



Customer service and future opportunities fuel Heinen Brothers Agra Services' growth

By Jay Calleja,
managing editor of
Agricultural Aviation

Growing up on a farm in the '80s during a severe farming recession, Scott and Glenn Heinen's parents implored their three children to seek careers in anything but agriculture. Farming was hard work, but hardly rewarding back then. Mr. and Mrs. Heinen didn't want to wish that lot upon their offspring.

"The '80s were tough," Scott says. "We were raised by two very stout, devout German Catholics. They liked to work. They worked a lot. My father was much older than my mother, and he still remembers the Depression. So, they were very frugal with their money."

That thriftiness, coupled with 700 hundred acres of farm ground and a hundred head of cattle, enabled them to pay for three college educations at Kansas State University (KSU) for their children. "Still to this day, I don't know how they did that," Scott says. "They didn't tell any of us to come back. I remember, 'Don't come back. Get a degree. Go away. Don't come back.' Well, all three of us, including my sister, came back, to my mother's dismay. She likes to tell the story now. She didn't like it so much at the time."

Today, Scott and Glenn are the co-owners of Heinen Brothers Agra Services, a full-service aerial application, agronomy, ag retail and trucking company headquartered in Seneca, and operating in 11 states. Scott is seven years older than Glenn and the oldest sibling. Their middle sister, Marya, also works in agriculture. She and her husband Neal sell purebred Angus cattle.

"Despite all the urging and chirping and bantering not to come back, we knew we were coming back," Scott says. The only question was how. "We decided if we wanted to farm the way we wanted to farm, we were probably going to have to have a side job or business."

Scott and Glenn had always had a fascination with airplanes. They built model airplanes and made paper airplanes that they would test by climbing up to the loft of the hay barn. They would throw them down to see whose went the farthest. After they picked up the airplanes, they would do it again. Whenever their father hired the local crop duster to treat their farm, Scott and Glenn would watch eagerly from the edge of the field as the ag pilot skillfully plied his trade.

Scott graduated with a degree in aviation science from Kansas State in 1993. After graduating from KSU, he started Nemaha Valley Aerial, named after the valley they grew up in in Seneca.

Whereas Scott majored in aviation, Glenn majored in agronomy in college. He



Could Heinen Brothers become Heinen Family Agra Services some day? Glenn (left) and Scott Heinen (right) are joined by their wives, Leah and Kaylene, respectively, and their children. Scott and Kaylene have four kids, Colton, Jacob, Kate and Isaac. Glenn and Leah have four, too—Nyah, Will, Marin and Grant.

had dreamed of being in the Air Force when he was a kid. By high school Glenn concluded the military might not be for him, but the possibility existed to join a different air force—agriculture's air force. He loaded for Scott while he was in high school and began flying for the business in 1998, after his freshman year at K-State. "Agronomy caught my eye. The flying bug was there. It was the combination of the best of both worlds for me," he says.

Glenn attended KSU from fall of 1997 to 2000. Throughout that time, he continued to work with Scott at the flying operation. They had always gotten along, and that brotherly bond paved the way for an eventual partnership. They changed the name of the business to Heinen Brothers Agra Services in 1998, and Glenn became a full partner in '99.

"The business wasn't that great, and I pretty much told him, 'Well, if you want to be partners, just sign on the debt and you're in,'" Scott says. "We laugh about that today. There was no buy-in. He pretty much took on half of my debt load and away we went."

The evolution was natural, Glenn says. "One day when I was still in college we just agreed, 'Okay, you've been doing it as long as I have. Let's just keep going.' It was pretty informal."

Eighteen years later, joining forces has proved to be a shrewd move on the Heinen brothers' part. The company has expanded quite a bit since their early days. Today, across its full operation, from trucking to farming to aerial application, Heinen Brothers has 48 employees, not counting pilots, and 14 aircraft. Besides Heinen Brothers' headquarters in Seneca, they have a small outfit in Texas; two bases in Kansas; one in Nebraska; HB Texoma, an operation they acquired in Altus, Okla.; and Bonne Idee Air in Mer Rouge, La., an operation they purchased from Scotty Meador three years ago.

Heinen Brothers offers agronomic services, ag chemicals, anhydrous ammonia, dry and liquid fertilizer, precision ag, ground application and aerial application services to its customers. "We've grown from word of mouth and a reputation for getting things done," Glenn says. "Our philosophy is that we treat it like it was our own, and we both do it how we want it done and that's what we're going to do for our growers. If it's nothing that would satisfy us, then we're not going to

sign off on it."

For all its diversification, aerial application remains the company's lifeblood. "We are an aerial application service. We laugh and joke all the time that you just need to embrace the inner crop duster because that's what we are," Scott says. "We do it. We know it. We've lived it. We do well with it. We understand aircraft maintenance."

In October 2016, Scott and Glenn opened their own maintenance shop with three full-time mechanics, led by Jerard Haas, to do all their aircraft maintenance in-house. They are working toward standardizing their fleet of 14 aircraft and prefer Air Tractor 502s and 802s with PT6A-34 and -65 engines, respectively. They had helicopters in the past and are mulling the idea of getting back into the rotorcraft market.

Heinen Brothers' growth has been gradual and continual, with several small acquisitions along the way. Acquiring Bonne Idee Air in Louisiana was the first big move, in Scott's mind, creating a presence for them in the South and opening the door to treat other crops.

Crop diversity and exposure to different types of seasons are the most important criteria when Scott and Glenn consider potential acquisition targets. "Instead of expanding acres... we figured that if we expanded our season, then we would just naturally expand our acres," Scott says. "We had a really big worry that we were very heavily vested in corn. And all it was going to take is one little hiccup in the market, (and) here we'd saddled all these airplanes to spray corn. When we look at the operations that we buy, we like to buy operations for different cropping situations and different seasons."

Divide and Flourish

One reason their partnership has been so successful is because the brothers' divergent interests complement each other well.

"We've always been able to stay separate because we really don't have the same likes at all. Glenn loves agronomy, soils, fertilizer, and that stuff just bores the heck out of me," Scott says. "I don't want to look at bugs and weeds any more than Glenn wants to look at a busted prop governor."

Glenn takes care of the farming operation and the agronomy. Scott handles the equipment, maintenance and airplane purchases, as well as overseeing their advertising and banking initiatives. Scott

used to supervise the pilots, but as the crew grew he handed those responsibilities over to a chief pilot they hired, Jim Uselton, which he says has been "a Godsend."

Glenn doesn't fly as much as he did when it was just Scott and him, but he still logs 300 to 400 hours of ag time a year. He considers himself to be a glorified pinch-hitter. "I'm just the utility guy," Glenn says modestly. "I'll do whatever I gotta do. If he needs help that day and I've got to load, I don't care. I'm here to get the work done in whatever respect that involves me in."

The variety is what Glenn enjoys most about his role. "I couldn't be in one spot every day," he says. "I like the seasonal changes. I like the fact that I get to run a combine in the fall, and then I like the fact that I get to work with growers and help them on their fertilizer and input decisions. And I like rolling around in the spring and summer, and I get to go be a pilot. I like wearing the different hats."

Scott stopped flying ag after the 2007-2008 season because there were too many distractions that he was bringing with him as an operator into the cockpit. "It got to the point where I have so many things going on in my mind, I'm not paying attention to what I was doing. And when I realized that I really wasn't fully engaged in what I was doing, I probably shouldn't be doing it."

The straw that broke the camel's back came when Scott took one load out in an AT-401. "(Then) I got on the phone and it idled from 6:30 in the morning to 1:45 in the afternoon because I couldn't get back to the airplane because I kept taking phone call after phone call after phone call. And I realized, 'This is asinine; I'm losing money.'"

Although he misses it, spraying just isn't practical for Scott any more. The phone never stops ringing during the summer. "I'm on the phone 12 hours a day practically during the corn season," he says.

To take some of the pressure off their shoulders, the Heinens expanded their leadership team, hiring their chief financial officer away from their local bank six years ago. Jack Willmeth had been their banker for 15 years until Heinen Brothers outgrew the local bank and had to go to Farm Credit. As the Heinens bought more AT-802s and more operations, the banks got more demanding.

"At that point, I realized quickly that I couldn't speak banker. I could do

it because I have enough business classes, but it was starting to consume my time," Scott says. "We're farming about 3000 to 5,000 acres, we're running the trucking company, we're running ground rigs, we're selling fertilizer, we're running these airplanes all over the United States. It started to get very demanding with the bank. I said to (Jack), 'I need a CFO or I need somebody. You don't know of anybody?' and he said, 'I'll quit tomorrow. I'm tired of the banking regulations.'"

Bringing Willmeth on board has been crucial to their expansion. "We were financially okay, but the fact that he could talk banker and convey that to the bank was a big deal for us," Scott says. "He's a big part of what made us decide we can branch out."

Next Moves

Heinen Brothers stays focused on customer service and future opportunities by developing current, three-year and five-year plans. They review those plans with Willmeth and their general manager Doug Beck, and adjust accordingly if needed. "We try to plot our course," Scott says. "It doesn't always work that way because things throw us curve balls. Life is live."

"Right now the biggest problem we've got is time. We have a large amount of constraints put on our time, Glenn and I—where we have to be, what we have to do. We each have four kids. Our wives both have good jobs and are the real unsung heroes. If it wasn't for Kaylene (Scott's spouse) and Leah (Glenn's spouse), we wouldn't have gotten to this point. So, between trying to balance out family and the business, the five-year plan looks different than it used to."

Even though Scott is 45 and Glenn is 38, they are already talking about succession planning. With eight children between them, they want to be prepared in the event some of their children want to work in the business. Scott and Kaylene's oldest son is 19. Glenn and Leah's youngest son is four. "We don't know if any of our kids want anything to do with this, but this thing has gotten to a size that we already recognize that we don't know how we would transition it at this point," Scott says. "We're just trying to be prepared in case we bring in the next generation."

The Heinens' business is constantly evolving. If there is an app, product, computer or widget that will make their pilots safer and more efficient, they will consider incor-

porating it into the business. They began applying variable-rate dry fertilizer by air in 2016. They also made variable-rate liquid applications.

"We had really good success with it last year," Scott says. "It's a much more precise application. You may end up putting it on heavier where it needs to be heavier, and lighter where it needs to be lighter, and your net gain might be zero. You might still be putting the same amount on, but you've put it in the right spot where the soil types and the soil test came back and said we needed that (there)."

The Heinens worked closely with Hemisphere GPS, which is only 30 miles from Heinen Brothers' headquarters, when they started testing variable-rate applications. Hemisphere worked with them on integrating the crop sensing maps that dictate the variable rates to apply with their Satloc GPS units. (Fertility maps based on years of soil sampling reveal how much or how little to apply to different parts of the field). The collaboration was so productive that Scott and Glenn recently hired John Lueger from Hemisphere GPS to be their new GIS/contract specialist. Lueger handles all of Heinen Brothers' GIS mapping and government contracts.

Heinen Brothers will have three aircraft set up for variable-rate applications this season. "We're pushing the variable rate, particularly on fertilizer," Scott says. "We're going to roll it out in Kansas full-bore this year on corn."

"It's going to be a lot bigger this year," Glenn agreed.

The Heinen brothers are less certain about where UAVs might fit into an aerial applicator's business model. "Where does it fit right now in our operation? I don't know," Glenn says. "I don't know that the industry knows yet. Maybe I'm wrong... I just don't see anything that's commercially marketable yet that I feel like any of our customers need or want or would pay for. I know they do lovely things, and somebody's going to come up with something."

Scott said they are about to purchase their first UAV but intend to use it more for PR than agronomy purposes. "With the precision mapping stuff... I'm in the camp that the satellites are going to outdo the drones before too much longer," Scott says. "Just because you don't have to have the manpower, which is a drawback to anything. People. It comes back to employees."

In that department, Scott and Glenn say they are sitting pretty. "We've got some of the best in the business," Glenn says of Heinen Brothers' employees. "They know what we're doing for everybody is important, and they see the value they bring to the farming community. They're top-notch."

Heinen Brothers Agra Services won the Environmental Respect Award for the state of Kansas in 2016. The annual stewardship competition is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience, Agriculture Division of Dow DuPont. Much of the criteria relates to facility management and cleanliness, as well as community outreach. Scott and Glenn are big supporters of FFA, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Air Explorers and other youth organizations. Not ones to rest on their laurels, they are aiming for a regional Environmental Respect Award next.

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Tumbling Along

By John Schlageck, Kansas Farm Bureau

Part cultural icon and part invasive nuisance, tumbleweeds have an intriguing and tangled history. You know, tumbleweeds – those twisted balls of dead foliage rolling across the open range and roads.

mer and fall when winds howled across roads in my native Sheridan County, tumbleweeds raced across the flatland. Incidentally, I recall singing along with the Pioneers and I still remember the song well.

This plant is as much a symbol of the old Wild West as Wyatt Earp, cattle rustlers, the coyote and the rattlesnake. The image of the lonely rider and the ghostly shape of the tumbleweed bounding in silence across the endless plains has inspired a certain misty-eyed nostalgia even in folks who have never journeyed west of Kansas City – except to travel through our state to ski in Colorado.

In truth, this weed is a blasted nuisance. Even

its Latin name (Salsola pestifer) identifies it as a menace.

The tumbleweed is also known as the Russian thistle. This plant was brought to the continent in the 1870s as a contaminant in shipments of flax seed imported to western Canada. By the turn of the century, the weed had a foothold from coast to coast.

The tumbleweed can survive and grow almost anywhere. It remains one of the hardiest plants in the United States. Unfortunately, no one has found a good use for this thorny weed.

The tumbleweed can cause problems for farmers and ranchers. This nuisance weed clogs irrigation ditches, catches and accumulates litter, disrupts traffic, causes fires, poses a health threat to some livestock and even breaks down fences on windy days.

In Kansas and other western states, thousands of man hours are spent each year clearing

tumbleweeds from irrigation ditches and railroad tracks. In the spring the weeds are fought with herbicides and in the fall the dried plants are sometimes burned.

Fighting tumbleweeds is a constant battle. Nearly every breezy day they bound across the prairie and every spring they sprout by the millions.

Although tumbleweeds have been in this country for nearly 150 years, no one has found a reason to cultivate this plant. One thing is certain; this nuisance weed is here to stay unless our plant scientists can find a use or method to eradicate the tumbling, tumbling tumbleweed.

So why not romanticize 'em?

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. Born and raised on a diversified farm in northwestern Kansas, his writing reflects a lifetime of experience, knowledge and passion.



Prairie Ponderings

By Donna Sullivan

Two or three years ago I was at an energy conference and heard a statistic that took me by surprise. According to the speaker, we waste 20-30 percent of everything we produce, whether it's food or energy. As we look at feeding a burgeoning population, we are really starting to take a harder look at the food that gets wasted and what we can do about it.

Who among us wasn't told as we were growing up, "Clean your plate, there are children starving in Africa."

And, who among us didn't mutter under our breaths, "I don't know how me eating this disgusting broccoli is going to help starving children in Africa."

But the reality is, we don't have to go around the world to find people who are food-insecure, and that's a problem that will continue to grow if not addressed.

Now Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture are giving the issue of food waste a hard look. A USDA report indicates that Americans waste about one pound of food per day, which

would feed approximately two billion extra people each year. The reality is, a big part of the solution to the problem begins in our own kitchens and pantries.

On my kitchen counter sits a fairly large bag of Halos – you know, the cute little tangerines that are easy to peel. Except for grandchildren visiting – none of whom have a particular penchant for Halos – there's only my husband, our niece and I in the house. And they don't like Halos, either. So you know where I'm going with this. I faithfully ate Halos for the first week, slowed down a little the second week, and now we're on the third week and the bag is still half-full. Needless to say, quite of few of those Halos will go to waste. Next time I'll look for a smaller bag.

Driving to work the other day I heard a news story about a college girl who noticed all the canned goods that were getting thrown away as her fellow students moved out of their dorm rooms. So she got some large bins, placed them strategically around the dorms with signage indicating her mission, and started collecting the food. She then worked with local churches and food pantries to get it in the hands of people who need it. Now there's a proactive young person.

While we can't deny we need to increase our food production capabilities substantially, we can all work to address the other side of the equation – the waste.

Planning our meals, purchasing smaller quantities and being diligent in using what we buy is a good start. And it's a way that each one of us can make a difference... maybe not for starving children in Africa, but definitely for the food-insecure within our own borders.

U.S. Department of Transportation selects Kansas as participant in Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced last week that Kansas has been selected as one of ten participants in the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Pilot Program, an initiative aimed at shaping the future of drones in America.

"We are looking forward to leading the way in Unmanned Aircraft Systems going forward and we are very happy to be a part of this program," said Gov. Jeff Colyer. "UAS technology has the potential to do so many remarkable things and as the air capital of the world we feel it's particularly appropriate for Kansas to be a part of this aviation of the future."

Drone integration testing in Kansas will focus on search and rescue of stranded motorists, ex-

plore infrastructure inspection and remote safety assessment applications for transportation nationwide.

Lt. Gov. Tracey Mann, who was on hand at the announcement in Benton, noted the successful use of UAS technology in agriculture, something very important to Kansans.

The UAS Integration Pilot Program is an opportunity for state, local, and tribal governments to partner with private sector entities, such as UAS operators or manufac-

turers, to accelerate safe UAS integration.

The Program is expected to foster a meaningful dialogue on the balance between local and national interests related to UAS integration, and provide actionable information to the U.S. Department of Transportation regarding the expanded and universal integration of UAS into the National Airspace System.

More information related to the UAS Integration Pilot Program can be found at https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/uas_integration_pilot_program/splash/.



This week is one that I have been both dreading and looking forward to for a long time. It seemed like it was a long way out even up to this fall. Yes, this week, my daughter, my youngest child, will graduate from high school. Last year I was talking to a parent of young children and she said it would be forever before her youngest graduated from high school. It isn't forever and, it happens in a flash, so forgive me if I am a little melancholy.

Yes, this week we will celebrate Tatum graduating from high school. Please allow me a proud dad moment. I am so proud of the young adult Tatum has become and all that she has accomplished in her four years of high school. While I am excited about what she has done in high school I am even more excited about what is to come.

Her journey through high school took several twists and turns that none of us saw coming. Some of them were good and took her places she could not have imagined, and others were challenges. I am so proud of what she accomplished whether that was serving as a District FFA officer or being part of an FFA livestock judging team that won the state championship. Tatum had a pretty good run through high school.

The challenges were also important. Injuries that slowed or sidelined her athletic career led her to new paths that ultimately will help her the rest of her life. Other challenges made her a tougher, more self-assured leader who is not afraid to speak her mind and share her opinion. She became unwavering in her beliefs even when sticking by them was not the easiest thing to do. These challenges and setbacks were important to help mold the successful, confident young leader that will be moving on to college.

As Tatum progresses to the next chapter in her life I thought about things I have learned through challenges and successes since high school that I should share with her and with every high school graduate. I am often reminded of the old saying, "We learn through experience and much of it bad experiences."

My first piece of advice is that relationships with other people are the most important part of life. Our entire lives are formed and molded around those relationships. Not all of them will be good, the trick in life is learning how to deal with difficult people. The joy in life is

learning how to appreciate the positive, good relationships and to make sure and nurture them and allow them to grow. Life is all about the people around you and the relationships you cultivate.

Enjoy the journey: too many people see life as getting from point A to point B in a straight line and as quickly as possible. It's not. Life is a crooked trail of unexpected experiences, unintended detours and times you are broken down alongside the road. Enjoy the journey and don't look past the unexpected detours and stops; many times they are the best experiences.

Take time to enjoy the journey too. Life is a distance race and not a sprint. Too often we get in sprint mode and only end up exhausted. Find out what makes you happy and spend time with those who are a part of that happiness and do what makes you happy. Also remember that down time is okay, in fact, it is needed. Always make time for yourself and make time to relax. What good is life if we spend it running and working all the time.

Finally, and most importantly, take time to get recharged spiritually. College is a place where your beliefs will be tested. Sometimes overtly, sometimes subtly, but rest assured, your faith will be tested. When you are tested, and life becomes difficult always remember to turn back to God, nothing is too big or too hard for him. It is easy to allow your faith to take a backseat and slip away during college, faith is like a muscle and it must be exercised daily.

I know all of this is much too sappy, but what I would give to go back and start over knowing then what I know now. No, I would not. I have enjoyed this crazy ride since high school. Some of it I am glad not to relive while most I can only categorize as I am incredibly blessed. The journey Tatum is about to embark will include some of the best years of her life and will transform her in ways that none of us can predict.

Yes, this next week will be bitter-sweet, this entire year has been. All I know for sure is that I am incredibly proud of the confident, smart, poised adult she has become. Jennifer and I could not be more excited about what she will do, where she will go and the person she will become. Congrats to Tatum and all of the graduates out there, the best is yet to come.

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid



"Oh, Jake, this is so romantic. It's the first time we've done anything together in years!"



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GRASS & GRAIN

Published by AG PRESS

785-539-7558
Fax 785-539-2679

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GRASS & GRAIN (USPS 937-880)
The newsweekly for Kansas and southern Nebraska, published each Tuesday at 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan, KS by Ag Press, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Manhattan, Kansas and additional offices. Postmaster send address changes to: Ag Press, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505.

Subscription — \$76 for 2 years. \$41 for 1 year, plus applicable sales tax. Outside Kansas, \$51 for 1 year, \$95 for 2 years.

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The three Cs you want in an agriculture lender

By Lance Albin

One of the most important teammates you'll have in your farming or ranching operation is your bank. Lenders have significant influence on the eventual financial outcomes for you and your family. And, their interactions with your farm can have long-term effects – both good and bad. Since your lender and bank can have such a profound impact on your financial life, it's wise to step back and simply ask, "What makes a good agriculture bank and lender?"

I am very appreciative of a few quotes that have framed much of my core lending philosophy. One

of which is from the famed and revered Dr. David Kohl, a professor and ag lending expert. Dr. Kohl has often encouraged ag lenders to be "conservative in the good times, courageous in the tough times and consistent above all." I couldn't agree more.

Conservative in the Good Times

You may think it doesn't matter what bank you work with when times are good, but as an old adage states, "The worst loans are made in the best times."

When times are great, it's easy to believe they will roll on forever – a term some refer to as the "recency bias." This is

often when leverage is piled onto the balance sheet and payment obligations are taken to an unreasonable level. A good banker will keep you "rowing close to shore," even when others might be straying far from it.

In the last great boom in production agriculture, the wise decision was to reduce leverage and pile up working capital in preparation for the next period of leaner times. A good banker encourages this kind of thinking – even if it results in lower loan totals for the lending institution.

Courageous in the Tough Times

The past few years have

not been easy for those of us working in the agriculture industry. While it is true that banks have undoubtedly had to make some adjustments during this period, I believe, for the most part, many are remaining steadfast in support of their customer base.

The last thing any producer wants is for their bank to pull back during the most challenging times. So, how can you help your bank be courageous in tough times?

It is critical that borrowers proactively address any issues the bank expresses concerns about. Also, be quick to make sure that you are doing

everything you can to make the bank confident in the security of their loans with you. This kind of working relationship – marked by strong communication and mutual respect – will result in both parties finding favorable outcomes.

Consistent Above All

Many items on your worry list are simply outside of your control – timing, rainfall amounts, market price direction, weed resistance, death loss in your cattle operation, etc. Agriculture is inherently an inconsistent business. Therefore, it is prudent to remove uncertainty as much as possible in other facets of your operation.

A great ag bank is consistent. In an up-and-down business like agriculture, it's easy for cash flow performance and collateral values to move around significantly. Thus, when you consider your lending partner, it's appropriate to ask how they handle the cyclical nature of the industry, and why they feel they have strong staying power in the industry.

Conservatism. Courage. Consistency. These items are hallmarks of being a great ag bank. As you consider the choice of who you will work with – I encourage and challenge you to demand a lending partner who exhibits all three.

U.S. beef industry leaders release first-ever national framework for beef sustainability

Recently the U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB) opened a 60-day public comment period on the group's Sustainability Framework.

The USRSB Sustainability Framework is a set of resources developed to assist ranchers, auction markets, feedyards, packers, processors, and retail and food service organizations in their efforts to continuously improve the sustainability of U.S. beef.

Association vice president Ben Weinheimer is Chair-Elect of the USRSB Board and has helped lead much of the group's work the past three years as co-chair of the Indicator Working Group.

"We have been very fortunate to have strong participation in the roundtable by many TCFA members to ensure that the interests and perspectives of cattle feeders have been considered throughout this process. TCFA past chairmen Tom McDonald and Jason Hitch

and current TCFA board member Scott Anderson have been extensively engaged in the roundtable since its creation three years ago," Weinheimer said. "It has been critical for cattle feeders to be engaged in these discussions to maintain a focus on the long-term economic viability and profitability of the industry, and at the same time create new opportunities for us to share with beef consumers the great things our members do to manage natural resources, create

a safe workplace, provide proper care and handling for cattle, and produce safe and wholesome beef every day."

The framework is designed to address the needs of the diverse beef supply chain.

"From the rancher to the consumer purchasing beef for their family meal, everyone plays a unique and important role in beef sustainability. The USRSB Framework was intentionally designed to apply to all sizes and types of operations and com-

panies, no matter where they are in their sustainability journey," said Kim Stackhouse-Lawson, JBS USA sustainability director and 2018-2019 USRSB Chair. "This approach celebrates the diversity of the U.S. beef community, while providing enough flexibility to address the unique sustainability challenges across our national production system."

The key areas identified by the USRSB as being important to the sustainability of beef are

referred to as High-Priority Indicators. These include: animal health and well-being, efficiency and yield, employee safety and well-being, land resources, water resources, and air and greenhouse gas emissions. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the Framework until July 1.

For more information, contact Ben Weinheimer at ben@tcfa.org. To learn more about the Framework or to submit comments visit www.USRSB-Framework.org.

Kansas wheat harvest expected to fall far short of a year ago

(AP) – Kansas farmers are expected to bring in the smallest winter wheat harvest in nearly three decades this year amid an ongoing drought that has stunted wheat fields across the state, according to estimates released last week.

Participants in the Wheat Quality Council's winter wheat tour this year said Kansas growers will likely harvest 243.3 million bushels this season. The estimates are based on conditions they observed while inspecting crops in 644 fields across the state over the three-day tour.

If the estimate proves true, the harvest would mark Kansas' lowest

wheat production since 1989. This year's estimate is also far below the 333.6 million bushels of wheat cut last year in Kansas.

"The wheat is short in stature and it is going to be short in bushels," said Aaron Harries, marketing director for the industry group Kansas Wheat. "A lot of wheat wasn't very tall, either because it's behind schedule or because drought caused the wheat to stunt. And because the wheat crop is short in stature, it is going to struggle to make bushels."

Harries said wheat crops are usually waist-high, or roughly four feet tall.

"There are some fields

six to seven inches tall – how do you harvest that?" he said, adding that the tallest field he saw had crops about 20 to 24 inches high.

Wheat tour scouts also forecast an average yield statewide of 37 bushels per acre. That is well under the 48 bushels-per-acre average yield for wheat harvested in Kansas last year.

Winter wheat is planted in the fall and typically harvested beginning in June in Kansas. Drought conditions have plagued this year's crop, and it remains to be seen whether the state will get enough moisture in the coming weeks to fill out the heads of wheat. Storms raked

across parts of Kansas during the last days of the wheat tour.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service reported that half of the Kansas wheat crop was in poor to very poor condition. About 37 percent was rated as fair, while 12 percent was rated good and 1 percent excellent. Just 2 percent of the crop had headed, well behind 41 percent last year and 24 percent average for this late in the season.

The federal government won't release its own forecast until May 10, when it estimates production of the U.S. wheat crop.

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

Margaret Trojan, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska Wins Weekly Grass & Grain Recipe Contest

Winner Margaret Trojan, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska: "So easy to make!"

EASY RHUBARB PIE

- 3 cups sliced cut rhubarb
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup half & half
- 1 1/2 cups sugar (can use less; 2 1/2 to 3 cups or more rhubarb works fine)
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Pastry for pie shell

Mix beaten eggs, half & half, sugar, flour and salt. Line pie pan with pastry. Put in rhubarb. Pour egg mixture over rhubarb. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

NOTE: Half recipe actually is enough!

Barbara Barthol, Olathe: "Delicious!"

FORGOTTEN CHICKEN

- 3 cups minute rice
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can cream of mushrooms soup
- 1 soup can of milk
- 1 cut up chicken
- 1 package onion soup mix

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix together the rice, celery soup, mushroom soup and milk and place in a 9-by-13-inch pan. Lay the cut up chicken, skin side up, on rice mixture and sprinkle with onion soup mix.

Cover with foil and bake 2 hours. **DON'T PEEK THOSE 2 HOURS!!**

Bernadetta McCollum, Clay Center, shares the following recipe:

OATMEAL CAKE & TOPPING

- 1 cup quick oatmeal
- 1 1/2 cups hot water
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

Add the hot water to the quick oats and let stand while you make the cake recipe. Cream shortening and sugars than add eggs. Mix well. Combine flour, salt, soda and cinnamon and then add alternately with oatmeal mixture. Add raisins and nuts. Bake in a 9-by-13-inch pan at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

Topping:

- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Melt butter then add brown sugar and milk. Cook over medium heat for 10 minutes. Add vanilla, nuts and coconut. Pour over warm cake. Cool and enjoy!

Claire Martin, Salina:

HAWAIIAN CHEESECAKE SALAD

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 3.4-ounce package instant cheesecake pudding, unprepared
- 1 cup International Delight French Vanilla Creamer (liquid)
- 1 pound strawberries, hulled & sliced
- 4 mandarin oranges, peeled & sectioned
- 20-ounce can pineapple tidbits, drained
- 3 kiwi, peeled & cut into half moons
- 2 mangoes, cut into bite-size chunks
- 1 banana, cut into coins
- Juice of half a lemon

NOTE: You can substitute 1 cup heavy cream, 1/4 cup powdered sugar and 2 teaspoons vanilla extract for the flavored creamer.

In a medium bowl beat cream cheese until smooth. Add the dry pudding mix. Beat until well combined. With the mixer on low slowly add the creamer to the cream cheese mixture, about 1 tablespoon at a time and beat until smooth. In a large bowl combine all the fruit, except for the banana. Gently fold the cheesecake mixture into the fruit. In a small bowl gently toss the banana slices with the lemon juice. Gently fold into cheesecake salad. Chill until ready to serve. To make ahead, keep fruit mixture and cheesecake mixture separate. When ready to serve, drain any liquid from fruit and then fold the filling into the fruit. Serves 16.

Ladonna Grindol, Berryton:

ORANGE CHICKEN

- 1 cup barbecue sauce
- 1 jar orange marmalade
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 4 chicken breasts, cubed

Mix barbecue sauce, marmalade and soy sauce together. Saute chicken in a little oil until done. Pour sauce over chicken and simmer about 10 minutes. Serve over rice.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh: CHICKEN FRIED CHICKEN

- 2 cups oil (for frying)
- 3/4 cup crushed saltine crackers
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- (6) 6- to 8-ounce skinless boneless chicken breasts

Heat oil in a 12-inch skillet on medium heat about 15 minutes. Put crackers, flour, seasoned salt and pepper in a large zip-top plastic bag. Seal bag, then shake to mix well. Whisk egg with the water in a shallow bowl. Dip each chicken breast in egg mixture, then put in bag with crumb mixture. Seal bag, then shake to coat. Add chicken to skillet; cook turning frequently, until golden brown and thickest parts registers 165 degrees, about 15-20 minutes.

Lydia J. Miller, Westphalia:

PARADISE GRANOLA

- 2 cups old-fashioned oats
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut
- 1/2 cup toasted wheat germ
- 1/4 cup oat bran
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 tablespoons grated orange peel
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup of 3 different nuts
- 1 cup dried cranberries

- 3/4 cup chopped dates
- 1/2 cup dried figs, chopped
- 3/4 cup dates
- 1/2 cup chopped dried apricots
- 3 tablespoons raisins

In a large bowl mix old-fashioned oats, coconut, wheat germ and oat bran. In a small bowl whisk honey, oil, orange peel, vanilla, salt. Pour over oat mixture and mix well. Spread evenly into a greased 15-by-10-by-1-inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown, stirring once. Cool. Stir in dried fruits of your choice and nuts and store in an air-tight container. Yields: 7 cups. 1/4 cup = 132 calories; 23g carbs.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

HONEY GINGER CHICKEN BREASTS

- (6) 6- to 8-ounce skinless chicken breasts
- 2/3 cup soy sauce
- 2/3 cup ketchup
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 tablespoon grated ginger
- Flour tortillas

Place chicken in a slow cooker. In a bowl whisk soy sauce, ketchup, honey and ginger. Pour over chicken. Cover and cook on low 3 1/2 to 4 hours, shred or chunk. If desired serve on tortillas and top with your favorite toppings.



— a minute or two before the end of cooking or sprinkle them on the food before it's served. The less delicate herbs, such as dill seeds, oregano, rosemary, tarragon and thyme, can be added about the last 20 minutes of cooking. Fresh herbs can be added to refrigerated cold foods several hours before serving.

6. A general guideline when using fresh herbs in a recipe is to use three times as much as you would use of a dried herb.

For more information about fresh herbs, go to University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension's Fact Sheet at: <http://food.unl.edu/documents/cookingfresh-herbs-color2010.pdf>. Check their Web site for information about dried herbs and growing herbs as well.

For more information, contact the Wildcat Extension District offices at: Crawford County, 620-724-8233; Labette County, 620-784-5337; Montgomery County, 620-331-2690; Wilson County, 620-378-2167; Pittsburg Office, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP), 620-232-1930. Wildcat District Extension is on the Web at <http://www.wildcatdistrict.ksu.edu>. Or, like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wildcat.extension.district.

Fresh Herbs Add Flavor Without the Calories

Using fresh herbs in meals can enhance the appearance of foods as well as providing fantastic flavors, and even better... they do all this without adding extra calories! Herbs are easy to grow or can be purchased. But either way, adding fresh herbs is a quick way to transform ordinary meals into extraordinary meals.

Besides helping flavor foods when cutting back on salt, fat and sugar; herbs may also offer additional benefits of their own. Researchers are finding many culinary herbs (both fresh and dried) have antioxidants

that may help protect against such diseases as cancer and heart disease.

Take some thyme (pun intended!) to cook with fresh herbs. Here are some tips to help you enjoy the flavor and health benefits of fresh herbs in your cooking.

1. Purchase herbs close to the time you plan to use them. Or, when growing herbs in your own garden, the ideal time for picking is in the morning after the dew has dried but before the sun gets hot. This helps ensure the best flavor and storage quality
2. Fresh herbs can be

stored in an open or perforated plastic bag in your refrigerator crisper drawer for a few days.

3. Wait to wash herbs until you are ready to use them. Wash smaller amounts of herbs thoroughly under running water. Shake off moisture or spin dry in a salad spinner. Pat off any remaining moisture with clean paper towels.

4. For most recipes, unless otherwise directed, mince herbs into tiny pieces. Chop with a chef's knife on a cutting board or snip with kitchen scissors. While some recipes call for a sprig or sprigs of herbs, normally the part of the herb you harvest will be the leaves. For herbs with sturdier stems, such as marjoram, oregano, rosemary, sage and thyme, you can strip off the leaves by running your fingers down the stem from top to bottom. With small-leaved plants such as thyme, you can use both leaves and stems for cooking early in the season. Later in the season, as the stems become tougher, use just the leaves. For herbs with tender stems, such as parsley and cilantro, it's OK if you snip some of the stem in with the leaves when you're cutting these herbs.

5. Unlike dried herbs, fresh herbs are usually added toward the end in cooked dishes to preserve their flavor. Add the more delicate herbs — basil, chives, cilantro, dill leaves, parsley, marjoram and mint

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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.

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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Dream Small: Workshop Explores Marketing Vegetables and Urban Farming in Central Kansas

By Tom Parker

"I was always told to dream big," Sheila Corn said as she addressed the workshop crowd in Hutchinson in March. "It was supposed to make me successful, rich, good-looking, and I'd have a happy life. But I couldn't afford a large farm like my father's, so I decided to farm like my grandfather had, by hand labor with a small Farmall tractor and implements from the 1950s."

Corn, who was instrumental in organizing the Reno County Producers' Market and the Foodie Fest at Dillon Nature Center, has spent almost 40 years farming the sandy loam in McPherson County. Her story, "Dream small: bigger isn't always better," was presented at the Kansas Rural Center (KRC) Specialty Crops Workshop, held March 20 in South Hutchinson.

Other speakers included David Coltrain, former ag instructor at Seward County Community College; Ron Hirst, a Reno County farmer and Chair of the South Central Kansas Economic Development District Board; Scott Kohl, Director of the Highland Community College Viticulture and Enology Program; Ron Hulsey, who owns an experimental vineyard near Hutchinson; and Adam and Maggie Pounds, owners of Simple Abundance Farm in South Hutchinson. The workshop, one of five throughout the state focusing on conservation, production and marketing practices for small-scale specialty crop growers, was organized by KRC and funded by the Kansas Department of Agriculture through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant program.

Corn decided to plant high value crops such as tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, watermelon, cantaloupe and sweet corn. She started with \$25 of seeds, a shovel, a hoe and a potato fork. Starting small didn't bother her. It bucked the prevailing opinion, but she had her reasons.

"I wanted to set my own prices by selling retail and not take what the elevator was offering," she said. "I wanted an operation where my kids were involved and they would know their labor was valuable, and they could learn life lessons from being out on the farm. You can teach kids science, business, people skills—you name it—when you sell at farmers' markets."

She sold produce out of the bed of her truck at a factory parking lot and at farmers' markets before expanding to CSAs (community supported agriculture), on-farm sales and local grocers and specialty markets in Hutchinson. In addition to specialty crop production she raises cattle, sheep and chickens, and has recently started selling halal lambs to a local mosque. Though her farm has grown to 65 acres plus some rented ground, she still considers small-scale farming a viable approach for beginning farmers.

"I encourage you to dream small," Corn said. "Some of you don't have 65 acres, or 150 acres, but



Maggie and Adam Pounds' urban farming operation in Hutchinson now boasts two hoophouses raising high value, quick growing vegetables in limited space.

you have a backyard, or a basement, or the church down the street has an area where they were going to put a playground but it's vacant and full of weeds. Or if you're a farmer you have that funny little patch of land that's a pain to get your big tractor in, and you could put in watermelons, or pumpkins, or sweet corn. Look at what you have and see what you can do with it. You can start little and grow up. Small dreams allow you to start where you are."

Ron Hirst understands small. A self-proclaimed hobby farmer and hobby gardener, he began growing sweet corn several years ago to support two new markets in Reno County, with the stipulation that he wouldn't compete with growers who were doing it for living. His "little project," as he called it, taught him a lot about business planning, production, marketing and sustainability — both soil and financial — but every hard-earned answer invariably led to more questions, including one he still asks himself: "Is just growing locally grown fresh foods enough?"

Beginning specialty crop farmers would be well advised to ask themselves the same question, he said, and to decide which type of producer they want to be, whether a hobby gardener like himself, someone wanting supplemental income, or a full-time farmer. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages. A hobbyist doesn't make much money, but he doesn't have to spend much money, either, and the bulk of his production goes toward personal use.

Producing for supplemental income takes more time and effort, plus more infrastructure and space, to grow enough to sell consistently. It also requires more capital investment. A full-time producer needs a plan—numerous plans, actually — laying out land and building utilization, marketing options, financial sustainability, and others. "Growing is not enough," he said. "You have to define your market and your strategy. Create a detailed list of your goals and expectations. And remember the four Ps: product, price, place and promotion." Above all, share your story about your farm. "If you connect, that consumer becomes an owner in your farm," Hirst said. "It all goes back to public relations."

The importance of marketing and business planning for beginning farmers cannot be overemphasized, David Coltrain said. "Before you start production, know where it will be marketed," he said. "Marketing is the key to profit. If you're a commodity producer, you are a price taker — you get what you get. With good market-

ing, you produce what the customer wants, when he wants it." Though specialty crops can be a lot of hard work, he added, they offer more profit compared to other kinds of farming.

Another benefit of small-scale specialty crop production is that it can be done anywhere, even in the middle of an urban setting, and nobody does it quite like Adam and Maggie Pounds. Though relatively new to urban agriculture, they spent a year apprenticing on a four-acre diversified vegetable farm in Seattle, Wash. before adapting what they learned to Kansas. For them, small means small. When they started in late 2014, their entire production area consisted of a four-by-eight-foot sheet of plywood in their basement, and even now it encompasses less than a fifth of an acre. The trick, Adam Pounds said, is to maximize every square inch of soil.

"This is the scale people are using, five acres or less, with intensive planting and tighter rows to shade the soil," he said. "We grow high-value, quick-growing crops like spinach, kale and arugula, but our main goal is to get crops in and out, with two to four crops per year."

That first year they raised micro-greens and sold them at a farmers' market. Their success led them to expand another 500 square feet in the front yard of their duplex. Luckily, the duplex manager was his father.

Once production began, people in the community took notice. A garden was one thing, but an urban farm was unheard of. Neighbors walking by stopped to ask what they were doing; drivers stopped to ask where they could buy the produce. That level of attention was both a benefit and a challenge, and underscored some of the unique challenges faced when farming an urban setting.

"People stopping by made it hard to get anything done, but it's easy to sell

our crops when people see them every day," Pounds said. "It's all about creating relationships with our customers."

Water isn't an issue because there's always a tap nearby, but keeping neighbors happy requires tact and patience. When flowering cover crops were planted, some neighbors were thrilled at the swarms of bees that appeared while others objected. And then there are cats, which can be a big problem to deal with when so little goes unnoticed in an urban setting. "Neighbors don't like it when we try to live-trap their cats," he said.

Another issue was having to deal with city codes and regulations. Pounds worked with the city to re-write legislation that would allow high tunnels, and they now have two plus a small greenhouse on a nearby lot. Their goal has been to create a working urban farm without incurring a lot of debt, and so far, they have succeeded, he said. "We're really on a small scale," he said, "but you can grow things anywhere."

Following the workshop, participants toured the vacant lot where Pounds is setting up his high tunnels. Passing vehicles slowed to watch the activity, and more than a few blew their horns. Without a glance, Pounds waved a hand in the air and shrugged.

"We're urban," he said. "People honk when they drive by."

For more information contact Mary Fund at mfund@kansaruralcenter.org



Home and Away

Vacation Stuff

by Lou Ann Thomas

I'm writing this from a cabin located just yards away from Clear Creek in Colorado where I am enjoying a few days away from my routine.

If I didn't need some R&R before I left, I certainly needed it by the time I was ready to do so. I wore myself down to a nub cleaning the house enough for the house/cat sitter, getting everything packed for Boone and I, and making sure the farm was okay to continue on without me for a few days.

So I'm ready for a break in routine and a pace based on fun and frivolity rather than work and deadlines. Just getting away from the phone, the dishes, the laundry, the yard work and all the expectations that go with a daily grind is refreshing.

But at some point during any vacation I reach into my pocket and feel my house keys. They seem so foreign to me in that moment. These keys I depend on so much in Kansas have absolutely no use to me in Colorado. I could throw them in the creek and it wouldn't affect my stay there in the least. When not even your keys are important you know you have whittled your life down

quite a bit. And that's one of my favorite things about going on a vacation — it reminds me how liberating it is to have only what I can carry with me.

I use to enjoy backpacking for that very reason. It felt so freeing to have only that which I could carry on my back with me. I no longer backpack, but still find travel without all my "usual stuff" therapeutic. A few clothes, a book or two, a notebook, Boone the dog, and a few other items are all I brought with me. I am no longer surrounded by all the stuff that makes up my life at home — my music, my couch, my books, my computer, my clutter, and my own bed.

Not having my stuff around means I have no obligation to clean it, move it, dust it, read it, organize it, listen to it, or maintain it in any way. Nor do I need to feel guilty for not doing any of those things.

But, one of the best things about a vacation is that it always makes me appreciate going back home. So in a few days I will pack up the few things I have with me, head back east and happily use those keys to get back into my house where all the rest of my stuff is.

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Fire damages Heritage Tractor in Lawrence

The Lawrence Heritage Tractor location caught fire on the evening of Saturday, May 5 after a transformer reportedly fell onto the roof. The transformer exploded and started the building on fire. Fortunately, no one was hurt. Despite the best efforts of the firefighters, the building was severely damaged, and the company is still determining the full scope of loss as the insurance investigators examine the building and equipment.

Lawrence employees have been temporarily reassigned to other Heritage Tractor locations in order to best take care of customer's needs during this busy time and Lawrence parts and service requests will be handled by the



Heritage Tractor in Lawrence sustained extensive damage when a transformer fell on the roof and exploded.

Baldwin City and Topeka locations.

The Lawrence sales team will be temporarily housed across the street from their 23rd Street lo-

cation. Customers can still call the Lawrence phone number (785-843-8444) for parts and service.

Heritage Tractor is committed to serving cus-

tomers throughout this transitional period with the same level of professionalism and customer

Courtesy photos



The sales team will be temporarily housed across the street from the damaged location to continue to serve customers for parts and service.

service they have come to expect. They have no plans to leave the Lawrence community and talk of rebuilding has already begun.

Heritage Tractor would

like to thank the Lawrence Fire Department and Lawrence Police Department for their hard work. The company will continue to share updates via their Facebook page.

Secretary Perdue commits to prioritizing food waste solutions

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue recently hosted a food waste roundtable with Reps. Chellie Pingree (ME-1) and David Young (IA-3), food industry leaders, and non-profit groups at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This roundtable, the first of many USDA public events on food waste, serves as an opportunity to raise awareness while discussing solutions with leaders throughout the entire food supply chain.

Following the roundtable, Perdue issued the following statement:

"Our nation's agricultural abundance should be used to nourish those in need, not fill the trash," Perdue said. "So many people work on food waste issues in their own spheres, but it's time to change the culture and adopt a holistic approach to get everyone working together and sharing ideas. I com-

mend Reps. Pingree and Young for addressing this issue on Capitol Hill and for their desire to find collaborative, commonsense solutions. USDA remains committed to helping reduce food waste, and we are excited to work with all stakeholders from farm to fork to further elevate this effort and fulfill our motto, to 'Do right and feed everyone.'"

Background: While food loss and waste eats up nearly 40% of the food supply in the U.S., millions of Americans need access to safe, wholesome, affordable food. Consumers are responsible for most food loss and waste in the U.S., racking up almost 90 billion pounds annually, or 20% of the U.S. food supply. The retail sector is responsible for about 10%, totaling 43 billion pounds. USDA is uniquely positioned to address this problem by working with farmers, in-

dustry, and consumers to raise food loss and waste awareness and share best practices.

Below is a full list of the food waste roundtable participants:

- Rep. Pingree (Maine)
- Rep. Young (Iowa)
- Haley Swartz, National Consumers League
- Regina Northouse, Food Recovery Network
- Katie Sandson, Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic
- Matt Knott, Feeding America
- Jon Hixson, YUM!
- Brands Inc
- Jessica Montoya, Sodexo
- Kyle Waide, Atlanta Community Food Bank
- Brett Reinford, Reinford Farms, Penn.
- Mace Thornton, American Farm Bureau Federation
- Ricky Ashenfelter, Spoiler Alert
- Kai Robertson, World Resources Institute

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30'x50'x10'	\$23,900	\$21,900	\$26,900	\$24,900
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Madison team wins Kansas Wildlife Habitat Education contest

A team of youth from Madison took top honors in the 2018 Wildlife Habitat Education Program state contest held recently.

They beat a field of 13 teams and 51 participants to win the annual competition, which is sponsored by K-State Research and Extension to encourage youth to be wise stewards of wildlife and fisheries resources.

"The kids are given real-world situations and work together to provide solutions to natural resource problems that managers face," said Charlie Lee, Extension wildlife specialist at Kansas State University and chair of this year's event.

WHEP is a 4-H and FFA youth natural resource program dedicated to teaching wildlife and fish-

eries habitat management to junior- and senior-level youth (ages 8-19) in the United States. WHEP won the 1996 Wildlife Society's Conservation Education Award.

The state contest requires youth to judge the suitability of habitat for wildlife species through on-site evaluation, as well as sections on general wildlife knowledge and wildlife identification.

Teams were required to write a rural wildlife management plan for four different wildlife species and each team member was then quizzed orally about the logic of that plan. Participants judged wildlife habitat using habitat evaluation skills they learned through their local WHEP training.

Madison's team members were Colton Ballard,

Marlea Harlan, Casey Helm and Josie Reed. The second and third place teams in this year's senior competition were Olathe North A, and Riverton FFA Seniors.

Hunter Mericle of Cowley County took first place in the senior individual competition. Amanda Bannon, also from Cowley County, took second and Halle Jones from Olathe North B took third.

Cowley County teams swept the junior division in this year's contest. Hunting, Fishing and Living took first place, Country Boys took second and Earth Wind and Fire was third. Members of the winning junior division team were Luke Brown, Ty Henderson, Wyatt Martin and Titus Mill.

Mill also took the high individual honors in the

junior division with Austin Henderson from Cowley County taking second place and Luke Brown in third.

This year's participants also took a tour of the Mined Lands Wildlife Management Area, where they discussed the unique challenges faced when transforming land destroyed by strip mining into productive wildlife and fisheries habitat.

Members of the student chapter of The Wildlife Society at Kansas State University helped develop questions and served as judges for the contest. The Wildlife Society is the professional organization that certifies wildlife biologists worldwide.



A team from Madison took first place honors in the 2018 Kansas Wildlife Habitat Education contest held recently. Pictured left to right are Colton Ballard, Casey Helm, Josie Reed and Marlea Harlan.

SBA economic injury disaster loans available to Kansas small businesses

Small nonfarm businesses in 35 Kansas counties and neighboring counties in Oklahoma are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced Director Tanya N. Garfield of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought in the following primary counties that began Feb. 6, 2018.

Primary Kansas counties: Allen, Chautauqua, Dickinson, Elk, Greenwood, Montgomery, Neosho, Ness, Wilson and Woodson;

Neighboring Kansas counties: Anderson, Bourbon, Butler, Chase, Clay, Coffey, Cowley, Crawford, Ellis, Finney, Geary, Gove, Hodgeman, Labette, Lane, Linn, Lyon, Marion, McPherson, Morris, Ottawa, Pawnee, Rush, Saline and Trego;

Neighboring Oklahoma counties: Nowata, Osage and Washington.

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly

impacted by the disaster," Garfield said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

"Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 3.58 percent for businesses and 2.5 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Garfield said.

By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared this disaster on April 12, 2018.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration. However, nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance in drought disasters.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomer-service@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for economic injury is Dec. 12, 2018.

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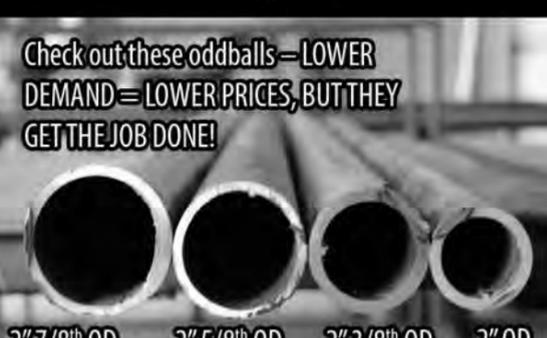
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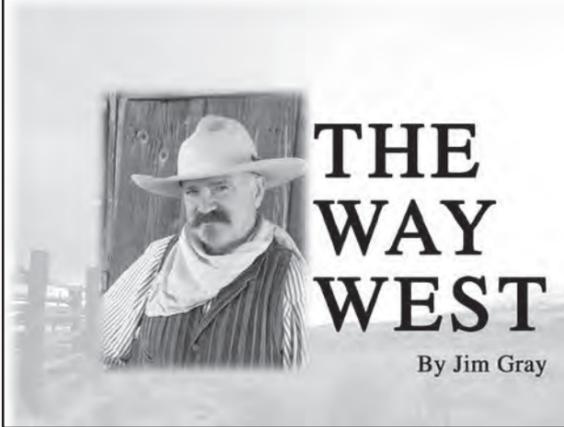
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Sheridan's Choice

One hundred fifty years ago this next September fifty-two men rode into valley of the Arickaree River in northwest Colorado. They were charged with the task of finding the warriors that had been raiding along the Kansas frontier. Little did they know the warriors "found" them first. The subsequent fight, known today as the Battle of Beecher Island, is recognized as the turning point in the way the United States dealt with Indian affairs.

Commemorative events are planned to correspond with historic activity that occurred at Fort Harker, Fort Hays, Fort Wallace and the Beecher Island site. Information can be found online at the Grande Reunion of Forsyth Scouts. Conceived by General Philip Sheridan as a select command of "Indian fighters," Forsyth Scouts was made up of civilians living on the frontier, armed and equipped by the government. Throughout the coming months *The Way West*

will relate the events that led up to the battle. Two names deserve particular recognition and explanation. The Scouts were under the command of Army officers Major George A. Forsyth and First Lieutenant Frederick H. Beecher. Both men had served in the Civil War and not surprisingly, each man was known for cool composure under fire.

Forsyth as born in Pennsylvania in 1837, attended prep school in the state of New York, and studied law in Illinois. With war looming on the horizon he joined the Chicago Dragoons in April of 1861. After a ninety-day enlistment period he returned to Chicago and helped organize Company G, 8th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry. As an element of the Army of the Potomac, Forsyth's unit saw action in the war's most decisive battles. A wound in the summer of 1862 did not take him out of action but a bout of malaria landed him in the hospital for several weeks.

Promoted to Captain, he was severely wounded in the thigh on June 1863. Forsyth was promoted once more, to Major. Forsyth ultimately joined General Philip Sheridan's staff where he was known for his daring love of the fight. After the war Forsyth served in Louisiana with Sheridan as Reconstruction was put in place by the federal government. When Sheridan was sent to Kansas, Forsyth was at his side.

At Fort Harker, Sheridan found himself in the unenviable position of too few troops to protect too

large an area from native tribes that knew the prairie as well as the buffalo and wild mustang. The regular army was heavily supported by volunteer forces during the Civil War; why not on the plains? Sheridan directed Forsyth to recruit fifty "first-class hardy frontiersmen" to scout for "hostile Indians," and Forsyth's Scouts was born.

Second in command of Forsyth's Scouts was First Lieutenant Frederick H. Beecher. Beecher was born in 1841 in New Orleans, Louisiana. A year later the family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where Frederick was baptized by his uncle, the Reverend Henry Ward Beecher. Rev. Beecher became renown for his abolitionist views.

Fred Beecher developed a "true sportsman's spirit" in his youth. In hunting and fishing he displayed an uncommon "disregard of personal comfort, great endurance, patience, ingenuity, 'good speech, good silence,' and uniformly steady nerves." He and a college friend once spent two winter months "on expedition" with a guide in the deep snows of northwestern Maine.

Beecher received a degree from Bowdoin College, enlisting in the Sixteenth Maine Volunteers on June 2, 1862, two months before the graduation ceremony. On December 13, 1862, just as Forsyth had been injured, Beecher was severely wounded in the thigh. His father took him home to recover. By April, 1863, still on crutches, he was back with his unit and quickly rose to first lieutenant. He suffered through the battle of Chan-

cellorsville and marched to Gettysburg. As officers fell he assumed command of his regiment during the first day of battle. A shell "shattered his right kneecap" on the second day. Hearing of his condition, his mother searched the camps until she found him and again brought him home.

By 1866, he was accepted to the Third Infantry, U.S.A., and sent to Kansas. At Fort Wallace, in extreme western Kansas he superintended construction of various buildings on the post. He naturally took to the ways of survival on the plains, such as shooting antelope at five hundred yards with a Spencer carbine.

In March of 1868 Lt. Beecher and Major Forsyth worked together on an inspection tour of the military posts under General Sheridan's command. Sheridan then placed Beecher on special duty to direct the activities of four of the leading scouts on the plains, William Comstock, Abner "Sharp" Grover, Dick Parr, and Frank Espy. Beecher took great interest in their work and learned every detail of their work with the native plains tribes.

Beecher was Sheridan's choice to assist Major Forsyth in a foray into the unknown stronghold of the Cheyenne and Sioux with a band of fifty fearless scouts on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier, Executive Director of the National Drivers Hall of Fame. Contact Kansas Cowboy, P.O. Box 62, Ellsworth, KS 67439. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.*

Crops are in focus at May 22 field day in Parsons

Parsons is the place to be on May 22 for southeast Kansas crop producers looking for information on how the latest varieties performed and research on crop production for that part of the state.

The 2018 Spring Crops Field Day, hosted by Kansas State University's Southeast Research and Extension Center, 25092 Ness Road, will start with registration and breakfast compliments of numerous sponsors, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

The program will follow, featuring topics and presenters:

Tour of Wheat Variety Plots (41 varieties) - Alan Fritz, K-State wheat breeder; Lonnie Mengarelli, K-State research assistant; and seed company representatives.

Timing of Side-Dress Applications of Nitrogen for Corn Grown in Different Tillage Systems - Dan Sweeney, K-State soil and water management agronomist.

Grain Market Outlook - Dan O'Brien, K-State Extension agricultural economist.

Managing Root Diseases in Soybean - Chris Little, K-State plant pathologist.

In case of rain, the program will be held indoors. More information is available by calling 620-421-4826.

Trump appoints Brashears UDASA's undersecretary for food safety

President Donald Trump appointed Dr. Mindy Brashears as UDASA's undersecretary for food safety.

Brashears is the first person to assume the nation's top food safety post since her predecessor, Elizabeth Hagen, left the job in December 2013 under the Obama administration.

"Food safety is at the core of USDA's mission, because it directly affects the health and well-being of millions of Americans every day. President Trump has made an excellent choice in Dr. Mindy Brashears, and I am excited to have her join the team," Sec. Perdue said in a statement.

Brashears is a food safety and public health professor at Texas Tech University, where she also works as director of the school's International Center for Food Industry Excellence.

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No farms, no food, no future: American Farmland Trust releases new report on the loss of farmland

American Farmland Trust has released the most comprehensive assessment ever undertaken of the loss of U.S. farmland and ranchland. "Farms Under Threat: The State of America's Farmland" sounds a stark warning: The loss of farmland is serious and will accelerate unless we take action. Among the report's key findings:

- Between 1992 and 2012, almost 31 million acres of farmland were lost, equal to all the farmland in Iowa.
- 11 million of those acres were among the best farmland in the nation.
- Development disproportionately occurred on agricultural lands, with 62 percent of all development occurring on farmland, and
- Expanding urban areas accounted for 59 percent of the loss. Low-density residential development, or the building of houses on one-to-20-acre parcels, accounted for 41 percent.

"Farms Under Threat: The State of America's Farmland" is the first step in a multifaceted initiative. This national report will be followed by a separate report later this year that analyzes past farmland loss state by state and looks at the effectiveness of state farmland protection policies. Then AFT will assess a range of future threats, forecast potential impacts to 2040 at a county level and recommend effective policies at all levels that help conserve agricultural land.

AFT is working with Conservation Science Partners, a nonprofit conservation organization, to ground the report's findings in reliable data and science. Both financial and technical support has been provided by the USDA National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)—an agency that provides technical assistance to farmers and land owners and is responsible for improving, protecting, and conserving natural resources on private lands through a cooperative partnership with state and local agencies. A National Advisory Committee provides additional guidance.

"Farmland is critical infrastructure, akin to roads and bridges," said

John Pionti, AFT's president and CEO. "Without farms, there's not only no food, but there's no future. We need farmland to feed us and sustain our economy—but also to help restore our planet.

"Action is needed now because lost farmland is irretrievable," he continued. "Farmers are aging, and the land they steward must be passed on to the next generation. If the trends of the last two decades continue over the next two decades, America will face a future with too few farms."

American Farmland Trust's goal with the release of this study is to get people to appreciate the urgency of the situation, help them see the importance of farmland to our society and understand what can be done to stem the loss. Allowing large-scale farmland loss to continue imperils our ability to feed our growing population. It challenges our economic prosperity. Agriculture accounts for one trillion dollars of the U.S. GDP, each dollar stimulating \$1.27 in additional activity. It protects wildlife and helps reduce air and water pollution. Farmland sequesters carbon in soil and plants, holds more water in drought, suppresses fire and provides for flood control in extreme weather conditions. And farmland contributes to the lifestyle we all treasure—as well as scenic views, open space and recreation.

"Maps of the contiguous United States released as part of the report show actual patterns of farmland loss within counties," said Dr. Ann Sorensen, AFT's research director. "It identifies the best agricultural land nationwide by determining which land is most productive, most versatile and most resilient."

Plenty can be done to slow the loss of agricultural land, much of which already falls under American Farmland Trust's day-to-day mission. However, more support is needed from federal policymakers, farmers and landowners, local and state planning authorities and the public if we are to slow the current trends. The report shares AFT's recommendations for effective action.

American Farmland

Trust is the only national organization working across the aisle and across the country to protect farmland, support farmers, and improve farming practices. AFT's innovative work is leading a national movement to save the land that sustains us. From the beginning, AFT's work has been about much more than farmland protection. Saving acreage is not enough. We also need to save the soil and to support the farmers who steward the land. AFT recognizes the powerful interplay between the farmland itself, soil-building farming practices, and the farmers who make it all happen. This holistic approach has enabled AFT to have an outsized impact.

Anyone who cares about the future of food and farming in the U.S. can contribute directly to American Farmland Trust's efforts by visiting <http://action.farmland.org/FarmsUnderThreat>.

Full report can be obtained at www.farmland.org/FarmsUnderThreat.

U.S. Grains Council comments on Renewable Fuel Standard and reallocating RINs

President Donald Trump has reaffirmed he will approve year-round sales of 15-percent ethanol fuels without a Renewable Identification Number (RIN) cap. However, he has asked Environmental Protection Agency administrator Scott Pruitt and Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to work out the details on an additional item: Reallocating RINs from exempted small refinery gallons to ethanol exports.

"We appreciate the Trump administration's strong support of the Renewable Fuel Standard, but the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) is concerned any move that would relate RINs to exporting ethanol could be severely detrimental to the competitiveness of ethanol exports and would harm the U.S. grains industry," said Tom Sleight, U.S. Grains Council president and

AROUND KANSAS



Fort Dodge was established in 1865 to protect traffic on the Santa Fe Trail. Establishing a fort is one thing; building it is something else, as the new signs at the post tell us.

Let's take the Enlisted Men's Barracks, for example.

Before the barracks were completed, soldiers lived in tents and dugouts along the Arkansas River. The seventy dugouts housed four men each, with bunks carved out of the earth. They were heated by fireplaces. A sod kitchen and mess hall was built nearby.

This would do to house the soldiers and the priority for building went to the storehouses for supplies. Finally, building permanent barracks was begun

in 1866 when a stone quarry was opened nearby. Some barracks were stone, some adobe.

While these were better than dugouts, accommodations were hardly four-star. The dormitory in each barracks had 22 double-tier bunks, providing sleeping space for 88 men. Each bunk held four soldiers, two up and two down, who slept in opposite directions, head to toe. A kitchen and mess hall were attached to the barracks, and a wash house and latrines were out back.

When the barracks were no longer used to house soldiers, they were used to house veterans.

Thanks to Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association and its members, the new signage at Fort Dodge tells these stories (Thanks to

Bill Bunyan for sharing this information with us). The next time you head for Dodge City, make sure you take the time to see the old fort buildings, and take time to read the information so generously and painstakingly posted by the folks who love history and are devoted to preserving it.

As the 200th anniversary of the Santa Trail approaches in 2021, look for a chapter near you. There is so much history along this trail, which has more miles in Kansas than any other state.

Deb Goodrich is co-host of *Around Kansas TV Show*. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018 — 9:00 AM
1069 North 300 Rd. — BALDWIN CITY, KANSAS
5.6 Miles West of Baldwin City on Hwy 56! WATCH FOR SIGNS!

SKID STEER, TRACTORS, EQUIPMENT

2001 Bobcat 751 Skid Steer diesel, 2010 hrs.; *Skid Steer Attachments:* BMC LD6 Back-Hoe, 5' bucket w/teeth, 6' smooth bucket, pallet forks, slide-on bucket forks; JD 3010 Tractor Ser#19033, syncro, single remote, 540 pto, gas; 1945 JD A Tractor Ser#557884; 1943 JD A Tractor (bad head gasket); Ford 8N Tractor 3 pt., Ser#8N197813; Ford 2N Tractor w/Sherman Gear, 3 pt., Ser#9N137235; Ford 2N Tractor 3 pt., Ser#9N168238; JD 997 Z-Trak Zero-Turn Mower 60 in. deck, diesel; 1970 IH Loadstar 1600 Dump Truck 4 sp., 343, 7x9 bed; Yamaha Kodiak 400 Ultramatic 4x4 on command 4-Wheeler; 2011 7x20 heavy duty flatbed trailer 7K axles, 10 ply tires, folding ramps; 5x8 flat-bed trailer w/fold down tail gate; 4x8 flat-bed trailer; 1950s GMC Truck Bed trailer; **3pt. Equipment:** JD 506 5' rotary mower, Special Ford 951A 5' rotary mower, Ford 6' box blade w/teeth, Priefert 5' straight adj. blade (new), King Kutter 6' landscape rake, TSC post auger w/10" & 12" bits; bale spear, jib-boom; JD #5 sickle mower; Hydraulic Vehicle Lift 6000 lb. 32" Height; Huskee 28 ton hor./vert. Log Splitter (New!); Logosol SE-971 Log Holder; Troy-Bilt walk-behind commercial mower 33" wide cut; ATV Pro-Lift; Troy-Bilt 3550 generator; Craftsman push mowers; Swisher Trim-N-Mow; 550 lb truck rack (new in box).

50+ PETROLEUM FULL SIZE PUMPS & LUBESTERS

11 Fry Visible Phillips 66 Pump Model 87 w/Brass Nozzle (Restored Nice!!); Original Visible Wayne w/blue glass 10 gallon & #615 blue glass 10 gallon pumps; 6 Completely Restored w/No Pumps: Gilbarco Red Crown Gasoline, Bowser Mobilgas Ethyl, Gilbarco Standard, Two-Tokheim Mobilgas, Wayne Skelly Regular; **1940-70s Most w/Pumps Original Condition:** Bowser Regular, Gasboy Model 290, Gilbarco 1004, Gilbarco Calco-meter, Bennet Regular 756, Bowsers, Wayne 420 & 605, Tokheim 452A/485/452P, AO Smith 521, Universal BE-96, Gasboy Fleet; Gas Pump Doors/Nozzles/Hoses; **Lubesters:** Perfection, Bowser, Shell, Bennet, Gilbert & Barker, Standard.

200+ VINTAGE PETROLEUM & ADVERTISING SIGNS

1958 Sinclair H-C Gasoline 6' double sided porcelain; 1950 GULF Dealer 66" dsp; 1960 FINA 6' single porcelain; (2) '50s Coca Cola Fish Tails w/hangers; 1959 MOBIL 40x89 dsp; '50s ESSO 60x88 dsp w/hanger; 1960 DX diamond 68x120 sp; '60s Firestone; '60s Texaco T 6' dsp; '50s Champlin

Auction Note: Very Large Auction! TWO Auction Rings! Security Cameras on Premise! Inspection by Appointment ONLY! *Concessions: Worden Church Ladies. Loader Tractor Day of Auction Only!*

SELLER: BRUCE KESL

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Please visit us online at www.KansasAuctions.net/elston for 200+ pictures!

AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018 — 10:30 AM
411 Terrace Woods — ST. MARYS, KANSAS

2006 BUICK LACROSSE, PIANO, APPLIANCES, FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD, HAND & SHOP TOOLS, FISHING, MISC.
See last week's Grass & Grain for listings!

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MULTI-TRACT LAND AUCTION

158.1 ACRES TOTAL • Butler County, KS

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 — 2:00 PM
Held Onsite • Land located 2 miles East of Bluestem Road on SE 50th — EL DORADO, KANSAS

TRACT 1: 77.20 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: E1/2, SE1/4 less Row S27 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$687.96, no specials.
Consisting of a mixture of tillable farm ground and pasture, 40x64 metal building built in 2008, rural water meter, mineral rights intact.

TRACT 2: 77.80 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: S1/2 NW1/4 less Row S26 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$797.15, no specials.
Consisting of a mixture of tillable farm ground and pasture, 40x64 metal building built in 2007, a 12x19 Tool Shed built in 1960, rural water meter, mineral rights intact.

Property zoned agricultural, shape is rectangular, terrain is level with graveled township roadway. Utilities consist of electric on roadway and water meter on Tract 1 to transfer with the sale of the property. Property is selling as is, where is, with no implied warranties by the sellers. The sale of properties are not subject to contingency of appraisal or financing. All information provided is deemed to be accurate but is not guaranteed by the seller. It is incumbent upon the buyer to do the buyers due diligence prior to bidding on Tract 1 and Tract 2.

TERMS: A \$10,000 non-refundable earnest money on each Tract 1 and Tract 2 or \$20,000 non-refundable earnest money if both tracts are combined to be paid day of sale, balance in cash due at closing. Seller to provide merchantable title to the buyer at closing. Closing shall be on or before June 27, 2018 at Kansas Secure Title in El Dorado, KS. Buyer and Seller will each split 50/50 title fee and closing fees. Selling subject to easements, restrictions, right of ways and roadways. Any and all inspections to be done prior to sale date. All statements made at auction will take precedence over any prior written or prior spoken statements.

TRACT 1 AND TRACT 2 WILL SELL INDIVIDUALLY AND THEN COMBINED. SALE GOING TO HIGHEST BIDDER SUBJECT TO SELLERS CONFIRMATION. A 3% Buyers broker participation if signed up 24 hours prior to day of sale. NO BUYERS PREMIUM.

MULTI-TRACT LAND AUCTION

158.1 ACRES TOTAL • Butler County, KS

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 — 2:00 PM
Held Onsite • Land located 2 miles East of Bluestem Road on SE 50th — EL DORADO, KANSAS

TRACT 1: 78.50 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: E1/2, NE1/4 less Row S34 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$309.60, no specials.
Consisting of good native grass, above average fencing, 42x60 metal building with two large sliding doors built in 2007. Excellent set of working pens, rural water meter, a good pond, mineral rights intact, and clean pasture.

TRACT 2: 79.60 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: W1/2 NE1/4 less Row S34 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$133.44, no specials.
Consisting of good native grass, above average fencing, good pond, mineral rights intact, and clean pasture.

Property zoned agricultural, shape is rectangular, terrain is level, graveled township roadway. Utilities consist of electric on roadway and water meter on Tract 1. Property is selling as is, where is, with no implied warranties by the sellers. The sale of properties are not subject to contingency of appraisal or financing. All information provided is deemed to be accurate but is not guaranteed by the seller. It is incumbent upon the buyer to do the buyers due diligence prior to bidding on Tract 1 and Tract 2.

TERMS: A \$10,000 non-refundable earnest money on each Tract 1 and Tract 2 or \$20,000 non-refundable earnest money if both tracts are combined to be paid day of sale, balance in cash due at closing. Seller to provide merchantable title to the buyer at closing. Closing shall be on or before June 27, 2018 at Kansas Secure Title in El Dorado, KS. Possession at closing. Buyer and seller will each split 50/50 title fee and closing fees. Selling subject to easements, restrictions, right of ways and roadways. Any and all inspections to be done prior to sale date. All statements made at auction will take precedence over any prior written or prior spoken statements.

TRACT 1 AND TRACT 2 WILL SELL INDIVIDUALLY AND THEN COMBINED. SALE GOING TO HIGHEST BIDDER SUBJECT TO SELLERS CONFIRMATION. A 3% Buyers broker participation if signed up 24 hours prior to day of sale. NO BUYERS PREMIUM.

Properties are agent owned. Agent is representing the sellers - Hodge Family Revocable Living Trust.

HODGE REAL ESTATE, LLC
550 N. 159th St. East, Suite 126, Wichita, KS 67230
Broker: Rick Hodge SR: 316-440-4730 • Cell: 316-880-0114
email: hodge realestate@yahoo.com

MULTI-TRACT LAND AUCTION

155 Acres Tillable & Pasture • Butler County, KS

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 — 2:00 PM
Held Onsite • Land located 2 miles East of Bluestem Road on SE 50th — EL DORADO, KANSAS

Due to health reasons we are selling the following 2 tracts of land and personal property for the WILLIAM J. BAKER TRUST

TRACT 1: 77.20 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: E1/2, SE1/4 less Row S27 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$687.96, no specials.
Consisting of a mixture of tillable farm ground and pasture, 40x64 metal building built in 2008, rural water meter, mineral rights intact.

TRACT 2: 77.80 acres.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: S1/2 NW1/4 less Row S26 T26 R06E, Butler County, KS.
TAXES: 2017 Real Estate Taxes: \$797.15, no specials.
Consisting of a mixture of tillable farm ground and pasture, 40x64 metal building built in 2007, a 12x19 Tool Shed built in 1960, rural water meter, mineral rights intact.

Property zoned agricultural, shape is rectangular, terrain is level with graveled township roadway. Utilities consist of electric on roadway and water meter on Tract 1 to transfer with the sale of the property. Property is selling as is, where is, with no implied warranties by the sellers. The sale of properties are not subject to contingency of appraisal or financing. All information provided is deemed to be accurate but is not guaranteed by the seller. It is incumbent upon the buyer to do the buyers due diligence prior to bidding on Tract 1 and Tract 2.

TERMS: A \$10,000 non-refundable earnest money on each Tract 1 and Tract 2 or \$20,000 non-refundable earnest money if both tracts are combined to be paid day of sale, balance in cash due at closing. Seller to provide merchantable title to the buyer at closing. Closing shall be on or before June 27, 2018 at Kansas Secure Title in El Dorado, KS. Buyer and Seller will each split 50/50 title fee and closing fees. Selling subject to easements, restrictions, right of ways and roadways. Any and all inspections to be done prior to sale date. All statements made at auction will take precedence over any prior written or prior spoken statements.

TRACT 1 AND TRACT 2 WILL SELL INDIVIDUALLY AND THEN COMBINED. SALE GOING TO HIGHEST BIDDER SUBJECT TO SELLERS CONFIRMATION. A 3% Buyers broker participation if signed up 24 hours prior to day of sale. NO BUYERS PREMIUM.

PERSONAL PROPERTY To Be Sold After Land Sales!

CATTLE EQUIPMENT: Large cattle feeder on skids; Filson working chute w/alleyway & sweep; WW working chute w/alleyway & sweep; trailer to haul working chute; 1800 bu. 2-sided grain bin made by Ken's Welding & Fabrication; misc. pipe panels; galvanized water tanks; livestock feed bunks; various pipe gates, used metal T-posts. **VEHICLES:** Ford F600 grain truck w/lift bed (needs starter solenoid); International Harvester Loadstar 1600 grain truck w/lift bed (was in fire but will run, needs plugs). **TRACTORS:** John Deere 4020 w/bucket & bale spear; Allis Chalmers D17 propane tractor; Allis Chalmers 7045; John Deere 4020 (weak transmission); International 1086 w/cab. **TRAILERS:** Small 2-wheel pipe built trailer; 4-wheel hay bale trailers; Wrangler bumper stock trailer; 4-wheel feed wagon; front loader for John Deere 4020. **FARM IMPLEMENTS:** Bale spears; 3 pt. fork; hyd. pull type & hyd. offset discs; Balemaster round bale unroller; Easyflow grass seeder; 2-wheel rotary mower; various cultivators; 4 row corn planter; 2 row International corn chopper; old 1 row corn chopper; John Deere drill; John Deere planter; John Deere 510 round baler; Hesston BP hay grinder; John Deere springtooth; FIMCO sprayer; boom sprayer (hole in tank); standyrous fert. sprayer; Brillion drag type compactor; fuel tank on anhyd. **TOOLS:** Misc. hand tools; misc. metal workbenches; Maxx 208CC irrigation water pumps (works); Rockwell Model 9 Homecraft table saw; misc. tractor parts (some new); Detecto scale; 2 wheel dolly; misc. iron; *other items too numerous to mention!*

HODGE REAL ESTATE, LLC
550 N. 159th St. East, Suite 126, Wichita, KS 67230
Broker: Rick Hodge SR: 316-440-4730 • Cell: 316-880-0114
email: hodge realestate@yahoo.com

Youth participate in sixth annual Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show

The sixth annual Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show was held on Sunday, April 29th at the Greenwood County Fairgrounds in Eureka. Four species, beef, goats, sheep and swine, were shown by 4-H and FFA students from Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Oklahoma. There were a total of 610 animals shown in showmanship, market and breeding classes.

Goat Show Results - 90 Market Meat Goats, 40 Breeding Goats
Judge - Hyatt Frobose
Grand Champion Overall Market Goat - Raine Garten, Abilene; Reserve Champion Market

Goat - Lakin Cherry, Girard; Grand Champion Breeding Goat - Kaylee Rolph, Dewey, Oklahoma; Reserve Champion Breeding Goat - Andrea Blum, Copan, Oklahoma; Senior Grand Showman - Kaylee Rolph; Senior Reserve Showman - Raine Garten; Intermediate Grand Showman - Kyzer Nemecek, Iola; Intermediate Reserve Showman - Jaci Falkenstein, Bartlett; Junior Grand Showman - Parker Buck, Lenapah, Oklahoma; Junior Reserve Showman - Trenton Morton, Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Greenwood County Only Class: Grand - Colter

Luthi, Madison; Reserve - London Wallace, Eureka

Beef Show Results - 41 market beef, 67 breeding heifers, 9 bucket calves
Judge - Brad Bennett

Grand Breeding Heifer Overall - McKenna Richardson, Eureka; Reserve Breeding Heifer Overall - Olivia Walrod, Bronaugh, Missouri; Grand Market Steer Overall - Devon Gaines, Peabody; Reserve Market Steer Overall - Laura Carpenter, Wamego; Senior Reserve Showman - John Emmerston, Ft Scott; Intermediate Grand Showman - Parker Swartz, LaCygne; Intermediate Reserve Showman - Lakyn Hu-

covsky, Manhattan; Junior Grand Showman - Cooper Weaver, Emporia; Junior Reserve Showman - Cheyenne Bunker, Ottawa; Senior Bucket Calf Grand - Shelby Smith; Senior Bucket Calf Reserve - T.J. Mills; Junior Bucket Calf Grand - Emery Mills; Junior Bucket Calf Reserve - Mason McDonald

Greenwood County Only Class: Grand - Sadie Albert, Madison; Reserve - Ava Perrier, Eureka.

Sheep Show Results - 70 Market Lambs, 31 Commercial Ewes

Judge - Hyatt Frobose
Grand Market Sheep Overall - Tate Crystal, Uniontown; Reserve Mar-

ket Sheep Overall - Brooklyn Hilton, Howard; Grand Commercial Ewe Overall - Grady Allen, Gardner; Reserve Commercial Ewe Overall - Tatum Norwood, Ark City; Senior Grand Showman - Grady Allen, Gardner; Senior Reserve Showman - Corin Parmley, Cedar Point; Intermediate Grand Showman - Carter Nash, Parsons; Intermediate Reserve Showman - Calleigh Soyey, Marion; Junior Grand Showman - Dakota Allen, Ottawa; Junior Reserve Showman - Lakyn Rookstool,

Greenwood County Only Class: Grand - Wylee Boulanger, Eureka; Reserve - Oliver Wade.

Swine Show Results - 259 Market Hogs

Judge - Kiah Gourley
Grand Market Hog Overall - John Alfs, Shickley, Nebraska; Reserve Market Hog Overall - Kaden Stroup, Parker; Senior Grand Showman - Danielle Nading; Senior Reserve Showman - Brody Nemecek; Intermediate Grand Showman - Lane Higbie, Williamsburg; Intermediate Reserve Showman - Callie Higbie, Williamsburg; Junior Grand Showman - Rhett Forkner, Richards, Missouri; Junior Reserve Showman - Tate Leck, Neodesha.

Researchers collecting on-farm management data

By Jordan Hildebrand, Program Assistant

Kansas State University researchers need your help to complete research on wheat management strategies. K-State Research and Extension (KSRE) has joined the Kansas Wheat Commission to learn from wheat producers around Kansas.

The survey is one of two initiatives aimed at

identifying management practices leading to increased grain yields and improved quality in Kansas wheat production.

"We want to learn what is working and what is not in farmer-controlled fields across different parts of the state," said Romulo Lollato, KSRE wheat and forages specialist. "Results from this research will guide Kansas wheat

producers in determining the best agronomic practices for their commercial fields."

Researchers with the project include Lollato and Brent Jaenisch, graduate student in the winter wheat production program at K-State. They are currently collecting data from the past two growing seasons (2015-16 and 2016-17). This data will be used to develop information for Kansas wheat growers on yield increasing management practices, identify how these practices can be optimized for farm productivity and to discern best management practic-

es for commercial fields for yield and quality.

Information to be collected includes field location, soil type/texture, wheat variety, seeding rate, tillage practice, previous crop rotation, crop yield, inputs applied, seed treatment, adoption of precision agriculture, pesticide application and other yield-influencing factors. Lollato estimates that with this information readily available entering one field into the survey should take around ten to fifteen minutes.

The project also includes an initiative to gather data from small re-

search plots on intensive wheat management. Researchers will gather data, testing different levels of management strategies in several modern wheat varieties. These field experiments will be in a minimum of three sites in the central and western corridor of the state. The experiment will collect data from six ranges of management intensities, from low input/common practice to improved fertility with intensive fungicide and micronutrient applications.

The survey phase of the experiment will be a collaborative effort between the principal investigators, area agronomists and county and district extension agents to collect on-farm data directly from wheat producers.

"We are aiming to use regionally collected, producer generated data to improve our current management recommendations for wheat produc-

tion," said Lollato. "We need data from different regions, large and small scale producers and different management practices to provide the best recommendations that we can."

This project is funded through the Kansas Wheat Commission as part of its mission to increase the productivity and profitability of the Kansas winter wheat farmer. The survey can be completed online, in person, or over the phone. Your identity will be confidential and no personally identifiable information will be associated with your responses. Data will only be presented as aggregated and never on a field-by-field basis.

For more information, or to submit your data, visit <http://kswheat.com/researchsurvey>, or call Brent Jaenisch at 320-226-7449 to submit data over the phone.



John Alfs, Shickley, Nebraska, drove the overall grand champion market hog at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show, held April 29 in Eureka.



Judge Hyatt Frobose selected the ewe shown by Tatum Norwood, Ark City, as overall reserve champion commercial ewe at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show in Eureka.



Laura Carpenter, Wamego, exhibited the overall reserve champion market steer at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show in Eureka. She was also named senior grand champion showman.



Kaden Stroup, Parker, drove the overall reserve champion market hog at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show. Judging the event was Kiah Gourley.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018 — 7:00 PM
 Property located at 7110 SW Davis Rd. — AUBURN, KANSAS
38 1/2 ± acres with Equine Facility

OPEN HOUSE PREVIEWS:
 Thursday, May 17 & Tuesday, May 29 - 5:30-7 PM
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WAYNE & KATHRYN B. HILL TRUST
 Tom Ford, Trustee

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LAND FOR SALE BY BIDS
133.8± Acres • Riley County, Kansas

Bids due by 3:00 PM, Tuesday, May 22
Farmers National Company
 PO Box 526 • Manhattan, Kansas 66505

- Good quality upland farm on Highway 24
- Located one and one-half miles from Riley County School
- Partially in Riley Land Use Planning Zone

For bidding and property details, please contact:
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 Manhattan, Kansas
 (785) 320-2033 or (620) 285-9131
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ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018 — 9:00 AM
 2707 Harvard — LAWRENCE, KANSAS
 Across from West Junior High! WATCH FOR SIGNS!
 Firearms (ALL ATF Rules Apply KS Residents ONLY!)
 Large Coin Collection (9 AM), Sterling Silver Flatware Pieces!
 COLLECTIBLES, FURNITURE, TOOLS, HOUSEHOLD & MISC.,
 Vintage Toys, Comics, KU & Royals, Power Tools Most Like New
 See last week's Grass & Grain for listings & Please visit us online at
www.KansasAuctions.net/elston for pictures!

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ANTIQUUE AUCTION
MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018 — 10:00 AM
 Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley in SALINA, KS

CROCKS, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
Crocks inc.: 5 gal blue Cupid water cooler rare; Anheuser-Busch dispenser; 5 gal RW water cooler w/lid; 3 gal Watts crock water cooler; Swastika blue & white salt, butter & pitcher; 4 gal Diamond Ice Water; 3 gal elephant ear crock; 6 gal Western crock; 2 gal Western churn; creamery crocks (Fairmont, Equity, Sealtest); Legrues jug; Red Wing beater jar; Nordness beater jar; refrigerator jar; Mactavish & Glasgow beater; salt glaze (2, 3 target & butterfly) & 4 lazy 8 & butterfly); 4 gal red ware churn; 3 gal RW jug; 2 & 3 gal birch leaf crocks; Whiteway Devon Dyer jug; 1 lb butter w/wing; set 4 blue & white wedding ring bowls; 2 blue & white pitchers; crock pitchers; set 4 McComb crock fruit jars; McComb mini jugs; crock pigs; churn lids; Coors crock funnel; **Collectables:** Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com. This is a very quality auction, we will sell crocks at 12:30 p.m.

Coke trays (1924, 25, 30, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41 & 42); beer collectables inc.: Ice Cold Beer On Tap sign, Budweiser clock light & trays; Dr Pepper tray; Bevo tray; other beer trays; German wall clock; New Haven kitchen clock; owl & dog wall clocks; cuckoo clock; German wall Kaffee grinder; brass grain probe; 14 pc. dresser set; Charles Rogers print; ladies hunter case watch w/chain; pocket watches (Waltham, Howard, Illinois, Elgin, South Bend); 14K ladies ring w/diamond; Turquoise & sterling jewelry, rings, bracelets, bolo ties some signed CA Tencio; sterling pieces; Manka-CF Orvis glass minnow trap; **Thermometers inc.:** (Watson Jug, Coal, several Salina); Smith Wallace tip tray; yard long Roses picture; chain pictures (Lindsborg, Lincoln, Formoso, Minneapolis, Holton); Manka-to plate; Shapleigh Hardware sign; Richards & Conover Hardware spice holder; German granite lantern jug; 1929 Fairbury windmill book; **milk**

bottles inc.: K State; 5 quilts (fan, double wedding ring, H, morning glory, flower garden); baby quilts (puppy, ship); Sioux head rest; Native American pottery Peggy Tafoya; spurs; hand cuff; powder flask; US Grant memorial medal; 3 Sheaffer pens; presidential campaign buttons; Kennedy spoon; 1904 San Francisco newspaper; postcard album; Foreign stamp album; first day covers; tulip bowls; measuring cups; advertising salt & pepper; perfume bottles; mini kero lamp; green cruet; Dresden lady figurine; shaving cups; Tom & Jerry cup; bell collection; pitchers; Manka-to Bottling Co pop bottle; jar collection; road maps; books; pellet gun; Hummer rooster windmill weight; tins inc.: Buckhorn; walnut office chair; metal patio set; metal yard glider; double wood carpenter table; new Husqvarna electric start lawn mower; **40 locomotive & cars 027 trains Lionel, MTH, Marx, American Flyer, K Line.**

Auction Conducted By: THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC
 785-738-0067

AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018 — 10:00 AM
 8235 NW 35th — SILVER LAKE, KS (3 miles East of Silver Lake, 1 mile North of Hwy. 24)

1998 Oldsmobile 88, very good clean car, 155,000 miles; tandem axle 16" machine/utility trailer; JD GX 85 riding lawn mower; Signature 2000 lawn mower; 6' single axle utility trailer; **2-wheel chuggy;** chain saw; battery charger; stapler; wheelbarrow; basketball goal; barrels; log chains; posts; gas cans; 1HP 3 gallon air compressor.
 Corn sheller; barrel churn; 5-shovel cultivator; metal lawn chair; milk cans; tubs; washboard; implement seats; license tags; pedal grindstone; sleds; cistern buckets; child's wagon; bikes; pitch forks; post hole digger; walnut cracker; lawn chairs; pet carrier; baskets; lawn products; garden hose; garden tools; flower pots; 2 trailers full of farm, shop & lawn items.

Very nice rocker/recliner sofa; modern round Oak table & 4 chairs; GE automatic washer; Maytag dryer; 3 flat screen TV's; chest deep freeze; Lazy-Boy recliner (very near new); sofa; antique 5-leg table with 8 leaves; 3 3-pc bedroom sets; bamboo corner shelf; glass top sewing machine stand; shelves; wood toy chest; Oak parlor table; patio table bed frame; hamper; file cabinets; 2 bookshelves; miscellaneous furniture; bird cage & stand.
Belt Buckle Collection (65 buckles): Hesston 1974-1989; Hesston child's 1984-1989; Tony Lama; horse breed buckle; KU, Kansas; Historic Kansas & others; Hummel figurines; Western Hero wind-up toy; Brave Eagle wind-up toy.
12 place set of Fostoria American plus serving pieces; silverplate; paper mache

Santa; Rose Stoneware pitcher; Tea leaf; 14 Hummel figurines; 9 crock jugs; well pulley; crocks; antique fruit jars; 2 milk bottles; boiler; set blue/white dishes; costume jewelry; many what-nots & figurines; cast iron skillets silverware; cruet; bowls; platters; cookbooks; Tupperware; pots; pans; coolers; vases; graniteware; dishes; glassware; Holiday dishes; kitchen utensils; handicap potty; lamps; towels; vacuums; hat rack; box & other cameras; Western boots; books; binoculars; BB gun; men's caps; kraut cutter; luggage; bedding; Western & other hats; old magazines; electric heater; horse collar; records; cookie jar; JD cast iron toolbox; Dazey churn; kerosene lamps; toy stove; Arcade cast iron truck; chalk dog; lots & lots more!

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Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Online auction — Trucks, mowers, snow plows, snow blowers, seeder, misc. lawn care equipment, trailers, salt spreaders & much more at www.lindsayauctions.com. Auctioneers: Lindsay Auction Service, Inc.

Online only Real Estate — Opens May 7 and starts to close May 14 — 80 acres Douglas County cropland, waterways, creek and grassland at www.dlwebb.com for Schmidt Farms. Auctioneers: Dave Webb, Webb Realty Auctions & Appraisals.

Unreserved online auction (ends May 16) — Tractors, combine, farm equipment. www.bigiron.com.

Land for sale by bids — (bids due May 22 by 3 PM) 133.8 acres m/l of Riley County farm land. www.farmersnational.com. Auctioneers: Farmers National Company, Fred Olsen, AFM/agent.

Online only estate auction — J.R. Hamil Kansas City Union Station print, Shawnee Mission Indian Mission print, Grace Bilger paintings of Johnson County Courthouse, Desert Rose china, B&G Copenhagen Christmas & Mother's Day plates, glassware, Hummels, furniture, costume jewelry & more for Estate of Charlene Upton. www.dlwebb.com. Auctioneers: Dave Webb, Webb & Associates Auctions & Appraisals.

Online only auction — Used farm machinery, JD 2510, Farmall Super A, 1996 Road Boss gooseneck trailer & more at www.dlwebb.com. Auctioneers: Dave Webb, Webb & Associates Auctions & Appraisals.

May 14 — Nice furniture, gun case, pianos, oak wall phones, iron dental chair, brass cash register, collectibles at Riley for John & Linda Webber. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

Online Only Auction — Opens May 15 and begins to close May 22 — John Deere tractor & loader, pickup, trailer, farrier equipment & supplies, anvils, blacksmith tools, antiques & collectibles, tools, furniture, barn items, advertising signs, artwork, clock, music collection & much more at www.dlwebb.com for Jim & Lolo, The Horsehoers. Auctioneers: Dave Webb, Webb & Associates Auctions & Appraisals.

May 15 — Real estate, (T1) log house & 10 acres m/l; (T2) 68 acres m/l in CRP held at Junction City for Thomas R. Mika. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

May 17 — 2695 acres of Chase County grassland held at Cottonwood Falls for property of Whiskey Charlie, LLC. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

May 17 — Real Estate, 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom home with large corner lot held in Lawrence. Auctioneers: Flory & Associates, Realty & Auctions.

May 19 — Antique furniture, household, collectibles, John Deere zero turn mower & more at Hutchinson for Estate of Norman & Pauline Cline. Auctioneers: Morris Yoder Auctions.

May 19 — Antiques & collectibles includ-

ing Thomas Hart Benton prints & other pictures, silverplate, books, glassware, tins & more at Salina for Fred Rae Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

May 19 — UTV, zero turn riding mower, compressors, table saw, work bench, storage cabinets, tools, clocks, furniture, TVs, appliances, prints, medical equipment, beer signs, Coke signs, jewelry & more at Topeka. Auctioneers: Simmitt Real Estate & Auction, Inc.

May 19 — Real Estate (3BR, 1 1/2BA home), furniture, household, collectibles & more at Topeka. Auctioneers: Murray Auction & Realty.

May 19 — 2006 Buick LaCrosse, piano, appliances, furniture, household, hand & shop tools, fishing & misc. at St. Marys for Estate of Jake & Pauline Greidanus. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

May 19 — Firearms, coins, collectibles, furniture, tools, household & misc. at Lawrence for Pat Williams Living Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

May 19 — Amish school items, machinery, furniture, poultry, horses & ponies, buildings & supplies, posts, tack, quilts, camping & more at Pawnee City, Nebraska for Amish School consignment auction.

May 24 — Tractor, trailers, UTV, mower, show cattle & livestock equipment, tools & misc., household & misc. at Lawrence for Rick Cozzitorto. Auctioneers: Flory & Associates Realty & Auctions.

May 26 — Signs, pedal cars, antiques, collectibles, cast iron seats, crocks, tins & more at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

May 26 — 1998 Oldsmobile 88, utility trailers, mowers, 2-wheel sulky, tools, belt buckle collection, furniture, Fostoria American, collectibles & more at Silver Lake for Marjorie & the late Harry Brumbaugh. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

May 26 — Guns, tractor, zero turn mower, aluminum stock trailer, farm machinery, trailers, livestock equipment, tools & misc. at Linwood for Cherie & Gene Malone. Auctioneers: Town & Country Real Estate & Auction, Hunter Sturgis & Andy Conser.

May 26 — 3 Bedroom home built by the Abilene High School Carpentry Class held at Abilene for USD 435. Auctioneers: Reynolds Auction Service.

May 26 — Skid steer, tractors, equipment, petroleum full size pumps & lubesters, vintage petroleum & advertising signs, collectibles, horse drawn items & misc. at Baldwin City for Bruce Kesl. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

May 27 — Antiques & collectibles including Indian items, cast iron banks, holiday items, pinbacks & more at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

May 27 — 158.1 acres of Butler County native grassland; T1 has building, working pens held at El Dorado for Hodge Family Revocable Living Trust. Auctioneers: Hodge Real Estate, LLC.

May 27 — 155 acres Butler County tillable & pasture land, cattle equipment, vehicles, tractors, trailers, farm implements, tools & more held at El Dorado for William J. Baker Trust. Auctioneers: Hodge Real Estate, LLC.

May 28 — Crocks, antiques & collectibles including Coke trays, watches, jewelry, thermometers, Native American pottery, bell collection, electric start lawn mower, 40 locomotive & cars 027 trains Lionel, MTH, Marx, American Flyer, K Line & more at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

May 28 — Harley Gerdes 25th Annual Memorial Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

May 31 — 197.70 acres Rice County cropland & grass held at Little River for Timothy L. Bornholdt. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

June 2 — Tractor, equipment, 3 pt. equipment, livestock & horse items, Priefert panels, construction, woodworking, large amount board ft. of lumber, household & misc. at Lawrence for Tom & Jennifer Nelson. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

June 2 — 1996 Toyota Camry car, antiques & collectibles, glassware, modern tools, some coins, costume jewelry & more at Belleville for Esther Dorman Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 2 (Rain date: June

9) — Car, pickup & household goods at Clay Center for the Estate of William Edward Broden. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

June 2 — Tractors & machinery, mowers, 2011 Ford F-150, furniture, lumber, shop tools & equipment, guns at Riley for Margaret & the late Darrel Davies. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auction.

June 3 — Real Estate: shop building, approx. 30'x60' on 75'x120' lot, overhead doors, restroom, office area, loft, 2 large bays; Bobcat & trailer, 1995 Chevy 2500 pickup, 8' truck flatbed, shop tools & equipment, HP Design Jet 750 plotter at Westmoreland for Vic & Doris Poote. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 4 — 147 acres m/l Clay County, KS farmland held at Clay Center for Van Lew Properties, LLC. Auctioneers: Homestead Real Estate, Gail Hauserman.

June 5 — 38.5 acres m/l real estate with equine facility held at Auburn for Wayne L. & Kathryn B. Bill Trust. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate, Wayne Wischropp.

June 9 — Camper, Jeep, tractors, ATVs, equipment, firearms, coins, collectibles, household & misc. at Lawrence for Larry & Sharon Powley. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

June 9 — Tractors, trucks, farm machinery, lawn & garden, misc. farm items & more at New Strawn for New Strawn Farm & Ranch Consignment auction. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Realty.

June 21 — Real Estate: 1365 square foot 3BR home with 17± acres, indoor arena, quonset converted to horse barn, run in sheds & more held at Abilene. Auctioneers: Gene Francis & Associates, Real Estate brokers & auctioneers.

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Grady Allen, Gardner, led the overall grand champion commercial ewe at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show held April 29 in Eureka. Hyatt Frobose was the judge. He also earned senior grand champion showman.

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A G P R E S S

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REAL ESTATE & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018 • 10:00 AM

Auction Site: 1237 SW High Ave., TOPEKA, KANSAS

REAL ESTATE SELLS AT 12:00 NOON

AUCTIONEER'S NOTES: This is a very nice well-kept home with 3 Bedrooms and 1.5 Baths. Located in a quiet neighborhood suitable for retirees, starter home or rental. Nice appearance with vinyl siding and front porch. Total square footage of 1,564. Auction will include some very nice antique furniture pieces, glassware, primitives and neat items. We hope you can make the auction — **it will be WORTH IT!** Shown by appointment.

TERMS: 10% earnest money the day of the auction with the remainder at closing on or before June 19, 2018. Title insurance and escrow fees to be shared equally. The sale is not contingent on financing and all inspections should be conducted prior to the auction at bidder's expense. Murray Auction and Realty is acting as an agent for the seller. All information obtained from sources deemed to be reliable but not guaranteed. Statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material.

FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD & COLLECTIBLES: Tan wingback chairs; antique walnut dressers, 1 with a marble top; walnut small dresser; walnut commode; pine china cabinet; chaise lounge (newer); microfiber sofa (newer); rockers; wicker rocker & vanity chair; primitive wood trunk; wrought iron twin bed; large and small rugs; lots of glassware, kitchen glassware; lots of Blue Willow and some Flow Blue; microwave; kitchen utensils; large and small copper buckets; numerous oil paintings and pictures; lots of linens and bedspreads; some handmade quilts; LOTS of dolls, doll clothes, Barbie dolls; little tea set; lots of costume jewelry; turquoise jewelry; misc. bird baths, bird feeders, etc.; new ladder; some tools; bicycle pump; small electric polisher; lots of neat old books; AND OTHER ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION!

SELLER: IRENE ALEXANDER

MURRAY AUCTION & REALTY
Steve Murray, Broker/Auctioneer • 785-556-4354
Bill Raine & Bob Murray, Auctioneers
www.murrayauctionandrealty.com

197.70 ACRES RICE COUNTY CROPLAND & GRASS AUCTION

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2018 — 7:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Mutual Telephone Co., 365 Main Street
LITTLE RIVER, KANSAS

SELLER: TIMOTHY L. BORNHOLDT

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: NW corner of Ave 1 & 30th in Rice County, Kansas.

LOCATION: Approximately 14 miles west of McPherson, KS on Hwy 56 to Rd 30th then North 1 mile to Rd J, then 1/4 mile west to Rd 30th, then north 1 mile to the SE corner of the property. Road 30th is also 1 mile west of Windom, KS on Hwy 56.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Total Acres are 197.70 Acres. The pasture being 46 A and dryland cropland of 151.5. Pasture is watered by 2 ponds. Tame and mixed native grasses, well fenced, ready to go to work for you. The cropland is planted to triticale and other mixed ground cover. Ag lease in place for 2018 season.

Pics & terms at: www.GriffinRealEstateAuction.com

Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service LC

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620-273-6421 • Fax: 620-273-6425 • Toll Free: 1-866-273-6421
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RICK GRIFFIN
Broker/Auctioneer
Cell: 620-343-0473

CHUCK MAGGARD
Sales/Auctioneer
Cell: 620-794-8824

ANTIQUA AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley in SALINA, KS

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES Thomas Hart Benton prints (Hail Storm & Threshing Wheat); assortment other good pictures; large assortment silver plate; assortment books inc.: 1935 Colliers, Air News Yearbook; Christmas decorations old & new many Dillard's; plastic Easter toy; Happy Ham wood toy; San Francisco street game; glasses; child's tool chest; magazines; Boye needle cabinet; Simplicity needle cabinet; Iten biscuit box; block prints; hand display; World's Fair books; linens; ladies hats; hat boxes; ladies dresses; Fisher Price Castle & Sesame Street Clubhouse; Pogo's; Mission plant stand; hammered aluminum; Art glass vases; fan vase; table lamps; cast iron arrow lamp; assortment glass; powder tins; scrap books; Farm Bureau car tag toppers; cast iron planter holder; plant stands; large assortment of other collectibles.

Note: Fred passed away this spring, we are starting to sell his collection. He collected for many years. There are many boxes from his garage that we have not unpacked. There are many very nice collectibles. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

FRED RAE ESTATE

Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION, LLC**
785-738-0067

ANTIQUA AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley in SALINA, KS

SIGNS, PEDAL CARS, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES 40 pedal cars, fire trucks, motorcycle, Casey Jones, Nelly Belle, 1940's, 50's & 60's (restored 1960 Garton, 1955 Police car, 1960 fire truck); **Signs inc.:** porcelain (Quaker State, Mobil Pegasus, Texaco, DX, Firestone, Mobil pump plates, Contains Lead metal signs (Super Sweet Feeds, Dr. Pepper menu rare size, Ford, Barrett Asphalt, Doerr Mercantile, Mule Hide, Moorman's, 1936 DP, IGA, Funks Dealer, Kendall Flange, Hoblit Hybrids, Kansas Farm Bureau, Cooper Tires, John Deere, Old Ben Coal, Rest Rooms flange, Eisenhower Interstate, Uniroyal, Mobil 1, Havoline, US Royal, continental Batteries, Sentry Hardware, Interstate, Dayton Tires, Hercules Tires, Swift Cream Buying, wall coffee grinder; granite ware pieces; crock foot warmer; Edison phonograph horn; **tins inc.:** Sunshine biscuit, Sweet Cuba tobacco, lard, other; green & red handle kitchen collectibles; sad irons; dress form; wooden barrels; small wood stove; Perfection heater; wagon seat; iron wheel cart; walking plow; egg basket; coal bucket; pitcher pump; cast iron boiler; wooden boxes; scale; Dazey 60 churn; garden gate; barn doors; wash tubs; buckets; chicken walters; sprinkling cans; JD planter buckets; wood barrel; porch posts; car tags; car horns; double peanut machine; steam whistle; lard press; corn planter; lanterns; 50 car shop manuals; large doll house; assortment of other collectibles.

Check our website for pictures at www.thummelauction.com. This is a very nice auction with many good signs, and collectibles.

Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC**
785-738-0067

ANTIQUA AUCTION

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo, 900 Greeley in SALINA, KS

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES Indian (pots, bowls, baskets, dolls, Kachina doll); **cast iron banks inc.:** (mechanical "Professor Pus Frogs," still cast iron banks; several Salina); still banks; Tonka, Wyandotte & Buddy L trucks; **tin Western buildings inc.:** Roy Rogers; Roy Rogers semi truck; assortment **tin toys inc.:** climbing fireman, Wolverine coal loader, Honey Moon Express, boat, clown, windup Little Abner Band; drums, tambourines, tops, buckets; Homestead Pluto bank; New Deal bank; wooden Disney pull toys; noise makers; Winross Graves Truck; doll house; straw stuffed animals; wooden dresser boxes; wooden checker box; soldier & political figures; Bennington crock piggies; Department Treasury medallion; wooden sugar buckets; Swedish bucket; assortment good pictures; assortment post cards; flatware; large assortment Christmas ornaments; Beechnut Christmas box; Halloween decorations; Easter decorations; glass candy containers several Christmas & Halloween; wooden bottle stoppers; good children's books; **pin backs inc.:** Lindbergh 1927; Red Goose shoe advertising pieces; Stiefel Bros & Co. Salina beanie; 1988 baseball cards; **This is a very large quality auction. Be sure to check our pictures to see the quality.**

NOTE: This is a very quality auction. We have sold for this collector for several years on this weekend. Check our website for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC**
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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Nitwit Wisdom

Nitwits are partial to wisdom that's usually corny and trite. But the worst part of nitwit wisdom is when the nitwit is right!

I's ridin' pasture for Brimhall, checkin' for bad eyes

and such. He'd hired this nitwit to help me. He never did like me much.

"You can't be good at everything," said Nitwit, missin' the steer.

I had to agree that he wasn't

good, that is, that much was clear

I chased the steer and caught his horns, I dallied and then I spoke, "You rope the hocks and we'll stretch him out!" He tried, but it was a joke.

"Here, set my horse and hold the head." We swapped and I roped the hind. "Now, take back yer horse and hold the heels, Don't let no slack in yer twine!"

I got off to doctor the steer and fished for my last syringe. When a hoof lashed out and cracked my hand! doubled my arm like a hinge!

I stabbed myself with the needle; he kicked me under the chin

Then he rolled me off over backwards, drivin' the needle on in.

"Don't let go of yer dally! Dang!" His rope was floppin' around. The steer stepped outta the heel loop and headed for higher ground.

"You sorry excuse for nothin! You line-bred drizzlin' dope! I guess you saw he's still draggin' my brand new 40-foot rope.

"Yer dumber'n boiled gravel. I told ya keep yer slack tight. Now he'll prob'ly die of pneumonia." we watched him flee outta sight.

"Well, look on the bright side," said Nitwit, his wisdom cut to the quick. "The way that ol' steer quit the country, he couldn't a been that sick."

www.baxterblack.com



McKenna Richardson, Eureka, exhibited the overall grand champion breeding heifer at the Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show in Eureka. Brad Bennett judged the beef show.



The grand champion overall market goat at the 6th annual Flint Hills Classic Spring Livestock Show was shown by Raine Garten, Abilene. Judging the event was Hyatt Frobose. Senior reserve champion honors were also awarded to Raine.

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Farmers & Ranchers AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

Selling Hogs & Cattle every Monday

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK TOTALED 3,493 CATTLE & 72 HOGS.

STEERS		HEIFERS	
400-500	\$198.00 - 214.00	400-500	\$162.00 - 175.00
500-600	\$175.00 - 191.00	500-600	\$155.00 - 169.00
600-700	\$155.00 - 169.00	600-700	\$145.00 - 160.00
700-800	\$136.00 - 152.00	700-800	\$135.00 - 149.50
800-900	\$126.00 - 141.75	800-900	\$110.00 - 125.00
900-10000	\$120.00 - 134.00		

THURSDAY, MAY 10 FEEDER SALE:

STEERS	
11 blk Minneapolis	405@214.00
9 blk Inman	436@212.00
2 blk Hesston	378@206.00
15 blk Minneapolis	488@200.50
6 blk Manhattan	405@200.00
8 blk Hays	434@194.00
7 blk Ellsworth	434@193.00
20 blk Marion	524@191.00
7 blk Miltonvale	511@190.00
12 blk Inman	528@183.50
6 mix Marquette	553@180.50
60 blk Beloit	587@180.50
81 blk Beloit	666@169.00
5 mix Newton	615@168.00
16 char Beloit	647@166.00
4 blk Lincoln	609@163.50
4 rwf Marquette	610@162.00
4 blk Miltonvale	615@161.00
12 blk Lincoln	746@152.00
7 mix Miltonvale	706@152.00
14 mix Chouteau, OK	754@149.25
69 mix Hillsboro	759@148.50
60 mix Gypsum	822@141.75
48 blk Lincoln	871@141.00
29 blk Ada	795@139.75
59 blk Enterprise	834@139.75
35 mix Salina	823@139.50
18 mix Salina	872@136.50
60 mix Enterprise	901@134.00
15 blk Ada	919@126.75
24 blk Lincoln	993@120.35

MONDAY, MAY 7 HOG & CATTLE SALE:

HOGS	
1 sow Delphos	595@40.00
1 sow Beverly	660@40.00
9 sows Carleton	587@38.00
2 sows Abilene	520@38.00
6 fats Manhattan	309@42.00
5 fats Manhattan	298@40.00
8 fats Hope	301@36.00

CALVES	
1 red Holyrood	245@500.00
1 blk Holyrood	235@500.00
1 blk Salina	285@475.00
1 blk Little River	280@475.00
1 blk Galva	240@450.00
1 blk Galva	230@435.00
3 mix Little River	247@430.00
1 red Holyrood	240@425.00
1 char Gypsum	220@410.00
1 bwf Geneseo	185@410.00
1 bwf Geneseo	95@250.00

COWS	
1 bwf Hutchinson	1100@65.00
1 blk Falun	1175@65.00
1 red Gypsum	1295@64.00
1 blk McPherson	1390@64.00
1 bwf Dwight	1555@64.00
1 red Hillsboro	1490@63.50
1 rwf Assaria	1305@63.00
1 red McPherson	1460@63.00
6 mix Lyons	1473@62.50
1 red McPherson	1545@62.00
1 blk Longford	1955@61.00
1 bwf Tampa	1450@61.00

BULLS	
1 blk Tampa	2140@92.00
1 red Hillsboro	2235@90.00
1 blk Salina	2285@88.00
1 blk Galva	1730@84.00
1 blk Kanopolis	1965@84.00
1 blk Glasco	2100@82.00
1 wf Brookville	1790@81.00
1 blk Galva	2275@81.00

RECIPES WANTED
Send us your favorite recipes for the Farmers & Ranchers Livestock Comm. Co. Friends and Family Cookbook

Please email to ranchcooks@gmail.com

IN STOCK TODAY:

- Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders
- 6'8" X 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER METAL TOP
- 6'8" X 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER
- 6'8" X 24' GR Stock Trailer Metal Top

Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

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

MONDAY — HOGS & CATTLE

Hogs sell at 10:30 a.m. Cattle at 12:00 Noon. Selling calves and yearlings first, followed by Packer cows and bulls.

THURSDAY — CATTLE ONLY

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

AUCTIONEERS: KYLE ELWOOD, ANDREW SYLVESTER & GARREN WALROD

For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website www.fandrive.com

November 1st: Farmers & Ranchers switched to LMA Online Auctions
Go to LMAAuctions.com

If you were an approved bidder on Cattle USA, your account has been switched over, please log in using the same email and password. If you were just a user watching on the internet, not approved to bid, you will have to create a new user account to watch online at LMAAuctions.com

Having Trouble Logging in or still have Questions? Please call: 1-800-821-2048

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 17:

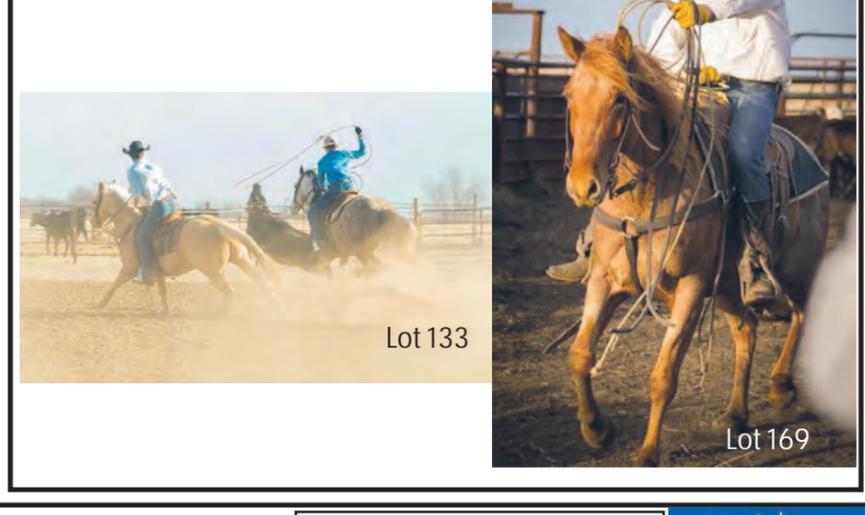
- 25 black steers and heifers, vacc, home raised, weaned 3 weeks, 500 lbs.
- 12 steers, all vacc, weaned 2 weeks+, 700 lbs.
- 10 steers & heifers, 2 rnd vacc, sired by Cow Camp bull, 500 lbs.

SPRING SPECTACULAR CATALOG HORSE SALE

Friday, May 18:
Rope Horse Preview, 1pm
Friday, May 18: Ranch Horse Competition, 6pm



SATURDAY, MAY 19: SPRING SPECTACULAR HORSE SALE- 10 AM



For Information or estimates, contact: **Mike Samples, Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-826-7884**
Kyle Elwood, Asst. Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-493-2901

Check our listings each week on our website at www.fandrive.com

Jim Crowther 785-254-7385 Roxbury, KS
Lisa Long 620-553-2351 Ellsworth, KS
Cody Schafer 620-381-1050 Durham, KS
Kenny Briscoe 785-658-7386 Lincoln, KS
Kevin Henke H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525 Agenda, KS
Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS

Cattle Sale Broadcast Live on LMAAuctions.com 1150 KSAL, Salina 6:45 AM - MON-FRI * 880 KRVN 8:40 AM - WED.-THURS. *550AM KFRM - 8:00 am, Wed.-Thurs.

