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And the rains came down — Heavy rains on June 1 and the early hours of June 2 had creeks overflowing their banks and flooding nearby fields like this one in northern Riley County. There were reports of as much as eleven inches falling in some areas. Clay, Riley and Pottawatomie counties saw some of the heaviest rains, which caused flash flooding and forced evacuations in Manhattan and Ogden. High winds and hail also accompanied the storm.

Photo by Donna Sullivan

Corn Farmers Coalition returns to nation's capital with educational program

For the third year in a row, our nation's capital will learn about the U.S. family farmers who produce corn, our nation's top crop, as part of the Corn Farmers Coalition program that debuted June 1 at Union Station in Washington D.C., an important venue for reaching policymakers inside "The Beltway."

"Even in the 21st Century, corn farming remains a family operation," said Kansas Corn Commission chairman Mike Brzon, a farmer from Courtland. "In many cases, such as mine, this vocation goes back multiple generations. The family farmer growing corn for a hungry world isn't a myth, but a critical economic engine for our country and it's important that policymakers and influencers realize this."

Corn farmers from 14 states and the National Corn Growers Association are

supporting the Corn Farmers Coalition program to introduce a foundation of facts seen as essential to decision-making, rather than directly influencing legislation and regulation.

"Once again, we're putting a face on today's family farmers to showcase the productivity and environmental advances being made in the industry and to provide factual information on how innovative and high-tech corn farmers have become," said Brzon.

The Corn Farmers Coalition launched its major advertising campaign with "station saturation" at Union Station that will put prominent facts about family farmers in Capital Hill publications, radio, frequently used websites, the Metro and Reagan National Airport. The program will continue until Congress recesses in August.

"Last year, we saw a good response to our posi-

tive and proactive efforts, and this year we have many new people inside the Beltway to educate," said NCGA President Bart Schott, a grower in North Dakota. "As urban and suburban America gets further removed from the agricultural roots that made our nation strong, we're saying it's time again for everyone to come home to the farm."

It's not just about advertising, Schott noted. The coalition will meet with media, members of Congress, environmental groups and others to talk about farming's bright future: how U.S. farmers, using the latest technologies, will continue to expand yields and how this productivity can be a bright spot in an otherwise struggling economy.

For more information or to view the CFC ads go: www.cornfarmerscoalition.org.

Manhattan sees blue as state FFA Convention rolls into town



More than 1,500 FFA members, agriculture educators and supporters from throughout Kansas descended on Manhattan June 1-3 for their annual state convention. Kansas State University hosted the gathering, the theme of which was "Infinite Potential," to remind members of their own abilities to grow into future leaders in agriculture, their communities and the world. Above, John Arnold, Plainville, tries his hand at driving a backhoe using the North Central Kansas Technical College's simulator. NCKT was among the many booths showcasing career and educational opportunities available to the FFA members.

Photo by Donna Sullivan

Changes in weather patterns creating more severe storms

A Kansas State University climate expert attributes the increase in the number and severity of tornadoes and severe storms in 2011 to a change in weather patterns. John Harrington, Jr., professor of geography, is a synoptic climatologist who examines the factors behind distinctive weather events. He credits the increased tornado production this year to jet stream patterns in the upper atmosphere. The patterns have created synoptic events such as the April tornado outbreak in Alabama and recent tornado in Joplin, Mo. While these events are not unprecedented, they are significant, he said. "To put them in all in one year, that's what has people talking about this stuff," Harrington said. "The fact that this is happening all in one year and in a relatively short time frame is unusual."

Special circumstances are necessary for the creation of tornadoes in the Great Plains, Harrington said. A humid atmosphere with moisture from the Gulf of Mexico and the right jet stream pattern coupled with surface convergence help to spawn a thunderstorm. Uplift from the jet stream helps to create the towering clouds associated with severe thunderstorms. Add a wind pattern set up with air filtering into the storm from the south at low levels, from the southwest at mid-levels and the northwest at higher levels, rotation of the thunderstorm cloud begins and its possible for a tornado to form. "Unfortunately in terms of death and destruction, we've had too many of those events this year," Harrington said.

Forecasting tornadoes far ahead of time differs from the more advanced

hurricane and weather prediction methods. The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center does not predict tornadoes, rather it attempts to predict jet stream patterns a month or so in the future. In the wintertime the jet stream tends to flow above the southern United States. It migrates northward by the summertime. The area receiving the most tornadoes tends to shift with jet stream location as well. Oklahoma usually has a higher frequency of tornadoes in April, while Kansas experiences most of its tornadoes in May, Harrington said. Synoptic patterns are different in autumn as the jet stream migrates back south, with much drier air across much of the U.S. While this does not preclude fall tornadoes from occurring, they are rare events. Connecting the surface conditions with the jet stream flow pattern helps a weather forecaster understand the likelihood for severe storms. "That's pretty important in terms of understanding the kind of environment that will produce the necessary thunderstorms that rotate," Harrington said. Extreme examples of weather have not been isolated to tornadoes. Heat waves, blizzards and severe storms have been increasingly more frequent or more severe according to U.S. data, Harrington said. These changes can be attributed to changes in the climate system.

The increase in severe weather events is drawing attention, he said.

"We have these good historical precedents for specific synoptic events, but they're starting to come more frequently together. That's what is very interesting, is that this weather system seems to be getting more variable."

Prairie Ponderings

By Donna Sullivan

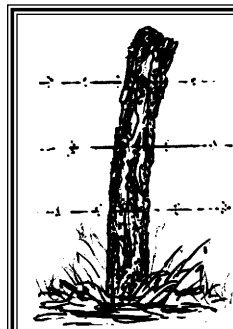
I've never hated the term "in-law" more than in the last three weeks. No, I am not getting ready to launch into a tirade against my in-laws – quite the opposite, actually. You see, three weeks ago, we learned that my precious sister-in-law has pancreatic cancer. It's been a devastating blow to our family. She'll start chemotherapy next week, which they've told her isn't as brutal as it used to be, and she'll fight this disease with all she's got. But it's going to be a long, hard battle. Watching her and my brother come to terms with the situation is both heart-wrenching and inspiring.

So, why do I hate the term in-law? Because the law didn't make us family – love did. Twenty-six years ago, when she was eighteen and my brother was nineteen, they stood under a big oak tree in her parent's backyard and vowed before God and the rest of us to love each other for the rest of their lives. Together they made a home, nurtured a family and served God side by side. We stopped thinking of her as a sister-in-law years ago – when we're all together, she's another sister. This couldn't hurt any worse if she were our own flesh and blood.

Which then gets me thinking about my son- and daughters-in-law. When they came into our family, I made a promise to love them like one of my own children and I do. Again, it's not about the law, it's about love.

Several years ago, I declared that rather than the word in-law, we should use the term (sister, brother, daughter, son)-in-love. My siblings all responded that it was the silliest, corniest thing they'd ever heard (Yes, we are brutally honest in our family). But now I'm renewing my campaign, whether they like it or not – it's one of the prerogatives of being the oldest sibling.

So if you are so inclined, please pray for my beautiful sister-in-love, Meg.



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator
Control Or Eradicate

After being way behind on rainfall this spring with most of the early rains being just teasers of maybe a half inch, the past two weeks have turned moisture conditions around. At our ranch the almost nine inches of rain have filled about every pond and turned the black-burned pastures to a beautiful lush green.

The cows with their calves came back onto the ranch a little on the thin side. Now they are filling out, and their udders are full. The calves are frolicking, and their tail ends show mild signs of scours from so much milk. It truly is a welcome turnaround.

Of course, all the rain has brought the weeds. I wondered if the good, hot burn would slow down or reduce the weed population. I believe that it has helped except where the ground was at one time cultivated such as the areas on pond dams, terraces, and old homestead sites. Last year I spent more time spraying the increasing mullein weed and small trees such as thorny locust and hedge than I had in previous years. I am treating them the same way again this year. I can cover a quarter section of pasture with about two 25-gallon tanks of spray. Two trips a day is about all I care to do anyway. I am still finding a few small escaped mullein plants and, of course, the always present thorny locust. The birds really do a magnificent job of spreading the locust seed. I have wondered if there could be a way to arrange it so that only male trees without seeds in the varieties that are pests would grow.

This is my yearly musk thistle report. I have been writing about them for 19 years, and still they persist for me to write about. There

seem to be three approaches one can use in fighting the thistles:

1. Do nothing. Just surrender to the scourge and let them grow and increase but be prepared to hear the neighbors "gunch."

2. Control them. I use this expression for the method that means giving them "a lick and promise" each spring or fall. The plan or dream is not to ever get rid of all thistles entirely but to spray enough to keep them from increasing too noticeably. One can always see a few out there, blowing their seeds in the wind, but next year's spraying will again keep them somewhat in control.

I believe most crop farmers use this approach because getting the crops planted or their hay put up has a higher priority. This is probably a sensible and realistic way to fight the thistles, especially if one can afford to aerial spray each year.

3. The third approach is mostly for retirees who have the time and finances to re-spray several times or whenever a new wave of latecomers make their appearance. These are people who are stubborn and refuse to be overcome by a weed, or they may possess a dream of someday having a beautiful pasture without these weeds so they won't even have to own a sprayer or buy chemicals.

Even though I haven't got to that place yet, I am convinced that it is possible to eradicate the musk thistle if the neighbors will cooperate and one perseveres long enough. For me, it is taking longer than the 19 years I have been working at it. But the longer I live, the more I realize just how much I love our prairies where the buffalo once roamed.



Sustainable

By John Schlageck,
Kansas Farm Bureau

Food packaging today is really about marketing and making money – lots of it. Food producers care about competing for shelf space and selling their product. They're in the business of selling their packaged products to consumers. Can't blame them. It's the American way.

Environmental consequences, consumer satisfaction and selling a product at a fair and equitable price doesn't rank at the top of the list of priorities for food producers.

It's estimated the global food packaging industry is worth approximately \$115 billion a year and growing 10-15 percent each year. Anything between 10 percent and 50 percent of the price of food today can be attributed to packaging.

As the amount of packaging increases, so does waste and environmental costs, not to mention the added costs to consumers. The

plastic bottle containing your favorite soda or the aluminum can that holds your favorite brew costs more than the cola or beer.

On average a beer can or bottle costs five, six, seven maybe 10 times the cost of the beverage. The same is true for sodas. It depends on the company and the product.

Don't get me wrong, I understand the need for packaging that provides a protective coating between the food product we may wish to eat and our environment thus keeping the contents safe and ensuring hygiene.

Some packaging prolongs the food life while other packaging is necessary for safe and efficient transportation. And lastly, God bless their souls, other packaging is used to provide consumers with information and instructions for which there are some legal requirements. You know like the small, rectangular preservative pack inside a bag of beef jerky with the instructions, "Do not eat."

However all of this convenience, marketing and profit comes with a price – additional waste for this nation's landfills and the rest of the globe. In this country and other wealthy nations, a decrease in the size of households has resulted in more people purchasing smaller portions of food and that means more packaging.

A higher living standard around the globe has also resulted in the desire to acquire "exotic" foods from other lands and eat them. Transportation of such food and the ability to keep it fresh also costs more in packaging.

Another contributing

factor is the desire for convenience food. You know processed, tasteless food you can pop out of your freezer, microwave and eat in a jiffy. So how much waste has this galloping packaging industry produced?

It's difficult finding information like this in our country. Seems like our folks in the food, beverage and packaging companies would rather talk about their proposed plans to eliminate waste in the future, never mind the past.

According to figures by the Grocery Manufacturers Association, the food, beverage and packaging companies intend to eliminate an additional 2.5 billion pounds of packaging waste in the United States by 2020. These companies already have avoided creating 1.5 billion pounds of packaging waste since 2005, the trade group says. All told, the expected 4 billion pound decrease from 2005 to 2020 "represents a 19 percent reduction of reporting companies' total average U.S. packaging weight," the association reports.

On the other side of the coin, the volume plastic product's waste and packaging amounts to approximately 75 billion pounds

per year, according to the Butte Environmental Council, an education, advocacy and recycling organization in northern California. This BEC report was released nearly eight years ago.

To achieve a change toward more sustainable packaging, it's not just the packaging that requires alterations but also our lifestyles and habits of consumption.

While it's only a start, as consumers we can buy more local product that is better tasting, has less of an impact on the environment through reduced transportation costs and supports our local economies.

Support companies that use packaging most efficiently. Avoid buying disposable items, such as non-refillable razors, alkaline batteries, etc. Recycle. Buy in bulk. Reuse shopping bags and buy only recycled products.

Change comes with personal responsibility and the ability to look in the mirror and say, "It's up to me."

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. Born and raised on a diversified farm in northwestern Kansas, his writing reflects a lifetime of experience, knowledge and passion.

COWPOKES®

By Ace Reid



"Maw, you have been so concerned about the fuel shortage I solved it, bought you a new axe and a load of wood!"



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Celebrate June Dairy Month by raising a glass of milk to our dedicated midwest dairy farm families

June Dairy Month, an annual celebration that began in 1937, is traditionally a time to reflect on dairy foods and the industry that makes it possible. It was created as a way to help distribute extra milk when cows started on pasture in the summer months. Today, its rich history continues, with communities, companies and people from all over the country observing June Dairy Month in a variety of ways.

In the Midwest, dairy farms and families often open their gates to visitors at breakfasts and tours,

while grocery stores and other business feature dairy products during the month. America's heartland - from North Dakota to Arkansas - is home to more than 11,000 dairy farms and the people behind the products - dairy farmers. And while these farms may differ, dairy farmers share a passion for their livelihoods and in producing wholesome, nutritious dairy products for people of all ages to enjoy. Each dairy farm has a unique story to be told. Bruce Brockshus, with Brockshus Dairy Farm, reveals his belief that the

family makes the farm. This efficient dairy farm operates, utilizing each family member's talents and passions. Some producers, like Rodney Elliott with Drumgoon Dairy, move across the world to ensure they have the most productive and technologically advanced dairy as possible. With his frequent travels, his new beginnings allow him to appreciate dairy farming in the Midwest. Cassandra Hulstein, with County Line Dairy, tells her story of why she wants to continue her family's dairy farm. The new generation shows

that this loyalty to dairy farming is a family commitment.

Nutrient-rich dairy foods are one of the most economical sources of nutrition. In fact, few foods deliver dairy's powerhouse of nutrients in such an affordable, appealing and readily available way. The 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans encourages children and adults nine years and older to enjoy three servings of low-fat or fat-free milk, cheese or yogurt every day. And at about 25 cents per glass, milk provides one of the richest

sources of well-absorbed calcium in the American diet.

Even with all of the time constraints that come along with summer activities, it is important to remember to have nutritious meals throughout the day.

Consumers are invited to visit Midwest Dairy's website www.midwestdairy.com to learn more about dairy farmers and the dairy industry, plus get nutrition tips and more delicious dairy recipes.

Dairy Fast Facts

- 98 percent of all U.S. dairy farms are family owned.

- Typically it takes two days to get from the farm to the grocery store.

- The Midwest is home to more than 11,000 dairy farms.

- There are dairy farms in all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico.

- It takes 3 cups of broccoli to equal the calcium in one cup of milk.

- An 8-ounce serving of low-fat plain yogurt contains 490 milligrams of potassium; about the same as a banana.

- One ounce of hard cheese (like Cheddar) contains 8 grams of protein; an egg contains 6 grams.

United Country-Nixon Auction & Realty earns No. 23 nationwide ranking; Jed Hill named No. 2 national sales agent

United Country-Nixon Auction & Realty LLC, Medicine Lodge, has secured a top national ranking among United Country Real Estate's nearly 600 franchise offices coast-to-coast. The company, owned by John W. Nixon, is among the top five percent of United Country offices for 2010 performance, earning the No. 23 nationwide ranking. Jed Hill, sales associate/auctioneer with Nixon Auction & Realty has also been named United Country's No. 2 sales agent among the company's more than 4,000 sales associates across the nation.

As a result of their 2010 success, Nixon Auction & Realty has earned United Country's prestigious Summit Club Bronze Award, which was presented during United Country's National Training & Awards Convention, March 7-9, in Austin, Texas. Jed Hill received the Pinnacle Club Elite award, the company's highest honor for sales agents.

"We're excited to be a part of the biggest network of traditional real estate agents and auctioneers in the country," said John Nixon, owner/broker/auctioneer. "Through our partnership

with United Country, we are able to provide clients the proven benefits of the United Country marketing program, and our 2010 results are evidence of the power of what we can offer sellers."



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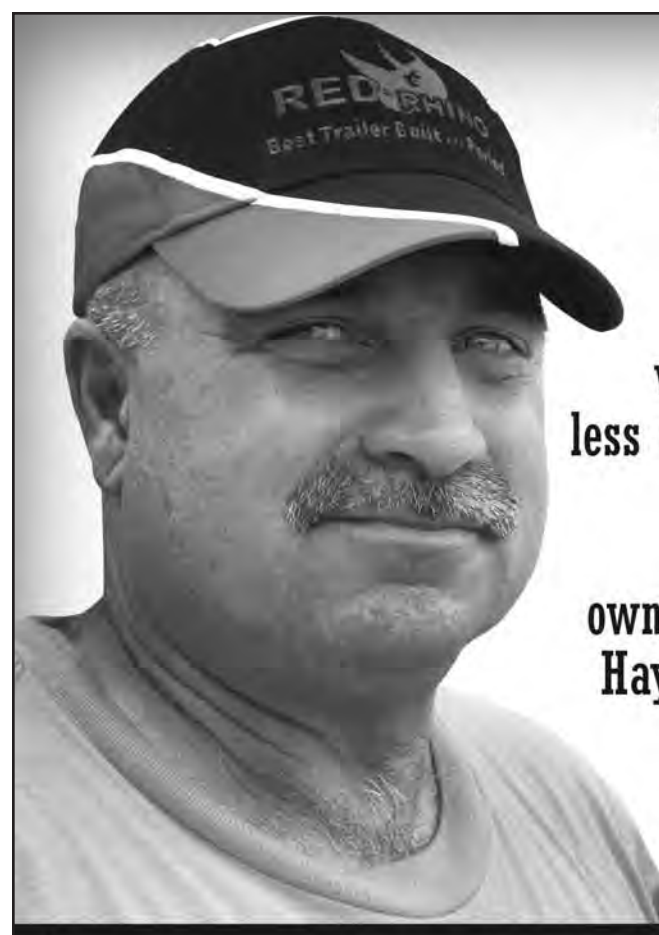
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Lois Lahodny, Belleville, Wins Recipe Contest And Prize In Grass & Grain

Winner Lois Lahodny, Belleville: "For something different I used this recipe for bridge club. Everybody thought it was great. I use a lot of recipes out of the paper. Sure enjoy the paper."

PEANUT BUTTER FRITO BARS

- 1 sack Frito corn chips
- 1 cup white Karo syrup
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter

Spray a 9-by-13-inch pan. Spread sack of Fritos into pan. In a medium saucepan heat syrup and sugar to boiling and remove from heat. Stir peanut butter into the syrup and sugar mixture until smooth. Pour over Fritos and let cool.

Melissa Byrd, Independence, Mo.: STRAWBERRY BREAD

- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups oil
- 1 quart strawberries, hulled & sliced
- 1 1/4 cup nuts, chopped

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour three 8 1/2-by-4 1/2-by-2 1/2-inch loaf pans. Sift flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and sugar. Make a well in center, add eggs and oil and mix until well combined. Stir in strawberries and chopped nuts. Pour into pans. Bake for 40 minutes or until toothpick in center comes out clean.

Mary Rogers, Topeka: ASPARAGUS BOW TIE PASTA

- 2 cups bow tie pasta, un-

- cooked
- 1 pound fresh asparagus spears, trimmed & cut into 1-inch lengths
- 1/2 cup halved orange pepper strips
- 1/4 cup julienne cut oil packed sun-dried tomatoes, undrained
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1/4 cup whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon fresh oregano
- 1 cup Kraft Shredded Italian Five Cheese with a touch of Philadelphia

Cook pasta as directed but omit salt, adding asparagus to boiling water for the last 2 minutes; drain. Cook peppers and tomatoes in a large skillet 2-3 minutes or until crisp-tender, stirring frequently. Add pasta mixture, broth, whipping cream and oregano to skillet, mix well. Cook and stir 5 minutes or until sauce is slightly thickened. Top with cheese and cook 2-3 minutes or until cheese begins to melt.

Kellee Rogers, Topeka: GRILLED FRENCH BREAD
 1/2 cup butter
 2 garlic cloves, minced
 2 tablespoons orange marmalade
 16-ounce loaf French bread, sliced in half horizontally
 Preheat grill to 300-350 degrees. Spray grill rack with nonstick spray. In a bowl, combine butter, garlic and marmalade. Spread mixture evenly over cut side of bread. Grill bread covered with grill lid for 3-4 minutes per side or until toasted.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge: "Good when hot and even better later in salads or sandwiches if there's any left over!"

GRANNY'S BAKED CHICKEN
 3 to 4 pounds chicken
 1 cup butter
 3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

1/2 cup vinegar
 Salt & pepper to taste
 Arrange chicken, skin side up, in a lightly greased 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Heat butter, Worcestershire sauce and vinegar together in a saucepan until butter is melted. Pour over chicken. Salt and pepper to taste. Cover and baked at 350 degrees for 2 to 2 1/2 hours, removing cover for last 15 minutes. Serves 4 to 6.

The following diabetic friendly recipes are from <http://diabetic.betterrecipes.com>

HEALTHY ZUCCHINI MUFFINS
 4 eggs or 1 cup refrigerated or frozen egg product, thawed
 4 cups shredded zucchini
 1/4 cup canola oil
 1 cup unsweetened applesauce

- 1 1/4 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 3/4 cups Splenda
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/3 cups chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat 2 1/2-inch muffin cups with nonstick cooking spray and set aside. In a large bowl combine eggs, zucchini, oil, applesauce, and vanilla; mix well. Add flour, Splenda, cinnamon, baking soda, baking powder, and salt; stir to combine. Stir in nuts. Fill muffin pans 2/3 full. Bake 20 minutes. Makes approx 30 muffins.

Note: These muffins are very moist. The batter is not as stiff as regular muffin batter. The batter will be runnier, but not too much. You might need to add a little more flour depending on how wet your zucchini is.

PEANUT BUTTER BREAKFAST ROUNDS
 1 1/2 cups all-natural peanut butter

- 1 1/4 cups yams, pureed
- 1/4 cup water
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon milled flaxseed
- 1 3/4 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar to roll dough into

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Drain and rinse a 40-ounce can of yams. Put in food processor and process until smooth while adding 1/4 cup of water. Combine in large bowl 1 1/4 cups of pureed yams with peanut butter, milk, vanilla and

milled flaxseed. Beat with electric mixer until well blended. In small bowl, combine flour, salt and baking soda. Add dry ingredients to yam and peanut butter mixture, stirring with large spoon until well blended. Roll into walnut-sized balls. Roll balls into granulated sugar. Place on greased cookie sheet. Criss-cross with fork. Bake for 12 minutes at 350 degrees.

LAURA'S HEALTHY WHOLE WHEAT SCONES

- 1 3/4 cups whole wheat flour
- 3 to 4 tablespoons Splenda granular (the kind that measures cup for cup like sugar)
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup butter (not softened)
- 1/2 cup dried currants or raisins
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 egg, beaten or 1/4 cup refrigerated or frozen egg product
- 6 tablespoons soy milk

Heat oven to 400 degrees. In a mixing bowl, stir dry ingredients together well with a whisk. Cut in butter until mixture resembles fine crumbs. You can use your fingers at the end to work the butter pieces down a bit more. Mix in the raisins and walnuts. Pour on the beaten egg and soy milk, then with a fork, mix toward center, pulling the mixture together just enough until it becomes dough. Turn dough onto

lightly floured surface. Knead lightly 10 times. Roll or pat 3/4 inch thick. Shape into a rectangle. Cut with small, sharp knife into four squares, then cut each in half diagonally to make triangles. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Brush dough with either some beaten egg or soymilk. Bake 12 minutes. Don't yield to temptation to go past 12 minutes in order to brown or scones will dry out. Immediately remove from cookie sheet. Serve warm or cool. Makes 8 large scones.

WATERMELON SALAD

- 2 cups seedless watermelon chunks
- 3 kalamata olives, sliced
- 3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 4 grape tomatoes, quartered
- 1/4 cup strips shaved Prosciutto ham
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon aged balsamic vinegar
- Coarse salt
- Fresh ground pepper
- Watercress sprigs

Arrange watermelon, olives, feta, tomato, and Prosciutto on a serving platter. Drizzle with olive oil and vinegar. Sprinkle with a dash of salt and fresh ground pepper. Garnish with sprigs of watercress and enjoy a wonderful summer salad. Makes 2 to 4 servings.

Note: The watermelon should be cut into 1-by-1-inch cubes. The watercress should have no large stems. Use a 12-year-old balsamic at least; 25 years is ideal.

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Frozen Dessert Delights

(NAPSA) — If your family is like most, you really love ice cream and novelties-98 percent of all U.S. households purchase these frozen delights. Here are a few more cool facts:

- America leads the world in ice cream consumption, averaging 48 pints per person, per year and over 1 billion popsicles.



- This country's favorite ice cream flavors are vanilla, chocolate, butter pecan, strawberry and Neapolitan; the most popular popsicles are cherry, orange and grape.

- The experts at the National Frozen & Refrigerated Foods Association (NFRA) say you should make the ice cream aisle your last stop, keep your frozen purchases together in the cart and pack them in an additional paper bag for the ride home.

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration defines ice cream as a mixture of dairy products containing at least 10 percent milk fat. "Reduced fat" ice cream has at least 25 percent less total fat than ice cream. "Light" ice cream has at least 50 percent less total fat or 33 percent fewer calories than ice cream. "Low-fat" ice cream has no more

than three grams of total fat per 1/2 cup serving, while "nonfat" ice cream contains less than 0.5 grams of total fat per serving.

No matter which you prefer, this dessert should delight:

Mint Ice Cream Brownie Delight

1 package fudge brownie mix, family-size
12 gallon mint chocolate chip ice cream
8-ounce carton whipped topping
12 maraschino cherries
1 cup whipping cream
1/2 cup light corn syrup
6 ounces semisweet chocolate chips
6 ounces bittersweet or dark chocolate chips

Prepare, bake and cool brownies according to package directions. Cut into 12 servings. For fudge sauce, bring whipping cream and corn syrup to simmer in medium saucepan. Remove from heat; add chocolate chips; stir until smooth. To serve, start with ice cream in bowl, top with brownie, a smaller scoop of ice cream and drizzle with warm fudge sauce. Add a dollop of whipped topping and garnish with a cherry. Serves 12.

You can find additional recipes and tips and a chance to win a weekly coupon giveaway at www.EasyHomeMeals.com and EasyHomeMeals on Facebook. You'll find special deals on ice cream and novelties at the grocery store during the annual NFRA June/July Summer Favorites promotion.



(NAPSA) — Summer is on the way, and as warm temperatures make an entrance — so too does the Georgia peach season.

Each year, Georgia produces more than 2.6 million cartons, or more than 63 million pounds, of sweet-tasting peaches between mid-May and mid-August, and expectations are that the 2011 crop will meet or exceed that level.

"This year's crop looks to be one of the best in recent years. We look to kick things

Georgia Peach Commission Gears Up For A Plentiful Peach Season

off in a big way around Memorial Day," said Duke Lane III, president of the Georgia Peach Council. "For the best and freshest peaches around, we encourage peach eaters to ask their grocers specifically for home-grown sweet Georgia peaches."

Adding to the peach family is Peach County native Gena Knox, who has devoted a section of her latest cookbook, "Southern My Way: Simple Recipes, Fresh Flavors," to recipes featuring sweet Georgia peaches.

"Nothing is more appealing in the summertime than a dish featuring sweet Georgia peaches," said Knox.

Here's one of her favorite recipes to try, where Georgia peaches are the star ingredient:

Georgia Caprese Salad with Lime Vinaigrette

Dressing:

1/2 cup fresh basil leaves
To prepare dressing, combine lime juice, zest, vinegar, water, honey and salt. Slowly whisk in olive oil and set aside. Cut cheese into 1-inch pieces and gently toss with peaches and basil leaves. Whisk mint into dressing and toss about 2 tablespoons (or more to taste) with salad. Season with freshly cracked pepper and serve. Yields: 4 servings

To learn more about Georgia peaches, get additional recipe ideas and sign the "Peach Promise," visit the Georgia Peach Council at www.gapeaches.org and www.facebook.com/SweetGeorgiaPeaches.

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To learn more about Georgia peaches, get additional recipe ideas and sign the "Peach Promise," visit the Georgia Peach Council at www.gapeaches.org and www.facebook.com/SweetGeorgiaPeaches.

Some Meat Myths May Have Little Basis In Fact

(NAPSA) — A poll by Harris Interactive revealed that some "meat myths" popularized in books and movies have taken hold among consumers. But these myths have little basis in fact. Can you separate the myths from the facts?

Myth: Eating too much red meat can increase heart disease risk because it contains saturated fat.

Fact: A 2010 study from the Harvard School of Public Health found "there is no significant evidence for concluding that dietary saturated fat is associated with an increased risk of heart disease."

Myth: Americans today are eating too much meat.

Fact: Government data show that men on average eat 6.9 oz. per day and women eat 4.4 oz. The U.S. Dietary Guidelines recommend 5 to 7 ounces from the meat and beans category. On average, men consume the proper amount and women slightly under consume.

Myth: Americans get the most sodium nitrite from cured meats like ham, hot dogs and bacon.

Fact: Less than 5 percent of human nitrite intake comes from cured meats. Ninety-three percent comes from vegetables such as lettuce, spinach, celery, cabbage and beets and from our own saliva.

Myth: Inspectors only visit meat and poultry plants occasionally.

Fact: Few other industries are regulated and inspected as

comprehensively as the meat and poultry industry. The USDA employs 8,000 inspectors who are on-site every minute that a meat packing plant operates.

Myth: A lack of federal oversight on U.S. meat and poultry plants makes livestock abuse common.

Fact: Under the Humane Slaughter Act, all livestock must be treated humanely according to strict rules. Federal veterinarians, on-site at all times where live animals are processed, monitor welfare continuously and may take a variety of actions for violations.

Myth: Feeding corn to cattle is "unnatural."

Fact: Feeding corn to cattle is natural, nutritious and they prefer it. All cattle eat grass for most of their lives. Some cattle have their diets enhanced with corn and grain for the last few months of their lives. And don't forget, corn is the seed of a grass!

For more information, visit www.MeatMythCrushers.com, or for a free brochure, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to American Meat Institute Public Affairs/Myths, 1150 Connecticut Ave., NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036.



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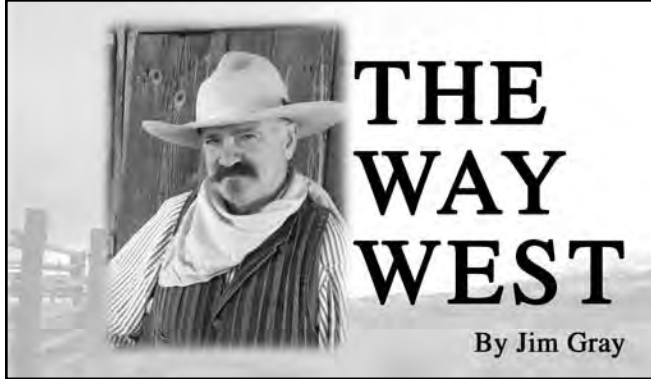
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A Sober Lesson

Westward movement of settlement across the state of Kansas was driven by the establishment of the first railroad across the state known as the Union Pacific Railway Company, Eastern Division (UPED). In the spring of 1867 the UPED was set to lay its tracks into the heart of the prime hunting lands of the Plains tribes. In spite of warnings from Plains tribes that they would not tolerate a railroad crossing their lands, construction continued at a rapid pace.

General Hancock assembled a mighty army of fourteen hundred soldiers in an effort to bully the Indians into submission. He reasoned that the primitive warriors would recognize that war was a hopeless choice and an easy peace would allow the continued construction of the UPED across Kansas to Denver, Colorado. Unfortunately, when confronted by Hancock's army, the Indians responded with a fearful defense of family and home. War broke out with attacks against stage coach stations along the Smoky Hill Trail.

Custer's Seventh Cavalry had its hands full, riding from one stage station to the next, always just behind the Cheyenne and Sioux, who were seeking revenge against anyone who had

dared to enter the sacred lands of their fathers. Among the dashing officers of the Seventh, one in particular stood out as Custer's second in command.

Major Robert Wyckliff Cooper was already experienced at fighting Indians, something Custer still had not accomplished, when Cooper joined Custer's troops at Fort Hays. Following the Hancock debacle that precipitated the war, Cooper's Company B encountered a band of Cheyenne in the act of stealing horses from a stage station along the Arkansas River in western Kansas. The Indians tried to hold off the soldiers from an island in the river, but were eventually overrun and killed.

Cooper never shied from battle. He was wounded three times during the Civil War, nearly dying from one particularly severe wound. At Fort Hays a buffalo hunt was planned with a number of officers divided between two teams. Major Cooper was chosen to lead one of the teams. They were to spend a full day hunting. The team bringing in the most buffalo tongues would be declared the winner. Custer was riding with Cooper's team when he accidentally shot his horse while dismounting.

Major Cooper's party

killed twelve buffalo. The other officers killed eleven. The losers paid for a special supper prepared by the post sutler from new supplies that had just arrived at the fort.

Simple pleasures on the prairie soon returned to the reality of war. Custer's troops marched out of Fort Hays on an extended foray to find and "chastise the Cheyenne and... Sioux who are their allies between the Smoky Hill and the Platte." The Seventh Cavalry left Fort Hays, June 1, 1867, carrying fifteen days of rations for three hundred fifty-seven troops bound for northwest Kansas and Nebraska Territory.

Theodore Davis of Harper's New Monthly Magazine chronicled the expedition. Custer, with the help of his Chief of Scouts "Medicine Bill" Comstock, directed the expedition in a northerly direction across the Saline, South Solomon, and North Solomon Rivers. Nearing the Nebraska border they camped on Prairie Dog Creek the evening of June 5th. Owing to his numerous war wounds Major Cooper was drinking heavily in an effort to deaden the enduring pain.

As the command rode deeper into hostile territory Cooper ran out of his "medication." The Seventh crossed the Republican River June 7th and continued in their northwesterly direction, making camp along Medicine Lake Creek, Nebraska Territory, the

evening of June 8th. Harper's correspondent Theodore Davis was dining with the officers, including General Custer, and later wrote of the dreadful evening at Medicine Lake Creek.

Suffering intensely, Major Cooper withdrew to his tent. His condition was later described as "delirium tremens," commonly known today as the "D.T.s." The condition brings about body tremors often coupled with confusion and rapid emotional changes. Custer, who despised alcohol, noticed that Cooper was absent from the mess tent and knowing of his present delicate disposition called on someone to check on him.

Suddenly a pistol shot was heard in the camp. Major Cooper's pulse was still beating when they found him with a bullet in his head, lying on his face and knees; a smoking revolver in his hand. In disgust, Custer ordered his officers to view Major Cooper's body as it had fallen. Cooper's death was a sober lesson to be learned. It would not be the last as the famous Seventh Cavalry rode its way into history on The Way West.

"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 *Kansas Cowboy*, Box 62, Ellsworth, KS 67439. Phone 785-531-2058 or www.droversmercan.com. ©2011

Checkoff calls for Beef Quality Assurance award nominees

Applications for the fourth annual checkoff-funded National Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Award are now being accepted. The National BQA Award will recognize one outstanding beef and dairy producer that best demonstrate animal care and handling principles as part of the day-to-day activities on their respective operations. A common trait among all contest entrants must be a strong desire to continually improve BQA on their operations while encouraging others to implement the producer education program.

The national BQA program promotes beef quality assurance in all segments of the industry, including commercial cow-calf, seedstock, stocker operators, feedlots and dairy operations.

Two National BQA award winners will be selected by a committee of representatives from universities, state beef councils and affiliated groups. Nominations can be submitted by any organization, group, or individual on behalf of a U.S. beef producer. Individuals and families may not nominate themselves, however the nominees are expected to be involved in the preparation of the application. For further information on the award or to download the application, please visit www.bqa.org.

There is a possibility that a third award may be funded so please be on the lookout for more information about a potential third category.

Please submit your applications (seven pages or less) in PDF format. Applications are due to Lauren Dever via email (ldever@beef.org) by July 15.

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Pearson squeeze chute; Cattle headgate w/two alley gates; Homemade bulk tank, 3700# capacity; (3) 4-sec. self locking head stanchions; (10) 12' pipe cattle gates; Metal & plastic bottom feed bunks; 16' portable hay feeder on wheels; Pipe frame, metal clad livestock shelter, 10'x20'; Steel posts and barbed wire; Red Snapper elect. fencers, 10 & 15 mi. range.

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1000-gal. propane tank, sells "as is"; Craftsman 4 drawer toolbox, top box; Lincoln 225-amp welder, welding helmets; Acetylene cutting torch w/bottles and gauges; Shop press, large shop air compressor w/ air hose; Dayton 3/4-hp 2-wheel bench grinder; Reddy Heater 60K BTU space heater; 4 Michelin

COLLECTIBLES
8 Milk and cream cans; Pair of steel wheels; Butcher kettle; Sausage grinders; Horse collars; Hames; Horse hobbles; Implement seat; Coal bucket; Bull whip; Large dehorners; Red Wing 6-gal. crock; 4-tine straw fork; 2 old wood levels; Baby high chair, needs TLC; Kerosene lantern; Square trunk; Antique baby bed; Cherry pitter; White Mountain ice cream freezer.

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Whirlpool refrigerator w/ice maker; Monarch electric stove/oven; Regular size bed, dresser with round mirror and chair; Microwave stand; End tables; Lamp table & pole lamp; Humidifier; Kerosene heater; Binoculars, 7x35mm; Books; Vases; Toys and games; Pasta/sausage maker; Twin size bedspread; Unique walking canes; Yardsticks; Carrom game board; Tupperware; Microwave cart; Pie & cake plates; Marble top occasional table; 4-qt. elect. ice cream freezer; Lots of misc. holiday decorations; Pictures and frames; General run of kitchenware.

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The Derby

Once a year, on the first Saturday of May, we have the privilege of watching a magnificent field of three-year-old horses "Run for the Roses." Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky is home to the Kentucky Derby, known as "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports."

The Kentucky Derby is the first leg of the Triple Crown of Thoroughbred racing. It is followed by the Preakness and Belmont Stakes.

The Derby was first held in 1875 with a field of 15 horses and a crowd of 10,000 people in attendance. The 2011 Derby had 156,000 spectators and 19 horses in the race at Churchill Downs. Adding to the excitement of this year's Derby was the attraction of three female participants. Two trailblazing trainers and one feisty jockey hoped to make history by

becoming the first female to train or ride a Derby winner. Their hopes fell short when their horses failed to make the winner's circle.

Kathy Ritvo's first Derby was exciting for her but didn't go exactly as she hoped. Her horse, Mucho Macho Man, gave it his all but finished third. He had the winner, Animal Kingdom, in his sights at the middle of the stretch but didn't have enough speed or energy left to catch and pass the winner. Kathy doesn't feel Mucho Macho Man's third place finish is the end of his career. "He's only going to get better," the experienced trainer said.

Kathleen O'Connell trained Watch Me Go, a 50-1 long shot. Her dreams were dashed as well when her horse finished far back in 18th place.

But one of the ladies did make history even though

she didn't make the winner's circle. Rosie Napravnik, a 23-year-old jockey, posted the highest finish by a female in the history of the Kentucky Derby when she rode Pants On Fire to a ninth-place finish.

Pants On Fire stayed with the leaders in the 19-horse field until the stretch but didn't have the speed to chase down the winner and went by the wire in ninth place. Napravnik had a breakout spring as a jockey. She gained stardom when she rode Pants On Fire to the winner's circle after taking the Louisiana Derby in March. That victory put her on the map and won her the riding title at the Fair Grounds. Her win in Louisiana and the fact that she had a shot to win the Derby and make history caused bettors to place their wagers on Pants On Fire making him the second place choice at 8-1 odds. The 2011 Derby was an action-packed race. Events leading up to post time made the event an exciting Saturday. Long shots won and favorites lost or were scratched. Dreams came true for some and were shattered for others. 20-1 long-shot Animal Kingdom, won by 2 3/4 lengths in front of second place Nehro and Mucho Macho Man. Animal Kingdom was ridden by John Velazquez. Velazquez was a replacement rider who took the reins when Animal Kingdom's regular rider, Robby Albarado, broke his nose when he was thrown from his horse and kicked in the face before a race three days before the Derby.

"For once, I'm on the good end of it," Velazquez said. "All of a sudden I pick up this one and he wins the Derby, so it was meant to be." For Velazquez it was a dream come true. Velazquez was 0 for 12 in previous Derby runs. Archarcharch,

the storybook horse who won the Arkansas Derby and finished third in the Rebel Stakes on his way to the Kentucky Derby, was a favorite. He pulled up lame in the final yards and finished 15th. He was quickly loaded into a van and taken to the barn. X-rays showed he sustained a fracture to his left front leg. It is not known if Archarcharch will race again.

The colt had provided a warm story leading up to the Derby. The story centered on trainer Jinks Fires and his son-in-law, Court, who were making their first Derby appearance after lengthy careers. They had begun the day in festive spirits but the injury left them concerned and subdued until their vet said it was not a life-threatening injury and that the colt was "in no distress at all."

The Kentucky Derby is not all about the mile and a quarter race for outstanding three-year-old horses. Horses are definitely the #1 draw at the event but hats and drinks are a historical part of that first Monday in May. Ladies, and in the later years, men, celebrate the day wearing hats of incredible designs. Some of the hats will knock your socks off with their outlandish styles. Spectators put on a fashionable show of hats, dresses and the ever present mint juleps. It may be the mint juleps, the favorite Derby alcoholic beverage, that might have a lot to do with some of the outrageous hats sported on the Derby infield during America's favorite horse race.

If you like horses, and fast horses at that, then the Kentucky Derby is the place to be on the first Monday of May for the "fastest two minutes in sports."

Contact Ralph Galeano at horseman@horsemanspress.com or www.horsemanspress.com ©2011

AMI says World Cancer Research Fund's meat claims are unfounded

The American Meat Institute (AMI) said that World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) recommendations to limit red and processed meat intake should be met with skepticism, as they are not supported by the full evidence and they conflict with the U.S. Dietary Guidelines, which say that red and processed meat can be a healthy part of a balanced diet.

WCRF's original 2007 report was based upon very weak findings and many contradictions, and was questioned by many groups, including the International Agency for Research on Cancer. Now, WCRF has added 10 similarly weak studies into the mix.

"While WCRF is claiming these studies strengthen their recommendations, in reality, they simply increase the report's shortcomings," said AMI Foundation president James Hodges. "Adding more weak studies to a weak report does not make a 'strong, comprehensive and authoritative report' as they claim." He noted that a close look at the 10 additional studies that were added to the 14 analyzed as part of WCRF's 2007 report show no strong evidence of any increased risk of bowel/colorectal cancer.

"Given the weak, scientific underpinnings of this report and the fact that Americans are consuming the proper amount of red and processed meats according to government data, Americans should follow common sense, which says a balanced diet with exercise is best," said AMI. "The headlines on today's press release are little more than warmed-over recommendations from a report that was widely critiqued in 2007."

According to the latest government data, Americans consume red and processed meat at levels recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010, the basis for our national nutritional policy published last Monday by the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture. In fact, the protein group is the only group that is consumed in the proper amount, the guidelines show.

"While recommendations to eat a balanced diet aren't exciting headline grabbers, they adhere to both science and common sense," Hodges said. "The wisest course of action anyone can take is to maintain a healthy body weight, exercise and consume a balanced diet that includes a variety of foods consistent with our national nutritional policy outlined in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans."



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Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program funding available

Eric B. Banks, state conservationist, for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), announced last week that funds are available through the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program to assist Kansans impacted by floods and tornadoes. NRCS is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

EWP is designed to relieve imminent hazards to life and property created by a natural disaster that causes a sudden impairment of a watershed. Recovery efforts include clearing debris-clogged stream channels, stabilizing streambanks, or other measures that will restore an impaired watershed to its pre-disaster condition. The measures that are taken must be environmentally and economically sound and generally benefit more than one property owner.

"All Kansas counties are eligible for Emergency Watershed Protection Program assistance. Applica-

tions from eligible sponsors must be received within 60 days following the date of the event that caused the watershed impairment," said Banks.

Federal funds may cover up to 75 percent of the construction costs of eligible recovery measures. Public and private landowners are eligible for assistance, but must be represented by a project sponsor. Sponsors must be a legal subdivision of state government, the state itself, a local unit of government, a levee or drainage district, a conservation district, or a county commission. Sponsors may provide their share of construction costs in the form of cash, in-kind services such as labor or equipment, or a combination of cash and in-kind services.

"I would encourage

those interested in the EWP Program to contact their local NRCS office and visit with staff about determining eligibility," said Banks. "Once a poten-

tial project has been identified, NRCS will work with the project sponsor and conduct a site visit."

To request EWP Program assistance or to get

more information about the program, contact the USDA Service Center serving your county. More EWP Program information is available on the Kansas

NRCS website: www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/EWP. To find a service center, go to this website: www.offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app.



Speaker Barrett Keene compared learning to be a leader to learning how to dance and got the FFA members moving with his humorous, insightful presentation. He believes the first "step" in becoming a leader is love, and building relationships while serving people. "Without love, it doesn't matter what title you have," he said.



Cargill's Meghan Muessler visits with FFA members at her booth at the FFA State Convention at the KSU Alumni Center.

Photos by Donna Sullivan

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From Kenya to Kansas, Borlaug Fellowship winner sees similarities

Few people could have guessed the path that Rachel Opole's life would take. The Kansas State University doctoral student was a city girl who nonetheless developed an interest in livestock and crop production. Those interests, largely influenced by her parents, inspired her desire to improve crops grown to feed people. To enhance her work in that area, Opole has been named the recipient of the Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) fellowship. Opole spent most of her formative years in Nairobi, Kenya's bustling capital with a population of about 3 million people. Even against that urban backdrop, her interest in agriculture grew.

"I grew up on a farm in the outskirts of Nairobi," she said. Her father worked in the Veterinary Research Laboratories, which gave her an interest in and understanding of livestock production. But it was her mother's interest in growing crops at the farm that influenced her even more. "Crops were my mom's domain. So I developed an interest in crop production at a very early age."

Her research efforts have mostly focused on studying how finger millet, a plant widely used as a cereal crop in arid areas of Africa and Asia, adapts to environmental stresses such as high temperatures and drought. "This research is very useful to the people in



Rachel Opole, doctoral student in agronomy at K-State (left) and Dr. Vara Prasad, her adviser and K-State faculty member, discuss crop characteristics.

Africa. Finger millet is a subsistence crop. It grows well in Africa, but it's been neglected," she added, noting that research dollars have largely gone to other crops such as corn and wheat in recent years. "Our faculty in the College of Agriculture is constantly seeking to forge new relevant international research partnerships. K-State participation in the Borlaug program offers a unique opportunity for a preliminary exchange between prospective partners. It is not a one-time training exercise, but our past experience with hosting Borlaug Fellows shows that it leads to more sustainable and longer term collaboration effort," said Nina Lilja, director of International Agricultural Programs in K-State's College of Agriculture.

Opole said that though Kenya produces only a fraction of what is produced in Kansas, Kenyan farmers work hard just like Kansas farmers do, to produce crops within their limits. "We don't have winter in Kenya, but we experience weather similar to (Kansas) spring and summer," she said of other similarities.

As part of the one-year Borlaug fellowship, Opole will travel to Kenya in June to study for three months, then to India in September for another three months. In Kenya, she will replicate the research she's done in Kansas and in India she will analyze different types of finger millet. She will return to her work in Kansas for the final six months of the fellowship. "The idea is to evaluate the different varieties and find those that

have the most resistance to environmental stresses," said the 50-year-old Opole, who has been working toward her doctorate at K-State since 2008. The city-girl turned agronomy researcher aspect of Rachel Opole's story is not the only surprising twist. She's considered a quiet, but determined woman in K-State's agronomy department, having earned a bachelor's degree, then entering the workforce, then earning a Master's degree, and again returning to work, before coming to Kansas to pursue her doctorate - all while raising five children with her husband, Philip Oduor. The children are currently in Kenya with their father. Opole acknowledges that being away from her family and adjusting to the Kansas weather and differences in the learning environment in the United States compared with Kenya have posed challenges in adjusting to her life and work here. But she also cited the wealth of knowledge that comes from both her research and that of her colleagues as rewards for the sacrifices she and her family have made to bring her to this point in her career. "Faculty and staff (at K-State) are always available and ready to help. I get a lot of support from colleagues across the (agronomy) department and from where I earned my previous degrees," she said. Opole earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Eastern Africa in Baraton, Kenya,

and a master's degree from Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya. Once she's completed her work in the Borlaug fellowship and her doctoral degree in agronomy at K-State, Opole plans to return to Kenya to work toward improving food production. "I'm happy to be here. It's been a lifelong dream to pursue these studies," she said, adding that her parents have visited her in Manhattan and seen where their influence has taken their daughter. For her father, the recent trip to Manhattan also meant revisiting a place he once lived. He spent a year training at K-State 50 years ago. Opole also credits her K-State adviser, Vara Prasad, who is an associate professor of agronomy, for the success

she's had to date, and to K-State agronomy department faculty members for the opportunity to study with them. Opole said she is thankful to the International Sorghum and Millet Research Support Program (INTSORMIL) for sponsoring her studies, Dr. Upadhyaya at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in India for mentorship, and to the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) for supporting her studies. She is grateful to the Norman Borlaug LEAP for awarding her the fellowship to pursue her passion of production agriculture. "Lastly, but not least, I appreciate my family for their support as I pursue my studies," Opole said.

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Brownback says landowners key to Flint Hills tourism

(AP) - Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback has high hopes for economic development in the state's pristine Flint Hills region, but he said landowners - not the state - hold key to success in building the area's tourism industry.

Brownback, who earlier this year doubled the Flint Hills region where new wind farms will not be allowed, said the area is ready to "pop" for tourists looking for something they can't get anywhere else.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports Brownback envisions hiking, biking and horseback riding trails with easy access to the land, but he said the key to that type of development is cooperation from the people who own the property.

More than 400,000 acres of tallgrass prairie once covered North America, but only about 4 percent of that is left, most of it in the Flint Hills of Kansas.

"They'll have this kind of experience where they are on hilltops and they're looking over vistas, and seeing cattle and no people," Brownback said during a break at his Flint Hills tourism economic summit this month near Elmdale.

But, he said, "You have to do it the Kansas way, which is not the government purchasing the land."

Kansas has the lowest percentage of public lands of any state in the U.S. Because of that, Kansas Wildlife and Parks secretary Robin Jennison said providing that access to tourists will be a challenge.

"Landowners must be involved," Jennison said. "The department stands ready to work with landowners to develop a strategy that works for all of us."

Brownback said he would like to see the state purchase easements from private property owners so people can come to Kansas

and experience the great outdoors. The state already has programs through which it leases private land and sites for hunting and fishing.

The Wildlife and Parks Department said the Walk-In Hunting Access program costs about \$2.8 million per year, while the Fishing Impoundments and Stream Habitat program cost about \$177,000 this year to open privately owned fishing areas.

Federal funds and money from the sale of licenses and permits paid for both of those programs, the department said.

Tom Warner, a Kansas State University professor who has been working to put together equestrian trails in the Flint Hills, agrees that private landowners are the key to unlocking the region's potential.

"Horseback riders would come from around the world to ride in the Flint Hills," he said. "This could be a very successful operation."

But that's only if enough property owners - especially ranchers - buy into allowing tourists on their land.

"I know for a fact the last thing a lot of ranchers want is extra tourist traffic," Pete Ferrell, a Butler County rancher, told the newspaper earlier this month. "You're going to have to give the farmers and ranchers some kind of economic incentive."

Warner said some ranchers will start trails next spring and offer guided tours, which he believes will generate more enthusiasm about horseback riding in the region.

"The Flint Hills are gorgeous and deserve to be preserved," said Warner. "It's in the hands of private landowners, and only if private landowners see an economic return to stay where they are and keep it the way it is, will they do that."

Joplin remains site for national dairy grazing conference, July 6-8, according to MU hosts

Joplin, Mo., will remain the location of the Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference, July 6-8, according to University of Missouri Extension hosts.

The convention center is being used in tornado recovery efforts, but will be back to original uses by conference time, said Joe Horner, MU Extension dairy economist and co-host.

The Holiday Inn Convention Center and nearby hotel are outside the devastation zone of the EF5 tornado that hit Joplin, May 22. The meeting complex is located just north of Interstate 44 in southern Joplin.

A large part of the conference will be tours of grazing dairy farms in southwest Missouri. "None of the host farms received damage from the storms," said Tony Rickard, MU Extension dairy specialist, Cassville, Mo.

The MU program planners expect dairy producers from across the nation and around the world. The conference is held every two years to teach management-inten-

sive grazing for milk production.

Missouri is nationally recognized for the use of rotational grazing of forage. Much of the initial research on dairy grazing was done at the MU Southwest Center, Mount Vernon, Mo. The research farm is part of the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Columbia. Using forage to cut costs of making milk attracted attention from international producers, who will attend.

"As milk prices dropped in recent years and profits shrunk, the use of grass to replace grain rations became attractive," Horner said.

On the program, Rickard will tell how conventional dairy farms that use stored forages and grain are adding rotational grazing to their feeding methods.

"The conference is open to producers who do not yet use grazing," Rickard added.

Researchers from land-grant universities will tell of their studies on developing sustainable grazing systems.

Randy Mooney, Rogers-

ville, Mo., will play two roles in his wrap-up summary of the conference. He is an early adopter of management-intensive grazing on his dairy farm. He also is chairman of the board of Dairy Farmers of America, one of the conference sponsors.

Updates on the program and lodging information are on the MU website: <http://>

agebb.missouri.edu/dairy/.

Registration for the conference and the motel can be made now. Registration fee is \$150 per person, with \$100 for each additional person from the same farm. After June 20 a \$25 late fee will be added.

Conference proceedings will be available for \$25 in hard copy or free on the website.

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Cathy Musick, KFAC executive director, and Nancy Carr, school enrichment coordinator, K-State Research and Extension – Johnson County, present on grains and oil seeds to third and fourth graders at Neiman Elementary School in Shawnee on May 18.

Courtesy photo.

KFAC, Cargill and Kansas Soybean Commission host successful spring assemblies for Kansas City area students

This spring, the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) was busy providing Cargill and Kansas Soybean Commission sponsored assemblies. The "Speak Out for Agriculture" assembly programs were well received by a number of schools in the Shawnee Mission and Olathe school districts. Cathy Musick, KFAC executive director, visited Neiman Elementary School in Shawnee on Wednesday, May 18.

The Cargill and Kansas Soybean Commission sponsored assemblies provide students with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in three areas of agriculture and natural resources. Musick gave presentations on farm animals, grains and oils, and natural resources. The programs reach a large variety of students.

"The presentations give

a chance for Title I students to have hands-on experience with agriculture, because they don't have the opportunity," said Mary Carr, third-grade teacher at Neiman Elementary. During the farm animal assemblies, kindergarten, first, and second grade students learn about the different food sources in Kansas, including beef, dairy, pork and poultry. During the grains and oils presentations, third and fourth grade students learn about corn, wheat, sunflowers, soybeans, cotton and grain sorghum in Kansas. Fifth, sixth and seventh grade students learn about Kansas grasslands, wetlands, biomes and fuels from renewable resources during the natural resources presentations. Principal Stan Anderson of Neiman Elementary was in support of the assemblies. "We need to do more to enhance students' under-

standing of science," said Anderson.

The students aren't the only benefactors of the assemblies. The assemblies also serve as a model for teachers on how to incorporate information about agriculture into existing classroom curriculum. "We provide additional tools, such as lesson plans, teachers can use to connect their students to the sources of food, fiber, food and other items they use daily," Musick said.

Over the course of the spring semester, the Cargill and Kansas Soybean Commission assemblies presented by KFAC have reached 1,354 students at six different elementary schools in the Kansas City area. If you would like more information on the assembly program, contact the KFAC office at (785) 532-7946 or visit the website at www.kssagclassroom.org.

Purdue expert: gasoline likely to stay below \$4 this summer

Drivers have something worth honking their horns over: Summer gasoline prices likely will remain below \$4 per gallon, a Purdue University agricultural economist says.

Market conditions that caused oil prices to shoot past \$110 per barrel have improved in recent weeks, pushing oil back under \$100 per barrel, said Wally Tyner, an energy policy specialist. He cautioned that pump prices could rise again if oil production is interrupted.

Memorial Day weekend traditionally marks the beginning of the summer driving season.

"If crude oil stays below \$100 — meaning that there are no further production disruptions in the Middle East or elsewhere and we have no further weather conditions or other factors that cause refining outages — we have seen the worst," Tyner said. "We can hope for steady or even somewhat falling

prices over the next few months."

Motorists have experienced severe gas pains this spring, with pump prices in some places topping \$4.25 per gallon. Prices have soared for several reasons, Tyner said.

"First, there was the conflict in Libya that sent crude oil up about \$15 per barrel," he said. "That normally translates to an increase at the pump of about 40¢ per gallon."

"Shortly after that event, we had the change from winter to summer blend gasoline. That change occurs on May 1, and the impact is felt a bit before that as refineries and stations make the switch. Summer blends normally are about 10¢ per gallon higher than winter."

Domestic oil refining also hit a snag. Refineries on the East and West coasts experienced outages, and excessive spring rain and flooding slowed barge traffic on the Mis-

issippi River, affecting Gulf Coast refineries.

"The combination of these factors sent what are called 'refining margins' off the chart," Tyner said. "Normal refining margins are about \$12 per barrel. These events sent refining margins on average to about \$23 for a short period, and up to \$30 in the Chicago area. These extraordinary refining margins added another 26¢ or more per gallon at the pump."

All told, these issues tacked on at least 76¢ to a gallon of gas, Tyner said.

Although crude oil prices have retreated, they are still higher than a few months ago, Tyner said. Refining margins are again in the normal range, but it will take time for those lower margins to be reflected in retail prices. Consumers will continue to pay the summer gas premium of about 10¢ per gallon, he said.

"What happened this spring is not likely to be repeated," Tyner said.

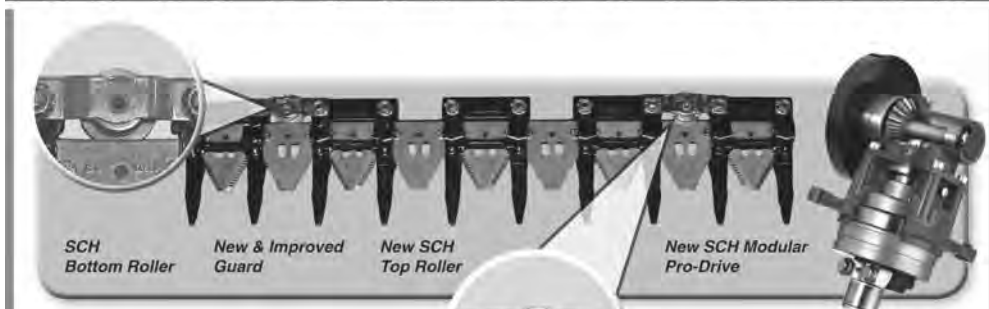


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Brown crock churn; Daisy BB gun; Fenton blue hobnail creamer; Fenton fairy lamp; cherub heads; sterling mint dish with handle; Royal Bayreuth handle plate; various creamers; bobble heads & springers including baseball, Oriental, Halloween, Betty Boop, Christmas, etc.; S&P noddies; copper tea kettle & teapot warmer; baby bowl; bird plates; milk glass plate; Goofus plates & bowls; Roseville 1660/2-467/10 candle holders & bowl; footed Carnival dish; Nippon cigar bowl; White City centennial plate; Roseville handle vase 138/4; Roseville Horn of plenty vase 153/6; Roseville planter 348/8; Nippon child's tea cups & saucers; Van Briggles pcs.; Dutch girl creamer; Roseville pitcher; child's tea sets; metal toy horse/wagon; various ruby flash pcs.; SP Company bird plates; Roseville hanging bowl 653/3; small cake compote; Austrian egg plate; Victorian silk girl; Delft wall

hangers; cherub wall hanger; George & Martha Washington wall hangers; crock blue band pitchers; CI boxes; Betty Boop items; miniature Fenton plates; miniature Wedgwood plates; large selection of German & Bavarian plates; porcelain door knobs; various Marlow woodcuts; Kosmos Brenner pocket lamp; brass produce scale; RS Prussia celery boat; Flo Blue plate; Bavarian sugar bowl; Majolica cake set; small German mustard pot; biscuit jar RS Germany; salters with sterling spoons with original box; 2 pickle casters; German serving tray; vinegar/oil set; wind up chicken/egg toy; Spongware bowl; crock bowls, jugs & pitchers; sterling collectors spoons; CI buggy whip holder; various enamelware pcs.; coffeepots, bowls & etc.; Dutch girl & cat string holder; Monarch oak wall telephone; queen pocket lamp with bracket; Red Wing No. 8 crock with handlers; various

crocks; set of 8 Franciscan ware apple pattern; large set of Fiesta ware, various colors; various advertising items; Dr. office scale; CI church bell No. 26 yoke; several ornate antique light fixtures.

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Oak rocker; occasional chair; carved wood flower stand; occasional table; Sanyo TV & stand; maple & wicker stand; sewing table organizer; organ stool; oak 3 section lawyer's bookcase; round oak pedestal table with 4 oak cane bottom chairs; Sears compactor; school desk bench; Kenmore washer & dryer; Sears chest freezer; Sears small upright freezer; wood kitchen pantry; Bentwood rocker; shelves & cabinets; Singer sewing machine base with enamel top table; oak bedroom set, queen size bed, dresser & chest of drawers, very nice; iron & marble aquarium stand; CI stand.

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Early saturated soils can lead to season-long problems for corn

Heavy rains in some parts of Kansas have saturated some corn fields or even flooded fields for a day or more. Periods of early-season flooding or soil saturation can sometimes cause immediate problems for small corn plants, said Kraig Roozeboom, K-State Research and Extension crop production specialist. If small corn plants are affected by these conditions, it can have season-long implications, he said. "Saturated soils inhibit root growth, leaf area expansion, and photosynthesis because of the lack of oxygen and cooler soil temperatures. Yellow leaves indicate a slowing of photosynthesis and plant growth. Leaves and sheaths may turn purple from accumulation of sugars if photosynthesis continues but growth is slowed," he said. Corn plants can recover with minimal impact on yield if the plants stay alive and conditions return to normal fairly quickly, Roozeboom added. Saturated soils early in the season can have season-long effects on root growth, however. "A saturated profile early in the season can confine the root system to the top several inches of soil, setting up problems later in the season if the root system remains shallow. Corn plants in this situation tend to be prone to late-season root rot if wetness continues throughout the summer, and stalk rots if the plants undergo mid- to late-season drought stress. Plants with

shallow root systems also become more susceptible to standability problems during periods of high winds," Roozeboom said.

What if the corn were actually under water for several days? Young corn plants typically can tolerate full submersion for up to 48 hours with minimal impact on yield, he said. If the conditions last longer than that, the outlook changes a bit. "If flooding occurs before the V6 stage of growth, when the growing point is at or below the soil surface, flooding that lasts more than two to four days can impact season-long plant growth and grain yield, or cause significant plant mortality. The chances of plant survival increase dramatically if the growing point was not completely submerged or if it was submerged for less than 48 hours," Roozeboom explained.

Temperatures at the time the soil was flooded or saturated can influence the extent of damage, he


added. Cool, cloudy weather limits damage from flooding because growth is slowed and because cool water contains more oxygen than warm water, he said. Warm temperatures, on the other hand, can increase the chances of long-term damage, he said.

Flooding can increase the incidence of moisture-loving diseases like crazy top downy mildew, said Doug Jardine, K-State Research and Extension plant pathologist. "Saturation for 24 to 48 hours allows the crazy top fungus spores found in the soil to germinate and infect flooded plants," Jardine said. The fungus grows systemically in the plant, but visual symptoms will not appear for some time, he said. Symptoms include excessive tillering, rolling and twisting of upper leaves, and proliferation of the tassel. Eventually the tassel can resemble a disorganized mass of small leaves, hence the name "crazy top."

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 11 — 10:00 AM

Located from HERINGTON, KANSAS on the West edge of Herington go West on the Hope, KS-Herington Lake Road 80 3 miles to Rain Road, turn South, go 2 1/2 miles to Auction Site. Or from 56-77 Highway Jct. go South on 77 for 2 miles to 300 Ave., go West 2 miles and follow road South on Trail Road 1 mile to 200 Ave., turn West 2 miles to stop sign, turn North 1/2 mile on Rain Road.

Since the passing of my husband Erwin, I have leased my property so will offer for Auction my Farm Machinery and Other Items.





TRACTORS, TRUCKS & FARM MACHINERY

1985 JD 4450 diesel cab, air, good rubber, 5330 hrs.; 1983 JD 4430 diesel cab, air, good rubber, 8375 hrs.; 1973 JD 4430 diesel cab, air, good rubber, 8879 hrs.; 1987 Chevrolet 4x4 20 pickup; 1966 Chevy truck, 16' wood floor, bed & hoist, Model 60; 1964 Chevy 60 with 13 1/2 foot bed & hoist, wood floor; 1982 Ford F-250 4x4, 3/4 ton pickup with steel flatbed, sells with mounted electric tank sprayer and booms, 81,000 miles; 1986 GMC pickup Model 2500 Sierra Classic 4x4; 1961 GMC truck, 13' bed, wood floor, Model 4000; 1951 Chevy truck, 13' bed, wood floor; 1966 Ford 700 stub nose 15' bed, wood floor and hoist; pickup bed, pin hitch trailer; 4 wheel trailers; JD 20' steel floor 4 wheel trailer; New Holland 1997, 2550 swather, cab with air, 16', 881 hrs.; JD 535 round baler; JD 336 square baler; NH PTO driven manure spreader; 7' Rhino rotary 3 pt. Bush Hog; 1979 JD diesel turbo hydro 6620 combine, 20' header, 3033 hrs. and extended grain bin; No. 13 Great Plains 8x20 solid stand end wheel grain drill with hyd. dept. control; JD 7000 6-row planter with fertilizer; 6-row rear mount JD 3 pt. cultivator; JD #235 18' hydraulic fold disc; Ford 4-row rear cultivator; 20' field cultivator, hydraulic wings; Case 5-16 steerable plow; 2 - 4 bottom JD plows; 8 bale drag accumulator and 8 bale fork; bale elevator; 2 - 2-wheel grain augers and other grain augers; 200 gallon pickup bed gas tank with hand pump; 10' homemade rear blade; lots of JD parts; Danuser 3 pt. post

auger 12" bit, good shape; 6x16 ball hitch stock trailer; 10 shank Krause 3 pt. chisel; silage blower; cement mixer; side extensions for trailers or truck beds to haul bales; PTO homemade tree cutter; single row silage cutter; 2-row lister; old belt driven gas engine generator; 340 cc 3-wheeler Commander, needs work; wooden stock racks for trucks; tube type grain dryer; hand crank winch; Hesston Head Hunters; 2 old 1-row corn binders; miscellaneous livestock items: dehorners, clamps, 24' steel bunk; 16' steel bunk; 2 - 8' hay feeders; 300 bushel metal self feeder; Filson head gate; round bale fork; electric fences; miscellaneous tarps; lots of used tires like "2" 8-25-20 tires; "2" 11L-16SL; "7" 11L-15; "2" rear tractor tires; lots of miscellaneous salvage; sucker rod; all steel 10' pull road grader; JI Case threshing machine **under roof.**

TRAILER ITEMS & COLLECTIBLES Starting at 10 AM

Stihl 034 AV 16" blade chain saw with case; air compressor; Handyman jacks and others; #6 large bench vise; several buzz saw blades; lots of miscellaneous belts; lots of wrenches, spades, bars, shovels, clam shells, post augers, picks, axes,

mauls and lots of log chains; old leg vise; table saw; jig saw; electric chain saw sharpener; John Deere Letz grinder; 1-row pull type lister; horse drawn walk behind 1-row planter; cream and milk cans; John Deere metal seat; JD corn sheller; old wooden cider press; galvanized tins; old forge, complete with tools, table and small anvil; old platform scale with weights; barn loose hay fork; 4 porch posts; old all wooden grain stalk rake; chicken crates; egg baskets; square and round tubs; sprinkler cans; lots of galvanized buckets; boilers; Adze, forks, pitch, potato, silage and manure; steel wheels; single trees, hames and horse collars; very old side saddle; old bits; pine boxes; washboard; old Maytag washer; well pumps and windmill miscellaneous; barn hinges and hooks; lots of miscellaneous items; miscellaneous hardy's with large anvil with good point, 1899; old shoe last; yard gate; croquet set; solid core doors; old dry sink; ornate wood pieces; old oak ice box, 3 doors; 1-door ice box with top lid (no other household items to be sold!); 2 single horse buggy shafts; old wooden stitching horse stand for repairing leather saddles; old metal tube type hand crank grain sifter; 2 JD umbrellas.

NOTE: Starting at 10:00 a.m. with trailer items and miscellaneous. TRACTORS, TRUCKS & MACHINERY WILL START AFTER LUNCH OR NOT BEFORE 12:00 NOON!

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Streamside trees prime Plains wildlife habitat

Riparian (streamside) forests are the habitat of choice in the Great Plains for a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife. The forests have changed since pioneer days, but continue to provide a unique mix of water, food and cover.

And, they could be doing even more, said Bill Beck, watershed specialist with the Kansas Forest Service.

"So long as you have land with some riparian acreage, the forest service can assist you in managing to meet wildlife objectives," he explained. "You can be a hunter, a birder or someone who simply enjoys catching the occasional glimpse of nearby wildlife."

About 200 years ago, the Plains' riparian forests were a de facto meat and herb market for Native Americans and early settlers, Beck said. They were shooting sports sites for the fort-building U.S. Frontier Army.

"One of the biggest changes since then, of course, is that massive herds of bison no longer congregate to ride out the region's weather extremes in large river-bottom stands of cottonwoods and willows," he said. "But, our streamside forests are still a protective transition zone between aquatic and upland ecosystems. So, they offer a wide range of niches and micro-habitats for other wildlife."

The forester offered these examples:

* Tree roots and woody debris in a stream channel provide habitat and attachment surfaces for amphibians, reptiles, fish and macroinvertebrates (e.g., insects clams, snails, flatworms, crustaceans, etc.).

* Woody debris in the channel also helps to create riffles, runs, and pools – stream structures important to fish.

* The tree canopies that overhang a stream help regulate the water's temperature, thus improving the stream's dissolved oxygen content. This promotes balance in the aquatic ecosystem, as well as fish health.

* Because they grow alongside a linear stream or river, riparian trees create a lot of forest edge – an important factor for many wildlife species, including rabbits and quail.

* The large woody debris that falls from the canopy to the forest floor creates den sites and attracts both insects and small animals.

* The insects and small animals, in turn, serve as prey for such predators as bobcats, coyotes, snakes and raptor-type birds.

* Standing dead trees, known as snags, become nesting or den sites for woodpeckers, song birds, and such mammals as the squirrel, bat and raccoon.

* Living riparian trees provide roosting sites for turkeys and the occasional

bald eagle (particularly in large bur oaks, sycamores and/or cottonwoods beside a river).

"By their very nature, Kansas riparian forests also are likely to attract waterfowl, including the wood duck, bufflehead, goldeneye and merganser," Beck said. "But, the forest service can help landowners make those forests even more alluring to the bird species that love water and marshes."

Nagengast to step down as KRC executive director

Kansas Rural Center (KRC) Executive Director Dan Nagengast has announced his plans to leave KRC by mid-summer this year. Nagengast has been executive director since 1992. KRC, a non-profit education and advocacy organization for sustainable agriculture and a local and regional food system, was formed in 1979. He is one of only three individuals who have served as executive director over the organization's history.

"After nearly 20 years as Executive Director, I've decided it is time to step back and turn over the reins to new leadership and for a new chapter in my life," stated Nagengast. "I have been thoroughly engaged in the KRC's work of preserving opportunities in farming for Kansans for almost 20 years. I think the key to healthy ecosystems and thriving rural communities is creating the structures that allow many more people to farm. Our reliance on

fossil fuel, or chemically based technologies coupled with genetic manipulation, clearly assist agricultural concentration, while ignoring the needs of future generations."

"This was not a decision I made hastily; I let the board and staff know late last year, and the board immediately began to plan for a transition," he continued. "We have a talented and capable staff who will continue to do good work. We have a committed board of directors who will be deeply involved in promoting sustainable agriculture in Kansas and making decisions for the organization's future."

2011 KRC board co-presidents, Marjorie Van Buren, Topeka, and Laura Fortmeyer, Fairview, praised Nagengast for his years of developing KRC as a vital voice in sustainable agriculture in Kansas and for expanding KRC's vision to include a local and regional food system. Van Buren and

Fortmeyer stated, "We are very sorry to see Dan leave, but we understand that he needs to pursue new challenges and opportunities. KRC and all who farm and eat in Kansas owe him a great deal. We wish him and Lynn nothing but the best."

Nagengast's last day will be June 30, 2011. He and his wife, Lynn Byczynski, are buying an Italian vegetable seed business, to be run out of Lawrence. Dan will continue to be involved in local food politics and activities in Kansas.

The KRC board has appointed long-time staff person Mary Fund as interim director, effective July 1, 2011, and until a replacement is hired. Fund is currently director of KRC's Clean Water Farms-WRAPS Focus Project, editor of KRC's newsletter, Rural Papers, and works on a number of other KRC projects. The KRC board will be launching a search for a new executive director by early summer.

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15 — 10:00 AM

We will offer for sale at public auction, the following described real estate at the VFW in CLYDE, KANSAS

80 ACRES CLOUD COUNTY CROPLAND

LOCATION OF REAL ESTATE: 1 mile east (on 148 Highway) and 4 miles south (on 280th Road) and 1 3/4 miles east (on Zeal Road) of Agenda, Kansas, or 4 miles north (on 280th Road) and 1 3/4 miles east (on Zeal Road) of Clyde, Kansas.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The E 1/2 of NE 1/4 1-5-1 west of the 6th P.M., Cloud County, Kansas (borders Washington and Republic Counties).

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NOTE: A good producing 80-acre tract in a good area. Look it over, make your financial arrangements and plan to attend the auction. Call Lance or Larry for more information.

All statements made at the auction will take precedence over all advertising materials. Larry Lagasse Auction and Real Estate represents the sellers as agents.

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GRASS & GRAIN Auction Sales Scheduled

June 7 — Antiques, collectibles, household & other at Belleville for Everett & Gladys Johnson. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 8 — Tractors, trucks, vehicles, harvest equip., skid loader, trailers, haying equip., airplane, fertilizer & chemical equip. online only (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

June 8 — Farm equipment at Russell for Langhofer Farms, Larry Langhofer. Auctioneers: Rohleder Auction & Realty.

June 8 — Furniture, household, collectibles at Manhattan for Frank & Nella Anneberg Estate. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 9 — Land at Olsburg for Hawkinson Brothers. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co.

June 9 — Household, old & collectible items, garage & outdoor items at Hillsboro for Maurice & Nancy Meirowsky. Auctioneers: Leppke Realty & Auction.

June 9 — Chase County cropland with home at Cottonwood Falls for Andrews Family. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

June 10 — Pawnee County, Nebraska Real Estate at Summerfield for Kylene M. Stoll Living Trust. Auctioneers: Frank Thimm & Dennis Henrichs.

June 10 — Road tractor, box vans, car, trailer, lawn care equip., mowers, tools at Shawnee. Auctioneers: Lindsay Auction Service.

June 11 — Tractors, combine, swather, truck, vehicles, farm & hay equip., trailers, livestock equip., farm items, camper & boat at Healy for Archie Cooley Estate. Auctioneers: Berning Auction.

June 11 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture, black memorabilia, paper at Manhattan for Bob & Rosie Murry. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auction.

June 11 — Pickup, tractor, irrigation items, lawn & garden machinery, machine shop tools, parts, wrenches, antiques, household at St. Marys for Dan & Angie Hoobler. Auctioneers: Dennis Rezac and Everett Hoobler.

June 11 — Tractors, trucks, farm machinery, trailer items, collectibles at Herington for Mrs. Erwin (Yvonne) Monnich. Auctioneers: Bob's Auction Service, Bob Kickhafer & Lee Holtmeier.

June 11 — Furniture, household, boat, tools & misc. at Lawrence for Margaret Hunt Estate. Auctioneers: Chris Pax-

ton & Doug Riat.

June 11 — JD riding mower, tools, small ceramic kiln, antiques & collectibles, household at Abilene for Clifton & Bonnie Boyd. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

June 11 — Tractors, SUV, ATV, trailers, equipment, horse & livestock items, guns, hunting & fishing, collectibles, tools & household at McLouth for Hal & Vicki Johnson. Auctioneers: Elston Auction Co.

June 11 — Tractor, combine, headers, camper, truck, pickup & farm equipment, collectibles, tools, furniture, household & misc. near Alta Vista for Bill & Lois Kraus. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auction LLC.

June 12 — Guns, motorcycle, go kart, tools & misc. at Ottawa for Alex Moore Estate. Auctioneers: Buddy Griffin Auctions.

June 12 — Tractors, JD mower, equipment, guns, boat, household, tools & misc. at DeSoto. Auctioneers: Chris Paxton & Doug Riat.

June 12 — Household, child care items, some antiques at Clay Center for Area Consignors. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

June 12 — Farm & livestock liquidation at Platte City, Mo. for Burke Farms. Auctioneers: Gary Roach, Jerry Lehmann, Scott Crawford, Marty Couch.

June 12 — Turquoise & costume jewelry, coins, glassware, buckles, guns, Southwest items at Carbondale for Nada Allison Estate. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

June 12 & 25 — Antiques, collectibles and furniture in Council Grove for Beulah Craig. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auction LLC.

June 13 — Real estate & personal property NE of St. Joe, KS for Khali Meyers Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

June 13 — Grassland, creek bottom, farmground & wildlife land at Beloit for Gregory E. Bryant. Auctioneers: Gerald Zimmer Auction & Real Estate.

June 14 — Real Estate Greymeadow Kennels on 83 acres at Abilene. Auctioneers: McCurdy Auction, Inc.

June 15 — Dozers, loader backhoes, track loaders, wheel loaders, motor graders, sand & gravel dredge, scrapers, skid steers, trucks, vehicles, trailers, tractors, lawn & garden online (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

June 15 — Real estate at Clyde for Morris E. Nelson Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

June 18 — Collectibles, old toys, tools, yard, household & misc. at Frankfort for Alva Teagarden. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan.

June 18 — Household, livestock equipment & machinery at Hamlin for Dale & Bettye Bosse. Auctioneers: Aeschliman Auction Service.

June 18 — Jewell County land, vehicles, tractors, machinery, tools, lawn equipment, antiques & household near Formoso for James Hoard, Deanna White, Susan Sly, Connie Snodgrass. Auctioneers: Novak Brothers & Gieber.

June 18 — Household, carpentry tools, furniture at Milford for John & Barb Tittel. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

June 18 — Prime flint hills pasture & tillable land at El Dorado for property of Triple C/A Backwood, LLC. Auctioneers: Sundgren Realty Inc., Land Brokers.

June 18 — Real estate, antiques, furniture & miscellaneous at Belleville for Paul & Elsie Fahrback Estates. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estates.

June 18 — Guns, beer signs, tools, van, mowers, dune buggy, dolls S. of Carbondale for Rubin & Voni Stegman. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

June 21 — Wabaunsee County farmland at Alta Vista for Vivian P. Sommer Trust. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 23 (ending) — Online only (www.gehlingonline.com). Auctioneers: Gehling Auction.

June 23 — Fox Lake land at Cassoday for property of Jack & Julia Wichers. Auctioneers: Sundgren Realty Inc., Lane Brokers.

June 24 — Pottawatomie County real estate at Wheaton for Gerald Cafrey Estate. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co.

June 25 — Tractors, vehicles, construction equip., farm equip., trailers, tools & misc. at Tonganoxie. Auctioneers: Moore Auction Service, Inc.

June 25 — Antiques, collectibles and furniture in Council Grove for Beulah Craig. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auction LLC.

September 12 — Farm sale NW of Concordia for Tom Trost Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

September 24 — Farm sale SW of Courtland for Richard Nelson Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

November 5 — Harley Gerdes consignment auction at Lyndon.

November 6 — Shades of Red & White Show Calf Sale at Clay Center. Lori Hambright, sale manager.

December 31 — Harley Gerdes 27th annual New Year's Consignment auction at Lyndon.

AUCTION SATURDAY, JUNE 18 — 10:00 AM

Auction held 3 miles west to 250th road, from the Formoso, Ks. turnoff on highway 36, then 1 mile south and 1 mile east of FORMOSO, KANSAS

271.5 ACRES JEWELL CO. LAND SELLS AT NOON

TRACT 1: 160 Acres (more or less), has 88.59 acres of bottom and upland cropland, 64.18 acres of pastureland, 2.47 acres of Farm yard which consists of a ranch style single story 3 bedroom 1 bath home with a full basement, a 28x48ft. machine shed, and other outbuildings, and 4.76 acres roads. Bases: wheat 53.6 acres yield 35 bu., grain sorghum 7.9 acres yield 56 bu., and oats 10.8 acres yield 44 bu. Estimated FSA payments are \$952.00. Taxes: \$633.42

LOCATION: 1 mile south and 2 miles west of Formoso, Kansas.

LEGAL: (NE 1/4) Section 30, Township 3 South, Range 6 West of the 6th PM in Jewell County, Kansas.

TRACT 2: 40 Acres (more or less), has 34.4 acres gently sloping to bottom cropland, 5.25 acres of timber & wildlife habitat, and .35 acres of roads. Bases: wheat 31.3 acres yield 35, grain sorghum 2.4 acres yield 56 bu., oats .5 acres yield 44 bu. estimated FSA payments 514.00. Taxes \$265.12

LOCATION: 3 miles south and 1 mile east of Formoso, Kansas.

LEGAL: (SE 1/4 SE 1/4) Section 34, Township 3 South, Range 6 West of 6th PM in Jewell County, Kansas.

TRACT 3: 40 Acres (more or less), has 37.37 acres gently sloping cropland, 1.42 acres waterways, & 1.21 acres roads. Bases: wheat 34.6 acres yield 35 bu. Grain Sorghum 2.6 acres yield 56 bu. estimated FSA payment \$567.00. Taxes \$346.56

LOCATION: 3 1/2 miles south of Formoso, Kansas on east side of road.

LEGAL: S 1/2 S 1/2 NW 1/4 Section 3, Township 4 South, Range 6 West of 6th PM in Jewell County, Kansas.

TRACT 4: 25 Acres (more or less), has 23.38 acres flat to gently sloping cropland & 1.62 acres roads. Bases: wheat 20.8 acres yield 35 bu. grain sorghum 1.6 acres yield 56 bu. estimated FSA payments \$342.00. Taxes \$227.64

LOCATION: 3 1/2 miles south of Formoso, Kansas on west side of road.

LEGAL: Part of S 1/2 NE 1/4 Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 6 West of 6th PM in Jewell County, Kansas.

TRACT 5: 6.57 Acres (more or less), has 5.96 acres flat cropland, .61 acres waste ground. No Bases. Taxes \$76.12

LOCATION: Northwest corner of Formoso, Kansas.

LEGAL: 6.57 acres at the NW corner of the NE 1/4 Section 21, Township 3 South, Range 6 west of 6th PM in Jewell County, Kansas.

TERMS ON ALL TRACTS: 10% down day of sale balance upon marketable title at closing on or before July 18, 2011. Taxes: 2011 paid by Sellers. Possession: Sellers retaining all cash rent for 2011. Buyers get possession of wheat ground after harvest, pastureland Nov. 15, & balance cropland after harvest or March 1, 2012. Escrow Agent: Darrell Miller, Mankato, Ks., title insurance & escrow fee cost split equally: Real Estate Broker represents Sellers; All acreage and information are taken from reliable sources but are not guaranteed by the sellers or Auctioneer. Statements made day of sale take precedence over printed material.

Roger Novak, Belleville, Kansas, Auctioneer & Real Estate Broker, 785-527-2626 or 785-527-1302

VEHICLES, TRACTORS & MACHINERY Sells at 10 am

2004 Chevy 2500 4 dr. pickup 4x4, Vortec V8, 5th wheel, auto, tow package, running boards, 138,000 mi. yellow color; 1978 Ford 7700 diesel tractor, cab, triple hyd., wf, front weights, 7508 hrs.; 1975 Ford 7000 diesel tractor, wf, canopy, 5631hrs. front weights good tires, w. Dual hyd loader, 5ft. bucket & grapple fork; Ford 16ft. field cultivator w. harrow; Ford 4x16 semi mounted plow; Crustbuster 17x10 pull type grain drill; Krause 14ft. wheel disc; Krause 12ft. 3pt. Chisel; JD 400 3pt. 2 row rotary hoe; Ford 5ft. 3pt. Rotary mower; 3pt. Post hole digger; Big Ox 8ft. blade; 35ft.X6in. PTO grain auger; 4in.X 10ft. grain auger; 5 older pieces machinery; 300 gal. fuel barrel; 110gal. 2 compartment fuel barrel; tractor cyl.; 4 wheel big bale mover; 3pt. Bale mover; 2 big bale feeders; 7- 12ft. pipe cattle coral panels; 2 stock tanks.

TOOLS & LAWN EQUIPMENT

JD LX 176 riding 30in. lawn mower; Troy Built rear tine tiller; Lawn General 2 wheel lawn sprayer; push mower; Craftsman 10in. table saw w. extensions & stand; Craftsman 12in. band saw on stand; 1in. belt disc sander; Craftsman 12in. wood lathe; shop vac; Skil scroll 16in. saw; bench drill press; squirrel cage fan; elect. air compressor; 24ft. alum. extension ladder; 50gal. propane tank; 8 ton hyd. jack; air bubble; wheel barrow; extension cords; car ramps; space heater; circular saw; jig saw; gas weed eater; pipe clamps; snow blade for 4 wheeler; hand & shop tools; elect. fence posts & wire.

ANTIQUES & HOUSEHOLD

Waconda Water 5gal. crock jug; 2, 3, & 4 gal. Red Wing crocks; Brown Stone 2gal. crock; Western 3gal. crock; 1 gal. crock; 2- 5gal. glass jugs; crock bowl; small lard press; glass butter churn; Shirley Temple pitcher; single iron & pipe beds; cherry pitter; doll cradle; kids chrome table & chairs; kids glider swing; cast skillets; 2 wood pedestals; rocker; McCoy & other vases; figurines; 2 scrolled & oval picture frames; Puss & Boots cookie jar; Fire King dish; cream separator; 3 kerosene lamps; horse collar & hames; cross cut saw; Household; upright freezer; dining table & chairs; hide a bed couch; glider rocker; office desk; queen & full bedroom sets; microwave; dishes; kitchen items; Tupperware; 4- 2 drawer file cabinets; holiday items; craft items; pressure cooker; thimble holder; table lamps; leather stamp set; & other.

Lunch on grounds. TERMS CASH: Nothing removed until settled for. Not Responsible for Accidents.

JAMES HOARD, DEANNA WHITE, SUSAN SLY, & CONNIE SNODGRASS

AUCTIONEERS: NOVAK BROS. & GIEBER
 Website: www.nckcn.com/novakbrosgieberauction/
 Roger Novak Les Novak Butch Gieber
 Belleville, Kansas Munden, Kansas Cuba, Kansas
 785-527-2626 785-987-5588 785-729-3831
 785-527-1302 (Cell)

Troy Novak, Munden, Kansas, 785-987-5372
 Clerk: Scott Clerking, Belleville, Kansas

AUCTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 12 — 10:30 AM

313 W. Main Street — CARBONDALE, KANSAS (Hwy. 75 to Carbondale Exit, West approx. 1 mile past stop sign at Top. Ave. & Main)

2 maple bedroom suites; large cedar chest; Maytag "Plus" refrigerator; Maytag Peforama flat top stove; GE sensor microwave; maple dining table w/6 chairs; Canon AE1 35mm camera w/access.; home & garden stone set, lots of extras; Shirley Temple pitcher; Japanese tea set, very old; 30+ elephant figurines; vase, Fox Hunt scene, nice; 35+ Carnival glass pieces; 30+ pieces of turquoise jewelry; jade necklace, bracelet, earrings; great selection of costume jewelry; 20 Hesston belt buckles, 78-95; 25+ various kinds belt buckles; Don Ricardo alum. spurs, old;

15+ Southwest pictures; 30+ Native American or S.W. figurines; 2 mink coats; large selection snowmen items, small appliances, kitchen items, cookbooks, silverware, glassware, old books, etc.; COINS: selling at 10:30 a.m., good selection currency & coins; GUNS: Sells after coins, 5 guns, several knives; several good antique pictures & frames.

CAR

1998 Lincoln Signature Town car, AT, V8, fully equipped, 89,800 miles, smoke gray color, always shedded, Al condition.

NOTE: Mark June 12 on your calendar ... GREAT AUCTION! Something for everyone: Jewelry, Coins, Guns, Southwest, Glass, Collectibles, etc. 2 RINGS. Inspection sale day only. Lunch by Happy Trails. MANY OTHER ITEMS.

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 TRACT 4: 460 Acres, S.E. of Colby, KS
 TRACT 5: 794 Acres, S.W. of Colby, KS
 TRACTS 6-15: 1,555 Acres, S.E. of Lakin, KS
 TRACT 16: 156 Acres, S.E. of Lakin, KS

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INSPECTION DATES:
 Tues., June 21 - 4-6PM
 Wed., June 22 - 8-10AM
 Mon., July 11 - 12-2PM

FOR TRACTS 1-5: Meet at the City Limits Convention Center - Colby, KS.
 FOR TRACTS 6-16: Meet at the Clarion Inn - Garden City, KS.
 Property Information and Tours will be available.

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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

A Confusing Spring

I'm sitting here reading the newspaper about farms in Missouri and Louisiana being deliberately flooded to prevent inundation of towns on the Mississippi River. Alabama and Tennessee have been ripped with tornados, there's snow on the ground in Wyoming, it's too wet to plow some places, Texas is burning up and, at my place in Arizona, we haven't seen rain since October!

I guess it's just another run-of-the-mill Springtime in the Land Outside the City Limits. Farmers have a right to be confused. Is it good times? Or bad? Looks like the price of dairy products is stabilizing, but alfalfa hay costs more than a salad at Ruth's Chris Steak

House. The price of gas is \$4 a gallon but it's 30% ethanol made from seven dollar and fifty cent corn! Am I making money? Or losing it?

Your pasture is droughted out. Should you sell off a hundred cow-calf pairs for enough to clear your debt, remodel the house, and buy a new pickup? OR...ship them 150 miles away to lease pasture for \$16 per month per pair for 6 months, then ship them back just in time to start feeding them hay this fall?

Even horse traders are in a quandary. Unwanted horses are now up to \$80 a head, from \$40 last year, which is great, but down from \$500 five years ago. Should they be happy or sad?

It seems like we in agriculture are sitting on a bubble. There is good demand for what we sell but all around us we see things that make us squirm. The economy in general continues to lag. The federal government, as well as many state governments seem to resemble Nero fiddling while Rome burns. They manipulate figures like magicians doing card tricks. The Wizard of Oz rolls and thunders and people yawn.

Government, through the Farm Bill, the EPA and the media, has always been able to maintain a 'cheap food policy.' Politicians can get vicious when their constituents complain about the high price of food. They take retribution by threatening cuts to the Ag Extension Service, county fairs, Vo-Ag in rural schools and Food Animal Medicine studies in Vet Schools. We are at the top of their lists when belt-tightening begins.

At this moment they are looking greedily at that rare opportunity, a resilient productive agriculture, to pillage. All it would take will be an expression of indignant outrage from Nero, the Magicians, the Wizard, or their entitlement cronies, accusing farmers of making a... heaven forbid... a profit!

But there has never been any confusion of our status as farmers, in the eyes of the ruling class; the politiks, barons, dictators and pundits...we are peasants. And as such must never be allowed to have the power over a commodity as essential as food. So enjoy your success while you can, my friends. They are already sharpening their legislative knives.



Beef judge Don Patterson talks to Kalee Heimer, Asaria, who was later named the reserve champion junior showman at the Central Kansas Spring Classic in Salina on May 21.

Emerald ash borer traps set in Kansas

Kansans may notice triangle-shaped purple boxes hanging from ash trees across the state. Often mistaken for kites gone astray, the 24-inch-long boxes are actually traps set by the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) to detect whether a pest known as emerald ash borer has entered the state.

Kansas is one of 48 states participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) survey to monitor known emerald ash borer infestations and detect unknown beetle populations.

"Emerald ash borer has not been found in Kansas and we hope we don't catch any of the pests," said Laurinda Ramonda, KDA state Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey coordinator. "However, these traps are an important monitoring tool. In the event of infestation, early detection would help KDA limit the spread of emerald ash borer."

KDA set 100 of the purple traps and USDA set an additional 100 traps in the state. The traps are coated with nontoxic glue. While they pose no risk to humans, pets or wildlife, their glue can be messy if touched.

Kansans are encouraged to report downed traps to the Kansas Department of Agriculture at 785-862-2180.

The traps are to attract and catch the emerald ash borer, a small, metallic-green, wood-boring beetle native to Asia. Originally detected in Michigan in 2002, the pest has also been found in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Ontario and Quebec.

Adult emerald ash borers are about one-half-inch long and they emerge in late spring. The larvae feed just under the bark of a tree, which damages and eventually kills the tree. Trees infested with emerald ash borer will have canopy dieback, water sprouts, bark splitting, serpentine-like galleries and D-shaped exit holes.

All ash species in North America are susceptible to emerald ash borer, and more than 30 million ash trees have been killed by the insect. The insect spreads to new areas when people move firewood, nursery products or other infested wood products.

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