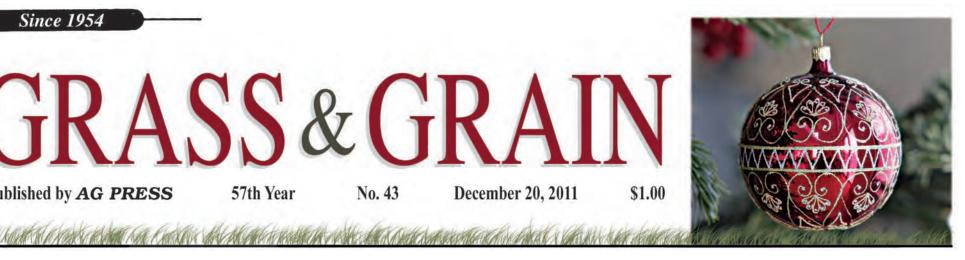
GRASS&GRAIN

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Ethanol Leaders Summit features advocacy, research and marketing experts

By Rhonda McCurry

The leader of one of the country's ethanol advocacy organizations said the negative public perception of corn ethanol must be over-

"Even though it is fiction, the negativity is difficult to turn around in the policy arena and in the media," Tom Buis, president of Growth Energy, said. "As an industry we've always known how good we were but we have to do a better job collectively of educating the public because policymakers will follow the public. If they don't have facts, we will continue to have negativity."

Buis spoke at the third annual Ethanol Leaders Summit, a two-day event hosted by the accounting and consulting firm Kennedy and Coe, LLC and sponsored by Black Hills Energy, IMA of Kansas, Inc., Bliss Industries, Kice Industries and POET Ethanol Products. Topics ranged from industry updates, risk management and new opportunities to answers on legal, human resource and business compliance aspects of business operations.

During the Ethanol Summit, Jeff Roskam, CEO of the Kansas Alliance for BioRefining and Energy, offered information on how the Alliance, existing ethanol producers and others can work together to bring new technology to commercial production.

Roskam said the Alliance began as a \$4.1 million commitment from the Kansas Bioscience Authority with full-time operations in August 2010. Its first three projects included a biofuels laboratory at the University of Kansas, fungi/bacteria storage research at Kansas State University and a client-ordered distillers to biomaterials project. Since its incep-



Tom Buis, president of Growth Energy, is a big fan of ethanol. He told the crowd at the 2011 Ethanol Leaders Summit in Wichita that even while the fuel has endured a bad rap the fact remains that ethanol is a clean-burning, safe alternative to the \$1 billion in foreign oil imported into the U.S. every day.

tion, the Alliance has also been asked to support anaerobic digestion of thin stillage, ionic fluids for clean sugars for cellulosics and starch-producing algae. These projects demonstrate the interest and excitement levels in the industry to produce new and better energy

"The formula we use is research plus work equals innovation," Roskam said. "And innovation is proven through action."

Another presenter, Bob Casper of POET Ethanol Products, discussed the current ethanol market, the expiration of the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit (VEETC) and the ethanol Import Tariff as well as the impact of the Renewable Fuel Standard and the California Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) through

"The majority of the VEETC benefit flows past the producer," Casper said. "In 2001 blenders received about 52 cents per gallon and in 2006 earned about 45 cents per gallon on the subsidy. Following the 2008 economic crisis, blenders have seen less than 15 cents per gallon with a mere onepenny-per-gallon benefit this year in 2011."

In addition, he said U.S. imports on foreign oil are steadily decreasing. In July 2011, ethanol equaled just under 36-percent of the nation's fuel supply with 900,000 barrels produced each day. The country's exports are currently exceeding imports at 85-barrels per day.

Buis said VEETC will not be extended past the end of this year, which is good for the image of the ethanol industry. Despite that the sub-

sidy goes to blenders, there is outward criticism of the ethanol industry as a net user of energy. Buis said this might have been true 30 years ago but the tides have changed.

"VEETC served as a rallying point for everyone who wanted to go after us from the environmental communi-

ty, to the budget-balancing crowd and other end users,' he said. "We weren't as efficient in the beginning but with hard work and investment in both financial and human resources, we now produce 2.2 units of energy for each unit consumed. This is far better than gasoline production."

Other benefits of ethanol, Buis said, include less use of water and a smaller carbon footprint. In fact, ethanol uses 60 percent less greenhouse gas emission than gasoline. Buis said the introduction of E-15 (15-percent ethanol blend) into the marketplace would prove once again, that ethanol is a safe, clean-burning fuel.

"Regulations always protect the incumbent industry that has the market but as we start to try to change the process, we are petitioning for an exemption for E-15," Buis said. "We began doing so in March 2009 and have introduced more evidence into fuel change than ever before. But delays happened and EPA says we have to wait on the U.S. Department of Energy tests, which are the most extensive ever. The EPA did give us waiver approval on every car and light-duty vehicle manufactured since 2001 and we can look at that as an opportunity."

The last leg of the Ethanol Summit featured Terry Reinhart of Advance Trading, demonstrating how to view risk management from a combined vantage point of the traditional model mixed with international markets, government

policy and the supply-demand impacts of market volatility. In addition, a panel of experts also offered answers to questions in the areas of compensation, retirement and benefit planning, human resources, health care reform, personal and business investments, financial health and ethanolrelated tax, accounting and benchmarking.

In closing, Buis reminded the ethanol crowd that America spends \$1 billion each day on foreign oil. As Congress seeks to justify every penny in the nation's budget, he said oil money sent overseas could help turn the economy around, equating to \$1,000 a year for every man, woman and child in America.

"We have the ability to create energy here at home," he said. "We know ethanol can compete, it's the lowest cost fuel of any on the planet. Ethanol is a true American success story in how fast we grew as an industry, how many good-paying jobs we've provided in the U.S. and how it's helped on the national security front. We know ethanol is better for the environment and we have to get out and tell our story there's no one better to tell it

K-State Crops Team wins third straight national title

The Kansas State University Crops Team has captured the title of national champion for the third year in a row. K-State teams have now won the championship in 10 of the past 13 years.

To win the 2011 national championship, the team won both the Kansas City Board of Trade and Chicago CME Group Collegiate Crops Contests. K-State placed first at both contests in the plant and seed identification and seed analysis components of the competition. The team was first in Chicago and second in Kansas City in the grain grading component. The Kansas City and

Chicago contests took place on November 15 and 19, Kansas City, she was the second high individual overall, respectively.

Students competing at both contests included Scott Henry, senior, Goff; Levi Larkins, senior, Belvue; Chelsea Ahlquist, sophomore, Onaga; and Kim Kerschen, senior, Garden Plain, who was the alternate. Also competing as alternates in Kansas City were Michael Welch, sophomore, Haddam; Andrew Scherrer, sophomore, Matheson, Colo.; Neal Kaiser, sophomore, Lehigh; and Hannah Christen, junior, Oregon, Ill. All are agronomy majors at K-State.

In these contests, participants are required to identify 200 different plant or seed samples of crops and weeds; grade eight different samples of grain according to Federal Grain Inspection Service standards; and analyze ten seed samples to determine what contaminants they contain.

Chelsea Ahlquist was the high individual overall in Chicago, where she placed first in seed analysis, second in grain grading, and third in plant and seed identification. At



The K-State 2011 Collegiate Crops Team and alternates are, from left: Chelsea Ahlquist, Michael Welch, Haddam, Kim Kerschen, Garden Plain, Dr. Kevin Donnelly, Scott Henry, Goff, Neal Kaiser, Lehigh, Levi Larkins, Andrew Scherrer, Matheson, Colo, Hannah Christen, Oregon, III.

first in grain grading, second in plant and seed identification, fourth in seed analysis.

Scott Henry was the high individual overall in Kansas City, and second overall in Chicago. At Kansas City, he was second in both seed analysis and grain grading, and third in plant and seed identification. At Chicago he placed first in grain grading, second in plant and seed identification, and fourth in seed analysis. Levi Larkins placed fourth overall in Chicago and fifth in Kansas City. He took first place in both contests in plant and seed identification, second in seed analysis in Kansas City and fourth in grain grading in Chicago. The team was coached by Kevin Donnelly, K-State professor of agronomy.

For its performance, K-State received a team scholarship award from contest sponsors at Kansas City. In addition, CME Group provided major scholarships to the

Continued on page 3



Well, the time has come for us to return to the motherland; however the departure from the land down under will be bittersweet. For the past ten months, Hyatt and I have been fully immersed in the Australian culture and have made many friends along our way. Additionally, we've had the privilege to visit every state and territory in Australia

and have met some amazing producers on our travels. Our gap year in Australia has been the adventure of a lifetime and has provided us with many experiences that have no doubt given us a much broader grasp of global agriculture and what lies ahead for our industry.

When I get back to the U.S., I will no doubt be met

with numerous questions about my favorite trips, biggest surprises and what I found most impressive about Australian agriculture. I think there are two facets of Australian agriculture that have had the biggest impact on me; the largest being the glaring disconnect between consumers and their food source. While this problem also exists in the U.S., I've found that gap to be exacerbated in Australia. I recently gave a presentation on how to be a positive ambassador for agriculture and received heaps of encouraging feedback. The audience

really appreciated the information I presented to them and I could tell that they wanted to connect to consumers on common ground to discuss the Australian food supply. Hopefully they will take that information and run with it in order to provide consumers with a clear pathway from farm to fork.

The second most impactful part of Australian agriculture was the minimal amount of corn. That may seem trivial but if you think about the vast use of corn in American agriculture in terms of livestock feed and ethanol alone, it's safe to say that not seeing corn in every field was quite shocking. It was odd for me to be at feedlots and hog operations where corn wasn't a primary feedstuff but it allowed me to learn a lot more about various other crops such as canola and lupins, which are regularly fed to livestock

As I've said in previous columns, it takes all shapes and sizes of people, ideas, technology and methods to feed such a massive population. I've had a first-hand look at the different adaptations that farmers have had to make in Australia to make a living and some of the challenges they experience make me very thankful of my future in American agriculture. By observing and learning from other producers' experiences in countries like Australia, U.S. producers can better prepare themselves for future challenges and opportunities. My Australian experience has given me a rare glimpse outside the box which I hope will allow me to positively contribute to further developing our great nation's food production processes. I am very thankful that I have been able to share my experiences with you and I hope that you've enjoyed reading about my adventure as much as I've enjoyed writing about it. Lastly, to any Aussies who may read this: thanks for your world-famous hospitality and I can't wait to come back again in the future!

Brandi Buzzard is a native Kansan who has just returned from a year of adventures in Australia. When she isn't globetrotting or working on her thesis, she enjoys rodeoing, being on the farm and writing. You can keep track of her at http://buzzards beat.blogspot.com or fromoztoaus.blogspot.com



The comment period has come and gone for the Department of Labor's proposed rules regarding child labor on farms. They received so many that it is expected to take them months to go through them all. The whole thing just leaves me shaking my head in amazement at what our country is coming to. It appears as though our government has so little faith in our own common sense that they feel it is their duty to step in and save us from ourselves. Do they honestly believe that they care more about the safety and well-being of children than their own parents do?

Now, I'll grant you that there are plenty of parents out there that don't take proper care of their children, but you usually won't find them on our farms and ranches, where the concept of taking care of one's family is still alive and well, thank you very much. Plus, the people who don't put a priority on their children's safety are the same ones who will completely disregard the rules anyway. The ones penalized will be the parents who are trying to teach their children responsibility and a strong work ethic. It will be the 4-H and FFA groups that have helped shape the lives of young people for generations.

I think of the young people in our community that started working hard at a young age and often had half a day's work done by the time many of their peers were just rolling out of bed. They are the ones that are today starting families, working jobs and helping to strengthen their communities. Would they be the same people today without those early work experiences on the farm? I doubt it.

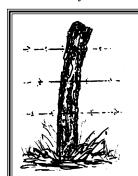
I think of my own four kids, who all know the value of hard work and aren't afraid to break a sweat. They learned that by pulling their own weight on the place, even if it sometimes meant doing jobs they didn't particularly care for or enjoy. Would they be the same people today without those experiences? No.

There's no denying that agriculture is a dangerous industry and we have to do everything we can to ensure the safety of our most precious resource — our kids. That's why you see Extension and other entities offering tractor safety courses and other programs. As parents and grandparents, we need to take better advantage of those. And we could all do a better job of being more safety-minded as we go about our work.

But we don't need the government coming in and telling us what jobs our kids are allowed to perform on the farm and thwarting our efforts to raise strong, healthy adults that are able to one day take care of themselves and their families. We don't need someone sitting behind a desk in Washington deciding they know best about what should happen on our farms and ranches.

To them I say simply, thanks for the concern, but it's okay — we've got this one covered. Just stay there behind your desk while we keep training tomorrow's work force. No need to thank us, it's just what we do.

Just kindly stay out of our way and let us do it.



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison Concordia Rancher and Former Agriculture Educator

Knowledge — Pass It On

It seems that all of our lives we are seeking information and knowledge. Many of us sit at the feet of teachers for twelve to sixteen years, learning what they can teach us, or we may learn on our own through reading books, newspapers, and magazines; and in more recent times by spending time on the computer or in front of a television.

When I was a sophomore in high school, I would sometimes spend the open noon hour at the pool hall, drinking a five-cent Pepsi from a 12ounce glass bottle. I figured all the old men playing dominoes there were filled with knowledge, so I would listen to their stories, a few of which I questioned, however. Much of the knowledge I've accumulated through the years, I picked up by way of experience, sometimes through trial and error or hard knocks; and I was thrilled when something I tried really worked to the point that it was a practical reality to me.

Some of the knowledge (or perhaps I should say opinions) that I have acquired have come mostly through observation. For example, when people begin gaining weight because of a craving for food and thus have too much food intake, it can lead to obesity, a condition which in turn makes one more susceptible to diseases and other medical problems.

My first wife was a beautiful woman with a nice figure, neither too fat nor too thin. When she approached forty years of age, she began to gain weight, 10, 20, then 30 pounds. One day near Christmas time she felt a very small node in her armpit. She sought the advice of two doctors, who examined it. Both told her that it was in the muscle and she need not worry about it. By April it was much larger, so she consulted a surgeon. Upon examining the growth, he was alarmed and took a biopsy without delay. The report that came back stated it was cancer. After battling it with every known treatment available for a year and a half, she succumbed to it. It is good to get two, three, or even four opinions on some symptoms. Even good doctors make mistakes.

Have you noticed that many people who become obese often come down with diabetes, cancer, heart conditions, joint problems or other ailments? At the same time, I realize. too, that in some cases the ailment can cause obesity rather than the other way around. I must stress that I do not believe that being overweight is the cause of all these problems, but it does put one in a vul-

nerable position that can make a person more susceptible to them.

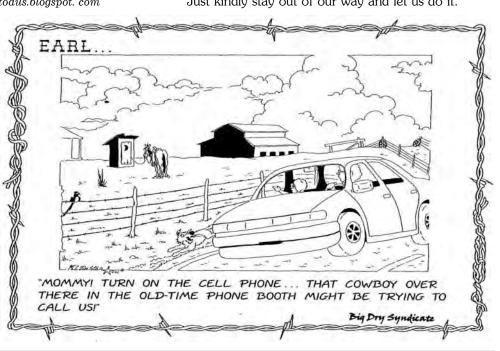
Because of my observations, I began following a daily regimen. When I first get up in the morning and before getting dressed, I get on the scales and peer down at the numbers to see where the marker stops. After Thanksgiving weekend, I noticed that I had gained three pounds. A week later I was back to 168 pounds, where I have tried to stay for years. Those old dependable scales tell me whether or not I can afford that second piece of pie. Whenever a waitress asks me what I would like to drink, my answer is always the same, "Water," not pop or

While growing up, I never had the desire to smoke, chew, drink, or take drugs. When my grandson was going to high school, I noticed a round outline in his hip pocket. I talked to him about the dangers of chewing tobacco, how it can cause cancer in the mouth. I also reminded him of a neighbor's comments about chewing, "It's not hard to quit chewing; why, I've quit a hundred times or more." I wasted my breath. He kept on chewing the stuff and, sure enough, he found he couldn't quit easily; that is, until he saw his newborn son. He has now quit for good.

Last month I had my annual eye checkup. The nurse handed me a two-page questionnaire in regard to my health history. There must have been 30 or 40 questions, and I was able to check NO on each one of them. On the query about what medications I was on, I wrote "daily vitamins and one anti-acid pill each morning for acid reflux." I believe I have guardian angels that have protected me from injury from accidents.

While other factors enter in to affect one's health. I do believe it is important to maintain a healthful lifestyle. The advice I like best from the doctor as I age is "Get plenty of rest." It's the part about "Get plenty of exercise" that is a little more challenging. At 83, I am thankful to be living with few aches and pains. To keep my mind busy, it seems I usually have a dream I would like to accomplish. This requires study, planning, and also the help of younger persons to bring it about. When it comes to agility and muscle power and, yes, more brain power, I have to rely on others.

Still, I'd like to think it is important that my generation share the knowledge we have gained through the years with the younger ones coming on. They are usually polite enough to listen even when they do not find it applicable to them.



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Let's help restock America's food banks

The Howard G Buffet Foundation is doubling every dollar donated to Feeding America, up to \$50,000, through Farmers Union during this holiday season.

"For every dollar you donate to Feeding America, the challenge grant will match that dollar and the donated funds return to the state from which the donations zip code was sent. What else can one do to double their contribution so easily?" Donn Teske, Kansas Farmers Union president, said.

Feeding America's network members supply food to 37 million Americans each year, including nearly 14 million children and 3 million seniors, through more than 200 food banks across the United States.

"Feeding America is the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity. It is a well-respected and very efficient relief charity. 96 percent of donations go directly to the restocking of our food pantries, so there is very little overhead," Teske

Visit www.kansasfarmersunion.org to print a donation form or call 620-241-6630 and a form will be mailed to you.

Crops team

Continued from page 1

top five students at Chicago. Sponsors for the K-State Crops Team include the Kansas Crop Improvement Association, Kansas Seed Industry Association, Department of Agronomy, and the K-State Student Government Association. Sponsors for the two national contests are the Kansas City Board of Trade, CME Group/Chicago Board of Trade, CHS Foundation, American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Growmark Cooperative, Society of Commercial Seed Technologists, Association of Official Seed Analysts, South Dakota Crop Improvement Association, The American Royal, and Pioneer Hi-Bred International.

COWPOKES ® By Ace Reid



"I don't think it's woth it, hunt foxes one nite and then spend two weeks huntin' hounds!"

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3700's, 24 row 30"; 3600, 16 row

30"; JD 1770 CCS, 16 row 30;

1770 NT, 16 row 30"; 2) 1790's

CCS, 16/32 row; 1770 NT, 16

row 30"; 1770, 24 row 30; 1780,

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neous Equipment.

Carole Monahan, Westmoreland, Wins Final Holiday Contest

**

TURTLE FUDGE

12-ounce package semisweet chocolate chips 2 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped

1 cup sweetened condensed milk 1/4 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon water

30 individually wrapped caramel candies

40 pecan halves

Grease a 11-by-7-inch pan; set aside. Melt chips in medium saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly. Stir in bittersweet chocolate until melted. Stir in sweetened condensed milk and salt until smooth. Spread evenly in prepared pan; cover with foil. Refrigerate until firm. Cut fudge into 40 squares. Transfer to baking sheet lined with waxed paper, placing squares 1/2 inch apart. Place caramels and water in small saucepan. Heat over low heat until melted, stirring frequently. Drizzle fudge pieces with caramel mixture. Top each piece with 1 pecan half. Makes 40 candies.

444 Marilyn Roles, Junction City: "I've always made sugar cookies since my marriage over 60 years ago. I always used the same recipe until three years ago when a girl who rode my school bus gave me some cookies made from this recipe. It is so easy and the dough doesn't have to be chilled. My 8-year-old granddaughter helped mix these last Saturday and then rolled the dough herself and cut them out. What a fun day and she had a big box of frosted and decorated cookies to take home with her and to take to school for her Christmas

THE ULTIMATE SUGAR COOKIE

1 1/4 cups sugar

1 cup butter-flavored Crisco 2 eggs

1/4 cup light corn or pancake syrup

1 tablespoon vanilla

3 cups all-purpose flour

receive \$35. They are:

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3/4 teaspoon baking powder 1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine sugar and butter-flavored Crisco in large bowl; stir until blended. Add eggs, syrup and vanilla; beat well. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; add gradually to creamed mixture; mix until well-blended. Divide dough into quarters. Spread flour on pastry sheet. Roll dough to 1/4-inch thickness and cut out with floured cutter. Put on ungreased baking sheet and bake for 5 to 9 minutes. Cool and frost, if desired.

Lorraine Green, Auburn: **PECAN PIE BARS**

Cookie Crust: 2 1/2 cups flour

1 cup cold butter or oleo (cut in pieces)

1/2 cup sugar

"Our Daily Bread"

Holiday Bonus Drawing Winners

iday contests were entered in a special drawing. The

four cooks whose names were drawn will each

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

G&G Announces Its Annual

Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 22 through Dec. 20

In observance of the holiday season,

Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners

\$35 in addition to the prize gift.

All G&G Area Cooks who sent recipes for the hol-

1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 15-by-10-by-1inch baking pan. In a large

Linda Kepka

Dorrance, KS

Mary Longren

Holton, KS

2011 Grass es Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

bowl with mixer on medium beat flour, oleo, sugar and salt until mixture is crumbly. Press firmly into prepared pan. Bake 20 minutes until golden brown. Top with

Filling:

4 eggs 1 1/2 cups sugar

1 1/2 cup dark corn syrup

3 tablespoons oleo, melted

1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

2 1/2 cups chopped pecans Beat eggs, corn syrup, sugar, butter and vanilla until well blended. Stir in pecans. Immediately pour over hot crust. Spread evenly. Bake 25 minutes or until firm around the edge and slightly firm in center. Cool completely. Cut into a 2-by-1 1/2inch bars. Makes 48 bars.

Mary Longren, Holton: FROZEN MINT SALAD

Combine and refrigerate overnight:

#2 can crushed pineapple 10 1/2 ounces miniature

marshmallows 1 package strawberry gelatin

1/4 cup red hots The next day, add the following:

2 cups whipped cream 1/4 pound butter mints, finely crushed

Put in large bowl, cover and freeze until firm.

Frances Otto, Lyons: CHRISTMAS SALAD

No. 2 can pineapple chunks, drained (reserve juice) 1/2 lb. mini marshmallows 3-ounce package red gelatin 3-oz. package green gelatin 2 eggs

1 cup pineapple juice 2 tablespoons lemon juice 1/3 cup sugar 1 tablespoon flour

1 pint whipped topping Combine pineapple

chunks and marshmallows and let sit overnight. Prepare each gelatin separately according to directions. Let sit overnight in a flat 9-by-12inch pan. Cut gelatin into cubes when set. Beat eggs and juices; mix sugar and flour well; combine with eggs and cook over low heat until thick, stirring constantly. Chill. Near serving time combine pineapple-marshmallow mixture with gelatin cubes. Fold together custard and whipped cream. Combine all ingredients and mix lightly. Serve.

Margaret Trojan, Beaver Crossing, Neb.: "Everyone loves this!"

POPCORN CAKE

4-6 cups lightly salted popcorn, popped

1-pound marshmallows 1 cup cocktail peanuts

1 cup M&Ms (prefer red & green for Christmas, pink & red Valentines, etc.)

1 stick margarine 1/2 cup salad oil

Melt marshmallows, margarine and oil. Pour over mixture of popcorn adding the nuts, M&Ms after some of the warmth is gone so they don't melt. Mix well and pour into greased angel food pan. Can put small Christmas candy canes around cake or on top for Christmas.

Marcile Shippy, Woodbine: **BEANS WITH A BITE**

6 slices bacon

3/4 cup chopped onions

3 tablespoons distilled white

14.5-ounce can fancy cut green beans, drained

Cook bacon in skillet over medium heat until nicely brown. Drain. cool. crumble and set aside. Pour off about half of bacon grease, saute onions in remaining bacon grease, add vinegar and cook until tender. Add green beans and cook until heated through. Mix crumbled bacon through beans. Serve

Fred Engler, El Dorado: **PEPPERMINT MELTAWAYS**

1 cup butter-flavored shortening

1/2 cup powdered sugar 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract

1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 cup cornstarch

In a large bowl beat shortening, powdered sugar and peppermint extract with hand mixer until creamy. Reduce speed of mixer to low and gradually add flour and cornstarch. Beat until well mixed. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until

firm. about 1 to 2 hours. Shape into 1-inch balls by wetting hands to prevent sticking and place on ungreased cookie sheets about 2 inches apart. Press down slightly. Bake in preheated oven at 375 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until edges are slightly brown. Let stand until cool, about 15 minutes and frost with recipe that fol-

1 1/2 cups powdered sugar 2 tablespoons butter-flavored shortening

1 to 2 tablespoons milk

1/8 teaspoon peppermint extract

2 to 3 drops red food coloring About 20-24 pecan halves, per cookie

Mix in small bowl with table knife then frost cookies and top with pecan half. Makes about 20 cookies.

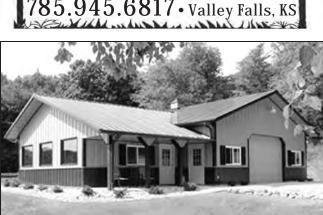
NOTE: It is important that these cookies are baked long enough producing brown edges as there is no binder ingredient as in normal cookies so they are rather frangible until frosted.



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The winner each week is selected from the recipes

Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-

1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions are clear.

address and phone number are on the entry. Please include a street address with your recipe entries. A post office box number is not sufficient for prize delivery. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. 3. Send it to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505. OR e-mail at: auctions@agpress.com

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2011 Grass es Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Eileen Patrick, Lindsborg: "Another fun candy recipe for this holiday season. Really tastes authentic and is so easy."

BUTTERFINGER **CANDY**

16-ounce bag of Brachs Corn Candy

16 ounces creamy peanut butter

20 oz. chocolate almond bark

Melt the corn candy in the microwave and stir until smooth. Add the peanut butter. The corn candy will attempt to set up, thus making the Butterfinger consistency. Spread in a 9-by-13-inch pan and refrigerate. Cut into small squares and dip into melted chocolate and allow to harden. Enjoy!

Gale Rathbun, Webber: "This is so easy and VERY rich. Excellent served with fresh hot coffee."

COFFEE SHOP **FUDGE**

- 3 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 tablespoons very strong

and

brewed coffee, room temperature

- 2 teaspoons cinnamon 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon real vanilla

1 cup chopped pecans

Line a 9-by-9-inch pan with foil and lightly grease; set aside. In microwave-safe bowl, combine chips, milk, coffee, cinnamon and salt, Microwave, uncovered, on high for 1 1/2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Stir in vanilla and nuts. Immediately pour into prepared pan. Cover and chill until firm, about 2 hours. Remove from pan using foil as handles. Remove foil and cut into 1-inch squares. Store covered at room temperature. Yields about 2 pounds.

Zoe Ann Gehr, Topeka: "These are super easy to prepare and they make a great side dish or a quick appetizer."

GARLIC KNOTS

- 1 tube refrigerated pizza dough
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic

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color and trim

1/4 cup Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Roll dough into rectangle and cut into strips. Cut strips in half. Tie strips into knots and place them on a greased baking sheet. Make them small as they will rise. Melt butter and mix with chopped garlic, garlic powder and oregano. Brush butter mixture over the tops of the knots and place in the oven. Bake for about 10 minutes. Keep your eye on them and as soon as the tops feel dry take them out. They will be nice and doughy on the inside. Brush them with butter mixture again and sprinkle with the Parmesan

Karen Saner, Burns: **OVERNIGHT CHICKEN SUPREME**

3 cups cooked chicken, diced 8 ounces uncooked macaroni 1/2 pound Velveeta cheese 4 hard-cooked eggs, diced 1 can cream of mushroom

- soup 1 can cream of celery soup 2 cups milk
- 1 small onion, chopped

Mix all together except for the crumbs. Put in a 9-by-13-inch pan that has been sprayed. Refrigerate overnight. Top with buttered bread crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for about an hour.

Loretta Shepard, Helena,

QUICK ITALIAN CREAM CAKE

- 15.5-ounce package white cake mix with pudding
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cups buttermilk
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil 3 1/2-ounce can flaked coconut
- 2/3 cup chopped pecans

3 tablespoons rum, optional Beat first 4 ingredients at medium speed for 2 minutes. Stir in coconut and pecans. Pour into 3 greased and floured 9-inch round cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 17 minutes or until a wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire racks for 10 minutes. Remove from pans and cool completely on wire racks. Sprinkle each cake

layer evenly with rum, if desired Let stand 10 minutes Spread Cream Cheese frosting between layers, on top and sides.

Cream Cheese frosting: 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened

16-ounce package powdered sugar

2 teaspoons vanilla extract 1/2 cup butter

1 cup chopped pecans

Beat cream cheese and butter at medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth. Gradually add powdered sugar, beating until light and fluffy. Stir in vanilla and pecans.

Joyce Jandera, Hanover: **CRANBERRY-ORANGE**

SLICES 1 cup butter, softened

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 cup dried cranberries,

finely chopped 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans

2 teaspoons finely shredded orange peel

Beat butter on high for 30 seconds. Add sugar and salt. Beat until combined, scraping sides of bowl occasionally. Beat in egg yolk and vanilla until combined, beat in as much of the flour as you can with the mixer. Stir in any remaining flour. Stir in cranberries, pecans and orange peel. Divide dough in half. Shape each half into a 9-inch rope. Wrap in plastic wrap. Chill at least 3 hours or overnight. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cut rolls into 1/4-inch slices with serrated knife. Place slices 1 inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until edges are firm and lightly brown. Cool on cookie sheet 1 minute then transfer to a wire rack to cool. Makes 4 1/2 dozen.

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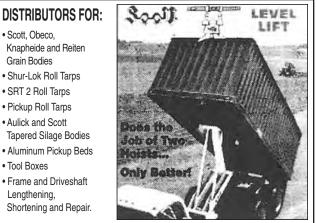




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Grass es Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Amanda Demars, Glasco: "This is great served with

SWEET & SPICY "DUMP" CHICKEN

1 nackage taco seasoning 1 cup apricot or peach jam

1 1/2 cups salsa 1 1/2 pounds chicken pieces

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place chicken in a large baking dish. Mix all ingredients and pour mixture over chicken. Bake 45-60 minutes or until chicken juices run clear.

Michelle Brokes, Wilson: "This is one of my favorites this time of the year as I can make them the day before, then just put them in the oven Christmas morning."

GOOD MORNING CINNAMON ROLLS

- 1 package French vanilla cake mix
- 5 1/2 to 6 cups flour
- 2 packages active dry yeast
- 1 teaspoon salt 2 1/2 cups warm water
- 1/4 cup butter, softened Cinnamon/sugar mixture
- 1 1/3 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 2 tablespoons light corn syrup
- 1 1/2 cups chopped walnuts

Combine dry cake mix, 2 cups flour, veast and salt. Add the water and beat on low until combined. Beat on high 3 minutes. Stir in remaining flour. Knead 3 minutes (dough will be sticky). Place in greased bowl and raise until double. Punch dough down and divide in half. Cover and let stand 10 minutes. Roll each portion into 16-by-9-inch rectangle. Spread with 1/4 cup butter and cinnamon/sugar mixture. Roll up and cut into 1inch slices. Combine brown sugar, 1 cup butter and corn syrup. Bring to a boil. Divide between two 9-by-13-inch pans. Sprinkle walnuts evenly into pans. Place rolls on top. Cover and refrigerate 8 hours or overnight. Remove from refrigerator and leave at room temperature 30 minutes before baking. Bake at

or until golden brown.

Marla Gillmore, Moundridge:

350 degrees for 25 minutes

CORN FRITTERS

- 1 cup corn
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon baking powder Dash of salt
- 1/2 cup flour

3-4 tablespoons milk Pepper to taste

Mix corn, beaten egg yolk, salt, pepper, flour, milk, and baking powder. Fold in stiffly beaten egg white. Drop several spoonfuls in hot melted shortening. Turn when edges get brown and fry until golden brown. Place on paper towel.

Maria C. Biffel, Carlin,

CARIBBEAN PLANTAIN TAJADAS (sweet)

2 to 3 yellow-blackish looking plantains (a large, long

coarse banana) Brown sugar or white sugar Cinnamon (optional)

Cut both sides of the plantains' peel. Peel them until there is no sign of the peel. Cut them biased with a knife; reserve. Heat oil and fry the plantains in a frying

pan on a stove. Plantains must be golden on both sides. Sprinkle with sugar until sugar gets a little caramel-like. Serve immediately with or without cinna-

NOTE: A serving suggestion ... this dessert is excellent with a vanilla ice cream cup and top with a little whipped cream or molasses.

Lois Lahodny, Belleville: FIVE-LAYER BARS

- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 2 sleeves graham crackers, crushed
- 1 cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 2 cups sweetened flaked coconut
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate
- 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk

chips

2 cups pecans, lightly toasted and coarsely chopped

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with butter or cooking spray. Line pan with parchment paper, allowing enough to overhang on the long side to lift bars from pan after baking. In a large bowl combine butter and graham crackers. Transfer mixture to prepared pan and pat into an even layer to form crust. Sprinkle coconut evenly over crust. Sprinkle chocolate chips over coconut. Pour condensed milk evenly over chocolate chips. Sprinkle pecans evenly over condensed milk layer. Press layers down lightly. Transfer to oven and bake until lightly browned, about 30 minutes. Set aside to cool completely, then cut into 24 bars.

NOTE: To toast the nuts.

heat the oven to 350 degrees. Place the nuts on a dry baking sheet and bake until golden, 10 to 15 minutes.

Recipe from Gretchen Holt-Witt's "Cookies for Kids' Cancer: Best Bake Sale Cookbook" (Wiley, 2011)

Lois also wanted to share this little prayer:

DISHWASHER'S GRACE Thank God for dirty dishes, they have a tale to tell.

While other folks go hungry, we're eating very well.

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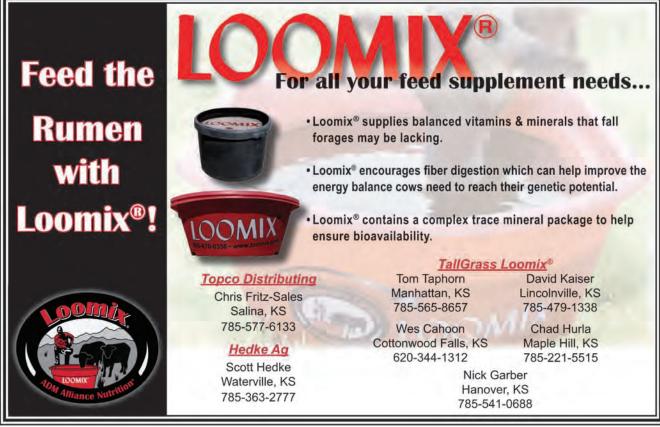
For by this stack of evidence, God's very good to us.

> -Kirsten Emmerton New Hazelton, **British Columbia**











2011 Grass es Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Mary Rogers, Topeka: CHOCOLATE COVERED FRUIT & PISTACHIO

(2) 4-ounce packages white bark, coarsely chopped 1 cup coconut

1/2 cup roasted pistachios, chopped

1/2 cup dried mixed fruit Spray a jelly roll pan. Melt white bark in mi-

crowave. Arrange coconut, nuts and fruit in a thin layer on jelly roll pan. Drizzle melted bark over mixture gently spreading with a spatula. Cool until set. Break into pieces.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Cen-

HOBO POUCH

1 hamburger patty 1 peeled & sliced carrot 1 peeled & sliced potato 1 small sliced onion

1 cabbage leaf Salt & pepper

Wrap in foil and bake at

350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes or until hamburger is done.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:

CARAMEL CORN 5 quarts popped corn (no old

maids) 2 cups brown sugar

2 sticks butter or oleo 1/2 cup white corn syrup 1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon vanilla 1 teaspoon salt

Pop 5 quarts of popcorn, place one layer thick on baking sheets and set aside. In a large saucepan combine brown sugar, butter and corn syrup. Boil 5 minutes, remove from heat. Add baking soda, vanilla and salt; stir thoroughly. Mixture will foam up. Pour over popped corn and mix well. Place Home and Away

Shopping Misadventures

By Lou Ann Thomas

I'm a pro procrastinator, so with Christmas just days away it was time for me to finish shopping. I prefer to do most of my purchasing at locally owned establishments, but this year, thinking I might be missing out on some holiday hustle and bustle. I decided to try shopping at one of the big box stores.

Once through the doors I was met by shoppers and carts everywhere. Finally freeing a cart from the Tetris-like maze by the door, I headed toward the

Daystar

toy aisles to get something fun for my nephews. Once there I was met by a major cart jam that had shoppers backed up all the way to Sporting Goods. I pressed on to the clothing department, where I found a number of males of the species with rather vacant and lost expressions on their faces. All appeared to be pondering if their wives, sisters, aunts, grandmothers and fourth grade teachers would like the same flannel nightgown.

Finally I found myself alone. No one was pushing me from behind in the behind. No one was moving my cart several aisles away while I browsed the socks. This was shopping as it was meant to be. I looked around to get my bearings and realized I had wandered into the automotive department. Slumping over my cart trying to catch my breath I noticed a sales associate sitting quietly in the corner under an oversized inflatable tire man that looked like the Pillsbury Doughboy on steroids.

"It's crazy out there, isn't it?" he said with a toothy grin.

I nodded weakly. Even though the automotive guv spooked me, I hung out in his department for awhile soaking up some peace and quiet. When I felt strong enough I started moving toward the doors. There I noticed another middle-aged woman heading toward the tangled web of empty shopping carts. I quickly maneuvered over to her and asked if she had people on her list that could wear a medium sweatshirt and loved sports. She nodded her head yes.

"Then I hope they like these. Just pay for them and return to your car," I told her. "It's for your own good, trust me."

But this story does have a happy ending. By following the trail of credit card receipts I left behind, I was able to find my car and purchase the last few presents I needed at my hometown merchants.

I just hope my nephews like the transmission fluid I sent them for Christmas.

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Key to healthy holiday season is managing the weeks in between special days

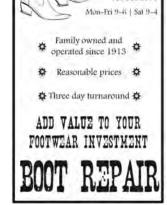
More than one person will fret over unwanted pounds gained during this holiday season. Truthfully, negotiating the short, but sometimes brutal calendar divide between multiple major, food-oriented holidays can be difficult for even the most health-conscious person.

The good news is that it can be done.

Barbara Brown, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension food specialist, said the key is getting back on the socalled wagon immediately after the actual days of celebration rather than declaring "open season" until the first of the year.

More specifically, she advises people to get rid of the guilt about indulging on the special days, enjoy them when they come around and concentrate on making positive, healthy choices during the weeks in between.

"One, two or even three big meals won't cause people to gain five pounds over a two-month period," she said. "I think there's a misunderstanding about what happens during this



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time of year. People might high fat ingredients like say they gained five pounds over the holiday, but they generally shed five of those pounds in the early part of the new year. The issue is that we want to avoid the retention of that last lingering single pound because after 20 years, that's 20 extra pounds.

Keeping it simple in the kitchen and finding time to incorporate additional phy-sical activity are important elements to successfully surviving the gauntlet of holiday inspired gatherings.

When it comes to mealtimes in between those special days, Brown said the "no-frills" approach is best. Eat plain fruits and vegetables, forego adding salt to dishes and avoid sauces, especially any with

cheese and cream. Instead, rely on flavoring dishes through cooking methods like roasting vegetables and making stir-fries featuring vegetables.

Other general suggestions include removing the skin from poultry before eating it; using less butter and seasoning food with herbs, spices or wine; and cooking with nonstick pans or nonstick spray.

Desserts also can be simplified. Fresh fruit or fruit canned in fruit juice, light syrup or water works So, too, does dusting cakes with powdered sugar rather than using frosting.

"If you're attending or hosting a social function, consider making a cobbler for dessert rather than a pie because the cobbler only has a single crust and

a lot of the fat is in the crust." said Brown.

Furthermore, holiday sweets like candy and cookies can be lightly sampled but otherwise should be delivered or given away. Treats that are not designated for a specific purpose should either be frozen or stored away, she said. Meanwhile, watch out for snack foods like chips or sugary drinks like soda pop, and consider lower fat beverages like cider rather than eggnog or simply drink water.

However, keeping it simple doesn't mean skipping meals. In fact, Brown advocates maintaining a regular eating schedule and, for those looking for a structured framework, she said the recommendations outlined in the federal government's MyPlate initiative at choosemyplate.gov provide solid guidance on building healthy plates that include all five basic food groups.

"MyPlate is an excellent visual of how a healthy plate should look," she said "The basic recommendation is for a little more than half vegetables and fruit, but if you don't

like vegetables as well, that line can move a little toward more fruit. The key is making sure an entire half of your plate is pro-

duce." MyPlate also encourages people to make sure half of the recommended amount of grains in their diet is whole grains like brown rice, popcorn and whole wheat pasta.

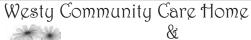
The other part of making the holidays happy and healthy - is physical activity.

"Think about ways you can increase your activity. Maybe you can park your car farther away from the front door at work or the store or carve out time to take a walk," said Brown.

The MyPlate website

encourages people to pick activities they enjoy and can do regularly. In addition, the site suggests several ways to increase physical activity at home and at work such as walking the dog, cleaning the house, exercising to a workout video, replacing a coffee break with a 10minute walk and getting off the bus one stop earlier and walking the rest of the way to the destina-

"The holidays can be challenging in terms of avoiding weight gain and maintaining a healthy lifestyle," said Brown.
"But people can do so successfully and there are plenty of resources to help support those efforts."





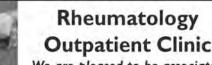
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Audiology Date: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Dr. Kevin Ruggle Manhattan, KS

Cardiology - NHI Date: 5 - Dr. Kaliprasad Ayala Date: 11: Dr. Rebecca Rundlett Date: 19, 25 Dr. Steven Martin Nebraska Heart Institute

Cardiology Surgery Date: 3 - Dr. Steve Tyndall Lincoln, NE

Lincoln, NE

Cardiology - Bryan/LGH Date: 10, 24 Dr. Mathue Baker Date: 16: Dr. Scott Coatsworth Bryan/LGH Heart Institute Lincoln, NE

> Ear. Nose & Throat Date: 10, 24 Dr. Benjamin Pease Manhattan, KS

Gynecology Date: 9, 23 Dr. Amanda McKinney Lincoln, NE

> Nephrology Dr. Fadi Bedros Manhattan, KS

Neurology Date: 11 - Dr. Fatma Radhi Date: 26 - Dr. Nanda Kumar Manhattan, KS

Occupational Therapy By referral only Colette Ottens, OTR

> Oncology Date: 13 Lincoln, NE

Ophthalmology Surgery Date: 19 Dr. Vincent Sutton

Outpatient Clinic

Ophthalmology Date: 20 Dr. Vincent Sutton Lincoln, NE

Lincoln Orthopedics Date: 9, 16, 23, 30 Dr. Keith Lawson

Manhattan Orthopedics Date: 4, 18 Dr. Peter Hodges

Physical Therapy Crist & Pieschi By appointment only

Podiatry Date: 5 - Dr. Fred James Lincoln, NE

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January 2012

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> Urology Date: 3, 17, 31 Dr. John Devine Manhattan, KS

Bone Density Nuclear Stress Date: 4, 6, 9, 12, 16,

18, 20, 23, 26, 30 CT Scans: M-F Sonograms: M-F

Echocardiograms - M-F Mammograms - M-F MRI - Tuesday/Friday CVE - Monday/Thursday EEG's - By appointment **CMH Outpatient Clinic**

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CMH Classes and Programs

January 2 - Clinic closed for New Year's Holiday January 17 - American Red Cross CPR & First Aid: 6:00-9:00 PM January 19 - Meadowlark Hospice Bereavement Support Group: 4:30-5:30 PM January 19 - Grief Support Group for Loss of Child: 7:00-8:00 PM Unless otherwise noted, all classes will be held in the lower level of Community Physicians Clinic.

Community Memorial Healthcare + 708 North 18th Street + Marysville, KS 66508 + (785) 562-2311



2008 Bobcat S220 SSL, A/C, Heat, Std. Controls, Hi Flo, 2 Speed, Power Bob-Tach™ Mtg. System, Keyless Start, Susp. Seat, Self Leveling Bkt., 948 Hrs., Topeka, KS, EN 1018273 \$ 32,000

2008 Bobcat S300 SSL, A/C, Heat, Std.Controls, 2 Speed, Power Bob-Tach™Mtg. System, Keyless Start, Susp. Seat, Radio, 224 Hrs. Wichita, KS. EN 1018549 \$ 36,500

2010 Bobcat S630 M-Series SSL, A/C, Heat, Susp. Seat, Power Bob-Tach™ Mtg. System, Bkt. Position, 7-Pin Attac.,, 393 Hrs., Manhattan, KS. EN 1027297 \$ 33,500



2010 Bobcat T320 CTL, A/C, Heat, Std.Controls, Hi Flo, Power Bob-Tach™ Mtg. System, Keyless Start, Bkt. Position, Block Heater, BU Alarm, 417 Hrs., Manhattan, KS.

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2007 334 Bobcat Mini-X, Open Cab, Hydr. Thumb, 1,174 Hrs., Manhattan, KS. \$ 26,900 EN 1022241



2007 Bobcat T250 CTL, Open Cab, Std. Controls, Power Bob-Tach™ Mtg. System, Keyless Start, 7 Pin Attachment, 1,230 Hrs., Wichita, KS. EN 1028812 \$ 33,500



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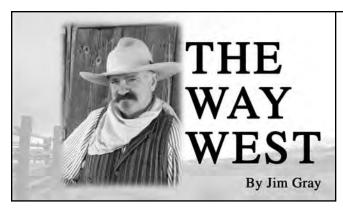
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The Rawhide Trail

"Head 'em up and move 'em out" was made famous by the trail-driving series Rawhide. Those drovers seemed to be perpetually on the trail. A viewer could chalk it up to Hollywood and the need to tell a story that kept fans coming back to ride the long trail with trail boss Gil Favor and ramrod Rowdy Yates. The story line may have stretched the limit of reality for one long cattle drive that lasted for eight seasons, but for some cowbovs the occupation of getting cattle from their native range in south Texas to northern cattle markets could well be described as never-ending.

Cattle either had to be collected from the extensive range of a large ranch or purchased from ranches extending into Mexico. "Cow Hunts" were organized as early as January to bring the wild cattle out of Saves up to 25% on Feed Loss

Cone Feeder

the mesquite brush. Special horses were used to charge pell-mell into the mesquite. A rider would fairly cling to the saddle, dodging limbs and brush as longhorns crashed before him through tangled branches and treacherous thorns. The roundup could take weeks of hard riding. Once captured, the cattle were usually gathered in special pastures, fenced high and tight with a fortress of heavy posts. They had to be branded with a road brand in a heavy set of corrals and branding chutes that could hold the wild cattle.

Many of the trail herds were actually a collection of several smaller herds, owned by different operations. Their ranch brand identified the owner, but a road brand was used to identify all of the cattle in a particular trail herd. Titus Buckbee wrote home

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to Ellinwood in February, "It is like summer here, grass green." By March he had accumulated the number of cattle that he desired and was working them up in preparation for the drive.

Most outfits set out for the northern markets to take advantage of fresh green grass as warm weather edged its way north in the spring. Cattle would generally reach Kansas markets in May and June, but drovers had no intentions of selling the bulk of their cattle until fall. Cow camps were established near dependable water sources where Cookie would set up the chuck wagon. Cattle were then grazed on lush Kansas grass through the summer to put them into condition for the traditional shipping season from late August into Novem-

Cattle buyers from all over the country crowded

into the end-of-trail towns. Much of their time was spent inspecting cattle herds at the various cow camps. Some buyers wanted young cattle to stock the vacant prairies of Montana, Wyoming, and the Dakotas. Others were looking for cow herds to establish ranches. But the biggest buyers in the fall were looking for grass fat cattle either for the butcher in eastern states or for the corn feeder who could put a nice finish on the cattle before they became beef on some easterner's

All in all a cowboy could be away from home most of the year. If at all possible the one time of the year he wanted to be home was Christmas. Mark Withers' cattle were "rolling fat" by the time he sold them in Abilene in 1868. Mark had a plan to make an impression on his return home. Fruit was a special treat on the frontier. He bought new wagons and he and his crew put his cow ponies in harness. The outfit returned to Texas by way of they Arkansas where loaded the wagons with apples which were peddled all across Texas bringing the men a fine price, "...for those that they did not eat or give away to the girls along the road."

Ben Borroum arrived home with a wagon full of Christmas presents and lots of fanfare. He announced his arrival by shooting off a Roman candle. He hadn't thought of the effect the fire stick would have on his mules. As the team lunged he grabbed for the lines but the next flare from the candle shot directly into the frightened mules. "They dashed into the yard with a grand flourish and noise

and continued the wild race around the place until outside help came to assist in controlling them." It was a wild homecoming but only a mild introduction to a Christmas filled with exciting presents from the railhead in Kansas. Within a few weeks drovers saddled up and started the process all over again. There were cattle to be gathered and paths to follow up that Rawhide trail where history was made on the Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier and also publishes Kansas Cowboy, Old West history from a Kansas perspective. Contact Kansas Cowboy, Box 62, Ellsworth, KS 67439. Phone 785-531-2058 or www. droversmercantile.com.





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196749	#460 Husqvarna Chain Saw	\$459.95	\$419.97
186701	Forney Mig Welder w/cart 220V	\$599.99	\$499.99
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515405	4" Makita Angle Grinder	\$69.99	\$56.99
204009	5 Speed Small Drill Press	\$87.50	\$63.99
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204050	3" Bench Grinder	\$41.99	\$22.99
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A Horse Lover's Christmas

One of the most diffiquestions every Christmas for horse lovers is what to get for that family member that brings you the most joy, is always there when you need him, and understands you better than anyone... No, not your horse clinician, barista or Pilates personal trainer, no. It is Equus domesticus propios - your horse.

This is not to diminish your affection for your hubby or ex-hubby, children, parents or gal pals, but in those relationships it is you who gives the most. You calm their fears, rub their necks, let them cry on your shoulder, lend them your ear and you are always there, a cornerstone in their lives.

But whose shoulder do you cry on? To whom do you tell your deepest secrets? Who never calls you silly, tells you that you snore, never talks back or expects you to be reasonable? Not your dog, that's for sure! Dogs are too needy. They think only of themselves. Want a dog to do a trick for you? Feed him. Before or after, he

Garber's

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can't tell the difference. Need slobbered on? Kneel down and pet him. He'll lick your glasses off! Expect him to pick up after himself on your walk, in the kennel or in the back yard? Are you kiddin'!? You want him to like your new boyfriend but he gets jealous and pees on his slippers.

Cats aren't much better. They are more like husbands. You pour your heart out to them and they ignore you. For ten minutes you complain and rant, "...and that's why my day went so bad," you finish. Both your cat and your husband look at you the same way when you're done – blank.

I know people who have an aquarium, gerbil, parrot, wind chimes, or a cow, to turn to in times when they need comfort and love. But in most cases from horses.

2012 Honda 420 Rancher Manual Shift 4x4 Garber's Price: \$5,399 MSRP \$6,099* For Year-End Expenses, **Buy a Honda or Pay the Government!**

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ested Retail Price (MSRP) excludes \$275 destination charge

they might as well talk to a two-by-four. At least the 2x4 doesn't fidget.

But a horse is the best listener you'll ever find. You can stand and talk to a horse for 30 minutes and they'll listen patiently. They maintain eye-to-eye contact. They care.

A horse never questions your ridiculous worries or bad habits, or dreamy wishes. You can lean on a horse. Try leaning on a cat. Horses take you for a ride. Sure, a dog will take you for a walk, but it's not the same. Try stroking a goldfish, try feeding a cow out of your hand, try talking to a parrot whose only vocabulary is "Gimme five, gimme five, gimme five!"

Christmas shopping for a dog is easy - something to chew on, for a cat something to play with, for a python – something to squeeze. But a horse would rather that you got something for yourself; new chaps, jodhpurs, a hat, boots, saddle or braided reins. That's how your horse thinks. He wants you to look good, to feel pretty, and to shine.

People could learn a lot

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Tell them

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Auction Sales Scheduled

December 21 -Excavawheel loaders, tracked loader, crawler tractors, dozer, scrapers, trucks, trailers, loader/ backhoe, trencher/backhoe, lift, skid steer, construction equip. online only (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

December 22 — Ottawa County cropland & improvements at Minneapolis for Rhonda Bradley & Evan Muller. Auction-eers: Omli & Associates, Inc.

December 28 — Tractors, combine, harvest equip., trucks, vehicles, tillage & planting equip., excavator, hay equip, ATVs, wheel loaders online only (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

December 28 - Online only Ag equipment, combines, drills, tractors, application equip., tillage, semi truck (www.purple wave.com). Auctioneers: Purple Wave Auctions.

December 30 — Inventory reduction, tractors, com-

bines, corn heads, flex platforms, planters, tillage equip., field cultivators & misc. at Mason City, Iowa and online (www. gehlinglive.com) for Red Power Team. Auction-eers: Gehling Auction.

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

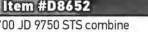
January 4, 2012 — Pawnee County, Nebraska real estate land at Pawnee City, Neb. for Emaleen Rogers. Auctioneers: Speckmann Realty & Auction Service, Inc.

January — Smith County, KS real estate (auction held at) Franklin, Neb.

Continued on page 12









00 CAT Challenger 75E



98 CIH 2388 combine

PLUS: COMBINES: '00 JD 9750 STS, '98 CIH 2388, '97 CIH 2188 Axial-Flow, '96 JD 9600, '95 CIH 2166 Axial-Flow TRACTORS: '09 & '08 JD 7330 Premium MFWD, '02 JD 6405 w/ldr, '00 CAT Challenger 75E DRILLS: JD 1850 42' air disk drill w/ JD 787 air commodity cart, '02 Sunflower 9432 30' grain drill w/ liquid fertilizer tank APPLICATION EQUIPMENT: '06 Chandler 26' triple axle sprdr TILLAGE: '10 Orthman 1tRIPr 12R 40" precision strip-tillage system, JD 637 rock disk SEMI TRUCK: '06 Frtlnr FLD120 PLUS: hay/forage and more online. ≌ 866.608.9283

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JD 4840 Tractor, 9661 Hrs 74 JD 4430 Tractor, 2402 Hrs 92 JD 8760 4x4 Tractor, 8943.5 Hrs

Versatile 276 II Bi-Directional Tractor, 5824 Hrs

COMBINE 09 JD 9870 STS Combine, 765 Sep Hrs/1,075 Eng Hrs

08 JD 9870 STS Combine, 616 Sep Hrs/873 Eng Hrs 05 JD 9760 STS Combine 05 Case IH 2388 Combine, 2052 Hrs

01 Case 2388 Combine, 3191 Eng Hrs/2306 Sep Hrs

91 Case 1680 Combine, 2403

Eng Hrs 94 Case IH 1688 2 WD Combine, 3683 Hrs

Case IH Model 2366 Axial-Flow Combine NH TR 98 Combine, 2655 Eng Hrs/2412 Sep Hrs

HARVEST EQUIPMENT 00 Brent 674 Grain Cart

TRUCKS & VEHICLES Freightliner M2 Conventional Chassis Flatbed

Straight Truck 06 Kenworth T300 Feed Truck, 10989 Hrs

(2) 08 Chevy 2500HD Extra Cab 4X4 Pickups

06 Chevy 2500HD Extra Cab 4X4 Pickup

TILLAGE EQUIPMENT B & H Manufacturing 9600 16R30 No-Till Minimum Till Cultivator

PLANTING EQUIPMENT 05 Kinze 3600 Twin Line 16/30 Planter

99 JD 1770 Planter, 16R30" Pull Type Vacuum

EXCAVATOR 04 Cat 303CR Mini Excavator, 1943 Hrs

FERTILIZER/CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT

98 Rogator 854 Self Propelled Spraver

10 Schaben SF-8500 Pull Behind Sprayer

HAY EQUIPMENT JD 4995 Windrower, 2503 Eng Hrs/2068 Head Hrs

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MASSEY FEROI

Auctions

Continued from page 11

for Jon & Linda Ferguson & Lyn & Janis Lee (operated by Ferguson Bros., Inc.). Auctioneers: Marshall Land Brokers & Auctioneers.

January 7 — Furniture, appliances, glassware, collectibles, tools & misc. at Junction City for Margerta Goodin. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

January 7 — Tractors, machinery, crop head, hay equip., grain cart, trailers, vehicles, skid loader attach. & misc. at Liberty, Neb. for Christopher J. Sedlacek Estate. Auctioneers: Jurgens, Henrichs, Hardin.

January 8 — Estate auction at Lawrence for Donna Biggerstaff Living Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 14 — Coins, jewelry, swords, van, tools, antiques at Osage City for Archie Larison. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp Auctions.

January 16 — Real estate at

Osage City for Rita Bartee. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate, Wayne Wischropp, auctioneer.

January 18 — Wabaunsee County farmland, grassland, 3 BD 2 BA home at Alma for Elly & the late Harold Neff. Auctioneers: Steve Murray Auctions.

January 18 — Russell County real estate at Lucas for William A. Patton. Auctioneers: Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.

January 20 — Kansas Auc-

tioneers Association Livestock Market Auctioneers Contest at Gas, KS (just east of Iola).

January 21 — Farm items, truck, tractor, JD Gator, collectibles at Lawrence for Robert & Clara McKeehan. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 23 — Prime native grass acreage N. of St. Marys for Louise A. Ronssie Davis Trust. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate, Ed Dewey,

auctioneer.

January 28 — Toy & guns at
Osage City. Auctioneers:

Elston Auctions.

February 2 — Dickinson Co. cropland at Abilene for Scanlan Farms, Inc. Auctioneers: Omli & Associates, Inc.

February 5 — Auction at Lawrence. Auctioneers:

Elston Auctions. February 25 — TS Ranch & Quarter Hereford Horse sale at Cottonwood Falls for TS Ranch.

March 3 — 34th annual Gel-bvieh & Balancer bull sale at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March — Concordia Optimist Annual Machinery

Consignment auction at Concordia.

March 10 — Bull & female sale at Maple Hill for Mill

Brae Ranch. March 16 — Production sale at Manhattan for BJ

Angus Genetics. March 24 — Estate auction at Carbondale for Charles & Lila Sheperd Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

March 24 — Farm sale, ma-chinery, guns, tools & misc. SE of Aurora for Glen & Gary Gutka. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

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And A Happy New Year

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