

GRASS & GRAIN

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Popular sportscaster shares message of perspective with soybean growers

By Beth Gaines-Riffel, Editor

His voice is almost instantly recognizable to those who follow sports in the Midwest. Mitch Holthus, who at one time did the play-by-play commentary for the Kansas State Wildcats and now entertains Chiefs fans, shared some philosophies of life with the producers in attendance at the Kansas Soybean Expo held last week in Topeka in conjunction with the 20th annual Topeka Farm Show.

Holthus, who has spoken to the group previously, alluded to challenges that he has faced in his life personally. And the energetic broadcaster gave some "behind-the-scenes" insight into the struggles of the Kansas City Chiefs and, in Holthus' opinion, coaching, staffing and administrative mistakes that have been made that led to the miserable performance of the team this past season.

He told the group that a "Renaissance Revolution...return to old school" was in order in many areas. "This is so old school, it's new," Holthus said.

Holthus encouraged producers to "appreciate life." In the best of scenarios, you need to have an appreciation for those people and experiences in one's life. For, as many find out too late, life can be fleeting.

The sportscaster also spent a great deal of time encouraging producers to "appreciate the process."

"We do so much at the expense of the next generation," Holthus said. "We want results now, at the expense of the future."

He told the producers that this attitude is prevalent across society — sports included. Holthus regaled the audience with stories about selections of players for their "instant" contributions for a quick fix to a problem. Holthus believes that there is much to be gained from the development of a young player over a number of years and pointed to those teams who have used



Mitch Holthus, a Kansas native and voice of the Kansas City Chiefs, gave soybean growers a mix of behind-the-scenes sports narratives and a few thoughts to ponder.

that philosophy all the way to a Super Bowl victory.

In society another sign of the instant, upfront mentality is the declining number of strong, long-lasting marriages. "In 2030, it may be really difficult to find someone celebrating a 50-year anniversary," Holthus said after polling the group if anyone there had reached that milestone.

But along with keeping things in check, Holthus encouraged the group to be personally accountable. He suggested a "board of directors" approach for individuals. "A small group of people you can meet with regularly over coffee. The higher up the chart you climb, the more accountability is needed," Holthus said. "I'm in the process of looking for my new board of directors right now."

And maybe most important, according to Holthus, is to make a difference in the lives of those around you or in your community. "Are you leaving a footprint? Are you making a difference? Lessons in the past can sometimes help you learn in the future."

Couple recognized as Young Leader, has bright future ahead

By Beth Gaines-Riffel, Editor

There is no doubt that agriculture is rife with stresses and challenges. And when you are young and just getting started in the business that stress can increase tenfold. But that doesn't dampen the enthusiasm that Randall and Nicole Small of Neodesha have for the business. To that end, the couple was honored last week at the Kansas Soybean Expo as the 2009 DuPont Young Leader. As part of the award the pair will receive a trip and additional training courtesy of the DuPont Company.

The pair, who now have two small children, have been farming for fourteen years, but in the last two made significant changes, taking over the entire management of the farm from Randall's parents. As the transition was taking place, the pair developed a notebook to use as a guide, including the many landlord/tenant agreements, in order that the business could shift seamlessly from one generation to the next. After having legal counsel and guidance the transition was finally made two years ago. "It was done a little bit at a time, but we made it official two years ago," Randall explained. Nicole continued that all of the landlords were pleased with the process, and many were excited because the next generation was continuing the family tradition.

As anyone involved in agriculture knows all too well, disasters can happen at any time and can be truly devastating. Just as the young couple stepped out on their own, one of those unfortunate acts of Mother Nature occurred — devastating



Randall and Nicole Small were honored with the 2009 DuPont Young Leader award during the Kansas Soybean Expo. The pair farm in southeast Kansas and have two small children.

their crops with floods, not just a single year but two years back to back. "It was really tough on Dad to see the destruction of the crops," Randall explained. "He didn't want to pry, but kept asking how we were doing. It was hard for him, because he wasn't the one taking the financial loss. We were."

It was this rocky start that forced the couple to recognize the extreme importance of risk management and crop insurance. Randall says that being well-insured is critical for the operation. "After the last couple of years it's been tough to see a couple of guys our age go out of business," he explained. The operation run by the Smalls includes 2,000 tillable acres of wheat, corn, soybeans and sunflowers. They also have further diversified their operation by including Korean Lespedeza

and Red Clover. "It was hard to find seed for these crops so we decided that this was a niche that we could fill," Nicole explained.

In addition to their cropping enterprise they also run 400 head of cows and manage 3,500 acres of pastures and hay ground.

The pair, which holds degrees in different areas from different colleges (Nicole's in animal sciences from Oklahoma State and Randall in agronomy from Kansas State) brings a wealth of knowledge to the operation. Nicole explained that in managing the operation, each focuses on their area of expertise — she making the decisions on the cattle aspect while Randall focuses on the agronomic sector.

During these challenging

Continued on page 3

K-State, KU and Kansas Wheat partner for KBA grant

Solutions to some of the world's most pressing food and energy problems could be found right here in Kansas.

Kansas Wheat, Kansas State University and the University of Kansas have formed a voluntary alliance under the guidance of the Kansas Bio Science Authority to develop plans for a dramatic joint venture, called the Innovation Center for Advanced Plant Design: "Plants for the Heartland." The Center will focus on emerging commercial opportunities for wheat, sorghum, small grains, and native plants and grasses.

The revolutionary research platform will combine the expertise of scientists from both universities. The University of Kansas brings to the agreement know-how in extracting value from numerous natural materials; meanwhile, K-State has proven its ability in plant-breeding technology. The end-result will be a host of new methods of scientific discovery and ultimately, commercial release of cutting-edge technology that has a positive impact on human health, plant science and food and fuels.

The cooperative effort was launched by Kansas Wheat nearly a year ago. It has since received enthusias-

tic support from major private plant science industries, several of the state's most innovative farmers and ranchers and other private institutions. The Center for Advanced Plant Design is working to secure up to \$50 million in startup funds from the Kansas BioScience Authority; funding would be used to build a state-of-the-art research facility near the K-State campus in Manhattan.

"The Center for Advanced Plant Design is unique in that it combines major, private plant science companies that have committed to being a part of this endeavor. We'll take new

discoveries and technologies, extract the value from them and in turn, create new businesses and jobs for Kansas," said Dusti Fritz, Kansas Wheat CEO. Kansas Wheat is the cooperative agreement between the Kansas Wheat Commission and the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, with a common vision of "leaders in the adoption of profitable innovations for wheat."

At this facility, scientists will unlock the power of plant genomes by accelerating research and development and creating novel traits and profitable innovations for commercialization to meet market demands,

thereby creating substantial new wealth for the state of Kansas.

Outcomes for the Kansas Innovation Center for Advanced Plant Design: "Plants for the Heartland" include commercialization of sustainable, drought-tolerant, high yielding varieties; foods with reduced allergenicity; new food products that are rich in anti-oxidants, cancer fighting components; plant-derived medicines for preventing and curing human disease; high bio-mass plants for bio-fuel production; high starch content for animal feeds; and ethanol with less wastes and environmental impacts.

Guest Editorial

Agriculture can do the job

By John Schlageck

Agriculture is losing producers. No one will argue that point, but larger, more efficient producers are replacing those lost in this highly competitive industry.

While this is not necessarily a desirable trend, it is one that has continued for decades — maybe since the beginning of this noble profession. That said, it is also a

trend that is not confined to agriculture but has affected nearly every sector of the U.S. and world economies.

Regardless of this ongoing change, care for the land and this critical resource continues to improve. Today's farmers are increasing the amount of organic matter in their soil. With the advent of no-till and reduced tillage farming, farmers con-

tinue to build organic matter and improve the soil tilth. There is no reason to believe this practice will be discontinued.

Today's modern farmer is not exhausting the land. Just the opposite is true.

Without question, scarce water is always a concern, especially in midwestern states where rainfall is limited and people use plenty of

it. Farmers constantly chart rainfall amounts and monitor weather conditions.

In Kansas, agricultural producers are aware of changes in the Ogallala Aquifer. They understand the navigable waters issue because of its wide-ranging impact on farmland and farming. They understand the importance of clean water and have long supported the need for clear jurisdictional lines and a common-sense approach to wetlands.

Farmers are very much tuned into water and the conservation of this vital resource. Some are concerned about the potential of a long-term climate change.

If such a phenomenon does occur, there is the possibility that Kansas could become more arid — more like New Mexico, for example. But if this is a concern, no one has been predicting such an event to date.

Barring a major shift in our climate, crops will continue to be planted in western Kansas. Production could be less than now, but this land will be farmed and farmed wisely.

Another myth that is con-

stantly being circulated contends that crop yields will not keep up with population growth. In many parts of the world populations have been declining or leveling off.

In addition to a population slow-down, crop yields have been increasing through genetics and sound farming practices around the world. This could all change with a couple of years of drought, but to say that by 2050 the United States will not be able to produce crops is like yelling the sky is falling.

There is nothing to suggest yields will not keep up with population growth. Even countries with marginal soil and more severe climates than our own are growing crops today. We have better yield potential and better food value today and with new genetics and technologies coming on line, there is no reason to believe the world won't be able to feed itself in the future.

American agriculture is

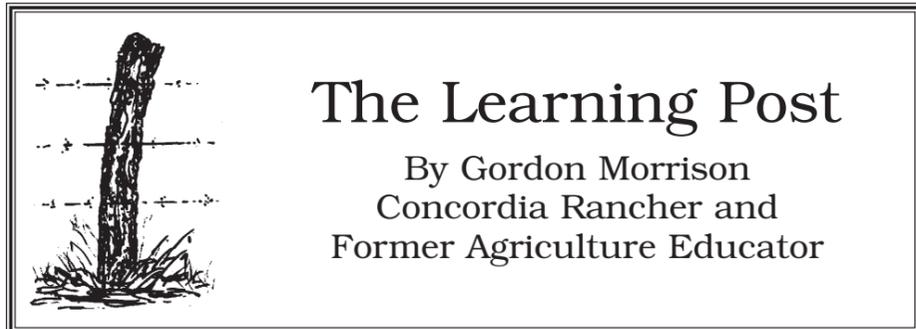
up to the task. This country has the ability to continue producing for the world.

The United States farmer and rancher can compete with other nations, if they aren't shackled by government regulations that cause production costs to soar.

Even the most efficient farmers in America can't make it with regulatory restrictions. Any regulations must be science based and uniform across the board for producers around the world.

If there is equal opportunity for everyone, where all producers have the same health and safety restrictions, U.S. agriculture will compete. Give farmers and ranchers the same opportunity, as others around the world and bountiful, wholesome food will continue.

Winston Churchill said many years ago, "Give us the tools and we will get the job done." The same can be said for agriculture in this country.



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator

You Could Be Eligible For Federal Funds

On Highway 50, a few miles west of Emporia, the Strong City Rodeo grounds can be seen on the north side of the road. About a mile west of the arena, one may recognize the skeletal remains of what was once a large feedlot. High on the ridge are the rusting pipe feedlot fences and the old water tower. The feed mixing mill still stands but has not been in use for many years.

Back in the 1960s, the Crofoot family, who were prominent in the livestock industry, built a large feedlot there. It was their dream to locate in the Flint Hills and also to be near the meat packing plant at Emporia. It seemed like an ideal plan. The feedlot was constructed, and thousands of feeder cattle were shipped in to be fed to choice and prime grades. The manure from the lots drained into the Cottonwood River. This was not thought to be a big problem until thousands of fish began to die. It was a massive fish kill that resulted from aerobic bacteria acting on the manure and using up the life-giving oxygen that the fish needed in order to live. Then the decomposing fish added to the dilemma. The manure-laden Cottonwood River flowed into John Redmond Reservoir, southeast of Emporia, turning it into a cesspool not fit for fish, recreation, or city water use.

It was then the state passed a law in an effort to stop the polluting of Kansas streams. The feedlot was ordered to build lagoons to contain animal wastes; but apparently with the highway so near and the high ridge, the lagoons did not meet standards. The feedlot owners folded their dream and moved to Texas. Every feedlot is now required to have adequate lagoons to contain the runoff of animal wastes and prevent them from entering the natural drainage streams. The Kansas Water Quality program calls for testing samples from streams that flow into reservoirs. Results from these tests indicate that some streams still carry an excessive amount of waste products from livestock. Where is this coming from? Closer examination shows that feeding cow herds near stream banks is one source of contamination of our streams and reservoirs. While it is convenient to feed by wooded creeks, where the winds are not as strong and drinking water for the cattle is so readily available, there is an undesirable spin-off.

Kansas conservation districts

and WRAPS (Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy) groups are greatly concerned about water quantity and quality in the state. To help ensure an adequate supply of water that is safe for municipal use as well as for recreation and pleasure, such as for fishing and swimming, the State Conservation Commission recently (in the fall of 2008) made available an amount of \$936,748 of cost-share funds for the fiscal year of 2009, which is to be implemented through the Non-Point Source Pollution Control Cost-share program. These funds will be initially targeted for the watersheds above the twenty federal reservoirs with public water supply storage. Although the first application period ends January 16 of this year, remaining funds will be offered in the second application period. These funds are being made available to farmers and ranchers who will develop a local project that will protect our streams from pollution.

This should encourage cattlemen to plan projects that move the wintering of cows from the creek area to where their emissions will be buffered by native grass. The plan could entail the planting of windbreaks for winter protection, fencing the cows from the creek area, and an alternate livestock water supply, including freeze-proof tanks. Each project would be tailored to fit the situation. If cost-share funds are available, one would need to follow guidelines and meet requirements as established by the Non-Point Source Pollution Control program. With good planning and some effort, one's wintering and calving practices could be improved and moved from a creek site to one that is protected by windbreaks, perhaps with corrals and sheds added by the rancher on his own, and at the same time stopping the pollution of streams that feed into federal reservoirs. It would be a project of mutual benefit — to the rancher as well as all who would enjoy the clear, pollution-free water downstream.

To learn more about how not to be a stream polluter and at the same time prove one's method of wintering the cow herd, call your local conservation district office. It would be better to plan now and make a change on one's own volition with possible assistance from cost/share funds than to wait until later when perhaps one may be compelled to conform by law as feedlots were.

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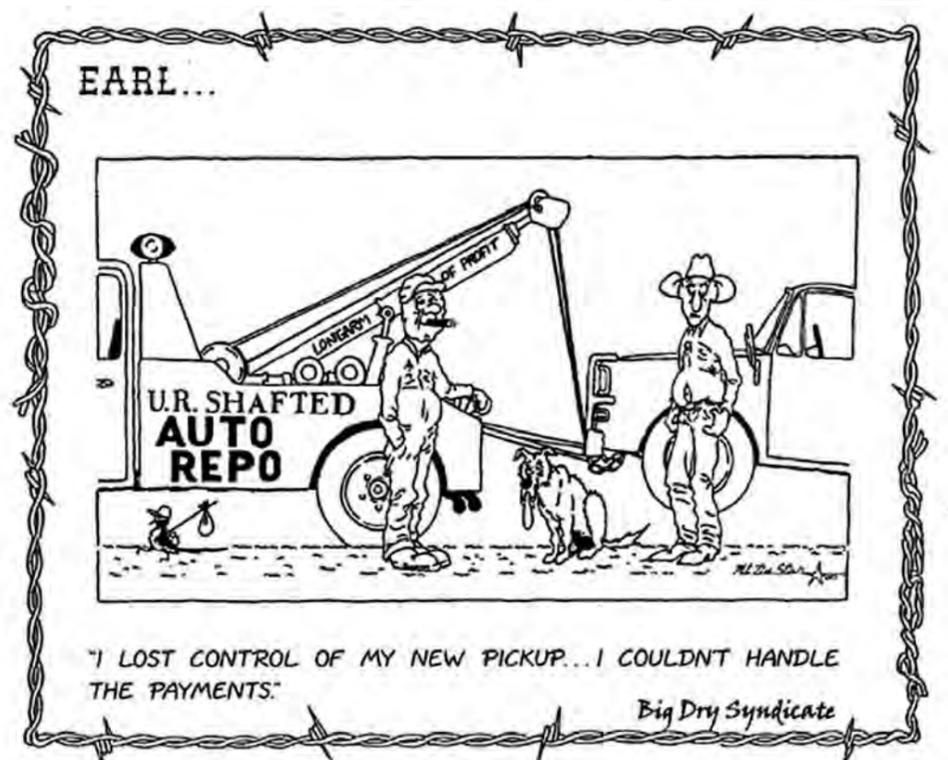
By Ace Reid



Reflect upon
your present
blessings, of
which every man
has many — not
on your past
misfortunes, of
which all men
have some.

— Charles-
Dickens

"Wilbur if you want to lose weight so bad why don't you eat what you feed yore ole cows?"



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Great Bend cobbler says business is improving

GREAT BEND (AP) — It's the smell of leather that immediately lets you know you are somewhere exceptional.

Somewhere unique. Somewhere not many think to frequent in a day where "use and toss" is common.

But here, in a modest shop in this town's square, a trade dating back hundreds of years remains strong, where residents bring their boots and shoes to be repaired and shined.

Business, the owner says, is good. And in times of economic hardship, he expects it to get better.

"We're steady, that's for sure," Matt Felke said as he stopped the electric stitching machine to greet a man walking through the front door. "We definitely aren't hurting for customers." Felke, a 46-year-old former cowboy, bought the shoe repair shop in 2008 from longtime owner Jerry Becker, hence the combination of two names for the business: "Becker's Shoe Repair, the Boot Doctor."

"He is first, as far as I am concerned," said Felke, who added the

"Boot Doctor" at the suggestion of his two daughters. "Everyone in town knows him."

And he knows everyone. Many times Becker can identify customers from their footwear. Years of repeat customers — who tend to bring in the same types of shoes over and over — have created a steady flow of business.

But it hasn't been without changes.

Shoes, Becker said, are not made the way they used to be, and many times, modern styles can't be repaired.

"Years ago, you repaired everything, even children's shoes," he said. "But the quality is not near as good as it was. Now you can go to Wal-Mart and buy a pair of shoes for \$19.95, wear them and pitch them. You just can't repair those cheaper shoes."

To fill the void in business left by a disposable society, Felke expanded the business when he took over in March. Now, more retail fills the front of the store, and a place for saddle repair occupies the back.

There are similarities

in repairing saddles and shoes, although Felke had no formal training in either.

A cowboy for more than 21 years who repaired saddles at his home out of necessity, he was looking to get out of the business he calls "a young man's job" when, on a whim, he asked Becker who was going to fix his boots when he retired.

"I'd been bringing my boots to him since I was a kid," Felke said. "When he answered, 'I don't know,' I didn't have sense enough to keep my mouth shut. I said, 'Maybe you could teach me how.'"

So, on the first day of March, Felke bought the store and started learning the trade.

Becker, a shoe cobbler for nearly 50 years who learned the trade from his father, was happy to have a buyer for a business he says "not many young folks are turning to."

A decline in the shoe repair industry spans decades, leaving only about 7,000 cobblers in the United States, and only a handful in Kansas.

But business remains

Young leaders honored

Continued from page 1

times with instability in companies and the wild gyrations of the marketplace there is plenty of uncertainty to go around. Following a marketing plan, which is typically sound business advice, caused a bit of heartburn for the Smalls as it did for many producers this past year. When they had contracted early for some of their wheat crop, they believed that they had locked in a very solid price for their production. And as many found out, the market can often be difficult, if not impossible, to predict. Remembering the soaring price of wheat mid-2008, reaching nearly \$10 per bushel, that price was more than double the value of the forward-pricing contracts that the Smalls were required to fill. "That was hard," Randall admitted.

The big swings of the market have also caused struggles on the supply side of the farming equation. The Smalls admit that they are cautious about who they do business with, simply because they can't afford to pay money out for product that isn't delivered. "We haven't prepaid anything that we don't have sitting on our farm," Randall explained. "During these times you just aren't sure who is solid and who isn't." Being the sixth generation to farm the land, the importance of passing the family business down to their children isn't lost on the Smalls. When asked about their future goals, Randall was quick to answer that his ultimate quest is to have the operation be thriving enough "to have a kid or maybe two come back and take it over."

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GUN & ANTIQUE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 — 10:00 AM
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4. H & R Topper 410 model 88 hammer;
5. Remington 12 ga. Single shot side hammer;
6. Winchester model 101 v/o skeet with 3 barrels (20, 28 & 410) never fired w/box;
7. another Winchester same as no 6, never fired;
8. Winchester Winlite 12 ga model 59;
9. Winchester 12 ga Winlit model 59 semi 26" barrel;
11. Remington 22 semi model 597 composite stock w/ Tasco

- 3-9 scope;
12. Winchester 243 model 100 w/Bushnell scope;
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19. Winchester model 62a pump 22;
20. Smith & Wesson 44 magnum revolver;
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22. High Way Patrol Special 32 revolver;
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24. Fabrique National Darmes Deguerre Browning Pat) 38 pistol;
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- Tasco & Bushnell binoculars; metal ammo boxes; 24th edition Gun Values; fishing equipment; 26 deer antlers; 11

single antlers; camp stoves.

ANTIQUES/COLLECTIBLES

- Railroad telephones; oak wall telephone; Navy telephone; Lionel 2025 electric train; porcelain Barbershop pole sign; tin signs; bisque & china head dolls; WWI Army horse blanket; large assortment of Oriental collectables; car glasses; assortment plates; Shawnee pottery; jewelry; sheet music; children's books; cook books; Mickey Mantle Louisville bats; Boy Scout items; 50's toys; newer JD & Farmall toys; glass battery jar; butcher tools; oak treadle sewing machine; 2 flat top trunks; tap & die set.

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

Note: We will sell the guns at 10:00 a.m. followed by hunting & fishing items. The collectables will follow. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

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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.

ANTIQUES/COLLECTIBLES

- Oak recipe boxes; brass kerosene lamp; Southwest pottery; several old cookbooks; barn wood frame with polar bear print; glass ducks; German horn a plenty; Karl Ens porcelain German center piece items; Germany lady and man figurine; various crystal items; Bavarian plate; German gold trimmed tea set; brass German dessert flatware; Beleek jardiniere; glass compote; Oriental bowls; Bavarian china, 12 place setting Arzberg; 2 bronze cavalry sculptures; 4 Oriental wood carvings; Gorham pitcher; Meita china; Lefton bowl; various platters; various crock bowls; small crock milk pitcher; 3 gallon crock; Southwest jewelry, men's rings; Red Hat Society items; large selection of jewelry; numerous wildlife prints; fancy work; turtle collection; duck decoys; Ducks Unlimited items; military items; Daisy cork gun; Golden Gem adding machine; game glasses; gold tip fountain pens; Bullet pencils; Ironstone milk pitcher; 1895 potato slicer; German battle stoppers; military books, WWII; Scotty dog silhouette; Civil War books.

- cart; dinette table with 2 chairs; kitchen cart, butcher block top; Maytag washer and dryer, white; pie safe, painted; Crosley side/side refrigerator, almond; tree trunk table lamps; RCA TV; oak glass top coffee table; La-Z-Boy recliner; floral sofa; occasional chairs; full size bedroom set, dresser, chest of drawers; Zenith color TV; pine 3 drawer chest; walnut folding ladies rocker, very nice; bookcases; Southwest coffee table; primitive chair; oak cedar chest; full size bedroom set with dresser; Mahoney sewing cabinet; computer desk; enamel top table; Hot Point refrigerator; Panasonic microwave; queen size bed; rough sawed bench; Frigidaire refrigerator; iron spi-

ral plant stand; Bose stereo; Panasonic 5 disk DVD player.

HOUSEHOLD, TOOLS & MISC.

- Kodak digital camera; various computer items; office supplies; 8 place setting white Corningware; large selection of Corningware and Pyrex; Bunn coffee maker; cast aluminum commercial cookware, very nice; Hamilton Beach roaster oven; large selection DVD's and CD's; linens, bedding and towels; hundreds of cookbooks; shop vac; hand tools; 6 ft. aluminum ladder; Black & Decker tool chest; pet taxi; Ryobi leaf blower; 4 wheel lawn cart; pole saw; gas string trimmer; push mower.

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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Marlene Schwartz, Randolph, Wins Weekly Grass & Grain Recipe Contest

Winner Marlene Schwartz, Randolph: "Mom always made this cake for unexpected company. It was quick and fast to make and it baked while they were eating. It is always a hit."

PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup syrup from pineapple slices (save slices for bottom of cake)
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 cup brown sugar

Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs, flour, baking powder, salt and pineapple syrup. In a 12-inch iron skillet or like-size pan, mix butter or margarine with brown sugar. Lay pineapple slices on top of brown sugar mixture. Pour batter over pineapple slices and bake in a 350-degree oven for 40 to 50 minutes or until cake is done.

Rose McKeever, Berryton: "I got this recipe from a very good friend."

LEMON FRUIT CAKE

- 3 cups white sugar
- 1 pound oleo
- 5 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon soda (dissolved in 1/4 cup water)
- 1 pound white raisins
- 1 large package candied pineapple
- 1 large package candied cherries
- 4 cups chopped pecans
- 3 tablespoons wine
- 7 eggs
- 2-ounce bottle lemon extract

Mix all together well. Grease and flour pans or use foil. It makes 2 angel food pans. Bake 3 hours at 250 degrees.

Kristie Dressman, Frankfort: "Very easy to make."

CARAMEL CHEX

- 1 1/2 sticks margarine
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1/3 cup white Karo syrup
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 12-ounce box Corn Chex

Cook margarine, brown sugar and syrup in microwave, boiling for 1 1/2 minutes. Add baking soda and mix. Pour Chex cereal in

a bowl. Pour caramel over Chex and mix. Microwave on high for 1 minute. Take out and stir. Repeat two times. Spread cereal out onto a large cookie sheet to cool. Separate. Store in air-tight container.

Janis Mickelson, Lyndon: "This cookie is so delicious yet simple to make. A great addition to any cookie tray. Almost like candy."

TRUFFLES

- 8-oz. package cream cheese
- 1 large bag Oreo cookies (1-pound, 2-ounce)
- 7 eggs

Crush cookies fine. Add softened cream cheese. Blend until you see no white. Roll into 1-inch balls. Dip in white or chocolate almond bark.

Hint: A food processor works great.

Thelma Baldock, Delphos: "This calls for walnuts but I use pecans."

RAISIN WALNUT DELUXE PIE

- 9" unbaked pie shell (chilled)
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened

- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts or pecans

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a medium bowl beat eggs on low speed of electric mixer until well blended. Stir in softened butter and beat until smooth. Add nuts, raisins and vanilla and mix. Pour into unbaked cooled crust. Bake 50 to 60 minutes or until a knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let cool on wire rack before serving. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

NOTE: May substitute 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips and 1/2 cup pecans for the raisins and walnuts.

Janet Jehle, Baldwin City: "Delicious for cold January days!"

CHEESY POTATO SOUP

- 4 cups cubed & peeled potatoes
- Small amount of onion, diced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups milk
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 8 ounces Velveeta cheese

Combine potatoes, onion, salt in water in a large pan. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender; drain. Add milk, butter and pepper. Simmer until heated through. Stir in cheese. Stir until cheese is melted.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center: "A good snack for kids after school."

MARSHMALLOW CRISPIES

- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 40 large marshmallows
- 5 cups crisp rice cereal

Heat butter and marshmallows together until marshmallows are melted. Remove from heat and add crisp rice cereal. Stir until coated. While warm press into a 9-inch square butter pan; cool. Cut into squares.

Hint: 1 pint marshmallow creme = 40 marshmallows

Marlene Swisher, Reading: ENCHILADA CASSEROLE
1 pound hamburger, browned
1 can fiesta cheese soup
1 can cream of mushroom soup

15-ounce can pinto beans, mixed with chili powder
(12) 6-inch corn tortillas
8 ounce package shredded cheddar cheese
Mix together hamburger, cheese soup, mushroom soup and pinto beans; set aside. Arrange four tortillas in a lightly greased 9-by-9-inch pan. Spread 4 to 5 heaping tablespoons of meat mixture over tortillas. Repeat layering two more times with remaining tortillas and meat mixture. Top with cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until cheese is bubbly.

Mary Rogers, Topeka: "A good stay-in-the-house winter project."

BAKED APPLE BUTTER

- 4 quarts applesauce
- 2 tablespoons cinnamon
- 6 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup vinegar
- 1 cup crushed pineapple, drained

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. To applesauce add sugar, cinnamon and pineapple and mix well. Pour into roaster, cover and bake for 3 hours, stirring occasionally. Pour into jars and seal.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge: "The barbecued beans give this recipe such a unique flavor. These are good with chips tucked inside for a little crunch in every bite."

BBQ SLOPPY JOES
1 pound ground beef
1/2 onion, chopped
28-ounce can barbecued beans
14 1/2-ounce can stewed tomatoes
1 1/2-ounce package sloppy joe mix
6 sandwich buns, split & toasted
Brown beef and onion in a skillet over medium heat; drain. Stir in remaining ingredients except buns and simmer for about 30 minutes. Serve over toasted buns. Serves 6.

Kellee Rogers, Topeka: MINI CORN DOGS

- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 16-ounce package beef hot dogs (each dog cut into 5 pieces)
- (40) 6-inch wooden skewers soaked in water 30 minutes
- 1 1/2 cups self-rising cornmeal mix

1/2 cup flour
3 tablespoons sugar
1 1/4 cups buttermilk
Vegetable oil for frying
Place cornstarch in a bowl. Place one hot dog piece on the end of each skewer. Dredge hot dogs in cornstarch, gently tapping off excess. In a bowl combine cornmeal mix, flour and sugar. Add buttermilk, whisking until smooth. In a large Dutch oven pour oil to a depth of 4 inches and heat to 350 degrees. Holding the ends of the skewers dip hot dogs, two at a time, into cornmeal batter completely covering the hot dog. Holding the ends of the skewers, carefully place the battered hot dogs into the hot oil. Fry for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Repeat procedure with remaining skewered hot dogs and cornmeal batter.

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NW 1/4 less Section 12 Township 2 Range 4, Exc. Rd Row. This farm consist of 156 acres more or less in Charleston Township. This farm consist of 66.3 acres Cropland with balance pasture, roads, waterways. According to new GIS measurements this farm has no wheat planted on it. Bases are wheat 20.2 acres; grain sorghum 30.9 acres; soybeans 2.8 acres.

TAXES: for 2008 \$847.89. Seller will pay 2008 tax.

TRACT II: Marshall County, KS Farm - 270.1 Taxable Acres more or less.

LOCATION: 7 miles West of Marysville, KS on Hwy 36, then North 1 3/4 miles on Bremen blacktop Road, West side of road. From Bremen, KS; 2 1/4 miles South on blacktop on West side road.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: N 1/2 Section 19 Township 2, Range 6 in Marshall County, KS less 26.6 acres tract more or less in SE 1/4 corner of N 1/2 of Section 19. There is also a road easement of records to give access to 26.6 acres. All legals to be given in legal contracts. This farm consists of 147.8 acres more or less cropland with balance pasture, hay meadow, waterways, old building sites and roads according to new GIS measurements. This farm has no wheat planted on it. This farm has a 48'x180' Quonset on it. Bases are wheat 45.1 acres; grain sorghum 69.2 acres, soybeans 6.2 acres.

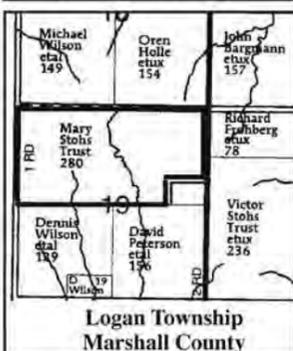
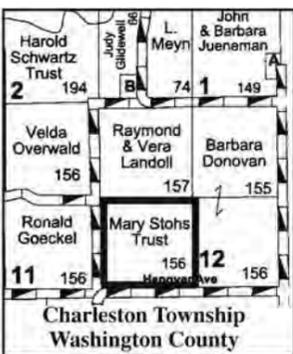
TAXES: For 2008 \$1,992.36. Seller will pay 2008 tax.

TERMS: Cash with 20% down payment. Earnest money, to be paid day of sale with balance on or before March 6, 2009, these farms are open for farming and pasture. Full possession to be given upon closing. Buyer and Sellers to equally split the title insurance, abstracts and closing costs.

Contact Donald Prell for details on this and FSA yield figures. These farms lay very well and are in an excellent location to farm or for investment. Look it over before sale. Contact Donald Prell Realty & Auction 785-799-3787. Realtor represents the Seller as agent and not as agents for purchasers. Statement made day of sale take precedence over advertisements or previous statements. For inspections or inquiry contact Donald Prell.

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Lynn Burgess, Lyons: "This is my favorite kind of sponge cake. The spices make the whole house smell so festive. Vinegar seems to always be the secret in most recipes."

SPONGE CAKE

- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs, divided
- 2 cups bread sponge
- 1 square chocolate
- 1 teaspoon soda in 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice

Cream butter and sugar; add egg yolks, bread sponge and chocolate. Mix well and add soda mixture. Mix flour and spices and add loosely. Then fold in beaten egg whites. Add the raisins and bake in moderate oven.

NOTE: I can usually find the bread sponge in the grocery stores but if not try your health food stores.

CUSTARD FILLING FOR SPONGE CAKES

- 3 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 pint milk
- 1 tablespoon gelatin
- 1 cup whipped cream
- Pecans
- Cherries

Mix yolks, sugar, salt and vanilla; beat hard. Scald milk and pour over yolk mixture; add soaked gelatin. Boil 10 minutes, stirring constantly. Cool until stiff. Beat into whipped cream. Use as filler between layers and also to frost your favorite sponge cake. Decorate with pecans and cherries.

Shirley Deiser, Kanopolis: **CORN SALAD**

- 1 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup vinegar
- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 cans whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 small can peas, drained
- 1 can French-style green beans, drained
- 2 tablespoons pimiento, chopped



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- 1/2 cup onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 1/2 cup green pepper, chopped

Heat sugar, vinegar and oil until sugar melts (almost to a boil). Pour over vegetables and marinate overnight.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh: **SMOKY PIMIENTO CHEESE**

- 3 cups grated white cheddar cheese
- 3 cups grated smoked cheddar cheese
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans
- 7-ounce jar diced pimientos, drained
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon ground red pepper
- 2 cups mayonnaise

In a bowl combine cheeses, pecans, pimientos, black and red pepper. Add mayonnaise, stirring to combine. Cover and put in refrigerator up to 3 days. Serve on crackers.

Mary Longren, Holton: "This cake is delicious right out of the oven served for breakfast or brunch."

ALMOND LOAF GRIDDLE CAKE

- Beat the following for 1 minute:
- 2 2/3 cups Bisquick
 - 1 1/2 cups sugar
 - 6 tablespoons butter
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/2 cup milk

Add the following and beat another minute:

- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon almond flavoring

Put in a greased 9-by-13-inch pan and bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Pour the topping over and return to oven.

Topping:

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 4 tablespoons sugar

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons milk

Boil the mixture for 1 minute. Put on hot cake, sprinkle with almonds (sliced or slivered) and return to 450-degree oven and bake 5 minutes more.

The following are leftover from the Holiday contest:

- Marcia Emig, Goodland: **FLUFFO POTATOES**
- 8 to 10 medium-sized potatoes
 - 1 package cream cheese
 - 1 cup sour cream
 - Salt & pepper to taste
 - 1 small onion, chopped fine
 - American cheese

Boil potatoes, drain and mash. Add cream cheese to hot potatoes; mix well. Add salt and pepper and sour cream and beat until fluffy. Mix in chopped onions. Pour into greased baking dish. Top with strips of American cheese and bake in moderate oven, uncovered, until lightly brown.

Marlene Swisher, Reading: "This is a good soup to put together in the morning for the crock-pot on a cold day."

NAVY BEAN VEGETABLE SOUP

- 4 med. carrots, thinly sliced
- 2 celery ribs, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cups cubed fully cooked ham
- 1 1/2 cups dried navy beans
- 1 pkg. vegetable soup mix
- 1 envelope onion soup mix
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 8 cups water

In a 5-quart crock-pot, combine the first 9 ingredients. Stir in water and cover and cook on low for 9 to 10 hours or until beans are tender. Discard bay leaf.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge: "This recipe is a super easy, cheesy favorite."

CHICKEN & BROCCOLI PUFFS

- 10-ounce tube refrigerated crescent rolls
- (2) 10-ounce cans chicken, drained
- 10 3/4-ounce can cream of chicken soup
- 1 cup milk
- 8-ounce package shredded cheddar cheese
- 10-ounce package frozen chopped broccoli, cooked & drained

Separate crescent rolls and place one tablespoon chicken in the center of each. Roll up according to package directions. Arrange rolls in a lightly greased 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Mix together soup, milk and cheese and pour over crescent rolls. Bake, uncovered at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until rolls are golden. Spoon cheese sauce from chicken puffs over broccoli and serve together. Serves 4.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh: **BROCCOLI PASTA BAKE**

- 1 pound penne rigate pasta
- 3 cups broccoli florets
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 8 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 1/2 cups grated Parmesan cheese, divided

Free Online Recipe

Included as part of Grass & Grain's website is a "Free Weekly Recipe." You need not be a subscriber to view this recipe. Go to: www.grassandgrain.com 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 is Chocolate Peanut Butter Mallow Bars from Kellee Rogers, Topeka

Recipe Request

A G&G reader is looking for a candy recipe called Grandmother's Nut Loaf. It calls for white sugar syrup, English walnuts, whipping cream or canned milk. It makes two loaves that you let set before slicing.

Below is a similar recipe taken from the Internet.

If anyone has this recipe please send to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505 or e-mail agpress2@agpress.com

CREAM NUT LOAF

- Printed from COOKS.COM
- 6 cups white sugar
 - 1 cup white syrup
 - 3 cup light cream
 - 1 tablespoon butter
 - 1 cup English walnuts
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

Boil sugar, syrup and cream until it forms a soft ball when tested in cold water. Remove from fire, add butter and beat until it thickens. Add nuts and vanilla and when nearly ready to set, pour into buttered loaf tin to cool. Slice and cut into squares.

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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.

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COLLECTIBLES

Mission style wall clock; banjo clock; Woodring for Governor 1930's spare tire cover; Will West for Governor broadside; political pins; salesman sample juice press; Art Deco table lamp; oak machinist chest; large assortment good paper items inc.: Wyeth catalogue, Sandwich Gas engine book, car, truck brochures & manuals (Plymouth, Ford, Chev), farm machinery brochures (John Deere, Oliver, other), gun brochures, ammo brochures; many catalogues; 1959 Belleville calendar; trade cards; large collection fishing items (lures, reels, paper advertising); hunting knives;

shotgun shell boxes; duck calls; brass binoculars; Victor 32 pistol; 410 shot gun; 22 pump rifle; BB pistols; cap pistols; assortment books; sheet music; crocks inc.: WH Clark 2 gal salt glaze, AW Addy 5 gal salt glaze, blue crock bowls, churn lid, other; Mission oak game picture; train picture; sail boat picture; other pictures; toys inc.: Windup Lincoln Tunnel, windup boat, Santa on cycle, other metal toys; mail box bank; Arcade bus; many JD toy boxes; child's cowboy boots; children's puzzles; flue covers; hat pins; quilt; assortment vintage fabric; neck ties; car hood ornaments; auto clock; ladies wrist watches; pens & pencils; marbles; buttons; doctors bag; travel alarm clocks; hanging rain lamp; Hoyer guitar; Sterling candelabra; Aladdin electric lamp; Maytag, DX Outboard & Sinclair oil tins; painted doll cradle; painted phonograph horn; granite bucket; National Auto lamp tin; Oak Bend Dairy tool; cookie cutters; red wood box;

pr. candle screens; child's blackboard; Bud beer clock; wooden ice skates; small anvil; hatchet; Military flashlight; golf club; sterling charms; US Air Force pin; ATT brass plate; globe; tin tractor seats; cream separator; cow bells; leather punch; 1894 \$10 gold piece; coins; stamps; large assortment of other collectables not listed.

GLASS

Royal Doulton Sutherland pattern; Heisey dish; demitass cups; 6 pc. Van Briggie pottery; Shawnee elephant pitcher; Roseville vases; salt & pepper shakers; Hull vase; Nippon nut set; Goebel Chimney sweep; cut glass dish; American Fostoria; Fenton glass shoes; Imperial milk glass owl pitcher; blue covered duck; shot glasses; nappy; covered butter; child's punch bowl; collector plates; other glass; Goebel birds; Shrine figures; porcelain figures; Skeezix & Jiggs china figures; assortment other glass.

NOTE: This is a very nice auction. There are many pieces not listed, check our website for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

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Hey Neighbor For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

Hometown Hero Makes It Big Riding Cutting Horses

Making the finals with the big boys is not an overnight deal.

"You have to pay your dues," insisted his grandma Donna Smith.

"It takes a minimum of five years working for the public, but often 10 years, and many times more than that, or never," inserted his grandpa Dean Smith.

Yet, having the best coach, other top riders at your side and outstanding horses doesn't hurt either.

Actually, Jessie Pritchard has been riding exceptional horses since he was five years old, and under the guidance of world-renowned

trainer Dean Smith. So the now 24-year-old cowboy has put in his time, so to speak.

The Council Grove native, now based near Nashville, Tenn., has worked for and with other top riders throughout the country. Pritchard is currently employed as assistant trainer at Painted Springs Farms, owned by Barbara Brooks, wife of Kix Brooks of the famed country music duo Brooks & Dunn.

Pritchard, son of John and Cathy (Smith) Pritchard, made his name internationally known at the recent three-week-long National Cutting Horse Association Futurity

in Fort Worth, Texas.

Two horses, ridden by Pritchard, placed in the first go-round, advanced to the second round, and he even made it into the semi-finals on one of his mounts, Athena Nuff, owned by Brad and Anna Mitchell.

"That was in the open futurity with over 680 horses entered," explained Smith, who made three trips to Texas to watch his grandson compete. Competitors included the best cutting horse trainers in the world.

Pritchard's family was able to make the excursion to watch the Council Grove hometown hero compete in

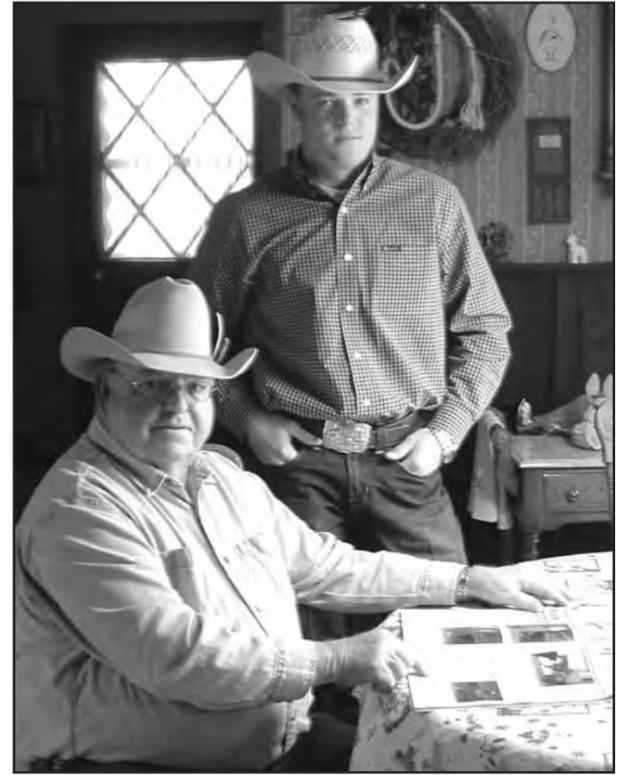
the finals of the \$2.4 million event, which paid a quarter million dollars to the winner.

"Jessie was also entered in the Limited Open division, which is for contestants who haven't won more than \$200,000 in the past five years," Smith calculated.

The Limited Open is a class within a class. If a rider participating in the Limited aspect of the Open makes it past the first two go-rounds, a percentage of the riders with the top accumulative score advance to the Limited Finals. Pritchard finished 15th in this division on Athena Nuff.

"It was sure the highlight of my career, and I was riding top horses," Pritchard admitted. "I must give credit to my turn-back riders who helped me. I wouldn't have been able to do it without them." They included Brett Davis, Brad Mitchell, Steve Oehlhof and Austin Shepherd.

Smith quickly added, "Not only did horses trained at Painted Springs Farms do well in the futurity, but one of their two-year-olds was a



"A chip off the ol' block" is an appropriate description of Jessie Pritchard, who learned how to ride and train cutting horses from his grandfather, Dean Smith of Council Grove. Following in family tradition, the younger generation, headquartered out of the Nashville, Tenn., area, is now collecting major cutting horse competition recognitions, just like Smith did in previous decades.



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top seller in the futurity sales, going for about \$200,000."

Pritchard and his grandparents reminisced about his life as a cutting horse rider when he came back to Coun-

cil Grove to celebrate the holidays. When he was just five, Pritchard started riding horses at his grandpa's training stables.

"Cowboy was the name of the horse who taught me

to ride. He was an Impressive bred gelding that had been basically retired from the show circuit," Pritchard recalled. "Mom, Dad or my sisters really never had much interest in riding horses, but

I always liked to ride."

Admitting that his grandpa was his idol, Pritchard decided early on that riding cutting horses were what he wanted to do with his life. "I've never done any other events except cutting," he recognized.

With world-class horses in the Smith Training Stables, Pritchard collected a number of awards in the Kansas Cutting Horse Association as a youth. "Jessie's a little shy to brag about it, but he was the year-end winner in the youth division several times," Smith credited. "He's won two saddles and lots of other buckles, bits and prizes."

Although Pritchard rode several good horses in his youth competition, he credits the buckskin Peppy Sandorado, owned at the time by Marty Bloomquist of Topeka, as being the one on which many titles were collected.

While doing other activities in high school, Pritchard still kept riding horses first on his priority list, always

looking toward his career. Most contend it would be impossible to find a better trainer to work with than Dean Smith, and Pritchard agrees, but he spread his wings a bit when he accepted a job with trainer Bill Riddle in Ringling, Okla.

"I worked for Bill a year, then came back and helped Grandpa before I started working for Steve Oehlhof, a trainer in Texas," Pritchard recalled.

That's when Pritchard got the opportunity to work for Barbara Brooks' training operation.

"They have a nice facility and own some outstanding

horses," Pritchard acknowledged. "Brad (Mitchell), head trainer for Painted Springs Farms, is an excellent trainer. Besides horses trained for the farm, we also have some outside customer horses."

Starting two-year-olds is Pritchard's main priority. "We begin with about 30 two-year-olds, and then pick the top end of them to make into our show horses," he evaluated. "The Brookses raise about ten horses of their own each year."

Considerable ground work is done with the colts

Continued on page 8



Competing at the National Cutting Horse Association in Fort Worth, Jessie Pritchard, 24, is mounted on Downtown Paddy Cat, owned by Erika Black. The Council Grove native now trains professionally for Painted Springs Farms near Nashville.

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GUN, AMMO, KNIVES AUCTION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 10:00 AM
 206 S Forest (Douglass Community Bldg.)
DOUGLASS, KANSAS
PREVIEW DATE: Friday, January 23 — 2-7 PM
DIRECTIONS: From the Fire Station in Douglass go South on Forest to AUCTION!!!
NOTE: This Auction includes: precision target pistols & rifles, rifles, shotguns, pistols, scopes, binoculars, reloading equipment/supplies, miscellaneous ammo, miscellaneous gun supplies, and lots of miscellaneous items.

AMMUNITION, RE-LOADING EQUIPMENT, MISCELLANEOUS GUN REPAIR, MISCELLANEOUS	#13 Winchester Model 70 300 Winchester magnum with Simmons scope, SNG 2212755
SHELDON GUN LATHE	#14 Mauser Action Conversion - Double set trigger - 8mm with World Class scope, No SN
6" Swing, 56" bed, steady rest, 3 jaw chuck, misc. tooling, 4 jaw chuck, taper attachment, 12" diameter, 70" long.	#15 Marlin 336 30-30 with Bushnell scope, SN 70-81382
KNIVES & TOYS	#17 Yugoslavia Action 308 with Leopold scope, No SN
GUNS, KNIVES, MISC.	#18 Winchester Mod 70 300 H & H with Bushnell scope, SN 369024
#1 Winchester Model 70 300 H&H with Tasco scope SNG1968209	#19 Ithaca LSA 55 245 Win with Redfield Scope, SN 550141189
#2 Winchester Model 70 Feather weight 257 Roberts with world class scope SNG 1516857	#22 Winchester Model 94 Trap- per 44 caliber, with Unertl scope, SN 6077771
#3 Winchester Model 70 308 with Deerfield scope, SN3528	#37 Remington Model 87 with 2 barrels 20 gauge, SN 5800619K
#4 Winchester Model 70 225 Remington with Lumina scope, SNG2096000	#54 Ruger Super Black Hawk 44 caliber, SN 82-93255
#5 Mauser Action 308 with Banner scope, SN2A9617	#59 Ruger Vaquero Nickel 45 caliber, SN 57-66725
#6 Winchester Model 54 30.06 Gov w/Burris scope, SN14509	#60 Ruger Vaquero Blue 45 caliber, SN 56-42356
#7 Winchester Model 54 270WCF with Burris scope, SN42769A	#63 Colt Series 70 combat commander 9mm 41/4" barrel satin nickel, SN 70SC40050 (w/3 clips) - Pistol
#8 Winchester Model 70 30 Gov 06 with side Mount REC sight, SN15196	#77 Includes (73) pocket knives
#9 Marlin Model 60 22 LR, SN 08583365	#104 Ruger 77 257 Roberts SN70-55469
#10 Russian Action with 45-70 barrel, SN 935171	#129 Phoenix Arms Model HP - 22LR Caliber Automatic SN 4670954 (2 clips & 2 barrels)
#11 Winchester Model 70 30-06 with Tasco scope, SN 62191666	#165 Marlin Model 1894 357 Magnum
#12 Revelation Model 10 22 caliber, SN P857904	

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Continued from page 7

by Pritchard before he mounts them. "Then I'll ride in the round pens and arena for about 60 days before I go outside with them," he described. "I'll work the colts on the flag for 20 days, and then start them on live cattle.

"These horses are bred to be smart. They're good horses, so I really don't have any trouble," Pritchard added. It takes about 600 leased cattle in a three-month rotation to satisfy the training facility's needs.

Barbara Brooks is the main force behind Painted Springs Farms, which has bred and raised many of the horses being trained at the facility. In addition, Mrs. Brooks participates in weekend shows and futurities.

One of the more prominent NCHA-sanctioned futurities is the Music City Futurity, which was initiated by Mrs. Brooks. During this futurity, Brooks & Dunn hosts a live concert, in addition to other activities including an auction, with proceeds do-

nated to charities.

"I really am fortunate to get along so well with my employers and my co-workers," Pritchard claimed. In addition to Mitchell and his wife, Anna, who also rides cutting horses, the farm has grooming and barn crews, as well as exercise riders.

There's seldom idle time. "We keep about 50 head of horses in training, and I'll typically ride 25 head myself," Pritchard commented. "During the summer, sometimes we'll start at 3:30 in the morning, so we can be done before it gets too hot. Generally we begin about 6 o'clock, and work 12 to 14 hours a day."

Hard work has paid off with Pritchard's accomplishments. "We go to a lot of weekend shows throughout the year, mostly in Tennessee, and we've done well in some of the state futurities," he related. "The horses I rode in Fort Worth, though, had never been in competition." Futurity horses are three-years-old that have not been shown.

The mares shown by Pritchard at the futurity were granddaughters of High Brow Cat, who has been a leading sire for many years. Athena Nuff, the mare he rode to the semi-finals, is by Athena Puddy Cat, and Downtown Graffiti is by Downtown Cat.

"Both mares had great days. They are really nice horses and have been outstanding all year. But, a person never knows when it comes to the competition, as there are many factors involved in the two-and-one-half-minute run," Pritchard expressed.

Smith relayed, "There are five judges at Fort Worth. The high and low scores are thrown out, with the rider's score being the total of the other three." Some of Pritchard's scores included a 216 and a 214.5.

"If you have never been to the major events sponsored by the National Cutting Horse Association at Fort Worth, you really can't realize how big the industry is," Smith emphasized.

Pritchard agreed, "The general economy is stressed, but good horses still sold well at Fort Worth. A total of 1,120 horses brought an average of \$13,688 this year, which is down from a year ago, but still pretty strong, accordingly."

Proud of his grandson's accomplishments, Smith granted, "Jessie is a hard worker and a good hand. Yet, he had some top horses to ride when he was learning. That rubs off, so a rider knows what the horse is supposed to feel like when he's doing what's right."

Pritchard also indicated, "To be successful, a person

can't be afraid to work at it. You have to want to, that's for sure. It takes a long time to get everything together."

Interestingly, Pritchard does not own a horse of his own. He's never owned a horse in his life. "But I've sure had the opportunity to ride a lot of good ones," he professed.

Seeing the cutting horse industry continuing strong, Pritchard's own future is optimistic, though he has no plans to shift from his present position.

"I really like what I do. Someday I might move, but for now I plan to keep riding and competing. Hopefully, next year I'll be able to place higher and win more," concluded Pritchard, who returned to Tennessee before Christmas Day, to prepare horses for shows starting early in the new year.

Annual pie and coffee series starts

The first pie and coffee meeting for 2009 will feature Dr. Walt Fick, K-State Research and Extension Range Management Specialist. It will be held in the Sunflower Room in Westmoreland on Thursday, January 22 starting at 1 pm.

The Pottawatomie County Conservation District will once again sponsor the pie and coffee for all four sessions. Dr. Fick will discuss how animal units are figured and how to producers can determine proper stocking rates for their native and tame pastures. The next in the series will be February 19 in Olsburg.



UPCOMING AUCTIONS





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Biotech petition survey in the mail to growers Budget will dominate 2009 legislative session

Wheat growers around the country should be watching their mailboxes for a petition survey seeking their opinions about deploying biotechnology traits in wheat.

The survey, which was released late last week, has been commissioned by the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) and is intended to measure and document the level of support for biotech trait commercialization among wheat growers.

Growers receiving the mailing will get a packet containing a cover letter, a copy of petition language and a response card they should mail back as soon as possible. Responses are requested by Jan. 12.

"The petition is designed to document the depth and breadth of support for biotechnology among wheat producers," said Daren Coppock, NAWG's chief executive officer. "Anecdotally, we're convinced the support is there — this petition will either confirm or confront that belief."

"By reading the peti-

tion and responding with their support, growers can help our industry show biotech companies that they are smart to make the commitment of time and resources and bring this tool to growers," Coppock said.

Wheat area in the United States has been on a steady decline for the past 30 years as other crops that do have access to biotech traits have competed for producer interest and delivered greater returns. NAWG and many other groups in the "wheat chain" believe biotechnology will be a key component in the future competitiveness of wheat as a crop by providing a variety of agronomic and, eventually, consumer advantages.

The 2008 Kansas legislative session will long be remembered for the political dogfight over coal-fired power plants in western Kansas.

Those same power plants will likely be a key topic of debate in the 2009 session, which began Jan. 12. But the state's economy — like that of the nation as a whole — has slipped into a recession. Thus, a tight state budget and the challenges that go along with that will be the centerpiece of the 2009 session, according to Dana Peterson, producer policy specialist for Kansas Wheat.

"With the tight budget situation and tight economics going into the state legislature, there will be attempts to increase fees that apply to farmers in the operations of irrigation equipment and fertilizer applications. We do know there will also be attempts to look at all tax exemptions the state gives including those that are given to farmers. We will closely monitor those two items," Peterson said.

Another topic of interest to wheat farmers is the Kansas Bioscience Authority. Currently, Kansas Wheat has plans to submit a proposal to the KBA that would develop the Plant Innovations Center in Manhattan. The Center — a collaborative effort between Kansas Wheat, Kansas State University and the University of Kansas and numerous private companies — will bring about a host of new plant breeding technologies.

Formed in 2004, the Kansas Bioscience Authority has amassed more than \$580 million to invest in exist-

ing and startup bioscience-based businesses in Kansas. The KBA's hefty balance sheet could be a target for some legislators, in light of the state's own economic woes.

"With that money, the legislature may attempt to sweep those accounts to use with other state general funds items. We'll be making sure that situation stays strong as we approach the Plant Innovations Center proposal to that organization the first part of February," Peterson explained.

Water and transportation issues also will bear watching as the legislature reviews all expenses, Peterson added. Among them:

The Special Committee on Eminent Domain and the Condemnation of Water Rights will bring legislation forward that clarifies existing water law.

The Special Committee on a New Comprehensive Transportation Plan will have recommendations on state and federal funding of the state's highway infrastructure.

Peterson suggested farmers can keep up-to-date on the Kansas legislature by logging onto the Kansas Legislature's official website: www.kslegislature.org and check the "Current Happenings" tab. From here, viewers can see the weekly calendars for the House, Senate and various committees. Or, contact Kansas Wheat for a quick update on issues that pertain to wheat farmers.

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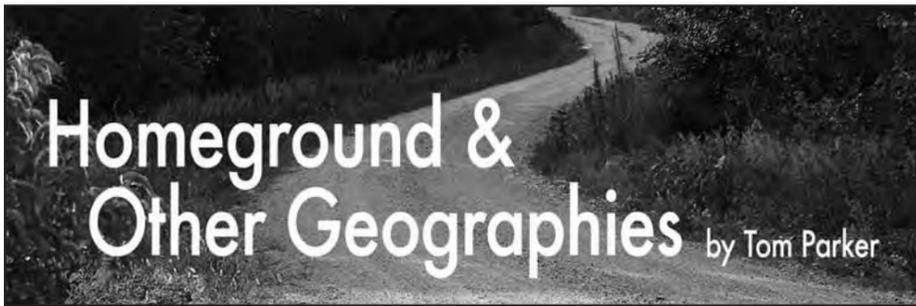
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Homeground & Other Geographies by Tom Parker

Ring around the sun

The sun in the south, low, the open road ahead a luminous ribbon of light like hammered steel or the polished surface of a frozen lake. As the outskirts of town fall away I fumble for my sunglasses and slip them on and feel a momentary surge of relief, and passing across the gelid waters of Mill Creek cut my eyes to a rounded knoll topped by twin pines, sharply defined and stark against a distant darker blue. Though I've tried to disassociate myself from the hill and what transpired there I find my efforts continually rebuffed as if the story and its aftermath languish incomplete, awaiting an ultimate resolution that somehow only I can provide. And here it is almost spotlighted, drawing me like a moth to a flame. All things are reflective, I think, even the darkness.

After the clouds of the

past weekend the light is dazzling, almost surreal. Dropping the visor doesn't help nor does squinting so I hold up my left hand to shield my eyes and discover the January sun encircled by a thin circular rainbow. I'm reminded of the sun pillar we saw in eastern Colorado a few weeks back, a solitary crimson shaft thrusting from the horizon like a finger, an optical phenomenon caused by sunlight reflecting off ice crystals drifting horizontal to the ground. Portents in the heavens? I have no idea.

While not uncommon, these displays have some meteorological significance, especially annular prisms, or sun halos. Before satellites and modern technology, it was all but assured that the presence of halos meant a change in weather, usually associated with rain. We now possess a godlike view of the planet and a more advanced

understanding of what makes the atmosphere tick, and have relegated these myths to the dustbins of history. Yet I like the idea of getting my forecast from what I can see with my own eyes.

I also like the idea of change. The near-preternatural brilliance of the late afternoon makes me wonder if I've been too long indoors in a sort of self-induced seclusion, or reclusion, and I recall how it felt to slip my binoculars from its case last Saturday with the idea of spending a day in the field counting birds. Such a simple thing and yet essential to my nature. How long had it been since I last held them? Too long. And for what? What grand thing had I accomplished that negated putting up Christmas decora-

tions or wrapping gifts, that halted our basement remodeling project, that slowed to a trickle my education in the things I want to learn? I could think of nothing.

To allow myself a full day devoted to birding was like the granting of a wish I had no words for. There was only a sense of something missing, something passing, something irretrievably lost, or having the potential at any rate, depending upon a number of things, some internal, some external, but mostly upon myself. And now this sun halo pendant in the southern sky a message for my eyes alone, and a backward glance at the hill where Robert Bennett hung himself a reawakening to an awareness of time and its finity.

It's so easy to get lost. Being found is more difficult, and sometimes arrives in the form of disaster. If we're lucky we see the proverbial light before it's too late. In my case, there's light refracting off ice crystals in the troposphere, light reflecting off the road, light radiating into my eyes. There's a ring around the sun. It's not too late, I think. It's a new year, and time for a change.

NCGA applauds USDA's implementation rule for ACRE program

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) applauded the U.S. Department of Agriculture after the department released the rule to implement the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The program was authorized as part of the 2008 farm bill.

USDA Secretary Ed Schafer announced that ACRE enrollment for the 2009 crop will begin in the spring. The two-year price average for the 2009 crop will be based on the 2007 and 2008 crop years. NCGA and other agriculture groups encouraged USDA to use prices from the most recent crop years to calculate the price component of the program.

"We are pleased to hear the announcement about the ACRE Program," NCGA President Bob Dickey said. "This is a very important piece of the 2008 farm bill to NCGA members, especially during a time of uncertainty and volatile commodity markets." The ACRE program will provide a new, optional risk management tool for farmers. The program delivers payments to producers facing losses in crop revenue caused by adverse weather conditions and declining prices. Program participants accept a reduction in Loan Deficiency Program rates and a decrease of 20 percent in direct payments.

"Since enactment of the legislation, NCGA has worked closely with USDA on the 2008 farm bill," Dickey said. "On behalf of our nation's corn growers, I would like to extend our gratitude to Secretary Schafer and the employees at USDA for their thorough consideration of our members' views and concerns regarding ACRE. We are pleased with the outcome of the ACRE program and look forward to the implementation of the other farm bill programs."

According to the USDA, growers may immediately enroll in the Direct Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program, elect to receive advance direct payments and then later modify their enrollment to include the ACRE program, or they may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in Spring 2009.

LAND AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 — 10:00 A.M.

Auction Location: Community Center-On 16 Highway
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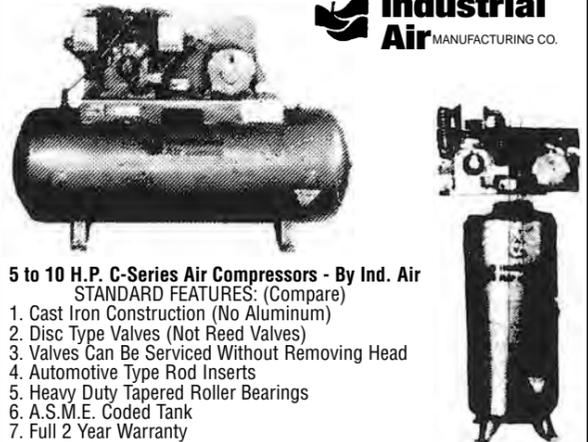
TERMS & POSSESSION: The sellers require 10% down payment day of sale with the balance to be paid on or before March 2, 2009. Possession to be upon closing. Buyers will receive all of 2009 CRP payment. Buyers acknowledge they must abide by all CRP rules and regulations. Buyers and sellers to equally split title insurance and closing costs of the Nemaha County Abstract Co. Sellers to pay all of 2008 taxes. Buyers to be responsible for all 2009 and subsequent years taxes. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material. Cline Realty and Auction represents the sellers interests.

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Crop school to focus on the competitive advantage in Osage

The Osage County Extension Council is planning to host an educational meeting, "Crop School—Staying Competitive," 10 a.m.-3 p.m., January 20 at the Osage City Community Building. The fluctuation of crop, fuel, and fertilizer prices and increase in seed and herbicide prices make it very important that farmers get a grip on input costs and marketing.

To meet these needs, the Extension Service has put together a program that should benefit many producers. Kevin Dhuyvetter, K-State Research and Extension, Farm Management Specialist, will discuss "Getting a better understanding of input costs." This discussion will include economic nitrogen and phosphorus application rates, fuel price variations and much more. Later in the day, he will also present "Technologies that Pays," a look at various new technologies available to farmers. He will use a computer program to determine the costs saved and the number of acres that

must be farmed to break even.

Also speaking will be Doug Shoup, Southeast Area Extension Crop Specialist. Shoup will talk about the importance of soil fertility, research on fertilizer additives, and new plant population studies. He will also be on the afternoon program and will give an update on weed control research and new chemicals for 2009.

The last speaker of the day will be Andrew Lewis of the Risk Management Agency, Regional Office in Topeka. The new farm bill presents many changes in crop insurance, Andrew will present this information and will be available to answer your questions.

Lunch will be provided for a free will donation.

Organization continues to honor service men and women

For troops, both deploying and returning, the greatest gift of all wasn't wrapped and tied with a bow under the Christmas tree in 2008. The greatest gift of all was presented in a celebratory steak feed, sponsored by the All American Beef Battalion (AABB). The AABB was the vision of Vietnam veteran and cattle rancher, Bill Broadie, in his quest to send steak suppers for the troops overseas. With a passion for the Service and for the cattle industry, Broadie soon realized he could combine his two loves into a plan of action to make a huge impact in the world.

Since its inception in August of 2007, the AABB has worked hard in their mission to support the troops and promote the beef industry, hosting several steak feeds across the country with more planned in the future. For the group of veterans and cattlemen of the

All-American Beef Battalion, hosting a steak feed to honor the troops was a way to show their gratitude for the troops' service overseas.

Looking back on 2008, the AABB kept busy giving steak feeds to honor the troops that have fought the global war on terror. The AABB is non-profit organization that works to raise money to host steak feeds for the troops while promoting American beef. The first honorary Steaks For Troops event held by AABB was for the 731st Transportation Company on April 26, 2008 in Olathe.

In that first steak feed, 220 ribeyes were served to over 200 guests. Since that first event, donations have poured in from supporters wanting the steak feeds to

continue. In May, AABB hosted another event in Montana. From July to October, the pace intensified, and AABB hosted four more events for troops.

Another four were held in December, keeping the AABB committee busy during the holiday season. The Dec. 13th steak feed in Copperas Cove, Texas was extra special as veteran Bud 'Doc' Willis was introduced to the troops and honored for his combat service in 1969 in the First Calvary Division. Willis came home from the war with multiple wounds, and this old warrior was strongly applauded by the soldiers at the steak feed.

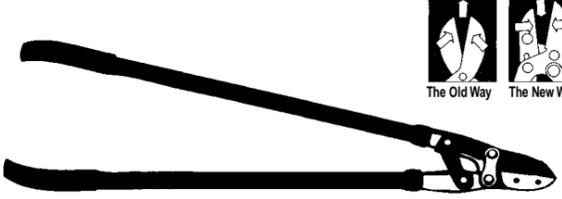
Without a doubt, troops, young and old, deserve the recognition for their years of service to protect our nation's freedom. 2009 will

bring another year of giving the generous gift of steak feeds to the troops. The first was scheduled for Jan. 11 and another 17, both in Hutchinson. Another will be held on Feb. 28 in Denver, Colo. The individuals that tirelessly work with the AABB to give appreciation to the troops are in agreement that serving a meal of American beef is the truly best way to celebrate their gift of service.

The All American Beef Battalion is a group of individuals within the United States beef cattle industry dedicated to support the troops fighting the global war on terror. They work to organize and sponsor steak feeds, entertainment, and programs with Service Members and their families.

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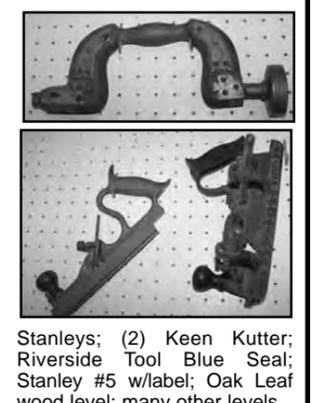
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ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 — 9:30 AM
LOCATION: Sterl Hall (Heated Facility), 619 N. Rogers, ABILENE, KANSAS

OLD PICTURES: (12:00 Noon) 1930 Calendar yard long Lady picture "Morris Clothing" Beloit, KS; 2 yard long Lady pictures; Young Girl picture "Ready For The Opera"; Philip Boileau "At The Opera" picture; round picture Girl in Red Dress laying on Spider Web; 3 Art Deco semi nude prints; 2 Maxfield Parrish calendar tops "Sunup" & "New Moon"; tin Ad Lady picture "Buckeye Pants" S.L. Weiler Cinn., OH; 4 chain edge pictures; John Ehlers & Co. Agriculture Implements & Cars, T. Shanks & Co. Simpson, KS, Central Nat. Bank Junction City and Davis & Burke Sabetha; other pictures.



POSTCARDS & PAPER ITEMS: 2 Teddy Roosevelt raised Bear postcards; 1908 GOP at Bat and Presidential Race postcards; 62 Memorial Days & Political postcards; 37 St. Patricks; 4th of July postcards; Santas; Washington; Lincoln; Taft; Roosevelt; Tucks, Clapsaddles, C. Chapman, Charles Russell, Mechanical; 1909 & 10 calendar; many quality postcards; Stereoptic view cards: 35 presidential, 20 Columbian Expo, 2 Zeppelin, 3 Civil War; (92) 1800's Calling cards; Valentine's with Honeycomb; Dr. Brinkley Milford, KS 1930 KC Journal Post 4 pg. newspaper insert w/pictures of complex and 4 pg. AMA article "The Quack"; 1936 Alf Landon book "The Tale of a Fox"; 1902 Prohibition in KS book; 1922 Anti-Saloon League yearbook; 1896 Buffalo Bill booklet advertising Himrods Asthma cure; 1890 & 98 mini almanacs; other paper advertising.

ANTIQUE WOOD PLANES: (Approx 10:15 AM) Over 75 wood planes: molding, flat bed, Dado, grooving and others: STANLEYS: #29, #39 1/4" & 3/4", #45 floral design, #45's, #46, #48, (2) #50, many #55, #71 groover, #78, #80, #81, #82, #129 76 Bell, #292 and many other Stanley planes; Winchester W5, Keen Kutter #7; (2) Bailey #8 pat. 1910, 26"; #124 wood & brass molding plane A.C. Barter Prest H. Haines Griffiths Norwich; Kieby wooden molding Melhuth Fetterlane; (2) D. Malloch Perth; J. Siegley's wooden molding plane; R. Hoey NY E.G. Spenser molding plane; large selection of iron & wooden planes from 1870's; many parts for planes; 1975 book "The Stanley Plane" by Alvin Sellens.

ANTIQUE TOOLS: C&T Pilkington Sheffield Eng. "Her Majesty" all wood & brass drill brace (early 1800's); Jaed0's 1894 steel frame bucksaw; 12 1/2" Broadaxe head Simmons & Co.; Winchester single axe head; Johnston & Winner double axe head; KK pipe wrench; 2 Winchester S wrenches; Draw Knives; KK dividers; Millers Falls circular spoke shaver; 1883 Diamond Tool sq. nut & monkey wrench wing nut adj.; Kettle hammer; gas brass tank port. Copper end soldering iron (unique); 4 dowel makers; 4 spoke pointers & spoke end cutters; old implement wrenches some John Deere; Sperator & Buggy wrenches (Moon Bros.); Maxwell car wrenches; Fordson S crescent wrench; 1904 Wallace mfg. trip hammer tool; saw sets; A.W. Miller M1 wire stretcher; 1904 Strieby & Foote wire twister; other rare and unusual tools.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: U.S. Cavalry bridle bit; Ideal mfg. 32 cal. S&W single bullet mold; 2 old pistols for parts; U.S. Army QMC meat saw; Concordia Creamery crate hatchet; 1886 crank type nutmeg grater; Quick & Easy brass cone shape ice cream dipper; Coca Cola ice pick & opener; 1901 rope maker; Winchester flash lite; cast iron implement tool boxes; 2 cast iron Imp. Seats P&O; 5 ft. bull lead pole; 1 row "Midget" planter head; old wood cabinet Philco television w/6 1/2" picture; 2 tin Santa spring candle holders; Union Pacific RR glass slide for movie theater; Anheuser Busch

ANTIQUE LEVELS: cast iron Davis level pat. 1877 & 1883; 1904 24" American Combined Level & Grade Finder for RR work Edward Helb Railroad, PA; Cook's level pat. Dec. 7, 1886 brass & wood Davis & Cook mfg Watertown, NY; Disston level; 1872 Stanley Rule & Level; cast iron

ANTIQUE MARBLES: (10:30 AM) 1 11/16" white and burgundy Onion skin w/gold stone flecks (VG); 1 3/4" Latticino core swirl slight chips; 70 swirl marbles 1 1/2" to 1/2" various types and conditions; 3 Sulfide marbles 1 5/8" dog, 1 3/4" bear and possibly an Armadillo; 7/8" watermelon corkscrew; Indian swirls; small Lutz chipped; 2 3/8" stone Agate; 7/8" green stone agate; other stone agates; 3/4" & 13/16" Gold Tiger Eyes; Benningtons some Black; decorated China; Christensen Agates; Akro Agates; shooter marbles; 2 bracelets w/marbles; Slag marbles & other marbles.

AUCTION NOTE: Many quality items. No junk so be on time. Will run 2 auction rings after (10:00 AM). To view color photos go to website www.ksallink.com and click on marketplace and then auctions. Auction preview Friday January 23 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Lunch available.
TERMS: Cash or good check with proper identification. Statements made day of auction takes precedence over all printed material.

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Television documentary challenges animal welfare perceptions

How do you document a perception? On the heels of the Proposition 2 vote in California to end the practice of confining certain animals raised for food comes a Kansas-produced television documentary that showcases the care, empathy and human compassion involved in raising farm animals. Kansas Farm Bureau's latest in a series of award-winning television documentaries, "The Care & Feeding of Farm Animals," features men, women and families of Kansas who raise farm animals for food. The film delves into the heritage of livestock production in Kansas and examines the economic impact associated with a growing negative perception related to the welfare of farm animals.

"As people shift away from the farm, geographically and culturally, there's a void — and perceptions are filling it," said Mike Matson, Manhattan, who wrote, produced and directed the documentary. "The ways consumers think about and react to their food and the animals it comes from impacts everything associated with it, starting with the farmer who raises the animal." "The Care & Feeding of Farm Animals," illustrates how Kansas livestock producers are pushing back against the perception by getting off the farm and out of their comfort zone to share their passion for raising healthy food animals.

"Consumers want to know more about the people who produce their food," said Matson. "No one tells this story more effectively than those who live it 24/7." The documentary debuted on Kansas public TV stations in the fall (KPTS, Wichita; KTWU, Topeka and the Smoky Hills public television stations in western Kansas). The stations will re-air the documentary a number of times throughout the winter.

The documentary film features original music from True North, an alternative country/roots rock band featuring a half-dozen musicians who grew up on Kansas farms, ranches and in rural communities.

It's the story of a traditional Kansas culture of care and compassion that has not been widely told. Kansas Farm Bureau represents grassroots agriculture. Established in 1919, this non-profit advocacy organization supports farm families who earn their living in a changing industry.

Baxter Springs students try energy-efficient home

BAXTER SPRINGS (AP) — For their eighth house, students in Baxter Springs High School's advanced building trades class are trying an energy-efficient alternative.

The students are using Insulating Concrete Forms. Both the building material and the technique have seen rapid growth over the past few years.

The students are building the house at 10th Street and Washington Avenue, on a lot that was once occupied by the city hospital.

Teacher Jeff McCandless said the house the class built last year was well insulated with an eye toward energy efficiency. As he did research, he discovered Insulating Concrete Forms, also called ICFs.

"This is about as energy-efficient as you can get," McCandless said.

Here's how ICFs work: Hollow blocks of plastic foam are stacked in place for the house's walls. Concrete is poured between the layers of foam and reinforced with steel bars. The foam forms remain in place after the concrete hardens, providing the insulation.

The insulating properties of the walls allow the owner to use 44 percent less energy for heating and

32 percent less energy for cooling than stick-built houses, according to the Insulating Concrete Forms Association.

McCandless said other benefits include walls that are fire-resistant, withstand high winds and are quieter than houses built of traditional materials. McCandless said the wind and fire protection reduce the owner's insurance costs.

Professionals with Shawnee Building Distributing, Galena, performed the ICF work with some help from the students this year. Next year, McCandless said students would be more involved. Shawnee owner Stan Elsten said his company performed the work at cost.

"It's a lot different than a regular stick-frame house," said Kevin Rarick, a 17-year-old senior. "We got to learn a lot about pouring concrete and piers and footings."

"It's an efficient way to build a house," he added. "It goes up a lot easier."

Elsten said ICFs may cost 10 percent to 12 percent more than traditional materials on a house of 1,500 to 2,000 square feet. The cost difference is reduced as the house size increases.

"You're going to save on energy from now on," El-

sten said. "I think it's the wave of the future."

Elsten also said homeowners who can afford to place solar panels on houses built with insulating concrete forms can reduce their energy costs to nearly nothing, but the solar panels can be expensive.

Ayrekstet Smith, a 17-year-old senior, said he is proud to be part of a pioneering project.

"I think it's pretty cool that we can build the first house in Baxter Springs with ICFs," Smith said. "It's pretty sweet."

Smith said the forms are much easier to handle than wood or other building materials. Senior Taylor Siegert, 17, said he's sure he will use the skills he has learned on the project in the future, either personally or professionally.

"It's a great project," he added.

Derek Sweeton, 18, who graduated last year, stopped by the construction site on Wednesday to tell McCandless that he had recently joined the carpenters union, Local 311 in Joplin, Mo.

Sweeton said he learned many of his skills in high school. He said he also worked for Dalton-Killinger Construction Co. in Joplin for awhile.

McCandless said the

house will have 1,450 square feet of space in the main living area in addition to a full basement of about the same size. He said it will have four bedrooms, three bathrooms and an indoor tornado safe room.

There are about 20 students in his class. They started building the house when school started in August and plan to have it finished by May. He said all 20 students work on the house on Mondays. Then about half work on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the other half works Wednesdays and Fridays.

When a house is complete, the school district takes bids on it. Money from the sale is used to buy supplies for the next house, McCandless said.

He also said there is space on the former hospital property for four more houses. He said he plans to use the same energy-efficient material on future houses.

The projects also do a small part to address the town's housing shortage. McCandless said he knows of no one else building houses in Baxter Springs.

"We sell them before they're finished," McCandless said. "I've never had one sitting for more than a couple of months."

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Saving, spending tips can help build financial security

The beginning of a new year often brings a resolve to lose weight or walk the dog more often. It also can be a good time to review spending habits and money management strategies, a Kansas State University specialist said.

Taking the time to sort out personal finances is a key step in building financial stability and security, said Carol Young, K-State Research and Extension financial management specialist.

"To begin, determine how much money is coming in and how much is going out," said Young, who offered the following basic money management tips.

Check pay stubs to identify take-home pay (wages or salary, less deductions for taxes and benefits) per paycheck, per month and per year.

Make a list of expenses, such as mortgage payment or rent, average utility costs (heat, light, water, telephone, etc.), taxes, insurance, outstanding debt such as auto or other loans or payments due, and living expenses, such as food, medical or wellness needs, transportation, clothing, and extras, such as cable TV and other entertainment.

Subtract fixed expenses from take-home pay to identify funds not already obligated.

Save before spending by

paying yourself first. Young recommends direct deposits, with funds divided and deposited into a checking and savings or investment account. Automatic savings can reduce the temptation to spend.

Take a hard look at debt and resolve to reduce and eventually eliminate it by paying down and paying off credit cards and auto or other loans. Paying off credit cards with the highest interest rates first is the typical recommendation, but sometimes paying off a card with a lesser balance can jumpstart the process and boost confidence in retiring debt. If paying down (or off) more than one credit card, be sure to meet the minimum payments on all other cards, too, and pay promptly to avoid costly penalties and additional fees.

To save more, track discretionary expenses for a week (or longer) to identify unnecessary expenditures and potential opportunities to save. Purchasing a box of eight granola bars for \$3, for example, rather than single bars priced at 75 cents or \$1 from the vending machine can yield a savings. Using a re-usable water bottle rather than buying bottled water saves money and also reduces plastic waste. Relatively minor changes such as carpooling to work, grouping errands, and sharing transportation to a child's out-of-

town athletic events all offer potential savings opportunities. Save these 'found dollars' and transfer weekly to a savings account.

Shop with a list. Count shopping without a list as recreation. Try to eat before grocery shopping and to avoid shopping when tired or bored. Reducing the number of shopping trips can yield a savings. Remind yourself that sale fliers are advertisements, rather than an invitation to buy unneeded items.

Pay with cash, a check or a debit card, rather than a credit card. Using a credit card can give people who think of their credit limit (rather than the money that's on hand to pay bills) a false sense of buying power.

Keep receipts until bank statements and/or credit card or other periodic statements are justified and/or for income tax or insurance.

Bank your holiday bonus, future salary increases, and tax refunds toward an emergency fund.

Start tax preparation early to allow time to identify and take advantage of tax credits and benefits.

More tips on managing money successfully are available at county and district K-State Research and Extension offices and on Extension websites: www.oznet.ksu.edu and www.oznet.ksu.edu/financiamanagement.

Caution: economic downturn can erode relationships

Finances are typically among the top issues spouses and partners will face. Adding in an economic downturn — or recession — can increase stress and anxiety about financial issues and damage relationships, a Kansas State University specialist said.

The economy will likely improve with time, but relationships may not always recover, said Charlotte Shoup Olsen, K-State Research and Extension family systems specialist.

"The relationship with a spouse or partner (and family and friends as well) can be among the first casualties during an economic downturn," Olsen said. "It's the little things, the 'pleases,' 'thank-you's,' everyday appreciation and compliments such as 'Thanks for cleaning up the kitchen,' that often are lost in the struggle to make ends meet."

Acknowledging a change in circumstances can be the first step in protecting

relationships from the added stressors, Olsen said. Spouses and partners who agree to face difficult times and choices together can nurture — and strengthen — their relationship in the process.

Working together to improve financial management skills and explore options and resources often can ease financial and other stresses, yet also nurture spouses, partners and their families as a resilient team, Olsen said. Her stress-reducing tips include:

Work together to identify priorities.

Try to focus on the things you can control; let go of the rest.

Explore opportunities to resolve needs. Be creative in researching solutions and, when possible, allow time to consider options.

Be intentional in speaking with others. Speak softly and gently to each other; being harsh — or angry — isn't likely to produce a positive outcome.

Be practical. Here's an example: A family needs a new stove. Dusting off a slow-cooker can reduce the stress in getting a meal on the table and free up time to track down an affordable new or used stove.

Be as positive as possible. Children and others around you will pick up on your attitude.

Look for ways to celebrate what you have, rather than focusing on what you don't have.

Working together to resolve issues can be difficult, but doing so reinforces a positive message — "I'm there for you" — that almost always can reduce stress and anxiety.

Ag profitability conference coming

The Morrill and Janes Bank of Onaga and Pottawatomie County Extension Council are hosting an Ag Profitability Conference on Wednesday, January 28 at the Community Center in Onaga. The day will start at 10:30 am.

The first speaker will be Darrell Holladay, Country Futures Inc., Frankfort. He will give us an outlook on

the grain and livestock markets for the upcoming year. A noon lunch will be sponsored by the Morrill and Janes Bank.

Following lunch a Morrill and Janes crop insurance agent will discuss changes in crop insurance for the upcoming year. The final speaker of the conference will be Mark Nelson, Kansas Farm Bureau Ag

Economist. Mark will discuss price risk management strategies for grain producers.

There is no cost for the conference but if you are interested in attending, call the Pottawatomie County Extension Office at (785) 457-3319 or the Morrill and Janes Bank (785) 889-4211 by January 23.

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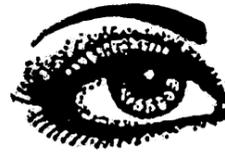
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Horsin' Around



By Don Coldsmith

Good Guys And Bad Guys

A few years back, we were shocked by the killing of a police officer in Topeka, in a drug raid. There was no question as to who did it. The drug dealer was arrested and tried and found guilty. He admitted that he fired the fatal shot. But the shocker to me, to everybody, I think, was that he was found guilty of a series of lesser crimes. Not first or second degree murder . . . possession of drugs, intent to sell, not having a tax stamp, and oh, yes, manslaughter, which carries a minimal jail sentence.

It is my impression that if this convicted killer receives the maximum penalty for all his crimes, to run end to end, his longest possible sentence is about eight years. He'll probably be on the street in four years, with time off for "good behavior." Does anybody out there see anything wrong with this picture? We all know of cases where an unquestionably guilty person goes free because of a minor clerical error. Or, because professional jury selectors have stacked a jury with people they know will acquit. If our justice system isn't broken, it is surely badly bent. A few years ago I was testifying in a case, and was appalled at some of the process. "That isn't right!" I remarked to one of the attorneys. He explained it to me, as one would do a child: "Don, it has nothing to do with right and wrong. This is a court of law." I found that a little scary. In my ignorance, I thought that was what the court system was about.

That and justice. Did you ever notice that the emblem of justice, the lady holding the scales, wears a blindfold? Originally, I guess that was so she could balance the facts fairly. Now, it may be so she doesn't become nauseated at the sight of what's going on (presumably, she wears ear plugs, too).

Sometimes it seems that the deck is stacked against

the good guys. Sure, the accused is innocent until proven guilty, but how far can you go? Surely the victims have as much right to justice as the criminal (What does he care? He knows they're not going to do much to him anyway. It's a game).

But even in a game, there should be ground rules which are fair to both sides. I once heard a stand-up comedian deal with this subject. Ground rules haven't always been fair in conflicts through history, he pointed out. He wasn't putting it in terms of good guys versus bad guys, but just pointing out what the referee might have said in some of the more well-known historical events.

"Okay, now: The British team has to wear red jackets and march in the open in straight lines. The colonials can hide behind trees and shoot whenever they want to. . . ."

"Col. Custer, your cavalry can pick a hill in the open to fire from. The Sioux and Cheyenne will ride round and round while they take turns shooting at you. . . ."

"Daltons, you have to rob two Coffeyville banks at the same time and then make a run for it down the alley. Townsmen, you can get guns at the hardware store and shoot the length of the alley from there. . . ."

"Black Kettle, your Cheyennes have to camp in the assigned area at Sand Creek. Col. Chivington will attack your women and children at dawn. . . ."

"Christians, you wait here in the arena. Romans, you turn the lions loose when the Emperor gives the signal. . . ."

Okay, the rules have never been really fair, and it has seldom had anything to do with right and wrong, historically speaking. But how far can we let it go? I think one problem is that we have never really decided what we want to accomplish in criminal justice. There are at least three possible goals: 1) Punishment, 2) Protection for the public, and 3) Rehabilitation.

Let's accept that these three are actually incompatible. Number 2, Protection, is obviously a complete failure. Number 3, Rehabilitation, has been the main thrust for some time now, and is successful in a small minority of cases. To the average criminal, it's only a joke, like the frivolous lawsuits he files to while away the leisure time while he waits to get back on the street.

Isn't it time to take another look at good guys versus bad guys?

See you down the road.

HAY AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 1:00 PM

32891 159th St., LEAVENWORTH, KS

From Leavenworth North 1 1/2 miles on Santa Fe Trail then North 1 mile on Fort Riley Road. From Atchison, 19 miles South on Hwy. 73 (Hwy. 7) left at 179th 3/10ths to County Road 14 Santa Fe Trail 2 1/2 miles East to Fort Riley Road and East 4/10ths of a mile and North 1/2 mile 159th.

Selling 700 big round 2008 bales brome, net wrapped, 1,500 pounds plus bales.

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913-370-0747

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21 — 6:00 PM

503 PINE, ROSSVILLE, KANSAS

Very nice 2-bedroom home on corner lot, many updates, clean, ready to move in to. Large living room, kitchen, bath, partial basement, sun porch, single attached garage and carport. Newer electrical and central air.

Buyer to pay 10% down balance day of Auction with balance due on or before February 16, 2009. Buyer & Seller to divide Cost of Title insurance equally. All inspections including lead

base paint inspection to be made prior to Auction at Buyer's expense if requested. Taxes prorated to closing. STATEMENTS MADE DAY OF AUCTION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER INFORMATION.

Contact Vern Gannon Auctioneer/Broker
785-770-0066, 785-539-2316 or Gannon Real Estate and Auctions 785-537-9003.

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Kansas Farm Bureau honors tradition and heritage of longtime family farms

Tradition and heritage is a big part of what makes agriculture such an attractive way of life for so many Kansans. The lifeblood of our existence, the farms and ranches in Kansas, provide food, fuel and fiber for the world.

The history of these farms and ranches is rich, with many stories to tell. In that spirit, Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's leading agriculture advocacy organization, is launching the ninth year of its program for the new millennium to honor those family farms that have passed down this heritage for

more than a century.

The Kansas Farm Bureau "Century Farm" program will recognize family farms whose current owner/operator is related to the owner/operator of the farm in 1909 or before. Qualifying farmers will receive a farm sign designating "Century Farm" status, Century Farm lapel pins and recognition from Kansas Farm Bureau.

"As farmers and ranchers, we are proud of our legacy and heritage," said Steve Baccus, an Ottawa County farmer who serves as Kansas Farm Bureau president. "The Century

Farm program will help others better appreciate the strong family ties and tradition that we hold so dear."

During the first nine years of the effort, more than 1,900 family farms have qualified for the Farm Bureau Century Farm designation.

The deadline for consideration is May 15, 2009. Complete details for qualification and an application can be obtained at county Farm Bureau offices across Kansas or on the KFB website, <http://www.kfb.org/centuryfarm/default.htm>.

Private pesticide applicators test and renewal to be given

The Pottawatomie County Noxious Weed Department and the Pottawatomie County Extension Council will host their annual Private Pesticide Applicators test and renewal on Wednesday, January 28 at the Sunflower Room in Westmoreland.

The testing will start at 6 pm and last until 10 p.m. Producers needing to take

the test can do so by arriving any time after 6 pm. The license cost is \$25 and must be paid by check made payable to the KS Dept of

Ag. Noxious Weed Director Rodney Biesenthal and Extension Agent Glenn Brunkow will be available to assist producers with the test.

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BUY-SELL-TRADE "DAILY"

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 11:00 AM

1015 Humboldt, MANHATTAN, KANSAS



Large 12 room, 4 bath home currently used as a rental property with 4 units. This home has a great rental history as it is close to downtown

and Kansas State University. The home can be converted back to a family home as many in the neighborhood have been. This is a great opportunity to buy this type of home at Auction. Buyer to pay 10% down day of Auction with balance due on or before February 24, 2009. Buyer and Seller to divide Cost of Title Insurance equally. Home being sold subject to Tenant's Rights. STATEMENTS MADE DAY OF AUCTION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER INFORMATION. All inspections including lead base paint inspection to be completed prior to Auction at Buyer's expense if requested.

OPEN HOUSE Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM or by appointment by contacting Vern Gannon Auctioneer/Broker 785-539-2316, 785-770-0066 or Gannon Real Estate and Auctions 785-537-9003.

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GRASS & GRAIN
Auction Sales Scheduled
 check out the on-line schedule at www.grassandgrain.com

January 15 — Gray Co. real estate, horse facilities, arena, grain handling facility, shop & machine storage, livestock feeding facility, cattle pens at Cimarron for Doll, Miller & McNiece Families. Auctioneers: Schrader Real Estate & Auction.

January 17 — Marshall Co. farmland at Home for Wullschleger Farms. Auctioneers: The Auctioneers.

January 17 — Land auction at Wheaton for Larry & Peggy Marten & Bobby Matzke. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Auctions.

January 17 — Guns, ammo, knives & military at Osage City for John Earhart. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp.

January 17 — Glassware, antiques, primitives & collectibles at Portis for Dale Birdsell Estate. Auctioneers: Wolters Auctions.

January 17 — Antiques & collectibles at Lawrence. Auctioneers: D&L Auctions.

January 17 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture, appliances, household, tools & misc. at Council Grove for Clarice Kennedy Estate. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions.

January 17 & 18 — January Fest Celebration at Wichita. Auctioneers: Bud Palmer Auctions.

January 21 — Real Estate at Rossville for Charles Meade Estate. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

January 24 — Household, ATV, tractor & loader & misc. at Effingham for Harold D. Foley. Auctioneers: Jeff Hoffman Auctions.

January 24 — Antique tools, antique marbles, primitives, paper items, pictures at Abilene for Wayne Berneking Estate. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

January 25 — Furniture,

collectibles & glass at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auctions LLC.

January 31 — Tractors, combine, grain trucks, farm machinery N. of Overbrook for Mr. & Mrs. Gailand Kennedy. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

January 31 — Hay auction at Leavenworth for Mark Klasinski. Auctioneers: Jeff Hoffman.

January 31 — Marshall & Washington Co. land at Hanover for Mary Stohs Estate. Auctioneers: Prell Realty & Auctions.

January 31 — Nemaha Co. CRP grass & meadow at Corning for Ken & Pam Kramer. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

January 31 — Real Estate at Manhattan for H. Jim & Marilyn Sharp. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

February 11 — Cloud & Republic Co. land at Concordia for Karl Morgan Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 11 — 19th Annual Black Simmental & Sim-Angus Production Sale at Manhattan for River Creek Farms.

February 14 — Black Hereford sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 14 — Pasture, house & farmstead N. of Meridan for Henry Casey & Delores Casey. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auctions.

February 16 — Osborne Co. grassland at Portis for Rodney A. Stevens. Auctioneers: Wolters Auctions.

February 17 — Farm machinery at Belleville for Kenneth & Joan Brzon. Auctioneers: Realty & Assoc.-Mark Uhlik Auctions.

February 21 — Farm & industrial machinery consignment at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auc-

tions.

February 24 — Brand that Works Production Sale at Manhattan for Mill Creek Ranch.

February 26 — Consignment auction at Cornlea, NE. Auctioneers: Michael Wegener Implement.

February 28 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture & misc. at Concordia for Lucille Ostlund Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 28 — Harvesting equip., trucks, tractors, tillage equip., planting & hay equip. & misc. SE of St. Marys for Bob & Joe DeDonder & Neighbors. Auctioneers: Everett Hoobler & Dennis Rezac.

March 6 — Angus sale near Olsburg for Laffin Ranch.

March 7 — Gelbvieh bull sale at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March 7 — Farm machinery & misc. NW of Randolph for Ralph Hagenmaier. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

March 14 — 23rd Annual Concordia Optimist Club Consignment Sale at Concordia.

March 19 — Benoit Angus 20th Annual Bull Production Sale at Esbon.

March 21 — Farm Sale Southwest of Concordia for Bedford Malmquist Estate. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

March 21 — Hereford sale at Manhattan for Northeast Kansas Hereford Association. Auctioneers: John Cline.

March 28 — Registered Angus bull & female production sale W. of Topeka for Mission Valley Ranch.

Workshop to train farmers, contractors on design, installation of subsurface drainage

Farmers and contractors can get in-depth training in the design and installation of subsurface drainage systems at a three-day workshop, Feb. 18-20, at the Ramada Conference Center in St. Joseph, Mo.

Drainage and subirrigation systems have boosted corn and soybean yields on test plots at the University of Missouri Greenley Research Center, said MU research agronomist Kelly Nelson, who will discuss his research at the workshop.

Rising commodity prices, persistent rainfall during the 2008 planting season and greater availability and affordability of specialized installation equipment—such as laser- and GPS-guided tile plows—have many Missouri farmers and contractors taking a serious look at drainage and subirrigation systems. “The workshop focuses on the design of drainage water management systems,” Nelson said.

Workshop sponsors are the Missouri Land Improvement Contractors Association (MLICA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and University of Missouri Extension.

Subsurface drainage systems involve an underground network of plastic pipes that lowers the water level in the soil, allowing fields to dry faster to permit early planting. Modern systems incorporate equipment for regulating water flow to limit nitrate loss. The network also can serve as a subirrigation system, transporting water to fields, but this is considerably more expensive.

Workshop participants will work in teams to design a drainage system for a particular site.

Good design is crucial,

Nelson said. Pipes must be installed at the proper depth, slope and spacing to work effectively. Designing the system requires a thorough understanding of a field’s topography, soil properties and other characteristics. “I think it’s a great opportunity for farmers to become educated on drainage water management,” he said. “Even if they aren’t going to install a system themselves, it gives farmers a better understanding of what’s going on and what to expect from their contractor.”

That’s important because subsurface drainage is still relatively rare in Missouri, so finding experienced contractors can be difficult, said Peter Scharf, MU Extension nutrient management specialist.

“There isn’t a culture of drainage in Missouri, except in the Bootheel,” Scharf said.

That’s partly due to Missouri’s claypan soil. “Because the soil moves water so slowly, pipes have to be close to the surface and close to each other,” Scharf said.

This makes drainage systems more expensive, but they can still be cost-effective.

Last August, more than 100 people endured rain and mud to attend a demonstration of drainage/subirrigation installation at MU’s Bradford Research and Extension Center.

At Greenley Center, the MU Drainage and Subirrigation (MUDS) project has produced impressive yield increases on corn and soy-

bean fields incorporating drainage-only or drainage-with-subirrigation systems.

“Over the past seven years we’ve seen about a 20-percent increase in soybean yield and about 15 percent in corn with drainage-only systems,” Nelson said. On fields equipped for both drainage and subirrigation, soybean yield averaged 30 percent higher, and corn 60 percent higher, than fields without any subsurface water-management system.

“We have a lot of volatility in the markets already,” he said. “Drainage water management lets you level out the production so you can capture the high prices when they come around.”

“Kelly proved you can use tile drain on claypan soil,” said Eddie Hoff, a Cooper County farmer who installed a drainage system on chronically wet bottomland in 2005.

Hoff will be discussing his experience at the workshop. Other presenters include contractors, tile manufacturers and engineers from NRCS.

Nelson’s presentation will cover recent research on how water management affects yields under different soybean and corn varieties and under enhanced-efficiency fertilizers such as polymer-coated urea.

The workshop will take place at the Ramada Conference Center, 4016 Frederick Blvd., St. Joseph. Registration is \$249 (\$199 for MLICA members) before Feb. 6. Registrations post-marked after Feb. 6 cost an additional \$50.

AUCTION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2009 — 9:30 AM
627 Market Street — PORTIS, KANSAS

GLASSWARE: Bavaria chocolate set; Occupied Japan pieces; Tiffen stemware, 12; Ruby Red cups, sherbets, tumblers, juice glasses and other pieces; 1972 calendar plate; Bavaria portrait plate; Heisey; Checkoslavakia bird plate; Majolica 4 1/2" pot; Hall autumn leaf bowls; Fenton amber Hobnail; Fenton Cornecopia candleholder; ; salt dips; Queen Carnival swan and rushes; cobalt and gold 3 footed bowl; German relish dish; Napcoware hen and rooster; Blossum Palm Northwood bowl; nice collection of biscuit jars including Wavecrest; Silesia; Germany bowls; cranberry pickle castor; pie birds; Iris & Herringbone pitcher and 6 1/2" tumblers; RS Germany hat pin holder; Westmoreland custard bird bowl; Fenton; Roseville; Hull; Weller; Royal Copley; powder jar; head vases; RS Prussia; Croesus glassware including pitcher with 8 glasses,

S and P, spooners, butter dishes, berry bowl set, celery tray; toothpick; Tom and Jerry punch bowl cups.

ANTIQUES, PRIMITIVES, COLLECTIBLES: Salesman Sample clothes wringer; stereoviewer and cards; No. 40 Dazey churn; 2 Fordson CI toy tractors; jewelers anvils and jacks; Swiss cow bell; banded bowl; pewter teapot; China cigarette holder; Standard Oil Co. polarine oil bottle; nice New Haven kitchen clock; sessions mantle clock; finger lamps; Mickey Mouse turnabout cookie jar; CI Massey Harris combine; crock jars, 2 qt. and 1 1/2 gal.; 2 nice steam whistles; Aladdin ivory alocite boudier; Aladdin dresser lamps; boot jack; iron shelf brackets; Big Little books; Santa Fe RR playing cards; Melotte separator brass tag; The Grand Detour Plow Co. pocket ledger, 1889; small Conoco adv. bank; Levi adv. ink blotter.

Dale and his wife were great glass collectors, so there is some really nice glassware on this auction.

DALE BIRDSSELL ESTATE
 SALE CONDUCTED BY:
WOLTERS AUCTION & REALTY
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 Col. Rich Fairbanks, Assisting Auctioneer

ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 — 10:00 AM
Knights of Columbus Club 2206 East 23rd Street LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66046

Sale Bill lists highlights only, a large auction, plus a storage unit yet to be unpacked. Plan to join us for the first auction of the New Year!!

See Complete Sale Bill and Photos at www.dandlauctions.com

COLLECTIBLES: Early Koken Barbershop Footstool; Lawrence Advertising Signs; Wall Mirror w/ Coat Hooks; Tin Spice Grinder Adv. Cabinet; US Mail Letter Box; Buggy Blanket w/ Glass Eyes; 1861 Wool Coverlet; Hudson Bay Blanket; Gold Pocket Watches; Pocket Knives; CI Doorstops; CI Bookends; CI Swan Candle holders; Tins; Kitchen Primitives; Graniteware; Jayhawk Milk Bottle; CI Jayhawk Paperweight; Coca-Cola Tray and Thermometer; 100's Postcards and Postcard Albums; Old Magazines, incl. 1950's Playboys; Sewing Items; Buttons; Pin Cushion Dolls; Old Hardware; Pictures; Lamps; Primitive Cabinet; Quilts; Framed Sampler; Button Collage; Movie Posters; Autographed Photos; and Numerous Small Collectibles and Other Items.

TOYS & BANKS: Hoge Fire Chief Car; Early 32" Steel Yacht; 7" CI Champion Motorcycle; Hubley Bell Telephone Truck; Arcade Farm Toys; Oliver, International, John Deere, McCormick, Allis Chalmers Die cast Tractors; Kenton and Other Horse Drawn Toys; Bell Toys; Tops; Schoenut Circus Animals and Jointed Animals; 80+ CI, Tin and Pottery Banks, incl. Mary and Lamb, Fidelity Trust Vault, Pay Phone, Safes, US Mail, Dog w/ Pack; Tin Toy Cars and Trucks; Keystone Garage; Early CI Fence Set; Hopalong Cassidy Wrist Watch w/OB; Lone Ranger Binoculars and Chuck Wagon Lantern w/OB; Wind-up Toys; Cap Guns; Marbles; Candy Containers; Child's Dishes; Old Games, HO Train Set. Glassware and Pottery: Carnival Glass Pitchers, Glasses, Compotes, Cover Candy; Fenton; Candlewick; Fiesta; Nippon; Heisey; Green Burple Glass; Weller, Roseville, Hull, Van Briggle and Hand-Thrown Pottery; China Sets; Blue Onionware; Nesting Bowls; Collector Plates; Souvenir and Advertising Glass; Lladro Figurine; Lennox Doves; Hall Ball Pitcher; ChecZ Glass Vases; Cookie Jars; Tobacco and Hoosier Jars.

JEWELRY: Designer Signed, 14K and Sterling Jewelry; Diamond and Other Rings; Necklaces; Broaches; Bracelets; Whiting & Davis Purse; Lots of Other Jewelry.

Terms and Conditions: Positive ID required to register. Payment by cash or good check. Statements made the day of the auction take precedence over all printed or written material. All items sold "as is", "where is". Not responsible for accidents or loss. Kansas Sale Tax collected, unless copy of tax exemption certificate is provided. Concessions Available.

D & L Auctions, Lawrence, KS
 785-749-1513 or 785-766-5630 Auctioneers: Doug Riat, Chris Paxton and Lynn Langvardt

HAY AUCTION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 — 1:00 PM
32891 159th St., LEAVENWORTH, KS

From Leavenworth North 1 1/2 miles on Santa Fe Trail then North 1 mile on Fort Riley Road. From Atchison, 19 miles South on Hwy. 73 (Hwy. 7) left at 179th 3/10ths to County Road 14 Santa Fe Trail 2 1/2 miles East to Fort Riley Road and East 4/10ths of a mile and North 1/2 mile 159th.

Selling 700 big round 2008 bales brome, net wrapped, 1,500 pounds plus bales.

Bale loader provided

SELLER: MARK KLASINSKI
 913-306-3820

AUCTIONEER: JEFF HOFFMAN
 913-370-0747

AUCTION
OVER 520 ACRES OF PRIME OSBORNE COUNTY GRASSLAND KNOWN AS THE "CARL STEVENS PASTURE"
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 — 2:00 PM
627 Market Street — PORTIS, KANSAS

REAL ESTATE LOCATION: From Osborne, KS 2 miles North on Hwy 281.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Approximately 520 acres of grass with corrals and building site.

The pasture has been well maintained and Tordon was applied at a rate of 10 oz. per acre in October 30, 2008 on all grassland areas.

This is an excellent pasture with great access, abundant pond water as well as rural water and electricity, and excellent fences and is situated right along Hwy 281. Great potential for a building site. The tract has some small buildings and corrals on it.

All information was obtained from the Osborne County Courthouse and is believed to be correct and true, however neither the Sellers nor the Auction Co. make any guarantees expressed or implied. Prospective Buyers are to make themselves aware as to the boundaries, easements, right of ways, etc. concerning the property. Wolters Auction, Jim Wolters, broker is the agent for the Seller and the Seller only.

SELLER: RODNEY A. STEVENS

SALE CONDUCTED BY:
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 Col. Jim Wolters, Broker & Auctioneer
 Col. Rich Fairbanks, Assisting Auctioneer



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Always Be Ridin' Yer Horse

'ALWAYS BE RIDIN' YER HORSE'

A good cowboy passed along that bit of wisdom he learned from his dad. I have since passed it on to young or inexperienced riders as regular as the car dinger reminds me to fasten my seat belt. More riders get unseated due to not payin' attention, than to bronky horses. A misstep, badger hole, jack rabbit, rattlesnake, mule deer, covey of quail, piece of paper, puff of wind or brain flatulation can cause your horse to go berserk! He will jump sideways, rear, skitter or whirl, leaving you momentarily where he was ... but now he's over there and you're in midair! It's all about riding with your legs. This piece of advice can be applied to driving your car, making a business deal, pleasing your spouse or taking a class. Keep your eye on the road, your hand on the wheel and your mind

on what you're doin'!

Another larger than life guideline, 'IF YER HORSE IS DOIN' WHAT YOU WANT HIM TO, GIVE HIM HIS HEAD'

How many times have you seen new riders simultaneously pull back on the reins and kick 'em in the ribs? I tell 'em it's like stepping on the brakes and the gas at the same time! How many times have you explained to your kid how to cut a board, make a cake, deal the cards or paint the shed and then hung over them instructing continuously until they scream in frustration? Show 'em how, then get outta the way and give them a chance to do it right.

'IF YOU PLAN ON GETTING THROWN RIDE ON THE BALLS OF YER FEET. IF YER GONNA RIDE IT OUT, SHOVE YER FEET ALL THE WAY INTO THE STIRRUP'

Remember, most riders' injuries occur when they hit the ground. You stand a lot better chance of survival if you stay in the saddle. We are talking about confidence here, not bravado.

'WHEN YER HORSE STUMBLES, LIFT UP HIS HEAD'

A horse's head weighs as much as a bag of cement. He's got to catch himself to check his fall. By lifting his head and leaning back you move his center of gravity to the aft, and like a boat, the nose will come up and he can get his feet under him. Same for students and puppies. Sometimes you've got to pull them back from temptation or a mistake long enough to let them catch their balance.

'IF YER HORSE STARTS WALKING OFF AS YOU'RE TRYIN' TO MOUNT ... STOP HIM'

There is a moment between your feet leaving the ground and your seat hitting the saddle that is akin to the football leaving the punter's toe and the receiver getting creamed.

It's just a good idea to get behind the wheel of your tractor before you put it in gear.

'IS IT PROPER TO STOP AND WAIT WHEN YER HORSE IS POOPING?'

Of course! They're not cows!

Kansas wheat leader says it's time to lift trade sanctions with Cuba

The last three years, Ron Suppes, past chairman of U.S. Wheat Associates, has traveled the globe in an outreach effort designed to increase the amount of wheat other countries buy from the United States.

"American farmers have either been blessed with or cursed by optimism and determination," USW Past Chairman Ron Suppes of Dighton, recently wrote in letter to a local newspaper. "For the most part these characteristics have been the cornerstone of our success."

Suppes added that the current economic crisis may test farmers yet again and that they need to get out in front of the business challenges ahead by banding together again through representing organizations. Bailouts are not the answer, he wrote. "The way out of a recession is through trade."

Suppes said U.S. farmers should urge the Congress to implement bilateral Free Trade Agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. He also sees opening trade with Cuba as a top priority.

"Congressman Jerry Moran has sponsored a bill to lift all sanctions against Cuba," he wrote. "The time is right to make this happen."

Moran (R-KS) recently wrote President-elect Obama, encouraging changes to regulations put in place in 2005 that have hindered agriculture and food exports under the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (TSRA). Moran was the original sponsor of this legislation, which allowed the export of food, agricultural commodities and medical supplies from the U.S. to Cuba.

A release from Moran's office noted

that in 2005, "a regulation was introduced by the Treasury Department that changed the meaning of trade policies with Cuba under TSRA by redefining the meaning of 'payment of cash in advance.' Under this regulation, cash payments from Cuba for U.S. agriculture exports are required to be made before ships leave U.S. ports rather than upon delivery, making it difficult for American farmers to sell their products to Cuba..."

USW believes U.S. wheat exports to Cuba could grow by 60% if, as Moran suggested, the U.S. ends all trade sanctions.

Suppes observed that, "...the people of Cuba are optimistic about trade with us and want this change, too. Through our eternal optimism as farmers, along with our unstoppable determination, we can make this happen."

At its joint board meeting in December, the Kansas Wheat Commission voted unanimously to support Congressman Moran's efforts to resume trade with Cuba.

More evidence of this opportunity came with a message USW President Alan Tracy recently received from Alexander Pérez Cartaya, Director General Grains Business Unit/División Cereales with Cuba's food importing ministry, Alimport, acknowledging the 50-year anniversary of organized U.S. wheat export promotion:

"We at Alimport would like to express our best wishes," he wrote, "... and commend the day-to-day, most professional work that you and your people perform in the benefit not only of the U.S. agribusiness community, but of the whole world."

Climatologist explains 'sun dogs' phenomenon, tells what to look for

Just as the sun is rising or setting on a hazy day, watchers can sometimes see an unusual, strange-looking phenomenon.

"The sun will appear to have had pups: smaller reddish-orange spots that are nestled up close on either side," said climatologist Mary Knapp. "Called sun dogs, these bright spots can't show up on clear or cloud-cov-

ered days. They need just the right kind and amount of haze — which is why being able to see them is a fairly rare occurrence."

Sun dogs are just sunlight, reflected off ice crystals in the atmosphere, said Knapp, who as the state climatologist for Kansas oversees the Kansas Weather Data Library, based at Kansas State University.

"They're not that different from a ring around the sun or moon," Knapp said. "If you're lucky, though, you may get to see sun dogs' most unique forms — a pillar or even a cross."

"As you can imagine, early humans thought those forms looked a bit scary."

More information about Kansas weather is available on the Kansas Weather Data Library website: <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/wdl>. Knapp's audio reports are available on the K-State Research and Extension/ Kansas Radio Network website at <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/radio/> (click on "Weather Wonders" and scroll).

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