determined by paying attention to details. The pens must be comfortable — meaning clean, free from mud and flies. Attention to overall animal health must be given and treated quickly. Anderson revealed that the research farm has had occasional outbreaks of dust pneumonia, during periods when the conditions were exceptionally hot and dry. He also told the ranchers gathered that the regularly scrape the pens to keep them clean and dry as possible.

Fly control is also critical to ensure animal comfort. He



Dr. Vern Anderson of North Dakota State University explained the fundamentals of drylot cow/calf production during the 25th Annual Four-State Beef Conference which was held last week in Washington.

explained that they've used a variety of methods for fly control including premise spray, animal sprays, ear tags, and various wasps and traps.

Not every cow will work in the drylot system. Anderson stressed that the genetics of high growth calves was

preferable to high-milking cows. In fact Anderson urged producers to minimize the time spent in lactation and weaning calves early, as few as 100 days. "During lactation is the time when the feed needs are the greatest,"

*Continued on page 3*

## Winter wheat planting down in Kansas, nation

WICHITA (AP) — As wheat prices plummeted from once historical highs, Kansas farmers planted the fewest number of winter wheat acres in the past 52 years, a new report shows.

In Kansas, the nation's top wheat producer, farmers seeded 9 million acres, the National Agricultural Statistics Service reported Monday.

"This is the lowest number since 1957 for Kansas — and that was a drought year when over 4 million acres were placed into a land bank reserve," said Eddie Wells, a statistician for the Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service.

The 2009 planting figure is down 600,000 acres from the 9.6 million Kansas farmers seeded a year ago. The drop is even steeper compared to 2007, when Kansas

put 10.4 million acres into winter wheat.

Kansas wheat acreage has hovered around the 10-million mark for the past decade, but historically the state has planted far more wheat than it now grows. It set a record acreage in 1952, when more than 15 million acres of wheat were planted. Its low point was 1957, when 7.1 million acres were planted, KASS records show.

But even in the early 1980s, wheat acreage numbers remained relatively high — hitting 14.1 million acres in 1982.

Although the NASS report in part blames a wet fall that delayed harvest of other row crops for the planting decline nationwide, Kansas farmers seemingly made a deliberate decision to plant less wheat given its prices relative to other crops like corn.

### Kansas wheat acreage by year

WICHITA (AP) — Kansas winter wheat plantings for the past decade:

1999	— 10 million acres
2000	— 9.8 million acres
2001	— 9.8 million acres
2002	— 9.7 million acres
2003	— 10.5 million acres
2004	— 10 million acres
2005	— 10 million acres
2006	— 9.8 million acres
2007	— 10.4 million acres
2008	— 9.6 million acres
2009	— 9 million acres

Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service

"When you see this volume, there is some deliberate intention to it," Wells said. "Farmers are carefully deciding what they want to do with the ground."

Wheat acreage remains relatively stable in western

Kansas, but in north-central areas it was down 11 percent and eastern sections were down 10 percent or more, Wells said.

Dusti Fritz, chief executive officer for the Kansas Wheat Commission, said the number is not surprising. Producers were putting the wheat crop in the ground and securing seed just as wheat prices started falling, while at the time fertilizer and other input prices were still high.

Nationwide, winter wheat seedings for the upcoming wheat crop were down 9 percent, with 42.1 million acres planted, NASS said.

North Dakota seeded 530,000 acres, about 100,000 fewer acres than in 2008, USDA said. But the report said fall weather in North Dakota provided favorable planting conditions and the 2009 crop could be the second highest since 1985.

Kansas mostly plants the hard red winter wheat variety that's used for making bread. Hard red winter wheat plantings nationwide were down 4 percent with 30.2 million acres seeded.

Acreage was down in nearly all hard red winter wheat growing states. In Colorado, wheat acreage grew by 250,000 acres. Texas planted 100,000 more wheat acres due to abandonment of several thousand acres of cotton, the agency said.

The breakdown of other winter wheat varieties:

— Soft red winter wheat was down 26 percent from last year with 8.29 million acres planted. Planted acres decreased by 350,000 or more in Arkansas, Illinois and Missouri.

— White winter wheat seedings totaled 3.62 million acres, up 1 percent from last season.

— Durum wheat seedings were down 16 percent at 270,000 acres.





## Over the Barn Gate

By Beth Gaines-Riffel

At this writing, the buzz for the next inaugural celebration is building to a frenetic level. When this edition of G&G arrives in your mailbox, the day will have arrived. Being one who has always had an interest in leaders and leadership qualities, I've followed along with much of the coverage. The predictions made by the pundits of our next president have been interesting to say the least.

Regardless of one's political stripes there have been moments throughout U.S. presidential history that stick out a little more clearly than others. Because of the new technology that is now available, I took the opportunity to download from the Internet some speeches from the past and listened to the words of newly-elected presidents on my son's Ipod. It was a pleasant distraction from the root canal that I was getting at the time, but no matter. These speeches included messages of hope and optimism that rang true from nearly every president on the first day of their term as they addressed America. And when the oath of office is completed and President Obama speaks to the nation, I don't expect any less this year.

No matter the political party you hail from — Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, Green or maybe no party at all — the hope for a better tomorrow rings true. It is one of those core beliefs that make an American citizen truly American.

There is no doubt that there will be challenges that lie ahead for our country — and agriculture and rural America are certainly not exempt. At the end of the day though, we know that difficulties can be overcome with persistence and hard work.

I know that in an age of excesses and extravagance that seems to be rampant in so many parts of society, it is the simple things that really matter the most — family, faith, hard work and perseverance. These are the core elements that have made America a strong country. Going back to those basic beliefs during this challenging time will once again help our country regain its footing.

One cannot deny the ambivalence that exists in much of the younger generation today. I would say that even some forty- and fifty-somethings fall into this category. We take our basic rights and freedoms for granted on a regular basis, not necessarily out of disrespect, but because it is all we've ever known.

Our founding fathers survived wars, outbreaks of diseases, droughts, plagues and other calamities as this young country grew and developed but they didn't quit. They clung tightly to the documents that were penned to give birth to America. The Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights were all words that school children committed to memory and were expected to recite and respect.

I think we've lost some of that admiration for our founding fathers. As this economic downturn continues, I believe that a healthy dose of respect for our history is in order.

There is nothing happening today that was worse than it was before, except for the fact that due to the

electronic age that we live in, we all can be made aware of "new" developments in a matter of seconds — rather than the weeks or months that it took previous generations to get wind of "bad" news.

I hope that as we install a new leader, that you'll take a moment to reflect on what it means to be an American and let us work on our farms and ranches and in our small Midwestern communities to make sure that generations that follow understand the importance of our American birthright.

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

## COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Yeah, this is called short grass country, but not by choice!"

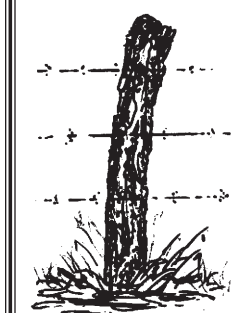
"Keep your fears to yourself, but share your courage with others."

— Robert Louis Stevenson

## The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison  
Concordia Rancher and  
Former Agriculture Educator

### Taxpayers, Listen Up



There is no question, property owners are paying more than their share of taxes. Whenever a bond issue is voted on, landowners are often the ones who vote "no." Just when they begin to see a little financial daylight, the taxes come due. I can understand why they may vote "no."

The biggest user of tax dollars is education; and in most towns the largest business is the school system — biggest payroll, large buildings and facilities, equipment and furnishings, and a fleet of vehicles to maintain plus utilities and supplies. Yes, it is all essential but costly.

On November 24, when I was driving home from Wichita, I stopped at six vo-ag departments to leave some of my books for them to sell to earn money for their FFA treasuries. I quit teaching high school vo-ag in 1969, almost 40 years ago, so it was a real eye-opener for me. A number of changes have taken place in that department of instruction since then. One of the biggest changes was that of adopting the policy of allowing women students into these classes. They have had a big and positive impact on the FFA organization and the agriculture classes.

The old conventional core curriculum of agriculture consisted mainly of farming projects, record books, and shop work. With a big decrease in the farm population and thus fewer apples on the tree to feed the agriculture department, class offerings such as greenhouse management, landscaping, and co-op placement of students in agribusiness were added to appeal to town kids, including the girls. Students in agriculture now are a homogeneous mixture of guys and gals, farm and town kids. This much larger mix with a broader curriculum requires the vo-ag teacher to be more versatile and to be knowledgeable in more areas.

As I visited the different schools, I observed that some departments are growing and becoming quite

large, a hundred or more students. Then there are some that are small and are struggling. Much is dependent upon the location and size of the districts and the town. I can see that the vo-ag departments with a large enrollment require a huge amount of organization, expertise, and time spent in covering all the bases. Class instruction, testing, grading, preparing for contests and attending them is a work load that is quite taxing on the instructor. Some of our best teachers are burning out and finding jobs that allow for more home life and less stress. To encourage these teachers to stay and not leave for less stressful jobs, some districts are providing improved facilities; some are exceptionally good with updated, well-furnished labs and shops. Also, moving from one teacher to one and a half or two teachers in the department allows for specialization and spreading out the work load.

I believe the saying "As the teacher goes, so goes the chapter" is true. If the vo-ag department is productive and doing a great job, it very likely is because of an organized, capable, and hard-working teacher who is making a big difference in the lives of their students. Become informed of your teachers' work loads, whether they are in agriculture, music, other classrooms, or coaching. If they are good teachers and are carrying an overload, reduce the load or pay them what they are worth in order to keep them. Don't lose them to a more attractive or desirable job in some other vocation with less stress. A great department can go downhill quickly when an achieving teacher leaves. Be willing to pay a little more in taxes to retain exceptional teachers.

Very few college students are enrolling in agriculture education; thus, there is a shortage of vo-ag teachers. We need to find out why that is so. Become informed and then visit with your school board about retaining good teachers.



"Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not; it is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly."

-- Thomas H. Huxley

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## Kansans continuing traditional ties to trees, says forester

Since pioneer days, Kansans have planted nuts, seeds and seedlings. On the most basic level, they've known trees could make a huge difference in their quality of life.

In modern times those reasons have remained much the same. They have taken on a new importance, however, particularly as they relate to such limited resources as drinkable water and native wildlife, said Joshua Pease, conservation forester with the Kansas Forest Service.

"A breakthrough study at Kansas State University identified a vital role trees can play alongside creeks, streams, rivers and lakes," Pease explained. "Those kinds of plantings — wild or cultivated — help keep our bodies of water from filling up with sediment. That's a real concern

now with the reservoirs that supply the majority of the state's drinking water."

Forested shorelines also act as a natural runoff cleaner. They can filter out everything from picnic debris and lawn fertilizer to topsoil and farm chemicals, he said. Plus, they stabilize waterside soil. During floods, good tree plantings can prevent "whole acres of shoreline from washing into another state."

Of course, most Kansans now plant trees singly, for home shade or curb appeal, Pease said.

But, other Kansans still plant in bulk. Often, they not only help to protect the state's water but also produce a separate bonus. They include the rural residents, park planners and highway crews whose groups of trees provide

protection from Plains weather extremes. They're the Kansans continuing the traditions of growing trees for fuel, quality lumber, wildlife habitat and/or boundary-line markers.

"They have an impact on all of us, no matter whether we're interested in clean water, firewood, fresh-cut Christmas trees, nuts, or hunting," the forester said.

In fact, the traditional reasons now are making today's out-moving "five-acre farmers" the newest customers for the Kansas Forest Service's annual sale of low-cost, bulk tree seedlings, Pease said. Information about that conservation-related program is available at any county or district K-State Research and Extension office or on the Web at [www.kansasforests.org/conservation/](http://www.kansasforests.org/conservation/).

## Cows can thrive in drylot

*Continued from page 1*

he told the producers who were in attendance.

He suggested that calves have access to a creep feed or a creep and grazing scenario which resulted in better calf gains as well as improved health as the calf has an area to escape the dust.

"A two-acre grazing paddock adjacent to the cow pen is ideal," explained Anderson.

When planning facilities, Anderson noted that about 500 square feet is required per cow/calf pair. He also suggested that producers make use of "aftermath" grazing, or grazing standing crop residues following harvest. Not only do the cows gain forages by consuming the residue, but fertilizer is deposited on the field that doesn't have to be hauled from the dry lot.

He said that the research

center composts all the manure from their pens before applying it to the crop fields. He also said that the manure is highly valued and crop production is maintained by the application every four years of manure.

There aren't any set parameters of when the cows leave the fields and re-enter the pens.

"The time in the drylot is flexible," he said.

By focusing on feeding crop residues, Anderson believes that the cow herd is adding additional value to the feed.

He also noted that the drylot system for feeding cows also works well for capturing additional value for cull cows. "You put them in the lot and add a couple of hundred pounds and it adds up," Anderson said.

Anderson pointed out that the cows need to be sorted appropriately in terms of nu-

tritional needs and where they are in the breeding cycle. They are also sorted as fat and thin cows so that those thinner cows are not underfed or the heavier conditioned cattle overfed.

When choosing cattle to go into a drylot system Anderson stressed that an efficient and durable cow with a good temperament is key for success.

In addition to the intensive labor situation required for a drylot cow/calf scenario, Anderson also reminded the group that just because these were cows, they were still considered a confinement situation and the appropriate permits for confined animal feeding operations must be obtained and pollution requirements met.

For more detailed information about drylot cow/calf production, log onto [www.ags.ndsu.edu](http://www.ags.ndsu.edu)

## Beef business in spotlight

*Continued from page 1*

About 180 people from the U.S. and nine countries including Russia attended the Livestock Congress, organizers said.

The audience also included a dozen women and two men from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Paraguay and the U.S. who won student travel fellowships to attend. Many of the students spoke about agriculture's role in

supporting a strong economy and feeding the world.

During a closing session Tuesday, Tom Field of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association was asked why young people should bother getting into the animal agriculture business.

"It is a life worth living," Field said. "At the end of the day, you will have done something that mattered."



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**Mary Rogers, Topeka:**  
**APPLE BREAD**

4 cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons cinnamon  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup oil  
4 eggs  
1/4 cup sour cream  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
2 cups chopped apples  
1 cup chopped nuts

Set oven at 350 degrees. Grease and flour (2) 8 1/2-by-4 1/2-by-2 1/2-inch loaf pans. Whisk together flour, baking soda, salt and cinnamon. Combine sugar, oil, eggs, sour cream and vanilla in a bowl. Beat until blended. Add flour mixture and beat well. Fold in apples and nuts. Pour batter into pans and bake 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes then turn out onto wire racks.

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**Sandy Hill, Eskridge:**  
**GRANDMOTHER'S CHOWDER**  
 1 pound ground beef  
1 medium onion, chopped  
12 med. potatoes, peeled & cubed  
3 cups water  
Salt & pepper to taste  
2 cups milk  
15 1/4-ounce can whole corn, drained  
2 teaspoons dried parsley flakes  
1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream

In a soup kettle or Dutch oven, cook beef and onion over medium heat until the meat is no longer pink; drain. Add the potatoes, water, salt and pepper and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Stir in milk, corn and parsley and cook for 5 minutes or until heated through. Add a small amount of hot soup to sour cream then gradually re-

turn all to pan, stirring constantly. Heat through but do not boil. Yield: 14 servings.

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**Kellee Rogers, Topeka:**  
**BROCCOLI CAULIFLOWER CASSEROLE**

1 head cauliflower, cut into florets  
1 head broccoli, cut into florets  
2 eggs  
1 large onion, chopped  
1 can mushroom soup  
1/2 cup mayonnaise  
2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese  
1 box chicken-flavored stuffing mix  
4 tablespoons butter

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In a large pot steam cauliflower for 7 to 8 minutes and broccoli for 5 minutes or until fork tender; set aside. Mix eggs, onion soup and mayonnaise until smooth. In a 9-by-13-inch dish spread cauliflower in an even layer. Sprinkle with half the cheese and top with half of the soup mixture. Repeat layering with broccoli and remaining cheese and soup mixture. Prepare stuffing mix following package directions. Spoon stuffing over top of casserole and bake for 45 minutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lynn Burgess, Lyons:**  
 "The secret to life is a good cup of coffee and the secret to a great pot of chili is Hershey chocolate! I have fun creating new recipes and this one has everything that we keep on hand in our kitchens. There is never any leftovers."

**CROCK-POT CHILI**

4 cups pot roast, hamburger, turkey, thawed (or whatever

meat you like the best)  
2 tablespoons concentrated Harvest Beef soup base added to 2 cups room temperature water (Glenn's Bulk Food Shoppe, Hutchinson)  
1 cup chopped onion  
1 tablespoon chopped fresh garlic  
1 teaspoon chopped fresh ginger  
1 tablespoon ground mustard  
4 teaspoons chili powder  
2 cans diced tomatoes, undrained  
1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper  
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin  
1/2 teaspoon ground oregano  
1 teaspoon snipped fresh cilantro  
1 tablespoon ground celery  
1 can each (rinsed & drained): pinto beans, butter beans, black beans, kidney beans, chili beans, garbanzo beans, Great Northern beans  
1/4 cup thick & chunky salsa  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1 tablespoon liquid smoke  
1 teaspoon Black Strap molasses  
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper  
1 Hershey miniature dark chocolate, break into pieces  
2 tablespoons yellow cornmeal  
1 teaspoon freshly squeezed lime  
1 teaspoon vinegar  
1 Reynolds oven bag with tie  
1 tablespoon Splenda brown sugar (only if you like a sweeter-tasting flavor)  
Place the oven bag in a roasting pan and add the roast (fat side down). Add enough soup base to cover the roast (4 tablespoons to each cup of water). Tie the bag closed with the tie strip. Make several slits at the top

of the bag. Tuck in any edges of the bag and cover with lid. Bake at 350 degrees for approximately 1 hour or until meat falls off the bone. Shred the meat into bite-sized pieces and put into crock-pot. Add all the rest of the ingredients to crock-pot and stir to mix. If you prefer a thinner chili, add more soup base, 1/4 cup at a time until desired consistency. Cook on high for approximately 3 hours, stirring occasionally, until chili bubbles and is heated throughout. Serve with your favorite cheese and sour cream or with the cheesy cornmeal dumplings.

**CHEESY CORNMEAL DUMPLINGS**

1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese  
1/2 cup yellow cornmeal  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
Dash black pepper  
1 egg, beaten  
2 tablespoons milk  
2 tablespoons cooking oil  
In a medium bowl combine the flour, cheddar cheese, cornmeal, baking powder and pepper and mix together with a fork. In a medium bowl combine the egg, milk and oil. Add to flour mixture. Stir with a fork just until moistened. Spoon the dumpling mixture by tablespoonfuls in mounds onto bubbly chili. Simmer, covered, for 15 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into dumplings comes out clean. If desired, top each serving with sour cream.

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## Free Online Recipe

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 recipe is Tuna Noodle Casserole from Marlene Swisher, Reading*

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## ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES

## AUCTION

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Great selection of furniture, old KU memorabilia and 2008 signed Championship Bball, over 40 excellent guns, Indian turquoise jewelry & estate jewelry, oil paintings, many dolls inc. old German, toys, primitives, glassware & pottery, many books, old valentines, some clothes and hats, and SO much more.

See [oldemillauction.com](http://oldemillauction.com) for full list and many pictures or call 785-233-7700 weekdays for sale flyer.

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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.  
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)

## ELLIS COUNTY, KANSAS LAND AUCTION

Fri., Jan. 30, 2009  
@ 10:30 AM, CST

**AUCTION LOCATION:**  
Ellis County Fairground Gold Room, Hays, KS

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## ANTIQUE AUCTION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 — 10:00 AM

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

### FURNITURE

Fancy cast iron bed; oak 4 section lawyers bookcase w/desk section; Alpine Safe & Lock 24" safe; wall mirror; floor lamp; 3 Deco drug store stools; pr. pressed back chairs; small glass showcas.

### COLLECTIBLES

Mission style wall clock; banjo clock; Woodring for Governor 1930's spare tire cover; Will West for Governor broadside; Art Deco table lamp; large assortment good paper items; farm machinery brochures; many catalogues; 1959

Belleville calendar; large collection fishing items; brass binoculars; Victor 32 pistol; 410 shot gun; 22 pump rifle; BB pistols; assortment books; crocks; Mission oak game picture; train picture; sail boat picture; toys; Windup Lincoln Tunnel; windup boat, Santa on cycle, other metal toys; mail box bank; many JD toy boxes; assortment vintage fabric; car hood ornaments; Sterling candleabra; Aladdin electric lamp; painted doll cradle; National Auto lamp tin; Bud beer clock; sterling charms; US Air Force

pin; ATT brass plate; globe; tin tractor seats; cream separator; cow bells; leather punch; 1894 \$10 gold piece; coins; stamps; large assortment of collectables.

### GLASS

Royal Doulton Sutherland pattern; Heisey dish; demitass cups; 6 pc. Van Briggie pottery; Roseville vases; Nippon nut set; American Fostoria; Fenton glass shoes; child's punch bowl; collector plates; Shrine figures; porcelain figures; Skeezix & Jiggs china figures; assortment other glass.

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## ANTIQUE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 10:00 AM

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

Costume jewelry; (sterling silver jewelry, Sarah Coventry, Lisner, Trifari, Dauplaise, Hedy, monet, Kramer, Les Bernard, Bergere, Premier, Marboux, Whiting Davis, Coro, Napier, Nemo, Mamoselle, Celebrity, Joan Rivers, JJ, Matisse, Alice, Van Dell, Earvin pearl, Park Lane, Gold plate, enamel flower brooches, rings, rhinestone, brooches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, sets, other, watch chains, men's jewelry, jewelry making items); vintage clothing (leopard swing coat, dresses, women's suits w/rhinestone buttons, oriental robe, bell bottoms, slips, skirts, lederhosen, shoes, purses, baby shoes, western carved belts); assortment aprons; assortment buttons; scarves (Echo, Vera); eye-glasses; perfume bottles; quilt; quilt tops; quilt pieces; doilies; tablecloths; umbrella; chenille bedspread; blanket; red velvet bedspread; advertising kitchen utensils; tobacco tins; wood plane; banks; advertising mini skillets; medals; political pin

backs; cotton bowl pin backs; Salina advertising items (Lamer hotel, HD Lee baseball score cards, Jayhawk patch); advertising pencils; Lamer hotel fountain pen bases; advertising cards (coffee, stoves, oil, tonic, cologne, confections, soap, thread, corsets); assortment paper (Ephemera, FT Hays Normal school items, pictures, railroad, car manuals, Case pamphlets, sports memorabilia scrapbook, books, Hereford journals, Boy Scout books, Crochet books, matchbooks); post cards & albums; glass slides some military & Philippines; assortment military photos WW1, WW2, Korea; yard long pictures; glass inc.: slag, amethyst, black glass, Murano, Heisey, Fire King, Pyrex; Limoge; Bareuther plates; Blue Ridge dishes; Gorham plates; figurines (Napco, Joseph Originals, Lefton, Gorham, Goebel owl & poodle); pottery inc.: McCoy, Royal Copley, Shawnee, Red Wing, Weller, Hull, Frankoma, Indian pot; salt & pepper shak-

ers; milk bottles & carrier; Christmas ornaments, lights, mercury bead garlands; assortment cameras (Argus, Ricoh, Minolta, Rikenon, Nishika); Wuritzer accordion; telephones (celebrity, Green Giant, car, wiener, Pac Man); Coke items (radio, telephone, calendar, dishes); German coins; alarm clocks; bakelite Art Deco tray; bronze baby shoes; toys inc (Marx train cars, Mattel, Mrs. Beasley doll, Disney dishes, child's Tupperware dishes, Hot Wheels, Tootsie, Cabbage Patch dolls, games, Lincoln logs, slides & viewer, 8mm & 16 mm Western films, assortment Cracker Jack toys); Revere ware; Swedish enamel coffee pots; iridescent creamer & sugar; sewing box; Sony record player & radio; oak mirror; assortment pictures; stand up X Men; baby carriage; cigarette display; large assortment baseball, football & basket ball cards; luggage; yard tools; large assortment of other collectibles & modern items.

Note: Check our web site at [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com) for pictures.

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NOTE: This is a very nice auction. There are many pieces not listed, check our website for pictures at [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com).

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





By Val Farmer

# Rural Life

Success goes beyond farming

Malcolm Gladwell's book "Outliers" triggered a few thoughts on farmers' love for what they do and why their personal relationships are often strained.

An "outlier" is a statistical term that describes a result that goes far outside the usual pattern—extraordinary, unusual, unexpected, and remarkable. Success, according to Gladwell, is outstanding achievement in one's work. He makes no reference to friendships, spiritual understanding, happy marriages, parenting, character, generosity or love.

**Outliers not self-made.** In uncovering a pattern for outstanding achievers or outliers, Gladwell argues against the cultural myth that through grit and talent, ambition and initiative, brilliance and insight, a self-made man or woman can rise from "rags to riches." Gladwell sees many other factors in success—opportunity, cultural and ethnic legacies, family influences, learning, hard work, and demographic luck.

Gladwell believes that success is more a product of history, family and community than of individual effort over poverty, victimhood or adversity. It

is a message of hope that we can shape the environment around us to provide better opportunities and resources for everyone to fulfill their potential.

**The 10,000-hour rule.** In one of the chapters, Gladwell cites what he calls "the 10,000-hour rule"—that ten thousand hours of practice is required to achieve the level of mastery associated with being a world-class expert—in anything. This goes for composers, basketball players, ice skaters, concert pianists, chess players, master criminals, computer innovators, etc.

His book has many interesting family histories of people we consider to be naturally gifted and looks at their histories of practice and opportunity before they achieved monumental success.

How do you achieve that kind of expertise by the time you are a young adult? Only with the help of others—parents who encourage and support you, enough resources so you have time to practice and extraordinary learning opportunities with mentors and teachers to guide your practice.

**Captivation of work.** Work needs to include three elements to be re-

warding: meaning, complexity, and autonomy.

Meaning. There is a direct relationship between your effort and the rewards you make. Your creativity and diligence results in direct benefits to yourself. The harder you work, the more money you will make. You are responsible for your own decisions and direction. If you work hard, assert yourself, and use your mind and imagination, you can shape the future in terms of personal resources, opportunity and legacy.

Complexity. In describing the work ethic of rice farmers in Southern China, Gladwell points out that besides planting and harvesting, he or she runs a small business, juggles a family workforce, hedges uncertainty through seed selection, builds and manages a sophisticated irrigation system and coordinated process of harvesting the first crop while simultaneously planting the second crop.

Autonomy. How you do your work really matters. You are your own boss. You control the inputs in a direct way. No one cares like the person who benefits. Fixed and fair rents, incentives, profit sharing or ownership give

the worker direct rewards for the extra effort or care required to do exacting and technical work. People can't be compelled or bribed to care or work hard for another's goals and benefits.

**Equipped and motivated for success.** Young farm children are exposed to meaningful work and have extraordinary opportunities for learning. Many put in 10,000 hours of practice at a young age. They are extraordinarily equipped to be successful in farming.

It is a profession that offers meaning in terms of effort and reward, a lifestyle, a legacy to pass on to children, autonomy and great satisfaction in watching accomplishments visually grow and improve with time.

All facets of agriculture: agronomics, production, entrepreneurship, selection and purchase of inputs, marketing, technology, family business and labor management, financial management, enterprise record keeping, mechanics, and weather make it highly complex—as much as anyone would want.

**Young farmers are fully prepared for success at work, not for marriage. Clash between farming**

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and marriage. What are the marriages like of other skilled, talented and driven people who have a mission and a love affair with their work? These marriages have their challenges.

What is true for farmers is true for physicians, lawyers, researchers, educators, business entrepreneurs, scientists, musicians, athletes, performers and others who have paid their dues, 10,000 hours, for worldly success.

Farmers can be successful as husbands, fathers, and as principled, caring people who recognize value in things and people other than work. The problem isn't with farming, it is with the narrow definition of success that blinds them from understanding that they need to be successful in other facets of life as well.

Marriage and parenting take time and sacrifice. These relationships and other activities need to have a compelling priority of their own. Compromises and sacrifices need to be made, sometimes at the expense of work.

Busy people with important, "meaningful" work make time to work at other priorities. Their lives are stressful and time-pressured, but are filled with passion, commitment, love and other interests. In a peculiar way, special opportunities in childhood, wonderful training, undeniable expertise and success with meaningful work can be a disadvantage in gaining happiness.

Much of North American agriculture is in the hands of sons who grew up in this supercharged learning environment. What Gladwell calls outliers are actually pretty typical. What is more challenging is to experience success in other meaningful realms.

For more information on farming and marriage, visit Val Farmer's website at [www.valfarmer.com](http://www.valfarmer.com).

Val Farmer is a clinical psychologist specializing in family business consultation and mediation with farm families. He lives in Wildwood, Missouri and can be contacted through his website.

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# Farmers need policies that promote economic growth

As the new Congress and the Obama administration prepare to take up proposals to address the current economic recession and climate change concerns, they must enact policies on taxes and the environment that promote economic growth, said delegates at the 90th American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting.

"Where Congress and the administration must propose and enact new laws and regulations to deal with our nation's challenges, Farm Bureau will work to ensure those new measures do not threaten farmers' and ranchers' profitability," said AFBF President Bob Stallman, "but, rather, capitalize on opportunities to maintain a strong agricultural economy and bolster rural America."

As Congress is expected this year to revisit the issue of climate change, the delegates have reaffirmed their opposition to caps on greenhouse gas emissions that would drive up the cost of fuel, fertilizer and other inputs needed to produce farm commodities.

Continuing to support America's transition to energy independence through the production of biofuels, the delegates felt, was the right direction. They approved a policy supporting an increase in the ethanol-to-gasoline blend rate to more than the current 10 percent.

AFBF delegates also approved policies aimed at bolstering the rural economy. For example, the Obama-backed economic stimulus proposal should fund improvements to the nation's infrastructure, including expanding broadband Internet access in rural areas and funding the Water Resources Development Act, which authorized construction of new locks and dams on the inland waterways.

The delegates indicated that federal lawmakers and the new administration also should complete an unfinished immigration bill left over from 2008. They expressed support for immigration reform

that provides a more efficient temporary worker program for agriculture. They voted to support improved training for employers to help them understand and better use the current H-2A seasonal agricultural worker program, and better information delivery for new users of the program. Permanent repeal of the estate tax, which impedes farm families' ability to keep farms in the family, was another issue on which the delegates indicated renewed support.

The delegates also approved a resolution stating that the concept of "sustainable agriculture" should be flexible and recognize the benefits of accepted agricultural practices. They supported scientific research and education that encourages all participants in the agricultural industry to produce, process and distribute safe food and feed.

"Our nation faces serious challenges and our leaders must deal with those," said Stallman. "But in doing so, they also have opportunities to put policies in place — on issues such as energy, immigration, taxes and infrastructure — to make us stronger in the long run."

Citing anti-livestock campaigns such as last year's Proposition 2 in California, the delegates urged the AFBF board of directors to continue the Ag Challenges Initiative, a

program that helps producers tell their story of responsible care for animals.

At this AFBF annual meeting, 369 voting delegates representing every state and agricultural commodity deliberated on policies affecting farmers' and ranchers' productivity and profitability. The policy approved at the annual meeting will guide the national farm organization's legislative and regulatory efforts throughout 2009.

## WANTED: FARM & INDUSTRIAL CONSIGNMENTS

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**Jct. Hwy 36 & 99, Beattie, Kansas**

To advertise: Must Consign by  
Tuesday, February 11

Contact: Terry at 785-353-2525 Or Eve. 785-736-2299

## ANTIQUUE AUCTION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 — 10:00 AM

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

### FURNITURE

Mission oak library table; Mission oak book case; Mission oak table; oak curved glass china cabinet; 3 oak highboys; oak wash stand; oak hotel commode; oak parlor table w/claw ball feet; oak Morris chair; small oak candy showcase; oak & cast iron dictionary stand; primitive cradle; walnut wash stand; Victorian lamp table; Mission oak stacking bookcase (no doors); bridge lamps; oak lamp table; oak plant stand; bird cage.

### COLLECTIBLES

Telephone switch board; candle stick telephone; Lucy telephone; several telephone advertising pieces; 5 cent gum machine; Sleepy Eye vase; Salt glaze 4 gal crock; Red Wing 5 gal bee hive jug; 3 & 5 gal Red Wing churns; 6 gal Red Wing churn w/ski oval; 3 gal salt glaze jug; 4 gal Red Wing jug; Red Wing chicken water; Hayner crock jug (dam-

aged); 6 gal & 20 gal birch leaf crocks; 20 gal crock lid; 3 gal Western crock; crock bowls; other crocks; TOYS inc.: Arcade toys inc. (thresher w/label, manure spreader, circus wagon w/driver, Don't Park Here sign, rooster bank, wrecker, tractors, airplanes); Kenton farm wagon; Hubley toys (coal wagon, stake wagon w/driver); MM tin farm wagon; John Deere toys; several horse bell toys; goat wagon w/driver; large Wilkens wagon; Harris dog cart w/driver; other farm wagons; windup toys; cast iron train engine; cast iron motorcycles & cars; cast iron drivers & wheels; tin drum; board games; Barbie cases; several hood ornaments; signed oil painting; stain glass desk lamp; red gone w/wind type lamp; stain glass floor lamp; Mission mantel clock; early wedding dress; signs inc.: Texaco porcelain; advertising tin collection inc.: coffee, other; small advertising

oilers; assortment advertising paper items; 400 post cards; Fairy Soap tray; Coleman advertising lantern; Breyers ice cream advertising; Bromo Seltzer glass; Roseville pottery; Hull pottery; Worlds fair toothpick holder; large assortment glass; child's tea sets; mustache cups; shaving mug; Cawker City mug; Beloit, Ks. advertising; Frank Carlson elephant; railroad advertising; dog & flower door stops; photo album w/mirror; wood duck decoy; Winchester fishing rod holder; fishing lures; tins; John Deere umbrella; several pocket ledgers; machinery books; sheet music; road maps; license plates; mantle clock; Putman Dye sign; 75 pictures; Gene Autry boot box; Roy Rogers guitar; Howard Foote Chicago guitar; New York Yankees poster; signed baseball pictures; 1000 baseball cards; assortment of other collectibles.

Note: There are many very nice items on this auction. Check our web site at [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com) for pictures.

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**PREVIEW DATE: Friday, January 23 — 2-7 PM**

**DIRECTIONS: From the Fire Station in Douglass go South on Forest to AUCTION!!!**

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#3 Winchester Model 70 308 with Deerfield scope, SN3528

#4 Winchester Model 70 225 Remington with Lumina scope, SNG2096000

#5 Mauser Action 308 with Banner scope, SN2A9617

#6 Winchester Model 54 30.06 Gov w/Burris scope, SN14509

#7 Winchester Model 54 270WCF with Burris scope, SN42769A

#8 Winchester Model 70 30 Gov 06 with side Mount REC sight, SN15196

#9 Marlin Model 60 22 LR, SN 08583365

#10 Russian Action with 45-70 barrel, SN 935171

#11 Winchester Model 70 30-06 with Tasco scope, SN 62191666

#12 Revelation Model 10 22 caliber, SN P857904

#13 Winchester Model 70 300 Winchester magnum with Simmons scope, SNG 2212755

#14 Mauser Action Conversion - Double set trigger - 8mm with World Class scope, No SN

#15 Marlin 336 30-30 with Bushnell scope, SN 70-81382

#17 Yugoslavia Action 308 with Leopold scope, No SN

#18 Winchester Mod 70 300 H & H with Bushnell scope, SN 369024

#19 Ithaca LSA 55 245 Win with Redfield Scope, SN 550141189

#22 Winchester Model 94 Trapper 44 caliber, with Unertl scope, SN 6077771

#37 Remington Model 87 with 2 barrels 20 gauge, SN 5800619K

#54 Ruger Super Black Hawk 44 caliber, SN 82-93255

#59 Ruger Vaquero Nickel 45 caliber, SN 57-66725

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#63 Colt Series 70 combat commander 9mm 41/4" barrel satin nickel, SN 70SC40050 (w/3 clips) - Pistol

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Conrad Swenson - Auctioneer



# Field borders benefit wildlife on the farm

Weedy field borders and brushy fence lines may not be attractive to some people, but for many wildlife and game species, those places are prime real estate.

Bobwhite quail, cottontail rabbits and many songbird species thrive in areas composed of native grasses, weeds and small shrubs. These plant communities provide critical areas for nesting, brood-rearing and escaping from predators, said Bob Pierce, University of Missouri Extension fish and wildlife specialist. They also provide wildlife with food in the form of insects and seed-producing plants.

A new MU Extension guide outlines techniques for establishing these edge habitats and describes how they not only help wildlife but can have agronomic and economic benefits as well.

“Precision farming has demonstrated that these locations tend to be among the least productive areas of the field due to shade and competition from adjacent woodlands,” said Pierce, co-author of “Field Borders for Agronomic, Economic and Wildlife Benefits.”

Field edges next to mature woodlands may suffer yield reductions of 30 percent or more, making them unprofitable to plant, fertilize, treat with pesticides and harvest, Pierce said. Eligible landowners may receive rental or cost-share payments for converting certain croplands to wildlife habitat through state and federal

conservation programs.

“Wildlife will respond to habitat-management practices that provide food and cover,” Pierce said. Landowners can either plant a mixture of native grasses, legumes and shrubs, or establish field borders just by letting native vegetation take hold.

Research has shown that these field borders should be at least 30 feet wide for maximum benefit. “A 30-foot-wide strip that is one mile long totals only about three acres,” Pierce said. “Although this is a trade-off for producing crops, the benefits to wildlife are tremendous.”

The MU Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute has studied detailed computer models of typical Missouri farms and found that at current crop prices many operations could see a modest revenue gain by enrolling underperforming acres in a conservation program.

Field borders also produce a lot of insects. That’s good for quail chicks and turkey poults, which eat bugs

during the nesting season, but it worries some crop producers. Will field borders bring pest insects to adjacent crops?

Studies indicate that field borders with recommended mixtures of grass and forbs won’t hurt corn and soybean yields, Pierce said. The borders had no effect on the abundance of bean leaf beetles, a major soybean pest.

In addition, these borders can harbor large populations of predators and parasites of European corn borers. This may reduce the abundance of that pest in cornfields, notes Bill White, supervisor of the Missouri Department of Conservation’s private lands programs.

Borders can protect more than just the plants, White said. “Damage to combines and other equipment from overhanging tree limbs is eliminated when field borders are planted along wooded fence lines.”

Management of a field border is simply a matter of keeping these areas in an early stage of plant succession, Pierce said. Landown-

ers can accomplish this through such practices as strip disking, prescribed burning and herbicide applications.

By connecting hedge-rows, brushy fence rows and ditch banks to areas such as woodlots and grasslands,

landowners can create a network of habitats, making the land more attractive to birds and other wildlife. Rather than mowing these areas every year, Pierce suggests allowing them to grow up in natural vegetation such as blackberries, sumac, sas-

safras, grape vines and wild plum.

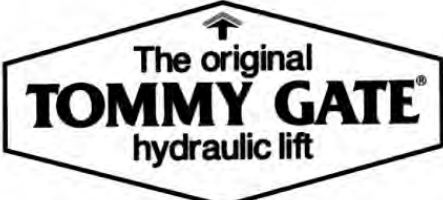
MU Extension guide G9421, “Field Borders for Agronomic, Economic and Wildlife Benefits,” is available online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/explore/agguides/wildlife/g09421.htm>.




Borders provide shelter and food for many species of wildlife with little impact on farming productivity.



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# DHS approves \$450M biothreat lab at Kansas State

TOPEKA (AP) — The Department of Homeland Security has approved a site at Kansas State University for a \$450 million lab to study livestock diseases and some of the world's most dangerous biological threats.

The agency's final record of decision — a document obtained by The Associated Press — confirmed a decision announced in December to build the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility at the Manhattan campus to replace an aging lab at Plum Island, N.Y.

DHS spokeswoman Amy Kudwa said the document hasn't been publicly released and declined to comment further about the decision. But the state's two senators issued statements confirming that DHS Undersecretary Jay Cohen had signed it. Sites

in Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas were also considered for the new lab, where animal diseases and other potential bioterrorism threats will be researched.

The federal agency said factors in its decision included the proximity of the site to Kansas State's research labs and its colleges of agriculture and veterinary medicine.

Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he will work to ensure the project is fully funded. The state has agreed to provide more than \$105 million in infrastructure improvements at the site to cover additional costs.

"This is great news. NBAF is a great win for Kansas and Kansas is a great win for NBAF," said Brownback, a Republican.

The laboratory is to be built on 59 acres at Kansas State near the Biosecurity Research Institute, where similar activities are conducted on plant and animal diseases.

University officials have said that the lab could conduct a portion of the research that will be done at NBAF until that facility is completed, which is expected to be by 2015.

The lab is expected to generate about 1,500 construction jobs and a payroll of \$25 million to \$30 million for more than 500 employees, including 300 researchers.

Republican Sen. Pat Roberts called the decision "one of the most significant investments to the Kansas economy in state history."

"With this new lab, Kansas will cement its

reputation as the nation's leader in plant and animal health research and the biosciences," Roberts said. "We will reap the benefits of a cutting edge industry while protecting the nation's food supply and agricultural economy for years to come."

Critics of NBAF raised concerns about the safety of people living near the lab, including in on-campus housing. They also said thousands of head of livestock in the region would be vulnerable if pathogens escaped from the facility.

Officials in Texas and Mississippi have threatened litigation over the decision.

Last week, Texas Gov. Rick Perry called the selection process unfair because his state's legislators weren't in session in 2008 and unable to consider a financial package to augment the state's bid.

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour said last month when the initial recommendation was made that the process was flawed and that his state should have been awarded the project.

Sebelius said Barbour has since backed off his objection, but she expects Texas to challenge the decision.

Kansas State President Jon Wefald said the state's proposed investment and its united effort to land the project were factors in the final decision and that everyone knew the rules and deadlines throughout the process.

"We were always hoping they would make their final decision sooner rather than later," Wefald said.

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 — 10:00 AM

To be held at the American Legion hall, located at 506 Washington St. in CONCORDIA, KANSAS

740 ACRES REPUBLIC & CLOUD CO. LAND

**TRACT I**  
**155 ACRES CLOUD CO. LAND**  
**LOCATION OF REAL ESTATE:** 3 miles North (on #81 Highway to Vale Rd.) of Concordia, Ks.  
**LEGAL DESCR.:** The SE 1/4 of 9-5-3 West of the 6th P.M., Cloud Co., Kansas.  
**GENERAL DESCR.:** 155 A. w/103.4 NHEL, nearly level cropland & 55 A. pasture w/pond &

good fences. There is an old rock house & shed on this property.

**BASE ACRES:** 75.2 A. wheat, 23.1 A. milo, .2 A. corn & 4.1 A. soybeans.

**2008 FSA PAYMENT:** \$1,965.00.

**TAXES:** \$1,074.38

**POSSESSION:** On all land March 1, 2009, all cropland is open for spring crops.

**RICHARD E. MORGAN — SELLER**

**TRACT II**  
**150 ACRES CLOUD CO. LAND**  
**LOCATION OF REAL ESTATE:** 3 1/2 miles North (on #81 Highway) of Concordia, Ks. (adjoins Tract I on North).  
**LEGAL DESCR.:** The NE 1/4 (except cemetery) of 9-5-3 W. of the 6th P.M., Cloud Co., Kansas:  
**GENERAL DESCR.:** 150 A. w/119.65 A. nearly level to rolling cropland, 5.5 A. waste & waterways w/old rock house & barn, 24.9 A. pasture, (all cropland planted to wheat).  
**BASE ACRES:** 88.4 A. wheat; 27 A. milo; 2 A. beans & .3 A. corn.  
**2008 FSA PAYMENT:** \$2,293.00;  
**TAXES:** \$1,082.92

buildings.

**GENERAL DESCR.:** Three bedroom, 2 story, wood frame, modern house w/water well, 54'x84' metal pole shed and pole cattle shed, 26' x40' 3 car garage, old barn & steel shed w/approx. 5 acres located on a good gravel road.

**NOTE:** Tracts V & VI will be offered as separate units, then will be combined & will sell in the manner producing the highest bid. Survey furnished by seller if tracts sell separately.

**TRACT III**  
**135 ACRES CLOUD CO. LAND**  
**LOCATION OF REAL ESTATE:** 4 miles North (on #81 Highway to Wagon Rd.) of Concordia, Ks.:  
**LEGAL DESCR.:** The SE 1/4 of 4-5-3 except an approx. 5 A. tract w/house, buildings & highway West of the 6th P.M., Cloud Co., Ks.  
**GENERAL DESCR.:** A tract of approx. 135 A. w/82 A. level to rolling cropland, 1.8 A. waterways & 50 A. pasture w/good fences. (All cropland planted to wheat).  
**BASE ACRES:** 88.4 A. wheat, 19 A. milo, .2 A. corn, 2 A. soybeans.  
**2008 FSA PAYMENT:** \$1,616.00.  
**TAXES:** \$2,077.82; (Includes house & land);  
**NOTE:** House & buildings on this property will sell at a later date, approx. April or May.

**TRACT VI**  
**143 ACRES REPUBLIC CO. LAND**  
**LOCATION OF REAL ESTATE:** 6 miles North (on #81 Hwy) and 1 1/2 miles West (on Xavier Rd) of Concordia, Ks..

**LEGAL DESCR.:** The W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 7 the E 1/2 of the NW 1/4 in 31-4-3 W. of the 6th P.M., Republic Co., Ks., except a tract of 15 A. in the NE corner.

**GENERAL DESCR.:** Approx. 143 A. w/68.6 A. rolling, terraced cropland & approx. 70 A. pasture w/Rural Water pasture drop, good to fair fences, approx. 3A. waterways & waste.

**BASE ACRES:** 40.3 A. wheat; 20.6 A. milo; .3 A. oats; 3.1 A. soybeans; All cropland is planted to wheat.

**2008 FSA PAYMENTS:** \$956.00;

**TAXES:** \$802.00;

**POSSESSION:** On Karl Morgan Estate land: On all land planted to wheat, after the 2009 wheat harvest, or August 1, 2009, which ever occurs first, on all other land, houses & buildings, March 1, 2009.

**TERMS:** On All Real Estate: 20% of purchase price down on day of auction, balance due on or before March 20, 2009, in the form of certified funds, upon delivery of clear & merchantable title. Title insurance will be used paid 1/2 by Sellers and 1/2 by Purchaser. Sellers will pay all of the 2008 Real Estate Taxes, purchaser will pay 2009 Real Estate Taxes. Purchaser will receive \$55.00 per Acre on all crop land planted to wheat from Karl Morgan Estate August 1, 2009.

**Note:** Make your financial arrangements & plan to attend the auction. For inspection or information call Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate. All statements made at the auction will take precedence over all advertising material. Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate represents the Sellers as Agents. Prospective purchasers must be pre-approved or provide bank letter approving financing commitment, prior to day of auction to be eligible to bid.

**KARL MORGAN ESTATE,**  
**KARLA MORGAN, EXECUTOR — SELLERS**  
 Scott Condray, Attorney, Concordia, Ks.

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## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 11:00 AM

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STATEMENTS MADE DAY OF AUCTION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER INFORMATION. All inspections including lead base paint inspection to be completed prior to Auction at Buyer's expense if requested.

**OPEN HOUSE Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM or by appointment by contacting Vern Gannon Auctioneer/Broker 785-539-2316, 785-770-0066 or Gannon Real Estate and Auctions 785-537-9003.**

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## AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 10:30 AM

Clarion Hotel, 530 Richards Drive  
 MANHATTAN, KANSAS

Limbirt Mission loveseat; Mission kneeling bench; pair of Mission end tables; Heywood Wakefield dinette table and 4 chairs; 2 blonde bookcases with glass doors; English Provincial drop front desk; spinet piano; metal office desk; dinette set; cedar chest; floor and table lamps.

**RUGS:** Red wool Bokhara rug, 5.9x9'; 2 red wool Bokhara rugs, 4.5x6'; 3 red wool Bokhara rugs, 3'x5'; Nordic Track exercise machine; guitars; clarinet; music and guitar stands; autoharp and case; **DOLLS:** including Madame Alexander, Anna Lee, Ginny, Effanbee Bubbles, Chatty Baby, Barbies; doll cradles and high chair; **Native American pottery; Navajo weavers, rugs and drums;** Vintage Christmas decorations, Clothique and Pipka Santas; numerous books, Art, Fiction and needlecraft; leather briefcases; notebooks and office

supplies; cameras, enlarger and darkroom equipment; antique and collectible toys and board games; Vintage Disney; Haeger; Dryden; Frankoma; Dreamsickles; Fenton; K-State watch and collectibles; Lefton, Cybus and Lowell Davis figurines; jars of buttons, sewing supplies and quilt fabric; wall pockets; Fire King dishes; Fisher Price; bears; toys; Kachinas; doll house miniatures; cat and dog figurines; Scout shirt; children's books; wooden ducks; Holiday decorations; Halloween noise-makers; Replogle globe; record albums, 33 1/3 and Vintage 78 RPM; Stanley thermos set in leather case; snack sets; Ty Beanie babies; costume jewelry; Vintage picture frames; mirrors; Garfield toys; Planters Peanut items; Coca Cola collectible; Vintage Mexican pottery; Charles M. Russell prints; CA Steward print; M&M collectibles; pictures and

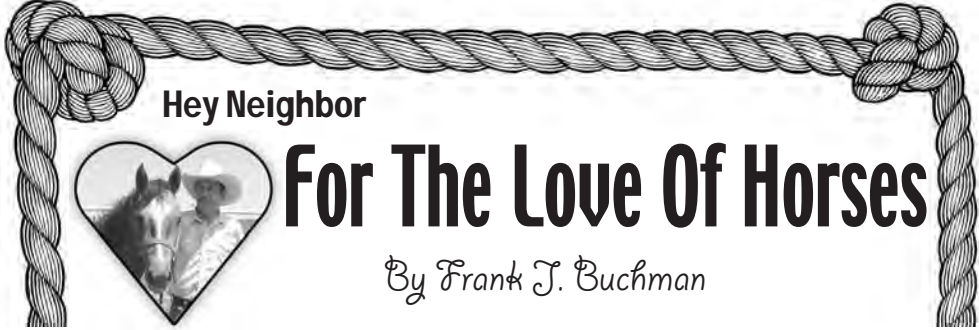
prints; Sheffield and Keen Kutter cutlery; milk glass spice set; food grinder; Corningware; Pyrex bowls and casserole set; pots; pans; dishes; original Fiesta; aluminum and glass display box 22"x34"; weed-eater; leaf blower; tools; children's pencil boxes, 1940-1950; framed antique map; banks; Mickey Mouse bowling ball and bag; magazines, Doll Reader, National Doll World, NM magazines and National Geographic; Rin Tin Tin toy; poodle radio; military toys, helicopter, tank and soldiers; Bugs Bunny telephone; early Smokey Bear plush toy; scale model cars; milk bottles; Breyer horses; John Deere thermometer; Frankoma political mugs; Mickey Mouse curtains; toy sewing machine; Long Horn skull; 1902 Sears catalog; Campbell Soup collectibles; comic Valentines; cartoons by Briggs; much miscellaneous.

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Disease Threatens Mare Fertility

A cautionary alarm has been aired for Kansas horses which have been exposed to a highly communicable infection. "At least seven mares in south central Kansas are part of a growing number of horses in 28 states that have been exposed to the venereal disease known as contagious equine metritis (CEM)," announced Kansas Livestock Commissioner George Teagarden, Topeka. The highly communicable, fast-spreading infection can result in temporary infertility and cause mares to abort their young, Teagarden evaluated. "However, the good thing is that it does not affect other animals or humans," he emphasized. "Generally transmitted through breeding or artificial insemination, the disease can also be spread through contact with contaminated hands or instruments. Fortunately, the problem can be readily

treated with antibiotics," Teagarden explained. Swabs for bacteria cultures from mares are typically used for diagnosis, along with blood testing in certain cases. "Horses suspected to have the condition should be quarantined until all test results are negative," advised Teagarden, who recommended a minimum of 21 days in quarantine. All seven CEM-exposed Kansas horses are now in quarantine. Last month, the state of Kentucky confirmed a case of the malady in a Quarter Horse stallion. Now, four stallions are known to be infected in Kentucky, and three in Indiana, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. "Kansas' infected mares are traced back to the Indiana stallions, which spent time on the premises of the Kentucky stallion during last year's breeding season," Teagarden clarified.

Stallions display no physical symptoms, but can carry the CEM bacteria on their genitalia for years, according to the federal Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). However, a mare impregnated with infected semen will show signs within days. "An infected mare may fail to conceive, as revealed by an early return to estrus after breeding," officials detailed. "She may also spontaneously abort, although that is rare." First case of CEM was diagnosed in England in 1977. Because of the insidious nature of the disease, it is difficult to determine its origin or how widely it is distributed throughout the world. CEM was first diagnosed in the United States in 1978 on a Thoroughbred farm in central Kentucky and was found in Missouri a year later, but it was readily contained at that time. "We don't know yet how

the disease returned, but in this day and age, with transportation more accessible along with artificial insemination, it has spread across the Midwest," Teagarden revealed. "It's the price you pay for doing business the way we do it today," he added. "These infected horses are native to America and haven't been anywhere else. So the big question is: How did they contact it?" asked Tom Lenz, a past president of the American Association of Equine Practitioners from Louisburg. Recorded in about 25 foreign countries from Ireland to Japan, the disease's arrival in this country might have been due to a package of infected semen that escaped the notice of government inspectors or by way of contaminated hands and breeding equipment, according to speculation. As far as known, the ailment hasn't reached the U.S. Thoroughbred industry, which has stayed with direct breeding practices, as demanded by registration regulations. Other nations similarly do all they can to protect their top racing stock. "All cases thus far have been show horses," Teagarden pointed out. According to the USDA, nearly 100 horses had been exposed to the disease by early last week. "That num-

ber is continuing to grow, and they are predicting it could reach over 300 mares in the United States," Teagarden analyzed. "Unless there is news today, only seven stallions have tested positive. The mares and other stallions in question are classified as 'exposed,'" Teagarden said last Tuesday morning. Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Rich Farmer asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer to declare a state of agriculture emergency and commit federal funds to deal with the outbreak. "It is important for people to understand that this could be a serious situation in the equine industry," Farmer informed. To prevent further spread of CEM, horse owners are urged to quarantine and test the first three

mares bred to a stallion and to avoid breeding any CEM-positive horses until they have been successfully treated and certified CEM-negative. Additionally, horsemen should maintain strict hygiene when handling mares and stallions including using disposable gloves, changing gloves between horses and thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting instruments. "For people involved in raising horses, it probably is alarming," commented Cindy Ragin, APHIS spokesperson. "However, we're not in the alarmist mode just yet." Likewise, Teagarden indicated, "There might be some lost foals, and delayed breedings, plus the cost of treatment, but I don't see this being a major problem for the horse industry.

## Kansas Cattlemen's Association

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<b>Friday, February 6</b> 12:00 Trade Show Opens/Silent Auction 12:30-1:30 Markets, Speculatory Effects 1:35-2:20 Gary Sides, Pfizer Nutritionist, The Big Pic. 2:30-3:00 Break/Trade Show 3:00-4:00 Dr. Fred Cholic, Kansas State University Dean of Agriculture, National Bio & Agro-Defense Facility 4:15-5:30 Donn Teske, Carbon Credits 5:30-6:30 Social Hour/Trade Show 6:30-9:30 Banquet/Live Heifer Auction/Key Note Speaker - Max Thornsberry, R-CALF USA President	<b>Saturday February 7</b> 8:00 Trade Show Opens 8:30-9:30 Dr. Dan Thomson, Kansas State University College of Vet Medicine Professor of Clinical Sciences, Cattle Processing and Animal Welfare 9:45-10:30 Deborah White, Food Marketing Institute, Retail Marketing Trends 10:30-11:00 Break/Trade Show 11:00-11:45 Gary Fike, Certified Angus Beef, Producer Marketing Trends 11:45-1:30 Luncheon/Beef Auction/Saddle Auction 1:30-2:30 Radio Personality, Derry Brownfield, Common Sense 2:30-3:00 Break/Trade Show 3:00-3:15 Daimaur Steak House, Owner & Executive 3:15-3:30 Chef Jason Cao, Japanese Cooking Demo 3:30 Computer/Email Tutorial Annual Business Meeting
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# 'Can-Do' spirit will sustain America, says senator

Americans' "can-do" spirit will sustain the nation through today's turbulent economic times, according to former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley, who delivered the keynote address at the 90th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Two simple things need to happen in order for the nation to move out of "can't do" mode, according to Bradley.

"We need to put country ahead of party and we need to tell people the truth," Bradley said. "As Americans, we share more than what divides us." He cited good jobs, access to health care, a secure pension at re-

tirement and access to education as examples of common goals for all Americans.

Regarding the current state of the U.S. economy, "the core problem is that we don't save enough, both individually and as a nation," Bradley said. As a result of spending more than we have as a nation, we have to borrow from non-Americans at a rate of around \$4 billion per day, he noted. Referring to the fiscal restraint that typifies America's farmers and ranchers, Bradley said they learned an important lesson in the 1980s - "don't borrow more than you can afford."

On education, "the eco-

nomie future of America is in the schoolrooms of our nation," Bradley said. Doubling teacher salaries, increasing the length of the school day and increasing the number of days in the school year will go a long way toward securing a better economic future for America, he asserted.

"Americans need to wake up regarding the need to improve our public schools," he said.

For starters, America needs a national education-

al standard, rather than different ones in each state, Bradley said. And parents must realize they are the most important person involved in their child's education; the second most important person is the child's teacher.

With a new president and new administration, Americans can have hope that the problems facing the nation will be solved, through both collective and individual action, Bradley believes.

"This is our opportunity as a nation... there's no limit to what we can accomplish," he concluded.

Bradley currently serves as a managing director at Allen & Company, LLC and is a member of the board of directors of Starbucks. Prior to representing New Jersey in the Senate

(1979-1997), he was an Olympic gold medalist in 1964 and a professional basketball player with the New York Knicks from 1967 to 1977, during which time they won two National Basketball Association championships. In 1982, Bradley was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame.



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# AUCTION

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 11:00 AM**

As we are retiring from farming, the following sells to the highest bidder located from OVERBROOK, KS, 9 miles North from the corner of Hwy. 56 and Maple St. (Jack's Cafe) - (Please note follow Blacktop Northeastly, Maple to Shawnee Hts. Rd. to Shadden Rd.), then 1/2 mile East on S.E. 89th; or from TOPEKA, KS from U.S.Hwy. 75 and S. Topeka Blvd., 1/2 S on S. Topeka Blvd., then 9 1/2 miles East on S.E. 93rd into S.E. 89th.

**TRACTORS**

2004 JD 8120 dsl., cab, quick hitch, 3 hyd. outlets, FWA, Green Star Ready, 18.4-42 axle mount duals, 14.8-30 fronts, ft. wts., 2407 hrs., looks like new, SN22704; JD 4455 dsl. cab, quick hitch, 3 hyd. outlets, 2 wheel drive, 6261 hrs., new interior, 15 sp. power shift, 18.4-42 axle mount duals, frt. wts., 540/1000 PTO, SN010-310; 2007 JD 6430 dsl. premium, cab, FWA, 2 hyd. outlets, 18.4-38 rears, 340/85-R28 frts., power quad 16 sp. trans. with JD 673 loader, 7 ft. bucket, looks like new, SN13680.

**COMBINE, HEADS**

1994 JD 9500 dsl., power boost, RWA, 3250 engine hrs., 2260 separator hrs., 30.5-32 ft. new 18.4-26 rears, dealer maintenance and update spring of 2008, SN656077; JD 920 flex head, 20 ft. hyd. drive reel with floater points, SN67676; JD 643 high tin 6 row cornhead, new gathering chains spring of 2008, SNH141885; 2 shopbuilt header trailers, IH and electric running gears.

**GRAIN HANDLING EQUIP.**

Brent by Unverferth 420 grain cart, 20.8-38 single axle; Friesen 220 bulk seed tender with Honda 5 1/2 gas engine, 2 compartment, flex feed tube, tandem axle trailer.

**TRUCK, GRAIN TRAILERS**

1996 Ford L-9000 truck tractor, single axle, day cab, air ride seat, M-11 Cummins dsl. with Fuller 9 sp. dual saddle tanks, 11R-22.5 rubber; 1990 IH 8100 truck tractor, single axle, day cab, L-10 Cummins dsl., 9 sp. Fuller dual saddle tanks, 11R-22.5 rubber; 2005 Mauer Mfg. 30 ft. double hopper grain trailer, Shur-Lok rollover tarp, 275/80-R24.5 dual tandems, bought new; 1998 Mauer Mfg. 28 ft. single hopper grain trailer, Shur-Lok rollover tarp, 11R-22.5 rubber; 1979 IH S-1800

truck, 404 V-8, 5-2 sp., 10,00-20 rubber with Omaha Standard 18 ft. grain bed and hoist, 52 in. sides, Shur-Lok rollover tarp.

**FARM EQUIPMENT**

Kinze 2200 12-R/30 in. planter, Econo fold, bean and corn meters, furrow openers; Case-IH 5500 soybean special, 30 ft. hyd. fold drill, early riser units, monitor, 15 in. spacing, looks like new; Great Plains solid stand 24 hyd. fold drill; JD 637, 23' 7" disc, 9 in. spacings, hyd. fold, bought new 2002; JD 980, 23 ft. field cultivator, 7 in. spacings, walking tandems, main frame and wings, hyd. fold, 3 bar mulcher; JD 2100 soil management system, no-till ripper, 5 shank, 3 pt., less than 500 acres; Blu-Jet land walker no till anhydrous applicator, pull type, 25 ft. hyd. fold walking tandem main frame, single gauge wing wheels with squeeze pump and bubble.

**CONSIGNED BY NEIGHBORS**

1999 Freightliner truck tractor, 230 Cummins dsl., 7 sp., day cab, single axle, air ride seat, 295/75-225 rubber, 112,000 actual miles, clean; Spencer-Safford Land Craft 25 ton low-boy, ramps, covered wheel wells, tandem duals, 8.25x15; Cat 955K track loader, complete ROP's, Standard 7 ft. bucket, good cond., ready to work; SN85J02826; 2005 Bestway Field Pro 3 sprayer, 1,000 gal., 60 ft. hyd. f. rt., fold booms, Raven 440, rinse tank, inductor, triple nozzle, SKS foamer, 320/85-R-38 rubber, low acres, looks like new; 1987 Chevrolet C-70 truck, V-8, 5-2 sp. hyd. tag axle, Parkhurst 18 ft. rain bed and hoist, SRT rollover tarp, 9.00-20 rubber, 97,690 act. miles; Gehl KS-600 2-R-30 in. silage cutter, 1,000 PTO, hyd. swing spout.

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Reg. No. 15979484 • DOB: 9/12/2007  
Sire: E&B 1680 Precision 1023  
Dam: TL Destination 727-928-4000



Reg. No. 15979488 • DOB: 11/11/2007  
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## Midwinter is best time to judge landscape

Midwinter can be important to the home landscape because it allows time for gardeners and other yard fans to come to grips with what's working, what's not and what's still needed.

“You can spend hours, pouring over the beautiful pictures in seed catalogs and magazines. What gardeners never seem to realize, though, is that local nursery and garden center personnel are going to have a lot more time now for individualized assistance. The off-season is a real opportunity,” said Amy Jordan, Kansas State University Research and Extension horticulturist.

Without the growing season's unrelenting chores, gardeners also have time to assess what's been going on in their yard. Jordan listed the following as typical questions gardeners could consider now:

Do one or more areas need a windbreak? Would snow-drift patterns provide a clue?

Are trees and shrubs blocking sunlight in a good way? Are they overgrown and reducing your effective growing area for other plants? Does their shade lower your summertime home-cooling bills? Does your landscape still have “hot spots”? Are evergreens blocking the view of winter's welcome light?

Do the “bones” of your landscape look as good now as they do when leaf-covered?

Does your growing-season mix of plant height, texture, shape, color, and placement, attract positive attention or look sort of boring?

Have you been too “ambitious” to maintain gardening as enjoyable? If so, should you consider incorporating more low-input (“green”) plants? Should you expand the yard's hardscape? Could you buy an irrigation system that applies just the water that's needed, while also requiring less oversight? Should you specialize in disease- and insect-resistant varieties? How about just mulching enough to halt weeds?

Are you tree-vulnerable because your neighborhood has no diversity, so a single severe pest could deforest the entire area? Is it time to look for at least one tree that no one else on the block has?

## New resource to help older adults prevent carbon monoxide poisoning

Do you know how to tell the difference between carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning and the flu? The answer to this and other questions about preventing carbon monoxide poisoning can be found in a new fact sheet developed by EPA.

Symptoms could be the result of CO poisoning when you feel better when you are away from home or the symptoms occur or get worse shortly after turning

on a fuel-burning device or running a vehicle in an attached garage.

Carbon monoxide, an odorless and colorless gas, is the most common cause of poisoning death in the United States. Unintentional CO poisonings are responsible for about 500 deaths and 15,000 visits to the emergency room each year. Carbon monoxide poisoning can be prevented by installing a carbon monoxide

alarm, yet less than one third of homes have them installed.

Everyone is at risk of being poisoned by CO exposure. Older adults with health conditions such as chronic heart disease, anemia or respiratory problems are even more susceptible. Devices that produce CO include cars, boats, gasoline engines, stoves and heating systems. CO from these sources can build up in enclosed or semi-enclosed spaces.

An easy way to remember how you can prevent CO poisoning are the letters I CAN B.

Install CO alarms near sleeping areas.

Check heating systems and fuel-burning appliances annually.

Avoid the use of non-vented combustion appliances.

Never burn fuels indoors except in devices such as stoves or furnaces that are made for safe use.

Be attentive to possible symptoms of CO poisoning.

More information on preventing carbon monoxide poisoning: <http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/factsheets/pcmp/index.htm>.

## Fertilizer, crop production coffee shop meetings

Central Kansas Extension District will host two coffee shop meetings with a focus on fertilizer use and crop production issues. Meetings will be held on Wednesday, January 21 at the Mentor Fire Station at 10 a.m. and again at the Ottawa County Courthouse meeting room in Minneapolis at 1:30 a.m. There is no cost for the meetings and all area crop producers, landlords and other interested persons are invited to attend. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Speakers will be K-State Research & Extension soil fertility specialists Dave Mengel and Dorivar Ruiz-Diaz; Stu Duncan, NE Area agronomy specialist; and District Extension agents Tom Maxwell and Ron Seyfert.

For more information contact the Central Kansas Extension District - Salina office at (785) 309-5850 or the Minneapolis office at (785) 392-2147.

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**Dispersions & Liquidations:**

187 Angus, few bwf (35 at 3 yrs; 29 at 4 yrs; 70 at 5 yrs; balance older); bred Angus (Leo Howard bulls, mostly sons of Lead On, SA6595), cf 3-7 for 60 days. A moderate framed set of females mostly sired by sons of Right Time, and BT Direction 650.....

.....Dispersion of partnership - Bob & Brandon Gehlson (605-557-3371)

100 blk (80 hd at 3-5 yrs (1200 lbs) bred Angus (Juneau, Bando 5175, Precision); cf 3-1 for 60 days. Freeze branded. Moderate in frame, desirable in kind.....

.....Complete dispersion - Ron Worth (402-497-3475)

85 Angus (3 yrs) bred Angus (Raven) cf 3-10 for 60 days. Good disposition and high end genetics.....

.....Liquidation of bull bred 3 yr. olds - Gary & Katie Stortenbecker (402-389-0460)

90 blk 7 yrs (30 hd) & 8 yrs (60 hd) bred Angus; cf 3-25 for 50 days. Moderate framed.....

.....Liquidation of 8 yr olds - Pass Ranch (Sonny Hanna 308-748-2236)

15 blk (15 hd at 4 yrs, 2 hd at 5 yrs, 3 hd at 6 yrs, balance older) (1300-1350 lbs.) bred Angus; cf 3-10 for 60 days. Excellent kind, steers calved Sept. 2008 weighed 677 lbs.....

.....Dispersion - Steve Bruckner (605-842-1797)

9 Angus (7 hd at 4 yrs, 2 hd at 6 yrs) 2 hd AI bred, balance bull bred blk, cf 3-5.....

.....Dispersion - Phil Miller

**Fall Pairs Dispersion:**

200 blk (young-short solid, mostly solid) (1400-1500 lbs) exposed to Angus; cf July 10. Calves weigh 200-350 lbs., will be sorted and sold in small groups. Females will be pregged.....

.....Gary & Linda Connot (376-4177)

**Bred Heifers:**

170 Angus, few bwf (3 hd) (1050-1100 lbs.) bred LBW Angus; cf 3-15 for 42 days; heifer sired by sons of BV ND 208, SA 6595, Dateline sons. The front end, very likeable.....

.....Merle Rust (605-669-2381)

30 Angus (1,000 lbs.) bred LBW Angus; cf 3-1 for 50 days. Some daughters of Final Answer. Very desirable, moderate frame kind.....

.....Ron Worth

25 Angus (1050-1200 lbs.) synchronized & A.I. bred Angus (Objective) (10 hd); cf 2-15 cleaned up with Traveler T510 sons; cf 3-1 (8 hd) 10 hd cf 3-15.....

.....Dave Sievers

22 rwf, few Red Angus (1000-1075 lbs.) synchronized & A.I. bred to Millicreek Flagstone; cf 3-10 for 1 day. Home raised.....

.....Ben Cooksley

20 blk synchronized & A.I. bred in Focus; cf 2-18 for 1 day.....

.....Randy Huddle

10 Angus (1st cf) bre blk, cf 3-25 for 60 days.....

.....Bill Gallino

**Bred Females:**

150 blk, bwf (solid mouth-short term) bred Angus, few Hereford; cf 3-20.....

.....Dam Ranch

120 blk (10-11 yrs; short solid) (1300 lbs.) bred blk; cf 3-15.....

.....Cox Cattle Co.

65 blk, bwf (8 yrs & older) bred blk (1/4 Simm, 3/4 Angus); cf 2-12 for 60 days.....

.....Bar 11 Ranch Co.

60 blk (young-short term) bred Angus; cf 3-8. Liquidation of aged cows.....

.....DD Linse

33 Reg. Angus (young & solid mouth) bred Angus; cf 3-9 to 6-2. Cows will be sorted and sold by age and calving date. Ultrasound pregged.....

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36 Red Angus (short term; 1350 lbs.) bred Red Angus; cf 3-25. All good producers.....

.....Kevin Hodson

36 bwf, blk & red Simm/Ang-x (2 yrs-broken mouth) bred Angus & Simm/Ang-x, cf 3-20.....

.....Alberta Allard

30 blk, few Char (running age) bred Barstow Angus; cf 2-25 for 60 days.....

.....Lazy TUF

15 blk, bwf (10 hd) & red, Char-x (5 hd) (borken mouth) bred blk & char, cf 2-15 for 60 days.....

.....Tim Hippen

14 blk, few red (solid-broken mouth) bred blk; cf 3-10 for 60 days.....

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# Researchers to use Biosecurity Research Institute for study of the wheat blast fungus

Kansas is lucky that a devastating wheat fungus isn't threatening the state's crops yet. Researchers at Kansas State University are getting \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to keep it that way.

Barbara Valent, university distinguished professor of plant pathology, is leading a group of researchers to study the wheat blast fungus, a pathogen that has become a serious threat in Brazil.

"We don't know if our varieties in Kansas are susceptible, so we want to be prepared," Valent said.

The wheat blast fungus is a close relative of a devastating fungus that has long affected rice crops and another fungus that affects turf grass across the country. In the mid-1980s a close relative of these fungi began affecting wheat in and around Brazil, Valent said.

"It hasn't moved north from South America, but there's the potential that it could," she said. "We don't know where it came from or

what effects climate change may have on it."

That's why the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service is providing \$999,688 to study the fungus. The K-State researchers from the department of plant pathology include professors William Bockus and James Stack, and Xiaoyan Tang, associate professor. They will be working with Gary Peterson and Kerry Pedley of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Unit, Fort Detrick, Md., and with collaborators from Brazil's Embrapa Wheat group.

Fred Cholick, dean of K-State's College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension, said getting the \$1 million grant recognizes K-State's experience in food safety and security in the field of plant health.

"This is what K-State as a land-grant university is all about — solving problems

before they have a global impact," Cholick said. "This is particularly important when you're talking about a wheat disease that could have a major impact on the economy."

Valent said the project comprises three areas, the first of which is sequencing the fungus's genome to find genome fragments specific to the wheat blast pathogen. Valent said this would help in the creation of diagnostic tools that field specialists can use in the field to identify wheat blast.

"The disease looks a lot like wheat scab, so it's important to train people to look for wheat blast and to discern between the two," Valent said. "The longer a disease goes unnoticed, the harder it is to control."

The second area of research is screening the Kansas wheat varieties for resistance to wheat blast. All work with the fungus will be done in K-State's Biosecurity Research Institute, a \$54 million biosafety-

level 3 facility in Pat Roberts Hall on the K-State campus.

"The Biosecurity Research Institute is a perfect facility for us to look at resistance in the Kansas varieties because we want to make sure the fungus doesn't spread," Valent said. "We're putting together a lab where the plants and fungus can be grown and stored, and where we can work with the fungus and destroy it after testing."

Beth Montelone, interim scientific director of the Biosecurity Research Insti-

tute, said, "We are very pleased that Dr. Valent and her colleagues will be bringing their wheat blast research to the BRI. We have a biosafety level 3-enhanced plant research laboratory that will offer excellent containment for this pathogen."

While K-State is doing research at the Biosecurity Research Institute, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service will be testing select wheat and barley varieties as well as potential grass hosts from other

regions of the U.S. in the agency's biosafety-level 3 facility at Fort Detrick, Md.

Valent said that the genome sequencing part of the research will benefit from other campus resources as well, including a sophisticated genome sequencing apparatus that the Integrated Genomics Facility, housed in the department of plant pathology, recently acquired.

Valent said the researchers also will take advantage of the wheat vari-

*Continued on page 15*

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# Horsin' Around

By Don Coldsmith

## Better Pictures

I was listening to a public radio station the other day in my pickup. I do that quite a bit, because they have good music and interesting programming. A short segment came on, discussing a phenomenon that has apparently been totally unexpected; a resurgent interest in radio drama and comedy. A lot of the old classic radio shows are available now on tape cassettes and compact discs.

I recalled seeing in a recent catalog (plenty of catalogs) a broad selection of material. Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Fibber McGee, Amos and Andy, Lum and Abner, Bob Hope ... good quality stuff from radio's "Golden Age." There were also dramatic offerings, series shows like The Shadow and I Love A Mystery ... The Lone Ranger, Gunsmoke, and other shows which became popular on TV later started as radio programs.

One of the commentators remarked that there's even a resurgence of interest in new material for radio drama, mystery and adventure. That confused me for a minute, until I remembered that there are a myriad of books on tape available. We've recently

ly listened, on long trips, to tapes and CDs ranging from Jay Leno to Walter Cronkite to Tony Hillerman's Mystery and Elmer Kelton's classic Westerns ...

About that time I remember a remark by a young reader, no older than ten. I was signing books in a mall, and he'd brought one for me to autograph. "Do you know why it's better to read than to watch TV?" he asked. "When you read, you can make your own movie in your head." He was right, of course. Imagination is far more exciting than someone else's attempted creation of what they thought it looked like. That's why the creature in the dark or under the bed is so fearsome.

When I was very small, I knew the appearance of the bat cave in I Love A Mystery, of Fibber McGee's closet, of the Lone Ranger and the Shadow ... (well, you couldn't actually see him, he was invisible, but he was pretty spooky)!

Consider the havoc wrought by Orson Welles' radio show about a Martian invasion, back in the '30s. People all over the country conjured up such terrifying

images that there was panic and suicide. The War of the Worlds was an old story then, written before Welles was born. It has been used since in movies and TV, and the theme lives on. But never has that plot line made the impression that it did on that night of terror on radio. We can create in our mind's eye terror far beyond the creations of the special-effects team.

It's true at the opposite end of the spectrum, too. We can visualize something good, pleasant, sweet and romantic. It's always better if just a bit is left to the imagination. A romantic scene of love in a movie is much more exciting if the director chooses to fade out before we see the final act. An explicit scene, as portrayed even on prime-time TV nowadays, is startling ... yes, exciting to the senses, but overall, disappointing. If we had been able to create the last moments in our minds it would be not only more so-

cially acceptable, but more fun. It's like the contrast between a striking, revealing gown on a beautiful woman, and stark nudity, which is basically a disappointment. Expectation is far more intriguing than explicit detail.

I recently talked to a teacher who was concerned that her elementary students seemed to lack the ability to visualize a scene as it was read aloud. If they'd never read books, or had somebody read to them, they just didn't know how to create that scene. Wouldn't it be tragic if humans lost that creative ability which started with the listeners around the fire in the cave? The storyteller provided the canvas, and the human mind painted the pictures.

Some minds still do, fortunately. On the public radio segment I mentioned earlier, one of the resource people spoke of a questionnaire which someone had used in elementary schools. One question dealt with ... which do you like better, TV or radio, and why? One very perceptive kid had answered: "Radio. It has better pictures." It's hard to argue with logic like that.

See you down the road.



# Reduce your household energy costs with easy tips

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average home spends approximately \$1,900 annually on energy. Almost 35 percent of that goes to powering appliances and lighting.

Marsha Alexander, University of Missouri Extension housing and environmental design specialist, has some tips for reducing energy costs:

Use compact fluorescent light bulbs. While more expensive than conventional bulbs, they use less energy and generally last far longer.

Turn off lights, the television and appliances when they are not in use.

Wash clothes only when you have a full load or change the setting to fit the load size.

Run the dishwasher only when you have full loads and use the energy saver cycles.

Use fans rather than air conditioning when possible. Consider installing a wholehouse fan. If using air conditioning, set the thermostat to a higher temperature and use ceiling fans to help circulate the cooler air.

Change your furnace filter regularly in the fall and winter. Set the furnace temperature lower in the colder months. "For every degree adjusted, you can save 1 percent on heating and cooling costs," Alexander said.

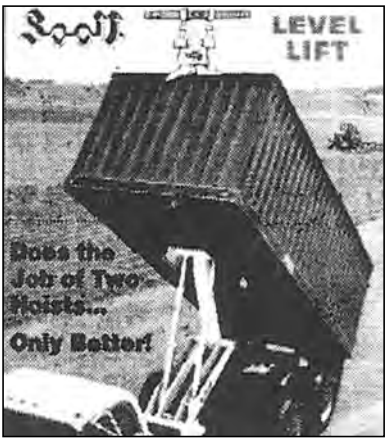
Properly maintain your heating and cooling systems. Seal cracks and holes around windows, doors, switches and electrical outlets, as they can leak air into or out of your house. Check for open fireplace dampers.

Turn off the heat or air conditioning in unused rooms.

More information on saving on household expenses is available in an MU Extension guide, "Money Management: Living on Less" (GH3600), available for download at <http://extension.missouri.edu/explore/hesguide/famecon/gh3600.htm>.

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# Auction Sales Scheduled

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

January 21 — Real Estate at Rossville for Charles Meade Estate. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

January 24 — Household, ATV, tractor & loader & misc. at Effingham for Harold D. Foley. Auctioneers: Jeff Hoffman Auctions.

January 24 — Antique tools, antique marbles, primitives, paper items, pictures at Abilene for Wayne Berneking Estate. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

January 24 — Furniture, glassware & misc. at Topeka for Patty & Ron Blocker. Auctioneers: Kooser Auctions.

January 24 — Rugs, pottery, dolls & misc. at Manhattan for Ann Culley Estate. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

January 25 — Furniture, collectibles & glass at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auctions LLC.

January 25 — Antiques & collectibles at Topeka. Auctioneers: Olde Mill Auction-Susan Metzger.

January 31 — Tractors, combine, grain trucks, farm machinery N. of Overbrook for Mr. & Mrs. Gailand Kennedy. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

January 31 — Hay auction at Leavenworth for Mark Klasinski. Auctioneers: Jeff Hoffman.

January 31 — Marshall &

Washington Co. land at Hanover for Mary Stohs Estate. Auctioneers: Prell Realty & Auctions.

January 31 — Nemaha Co. CRP grass & meadow at Corning for Ken & Pam Kramer. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

January 31 — Real Estate at Manhattan for H. Jim & Marilyn Sharp. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

January 31 — Collectibles at Salina. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

February 1 — Antiques, assort. of yard art, hand & garden tools, trailers, carts, lumber, tractors, collectibles, camper & misc. at Lyndon for Bob & Linda Kurtz. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp.

February 1 — Furniture & collectibles at Salina. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

February 7 — Carpentry & woodworking tools, lumber, shop tools, collectibles, pickup & etc. at Tecumseh for Stan & Reva Purcell. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

February 11 — Cloud & Republic Co. land at Concordia for Karl Morgan Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 11 — 19th Annual Black Simmental & Sim-Angus Production Sale at Manhattan for River Creek Farms.

February 14 — Black Hereford sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 14 — Pasture, house & farmstead N. of Meridan for Henry Casey & Delores Casey. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auctions.

February 16 — Osborne Co. grassland at Portis for Rodney A. Stevens. Auctioneers: Wolters Auctions.

February 17 — Farm machinery at Belleville for Kenneth & Joan Brzon. Auctioneers: Realty & Assoc.-Mark Uhlik Auctions.

February 21 — Farm & industrial machinery consignment at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auctions.

February 24 — Brand that Works Production Sale at Manhattan for Mill Creek Ranch.

February 26 — Consignment auction at Cornlea, NE. Auctioneers: Michael Wegener Implement.

February 28 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture & misc. at Concordia for Lucille Ostlund Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 28 — Harvesting equip., trucks, tractors, tillage equip., planting &

hay equip. & misc. SE of St. Marys for Bob & Joe DeDonder & Neighbors. Auctioneers: Everett Hoobler & Dennis Rezac. March 5 — Angus sale at Garnett for Hillhouse Angus.

March 6 — Angus sale near Olsburg for Laflin Ranch. March 7 — Gelbvieh bull sale at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March 7 — Farm machinery & misc. NW of Randolph for Ralph Hagenmaier. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

March 14 — 23rd Annual Concordia Optimist Club Consignment Sale at Concordia.

March 14 — Consignment Auction at Lyndon for Harley Gerdes.

March 15 — Angus sale at St. Joe, Mo. for April Valley Farms.

March 19 — Benoit Angus 20th Annual Bull Production Sale at Esbon.

March 21 — Farm Sale Southwest of Concordia for Bedford Malmquist Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

March 21 — Hereford sale at Manhattan for Northeast Kansas Hereford Association. Auctioneers: John Cline.

March 28 — Registered Angus bull & female production sale W. of Topeka for Mission Valley Ranch.

May 25 — 16th Annual Memorial Day Consignment auction at Lyndon for Harley Gerdes.

## Wheat research

Continued from page 13

eties available at K-State's Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resource Center, led by Bikram Gill, university distinguished professor of plant pathology. The center maintains a gene bank with 2,500 wheat accessions.

Once the researchers have narrowed down a few Kansas varieties in the laboratory, they will further test the resistance by planting them in a test field in Brazil. "We'll let the fungus find our varieties naturally," Valent said.

The third aspect of the project involves sharing findings about wheat blast with stakeholders in the state's wheat production. This involves creating Web-based communication tools and organizing three workshops, individually tailored for extension professionals, industry professionals, pol-

icymakers or diagnosticians of the National Plant Diagnostic Network. Valent said that the workshops will take advantage of the Biosecurity Research Institute's capability to connect trainees in a conference room with scientists working in containment via video.

Valent said the project will offer experience to two graduate students, one in the communications field and another in plant science.

"One reason we're really excited about this project is that we're teaching students how to deal with plant bioterrorism threats," Valent said. "The student in the sciences will be taught not only how to look for resistance, but also how to do it in a high-containment environment. That's not something students often get a lot of experience in."

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## AUCTION

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 9:30 AM**  
**3600 S.W. Topeka — TOPEKA, KANSAS**

**AUCTION HELD "INSIDE" WHITE LAKES MALL**  
(Mall does not open until 8:00 AM). Use Southwest Entrance.

**FURN. (Antique & Modern):** Oak bookcase secretary; settee; breakfront (Mission); Bassett maple hutch; oak teachers desks; other desks; kitchen cabinets; dresser; Waterfall vanity; **highboy dresser w/claw feet**; Jenny Lind sgl. bed; coffee & lamp tables; wicker furn.; granite top table; bridge lamp; other lamps; French Provincial hutch; **lots of display cases**; child's wooden high chair/stroller combo; floor model radio (Amrad); table model radios; **Electro Freeze Ice Cream Machine**; old Spartan radio/record player; beautiful pictures; 3-D pictures; mail bins; **old smoke stands**; trunks; mirrors; dinette tables; slate top work table.

**GLASSWARE:** Jewel "T"; Fiesta; stoneware; cookie jars; crock bowls; amber; decanters; other dishes.

**MISC.:** Old Hotpoint elect. stove; kerosene stove; microwaves; chest type freezer; IH refrigerator; mixers; baseball cards; aluminum 3 bay sink; old records; child sled; port. sewing machines; crosscut saw & others; bread boxes; old utensils; cast iron items; security bubbles; shelving; ceiling fans; wooden ironing boards; books; stuffed toys; Christmas decor

**Lots, Lots, More. PLAN TO ATTEND!**

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## AUCTION

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 — 10:30 AM**

**Due to health reasons, we have sold our farm and moving out of state, the following sells 10 miles North of LYNDON, KS; or approx. 14 miles South of TOPEKA, KS. on Hwy 75, then 1 mile West on W. 173rd then 1 mile North on S. Morrill Rd. to Beaver Tree Lake then follow driveway 3/8 mile East across dam to auction site.**

Antique Preston anti-freeze therm.; antique Astor ice box, unusual; antique dress form; antique oak wash stand; National cash register, old; curio cabinet; kitchen cabinet, Hoosier type; cast iron claw foot bath tub; gateleg drop leaf table; antique buffet finished frt. and back; 2 round oak pedestal tables; assortment pictures and frames; several sets competition horse shoes; good assortment of yard art; large selection hand and garden tools; several small trailers and carts; assortment finish

and misc. lumber; several iron wheels; Ferguson TE20 tractor, good cond.; Huskee Supreme yard tractor; 1998 Dodge Dakota, V6, AT, runs good; Playmate 17 camper for storage; JD 160 L&G tractor; Craftsman SP 21 in. mower; Wallace 6 ft. box blade, 3 pt.; Fimco 12V ATV sprayer; Pro-Tech 10 in. miter saw; Craftsman 4 in. jointer-planer; Craftsman 10 in. table saw; alum. 12 ft. V-bottom boat; dump rake; horse drawn mower; antiques; collectibles; tools; much more.

**NOTE: Kurtz's have lived in this location for over 15 years and this auction represents 35 plus years accumulation. Many areas unopened at listing. Many smalls and great additions, 2 rings may run part of the day.**

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## ESTATE AUCTION

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 9:30 AM**  
**Blue Building — EFFINGHAM, KANSAS**

**TRUCK & TRAILER**  
2004 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab 4X4 141000 miles, nice and clean; 2-wheel trailer.

**TRACTOR**  
JD 2630 D 3-pt. WF, showing 2118 hrs. w/Wesendorff QT loader w/6' bucket.

**APPLIANCES**  
Frigidair 22-cu. ft. side by side w/ice and water, nice; Sharp Microwave; Hot Point Electric stove; Whirlpool Portable Dishwasher; Maytag Neptune Electric Washer & Dryer; Signature 2000 upright freezer.

**RELOADING EQUIPMENT, FISHING & MORE**  
RCBS 1-ga. Rotary 89001 Re-loader, near new; Als Mec Reloading; Lots and Lots of reloading supplies, binoculars, fishing equipment, and hunting clothes.

**BOOKS**  
Hunters Inc.; Wildlife Pictures; Gun Digest; Shooters Bible.

**ATV, LAWN & SHOP EQUIPMENT**  
2001 Honda Rancher 350 4-Trex; Aluminum Truck Ramps; JD 318 Hydro Lawn Mower w/bagger; Yardman 6-hp Push Mower; Stihl straight shaft weed eater; Stihl leaf blower; Pull-type Lawn Sprayer; Pull-type lawn Spreader; Stihl 041 Farm Boss Chain Saw; Electric Air Compressor; Electric Grinder; Honda 2200 generator; Wooden Picnic Table; Shop Vac; Hand Tools; Battery charger; Log Chains; Craftsman Tools; Ext. Ladder; 2 Metal Cabinets- nice; 2 Gas

Grills; Brinkmann Smoker; Golf clubs; 2 Sheep Tanks; Fuel Barrel & Stand; Camping Stove; Dog Crates; Clay Trougher; & MORE.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
Avon Stine; Great Dogs of Outdoors; Elk and Deer Antlers; Life Jackets, Tale Gate Table.

**HOUSEHOLD**  
Maple Table, 6 Chairs & Leaf; 3 Oak Entertainment Centers, very nice; 2 La-Z-Boy Recliners & Sofa; Queen-size 4-pc. bedroom set (La-Z-Boy), very nice; 3-pc. Bedroom Set, full-size bed; Large Walnut Desk and Credenza; Oak File Cabinets; Metal File Cabinets; Kerosene Heater; Lane Cedar Chest; Wooden Bookcases; Color TV; DVD Players; VCR's; Hall Tree; Oak Plant Stand; Singer Cabinet Sewing Machine; Eletrolux Sweeper; Electric Lamps; SS Cookwear; Walk and Fit Tread Mill; Sunbeam Mixer; Crock Pot; Corelle dishes; Cookbooks; And other Kitchen items.

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE**  
Fostoria Glass & other nice glass; Old lighting Rod w/blue ball; Several Longaberger Baskets; Sheet Music; Costume Jewelry; Old Water pump; Old Oak Montgomery Ward Wall; Phone; Old Army Fatigues; Daisy 4-qt. Churn; Oil lamp; Rogers Silver; Cask Iron Kettle Framed Crosstitch Pictures.

**TOYS**  
2 IHC Tractors; IHC 4-bottom Plow; IHC 4-wheel Wagon; Tonka VW Bug; Plastic horses; & MORE.

**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Harold was a fine man who enjoyed the outdoors, he has a great line of items for you to enjoy at this auction. Don't miss it! - Jeff Hoffman**

**Terms: Cash or approved check. I.D. required to register; bidding will be by number. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material. Not responsible for accidents or theft. LUNCH. RESTROOMS**

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# BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

## Pet Your Dog

What did we do to deserve dogs? Is it because we always treat them kindly, never yell at them or kick 'em? Or because we promise to pamper them and pick up their poop? Why did God decide to gift humans with such a loyal companion?

I have a typical teenager in my house; wakes up late, rushes through the chores, grabs his backpack and then hurries off to school. The dogs wolf down their chow, accompany him to

feed the horses and wait outside the door on the wild chance they might catch a scratch behind the ears or a "good dog" as he passes by. The car drives off takin' him to school. They watch with the faint hope that somehow it might break down or turn around and come back. Alas, after it disappears from sight they disperse deflated, maybe the way spectators do after a NASA launch, back to their mundane existence.

The dogs glimpse me but unless I call, they plop down on the porch or go sniffing around the place for something, or anything. Killing time until ... their boy comes home! At 3:30 p.m. they surround the returned car, jostling for position, lining up to be recognized, acknowledged, petted, loved.

If you were able to ask the dogs what they did all day, they probably couldn't tell you ... just piddling, chase a rabbit, find a bone, bark at the javelina, but mostly just wait.

And I doubt if they have any sense of how much time has elapsed since the boy's morning departure. I mean, what's time to a dog? Any consciousness of it disappears the instant the boy opens the car door.

They live for the moment.

He scratches and rubs and pats them as they circle him, tails banging, tongues lolling, whimpers of 'pet me, pet me!', bobbin' like seals in the water, all beggin' for attention. Oh, and so sad when the teen, preoccupied with urgency, goes inside, pushing through his canine fan club without so much as a howdy. They are stunned; no, confused. "We've wait-

ed all day, however long that is," they must be thinking, "Why didn't he stop? Where did he go?"

But then their minds quickly reset and they resolutely lie down by the door, knowing their boy is home and they have a good chance of seeing him next time the door comes open, even if it is the next morning. And I watch all this drama, wishing I could impress on my son the impor-

tance of appreciating their devotion and how even a simple pat on the head lasts all day.

Then I remember my own youth and it wasn't 'till I was a grown man with teens of my own that it dawned on me to thank my mother, to call her occasionally. So, I guess what goes around comes around.

Remember, there's always time to pet your dog.

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## ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 9:30 AM

LOCATION: Sterl Hall (Heated Facility), 619 N. Rogers, ABILENE, KANSAS

OLD PICTURES      ANTIQUE WOOD PLANES      ANTIQUE TOOLS  
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See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.

AUCTION NOTE: Many quality items. No junk so be on time. Will run 2 auction rings after (10:00 AM). To view color photos go to website [www.ksallink.com](http://www.ksallink.com) and click on marketplace and then auctions. Auction preview Friday January 23 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Lunch available.

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