



Thomson discusses public perception of livestock industry at Kansas Elite Stockmen's Series

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

As the long-awaited spring season was just getting under way, Kansas State Research and Extension and Merck Animal Health hosted their Kansas Elite Stockmen's Series, featuring Dr. Tom Park of Merck, as well as Dr. A.J. Tarphoff and Dr. Dan Thomson of KSU. Herd health, parasite management and industry trends were the topics of the day, which also featured a steak lunch for attendees.

Thomson discussed how the livestock industry can and should respond to the challenges it faces in communicating with a consumer base that is far removed from how their food is produced.

"The reason we have a lot of the problems we do in this country is that we can't afford it. We're spoiled," he said. He went on to describe many of the other countries he's worked with that are Third World or developing nations. "When they get paid, the first thing they say is, 'I want to eat. Money equals food, poverty equals starvation. The person whose belly is half-full has many problems and the person who is starving has but one.'"

He reminded the audience that they don't just feed the rich, provide for export markets or put things on the menus of white tablecloth restaurants. "We are a staple food," he said. "Ground beef is the number three purchase with food

stamps in the United States. I think it's vitally important for us when we start to talk to legislators and animal rights and environmental activists, that they understand that when we make changes that increase the price of food without increases in income, we're going to drive poverty up."

Among the hot button issues surrounding beef production, Thomson believes the term "sustainability" is one of the more widely misunderstood among consumers. "When everyone starts to think about sustainability, we think it means that we are just going to protect the environment, and that's just not true," he emphasized. Factors such as profitability also determine sustainability. "What restaurant groups and others are trying to understand today is, who is doing the right practices in their beef operations so that fifty years from now I can make some sort of algorithm or prediction of which beef operations are going to grow and still be in business because they're doing the right things, or which ones are going to be bought up by the ones that are doing the right things?"

Animal welfare is another topic that, while widely discussed, is also surrounded by a degree of ambiguity. "You'll ask six different people and get six different answers," Thomson said. "But the thing that we need to understand as a beef industry is that the consumer thinks that a



Dr. Dan Thomson was one of the speakers for the Kansas Elite Stockmen's Series, shown here at the Manhattan session, sponsored by K-State Research and Extension and Troy Warnken of Merck Animal Health. Photo by Donna Sullivan

safe food product comes from a healthy animal and a healthy animal is one that had good animal welfare."

He expects to see restaurant groups demand more audits of farms and ranches as they receive increased pressure from animal rights groups and others, adding that many of those groups are in a campaign to decrease the level of public trust and in turn lower the consumption of meat. "Steven Covey, Jr. wrote that when trust erodes, the speed of business slows down and the cost of business goes up," Thomson said. By increasing the cost of production, the cost of meat will also go up, causing consumption to go down.

Thomson believes the industry should never settle for doing just enough

to get by or pass the audits. "We don't set the bar high enough," he asserted. "We need to continue to move it up." Steps he believes producers can take to improve their protocols include early castration and de-budding of horns. "If you're going to put a tag in a calf's ear after you've let it have colostrum, can you not reach down and feel if there's a bud there? Use a little de-budder and they're gone." As for castration, he said that some commercial operations leave the calves intact under the belief that doing so will help them weigh more at weaning.

"But I've got four studies that will show you that those calves that are left intact weigh the same as the ones that are castrated in the first week," he

said. "But when I get them in a feed yard, I'll have 150% the morbidity rate and 150% the death loss in calves that are intact when they get there."

Acclimation in cattle handling is something Thomson believes is important, but becoming less common. He said that a sale barn owner told him recently that the cattle seem to be getting wilder every year, and Thomson believes it is due to the fact they are not handled the way they used to be – from the way we feed them to the way they are doctored. "We hook on and grab a bale and we get out just long enough to cut the bale wrap off and we unroll the bale," he described. "Or we have fence line feed bunks, we pull up in the tractor with the cab

and we don't get off. The cattle don't know there's a person in there, they just see the feed coming." And while he understands the ease and convenience of using dart guns, he also sees the effect they have on the cattle. "A guy pulls through the cattle gate and the cattle are like deer, they're gone," he described.

Heat stress is another factor that needs to be considered, from shade in the dry lots and mounds for the cattle to climb and get a breeze, to putting bedding down on the hot dirt for the cattle to lie on. "The first thing cattle do when it gets hot is they stand up," stated Thomson. "And a bare dirt floor on a 97-degree day is 140 degrees. The cattle won't lie there." He also cautions producers to be aware of night-time temperatures and if they are cooling enough for cattle to disseminate their heat loads.

He is also a firm believer in pre-conditioning calves. "Do these three things, early debudding and castration and pre-conditioning for increased animal welfare, decreased antibiotic use," he said. "Pick the social topic you want, pre-conditioning fits."

"At the end of the day, we've got to get veterinarians involved, we've got to have preventative medicine," Thomson concluded. "We have to have continuous improvement and we have to continue to lead by caring as much about others as we do ourselves."

The centerpiece of 2200 Avenue becomes a home

By Amy Feigley

When Randy Purdue was in the third grade, he would often daydream, just as most boys his age would do. While they dreamed of being a baseball player or fireman when they grew up, Randy dreamed of something different. His dream involved turning the beautiful stone barn on his parents, Melvin and Rose Ann's property, into a home when he was older. This is a daydream that became a reality for Randy and his wife, Katie.

In April 2006, Randy and Katie Purdue purchased the barn, which is situated east of Abilene on 2200 Avenue, along with the buildings that surround it. For a time, the family lived in a modular home

located on the property. Randy still held that dream that he had when he was a mere nine years old. Once the couple started talking about possibly moving a Wardcraft home onto their property, that is when the idea hit Randy, why not just turn the stone barn into their permanent home? Katie did not hold the same enthusiasm about this idea as her husband did, but eventually she jumped on the bandwagon and that is when this adventure began.

Back in the beginning in Ethel's time

In the early 1940s, Ethel Startzman had a vision for a beautiful barn, one like no other. The land that this future barn would call home had been in Ethel's family since 1919, when her father, Samuel B. Newland, a prominent stockman and farmer, purchased it from Albert Martin. After spending many years working on the farm, Ethel was finally able to call it her own in November 1952.

Ethel hired Swedish stonemason brothers Arthur and Herman Anderson. The brothers were responsible for building the foundry in Enterprise. Their work was impeccable and she knew with the brothers in charge of the building of the barn, she would have the best in the county. There was not a single drop of disappointment as far as Ethel was concerned. And, in the end, the best is what she had.

Beginning this project in

1943, during the middle of World War II, and putting the final touches on it two years later in 1945, Ethel's dream barn was now the centerpiece of 2200 Avenue. Stone for the barn came from the Peter Jackson farm east of Enterprise, as well as the Christian Hoffman Flour Mill in Enterprise. The mill, which was a monetary staple in the Enterprise community for years, was razed in 1943.

"The foundation and beams came from the foundation in Enterprise" happily exclaims Katie. The beams and stones are well over one hundred years old and they have definitely held up to their end of the bargain. The history that this barn holds is like no other. The stone is exposed at the end of the hallway in the living quarters.

At the completion of the barn, Ethel, along with her hired hand, Homer Stewart, built stairs on the inside south wall. These stairs were six to eight feet wide and worked perfect when Homer and Ethel would drive cattle on them. There was a landing about halfway up as well. When the flood of 1951 reared its ugly head, the water ran over the brick wall, also constructed by the Anderson brothers, but did no damage to the barn.

In 1971 Ethel passed away. Her daughter, Clea, became the next owner of



In 1943, the beautiful stone barn was starting to become a reality for Ethel Startzman. After two years, the completion of this centerpiece of 2200 Avenue was finalized. Randy and Katie Purdue recently turned it into their home. After seventy-four years, this barn still holds the same amount of love and history as it did in the beginning.



A stone marker on the farm pays tribute to Ethel Startzman, whose vision and attention to detail paved the way for the stone barn that is now called home by the Purdue family.

Insight

KANSAS FARM BUREAU
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Kids These Days

Kim Baldwin, McPherson County farmer

Kids today sometimes get the raw end of society. From time to time, I'll read an article focusing on what's wrong with them or overhear a conversation over coffee focusing on the problems with kids today.

Don't be fooled — there's still plenty of good out there!

I was recently privy to observing a group of teens band together and make a positive

difference in the world by helping their neighbors because of the action of one. It is yet another testament proving there are great kids in the world. It just so happens these great kids come from my community in rural Kansas.

It all began when Makayla Schroeder, an 18-year-old high school senior, recognized a need and made the conscious decision to take action. She had been following reports of devastation in Nebraska so

many are experiencing following the recent floods. She wanted to pack a bag, jump in her truck and go help, but knew she had to be in school. She has less than a month until she graduates, and final exams are right around the corner.

Instead, what this young lady from central Kansas did opened the eyes of our small community and surrounding areas, left an imprint on her peers and spurred people to action.

Since she couldn't pack her bags and go to Nebraska to help for an extended period of time, she decided to begin gathering items to assist flood victims here at home. She called her effort "Operation Feed the Critters." She got her school advisers

onboard, rallied her friends in the local FFA chapter, made phone calls, used social media and made things happen.

It began as a post on her FFA chapter's Facebook page letting the community know their ag shop was a collection point for Nebraska flood relief items. Her initial plan was to collect enough items to fill a pickup truck to deliver at a distribution point on a Saturday. However, a few days into "Operation Feed the Critters," Makayla realized she would need a bigger truck.

Bags of dog food, bales of hay, milk replacer, work gloves, pallets of range cubes and other items started streaming in.

Area businesses, FFA chapters and others through-

out south-central Kansas began collecting items from their staffs and communities and made trips to our small school to deliver their donations. Area stores even began offering discounts on items that were to be donated directly to the "Operation Feed the Critters" drive.

Soon, Makayla started making calls to secure a tractor-trailer.

After a week, she needed a second semi. So far, Makayla has helped send three truckloads of supplies to flood victims. All because of the initial action one Kansas teen.

Many people were involved in collecting items, loading the donations, spreading the word, and driving the semis. All of this happened

because of one individual who saw an immediate need and wanted to make a difference by helping her neighbors. Simply put, she acted.

The true beauty of it all was the ripple effect that took place when other teens jumped in to join their friend in serving others.

It's amazing to see what the power of one person's actions can do to make positive change. It's even more amazing when those good things are done by kids these days.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

General Mills to advance regenerative agriculture practices on one million acres of farmland by 2030

General Mills recently announced its commitment to advance regenerative agriculture practices on one million acres of farmland by 2030.

The company will partner with organic and conventional farmers, suppliers and trusted farm advisors in key growing regions to drive the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices. A contributor to climate change, it is estimated that the global food system accounts for roughly one-third of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and 70 percent of water consumption.

"We have been feeding families for over 150 years and we need a strong planet to enable us to feed families for the next 150 years," said Jeff Harmening, chairman and chief executive officer of General Mills. "We recognize that our biggest opportunity to drive positive impact for the

planet we all share lies within our own supply chain, and by being a catalyst to bring people together to drive broader adoption of regenerative agriculture practices."

Regenerative agriculture is a holistic method of farming deploying practices designed to protect and intentionally enhance natural resources and farming communities. These practices focus on pulling carbon from the air and storing it in the soil in addition to helping the land be more resilient to extreme weather events. General Mills will partner with key suppliers to drive adoption across key ingredients including oats, wheat, corn, dairy feed and sugar beets.

"Our first on-farm training and education academies will focus on North American growers where we source high-quality oats for Cheerios, Annie's, Cascadian Farm, Na-

ture Valley and Blue Buffalo," said Jon Nudi, president of North American Retail for General Mills.

General Mills is granting \$650,000 to non-profit organization Kiss the Ground to support farmer training and coaching through Soil Health Academies where growers will learn how to increase farm profitability, build resiliency into the land and decrease input costs using soil health practices.

"Investing in soil health and regenerating our soils has numerous benefits including water infiltration, reduced pest pressure, resilience to unpredictable weather, and reducing greenhouse gases," said Lauren Tucker, executive director of Kiss the Ground. "We have an opportunity to not just sustain our natural resources, but to restore them for generations to come. We can only advance

the adoption of these practices that benefit people and the planet if we partner with and support our farmers."

The announcement builds upon the company's commitment to improve soil health and to reduce its absolute GHG emissions by 28 percent across its full value chain by 2025. General Mills reported it is nearly halfway to that goal, with its GHG emissions footprint down 13 percent in 2018 compared to 2010.

General Mills also drives awareness of regenerative agriculture with consumers through its brands. For example, in 2018, Annie's launched two limited edition products with ingredients grown using regenerative practices, and this year will offer two additional regenerative agriculture products: Macaroni & Classic Cheddar and Shells & White Cheddar. Cascadian Farm, in partnership with The Land

Institute, is working to commercialize organic Kernza, a perennial grain whose ten-foot long roots are able to capture carbon and water, while preventing soil erosion. And EPIC Provisions is helping connect mission-based companies to progressive livestock producers using regenerative practices. Its Sweet & Spicy Sriracha Beef Bites product was the first consumer packaged product to feature the Savory Institute Land to Market Ecological Verification Outcome seal, which measures outcomes versus practices.

General Mills is leading the development of measurement science to connect regenerative agriculture practices, like no-till and cover cropping, to environmental and economic outcomes:

Healthy Soil: Carbon rich, biologically active soil plays an essential role in cleaning and storing water, supporting

biodiversity and regulating the climate.

Above-Ground Biodiversity: Diversity in crop varieties, grazing animals, wildlife and pollinators supports resilient ecosystems that can better withstand disease, pests and climate fluctuations.

Farmer Economic Resilience: Regenerative agriculture practices can strengthen whole farm profitability and resilience over time.

Healthy soil is the foundation for regenerative agriculture and since 2015, the company has invested more than \$4 million to advance soil health initiatives. Previous and ongoing examples of General Mills' work include:

Development of The Soil Health Roadmap in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, which outlines key steps to achieve widespread adoption of soil health systems on more than 50 percent of U.S. cropland by 2025. These efforts could deliver \$50 billion in societal benefits annually.

Development of a Regenerative Agriculture Self-Assessment tool to help farmers understand how their practices influence soil health, biodiversity and economic resilience.

A strategic sourcing agreement with Gunsmoke Farms LLC to convert 34,000 acres of conventional farmland in South Dakota to certified organic acreage, using regenerative agriculture practices, by 2020.

"We need companies like General Mills who have the scale and commitment to create sustainable agricultural systems," said Larry Clemens, North America Region Agriculture Director for The Nature Conservancy. "Efforts to improve soil health and enrich biodiversity are critical to addressing climate change and other environmental challenges."



We have all heard the saying, "You can't judge a book by its cover." This morning I learned that you can't judge a day by its morning. Don't get me wrong, I often judge a day by how the first couple of hours go. You know, run out of coffee, pickup won't start, cows are out, it's a bad morning. At least in my world, how the day starts, dictates just how good the day is going to be. Most of the time.

This morning started on an okay note. I was a little stiff, a little sore and my head was plugged up, but two cups of coffee and things seemed alright. I backed the UTV out of the garage and got out to shut the door. As soon as I exited the driver's seat, I remembered I had not set the parking brake. I watched the Kubota roll down the hill, missing a tree by a fraction of an inch and come to a stop. In retrospect that might have been a sign that the day would not be all that bad.

I got to the barn and immediately started looking for Killer, the cow dog. Yes, the same Killer that pulled the scam on me a month ago. Yesterday it had dawned on me half way through the day that I had not seen him. That is a bad sign for a fourteen-year-old dog. I looked high and low for him. I looked in every pickup seat, nook and cranny, I opened doors and looked under machinery and he was nowhere to be found. I went out the next morning hoping to see his wagging tail, but still no sign of Killer. Losing your dog is the sign of a very bad day.

Next, I fed the sheep. As I do many days I watched as the ewes ate and the lambs played. They run and jump, and it is quite entertaining, except for this morning. One of the lambs suddenly fell over, gasping for air and convulsing. I jumped the fence, carried it to the barn and administered the only drugs I could think might help. The lamb continued to get worse and I made it as comfortable as I could and went on about chores. Later I looked over the fence and pronounced its still body dead.

There was no time for mourning because I had an appointment to get the bulls in for their annual checkup. It would be a piece of cake; they were always eager for their grain and would probably load in the trailer with just a bucket. When I got to the pen, one bull

was waiting just like I had thought, but the other was on the wrong side of the electric fence. Not only was he on the wrong side but he was also highly agitated about his situation in life.

I loaded the bull who was behaving and started after the bull who was wayward. Immediately he let me know that he was in no mood for my trying to point out the error in his ways. I quickly switched to Plan B. He wasn't exactly out but he wasn't exactly where I wanted him. We decided to let him cool off and left grain in the loading pen. I left for the vet's office ten minutes late. The bull I had captured turned out good for the season. On the way back home, I checked on the bull who did not cooperate, only to find out that he had been in, eaten the grain and back out.

I went on and put the good bull out with his cows and waited for Ike to come home. While I waited, I checked the last place on the entire farmstead I hadn't looked for Killer. We had not been in the lambing barn for a couple of weeks and I had overlooked it. I opened the door and immediately Killer zipped out into freedom. I am not sure how he got there, and he wasn't telling.

Next, I went to dispose of my dead lamb, only there was no dead lamb. I searched the pen to find him on the other side, droopy, weak but much more alive than I had pronounced him earlier that morning. I must admit that I was stunned, flabbergasted and amazed. Two animals that I had thought were gone, right there with me.

Ike came home and we tried the bull again with similar results. We decided to move on to the three pairs I had left to catch from one of the winter pastures. I had not been able to find one of the calves for a couple of days and presumed it dead, too. To make a semi-long story short, after some coaxing and much cussing the cows and all three calves were caught and hauled home.

What started out as a bad day ended on a good note. Not often do you have a day when three animals make a miraculous return to the living. More important was the near run-in with the bull and the fact that I was still upright and mobile. I decided that fact would make tomorrow morning much better.

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Grain industry awards more than \$25,000 in scholarships

Kansas Grain and Feed Association's (KGFA) scholarship committee met in Wichita at the association's 123rd Annual Meeting in early April and awarded more than \$25,000 in scholarships to Kansas high school graduating seniors for the 2019-20 academic year.

The scholarship committee, comprised of KGFA's membership, received 255 applications and awarded 19 students scholarships to assist in advancing their academic endeavors.

"We are very proud of the KGFA scholarship program that has helped so many people throughout the state for so many years," KGFA's

president and CEO Ron Seiber said. "The association, its board and members take tremendous pride each spring investing in students and helping them pursue their education."

The winners of 2019-20 KGFA scholarships are listed below with their hometown.

Dub and Inez Johnson

Memorial Scholarship - \$500 Total
 Emma McClure - Hugoton
 KGFA Scholarships - \$1,000 Total
 Nickolas Davenport - Te-scott
 Gabriel Elliott - Asbury, Mo.
 Lauren Simmons - Green-

leaf
 Casen Steere - Alta Vista
 KGFA Scholarships - \$1,500 Total
 Taylor Bruna - Barnes
 Gatlin Clawson - Meade
 ReAnna Dunlap - Kiowa
 Abby Flickner - Kingman
 Shayla Heimann - Bailey-ville
 Jake Herl - Overland Park

Dominic Jirak - Udall
 Carlie Jones - Rolla
 Kade McGinn - Sedgwick
 Makenna Mettlen - Colby
 Blake Penka - Great Bend
 Rylee Schrock - Brookville
 Gentry Shapland - Digh-ton
 Kristopher Wagner - Sa-tanta

USDA launches Ace the Waste!

Food waste is a problem everyone can tackle, including our nation's youth. As part of Winning on Reducing Food Waste Month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is launching Ace the Waste! A student competition for food waste reduction ideas. This first-ever competition calls on students to come up with creative solutions to reduce food loss and waste in the United States.

submit proposals on reducing food loss and waste anywhere along the supply chain, from the farm to the dinner table and beyond. Topic ideas for the proposal include:

Preventing food waste - such as ideas to prolong the storage life of food; improve efficiencies in the processing of food and its distribution; and create new products from unharvested or unsold crops (like so-called "ugly fruit and vegetables") or from food processing by-products.

keep them out of landfills - such as ideas to connect food waste generators with recyclers and to create animal feed, compost, and energy.

Raising awareness - such as ideas about how to make students more aware about the amount of food being wasted and let them know how to reduce it.

Students may submit one to two page proposals or one to two minute videos. Proposals will be judged on impact potential; originality and creativity; clarity of expression; and adherence/appropriateness to theme. Judges will include representatives from USDA, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Food and Drug Admin-

food waste contest for students

competition today.

About the Winning on Reducing Food Waste Initiative

The Winning on Reducing Food Waste Initiative is a collaborative effort among USDA, EPA, and FDA to affirm their shared commitment to work towards the national goal of reducing food loss and waste by 50 percent by 2030. The agencies agree to coordinate food loss and waste actions such as: education and outreach, research, community investments, vol-

untary programs, public-private partnerships, tool development, technical assistance, event participation, and policy discussion on the impacts and importance of reducing food loss and waste.

During Winning on Reducing Food Waste Month and beyond, join the conversation on social media with the #NoWastedFood hashtag. Learn more about USDA, EPA, and FDA programs and resources to reduce food loss and waste.

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The problem of food waste affects everyone. More than one third of food in the U.S. is lost or wasted. This amounts to 133 billion pounds, or \$161 billion worth of food each year. Food is the single largest type of waste in landfills. Students age 11 to 18 are encouraged to

Recovering wholesome, excess food to feed people - such as innovative approaches for getting excess food to people who need it and measuring the value of food donations.

Recycling food scraps to

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Annual Flint Hills Festival to be held May 11 in Manhattan

The Flint Hills Discovery Center (FHDC) will host its annual Flint Hills Festival on Saturday, May 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Experience the culture and beauty of the Flint Hills come to life during this family-friendly event.

May 12.

Regular admission rates apply: \$9 for adults (18-64 years old), \$7 for military, students, educators, or seniors, \$4 for youth (2-16 years old), free for children under two years old. FHDC members are always free.

for pre-sale online starting April 17.

To learn more about the Flint Hills Festival at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, visit www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/flinthillsfestival, call 785-587-2726 or visit 315 S. 3rd St. in Manhattan.

Centerpiece of 2200 Avenue

the barn. In 1986, Cleta's daughter, Carolyn, acquired the property. She sold it in 1987 to Rick and Charlotte Haynes, who had plans about turning it into a bed and breakfast, but instead they sold it in August 1990 to Melvin and Rose Ann Purdue. For sixty-eight years, the property was in the Newland/Startzman family. The Purdues are hoping to pass that number.

When Randy and Katie made the decision to turn the barn into their home, they had a deadline of one year. Katie wanted to be moved in before her birthday in August. Randy, who also held a full-time job, made that promise to his wife, and he would spend evenings and weekends working on the couple's dream home.

"The roof was in shambles and we had to hire it to be re-done" states Katie. Except for that and some of the HVAC and drywall work, Randy, along with friends, did all of the work himself. This saved so much money for the young couple. Katie beamingly notes that Randy did make this barn very homey, which is one of the things she truly loves about it. "When there is a storm, you would never know. The stone is really efficient and is a great sound buffer" dictates Katie. The stone also helps with the heating and air conditioning, keeping the temperature where it should be during the different seasons.

Below the living quarters is where Randy can be found tinkering in his shop. There are stalls that can be used for the Purdues' horses if needed. The stalls are the original dairy stalls. A steel storm shelter is built into the foundation just in case a Kansas storm makes an appearance. A washroom and garage round out this part of the barn.

A white barn, which houses the horses, along with a silo, complete the original buildings that came with the purchase of the property. A Quonset hut was once situated on the property, but time took its toll and the building is no longer there. The family did manage to recycle some of the tin from the roof, though.

And, one of the main attractions, next in line to the stone barn, is the Ethel Startzman 1944 stone that still makes its home on the property. "She is the reason we are able to live in this piece of history" notes Katie. Seventy-four years later and the true beauty of this barn is still evident.

Many in the area have their own memories of this centerpiece on 2200 Avenue. Whether they talk about watching it be built in 1943, or take a leisurely Sunday drive past in now, the love that Ethel, and now Randy and Katie and their two children, have for this beautiful piece of history is very much still alive and will be for years to come.

Celebrate with local artisans, live entertainment, a beer and wine tasting tent, children's activities and food trucks. Activities include a bounce house, obstacle course, face painting, climbing wall, archery and so much more! This event will take place at the FHDC and on the adjoining Blue Earth Plaza.

Tickets will be available

Tickets will be available

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

Dorothy Holt, Topeka, Wins Weekly Grass & Grain Recipe Contest & Prize
 Winner Dorothy Holt, Topeka: "This recipe came from the first Taste of Home cooking school in Topeka and has been a favorite at all family dinners. Very good!" Make it in a clear glass bowl or trifle dish to show off its fabulous colors.

STRAWBERRY PEACH TRIFLE
 3 cups cold fat-free milk
 (2) 1-ounce packages instant sugar-free white chocolate pudding mix
 14-ounce prepared angel food cake, cut into 1-inch cubes
 3 cups sliced fresh strawberries
 2 cups fresh or frozen sliced unsweetened peaches
 8-ounce carton reduced-fat frozen whipped topping, thawed
 Additional sliced fresh strawberries

In a mixing bowl combine milk and pudding mixes. Beat on low speed for 2 minutes. Place a third of the cake cubes in a trifle bowl or 3 1/2-quart glass serving bowl. Top with a third of the pudding, 1 cup strawberries, 1 cup peaches and a third of the whipped topping. Layer a third of the cake, a third of the pudding, 1 cup strawberries and a third of the whipped topping. Top with remaining cake, pudding, strawberries, peaches and whipped topping. Garnish with additional sliced strawberries. Yield: 14 servings.

Nutritional Analysis: One serving (1 cup) equals 168 calories, 2 g fat (2 g saturated fat), 1 mg cholesterol, 294 mg sodium, 32 g carbohydrates, 1 g fiber, 4 g protein.
 Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 fruit, 1 starch.

LARGE RETIREMENT AUCTION
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Send Your Recipes Today!

The winner each week is selected from the recipes printed. Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-you.

1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions are clear. 2. Be sure your name, address and phone number are on the entry. Please include a street address with your recipe entries. A post office box number is not sufficient for prize delivery. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

3. Send it to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505.
 OR e-mail at: auctions@agpress.com

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
BUTTER PECAN SYRUP
 1 cup dark brown sugar
 5 teaspoons cornstarch
 Dash salt
 1 cup water
 1/3 cup butter, cubed
 3/4 cup chopped pecans
 1 teaspoon vanilla

In a slow cooker mix brown sugar, cornstarch and salt. Whisk in the water. Cover and cook on high until thickened and bubbly 3 to 3 1/2 hours, stirring every 30 minutes. Whisk in butter until melted. Stir in pecans and vanilla. Good with ice cream, pancakes, waffles.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
HONEY GLAZED HAM
 1 boneless fully cooked ham (4 pounds)
 1 1/2 cups ginger ale
 1/4 cup honey
 1/2 teaspoon ground mustard
 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Cut ham in half and place in a 5-quart slow-cooker. Pour ginger ale over ham. Cover and cook on low for 4-5 hours or until heated through. Combine the honey, mustard, cloves and cinnamon. Stir until smooth. Spread over ham and cook 30 minutes longer.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
CITRUS PEACH CARROTS
 1 pound baby carrots
 2 tablespoons water
 1/4 cup peach preserves
 2 tablespoons butter
 1 teaspoon orange juice
 1/4 teaspoon grated lemon zest
 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Place carrots and water in a microwave-safe bowl. Cover and cook on high 6-8 minutes or until done crisp. Drain. In another microwave bowl cook preserves, butter, juice, zest and pepper on high until butter is melted. Pour over carrots.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
BREAKFAST IN A PAN
 8-ounce tube crescent rolls
 2 cups cubed cooked ham
 2 cups frozen shredded hash browns, thawed
 5 eggs
 1/2 cup milk
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Preheat oven 350 degrees. Unroll crescent roll dough into one long rectangle; press perforations to seal. Press onto bottom of a greased 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Top with ham and potatoes. In a large

ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 • 10:00 AM
 AUCTION LOCATION: 709 Washington Street — CLYDE, KS 66938
 Right on the main road through Clyde ... K-9 Highway

HOUSEHOLD, FURNITURE, Collector Wall Plates, CROCKS, COLLECTIBLES, 8N Ford Tractor (excellent shape), TOOLS
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FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 — 10:00 AM
 (Tractors will sell at Noon)

AUCTION LOCATION: 245 Yarrow Street — BURNS, KANSAS

Property of STAN & KAREN SANER
 Located 1/2 mi. North of Burns, KS from the intersection of Hwy 77 & 20th St, West on 20th St for 1.4 mi. to Yarrow Rd, turn North & continue for 1/2 mi. to auction site on West side of the road.

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The Store:
 - 104 E Barton Rd., Leonardville. KS -

Copies are also available at these businesses:

Bluestem Farm & Ranch: - 2611 W. Hwy 50, Emporia. KS -
Pioneer Farm & Ranch: - 427 NE 14th Abilene. KS -

Or Stop by the Grass & Grain Office:
 - 1531 Yuma St., Manhattan. KS -
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm

bowl whisk eggs, milk, pepper and salt until blended then pour over potatoes. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake until set and cheese is melted, 25-30 minutes.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
CHEESY BAKED ASPARAGUS
 2 tablespoons butter
 1 small onion, chopped
 2 tablespoons flour
 1 1/2 cups milk
 1 1/2 cups shredded 5-cheese blend
 2 pounds fresh asparagus spears, trimmed, blanched & cut into 2 1/2-inch lengths

Heat oven to 425 degrees. Melt butter in saucepan on medium heat. Add onion and cook and stir 3-5 minutes until crisp-tender. Whisk in flour and cook 2 minutes. Whisk in milk and cook 3-5 minutes until thick. Add cheese and cook 1 minute until melted. Add asparagus; mix lightly. Spoon into 1 1/2-quart casserole. Bake 15 minutes or until heated through and lightly brown.

Lydia Miller, Westphalia: "Serve with a dip of hot Velveeta and salsa. You could substitute in ground white turkey for chicken."
MEXICAN CHICKEN MEATBALLS
 1/2 cup egg substitute
 4-ounce can chopped green chiles
 1 cup crushed Corn Flakes
 1 cup (4 ounces) Mexican cheese blend, reduced-fat
 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
 1-pound package ground chicken
 Salsa, optional

In a large bowl combine egg substitute, green chiles, Corn Flakes, cheese, seasoned salt and pepper. Crumble chicken over mixture and mix well. Shape in 1-inch balls. Place on baking sheets coated with cooking spray. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 to 15 minutes or until golden brown, turning occasionally. Yield: 5 dozen.


1 meatball = 21 calories without salsa.

In Observance Of Cinco de Mayo A Time-Saving Taco Dinner

(Family Features) — Make dinner a cinch with these Slow Cooker Tacos. Seasoned with chili powder and ground cumin then slow-cooked for four hours with picante sauce, the meat can be shredded and served alongside your family's favorite toppings for a stress-free meal.

Find more meal ideas at <http://www.culinary.net>.

Slow Cooked Shredded Chicken Tacos



1 1/2 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
 1 teaspoon chili powder
 2 teaspoons ground cumin
 16-ounce jar Pace Chunky Salsa or Pace Picante Sauce-Medium
 (12) 6-inch flour tortillas, warmed

Season chicken with chili powder and cumin. Place chicken into 6-quart slow cooker. Pour salsa over chicken. Cover and cook on HIGH for 4 hours or until chicken is fork-tender. Remove chicken to work surface. Using 2 forks, shred chicken. Serve chicken in tortillas. Top with favorite toppings.

Recipe courtesy of Campbell's Kitchen.

AUCTION
SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019 — 10:30 AM
 12202 S. Fairlawn Rd. — CARBONDALE, KANSAS
 (From Carbondale, KS 1 1/2 mi. North on Topeka Ave., 2 1/2 mi. West 125th, 1/2 North on Fairlawn Rd.)

9 Guns selling at 10:30: 2016 Chevy Equinox LT, 46,000 mi.; 2013 Forest River 18' Salem Cruise Lite Travel Trailer; Cub Cadet 104 riding mower; Coleman Powermate generator; Sleep Number Qu. Classic Series 2; GE refrigerator, 1 yr. old; Huskee 28T portable log splitter; 7+ retro furniture pieces; RR memorabilia; Paul Revere 17 pc. berry bowl set; vintage Singer pinking machine; selections of hand & shop tools, rugs, furniture, vintage books, Oriental decor, MUCH, MUCH MORE!

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AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 — 9:00 AM
 Offering for sale at Public Auction, located at 1002 Commerce Dr., (Industrial Park) — HESSTON, KS

PICKUP, LAWN MOWERS & EQUIPMENT
 2005 Dodge 1500 crew cab pickup, 205K; Excel Hustler mowers including: 3 - Super Z 60" Hyperdrive; 3 - Super S 52"; 2 - Raptor SD 60"; Raptor 42"; Dash 42"; 37" Hydro walk behind; Super Z 60" with bagger; 90"x107" pickup flatbed; Castlegarden mower; 2 John Deere Pro Gator UTV; John Deere X300 garden tractor; parts picker forklift.

MOWER & UTV RELATED ITEMS & MISC.
 18 - Briggs & Stratton 21R7 10.5 hp engines; 6 - Super Z 3 Bag catchers; grass Catchers; bag vac; 10 hp air compressor; hydraulic components; transmissions; tires; seats; lift tables; shop tables; storage bins; mower parts; file cabinets; Drill Press 3hp; Corrugated metal building panels & more.

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Prepare Yourself for Severe Weather

Would you be prepared to take action if your property was hit by a tornado, overcome by a flood or destroyed by a fire? Many people have installed smoke detectors, fire alarms, and dead bolt locks in their homes and stocked extra food in the pantry, but there is more to preparing. To be prepared, you should also have a household inventory, check your insurance coverage, and prepare a grab-and-go box. Read on to learn more.

A household inventory is an itemized list of the contents of your home, including basement, attic, and garage. It could also include a list of the contents of storage areas, such as sheds or other small buildings on your property. If you have a rented storage unit off-site, consider completing an inventory for that, as well. An accurate inventory is a necessity whether you are a homeowner or a renter.

The purpose of insurance is to cover major losses. Review your insurance coverage at least annually. You may want to conduct a face-to-face review with your insurance agent every other year. Make sure you have adequate coverage on your home, vehicles, and possessions. If at all possible, set aside emergency funds to cover the policy deductibles. Keep the name of the agent(s) and policy number in your grab and go box. Consider purchasing the other types of insurance, such as disability and/or life insurance for the wage earner.

If you had only a few moments to evacuate your home, would you have access to the cash, banking services and the personal identification needed to conduct your day-to-day financial life? Consider keeping the following items in a secure place in your home, in a waterproof, fireproof container that can be taken with you at a moment's notice: Identification and other key documents that may be needed to restore your financial records, including copies of your driver's license, passports, social security cards insurance cards, policies, or other proof of insurance coverage.

- Here is a list of Grab-and-Go Box items:
- Identification and other key documents that may be needed to restore your financial records, including copies of your driver's license, passports, social security cards
 - Insurance cards, policies, or other proof of insurance coverage
 - Household inventory
 - Immunization records
 - Bank account numbers, cash
 - Copies (front and back) of ATM, debit, and credit cards
 - Phone numbers and account information for all financial service and insurance providers
 - Important telephone numbers (family members, doctors, veterinarians)
 - Names and prescription numbers for medications
 - Safe deposit box key
 - Pocket notebook and pen or pencil

If the following items are not kept in a safe deposit box, these should also be kept in your grab-and-go box. It is a good idea to make copies of safe deposit box contents in case the originals are damaged by water.

- Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)
- Will, contracts, deeds, stocks, and bonds
- Titles to vehicles

The full publication of taking steps ahead of disaster at: <https://bit.ly/2vck8EY>

For additional information, contact the Wildcat Extension District, Crawford County, 620-724-8233, Labette County, 620-784-5337, Montgomery County, 620-331-2690.

For more information, contact Kylie Ludwig, Entrepreneurship and Financial Management Agent, ludwig@ksu.edu or (620)784-5337.



Home and Away

A Fungi Adventure

By Lou Ann Thomas

Spring has fully sprung and it's time for planting this year's crops, spring cleaning and hunting for mushrooms. At least that's what I hear. Personally the only mushroom hunting I usually do is in the produce aisle of the grocery store.

But this year, I decided I wanted to learn more about this hunting of morels that seem to make people a little crazed this time of year. My friend, Jeffrey, is an avid morel hunter so when he invited me to go along with him, I eagerly accepted.

Jeffrey explained that morel hunting required an old pair of shoes and a plastic bag, which gave me confidence that this was an activity at which I might excel, because I already had old shoes and a plastic bag full of plastic bags. I was ready!

We had just begun our trek through the woods when Jeffrey mentioned we should have brought Boone to

scare away the snakes. This meant that with every step I was now more intent on looking for snakes than for mushrooms. A few minutes later Jeffery mentioned how bad the ticks were this year and added a warning to keep my eye out for them. I can only concentrate on so many things at once, and with looking for snakes, watching out for ticks and sweating fear, the mushrooms were completely pushed out of my full head.

Jeffrey kept asking if I was looking and I would honestly answer, "yes". I was looking; it was just that I was no longer looking for morels. We hadn't gone much further into the woods when Jeffrey, now known to me as Doctor Doom, pointed out some poison ivy and offered one more warning. I added it to my list and began to sweat more profusely.

The tasty morel mushrooms, which encourage this kind of dangerous activity in otherwise sane people, are defined by Webster's Dictionary as "any of several large pitted edible fungi". For true morel hunters they are defined simply as "good eatin'". Morel hunters are defined as a unique breed of woods-walking, tick-infested, poison ivy itching, snake fearless people who enjoy spending hours looking for even a hand full of these small sponge-like fungi.

One of the most important things I learned

on my first mushroom hunting adventure is that successful morel hunters rarely reveal the location of a good find. If a true hunter tells you where they find morels, don't believe them, because they keep the good places to themselves. And that's one of the biggest issues I have with morel hunting - there is too much hunting and not enough finding, without more finding, there's not enough eating, and eating is my favorite part of morel hunting.

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION
THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019 — 7:00 PM
 Auction will be held at the Trinity United Methodist Church Basement 8th & Lincoln in CONCORDIA, KANSAS
Legal Description: NW ¼ 9-5-3 Cloud Co. Kansas
 The farm is located 1 ½ miles North of John Deere on Highway 81 North of Concordia, Ks. (81 Highway & Wagon Road).
 The farm is 148.6 acres with 109.9 cropland and 38.7 trees. The bases are Wheat 25.12 acres 46 bu yield, Corn 27.48 acres 110 bu yield, Soybeans 14.91 acres 34 bu yield for a total base of 109.9 acres. The farm is enrolled in ARC/PLC. Conservation system is being applied. The farm is located on the West side of Highway 81 with a gravel road along the North and West sides.
 Seller will pay 2018 and all prior year's taxes. Purchaser will pay 2019 taxes. 2018 taxes were \$2,080.00.
Possession: The farm has a lease that runs out on August 1, 2020. Purchaser will receive the cash rent on the farm for 2019 & 2020. The rent is \$125.00 per acre on 107 acres. The rent is paid 1 st half on August 1 the 2nd half on Feb. 1.
Terms: 10% of purchase price as down payment day of auction, the balance will be due upon closing on or before June 16, 2019. Down payment will be escrowed with Scott Condray Attorney.. Escrow fees will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser. Title insurance will be used, the cost will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser.
 Thummel Real Estate & Auction LLC is acting as seller agent. All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material.
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LAND AUCTION
 160 acres +/-
 Geary County, Kansas
 Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 at 7:00 pm
 Auction will be held on site
 4768 K-157 Hwy, Junction City, KS
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE ¼ of Section 27, Township 13 South, Range 5 East, Geary County, KS.
LOCATION: From Junction City, travel south approx 7.5 miles. Property is located on northwest corner at intersection of Hwy 77 & Hwy 157.
DESCRIPTION: 160 acres +/- with 100 acres +/- of pasture and remaining balance in brome, hay meadow, wildlife habitat and pond. Opportunity to build! Property is accessible by paved roadways on two sides and borders Geary State Fishing Lake with walk-in hunting permission. Property includes a 40 x 60 insulated metal building and many additional features.
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AUCTION
SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019 — 9:30 AM
 310 State Lake Road — BALDWIN CITY, KANSAS
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Paul has sold his property & will sell the following to the highest bidder!
TRUCK, LAWN EQUIPMENT
 1992 Chevrolet 1500 ext. cab truck Silverado package, 5.7L, V8, 2WD, running boards, w/ Leer camper topper, One Owner, Bought New! ONLY 91K, Always Inside/Very Nice!; Snapper 355Z Zero Turn Riding Mower 54" deck, 26 hp.; John Deere Scotts Automatic Lawn Tractor w/54" deck; Craftsman 6 hp./17" rear-tine tiller; Craftsman 26" elec. start Snow Blower; Fimco 30 gal. 12V lawn sprayer w/6' boom (5 nozzles covering 100 in.) & hand wand/hose, Lawn Dump trailer; Brinly spreader; Earthquake chipper/shredder 250cc; Lawn Boy push mower; Craftsman Weed-Eater & blower/vac; Craftsman 2 drawer work bench; Craftsman chainsaw/floor jack/ jack stands/hand wrenches/etc.; bench grinder; Workmate; power & hand tools of all sorts; Werner 32' ext. alum. ladder; aluminum ladders; Martin Houses; 50+ steel fence posts; yard art/flower pots; wood limb/firewood box; lawn/garden supplies; metal shelves; Remington Wingmaster 870 12 ga. shotgun; Crosman Model 338 Auto BB/Co2; Daisy Model 111 BB Gun.
COLLECTIBLES, HOUSEHOLD & MISC.
 Vintage Oak drop-front desk; wooden Wagon Wheel set w/ axle (yard art); iron bed; single trees; cream can; cast-iron kettle/pot; Dietz Little Wizard Lantern; Little Star Cherry Pitter; oil lamps; cedar chest; trunk; Schlitz lighter; Emerson console stereo; records; Salt/Pepper Collection (Coke, MM, John Deere, Hummel, etc.); The Hummel Spice Jar Collection; Hummel plates; Howard Miller mantel clock; Singer Treadle Sewing Machine; Vintage Singer electric sewing machine; Rogers Stainless 12 place setting flatware set; Winfield China California set of 6 dish set; glassware; cookbooks of all kinds; Britannica Encyclopedia set; dining room set table w/matching chairs & china hutch; Broyhill full Oak bedroom suite; Broyhill chest & dresser; Maytag Centennial Commercial matching washer/dryer set; Westinghouse refrigerator; Kenmore frostless upright freezer; oak entry table & parlor tables; end tables; couches; TVs; oak desk; Kenmore Progressive vacuum; BBQ grill; small kitchen appliances; kitchen décor; canning supplies; puzzles/games; holiday décor; **QUILTING Supplies:** NM-E23 56/96 quilting frame (NIB), King/Queen Quilting Frames, quilts, material, supplies; linens; afghans; craft items; Jewelry: #9255 drafting set; Jewelry: Cultured/Fresh Water Pearls, 14K Diamond Cocktail Ring, 10K Opal Ring, Avon, Bulova 14K & Tissot 10K Ladies Watches; box lot items; **Numerous items too many to mention!**
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AG TECHNOLOGY EDITION

New Kansas business providing custom solutions for no-till farmers

Heartland Implement Solutions of Beloit offers custom solutions to keep equipment working longer. "Air seeders and no-till drills are no small investment. Trying to make them last is our first goal," explained owner Dan Marciniak.

Rebuilding air seeders across Kansas, and neighboring states is how Marciniak got his start. "I was lucky to join one of the first outfits to offer rebuilds. Slower periods necessitated inventiveness." That's how rebuilding led to devising ways to maintain precision and prevent wear, leading to developing wear parts and lubrication systems.

"I ultimately started my own business. Meeting the



Dan Marciniak is shown with his daughters Mary Clare, Therésè, and Elzbieta as they help him at the no-till conference Farming Evolution, Holyoke, Colo.

needs of this group of farmers, however, has not changed. Improving the longevity and precision of their equipment has only led to a passion for helping them realize the full potential of No-Till."

This passion has led Heartland Implement Solutions to bring a wider array of solutions to help make the most of no-till equipment. "That is where we go forward, to help those same pieces of equipment be the best they can be." To do this H.I.S. provides zone control, industry leading blockage sensors, and down pressure systems.

The future is what excites Marciniak the most. "I care about these farmers, not just

the equipment that keeps both them and I in business. Already they are an extraordinary bunch, breaking with tradition. That's half the story. The other half is that most are only halfway there. The first half holds back the dust, the second half of the transition reaps a golden future." That transition requires rugged no-till equipment. It also requires commitment from a network of service providers. That's where Marciniak says Heartland Implement Solutions comes in.

To find out more you can reach Dan Marciniak at 785-534-3433 or at www.HeartlandImplementSolutions.com.

Tech toolshed tackles data complexity

On-farm technologies can be as complex as they are essential, but new guidance

from the soy checkoff aims to help farmers maximize their data to make the best man-

agement decisions.

The soy checkoff's Tech Toolshed, in partnership with five universities, released a new installment of free resources to help farmers incorporate digital and precision agricultural systems into their farm management strategy.

"The Tech Toolshed can help you improve your decision-making, whether you don't know where to start with a new technology or you don't feel like you're using it most effectively," said Tom Oswald, United Soybean Board director and farmer from Cleghorn, Iowa.

The newest release focuses on data literacy and offers insights and tips tailored

for soybean farmers, to help them better understand the agricultural data landscape, evolving agricultural technologies and data analytics, among other features.

"The inspiration and purpose behind the data literacy project is to develop educational material for soybean farmers and trusted advisors that support farmers in the agricultural data space," said Dr. John Fulton, associate professor in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering at The Ohio State University.

The six pillars of data literacy outlined in the Tech Toolshed's resources are:

- Fundamentals — How to

use on-farm data to maximize profit opportunities.

- Integrity — How to avoid errors during data collection or processing that may affect results and the decision-making process.

- Management — How to capture, organize and archive accurate farm data for decision-making.

- Sources — How to identify useful data sources to help in decision making.

- Utilization — How to use ag data on your farm to reduce risk, maximize profits and reduce inputs.

- Legal Aspects of Data — How to handle legal responsibilities and rights with farm data.

The Tech Toolshed is an unbiased information source developed by the United Soybean Board to help soybean farmers maximize existing technology, integrate new technology and make use of the vast quantity of data available. The five land-grant universities that collaborated on this project included The Ohio State University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Iowa State University, Purdue University and Kansas State University.

For more information on Tech Toolshed, visit www.unitedsoybean.org/techtoolshed/ or follow Tech Toolshed on Twitter @TechToolshed.

K-Coe Isom announces program for food & ag entrepreneurs

K-Coe Isom, a national food and ag consulting and accounting firm, has announced

a new program intended to provide entrepreneurs with a more visible platform for their food & ag innovations. The unique Spark program utilizes the expertise of K-Coe Isom's food & ag consultants to identify and promote clever inno-

ventions and young companies that have the proven potential to change and advance food and agriculture operations.

"The foundation for the Spark program was conceived from the amount of requests we were receiving from start-

ups that were approaching us to partner with them to help bring their products or services to market," says Kathleen Walton, partner and chairwoman of the board for K-Coe Isom.

"As a leading food and ag firm, our ability to positively shape the future and strengthen the position of food and ag companies is what matters most to us. By creating a program that can connect these innovative ideas and companies with our firm's dynamic resources, clients, and industry leadership, our ultimate goal is to progressively transform America's oldest and most important industry — a win-win for everyone."

Companies who have a new, market-ready product or service can learn more and apply for the program at www.kcoe.com/spark. Applications will be reviewed and companies will go through a comprehensive due diligence process to be accepted. Spark program members will receive access to the expertise of food and ag advisors, brand promotion, and strategic opportunities to accelerate their company.

UPCOMING MARION COUNTY LAND AUCTION

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019 — 6:00 PM

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SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019

TIME: Personal Property 10:00 AM • Real Estate sells at 11:00 AM

AUCTION LOCATION: Onsite (303 E. 6th St.) — WAMEGO, KS

DESCRIPTION: Charming 2 bedroom/1 bath home in Wamego. The home provides you in-town living with a little extra breathing room as the lot it sits on backs up to a small park and baseball complex.

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Ceres Imaging to deliver advanced imagery to the Climate FieldView™ digital ag platform

Ceres Imaging, an aerial spectral imagery and analytics company that improves decision making by providing farmers a comprehensive view of their farm, has announced an expanded platform partnership agreement with The Climate Corporation (Climate), a subsidiary of Bayer, to further integrate the Ceres aerial imaging solution with the Climate FieldView™ platform, the industry's leading digital agriculture platform.

"The collaboration be-

tween Climate FieldView and Ceres is a leap forward for agriculture," said Ash Madgavkar, founder and CEO of Ceres Imaging. "The availability of advanced high-resolution imagery from Ceres, coupled with powerful data analytics and field-level insights in the FieldView platform, will help empower more farmers to make proactive – not reactive – decisions when it comes to the health of their crops."

The agreement allows

shared farmer customers to access accurate, scientifically validated imagery from Ceres Imaging in their FieldView account, providing the ability for farmers to detect water, fertilizer, pest and disease issues weeks before the naked eye can see. Ceres' scientific grade thermal imagery and proprietary artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities deliver the agricultural market's most advanced imaging solution. Ceres Imaging provides additional features and func-

tionality to Climate FieldView users, including the ability to automatically detect and rank issues in their fields or to create in-season variable rate application zones.

"Access to data-driven, digital tools in FieldView, including the availability of high-quality imagery delivered through Ceres, is helping thousands of farmers and their agronomic partners identify and address potential issues in the field before yield is impacted," said Mark Young,

chief technology officer for The Climate Corporation. "This expanded partnership with Ceres will deliver valuable, field-level insights to help farmers improve their productivity."

The integration between Ceres Imaging and Climate FieldView is live and available immediately from Ceres. To launch the product, Ceres is offering a sales promotion in the form of \$500 off Ceres Imaging's service for any new customers through December

31, 2019. Customer farms must be located in Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Texas. At a minimum, customers must sign up for the Basic Package of Ceres services on not less than 360 acres by May 15, 2019, to be eligible for the promotion. Customers may not have had prior contact with Ceres Imaging prior to April 1, 2019. For further information, contact climate@ceresimaging.net.

Cow water beds make for sweet dreams and more milk

Water beds for cows improve comfort and milk production at the University of Missouri's Foremost Dairy Research Center near Columbia.

MU Extension veterinarian Scott Poock and dairy specialist Stacey Hamilton are part of the Foremost team that researches how the beds improve herds. They monitor cows on cameras and record data about resting times and

milk production.

Foremost began using the new beds in fall 2018. Cows adapted quickly, Hamilton says, with an estimated 75 percent of the herd using the beds by the second day.

The amount of rest a cow receives affects the quantity of milk she produces. In freestyle barn operations, dairy operators want cows to lie down 12-14 hours per day to prevent lameness and

increase milk production. With the water beds, cows stay longer in stalls and lie down sooner, Poock says. Before the water beds, cows lay down an average of 8.5 minutes after entering a stall. They now lie down within five minutes.

The dual-chamber beds offer extra support for the cow's knees. Once the cow kneels, the pillows offer a cushion for pressure points

with gentle support. Strong joints provide better stability and prevent leg and foot injuries, sores and infections that can reduce mobility.

It is "all about cow comfort" and profit for the herd owner, says Hamilton. "Comfortable cows are happier and make more milk."

Foremost staff put wood chips in the stalls to cover the water beds and catch waste. If Foremost used sand, it would

take 50 pounds of sand per day per 160 stalls. The water beds are an easier option, Hamilton says.

The bovine beds cost about a third more than beds previously used at Foremost. Those beds, made of interlocking chopped rubber pieces, deteriorated with time and use.

Many dairy farms still use sand, straw, wood shavings or grass to keep stalls dry and comfortable for cows. Foremost Dairy is among a growing number of dairy farms using the new technology.

Last year, the BBC reported that cows at Queen Elizabeth II's farm at Windsor Castle enjoy the luxury of water beds. Queen Elizabeth also pampers her cattle with green pastures and automatic brushes that remove dirt and relieve stress. The queen's dairy uses robotics to milk cows and clean barn floors.

Meanwhile, across the pond, Foremost cows receive the royal treatment too.

Learn more about the Foremost Dairy Research Center at ForemostDairy.missouri.edu.

Simmental project to accelerate carcass selection

U.S. cattlemen and women have successfully improved beef quality during the last several decades, yet capturing widespread carcass data proves elusive. The most important traits are still among the most difficult to predict.

A large-scale project from the American Simmental Association (ASA) aims to change some of that – and arm ranchers with more accurate decision-making tools.

"Over time, we've leveraged new technologies like ultrasound to help bolster information about end product attributes into our genetic evaluation systems. However, as we look at different breeds, on average, between half and one percent reporting rate of the number of calves born every year make it into our carcass data evaluation," says Dr. Bob Weaber of Kansas State University. "Carcass data is an area that's expensive to measure, but we know it's very important. All of the new dollars that come into the beef business come from somebody buying a piece of beef."

That's why the ASA recently launched an expansive new project that pairs actual carcass

records with genomic data on sire-identified calves. The Carcass Expansion Project aims to boost total carcass records and to train genomic panels to more accurately predict carcass traits.

Rancher Tracy Brunner of Cow Camp Ranch near Ramona, is a participant and says the project has merit for all producers.

"This is not about just gathering carcass data. It's not just a win for the individual animal owner. It benefits the cattle that are available to our consumer, industry-wide," Brunner says. "All the information that we gather will develop better and more accurate EPDs that will lead to better consumer products."

ASA's Board of Trustees invested significantly toward the five-year project, open to seedstock members and their commercial customers with

SimGenetic influence.

"We focus our efforts and data collection, in this case, on a relatively large group of animals, of 20,000, and extract lots of information out of that exercise. Then the genomics tools will allow us to spread that information across the entire pedigree. So producers that aren't directly engaged in feeding cattle benefit from the project because they'll be able to use a genomics tool," Weaber says.

For the genomic component, the Association plans to pay genotyping costs associated with the use of tissue-sampling units (TSU) provided through Allflex.

"Obviously, carcass data is one of the hardest things to get because not everybody is willing to share it and because it's very expensive to just get carcass data," says Scott Holt, North American market-

ing manager for Allflex. "Our ability now to get that carcass information through genomics is a really exciting phase in our industry."

"Through the gathering of carcass data and tying that back to the origin of the genetics of those animals, we're able to increase the predictability. We're able to increase the accuracy of expected progeny differences," Brunner says. "Whereas, a non-enhanced EPD may have an accuracy rate of 30% to 40%, we can improve that possibly 10% to 20% by adding carcass information to that EPD foundation."

"To me, it's about breeding better cattle to raise better beef."

Seedstock members or commercial producers wanting to learn more can visit simmental.org or contact the Association at 406-587-4531.

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Segenet Kelemu would be the first to tell you that her humble upbringing from a poor Ethiopian village to one of Africa's most distinguished scientists has not been an easy path.

"I'm a woman working in what has been predominantly a man's profession, and I'm a woman of color," Kelemu told students in a Kansas State Uni-

versity genetics class recently.

Early in her career, one international organization she worked for passed a rule that to rise to a director's role, a person had to be at least six feet tall.

"Well, that was three strikes against me," Kelemu said. "I was out."

It didn't hamper the ambition of the young Kelemu,

who graduated from K-State in 1989 with a doctorate in plant pathology and recently was named the 2019 Alumni Fellow by the university's College of Agriculture.

The Alumni Fellow is a program of the K-State Alumni Association in collaboration with each of the seven colleges at K-State. It is intended to recognize outstanding graduates from each college.

"I come from a very poor agricultural village in Ethiopia where farmers struggle daily to control pests, control disease and simply to make a living from agriculture," Kelemu said. "My intention from the time I graduated from college was to apply my knowledge in science to make a difference in these farmer's lives."

Kelemu is currently the



Segenet Kelemu, right, was recently honored by the Kansas State College of Agriculture as an Alumni Fellow.

director general and chief executive officer of the Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya. She is the first woman to hold that position.

"This organization was established 50 years ago by Kenyan scientists and has grown from a national program to international status," she said. "This is the only center that works on insects and the diseases they transmit to crops, animals, humans and the environment in general. It plays a critical role in the continent of Africa."

Under Kelemu's guidance,

the center has solved numerous challenges unique to agriculture on her continent, such as the devastation caused by the African tsetse fly, which is known to transmit disease in cattle.

In the late 1800s, the tsetse fly nearly eradicated the entire cattle industry in Africa. While the damage caused by the biting fly is not quite to that extent today, it's still a major pest that greatly affects the African cattle industry.

Kelemu's research team discovered a compound found in wildlife that repels the tsetse fly, then developed a collar

with the compound that cattle can wear. When the fly moves in for a bite, it senses a wild creature and is scared away.

The center has also developed a number of bio-pesticides that are effective against a wide range of crops, and on ticks in cattle. They are developing new ways to control malaria, which still claims one African child every eight seconds.

Kelemu said her group also is working on a project to understand why African bees are resistant to pests and diseases, in hopes of rebuilding colonies of bees in Europe and North America.

"The products we generate and the technologies we develop are being used globally," she said.

Kelemu's list of honors and achievements stretches nearly two decades, including being honored in 2014 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as one of five Heroes in the Field.

"I have been really fortunate, but I am one individual," Kelemu said. "A lot of my team members in all of the jobs I've had have contributed to our success, including my graduate students, staff and partners."

"I have been really fortunate to have a global network. There is a saying in Africa that it takes a village to raise a child, but I think it takes a global village to make a scientist successful as well."

Kelemu said that some of the tough lessons she learned early in her career were important to the success she had later on. And she hopes that students hear that message.

"I think it's important that students know that they should not be rattled by any challenge they will face," she said. "I know some people who were too rattled, and they would say science is too challenging for me, and they quit. But determination is really important and realizing that life is not always smooth sailing, no matter what profession you choose. Students need to think, 'This too will pass; I am going to tackle it and move past this.'"

She added that keeping an eye on their original reasons for getting into agriculture and science – namely, helping people – can help students stay determined.

"This is a good overall profession these students have chosen," Kelemu said. "It is a fantastic honor to do the things you love, but also in the medium and long term you can also translate that to impact on society."

While at K-State, Kelemu met with campus leaders and spoke to several classes. In one class, Population Genetics, she was introduced by K-State graduate research assistant Immaculate Wanjuki, a native of Kenya.

"She inspires me greatly, especially being an African woman venturing in science, which is viewed as a male-dominated career in Kenya," Wanjuki said.

Kansas milk production up 3 percent

Milk production in Kansas during March 2019 totaled 328 million pounds, up 3 percent from March 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The average number of milk cows was 164,000.

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019 — 7:00 PM

Auction will be held at the Community Center Fire Station in WESTFALL, KANSAS

Legal Description: W 1/2 SW 1/4 6-13-6 Lincoln Co., Kansas

The farm is located 1 1/2 miles West of Westfall to 250th Road then 1 mile North to Fox Drive on the Northeast corner of 250th Road & Fox Drive. The farm is 76.3 acres with 61.1 CRP acres with the balance native grass & trees. The CRP payment is \$46.16 per acre. The contract expires on September 30, 2020. The purchaser will receive the 2019 and 2020 payments. The purchaser will maintain the CRP contract. Seller will pay 2018 and all prior year's taxes. Purchaser will pay 2019 taxes. 2018 taxes were \$2,080.00.

Possession: Possession will be upon closing on or before June 30, 2019.

Terms: 10% of purchase price as down payment day of auction, the balance will be due upon closing on or before June 30, 2019. Down payment will be escrowed with Land Home Title. Escrow fees will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser. Title insurance will be used, the cost will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser.

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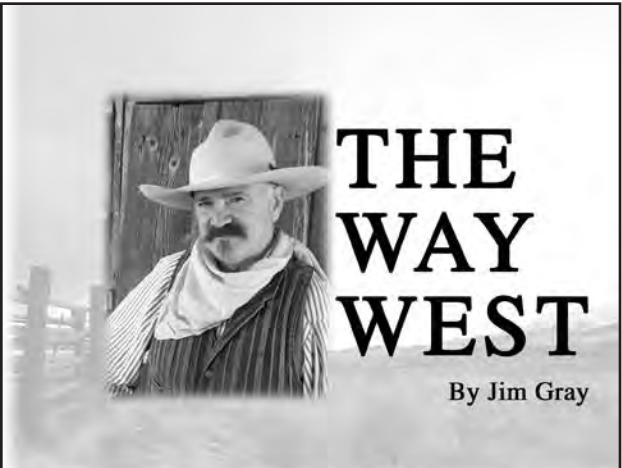
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Yankee Doodle Dandies

Every new generation comes up in a world not of its making, and so youngsters naturally try to find their own way. Parents and grandparents look on with disgust at the rebellion of their offspring. There were flappers in the roaring twenties; "Hot Jazz" in the '30s and '40s; the Beat Generation of the '50s and long hair in the '60s, and so it goes with tattoos and piercings.

In the 1880s the "Dude" garnered all the attention. The term has gone through some changes through the years. The earliest references begin with *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, a song that most of us were raised to believe had patriotic beginnings. In fact, British soldiers during the French and Indian War of the middle 1700's were appalled at the lack of sophistication within the ranks of the Colonial troops that the British relied upon in their North American war with the French. Young British men prided themselves on their worldly sophistication. Principles of high fashion and cultural refinement guided their sense of civil society.

In *Yankee Doodle Dandy* the Americans were seen as bumbling fools totally incapable of carrying off an acceptable cultural bearing. But the insufferable Yankees wore their indifference toward British culture as a badge of honor. Being a doodle or foolish dandy was just fine with them. Through the years "dude" was extracted from doodle and became associated with a passionate and pretentious interest in fashion.

Newspapers began to take note of "Dudes" in the early 1880s. Dudes were generally privileged young men, born into wealth. They styled themselves after the looks, speech, and mannerisms of English gentlemen. The fad was strong in New York City and was believed to have originated there. However, the folks in Salem, New Hampshire disputed that assumption with the assertion that the term had been coined there. In Salem a dapper young man was a "dude fellow," a small animal was "a little dude," a sweetheart was "my dude" and an athletic youth of the wild type was simply "a dude."

New Yorkers claimed they had picked up the term from an Englishman who remarked, after visiting a rich club, that the young men were

ly *News* remarked, "On the whole it was the most enjoyable social ever given by the young people of the M.E. church."

Dude clubs sprung up in most unlikely places. In southwestern Kansas the Fowler Dude Club threw a "hop" at the Grand Hotel. A notice in the Dodge City Times observed, "The Dude ball came off at time advised. It was one grand fizzle." The editor had already indicated that he was not a fan. A stranger had inquired, "Is there a dude club in this city?" "There is," returned the editor, as he produced a toothpick from his pocket and laid it on the roll-top desk. "That's it, and the first dude that shows his head in this office will be framed with it."

While they might not have liked dude fashion, editors were more than willing to give plenty of attention to the eccentric phenomenon. One editor wrote, "A pair of tight trousers, a cutaway coat, a late style hat and a pair of kid gloves contained yesterday afternoon what is known as a dude... A small mustache that had just gone through the

hands of the barber was being curled by himself, while a light cane was found under his arms." Another declared that, "two for a nickel" dudes have the idea that they are "excelled by none and equaled by few." While another editor having fun with his use of language noted, "The principle of the true dude has been well expressed as nothing too much of anything; not even anything too much of nothing too much." Some of the comments, while entertaining, would singe your eyebrows!

One infatuated woman asked her beau, "Charley dear, I've heard so much about dudes. I want you to get me one." Smiling at her innocence Charley asked, "Would you

prefer a French or German dude?"

"I think not," she answered, squirming coyly.

"Well, what shall it be, then?" It was her turn to smile as she said, with an arched look: "A Yankee dude 'll do."

And in 1883 that was the way "The Dude" became "all

the rage" in more ways than one on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth, Kansas on the Violent Frontier, Ellsworth, Ks. Contact Kansas Cowboy, 220 21st RD Geneseo, Ks. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.*

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SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019 — 10:00 AM
Auction will be held at 240 E.4th in JUNCTION CITY, KS

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019 — 1:00 PM

Auction will be held at the farm located 10 miles North of LUCAS, KS to 250th Drive in Osborne Co. then 1 1/2 miles West; OR from TIPTON, KS 3 miles West to 20th Ave then 9 miles South to 250th Drive then 1 1/2 miles West.

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4 wheel drive flatbed pickup 6.2 diesel 5 speed; 1992 Ford pickup 302 engine, automatic; 1996 Ford Explorer XLT 4 wheel drive auto, 6 cy engine weak, 321993 miles; 1940's Willys jeep; Krause 2400 tandem disc 27"; DRA John Deere 16-10 drill; Miller 14" offset disc; Cat 12AT motor grader for parts no motor.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE & GUNS

Guns inc: Ruger Red Hawk 44 mag pistol; Remington Sportsman 12 ga; Mauser 30-06 w/ scope; Oak curved glass secretary; oak flat glass secretary; fainting couch; curio cabinet; round oak table & 4 chairs; oak sow belly kitchen cabinet; 3 oak dressers; cream separator; assortment other furniture.

NOTE: The auction will not be very long, be on time, we will start with antique furniture, then equipment, there are no small items. Everything is sold as is. Everything needs to be removed in 2 days.

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