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Future important to Nemaha County farm family

By Beth Gaines-Riffel,
Editor

The small homestead David and Ginny Pfrang call home is nestled in the rolling hills of Nemaha County. Looking from behind the windbreaks, and in any direction that the eye can see are rich fertile farm fields and lush rolling pastures. There is no doubt that agriculture plays a vital role in the community.

The small community of Corning boasts a restaurant/convenience store where the locals catch up on the latest news while catching a quick meal on the way to the field. To the east of the Pfrangs, the community pool at Wetmore was filled with youngsters improving their swimming skills.

Both scenes are typical in rural America, but keeping the countryside vital and farming and ranching families in business is a concern.

And these struggles that do exist aren't lost on Pfrang, a fifth-generation rancher who grew up not far from where he and Ginny and their three girls now live. The family operates a Angus cow herd and finishes the calves out as well as purchasing some local feeders to finish as well, according to Pfrang.

From his dining room table Pfrang noted that in the 35 years that he's been involved with farming, he's seen plenty of changes — some good and others quite detrimental.

"I remember going to the stockyards and watching the buyers flip a coin to see who got to bid first," he said. "I've seen competition, and we don't have it now."

Concerned about the direction of the industry, Pfrang decided that a new startup industry group that was raising issues — such



Fair season is just around the corner and the Pfrangs — David, Ginny, Nicole, Keri and Alena — have been busy getting ready for the county fair. Last year the girls showed the champion and reserve market steers in Nemaha County and have high hopes that this Maine-cross steer will do well this year.

as lack of competition in the cattle industry — might have something to offer so in 1999 he became active in the newly formed Kansas Cattlemen's Association.

In the intervening 8 years he's held several leadership posts and following the group's annual meeting and election of officers, Pfrang now serves as president of KCA.

It wasn't an office that he necessarily sought out, in fact, testifying at the State House in Topeka or visiting with members of Congress doesn't come easily for

Pfrang, but he felt strongly enough about the issues at hand and protecting his family's livelihood that he was willing to make the sacrifice.

"I just couldn't put my head in the sand," he said. And because he understands the reluctance for producers to take up a cause, he is also a good advocate for doing so. "Talking with legislators is important. If you want to know about an organization, attend committee meetings when bills are being worked," David said.

Ginny Pfrang noted that

the issues David is most concerned about are also issues that the KCA has raised. "There is no doubt that he is passionate about it," she said. "When you have to stand up and fight a lot of battles, you know that you are on the right path."

Looking to the future, the registered Republican said that many of the challenges facing agriculture, specifically the beef industry, didn't come from one administration but from several.

"Someone just has to stand up and have a backbone," he said in reference

to some of the trade and competition issues facing the business. "Rules need to be fair and to be enforced." He added that many of the trade agreements that the United States are party to, don't really benefit the American rancher.

"I'm all for free trade, but it needs to be fair as well."

Pfrang proudly displayed his daughter's show steer which will be shown later this month at the Nemaha County fair in Seneca. He explained that one of his proudest moments is know-

ing that the beef produced on his ranch is some of the best and safest in the world and wants to share that with the consumer.

"We need to be able to educate the consumer and give them a choice," he said, adding that other countries proudly label USA beef and those consumers sought out the product.

"We should be able to do that for our consumers here. Who would be against that?"

Because Pfrang is passionate about the issues that are facing his industry he is willing to give time away from his operation and his family to represent the KCA and the issues the membership have deemed important.

Some of the most pressing issues, according to Pfrang, include COOL, the enforcement of the Packers and Stockyard Act, the restoration of the cash market in relationship to grid pricing, price reporting, private property rights and how checkoff dollars are spent and members elected to the boards that allocate the rancher-funded program.

He added that not everyone in the industry agrees on the best way to insure long-term profitability for the business.

"Sometimes brothers fight, but we all know where we need to get, the question is how we get there," Pfrang said.

One of the keys to the future is working with the youth to educate them

"What drives America?" Pfrang questioned. "It's competition. We want to see that competition restored."

The KCA is planning a summer conference in Dodge City. The event will be on Aug. 7 and will include a session on the proposed JBS merger.

Wildlife group obtains court order to stop critical feed use on CRP

Seattle (AP) — A federal judge in Seattle has placed a 10-day temporary restraining order on the critical feed use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres authorized by USDA. The legal action was initiated by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and several of its affiliates, including the Kansas chapter. According to the order, all CRP activity related to critical feed use was to immediately stop July 8. The injunction ordered Tuesday by U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour could affect 24 million acres of conservation lands across the country.

Livestock groups and

Kansas congressional leaders are critical of this legal action by NWF and its affiliates. Some producers had already erected fences around CRP for grazing or signed hay contracts.

"It's unfortunate this action has taken place, especially at this late hour, after producers have made stocking decisions," said Kansas Rep. Jerry Moran.

The First District representative said he is working with USDA to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. Remedies could include legislative action.

"This is an example of an environmental group obstructing legitimate agricul-

ture policy decisions," said Moran.

The critical feed use program was authorized May 27 by USDA. It would allow haying and grazing on certain CRP acres without a reduction in rental payments. USDA expected the program would make 24 million CRP acres available nationwide for use as a hay or forage source once the primary bird nesting season ends July 15.

The USDA initiative, called the Critical Feed Use program, was meant to help cattlemen suffering from high feed prices. It allows hay production and grazing on CRP land, to boost production of up to 18 million

tons of cattle forage worth \$1.2 billion, according to the department.

A full hearing is set for July 17 before Coughenour. His restraining order will keep the program on ice until he rules on the case.

"The CRP program was never intended to be a subsidized hay program, yet we see it contorted now in an effort to buy votes in farm communities," said Ben Deeble, sage-steppe project coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation in Missoula, Mont.

The fallow lands under the CRP program have been crucial to wildlife. In Washington, much of the remain-

ing population of sage grouse, now under consideration for listing under the Endangered Species Act, lives on CRP land, said Don Larsen, of the state Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Kent Politsch, chief spokesman for the Farm Service Agency in Washington, D.C., which administers the CRP program, said the agency is in a dilemma.

"There is pressure from all different angles on how do you take care of the food supply and how do you take care of conservation and wildlife," Politsch said. "We are trying to find the right balance."



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator
Doing away with the "X" signature

School will be starting again in a few weeks; and since my main vocation has been in teaching, thoughts about schools and education keep coming to mind. Today's column will deal more with education in the past.

One of the most popular TV shows ever produced was *Gunsmoke*, and one of the best-liked characters on the show was Festus, the deputy. He grew up on a neighboring ranch just a few miles from my cousin Marvin in southeastern Colorado. When we visited Marvin and his family recently, he took us on a tour of their ranch.

Our first stop was at a rock building, still in good condition, that had once housed the Antelope one-room school, where neighborhood children, including my cousins, had received their first eight years of formal education. The sturdy flagpole stood intact although no banner was waving from its top. Marvin recalled how he had enjoyed climbing that pole and sliding back down when he attended school; but when invited to demonstrate for us, he declined.

The next stop was at an inviting spot where a stream of water was flowing from a spring-fed pool, surrounded by large rocks and caves. On a stretch of level ground nearby, the remains of numerous circles, outlined with rocks that had been placed there years ago, were evidence that Indians who had dwelt on these plains had used that area for a village of teepees, no doubt to be near a source of water. Some of the large rocks near the springs had initials and names carved in them. Marvin pointed out the name Curtis Gates carved on one of the rocks. That was the real name of Ken Curtis, who played the role of Festus.

In the show *Gunsmoke*, Festus was a deputy who could not read or write, a deficit that was an embarrassment as well as inconvenience to him. He had to rely on others to read letters, posters, or telegraph messages. However, this was not an unusual situation in the 1800s. Many on the frontier had to make an "X" for their signature.

When a town was formed on the prairie, after the saloon, hotel, and mercantile were built, the schoolhouse and church (often the same building) were next in line. The school terms were usually six to eight months in duration, but often the older boys stayed home to work during planting or harvesting seasons. This meant they might still be in school in their mid-teens, or perhaps even older, learning the three R's — readin', ritin', and 'rithmetic.

To qualify to teach in these schools, one had to complete school through the eighth grade with good marks and then attend normal training for several months to earn a teaching certificate. It could be a real challenge for these young, intelligent men and women to teach in the one-room schools, with meager preparation and training for the task and especially when students were sometimes older than they. In some cases, the ornery, reluctant attendees made it their goal to see how quickly they could run the teacher off or make things so unpleasant that the teacher would choose to leave. Teachers were paid from \$30 to \$60 a month. Additional duties included building the

fire, cleaning the building, and supervising recess and noon break.

Most of the one-room schools were built on a common plan with the front door on the east or south and four to six windows on the left wall for light. With most rural families living on a quarter (160 acres) of land and having two to eight children, the school districts usually covered two square miles or a little more so the children would not have so far to walk or ride a horse to school. This also helped keep the number of students down to twenty or fewer, which was enough for one teacher to handle.

These one-room schools, which have been practically nonexistent for several decades, were very important in ensuring literacy among the rural population and were quite successful. I spent five years attending one-room schools. My teachers, with an exception of one or two, were excellent.

When I began my teaching career in 1953 as a vocational agriculture instructor, farming was quite diversified, and we were expected to be knowledgeable in a wide variety of subjects — poultry, swine, beef, and dairy animals and in all crops with their varied insects and diseases. Examples of shop projects at that time were building hog troughs, gates, self-feeders, and wagons and repairing and painting tractors. Other projects included building garages and pouring concrete sidewalks. In FFA, emphasis was placed on public speaking, parliamentary procedure, keeping record books, and competing in contests.

Most teachers did not try to excel in all areas but taught from their strengths — what they naturally were good at. I remember a beginning vocational ag instructor who had his class shingle a shed. He started the first row of shingles at the top of the roof instead of the bottom. It took him years to get over his embarrassment at that mistake.

In Morris County, where I taught, there were six towns, each with its own school district. As the rural population declined — due in part to bigger tractors and implements that enabled one to farm more land which led to bigger farms — the enrollment in these rural school districts dwindled. For me, it was demoralizing to see my class numbers drop. I would rather teach a class of 20 than to have only three or four. What saved the vocational ag department and also helped some schools continue to operate was consolidation of school districts. My department, which dropped to as low as 25 students one year, had moved up to around eighty students by the time I left in 1969.

This was much better, especially after students who had formerly been out of the district became acclimated to the change with new classmates, teachers and facilities, and team sports. It took longer for many of the parents to adjust to the consolidation of schools. I am sure that losing their school has caused some smaller towns to die. Economics and efficiency will usually have the last word in making a decision for change.

The book *Views from the Learning Post* can be ordered from Gordon Morrison, 1268 Key Road, Concordia, KS 66901 or may be available in a store near you. For information, call 785-243-3833.



Over the Barn Gate

By Beth Gaines-Riffel

There is a certain tension in the air this time of year. Some days it is so thick you can almost slice it with a butter knife — especially if that knife happens to be a part of a perfectly set table for a 4-H competition.

Yes, it is time for the county fair and the countdown is on. For 4-H mothers and 4-H fathers everywhere the time remaining is a measure of two things. How many days are left to complete said projects (never enough) or how much time is left to endure the practice items (often too much)?

But from the perspective of the youth, waiting for the county fair is akin to waiting for Christmas. The chance to show off their skills, hang with their friends from around the county, eat food straight from the deep fat fryer, stay up way too late, camp at the fairgrounds and participate in the mother of all water-fights... what kid doesn't live for the county fair?

In fact, when they reach a certain age, they can tell you in hours and minutes how much time is left to wait for the annual rite of summer to arrive. In that vein, I have learned that Facebook has a lovely little "countdown" application to aid such efforts. And if you don't know what Facebook is, you are living blissfully free of teens these days.

What is so special about a county fair though? It is one of those rituals of living in rural America that have made Midwesterners what they are. It has been the

opportunity to showcase skills — that once were staples of domesticity — such as bread baking and pie making. It gave producers bragging rights for hay produced and grain grown or showcased their livestock operations.

The fair provided the occasion for local fundraising. Church groups operated concession stands to raise funds for their new building addition or youth organizations manned dunk tanks for their upcoming event. Bottom line is that the fair gave members of the community to come together for fellowship in a fun setting — strengthening those relationships that foster the close-knit ties that bind.

But as our rural communities dwindle or at best remain stable, I often wonder what will become of the county fairs. Serving on a fair board and visiting with others who work in similar capacities, keeping the annual ritual of summer going is no easy task. The escalating expense of producing the fair is difficult to offset without new and interesting events to capture a growing urban audience that may or may not care to peruse pigs or marvel at a perfect lattice-topped cherry pie.

But that being said, because of the skills gained and the opportunity for children to grow and learn during the county fair, it is one of those events that should be diligently protected and nurtured by individuals and communities everywhere.

In my way of thinking, for those rural areas that have difficulty retaining their young people, the fair is one of those subtle tools that creates a real sense of belonging and fosters a love for the region. If young people have a positive experience every summer, when they are looking to put down roots and begin a family of their own, the availability of such an event may very well weigh-in on their decision. So while the "return" might not be immediate, the county fair could be an economic development tool for the future.

The next several weeks will be filled with all the highs and lows of a 4-H family. As fair activities unfold there will be ribbons awarded, trophies won, bragging rights achieved and most importantly lessons learned. Things like humility, good sportsmanship, compassion, marketing and public speaking will all be in the mix. I think those are skills we all want to see our children learn.

As the laughter from the water fight fades into the tears shed for a prize animal destined for the packing plant, I can't think of anywhere else that I would rather spend time with my family and friends. I hope that you'll take some time in the coming days to take part in your local fair. It is time well spent.

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

GRASS
& GRAIN

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Ag secretary, lawmakers discuss farmers' flood aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. agriculture secretary says he is concerned that legal hurdles prevented much immediate federal help for Midwestern farmers faced with serious setbacks because of flooding.

"I think everybody is frustrated because there's never enough you can do," Ed Schafer told The Associated Press on Thursday after meeting with Illinois lawmakers. "We have the

legal restraints and statutory restraints and actuarial restraints that just don't allow you to do everything that you want to do, and that's hard because people are hurting."

One of the difficulties, Schafer said, is the widely held belief that a new provision governing disasters in the 2008 farm bill provides money to farmers and ranchers who have incurred heavy crop and livestock losses.

"The problem is that the payments won't come for that until October of 2009, because it's based on an average annual price that has to be measured a year from this harvest season," he said.

The Midwest provides the bulk of the nation's corn and soybeans, key crops used across a range of foods, as well as the livestock industry's favored feeds. Iowa and Illinois, the country's No. 1 and No.

2 corn producers, last year accounted for just over a third of the country's 13.07 billion-bushel corn crop.

The Farm Bureau has pegged Iowa's agricultural losses alone at roughly \$3 billion, while Indiana agricultural officials estimate the state's losses at \$800 million. Experts say it's too soon to even estimate the losses in Illinois and Missouri.

Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, the Senate's second-ranking Democrat, praised Department of Agriculture officials for their work in the flooding's aftermath, saying they were doing everything they could to help the state in the face of legal restrictions that limit aid.

One unanswered question is whether the govern-

ment can make Conservation Reserve Program acreage, now set aside for preservation, available for earlier haying and livestock grazing to those affected by the floods. The Agriculture Department may modify rules for the program to allow such activities even earlier than usual when there has been flooding.

The Agriculture Department is also looking into whether it can be flexible with planting deadlines in the crop insurance law. They now act as disincentives for planting or replanting crops later in planting season.

"At this point in time, late June, it becomes extremely difficult in our part of the country to plant something other than per-

haps milo or sorghum and to expect any crop to come in time," Durbin said.

Current late-planting penalties for soybeans establish when farmers must plant a crop and what they should receive as payments when their crop is ruined. Farmers who plant after June 15 are supposed to see a reduction in their crop insurance coverage.

Another complication is that farmers who get paid because the floods have prevented planting must not replant a crop before July 1.

Federal and state agriculture officials say the real damage from the flooding that started in early June won't be known until after the fall harvest.

Ethanol coproducts eyed as fillers in plastics

A coproduct of ethanol production could be used as a non-petroleum-based filler in plastics, based on preliminary studies by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists and their cooperators.

The ethanol coproduct, called distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS), has a high fiber content and a molecular structure suitable for binding — two attributes that make it a candidate as a filler in plastics, according to ARS agricultural engineer Kurt Rosentrater.

Rosentrater is based at the ARS North Central Agricultural Research Laboratory in Brookings, S.D. He conducted the research with Robert A. Tatar, a professor at the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Department of Technology, part of NIU'S College of Engineering and Engineering Technology.

The researchers compressed molded blends of DDGS and phenolic plastic resin (ranging from 0 to 90 percent DDGS) and found that DDGS concentrations between 25 and 50 percent worked best as fillers in plastics. These findings were published recently in the Journal of Polymers and the Environment (JPE). The

preliminary study yielded only limited data on the resulting physical properties of the various DDGS/plastic blends, so follow-up tests are currently under way.

The data can then be used to develop new bio-based manufactured products. Rosentrater and Andrew W. Otieno, also with Northern Illinois University's Department of Technology, have developed comprehensive guidelines that take into account the unique challenges encountered when manufacturing plastic composites that contain biological materials. This work has also been published in the JPE.

Fillers such as clay, talc, glass, paper and metals are commonly used in plastics to increase strength, and also to save costs by reducing the amount of actual plastic resin used. Using bio-based fillers such as bamboo, kenaf, corn stover, soybean hulls or even chicken feathers is receiving increased attention as a way to use less petroleum in plastic products. Thus both DDGS and distiller's dried grains (DDG) are candidates for use as biofillers for plastics.

ARS is a scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 26 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held at Celebration City on East Highway 56 in LYONS, KS.

Navajo, Acoma & Laguna pottery; bows, arrows, quivers; antler candle holders; antler lamps; framed prints; barnwood frames & mirrors; Western & Southwestern jewelry silver

turquoise; teeth, claws & beads; mandellas & turtle shells; cast iron plaques & hooks; walking sticks; custom knives & lances; horns, antlers, pipes; Southwestern leather wall

hangings; buffalo skulls; buffalo rugs; deer skins; cow hides; sheep skins; coyote skins; rabbit skins; coyote, raccoon, red fox & silver fox tails.

Note: Santa Fe Traders is closing and selling their inventory. There are many nice pieces of Indian items and Western d'Écor. Sales tax will be charged.

SANTA FE TRADERS

Auction Conducted By
Thummel Auction
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AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 19 — 10:30 AM

Auction will be held at the farm located 1 mile North of Randall, KS on Highway 28

VEHICLES, BOAT
1966 Chev ElCamino; 1976 Chev. 20 pickup 4 wheel drive; 1952 GMC 1 1/2 ton truck; 1965 Ford 1 1/2 ton truck; 1973 Star Craft 17' trihull boat; Sun L electric scooter.

MACHINERY & FARM EQUIPMENT
2000 Rhino 3 pt. 7' rotary mower; Case IH 6 row 183 cultivator; IHC 440 square twine baler; JD 3800 field cutter; 2 semi mount 5 bottom IHC plows; IHC 120 oneway; Grain O Vator 100 bu wagon; S-H feed wagon; Bonhart 3 pt. bale mover; Continental 2 pt. post hole digger; 4 row lister; 4 row corn disc; Hutchinson rotary grain cleaner; 5-4 ton Bonhart

bulk bins; 2-4 ton Pax bulk bins; 100 & 500 gal propane tanks; 5 Osborne hog feeders; pair 150 gal belly tanks w/pump; new IHC 8" grain drill box; Jetco PTO wire winder; used tin.

TOOLS
Esab 250 wire welder; Honda twin cy portable air compressor; Stinger 3 by Whitco steam cleaner; cut off saw; Marquette electric welder; 2 ton floor jack; battery charger; sickle servicer; bench grinder; 72 compartment bolt rack w/bolts; hand man jack; log chains; electric motors; snow blower; cultivator shovels; electric wire; 18.4-34 tire chains; seat for 986 tractor; 10 x 20 car display carpet; assortment of tools.

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & HOUSEHOLD

1947 oak telephone booth w/telephone; 1933 Maytag metal ice box; oak desk; Jetzon clock; cream separator; ash commode; Vendorlator Pepsi machine; Topsy stove; etched glass door; French doors; green & white sets Franciscan china; first day issue stamp collection; collector plates; brass items; hand painted bowls; set china; Fire King; large assortment of pressed glass; side saddle; bikes; assortment pictures; walnut dining table; Bissel shampooer; assortment toys; Barbie dolls & toys; Christmas items; bath whirlpool; large assortment of glass & household.

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

Vehicles, Machinery & boat will sell at 12:30.

JOERG FAMILY
785-739-2370 or 738-8605

Auction Conducted By
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ESTATE AUCTION

Location: 3 miles West of MARYSVILLE, KS on Hwy 36 to Herkimer corner then South 2 miles to Matador Rd. then West 1 1/2 miles, North side of road.

SATURDAY, JULY 26 • 9 AM

MACHINERY

1973 JD 4430 diesel w/quad range transmission, dual hyd., front & rear weights, window shutters, front fenders, Serial #4430 002354R; 1961 W-D Allis w/narrow front, converted to 12 volt; JD 1380 hydra swing swather w/14 Head; JD C-21 24' field cultivator w/harrow; Case 14' field cultivator w/harrow; Case 4-16 semi-mounted plow; Krause 12' tandem disc; JD 12' tandem disc; JD 10 Shank pull type chisel plow; 28' 3 bar Crust buster w/leveler; Ford 9' mounted disc; 6' mounted springtooth; **Ferguson 3 pt, 2 bottom plow**; IH 2 pt, 3 bottom plow; IH 2 pt, 2 row lister; IH 2 pt sickle mower, 7' bar; Hesston 10# stack mover; 3 pt post hole digger w/9" auger; Brillion seeder; 8' brome seeder; Creep feeder on wheels; **1970 5'x14' hale open top stock trailer**; IH #620 16x7 wheat drill; IH 20x4" seeder on steel; New Idea 4'x10' wooden sided manure spreader; 3 pt 8' blade (Shop built); 1000 gal. poly water tank; 1-1000 gal. cattle water tank; 2-750 gal. cattle water tanks; 1-500 gal. cattle water tank; 2-20' long feed trailers for ground hay; 500 gal. poly water tank w/steel skids; Big round bale spear w/loader bucket mount; Hay trailer; 9'x18' big bale trailer; 24' portable bale elevator w/electric motor; 300 gal. diesel barrel w/stand; 1-8' big round bale feeder; IH 2 pt post hole digger; IH 2 pt 7' side bar mower; IH 2 pt 3 bottom plow; BmB 7' Rotary shredder, pull type; 55 gal. pickup sprayer on skids; Water transfer pump and gas motor; **Lots of operator manuals & part books**; Used tin; 2 - dump rake wheels; 2-65 gal. fiberglass water tanks; 1947 - 112 Caterpillar motor grader, Engine rebuilt 1994, last running 1996; 2 - W-D Allis tractor, 1 wide, 1 narrow front end; **1999 Hesston 12 wheel hydro fold rake**; Bale elevator, open type; 2- Extra drawbar 4430 tractor; 5,000 watt generator w/ JD engine; Old fashion wagon box on running gear; 2 big round bale feeder, fair; 4 bar panel hay feeder bunks; Squeeze chute.

GUNS - SELL 12:30 PM

Mossberg .22 Model 42M-B (missing parts); Iver Johnson .22 semi-auto; Stevens .25 cal falling block single shot rifle; Savage Mark II, bolt action .22 w/scope; Remington Model 511 Scoremaster .22 w/scope, bolt action; Revaluation bolt action .22; Akan, bolt action 6 M/M; Stevens .32 long falling block single shot rifle; Remington pump .22 rifle; Savage Model 1914 pump .22 rifle; Mississippi Valley Arms single shot .410; Winchester Model 37 single shot .20 gauge; Stevens single shot 12 gauge; Long Tom single shot 12 gauge; J.N. Scotts dbl. barrel 12 ga. w/hammers; Bolt action .308 w/scope; Bolt action .303; .22 blank pistol; U.S. Revolver Co. 25 cal; 2 - H&R .32 cal.; Rohm .22 cal.; H&R .22 cal. trapper; Gun cases; 3 wooden gun cabinets (w/glass fronts); 2 Crossman BB/Pellet pistols; Daisy BB pistol; Crossman air rifle V-350 Slide action; Daisy Model 25 BB gun - pump; Daisy Model 88 BB gun, lever action; Daisy Red Ryder Carnine BB gun; Daisy Pump BB gun; Daisy Pump BB Gun, Quick Silver; Crossman 760 pellet gun - pump; Power Master cross bow w/arrows.

TRUCKS, PICKUPS & BOAT

1990 Ford XLT Lariat PU, 2 wheel dr., 137,600 miles, w/camper cover; 1975 Chev. C-10 Silverado, 1/2 ton pu. 4x4 flatbed; 1966 C/30 Chev, 1 ton truck w/flatbed, runs, no title; 1995 F-350 crew cab, 5 spd. 7.3 diesel, w/utility bed; **6x10 enclosed cargo trailer**, 7,000 torsion axle; 1989 Ford LN Aero Max, 9 spd., 350 Cat engine, w/22' combo silage box; 1962 grain truck & hoist, poor brakes; **1964 Volkswagen pickup, sharp old truck**; 12 ft. alum. fishing boat w/trailer; Cart trailer for lawn mower; Full size pickup tool box; Packer tool box, fiberglass; Hub caps.

MO-PED

1985 Honda Spree (Red) sharp, 3,769 miles;

MISC. & TOOLS

2 Anvils; Barrel & pump; 2 space heaters; Hydraulic cylinders; Rabbit cages; Chicken nests; **some broken farm toys**; 15 gal. sprayer; 2 ton floor jacks; Farm cart; 220 Lincoln welder; 2 wheel cart; Gas cans; Shop & farm fans; Chain saws; Fert. spreader; 3 Big rolls insulation; Wheel barrow; Alum. tool box; Ladders, all sizes; Car ramps; White metal cabinet; **Toro snow blower**; Bottle jacks Bug zapper; Water skis; Camping stoves; Galv. tubs & buckets; Pressure washer, electric; New casement kitchen window-34" x 35"; Alum. treadplate cargo box; Lot more items.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Pocket knife collection: 1-First National Bank, Marysville, KS on it, balance Germany & etc.; Belt buckles including: JD R Belt Buckle, Bremen Belt buckles, KS, NE, Home City Centennial 1984, Budlight, Beattie Co-op, Pony Express Rider, 2- Nebr. Cornhuskers -1983, Several Budweiser, Beattie Milo Festival, Malboro, Chevy, Garst -1984, Coca Cola, Red Brand Fence, etc.; New Star Wars wristwatch; Old pot belly stove; Comic books; Cast iron horse w/fire cart; Lots of glasses w/animals - like Popeye Pal & etc.; Kids cap gun; Glass Lowenbrau on draft beer sign; **Redwing chicken water crock; Pyrex color bowls; Cream cans; Curtis jar; Budweiser shadow box, Bud trays; 2 whiskey decanters; Bike; Hay knife; Cistern pump - force type; 4 wood ironing boards; JD signs; Pepsi, Coke & Mickey Mouse wall clocks; **JD pedal tractor, bought in early 60's**; Sprinkler; Ultra Popular Mechanics books; Flat irons; Coaster wagon; Hanging bar light; Old metal lawn chairs; Several old named boxes; Windmill well pump; Old lanterns; Blue bottles; Coal bucket; Old pop bottles; Copper boiler; Wood butter press; **Metal Pepsi cooler**; Porcelain table; Parlor chairs; 2 cast iron kettles; Hog scraper.**

LAWN MOWERS

18 HP Craftsman, 44" cut; 12 HP Dixon ZTR; IH Cub Cadet, 382; 2 push mowers.

TOYS, LOTS & LOTS - GREAT SHAPE

Metal Tonka big toys - trucks, graders, payloaders, bulldozers & etc.; Metal Tonka small toys, all kinds; Toy stove; Lot of small toys - JD tractor, disk, trailer & etc.; Boxes of new toy models to be put together; Tyco train set; JD plow; Erector set.

CROCKS

1,5,2 gal. crocks; Brown crock; 4 gal. Union; 2 gal. salt glaze; Bee 6 gal. crock; 3 gal. Western.

HOUSEHOLD

Shelves - Home Interior; Step stool; Smoker; Lawn chairs; Leaf rake; Coolers; Bed frame; Picnic Table; Water hoses; Dehumidifier; **Rain Walker sprinkler**; Patio set w/4 chairs; Bread maker; Baskets; Christmas decorations & tree; Easter decorations; Homedics foot vibrator; Picnic basket; Farm scene pictures & mirror; Crock pots; Pressure cooker; Outdoor projector; 12 place set of dishes; Card table & chairs; Lot more items.

ELECTRICAL MISC. FOR THE LATE JIM FORST

There will be a trailer plus of electrical misc. New and used boxes, breakers, wire connectors, ect. Lots & lots of goodies to numerous to mention.

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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

***** By G&G Area Cooks *****

Annette Reilly, Abilene, Shares Harvest Favorite To Win G&G Recipe Contest

Winner Annette Reilly, Abilene: "This salad is a long-time harvest favorite. It goes together quickly & my husband loves it."

QUICK HAM SALAD

- 12-ounce can ham product (Spam, Treet)
- 3 hard-boiled eggs, peeled
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup sweet relish
- 1 cup salad dressing plus or minus to taste
- 2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- 1 tablespoon horseradish sauce
- 1/2 to 1 cup chopped onion (to taste) OR 1 tablespoon dehydrated onion
- 3 ribs celery, diced OR 1 teaspoon celery seed

Place ham product in a 3-quart mixing bowl. Using pastry blender, or fork, break into pea-sized pieces. Add eggs and do the same; blend well. Add remaining ingredients, blending well after each addition. Refrigerate to blend flavors. If using dehydrated onions, this step allows them to absorb moisture from relish and salad dressing.

NOTE: Sometimes I add shredded cheese for variety. This quick sandwich spread has a lot of options with salad dressing choices, sweet or dill relishes, etc.

Julia Bergman, Seneca: "This is a very simple but very delicious recipe. It takes about 5 to 10 minutes to prepare. Last time I made it, my friends thought it was store-bought. I have made it with a variety of candy bars or I make it plain without candy and add cherries for a topping. You can substitute the Reese's with Oreos or Snickers and leave out the peanut butter in the bottom of the crust."

EASY REESE'S CHEESECAKE

- 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 tub frozen whipped topping, thawed

- 4 to 5 packages of Reese's (2 packs) Peanut Butter Cups, chopped into pieces
- 1 prepared graham cracker crust (can use regular or chocolate)
- 1/3 cup peanut butter

In a microwave-safe dish melt 1/3 cup peanut butter in microwave. Pour peanut butter in bottom of graham cracker crust. In a bowl blend cream cheese, powdered sugar and vanilla until smooth. Fold in whipped topping. Mix (by hand) 3 to 4 packs of the Reese's into the cheesecake batter (save 1 package for garnish). Pour cheesecake mixture into graham cracker crust carefully as the peanut butter may still be soft. Garnish top with

remaining chopped Reese's. Refrigerate at least 1 to 2 hours until set.

NOTE: To make a plain cheesecake, blend cream cheese, powdered sugar and vanilla until smooth. Fold in whipped topping. Pour mixture into graham cracker crust and refrigerate until set. Serve with cherries or other topping.

Kristie Dressman, Frankfurt: "Very easy and quick. A cool and refreshing salad for summer."

BERRY FLUFF

- 32 ounces plain yogurt
- 16 ounces whipped topping
- (2) 3.3-oz. boxes white chocolate pudding mix (dry)
- 1 bag of frozen fruit (berries)

Mix yogurt, whipped topping and pudding mix together then add frozen fruit. Let it set in the refrigerator overnight to thaw the fruit.

Julene DeRouchey, St. Marys:

SASSY PEACH SALSA

- 5 ripe peaches, peeled & chopped (about 3 cups)
 - 1/2 cup purple onion, chopped
 - 1 tablespoon fresh cilantro, chopped
 - 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
 - 1 tablespoon jalapeno pepper, seeded & chopped
 - 2 tablespoons sugar
- Mix and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Gently stir and serve with whole grain tortilla chips.

Mary Hedberg, Clifton: **MY DISAPPEARING CAKE**

- 1/4 cup oleo
- 1/4 cup shortening
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 eggs

- 3/4 cup cocoa
- 1 3/4 cups unsifted flour
- 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 3/4 cups milk

Grease and flour (2) 9-inch round cake pans. Cream butter, shortening, sugar and vanilla until fluffy. Blend in eggs. Combine cocoa, flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a bowl. Add alternately with milk to batter. Blend well. Pour into pans and bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes. Cool 10 minutes then remove from pans.

NOTE: For frosting, you can add cocoa in your favorite frosting recipe.

Marcia Emig, Goodland: "These taste just like pickled beets and are so good. Enjoy!"

- CHINESE BEETS**
- (2) 16-ounce cans sliced beets (reserve 3/4 cup beet juice)
 - 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1 tablespoon cornstarch
 - 1/2 cup vinegar
 - 12 whole cloves
 - 1 tablespoon ketchup
 - 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
 - Dash salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 - 3/4 cup beet juice

In a large shallow pan, mix sugar and cornstarch. Add vinegar, cloves, ketchup, oil and vanilla. Stir well. Add beet juice. Cut beets to bite-size if using whole beets and add beets to pan. Cook over medium heat 3 minutes, stirring all the time until mixture thickens. Serve. Refrigerate any leftovers in covered jar and reheat in microwave.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center: "My friend in Arkansas made this when they were visiting us a few years ago."

SIMONE'S BROWNIES

- 1 butter pecan cake mix
- 1 stick butter, softened
- 1 egg

Mix the above and spread in a 9-by-13-inch cake pan.

- 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 eggs

Mix well with electric mixer and pour over cake mixture. Sprinkle with chopped pecans. Bake at 300 for 55 minutes.



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Noel Miller, Maple Hill: "May be served with a salad or rice. Enjoy!"

TEQUILA-MARINATED BEEF FAJITAS

- 3 pounds skirt steak (can also use chicken or other meat)
- 1/2 cup lime juice
- 1/3 cup + 1 tablespoon corn oil or other vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup tequila
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano, crumbled
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 3 large cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 6 small onions, cut in half
- 18 flour or corn tortillas
- 3 cups refried beans
- Guacamole
- Fresh salsa
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro

Trim the excess fat from the meat and cut the meat crosswise into long strips, about 1/2-inch wide. Place the strips in a shallow non-reactive dish. In a bowl stir together the lime juice, 1/3 cup oil, tequila, cumin, oregano, pepper and garlic. Pour over the meat, coating each piece well. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 24 hours, turning the meat over several times. In a heavy frying pan or a griddle over medium heat, warm the 1 tablespoon oil. Add the onion halves and cook, stirring, until well browned, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer to a plate and keep warm. Place the same pan or griddle over high heat. Drain the meat well, reserving the marinade. Add the meat to the pan or griddle and cook, turning once and basting with the leftover marinade, until done to your liking, about 2 minutes on each side for medium-rare. Transfer to plate holding the onions and keep warm. Heat the tortillas, turning once, on the same pan or griddle, about 10

seconds on each side. Arrange the meat, onions and tortillas on a warm platter. Place the refried beans (warm in microwave), guacamole, salsa, sour cream and cilantro in separate dishes on the side. Then let your guests make up their fajitas!

Kellee Rogers, Topeka: BREAKFAST PIZZA

- 8-ounce package crescent roll dough
- 6 ounces breakfast sausage patties
- 1 cup frozen hash brown potatoes
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 eggs
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray pizza pan with non-stick cooking spray. Spread out crescent roll dough to fit pan. Crumble sausage and brown in skillet about 6 minutes. Drain and transfer to a plate. In same skillet, cook hash browns in 2 tablespoons of the butter for 10 to 12 minutes. Transfer to another plate. In same skillet melt 1 tablespoon of butter; add eggs and scramble over medium heat. Sprinkle sausage, hash browns and eggs on dough. Season with the salt and pepper. Top with cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until cheese is melted and pizza edge is browned. Cool slightly and serve.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge: APPLE DUMPLINGS

- 6 apples, peeled & halved
- Dough:**
- 2 cups flour
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2/4 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup milk
- Sauce:**
- 2 cups brown sugar

2 cups water
1/4 cup butter or oleo
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
Mix flour, baking powder, salt and shortening like for a pie dough. Add milk and roll out dough and cut in squares. Place half apple on each square. Wet edges of dough and press into a ball around apple. Set dumplings in a greased pan. Bring sauce ingredients to a boil. Pour over dumplings. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes or until apples test tender.

A couple from Mary Rogers, Topeka: ROASTED PEPPERS & POTATO

- 2 pounds small red potatoes, quartered
- 1 medium green pepper, coarsely chopped
- 1 medium sweet red pepper, coarsely chopped
- 1 medium red onion, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 cup garlic salad dressing

In a jelly roll pan coated with cooking spray combine potatoes, peppers and onion. Drizzle with dressing and toss to coat. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 to 45 minutes.

SALMON BURGERS

- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill (separated)
- 1 pound salmon fillet, skin removed
- 1/3 cup bread crumbs
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1/4 teaspoon each salt & pepper
- 4 hamburger buns

Heat grill to medium high or prepare charcoal grill. Stir mayonnaise and 1 tablespoon dill; set aside. In a food processor pulse remaining 1 tablespoon of dill, the salmon, bread crumbs, onions, salt and pepper until combined. Form into (4) 3-inch round burgers and coat both sides with nonstick cooking spray. Grill burgers for 5

minutes each side or until cooked through. Place burgers on buns and spread each with set-aside dill and mayonnaise.

The final two are from Millie Conger, Tecumseh: SPINACH SALAD

- 8 cups fresh spinach leaves, stems removed
- 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
- 8 ounces white button mushrooms, thinly sliced

Dressing:
5 slices bacon
1 1/2 tablespoons finely chopped green onions
1/2 cup red wine vinegar
1-2 tablespoons honey mustard
Salt & pepper

In a skillet cook the bacon over medium heat until crisp. Using slotted spoon, transfer bacon to paper towel-lined plate to drain. Pour off all but 2 tablespoons fat from skillet. Heat the remaining fat over medium heat and add onions and cook for 2 minutes, stirring occasionally. Whisk in the vinegar, desired amount of mustard and salt and pepper to taste, scraping the brown bits from the bottom of the skillet. Bring to a summer and remove skillet from heat. For the salad, toss together ingredients. Pour the dressing over the salad and toss to combine. Serve warm.

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MARINATED SALAD

- 2 large tomatoes, cut into wedges
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 yellow pepper, chopped
- 1 zucchini, cut lengthwise in half, sliced
- 1/4 cup red onion wedges
- 1/2 cup zesty Italian dressing
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup Kraft Three-Cheese Crumbles

Toss together tomatoes, peppers, zucchini and onions in a large bowl. Combine dressing, basil and garlic. Pour over vegetable mixture and toss to coat. Add cheese and mix lightly. Refrigerate at least 1 hour to marinate.

Free Weekly Recipe Available Online

Included as part of Grass & Grain's website is a "Free Weekly Recipe." You need not be a subscriber to view this recipe. Go to www.grassandgrain.com and at the bottom left click on Our Daily Bread Free Weekly Recipe.

Some recipes will be selected from submissions received from area cooks while others may be suggested favorites. You may also share the recipe with friends and family by clicking on the "email page" button.

THIS WEEK'S RECIPE: VEGETABLE TOSS SALAD FROM MARCIA EMIG, GOODLAND

JULY "Our Daily Bread" Recipe Contest Prize AMERICANA SPIRIT OF AMERICA WALL HANGING



Country-style accent bursting with patriotism. This wooden wall hanging resembles a bunting and can be hung from its metal wire. Measures 23 1/2" x 14 1/2" x 1/4".

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.
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AUCTION
FRIDAY, JULY 18 — 5:00 PM
Auction will be held at the home located at 209 E 1st in GLASCO, KANSAS

REAL ESTATE

GENERAL: 2 bedroom home with front room, kitchen, utility, enclosed porch, 1 bath, full basement. Central heat, window air. 1 car detached garage, car port located on corner lot.

CAR
1993 Buick LeSabre Custom.

COLLECTABLES & HOUSEHOLD
2005 GE automatic washer & dryer; GE microwave; Duncan Phyfe table & chairs; waterfall cedar chest; 20's vanity; 20's desk; blonde desk; 4' tall safe; 2 sets china; set mixing bowls; assortment pressed glass; kitchen items; costume jewelry; Seth Thomas mantel clock; sewing items; Kirby upright vacuum; Craftsman rotor tiller; 319 cc generator; portable air compressor; Snapper riding lawn mower; assortment hand tools; Skill saw; chain jack; yard tools; assortment of other items.

Seller will make no repairs or inspections on the home. All inspections made by purchaser must be made before July 18, 2008. Thummel Real Estate & Auction is working as Seller agent.

See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listing.
NOTE: The house and car will sell at 6:00 p.m.

ELIZABETH H. GENTRY
Auction Conducted By
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AUCTION
THURSDAY, JULY 17 — 5:00 PM
Auction will be held at the home located at 320 Wick in COURTLAND, KANSAS

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
dinetto table & chairs; 50's Tokheim gas pump w/Conoco plastic globe; Standard Oil oil pump & barrel; IH Garman Implement thermometer; horse name hat rack & lamp; Admiral black & white TV; Philco wood table radio; several novelty clocks; several telephones; several desk dials; 20's cedar chest; 30's dresser & chest; waterfall desk; painted Hoosier helper; chrome

HOUSEHOLD & TOOLS
Blue & gray hide a bed like new; Ridgeway grandfather clock; entertainment center; wooden dinette table; end tables; Christmas decorations; Corningware; Snapper 8 hp 28" HiVac riding mower; Ryobi 8" drill press; portable air compressor; assortment hand tools; garden tools; assortment of items.

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

GENE & LEORA SPITLER
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By Val Farmer

Rural Life

Partnership makes big difference for farm women

I have often thought that being a woman on a farm can offer the best and the worst life has for women.

The worst. I say the worst because of the vulnerability to stress: the stress of running a capital intensive business in a highly competitive industry; the stress of operating on borrowed money that will need to be repaid based on future profits; the stress of running a business subject to nature and market forces beyond control; the stress of adding the off-farm work to major responsibilities on the farm and to a life already stretched thin with many roles as a wife, mother, car-

ing neighbor and volunteer/leader in the community; the stress from emotional neglect from a husband who puts the farm and farm work ahead of family and marriage; the stress from enmeshment and control by in-laws who don't understand family boundaries.

Not a true partner. The effects can be destructive, the isolation and helplessness incredible, the pain intense. The money issues and the sacrifices are too great for one spouse not to be in a position of influence. The needs of both husband and wife have to be met. When the farm is meeting mainly the husband's needs, his wife often

becomes angry, resentful and hurt.

Some farmers fight and fuss and guard their privileged relationship with the farm until they find out the hard way that their wives can't take it anymore. It is too hard of a life for a woman unless she feels committed, involved, and appreciated. If she is not a full partner in the decision making, there will be problems between them.

There can be no true partnership when a farmer wants farming on his terms: his decisions, his control of the schedule, his lifestyle, his expenditures, his accomplishments. By trusting a partner, he risks not having things go his way.

I've seen some farmers push their wives to do as much work as a hired man and treat them as though they are one — and their track record for keeping hired men isn't too good.

Worse yet is finding out the hard way that the true partnership is with parents, a father, a brother or a son and that is where the true decisions and loyalties lie. It is painful to experience the bond her husband has with someone else pre-empt her rightful role as his life partner.

The best life. I say the best because women experience a part of life full of accomplishment and special joys such as: the love of soil, animals and nature

with its beauty and many surprises; the experience of belonging to a community that cares; the opportunity to live in an place where teaching children to work and take responsibility is natural; the pleasure of family togetherness and fun; the enjoyment of freedom and variety in life — where no two days are alike and you are your own boss; the support of having family, neighbors, and friends being close enough to celebrate special occasions together and comfort one another during times of loss; the association of loving in-laws and relatives who are her special friends and support; enjoying life with nature and animals

and being a partner with God in the creation of life; a partnership with a kind and gentle husband who loves and respects her and willingly shares the journey of life, family and farming with full equality and unity.

A feminine place to be. The farm is a feminine place to be, a place where belonging, caring, nurturing, and loving are a part of the process of living. Farm women do all they do and can still maintain their feminine qualities and perspective. They enjoy being women and being who they are.

Volumes have been written about the special bonds that farm women

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 14 — 7:30 PM
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have with farming and a family farming lifestyle. The next generation of farmers would not be there if farm women didn't love their lives. Their enthusiasm and commitment to these values are taught to the rising generation.

More importantly, children look and see what kind of lives their parents lead and the happiness they have, and decide they want a similar life for themselves.

A marriage based on a true business partnership and with family involvement has tremendous appeal for women. Roles may differ but the goals are the same.

What makes one experience harmful and the other joyful? Having enough farming profits to make a living as well as a life.

There is happiness being in a position of mutual trust, respect, and col-

laboration on all important decisions that affect their livelihood and family: being a partner in every sense of the word. Farming is something you do together.

For more information on farming and marriage, visit Val Farmer's website at www.valfarmer.com.

For Val Farmer's new book on marriage, "To Have and To Hold," send a check or money order for \$14.95 plus \$3.95 for shipping and handling for the first book and \$2.00 for each additional book to JV Publishing, LLC, P.O. Box 886, Casselton, ND 58012.

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

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New director of the Konza Prairie biological station named

The allure of the tall-grass prairie is nothing new to Kansas native John Briggs, the new director of the Konza Prairie Biological Station and professor of biology at Kansas State University.

In fact, Briggs finds the prairie addicting. "It just gets into you," he said.

Briggs was hired as the first nationally recruited director of the Konza Prairie Biological Station. He started June 16. He first began his career at K-State as the data manager for the Long-Term Ecological Research program on Konza in 1984, later gaining promotion to research professor in the Division of Biology. He also served as program officer for ecology at the National Science Foundation. Even though he accepted a professorship at Arizona State University in 1999, he was

periodically drawn back to the Konza through his research in ecology.

"I felt like I had the best of both worlds. I could continue to do research at this wonderful place, Konza, while also living and doing research in Arizona," Briggs said. "But when I saw the Konza director's job description and talked to some folks about it, I knew I had to apply for it."

Konza Prairie was first developed as an ecological research site in 1971 under the leadership of Lloyd Hulbert, an ecology professor at K-State. Jointly owned by the Nature Conservancy and K-State, and managed by the Division of Biology, the Konza Prairie currently spans about 8,600 acres, with 93 percent of the prairie having never been plowed. The station is host to 130 registered research projects by

150 scientists from all over the world and is one of the National Science Foundation's Long-Term Ecological Research sites.

"Probably one of the beauties of Konza is it's not just a preserve, it's a research area. If we wanted to just preserve it, it'd be the easiest thing. We'd just burn it one way, graze it very lightly and it would be this wonderful piece of prairie," Briggs said. "The challenge, but also the excitement for me, is to balance our research goals with preservation. I want to preserve native tallgrass prairie habitat, but I also want to conduct experiments and sometimes those things create conflict, so we have to bal-

ance the need of different activities."

In addition to balancing research and conservation, Briggs is interested in maintaining a strong educational component at Konza. The possibility of building an education center to house students on field trips may be in the future, if funding permits. A proposal to the U.S. Congress, called the National Ecological Observatory Network, includes Konza Prairie as a candidate core site for implementing a major new national research and educational program. The educational program will translate scientific data into information that is easier for teachers and the public to understand.

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10 ceiling fans; 6 hanging ceiling lights; 50+ metal folding chairs; folding chair cart; 8' folding table; many lights; 3 exit lights; sm el hot water heater; 200 amp breaker box w/42

breakers; el fans; el boxes; el organ; coffee maker; fire extinguisher; 2-sump pumps; dusk to dawn light; 4 dr file cab; metal desk; 2 wall mirrors; metal & other old cab; coat rack; books; Bibles; song books; boom boxes; pictures & frames; Singer port sew mach in wood case; dehumidifier; Kenmore el range; porcelain wall drinking fountain; Keen Kutter fork; other old flatware some silver-1847 Rogers; Rogers 12; Wallace 12; Community Silver; KU & other cups.

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Family makes bed and breakfast from ranch

MEDICINE LODGE (AP) — Gazing southward into the serenity of the remote Gypsum Hills, Charlotte Ringer pronounced her family's retirement location a perfect venture.

From the wraparound porch of the Wildfire Ranch house, she outlined the borders of the 200-acre spread on the northeast rim of Barber County's grass and cattle country.

Two years ago, the Ringer family — Ron and Charlotte, both 72, and son, Roger, 53 — moved to the area from highly populated Sedgewick County, where "we had people living on top of us," Ron Ringer said.

Charlotte designed their spacious two-level, four-bedroom ranch house with its open kitchen, dining and living-room area, a downstairs bedroom, a gathering

room and an office. Finished on the outside with pine log slab siding, the 2,250-square-foot home features oversized picture windows, fir-paneled ceilings and wood floors that complement the Ringer family's lifetime accumulation of "rustic" decor: mounted deer heads, Western-style paintings and myriad hunting and fishing art. In a change of lifestyle they didn't expect, with time on their hands, the Ringers decided they'd share their space by adding a two-bedroom bed-and-breakfast bunkhouse on the property. The bunkhouse dayroom adds sleeping space for two more guests. A lower-level guest room in the main house is furnished with two additional queen beds.

"We needed to be around people, after all,"

Charlotte said.

The accommodations allow space for eight to 10. With their Bunkhouse Bed & Breakfast at Wildfire Ranch listed on the Kansas Bed and Breakfast website, the Ringers have welcomed family and friends of area residents along with people from 18 states, as well as Mexico, Germany, Puerto Rico and New Zealand.

"It's turned out better than we ever thought," Ron Ringer said. "Our guests enjoy being out in nature, and we meet a lot of interesting people."

None of the rooms has a telephone, and the lone bunkhouse television is in the dayroom.

"We do have Internet available, but they really come here for peace and quiet," Roger said.

A full kitchen is avail-

able for guests who want to cook.

The Ringers do their own cleaning and share the cooking chores from a menu of homemade breakfast items that include the favorite biscuits and gravy, pancakes, fruit, eggs and bacon, or a breakfast casserole.

"We're all good cooks," Ron Ringer said.

They liked the jobs and professions of their previous life, with travel and busy schedules. Ron traveled the state as a food broker, Charlotte worked 18 years as a public guardian conservator, and Roger retired as a firefighter. But they relish the solitude they've found as rural residents.

"When compared to the rat race of urban life, we enjoy the people, the laid-back lifestyle and the peace and quiet of the country," Roger said.

Art nominations wanted for Sampler contest

The Kansas Sampler Foundation announced that they are now taking nominations for art for the next 8 Wonders of Kansas contest. Nominations will be taken through July and can be submitted online at 8wonders.org or sent to 978 Arapaho Road, Inman, KS 67546.

Art is the second of eight rural culture elements that will be showcased in the 8 Wonders contests. The architecture contest was completed June 30 and results are posted at 8wonders.org. After a four-month focus on art, the elements of commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history, and people will each be featured. The overall 8 Wonders of Kansas were announced by Governor Sebelius on Kansas Day, January 29, 2008.

Nominations must have physical evidence that is publicly accessible to the public. For instance, a nomination for artist Birger Sandzen would include the Sandzen Gallery in Lindsborg. The nomination description should include reasons why the nominee is unique to Kansas or the midwest. Foundation director Marci Penner said, "We're not just looking for a great art gallery, for example, but one that can distinguish itself with characteristics that are unique to any other art gallery in the state."

The Inman-based Foundation has long used the eight elements to help see a community with new eyes.

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SUNDAY, JULY 20 — 10:00 AM

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CARS, TRUCKS & CAMPER

1985 Corvette 75,000 miles; 1976 Corvette Sting Ray; 1940 Ford V8 pickup; 1949 Cadillac 2 door fast back; 1995 Ford T bird LX; 1966 Ford Mustang convertible; 1961 Ford T bird convertible; 1979 Chev 1 ton dually; 1994 Ford F150 pickup; 1953 Dodge 1 1/2 ton truck; 1995 Mercury Cougar; 1990 Ford F350 dually; 1976 Ford pickup; 1973 Dodge Custom 300 dually; 1985 Chev Custom Deluxe 30 dually; 1983 GMC 1500 pickup; 1990 NuWa Hitch Hiker 5th wheel; 1972 Winnebago w/Dodge engine.

PROJECT & PARTS CARS

1953 Ford F100 pickup w/Hemmi engine; 1948 Chev pickup; 1955 Chev 3200 step

side pickup; 1957 Dodge 100 pickup; 1953 Studebaker; 1953 Studebaker; 1957 Packard; 1974 Olds Omega; 2-1966 Olds Tornado; 1957 Buick; 1973 Buick Rivera; 1967 Buick Rivera; 1965 Chev 4 door; 1962 Covair Monza 900; 1979 Chev Camero; 1973 Chev Camero; 1978 Chev Camero; 1980 Datsun 280 ZX; 1966 Pontiac Grad Prix; 1969 Plymouth Fury III; 1980 Cadillac Biarritz; 1957 Cadillac 4 door; 1956 Cadillac Sedan DeVille; 4-1961 Ford Thunderbird; 1962 Ford Thunderbird; 1982 GMC diesel pickup.

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525 riding lawn mower 0 turn; shop built welder w/V8 engine on wheels; tandem axle 8' x 14' Army trailer; tandem axle shop built car trailer w/winch; 3 pickup box trailers; large assortment of car parts from 50's, 60's & 70's; 49 Cadillac hood; 55 Cadillac windshield; 409 & 350 engines; tools; twin cylinder air compressor; cutting torch; Kennedy tool box; A frame w/hoist; floor jacks; shop built air compressor; large assortment of hand tools; several iron wheels; garden tools; 60's hutch; automatic washer & dryer; iron bed; 60's bikes; assortment household furniture; green oatmeal dishes; assortment glass; 12 ga shotgun; 8 cap guns; assortment of collectables.

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

NOTE: We will sell car parts first, followed by cars. After we sell the cars we will sell tools. We will sell household furniture and glass first at the same time we are selling car parts. There a large amount of tools and parts. Mr. Trow had collected cars for many years. Check our web site at www.thummelauction.com for pictures.

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ANTIQU & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION



SATURDAY, JULY 19 — 10:00 AM

Morris County 4-H Building, 612 US Hwy. 56

COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS

DIRECTIONS: 1 mile East of Council Grove on US Hwy. 56. WATCH FOR SIGNS.

GLASSWARE & COLLECTIBLES

Lionel toy trains; cookie jars including Mickey & Minnie Mouse double sided, Little Red Riding Hood, Owl, Chick, Teddy Bear, Sambo; large collection of Elephants; dog figurine collection; cruets; various McCoy pcs.; silver plate flatware; teapots; state plates; Fire King pcs. including game plates; nut grinder; crock jars; swag brass kerosene lamp with white shade, very unusual; several kerosene lamps; Iris & Herringbone pcs.; wall pockets; aluminum Christmas tree, 6'; CI trivets, ladies; old kitchen items; various planters; cake compote; large selection Beam decanters; Bavarian creamer; several chicken nesters; Dodge City glasses; large selection figurines; Lefton Horn plenty; various pressed glass pcs.; salters; Carnival fluted nut dishes; tea set, German; several glass vases; Aladdin brass pocket lamp German steins; Cuckoo clock, German; brass spittoon; wood spinning wheel; Amber fluted center pcs.; Coffeyville pottery #2 butter churn; Dazey butter churn; #4 Red Wing crock; #3 Pittsburgh Diamond; butter churns 4 qt.; crock bowls; copper tea kettles; Marigold

carnival glass fluted dish; aluminum kitchen items; pictures including Guardian print, Girl & Dog, Cupid, Gleaners print, Lone Wolf, looking right, Stag Print, Charlotte Becker baby print; ladies head vases; various pink & green Depression pcs.; metal match holders; large selection marbles; wash boards; German mantel clock; horse figurine collection; 3 CI implement seats.

FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

5 drawer gentleman's chest; oak filing cabinet; oak parlor table with glass ball claw feet; 2 oak stacking bookcases, 3 sections & 4 sections; corner shelf; oak glass front kitchen cabinet;

oak secretary, some damage; oak rocker; curved front dresser with wishbone mirror; glass front kitchen cabinet; gun rack; brass full size bed; night stand; metal full size bed; walnut buffet; wall mirror; Edison Victrola with records; oak glass front china hutch; German table; drop front kitchen table; several McCall's pattern cabinets; gate leg table; Kenmore stacking washer & dryer, white 6 months old; GE side by side refrigerator 14 cu.; Amana side by side refrigerator 15 cu.; Harvard ping pong table and accessories, very good; Hoover Floormate, like new; Husky power washer, 1650 psi.

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Kansas youth selected for national conference

The National FFA Organization has selected 40 outstanding young people to participate in the 2008 New Century Farmer Program. This exclusive, highly competitive program develops young men and women who are committed to pursuing a career in production agriculture. Kansas FFA members who were selected included Kyle Crossland, WaKeeney; Emilie Magnus, Arkansas City and Kyle Smith, Geuda Springs.

The New Century Farmer Program is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred a DuPont business; Rabo Agrifinance; and Successful Farming as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

From Arizona to the Atlantic coastline in Virginia, participants representing 21 states will take part in an intensive five-day seminar in July 28 through August 1 in Johnston, Iowa at the Global headquarters of Pioneer Hi-Bred. They will learn from each other and industry experts during a series of workshops and sessions, on topics ranging from the global marketplace to farm financing, demographic trends to risk management. The New Century

Farmers will hear from motivating and informative keynote speakers who will educate them on the risks and rewards involved with agriculture production. In addition to classroom learning, students will be exposed to the latest developments in agricultural technology, field tours, sessions on personal and professional development and team building.

The program is designed to provide participants with valuable learning that they will take

home and apply to their own farming operations, as well as resources and a network of friends that they can draw upon throughout their careers.

"Today's New Century Farmer is proficient in fields like chemistry, agribusiness, communication and agronomy," said Dr. Larry Case, CEO and National Advisor of the National FFA Organization. "The New Century Farmer Program helps today's young farmers prepare for a highly competitive global marketplace."

ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 19 — 9:00 AM

Due to death we will sell the following items at public auction at the Armory Building located at 12th and Bridge Streets, CLAY CENTER, KANSAS

FURNITURE & APPLIANCES - 11:30

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, MISC. - MID AM
be uncovered and discovered.

PRIMITIVES & COLLECTIBLES - APPROX. 1 PM
Clay Center Adv. Items: Iron Items: Horse Related:

YARD ITEMS & TOOLS - FIRST

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

NOTE: The Branfords were lifelong Clay County residents and ran the Skelly Station in Green from 1924 to 1965.

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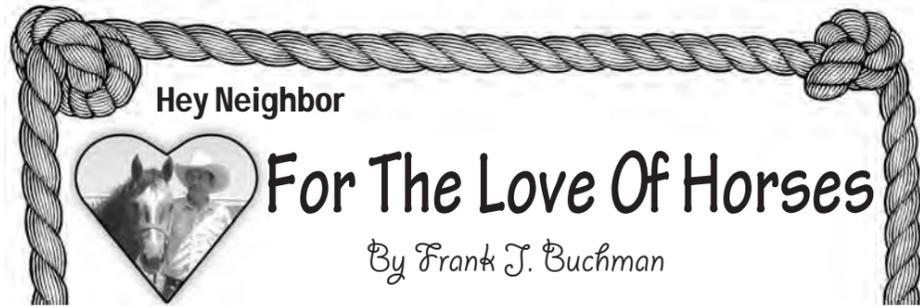
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For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

No One To Blame In Most Catastrophic Horse Injuries

Horses are great sports animals.

Although usually safe for both horses and handlers, tragic, life-ending injuries do occur in horse-related sporting events.

Recent accidents and deaths of race horses in major events at leading tracks brought stories about such happenings into headlines.

"These are very unfortunate occurrences, but catastrophic injuries do take place in horse activities. However, these incidents are very, very few in relation to the number of events conducted on an annual basis," emphasized Dr. Shane De-

witt, assistant professor of equine field service at Kansas State University in Manhattan.

"Injuries and deaths are an inherent risk of horse racing and all horse-related sports. Most are never heard about; but when they happen at a very high profile event like the Kentucky Derby, there is a public outcry," explained DeWitt.

Many questions and criticisms have arisen since the injuries and deaths of Barbaro in 2006 and Eight Belles this year at the Kentucky Derby, in addition to Big Brown moving from a predicted win to last

place in the most recent Belmont Stakes.

Are these horses being pushed harder, causing more injuries? "Horses today are being raced at the same age they have always been run," DeWitt clarified. "The industry has changed, and horses aren't usually being raced as often as they were two decades ago."

Typically, horses previously would have 10 to 15 starts before major races,

while today they'll only get a handful of outs before a high-stakes competition. "For that reason, I'd say they're not pushed as hard, but there are numerous factors that play a role," DeWitt noted.

Research has shown that if done correctly, exercising and competing two-year-old horses is beneficial because the work strengthens their musculoskeletal system and may actually decrease their long-term risk of injury. A key is providing the right amount of speed work, repetitive work and recovery time for natural bone changes.

DeWitt pointed out that a nine-year-old Thoroughbred gelding named Perfect Drift, owned by a Kansas City family, is still sound and continues to compete in major races, despite his age. "There are many factors to

be considered in success of a winner," he recognized.

Liberal drug usage has been blamed by some for the notable track tragedies, claiming trainers excessively medicate unsound horses in the quest to win. Specifically, it has been said that Kentucky has more lenient drug restrictions than other states, particularly Iowa and Kansas.

"Every state is different, and usage of drugs is specific to individual owners and trainers," DeWitt explained. "Sometimes, a trainer will use a medication to the limits of legality, and in other instances strict attention is given to utilize only what is in best interest of the horse."

Two medications used to treat race horses have re-

ceived considerable media attention. "Phenylbutazone, commonly called Bute, is an anti-inflammatory pain killer frequently used for muscle, skeletal and orthopedic treatment. There are allowable levels at which it can be administered, and it is very detectable in testing."

"Overdoses can cause diarrhea as well as ulcers and kidney disease, but a high percentage of trainers find Bute an asset, commonplace and unharmed in their training," DeWitt related.

Not as common to lay horse exhibitors is the also controversial horse medication Furosemide, which the veterinarian defined as a diuretic often merchandized under the brand name of Lasix.

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SATURDAY, JULY 19 — 9:30 AM

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Spud farmer returns to roots to help Afghans

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — To help poor Afghani villagers make money on potatoes instead of opium poppies, Idaho farmer Pat Rowe used a little old technology: root cellars.

The 68-year-old Rowe, whose family raises tubers and wheat on 2,000 acres near American Falls, went to the Central Asian country with a root cellar design common across his home state's famous potato country in the 1930s and 1940s.

As part of his work in Bamiyan, located about 100 miles west of Kabul, Rowe said it was important that his potato sheds not be too sophisticated. They had to be built with materials readily available in the impoverished valley between the Hindu Kush and the Koh-i-Baba mountains with only dirt roads, a gravel runway, scant trees and almost no electricity.

Before leaving, he took notes from neighbors on

Idaho's Snake River plain who had an old root cellar on their property.

"You look at what people are using and see what they are doing," Rowe said Monday, of his trip. "You don't want to be a crazy foreigner with all these ideas. You've got to be practical with the application."

Rowe went to Afghanistan as part of a \$6.4 million U.S. Department of Agriculture program meant to fill gaps in Afghanistan's food supply chain and develop agriculture to compete with the forbidden poppies that fuel the country's heroin trade.

Rowe's work in January 2006 won mention earlier this month by first lady Laura Bush. She brought up Rowe's root cellars in a speech in France on June 12.

"Afghan potato farmers in Bamiyan have learned storage methods from an Idaho potato farmer that are

making their crops more profitable," said Bush, who had made an unannounced trip to Bamiyan four days earlier.

Paul Sippola, a program officer for the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit development outfit CNFA, which ran the Department of Agriculture aid program, said Rowe's retro cellar design was used in about 50 potato storage sheds in Afghanistan.

It's now being replicated with a few modifications to suit local needs in Pakistan's Kashmir region, where seed potato farmers' livelihoods were devastated by the 2005 earthquake, Sippola said.

"It's essentially the same one that Pat developed," he said in a phone interview. "Pat's work, which started in Afghanistan, has really grown. It's fed over into some of our other programs because the success of it has been really pronounced."

Rowe is a veteran of nearly 30 U.S. government-sponsored trips to developing countries including Egypt, China and Zimbabwe to help promote new agricultural techniques.

Farmers in Bamiyan, an ancient village on the Silk Road that spent 1,500 years in the shadow of two huge Buddha statues before they were dynamited by the Taliban in 2001, had no efficient way to store potatoes following their harvest,

leading to drastic food-price increases and shortages.

"When the harvest is on, there's a glut," Rowe said. "If you had enough of those sheds built, it would make more food available to people at a reasonable price."

Afghanistan has seen a spiraling heroin trade and resurgent violence, even as the U.S. and NATO have poured more thousands of new troops into the country. Last year, more than 8,000 people were killed in

insurgency-related attacks and violence has claimed more than 1,500 lives this year.

Winning a mention from Laura Bush is a sign that his root cellars accomplished what he'd intended.

"Just the fact that somebody in Bamiyan remembered," he said. "Something went on good there. The people are good people. The folks I worked with, I'd swim the Snake River for them."

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Homeground & Other Geographies by Tom Parker

The snake in the garden

"Want to see a snake?" As the informal and unofficial chronicler of our lives together, a job which involves varying skills of censor, comedian, sage, psychologist, tinkerer, revisionist and historian, I am prone at times to making lavish announcements concerning era-inducing events. Being a journalist and occasional headline-writer only aggravates this tendency. With that in mind, let it be known to all and sundry alike that such an event transpired on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, when Lori entered the house and calmly posed the preceding question with none of the usual hysterical hue and cry, call to arms, half-veiled insinuations or glaring death-

threat looks. If not for a slight higher tone to her voice, she could have been discussing a singularly beautiful red-blushed cloud, a first purplish blossom on the echinacea or, as happened later in the day, an impromptu and mysterious hoedown on our porch by six young cottontails.

So collected was she, in fact, that I almost misunderstood her. But snake is a word immediately impressed upon our consciousness: at first sensuous and sibilant, a slow hiss jarringly truncated by a harsh stop with only a short vowel bridging the gap.

At the time I was sitting on the floor in our back room, a sheaf of important papers in my lap and our black Angora rabbit, Sheba, beside me. I'd made a mistake on an important survey and was trying to locate it among dozens of forms and didn't want to be bothered, but as any veterate married man will attest, a wife's speech consists of delivery and content and the twain are both isolate and inseparable. "I'm coming!" I said.

For at heart her question was not a question but a command and a plea. Identify it. Make it go away. As a man, I

find this touching and, dare I say, affirming. My grandmother, a farmer's wife on the brutal plains of West Texas, would without fanfare or prompting snatch a hoe and vivisect any serpent audacious enough to slither onto the property, with added emphasis in each blow the nearer the offending herp was to the chicken coop. In our relationship, I'm the defender as well as the herpetologist, lepidopterist and ornithologist, with a few other ists thrown in for good measure, and vastly prefer my wife's direction toward a living specimen rather than to bloodied portions scattered throughout the tomatoes and cucumbers.

As we walked to the garden I questioned her about what she'd seen.

"How big was it?"

"Big."

"What color was it?"

"I don't know. Yellow, maybe."

"Any distinguishing marks?"

"I didn't see any."

"Did you see its head?"

"No."

Translated, this means she didn't hang around long enough to look.

The snake had been coiled inside a wire containment fence enclosing a potato plant. The closer we got to the garden the slower Lori walked so that by our arrival she lagged behind a good ten feet. She pointed to the fence amid the overgrown tangle of wild lettuce, bindweed, velvetweed, pigweed, fleabane daisy and pokeberry — ideal habitat, I noted — and I carefully parted the fronds and peered into that green and wild jungle. No snake.

"Where did it go?" she asked.

I assured her that it was no doubt still around. The main bulk of our garden is laid out in three rows of hay bales with a fallow section

piled high with sticks and broken branches left over from our ice storm. One border is mostly tall weeds, left there for the grasshoppers. Any self-respecting snake would be delirious with joy over finding such a home.

I poked around for a few minutes without result. Blister beetles were dispatched with vengeance so I felt as if I'd done my job at least somewhat.

The question now is how my new non-hysterical wife will handle her garden. Will she fear it, starting at the sight of a coiled hose or a darting skink, or wade into it with impunity? Will she still rely on me for help with snakes and other monsters? Time will tell. If she buys a hoe I'll know she's gained the grim capabilities of my sainted grandmother. And if I find her thumbing double-ought-shells into the shotgun, I'll suspect my services are no longer required.



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Members of the Jackson County Horse judging team included Dylan Parks, Melissa Nelson, Jamie Dysart and Dillon Klahr. They were named state champions and will advance to national competition. (Courtesy photo)



Jackson County's intermediate horse judging team won their division at the 2008 Kansas State Horse judging contest held recently in Manhattan. Members included Indie Allen, Tristan Parks, Elizabeth Allen and Dean Klahr.

AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16 — 7:30 PM
 Maple Hill Senior Center, 218 1/2 Main Street
MAPLE HILL, KANSAS
 Lot 69 and south 14' 3" of Lot 71
 Main Street, Maple Hill, Ks.

TERMS OF SALE: Successful Bidder, sign purchase contract, 20% down day of auction with balance due at closing on or before August 6, 2008, possession at the time of closing. All financial arrangements must be made prior to auction no finance contingencies will be accepted. Owners title policy will be paid half by Seller & half by Buyer. Real Estate agents are agents of the Seller. The property is being sold in its present existing condition "AS IS". Statements made day of auction take precedence over all printed materials.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 26 — 10:00 AM
 Greenleaf Club House, GREENLEAF, KANSAS

<p>ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES</p> <p>Blue willow china; Moon & Star clear glass (2 spoon holders, sugar shaker, small bowl W/gold edge, 12 1/2" compote w/lid, 2-footed berry bowls, 4-flat berry bowls, 10" water pitcher, 12" plate fancy edge, 6" berry bowl, 6-goblets, pair of candle holders, 3-tumblers, handled candy dish, toothpick; Many other colored moon and star pieces; Taylor, Smith & Taylor, Chicken dishes, 30+ pieces; Lots of chicken memorabilia; Mrs. Benteman original chicken house; Vintage jewelry; Gold brooch (old); Assorted costume jewelry; ceramic candle holders; Wicker old baby buggy excellent shape; Table linens; Lefton military figurines; Ertl us mail postal truck banks, (1920, 1923, 1918, 1905, 1913.); cast iron door stop; key collection; assorted roosters & hen memorabilia; bowl, pitcher, glasses, Fostoria?; Cambridge bud vase, sm chip; Russian porcelain; lead crystal candle holders; 8 place setting Franciscan desert Rose (40's-50's); assorted hardcover books, "the salter", "Cappers farm book", "The Robe", several first editions; wooden stopper, tator mashers; 12 place setting Bavarian china; chicken lamp; music memorabilia; Kohlman hatchery match box holder; J.D. collectibles; Fire king dishes; nut chopper; tortoise shell button hook; carnival glass vase; hanging parrot planter; Russian horse puppet; ceramic masks; lots of older collectible dishes; Fenton mouse, signed in the box; toy gun W/ holster; Silver tea set and other misc pieces; Copper pieces; Hallmark collector series ornaments; Delft trivet; several other delft items; 10 gal redwing crock, good; Belgium lace picture.</p>	<p>FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS</p> <p>Floor lamp w/ beaded shade; VHS; TV cabinet; Colored duck lamp; Carpet rocker; table lamps; Many old pictures: "Light of the world", 122/360 original Jonathan Blocker "Scripture", Charcoal by local artist, Mosaic religious picture, "Sampler"; Metal cabinet; word processor; Dining room table & 6 chairs; Maple Secretary (nice); Cushman Colonial maple Hutch W/ plate racks, 5 drawers, 2 storage areas, (nice); Oak tele table; Eagle lamp; Drop leaf dinette table / 4 chairs; butcher block end table; Microwave; Stool; kitchenware, pots, pans, dishes, utensils, etc.; Wicker chair & chest; Small kitchen appliances; French coffee pot; Leaded glass lamp; Night stand; Tower fan; Room heater; Clothes rack; Metal wardrobe; Hot point 18 cu. Ft. refrigerator; Karaoke machine; sewing machine;</p> <p>TOOLS, YARD & GARDEN</p> <p>Eelc. drill; Cement bench & Urns; Xmas decorations, (lots from Drug store); baskets; Garden statues; Hand tools; canning supplies; canning jars; Long handle tools; sad iron; small water pump; large water pump; bird bath; craftsman 20" mower; Gas cans; Watering can; Posts; Aluminum Extension ladder; Hose and reel; Scooter; extension cord; Horse shoes; bird bath heater.</p> <p>COINS</p> <p>Coins will be last items to sell 6 bags of 8 ea. pre 1964 quarters; 5 walking liberty quarters; 4-1964 quarters; 2- 1965 quarters; 1-1963unc. quarter; 1-1964 unc. quarter; 16-Canadian quarters 63-68; 6 bags of 10ea. mercury dimes; 6 bags of 10ea. pre-64 Franklin dimes; 16 65-67 dimes; 7-63-68 Canadian dimes; 3-64 dimes; Many other misc items too numerous to mention.</p>
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TRACTORS: '78 JD 8630, '03 NH TS110, '77 JD 4630, CA 1175, '90 FO 7710, FO TW-20, '66 JD 4020, '83 JD 2940, '63 JD 3010, '78 JD 2030, IH 684, Bobcat 773, Bobcat 753, Bobcat 553, '89 Case 1840, Rouser 600, Case Davis, Ditch Witch 3700, Koyor 400 ldr, GB 660 ldr, '06 NH 625 Trencher attachment; **COLLECTOR TRACTORS & EQUIP.:** '41 JD model G Unstayed, '60 IH Cub Cadet Lowboy belly sickle bar mower, '38 Oliver model 70, '55 Shaw Du-All N-8, New Idea ground drive manure sprdr.; **COMBINE & HARVEST:** JD 4400, Big 12 model 525 bu grain cart, '93 NH 790 forage cutter, NH 973 20' flex hdr, NH 960 20' rigid hdr, 12 Hesston Headhunter row heads, 80 bu Grainovator, 40 bu grain cart, NH 3r silage hd hi pro, Hutchinson 6" X 48' auger; **BALER & HAYING:** '07 Hesston 9345 swather, NH 688 blr, '91 JD 535 blr, Gehl 2880 Rd blr, Vermeer 605H blr, JD 45T sq blr, NH 1116 swather, Hesston 1014 hydro swing, NH 116 14' hydro, NH 116 16' hydro, JD 1600 14' windrower, 9' side delivery rake, Donahue swather trl, OMC 14' hydro, NH 258 9' side delivery rake;

TILLAGE: CIH 28' disc, JD 235 disc, IH 370 14' disc; **PLANTING:** '86 GMC 7000 Spray Truck, 60' boom, JD 7200 6r plntr, JD 7000 6r plntr, 2G Plains 13' drill, dual Hyd drill hitch, G Plains 3S-3000, G Plains 24' drill, JD FB-B Drill, 2-300 gal tractor mnt chem tanks, 1,000 gal tank; **TRUCKS & TRAILERS:** 5-2003 Chaparral 53'X102" fat pots, 2003 Wilson 52'X102" cattle pot, '52 Hobbs 44' dropdeck, '01 Chevy Kodiak 6500, Hillsboro 32' gooseneck flat trailer, 22' gooseneck flat trl, 15' gooseneck flat trl, gooseneck hay trl w/elect hyd lift, '93 Road Ranger Monterey Camper, GMC 5500 truck, '63 Chevy 2-ton grain truck, 18' gooseneck trailer; **LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT:** BJM 900 Feeder wagon, rebuilt, Kelly Ryan feed wagon, Gehl 1322 manure sprdr, 100 bu creep feeder, Steel pipe & posts; **OTHER EQUIPMENT & MISC.:** Rhino SE5 3 pt mwr, Land Pride 3 pt finish mwr, IH Cub Cadet Mwr, Dan Hauser Post hole, King Kutter 6' rear box blade, King Kutter 7' angle blade, (25) 2.5'X10' Roller tables, 250 gal fuel tank w/stand, 2'X8'dozer blade, 2-17'X15' overhead doors.

TOO MUCH to mention!!! visit www.BinaAuction.net for a complete list including terms and condition.

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TERMS: Cash or good check day of sale, no items are to be removed until settled for. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed material. Not responsible for accidents. Loading will be provided day of sale.

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GRASS & GRAIN Auction Sales Scheduled

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

July 15 — Pasture, wildlife habitat & cropland near Miltonvale for Wendell McConnell Estate. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz & Gail Hauserman, salesmen & auctioneers.

July 16 — Commercial vacant lot at Maple Hill for Maple Hill American Legion. Auctioneers: Bill Raine Auctions.

July 16 — Appliances, furniture & household at Salina for Bertha Margeret Roberts. Auctioneers: Roger A. Johnson & Sons.

July 16 — Antique & modern furniture, wheelchair & lift chair at Hoyt. Auctioneers: Wayne Hunter & Gary Henson Auctions.

July 17 — Real Estate at Council Grove for Donald & Peggy Althoff. Auctioneers: Hallgren Auctions.

July 17 — Antiques, collectibles, household & tools at Courtland for Gene & Leora Spitzer. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

July 18 — Real Estate, car, collectibles & household at Glasco for Elizabeth H. Gentry. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

July 19 — Consignment machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

July 19 — Cars, household, collectibles at Maple Hill for Marie Mee & et al. Auctioneers: Bill Raine Auctions.

July 19 — Vehicle, boat, machinery, farm equipment, tools, antiques, collectibles & household N. of Randall for Joerg Family. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

July 19 — Fixtures, wood-working, flooring, pews, riding mower, heating & AC units, stain glass windows at Worden for Worden United Methodist Church. Auctioneers: Edgcomb Auctions.

July 19 — Tractors, truck, trailers, car, machinery, equipment, misc. & shop, antique & household at Peabody for Erma (Mrs. Glenn) Nellans. Auctioneers: Leppke Auctions.

July 19 — Tractors, combine, machinery, trucks, tools & misc. E of Salina for Charles Leister. Auctioneers: Roger A. Johnson & Sons.

July 19 — Old & collectible, brewery collectibles, household & misc. at Newton for Marvin Blair. Auctioneers: Auction Specialists.

July 19 — Glassware, collectibles, furniture & appliances at Council Grove for Johanna Estes & Others. Auctioneers: Hallgren Auctions.

July 19 — Antique furniture, collectibles & household at Halstead for Elinor Ewy Estate. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt Auctions.

July 19 — Household goods, antiques, tools, misc. at Clay Center for Estates of Elwood & Ann Branfort. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

July 19 — Barton Co. grass, farmstead & personal property at Elwood for Thomas M. Steffen. Auctioneers: Schremmer Auctions.

July 19 — Plumbing tools & equipment, plumbing supplies at Lawrence for Boyd Plumbing Inc., Tom & Diana Boyd. Auctioneers: Buddy Griffin Auctions.

July 19 — Farm sale, tools, vehicle at Hoyt. Auctioneers: Wayne Hunter & Gary Henson Auctions.

July 20 — Cars, trucks, camper, tools, tractor, trailers, lawn mower & household N. of Salina for Trow Trust. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

July 20 — Truck, riding mower, 4-wheeler, shop items, tools, furniture, household & misc. at Lecompton for Jon & Lynell Haggard. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

July 21 — Furniture, appliances, household & misc. at Manhattan for Phyllis McCarthy. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

July 22 — Dickinson Co. CRP pasture, cropland at Abilene. Auctioneers: Farmers National Co.

July 22 — Walk-in cooler, small appliances, misc. at Junction City for Allan Trochim (formerly Dairy Queen). Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

July 23 — Real Estate and Inventory at Junction

City for Bargain Barn Furniture, Inc. & Showcase Furniture. Auctioneers: Bud Palmer Auctions.

July 26 — Antiques & collectibles at Greenleaf for Jane Miller. Auctioneers: Uhlik Auction.

July 26 — Antique furniture, antiques, glassware & misc. at Morganville for Wayne & Carol Rowh, DBA "This 'N That". Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

July 26 — Development land at Holton for Ruth Ann Osmun & Feona Kamer. Auctioneers: Dan Harris.

July 26 — Farm machinery & equipment at Herington. Auctioneers: Bina Auctions.

July 26 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture, household items, tools, yard, garden & coins at Greenleaf for Jane Miller. Auctioneers: Uhlik Auctions.

July 26 — Pottery, jewelry, animal skins, plaques & misc. at Lyons for Santa Fe Traders. Auctioneers: Bob Thummel Auctions.

July 26 — Tractors, truck, combines, machinery & equipment, antique machinery & misc. at Lincoln for Steve & Pam Meier. Auctioneers: Post Rock Auctions.

July 26 — Vehicles, boats, gun, shop items, furniture, household, misc. at Woodbine for Kenneth Stout Estate. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

July 26 — Farm equip., antique tractors, collectibles & personal property at Madison for Vicki D. Schroeder. Auctioneers: Nute Rucker Auctions.

July 27 — Coins at Manhattan for Kenneth Stout Estate. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

July 31 — Lyon Co. real estate at Allen for Duane & Dorothy Mounkers. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions.

August 2 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

August 2 — Wabaunsee Co. Real Estate, Eskridge home & personal property at Eskridge for LaMoyné Converse & Converse Ranch. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions.

tioners: Vern Gannon Auctions.

August 3 — Antiques & collectibles at Clay Center for Phyllis Kerns Estate. Auctioneers: Mugler Auctions, LLC.

August 5 — Camper, boat, tools & misc. N. of Clay Center for Charles "Chuck" Scheer. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

August 6 — Land-McPherson County-Top Farms at McPherson for Farmers National Co.-Chris Ostmeyer, Agent.

August 7 — Land-Chase County, Flint Hills-Buck Creek at Cottonwood Falls for Michael & Bernice Spinden. Auctioneers: Rick Griffin Real Estate & Auctions.

August 9 — Car, household, collectibles & antiques at Maple Hill for Wilma Brewer. Auctioneers: Bill Raine Auctions.

August 9 — Real Estate & personal property at Havensville for Larry S. & Barbara K. Hefty Estates. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

August 9 & 10 — Antiques, furniture, collectibles & glassware at Council Grove for Wayne & Joan Gatewood. Auctioneers: Hallgren Auctions.

August 14 — Lyon Co. real estate at Allen for Duane & Dorothy Mounkers. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions.

August 16 — Annual Hanover Firemans consignment auction at Hanover.

August 16 — Farm equipment SW of Marquette for Willard Ericson. Auctioneers: Roger A. Johnson & Sons.

August 16 — Real Estate, household & collectibles at Mayetta for Mr. & Mrs. Charles Renfro. Auctioneers: Murray Auction & Realty.

August 23 — Leather & tack shop items, antiques & collectibles, general household at Clay Center for Paul Williams. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

August 23 — Leather shop, household & collectibles at Clay Center for Paul Williams. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

August 31 — Evans 26th Annual Production Sale AQHA & ABHA Performance Breed Horses at Emporia for George & Sue Evans. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

AUCTION SATURDAY, JULY 26 - 10:00 AM

Located in BEATRICE, NE, at the Gage County Fairgrounds in the Ag Hall Building.

ANTIQUE WALNUT FURNITURE, ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES: Walnut 5 drawer dresser with marble inlay; walnut top end table with glass rollers; walnut Amana made coffee table; walnut 5 leg drop leaf table with 4 cane bottom chairs; walnut drop leaf table with 2 cane chairs; fancy walnut drop dr. secretary with fruit pulls and stacked china shelf; walnut 2 piece bedroom set, dresser has walnut pulls; walnut 5 tier corner shelf; walnut 6 drawer spool cabinet; walnut 4 poster spindle bed with 2 - 10 drawer chest, queen box spring and mattress; walnut 5' hanging wall mirror with beveled glass and rope décor, fancy; walnut needle point rose back rocker; walnut buffet; walnut fruit pull marble top night stand; walnut marble top smoking stand; walnut cane back and bottom spring rocker; walnut framed cushioned rocker with foot stool; walnut matching 32" buffet, full size buffet and 3 tier open front corner hutch; walnut single flat Dr. hutch; buffet; walnut drop leaf dining room table with 8 ladder back chairs; walnut and oak drop leaf tables; walnut corner hutch; walnut 5 drawer dresser with lamp holders; walnut and oak straight chairs; walnut 4 leg glass roller center table; walnut hall mirror with 8 peg hat rack; cane bottom straight chairs; walnut and oak 22" T key wind mantle clocks; 2 - 4 drawer chests; child's rocker; walnut and oak table leaves; walnut hanging mirror; oak high chair; clock shelves; oak 4 leg table; oak 5 tier stand; walnut 24" needle point picture, Rose; numerous quilts consisting of Signature, Butterfly, Block, Wedding Band, May Basket and others; oak fern stand; library table; wood stool; floor lamp; hang dbl. Curved curio; England pitcher and basin; brass Aladdin lamp; 5 piece spice set with carrier; green Depression butter; sterling serving pieces - candle sticks and vase; flatware; blue USA stoneware bowls; crystal candle sticks; numerous crystal and press glass items; finest French ivory china set; numerous old pictures and frames; spreads and bedding; enamel top table; clock shelves; Frass "Winchester" bar scale; lamp bracket; sterling compotes; needle point Christmas frame work; Keen Kutter grinder; apple peeler; table cloths; lg. wood tool chest; sterling silverware pieces; collector spoons; sterling "Rambler Rose" 8 piece flatware set; berry dishes; Germany china bowls; cane bottom straight chair; bird collection; England china flowers; walnut serving tray; china pitcher; wedge bone china/England - Carlyn 14 place dinnerware set; Waverly by Wallace plated serving set; Copenhagen Christmas plates; Bavaria chocolate pot; Cherry Blossom flared Carnival bowl; Irish S and 12 piece crystal stemware sets; R&S Prussia relish and bowl; Bavaria and Germany bowls; Hummel No. 822/0 and No. 11/0 figurines; child's sled; license plates; Delfts pieces; ox yokes; ice cream freezers; shoe lathe; Stanley cherry wood level; coal bucket; wood wheelbarrow; View Master with cards; walnut drawer pulls; etched candy dish; Germany 5 piece chocolate pitcher set; Lefton figurines; cut glass 12" pitcher; Fostoria sherbets; books and many other items.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS: Leather 3 cushion sofa with matching recliner chair, new; Maytag washer and elec. dryer, like new; older GE refrigerator; Amana microwave; RCA 25" color TV; oak Grandfather clock, nice; upholstered chairs; 3 cushion sofa; Ethan Allen walnut drop leaf end tables; overstuffed chairs; Corningware; bread machine; sm. Kitchen appliances; baking dishes; kitchen utensils; baking sheets; floor lamp; elec. typewriter; folding chairs; card table; pictures and many other items.

MISCELLANEOUS: 50 AMP battery charger; Snapper self propelled 20" 6 hp. mower; Lawn Boy 21" mower; 18' aluminum ext. ladder; wheelbarrow; walking sprinklers; mops and brooms; sprinkle cans; gas cans; anti-freeze; coolers; shop vac; sm. Air compressor; lawn chairs; elec. fans; baskets; hand seeder; yard sticks; screws and bolts; elec. drill and sanders; bird feeders; aluminum step stool; bar clamps; vise grips; screwdrivers; ext. cords; tow strap; lawn and garden supplies; wood and ceramic ducks and many other items.

FORD TRACTORS: 1954 Ferguson 30 with new paint, 3 pt., live PTO fenders, grill guard, SNT0128704; 1952 Ford 8N with lights, 3 pt., fenders, SN8N496070; 1953 Ford NAA Jubilee with front end loader, OEM power steering, good rubber, nice; older Ford 5' blade scraper; 3 pt. sprayer.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: If in need, or you collect walnut furniture, you will not find a better offering. Please plan to attend.

ARNOLD & MARIAN WULLSCHLEGER

The Larry and Terry Alm Estate will sell the following.

COCA COLA COLLECTION: Bottles: Beatrice, Omaha, 75th Anniversary, commemorative, NE production sites; red cooler 17x17x11 in. wide; plastic clocks; wooden cases; oak frame 5 cent mirror back frame with lady; signs; metal Refreshment Center sign; 2 peg metal calendar holder; metal Ice Cold right angle mount sign; leather strap cardboard 6 pk. Holder; Mar plastic Coke truck No. 285 with original box; 12 Franklin Coke collector plates; metal openers; wall mount bottle openers; playing cards; pens; magnets; cooler bags; many tins; key chains; thimbles; serving trays: Be Really Refreshed, Have A Coke, Always Cool and others; many Coke drinking glass sets; ceramic Coke mugs; Coke pitcher and 4 glass set; iron one-horse Coke wagon; Coke machine S and P set; ten wheeler semi; die cast cards and 51 Studebaker, Commander Star Lite Coupe; elephants; Polar Bear and Bottle Works collector Christmas ornaments; Hallmark Keepsake Santa ornaments; Trim Tree collectibles; Keepsake mini Santa's; music boxes; Trim Tree Christmas bottle cap decorations; Santa mugs; Coke candle lamp; plastic toothpick holder and collector guides; cookie jar with Coke lid; knick knack shelf and printers tray with Coke mini items; homemade lined wooden cooler with Coca Cola décor; many other small items.

COLLECTIBLES: Green Depression glass: juicers, measure cups, S and P, mixi8ng bowl with hand mixer and divided dishes; enamelware; Wagner roaster; boiler; key wind Sessions oak case clock; Singer oak cabinet treadle sewing machine; large glass pig bank; 24 in. rubber doll; FK grease bowl; cast iron rabbit bank; Shawnee wishing well and windmill; Delph and Flow Blue items; Tulip nested bowl and water pitcher, glass set; medicine bottles; mini implements; Dempster cistern pump; insulator; well cup; oil cans; electrified lantern; sad irons; C&H Sugar semi; Kraut cutter; wooden trunk; single wash tub; gumball machine on stand; 4 leg tbl. With enamel top; scythe; level; sled; cream cans; A&W mini mugs; Tom and Jerry bowl; Seg's Soda bottle, Beatrice; jewelry.

MISCELLANEOUS: Mustang metal detector; 6 unit gun case; Sankyoo game machine; paper shredder; heaters; bottle jacks; wooden freight cart; fertilizer spreaders; step ladder; pry bars; wooden saw horses; wooden bar clamps; Hopkins 22 rifle No. 722.

TERMS: Cash day of sale. No property removed until settled for. All bids off at buyer's risk. Not responsible for accidents or theft. Lunch on grounds.

LARRY & TERRY ALM ESTATE

THE AUCTIONEERS
 Delmer Jurgens Rick Jurgens Dennis Henrichs Gale "Slim" Hardin
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 Clerks: Don Johnsen

Beef Verification Solution now offers more radio frequency id tag choices

Providing the most comprehensive and competitively priced animal identification and data management program available is behind two recent changes in tag offerings and tag prices through Kansas Farm Bureau's Beef Verification Solution (BVS) program. "We're now offering National Animal Identification System (NAIS) compliant '840' radio frequency (RF) eartags," says Nancy Brown, BVS Network Administrator. "Our goal has always been to provide our members with affordable choices and opportunities to make animal identification pay."

Use of the NAIS compliant tag is voluntary as is compliance with all other NAIS-based, animal identification protocols. The '840'

tags are simply a choice within the Beef Verification Solution program. All other RF tags that were previously available through the program will remain available.

"It's great that Beef Verification Solution is providing producers with this choice," says Bryan Rickard, Kansas NAIS Program Manager. "The National Animal Identification System is really just a set of unique and uniform protocols for numbering premises and animals with a goal of improving our ability to mitigate animal diseases. By making the '840' tags readily available, Kansas Farm Bureau is providing a tremendous service to Kansas livestock producers."

In addition, BVS is decreasing the price of their

Temple RF tags by 15 cents per tag. "Being part of a larger network helps us to achieve economies of scale," says BVS's Brown. "By working with AgInfoLink, we're better able to negotiate affordable RF tags and pass those savings on to our members."

The Beef Verification Solution program offers several different types of both Temple and Allflex RF tags. Currently '840' tags command a premium but RF tags available through BVS, range in price from \$1.85 to \$2.45 per tag. Data management fees associated with data input, database management and age verification increase overall per head costs to \$4.10 to \$4.70 (including RF tags).

"I think producers will find that our program is

very competitively priced," says BVS's Brown. "When you add in the benefits that electronically managed data provides producers from a decision making standpoint, plus the age premiums available in the market place, the Beef Verification Solution program really pays."

The Beef Verification Solution is one of several programs available through Agriculture Solutions, a division of Kansas Farm Bureau. The Beef Verification Solution is now active in six states, including Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma and Mississippi. Interested producers should contact their nearest BVS Verification Center by calling 1-800-406-3053 ext. 6141 or visiting www.agsolu.com/bvs.



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

The Dump Truck

Have you seen the movie The Phoenix? A group of adventurers crashed a big twin-engine airplane in the Sahara Desert. Over a period of weeks they rigged together a single-engine plane out of the pieces and flew off to a happy ending. That movie crossed my mind as I shouted down to Mel, "Follow me, I'll get it rolling and coast to the

truck stop!"

It all began Monday afternoon the day before. We had hauled dirt for four hours until the F750 dump truck that Mel had rebuilt and Elmo was driving stalled while trying to unload. Mel popped the hood and Elmo climbed up beside him. Mel is a windmill man, well driller, mule man, machinist and tinker-

er of heavy equipment. Elmo grew up in Mexico and can make anything run if he has enough rebar and duct tape!

"A solenoid ..." they deduced. "Maybe the wiring. Rats, ya know. Wiggle the battery cable. Hand me that 7/8 wrench." I did. He short-circuited the solenoid and you could hear the starter whine. It was 4:45 pm when I headed to town for a new solenoid and rebuilt starter. We agreed to meet at 6:00 am next day.

Tuesday morning with the new parts installed and the handy 7/8 wrench they kept it running until noon when it froze again at the dump spot ... still loaded, of course. They diagnosed bad ignition. Then checked the fuses to find that the fuel pump was blown! Back to town for parts. The truck ran for the next fifteen minutes, allowing us to unload and giving us the false illusion that we had it

fixed. Enough so that we hooked up the trailer and loaded the backhoe. Mel babied the dump truck and made it a hundred yards, where it stalled again. Diagnosis: out of fuel.

Back to my shop, return, pour in two gallons, put in second fuse, short circuit the solenoid, and the parade of truck, trailer, loader and two pilot cars made it to the paved farm road, where it gasped and stopped again. Fuse blown, plus Mel and Elmo concluded it was the wiring on the fuel pump ... rats, again. I go back to the shop to bring electrical wire and black tape.

When I returned to what now looked like a roadside attraction, they had concluded it was the fuel pump itself. Plan: to circumvent the fuel pump altogether! Mel and I arrived at the Auto Parts just before it closed at 6:00 pm. He built a detour fuel line that began with a brass

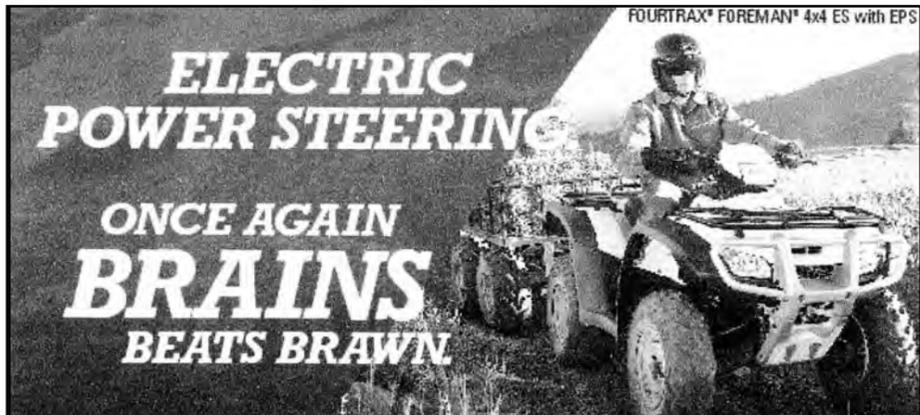
nipple that screwed into the carburetor inlet, followed 9 feet of rubber gas line and ended taped to the spout of a two-gallon gas can.

Back at the scene of the crime, Elmo is waiting for us. The two-gallon can is suspended from high up on the side mirror with baling wire and the rubber gas line wending itself under the hood, around the moving parts and carrying gas by gravity into the carb. Voilà. Third fuse replacement, 7/8 wrench, and we are on our way. In the next mile it stalled twice more but at 7:30 pm I coasted the brave little dump truck the last 500 yards into the truck stop parking lot. As we swung off the four-lane highway in single file, hood not quite latched, and a gas can hanging off the right rear-view mirror I thought of The Phoenix. And of Tom Joad and The Grapes of Wrath. I concluded that if I had to drive from Okla-

homa to California during the Dust Bowl Depression days in a beat-up Model A with four kids and a mattress on the top, the two guys I'd want with me would be Mel and Elmo. God bless 'em.



At the national junior Charolais show, two Kansas youth were members of the reserve champion team in the senior team fitting contest. Members were (L-R) Audrey Hambricht, Chapman; Adam McCall, Trimble, Tenn.; Troy Bertsche, Flanagan, Ill. and Tyler Hahn, Manhattan.



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