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Rhoades continues father's legacy in shooting sports

By **Beth Gaines-Riffel**,
Editor

"Pull!" The voice commands and a target is launched into the air. The cacophony of a shotgun blast is heard and shards plink to the ground. A successful hit. Repeat that hundreds of times with few misses and you've got a champion shooter in your midst.

When you paint that picture, you might envision a group of hunting buddies gathered on a weekend, spending time and honing their skills. What probably doesn't come to mind is a blonde-haired thirty-something with steely determination and a penchant for competition. But that is exactly what you'll find in Becki Rhoades.

A native of northwestern Missouri, she grew up on a farm and in a rural area where hunting and shooting were as normal and as expected as the sun rising each morning from the east. "It was definitely something I grew up with," she explained. "Being around guns never was a very big deal."

To Rhoades, guns represented the pastime of hunting, as well as personal protection as she grew older and moved out of the house on her own.

"We walked through my house and step-by-step developed a plan as to how and when I would use the gun if I was ever to be threatened," Becki explained. "That gave me a great deal of confidence."

It wasn't confidence that she was looking for, though, when a few years ago she told her dad that she was interested in joining him at the trap range.

Ron had been shooting for more than a decade and was a pretty fair shot. Returning from an event with a

new Browning BT99 shotgun he'd won, Rhoades recounted her dad telling her that he'd "won your shotgun today!"

As excited as Rhoades was about that news, once she tried shooting the gun it simply wasn't right.

"I had a bruise on my cheek the size of my fist," she recollected. "I still wanted to shoot, but that gun just didn't fit."

So, like so many parents who'd do anything for a child, Ron shared his beloved Beretta 12-gauge with his daughter. "That's one helluva hand-me-down," Becki noted, recognizing what her father had done for her.

That one was one of the first instances that would prove to build a very special bond between the pair.

Rhoades, who now works for the Kansas Department of Commerce as a marketing specialist in the agriculture division, would make regular trips to the trap range, meeting her dad there. "Our home range is Smithville," she said, explaining that it split the difference both ways for each of them.

Rhoades explained that her dad was a very quiet presence for her, coaching her in the basics as well as giving her little words of encouragement when her shooting fell short of her expectations. "He was very much a gentleman of the game," she explained. Trapshooting is a game of skill, with the shooter calling for a target to be thrown and then

being able to fire and connect with the clay disk, which is 108 millimeters in diameter. There are five stations on a range and a shooter takes 25 shots in rotation with the four others on the line. "There is a natural rhythm that takes place on the line," Rhoades explained. "Shooting trap is definitely a gentlemen's sport, and there are certain rules and a certain sportsmanship that apply."

While there are four other shooters that are firing in sequence and the pressure to hit is strong, Rhoades explained that it is in a sense a very individual sport. "You want to shoot well because of the other shooters, but you've got to focus on your own technique. It's a mental game, you can easily stress yourself out if you stand up there and think, 'I'm going to miss!'"

Although at first blush it might not seem like a very athletic sport, Rhoades noted that it takes some doing to be in shape. "When you lift a shotgun 400 times, you're getting a workout!" She explained that she likes to do strength training to build up her upper body — limiting the amount of fatigued muscle quivers after shooting repetitions. She also works to develop her hand-eye coordination — an important skill to be successful on the trap range.

While Ron was beginning to teach her the basics and help her improve her trapshooting technique — the Rhoades family was

dealt a significant blow. In early 2008 her shooting coach, mentor and most importantly, her father, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer — and not given a very optimistic outlook.

Knowing that the time would be limited — and shooting was a sport that was very much enjoyed — that's what the family did. Shooting thousands of shells in the ensuing year. "Dad even shot through all his chemo treatments," she said. "One of the side effects of the treatments made him very sensitive to cold beverages. We'd be out shooting and it would be 100 degrees and I'd think that it was too hot, yet he'd be drinking lukewarm water and going on. He was amazing."

The father-daughter team took every opportunity to shoot that they could, including going to Tucson in February of 2009. "We were there and shooting for a week. It was a highlight," Rhoades recounted.

It would be one of the last times that they would shoot, as her father passed away on March 27, 2009.

The fraternity of trapshooters is tightly knit. That notion wasn't lost on the Rhoades family as they grieved their loss of their beloved father, husband, grandfather and shooting partner. They heard from other shooters in the days leading up to the funeral as well as the weeks and months after.

Early last summer Becki decided that she was ready to shoot again. Her mother met her at the range and she shot 100 targets. "That was all I had in me," Becki explained. But she heard words of encouragement from the men she'd stood next to as she learned to shoot. "They told me that they were worried that they'd never see me again," Becki recounted. "That meant a lot." She also believes that her father would want her to go on. He had left her thousands of shells, loaded and ready to use. "I won't have to reload for a long while," she said with a smile. "He was preparing me for this."

So, with a heavy heart she picked up her gun and continued on. And there have been some emotional moments, including running her first "25" — meaning a perfect round. "I just wish my dad could have been there to see it," she admitted getting a little misty. "But I think he was."

Competitive by nature — she enjoys pushing herself to improve. Trap and skeet shooting are recognized as



Carrying her father's memory close to her heart, Becki Rhoades went afield hunting pheasant in Kansas for the first time last week.



The late Ron Rhoades, pictured right, shared his love for shooting trap with his daughter Becki before passing away in March of this year.

Olympic sports and the Sunflower Games held each summer in Kansas also offer trap and sporting clays competitions. Rhoades medaled in both competitions — getting a gold in sporting clays and a silver in the trap division.

When families go afield in the fall — whether the quarry is bird or big game — there is a fabric of tradition, shared experience and family bonds that is woven. As time passes, it becomes a legacy that is passed from one generation to the next. This fall, Rhoades went afield for the very first time, hunting pheasants in north central Kansas. At the time of this writing, no report had been received as to her success with live birds

rather than the thrown clays. But it wasn't necessarily the birds that were important, rather solidifying her father's legacy.

"I think he'd be proud." Rhoades also recognizes that she's definitely in the minority when it comes to being a common shooter. Part of carrying on her dad's legacy — and hailing from a family of girls — she wants to help mentor other young women in the sport. "It's not easy — and I want to encourage them to try." She added that the 4-H shooting sports project is one way that youngsters can get involved.

"It's something that I love to do — and it is one way that I can continue his legacy."



With a pile of spent shells at her feet, Rhodes spent a week at the Tucson Trap and Skeet Range shooting with her father in February.

Guest Editorial

A new twist on meat is murder?

By Jody Donohue

Here's a book that you'll want to stuff in your family's stockings this Christmas.

Jonathan Safran Foer, a well known fiction writer, and darling of the book critics, has written a new book called "Eating Animals" examining his issues with eating meat and the food industry in general.

I have often seen animal activists call us murderers. But Foer says the slaughter of animals for food production is genocide.

The ante has been upped. This guy has a platform and a way with words that could be deadly to our industry because he believes that we all have blood

on our hands.

In an interview with Paul Shapiro, who runs the HSUS factory farming initiative, Foer takes shots at animal agriculture and factory farms.

These excerpts are taken from the HSUS website.

"It is unacceptable to be indifferent about genocide, or callous environmental destruction, or animal cruelty (when done anywhere that isn't a farm). Indifference toward factory farming should be equally unacceptable.

"If animal agriculture isn't the most important problem in the world right now—it's the #1 cause of global warming, #1 cause of animal suffering, a decisive

factor in the creation of zoonotic diseases like bird and swine flu, and so on—it is the problem with the most deafening silence surrounding it.

"The real horror of factory farming is not found in the instance, but the rule. . . . It's a shame that most people's exposure to the meat industry comes through horror videos of slaughterhouses. . . . And unfortunately, they can conceal something that is far more horrible: the everyday, systematized cruelty and destruction.

"In a way, videos of animals being tortured are a distraction that the meat industry is probably happy to have, as they suggest that the

fault is with workers. The fault is not with workers, but the system itself. It is straightforwardly impossible to raise the number of animals we are currently raising for food without making their lives miserable. The misery is built into the system.

"Another system could take this system's place. But a movement toward small, family farms will require people to eat much, much less meat. And that's not going to happen any time too soon. In the meantime, the most important thing is to come to terms with the dominance and destruction of factory farming, and reject it.

See anything you disagree with here? See anything he's flat wrong about?

Guys like Foer and the HSUS say they're only after the big guys. They are proponents of local eating and supporting family farms where things are done right. But anyone disparaging any part of the food system brings the whole system down.

This week the USDA released its report showing that 14.6 million American households went hungry last year.

The anti-meat agenda doesn't ever talk about how to replace the nutrients and protein lost if animals were phased out of the diet. The environmental extremists don't talk about how to solve food distribution issues if suddenly everyone was eating local.

How many more people would the adoption of an anti-meat, radical environmental agenda make insecure?

Would they call people dying of starvation because of the policies they pushed genocide?

Donohue writes on agriculture issues on her blog and website: www.agropinion.com



Over the Barn Gate

By Beth Gaines-Riffel

It's been one of those years that I found myself counting my blessings frequently. Not so much that I have been necessarily "overly" blessed during the year, but as generally as a means to keep my priorities in order — reminding myself that I do have much to be thankful for.

I've found as I've become older, I've gained greater appreciation for the people in my life, much more than I did as a teen, or even in my 20s.

I suppose it has something to do with a little maturity and grappling with the notion that I didn't actually know as much as I once thought I did. And yes, mother, I'm admitting that out loud and in print. There. You did tell me so. Now I'm at an age that I can appreciate it more fully.

But just in that little statement, I'm so blessed to have my entire family still around — with all their well-meaning intention and annoying tendencies, I would be lost without them.

In preparing for the holiday season, many of the preparations have to do with food. I can honestly say that I am thankful that I am part of the food production business. It is not an easy career path to follow. I have concerns with the dwindling number of food producers — and their increasing average age — but at the end of the day I cannot imagine not being part of the bigger picture and providing nourishment for not only Americans, but so many abroad. It is a humbling career choice.

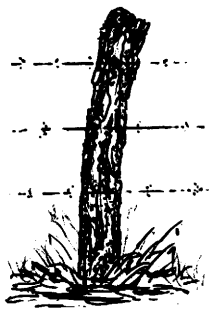
There are those that would like to see our food production system change. Those who don't understand some of the practices that are used to raise livestock to market weight and the methods of harvesting them to provide a safe protein source for millions of people every day.

I'm adding the Beef Advocacy Network to the list of things that I'm thankful for this year. The past week the network has waged a "food fight" that provided tools and assignments to producers to help tell their story to our urban cousins. The message was well-timed — the week before Thanksgiving — and the connection between the food we eat and the people who raise and grow the food couldn't have been more clear.

While the fight will be ongoing to battle the misinformation that exists concerning production agriculture — giving thanks to the family farmers and ranchers was an appropriate place to start.

So later this week when my family gathers around a table laden with food that was grown and provided by family farms not that unlike my own, I can be even more thankful that we can continue to do so.

Blessings to you and yours. Until next week, I'll chat with you, "Over the Barn Gate!"



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator

One Dog Night

"Come on in, Buck. Good dog! It's okay; good boy! Get some chunks of that ham, May. It will make him more cooperative. A wet rag will help get the dirt off his paws. Put some old sheets on the bed, May; he's not the cleanest dog. And bring a candle in, too."

We lost our power during that wet 5-inch snow, which was twice that amount to the north and east, and our house was getting cold. I thought Buck could serve as our electric blanket until the power came back on, but I was not able to convince my wife that this was a good idea.

The electricity was off for almost thirty hours (one utility worker told me there were more than 300 REA poles that had to be replaced in this service area). Last night's supper consisted of cold breakfast food, a chunk of smoked sausage, an apple and a piece of cake — not too bad. My long winter underwear came out for the first time this season along with a big wooly sweater. The rural water is in good supply and with a propane water heater, we still had hot water.

Being without electricity for several hours has caused us to ponder about how one could prepare for a long-term power outage. It is not absurd to think that terrorists may be planning and waiting for the right time to hit our big power supplies. While natural (geophysical) disasters have been a problem for years, they seem to be happening around the world with more frequency and severity.

Since we have become so dependent upon power sources that make us vulnerable if they should be cut off, it seems prudent to make plans for times when they may not be available or will be too costly to afford. I'm going to mention a few obvious things we can do to prepare for such times. If you wish to add to this list and will send me your ideas, I will use them in a future column.

I think the dwelling should have first priority. A large generator ready to kick in with lots of gravity-flow fuel should make living tolerable. To sustain a long siege of no power,

wood in the old-style cook stove would do for cooking and heating. I have heard it said that when a calamity hits, grocery store shelves will be emptied in two hours' time by those needing current supplies and by hoarders to stock their shelves. Foods such as canned goods, grains, dried products like milk, eggs, jerky, and vitamins should store for a long time. An adequate water supply is of crucial importance. Without electric pumps to refill them, rural water towers would be empty in a matter of hours. Kits can be purchased with supplies needed for purifying water in fairly large quantities. This would allow clean pond or creek water to be made safe for drinking and other household use. Aiming a gun at wildlife may become a necessary sport.

Those with livestock enterprises may be challenged in providing for their stock. A wood stove in one's shop could make it warm enough for keeping a chore tractor ready to start and run (with winter grade fuel) when parked inside. Chains on the tires would help one move through snow drifts and on ice. Livestock should be located as close to the feed and water supply as possible with protection such as windbreaks. If grazing on stalks, some charged-up batteries for electric fences will help keep the cattle in. Dairy and hog men will need to be equipped with generators if the enterprise is large enough to require more than manual labor.

My neighbor Harry left a copy of Lehman's Non Electric "Good Neighbor" Heritage catalog with me. While it is a 1991 edition and the prices have no doubt changed, it is full of ideas and suggestions for what one might use when outside power sources are not available. I think one could obtain an updated copy by ordering from:

Lehman Hardware & Appliances, Inc., Kidron Road, P.O. Box 41, Kidron, OH 44646, in Amish country. Phone: 216-857-5757.

Good neighbors may be our greatest asset when hard times hit. Cultivate them.



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Harvest season delays result in prevented plantings – report to FSA

Adrian J. Polansky, state executive director of USDA's Farm Service Agency reminds producers of the requirements to request prevented planting acreage credit.

A wet fall has prevented some producers from planting acreage. Prevented planting is the inability to plant the intended crop acreage with proper equipment by the final planting date for the crop type because of a natural disaster.

Producers are reminded that a timely prevented planting credit request must be filed at the FSA county office on a FSA-578 and CCC-576, Part B within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. The final planting date by crop is established by Risk Management Agency for insurable crops and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for noninsurable crops.

The winter wheat final planting dates across Kansas are October 15, October 20, October 31, November 5, and November 15, depending on the county.

Check with your crop insurance agent or local FSA office to determine the final planting date for your county.

Producers must provide documentation to establish that:

All cropland feasible to plant but prevented from being planted was affected by a natural disaster rather than a management decision.

Preliminary efforts to plant the crop are evident, such as disking the land, orders for purchase, delivery of seed and fertilizer, or financing documents.

Timely reported prevented planting acreage provides acreage credit for history and program purposes. Producers are reminded that they must file an accurate crop and acreage report on all cropland on the entire farm to remain eligible for many FSA programs.

Producers with prevented planted acreage shall contact the local FSA office to file an acreage report and notice of loss within 15 days of the final planting date.

Determine gift-giving budget before the holiday shopping season begins

Holiday shopping can prove challenging to the pocketbook, and the down economy may make it even more so this year.

There are ways, however, that financially struggling families can survive the holiday shopping season without too big of a strain on their budgets, said University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension family economics specialist Kathleen Prochaska-Cue.

"It's easy to get caught up in the spend, spend, spend spirit of the holiday," said Prochaska-Cue, explaining that regular expenses should be calculated and gift-giving budgets set.

Extension has several money-saving and budget-setting tips at its Managing Tough Times website. The site provides users with information in several topic areas, including money-saving ideas, family and rela-

tionships, home and food, livestock and crop production and education and opportunities. The site archives extension publications, news releases and other materials, and new material is added regularly.

The first step in controlling holiday spending is writing down the names of the people you want to give gifts, she said. Then decide whether you have to give gifts to all of them. In some cases, you may be able to agree with some on the list to mutually cease gift giving this year. For those you definitely decide to give gifts to, set a spending limit per person, she said. People often use credit cards when buying gifts, but before pulling out the plastic make a decision, Prochaska-Cue said.

"Look at your credit card debt and decide how much you want to add to it," she said. "Write down

that figure."

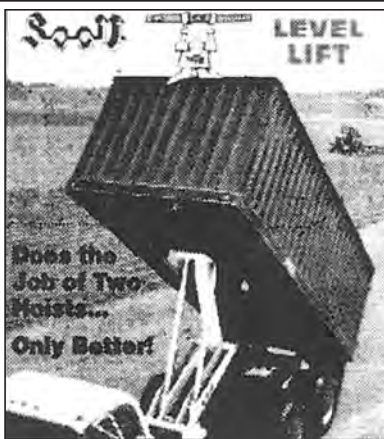
Prochaska-Cue suggests taking the paper that contains the figure and wrapping it around the credit card. Each time you use your credit card you will see that paper, which will remind you the limit you set on credit card purchases.

Rather than buying gifts for everyone in the immediate family, a family can decide as a whole to have a family gift, she said. A family gift could consist of a mini-vacation or buying something the family wants. It could be as simple as taking a day and doing something fun.

Another option is celebrating the holiday in a charitable way, Prochaska-Cue said. Give your time and talents to a charitable organization, or have the family buy gifts for a needy family instead of for each other.

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ALMOND MOCHA PIE

- 1 teaspoon instant coffee granules
- 2 tablespoons boiling water
- 1 milk chocolate candy bar with almonds (7 ounces)
- 8-ounce carton frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 9-inch pastry shell, baked (or graham cracker crust)
- Optional: chocolate curls, whipped topping

In a small bowl dissolve coffee in boiling water; set aside. In a microwave or saucepan melt the candy bar; cool slightly. Fold in half of the whipped topping. Fold in coffee and remaining whipped topping. Pour into pastry shell and freeze. Remove from the freezer 15 minutes before serving. Garnish, if desired.

Mary Longren, Holton:
PUMPKIN PIE CAKE

- 1 large can pumpkin
- 13 ounces evaporated milk
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/3 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 box yellow or spice cake mix
- 1 cup nuts
- 1 stick melted butter

Mix pumpkin, milk, eggs, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, ground cloves and salt and put into a 9-by-13-inch pan. Sprinkle cake mix and pat down gently. Sprinkle with

"I got this recipe from our pastor's wife. She has never frozen it, just cools it in refrigerator. It was a hit at our bake sale."

nuts then drizzle butter over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes.

LaVerna Hinkle, Manhattan:

- SWEET & SOUR MEATBALLS**
- 1 pound hamburger
 - 1/2 cup chopped onion
 - 1/2 cup milk
 - 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
 - 1 cup cracker crumbs
 - Salt & pepper to taste
 - 1/4 cup vinegar
 - 3 tablespoons brown sugar
 - 1/2 cup ketchup
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons Worcester-shire sauce

2009 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Combine hamburger, onions, milk, green pepper, cracker crumbs and salt and pepper. Form into balls. Place in baking dish. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over meatballs. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

NOTE: I double the sauce part.

Sharon Henson, Topeka:
"Great for this dreary weather. The sauce this makes is really good."

SEASONED PORK CHOPS
4 to 6 boneless pork chops
Seasoned flour for dredging (add salt, pepper, etc. to flour)
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 large onion, sliced
2 cups chicken broth
2 tablespoons flour
8 ounces sour cream

Heat oil in a skillet over medium high heat. Dredge pork chops in seasoned flour and brown in skillet, turning to brown both sides. Layer chops in crock-pot with onion slices. Pour chicken broth over layers. Cover and cook on low 7 to 8 hours. Stir the 2 tablespoons of flour into the sour cream until smooth. Stir sour cream into the crock-pot and blend into the cooking juices. Raise the crock-pot to high for 15 to 30

minutes or until the liquid has thickened. Serve the chops and sauce over rice or noodles.

Frances Otto, Lyons:
"This is good to make ahead and have ready when family comes for the holidays."

TACO SOUP
2 pounds hamburger, cooked & drained
1 medium onion
1 can light red kidney beans
1 can shoepeg corn, drained
1 can black beans
1 can diced tomatoes
1 can ro-tel tomatoes
1 package taco seasoning
2 package Hidden Valley Ranch Dressing Mix
1 cup water
Combine all ingredients in a pot and simmer for 2 hours on low. Top with cheese and sour cream and eat with tortilla chips.

Mona Jean Newbury, Junction City:
JAIL HOUSE CAKE
Cake:
2 cups sugar
2 cups flour (spoon, not sifted)
1 teaspoon soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs
1/2 cup oil
1 large (303) can crushed pineapple

Frosting:
1 cup sugar
2/3 cup canned milk (small can)
1 stick butter
1 cup coconut
1 cup nuts
1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Mix together cake ingredients with spoon in a large bowl. Pour into a greased and floured 9-by-13-inch pan (or can use sheet cake pan) and bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 35 minutes. For frosting, cook sugar, milk and butter together, stirring constantly for 10 minutes. Add coconut, nuts and vanilla. Spread on cake.

NOTE: If using sheet cake, make 1 1/2 recipe of the frosting.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge:
PUMPKIN & SPICE BREAD
3 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon mace
2 cups sugar
2 cups cooked pumpkin
1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
4 eggs, beaten

Sift flour and seasonings into bowl. Blend sugar and oil then stir in eggs and pumpkin. Mix dry ingredients (add raisins or nuts if you like using them). Pour batter into 2 loaf pans (9-by-5-inch, well greased) and bake in a 350-degree oven for 1 hour.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
CHRISTMAS SLICES
1 cup butter
1 cup confectioner's sugar
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 1/4 cups flour
2 cups red & green candied cherries, halved
1 cup pecan halves

In a bowl cream the butter and sugar. Add egg and vanilla and until until fluffy. Add flour and mix well. Stir in cherries and pecans. Chill for 1 hour. Shape dough into (3) 10-inch rolls, wrap in plastic bag. Freeze up to 2 months or until ready to bake. To bake, cut frozen rolls into 1/8-inch slices. Place on ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 325 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are golden brown. Cool on wire racks.

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G&G Announces Its Annual Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 24 through Dec. 22

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$35 in addition to the prize gift.

Recipes received **NOW** through **DECEMBER 14** will be entered in the holiday contest. Enter as often as you like during this period.

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Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$35. Winners will be announced Dec. 22.

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

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Dick Tracy puzzle; large fancy gold frame picture; deer head mount; Ducks Unlimited decanter; old ice skates; crock jug; old pop bottles; old tobacco jar; old horse weather vane; felt pennants; old mirrors; stamp collection; old doll trunk; chicken picture; old signs; GJ Tires 2 sided sign, porcelain; Kendall adv. wall clock; Cooper Feeds adv. wall clock; American Ironsmith magazines; fishing flies in folder; silhouette picture; Ukulele; old fishing equipment; 300+ old lures including Heddon, L&S Shakespeare, Trout, Runt, Soundbend, Creekchub, Paw Paw, Hustler, Arbogast, Baby Sonic, Flash Reno, Lazy Ike, Hula Popper, Hawaiian Wiggler, Rebel; 1932 Farm Mechanics; 1922 repair price list; Case parts list; Dempster windmill book; old postcards; lots of old toys; Hoosier sugar jar; Fi-

esta; 2 old Wonder Wheel toys; jewelry; pocket knives; Hull vases; double wedding ring quilt; stag glass bowl with windmill design; red Fenton glassware and a lot of other red glassware; Cape Cod; game plate and more.

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2009 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Mary Rogers, Topeka: CREAM CHEESE & OLIVE PECAN BITES

3 ounces cream cheese
1/2 cup finely chopped
pimiento stuffed Spanish
olives
1 tablespoon chopped fresh
chives
1/4 teaspoon pepper
80 pecan halves

Stir the cream cheese,
olives, chives and pepper to-
gether. Spread onto 40 large
pecan halves and top with 40
large pecan halves forming a
sandwich.

Shawna Moyer, Emporia:
"Delicious for Christmas
morning."

BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

2 pounds pork sausage (mild
or spicy), browned &
drained
1 box croutons, garlic &
onion
2 1/2 cups milk
4 eggs
4 cups Colby/Monterey jack
cheese, grated
Black pepper to taste
1 can cream of mushroom
soup
1/2 cup milk

Lightly grease 9-by-13-
inch pan. Spread sausage in
bottom of pan. Top with
croutons. Mix 2 1/2 cups
milk and eggs. Pour over
sausage and croutons. Sprin-
kle cheese on top. Season
with black pepper. Cover and
refrigerate overnight. Be-
fore baking, mix cream of
mushroom soup and 1/2 cup
milk. Pour over top of casse-
role. Bake at 375 degrees for
40 to 45 minutes. Let set 5
minutes before serving.

Margaret Bairow, West-
moreland: "Very good."

CRANBERRY SALAD

1 can cranberry sauce
1 cup hot water with 1/2 cup
pineapple juice
1 box raspberry gelatin
1 can pineapple, drained,
save juice
1 cup small marshmallows
1/2 cup nuts

Mix cranberry sauce with
hot water that has gelatin
dissolved in it. Mix with
pineapple and marshmal-
lows. Add nuts and mix well.
Refrigerate. Can be made
ahead of time.

Karen Saner, Burns: "My
husband said that he liked

the egg pie his mother use to
make. I finally figured out
that he was talking about a
custard pie. I enjoy making
this very easy pie, especially
when you have an extra
crust to fill."

FAVORITE CUSTARD PIE

2 1/2 cups milk
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
4 large eggs
9-inch unbaked pie shell

Scald milk. Beat eggs,
sugar, salt and vanilla to-
gether. Stir slowly into
scalded milk. Pour into pie
shell. Sprinkle with cinna-
mon. Bake at 400 degrees for
25 to 30 minutes.

Note: My husband said
that sometimes his Mom put
some sliced apples on top be-
fore baking.

Beth Scripter, Abilene:
"Here is an easy and good
sugar cookie recipe that you
can change flavors with the
gelatin flavor."

LIME SUGAR COOKIES

1 1/2 cups butter, softened

1 cup sugar
3-ounce package lime gela-
tin
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
4 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking powder

Cream butter, sugar and
gelatin. Beat in egg and
vanilla. Slowly combine the
flour and baking powder.
Roll into 1-inch balls and
flatten with glass dipped in
sugar or sprinkle with your
favorite sprinkles. Bake at
350 degrees for about 7 min-
utes. They will be soft. Use
different flavors of gelatin
for different colors and
taste.

Mary Ellen Newbury,
Mansfield, Texas:

BEER BREAD

3 cups self-rising flour
2 tablespoons sugar
12-ounce can beer

Put flour, sugar and beer
all together and mix. Do not
beat. Stir until moist then
pour into greased loaf pan.
Bake at 375 degrees for 55
minutes. Do not let sit, bake
immediately.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Cen-
ter: "The orange juice gives
this salad a little different
flavor."

CRANBERRY- RASPBERRY GELATIN SALAD

(2) 3-ounce packages rasp-
berry gelatin
1 cup boiling water
14-ounce can cranberry
sauce
8-ounce can crushed pineap-
ple, undrained
1 cup orange juice

Dissolve gelatin in water.
Stir in other ingredients.
Pour into an 8-by-8-inch
dish, cover and refrigerate
until set.

Joyce Maginness, Fostor-
ia: "Quick, easy and good!"

CARAMEL APPLE SALAD
1 small package butter-
scotch instant pudding
mix
8 ounces whipped topping
8-ounce can crushed pineap-
ple
1 cup miniature marshmal-
lows

3 cups chopped unpeeled ap-
ples

1 cup chopped pecans

Combine pudding mix,
whipped topping and pine-
apple in a bowl; mix well.
Stir in marshmallows, ap-
ples and pecans. Chill until
serving time.

Kellee Rogers, Topeka:
OREO TRUFFLES

18-ounce package chocolate
sandwich cookies with
white filling, finely
crushed

8 ounces cream cheese

1 pound white baking choco-
late, melted (or dark choco-
late)

In a large mixing bowl
combine crushed cookies
and cream cheese. Beat with
mixer on low speed until
well blended. Form 1-inch
balls by hand. Dip balls
in white chocolate and place
on baking sheet covered
with waxed paper. Refriger-
ate 1 hour or until firm.
To store, cover and refriger-
ate.

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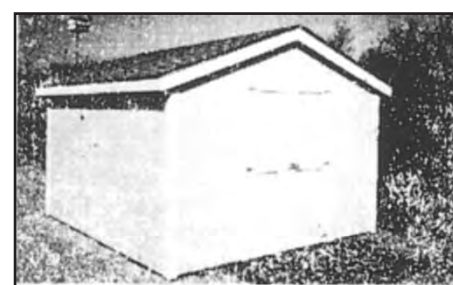
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2009 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

These are recipes that were submitted prior to the beginning of the contest.

Mary Ellen Newbury, Mansfield, Texas:

PRIZE CHIFFON CHEESE CAKE

1 cup (about 12 crackers) fine graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup melted butter
(4) 3-oz. packages cream cheese (room temperature)
1/2 can or 7 1/2 ounces sweetened condensed milk
2 large eggs, separated
1/3 cup sour cream
2 teaspoons confectioner's sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 teaspoon grated lemon peel
1/4 teaspoon salt (can use less)

In a medium-sized mixing bowl combine cracker crumbs, sugar and butter. Set aside 1/4 cup; pat rest evenly on bottom and half-way up side of a 9-inch springform pan. In a large mixing bowl beat cream cheese until fluffy. Blend in sweetened condensed milk. Beat in egg yolks, one at a time. Beat in remaining ingredients except salt. In a small-sized mixing bowl whip egg whites with salt until stiff; fold into cheese mixture. Turn into prepared pan. Sprinkle reserved

crumbs on top. Bake in a 300-degree (slow) oven for 30 minutes. Cool in a pan away from drafts then refrigerate.

Gin Fox, Holton, shares the following two: "How much more easier can you get?"

CHERRY PINEAPPLE DUMP CAKE

1 can cherry pie filling
1 can crushed pineapple
1 box butter-flavored yellow cake mix
1 stick butter or margarine
1 cup shredded coconut
1/2 cup chopped pecans

In a 9-by-13-inch glass casserole dish mix together cherry pie filling and crushed pineapple. Sprinkle entire box of cake mix over fruit careful not to have any big lumps. Melt butter/margarine and drizzle over cake mix. Sprinkle coconut and nuts over entire cake. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes.

SMOTHERED STEAK STRIPS

1 1/2 pounds lean chuck or round steak, cut in strips
1/3 cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 large onion, sliced

1-pound can tomatoes
4-ounce can sliced mushrooms
1 tablespoon molasses (optional) or sugar
3 tablespoons soy sauce
1 package frozen green beans
Toss steak strips with flour, salt and pepper; place in crock-pot. Add onion, tomatoes, mushrooms, molasses and soy sauce. Cover and cook for 8 to 10 hours on low. Add green beans 30 to 45 minutes before serving. Good served with rice. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

The next two are from Kellee Rogers, Topeka:

CHEESY CHICKEN POT PIE

3 cups chopped cooked chicken
16-ounce package frozen vegetable blend
1/2 pound Velveeta cheese, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
1 can cream of chicken soup
8-ounce can crescent dinner rolls

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Combine first four ingredients in a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Unroll dough and place over chicken mixture. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until crust is golden brown.

PEANUT BUTTER CUP PIE
8-oz. package cream cheese
1/2 cup + 1 tablespoon cream peanut butter, divided
1 cup cold milk
1 package vanilla instant pudding
2 1/2 cups whipped topping, divided
1 Oreo pie crust
3 squares bakers semi-sweet chocolate

Beat cream cheese and 1/2 cup peanut butter until well blended. Add milk and dry pudding mix and beat 2 minutes. Whisk in 1 cup whipped topping and spoon into crust. Refrigerate until ready to use. Microwave remaining whipped topping and chocolate in a bowl for 1 1/2 to 2 minutes or until melted and well blended, stirring after each minute. Cool completely. Spread chocolate mixture over pudding layer into crust. Microwave remaining peanut butter for 30 seconds; stir. Drizzle over pie. Refrigerate 4 hours or until firm.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
PINEAPPLE
SWEET POTATOES
6 medium sweet potatoes
1/2 cup brown sugar
3 tablespoons butter
1/2 teaspoon salt

8 1/4-oz. can crushed pineapple in syrup, undrained
Cook sweet potatoes until tender in salted water. Take off skins and cut into 1/2-inch slices. Heat remaining ingredients in skillet over medium heat, stirring constantly, until smooth and bubbly. Add sweet potato slices. Stir gently until glazed and hot.

A Grass & Grain area cook has requested a recipe for Whoopie Pies that appeared in a past issue of Grass & Grain.

If you have a favorite Whoopie Pie recipe please submit to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505. E-mail at: agpress2@agpress.com

Following is a recipe from cooks.com

WHOOPIE PIES
Whoopie Pie:
2 cups sugar
3/4 cup shortening
2 eggs, slightly beaten
2 cups milk
2 teaspoon vanilla
10 tablespoons cocoa
4 cups flour
2 1/2 teaspoons soda
Pinch of salt
Filling:

1 1/2 cups shortening
1 1/2 cups confectioner's sugar
12 tablespoons marshmallow fluff
2 teaspoons pure vanilla

Cream shortening and sugar. Combine beaten eggs, milk and vanilla and beat into creamed mixture. Slowly stir sifted dry ingredients into the creamed mixture, and beat on medium speed about 2 minutes. Drop with tablespoon onto greased and floured cookie sheet (enough dough to make a baked cookie about 2 to 2 1/2 inches). Bake at 350 degrees until cookie just springs back when pressed in center with finger. Remove to rack and cool completely before filling.

Combine fluff, shortening, and vanilla and beat until well mixed. Slowly add confectioners sugar until well mixed. Place a generous amount on the flat side of one cookie and top with another cookie. Makes about 2 dozen whoopie pies.

These store well in an airtight container in the refrigerator and also freeze well.



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Holiday Cooking Mistakes are Easy to Avoid

MANHATTAN — Cooking mistakes may add humor to the menu, yet common errors in planning and preparing a holiday meal often can be remedied, said Karen Blakeslee, Kansas State University Research and Extension food scientist.

Blakeslee, who as K-State's Rapid Response Center Coordinator spends her working hours answering about 1,500 food and food safety questions annually, offered tips to avoid five frequent holiday cooking mistakes:

Mistake: Not buying enough turkey.

Blakeslee: Allow about one pound of bone-in turkey per person. This will yield about one-half pound turkey meat per person.

Mistake: Forgetting to thaw the turkey.

Blakeslee: The easiest way to thaw a frozen turkey is in the refrigerator. Thawing time will depend on the size of the turkey. Allow 24 hours of thawing time in the refrigerator for each five

pounds of turkey. For example, transfer a 14-pound turkey from the freezer to the refrigerator three to four days prior to the holiday; or, for a 20-pound turkey, four to five days prior to the holiday.

To thaw, place a frozen turkey (in its store wrapper) in a shallow pan with a lip (to catch juices that may leak) on a lower shelf in the refrigerator.

If a turkey is still a little frozen early in the day the meal is planned, empty the sink, and place the partially frozen turkey in cold water (in the sink). Change the water every 30 minutes until the turkey is thawed for cooking.

Thawing a smaller turkey in a microwave oven is an option. Read the manufacturer's appliance instructions. Thawing food in a microwave oven begins the cooking process, which must then be continued in the microwave, oven or roaster.

A frozen turkey can be cooked from a frozen state, but cooking time

will be about 50 percent longer. Also, giblets, neck and gizzard packed in the turkey cavities will need to be removed as the turkey thaws during roasting.

Thawing the turkey at room temperature (on the kitchen counter, for example) is not recommended. At room temperature, raw poultry is subject to bacterial growth.

Mistake: Cooking dressing (or stuffing) within the cavity of the turkey.

Blakeslee: While Grandma likely stuffed the turkey and lived to tell about it, food safety professionals now cite the turkey cavity as an attractive area for food-borne bacteria, and recommend baking dressing in a casserole dish to prevent illness. The size and depth of the casserole or baking dish will need to be considered in determining cooking time, which usually varies from 30 to 45 minutes.

When inserted in the center of the dressing, without touching the bot-

tom of the pan, a food thermometer should read 165 degrees F when stuffing is baked.

Mistake: Underestimating roasting time for the turkey.

Blakeslee: Plan to oven roast a turkey at 325 degrees F for 20-25 minutes per pound plus about 20 minutes for the turkey to stand (covered) before carving.

Placing a turkey in the oven the night before at a low temperature or setting the timer to begin cooking in pre-dawn hours can encourage bacterial growth and is not recommended.

Pop-up timers packaged with the turkey typically have a short (usually 1- to 1-1/2 inch) probe and should not be used to gauge doneness.

Food thermometers are available in kitchen departments in supermarkets and hardware stores and can be purchased for \$10 or less, said Blakeslee, who recommended inserting the thermometer probe at an

angle near the leg, but not touching the bone. When the internal temperature (for both white and dark meat) reaches 165 degrees F, the turkey is cooked.

Mistake: Failure to maintain foods at proper temperatures.

Blakeslee: Keep hot foods hot (above 140 degrees F) and cold foods cold (below 40 degrees F) to protect food quality and discourage food-borne bacteria.

More information about holiday cooking, food and food safety is available at county and district K-State Research and Extension offices and on Extension websites, including: www.ksre.ksu.edu/humannutrition, www.ksre.ksu.edu/foodsafety/ and www.rrc.ksu.edu.

Holiday how-tos also are available on www.holidayfoodsafety.org, a collaborative effort sponsored by the Partnership for Food Safety Education, National Turkey Federation, and the Georgia Pecan Growers.

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

Click 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
Ginger Carrot Cake
from
Sandy Hill, Eskridge

459 ACRES MORRIS COUNTY NATIVE GRASS AUCTION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30 — 7:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Grandview Township Community Center, Hwy. 56, DELAVAN, KS.

LEGAL: S/2 and the NW/4 less Delavan Cemetery and RR right of way, of Sec. 20, Twp. 16 South, Range 6, East of the 6th PM Morris County, Kansas.

PROPERTY LOCATION: Property is 15 miles West of Council Grove, KS or 8.4 miles East of Herington, KS on Hwy. 56 to Rd. 2400. Then 1/2 mile South of intersection of Hwy. 56 and Rd. 2400 in the NE corner of property. Rd. U, Hwy. 56 and Rd. 2500 is on NW side of property.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: There are slightly rolling bluestem hills with a wet weather draw flowing from North to South throughout the property.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: There are 3.5 acres along Hwy. 56 and North of the Railroad right of way. The balance of the land is all South of the Railroad.

Great access just off of Hwy. 56. Quality native grass in a very efficient acreage size. Come to the auction, I'll look forward to see you there. Rick

See November 10th Grass & Grain for complete details.



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TRACT #1: #1: NE/4 of 18-14-2E. Approximately 151 tillable acres (34 acres alfalfa, balance spring ground). A productive upland farm with good blacktop frontage along north boundary. Also includes older vacant home in poor condition to be sold "as is". Predominately Irwin Class II soil. 2008 taxes were \$1,494.36 based on 156 taxable acres.

FSA INFORMATION:

	Cropland Acres	Wheat Base	Wheat Yield	Milo Base	Milo Yield
Tract 1	158.0	126.7	32	21.5	47
Tract 2	80.2	64.3	32	10.9	47
Tract 3	77.8	62.4	32	10.6	47

The above are FSA estimates only and are not guaranteed.

TRACT #2: N/2 SW/4 of 14-14-1E. 75.3 tillable acres (all in wheat) 3.0 acres meadow and waste. Good productive upland farm. Predominately Irwin Silt Loam Class II soil. 2008 taxes were \$473.36 based on 81 taxable acres.

TRACT #3: E/2 NW/4 of 23-14-1E. 74.3 tillable acres (all in wheat), balance waterways and waste. Also includes approximately 3.0 acres timber for recreational purposes. Predominately Irwin Class II and Irwin Class III soils, 2008 taxes were \$481.52 based on 79 taxable acres.

SELLERS:
Heirs of George Minter

ATTORNEY:
Mark Guilfoyle
Abilene, Kansas

SALE CONDUCTED BY:

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www.riordanauction.com

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Thursday, December 3, 2009
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	Cropland Acres	Wheat Base	Wheat Yield	Milo Base	Milo Yield
Tract 1	158.0	126.7	32	21.5	47
Tract 2	80.2	64.3	32	10.9	47
Tract 3	77.8	62.4	32	10.6	47

The above are FSA estimates only and are not guaranteed.

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SELLERS:
Heirs of George Minter

ATTORNEY:
Mark Guilfoyle
Abilene, Kansas

SALE CONDUCTED BY:



POSSESSION: Land selling subject to existing tenant rights of Kevin Howie and Monte Felbush.

Wheat Ground: After 2010 harvest. Buyers to receive 1/3 of crop and pay landowner's share of fertilizer applied after sale date.

Spring Ground, Alfalfa, Waterways & Grass: March 1, 2010

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
10% due day of sale, with balance due 1-5-2010. If for some reason title conveyance cannot be completed by 1-5-2010, buyer to pay 10% per annum interest on unpaid balance from 1-5-2010 until date sale is closed.

2009 real estate taxes and prior years paid by Seller. Title Insurance will be used with cost split equally between Buyer and Seller. All mineral rights owned sell with property. Property selling "as is" with no guarantees or warranties made by seller.

Announcements made at the auction take precedence. All information given is from sources deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Property selling subject to easements, restrictions and reservations if now existing.

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Being lazier in your cow-calf operation might pay off in the long run

Weaning fall calves early the next spring might leave you doing more work and earning less money, according to a University of Missouri Extension forage specialist.

Research is beginning to show that leaving calves with their mothers longer pays off, said Rob Kallenbach.

"One thing we've noticed is when the calves are weaned in April, we're weaning and selling the calf right in front of the high-level forage production in spring," Kallenbach said. "We're looking at ways for farmers to simply capture some of this value and not hurt the cows so they can rebreed well for the next year."

Data collected at the MU Forage Systems Research Center in Linneus, Mo., shows that calves that are not weaned gain 66 percent more weight daily than those that are just weaned and kept on the farm as stocker calves. They also measure up equally to weaned calves that receive feed along with grazing.

Tests over the past two summers have led researchers Kallenbach, Justin Sexten and Dave Davis to believe that putting calves on a rotational grazing schedule where they are left with their mothers will leave the cows in a healthy state for fall calving. This allows farmers to maximize profit by taking advantage of peak pasture growth.

Calves left with their mothers gain an average of about 2.1 pounds per day from April to June. This equals the average daily weight gain by weaned calves given a feed supplement in a leader-follower system in which calves are rotated through pastureland, followed by the group of mother cows. Weaned calves in a leader-follower system that did not receive feed in addition to pasture gained less, averaging only 1.4 pounds of daily growth.

Kallenbach noted that a few more years of research is needed to ensure that the past two wet summers, with high pasture growth, haven't skewed the data.

More and more farmers are moving to fall calving.

Recent estimates show that about 20 percent of farmers operate fall calving operations.

"Producers like fall calving because the calves are born in September and October, which has reasonably moderate weather. For a lot of the older producers, this means being outside more in the nicer months rather than in February and March," Kallenbach said. "Another thing is that when a fall-calved calf is marketed, it's typically ready for sale in the high end of the market cycle, where there aren't as many calves for sale, so the price is higher."

This economic gain combined with personal ease has generated more interest in

fall calving, making Kallenbach's research more pressing for farmers looking to adapt their cattle operations.

The method allows Missouri farmers to take advantage of one valuable asset: nearly 12 million acres of hay and grazing land. Fescue — covering approximately 11 million acres in the state — experiences a growth peak in the months of April through June, which provides cheaper feed for cow herds than the winter alternative: hay, silage or feed supplements.

"The downside the cow is calving at the end of the growing season and is supporting a calf through the most difficult and demanding months," Kallenbach

said. "That means you are putting out more hay or grain supplements, which are more expensive than letting the cow work for itself and eat, like in winter calving."

Kallenbach noted that despite the downside, this management option could result in more money in the long run. For Missouri's 55,000 cattle producers, that adds up.

"You can gain about \$100 a calf by leaving it with its mother until late June compared to weaning the calf and grazing it alone," he said. "If you multiply that by a 200-calf herd, that's a lot of dollars—and \$20,000 bucks to someone every year for darn near free is something to try."



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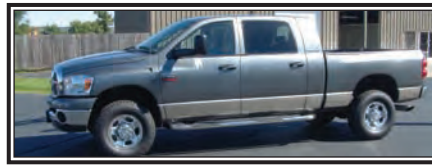
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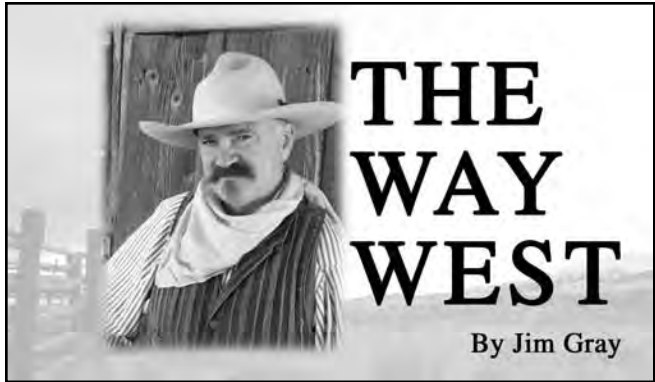
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Our Cattle Heritage

Kansas has long been recognized as the “Wheat State.” Fertile prairie soils produce some of the finest grain in the world. But those fertile soils once grew grass from border to border, developed from annual migrations

of the American Bison, which I prefer to call buffalo, since most of those old buffalo hunters knew no other name.

Today, cattle graze the old buffalo range. As of January 1, 2009, Kansas was the

third ranking state in national cattle numbers with 6.3 million head on ranches and in feedlots across the state. Those cattle reflect a heritage built from the ground up as, following the Civil War, Texas cattle herders searched for ready markets in the north for their millions of Texas Longhorn cattle.

Most people think that Texans drove their cattle to the Kansas railheads because the railroad in Kansas was closer than the early Illinois markets. But the story is more complicated than that. Actually, cattlemen didn’t mind driving cattle long distances. It was much cheaper than shipping by rail.

Prior to the Civil War, Texans drove their cattle all the way to Illinois markets and one herd made it to New York City. But one little problem stopped that practice. South Texas cattle carried a disease called Spanish Fever, known more commonly as Texas Cattle Fever. The fever was devastating to domestic herds, bringing horrifying death in the wake of the trail season. Stock men and farmers set up blockades to stop the cattle from entering the state of Missouri. Many drovers learned to trail their cattle around Missouri into Kansas. In that way markets in Kansas City and Iowa

were easily reached, but by 1860 Kansans were also setting up blockades. Armed settlers forcibly turned trail herds back.

Texas cattle were not seen on northern trails during the Civil War, but as soon as it was over cattlemen put herds back on the trail.

Baxter Springs in the very southeast corner of Kansas became a focal point on the Shawnee Trail as the herds marched toward Missouri in 1866. Once again the blockades went up. Cattlemen were dealt a terrible blow. Cowboys were sometimes shot from the saddle without warning. Trail bosses were arrested by bogus authorities

and their herds stolen. Men were tied to trees, whipped and left for dead.

As the first railroad was being built across Kansas, Joseph McCoy, an Illinois cattleman, worked out a deal with the railroad and built a cattle depot at a little village called Abilene, just as drovers were bringing cattle north on a freighting trail established by a plainsman by the name of Jesse Chisholm.

Texans could market their cattle in Abilene to northern dealers without coming into contact with the jayhawkers and bushwhackers of eastern Kansas and western Missouri. The Kansas cattle town was born.



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Most folks believe that the cattle towns moved west with the railroad, but that isn't the case. The Kansas Pacific reached Denver in 1870, but Abilene remained the major market until 1871. That was followed by Newton on the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway and Ellsworth on the Kansas Pacific. No one dared venture any farther west because the western prairie was still the domain of the Comanche, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Arapahoe and Sioux.

And why did the drovers leave Abilene? Because, settlers moved west and brought domestic cattle with them. The old nemesis of the cattle trail, Texas Cattle Fever caused drovers to seek new markets away from settlement. Newton gave way to Wichita. Ellsworth gave way to Hays City and Ellis. Dodge City prospered as the Cowboy Capital for more than a decade. Finally Caldwell made a strong run for the market. Known as the Border Queen, Caldwell was just one mile north of Indian

Territory where no settlement was allowed.

And what became of the fever? Cattlemen eventually discovered that a tick living on the Gulf Coast carried the disease. Coastal cattle naturally developed immunities that northern cattle could not acquire. A simple dip of insecticide rid the Texas cattle of the tick and drovers no longer needed to drive west of settlement. In the process, drovers discovered the lush Kansas prairie grass. Ranching became a way of life all across Kansas and today over one and a half million beef cows graze the Kansas prairie.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier and also publishes Kansas Cowboy, Old West history from a Kansas perspective. Contact 785-472-4703 or www.droversmercantile.com.

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Improperly heated barns may cause horse health problems

Horse owners who use heated barns to keep water from freezing and to protect horses from cold temperatures during late fall and winter should remember supplemental heat can cause problems if used incorrectly.

Ventilation is important when horses are kept inside a barn, said Dave Freeman, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension equine specialist.

"Closing up a barn to maintain heat may increase respiratory diseases because of high ammonia content and bacterial growth in stalls," Freeman said.

Closed barns usually have increased humidity. High humidity combined with warm temperature can cause enough nitrogen smell or bacteria growth to irritate the horse's respiratory system. These frequently result in chronic, minor respiratory problems that interfere with animal performance.

Freeman said controlled research to define acceptable humidity and temperature levels to lessen the chance of respiratory illnesses is difficult because of the variability between barns, the horse's daily routines in and out of the barn and lack of controlling research conditions. However, many veterinarians attest to an increase in respiratory

problems in heated barns with high humidity.

"The solution is to turn down the heat and get rid of the humidity by increasing air flow," Freeman said.

Some farm operators have reported beneficial results by installing exhaust fans that move air when the humidity rises. There are methods to make these systems automatic by installing reostats that respond to humidity levels.

Another problem is that while the ideal temperature for horses is around 45 degrees to 65 degrees Fahrenheit, this "ideal range" may be neither cost effective nor a way to promote equine health.

"Increasing the heat of a barn above 55 degrees Fahrenheit not only can be expensive, it also may have negative effects when moving horses out of the barn into colder temperatures," Freeman said.

Equine managers also need to remember that horses under artificial lighting programs for reproductive or show reasons will shed hair. Therefore, special considerations must be given to protect these animals from cold, windy and wet weather.

Even though hair growth is largely a photoperiodic response, warm environments assist in keeping hair short. Adequate hair cover is extremely im-

portant during cold conditions, providing the horse with needed insulation to combat the cold stress of near freezing or freezing temperatures. Frequent movement into and out of heated barns from cold outside environments may in itself be a significant source of stress that can be avoided.

Freeman said one alternative is to maintain barn temperatures at around 45 degrees to 55 degrees Fahrenheit and use blankets to keep horses with short hair coats protected from cold temperatures in and outside of the barn.

"Part of the problem with maintaining proper barn temperature is that people working in the barn often like it a bit warmer than is recommended for the horses," he said. "Horse managers should maintain barn temperatures at a level that will help promote healthy horses and not at a level dictated by a worker's personal comfort."

This might require periodic checks by the barn manager to ensure temperatures are set at the proper level.

"It's often just a case of human nature. If you're cold, you don't think twice about turning up the heat a bit," Freeman said. "But that oversight can cause health-related problems for horses, which in turn can mean money lost to the horse owner."

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BY RALPH GALEANO

A Bad Run of Luck

Have you ever left a gate open or a latch not hooked tight? When that happens and your animals get out, you can only blame yourself and promise to not let it happen again. But, when Mother Nature opens the gate, you have to chalk it up to "a bad run of luck."

A bad run of luck always seems to come at a bad time. Late at night during a winter storm when it's 10 below is a bad time. Our phone woke us late one bitter night. It was the school teacher down the road. Our cows were on

his place eating the bales of hay he set up to practice shooting his bow and arrow. Archery range he called it. I listened to him describe the mess they were making. They were tearing up bales, squirting manure and mixing it up with hay and snow. It was freezing solid making an "icy mess like frozen brown popsicles. My archery range looked like a barnyard," he said.

They can't be our cows. We've got good fences, I thought, but told him that I'd come right down. I climbed

out of bed and turned the lights on. My wife asked who was on the phone. I told her about the cows and brown popsicles and suggested she come along, just in case. "I never knew popsicles came in brown," she said. Now, getting dressed to brave a winter storm when it's 10 below takes time. Pulling on long johns, heavy pants, wool shirts, insulated coveralls and shoe packs

keeps you busy for a while. Ear muffs, wool hats, face mask and gloves all have to be donned with care to make sure there are no openings to let the wind blow snow under your armor and freeze your ear lobes and other delicate things.

After banging on the doors to break away the buildup of ice so we could open them, we climbed into the pickup amid a flurry of wind blown snow. While the engine was warming, I had time to reflect on the pleasure of ranching in Montana. As we watched the defroster gradually thaw a small hole through the crusted ice on the windshield, I thought how lucky I was to be able to experience the joys of ranching in winter but, most

of all, I was glad I plugged the engine head bolt heater in before I went to sleep because the warm engine cranked right up. A vision of a "For Sale" sign by our front gate crossed my thoughts as the hole on the outside of the windshield slowly got larger and larger.

We plowed through snow drifts and up onto the hard road headed for the teacher's archery range. Wind was blowing the snow sideways and it was hard to see the road. A couple miles later we turned onto his road and crawled towards his house. I thanked Henry Ford or whoever invented four-wheel drive every time we went off the road and had to go into after-burner to power

back to where we thought the road was. "How much do you think those calves will bring next fall?" I shouted at my bride, as we gained the road again. "They won't bring enough to make up for all this misery."

"It's not that bad. This doesn't happen very often. Besides, they help pay the bills, put food on the table and boots on our feet." We pulled into the yard and around the house to the where the archery range was located. "Good Lord!"

There stood Horny Cow. Our prize Hereford. Snow whistled by her magnificent horns as she crunched a mouthful of bow and arrow hay. The range was a mess. Brown popsicles mixed with

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Eskimo pies covered the crime scene and forty head of Herefords were destroying every bale of hay on the range. They were our cows! How did they escape our pastures? I dropped our tailgate and opened a bale of alfalfa. I sailed one flake towards the cows. They dropped the bow and arrow grass hay and headed for the green alfalfa. Once they started jostling over it, my wife idled the pick-up out of the archery range. The cows had their eye on the open bale sitting in the tailgate and trotted after the truck while I doled out just enough hay to keep them interested. We cleared the teacher's yard and headed down the road towards a pasture that bordered our place. Through the gate we

went heading toward home with our fugitives following along for a chance at a mouthful of sweet alfalfa.

Things seemed to be working O.K. until the truck found an irrigation ditch hidden by snow. It buried itself in the ditch and wouldn't pull out even with full power and chains on the wheels. While I worked to free the truck, the cows helped themselves to the rest of the hay. The truck was dead and wasn't going anywhere. The cows started to scatter and things were looking grim. The vision of the "For Sale" sign kept popping up.

We found a couple sorting sticks in the truck and started the cows on foot toward our gate a half-mile away. An hour later we

pushed them onto our place. The night wasn't over. I wished I had a tractor with a warm cab because I spent the next two hours riding the fence line on the open tractor trying to find where they made their escape. The fences were all up and tight. Mostly froze, I coaxed the tractor back to the barn and made my way to the house hoping the cattle would still be in our pasture come daylight. I shed a ton of ice crusted clothes and made a pot of coffee. By the time I thawed out, it was coming daylight. Time to check the cows, look for the hole and pull the truck out of the ditch. Back in the tractor, I headed for the pick-up. The snow quit but it was still cold. I pulled the truck out and tried to start

it. The battery died. At least it's out of the ditch, I thought. I could see subtle signs in the snow of where the cattle had milled around the truck cleaning up the alfalfa. Wind and snow had mostly obscured their tracks but there was just enough sign visible to back track them. I drove back to the teacher's place and looked around. I followed their sign and it led to the frozen lake between our place and the neighbors. The fence ends when it meets the lake. They never venture out on the lake even when it's frozen. One brave cow must have discovered she had good traction on the crunchy ice and the rest followed. Right around the end of the fence! It was a small shallow lake less than a football field

wide. I'll have to fence across the lake to keep this from happening again, I thought. Back home, I loaded jumper cables and retrieved the truck. I loaded posts, wire, staples, chain-saw, sledge and drove out on the frozen lake. I lined up from the fence on one side of the lake to the fence on the other side and paced 10 steps and stomped a mark in the snow. After I shoveled the snow down to bare ice, I cut a square hole in the ice with the chainsaw and slid the first pole through to the shallow, soft lake bottom and pounded it in with the sledge. I did it ten more times and then strung the wire. I was done! The cows were still home and I had plugged their escape route. Cold, tired and covered with

frozen slush, compliments of the chainsaw cutting through ice and slinging off lake water that froze to my Carharts and shoe packs, I climbed in the truck looking like an icicle with brown eyes and hoped it would crank back up.

It did. My luck was finally changing. I eased across the lake toward shore. Just before the front wheels reached the low bank, they broke through thin ice and dropped three feet to the bottom! As water seeped into the cab, I knew three things were gospel: 1. If I didn't get this truck out of the lake pronto, it was going to freeze in solid and be there till spring. 2. I was going to find a sign painter. and 3. I sure enough was having "a bad run of luck."

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1999 F-450, 7.3 Power Stroke, 6-spd., 72,000 miles w/14' contractors bed & hoist, positive track rear end, new rubber; 1994 Case 480F Back Hoe Diesel, 2' bucket, 14' reach, 7' front bucket, 1700 hrs., new rubber; 10' Snow Plow, adapts to 1994 backhoe; 2000 TB-50 Snorkel, Diesel, 505 Hrs, 2 Wheel Drive, 50' Reach, Like New; 1997 New Holland LX565 Diesel Skid Loader, 5' bucket, 1500 hrs.; Pallet Forks Adapts to 1997 New Holland; 2002 Atlas Copco XAS-56 Air Compressor, diesel, 1000 hrs.; Miller Bobcat 225 NT Welder-Generator, 8000-watt, 208 hrs.; 15' 3-axle Equipment Trailer with ramps, pintle hitch.

TOOLS

ICS 613 GC Concert Chain Saw with extra new bar and chain, Like New; Central 12-speed Drill Press; Sullair Chipping Hammer w/assorted bits; Transit with tripod; Sandstorm Sand Blaster, 300-lb. capacity with 50' of hose; Forney Model C6 Stick Welder; 200' Welding Cable; (2) 7 1/4" Skill Saws, worm drive; 2 Milwaukee Hammer Drills; Milwaukee 1 1/2" Rotary Hammer; Milwaukee 1 1/2" Right Angle Drill; Milwaukee 3/4" Sander Grinder; Remington Power Nailer; 12" Electric Concert Saw; 8" Electric Grinder; Tapco 12' Metal Brake; Ridgid 400 Power Threader with oiler and taps and dies; 4" Pipe Cutter; Milwaukee Sawzall; Dayton 10" Grinder with stand; Dayton 6" High Speed Grinder with stand; Ridgid K-1500 Sewer Drain Cleaner with 105' of cable; Carpet Stretcher Kit; Jansered 2149 Chain Saw; Homelite XL Chain Saw; Jansered Gas Weed Eater with saw blade; Shop Vac; Red Devil Paint Shaker; Honda 2.2-HP Paint Sprayer; 37-lb. Paving Breaker; Foley BELSAW

Auctioneer's Note: Due to health reasons after 35 years of basement repair Schiffbauer Construction is going out of business.

NOTE: All equipment and tools were purchased new,

TERMS: Cash or valid check with proper ID. Not responsible for accidents, theft or printing errors. Statements made day of sale take precedence over printed material. All items sold as-is.

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Thanksgiving dinner cheaper than 2008

Menu items for a classic Thanksgiving dinner including turkey, stuffing, cranberries, pumpkin pie and all the basic trimmings dropped 4 percent in price this year, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

AFBF's 24th annual informal price survey of classic items found on the Thanksgiving Day dinner table indicates the average cost of this year's feast for 10 is \$42.91, a \$1.70 price decrease from last year's average of \$44.61.

"As we gather this Thanksgiving for food and fellowship, it's fitting to take a moment to recognize and give thanks, not only for the abundant food we enjoy as Americans, but for the hard-working farm and ranch families across our nation who produce it," said AFBF President Bob Stallman.

The AFBF survey shopping list includes turkey, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, a relish tray of carrots and celery, pumpkin pie with whipped cream, and beverages of coffee and milk, all in quantities sufficient to serve a family of 10.

The cost of a 16-pound turkey, at \$18.65 or roughly \$1.16 per pound, reflects a decrease of 3 cents per pound, or a total of \$.44 per turkey compared to 2008.

Milk, at \$2.86 per gallon, dropped \$.92 and was the largest contributor to the overall decrease in the cost of the 2009 Thanksgiving dinner.

"Consistent with the retail food price declines seen throughout the year, consumers will pay just a bit less for their Thanksgiving feast this year," said Jim Sartwelle, an AFBF economist. "Consumers are benefiting at the grocery store from significantly lower energy prices and the effects of the economic slowdown. Again this year, the cost per person for this special meal is less than a typical 'value meal' at a fast-food outlet," Sartwelle said.

Other items showing a price decrease this year were: a ½ pint of whipping cream, \$1.55; a 12-oz. package of brown-serve rolls, \$2.08; a 1-pound relish tray of carrots and celery, \$.72; and a 12-oz. package of fresh cranberries, \$2.41. A combined group of miscellaneous items, in-

cluding coffee and ingredients necessary to prepare the meal (onions, eggs, sugar, flour, evaporated milk and butter) also dropped in price, to \$2.50.

Items that increased slightly (less than 5 percent) in price this year were: a 14-oz. package of cubed bread stuffing, \$2.65; two 9-inch pie shells, \$2.34; and a 30-oz. can of pumpkin pie mix, \$2.45.

Two items, green peas and sweet potatoes, stayed the same in price at \$1.58 for one pound and \$3.12 for three pounds, respectively.

Sartwelle said despite retail price increases during the last year or so, American consumers have enjoyed relatively stable food costs over the years, particularly when adjusted for inflation.

The 4 percent decrease in the national average cost reported this year by Farm Bureau for a classic Thanksgiving dinner tracks closely with the organization's 2009 quarterly marketbasket food surveys (available online at <http://newsroom.fb.org>) and the federal government's Consumer Price Index (available online at <http://data.bls.gov/>), Sartwelle noted.

Farm Bureau volunteer shoppers are asked to look for the best possible prices, without taking advantage of special promotional coupons or purchase deals, such as spending \$50 and receiving a free turkey. Shoppers with an eye for bargains in all areas of the country should be able to purchase individual menu items at prices comparable to the Farm Bureau survey averages. Another option for busy families without a lot of time to cook is ready-to-eat Thanksgiving meals for up to 10 people, with all the trimmings, which are available at many supermarkets and take-out restaurants for around \$50 to \$75.

The AFBF survey was first conducted in 1986. While Farm Bureau does not make any statistical claims about the data, it is an informal gauge of price trends around the nation.

More than 200 volunteer shoppers from 35 states participated in this year's survey. Farm Bureau's survey menu has remained unchanged since 1986 to allow for consistent price comparisons.

Minihan to advise national crops group

A Kansas State University faculty member has been appointed a national adviser to the Students of Agronomy, Soils and Environmental Sciences.

Dana Minihan, assistant academic coordinator and an instructor for K-State's department of agronomy, was recently appointed to a one-year term on the organization's national advisory committee. The Students of Agronomy, Soils and Environmen-

tal Sciences is the undergraduate organization of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America.

Minihan is representing the Crop Science Society of America on the advisory committee and will help plan the students' portion of the annual meetings of the three societies, which will be Oct. 31-Nov. 4, 2010, in Long Beach, Calif.

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SELLING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH — 9:00 A.M.

TRACTORS

2006 JD 5303, 2WD, 559 hrs; 2006 JD 6215, w/JD 640 loader & hay spike; 2005 JD 4120, 520 hrs; 2004 JD 6615, 2WD, 965 hrs; 2004 JD 6615, 2WD, 1292 hrs; 2004 JD 8420, CAH, MFWD, 1287 hrs; 2004 JD 6615, 2WD, 850 hrs; 2004 JD 6615, 2WD, 885 hrs; 2004 JD 6615, 2WD, CAH.; 2004 JD 6420, 2WD, 1050 hrs; 2003 JD 6615, CAH, MFWD, 1605 hrs; 2003 JD 6403, CAH, w/JD 542 Loader, 1444 hrs; 2002 JD 6420, CAH, MFWD, w/JD 640 Loader,3128 hrs; 2002 JD 6420, CAH, 2WD, 4013 hrs; 2000 JD 6410, CAH, 1704 hrs; 2000 JD 6110, CAH, 4WD, 2400 hrs; 1999 JD 5310, MFWD, 6030 hrs; 1997 JD 7410, w/JD 740SL Loader, 7057 hrs; 1996 JD 2955, 2WD, CAB, 9572 hrs; 1995 JD 7400, MFWD.; 1994 JD 5400, 2WD, w/JD Loader, 2714 hrs; 1993 JD 7600, CAH, 2WD, 2723 hrs; 1993 JD 6300, CAH, w/JD 620 Loader, 1071 hrs; 1992 NH 8240, CAH, w/Great Bend Loader; 1992 JD 4255, CAH, 7384 hrs; 1992 JD 4055, CAH, 4800 hrs; 1989 JD 4555, CAH, 6780 hrs; 1989 JD 2955, CAH, MFWD, 3990 hrs; 1989 JD 2955, CAH, 6040 hrs, w/JD 640 Loader; 1989 JD 2955, CAH, 6040 hrs; 1989 JD 4555, CAH, 6780 hrs; 1985 JD 4650, 8641 hrs; 1979 JD 4440, CAH, 5722 hrs; 1978 JD 950, 214 hrs; 1978 JD 4240, CAH, 8760 hrs; 1978 JD 4240, CAH, 2WD, 8760 hrs; 1977 JD 4430, CAH; 1975 JD 2030, 2471 hrs; 1974 JD 4230, 3455 hrs, w/WL21 Westendorf Loader; 1973 JD 4230, CAH, 4446 hrs; 1971 JD 4320, 2354 hrs; 1971 JD 4320, 206 hrs; 1969 JD 3020, 2160 hrs; 1968 JD 4020, CAH, w/JD 260 loader, 8,119 hrs; 1965 JD 4020, w/Koyker Loader, 4260 hrs; 1963 JD 4010, 3494 hrs; 1961 JD 4010; (2) JD 4040; JD 4600, 4WD, w/Loader; JD 3040 w/Allied Loader, 2WD, 4759 hrs; JD 60; JD 530; JD 730; JD 2510; 2008 Case-IH JX95, CAH, MFWD, w/Case-IH L730 Loader, 78 hrs; New Holland TL90, CAH, 2381 hrs; Kubota M-7500, w/Kubota Loader, 4640 hrs; Kubota B6000E w/50" deck, 4070 hrs; Kubota B1550 w/54" Belly Mower, 1026 hrs; Ford 4600, CAH, 5841 hrs; 1986 Case 2394, 2WD, CAH, 4459 hrs; 1981 Yanmar 3110D, MFWD, 1578 hrs; 1981 KD 4040, CAH, 8036 hrs; 1980 AC 5040, 3174 hrs; 1978 White 2-180, CAH, 2830 hrs; 1976 IH 1066, w/Koyker K5 Loader, 4187 hrs; 1973 Ford 2000; 1973 AC 170, 3972 hrs; 1973 AC 200, Cab, w/Westendorf WL42 Loader, 5054 hrs; 1972 Oliver 1950, CAH, 2WD,7644 hrs; 1971 Oliver-Fiat 1365, 7452 hrs; 1965 MM 670, 5549 hrs; IH 674 w/Kelly Loader & spike; White 4-150, CAH.; 1959 IH 340, 58 hrs; 1957 Ford 601, 1867 hrs; 1953 Ford Jubilee, 6422 hrs; Farmall B; Ford 8N.

PLATFORMS & HEADS

2005 JD 625; 1988 JD 920; 1992 JD 920; 1996 JD 930; Case-IH 1020; 1999 Case-IH 1020; 1988 JD 643; 1982 JD 643; 1982 JD 220; 1995 JD 693

TRUCKS

2001 IH 9400 Eagle; 1999 Freightliner; 1964 IH 190.

TRAILERS

Great Dane Flatbed; Home-steader 712HB Dump Trailer; Kodiak Trailer; Martin 20' Dozer Trailer; Starlite Bumper Trailer; JD 25' Header Trailer.

DRILLS & PLANTERS

2003 JD 1590; 2000 JD 1530; JD Drill Marker Assembly; 2000 JD 1780; JD 7000 Planter; JD 7000 Planter; 1990 JD 7200; CIH 5400 SB Special; JD Drill Markers; JD Markers; 2000 JD 1780.

TILLAGE

JD 1010 Field Cultivator; JD 960 Field Cultivator; DMI Tiger Mate II; Rotary Hoe; JD 680 Chisel; JD Subsoiler; JD 630 Rigid Disk; Rome TWA-285 HD Disk; Schlueter 2 Bar Harrow; McFarlane 24' Harrow; Noble 16' Harrow; JD 930 Cultipacker; 2002 JD 637 Disk; IH Disk; Krause Disk; Midland Disk; JD 810 Plow; JD 12' Cultivator; JD 825 Danish Tine Field Cultivator; JD RM630 Cultivator; Ford 2 row Cultivator; JD 980 Field Cultivator; IH Mounted Field Cultivator; IH 45 Field Cultivator.

DISC MOWERS, CUTTERS & MOCO'S

Vemeer 7020 Disc Mower; 1996 JD 1518 Rotary Cutter; JD 609 Heavy Duty Rotary Cutter; Landpride Cutter; Rhino TW120 ; JD HX20 Rotary Cutter; JD MX7 Rotary Cutter; BH 109 Cutter; BMB Cutter; BMB Rotary Cutter; Landpride Cutter; Rhino SR20M Rotary Cutter; Woods 3180 Heavy Duty Batwing Cutter; 2005 JD 530 MOCO; JD 820 MOCO; 1996 JD 920 MOCO; 2001 JD 936 MOCO; 2004 JD 936 MOCO; JD 946 MOCO; 1987 NH 489 Haybine; 1990 NH 499 Haybine; 1997 JD 270 Disc Mower; JD 350 Balanced Head Mower; New Idea 5408 Disc Cutter; 946 MOCO transport system

BALERS

(4) JD 567 Balers; 1999 JD 566 Baler; 1999 JD 348W Baler; JD 530 Baler; JD 336W Baler; Case-IH 8460 Baler; 2007 JD 568 Baler; 2005 New Holland BR780 Baler; 2005 C-IH RBX562 Round Baler; 1996 Hesston 550 Baler.

FORAGE HARVESTERS

JD 3970 Forage Harvester; JD 5830 SP Forage Harvester; Kemper 3000 Champion; JD Forage Chopper Head; JD Forage Harvester pickup head.

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Let your tractor do the raising, positioning, lowering and transporting with Mayrath Swing-Away Augers.

8", 10" and 12" Features

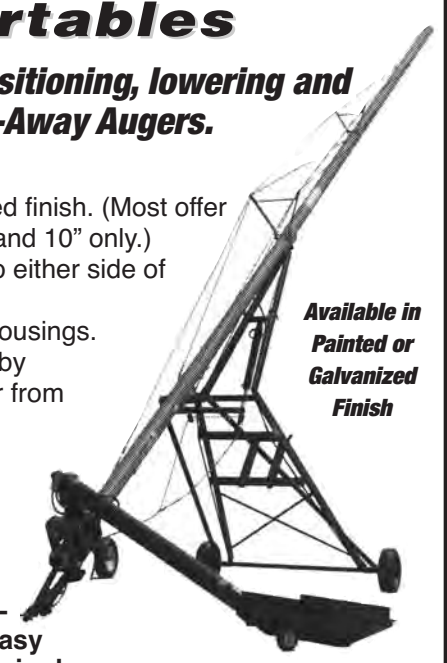
- Available in durable GALVANIZED or painted finish. (Most offer only a painted finish. Painted available in 8" and 10" only.)
- The Swing-Away Flex-Hopper is secured to either side of the main tube for transport.
- All drive components enclosed in oil bath housings.
- Relief door in swing out hopper is secured by spring-loaded clips to protect the main auger from overloading.
- Spindle wheel hubs with tapered bearings provide smooth, reliable transport.

HOPPER FEATURES: The Mayrath Flex Angle design is unique in the industry, allowing the hopper to remain almost horizontal regardless of auger operating angle. The hinged cover permits easy service to the U-Joint. The V hopper and single screw design furnishes excellent capacity. The three hopper wheels allow easy mobility so the hopper can be quickly moved. For transport, the Swing-Away Flex-Hopper can be placed on either the right or left side of the main auger. The lift arm can quickly be switched to the other side of the main auger. The Flex-Hopper is transported in a near vertical position for ease of clean out and to keep moisture from accumulating in the hopper.

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Diameter	Capacity	Lengths
8"	3200 BPH	52', 62', 72'
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12"	7000 BPH	62', 72', 82'

Available in Painted or Galvanized Finish



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	785-293-5583	

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GRASS & GRAIN

Auction Sales Scheduled

check out the on-line schedule at www.grassandgrain.com

November 24 — Lyon County real estate at Olpe for Schneider Family, LLC. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

November 24 — Wabaunsee Co. real estate at Harveyville for Judy Coleman. Auctioneers: Wayne Wischropp, realtor, Century 21 Miller & Midyett.

November 25 — Combines, tractors, farm equip., trucks, ATV internet only (www.bigiron.com) for Big Iron. Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

November 27 — NW Nema-ha Co. farmland at Seneca for Edwin Roggenkamp Estate. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

November 28 — Northern Jackson Co. farmland at Netawaka for Paul & Sheri Dibbern. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

November 28 — Kansas/Nebraska Gelbvieh Associations “Pick of the Herds” female sale at Salina.

November 28 — Poker City Ranch’s All-Breed Mature Bred Female Dispersal (in conjunction with KS/NE sale) at Salina.

November 28 — Osborne Co. farm & grassland, pickups, farm items, riding lawn mower, tools, propane tank, antiques, primitives, collectibles, misc. household at Portis for Mathias “Matt” Becker Estate. Auctioneers: Wolters Auction & Realty.

November 28 — Tractors, skid loader, loader, combine, generator, machinery, autos, gravity wagons, spreaders, trailers, wagons, household goods & misc. at Odell, NE for Gerald Krueger Estate. Auctioneers: Jurgens, Henrichs, Jurgens, Hardin.

November 28 — Tractors, trucks, implements, trailers, cattle equip., hay, shop tools & misc. S. of

Bird City for J.D. & Yvonne Eggers. Auctioneers: Western Auction & Real Estate, LLC.

November 28 — Antique show in Kansas City, MO.

November 28 — Vehicles, tools, household, knives, belt buckles, computer, antiques & collectibles at Abilene for Mark Derrick Estate. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

November 28 — Tractors, vehicles, livestock, antiques, lawn & garden, construction equip., tractor tires & misc. at Tonganoxie for consignments. Auctioneers: Moore Auction Service, Inc.

November 28 — Farm toys at Seward, Neb. for personal collection of Donald & Rita Richardson. Auctioneers: Duer Auction Service, LLC.

November 30 — Morris Co. land at Delavan. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

November 30 — Farm home, outbuildings, acreage, tractor & loader at Olsburg for Justin & Jessica Estes. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

November 30 — Republic Co. land at Munden for Bob & Deb Webber. Auctioneers: Roger Novak Real Estate.

November 30 — Woodson Co. real estate at Neosho Falls for the Marjorie M. George Trust. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Realty Service.

December 1 — Greenwood Co. real estate at Eureka. Auctioneers: Sundgren Realty Land Division.

December 1 — Saline Co. real estate at Salina. Auctioneers: Omli & Associates, Inc.

December 2 — Wabaunsee Co. real estate at Eskridge. Auctioneers: Murray Auction & Realty.

December 3 & 4 — Attachments, parts, tires & access., tractors, loaders, combines, farm equip.,

construction equip., lawn & garden equip. at Lamar, MO for Legacy Farm & Lawn. Auctioneers: Wheeler Auctions.

December 4 — Machinery, cattle, irrigation & misc. equipment S. of Fellsburg for area farmers. Auctioneers: Scott Brown Auction & Real Estate.

December 5 — Real estate at Wamego for Tim & Marilyn Woodruff, Tom & Lisa Woodruff. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

December 5 — Combine, tractors, farm machinery, irrigation & farm related items near Nickerson for Mike & Jane Harrison. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt Auctions.

December 5 — Tractors & combine, hay equip., autos, trucks, trailers, machinery, cameras & guidance system at Leavenworth for Andrew & Julia Kennedy. Auctioneers: Cook Tractor Co., Inc.

December 5 — Household & collectibles, antiques N. of Frankfort for Betty Suther. Auctioneers: Olmsted Real Estate & Auction.

December 5 — Coins, tokens & currency at Junction City. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

December 5 — Mowers, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, tools, guitars, collectibles & other at Salina for M&J Pawn Shop, Inc. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

December 5 — Antiques, primitives, collectibles, furniture & office items at Portis for Lila Simmons Estate. Auctioneers: Wolters Auction & Realty.

December 5 — Equipment, tools, metal & misc. at Bern for Schiffbauer Construction. Auctioneers: Wilhelm Auction Service.

December 6 — Antiques, collectibles, kitchen col-

lectibles, toys, glassware, furniture, books, primitive & modern tools at Stilwell for Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sheldon. Auctioneers: Webb & Associates.

December 7 — Real estate at Burlingame for First State Bank & Kaw Valley Bank. Auctioneers: Wayne Wischropp, realtor, Century 21 Miller & Midyett.

December 9 — Equipment at Spring Hill for consignment auction. Auctioneers: Countrywide Tractor & Auction.

December 12 — Fall consignment auction at Washington. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott, Lee Holtmeier & Luke Bott.

December 17 — Wabaunsee Co. real estate at Harveyville for Donald I. Hrenchir Jr. & Cynthia L. Hrenchir and Louis R. Guth & Colleen M. Guth. Auctioneers: Pearl Real Estate & Appraisal Service.

January 1, 2010 — 25th Annual New Years Day Consignment Auction at Lyndon for Harley Gerdes.

March 6 — Machinery, equip., tractors & combine at Paxico for Duane & Diane Hund. Auctioneers: Murray Auction & Realty, Steve Murrar.

March 13 — 24th annual Concordia Optimist Club consignment sale at Concordia.

March 13 — Harley Gerdes consignment auction at Lyndon.

May 31 — 17th annual Harley Gerdes Memorial Day consignment auction at Lyndon.

August 7 — Harley Gerdes consignment auction at Lyndon.

September 6 — 15th annual Harley Gerdes Labor Day consignment auction at Lyndon.

November 6 — Harley Gerdes consignment auction at Lyndon.

January 1, 2011 — 26th annual Harley Gerdes New Year’s Day consignment auction at Lyndon.

Start smart with your new company’s finances

The unemployment rate is floating near the double digits. There is a growing amount of people out of work and many are looking to try something new.

According to the Kauffman Foundation, 7 percent of individuals who have lost their jobs are launching new ventures. Key in starting that new venture is determining how much it will cost to start, where the funding will come to support start-up and initial operating costs and how you will support your own living costs until the business is financially able to pay you a salary.

So before taking off on your own be sure to get some guidance. The first step to take is to develop a business plan.

Glenn Muske, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension interim associate dean, assistant director, family and consumer sciences, said before starting your own business venture think about the start up costs and future expenses. He cautions that it often takes one or more years before a business makes any profit.

Individuals need to consider the alternative sources for funding a start-up business. Rarely are there any grants and loans for a start-up business and they are also difficult to find. Business owners must be prepared to have some financial resources available to put into the business.

Muske said it is also important to start with savings. Strive to have at least three years worth of living expenses above and beyond the startup costs before going into business. It is important to shop for low-cost loans as well.

Other financial resources can include family and friends. Realize though that this can cause conflict if things do not work out the way you have planned. Some people look to credit cards for start-up funding but this is expensive and can have severe impact on one’s credit score.

“Using your severance pay may be a good way to cover start up costs if you have done your homework,” Muske said. “Remember, though, that you’ll need a way to live until the business takes off, if it ever does.”

Muske cautioned against taking out your retirement funds but recognized that many business owners have done just that to get started. If you do take that route, don’t cash in your 401 (k), instead roll it over into an IRA so if cash is needed you can make incremental withdrawals as needed. But if you make withdrawals remember you will pay tax and a 10 percent penalty. Remember though that doing so will severely impact your future retirement funding. Your business plan needs to include the possibility of restoring that funding.

“The Small Business Association loans are a good way to go if you are able to get one, because the current rates are 5 percent to 10 percent, depending on how much is borrowed,” he said. “SBA loans come in all sizes, but unless you are launching a big business enterprise, their micro-lending program is the way to go. These loans go up to \$35,000.”

The SBA’s website is www.sba.gov. “Many successful American companies got their start during recessions,” Muske said. “To do so, be smart, be brave and, most of all, be frugal. Look at ways to save or to more quickly starting earning money. Be smart with your new venture and hopefully success will follow.”

Another source of information includes your local Extension office. They have educational materials to help you get started and may be offering workshops on financing a business. Also, the Cooperative Extension Service has a helpful website with tools, taped Webinars, educational materials, etc.

Go online to extension.org/entrepreneurship for additional information.

466 ACRES
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4 TRACTS

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

PASTURE
BROME HAY
CROP GROUND
HOME SITES

Southeast Wabaunsee County, near HARVEYVILLE, KANSAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 — 7:00 PM

Odd Fellows Lodge Building, 135 Oak St., HARVEYVILLE, KS (Downtown South of 1st Nation Bank).

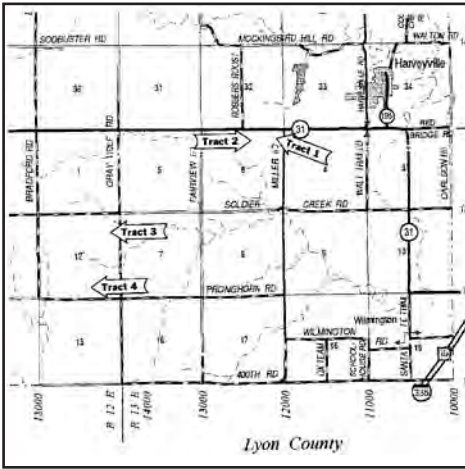
TRACT #1 - 99 Acres M/L with approx. 60 acres crop ground, 19 acres Brome hay ground, 10 acres wind break, 3 small ponds, trees and Brome. Located at SW corner of Highway 31 and Miller Rd., 1 mile West of Harveyville, paved road on 2 sides, natural gas and rural water available. 2009 taxes - \$267.14. Excellent home site.

TRACT #2 - 87 Acres M/L with approx. 59 acres of good quality Brome grass hay ground, approx. 15 acres of crop ground, balance creek and trees. The tract is adjacent to Tract #1 to the West and fronts on Hwy 31. Water meter in place, natural gas available. 2009 taxes - \$223.86. Very nice home site with South slope.

TRACT #3 - 120 Acres M/L mostly mixed native and Brome pasture. New well built, 5 wire fence on South line, other fences are good 5 and 6 wire, 2 small ponds, newer wing fence and pipe catch pens at NE corner. Located 3 miles West of Harveyville on Hwy. 31 to Gray Wolf Rd., then South 1 mile to SW corner at Soldier Creek Rd. and Gray Wolf Rd., 2009 taxes - \$263.42.

TRACT #4 - 160 Acres M/L with approx. 17 acres of Brome grass hay ground with balance mostly native grass pasture, 3 small ponds, good fence, new double pipe gate. Tract #3 and #4 join at corner with wire gate access between 2 pastures. Located at Gray Wolf Rd. and Pronghorn Rd., 2 miles South of Hwy. 31. 2009 taxes - \$208.44.

TERMS OF SALE: Successful bidder, sign purchase contract, 10% down day of auction with the balance due at closing on or before January 15, 2010, possession at the time of closing. Buyer to have all inspections they deem necessary completed prior to auction. All financial arrangements must be made prior to auction, no finance contingencies will



be accepted. Owners title policy will be paid half by seller and half buyer. Real Estate agents are agents of the seller. The property is being sold in its present existing condition “as is”. Statements made the day of auction take precedence over all printed materials. Not responsible for accidents.

AUCTIONEER’S NOTE: These properties offer the diversity you may be looking for to expand your cattle operation with pasture, hay and cropland. Tracts #1 and #2 have over a mile of paved road frontage plus rural water and natural gas. Very nice home site potential. Tracts #3 and #4 have good gravel road access and only 1 to 2 miles from Highway 31. For more information and aerial maps go to www.pearlrealestate.org click on Auction.

SELLERS

TRACT #1 - DONALD I. HRENCHIR JR. & CYNTHIA L. HRENCHIR
TRACTS #2, #3 & #4 - LOUIS R. GUTH & COLLEN M. GUTH
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AUCTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 — 9:30 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co Expo Center 900 Greeley in SALINA, KANSAS

MOWERS, MOTORCYCLES, 3 WHEELERS

John Deere 525 self propelled mower; Honda 900 motorcycle; Yamaha 450 motorcycle; Tri Sport 3 wheel cycle; Honda 200X 3 wheeler; Yamaha 3 wheeler; scooter; Troy Bilt chipper vacuum; Garden Way trimmer; Craftsman 10” tiller; JD TX38 riding lawn mower needs work; sail boat.

TOOLS, GUITAR’S, COLLECTABLES & OTHER

Martin D28 12 string guitar; J-100 Gibson guitar; 20 electric guitar’s; Dahu steel guitar; violin; assortment amps inc (Laney, Peavy, Gigson); several drums; Minn Kota trolling motor; 20 drawer Mac tool box; Cobra electric sewer machine; gas power shingle winch & lift; Strike Master gas post hole digger; gas power tamper; Delta 10” table saw; DeWalt 770 radial arm saw; new Wagner paint sprayer; Lincoln ACDC welder;

Lincoln 225 amp welder; Snap On cordless impact; Bosch 2” rotary hammer drill; Delta miter saw; DeWalt cordless drill; Porter Cable air compressor; Craftsman power washer; gas cutoff saw; Craftsman table band saw; air greaser; commercial paint sprayer; 14” x 40” wood lathe; Honda water pump; assortment nail guns; Poulan 18” chain saw; 20 other chain saws; several bench grinders; planner; DeWalt laser level; David White transit; Delta drill press; Reddy Heater space heater; pressure washer; assortment aluminum ladders; folding aluminum ladder; angle grinders; large assortment of drills, saws & other electric tools; new & used socket sets; large assortment of end wrenches, hammers, other tools; 1 ton chain hoist; body tools; assortment tool boxes; sheet rock equipment (ceiling gun, stilts, knee boards); oak

kitchen clock; washer wringer; Lionel Flyer train; Tyco electric train; Smith & Wesson walnut revolver presentation cases; 80 fishing poles; reels; Dr. Pepper cooler; several JD toys; tin Keystone 18” dump truck; 2 books First Day cover stamps; neon beer signs inc (Bud, Miller); Western Winchester picture; Mercury outboard motors; 4 Daisy BB guns (model 98 Champion, 95 Regular, 1938B Limited Edition); hunting knives; bayonets; snow skis; walking lister; wagon seat; large jump trap; hide stretchers; newer collectable Coke items; 80 German beer steins; Barbie dolls; collector dolls; Disney movies; Tele Star telescope; Ohaus gram scale; assortment \$1 Super Hero comic books; Stanley no 29 plane; 10 gal crock; blow torch; oak child’s chair; camel back trunks; copper boiler; pedal tractor; large assortment of other items.

NOTE: This is a large auction, Mike & Jacques are retiring after 19 years in the pawn shop business. There are many of everything. Note starting time at 9:30 a.m. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Thanksgiving In The 2009 Recession

This Thanksgiving I am thankful for many things large and small. For instance, on the world stage I am thankful that Saddam Hussein finally got what he had coming. But I'm also thankful for more personal things like the fact that there are still airports and convenience stores that have pay phones! They are as rare as a kind word for a legislator, but they are essential

to us Verizaphobics!

I'm thankful that we have not had a terrorist act in our country since 9-11, due to the strength and dedication of our troops who are still stationed around the world in harm's way. On a small note it is comforting that I can still find a restaurant that is not a chain store. One where the chef is really a chef and not a reheater!

I'm thankful to see roads

being built and repaired as part of our economic stimulus plan. It's long overdue and it is creating jobs. Less world-shaking, I'm thankful I have friends and family who care enough to remind me of an anniversary, birthday, or obscure paid bank holiday that I probably would have forgotten.

I think it stems from being part of the agrarian community where every day's a holiday, or a work day, depending on your point of view. The livestock need fed rain or shine, Sunday or Monday, July 4th or April 15th.

This year I am particularly thankful to the pharmaceutical companies and university research scientists

who have given us the miracles of modern medicine. Everywhere I turn our countrymen are living longer, healthier lives. I have loved ones who have been victims of heart attacks, Parkinson's, or cancer that a generation ago was a death sentence, but today I can call them on the phone and talk about something else!

I'm thankful for the abundant, safe food supply that is brought to us by modern agriculture and taken completely for granted. Nobody goes hungry because there isn't enough food produced. Repeat after me, "God is great and God is good, and we thank Him for this food."

I've always been aware that I didn't have to worry

about my weight. I am thankful for that. Oh, sure, I wish I had a full head of hair, that I didn't have hay fever, or I could sing but, ya know, ya can't have everything, so I'm thankful for what I do have.

And finally this Thanksgiving I'm grateful that I have God in my life. It would be bleak if our existence on Earth had no purpose, no meaning. There wouldn't be much point in having a Thanksgiving Day and that would hurt. Because this Thursday I'll be sitting at the table with my family, including Mother, who is ninety. I count my blessings and thank God every time she smiles at me.

Farm debt

Debt levels have been rising, asset levels have outpaced debt despite a recent fall in land prices, and equity has more than doubled for farm businesses. However, recent declines in farm income and falling land prices have raised concerns about the financial position of U.S. farms.

Total farm sector debt reached a record \$240 billion in 2008, a \$26-billion increase over 2007. Debt is expected to decline to \$234 billion in 2009.

The distribution of debt among farm operators has also been changing. In 1986, nearly 60 percent of farms used debt financing. By 2007, the number had dropped to 31 percent.

In essence, farm debt has become more concentrated in fewer, larger farm businesses.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 — 10:30 AM

LOCATION: BEATRICE, NE.: then West on Hwy. 4 to Homestead Red Brick School, then 2 miles North, 1 mile West to SW 103 Rd. and 1/2 mile North or North Booster Station on Hwy. 77 then 6 miles West on W. Hickory Road to SW 103 Rd. then 1/2 mile North or Tri-County School, then 3 miles East to SW 103 Rd. and 1/2 mile South.

RESTORED TRACTORS:

1947 Coop E 3 tractor No. 47 304727 with Buda engine, single hydraulic, pulley, 11x38 original rubber, 1 owner with manual; 1942 John Deere B tractor No. 136875 with power lift, 6 speed, round spoke front wheels, cut off rear wheels with 11.2x38 rubber; 1940's John Deere L tractor with no serial number, 1 bottom mounted plow and 7.50x18 rubber.

TRACTORS: 1960 IH Farmall 560 diesel tractor No. 32570 with NF, quick hitch, single hydraulic, IH 2001 hydraulic loader with trip bucket and 15.5x38 rubber 90%; 1946 IH Farmall H tractor No. 225837 with fenders and 12.4x38 rubber 95%, good paint and metal.

AUTO: 1953 Chev. 210 Deluxe 4 door sedan with power glide, 80,464 miles and 6 cylinder engine, running condition, restorable, nice interior, dent on passenger side.

HORSE DRAWN & MISC. MACHINERY: Horse drawn JD rope trip 2 way plow on rubber, painted; horse drawn McCormick Big 6 steel wheel 6 ft. sickle mower, painted; horse drawn McCormick steel wheel single row cultivator, painted; horse drawn steel wheel shucking box with wooden tongue and hitch; JD pull type 114-A 2 row 42 in. steel wheel lister; JD pull type steel wheel 2x14 plow, painted; McCormick rope trip pull type 3x14 plow; Case hydraulic lift pull type 2x14 plow; steel wheel dump rake; 3 section pull type packer; 2 pt. 9 ft. blade; 3 pt. 6 ft. one-way disc; 2 to 3 pt. quick hitch; 2 pt. post hole digger with 9 in. bit; NI pull type 14 ft. fertilizer spreader; 3 pt. mounted

510 gal. poly tank; 3 pt. PTO seeder.

TRAILERS: 7x6 ft. bumper hitch steel deck tandem wheel trailer; 5x8 ft. 2 wheel bumper hitch flat deck trailer.

LAWN MOWERS: Dixon ZTR 424, 12.5 hp. 50 in. riding mower; Dixon ZTR 429, 14 hp. 50 in. riding mower; Toro self propelled 3 hp. 21 in. lawn mower.

COLLECTIBLES: Dempster burr mill; IH separator; 2 wagon spring sweats; scoop board; double trees and eveners; hay knife; gas cans; cross cut saw; oil brooder stove; steel 4 wheel freight cart; metal corn sheller; iron butcher kettle; glass cylinder gas pump, no glass, needs work; Verona wood burner stove; steel frame grind stone; cream cans; mounted drill press; wringer with tub; small wooden barn door; Martin bird house; tin seats; air horn; post vise; cast iron lamp brackets; Stanley plane; 10 hole metal chicken nest and other small items.

MISCELLANEOUS: 8x4, 2 wheel PTO pond pump; Craftsman 14.4V cordless drill; crescent 18 in. wrench and others; Ridgid 24 in. pipe wrench; Craftsman ratchet wrenches; vise grips; bench grinder; 3/8 in sockets; tap-n-die set; Poulan chain saw; gas weed eater; right angle grinder; hand wrenches; tree saw; crow bars; iron nail puller; cylinder stops and pins; sand blaster; freight cart; fire extinguishers; 14 ft. 6 bar gate; brace-n-bits; misc. bolts; wheel pullers; misc. Iron; forks; hole diggers; axe; sledges; shovels; cob forks and other small items.

Log On: www.beatrice77.net Click, The Auctioneers

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