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Animal Health Summit emphasizes collaborations as key to growth

By **Melanie Musselman**

Capitalizing on collaborations was the theme of the Governor's Economic Summit on Animal Health at Kansas Farm Bureau in Manhattan on June 9. Approximately 180 animal health industry stakeholders from researchers and policy makers to producers and feed company representatives discussed how to continue to grow the animal health sector in Kansas.

"In the Animal Health Corridor between Manhattan and Columbia, Mo., is 32 percent of the global footprint in the animal health industry. It includes the pharmaceutical, diagnostic, training and animal feed companies. We need to grow this to 50 percent," said Gov. Sam Brownback. "We market who we are. We don't lament about what we are not. If you're not a player globally, you better get off the field."

The Animal Health Summit was the fourth in a series of summits aimed at growing the Kansas economy and creating jobs. Brownback said the collaborations will bring the resources of the public sector, private sector, university and philanthropic efforts together.

Industry stakeholders who spoke at the event included Bob Marcusse, president and CEO of the Kansas City Area Development Council; Kirk Schulz, president of K-State; Dr. Ernst Heinen, vice-president of Research and Development at Bayer Animal Health; and Ron Trewyn, vice-president for Research of K-State.

Marcusse's group is one of the organizations providing leadership to the K.C. Animal Health Corridor. He said they've created an advisory



board with representation from both K-State and the University of Missouri schools of veterinarian medicine. Marcusse describes what makes up the Animal Health Corridor, which is a patent-protected phrase. "The Animal Health Corridor includes 18 counties in Kansas and Missouri. We not only have world class assets, but global assets. Four out of the top 10 companies in the global animal health business are located in the Corridor: Bayer, Ceva, Boehringer-Ingelheim Animal Health and Intervet."

Marcusse explained they've worked diligently to create the Animal Health Corridor brand and have been rewarded with successful results. "Since 2006, we've brought in 20 companies and created 1300 new jobs. We've secured \$25 million in venture funding for start-up companies. The collection of assets is unprecedented anywhere else in the world."

K-State president Kirk Schulz addressed the group via video. He affirmed the importance of K-State's Vet School and the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) to achieving Kansas' animal health economic goals. "At K-State, we want to be a key part of the animal research triangle similar to the research triangle for human science. We will do what we can to make our great vet school even better."

Heinen said Bayer, based in Shawnee Mission, as one of the top five animal health companies, needs to attract skilled employees to serve their customers in the future. "We need a well-educated workforce in the area. We can shape our own destiny and we will. Only those that employ innovation and technology will survive."

Heinen, a former dairyman from West Germany, emphasized the importance of bringing new technology to this area to keep our livestock healthy and our food safe. New collaborations can be explored between animal science and human science initiatives. "I encourage collaboration between the K-State Vet School and the KU School of Pharmacy to realize common goals. Through support from public and private entities and a skilled-workforce we can become the global center of the animal health industry," Heinen said. He has 23 years of clinical veterinarian experience.

Trewyn, K-State's vice-president for Research, detailed the progress of bringing NBAF to Manhattan. This state-of-the-art, animal research facility will provide the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of foreign animal diseases. "Currently, NBAF has been allocated \$114 million in taxpayer funding, \$40

million from the federal government's FY 11 appropriation and \$30 million from the state of Kansas," noted Trewyn. Its location at K-State, said Trewyn, will put it in close proximity to the K-State vet school and the Pat Roberts Biosecurity Research Institute, all with common missions and related research. A roundtable discussion with industry leaders moderated by Brownback followed the stakeholder presentations. Casey Wilhm of the Olathe Chamber of Commerce had an interesting concept of capitalizing on the recent Google announcement of high speed internet in Kansas City, Ks. "What about the Google announcement of choosing Kansas City as an experimental site for the ultra-high speed internet connection? How can the animal health industry partner with Google to distribute data and re-

search at a very high rate which is 100 times faster than a regular connection?" Wilhm questioned the governor and the panel from the audience. Pat George, Kansas secretary of commerce, said they are in fact connecting with technicians from Google as to how this new technology could benefit the Animal Health Corridor. Keith Miller, Great Bend farmer and stockman and Chairman of the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) said animal health research is crucial for the future of Kansas agriculture. "We need excellent animal health officials. It's becoming critical all over the world. I appreciate the fact that we will have control of diseases, access to the facility and it will be safe," commented Miller. "NBAF and the animal health industry will provide economic development and jobs. We will keep young people we are raising here in Kansas. To me that's important."

Miller said Kansas secretary of agriculture Dale Rodman has asked him to continue to be involved in the dialogue and help communicate to other producers what's going on with animal health economic development issues. Brownback summarized the recommendations from the Summit in closing. Being a global center of animal health, investing in the K-State vet school to educate and train the needed workforce, working with regulators, how the Google high speed internet connection fits in and continuing to strengthen the NBAF partners of the Kansas congressional delegation to secure funding were suggestions made at the Summit.

Bar coding and beefed-up computer support that can process many more germplasm lines. "With plant breeding, germplasm improvement is a numbers game. The more plants we get to look at and the more plots we can evaluate, the better chance we have of finding a new variety for Kansas," he explains. At USDA, Poland evaluates cereal plants not yet adapted to Kansas, such as wheat varieties from Mexico, or wild relatives of wheat that possess genetic traits like disease resistance or heat tolerance, or have outstanding yield potential. The USDA team will work to refine and improve this material and create a plant that wheat breeders like K-State's Fritz can crossbreed with existing wheat lines to make new and improved commercial varieties. In Manhattan, USDA researchers are focused on finding new and improved resistance to diseases such as stem rust, including the Ug 99 variant that has devastated wheat crops in Africa and could one day spread worldwide. Poland's job isn't in the spotlight like that of the public and private wheat breeders, but it is just as vital. He works alongside Fritz and maintains constant communication with the K-State wheat breeder.

Poland's initial goals include increasing the number of different wheat lines that he and his USDA counterparts evaluate, using a combination of

Photo by *Melanie Musselman*

Kansas native is instrumental in new variety development

By **Bill Spiegel**

A Kansas native has returned home to become a key contributor in the development of new wheat varieties for Kansas wheat farmers.

Jesse Poland, research geneticist at USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Manhattan, focuses on finding new wheat lines and traits that can make better wheat varieties.

In September, Poland joined USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Manhattan, after obtaining a Ph.D. in plant breeding from Cornell University. He works alongside K-State wheat breeder Allan Fritz to develop new traits that can boost the yield potential of wheat varieties from the K-State program. A native of the Chapman area, Poland was raised on a diversified crop farm, giving him practical knowledge when it comes to finding solutions for wheat producers.

"I grew up around agriculture and have always loved it," says Poland, who worked with former USDA geneticist Gina Brown-Guidera as an undergraduate at K-State. "That's where my interest in wheat research began," he says.

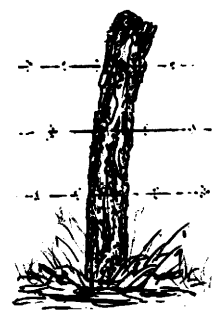
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The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator
Farewell, Faithful Friend

When we arrived home last night after an evening in town, Buck was not there, resting near the front door, to greet us with a bark. Instead he is now resting in the pine trees just north of our lawn. A tree in the shelter belt had died a few years ago, leaving a perfect spot for Buck's final resting place.

I had realized for the past few weeks that it was time for him to be relieved of his pain and poor quality of life. Although a baby aspirin each day enclosed in a wiener was given him to help his arthritic condition, it was still difficult and painful for him to move about. His eyesight was gone and his hearing diminished; but he still had a good sense of smell and enjoyed eating. He was needing our attention more and more to comfort and assure him with loving pats and strokes.

When some of my relatives visited a week or two ago, they helped me dig his grave, and one talented nephew expertly chiseled this inscription on a stone marker: "Buck" June 2011. I was now prepared for his burial but not emotionally ready to say goodbye. But as I watched him this last weekend, I knew it was time. Two days ago, we had the vet put him to sleep. You dog lovers who have had this experience know how May and I are feeling now. Pets can become like family members, usually with fewer hang-ups and less baggage to carry around.

Buck, an Australian Blue Heeler, was given to us when he was about two years old. The only baggage, or scar, he was carrying was that whenever one would move a hand toward his head, he would duck in fear. Apparently someone had hit him to punish him when he was young. It was hard for him to recover from that distrust. The past several months he especially liked for me to grip his head around his nose and mouth with my hands and then firmly push and press them back over his head and come to rest around his neck. This would bring an appreciative sound from him.

When we first brought Buck home, he seemed instinctively to know from the start that this was his home. This was his ranch, his terri-

tory to protect and be in charge of. He seemed to feel it important to observe anything that was moving, day or night. Many times we would hear him bark at night and would find a dead possum in the yard the next morning. If a car was coming down our driveway, Buck's intense and alert posture would tell us. Yet, when its occupants got out of their vehicle, he was courteous with his greeting, never hostile but also not so excited as to jump up on anyone. When visitors left, he seemed to expect a farewell remark or, better yet, a pat on the head.

Whenever the pickup left for work on the ranch, he expected to be sitting in the front seat with me as my copilot, always very erect, watching everything going on, especially when the cattle were nearby. Whenever I would open his door and yell, "Get her, Buck," he was ready for duty and a chase with lots of barking. The cow would try to bluff him out, but a few nips at her heels and she'd be headed for the gate. However, if he was trying to move the entire herd, they often would bluff him out, so he would stand and bark. His jaws were large and powerful, designed to bite the heels of cattle. I have seen him crush a young coon with one chomp of his jaws.

One of his favorite activities was to race us down the driveway, whether we were in the car or truck. If he was riding with us, whenever we reached our driveway, he expected to be let out of the vehicle to begin the race. I've stopped the truck midway to see how he would react; he too, would stop running as if to say, "Why are you interrupting our fun?" When I started driving again, he would continue the race until we got to the house. That sport stopped for him a couple of years ago or more when he could no longer run.

I have never seen a dog more desirous to please while still having a strong will of his own. In all fairness, I would have to say he was more prone to chase cattle rather than to drive them. I was never smart enough to teach him the difference.

He was a good, sensible dog with a sweet disposition, a true friend and companion. Goodbye, Buck.

Prairie Ponderings

By Donna Sullivan

Last week, the younger of my two sons got married on a cruise ship in Florida. My older daughter and her husband flew to Florida for the ceremony and reception, then disembarked prior to the ship leaving port. The rest of the family, minus the two babies and my husband, who wasn't comfortable leaving the farm completely unattended for a week, set sail for an eastern Caribbean cruise.

Now, placing a Kansas farm family that is used to working 12- to 14-hour days on a ship in the middle of the ocean and telling them to relax is a little like placing an ice cube tray in the middle of the desert and telling it to freeze. Had it not been for the 24-hour ice cream machine, I'm pretty sure at least one member of our party, who shall remain nameless, would have either a) jumped overboard or b) created mischief sufficient to have us all thrown off the ship and into some island prison. But, thanks to said ice cream machine, a miniature golf course, a deck of cards for the days it rained, and plenty of other activities, we managed to stay fairly focused on the mission of relaxing. My fellow farm families and other workaholics can relate to the fact that relaxing truly can be a mission.

There are some advantages to taking farm boys on a cruise. For instance, out of the more than 4,000 people on the ship, they were the only ones who wore their straw cowboy hats at all times. So we could always find them in the crowds. When the bride's mother went to retrieve the wedding dress on the plane and was told that it had already been picked up by a couple of "redneck-looking guys," she knew it was her future son-in-law and his brother that had the dress in their possession. She was so relieved... in a "What in the world is my daughter getting into?" kind of way.

We tried all kinds of foods like lobster, sushi and salmon bisque and even got my youngest daughter to venture out of her comfort zone of chicken nuggets and French fries. But we also made sure to have prime rib and flat iron steaks a couple of the nights to ensure we stayed in touch with our roots.

We're all home now and back to work, a little more tanned and a few pounds heavier. And we still have the Kansas version of the ocean in the beautiful fields of golden, waving wheat that fill the countryside.

It's great to be home. But I have to admit, we really do miss that ice cream machine.

Reflections from Young Farmers & Ranchers

By Lori Pultz Haresnape,
Lebanon

Ahhh, summer vacation. Spending time outside, staying up late, swimming, growing veggies in the garden, playing with our new puppies, kids laughing and playing together... Sounds dreamy, doesn't it?

Here's a little dose of reality on day TWELVE of our summer "vacation." Mosquito and chigger bites from head to toe, kids waking up at different times,

thus demanding breakfast at different times, new pool full of cottonwood seed (and bark/muck from the storms), rainwater finally subsiding and exposing a garden FULL of weeds, puppies tromping through said garden and over my plants while I'm trying to pull some of those weeds, and tonight... well, tonight I actually found myself grounding my six- and seven-year-old sons... from each other. Calgon, take me away!

Don't get me wrong. Despite our lives seeming like a series of "Calgon moments," I'm laughing as I write this. Life could be so much tougher. I'm thankful I can be home with my kids for their summer break. I'm thankful we all have our health. I'm thankful our area hasn't been in the path of destruction caused by the tornadoes so far. I'm also thankful we can raise a garden and swim in our new (albeit dirty) swimming pool. I actually find our chaos quite funny - now. Hey, I'm human. I get a little stressed out in the midst of situations sometimes.

There never really is a vacation time on the farm. Summer is just as busy as the rest of the year. We're planting, spraying, swathing, baling, harvesting, peeking in on cattle out in pastures (rebuilding flood gates after storms), and taking care of and working with 4-H animals and other projects for county fair. Oh, and it's HOT. That just makes it all seem like more work!

What was my point here? Oh yes, summer "vacation." Even though it's often just as busy as - if not busier than - the rest of the year, most of us can still carry the vacation mentality with us and enjoy ourselves a bit. We can sit on the tailgate of the pickup for a few minutes with family or employees and chat after a day in the field. We can linger a bit at the edge of the garden while the sprinkler is running and let it mist us before we head in to clean up for town. Or, we can just grab the hose and turn it on our kids and/or husbands before THEY

Continued on page 3

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid



"I jist gotta new diet. My doctor put me on fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes and pie...said he wanted me to die happy!"

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Infectious disease expert with international research experience selected to lead Biosecurity Research Institute

An expert in vector biology, arthropod-borne infectious diseases, immune modulation and vaccine evaluation is the newest leader of the Biosecurity Research Institute at Kansas State University.

Stephen Higgs comes to K-State from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where he is a professor in the department of pathology and director of the biosafety level-3 insectary. His particular research interests are mosquito-virus-vertebrate interactions. He will begin his new position in July.

"I am very excited to be joining the Kansas State team," Higgs said. "The existing expertise in animal and plant diseases and in food safety and security at K-State — combined with the dedicated leadership, faculty and staff committed to advancing education and research to achieve the K-State 2025 goal — is truly outstanding. The BRI has unique research and training capabilities that will allow K-State to develop collaborations with local and international groups and companies, whilst work with federal agencies to facilitate National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility

research will ultimately enhance the nation's security."

Located in Pat Roberts Hall, the Biosecurity Research Institute is a biosafety level-3 and biosafety level-3 ag facility that studies infectious diseases affecting the food supply. In addition to directing the institute, Higgs will also serve two other roles: Peine Professor for Biosecurity in the department of pathobiology and diagnostic medicine and associate vice president for research, facilitating bio-preparedness research campuswide. While at K-State Higgs will remain editor-in-chief of the international journal Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases.

"The experience and credentials that Stephen Higgs brings to the K-State family are what will help us reach our goal of becoming a top 50 public research university by 2025," said K-State President Kirk Schulz. "With him at the helm of our biosafety level-3 laboratory, our national renown in animal health will be strengthened even more."

Higgs earned a doctorate in parasitology from Reading University in the United

Kingdom and a bachelor of science with honors in zoology from King's College in London. He was involved in training and research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and at the Institute of Virology and Environmental Microbiology, Oxford in the United Kingdom before coming to the United States in 1991.

Higgs is experienced in developing collaborative, multidisciplinary research projects and has organized training in biocontainment facilities for researchers from other universities and other countries.

"Stephen's expertise is unparalleled when it comes to experience in facilities like the Biosecurity Research Institute," said Ron Trewyn, vice president for research at K-State. "The fact that he has organized collaborations with leading research universities and other public and private-sector entities shows that he is an excellent choice to manage our growing research programs and expand the institute's biosafety, biosecurity and biocontainment education programs."

Alfonso Torres, associate dean for public policy at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, serves on the Biosecurity Research Institute advisory board. He has Higgs lined up to lecture at the 11th International Transboundary Animal Diseases course at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in New York. The center is being replaced by the Na-

tional Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, which is under construction adjacent to the K-State campus.

"Stephen's expertise in medical entomology and many important arthropod-borne diseases is a great asset not only for K-State but for the future NBARF and for the current education and research programs on the most important animal diseases affecting the livestock industries and public health," Torres said.

Poland

Continued from page 1

"We both evaluate the material each other is working on," Poland says. "The USDA program has stem rust and leaf rust nurseries, and we can evaluate Alan's material in our labs. Folks can view K-State and USDA-ARS as one single project, or two different parts of the same overall project."

For wheat farmers, dramatic improvements in winter wheat varieties are

just down the road. The public program's use of new technology, including DNA sequencing machines, global positioning systems and scanners that can evaluate thousands of lines per day; combines with greater interest by private companies to develop new wheat varieties and crop protection solutions for wheat producers. "The future of wheat genetics and new varieties looks good. We have so much more research investment than ever," Poland says.

Reflections

Continued from page 2

have to clean up to head to town for summer reading or a meeting. There are lots of little ways we can celebrate summer vacation.

Myself? I'm simply rejoicing in the fact that I don't have to worry about the calves calling, wondering where my kids are if we don't make it up to the barn by 8:00!

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BLUEBERRY STREUSEL MUFFINS

- 1 3/4 cups flour
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup cooking oil
- 1 cup blueberries, fresh or frozen
- Streusel Topping:
 - 3 tablespoons flour
 - 3 tablespoons packed brown sugar
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 2 tablespoons margarine
 - 2 tablespoons chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease 12 muffin cups or use papers. In a medium bowl combine flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. In another bowl combine egg, milk and oil. Add to the flour mixture all at once. Stir in just until moistened. Add blueberries. Spoon batter into muffin cups and fill 2/3 full. To prepare topping, combine flour, brown sugar and cinnamon. Cut margarine into mixture until it resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in chopped nuts. Sprinkle streusel mixture over muffins. Bake in a 400-degree oven for 18 minutes.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

TACO MEAT LOAF

- 2 pounds ground chuck
 - 1 medium onion, chopped
 - 1/2 cup minced fresh cilantro
 - 1-ounce package taco seasoning mix
 - 1/4 cup tomato sauce
 - 1 large egg
 - 1 cup crushed tortilla chips
- Set oven to 350 degrees. In a bowl combine meat, onion, cilantro and seasoning. Add tomato sauce and egg, stirring to combine.

Using hands, work in crushed chips until mixture is combined. Shape into a 10-inch loaf. Place in pan. Bake for 45-60 minutes or until loaf is cooked through. Let stand for 10 minutes before slicing.

Mary Rogers, Topeka: **RHUBARB CRUNCH**

- 3 cups chopped rhubarb
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Topping:

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 3/4 cup butter
- 3/4 cup flour

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly grease an 8-by-8-by-2-inch baking pan. Combine rhubarb, sugar, flour, cinnamon and salt. Layer evenly in baking dish. To make topping mix brown sugar, oats, butter and flour until crumbly. Sprinkle over top of rhubarb mixture. Bake for 30-40 minutes or until topping is lightly browned and rhubarb filling is bubbly. Cool 20-30 minutes before serving.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge: **CHICKEN ENCHILADA CASSEROLE**

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- 1 teaspoon butter
- 3 cups shredded cooked chicken breast
- (2) 4-ounce cans chopped green chiles
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 1/2 to 2 teaspoons ground coriander spice
- 2 1/2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup (8 ounces) reduced-fat sour cream
- 1 cup (4 ounces) reduced-fat Monterey Jack or reduced-fat Mexican cheese blend, divided
- (12) 6-inch corn tortillas, warmed

In a small skillet saute onion and green pepper in butter until tender. In a large bowl combine the chicken, green chiles and onion mixture. In a small

saucepan combine flour and coriander; add broth, stir until smooth. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture comes to a boil. Cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes longer or until thickened. Remove from the heat and stir in sour cream and 1/2 of cheese. Stir 3/4 cup sauce into chicken mixture. Place 1/3 cup chicken mixture down the center of each tortilla. Roll up and place seam side down in a 9-by-13-inch baking dish coated with cooking spray. Pour remaining sauce over top. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes or until heated through. Yield: 6 servings.

NOTE: You can add chopped jalapenos or cilantro on top.

Kellee Rogers, Topeka: **OVERNIGHT BAKED BEANS**

- 1 pound small dried white beans, such as navy
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons dry mustard

In a 5- to 6-quart slow-cooker, combine the beans, onion, brown sugar, molasses, vinegar, mustard, 5 cups water and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Cook covered on low until the beans are tender and the liquid is syrupy, about 12 hours. The onions will rise to the top and look very dark. Before serving stir in 1/2 teaspoon salt.

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June is Dairy Month . . .

It is recommended that people 9 years and older consume 3 servings of low-fat or fat-free dairy every day. However, on average, people are consuming only about 2 servings of dairy a day.¹ Here are 30 ways to incorporate more dairy into your diet.

One serving of dairy is: 1 cup (8 ounces) of low-fat or fat-free milk, 1 cup (8 ounces) low-fat or fat-free yogurt, 1.5 ounces reduced-fat natural cheese (e.g. cheddar), 2 ounces reduced-fat processed cheese (e.g. American), 1/3 cup reduced-fat shredded cheese.²

BREAKFAST

• Breakfast Sandwich — toast a whole-wheat English muffin and top with an egg and reduced-fat cheese slice.

• Quick Smoothie — get out the blender and mix a splash of fruit juice, frozen fruit, low-fat or fat-free yogurt and a few ice cubes.

• Morning Mocha — mix a cup of low-fat chocolate milk with a teaspoon of instant coffee.

• Swap It — substitute low-fat or fat-free milk for water when preparing oatmeal, hot chocolate or pancakes.

• Cheddar and Mushroom Breakfast Squares — a great

weekend breakfast (see recipe).

• Yogurt Parfait — top low-fat or fat-free yogurt with fruit slices and granola.

• Meal On-The-Go — grab a banana with peanut butter and a cup of low-fat or fat-free milk.

LUNCH

• Gourmet Grilled Cheese — start with the basics (whole-wheat bread, reduced-fat American cheese) and add avocado and tomato.

• Pizza Pita — top a whole-grain pita with pizza sauce, reduced-fat shredded cheese and your favorite toppings.

• Fiesta Tortilla — roll up your favorite toppings in a whole-grain tortilla with reduced-fat cheese. Oh, what to choose? Salsa, lean meats, avocado, pepper, onions.

• Chicken Melt — melt a slice of reduced-fat Colby Jack cheese over chicken on an English muffin.

• Sandwich Heaven — choose multi-grain bread, spread on mustard and fill it with lean meats (such as turkey breast or roast beef), reduced-fat cheese, tomatoes and veggies.

• Quick Combo — have a glass of low-fat or fat-free

Continued on next page

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Celebrate With 30 Days of Dairy!

milk with a favorite sandwich and piece of fruit and/or vegetables.

• **Super Spud** — try a baked potato with low-fat plain yogurt, reduced-fat shredded cheese, black pepper and your favorite steamed veggies.

SNACKS

• **Fun and Kid-Friendly** — wrap pretzel rods with reduced-fat Cheddar cheese.

• **Chocolate Banana Milkshake** — blend a cup of low-fat chocolate milk, a banana and ice cubes.

• **Pack It** — low-fat or reduced-fat string cheese is quick, portable and fun.

• **Strawberry Frozen Yogurt Squares** — a welcome warm-weather treat (see recipe).

• **Baked Spinach Artichoke Yogurt Dip** — an appetizer everyone will love (see recipe).

• **Dip It** — cut up pieces of fruit and include low-fat or fat-free vanilla yogurt as a tasty dip.

• **Chocolate Craving** — enjoy an ice-cold glass of low-fat or fat-free chocolate milk.

• **Yogurt-sicles** — pour low-fat yogurt into small paper cups, insert small wooden sticks and freeze.

• **Fruit-and-Cheese Kabobs** — alternate slices of apple and reduced-fat cheese cubes on small wooden skewers.

DINNER

• **Cheesy Chicken Crunchers** — family friendly and delicious (see recipe).

• **Side Salad** — top a tossed salad with reduced-

fat zesty Parmesan or creamy mozzarella.

• **Make Your Own Pizza Party** — use whole-wheat crust and top with pizza sauce, part-skim mozzarella cheese and veggies.

• **Garden Pasta Salad** — combine cooked whole-wheat pasta, reduced-fat Cheddar cheese cubes, fresh chopped veggies and low-fat Italian dressing.

• **Amped Up Veggies** — melt reduced-fat cheese on broccoli, cauliflower, carrots or peas.

• **Sweet Ending** — top angel food cake with low-fat cherry or vanilla yogurt.

• Visit www.nationaldairycouncil.org/recipes for more great dinner recipes that include delicious dairy.

¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010. 7th Edition, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, January 2011.

²U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. Choose MyPlate. 2011. http://www.choosemyplate.gov/foodgroups/dairy_count_s.html. (accessed 2 June 2011).

CHEDDAR & MUSHROOM BREAKFAST SQUARES

2 teaspoons butter
2 cups sliced white button mushrooms
1/2 cup sliced green onion, including green tops
6 slices country-style whole-grain bread, cubed
2 cups shredded, reduced-fat cheddar cheese

2 cups fat-free or low-fat milk

2 cups egg substitute

1 teaspoon red or green hot pepper sauce

Spray an 8-by-8-inch square glass or ceramic baking dish with cooking spray; set aside. In a medium skillet over medium heat, melt butter and add mushrooms. Cook mushrooms about 5 minutes or until softened and brown at edges. Stir in green onion; set aside. Place 1/2 of the bread cubes in prepared baking dish. Scatter 1/2 of the mushroom mixture and 1/2 of the cheese over bread cubes. Layer remaining bread cubes and mushroom mixture; set aside. In a large bowl, beat milk, egg substitute and pepper sauce until well blended. Pour milk mixture over bread cubes and top with the remaining cheese. Make ahead suggestion: cover dish with foil and refrigerate for 8-10 hours before baking. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake, covered for 45 minutes. Remove foil and bake an additional 15 minutes or until top is puffed up and cheese is browned at edges. Let cool for 5 minutes; cut into squares to serve.

Note: Create your own variations by using other vegetables. 9 servings.

Recipe created by 3-Every-Day™ of Dairy.

Nutritional Facts: 210 Calories, 8g Fat, 4.5g Saturated Fat, 20mg Cholesterol, 310mg Sodium, 17g Protein, 18g Carbohydrates,

1g Dietary Fiber, 30% Daily Value Calcium

CHEESY CHICKEN CRUNCHERS

1 cup all-purpose flour
4 egg whites
1/2 cup reduced-fat milk
1 1/2 cups cornflakes
1 cup reduced-fat, shredded cheddar cheese
6 chicken breast filets, cut into strips

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Set up three bowls with the following: 1) flour; 2) an egg-wash; made by beating the eggs and milk together; 3) cornflakes mixed with cheese. Coat a 13-by-9-inch baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Dip chicken pieces in flour, then into the egg-wash, then roll in the cheesy-flakes mixture, coating the entire piece of chicken, and place on the baking pan. Discard any unused cornflake mixture after coating chicken. Bake for 25 minutes, turning halfway through to ensure even browning. Serve with ketchup or barbecue sauce, if desired. 6 servings.

Recipe created by Chef Jon Ashton of Orlando, Florida

Nutritional Facts: 320 Calories, 8g Fat, 4g Saturated Fat, 90mg Cholesterol, 320mg Sodium, 37g Protein, 24g Carbohydrates, 1g Dietary Fiber, 20% Daily Value Calcium

BAKED SPINACH ARTICHOKE YOGURT DIP
14-ounce can artichoke hearts, drained & chopped

10-ounce package frozen chopped spinach, thawed & drained

8-ounce container low-fat plain yogurt

1 cup shredded part-skim, low-moisture mozzarella cheese

1/4 cup chopped green onion

1 garlic clove, minced

2 tablespoons chopped red pepper

Combine all ingredients except red pepper and mix well. Pour mixture into 1-quart casserole dish or 9-inch pie plate. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes, or until heated through, and sprinkle with red peppers. Serve with toasted whole-grain bread or crackers. 8 servings.

Recipe created by 3-Every-Day™ of Dairy

Nutritional Facts: 80 Calories, 3g Fat, 2g Saturated Fat, 10mg Cholesterol, 220mg Sodium, 8g Protein, 7g Carbohydrates, 1g Dietary Fiber, 20% Daily Value Calcium

STRAWBERRY FROZEN YOGURT SQUARES
Makes 9 Servings

1 cup crunchy wheat & barley cereal
3 cups fat-free strawberry yogurt
• 10-ounce bag frozen unsweetened strawberries (about 2 1/2 cups)

1 cup fat-free sweetened condensed milk

1 cup light or fat-free whipped topping (optional)

Line an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with foil. Sprinkle cereal evenly on the bottom of the pan; set aside. Place yogurt, strawberries and condensed milk in a blender; cover and blend until smooth. Pour the mixture over top of cereal, gently smoothing yogurt mixture to edges of pan. Cover with foil (or plastic wrap) and freeze for 8 hours or until firm. Use edges of foil to loosen and remove from pan; let recipe thaw for 5 to 10 minutes. Cut into squares, top with whipped topping, if desired, and serve.

Storage tip: Squares may be individually wrapped and frozen for single servings.

Note: Create your own variations by using other flavor combinations of yogurt and fruit.

Recipe created by 3-Every-Day™ of Dairy.

Nutritional Facts: 200 Calories, 0g Fat, 0g Saturated Fat, 5mg Cholesterol, 150mg Sodium, 7g Protein, 42g Carbohydrates, 2g Dietary Fiber, 20% Daily Value Calcium

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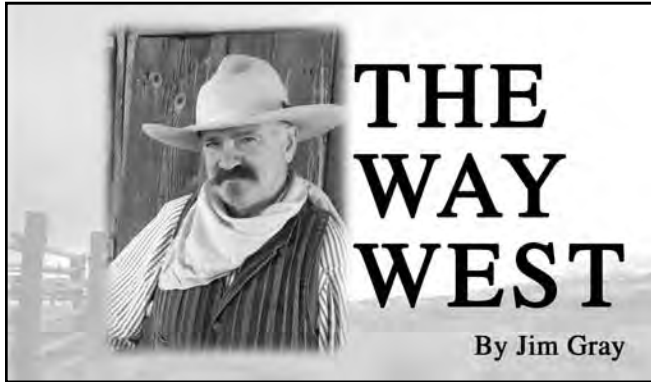


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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Dr. Higley's Western Home Is A Kansas Treasure

In 1871 on the bank of the West Beaver Creek Dr. Brewster Higley wrote a poem titled *My Western Home* to describe the beauty of the site he had chosen for his Kansas homestead. A romantic, Dr. Higley wrote the poem for himself and placed the writings in a book. In 1873 Trube Reese of Smith Center brought a man with a gunshot wound to Dr. Higley for treatment. While waiting Reese opened a book and the poem fell out. Mr. Reese read the poem and said something to this effect, "This is plum good, you should have it printed in the paper." The poem was printed in the Smith County Pioneer in 1873 and the Kirwin Chief in 1874, both listing Dr. Higley as the author. In 1873 Dr. Higley presented the poem to Dan Kelly of Gaylord who set it to music and then gave it to Judge John Harlan and his family who first played and sang it publicly. As they were working to finalize their material, Judge Harlan says, "It needs a refrain." "Home, Home on the Range," was added as a refrain and now to this day *My Western Home* is proud-

ly sung as *Home on the Range*.

The song was immediately popular across the land, especially with the cowboys riding the long distances to drive cattle to the railroads. President Franklin D. Roosevelt is credited with making it popular around the world when he declared *Home on the Range* as his favorite song.

The song was claimed by many songwriters, some called it *My Colorado Home*. Bill and Mary Goodwin of Arizona claimed authorship, calling it *My Arizona Home*. In 1934 the Goodwins sued NBC and various publishing houses for damages, stopping public playing of the song which had become popular around the world. Samuel Moanfeldt, attorney for NBC, traced the lyrics back to Smith County to prove that Dr. Brewster Higley indeed authored the words of *Home on the Range*. The research confirmed that Dan Kelley had set the words

to music. Once legal proof was established Dr. I. E. Nickell, senator from Smith Center, introduced a bill to the Kansas Legislature to establish the song as the official state song. With support of Hal Harlan, a descendant of original band member, Judge Harlan, the bill was adopted on June 30, 1947. Kansans around the world continue to this day to sing their state song with pride.

Over the years the property had several owners, until Pete and Ellen Rust became the owners in 1950. The Rusts lived on the farm and cared for the property until Mr. Rust's death in 1986. The Rusts had many opportunities to sell Brewster Higley's log cabin for material gain, but recognized that it needed to be preserved on its original location and refused large financial offers, while maintaining the heritage of the cabin for all to enjoy. Ellen Rust passed away December 23, 2008, but even in death she continues to protect her beloved "Home on the Range" Cabin. The Ellen Rust Living Trust ensures that the cabin will be maintained and preserved on its original site. Application has been made for non-profit status through the organization of a 501(C)3. Donations will certainly bolster the organization and serve to improve the site.

The trustees of the Ellen Rust Living Trust have established a mission statement that continues this dedication. The

trust is committed to restoring and maintaining the cabin on the bank of the West Beaver. They believe the "Home on the Range" cabin is a one of a kind cabin, famous for one thing and should stay on this location. This position is strongly supported by the Kansas State Historical Society.

In this 150th year of statehood what better way to celebrate our remarkable heritage than a donation to help restore and maintain the original homestead that gave birth to our state song? Donations can be mailed to Ellen Rust Living Trust, 213 West New York, Smith Center, KS 66967.

If you are looking for an interesting daytrip, the "Home on the Range" Cabin is in north-central Kansas, north of Smith Center. It is on K-8 highway; 9 miles north of the K-8/U.S.-36 junction (Follow the signs). From Franklin, Nebraska travel 16 miles south on N-10/K-8 highway (Follow the signs). For more information contact the Trust through El Dean Holthus, 785.695.2347 or holt@ruraltel.net. Tell him you would like to visit Brewster Higley's cabin on your 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.droversmercantile.com. ©2011



Raine Garten exhibited the grand champion meat goat at the Central Kansas Spring Classic and was also named the champion junior showman by judge Kalen Poe.



Lauren Rice was named grand champion in the senior division of meat goat showmanship at the Central Kansas Spring Classic held on May 21 in Salina.

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Homeground & Other Geographies by Tom Parker

An Unexpected New Friend

My aunt's tiny farmhouse in west Texas always smelled faintly of dust, but then dust was a west Texas specialty. It probably didn't help that us boys slept on the floor during our infrequent visits, huddled in the room's center to avoid things that crept out of their lairs at night. There were scorpions, mostly the smaller, more poisonous kind, and behind the house foot-long poisonous centipedes that sometimes found their way indoors. Spiders were ubiquitous, including black widows. But the most terrifying bug of all, the one we could hear rustling around the baseboards and clicking across the wooden floors, was the vinegaroon.

Also known as whip-scorpions, vinegaroons are non-poisonous but capable of producing painful pinches. What separates them from their smaller, more dangerous cousins, is their size: the Latin name for the trans-Pecos variety is "giganteus," a word requiring no translation. Hearing them scuttling about in the

dark was an exercise in the mind's unlimited potential for imagining the worst; seeing them was proof that reality often trumps imagination.

I was a typical boy interested in typical boy things: guns, hunting, the outdoors, reptiles. I was, in fact, something of a master lizard catcher. My collection varied over the years but usually included horned lizards (horny toads, as we called them, but not the sharp-pronged, irascible Mexican species), bluetails and collared lizards. The latter were my favorite, but much harder to catch.

Every outdoorsman has a one-that-got-away story. Mine was a particularly large collared lizard that ran my older brother, my father and I ragged over a large dusty patch of Texas near my aunt's house. The thing must have been close to 20 inches long (caution: these tales get taller with age), and when alarmed, as it most certainly was, it took to its hind legs and cruised off like a miniature T. Rex.

We bolted after it, flanking it, trying to hem it in, scrambling from creosote to mesquite and back, and might have caught it in the end if not for the biggest, baddest, meanest, most dense clump of catclaw ever invented. The lizard dashed into its center and stared back at us with a reptilian look of utter satisfaction. Our failure to capture it was a blow Freud would diagnose as unrecoverable. Afterward, the mere sight of a collared lizard triggered an irrepressible urge to pursue, regardless of what I was doing at the time. When on vacation with my parents in southern New Mexico a collared lizard dashed across the road in front of us, without thinking I slammed on the brakes and ejected myself from the vehicle before it fully stopped rolling. The lizard quickly eluded me; it took hours for my family to recover.

For two glorious summers I had a pet collared lizard about 14 inches in

length. We went everywhere together, even on walks after I fashioned a small leash. People would stare unbelieving at us as it tagged along on its hind legs, its long tail following in long sweeps. We were best of friends, or so I like to think.

Age distances us from our past. It's more a matter of losing ability than in losing interest. During a hike at Konza Prairie after moving to Kansas I was shocked to find a collared lizard streak past. I lurched after it with alacrity but the lizard was in far better shape than its pursuer. "My days of catching lizards are over," I lamented, an admission completely unfathomable to my wife.

But if I thought that was the last word on the subject, I was wrong. While reorganizing our patio this week I came across several creatures of interest, from fledgling praying mantises to a gray tree frog, which I relocated from a trashcan to a mulberry. Most surprising was a small collared lizard that had fallen into a plastic tub. The rim was too high for it to escape so it sat there in the brutal heat without food or water. I scooped it up and set it in the grass, where it zipped off into the flower garden.

Holding it, even momentarily brought a surge of memories. A little of the magic had returned, a touch of confidence that I still had it in me — disregarding the

fact that the lizard was trapped in an enclosed space, that is.

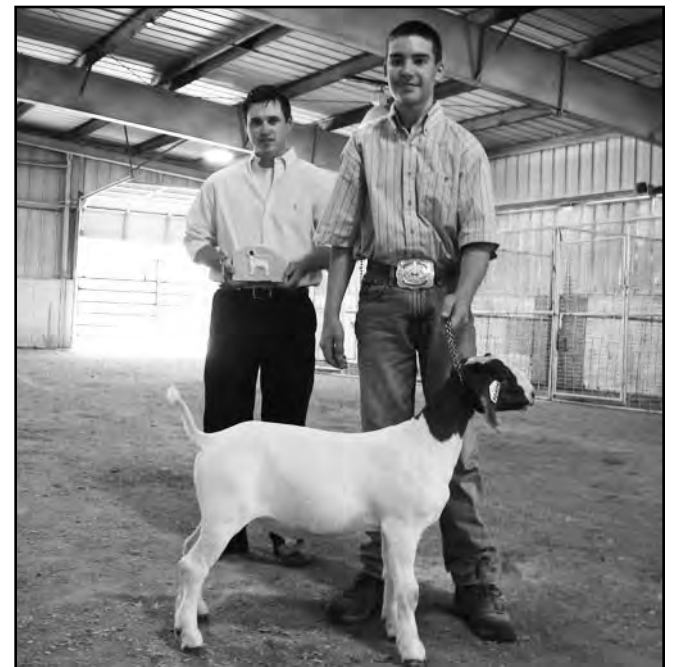
And then an odd thing happened. Whenever I went outside the little lizard seemed to pop up out of nowhere. It followed me around utterly without fear, letting me approach within inches before shying away. I began to believe it was watching for me. For all I knew it might think I'm its mother.

One afternoon it was

perched on the top step, so I sat down beside it. After studying me for a few minutes its eyes closed in what appeared to be contentment. I slowly reached out one finger to touch it, holding my breath, making no sound, but when my finger was an inch from its back the lizard opened its eyes and leaped back.

"Okay, okay," I said. "No touching."

But I could have had it. I could have.



Sam Davis led the reserve champion meat goat and was also named reserve champion intermediate showman at the Central Kansas Spring Classic in Salina on May 21.

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LAND AUCTION
THURSDAY, JUNE 30 — 9:30 AM
AUCTION LOCATION: American Legion -708 N. Locust
FRANKFORT, KANSAS
200 ACRES M/L IN 2 TRACTS

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Three miles north of Frankfort on Hwy 99, then west on Quail road.

TRACT # 1 Legal Description: N 1/2 NW 1/4, less tract, of 33-3-9 Marshall County Kansas 80 acres M/L. According to the USDA FSA there is a total of 18.53 acres cropland and presently 15.4 acres are being farmed. These 15.4 acres of cropland are planted to wheat. There are approximately 58 acres of pasture. Pasture has hunting potential and/or more of the pasture could be broke.

TRACT # 2 Legal Description: SW 1/4 NW 1/4 & W 1/2 SW 1/4 28-3-9 Marshall County Kansas 120 acres M/L. According to USDA FSA there are 40.27 cropland acres. 37 .06 acres are presently being farmed. 9.82 of these acres are planted to wheat. Remainder is pasture and hunting ground.

Property is being sold subject to present tenant's rights; Possession of pasture after October 15, 2011; Sellers will retain the entire wheat crop. Buyer will receive Sellers 40% of the spring crops and will pay 40% share of future expenses. Possession of spring planted cropland after fall harvest completed. Base acres will be split according to percentage of cropland acres on each tract.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: 10% down day of auction, balance due on closing. Closing will be on or before July 22, 2011. At the Sellers option either Abstract of Title or Owners title insurance will be used. Escrow and owners title insurance will be split 50/50. 2011 taxes will be paid by Sellers based on 2010 taxes.

NOTE: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co. is acting as an agent for the Sellers and not as an agent for the buyer. Property is selling in its present existing condition. Make all inspections and inquiries before auction. Sale is not contingent upon buyer financing. Information obtained from sources deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Announcements made day of sale take precedence. Not responsible for accidents.

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HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & COLLECTIBLES
Music boxes; many books, incl. set of Horatio Alger, music books, and many other old books; sheet music; Hallmark ornaments; sewing machines; glassware; pots & pans; dishes; water filter/cooler; iron Budweiser 8 horse hitch; food grinders; luggage; 4 drawer file; local memorabilia; mantel clock; school supplies; WS Co. cream can; White Mountain ice cream maker; console radio; dynamite augers; horse collar; single trees; pen & pencil collection; high chair; silver; jewelry; bells; quilting frames & eqmt.; ping pong table; Nikken magnetic mattress; luggage; folding tables & chairs; globe; blankets, bedding; many games; other items.

GUN (will be sold at noon.)
Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, single shot, bolt action.

TOOLS & OUTDOOR ITEMS
Dixon ZTR 3304 riding mower w/bagger; Stihl chain saw; shop table; Craftsman radial arm saw; Stihl chainsaw; air compressor; bench grinder; ladders; shelving; new scroll saw; tool cabinet; baseball and other athletic equipment; lawn cart; hose cart; flag pole; power and hand saws; other power tools, hand tools and long handled tools.

TERMS: cash or good check. Lunch.

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THE HEALTH CORNER



Community Memorial Healthcare in Marysville invites people to tour the recently completed \$17.3 million hospital facility during their open house on June 26.

Courtesy photo

CMH invites community to celebrate grand opening

Community Memorial Healthcare (CMH) invites the community to a ribbon cutting and open house on Sunday, June 26th from 2-5 p.m. to celebrate completion of its brand-new \$17.3 million hospital facility at 708 North 18th Street (18th and Jenkins) in Marysville.

The formal program begins at 2 p.m. and will feature a welcome by CMH CEO Curtis Hawkinson; flag-raising by Marysville Boy Scout Troop 180; singing of the national anthem by Molly Cashier; and invocation by Sister Eulalia Kloeker, St. Gregory's Catholic Church. The program will feature guest speakers representing the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, USDA Rural Development Kansas Office, Kansas Hospital Association (KHA),

Hoefer Wysocki Architects, and JE Dunn Construction. The CMH Board of Directors Chair, CMH Foundation Board of Directors Chair, and CMH Chief of Medical Staff will also speak.

"Over the past four years, the community has watched with curiosity and excitement as the new hospital has taken shape," said CEO Curtis Hawkinson. "It is our expectation that our new hospital facility will allow us to continue to attract quality providers and medical professionals to our community, providing our citizens with exceptional health care for many years into the future.

Hawkinson added, "As we accept the challenge of continuing a health care presence in Marshall and surrounding counties, we will not forget those who

began our institution and their vision for a better community."

Finishing work on the hospital campus continues with installation of the parking lot, landscaping, and exterior signage. Renovation of the "South Plaza" building (formally the patient wing of the old hospital) is ongoing with completion slated for sometime in September, 2011.

The program and ribbon cutting will be held outside the main (south) entrance of the hospital under large tents. Seating will be provided. Parking will be available in designated lots along 19th and May Streets, as well as street side parking. Guests are advised to wear comfortable shoes for the guided tours, which may take 30-35 minutes. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, call CMH at (785) 562-2311.

Experts agree fat-free flavored milk is a healthy choice for children

For many children, flavored milk is a popular choice. However, flavored milk has come under fire lately as being a cause of childhood obesity and some schools are considering dropping the option of flavored milk.

Deana Hildebrand, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension nutrition specialist, said flavored milk offers the same unique nutrient package of nine essential nutrients as unflavored or white milk.

"Flavored milk accounts for about two-thirds of all milk sold in schools," Hildebrand said. "Milk, whether it be flavored, unflavored, whole, reduced-fat, low fat or fat-free, provides three of the four nutrients in the 2010 Dietary Guidelines identified as of concern in children's diets, including calcium, potassium and vitamin D."

It is recommended that children consume three

daily servings of dairy foods, but research shows that is not happening. In fact, as children get older, milk consumption decreases and is replaced by sugar-sweetened beverages.

Hildebrand said this is a concern because the calcium provided by milk is needed for peak bone mass that is formed during these rapid growth years.

"Milk also is an important source of vitamin D, which is lacking in the

diets of many children. Children who are deficient in vitamin D have an increased risk of rickets," she said. "Each 8-ounce serving of milk, whether it is flavored or unflavored, provides 30 percent of the Recommended Daily Value for calcium and 25 percent of vitamin D."

Despite the important nutrient contributions flavored milk makes to the diet, concerns about the potential effects of the added sugar and flavorings

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CMH Classes and Programs

July 4 - Clinic closed for Independence Day
July 19 - American Red Cross CPR & First Aid: 6:00-9:00 PM
July 28 - Meadowlark Hospice Bereavement Support Group: 4:30-5:30 PM
July 28 - Grief Support Group for Loss of Child: 7:00-8:00 PM
Please note: All classes will be held in the lower level of Community Physicians Clinic.

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Use it or lose it: strength training vital for healthy aging

Age is not kind to couch potatoes. To stay active as you get older, you have to BE active and put those muscles to work.

While strength training is great for any age, the benefits are even greater as we get older. Using weights — even light hand and ankle weights — can help stave off bone and muscle loss and counteract the weakness and frailty that often comes with aging, said Stephen Ball, exercise physiologist for University of Missouri Extension.

"Increased strength, increased muscle mass, they're both related to the reduction in falls by improving your balance," Ball said.

This is not surprising, Ball said. Our bodies are designed for motion and lifting. Just pushing remote-control buttons is not enough to keep muscles in shape.

"We've got to maintain a certain amount of strength, a certain amount of muscle mass, just to get through the day, to lift groceries, to get out of a chair, to play with our grandchildren," he said.

Strength training can help seniors maintain healthy blood sugar levels, improve balance and flexibility, and reduce stress. Ball says he knows he's making a difference when he hears feedback like, "This saved my dignity. I'm able to tie my shoes. I'm able to get out of a chair. I'm able to enjoy life again."

Fitness centers, community centers and assisted-living facilities have started to offer strength training to seniors, but they are far too rare, Ball said.

Join Us as We Celebrate the

CMH Grand Opening & Dedication

June 26, 2011: 2-5 pm

Community Memorial Healthcare invites you to our grand opening to celebrate the completion of our brand new \$17.3 million state-of-the-art hospital facility. Come attend the formal program at 2 PM, witness the ribbon cutting at 2:30 PM, and tour the new hospital and enjoy refreshments from 3-5 PM.

We hope you will join us on June 26th to help celebrate this momentous event. Everyone is invited.

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in flavored milk have raised questions about the role of flavored milk in a healthy diet.

About 60 percent to 80 percent of total dairy servings consumed by children and adolescents are consumed as milk. Of those servings, 16 percent are whole milk and 9 percent are flavored milk. Both whole and flavored milk contribute to the consumption of saturated fat and added sugars.

"The Institute of Medicine has recommended the school nutrition programs offer students fat-free or low-fat flavored or unflavored milk. A study of elementary school age children found that milk's flavor was the most important factor in choosing milk and the majority of children select chocolate milk while at school," Hildebrand said. "A survey of more than 400 family practitioners, dietitians and pediatricians indicated that the majority thought it was important for children to

drink more milk, regardless of whether it was flavored or unflavored."

On average an 8-ounce serving of low-fat chocolate milk contains 4 teaspoons of added sugar. However, an equal amount of soft drink contains 7 teaspoons of added sugar.

The dairy industry is doing research to develop flavored milk formulations with reduced levels of added sugar which will eventually be offered to schools. So far the research indicates that flavored milk in the 150 calorie to 170 calorie range per 8-ounce serving meets children's taste approval.

On the downside, while these flavored milks may be acceptable, palatable and meet lower-calorie and sugar recommendations, these formulations have limited availability and can cost more to produce. Higher costs may further reduce availability for schools facing budget issues. Limited availability and cost of the most pop-

ular milk choices in school may reduce consumption of milk and the nutrients it contains during peak bone-building years.

"Overall, fat-free flavored milk is a highly palatable, nourishing beverage that can help children meet current dairy food and calcium intake recommendations," she said. "The acceptability and availability of nutri-

ent-rich flavored milk in schools is critical. At home, if you choose to offer your child flavored milk, consider purchasing a fat-free or reduced fat variety. It will provide the needed nutrients with fewer calories and saturated fats than whole milk, and less sugar than contained in other sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda or sports drinks."

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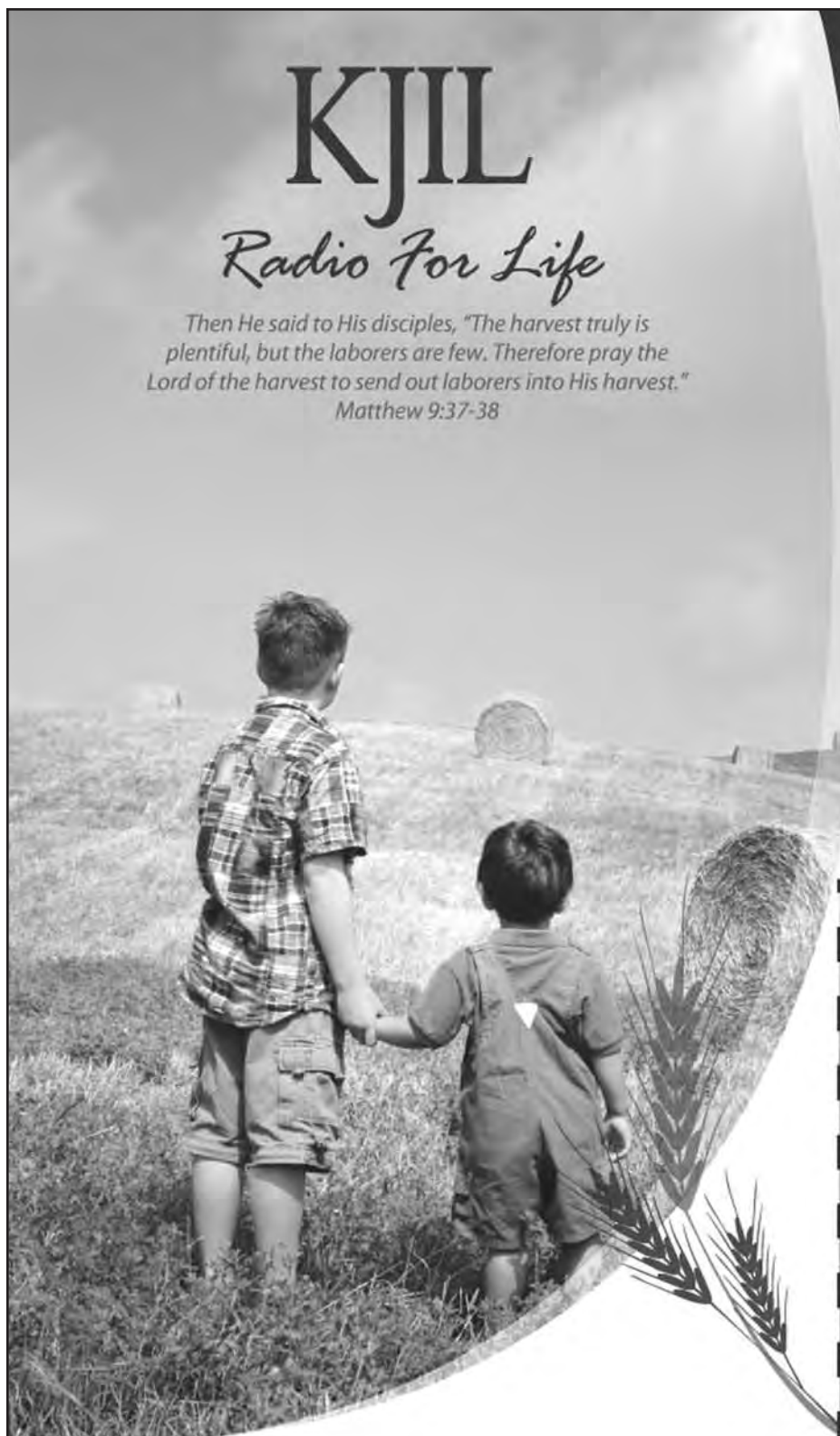
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Elby Adamson, left, coached the Wakefield High School Envirothon team that won the state competition. The team includes Spencer Mitchell, Josh Cox, Brandi Bergmeier, A.J. Reinke and Josh Keim. Not pictured is Mark Mohler, who helped coach the team.

Wakefield team wins state Envirothon

A journey of two thousand miles begins with a single step. For the Wakefield High School Envirothon team, the first step in that long journey was winning the Kansas Envirothon competition held May 11th at the Webster Conference Center near Salina. The rest of the journey will take them from Clay County to Sackville, New Brunswick for the Canon Envirothon later this summer. Teams from most of the U.S. states and Canadian provinces will gather at Mount Allison University for that event, which will be held July 24-29.

Envirothon teams are comprised of five members who work together to complete challenging tests in five different natural resource and environmental subjects. The Wakefield squad outdistanced the field of seventeen teams in the Kansas competition, posting the highest scores in Aquatics, Wildlife, and the Current Issue subject, which for 2011 is Salt and Freshwater Estuaries. Mission Valley High School had the top scores in the other two areas, Forestry and

Soils, and took the runner-up spot in the overall standings. Finishing in third place was Valley Heights High School.

Wakefield team members participating in the Kansas Envirothon were seniors Spencer Mitchell and Josh Cox, juniors Josh Keim and Brandi Bergmeier, and freshman A.J. Reinke. Elby Adamson, assisted by Mark Mohler, coached the team. Due to his enrollment at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point prior to the Canon Envirothon, Spencer Mitchell will be replaced on the WHS team by freshman Emily Williams for the New Brunswick event.

This two-thousand-mile journey will provide many enriching experiences for the Wakefield group, but travel expenses will be considerable. Contributions to assist with the cost of the trip can be made payable to the Kansas Envirothon and sent to the Clay County Conservation District at 610 5th Street in Clay Center, or mailed to the Kansas Envirothon at 307 Montana Avenue, Holton, KS 66436.

Syngenta's hybrid wheat program is making gains

By Bill Spiegel

Farmers around the world will need to produce enough wheat by 2050 to feed 9 billion people, meaning global wheat production must increase dramatically in the next four decades. Wheat breeders have made dramatic improvements to wheat varieties in the nearly 12,000 years since wheat was discovered in the Fertile Crescent region of northern Africa. One source of improvement that has eluded wheat seed companies, however, is an economic means of commercializing hybrid wheat.

Syngenta believes it has the solution. Through its AgriPro wheat brand, Syngenta Cereals launched a hybrid wheat initiative a year ago, believing wheat hybrids could potentially outyield pure line wheat varieties by 10-15%.

"I'm fairly confident in our ability to come up with hybrids that yield very well, it's just a matter of producing them efficiently. We'll need some time to develop that system," says Dustan Ridder, hybrid wheat breeder, Syngenta Cereals.

Syngenta has gained valuable logistical experience with a successful hybrid barley program in Europe, which uses a unique production system that Syngenta feels can be successful in the U.S., too.

Ridder believes by the end of this decade, Syngenta's first hybrid wheat lines will be released to the public. Meanwhile, Syngenta remains devoted to the development of pure lines of wheat seed, Ridder adds.

"The best pure line varieties make for the best hybrid parents. Even if hybrids have the success we think they'll have, we'll be selling varieties for a long time. The programs work

well together," Ridder explains. "We're actually increasing the number of lines we're testing in our pure line variety program too. We're fortunate Syngenta has put a large investment in wheat. We think we can take that, run with it and make some gains."

At its Dealer Kickoff meeting in March, AgriPro Associates not only learned more about the hybrid wheat program; they also learned more about two new varieties:

* SY Gold is a "high-input, intensive management" Hard Red Winter variety for western and central Kansas. Although susceptible to the latest race of stripe rust, this can be managed with fungicide application if necessary. It is resistant to leaf rust and possesses very good straw strength. SY Gold should be readily available for planting this fall.

* SY Wolf will be available to farmers in 2013. It is intended for areas north of I-70 into South Dakota, and contains good resistance to septoria, tan spot and powdery mildew. It does not feature any Jagger genetics.



Justin Loomis, Council Grove, captured grand champion showmanship honors in the senior division at the Central Kansas Spring Classic in Salina.



Weston Schrader, Wells, was tapped as the champion junior showman at the Central Kansas Spring Classic.

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ing, diesel, 60" deck, SN RCK21Z-12328; JD F911 front deck mower, 1025 hrs. showing w/72" commercial deck, 47" 2 stage snow blower, Cozy Cab, 8 rear weights, SN M0F911X 185296, deck SN TC1002X 180130, snow blower, SN MO1471X090497; JD 60 heavy duty broom, 60" hydraulic angle, PTO drive, new 26" diameter brushes, tractor compatibility, X400, X500, X700, 2305, 2320, 2520, 2720, 31, 3720, 2210, 40, 4410, SN MO60HD B015498.

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All items must be removed by Sat., June 25, 2011, 3 pm
 Case 586G forklift, 4058 hrs., 18' free mast, side shift, 4x4, 19.5Lx24 tires, 1 owner, SN JJG0290893, Jim will reserve this forklift until July 1, 2011; 2005 Lull 844-C, 42, Telescopic forklift, 1582 hrs., Cummins engine, cab, heat, SN J)W21P22-3438; Sidewinder 11, SWHD 60C w/wireless remote, 180 degree swing, carriage hydraulics, 5'x12' platform; ground heater E1100; Star Industries platform man lift, 1000 lb.; 2002 Chevrolet 3500 Silverado, dually, 4x4, 127,774 miles w/8'x10' flatbed; 1990 International 4700, diesel, 160,169 miles w/19' flatbed. PLUS their entire remaining inventory of dimensional lumber, all other building materials, showroom inventory and a large assortment of woodworking equipment and tools. Cement equipment and tools. Miscellaneous hand tools and all other types of related lumber center items. For a complete listing with photos and details go to www.gehlingonline.com and open Jim's Building Center Auction.

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Mediation, financial guidance services available for Kansas wheat growers and others

With a large portion of the Kansas wheat crop struggling through a drought, some producers may be unable to make payments to creditors as usual.

The Kansas Agricultural Mediation Service offers free or low-cost services to farmers that are particularly helpful in situations such as this, according to Forrest Buhler, staff attorney with KAMS. KAMS is part of K-State Research and Extension. "With the Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service reporting 55 percent of the Kansas winter wheat crop in poor to very poor condition, farmers may be unable to make payments to creditors," Buhler said. "KAMS offers advice and help in several areas."

He cited a recent USDA Secretarial disaster designation for 21 primary counties and 13 contiguous counties in western Kansas that makes producers in those counties eligible for Farm Service Agency (FSA) Disaster Loans as well as the FSA Disaster Set-aside program. That allows a FSA direct loan borrower to defer a payment owed on certain loans to the end of the note. "KAMS has more than 23 years of experience in assisting farmers as they work with FSA to take advantage of these benefits," Buhler said. KAMS services include:

- Mediate/ negotiate with lenders and other creditors to restructure debt.

- Develop feasible, objective restructure plans.
- Analyze financial feasibility of alternative crops and other production decisions.
- Assist with application for or denial of disaster loans from the Farm Service Agency.
- Determine loan restructure options on FSA direct and guaranteed loans.

The help offered by KAMS also includes: low cost on-farm computer analysis of options through the K-State Research and Extension Farm Analyst Program; low cost legal advice through the Farm Mediation Legal Counseling Program of KAMS through Kansas Legal Services; and mediation assistance through KAMS mediators.

Wheat growers, creditors and others interested in accessing KAMS services can call KAMS' toll free number 1-800-321-FARM (3276).



Dalyn Zachgo, Clyde, was named the junior champion showman at the May 21 Central Kansas Spring Classic in Salina.



Peyton Stewart, Wamego, exhibited the grand champion sheep at the Central Kansas Spring Classic.

Brownback declares June as "Flint Hills National Heritage Month"

Gov. Sam Brownback has signed a proclamation declaring June "Flint Hills National Heritage Month." Brownback is a passionate champion of the Flint Hills and views the region as a valuable resource to draw tourists and boost the region's economy and community life. The proclamation was initiated by the Capitol Federal Foundation, the major presenting sponsor of the 2011 Symphony in the Flint Hills on June 11. "Our intent was to recognize the rich Kansas heritage and the many efforts that are scheduled in June to celebrate our history," said Kent Townsend, Capitol Federal executive vice president. "It's a very special day for the Flint Hills, and we're thrilled the Governor is drawing attention to all the Flint Hills have to offer."

"There isn't a better time to put a spotlight on our state and the people who live here," said Emily Hunter, executive director of Symphony in the Flint Hills. "June is when the native tallgrass prairie is lush and verdant just as the culture that the grass has given life to." The signing was witnessed by key regional heritage enthusiasts. Among them were Robin Jennison, secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism; Bob Workman, director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center; Kent Townsend, executive vice president, Capitol Federal; Mary Madden, education and outreach director for the Kansas State Historical Society; Bruce Waugh, board chair for Symphony in the Flint Hills; Judy Billings, president of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area; Suzan Barnes, chair of the Flint Hills Tourism Coalition; and Michael Stubbs with Wabaunsee County Historical Society Museum.

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LAND AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 — 10:00 AM
AUCTION LOCATION: Community Center, 115 S. Main LURAY, KANSAS

160 acres, more or less, Russell County, Kansas
LEGAL: (SW/4) (20-11-12) W.6th P.M. Russell County, Kansas
LAND LOCATION: From the Southwest corner of Luray, Kansas, stay on the asphalt road, 2 & 1/2 miles South then 1/2 mile East to the corner of Fairview Rd. and 194th.
F.S.A. INFO: 56.62 acres grassland, 98.98 acres retired C.R.P., 4.5 acres C.R.P.
Note: This farm features pond water and tree protection in an area of abundant, typical wildlife. The terraces and waterways on the retired C.R.P. are in good condition, as well as the soil types and slopes are conducive to farming practice. Internet bidding available. Register to bid online by June 27th. Call for details.

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AUCTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 26 — 12:30 PM
2230 Riley Road — OTTAWA, KANSAS
(Approx. 3 miles North of Ottawa on 59 Hwy. to Riley Rd. then 2 1/4 miles West. WATCH FOR SIGNS.)

TRACTOR & LOADER: 1986 John Deere 2750 tractor & John Deere 146 loader, has cab, AC, radio, diesel, 1475 hours, excellent condition.
EQUIPMENT: Legend 2615 15' batwing bush hog mower, like new; 6' heavy duty 3 pt. box blade w/teeth; 3 pt. post hole digger w/12" auger; 5' 3 pt. Continental mower; 6' 3 pt. tandem disc; 4 wheel wagon w/hydraulic cylinder.
ANTIQUE LAWN TRACTOR: John Deere 110, 12 hp, SNA18208.
PICKUP: 1986 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2 ton.

NOTE: Please be on time, small auction. Will take about an hour. Partial list. TERMS: Cash or check w/positive ID. Not responsible for accidents or loss.
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LAND AUCTION

MONDAY, JULY 18 — 10:00 AM
At the American Legion Building — LINN, KANSAS
320 ACRES LINN TOWNSHIP, WASHINGTON COUNTY, KANSAS LAND

The E 1/2 20-4-3, Linn Township, Washington County, Kansas.
This farm is well located 1 mile west of Linn on 8th Road; this is the southeast corner of the farm, or 1 mile north and 1 1/2 miles west of Linn, on 9th Road; this is the northwest corner of the farm. There is no public road on the east side. A field access road runs from 9th Road to the east side of the farm, then south.

This farm, 320 acres, more or less, consists of approximately 245 acres cropland, 55 acres native grass pasture, 12 acres waterways, and 6 acres old farmstead and timber. The cropland soils are nearly all gently sloping Crete soils, with some nearly level and some moderately sloping areas. Much of the pasture is also gently sloping to moderately sloping Crete soils. The conservation practices on the cropland have been in place for many years. The 2011 crops are approximately 122 acres wheat, 43 acres milo, 43 acres corn, and 37 acres soybeans.
The FSA bases and yields are 106.6 acres wheat, 34 bushels; 7 acres corn, 71 bushels; 129.2 acres milo, 64 bushels; 6.6 acres soybeans, 16 bushels. The 2010 taxes were \$2,240.20.
Terms: Ten (10) percent down, the balance due in 30 days. Possession will be given at closing, subject to the tenant's rights. The land is presently rented on a 60/40 crop share basis. The new owner will receive the landlord's share of the 2011 fall crops and the 2012 wheat crop, and will reimburse the seller for the landlord's share of the crop expenses. The wheat, corn and soybean ground will be planted back to wheat this fall.

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FRIDAY, JULY 1 — 10:00 AM
Auction held at Oketo Community Hall on Main Street
40 ACRES MARSHALL COUNTY GRASSLAND
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SW 1/4 NW 1/4 in 5-1-7 East of the 6th PM. Marshall Co., KS. Consisting of 40 acres more or less.
FARM LOCATED: 11 miles North of Marysville on US Hwy. 77 then 1 mile West on State Line Rd. and 1/4 mile South on East side of 8th Rd.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This pasture consists of a good variety of grasses. The entire tract has been used over the years for cattle grazing. There is also some desirable cover of trees, bushes and grass for wildlife habitat. There is a continuous hedge row along the North boundary. The pasture has 4-wire fence on three sides, spring water and an old pond. There is good access from a township road and Hwy 77. Buyer receives all 2011 pasture rent, and will pay all 2011 real estate taxes.
This land is well-located in a good farming community and should merit the serious consideration of anyone wanting a small tract of land or add-on acres. Look it over before sale day and come prepared to bid. Statements made day of sale take precedence over any advertised or previous statements.
TERMS: Cash with \$10,000 down payment earnest money on day of sale with the balance due in full on or before August 1, 2011 with delivery of deed & marketable title. Possession is subject to present tenant's rights.
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KARA and KSU partner for field day

This summer Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA) and Kansas State University (KSU) will partner to host an agronomic educational field day on July 13-14 at the KSU agronomy field and facilities. This is an annual program that consistently provides relevant and current trend information.

Highlight items for this year's program include: insects and diseases, soybean growth and development, herbicide efficacy and mode of action, cover crops, and soil fertility.

Roger Long from Rosen's said, "For crop advisors and agronomist this program is critical to staying current. Agronomic trends continue to change and adapt with new technologies. To remain relevant a strong commitment to continuing education is critical. I would personally recommend attending."

Agricultural retailers across the state are encouraged to attend and bring an interested producer with them. For registration information please go to: www.ksaretailers.org or call (785) 234-0463



Zach Barney, Tampa, was the champion showman in the intermediate division at the Central Kansas Spring Classic held in Salina on May 21.

USDA/AIA survey reports 2010/2011 winter honey bee losses nationwide

Total losses from managed honey bee colonies nationwide were 30 percent from all causes for the 2010/2011 winter, according to the annual survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA).

This is roughly similar to total losses reported in similar surveys done in the four previous years: 34 percent for the 2009/2010 winter, 29 percent for 2008/2009; 36 percent for 2007/2008, and 32 percent for 2006/2007.

"The lack of increase in losses is marginally encouraging in the sense that the problem does not appear to

be getting worse for honey bees and beekeepers," said Jeff Pettis, an entomologist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) who helped conduct the study. "But continued losses of this size put tremendous pressure on the economic sustainability of commercial beekeeping." Pettis is the leader of the Bee Research Laboratory operated in Beltsville, Md., by ARS, the chief scientific research agency of USDA.

The survey, which covered the period from October 2010 to April 2011, was led by Pettis and by AIA past presidents Dennis van-Engelsdorp and Jerry Hayes.

Beekeepers reported that, on average, they felt losses of 13 percent would be economically acceptable. Sixty-one percent of responding beekeepers reported having losses greater than this.

Average colony loss for an individual beekeeper's operation was 38.4 percent. This compares to an average loss of 42.2 percent for individual beekeepers' operations in 2009/2010.

Average loss by operation represents the percentage of loss in each operation added together and divided by the number of beekeeping operations that responded to the survey. This number is affected more by small beekeeping operations, which may only have 10 or fewer colonies, so a loss of just five colonies in a 10-colony operation would represent a 50 percent loss. Total losses were calculated as all colonies reported lost in the survey divided by the total number of bee colonies reported in the survey. This number is affected more by larger operations, which might have 10,000 or more colonies, so a loss of five

colonies in a 10,000-colony operation would equal only a 0.05 percent loss.

Among surveyed beekeepers who lost any colonies, 31 percent reported losing at least some of their colonies without finding dead bee bodies — one of the symptoms that defines Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). As this was an interview-based survey, it was not possible to differentiate between verifiable cases of CCD and colonies lost as the result of other causes that share the "absence of dead bees" as a symptom. The cause of CCD is still unknown.

The beekeepers who reported colony losses with no dead bee bodies present also reported higher average colony losses (61 percent), compared to beekeepers who lost colonies but did not report the absence of dead bees (34 percent in losses).

A total of 5,572 beekeepers, who manage more than 15 percent of the country's estimated 2.68 million colonies, responded to the survey.



Megan Kramer, Clyde, was tapped as the champion senior showman at the Central Kansas Spring Classic.

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Governor appoints Dodge City farmer and business owner Harshberger as chairman of the Kansas Water Authority

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback recently appointed Gary Harshberger of Dodge City as chairman of the Kansas Water Authority (KWA).

The KWA board advises the governor, the Kansas Legislature, and the director of the Kansas Water Office on water policy issues.

"Gary has a long history of accomplishments and success. His expertise in rural, water and agriculture issues as well as a deep understanding of the needs of the people of Kansas will enable him to perform his duties with distinction and honor to help grow our state's economy and create jobs," Brownback said.

The KWA approves the Kansas Water Plan, federal contracts, administration

regulations, and legislation proposed by the Kansas Water Office. The KWA also submits an annual report to the governor and Legislature which contains recommendations on funding to implement the State Water Plan.

"I am honored to have been appointed by Governor Brownback as the new Chair of the Kansas Water Authority," Harshberger said. "This is an exciting time for Kansas and water issues. Kansas is known for being forward-thinking with water resources and I am glad to be able to continue growing and serving our state in this capacity. As we all know water is imperative for our citizens, industry and businesses and ultimately, our state's economy."

A lifetime resident of Ford County, Harshberger graduated from Minneola High School and attended Dodge City Community College and Kansas State University, both on football scholarships. He earned his Computer and Electrical Engineering Degree from KSU in 1987. Harshberger returned to Ford County and started Double H Farms in 1988, which now has farm interests in Ford, Clark and Meade Counties. As the owner of Harshberger Enterprises, he now raises corn, wheat, milo, soybeans and cattle. He serves on the board of directors for Farm Credit of Southwest Kansas, Bonanza BioEnergy and Arkalon Energy. He and his wife Melanie have three children.

Farm Service Agency county committee nomination period now under way

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the nomination period for local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees began on Wednesday, June 15.

"I urge all farmers and ranchers to participate in this year's county committee elections by nominating candidates by the August 1 deadline," said Vilsack. "County committees are a vital link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provide a voice to landowners, farmers and ranchers so that they have an opportunity for their opinions and ideas to be heard. With better participation in recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of nominations of women and minority candidates. I hope that trend continues." To be eligible to

serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Farmers and rancher may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available online at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the 2011 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2011.

Elections will take place this fall.

While FSA county committees do not approve or deny loans, they make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are about 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to 11 members that are elected by eligible producers.

FSA will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 4. The voted ballots are due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by Dec. 5. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office on Jan. 2, 2012.

Tornado moves dairy grazing conference from Joplin to Springfield, Mo., July 6-8

The Joplin tornado has moved the Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference, July 6-8, to Springfield, Mo., after all, say University of Missouri Extension hosts.

"The Joplin meeting site, which escaped storm damage, continues to be used in recovery efforts," said Joe Horner, MU Extension dairy economist and co-host for the national event.

The conference will be moved about 70 miles to the Springfield Expo Center at the University Plaza Hotel.

"Missouri farmers will recognize the meeting place as the longtime host to the Spring Forage Conference," Horner said. "For most of those flying in, the meeting place will be closer to the airport."

The move, while stress-

ful for organizers, will cause minimal disruption to those attending, Horner said. There will be no changes in fees or hotel room rates.

Anyone preregistered with the convention motel in Joplin has had their registrations shifted to Springfield already. "Individuals are being notified directly," Horner said.

Those who still want to register can do so by going to the MU website for conference details: agebb.missouri.edu/dairy/.

A major attraction for the conference is on-farm visits to grazing dairies owned by Missouri and New Zealand producers.

"There will be little difference in bus travel time to the farms," Horner said. "To provide new farms to visit, we went further out

from Joplin this year. Those farms were located about halfway to Springfield."

"All of the host farms were outside the tornado path and were undamaged by the storms," said Tony Rickard, MU Extension dairy specialist, Cassville, Mo.

The Missouri conference is held every two years to teach management-intensive grazing for milk production.

Nationally, Missouri is recognized for rotational grazing research and ex-

tension teaching. A dairy grazing farm led the way at the MU Southwest Center, Mount Vernon, Mo., part of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Columbia. The advantage of dairy grazing is the reduced feed costs, the MU Extension specialists report. Those cost savings attracted attention of producers from across the country and around the world.

"As milk prices dropped in recent years and profits shrunk, the use of grass to replace grain rations be-

came 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 remains open to dairy producers from both conventional and grazing operations. All can still enroll before the late fees are charged start-

ing June 20.

New research from land-grant universities will be reported at the meeting.

Randy Mooney, Rogersville, Mo., will give the 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.

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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: There are not a lot of small items on this auction so be on time. A bank letter of credit will be required on large purchases or we will hold the items until the check clears. Drivers license will be required at sign up. This is a line of equipment that is ready to go to work for you. It has been well maintained and is field ready.

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GRASS & GRAIN Auction Sales Scheduled

Now-July 29 — Sealed bid land auction at Havensville for Florence Bottom Estate.

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

June 22 — Tractors, truck, vehicles, trailers, combines, for harvest, tillage, planting, haying equip., wheel loaders, dozers, scrapers, lawn & garden, fertilizer & chemical equip., generator online only (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

June 23 — Furniture, sterling silver, household & misc. at Manhattan for Forest Boerner Estate. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auction.

June 23 (ending) — Equipment 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 Caffrey Estate. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co.

June 24 & 25 — (24): Modern household, coins, Ethan Allen furniture, grandfather clock, tools, etc.; (25): 100+ Hummels, 300+ old & new Fiesta, '50s toys, sporting goods, 250 pocket knives, military items, antique furniture, primitives & glassware at Abilene for Robert & Margie Clowe. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

June 25 — Real estate, furniture, household, glassware, tools, misc. furniture at Lawrence for Kenneth & Coleen Amess. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik & Chris Paxton.

June 25 — Real estate, household, furniture, appliances at Wetmore for Bill & Edith Kongs. Auctioneers: United Country Pagel, Inc. Realty & Auction.

June 25 — Vehicle, appliances, treadmill, household, lawn items at Westmoreland for John I. O'Shea Trust. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 25 — Farm equipment at Olpe for Gerald Steffes Residuary Trust. Auctioneers: Platt Auction Company, LLC.

June 25 — Durango, ATV, go cart, scooter, furniture, appliances, equipment & tools, lawn & garden equipment, NASCAR collectibles, Elvis collectibles at Maple Hill. Auctioneers: Simmitt Auction.

June 25 — Furniture, appliances, household items, collectibles, gun, tools, outdoor items at Linn for Pauline (Hatesohl) Lindhorst. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

June 25 — Pickup, coins, antiques, household & tools at Belleville for Victor L. Anderson Estate, Richard L. Sandell, executor. Auctioneers: Novak Bros. & Gieber.

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.

June 26 — Tractor, loader, equipment, antique lawn tractor, pickup at Ottawa for Rex & Jeanie Browning. Auctioneers: Buddy Griffin Auctions.

June 26 — Antiques, collectibles, farm primitives, collector tractor, lawn & garden equip., glassware, wood stoves, art, firearms at Lenexa for Taeschner Homestead Family Estate. Auctioneers: Dave Webb, Webb & Associates.

June 26 — Dickinson County real estate, vehicles, camper, trailer, gun, appliances, lawn equipment, tools & misc. at Junction City for Anna Helton & Dale Smith. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

June 26 — Real estate, vehicles, farm & rancher,

household & misc. at Topeka for Phil Finlay. Auctioneers: Finlay Auction.

June 27 — 3 bedroom home, furniture, household & tools at Manhattan for Jean Chepil Trust. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 28 — Forklift, pallet jacks, shelving, pallet racking, more at Wamego for Prizm, Inc. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 30 — Marshall County real estate at Frankfort for Dan & Marilyn Horigan Trust. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co.

July 1 — Marshall County grassland at Oketo for Darlene R. (Klover) Mills. Auctioneers: Olmsted Real Estate & Auction.

July 1 — Real estate at Holton for Stan & Charlotte Brock. Auctioneers: Branam's Real Estate & Auction, Dan Harris.

July 2 — Guns & coins at Emporia. Auctioneers: Swift-n-Sure Auctions.

July 6 — Russell County real estate at Luray for Ken & Connie McMillen. Auctioneers: Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.

July 9 — Personal property at Summerfield for Mrs. (Mick) Rosie Cameron. Auctioneers: Olmsted & Sandstrom.

July 9 — Woodshop equip. & tools, lawn garden equipment & misc. at Lawrence for Del & the late Dale Backs. Auctioneers: Elston Auction Co., Mark Elston & Wayne Wischropp.

July 9 — Household, tools, pickup at Wakefield for Frank W. Palmateer Estate. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

July 9 — Autos, tools, office furniture & supplies, lawn equipment & mowers & more at Westmoreland for Pottawatomie County Public Works. Auctioneers: John Cline.

July 10 — Coins, appliances, furniture, antiques & collectibles, tools at Perry for Mrs. Dorothy (Floyd) McCain. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions, Elston Auctions.

July 10 — Collectibles, Disney, Roy Rogers, furniture at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

July 12 — Land in 3 counties: Thomas, Sherman & Kearny Counties at Garden City. Auctioneers: Schrader Real Estate & Auction Company, Inc.

July 14 — Farm & household, tractor, guns, tools, appliances at Waverly. Auctioneers: Swift N Sure Auctions.

July 15 — Real estate and cropland at Concordia for Don and Pat Peterson. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

July 16 — Collectibles, furniture at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

COMBINES		WINDROWERS	
CIH 2366, '01, 3139/2446 Hrs.....	\$99,500(C)	NH HW320, '03, 1573 Hrs, 18'.....	\$40,500(E)
CIH 2388, '98, 2350/1855 Hrs.....	\$79,500(M)	CIH WDX1101, '01, 2700 Hrs.....	\$33,000(E)
NH TR98, '98, Spreader.....	\$69,500(E)	NH HW320, '00, 3927 Hrs, 16'.....	\$32,500(D)
NH TR98, '98, 3000/2250 Hrs.....	\$52,500(M)	NH 2450, '94, 3724 Hrs, 16'.....	\$23,000(E)
CIH 1688, '94, 2203 Hrs.....	\$48,750(D)	NH 2450, '94, 18' Head.....	\$21,000(E)
CIH 2388, '00, 6732/4824 Hrs.....	\$45,000(G)	NH 1116, '82, 1481 Hrs, 16'.....	\$15,500(E)
NH TR98, '97, 3368/2342 Hrs.....	\$38,500(W)	NH 1112, '80, 2234 Hrs, 16'.....	\$10,250(E)
CIH 1680, '91, 4938 Hrs.....	\$29,900(D)	NH 1114, 3100 Hrs, 14'.....	\$8,500(H)
CIH 1680, '87, 5350 Hrs.....	\$16,500(M)	JD 2280, '79, Dsl, 14'.....	\$4,500(G)
NH TR86, '90, 2261/1412 Hrs.....	\$14,500(C)	MOWER-CONDITIONERS	
NH TR85, '83, 2309 Hrs.....	\$12,500(E)	NH 499, '07, 12' Pivot.....	\$21,500(M)
NH TR85, '87, Grain, Spreader.....	\$9,500(E)	NH 1475, '06, 18' Pivot.....	\$21,500(E)
NH TR75, '80, 1559 Hrs.....	\$8,250(E)	NH 1475, '01, 14' Pivot.....	\$16,900(W)
NH TR85, '82, 4077 Hrs.....	\$7,500(C)	CIH SCX100, '02, 14' Pivot.....	\$14,900(W)
MF 550, '81, 2089 Hrs.....	\$4,500(T)	NH 1475, '00, 16' Pivot.....	\$14,500(M)
NH TR70, '78, 7000 Hrs.....	\$3,500(E)	NH 1475, '00, 16' Pivot.....	\$12,500(E)
TRACTORS 175+ HP		NH 1475, '97, 18' Pivot.....	\$11,500(G)
NH 9280, '94, 7700 Hrs.....	\$44,500(E)	NH 1475, '02, 16' Pivot.....	\$9,900(E)
JD 4760, '92, 6250 Hrs.....	\$39,000(W)	NH 1475, '00, 18' Pivot.....	\$9,000(E)
VE 846, '89, 6625 Hrs.....	\$29,500(W)	NH 1475, '99, 18' Pivot.....	\$8,950(G)
VE 875, '81, 4 Remotes.....	\$27,500(E)	HE 1160, 16' Pivot.....	\$7,000(H)
VE 855, '80, 4800 Hrs.....	\$19,000(W)	NH 1465, '00, 9' Side-Pull.....	\$6,850(W)
CIH 3594, '87, PowerShift.....	\$19,000(D)	HE 1160, '89, 14' Pivot.....	\$4,950(E)
VE 835, '80, 6200 Hrs.....	\$15,900(W)	CIH 8370, '88, 14' Pivot.....	\$4,500(W)
CA 2590, '81, 5776 Hrs.....	\$10,900(W)	NH 495, '80, 12' Side-Pull.....	\$2,995(W)
TRACTORS 100-174 HP		CIH 8370, '89, 14' Pivot.....	\$2,500(H)
NH TV140, '00, 8569 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$39,500(G)	HE 1014, 14' Pivot.....	\$1,750(W)
CIH MX120, '97, 6165 Hrs.....	\$39,000(W)	NH 495, '84, 12' Side-Pull.....	\$1,750(E)
CIH 7110, '91, 7020 Hrs.....	\$34,900(C)	ROUND BALERS	
NH 9030, '91, 8086 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$34,900(G)	NH BR780A, '07, Twine.....	\$20,000(E)
AC 9345, '96, 4677 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$31,500(M)	JD 568, '07, Net Twine.....	\$18,500(W)
CIH 2294, '87, 7102 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$24,900(C)	NH BR780A, '06, Net/Twine.....	\$18,250(H)
JD 4440, '79, 9035 Hrs.....	\$19,950(G)	NH BR780, '05, Twine.....	\$17,000(E)
NH 8630, '90, 3500 Hrs.....	\$19,500(G)	NH BR780A, '06, Net/Twine.....	\$16,900(G)
CA 2390, '80, 5090 Hrs.....	\$17,500(C)	NH BR780A, '06, Twine.....	\$16,500(E)
IH 1486, '79, 7000 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$13,000(E)	NH BR780, '03, Twine.....	\$16,500(E)
IH 5088, '83, 6500 Hrs.....	\$12,500(H)	NH BR780, '04, Net/Twine.....	\$16,500(E)
IH 1486, '79, 6680 Hrs.....	\$12,500(E)	NH 688, '02, Twine.....	\$13,950(T)
JD 4430, '74, 12879 Hrs.....	\$11,500(E)	NH BR780, '03, Twine.....	\$13,900(D)
FO 9600, '80, 7174 Hrs, Gas.....	\$9,900(E)	NH 688, '01, Twine.....	\$12,750(E)
CA 1270, '74, 5776 Hrs.....	\$8,500(C)	NH BR780A, '07, Net/Twine.....	\$12,500(D)
IH 1586, '78, 3 Remotes.....	\$7,950(W)	NH 688, '00, Twine.....	\$12,500(E)
CA 1070, '71, 5125 Hrs.....	\$6,500(M)	NH BR780A, '06, Net/Twine.....	\$11,000(D)
TRACTORS 40-99 HP		CIH RS551, '00, Net, 5X5.....	\$10,900(H)
NH T5070, '09, 635 Hrs.....	\$37,500(W)	NH 664, '98, Twine.....	\$10,500(H)
NH TD5050, '09, 493 Hrs.....	\$35,000(C)	NH 664, '98, Twine.....	\$9,950(T)
NH T5040, '09, 290 Hrs.....	\$34,500(W)	NH BR780, '05, Net.....	\$9,950(C)
MF 6170, '96, 2200 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$32,500(C)	NH 664, '98, Twine.....	\$9,500(E)
KT L5740, '08, 374 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$31,900(G)	VM 605K, '95, Twine.....	\$8,500(W)
KT MX5100DT, '10, 48 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$25,000(G)	NH 664, '97, Net.....	\$8,500(E)
JD 6400, '93, 5707 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$24,500(W)	HE 565A, '98, Twine.....	\$7,950(E)
NH 7740, '94, 5500 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$23,500(W)	HE 560, '93, Twine.....	\$6,000(M)
CIH 5230, '95, 6500 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$21,500(W)	NH 660, '94, Net.....	\$5,500(E)
NH 7740, '93, 4519 Hrs.....	\$21,500(E)	CIH 8450, '89, Twine.....	\$2,950(H)
CIH 5140, '92, 10000 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$19,950(H)	DRILLS	
MF 396, '96, 1534 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$18,000(M)	JD 1530, 15', Soybean.....	\$9,900(T)
JD 3020, '69, 4700 Hrs, Dsl.....	\$12,900(W)	GP 2SF30, '90, 30', 7.5".....	\$9,900(E)
JD 4020, '67, 9800 Hrs.....	\$12,500(E)	GP 2SF24, 24' Min-Till.....	\$8,500(M)
IH 1086, '80, 5374 Hrs.....	\$12,500(C)	GP 3SF30, 30', 10".....	\$8,200(E)
FO 7600, '76, 5500 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$10,500(W)	TY V30, 30', 7.5".....	\$7,500(M)
JD 4020, '68, 9336 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$9,000(E)	GP 3PD15, 15', Pull-Type.....	\$3,500(T)
MF 180, '66, 5159 Hrs, Ldr.....	\$8,750(E)		



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USDA announces new recreational, fishing and hunting opportunities in rural areas

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced developments in two popular USDA programs that will support conservation of working lands for the benefit of wildlife, water quality, and recreation. Vilsack announced that USDA will accept 2.8 million acres offered by landowners under the 41st Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up. The selections preserve and enhance environmentally sensitive lands while providing payments to property owners. Additionally, USDA has approved eight additional states and one tribal government to participate in the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP), which encourages private landowners to provide public access to their lands for wildlife-dependant recreational opportunities, including fishing and hunting.

"USDA is committed to enhancing the great conservation legacy of our nation's hunters and anglers to benefit current and future generations," said Vilsack. "VPA-HIP and the CRP not only help achieve conservation goals, but also increase opportunities for hunting, fishing and other wildlife-dependant recreational activities by providing additional access to privately held lands. CRP assists private landowners and producers as they voluntarily

protect their most environmentally sensitive lands."

For this 41st general CRP sign-up, more than 38,000 offers were received on about 3.8 million acres nationwide. Enrollment of the 2.8 million acres will bring the total enrollment in the program to 29.9 million acres, leaving sufficient room under the 32-million-acre cap to continue enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, continuous sign-up and other CRP initiatives. Vilsack has asked FSA to continue to consider ways to use continuous enrollments to ensure CRP contains those lands that are most erodible, most valuable to wildlife or that otherwise ensure the program targets the most vulnerable acres.

Under CRP, farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams or rivers. The plantings reduce soil and prevent nutrients washing into waterways, reduce soil erosion that may otherwise contribute to poor air and water quality, and provide valuable habitat for wildlife. The CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and associated buffers and reduced soil erosion by more than 400 million tons per year.

USDA selected offers for enrollment based on an Environmental Bene-

fits Index (EBI) comprised of five environmental factors plus cost. The five environmental factors were: (1) wildlife enhancement, (2) water quality, (3) soil erosion, (4) enduring benefits and (5) air quality. The minimal acceptable EBI level for this sign-up was 221.

The average rental rate per acre for this sign-up is about \$48. USDA implemented a number of measures including using additional EBI point incentives for producers to submit cost-effective offers and producer outreach activities to encourage competitive offers on the most environmentally sensitive lands. These measures will maintain the high environmental benefits while decreasing the historical cost of the program.

With today's VPA-HIP announcement, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Montana, New Hampshire, Texas, Virginia and Wyoming join Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin as states participating in the program. Also participating are the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. The total amount of VPA-HIP funds to be obligated in 2011 is

\$17.8 million with \$4.6 million of that total being allocated as part of today's announcement.

The VPA-HIP program expands existing efforts or develops new initiatives to encourage owners and operators of privately held farm, ranch and forest land to voluntarily provide public access for the enjoyment of wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting or fishing, in exchange for financial incentives or other assistance under programs implemented by state or tribal governments. VPA-HIP is a competitive grants program that is only available to state and tribal governments. Funding may be used to expand existing public access programs, create new public access programs or provide incentives to improve wildlife habitat on enrolled lands.

Up to \$50 million is authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill through VPA-HIP through fiscal year 2012. State and tribal grant recipients use the federal funding to provide additional landowner incentives or assistance in order to increase the number of acres available for public access.

To learn more about CRP, visit your FSA county office or online at www.fsa.usda.gov/crp.

July 16 — Tractors, implements, forklift, trailer, parts, toys, memorabilia, used rear tractor tires, shop & hand tools at Vermillion for Otto & Marjorie Hallier. Auctioneers: Wheeler Auctions.

July 16 — Vintage car, guns, hunting supplies, WWII items, railroad items, coins & misc. at Clay Center for Bruce Bigler. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom.

July 16 — Surplus auction at Salina for South Industrial Sheet Metal Co. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

July 16 — Farm equipment, John Deere 4-wheel drive tractor, JD combine, trucks, pickup, tillage equip. N. of Culver for Dean & Emma White. Auctioneers: Bacon Auction Co.

July 17 — Advertising, Coke, fishing, collectibles at Salina for Jackie Larson. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

July 18 — Washington County land at Linn for the Hirschberg Joint Revocable Trust. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

July 18 — Ottawa & Cloud County real estate at Glasco for Harlan R. Berndt & Mildred F. Berndt Revocable Trust. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

July 23 — Tools, outdoor equipment & collectibles at Washington for Simon & Evelyn Fulton. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

July 28 (ending) — Equipment Online only (www.gehlingonline.com). Auctioneers: Gehling Auction.

July 30 — Farm machinery & shop at Sabetha for Leo & David Bindel Estates. Auctioneers: Hartter Auction Service.

July 30 — Farm toys, Heston belt buckles, glassware, household at Clay Center for Harold & Charlene Habluetzel Estate. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

August 3 — Farm & industrial consignments at Beattie. Auctioneers: Rottinghaus Auction.

August 6 — Harley Gerdes consignment auction at Lyndon.

September 2 — Farm machinery consignment at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

September 5 — Harley Gerdes 16th annual Labor Day consignment Auction at Lyndon.

September 7 — Cloud County pasture & cropland at Concordia for Dorothy Neander Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

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.

Rottinghaus Consignment Auction

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Note: Joe Horigan Realty & Auction Co. is acting as an agent for the Sellers and not as an agent for the buyer.

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

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The Sneak Attack

There is more than one definition for pasture roping, as Carter pointed out to me. It was during calving season. He and his wife were making the 5 p.m. heifer check. They were in the pickup driving through the calving pasture and noted a good sized critter in the process of calving. They had seen it earlier. She'd been at it several hours and seemed to be tucked out.

His wife's suggestion that it might be wiser to try and push the cow to the calving corral flew in like a mosquito by his ear but he swatted it away! Carter prided himself on his 'sneaking prowess.'

"I believe I can do a good 'pasture sneak' on her. Even out here in the

open."

She rolled her eyes. He cautioned her to be still.

He had no chains and handles with him. "We could go back and get them," said his wife. He swatted away her wisdom, "That would take ten minutes! And I could've done snuck up on her by then!" He chose instead to use the 30-foot team roping rope soft-lay coiled up in the bed of the pickup. To her skeptical eye, he made what he later called "a perfect sneak," up to the resting heifer. And it was impressive, especially when you realized it was a good 100 yards! She never moved. He looked back at his wife and gave her a thumbs up. He put the loop on one of the calf's feet and was trying

to wind a half-hitch on the other foot.

During the process the heifer kept throwing her head to see what was going on. Carter leaned forward and put a little pressure on her so she would stay down. It didn't work. She rose from the spot like a Trident missile and hit top speed in two leaps! Twenty feet of rope burned through Carter's paws as he sat there! As luck would have it, and it sometimes does, the half hitch came tight... around his arm, and he was jerked to his feet faster than you can say, "W-A-T-E-R-S-K-I-E-R!"

For the first few yards he maintained his track star status, then went into a tumbling routine worthy of any gymnast. At one point he performed a figure skater triple axel, a high diver half-gainer, a skateboarder triple misty flip, and finished the last twenty yards leaping brush, irrigation pipe, a cut bank, and an abandoned harrow like a hurdler with his tail on fire!

Thank goodness the cow was slowing down when she leaped through the turned-over round bale feeder and finally tripped on a buried hot-wire fence that surround-

ed the compost heap.

"Mother!" he cried from the wreckage, "Mother, come dally this rope around somethin'! I don't want to waste this good sneak! I might make a t-shirt out of it!"

His wife swerved in with the pickup and jumped out! Carter was untangling the hitches off his longest arm. She tied the rope hard and fast to the bumper ball and, with her at the wheel and him at the back, on foot, they cajoled the cow the last 20 yards to the corrals.

After examining the damage, he discovered some parts missing.

"Mother, reckon you could go back to the pasture and see if you can find my hat and my left boot?"

She looked at him, "Why don't you just sneak on down there and find it yourself."

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