



# Griffin discusses farm stress at KFB annual meeting

By Donna Sullivan,  
Editor

He was only five or six years old, but Charlie Griffin recalls the day vividly. “I remember one time, the week before we would have been cutting wheat, looking out the front door of our house and watching a hail storm pulverize the wheat crop into really short stubs,” he described. “I remember my dad turning around and sitting down in his recliner. And what I remember most is how quiet it was. Nobody said a word.”

But the next day, the family got up and went on. “I had no idea that what was happening was the bigger picture of agriculture back then,” he said.

Griffin’s recollections were part of his presentation on farm stress management at the annual meeting of Kansas Farm Bureau in early December.

To give context to the current state of the agriculture economy – with its low prices, trade wars, unusual weather patterns and net farm incomes that have been slashed – Griffin looked back through history at previous farm crises.

“This isn’t the first rodeo we’ve been through,” he pointed out. “We’ve been here many times. The first farm crisis in Kansas was in the 1890s when a whole bunch of new immigrants to the land in Kansas got blasted by drought, blizzards and locust plagues. And many of them left.” He spoke of the next farm crisis in the late 1920s and ‘30s. “We saw a massive switch of ownership of land because of inability to pay off debts,” he said. “And many of those farmers left the state, left farming, and that’s where part of the population of California came from.”

“If you look back, the farmers that are left, man, those are rugged, resilient people,” said Griffin. “They are the ones that could hunker down and endure, and figure out how to manage or simply survive hard times and come out on the other side. But it also says a lot about the mentality, the mental make-up and the emotional make-up of people who farm in Kansas today and clear through the Midwest.”

The little boy who watched his family’s wheat



Retired marriage and family therapist Charlie Griffin spoke to a full room as he addressed farm stress management at the Kansas Farm Bureau annual meeting, held in Manhattan in early December.

Photo by Donna Sullivan

crop destroyed by hail grew up to become a marriage and family therapist who spent the majority of his career serving farm families and rural communities as they navigated the challenges of production agriculture. He recalled the first time he went out to talk to a group of farmers about stress management. “I swear I had a room full of guys in bib overalls and they were kind to me,” he

said. “I did a presentation and talked about stress and teaching people to breathe deep and do a little meditation and relax, like that was stress management. They listened to me and then they sat down and had coffee and talked.” That experience changed the way he addresses the topic. “What I started to talk about was, you need a good attorney, you need a good financial analyst and maybe a good

family therapist. Along the way you need to take care of yourself so you’re still on your feet so the stress doesn’t do you in.”

Griffin said that in the process of talking about farm stress, he began to deeply understand that financial trouble, having to restructure, or even possibly losing their land isn’t just a business failure or the need to find another way to make a living. “I

realized just how connected farmers and ranchers are to the very land they live on,” he said. He told of his brother, who went through a restructuring and was able to continue farming, but lost the place he lived in. “I know that to this day, twenty years later, he can’t drive down that dirt road that goes by his old house because of the memories of it all,” Griffin said. “I don’t think people who live in the city or people that run normal businesses quite understand the depth of our connection to the land. I want to go one step further and say I don’t think people understand the feelings of guilt and failure that a farmer goes through when they lose their operation.”

Because of the cyclical nature of agriculture, Griffin believes it’s important for younger producers to understand what has happened in the past to help them meet the challenges they will face. “If you thought I was going to talk mental health, I don’t talk like a normal therapist. I used to think you could talk about family and you could talk about farming like they are two separate things,” he admitted. “I don’t know where one starts and the other starts. At the back door where you scrape the mud off your feet and come in with the calf you drug in

out of the ice to warm up in the kitchen behind the stove? You cannot separate family and farm.”

Griffin began working on the Farm Crisis Hotline shortly after it started in 1985. “It took five years for the federal government to set up some type of assistance and some type of farm crisis response that worked its way down to where it actually helped people,” he said. A section in the last farm bill set up a farm and ranch assistance network, funded with \$10 million a year for five years. Although the first year got cut to about half of that or less, there has been money allocated to K-State Research and Extension that Griffin said will likely be used to create a functional farm crisis hotline. “There are a lot of things in the works now,” he said. “Trust me, it’s coming, but it’s not going to happen fast. In the meantime, don’t hesitate to call your county Extension agent and tell them the kind of assistance and support you need.”

Statistically, the toll being taken on agriculture producers is alarming. Kansas is tied for second place in the nation for farm bankruptcies, sharing the spot with Nebraska and South Carolina. Wisconsin leads the nation, largely due to

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## Moser, Kuckelman elected to KLA leadership positions

Members of the Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) elected Wheaton cow-calf producer Harry Moser as president during the group’s annual business meeting December 6 in Wichita. The membership chose Jerry Kuckelman, a cattle feeder from Manhattan, as KLA president-elect.

Moser and his family own a seedstock and commercial cow-calf enterprise in Marshall and Pottawatomie counties. Seedstock is merchandized by private treaty, with steers finished on the ranch and sold through a niche market. The cattle graze primarily on native Flint Hills pastures. All the feed for the cattle is grown on the ranch.

Moser Ranch won the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Seedstock Producer of the Year award in 2003. The ranch was selected as Outstanding Stockman for 2012 by the K-State Block and Bridle Club.

He is a second-generation cattle producer. His parents, LaVerne and Elaine Moser, moved to town in October after 61 years of life together on the ranch they purchased in 1958 near Elgin, N.D., where Harry grew up. The North Dakota ranch remains in the Moser family. The third generation of Mosers is living and working on the Kansas ranch, with the fourth generation learning alongside their parents



Harry Moser, right, was elected president of KLA. Jerry Kuckelman, left, will serve as president-elect.

and grandparents. Moser, his wife Lisa, son Cameron and his wife Carrie, are involved in the day-to-day ranch operations. Daughter Kendra Michaelis is the office manager for Crist and Pieschl Rehab in Marysville, and her husband, Rex, is a crop adjuster for RCIS. Daughter Kayla Josefiak and her husband, Ty, farm and ranch in Pawnee County, where Kayla currently serves as KLA county chair. Harry and Lisa have nine grandchildren.

Moser is a past chairman of both the KLA Stockgrowers Council and KLA Membership Committee. He has served on the KLA Executive Committee and is a member of the KLA Board of Directors. Moser, a graduate of the KLA Leadership Conference, served as 2018 vice chairman of the KLA Policy & Resolutions Committee. He has represented KLA on the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Board of Directors. He is a past chairman of the board of

the American Simmental Association and previously has served on the BIF Board of Directors. Moser also has served as president of the Kansas Simmental Association.

He currently is serving on the Nemaha-Marshall Rural Electric Association Board of Directors. Harry and Lisa were 4-H beef leaders for three years in Jackson County and 17 years in Pottawatomie County.

Moser graduated from North Dakota State in 1981 with a bachelor’s degree in animal sciences & industry.

Kuckelman is the president and chief executive officer of Innovative Livestock Services (ILS), which consists of eight feedyards in central Kansas and south central Nebraska and an extensive farming operation. He began his career as a cattle buyer for IBP, then transitioned into feedyard management where he spent 27 years, with most of that time as manager of

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## New website to assist Kansans coping with ag-related stress

Agriculture producers have faced significant challenges in recent years, including market uncertainties, natural disasters, ongoing trade wars and other setbacks. These stressful situations have led to heightened focus on mental health issues in the agricultural community. In response, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, along with several Kansas ag partners, has unveiled a new website to provide resources and support to those dealing with ag-related stress. The website can be found at [KansasAgStress.org](http://KansasAgStress.org).

“The increase in suicide rates among farmers and ranchers is alarming,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “We must do everything in our power to curb this trend. The website provides additional resources and support to individuals and their loved ones. We must provide our farmers and ranchers alternatives to suicide. We must be there for them.”

The new website addresses the challenges that Kansas farmers, ranchers and their families face in today’s ag industry. Recent natural disasters, depressed commodity prices and other issues weigh heavily on farm families and can take a toll that leads to mental and emotional distress, substance abuse, anxiety, depression and even suicide. Visitors to the website will be able to find local and national resources for those issues, as well as support in areas ranging from stress management to financial and legal challenges.

“This website is intended to be a collaborative effort to support the emotional and financial health challenges for Kansans, especially those involved in agriculture,” Kansas secretary of agriculture Mike Beam said. “Many people were involved in the development of the website. Our hope is that it will be a positive resource for people struggling during difficult times.”

KansasAgStress.org features resources and support for every member of the family, from teens to aging adults. Unique resources are also available to assist our farmer veterans, who face the issues that come with farming, along with the possible challenges of being a military veteran.

“The purpose of this website is to help care for and assist Kansas farmers and ranchers in their well-being,” Beam said. “As more tools are developed and come available, this website will be updated and serve as a hub of current information and resources.”

The Kansas Department of Agriculture and the State of Kansas is committed to serving Kansas farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses and the customers they serve. Together with our partners, we have made it a priority to provide support and assistance to Kansans battling ag-related stress and mental health struggles.



**A Spirit of Giving**  
By Kim Baldwin, McPherson County farmer and rancher  
The countdown for Christmas officially has begun in our house. This year, aside from a little felt Advent calendar we hang on a door to help the kids understand how many days are left until Christmas, we also added two chocolate Advent calendars — one for my son and one for my daughter. We figured it'd be easier to maintain the peace by giving them each their own cal-

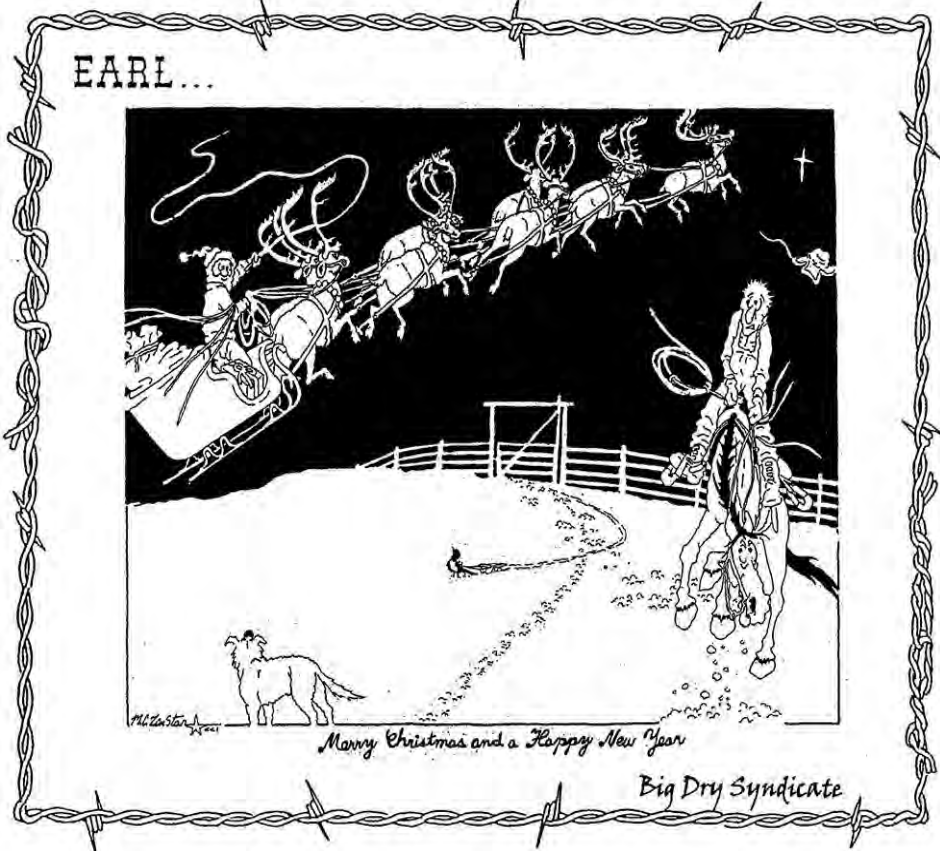
endar and allow them to enjoy their own candy each day as we prepare for Christmas.  
Our farm dog Rosie is a whip-smart Australian Shepherd. She's a good dog, but sometimes she can get herself into some interesting situations.  
My daughter and I recently came home to find Rosie had let herself into the house after my son and husband had walked out to a nearby shed. They had left the back door

open and Rosie seized the opportunity to go inside.  
As my daughter and I opened the door, Rosie happily greeted us. I immediately wondered what she had gotten into this time. Because when Rosie gets into the house and is unattended, she can get herself into some trouble.  
In the past, she has rummaged through my daughter's room and taken stuffed animals to claim as her own. She has picked up my son's dirty socks and added them to her collection. She has devoured loaves of bread and destroyed the bags, leaving the evidence scattered throughout the house. She has shredded cereal boxes and eaten all of the contents. Afterward she'll

either let herself out the door she came in or takes a break and relaxes on the couch until her humans arrive to discover the path of destruction she has created.  
This time Rosie had found the trash can. As I was cleaning up that mess in the kitchen, my daughter yelled from the living room, "Christmas is ruined!"  
Rosie had discovered my daughter's chocolate Advent calendar and then thoroughly destroyed it and ate the vast majority of its contents.  
As I was trying to calm my hysterical four-year-old who had now decided that Rosie's act had not just ruined Christmas but officially canceled it, the boys returned home.

My son helped pick up the cardboard and plastic pieces and then came into the kitchen to reassure his little sister that everything would be okay, and Christmas would indeed still happen. He then brought his untouched calendar over to his sniffing little sister, opened his paper door, took out the small piece of chocolate, carefully bit it in half and offered it to his sister.  
As my four- and seven-year-old sat side by side, slowly eating their tiny pieces of chocolate, I couldn't help but think that this was a profound moment on my son's part. He recognized that his sister — who loves candy — would not be able to enjoy her chocolate because she no

longer had any. He recognized that he had something that he could share, and he took action to ensure his sister could still experience the anticipation of Christmas.  
May we not get overwhelmed this holiday season with events that might appear to alter the holidays. And may we recognize times where we can all provide loving acts that illustrate the spirit of giving.  
"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.



It's Christmas time, a time of joy, a time of renewal. I think I have made it quite clear how much I was looking forward to the holidays this year because work on the farm was as caught up as possible. However, I have been having trouble getting into the spirit of the season and I would guess I am not the only one in agriculture who feels that way.  
2019 was a rotten year for many of us. The weather was horrendous, I just did an interview with a neighboring high school student about my cattle operation for his animal science class. He asked me what my death loss was. I asked him if he meant last year or normal because the two were very different answers. Then we were faced with getting the crops planted during one of the wettest springs I have ever been through. Finally, haying season was delayed because of the spring and wet weather in the summer.  
If that wasn't enough, we faced some of the toughest markets we have ever seen. Things weren't good before the trade war and that seemed to be the final straw for many. Our income has dropped tremendously over the past several years and many of us are hanging on by our fingernails. I admit that when I pay all my bills and look toward the next year, things look pretty lean or even worse. That makes it hard to find the joy in much of anything.  
We in agriculture pride ourselves in being the tough, stoic kind. We hold it all in and don't share our fear and especially our feelings with anyone. Top that off with the nature of our business. Many of us are several generations in and it often feels like the weight of those generations are riding on our backs. Throw in families and the need to provide for them and to keep as much worry away from our loved ones, the pressure can be and is crushing.  
Now I am going to touch on a topic most of us in agriculture shy away from and that is mental health and suicide. It is difficult to talk about, especially when it is about us. Unfortunately, there is a stigma that goes along with mental health; we think there is something shameful about asking for help. Often the problems compound themselves and the way out does not seem to have many good choices.  
I am asking, no I am begging, if you feel that way, please reach out for help. I

understand the stress and the feeling of being alone, even when around others. There is hope and there is help. I would guess every state in farm country is looking at some sort of support structure. In Kansas the State Department of Agriculture has set up a website that has links to help both mentally and financially. I am here to tell you there is help and there is hope. No matter what your situation is, there is a lot to live for.  
Reach out to a friend, a neighbor, anyone and get some help, even if it is just a listening ear and kind words. I am lucky to have a circle of good friends who are willing to spend hours listening. I would also urge you to seek help professionally. If you didn't feel right physically you would go to a doctor, this is no different and no more embarrassing. The most important part is to get better and be there for your family.  
Also, if you are the friend or the neighbor of someone who is going through tough times make sure you are there for them. Check in on them daily if not more often. Make sure they know they can confide in you and listen to what they are saying. The signs of trouble are often very subtle and only those close to the person might pick up on them. Don't be afraid to intervene on their behalf and let others know. The person might be mad at you initially but that is a small price to pay for saving a life.  
Make no mistake, we are in a crisis in farm country and honestly it doesn't look a lot better in the near future. I know that is not the optimistic approach I usually take, but this is a time for straight talk. We must take care of ourselves and those around us. We must approach taboo subjects like mental health and suicide head-on and deal with them in the open.  
Whether I have met you or not, I care about everyone in agriculture; we are a family and a community. That is why we must take care of ourselves and each other. I leave this reminder to you. Possessions are just stuff, even possessions that have been in our families for generations. You are more important than anything else and others depend on you. You must be there for them. Things will get better; we will survive this one way or another, but it will take the support of our whole community.

## House approves USMCA

By Donna Sullivan, Editor  
The U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), which will replace the 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), moved one step closer to passage last week when Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced an agreement had been reached. House Democrats had pushed for greater enforcement of labor provisions, which were eventually included. She called the agreement a "victory for America's workers."

With the House embroiled in the impeachment process of President Trump, it's unclear when a vote could take place.  
"They keep pulling the rug from under me," said Rep. Roger Marshall last Wednesday. "First they said we would vote next week, now I'm hearing about stalling again." Once USMCA passes the House, which it is expected to do with bi-partisan support, it will go to the Senate, where Marshall said the impeachment could cause further delays. "If they don't get to vote on it before the impeachment hearing in the Senate starts, they might not get to," he said.

Marshall believes the delays have created a great deal of uncertainty for all sectors of the economy. "It could have been done in March," Marshall stated. "Pelosi has kept it as a weapon against the president. We have enough problems without the uncertainty

created by this."  
Mexico has already ratified the agreement, and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer flew to Mexico last week to ink the addendum, along with representatives from the other two countries. Canada is watching to see what the United States will do before ratifying the agreement, but Marshall said that country well exceeds the labor expectations already, so he doesn't expect any delays from them. The best case scenario would be if the House could vote on the agreement this week, then the Senate could squeeze it in between Christmas and January 1. "But I think the chances of that happening are very small," Marshall conceded. "The positive thing is, it is going to happen now. People said it couldn't be done."  
Marshall believes the House Democrats from swing states have felt a great deal of pressure from their constituents, and especially from agriculture producers. "The impeachment is killing Democrats in swing states," he said. "Because of that Democrats are desperate for a victory they can take to their people back home."

Industry leaders lauded this next step in passage of USMCA. "We are encouraged by progress made in the USMCA negotiations that could pave the way to USMCA ratification before the end of the year," Kansas Corn Growers Association vice president

Brent Rogers of Hoxie said. "Collectively, Mexico and Canada account for more than half of all U.S. exports of corn in all forms, including corn, red meat, ethanol and DDGS. The long-term stability provided by USMCA will open the doors for increased ethanol exports to Canada and Mexico as both countries work toward a baseline of E10 fuel."

"I have long advocated for movement on USMCA, and I applaud the White House and Congress for reaching an agreement today and advancing this deal," said Sen. Jerry Moran. "Canada and Mexico are Kansas' top two export markets, and over the last two years, I have heard directly from Kansans how vital a modern trade deal like USMCA would be for our farmers, ranchers and manufacturers to compete and succeed in the 21st Century economy. Now is the time to get USMCA across the finish line, and I urge the House to quickly bring USMCA up for a vote."

"This is huge," Marshall added. "This is the biggest economic boost we will see since the tax cut bill and will mean thousands of jobs in Kansas." He hopes it will translate into increased commodity prices, as well. "Between this and the Japan agreement, it will put more leverage on China and get us closer to negotiating the European agreement, as well. Merry Christmas to Kansas agriculture."

## Bill would provide permanent solution to death tax

A new bill introduced in Congress, H.R. 5259, would increase the maximum amount allowed under the estate tax exemption from \$750,000 to \$11 million (indexed for in-

flation). The Preserving Family Farms Act of 2019, introduced by Reps. Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.) and Jackie Walorski (R-Ind.), would expand IRS Code Section 2032A to allow

more farmers and ranchers to take advantage of the special use valuation.

Estate tax relief was included as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, but many cattle producers are still vulnerable or will be vulnerable when the exemption limits revert in 2026.

"America's beef producers should never be forced to sell any of their family's farm, ranch or business due to a death of a family member," said Jennifer Houston, NCBA president. "NCBA is committed to the fight to defend family ranches and farms and has long advocated for sound policies that will preserve family-owned beef operations for generations to come."

Houston said that, if enacted, this legislation will provide a permanent solution to an issue that has long plagued the nation's cattle producers.

The legislation would modernize the special use valuation provision of the estate tax allowing property to be appraised as farmland rather than its development value when determining estate taxes.



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# Griffin discusses farm stress

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issues in the dairy industry. And the suicide rate among farmers has also increased. Griffin said he has received many calls from producer groups in the last three years who have lost members to suicide. And often, no-one saw it coming. “You can’t pick somebody out of a crowd and say, well, they’ve got a history of mental health problems and they’re likely to suicide,” he explained. “About half the people who commit suicide have no history and did not appear to be depressed. But they very well might have relationship problems, stressors and some crisis coming at them, like a loan they can’t cover.”

Griffin described the difference between stresses and stressors. Stressors are the things coming at you and stresses are your reaction to them – your blood pressure, heart rate, anger, inability to sleep. He encouraged the room full of people – an indicator of the importance of the topic – to go home, sit down with family members and examine the stressors affecting them right now. “You’ve got to do some hard listening,” he warned. “Listen to what your other family members say. Their stressors might not be the same

as yours. If you want your kids to stay involved and you want your spouse to be working right there with you, you’ve got to understand their stressors.”

Griffin said that research he conducted in the 1970s on farm families who handle stress successfully and those who don’t pointed to one main thing – open communication, whether it’s with other family members and partners in the businesses, or bankers and other credit partners. “You’ve got to sit down and talk,” he stressed. “And by that I mean sharing information, not hiding the bank account or anything else you might be hiding. Some people are afraid to talk to their bankers, but sometimes they can be your most important partners in helping you find a way to work through it.”

He also advised staying connected socially and with professional organizations. “And finally, I just want to say, you’ve got to take care of yourself,” he concluded. “You can do this for a few days or a week or two weeks; we’ve all been through harvest, we know what that’s like. But you cannot do it all year long. So if you’re not figuring out how to step back and take care of yourself first

and your family relationships second, you’re going to crash and burn and that’s not an effective business strategy. Why would you want to do that? We’ve got a tough road ahead of us. And the important success for all of us will be how well we reach out to our friends, how well we reach out to our professional organizations and say, ‘Let’s work together to take care of all of us and get through this with the best knowledge that we possibly can.’”

## UK scientists say going vegan will not save the environment – and meat is good for kids

Going vegan won’t save the environment. That’s according to experts from the University of Edinburgh and Scotland’s Rural College.

In fact, the scientists say, breeders are producing cattle that are less harmful to the environment, and meat is critical for the development of children worldwide.

“Often the argument is made that going vegan would minimize land use, and the modeling studies that have been done demonstrate that that’s not the case,” said Geoff Simm, director of Global Academy Agriculture and Food Security at Edinburgh. “We feel that while livestock production has a range of economic, social and environmental costs and benefits, the costs have perhaps been receiving

# Moser, Kuckelman elected

*Cont. from page 1*

Fairleigh Feed Yard in Scott City. Kuckelman joined ILS in early 2011 as chief operating officer.

He grew up on a diversified farm near Baileyville that involved cattle feeding, dairy and hog operations. Today, he and his wife, Linda, reside in Manhattan. The couple have three grown daughters. Jill Miller and her husband, Justin, live in Kansas City, Ks.; Kelsey Kuckelman also resides in Kansas City, Ks.; and Amber Kuckelman lives in Dallas, Texas.

He was introduced to KLA in 1985 when he was elected as Scott County KLA director. Since that time, Kuckelman has held various positions within the organization. He currently is a member of the KLA Board of Directors and the KLA Risk Management Services Safety Committee. Kuckelman served as chairman of the KLA Cattle Feeders Council in 2017 and is a past member of the KLA Executive Committee. He also previously has represented KLA on the NCBA Board of Directors. In addition to his service to KLA and NCBA, he currently is a member of the Livestock and Meat Industry Council.

KLA is a 5,600-member trade organization representing the state’s livestock business on legislative, regulatory and industry issues at both the state and federal levels. The association’s work is funded through voluntary dues dollars paid by its members.

far more attention recently than some of the benefits.”

Simm said that even small amounts of animal-sourced food have really important effects on the cognitive and physical development of children. Mike Coffee of Rural College went on to slam veganism as “completely unnecessary.”

“If everybody went vegan, it would be devastating for the UK environment,” he said. “Animals bred for food help boost biodiversity.”

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# 2019 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

## Kellee George, Shawnee, Wins Christmas Holiday Contest

Winner Kellee George, Shawnee:  
**WHITE CHOCOLATE COOKIES**

4 cups chow mein noodles  
1 cup cocktail peanuts  
2 tablespoons butter, cut in pieces  
10-ounce bag miniature marshmallows  
1 cup white baking chips  
1/2 cup vanilla canned frosting

Line a cookie sheet with waxed paper. Spray cookie sheet. In a bowl put butter and marshmallows; microwave until smooth. Add baking chips and frosting and microwave until blended. Pour hot mixture over noodles and peanuts. Stir. Drop by rounded tablespoonfuls onto paper. Cool completely. Store in air-tight container.

NOTE: You can top with colored sprinkles, if you want; like red, green, etc. If hard to scoop microwave 15-10 seconds.

\*\*\*\*\*

drizzle over candies. Store in refrigerator. Makes 5 1/2 dozen.

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Bernadetta McCollum,  
Clay Center:  
**GERMAN CHRISTMAS BREAD**

3/4 cup butter  
2 cups sugar  
4 eggs  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon soda  
3 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon allspice  
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
2/3 cup cherry preserves  
2/3 cup pineapple preserves  
2/3 cup apricot preserves

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, buttermilk and vanilla. Add sifted dry ingredients. Stir in preserves. Bake in buttered bundt pan for 1 hour and 30 minutes. Test for doneness. Cool completely. Remove from pan and enjoy!

\*\*\*\*\*

Linda Elston, Lawrence:  
**DOROTHY'S FRUIT SALT**

1 large can fruit cocktail, drained  
1 small can crushed pineapple, drained  
1/2 package miniature marshmallows  
1 egg  
6 tablespoons vinegar  
6 tablespoons sugar  
1/2 pint whipping cream  
Nuts & maraschino cherries  
In a small saucepan beat egg; add vinegar and sugar. Mix well and cook over low heat until thick. Cool. Whip whipping cream. Add egg mixture to whipped cream and fold in fruit and marshmallows. Add nuts or maraschino cherries. Chill 2 hours.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mary Bogren, Burlingame: "These rise faster because of the cake mix! Frost with your favorite frosting."

**QUICK CINNAMON ROLLS**

1 yellow cake mix (Duncan Hines)  
5 cups flour  
1 1/2 teaspoons salt

2 cups of hot water (1/2 cup added to yeast)  
2 packages yeast  
2 eggs  
Cinnamon  
Sugar  
Softened butter

Combine cake mix, flour and salt. Add 1/2 cup of hot water to yeast and stir. Add remaining 1 1/2 cups of water and yeast to mixture to flour mixture. Add eggs and combine all. Let rise until doubled. Mix some cinnamon and sugar. Roll out rolls and spread softened butter on them. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar mixture. Roll and slice and put onto greased pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Barbara Bausch, Mayetta: "This sweet potato recipe, taken from my 'Gift of Love' cookbook, is shared from my sister Sharon, and a perfect dish for the holiday."

**SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE**

3 to 4 cups sweet potatoes, cooked & mashed  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 stick butter  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon orange juice concentrate  
2 eggs, beaten  
1/2 cup milk, evaporated  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
Topping:  
1/2 to 1 cup pecans, chopped  
1/2 cup coconut, flaked  
1 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup flour  
1/2 stick butter

Mix mashed potatoes, butter, sugar and salt. Beat in orange juice. Blend in eggs and milk. Add vanilla and mix well with mixer until smooth; pour into buttered baking dish. Combine pecans, coconut, brown sugar, flour and butter. Sprinkle crumble over sweet potatoes in casserole. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center:

**CINNAMON APPLE JELLED SALAD**

1/2 cup red hot  
1 cup hot water

1 regular package raspberry gelatin

#2 can applesauce

Dissolve red hot in hot water. Stir in gelatin and stir until dissolved. Add applesauce. Pour in jello mold and chill.

\*\*\*\*\*

LaDonna Grindol, Berlyton:

**FROZEN CRANBERRY BANANA SALAD**

20-ounce can pineapple tidbits  
5 medium firm bananas, halved lengthwise & sliced  
16-ounce can whole berry cranberry sauce  
1/2 cup sugar  
12-ounce carton Cool Whip  
1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Drain pineapple juice into bowl; set pineapple aside. Add bananas to the juice. In a large bowl combine cranberry sauce and sugar. Remove bananas discarding juice and add to cranberry mixture. Stir in pineapple, Cool Whip and nuts. Pour into 9-by-13-inch dish. Freeze until solid. Remove from the freezer 15 minutes before serving.

\*\*\*\*\*

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:

**OLD-FASHIONED CANDIED SWEET POTATOES**

4 to 6 sweet potatoes, peeled & sliced  
2 cups sugar  
1 stick butter (1/2 cup)  
1/2 to 1 teaspoon nutmeg  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
Pinch salt

In a large skillet melt butter over medium heat. Add sliced potatoes to butter and toss to coat. Mix sugar, nutmeg, cinnamon and salt in a bowl. Add to potatoes; toss to coat. Reduce heat to low and simmer for about 1 hour, covered and stirring occasionally until potatoes are fork-tender.

\*\*\*\*\*

Linda Kepka, Dorrance:

**PEANUT BUTTER BREAD**

1 1/2 cups flour  
1 cup sugar  
1 tablespoon baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup chunky peanut butter  
1 egg  
1 cup quick oatmeal  
1 cup milk  
Mix flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Add peanut butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add egg, oatmeal and milk stirring only until blend-

ed. Pour into greased loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees. Good served with jelly.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pam Moeller, Tecumseh:  
**GINGERBREAD SPICED NUTS**

1 egg white  
1/4 cup brown sugar  
2 teaspoons gingerbread spice  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 1/3 cups pecans  
1 1/3 cups almonds  
1 1/3 cups sesame sticks

Whisk egg white, brown sugar, gingerbread spice and salt. Add pecans and almonds; toss. Spread on a rimmed baking sheet and bake at 325 degrees stirring every 10 minutes until mostly dry but still slightly sticky, about 25 minutes. Add sesame sticks during the last 5 minutes of baking. Cool.

\*\*\*\*\*

Claire Martin, Salina: "With the richness of chess pie, this southern classic is a memorable dessert for your holiday table."

**TRANSPARENT PIE**

1 1/2 cups sugar  
4 teaspoons flour  
1/8 teaspoon kosher salt  
6 tablespoons butter, melted  
3 large eggs  
1/2 cup half & half or evaporated milk  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
Single-crust pie pastry at room temperature

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Fix dough into a 9-inch glass pie plate. Fill with pie weights or beans and bake 15 minutes. Let cool on a wire rack for 30 minutes. Increase oven temperature to 400 degrees. Whisk together sugar, flour and salt in a large bowl. Add melted butter stirring with a fork until combined and until mixture resembles dry sand. Whisk eggs in a medium bowl. Add half & half and vanilla and whisk to combine. Pour egg mixture over sugar mixture and whisk until filling is smooth, thick and creamy yellow. Pour into crust. Bake at 400 degrees for 5 minutes. Reduce oven to 375 degrees and bake about 35 minutes or until edges puff up and center is fairly firm, wiggling only slightly when you gently nudge pie plate. Transfer to wire rack and cool about 2 hours. Top pie with whipped cream when ready to serve.

\*\*\*\*\*

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### "Our Daily Bread"

#### Holiday Bonus Drawing Winners

All G&G Area Cooks who sent recipes for the holiday contests were entered in a special drawing. The four cooks whose names were drawn will each receive \$40. They are:

Karen Henke  
Cuba, KS

Darlene Thomas  
Delphos, KS

Arnelda Kepka  
Dorrance, KS

Millie Conger  
Tecumseh, KS

**A big THANK YOU to all who shared their favorite recipes with G&G Cooks during this holiday season!**

### Prize for December 24 & 31, 2019 & JANUARY 2020!

### "Our Daily Bread" Recipe Contest Prize

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

## G&G Announces Its Annual Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 26 through Dec. 17

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$40 in addition to the prize gift.

**CONTEST NOW CLOSED!**

**BONUS DRAWING**

Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$40.

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN THIS ISSUE!**

**THANKS TO ALL ENTRANTS!**

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- Made from Melamine. • Hand wash recommended.
- Measures 12 inches diameter x 7/8-inch high

"This plate shall have no owner for its journey never ends. It travels in a circle of our family and friends. It carries love from home to home for everyone to share. The food that's placed upon it was made with love and care. So please enjoy what's on the plate, then fill it up again. Then pass along the love it holds to your family and friends."

The winner each week is selected from the recipes printed. Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-you. 1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions are clear. 2. Be sure your name, address and phone number are on the entry. Please include a street address with your recipe entries. A post office box number is not sufficient for prize delivery. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. 3. Send it to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505.

OR e-mail: [auctions@agpress.com](mailto:auctions@agpress.com)



Arnelda Kepka, Dorance: "This makes two pies!"

#### OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD PIE

1 can cherry pie filling  
3/4 cup sugar  
1 large can crushed pineapple & juice  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
1 teaspoon red food coloring  
3-ounce box raspberry gelatin  
6 bananas, sliced  
1 cup pecans, chopped  
(2) 10-inch pie shells, baked  
Whipped topping

In a saucepan combine cherry pie filling, sugar, pineapple and juice, cornstarch and food coloring. Cook until thick. Remove from heat and add gelatin. Allow to cool. Add bananas and pecans. Pour into 2 baked pie shells and top with topping.

Olive McReynolds, Hays: "I do not use the toffee bits. This is similar to pumpkin pie but better!"

#### PUMPKIN CRUNCH CAKE

(2) 15-ounce cans pumpkin  
12-ounce can evaporated milk  
4 eggs  
1 heaping cup packed brown sugar  
2 tablespoons pumpkin pie spice  
1 yellow cake mix  
1 cup butter, melted  
1 cup coarsely chopped pecans

1/2 cup toffee bits (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray a 9-by-13-inch pan. In a large bowl combine the pumpkin, evaporated milk, sugar, eggs, pumpkin pie spice and toffee bits if using. Mix well. Pour into the prepared pan, cover evenly with the cake mix and pat down. Sprinkle chopped pecans evenly over the cake mix then drizzle with the melted butter. Bake about 1 hour or until the center is set and edges lightly browned. Top with whipped topping when ready to serve.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

#### NO-BAKE PEANUT BUTTER SQUARES

1 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
1 cup graham cracker crumbs (about 12 squares)  
1/2 cup butter  
1 cup chocolate chips  
1/2 cup peanut butter

In a bowl mix powdered sugar and crumbs. In a saucepan heat butter and peanut butter over low; heat stirring occasionally until melted. Stir into ungreased 8-inch square pan. In a saucepan melt chips then spread over crumb mixture. Refrigerate until firm. Cut into squares.

Linda Falk, Wheaton: "Very good and different."

#### CAJUN CORN SOUP

1 cup chopped onion  
1 cup chopped green pepper  
6 green onions, sliced  
1/2 cup cooking oil  
1/2 cup flour  
3 cups water  
2 cups chopped, peeled tomatoes (stewed & chopped)  
6-ounce can tomato paste  
(2) 16-ounce packages frozen whole kernel corn  
3 cups cubed cooked ham  
1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper (or to taste)  
1 1/2 pounds fully cooked smoked sausage, sliced  
Salt & pepper to taste

In a large kettle saute onion, green pepper and green onion in oil until tender, about 5 minutes. Add flour and cook until bubbly. Add water, stewed and chopped tomatoes and tomato paste; mix well. Stir in corn, ham, sausage, cayenne pepper, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, stirring often. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 1 hour, stirring often. Serves 12 to 14.

Beth Scriptor, Abilene: "I had this at a brunch. It is delicious!"

#### OVERNIGHT BLUEBERRY FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE

12 slices day-old bread, cut into 1-inch cubes (trim off the crusts)

(2) 8-ounce packages of cream cheese, cut into 1-inch cubes  
1 cup frozen blueberries  
12 eggs  
2 cups milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/3 cup maple syrup  
1 cup white sugar  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
1 cup water  
1 cup frozen blueberries  
1 tablespoon butter

Grease 9-by-13-inch pan. Layer half the bread cubes in the pan and top with cream cheese cubes.

Sprinkle 1 cup blueberries over cream cheese and top with remaining bread cubes. In large bowl, mix eggs, milk, vanilla and syrup. Pour this mixture over the bread cubes pressing them down to soak up the mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove the bread mixture from refrigerator about 30 minutes before baking. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cover and bake for 30 minutes, and then uncover and bake 25-30 more minutes until center is firm and slightly browned.

In a saucepan mix sugar, cornstarch and water; bring to a boil. Stir constantly. Cook about 3 minutes. Stir in remaining 1 cup blueberries. Reduce heat on this and simmer about 10 minutes until blueberries kinda burst open! Stir in the butter and pour over the French toast! ENJOY!

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

#### CRANBERRY COCONUT COOKIES

1 cup finely chopped fresh cranberries  
2/3 cup flour  
14-ounce bag shredded coconut  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk  
1/2 cup white chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large bowl toss cranberries and flour; stir to coat. Add remaining ingredients. Stir until well mixed. Place batter by teaspoonful onto baking sheet that has been lined with parchment paper. Bake about 20 minutes or until golden. Remove to cool. Store in air-tight container. Makes about 35 cookies.

Recipes continued on Page 6



By Ashleigh Krispense

While everyone's pulling out their favorite festive recipes for the holidays, I'm still loving the simple things — recipes that are easy to whip up for those busy weeknights when you really don't have time for a five-course meal. This kid-friendly recipe is not only something they'll love to eat, but could be a fun thing to make together!

**Kid-Friendly Pizza Bombs**  
1 tube of (8) crescent rolls  
24 pepperonis  
5-6 mozzarella cheese sticks (cut into thirds)  
Marinara Sauce



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a muffin tin

and unroll a crescent roll into each cup.



Cut up your mozzarella sticks and get out the pepperoni.



Place three pepperonis into each muffin cup.



Add a piece of cheese and then slice another small piece of cheese in half and lay it in too.



Spoon in some marinara sauce.



Fold the remaining dough over the top of the sauce and bake for 14-16 minutes or until golden brown.

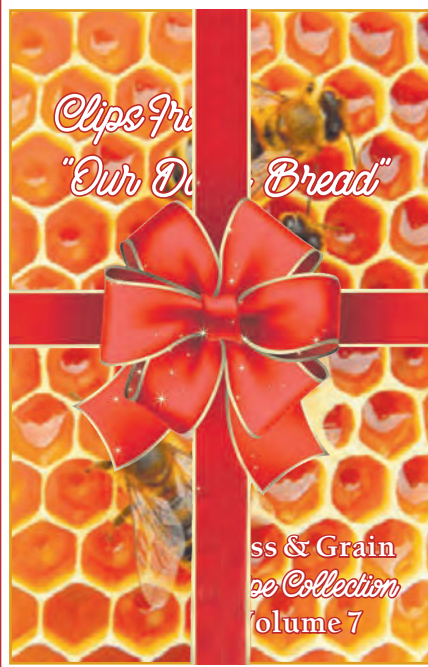


Let sit for a couple minutes before eating and enjoy!

Ashleigh is a freelance writer and blogger for her website, *Prairie Gal Cookin'* ([www.prairiegalcookin.com](http://www.prairiegalcookin.com)). She shares everything from step-by-step recipes to local history, stories, and photography from out on the farm in Kansas. Follow PGC online or like it on Facebook for more recipes and ramblings!

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# 2019 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Dona Schultz, Miltonvale: "This chowder is like a bacon-topped baked potato in a bowl."

**POTATO BACON CHOWDER**  
2 cups cubed & peeled potatoes  
1 cup water  
8 bacon strips  
1 cup chopped onion  
1/2 cup chopped celery  
10 3/4-ounce can condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted (I have used cream of mushroom soup)  
1 3/4 cups milk  
1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream

1/2 teaspoon salt  
Dash pepper  
1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley  
Shredded cheese  
In a large saucepan cover and cook potatoes in 1 cup water until tender. Meanwhile, cook bacon in a skillet until crisp, remove to paper towels to drain. In the same skillet, saute the onion and celery in drippings until tender; drain. Add to undrained potatoes. Stir in soup, milk, sour cream, salt and pep-

per. Cook over low heat for 10 minutes or until heated through (do not boil). Crumble bacon and set aside 1/4 cup. Add remaining bacon to soup along with the parsley. Sprinkle with reserved bacon and shredded cheese. Yield: 6 servings.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:  
**CRANBERRY BARS**  
3/4 cup sugar  
1/2 cup water  
2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries

1/4 cup orange juice  
1 tablespoon grated orange peel  
1 tablespoon butter  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 cup chopped walnuts  
Crust:  
2 cups flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 1/4 cups cold butter  
1 cup sugar  
3 cups quick-cooking oats  
In saucepan bring sugar and water to a boil. Add cranberries and cook until they pop, about 4-6 minutes.

Add orange juice, peel, butter, cinnamon and salt. Cook 5 minutes more or until mixture thickens. Remove from the heat and stir in walnuts and set aside. In a bowl combine the flour and salt; cut in butter until crumbly. Add sugar and oats; mix well. Spoon 1/2 into ungreased 9-by-13-inch baking pan; pat firmly into pan. Spread filling evenly over crust. Top with remaining crumb mixture and pat lightly. Bake at 400 degrees for 30-35 minutes. Cool.  
\*\*\*\*\*

1-liter bottle Sprite, chilled  
1 lime, thinly sliced  
1/2 cup fresh cranberries  
Stir together cranberry juice, orange juice and Sprite in a large pitcher; garnish with lime slices and cranberries. Makes 16 1/2 cups.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Millie Conger, Tecumseh: "Makes great gifts in a pretty holiday bag with ribbon."  
**CRANBERRY ALMOND POPCORN**  
6 tablespoons butter  
1/2 cup fresh cranberries  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2 tablespoons honey  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon vanilla  
12 cups popcorn, popped  
1 cup chopped almonds  
Melt butter in saucepan over medium heat. Add fresh cranberries, sugar, honey, vanilla and salt. Cook until cranberries pop, about 3 minutes. Combine popcorn, almonds and cranberry mixture in a large bowl and toss. Spread on baking sheet. Bake at 325 degrees stirring occasionally until dry, about 8 minutes.  
\*\*\*\*\*



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Sissy Mall, Clay Center:  
**PECAN BALLS**  
2 1/2 cups pecans, toasted & chopped  
2 cups graham crackers, crushed (or can use vanilla wafers or Oreos)  
1 cup brown sugar, packed  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
2 tablespoons maple syrup  
1/4 cup bourbon, brandy, spiced rum or almond extract  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
7 ounces dark chocolate bark (or white)  
1 teaspoon coarse sea salt  
Combine pecans, graham crackers, brown sugar and salt. Stir and then add syrup, bourbon and vanilla; mix well. Use damp or wet hands to form into balls. Freeze 2 hours. Heat chocolate and dip balls into chocolate. Sprinkle with sea salt. Keep frozen until ready to eat.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Olive McReynolds, Hays: "A family favorite."  
**CRANBERRY CREAM SALAD**  
2 packages cherry gelatin  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 cups boiling water  
1 can whole cranberry sauce  
3/4 cup nuts, chopped  
3/4 cup celery, chopped  
1 cup sour cream  
Dissolve gelatin in boiling water; add sugar and stir to dissolve. Add cranberries and stir well. Cool. Add nuts and celery. When partially set fold in sour cream. Refrigerate until serving time.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:  
**WHITE CHOCOLATE BARK**  
1-pound white chocolate  
Dried cranberries  
Chopped candied orange peel  
Finely chop 1 pound chocolate. Microwave all but 1 cup in a microwave-safe bowl stirring every 30 seconds until melted, 2-3 minutes. Stir in the reserved chocolate until melted. Spread on a foil-lined baking sheet until 1/4-inch thick. Sprinkle with dried cranberries and orange peel. Let stand about 1 hour then break in pieces.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Claire Martin, Salina: "Mix this festive drink night before serving."  
**POINSETTIA SIPPER**  
64-ounce bottle 100% cranberry juice, chilled  
1 cup thawed orange juice concentrate

Linda Elston, Lawrence:  
**CRANBERRY SALAD**  
1 quart cranberries  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup chopped pecans  
1 cup seeded grapes, cut  
2 cups whipped cream  
Five hours before serving, run berries through food chopper. Add sugar and refrigerate. Drain juice from mixture and mix with pecans, grapes and whipped cream.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Claire Martin, Salina: "This buttery, glazed fruit is good by itself or served over waffles, pancakes or ice cream."  
**CIDER-GLAZED CHRISTMAS FRUIT**  
1 cup apple cider  
6 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided  
3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1 tablespoon brown sugar  
3 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored & sliced  
3 Braeburn apples, peeled, cored & sliced  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 cups fresh cranberries  
Pour cider into a medium skillet. Cook over medium-high heat 14 minutes or until syrupy. Remove from heat; stir in 2 tablespoons butter and cinnamon. Set aside. Melt remaining 1/4 cup butter in a large deep skillet over medium-high heat. Stir in brown sugar. Add apples, tossing to coat. Sprinkle with regular sugar and cook, stirring often, 8 minutes. Transfer apples to a serving bowl using a slotted spoon. Add cranberries to buttery drippings in skillet. Cook, stirring constantly 2 minutes or until berries pop. Pour cranberries over apples and fold gently. Serve warm. Makes 6 cups.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Karen Henke, Cuba: "My mother Edna Gieber gave me this recipe."  
**HONEY COCONUT BARS**  
Crust:  
1/2 cup soft butter or oleo  
1/2 cup light brown sugar (packed)  
1 cup flour  
Mix the above ingredients and pat with hand into a 9-by-12-inch pan. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees then cool. Mix together the following ingredients:  
2 eggs, beaten  
1/4 cup light brown sugar  
1/2 cup honey  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
4 tablespoons flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 cup coconut  
1/2 cup nuts

Mix together and pour over crust. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:  
**SLOW-COOKER CREAMY BEEF DIP**  
(2) 8-ounce packages cream cheese, cut into pieces  
(2) 2.25-ounce packages dried beef, chopped  
1 cup shredded Swiss cheese (4 ounces)  
1/3 cup sliced green onion  
3/4 teaspoon ground mustard  
1/2 cup beef broth  
In a bowl mix all ingredients. Spoon into 2- or 3-quart slow-cooker. Cover and cook on low 1-2 hours stirring occasionally until mixture is melted and hot. Dip will hold on low setting about 2 hours and be fine. Dip on crackers or on sliced cocktail breads.  
\*\*\*\*\*

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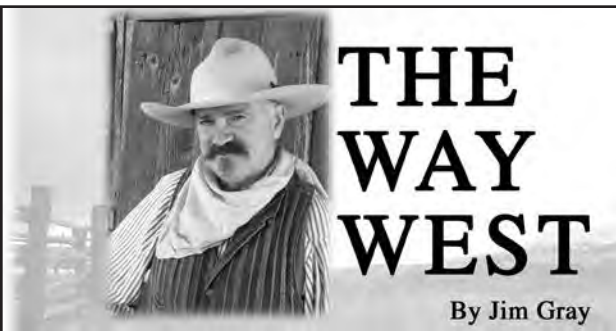
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# THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

## Christmas Merriment

A sudden winter storm with brutally cold temperatures slowed activity considerably on the streets of windswept Dodge City the evening of December 13, 1878. The editor of the *Dodge City Times* couldn't resist the observation. "It has been truthfully remarked that Kansas furnishes the most delightful and the meanest weather." The storm was unusually severe throughout the state, but the editor noted that farmers were happy to get the moisture. "This storm will save the wheat crop, which was suffering by reason of the continued dry weather." Things haven't changed all that much in Kansas!

Sleighting quickly became all the fashion and was greatly enjoyed by all who had prepared for such an eventuality with the necessary equipment. A couple of ladies were thrown from a sleigh in front of the *Times* office. "They picked themselves up in fine style." The more industrious individuals were found on the banks

of the Arkansas River putting up "clear and crisp" ice. The intense cold yielded river ice up to a foot in thickness.

The editor of the *Times* was in a celebratory mood. "Christmas is fast approaching (and) it would be well for the few turkeys which escaped thanksgiving to roost on the high limbs." This was a time for merriment! The expectant editor proclaimed, "This is the season of balls – and hope... Out on the plains the people are great on balls."

Balls were grand social affairs that drew communities together with an element of grandeur. "Grand Balls" were generally magnificent affairs staged as pleasant distractions taking one away, if only for a few hours, from the long and dreary stretches of the winter season. A certain decorum, with emphasis upon the traditions of proper society was closely observed, at least as close as frontier resources would allow.

Of course, Christmas,

being the centerpiece of the festive season, required something special in the way of social exchange. On Christmas night the dining hall of the Dodge House Hotel was "thrown open at an early hour of the evening." The grand occasion was the Christmas Masquerade Ball organized by the Dodge City Social Club.

The Dodge House, owned by "Deacon" Cox and F.W. Boyd, was Dodge City's principal hostelry, containing thirty-eight rooms, a restaurant and dining hall, a saloon, and a billiard hall. Some of the costumes for the masquerade ball were described as "of the usual masked order, though a number of the masks were gotten up on short order and were of the sublime and ridiculous." One can imagine the playfulness that attended the festive event of "this delectable city, situated on a thousand plains – the prairie ocean, as it is romantically styled..."

Once again, the editor celebrated the popular custom of the social ball, noting, "It is innocent and harmless and affords an intense amount of pleasure." The music was furnished by Major George Hinkle's orchestra. Hinkle was bartender at George Hoover's Saloon and Wholesale Liquor, where dancing was not allowed. To be sure, at Hoover's saloon one could imbibe a glass of Michigan Champagne Cider even if he couldn't

dance. Not to be denied the merriment of the season, Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were found among the revelers at the ball. Dancers participated in "the amusements laid out for them" until the order to "show up" was given at midnight. Surprises were celebrated all around as many of the coconspirators had disguised themselves so effectively that even their most intimate friends failed to recognize them.

Robert Wright, a founding businessman even before the name of Dodge City was attached to the growing little burg, was revealed at the stroke of twelve along with Mrs. Wright. Mr. & Mrs. Alonzo Webster were there. Webster was a law and order man who led the vigilantes to clean out the town just a few years before. Among the notable Dodge Citians were Charles Hungerford of the Old Stand Meat Market, grocer R. W. Evans and wife, and prominent merchant Tom Draper in the company of Miss Collins of St. Louis. Sheriff Bat Masterson accompanied Miss Brown. Only the previous week Masterson and posse had returned from a cold and fruitless search for thieves that had raided a government wagon train thirty-seven miles south

of Dodge. Christmas night was certainly a more pleasant adventure.

Champagne and wine flowed freely. The "light-fantastic was tripped until the crowing of the shrill messenger of early morn." Dodge City had never seen a merrier Christmas night on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier*, Ells-

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## Bone Creek 4-H helps Pittsburg State University create wood toys

Bone Creek 4-H Club Leader Charlie Phillips is an associate professor/program coordinator at Pittsburg State University in the Architectural Manufacturing Management and Technology department. Last year, a student in the Society of Architectural Woodworkers (SAW) club had an idea to begin creating wood toys to donate to Pittsburg Toys for Tots.

"The student first saw this being done at his high school and wanted to continue it at PSU. The toys will act as Christmas gifts for local, less fortunate children. It's a way to give back to those who otherwise might not be getting much this Christmas," said Phillips.

This is the second year that the SAW student organization has headed this project and the first year that Bone Creek 4-H youth have



Bone Creek 4-H member, Weston Koenig, glues the wheels on the cab of what will be a semi style wood truck. He was assisted by a PSU student in the Society of Architectural Woodworkers club. Weston is nearing his fourth year as a member of the club.

assisted. In total, 300 wood toys were created with the

assistance of eight 4-H youth. PSU students operated machinery, while youth were able to glue, hammer, sand, and most importantly, make an impact on children in their community.

For more information,

contact Will Morris, STEM and 4-H Youth Development at [wmorris@ksu.edu](mailto:wmorris@ksu.edu) or 620-724-8233 or Charlie Phillips, associate professor/program coordinator at PSU at [cephillips@pittstate.edu](mailto:cephillips@pittstate.edu) or 620-235-4942.

Photo by Mattson Steele

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*Pictured from left to right:*  
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**Front Row:** Donna Sullivan, Renee Whitney, Kezia Shabler, Shelby Mall



# One & All



## Kansas Profile

By Ron Wilson  
Executive Director of  
the Huck Boyd Institute



### Sara Dawson, Prairie Oaks Designs

Okeechobee, Florida: a package is arriving. Inside is a beautiful metal nativity set, designed and cut by a craftsman at a business halfway across the continent in rural Kansas. It's especially interesting to find that this craftsman is a woman. This is a special holiday edition of Kansas Profile. Sara Dawson is the owner and founder of Prairie Oaks Designs in Florence, Kansas. Sara grew up near Florence

and went to K-State. After working in the animal health business for a time, she came back and joined the family ranch. She married Troy Dawson, who is farming and ranching and is trained as a master welder. Sara was thinking about how to add value to the family business. One day in 2014, Sara was flipping through a catalog and spotted a picture of a rusty old metal item nailed to a piece

of wood. It caught her eye and she wondered if she could produce similar products. "How do those people cut that metal?" she asked her husband. "And what would it take to get that equipment?" When he told her the price of a plasma metal cutter, she thought, "Oh, there's no way we could get that." But her husband encouraged her to get it and try it out. Sara decided to try designing and marketing these metal designs as home décor. They ordered the plasma cutter and signed up to exhibit products at an upcoming craft show. Unfortunately, the plasma cutter was late in coming. When it finally arrived, a major component was missing. Sara's stress level went up as the date of the show got closer and closer. Once the plasma cutter was ready, she spent lots

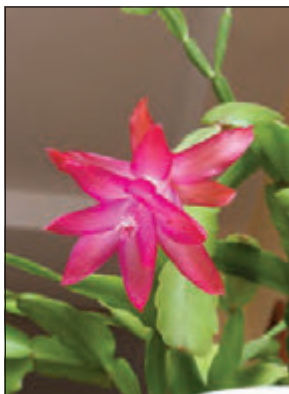
of late nights self-training on how to use it. She managed to make enough products to take to the show – and the response was excellent. The demand for her products took off. Sara named her business Prairie Oaks Designs. She now creates her products using computer-aided design software and cuts them out of metal using a 5x10-foot CNC water table plasma cutter. During the first few years, she did this work in an unheated and un-air conditioned metal shed on the farmstead. "It was either an icebox or a sauna in there," she said. As the business expanded, she opened a facility in her hometown of Florence. It has a climate-controlled shop in the back and a showroom and gift shop to display her products up front. Prairie Oaks Designs pro-

duces attractive miniature metal designs as custom home décor, mounted on genuine antique barn wood. "I choose to cut those designs that are close to my heart and that I would want to have in my home," Sara said. During the holidays, her nativity sets and other Christmas items are especially popular, but she offers a remarkable variety of products year-round. Many of these are focused on faith and family. There are scenes of cowboys, hunting, fishing, golfing, Kansas, inspirational thoughts, and many more. Prairie Oaks Designs can custom-make virtually any design, such as names or letters for weddings or anniversaries. "When people come in to the showroom, they usually assume my husband is doing the work," Sara said. "They also ask, 'Where do you get your products?' I explain that everything we sell is designed

and cut right there ourselves." The barn wood is reclaimed from old barns that are being torn down. "We're kinda picky and we go through the wood carefully to pick just the kind we want," Sara said. The emphasis on quality has paid off. She is shipping products all over the country. Social media has been key to promoting these products quickly and efficiently. She now has nearly 12,000 followers on Facebook. It's an impressive business to find in a rural community like Florence, population 465 people. Now, that's rural. For more information, see [www.prairieoaksdesigns.com](http://www.prairieoaksdesigns.com). It's time to leave Okeechobee, where a nativity set arrived from Kansas. We salute Sara and Troy Dawson for making a difference with their creativity and entrepreneurship. Having such initiative and creativity is truly a gift.

## Holiday cactus can provide years of color

While poinsettias are the most popular blooming holiday plant, if you are looking for a plant that can bloom for many years to come, try a holiday cactus, said a University of Missouri horticulturist. "Given proper care, the holiday cacti have been known to outlive their caretakers and provide years of brilliant color around Christmas," said David Trinklein. "The small effort required by these plants is well worth it when you consider the reward of seeing an 'heirloom' plant bloom year after year." Holiday cacti can tolerate low light, but they do best in bright, indirect light. If you're going to put them outdoors during the summer, keep them in a shady or semi-shady lo-



cation. Like most cacti, holiday cacti tolerate too little water better than too much water. Water only when the growing medium is dry to the touch. If you put a saucer under the pot to collect drainage, empty the saucer regularly and don't

let excess water wick back into the pot, which can cause root rot. Fertilize only during the growth period of early spring through late summer. Apply a regular fertilizer at one-quarter strength or a houseplant fertilizer according to the label directions. Keep holiday cacti slightly pot-bound to induce prolific

flowering. You might need to repot about every three years. The growing medium should be very porous and well-drained. The most prolific blooming occurs when the plant can dry out and have at least 13 hours of darkness each night in mild temperatures, beginning in mid-October.

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

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Books.  
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Of course, being an author, I am partial to books, and feel free to buy one of mine. The *Kansas Forts and Bases* book, co-authored with my friend Michelle Martin, is a favorite among readers and gift-givers. But I'm sure you already have that one, so let's visit about some others.


Marla Matkin has authored a sweet children's book, *Custer's Mouse*, illustrated by Ron Kil. For many years, Marla has portrayed Libbie Custer and has thoroughly researched the lives of the noted couple. This book is based in fact – the Custer boys were known to pick up all kinds of strays, including a little mouse. The hardcover book retails for \$20 and is full-col-

or, about 9x12 inches.  
Arrived in the mail just yesterday, the hot-from-the-KU-press, *Petroglyphs of the Kansas Smoky Hills*. Written and photographed by Rex Buchanan, Burke Griggs, and Josh Svaty, this volume is simply stunning!!! It is not a guide to where to find these treasures, but rather an homage to their existence and the culture that created them. It reminds us that all stories begin with the land, and that there were centuries of people in this place before white Europeans. This is the ultimate gift book this year, for any Kansan, history buff, geology buff, anthropology or archaeology buff – just any old buff. The hardcover, full-color volume retails for an unbelievable \$29.95. At 224 pages (with every other one being a full page photo), the information and images are priceless. The

authors are well-versed and passionate about their subject, and their reverence for these petroglyphs and the people who created them is obvious.  
Rex C. Buchanan, a native of central Kansas, is the director emeritus of the Kansas Geological Survey at the University of Kansas and editor of *Kansas Geology* and coauthor of *Roadside Kansas*, both from the University Press of Kansas (Both of these are excellent gifts as well, but I simply cannot imagine you do not already have them!).  
Burke W. Griggs, associate professor of law at Washburn University School of Law, is a fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment and an affiliated scholar at the Bill Lane Center for the American West, both at Stanford University. He has published photography in guidebooks for the western United States, including David

T. Page's Yosemite and the Southern Sierra Nevada.  
Joshua L. Svaty is the fifth generation of his family to farm in Ellsworth County and has worked on natural resource issues with nonprofits and state and federal government. He was the fourteenth Kansas secretary of agriculture.  
Obviously, there could not have been a more qualified group of authors working on this project.  
From Arcadia Publishing, several new volumes on Kansas subjects, the newest by Roger Ringer. *Kansas Eccentricities*. With a foreword by Beccy Tanner, this volume has tales as extraordinary as its plains, although the stories behind the legends are sometimes lost to time. Discover the history of the state's world-class violinist, homemade airplane and

alleged volcano. Iola's Mad Bomber blew up the town's saloons after a hangover. The bulletproof and most "extinct" creature lurked in sinkholes outside Inman. Hunters in Stafford County learned to leave out enormous quantities of food for local hermit Pelican Pete. Join author Roger Ringer as he delves into these and other facts behind the myths of the Sunflower State. This soft-cover book retails for \$23.99.  
There are so many great books out there. Peruse your local book store, support your fellow Kansans, and share the gift of reading.  
*Deb Goodrich is the host of the Around Kansas TV Show and the Garvey Foundation Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum. She chairs the Santa Fe Trail 200 in 2021. Contact her at author: debgoodrich@gmail.com.*



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With the theme "Finding What Fits in a New Decade," the popular Kansas Corn Management School series is returning in January and February with six one-day schools to be held across the state. Kansas Corn partners with K-State Research and Extension to offer the winter learning sessions for Kansas corn farmers. Kansas Corn Management Schools will be held in January at Montezuma,

## 2020 Kansas Corn Management Schools: discovering what fits in a new decade

Parsons and Wichita, and in February at Oakley, Salina and Olathe. While each school's agenda is tailored for the location, the corn schools will connect with an overall theme of "maximizing advancements in your operation."  
Participants will have the opportunity to hear the latest research and production information, get updates on corn issues and network over lunch. The corn schools are free for farmers to attend. Kansas Corn with K-State Research and Extension staff are working to ensure CCA and Commercial Pesticide Applicator credits are available.  
"The schools will cover a number of issues facing corn

producers in each region including Farm Bill options, weed control, insect resistance, fertility management, disease management and late-planting seasons. These events have a long-standing tradition and reputation in offering a solid set of topics of great relevancy to our corn growers across the state of Kansas," said Dr. Ignacio Ciampitti, associate professor and corn specialist in the K-State Department of Agronomy.  
Kansas Corn Director of Industry Relations Stacy Mayo-Martinez said the theme of the event is about helping participants move forward into the new decade and discuss key issues with a variety

of speakers, including other farmers.  
"At the Corn Schools, we will feature farmers from each area who will talk about how they are maximizing advancements in their operations and looking toward to finding success in tomorrow's production agriculture," Mayo-Martinez said. "At each school, we will also give an update from Kansas Corn on our 2020 priorities and our market development goals going forward into this new decade."  
The school and lunch are offered at no cost, but participants are asked to pre-register before Jan. 3 for the January schools and before Feb. 4 for the February schools. Farmers can register online at kscorn.com/cornscool, by phone by calling Kansas Corn at 785-410-5009, or at their local Extension offices.  
2020 Kansas Corn Management School Schedule  
Jan. 6—Hy-Plains Feedyard, Montezuma (Corn-Fed Beef Seminar to follow). Southwest Region  
Jan. 8—Southeast Area Extension Office, Parsons, Southeast Region  
Jan. 10—Sedgwick Co. Extension Office, Wichita, South Central Region  
Feb. 3—Buffalo Bill Cultural Center, Oakley, Northwest Region  
Feb. 5—Hilton Garden Inn, Salina, North Central Region  
Feb. 7—John Deere Ag Marketing Center, Olathe, Northeast Region

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**~ Russell Reichart, Holton ~**

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**Limited to stock on hand**



# Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Online Antique Tractor Auction (proxy bidding opens Dec. 11; bidding opens December 16) — Selling 40+ tractors in an absolute auction held at [www.AbileneMachineAuctions.com](http://www.AbileneMachineAuctions.com).

Sealed Bid Real Estate (deadline for bids is January 10) — Farm real estate including 160 acres m/l Wolf River Township, Doniphan County, KS from the Barbara L. Craft Revocable Trust by Barbara L. Craft.

December 17 — 80 acres m/l of McPherson County land consisting of cropland, trees, grass held near Elyria for Joyce M. Zerger. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt Auction, Farmers National Company.

December 17 — 195 acres m/l of Dickinson County land consisting of premier deer & duck hunting, pasture, timber, farmland, trophy white-tail bow hunting farm held at Woodbine. Auctioneers: United Country Real Estate Crossroads Auction & Realty.

December 17 — Absolute auction of 2,898 acres m/l in Haskell County, KS offered in 15 tracts held at Garden City for the Withers Farm. Auctioneers: Peoples Company Innovative Real Estate Solutions.

December 20 — 677 acres m/l of Wabaunsee County land including pasture, recreational ground, timber, dryland & expired CRP offered in 3 tracts held at Belvue. Auctioneers: Farmers National Company, Fred Olson, Van Schmidt.

December 27 — Advertising signs, figures & displays, Herschede tall clock, sterling flatware sets, Herend & other fine china, Lalique, French cameo, 1000s of toys, dolls, banks, novelties & collectibles, small vintage advertising, Roseville, Weller, Van

Briggle, furniture, prints & paintings, primitives, stone-ware, antique lighting & more held at Lone Jack, Missouri. Auctioneers: Soulis Auctions.

January 4, 2020 — Signs, dolls & collectibles, rare Weller 18" sunflower console w/Kingfisher frog, toys, Christmas items, pictures & more held at Salina for Bob Thorup & Marjorie Thorup Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 5, 2020 — Furniture, showcases, signs, crocks, tins, toys & collectibles held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 11, 2020 — Crocks, antiques & collectibles held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 15, 2020 — 470 acres m/l of Pratt County, KS farmland selling in 3 tracts held at Pratt for Jerome & Diane House. Auctioneers: Hamm Auction & Real Estate, LLC.

January 18, 2020 — 178.5 acres m/l of Marshall County farmland & cropland acres held at Frankfort for Richard & Leslie Laws. Auctioneers: Midwest Land and Home, Jeff Dankenbring, listing broker; Mark Uhlik, broker/auctioneer.

January 19, 2020 — Selling guns, tools, household & much more at Osage City. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

January 20 (Monday), 2020 — Selling 100 acres m/l in 4 tracts located North of Osage City held at Osage City for Elizabeth Schiller. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate, Wischropp Auctions.

January 25, 2020 — Selling tractors, truck, trailers, hay & farm equipment, sprayer

& much more held North of Overbrook for Erik & Amanda Finch. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

January 25, 2020 — 466.72 acres m/l in Logan, Walnut & Marysville Townships, Marshall County land: Tract 1: cropland, CRP, pasture, meadow, yard, creeks, waterways, machine sheds & 1 1/2 story house; Tract 2: farmland, native grass pasture held at Marysville for Paul Holle Trust. Auctioneers: Donald Prell Realty & Auction, LLC.

January 25, 2020 — 237.40 acres m/l of Washington County cropland held at Linn for Dianne Brooks. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik, Jeff Dankenbring.

January 25, 2020 — 157.2 acres m/l of Washington County prime farmland held at Barnes for Taylor/Pistorius Families. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik, Jeff Dankenbring.

February 8, 2020 — Production sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 17 (Monday), 2020 — 2,571 acres m/l of NE Geary County & W. Wabaunsee County land consisting of pastureland, hayland, tillable farmland & excellent wildlife habitat held at Manhattan for A. Leroy Fechner Estate. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

March 7, 2020 — Judd Ranch 42nd Gelbvieh, Balancer, & Red Angus Bull sale held at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March 14, 2020 — Equipment, trucks & salvage held at New Cambria for Don Janssen Estate. Auctioneers: Reynolds Auction Service.

April 11, 2020 — Fink Beef Genetics Spring Angus and Charolais Bull Sale held at Randolph.

## Consumers believe technology in ag is how we'll feed the world more sustainably—but that doesn't mean they want it, according to new survey

Technology in agriculture (ag-tech) is how we'll feed a growing population, make farming more sustainable and improve the lives of farm animals, say 85% of the 3,000 participants in Cargill's new three-continent consumer survey. At the same time, only about half of those surveyed want their food to come from a technologically advanced (versus traditional) farm. Industries like medicine and education are where respondents most want to see technology used. Farming ranks third—above defense, manufacturing, retail and food.

Cargill, Inc. (PRNewsFoto/Cargill) (PRNewsfoto/Cargill) “We know that new technologies are allowing farmers to make better, faster, more informed decisions to feed a hungry world while protecting the planet,” said Sri Raj Kantamneni, managing director of Cargill's digital business. “We also know that agriculture is still the least digitalized industry sector in the world. That means there's a lot of opportunity—and a lot of need—for greater investment in ag-tech. This survey highlights that in order to help humanity benefit from these advancements, we first need to do a better job of explaining the value of new technologies to consumers.”

South Korea most positive about ag-tech; France, least; U.S., in-between

In its quarterly Feed4Thought survey, Cargill found markedly different perceptions of ag-tech across the three surveyed countries. South Korea was the most positive about high-tech farms—both as a source of food (70% pro) and for their potential to make farming more sustainable (95% pro). France was the most apprehensive—with only 37% wanting their food to come from a technologically advanced farm. France and the U.S. thought farmers should benefit most when ag-tech improves operations; South

Korea chose consumers. When it comes to tech investments, South Korean and American consumers agreed the top priority should be that it “increases food safety,” while French participants said technology should first and foremost “improve animal well-being.”

Ag-tech can deliver on consumer and producer priorities simultaneously

“It's my responsibility as a farmer to make sure I'm doing a good job and thinking about nature,” says Shelby Fite of Mann Farms in Ohio, U.S. “Technology is making everything faster, making everything more efficient.”

Real-time scans in poultry houses, for example, use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to give farmers insights so they can maximize animal comfort and health and improve efficiency. iQuatic™, Cargill's digital tool for aqua, lets shrimp farmers like Jose Alberto Fuentes of Ecuador's Fuzu “sleep better,” as it uses sensors to capture data on things like water quality, feeding patterns and weather to inform pond management and increase harvest yields. Facial recognition, through a strategic partnership between Cargill and Cainthus, will allow producers to track changes in a cow's appearance to gauge their productivity and well-being. Already, Cargill's Dairy Enteligen® analysis integrates data on milk productivity, feed formulation, cow comfort and more so farmers like the van Bergeijks of Canada's Mountainoak can better monitor herd health.

“It helps me keep a close eye on the condition of my cows,” says Mountainoak co-owner Arjo van Bergeijk. “That way, I can identify and solve any health concerns or

other issues that might come up—before they become serious problems.”

Some technologies more accepted than others

Forty-two percent of survey takers said they'd welcome the use of sensors on the farms that grow their food. Thirty-five percent would be okay with AI. Devices that affix to an animal, such as ‘Fitbits for cows’ and robotic or automated labor (e.g. robotic milkers) were acceptable to 29% of respondents. Next came genomics. A quarter of contributors said they were comfortable with farmers breeding animals based on genetic markers for desirable traits. Finally, 18% would embrace feed containing genetically modified (GM) ingredients. Younger French and American participants (aged 18-34) were slightly more likely than their older counterparts (aged 55+) to accept GM feed.

None of these innovations earned above a 50% approval rating, which correlates to respondents naming “consumers desire traditional products” as a top barrier to farmers adopting tech—second only to farm economics.

“That's why we launch partnerships like Techstars Farm to Fork Accelerator, which applies innovation to help create a safer, more sustainable food system, and the new Feeding Intelligence platform, which includes a website that offers expertise on topics like digitalization to help producers make better decisions,” says Adriano Marcon, president of Cargill's animal nutrition business. “Both show consumers that technology in agriculture is how we'll address the very things they care about most.”

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**LAND AUCTION**

**677± Acres • Wabaunsee County, Kansas**

**Friday, December 20, at 10:00 AM**  
**at the Wells Creek Church**  
**25043 Wells Creek Road, Belvue, Kansas**

- Combination pasture, recreational ground, timber, dryland, and expired CRP property offered in three tracts
- All located southeast of Wamego and Belvue in a two-mile radius

For property details, please contact:

**Farmers National Company**  
Auctioneer: Van Schmidt

**Fred Olsen, AFM/Agent**  
Manhattan, Kansas  
(785) 320-2033 or (620) 285-9131  
FOlsen@FarmersNational.com  
[www.FarmersNational.com/FredOlsen](http://www.FarmersNational.com/FredOlsen)

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**AUCTION**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020 — 10:00 AM**  
**Kenwood Hall, Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley — SALINA, KS**

**FURNITURE & SHOWCASES inc.** Oak Arts & Crafts bookcase; Merklin Bros. library table; 2 oak triple curve glass china cabinet w/ claw feet; oak 2 door bookcase w/leaded glass; oak 4 section stack bookcase; sm. Victorian loveseat; walnut wash stand; pine dry sink; **Showcases inc.** Oak small Pepsin gum; Shaeffer's pen; Oak Parker fountain pen; oak counter top showcases. **SIGNS, CROCKS & COLLECTIBLES inc.:** **Signs:** Archer porcelain; Quaker State Oil; Texaco Fire Chief; Pontiac Service; pre prohibition Pabst Beer; oak cylinder phonograph w/morning glory flute; 211 oak & brass cash register; stain glass windows; Walt Disney Sleeping Beauty print; K Townsend prints inc; Peter Pumpkin Eater; 1794 sampler; **Crocks:** Coke cooler; **Tins:** Van Briggle lamp shade; Roseville, Hall & Weller; Mopac lock; Burlington RR can; Schlitz beer tray; 1934 JD book; **Toys:** Singer sewing machine nib; Auburn cars & tractors; 1922 Marshall Co. atlas; early comic books; Winchester slip top & wooden ammo boxes; & **MUCH MORE!**  
**Quality auction! Check website for pics [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com)**  
**Watch Next Week's Grass & Grain for listings!**  
**Auction Conducted By:**  
**THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC • 785-738-0067**

**LAND AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020 — 10:00 AM**  
**American Legion Cabin — FRANKFORT, KANSAS**

**178.5± ACRES MARSHALL COUNTY LAND**

**Legal Description:** (Marshall Co. Appraiser)  
S07, T04, R010, ACRES 178.5, NE4 NW4 & NE4 LESS PART S&E OF RIVER & SE4 LYING N OF RIVER LESS R/W

**FSA Details**

- 182.94 Total Farmland Acres • 141.76 DCP Cropland Acres
- 135.4 Total Base Acres with 68.0 Corn & 37.4 Soybeans Acres
- PLC Yield: Corn = 126bu, Beans = 38bu
- Corn & Beans have been enrolled in ARC

**2019 Real Estate Taxes:** \$2,889.50

**Possession:** Buyer to take full possession of this property on March 1, 2020.

Sellers ownership interest in mineral rights to transfer with sale of property.

**Location:** Property is located on the southwest of the intersection of Highway 9 & Highway 87 just north of Vliets. From Highway 99 & Highway 9 Intersection North of Frankfort travel East on Highway 9 3.5 miles. Property is located on the South side of Highway 9 and West of Highway 87.

**Listing Broker's Notes:** *Agricultural Producers & Investors... This Incredible property offers some highly productive bottom ground soil types and CPH reports showing excellent average yields over the past several years. DON'T miss this opportunity to own this GREAT tract of land located close to the Vliets Elevator, and just a few miles from NEW Farmers Cooperative Train-Loading Grain Facility in Frankfort. Contact me with questions you have regarding this AWESOME Marshall County Kansas property. Jeff Dankenbring, Broker - Cell: 785.562.8386 or Email: [Jeff@MidwestLandandHome.com](mailto:Jeff@MidwestLandandHome.com)*

**Terms & Possession:** 10% down day of the sale, balance due at closing on or before February 27, 2020. Sellers to pay 2019 and prior years property taxes. Title insurance, escrow & closing costs to be split equally between buyer and seller. Buyer takes possession subject to tenants rights at closing with full possession on March 1, 2020. Property to be sold as-is, where-is. All inspections should be made prior to the day of the sale. This is a cash sale and is not subject to financing, have your financing arrangements made prior to auction. Midwest Land and Home is acting as a Seller's Agent and represents the seller's interest. All information has come from reliable sources; however, potential buyers are encouraged to verify all information independently. Statements made the day of sale take precedence over all other printed materials. Marshall County Abstract & Title is acting as the title, escrow, & closing agent.

**RICHARD & LESLIE LAWS, SELLERS**

For a VIRTUAL TOUR of this property visit  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)  
To stay up to date on auctions and listings LIKE our Facebook page Midwest Land and Home.

**Midwest Land and Home**

Jeff Dankenbring – Listing Broker – 785.562.8386  
Mark Uhlik – Broker/Auctioneer  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)  
**When you want the Best, Call Midwest!**

**AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2020 — 10:00 AM**  
**Kenwood Hall, Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley — SALINA, KS**

**SIGNS inc.** Pontiac Authorized Service; porcelain Gulf; collectible porcelain Mobil Pegus signs left & right, flanged, neon; **Texaco** items; **advertising inc.** Shirley Temple Royal Crown ad; Phillip Morris; **pedal vehicles;** Oak 4 section stack 80 drawer cabinet from courthouse; **rare Weller 18" sunflower console w/Kingfisher frog, both bottom marked; Glassware; DOLLS inc.** Shirley Temple doll & paper dolls; Buddy Lee; Campbell Kids; Farrah Faucett; Barbie; **COLLECTIBLES inc.** Lennon Sisters comics, sheet music; rare John Deere reindeer; **Toys inc.:** Chevrolet Road Rally set; Marx electric train; plastic cowboy & Indians; **Christmas items; Pictures;** Roy Rogers Dale Evans lunch box; Charlie Weaver bartender; Spuds Mackenzie light; cast iron Indian door stop; movie posters; Walt Disney & Lone Ranger items; 1888 Signal lights book; child & comic books & **MUCH MORE!**  
**Large auction! Check website for pics [www.thummelauction.com](http://www.thummelauction.com)**  
**Watch Next Week's Grass & Grain for listings!**

**BOB THORUP & MARJORIE THORUP ESTATE**  
**Auction Conducted By:**  
**THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC • 785-738-0067**

**470± Acres of PRATT COUNTY, KS LAND AUCTION**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020 — 1:30 PM**  
Sale Site: Hamm Auction Center, 107 NE State Road 61 — PRATT, KANSAS  
**SELLER: JEREME & DIANE HOUSE**

**TRACT 1: Legal:** The SW4 of Section 36, Township 28, Range 12 Pratt Co. KS.  
**Located:** From Isabel, KS go 6 mi. North & 1 mi. West. **Watch for Signs.**  
**Land Desc:** Irrigated Quarter with 2004 Valley 8000 system. Has a 1997 JD 4039T engine. 1,000 gal. diesel tank & 1,600 gal. fertilizer tank. Water Right No. 26,146 with 195 Acre feet of water at 850 GPM. Corners in Wildlife Enhancement CRP @ \$46.88 per acre on 31.76± acres. The annual Payment for this is \$1,488.00. Contract expires on 9-30-2030. **Taxes:** 2018 \$3,281.33±, Groundwater management \$400.85±

**TRACT 2: Legal:** The SE4 of Section 36, Township 28, Range 12 Pratt Co. KS.  
**Located:** From Isabel, KS go 6 mi. North & 1 mi. West. **Watch for Signs.**  
**Land Desc:** Irrigated Quarter less a 5± acre tract in SW corner. 2008 Valley 8000 system with a Cummins 3.9 L 4BT engine, a 1,600 gal. fertilizer tank. Water Right No. 32,593 with 198 Acre Feet of water at 850 GPM. Three corners are in the Wildlife Enhancement CRP at \$46.88 per acre on 22.81± acres. Annual payment for this is \$1,069.00. Contract expires on 9-30-2030. **Taxes:** 2018 \$3,281.33±, Groundwater management \$400.85±

**TRACT 3: Legal:** The NW4 of Section 7, Township 29, Range 11 Pratt Co. KS.  
**Located:** From Isabel, KS. 5 mi. North & 1 mi. West. **Watch for Signs.**  
**Land Desc:** Irrigated Quarter less 2± acres in the NW corner. 1990 Valley 6000 System with a Cummins 3.9 L 4BT engine, 1,000 gal. diesel tank & 1,600 gal. fertilizer tank. Water Right No. 39,215 with 195 Acre Feet of water at 800 GPM. Three corners are in the Wildlife Enhancement CRP at \$46.49 per acre on 15.47± acres. Annual payment for this is \$719.00. Contract expires on 9-30-2030. **Taxes:** 2018 \$2,999.42±, Groundwater management \$397.20.  
Ten Acre tract **Seller is McInteer Family Trust.**

**The Following applies to all Tracts:**  
**Taxes:** 2020 Taxes prorated to day of Closing. 2019 taxes and any previous years paid by the Sellers. **Earnest Money:** \$25,000.00 down day of sale on each tract. **Balance** on Closing Day in the form of **Certified Funds.** Copy of APH & Production report in the office. **Mineral Rights:** Sellers mineral interest passes to the Buyer. **Possession:** On Closing. Closing: On or before Feb. 17th, 2020. **CRP:** CRP payment prorated to day of closing. Buyer will comply with FSA rules and regulations concerning CRP maintenance etc. **Title Ins. & Escrow Agent Closing Fee:** Split 50% Buyer, 50% Seller. First American Title Pratt KS. is Escrow Agent and Title Insurance Company. **Information concerning above properties:** All 3 irrigation systems have had Winter Service/Pre Season Service. All 3 irrigation systems have AG Sense monitors that stay with the systems. All 3 irrigation systems have had wheel tracks filled. All 3 irrigation systems roads to pivots have been rocked. All 3 irrigation systems are excellent candidates for electric conversions. Some initial work has already been done. Pumping plant evaluation & energy audit has been done. SW4 of 36 & NW4 of 7 the engines are in good condition, serviced and maintained well according to the seller. SE4 of 36 Engine is in need of a new head or replaced. 1 year left on the Conservation Stewardship Program which is transferable to the Buyer. Has been no-tilled for the past 20+ years. Fertility has been managed through 2 ½ acre grids since 2012, last time grids were pulled was 2018. This data can be transferred to the new Buyer.

**John Hamm/Auctioneer**  
**620-450-7481**  
**107 NE State Road 61, Pratt, KS 67124**  
**[www.hammauction.com](http://www.hammauction.com)**  
Announcements made Day of Sale take precedence over any materials of all kinds.





# BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

## Little Christmas Cowboy

He got his first horse at Christmas this year from good ol' Uncle Stephen.

For Wrangler-in-Charge, he looked pretty young but looks can be deceivin'.

He topped out his bronc 'fore cook lit the fire with lots of loud Ty-Yi'-in'

And if he laid off or slighted the horse it weren't for lack of tryin'.

He rope broke him quick

and taught him to back and hold tight any bad actor.

No critter escaped the reach of his loop; Pooh, Big Bird or the tractor.

They covered the range from sofa to rug and ruled the carpet nation.

The dog and the cat soon gave him wide berth, such was his reputation.

Sometimes he would take his quiver and bow and wear a turkey feather.

"Me Indie," he'd say and chased buffalo. The plains

went on forever.

When Sonny would buck, and he could sure buck, the kid might come unseated.

"Me rodeo, Dad," then get right back on, scuffed up but undefeated.

Last night after chuck he readied for bed but since he'd not unsaddled

He patted his horse and asked, "Okay, Dad, me, Sonny, check the cattle?"

I mighta been green but I could detect a sucker play unfoldin'.

Just any excuse so he could stay up, each second saved was golden.

"Sure, git on yer horse."

I prompted the kid. He sorta hesitated.

He wasn't quite dressed to mount up and ride, his inner mind debated.

He gathered his rope and steadied the horse then looked back for permission.

The boss held his gaze, then gave him a nod. He swung into position.

He let out a whoop and rode off to give the herd a quick inspection.

To be a top hand you go by the rules, the height of circumference.

He'd already learned that young buckaroos must check in with their mamas,

'Cause she'd always said that real cowboys don't ride in their pajamas.

## American Shorthorn Association elects first female president

During the American Shorthorn Association annual meeting the board elected new officers to serve for the 2019-2020 term.

Nancy Grathwohl-Heter of Kansas made Shorthorn history when the board elected her to serve as the first female president of the ASA.

Nancy has spent her life raising and showing Shorthorn cattle which has grown her passion for the breed. She served on the American Junior Shorthorn Association board of directors from 1994-1997, serving as president her last year. Nancy and her husband Ryan, run DTR Cattle Company in Raymond, Kansas. Their two children, Josie and Ryder, exhibit Shorthorns at local, state and national shows. Her love for the breed is evident in her dedication to serving on the board and raising Shorthorns.

"I am very honored to serve as the president of the ASA board," Nancy said. "Growing up in the Shorthorn breed, I have looked up to members of our association and feel the opportunities available to junior members have helped develop me into the person I am today. I am looking forward to this next year as I get to work with my fellow board members for the betterment of the breed."

With almost 150 years of history, the ASA continues to develop a passion in its members to serve and grow the Shorthorn breed.

## Val 6 Infrared Heater

**SUNLIGHT WARMTH** Val 6's Radiant heat penetrates evenly and directly into surfaces just like sunlight.

**EXCELLENT FOR INDOOR & OUTDOOR USE** Val 6 is not affected by wind as forced air heaters that suffer from heat loss in the ambient air.

**HEAT TRANSFER** Val 6 generates infrared heat directly to the object without any air movement creating a dust-free environment.

**ODORLESS** Val 6's combustion system produces no odor and no smoke while running.

**ENERGY SAVINGS** State of the art combustion chamber enables virtually 100% fuel to energy conversion.

**QUIET** Produces very little noise which makes it more desirable to work around.


**PORTABLE** Take it anywhere you need heat. Will run off of a 12 volt battery (with optional inverter).

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# Farmers & Ranchers

## AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

### Selling Cattle every Monday

### Hog Sales on 2nd & 4th Monday of the month only!

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK TOTALED 4,896 CATTLE & 127 HOGS.

STEERS		LUCKY 7 ANGUS CONSIGNMENT	
300-400	\$170.00 - \$185.00	11 blk	5-6 yrs@1600.00
400-500	\$172.00 - \$182.00	27 blk	6-8 yrs@1460.00
500-600	\$163.00 - \$174.50	16 blk	broken@910.00
600-700	\$154.00 - \$163.00	15 blk	broken@850.00
700-800	\$140.00 - \$149.00		
800-900	\$140.00 - \$149.00		
900-1,000	\$136.00 - \$143.75		
HEIFERS			
400-500	\$138.00 - \$145.50	10 blk	3 yrs@2000.00
500-600	\$140.00 - \$150.00	22 blk	3 yrs@1985.00
600-700	\$133.00 - \$141.00	10 blk	3 yrs@1975.00
700-800	\$130.00 - \$140.00	7 blk	3 yrs@1925.00
800-900	\$131.00 - \$138.00	19 blk	3 yrs@1900.00
900-1,000	\$125.00 - \$131.25	15 blk	3-4 yrs@1835.00
			5 yrs@1700.00
			5 yrs@1685.00
			7-8 yrs@1200.00
			broken@985.00
			broken@875.00

**SPECIAL COW SALE**

CHRIS HOFFMAN ESTATE DISPERSAL  
TOP 5 GARDINER ANGUS 3 YR OLD  
BULLS AVERAGED \$5,150

BRED HEIFERS		THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 SALE: STEERS	
15 blk	@2025.00	2 blk	Geneseo 343@185.00
45 blk	@1925.00	18 mix	Ellsworth 428@182.00
14 blk	@1875.00	4 mix	McPherson 465@178.00
30 blk	@1825.00	5 blk	Inman 468@176.00
15 blk	@1800.00	25 mix	Ellsworth 505@174.50
		7 red	Barnard 534@170.00
BRED COWS		12 blk	Partridge 539@170.00
26 blk	3 yrs@2250.00	11 red	Lorraine 531@169.50
14 blk	4 yrs@2200.00	8 blk	Lindsborg 547@169.00
24 blk	4 yrs@2175.00	12 blk	Windom 523@169.00
67 blk	4 yrs@2175.00	4 blk	Marquette 531@167.00
27 blk	3 yrs@2150.00	10 mix	Salina 500@166.00
24 blk	4 yrs@2150.00	8 mix	Minneapolis 586@166.00
42 blk	4 yrs@2100.00	6 blk	Newton 541@165.00
16 blk	3 yrs@2075.00	6 mix	Salina 607@163.00
19 blk	3 yrs@2050.00	15 blk	Geneseo 598@162.50
28 blk	3 yrs@2000.00	8 blk	Whitewater 556@162.00
10 blk	5 yrs@1675.00	3 blk	Mt. Hope 513@162.00
31 blk	5 yrs@1650.00	7 mix	Galva 649@156.25
9 blk	5 yrs@1625.00	4 blk	Davenport 621@156/00
10 blk	5 yrs@1625.00	21 blk	Lindsborg 634@156.00
33 blk	6 yrs@1625.00	16 red	Gypsum 650@156.00
20 blk	6 yrs@1550.00	16 blk	Salina 639@155.00
22 blk	6 yrs@1510.00	6 mix	Smolan 636@152.00
20 blk	6 yrs@1500.00	8 blk	Assaria 786@149.00
4 blk	7-8 yrs@1150.00	59 mix	Assaria 828@149.00
40 blk	7-8 yrs@1060.00	61 blk	Tescott 826@148.85
		5 blk	Mt. Hope 716@148.00
		9 mix	Salina 730@148.00
		119 mix	Hope 870@147.85
BRED COWS		21 mix	Assaria 841@146.50
MILL IRON CONSIGNMENT		7 red	Tampa 836@145.50
10 red	3 yrs@2100.00	10 mix	Galva 801@145.00
35 red	3 yrs@2075.00	10 mix	Lindsborg 820@144.50
LIVINGSTON CONSIGNMENT		62 mix	Enterprise 870@144.00
24 blk	3-4 yrs@1885.00	25 blk	Tescott 906@143.75
20 blk	5-6 yrs@1650.00		

## Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

### SALE BARN PHONE: 785-825-0211

MONDAY — CATTLE • HOG SALE 2nd & 4th MONDAY  
Hogs sell at 10:30 a.m. *on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.*  
Cattle at 12:00 Noon. Selling calves and yearlings first, followed by Packer cows and bulls.

THURSDAY — CATTLE ONLY  
Selling starts at 10:00 a.m. Consign your cattle as early as possible so we can get them highly advertised.

AUCTIONEERS: KYLE ELWOOD, BRANDON HAMEL & GARREN WALROD

For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website [www.fandrlive.com](http://www.fandrlive.com)

### CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS

**FARMERS & RANCHERS HAS SWITCHED BACK to Cattle USA.com for our online auctions.**

**\*\*Last Thursday Auction of the Year will be Thursday December 19th**

**\*\*Last Monday Auction will be Monday December 23rd**

*We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

We would also like to THANK ALL OUR CUSTOMERS for allowing us to market your animals and we are looking forward to serving you next year!

9 mix	Wilson	909@141.00	6 blk	Mt. Hope	630@135.50
13 mix	Carlton	918@141.00	4mix	Miltonvale	653@135.50
			7 mix	Lindsborg	821@135.00
			8 blk	Colby	659@135.00
HEIFERS			17 mix	Galva	682@135.00
18 mix	Windom	484@145.50	12 mix	Salina	613@135.00
3 blk	Newton	443@144.00	10 blk	Minneapolis	651@134.75
91 mix	Halstead	674@141.00	3 blk	Newton	612@134.00
26 blk	Tescott	749@140.00	3 blk	Minneapolis	813@134.00
5 mix	Salina	491@139.00	9 blk	Inman	705@133.75
69 mix	Gypsum	797@138.50	10 blk	Colby	603@133.50
40 mix	Wilsey	805@138.25	4 red	Pretty Prairie	686@133.50
5 blk	Whitewater	453@138.00	5 blk	Salina	696@133.00
48 mix	Tampa	806@138.00	10 blk	Lindsborg	532@133.00
10 mix	Abilene	514@137.50	17 blk	Glasco	861@133.00
11 blk	Colby	485@137.00	12 mix	Galva	739@132.50
9 mix	Miltonvale	772@136.50	8 blk	Lindsborg	659@132.00
9 blk	Brookville	505@136.00	30 blk	Glasco	969@131.25
5 blk	Mt. Hope	524@136.00	7 red	Lorraine	704@130.50
11 mix	Salina	585@136.00			
18 blk	Tescott	686@136.00			

### EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

105 blk/bwf s&h 550-750 home raised weaned 60+ days 2 rnd fall vacc running out, 100 s&h 600-800 home raised weaned 80 days 2 rnd vacc, 26 mostly blk s&h 650-750 home raised 45 days weaned 2 rnd fall vacc bunk broke, 19 blk s&h 400-500 home raised 2 rnd vacc weaned 60 days, 120 blk s&h 500-800 home raised weaned 45+ days off wheat, 65 charX s&h 500-650 weaned double vacc, 35 s&h 550-650 fall vacc, 60 strs 850 no sort, 25 blk s&h 600-700 home raised 2 rnd vacc long weaned. **PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.**

### UPCOMING SALES:

**SPECIAL COW SALES: SALE STARTS at 11 AM • Tuesday, Jan. 21**  
• Tuesday, Feb. 18 • Tuesday, March 17 • Tuesday, April 21  
• Tuesday, May 5

**WEANED/VACC. SALE: SALE STARTS at 11 AM • Tuesday, Jan. 7**  
• Tuesday, Feb. 4

For Information or estimates, contact:

**Mike Samples, Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-826-7884**  
**Kyle Elwood, Asst. Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-493-2901**

Jim Crowther 785-254-7385 Roxbury, KS	Lisa Long 620-553-2351 Ellsworth, KS	Cody Schafer 620-381-1050 Durham, KS	Kenny Briscoe 785-658-7386 Lincoln, KS	Kevin Henke H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525 Agenda, KS	Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS
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**Cattle Sale Broadcast Live on [www.cattleusa.com](http://www.cattleusa.com)** 1150 KSAL, Salina 6:45 AM -MON-FRI \* 880 KRVN 8:40 AM - WED.-THURS. \*550AM KFRM - 8:00 am, Wed.-Thurs.

Check our listings each week on our website at [www.fandrlive.com](http://www.fandrlive.com)

