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Memorial funds will carry on Casten-Downing's legacy of leadership

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

Even before her days as a 1998-99 state FFA reporter, Jill Casten-Downing had a passion for communicating the message of agriculture. The skills she learned in FFA and 4-H paved a career path for her, as she earned a degree in agriculture economics from Kansas State University, her Master's degree from the University of Nebraska, and her Ph.D. in Extension Education from Virginia Tech. Educating and developing leaders became her life's work, and when she lost her battle with cancer in April 2019, at the age of 38, those who had known her, loved her and worked alongside her wanted to ensure her legacy would live on, and that lives would continue to be enriched by her desire to help each person develop the necessary skills to be effective leaders in their communities. To that end, Kansas Farm Bureau and Kansas FFA have established memorial funds in her honor.

Jill's father Jeff says that not a day goes by that he doesn't think of his daughter and all she accomplished in her life. His late wife Joyce had been a Franklin County 4-H'er throughout her youth, with her mother serving as a 4-H leader in the community for many years. Jeff and Joyce were both in collegiate 4-H as students at Kansas State University. "So when my four girls came along, they didn't have a choice, they were going to be in 4-H," he laughed. "We're all rural people, so it seemed like the normal thing to do to have animals and projects." The second of the couple's four daughters, Jill had a natural love for animals, and enjoyed other projects as well. "We didn't seem to have the best animals at the fair, nor did we have the worst, we were kind of in the middle," Jeff recalled. "We didn't buy the fancy animals that a lot of people did, we raised them ourselves, bred them ourselves and went through the whole process of taking care of that sheep all year long. I think it was good in the long run because they saw all ends of those types of things."

When she entered Marais des Cygnes Valley High School, she became involved with FFA in a chapter that had a history of turning out a good number of state officers for such a small school. Jeff remembers the conversation well. "When she told us she was going to run for state office, my jaw dropped," Jeff said. He also remembers sitting in McCain Auditorium and hearing his daughter's



The 1998-99 State FFA officer team included, front row from left: Leslie Small Turner, Becky Zenger Johnson, Jill Casten-Downing, Matt Wolters, Devin Schierling and Lance Stafford.



The 2017 Leadership KFB class visited Gov. Brownback's office as one of their field trips organized by Casten-Downing. The class included, from left: Kyle Perry, formerly American Farm Bureau Federation staffer; Jacquelyne Leffler, Americus; Alfred Crawshaw, Altoona; Jessica Flory, Overbrook; Gov. Sam Brownback; Jill Casten; Leigh Ann Maurath, Oakley; Mindy Andres, Council Grove; and Jackie Mundt, Turon.

name called for the slate of state officers. "I was just dumbfounded, but I was so happy for her, that she met that goal," he said. "That opened whole new doors for her to just blossom even further. It set her path for her career."

Each week Jeff and Joyce would get calls from their daughter, telling them where she was traveling to next as a state FFA officer. "She'd be headed off towards western Kansas or somewhere far away where she'd never been, by herself most of the time," Jeff reflected. "Sometimes the weather was not good and we'd be worrying about her." Jill flourished in her role, speaking easily to her peers, finding her own motivation while motivating them. "She spoke so easily," Jeff said. "I've heard her speak and give presentations a number of times and a number of places throughout her career. I told my wife I have to pinch myself to know this is real - this is actually our kid. She just made it seem so easy to do things."

Jill's mother was a teacher, and it is from her that Jeff believes his daughter got her gift for motivating and imparting knowledge. "Jill had so many characteristics like her mother, and being really smart was one of them," he said.

On June 9, 2018, Jill married Bo Downing. Their paths had crossed often at Farm Bureau and FFA events. Downing was a County Farm Bureau president and was serving on the State Resolutions Committee the first time he met her. He was also a high school agriculture education teacher and FFA advisor and currently teaches at Riley County High School. He recalls talking to her at the state FFA Convention. Jeff believes the pair was a match made in Heaven. "Bo is a very, very capable young man and I really feel that God put them together be-

cause they had so much in common," he said.

In her career Jill worked for the national FFA organization, American Farm Bureau and was the Senior Director for Educational Training at Kansas Farm Bureau at the time of her death. KFB CEO Terry Holdren said her education, work experience in leadership development and the ability to bring a broad exposure to all those themes made her a natural fit for Kansas Farm Bureau. "She was a find in an employee that you just don't get every day," he said, adding that she had a passion for seeing people grow and learn. "She was instrumental in our ability to uptick professionalism in people and helping folks feel more comfortable being advocates for agriculture."

Holdren credits Jill with developing the curriculum and concepts for the Leadership KFB program, which is now holding its sixth class. About seven years ago, Holdren says that those in leadership at Kansas Farm Bureau began to realize agriculture communities across the state were struggling to identify effective leadership. "The next generation of leaders just wasn't materializing," he admitted. "We wanted to provide a program that would train in leadership in a broad way across the industry and state and equip them to serve in other organizations and in their home communities." The average class size would be six to ten participants, so they could take them to visit different sites that Jill worked to line up.

Part of the funds raised for the memorial fund in Jill's honor will be used to provide a next-step experience for the KFB Leadership participants, possibly an international component. Each year the KFB Foundation does a golf tournament and holds a silent auction at the an-

nual meeting as fundraisers. This year all the proceeds from those activities will go to the memorial fund, and KFB will also contribute half of all remaining budgeted dollars after the close of their fiscal year to initiate the endowment. "We're very excited about it," Holdren said. "We think it's a great



Jill is shown with her parents Joyce and Jeff Casten.



Jill and Bo Downing met and became acquainted through various Kansas Farm Bureau and FFA events and were married June 9, 2018.

way to honor her legacy, not just inside Farm Bureau, but as a leader in agriculture." To donate to the KFB Jill Casten Memorial Fund, visit www.kfb.org/Foundation-for-Agriculture/Jill-Casten-Memorial-Fund.

The Kansas FFA Foundation is also working to establish a memorial fund, and according to Downing, part of it will be used to help state officers pay for international trips.

Downing recalls talking

with his wife as she neared the end of her life about the importance and value of giving people exposure to different cultures and helping them learn how to be better leaders through that sort of opportunity, as well as the network of people in agriculture. "The biggest thing is having good people to make better decisions," he said. "I think she would be very humbled by the amount of support that everybody has shown."



Senator Pat Roberts, second from left, was present for the signing of the phase one trade deal with President Trump and Chinese vice premier Liu. Courtesy photo

Trump inks phase one deal with China

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

On Wednesday, January 15 the United States and China signed a phase one trade agreement which is scheduled to go into effect in mid-February. As part of the agreement, China committed to purchasing \$200 billion of American goods and services over the next two years, of which nearly \$100 billion will be agriculture goods. The purchase will nearly double U.S. exports to China and narrow the trade deficit. In return Washington has agreed to reduce tariffs on \$120 billion in Chinese products from 15% to 7.5%.

"It's a good day for American businesses, especially farmers and ranchers. This agreement is a big step towards a stronger, more reliable trading relationship between the U.S. and China," said Senate Agriculture Committee chairman Pat Roberts, who was present for the signing. "I'm glad to see

this administration holding China accountable. And, I look forward to seeing this framework established and launching the next phase of this important agreement."

House Agriculture Committee chairman Collin Peterson of Minnesota expressed cautious optimism about the agreement. "This agreement appears to include positive structural changes and commitments that could increase access to the Chinese market for those and other products produced in districts across the country," said Peterson. "I appreciate the negotiators and staff at USTR and USDA who have worked so hard to get us to this point. The question now is whether China will play by the rules it has agreed to here. I'm also concerned that, long-term, certain crops may not regain the foothold they lost in the trade war. If those purchases don't materialize,

I worry what effects that will have on the markets for crops like soybeans and sorghum."

While the phase one agreement doesn't remove the tariffs on American soybeans shipped to China, soy growers were encouraged by the deal and hopeful it would lead to additional measure to restore open trade. "We have long supported changes to how China conducts business with the world, in agriculture and other industries. Today's signing addresses many of those concerns and is a positive for the U.S., including reduction of non-tariff barriers to trade that are important to soybean growers and other agriculture groups," said Bill Gordon, soy farmer from Worthington, Minn., and ASA president.

The group's statement went on to say that changes outlined in the Phase 1 deal are encouraging: Increased agriculture



Stronger Together

By Glenn Brunkow, Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

We have flipped the calendar to a new year, and that also means the “silly season” of politics is starting in earnest. This year promises to be even sillier than most because of state and national elections. More than just about any year I can remember,

there is more at stake for our nation, state and, most importantly, for rural Kansas.

Increasingly we are seeing our population drop in most of rural Kansas, which means our political influence also is shrinking. We are seeing a shift of political power swing to more populated portions of the state. This

could spell trouble for agriculture as many of those in more urban areas are more removed from agriculture and often don't fully understand our point of view or how issues affect us.

That is why it is so important for us to tell our side of the story, for us to let our views and stances on critical issues be known. If we don't advocate for ourselves no one else will, and our interests will be forgotten.

I know many of you are like me. I feel like I am so bogged down in my day-to-day activities and work that I don't have time to

get involved. It is hard to know how to make your opinion heard and even harder to know how to make your vote count. It seems awfully lonely out here in rural Kansas and in agriculture.

I agree — it is hard to make your voice heard as a lone citizen. It is possible, and it is something we should not ignore. But often a lone voice is not very effective. That is why being a member of Kansas Farm Bureau is so critical for all of us in agriculture. It is a way for us to combine our voices and make them louder.

When we come together

as a group, we magnify our power and influence. However, this does not lessen the importance of each one of us or our individual influence over our own elected officials. That is why it is also important to not only join Kansas Farm Bureau but to be an active member. In the coming weeks and months we will have an opportunity to voice our opinions and to help educate and influence our elected officials. Through the elections we will also have the chance to decide who many of those officials are.

I ask that you take the time to find out how you

can be an active part in the efforts of our Kansas Farm Bureau. Sign up for alerts and contact your elected officials. Kansas Farm Bureau is the most influential farm organization in our state, and that is because we are a grassroots organization of farmers and ranchers who band together for a stronger, louder voice.

“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.

USMCA passes Senate, heads to president's desk for signature

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

Following on the heels of the phase one trade agreement with China, agriculture producers received more good news as the Senate passed the USMCA, known as the “new NAFTA” on Thursday, January 16. The trade agreement passed 89-10. Having now cleared both the House and Senate, USMCA needs only the president's signature. Growers who were disappointed that the trade deal with China did not remove tariffs on soybeans found much to be excited about with the passage of USMCA, as Mexico is the #2 market for whole beans, meal and oil, and Canada is the #4 buyer of meal and ranks #7 for soybean oil.

“ASA has worked throughout the year to encourage legislative support for USMCA, so we appreciate Congress working with the administration, coming together for this bipartisan effort, and getting USMCA

to the final step,” said Bill Gordon, American Soybean Association president. “In addition to securing the Mexican market as the second-largest importer of U.S. soybeans, the terms agreed to by Canada will increase U.S. poultry and dairy exports, which is also a positive for our industry.”

The National Association of Wheat Growers and U.S. Wheat Associates also expressed their approval for USMCA's passage.

“Trade deals can put the price of wheat back on track for many growers and create new opportunities for many farmers,” said NAWG President and Lavon, Tex., farmer Ben Scholz. “NAWG applauds the U.S. Senate for moving quickly on passing USMCA out of the Chamber.”

“Mexico continues to be our top importing country,” said USW Chairman and Paulding, Ohio farmer

Doug Goyings. “Wheat farmers are relieved to see the agreement moving on to the president and I think the Mexican millers who want our wheat are relieved, too.”

USMCA retains tariff-free access to imported U.S. wheat for those long-time flour milling customers in Mexico, a crucial step toward rebuilding trust in the U.S. as a reliable supplier in this important neighboring market. In addition, the USMCA makes important progress towards more open commerce for U.S. wheat farmers near the Canadian border by allowing U.S. varieties registered in Canada to receive reciprocal grading treatment, their joint statement said.

Cattlemen will benefit, as beef exports to Mexico and Canada accounted for nearly a quarter the \$8.3 billion in total U.S. beef exports in 2018. U.S. beef exports to Mexico and Canada have increased 750% since duty-free access to the two countries began in 1994.

Property tax transparency a main objective in 2020

Legislators have been working to find solutions in addressing ever increasing high property taxes. They spent much of 2019 on the issue and are prepared to introduce legislation that will improve transparency and truth in taxation.

Sen. Caryn Tyson, Linn County, Chair of the Senate Tax Committee, released the following statement:

“One of the main complaints legislators hear from their constituents, is

that property taxes are too high. After studying the issue, it is apparent there is a need for more transparency and truth in taxation. Other legislators are working with me to change that — by increasing transparency and improving the process to appeal real estate property taxes.”

Sen. Tyson is leading this effort along with Sen. Bud Estes, Ford County, Sen. Larry Alley, Cowley County, Rep. Ron Highland, Wabaunsee Coun-

ty, and Rep. Ken Corbet, Shawnee County. They are working with others throughout the state to understand the process and find solutions in addressing high property taxes. The initial step was hearing from county officials, appraisers, taxpayers, and tax experts. As this process continues there will be other legislators involved who will be instrumental in completing this process.

Tyson said, “Most prop-

erty taxpayers aren't as concerned about the valuation or mil levy as they are about the increasing dollar amount of their property taxes. By changing the process, this will require transparency in property tax increases and keep the public informed of proposed property tax changes before an increase occurs.”

“A change we are proposing will require the mil levy to be recalculated so the same dollar

amount would be collected as of the previous year. To increase the property tax dollar amount, the governing body would be required to announce a meeting where the public officials would vote on the increase.” She went on to say, “This will require public officials to vote on a property tax increase rather than higher valuations that automatically raise property taxes.”

The changes are modeled after other states,

such as Utah and Tennessee. By using proven methodologies Kansas is not reinventing the wheel.

There are other proposed changes to help, such as allowing an option for an arbitrator to oversee the first step in the appeals process; putting an estimated dollar amount for your property tax on the valuation sheet; and excluding maintenance from increasing the valuation of your property. These are just some of the changes that will improve the process and truth in Kansas taxation laws.

Australian agriculture hit hard by bushfires

Livestock losses across South Australia are in the thousands, and the figure is growing due to smoke and heat as wildfires continue, Australia's Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie said recently.

Mercardo agricultural analyst Matt Ballarat reported that approximately 8.6 million sheep (12% of the flock) and 2.3 million head of cattle (9% of the herd) could be affected by the fires. Current estimates suggest nearly 12.5 million acres of land have burned so far in Australia.



Today I go see the doctor for the first time in ten years. Wow, it didn't sound all that bad until I said it out loud. I guess you could say I was either blessed with good health during that time or I am good at procrastination and denial. It is probably a combination of the two, but it all stems from the fact that my doctor moved ten years ago, and I just haven't felt the need or the urge to find a new one.

I must admit that I am not all that excited about going to the appointment. After all, I know what he is going to tell me. I am overweight and need to take better care of myself. I would bet that he even suggests that I start exercising. Honestly, the whole exercising part is not my problem. In fact, I would argue that I get a lot of physical exercise during a normal day.

Take this morning, for example. I started off with a brisk walk through the sheep to check for new lambs, all the while dodging hungry ewes and slogging through the mud. After that I got my weightlifting in. I figure each five-gallon bucket weighs between 25 and 30 pounds and I carry two at a time. This morning I got an extra workout due to the ten pounds of mud I was carrying on each foot. Two days ago, I got an agility workout by trying to stay upright on ice while carrying the two five-gallon buckets.

Then I get more steps in while I walk around and feed the cat, dogs, chickens and the various lambs and sheep we have in the maternity pens and lambing barn. That is followed by more weight training as I fill five-gallon buckets for the cattle and lift them up on the pickup flatbed. That is followed by more weight and cardio training when I feed the heifers. That is all in the first hour of my day.

Then as the day goes on, I get more exercise in. I get some step training when I feed hay and climb in and out of the tractor cab constantly. The level of difficulty is determined by how many clothes I am wearing, how muddy it is and how many gates I must go through. That portion of my exercise routine often takes a couple of hours.

The middle of my day is made up of

building fence, cutting trees or sorting sheep, any of which should qualify as physical activity. We can also mix in moving bags of mineral, assisting ewes and cows lambing and various other physically demanding activity during the middle of the day. Then for fun we have the night chores.

The night chores consist of me walking through the ewes again to make sure that no one is thinking about lambing. If they are, I sort them off and move them to the lambing barn. Anyone who says that is not a workout has never tried to separate one sheep and move it somewhere it doesn't want to go. I also fill all the water tanks and that often means dragging hoses through mud and getting more weight and agility training in. Then just for fun and a nightcap I again wander out to the sheep pens one or two more times during the night.

At that point I stagger into the house, take a handful of Advil and collapse on the couch, only to hear my wife tell me I need to get in better shape. Better shape? What is better than pear-shape? After all, we are to treat our bodies as a temple, and I have built a grand cathedral. I do get a kick out of the forms I have to fill out on a regular basis asking me how many minutes of physical activity I get in a day. I wore a Fitbit for a while and the number of steps I get in a day was amusing.

Yes, I could get automatic waterers, a cake feeder for the cows, better facilities and a few other things to make my life a lot easier. That all costs money and if I did that, I might also have to find more exercise time and that would mean a gym membership. So, in the long run my inefficiency is making me healthier and saving money.

I know that I should have made it to the doctor sooner and that he will tell me things I don't want to hear today. My guess is that I am the typical farmer or rancher and that is not an excuse or a good reason. Like everything else, life would have been easier if I had kept it up regular visits but one nagging question remains. Would it have been as fun?



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Corteva Agriscience submits novel new pasture herbicide to EPA

Corteva Agriscience submitted for approval a new selective herbicide for broadleaf weed control on pastureland to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Pending EPA registration, this herbicide will provide cattle producers access to a broad-spectrum weed control product that preserves white clover and annual lespedeza — and all their benefits.

Announced during the American Forage & Grassland Council annual conference, ProClova™ herbicide is expected to meet a long-standing need for livestock grazers.

“White clover does so much for forage and livestock production, but it is sensitive to current broadleaf pasture herbicides,” said Jillian Schmiedt, Range & Pasture Category Lead at Corteva Agriscience. “When broadleaf weeds establish, producers don’t have a way to control weeds without also removing white clover. ProClova provides that.”

Multiple years of testing show ProClova provides exceptional, broad-spectrum control of important broadleaf species, including ironweed, cocklebur, wild carrot, buttercup, biennial thistles, ragweeds, plantain, woolly croton, poison hemlock and many others. ProClova will offer several anticipated features, including:

Preserving white clover and annual lespedeza for an abundant, diverse, quality forage

Being safe to desirable forage grasses

Maintaining the benefits white clover and annual lespedeza provide to forage and livestock production

Controlling a broad-spectrum of weeds in permanent grass pastures, rangeland, hayfields and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres

Providing an effective,

broad-spectrum weed control option for situations such as flexibility in hay marketing and crop rotation, where a nonresidual option is desired

Having no grazing or manure restrictions and only minimal haying restrictions after application

“Many livestock producers rely on white clover and annual lespedeza in their pastures to improve forage quality for grazing and haying and for what these legumes’ nitrogen-fixing properties bring to soil fertility and health,” said Scott Flynn, Corteva Agriscience Zonal Biology leader. “Without effective broadleaf weed control, the harm weeds cause to forage production and quality can outweigh the benefits these legumes provide. That can be frustrating.”

Pending EPA registration, ProClova will be the only broad-spectrum herbicide that preserves white clover and annual lespedeza while still controlling broadleaf weeds. Corteva Agriscience expects this to be the fourth new product the company brings to the pasture market in three years.

“During 2018, we introduced MezaVue herbicide as the new standard in pricklypear control, followed by LANDvisor, a digital decision support tool, and then, most recently, DuraCor herbicide, containing the first new active ingredient for pasture broadleaf weed control in more than a decade,” Schmiedt said. “Corteva Agriscience is focused on developing new and better solutions for the challenges beef producers face. We are excited about bringing these new products to market.”

Corteva Agriscience anticipates making ProClova™ herbicide available to livestock producers during 2021.

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation Series 2020 begins in Shawnee County

The Shawnee County Extension Office and the Shawnee County Conservation District with assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service will host a series of five educational trainings on the following dates, the locations and topics are listed below.

These presentations will have a special emphasis for local crop and livestock producers at each of the programs.

Each program is a free event open to interested land owners, crop and livestock producers. Thanks to our sponsors: Landmark National Bank, Shawnee County Farm Bureau, Kansas Insurance, Shawnee County Extension Foundation and Premier Farm and Home.

If you have questions or would like to RSVP, call Shawnee County Extension at (785) 232-0062 or e-mail Leroy Russell at lrussell@ksu.edu. We hope to see many of you attend these important presentations at the Coffee, Cookies and Conversation Series 2020.

Ponds Maintenance: Aquatic Problems – Fish, Plants

When: Tuesday, February 11 – 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Where: Rural Water District #3, 4926 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka
Speakers: Leroy Russell, Shawnee Extension Agriculture Agent
Christy Ronsse, NRCS, Soil Conservation Technician

Forestry

When: Thursday, February 20 – 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Where: Shawnee County Extension Office, 1740 SW Western Avenue, Topeka
Speakers: Jarran Tindle, Watershed Forester for the Kansas Forest Service
Katy Dhungel, District Forester for Kansas Forest Service

Weeds in Crops and Pastures

When: Tuesday, March 10 – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Where: Rossville Township Community Center, 420 Main, Rossville
Speakers: Stu Duncan, Extension Specialist, Crops and Soils
John Welborn, Shawnee County Weed Department Supervisor

Farm Owner Transitions/Family Friendly
When: Thursday, March 19 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Where: Shawnee County Extension Office, 1740 SW Western Avenue, Topeka
Speaker: Shon Robben, Arthur-Green, LLP
Please RSVP by the day before the event to ensure that we have plenty of supplies.

Trump inks phase one deal with China

•Cont. from page 1
chases; a more predictable, efficient, science- and risk-based regulatory process for evaluation and authorization of agricultural biotechnology products; improvements to sanitary and phytosanitary measures; and intellectual property protection for agriculture, among others. The American Soybean Association (ASA) has actively advocated for many of the improvements itemized in White House summary documents of the deal.

“We are very pleased to see true progress on the regulatory process for ag biotech products, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and other big points of concern. And, importantly, this milestone moment in the negotiation process bodes well for de-escalation of the tension between our two countries and making further progress,” Gordon commented, “Yet, as an industry, we have a lingering unease regarding the tariff on U.S. beans, which was not addressed in this deal. China needs to take action, and, as a goodwill gesture, offer to remove its retaliatory tax on our soybeans.”

Rep. Roger Marshall released a statement saying, “This agreement today represents an enormous victory for Kansas agriculture producers and manufacturers. This is yet

another promise kept by our President that will continue to improve the lives of all Americans. Our farmers and ranchers have borne the brunt of the effects from this trade battle, and I am happy to say that things will get better soon. President Trump’s efforts to solidify deals with our four largest export markets - Mexico, Canada, Japan, and now China, will give Kansans the confidence needed to move into the next decade and beyond.”

Beef producers also applauded the agreement, saying it will lay the groundwork for U.S. beef to be highly competitive in the world’s most populous market. It eliminates several barriers that have greatly limited market access for U.S. beef, including China’s ban on the use of hormonal implants, the 30-month BSE restriction and extensive traceability requirements.

“The removal of these massive trade barriers gives Chinese consumers access to the U.S. beef they desire, and it gives America’s cattlemen and cattlemen the opportunity to provide U.S. beef to a growing consumer-base that represents one-fifth of the global population and a middle-class that is greater than the entire U.S. population,” said NCBA president Jennifer Houston.



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Walmart opens its first meat processing plant

Walmart Inc. held a grand opening recently for its first meat processing plant. The plant in Thomasville, Ga., will create about 350 jobs, according to the company.

The plant is part of the retailer’s efforts to promote transparency in the cutting and packaging of

its Black Angus beef, and is designed to improve consistent quality and value, Walmart said in a press release.

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Consignment Sale

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020 — 10:00 AM
North of Catholic Church — AXTELL, KANSAS

Public Auction of Machines, Equipment, etc. (NO HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ACCEPTED.) Items may be consigned until 9 a.m. day of sale. Will run 3 rings. POSTS START AT 10:30 - MACHINERY AT 1:00
Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Council #1163, Axtell.

All items and articles must be moved from sale site within 1 week or it becomes property of Axtell K of C.

VEHICLES, TRUCKS & TRAILERS: C-60 Chevy grain truck; '91 Ford 7000 cab & chassis 429 mtr; '03 Ford F250 crew cab 4x4 flatbed; '92 GMC Top Kick 366 auto-14' flatbed; '96 Mercury Cougar, 97,000 mi.; '04 F150 pickup ext cab; '05 Lincoln Navigator; '91 Volvo truck, single ax.; '94 Ford Ranger ext cab; '93 Titan GN 20' livestock trailer; '03 Travalong 26' GN tandem trailer; GN 26' flatbed trailer; 18' bumper hitch tilt trailer; '01 truck salt spreader.

TIRES: Various Used Tires (min. \$5.00 deposit per tire).

LIVESTOCK SUPPLIES: Calf creep feeders; 2 - 4 ton cattle feeders; livestock alley scales; various livestock gates; Energy Free waterers; Big Bale hay feeders; New metal cattle shed 10'x24'; 40 New continuous fence panels; 10' & 12' New locking gates; self standing 20' panels; cattle squeeze chute; mineral feeders w/covers.

NEW SKIDSTEER ATTACHMENTS
2 - 66" Brush Grapple Buckets
2 - 75" Brush Grapple Buckets
2 - 80" Brush Grapple Buckets
2 - 85" Brush Grapple Buckets
2 - Tree Pullers
3 - Open Quick Attach Plates
3 - Closed Quick Attach Plates
2 - Receiver Hitches
2 Sets of Pallet Fork Ext 6'
2 Sets of Pallet Fork Ext 7'
1 - 72" Brush Shredder
1 - 80" Brush Shredder

TRACTORS & MACHINERY: '01 Bobcat 773 - 3,172 hrs skid-steer; JD 4230 quad range - open station; Case 2590 w/duals - 7000 hrs, SN8845251; '46 IH H Farmall; '97 MF6180 FWA w/948 loader; IH 560 gas - needs re-stored; 1960 JD 630 NF 3 pt, 12.6x38; '70 JD 3020WF synchro 7000 hrs gas; '97 Gehl 883 forklift; Kinze 1040 grain cart w/ scale & tarp; JD 640 rake w/dolly; Wilrich 357 InLine 5 shank ripper; Doyle 30' belt conveyor w/220v motor; Rhino SR120 10', 3 pt shredder; AC 3pt Plow 3 btm; JD 400 rotary hoe - Nice; 6x10 wagon w/hoist; 2000 mdl 4500 Wilmar Wrangler wheel loader; Parker 2600 gravity wagon; Parker wagon w/ auger; M&W 2 section gravity wagon; 2014 BBI Endurance 18' hyd driver lime spreader; C-IH 1020 15' Hd; IH 810 16.5' Hd; 2007 DLQ liquid appl w/1000 gal tank 32'; 2 - 18.4 38 Radial Tires 60%
2 - 12.4 38 14 ply NEW
2 - 18.4 34 Tires 75%
2 - 23 26 Rice tire on rims - Good
1 - 28 L 26 tires & Rim
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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Cindy Koch, Osage City, Wins This Week's Grass & Grain Recipe Contest

Winner Cindy Koch, Osage City:
MUFFULETTA SANDWICH
 10-inch round loaf of Italian bread with sesame seeds
 1/2 pound olive salad, homemade or from a deli
 1/4 pound Genoa salami
 1/4 pound sliced ham
 1/4 pound Mortadella (aka Italian bologna)
 1/8 pound provolone cheese
 1/8 pound mozzarella cheese

Make a horizontal cut in the bread to form two round halves. Hollow out some of the excess bread to make room for the filling. Brush both sides with olive oil; go a little heavier on the bottom. Layer half the salami on the bottom half of the bread then layer the Mortadella then the mozzarella then the ham, the provolone and the rest of the salami. Next place the olive salad spread across the sandwich. Put the lid on and press it down without mashing the bread. Slice in wedges and serve immediately or wrap in cellophane and refrigerate for the next day. The sandwich can be served cold but it is especially delicious if warmed in foil until the cheese melts a bit. Be sure to use the highest quality ingredients as it really makes a difference.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
EASY PICKLED BEETS
 1 tablespoon mixed pickling spices
 2 cups vinegar
 2 cups sugar
 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 1 teaspoon salt
 4 cans sliced beets

Place spices in a cheese-cloth bag. In a large saucepan combine vinegar, sugar, cinnamon, salt and spice bag; bring to a boil. Drain the beets, reserving 3/4 cup of juice. Stir beets and juice into saucepan. Pour into a 1 1/2-quart glass container. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Martha Hornbostel, Palmer:
BEEF POT PIE
 1 pound hamburger
 1 small onion, chopped
 1 package cream cheese
 2/3 cup beef broth
 3 cups frozen mixed vegetables
 1 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 2 pie crusts

In a heavy skillet fry hamburger with onion; drain. Add cream cheese and broth. Stir over medium heat until cheese is melted. Add frozen vegetables, salt and pepper. Simmer until vegetables are warmed through. Pour into deep dish pie pan lined with crust; cover with top crust. Cut slits in top crust. Bake at 400 degrees until crust is golden brown, about 40 minutes.

NOTE: May need to adjust broth based on amount of fat in your hamburger (I use 90/10).

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
TURKEY & WILD RICE SOUP
 1 medium onion, chopped
 4-ounce can mushrooms, sliced & drained
 2 tablespoons butter
 3 cups water
 2 cups chicken broth
 6-ounce package long grain & wild rice mix
 2 cups diced cooked turkey

1 cup heavy whipping cream
 A little fresh parsley, optional
 In a large saucepan saute onion and mushrooms in butter until onions are tender. Add water, broth and rice mix with seasoning and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until the rice is tender, 20-25 minutes. Add turkey and cream; heat through. Sprinkle with parsley if desired.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
PARMESAN BAKED POTATOES
 6 tablespoons butter, melted
 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
 8 medium unpeeled red potatoes, halved lengthwise
 Pour butter into 9-by-13-inch pan. Sprinkle cheese over butter. Place potatoes with cut side down over cheese. Bake uncovered at 400 degrees for 40-50 minutes or until done.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
EASY CHOCOLATE FUDGE SAUCE
 1 large can evaporated milk
 2 cups sugar
 9 tablespoons cocoa
 Dash of salt
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 Bring all ingredients except vanilla to a boil in a 2-quart heavy saucepan. Cook over medium heat stirring constantly. Cook 5 minutes stirring vigorously. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Beat with beater 1 minute. Serve hot or cold over ice cream, sundaes, etc.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
CHICKEN SUPREME
 2 pounds uncooked chicken
 1 cup Colby or Jack cheese, diced
 1 cup diced celery
 1 medium onion, diced
 1 can mushroom soup
 2 cups crushed Ritz crackers
 1 cup chicken broth
 2 eggs
 Cook chicken until tender. Remove bones and dice. You can use boneless.

Combine chicken, cheese, celery, onion, soup, 1 3/4 cups Ritz, broth and eggs. Pour into baking dish and top with remaining crackers. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Nancy Rhodes, Abilene:
"So very good and cheesy."
HAM CHEDDAR CHOWDER
 3 cups cubed peeled potatoes (1-cubed)
 2 medium carrots, chopped
 2 teaspoons salt
 3 cups water
 6 tablespoons butter
 1 medium onion, chopped
 2 celery ribs, chopped
 6 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 4 cups whole milk
 3 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

1 cup cubed fully cooked ham (about 8 ounces)
 Place potatoes, carrots, salt and water in a saucepan; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cook uncovered until vegetables are tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Drain. In a Dutch oven heat butter over medium heat; saute onion and celery until tender. Stir in flour and pepper then slowly stir in milk. Bring to a boil. Stirring occasionally cook and stir until thickened. Remove from heat; stir in cheese. Stir in ham and potato mixture; heat through over low heat.

The final two are from Darlene Thomas, Delphos:
SAVOR CHEESE BALL
 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
 1 cup (4 ounces) crumbled blue cheese
 1/4 cup butter, softened
 4 1/4-ounce can chopped ripe olives
 1 tablespoon minced chives
 1/4 cup chopped walnuts
 Assorted crackers
 In a large bowl beat the cream cheese, blue cheese and butter until smooth. Stir in olives and chives. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Shape cheese mixture into a ball and roll in walnuts. Wrap in plastic wrap, refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Serve with assorted crackers. Yield: 2 cups.

SUNDAY MORNING MUFFINS
Streusel topping:
 1/4 cup sugar
 1/3 cup brown sugar
 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 1 stick unsalted butter, melted
 1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
Muffins:
 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1/2 cup sugar
 2 teaspoons baking powder
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
 1 egg, beaten
 1/2 cup milk
 1/3 cup butter, melted
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees and place paper liners in a 12-count muffin

tin. To make streusel topping combine sugar, brown sugar and cinnamon in a bowl; stir in melted butter and then flour. Mix well and set aside. To make the muffin batter, mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, nutmeg and allspice in a large bowl. Make a well in the center of the flour mixture. Add egg, milk and melted butter. Whisk ingredients until just combined. Spoon muffin batter evenly into muffin cups (about 1/4 cup each). Top each muffin evenly with the streusel topping (about 2 tablespoons). Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the muffin comes out clean.

Strength Building Program For Older Adults Offered In Independence

By Barbara Ames, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, Wildcat Extension District

Wildcat Extension District, part of K-State Research and Extension, is pleased to offer their Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program at the Wildcat District Independence Office, 410 Peter Pan Rd, Suite B, Independence. The eight-week strength training program will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11a.m., beginning Tuesday, February 4 through Thursday, March 26.

Strength training is no longer just for body builders. Stay Strong, Stay Healthy is an evidence-based program and classes are held in familiar settings such as senior centers and church halls, not in the gym. No need to wear special clothes — just comfortable, loose-fitting pants and shirt, along with sturdy, closed-toe shoes.

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy activities include warm-up exercises, strengthening exercises with and without weights, and cool-down stretches. Class members are encouraged to do the exercises on their own once more per week. Weights will be provided for use during the program.

Registration for the class is due by Tuesday, January 28 with a \$20 registration fee. To register or for more information, call 620-331-2690. Class size is limited.

The Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program is based on the results of extensive scientific strength training research studies conducted with middle-aged and older adults. These studies have been conducted recently by Dr. Miriam Nelson and colleagues at Tufts University. The research found that strength training can help:

- Increase muscle mass
- Improve strength, flexibility & balance
- Increase bone density
- Decrease arthritis symptoms
- Increase metabolic rate
- Maintain healthy blood sugar levels and blood lipid profile
- Improve mood & attitude
- Lift depression
- Allow you to sleep more soundly
- Increase your level of energy

For more information, contact Barbara Ames, Family and Consumer Sciences agent, bames@ksu.edu, (620)331-2690.

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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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Send Your Recipes Today!

(Family Features) — From the food on your table to the clothes on your back, agriculture provides a variety of things you eat, wear and use daily. Those items don't magically arrive at the store or appear in your home, however.

Each American farmer feeds about 165 people, according to the Agriculture Council of America, an organization comprised of leaders in the agriculture, food and fiber communities dedicated to increasing public awareness of agriculture's role in modern society. Learning more about the industry can allow individuals to make more informed choices about everything from their diets to legislation.

In honor of the 47th annual National Ag Day with the theme "Food Brings Everyone to the Table," consider these activities that can help you learn more about how the agriculture industry impacts daily life.

Make a Farm-to-Table Meal
Making a meal together is an easy activity for spending quality time with your entire family, but you can turn it into a learning experience and an opportunity to talk about where food comes from by combining seasonal produce like asparagus, peas, broccoli, oranges and lemons with ingredients your state is known for such as pork, apples, almonds, beef or corn, for example.

Research Agricultural Issues
From climate change and protecting air, soil and water to feeding a growing global population and using technology to improve food production, there are a variety of issues facing the agriculture industry. To be more aware of what the future may hold, consider making yourself more familiar with some of the challenges farmers face.

Consider Agricultural Careers
For students and young adults considering their futures, joining the 22 million people who work in agriculture-related fields can be a rewarding pursuit. While the most obvious careers in agriculture are directly re-

lated to the farm or ranch, today's agriculture offers more than 200 careers from research and engineering to food science, landscape architecture, urban planning and more.

Tour a Local Farm or Dairy
Taking a tour of a farm or dairy (or both) can provide a better understanding of how food and fiber products are produced and the role agriculture plays in producing them. Make it a group outing with friends or family to help more people see the process food goes through from production to sitting on store shelves.

Contact Legislators in Support of Farm and Food Initiatives
The Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 created reform for United States Department of Agriculture programs through 2023. To get more hands-on, you can contact your legislators to show support for farming initiatives like local FFA and 4-H programs as well as those that can help improve opportunities for farmland leasing, subsidies, urban gardening, food hubs and other ag-focused resources and operations.

Visit a Farmers Market
Open seasonally, farmers markets can provide a perfect opportunity to get up close and personal with your food and the people who grow it. Prices are usually competitive with traditional grocery stores and often-times better, plus some markets offer free samples as well as music and games so you can make an event out of picking up some fresh produce to use in family meals.

Volunteer at a Community Garden
Many cities and neighborhoods, even those in more urban areas, provide plots of land community members can use to grow food for themselves or to donate within the community. Consider setting aside some time each week to give back by cleaning out flower beds, laying mulch or planting flowers and crops in the designated areas.

Find more ways to celebrate agriculture at agday.org



Celebrating A Breath

By Lou Ann Thomas
This is a tale of two dramas. One is about my friend, Margaret, who is at Hope Lodge in Kansas City receiving a stem cell transplant. The goal is that the stem cells will have killed the multiple myeloma that has eaten big chunks of her bones.

Margaret will be in isolation for at least 100 days while modern medicine shuts off her immune system so it won't interfere with the re-injection of her stem cells. During this time she is dangerously receptive to infections and even after these initial 100 days, if she is allowed then to return home, she will remain in isolation for many more days.

Her family and friends are keeping all of us who love Margaret up to date on her treatment. The journal updates reflect my friend's quick wit and positive attitude beautifully. It is incredibly inspiring that, despite being a breath away from death, Margaret remains upbeat and hopeful. Since her diagnosis I have not heard one negative comment from her and never has she ever asked, "Why me?" She has remained her funny, irreverent self and has given no indication that she expects anything other than kicking this cancer to the curb!

The second drama has to do with my friend, Karen, who has chronic financial challenges. Since

the day I met her she has complained about never having enough money. She can't go to lunch unless someone else pays for it. She can't ever get ahead unless someone steps in to give her a handout. According to her, she just can't catch a break.

But just three months ago Karen received over \$40,000, without strings and without any expectation of it being repaid. But, last week Karen called to tell me that the

furnace in her house had gone kaput and she didn't have the money to fix or replace it. The generous gift was gone and she was once again fending off creditors.

Now it's no fun to live without heat this time of year. It would be miserable and not something I want to experience. But neither are myeloma and a stem cell transplant. In fact, I'm betting if Margaret could trade places with Karen, she would in a heart beat.

Since I had just exchanged messages with

Margaret before hearing from Karen I have to admit I wasn't very patient as I listened to her complain about how nothing ever went her way. When she finally took a breath, I took the opportunity to point out she was still breathing and that was worth celebrating.

And it probably doesn't hurt any of us to remember, especially when facing challenges, that if we are still breathing, something is going our way!

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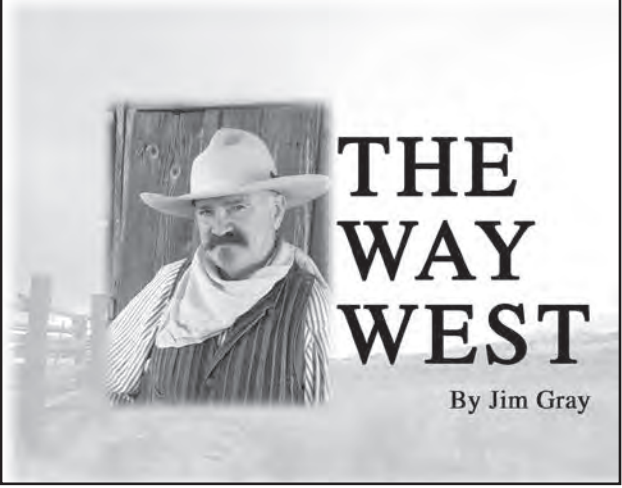
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Murder Most Foul

The Dallas Herald posted a story on January 13, 1872, under the caption "THE HILL COUNTY MURDERS." Three "cattle drivers" were killed the previous September near Hillsboro, Texas, on their return from Kansas to San Antonio. The men were identified as John D. Thien, William Wagner, and Henry Borchers. The murderers were believed to have been traveling with the victims. The

assassins, thought to be from San Antonio, were not identified and no arrests had yet been made. The account concluded, "It seems to have been a most brutal affair. The poor men were killed for their money, apparently with axes, while asleep."

More information was given in the February 22, 1872, edition of the Austin Weekly Standard Democrat. In that issue a notice recognized "Henry Borch-

ers, one of the three men murdered in Hill County" as a member "in good standing" of the Hondo, Texas Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. "All brothers of the Order are requested to exert themselves to bring the murderers to justice."

Each year since Abilene, Kansas had become a shipping center more and more cattle trailed north out of Texas. Thirty-five thousand head in 1867 increased to six hundred thousand wild and rangy longhorns on the trail in 1871.

Herds began filling the prairies south of Abilene by the latter part of May 1871. Cow camps were established on the open range to hold the cattle and graze them for the summer. Interested buyers visited the camps to see the cattle before making purchases. Trail hands took turns going into town, leaving just enough men to oversee the herd. Trail boss Jim Byler recalled, "When the boys reached Abilene... they were usually long-haired and needing a barber's attention, as there were no barbers on the trail. Upon being

asked how they got there, they would sing out: 'Come the Chisholm trail with the buffalo wild and woolly.'"

There was plenty of money to be made. Five-dollar cattle could bring twenty-five or thirty dollars in Abilene. Seductive prices lured men to risk everything to "go up the trail." Thien, Wagner, and Borchers were from ranches west of San Antonio near Castroville. Castroville boasted a large colony of families from the Alsace region bordering Germany in eastern France. The settlers spoke an Alsatian dialect that had been spoken in Europe before standard German was prevalent.

Vaqueros Emilio Martinez and Juan Besa were hired to help drive the cattle north. If the "German" men hired any others they were not named. The multicultural band of drovers pointed the cattle up the old trail to Abilene.

Trail herds were in sight of one another all the way north. Good grass was hard to find unless the herd was driven off the trail, sometimes for miles. It was the same on the bed grounds sur-

rounding Abilene. Some herds moved on to other shipping points along the railroad. In spite of the crowded conditions the Thien, Wagner, and Borchers outfit settled into a cow camp near Abilene until the herd was sold in the early fall. With the cattle sold the men started home along the cattle trail.

The Chisholm Trail was a completely grazed-out "beaten path... Food for man and beast was dearer than on other routes." After three days on the trail Martinez and Besa decided to turn away for "a road less traveled." Martinez later recalled that on the way home he was hired by an American to go on a horse-buying mission to Santiago, Mexico. While in Mexico he was persuaded to join General Julian Quiroga in a revolt against President Benito Juarez. The revolt failed and Martinez was arrested when he crossed the border to attend a dance in Laredo, Texas.

Twenty-three-year-old Martinez spoke very little English. In an interview with a reporter from the San Antonio Herald, Mar-

tinez nervously told an interpreter that he had seen the sale of the cattle at Abilene but did not see the money. Excited and trembling, Martinez claimed that the day before he and Besa left the ill-fated men three strangers joined them, two Americans and one Mexican.

The San Antonio reporter noted, "We believe there is circumstantial evidence enough against the man to convict him. He is shrewd, however, and has fixed up a very pretty story, but he will never be able to prove half he says, in our opinion. His look and actions tell fearfully against him."

Unfortunately, that is where the story ends. The fate of the young Mexican could not be found, leaving us with a mystery of murder most foul on the Chisholm Trail. A mystery that may never be solved on The Way West.

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

Developing your grazing plans

By David G. Hallauer, Meadowlark District Extension agent, crops & soils/horticulture

I always hesitate a little when questioned about stocking rates. Sure, we've

got averages, but it's a little more difficult to make a good recommendation on a rate without knowing more about what species are in the system, the type and size of the animal being

grazed, etc... With weather a huge (less than controllable) factor in determining optimum stocking rate, there are a number of things we can do now to at least start fine-tuning

stocking rates.

Start with a determination of soil type. The NRCS Web Soil Survey has a Range Production tool based on soil type that can give you an idea as to what you can expect during a poor year, normal year, or good year, so you can see how stocking rates may vary due to weather. For example, analysis of an 80-acre tract of grass with three soil types estimated a range of 3000 to 6475 pounds of forage produced per acre. A simple average would be 4700 pounds per year. Looking more closely at the acreage comprising each soil types, however, the highest range covers less than two acres. The remaining 78 acres average 3200 pounds per year. Fine-tuning a production estimate by soil type can really help determine the actual stocking rate.

Evaluate your fertility program. How long has it been since your last soil test? Have adequate nutrients been applied to maximize production? A balanced fertility program - including pH - is an important first step in helping you get the most out of grazing lands.

Determine the species available to graze. Knowing what you have for forage types gives you a leg up on what to expect for production. Cool-season grass production is going to be maximized in April, May, and June. Warm-season grass production will be higher in May, June, and July. Cool-season grasses tend to have a higher carrying capacity than warm-season species. Knowing the differences can help you manage your stocking and stand health.

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Local and regional food systems can offer economic benefits for farmers and communities

By Veronica Coons

Energy and interest in local and regional food systems runs high across the country for both producers and consumers, but what do we really know about the economic impact for farmers and ranchers and communities? What works and what does not? And what about opportunities or need for urban-rural linkages?

As beginning farmers look to develop economically viable operations and existing traditional commodity producers look for ways to diversify their operations or expand into new markets, and as consumers demand more local products, answers to these questions are important.

Dr. Becca Jablonski, assistant professor and Extension food systems specialist at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Colorado State University, addressed some of these questions at the Kansas Rural Center's November 2019 Food and Farm Conference in Wichita. In a keynote address and a follow up workshop, she shared findings and conclusions drawn from her work at USDA, Cornell University and Colorado State over the past two decades.

Jablonski, who was a contributor to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis' October 2017 report, "Harvesting Opportunities: The Power of Regional Food System Investments to Transform Communities," pointed to two indicators of the interest in local food. First, there has been a proliferation of federal and state programs to incentivize local food pro-

duction and for healthier food. The last two federal farm bills have introduced and provided support for a number of programs to put in place local food production and marketing efforts. This is an important shift from the commodity program focus of the past and is due to the rise of farmer interest and consumer demand.

Second, there has been a proliferation of local food policy councils nationwide. Since 2010, 300 such councils have emerged across the country and 52 of them have published food plans for their state or community. Jablonski stated that only two of those food plans actually addressed the need for urban-rural linkages or partnerships. These linkages, it turns out, are focused on something very simple but essential to ensuring success for the community their councils serve: procurement. Procurement represents opportunities to support surrounding rural areas and farmers and ranchers. But to get from Point A to Point B, all parties must be represented on local food councils including rural stakeholders and farmers.

It is important to clarify that urban farms of scale are virtually non-existent in major metropolitan areas. Denver County, Colorado, serving the Denver Metropolitan area, for example has 12 farms and all are fairly small scale. While there are many benefits to encouraging urban agriculture, these farms will not be able to handle the demand for all the food an urban area needs. Jablonski pointed

to a survey she did a few years ago of the Union Square Farmer's Market in New York City, probably the largest in the country, where 400,000 attendees is not unusual. Most of the farms that supplied the market came not from within the city itself, but from a nine-state region surrounding the market.

Jablonski emphasized that the end goal of local food councils is not to simply establish a local and/or regional food system. Rather, it is to create opportunities, not only to support food needs, but to support farmers and the next generation of farmers. To do that, we need to understand the economic impacts to farms and ranches and to community economic development—and the opportunities.

Farmers and ranchers need to be able to make a living, she stated. "Even those that are making a living off the farm are not earning what I think most people would call the sort of income that people aspire to," she said. Scaling up to meet the procurement demands of the market is critical but can't be done in a vacuum.

There is good evidence that consumers are willing to pay a premium for products that are marked "local," Jablonski said. Not only that, consumers are willing to pay for organic, free-range, grass-fed, and other differentiation strategies. Farmers and ranchers selling in these markets also do more of their own marketing, processing, and distribution of their products.

By analyzing the annual USDA Agricultural Resource Management

Survey results, Jablonski strives to understand the variable expenses of farmers and ranchers who participate in local and regional food markets, broken down by market channel. These assessments start with harvest and track through marketing.

For small and medium-sized farms represented in this survey, labor is unsurprisingly the highest expense. As they grow, the cost of labor continues to go up. Digging deeper, about half of the sample loses money at any scale, but half either breaks even or makes money. This is encouraging, Jablonski says.

"We've seen that some of our direct market producers, because they're trying to think about labor efficiency, have now started to have their CSA customers (community supported agriculture) pick up at the farmers' market, so they're not expending time waiting for people to come to the farm to pick up," Jablonski said. This begins to get at the labor efficiency question because it is not simply the need to add more laborers, but that the relationship marketing that is part of direct marketing and intermediate marketing takes time. Figuring out how to be more efficient with labor is critical.

Communities need a way to evaluate what the economic impact of an initiative to strengthen a local food system will be. It is important to keep in mind that resources are finite. "It's not like there's extra land sitting around waiting for someone to farm it," she said. Organiz-

ers also need to take into consideration impacts on both the supply side and the demand side. Some of the demands from consumers or urban councils in terms of certifications or criteria can have other ramifications for producers or the resource base.

One study by Iowa State University found that if the Midwest grew enough fruits and vegetables to feed all the people in its cities, land would need to be pulled out of the commodity crop production, such as corn and soybeans. There was a positive effect, but not as big as many imagined, because the study accounted for the fact that growing corn and soy also had a positive economic impact on the community, and that had to be subtracted from the change to vegetable production.

However, all in all, impacts of local initiatives tend to be positive, she assured, because farmers' markets and food hubs act essentially as small business incubators providing opportunity to build skills and gain business experience. Also, the regular interactions with buyers and consumers may help circulate knowledge and ideas about new products and creative marketing.

Local and regional food policy councils are finding success, and Jablonski shared examples, starting with the aforementioned Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council. Through reciprocal arrangements with area schools, distributors who have gone through the city's bid process are then qualified to bid for schools.

Through the 2014 Farm Bill, Colorado State University received a grant from the USDA Foun-

deration for Food and Ag Research, which was matched by several commodity groups including the Colorado Wheat and Colorado Potato administrative committees. They are currently building a model that helps them understand the trade-offs along the supply chain for the benefit of the Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council.

Through the model, Jablonski was surprised to learn that many of the decisions made were not based on maximizing profit. Sometimes, shifts are based on how they impact dietary quality or the environment, and are driven primarily by urban council members.

"We're really trying to look at how we can get some of our urban partners to understand that some of these certifications aren't so black-and-white," she said. Councils serving these areas should consider including rural members that are farmers and ranchers, Jablonski said. They could inform the council what impacts these policies might have for farmers and along the supply chain.

"It's important to understand that urban people aren't doing what they do because they don't like farmers and they don't like rural places," Jablonski said. "They have good intentions, but they don't understand what they don't understand."

Similarly, rural producers are not as engaged in urban communities and their challenges. For these reasons, Jablonski urges local food policy councils to make room at the table for both urban and rural interests, and perhaps from organizations they've never considered.

Agriculture Workforce Coalition urges senate action on agriculture labor crisis

Following on the heels of a government-mandated increase in farmers' labor costs, the Agriculture Workforce Coalition (AWC), a diverse group of organizations representing the needs of agricultural employers across the country, urged the U.S. Senate to take up legislation to solve the agricultural labor crisis by calling attention to the dire labor situation facing our nation's agricultural producers.

The Adverse Effect Wage Rate (AEWR) is the required wage rate for farmers who use the H-2A program and the Department of Labor today mandated an increase that will average 6% across the nation. The AWC told the Senate that the increase will make it difficult for some farms to continue operating, coming after a year of natural disasters, trade disruptions, low commodity prices and declining farm income.

In its letter, the AWC called on the Senate to take action to address critical agricultural labor issues. The coalition urges the Senate to consider the impacts of the AEWR on U.S. farmers and is asking for an alternative that will ensure a level playing field for farmers and ranchers making them more competitive with foreign producers.

Farmers who use the H-2A program to procure legal workers from other countries must comply with a complicated and expensive application process to assure that domestic workers are not displaced, though few U.S. workers are willing to take jobs on farms. Farmers are also required to provide free certified housing and transportation to and from guest workers' place of residence. The AEWR implemented today will immediately increase farmers' labor costs by an average of 6% while revenues for agricultural goods continue to diminish due to an influx of cheaply produced imports flooding American markets.

Over the last five years the AEWR has increased nationwide by 17% on average while revenues for fruits and nuts have increased only 3% and vegetables and melons have seen no revenue increases. While American farmers are required to pay their H-2A employees more and more each year, the U.S. continues to import more and more produce from Mexico and Central and South America, where workers are paid a fraction of U.S. wage rates.

The Agriculture Workforce Coalition is asking the Senate for a legislative solution that ensures the competitiveness of America's farmers and ranchers, stabilizes the current U.S. agricultural workforce and provides guest worker program access to year-round agriculture sectors such as dairy, livestock and mushrooms.

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Lt. Paul M. Capaccio, his crew and one passenger, left Casper Army Airfield, Casper, Wyoming, on February 2, 1943. It was supposed to have been a five hour ferry flight to Tinker Army Airfield in Oklahoma City. Capaccio's aircraft was a United States Army Air Force Boeing B-17F. The crew had newly transferred to the 100th Bomb Group, 350 Bomb Squadron based in Sioux City, Iowa.

Later that day, all the men aboard were killed when the plane crashed into a small hill in rural Kansas.

Michael Boss, artist and historian living in Hill City, grew up hearing the story of the tragedy and for the last year and a half, he and a group of friends have been working toward

memorializing the men who lost their lives. On January 9th, their efforts came to fruition when a marker was set at a local cemetery near the crash site. Mike has also used his artwork to share this story, including a painting of local farmer Russell Pennington who rode his tractor to the crash.

Capaccio had flown into a major storm and was 125 or 130 miles north of where he should have been, Mike estimated. At approximately 4:20 CST, witnesses near the crash site said the B-17F was having engine trouble and flying in heavy fog. Capaccio was flying southeast, made a turn back to the northwest, climbed into the fog, turned southeast, came out of the clouds most probably in a slip

and flew into the hill. The site is eight miles north and 1/2 east of Bogue.

Having gone through crash reports, the cause is still up for speculation. Did they lose the use of their instruments? Was there damage to the plane? Whatever the reason, the B-17 crashed into a field, a hillside that could barely be called a hill. Witnesses said the holes made by the engines' plowing into the ground were visible for years. Crews from nearby Walker Army Airfield had the sad duty of clearing the crash site of human and aircraft remains. It took more than a week.

Those lost in the crash were:

1st Lt. Paul M. Capaccio, pilot N.J.;

Latimer Lafayette Stewart, co-pilot Cal.;

1st Lt. Jacob M. Madsen Jr, navigator Iowa; Thaddeus I. Donlavage, engineer Pa.;

Frank E. Culver, radio operator Pa.;

Heiner M. Bloch, passenger Mi.

Those working on the monument project along with Mike are Ron Galloway, Corey Johnson, Bob Saunders, Loren Johnson, and Jez Rush. The monument is located in the McFarland Cemetery seven miles north of Bogue.

Ironically, only two hours earlier, a B-24 had run into trouble flying just north of Arnold, in this same weather system. The pilot ordered the crew to bail out but one of the crewmen was killed when his parachute malfunctioned. Dr. Jake grew up hearing the stories of this

crash from his dad.

What a dark day in Kansas.

These crashes are so common throughout Kansas during World War II. I have really toyed with the idea of a book about them. I touched on these incidents in *Kansas Forts and Bases* (co-authored with Michelle Martin), but there are so many stories. They are terribly sad, heart-wrenching, but such an important piece of what was sacrificed during that epic struggle and the pivotal role played by Kansas.

Deb Goodrich is host of the *Around Kansas TV show* and the *Garvey Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum*. She chairs the *Santa Fe Trail 200 in 2020*. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.

Kansas Soybean Expo 2020 roars into Topeka

More than 200 soybean enthusiasts gathered Jan. 8 in Topeka for Kansas Soybean Expo 2020. The Kansas Soybean Association (KSA) organized the annual event, with checkoff funding from the Kansas Soybean Commission (KSC), to coincide with the Topeka Farm Show at the Stormont Vail Events Center (formerly the Kansas Expocentre).

"In agriculture, we are always trying to learn and improve, and this year's Expo provided an excellent opportunity to learn from leading researchers, industry partners and other farmers," said KSA first vice president Teresa Brandenburg, Osborne, who chaired the Expo planning committee. "That made for a wonderful day."

KSA president Dwight Meyer, Hiawatha, and KSC chairman Bob Haselwood, Berryton, welcomed the attendees. The opening session featured updates from checkoff-partner organizations. The presenters were Shelby Watson, allied-industry relations manager for the USA Poultry and Egg Export Council, and Hannah Thompson-Weeman, vice president of communications

for the Animal Agriculture Alliance.

The keynote speaker, comedienne Leslie Norris Townsend, entertained the audience with a classic fish-out-of-water tale.

"Leslie moved from Hollywood to rural Ohio to live and work on her husband's 100-year-old family farm," Brandenburg said. "Her agricultural humor from a decidedly different perspective was like *Green Acres* brought to life.

"Her outlook and humor about farming, married life and motherhood reminded us that, no matter the situation, there is always something to laugh about. It was such a treat to have an entertainer who regularly appears on multiple TV programs join us for a day of fun, learning and fellowship."

Steve Scott, the farm and ranch news director for KKOW-AM 860 in Pittsburg, was the master of ceremonies at the luncheon. The featured speaker was Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam. He discussed the Kansas Department of Agriculture's role; growth strategies for the soybean sector; his recent trade mission to Taiwan with the U.S. Soybean Export Council; and some of the state government's rural-focused, "front burner" topics and projects.

During the awards and recognitions, Marvin Wahl, Oswego, was recognized for six years of service on the KSA board of directors; Ron Ohlde, Palmer, for nine years on the United Soybean Board; and Kurt Maurath, Oakley, for three years as KSC chairman. Jeremy Olson, Everest, was introduced as this year's ASA Corteva Agriscience Young Leader.

Chris Fisher of WIBW-TV 13 in Topeka received the Friend of Soy award. He arrived at the station in October 2011 and now is anchor for the morning and midday shows. He has provided his viewers with information about the soybean industry by scheduling KSC consumer media specialist Charlene Patton's cooking programs, involving her in weekend teasers, sharing video for the Kansas Soybean website and YouTube channel, offering Facebook Live opportunities, and promoting the Expo every year.

"Chris has made a difference," Patton said, "and we are fortunate to get to work with him."

Awards for meritorious service were presented in absentia to Dallas Peterson, Manhattan, and Jim Zwonitzer, Horton. Peterson was a weed scientist in the Kansas State University Department of Agronomy and for K-State Research and Extension for 30 years, retiring in October 2019. Zwonitzer represented the Kansas soybean sector nationally and internationally for more

than 40 years in numerous roles with both KSA and KSC.

Charles Atkinson, Great Bend, who represents KSA on the American Soybean Association board of directors, outlined the national organization's 2019 policy successes and 2020 priorities, then shared its centennial celebration plans for the coming year.

Next, Meyer (Hiawatha) presided over the KSA annual meeting. Andy Winsor, Grantville, who chairs KSA's policy committee, presented the guiding resolutions for 2020, which the voting members present accepted. The board elections returned directors Brice Bunck, Topeka, for District 2; Gail Kueser, Garnett, District 3; and Kim Kohls, Moundridge, District 6. Jared Nash, Parsons, became the second director at large.

The KSA directors gathered afterward and re-elected their officers for continued service in 2020: Meyer (Hiawatha), president; Brandenburg (Osborne), first vice president; Scott Gigstad, Everest, second vice president; Kueser (Garnett), secretary; and Gary Robbins, Emmett, treasurer. As the most recent past president, Lucas Heinen, Everest, will remain chairman.

Kohls (Moundridge) announced the district and overall winners in the Kansas Soybean Yield and Value Contests. LarMar Inc., Robinson, led the dryland division with a no-till entry of 94.01 bushels per acre. Love & Love Farms, Montezuma, topped the statewide irrigated division with a no-till entry that made 88.82 bushels per acre. Longenecker Farm, Abilene, won the value contest with 66.4 cents per bushel of increased value (7.2% over the cash price). This year, for the first time, the highest protein content also earned special recognition, and that went to Chris Bodenhausen, Muscotah, whose entry was 37.3% protein. Complete results and award photos are available via <https://KansasSoybeans.org/contests> on the web.

Participants then heard three K-State Research and Extension updates.

"Getting to the Root of the Problem: Managing Sudden Death Syndrome in Kansas" by Chris Little, Ph.D., associate professor of plant pathology

"Cover Crops for Integrated Weed Management" by Sarah Lancaster, Ph.D., weed-science specialist

"Kansas Farm Financial Situation" by Allen Featherstone, Ph.D., head of agricultural economics

The day's program concluded with David Schemm, Sharon Springs, state executive director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, who provided a special update about those programs related to commodities and disasters, natural-resources conservation, and agricultural credit.

Governor, Lt. Governor announce release of Office of Rural Prosperity listening tour report

Governor Laura Kelly and Lieutenant Governor Lynn Rogers announced at a recent press conference the release of the Office of Rural Prosperity Listening Tour report.

The Office of Rural Prosperity (ORP), housed within the Kansas Department of Commerce, was created by Kelly as a way to help revitalize and highlight rural Kansas communities.

The Office's new report includes details regarding the unique needs and strengths of rural communities across Kansas that

were gathered during a listening tour conducted this summer by Rogers and outlines the Office's recommendations for fostering growth and prosperity in these areas.

"I am proud of the work Lt. Governor Rogers has done to identify rural communities' barriers to long-term prosperity," Kelly said. "We are committed to partnering with rural communities, to develop policies that help Kansans succeed."

The report is a summary of conversations and public listening sessions with hundreds of Kansans

about what prosperity means to their community.

"Through our discussions with rural communities, we learned a lot about rural Kansans' unique challenges," Rogers said. "Which include housing; physical and digital infrastructure; economic and workforce development; high property taxes; and access to quality, affordable health care and child care."

The report outlines several areas ORP will be focusing on in the coming months to begin addressing these challenges. It includes plans to create

three Interagency Work Groups that will develop tools to help address the unique challenges facing rural communities in the areas of housing; child-care; and workforce recruitment, retention and education. These groups will bring together state and federal agencies to help identify what our state can be doing better when it comes to each area, find available resources and make recommendations for administrative changes.

"While the creation of the Office of Rural Prosperity and my listening tour were great first steps, we know there is much more work to do in order to facilitate growth and prosperity in rural communities," Rogers said. "I am excited to continue working to improve rural Kansans' quality of life one step at a time."



Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam addressed attendees at the Kansas Soybean Expo luncheon on Wednesday, January 8 in Topeka.

Photo by Donna Sullivan

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Comedienne Leslie Norris Townsend, left, used audience volunteers to sing about the worst Christmas gifts they'd ever received, to the tune of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. As the keynote entertainment at the Kansas Soybean Expo, she brought a humorous look to farming, married life and motherhood and a reminder that there is always something to laugh about. Photo by Donna Sullivan

Kansas Soybean yield-contest placers average 77 bushels

While a cold, stormy fall delayed harvest, further complicating late plantings and lagging crop development, the best agronomic practices and wisely selected varieties still contributed to Kansas farmers' producing high-yielding, valuable soybeans in 2019.

"The annual Kansas Soybean Yield and Value Contests recognize outstanding Kansas farmers and provide fun incentives for them to improve," said Greg Strube, Horton, who chairs the Kansas Soybean Association (KSA) contests committee. "They also allow our association, thanks to checkoff funding from the Kansas Soybean Commission, to share what participants learned to benefit all Kansas soybean farmers."

LarMar Inc., Robinson, led the dryland division with a no-till entry of 94.01 bushels per acre. Love & Love Farms, Montezuma, topped the statewide irrigated division with a no-till entry that made 88.82 bushels per acre. Longenecker Farm, Abilene, won the value contest

with 66.4 cents per bushel of increased value (7.2% over the cash price). This year, for the first time, the highest protein content also earned special recognition, and that went to Chris Bodenhausen, Muscotah, whose entry was 37.3% protein.

The yield contest included 25 entries, down four from 2018. The 22 winners in 11 categories had verified yields averaging 77.20 bushels per acre, compared to the reported state average of 44 bushels per acre in 2019. The contest winners' average decreased by 4.67 bushels per acre, while the state average increased 1 bushel per acre from 2018.

The value contest had 18 entries, three fewer than in the previous year. For their combined protein and oil contents, the top three entries averaged 62.1 cents (6.7%) in increased value over the \$9.24 base cash price. In 2018, that average was 99.3 cents (11.5%) above an \$8.60 cash price.

From north-northeastern Kansas, Laus Creek Farm, Hiawatha, placed

second to LarMar Inc. (Robinson) in the district no-till, dryland competition with 92.65 bushels per acre. Michael Oltjen, Robinson, placed third with 85.88 bushels per acre.

From northeastern Kansas, Kenny Wilson, Horton, led the district conventional-tillage, dryland competition with 84.62 bushels per acre. Derek Gigstad, Valley Falls, placed second with 76.40 bushels per acre. Greg and Michelle Strube, Horton, won the district no-till, dryland competition with 90.48 bushels per acre. Menold Bros. Inc., Hiawatha, placed second with 89.40 bushels per acre. Chris Bodenhausen, Muscotah, placed third with 85.53 bushels per acre. Grimm Bros., Morrill, won the statewide conventional tillage, irrigated division with 85.70 bushels per acre.

In north-central Kansas, Ryan Stewart, Washington, won the district conventional-tillage, dryland competition with 74.36 bushels per acre, and Rod Stewart, Washington, placed a close

second with 74.14 bushels per acre. Gregg Sexton, Abilene, won the district no-till, dryland competition with 71.95 bushels per acre. Lee Pifer, Washington, placed second with 67.41 bushels per acre. Adelbert Stewart, Washington, placed third with 66.19 bushels per acre. Gareth Pettijohn, Solomon, placed third in the value contest with 59.6 cents per bushel (6.5%) of increased value.

Robert Litch, Melvern, won the east central district no-till, dryland competition with 73.32 bushels per acre.

In southeastern Kansas, Bradley and Emily McVey, Fredonia, won the district no-till, dryland competition with 66.76 bushels per acre.

From south-central Kansas, Seiler Farms, Colwich, won the district conventional tillage, dryland competition with 78.26 bushels per acre. Justin McGonigle, Sedgwick, placed second with 75.21 bushels per acre.

Hill Farms, Benton, won the district no-till, dryland competition with 41.34 bushels per acre.

In southwestern Kansas, John Bergkamp, Garden City, placed second to Love & Love Farms (Montezuma) in the statewide no-till, irrigated division with 84.53 bushels per acre.

From northwestern Kansas, RTC Farms LLC, Norton, placed third in the statewide no-till, irrigated division with 83.44 bushels per acre. Jeff Wessel,

Selden, placed second in the value contest with 60.1 cents per bushel (6.5%) of increased value.

KSA presented the state and district winners with plaques or certificates and monetary prizes from the Kansas Soybean Commission at the Kansas Soybean Expo, Jan. 8 in Topeka. The highest dryland and irrigated yields in the state each received a \$1,000 award. In each district, first place won \$300, second earned \$200, and third received \$100.

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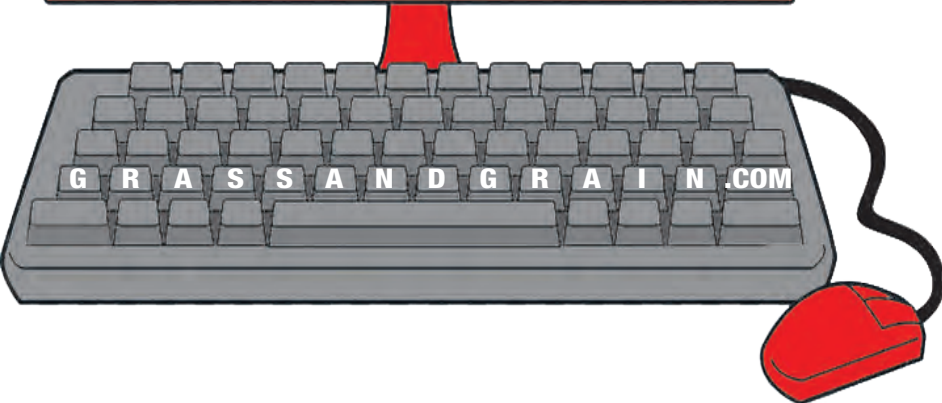
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Kansas farmers using bees to increase crop health

(AP) — With a nudge toward the past, Kansas farms are using bees once again to increase crop health.

During the early 1900s bees were prevalent in the state. Jorge Garibay, a beekeeping consultant from St. John, and others across the state want to increase this insect's numbers once again, *The Hutchinson News* reported.

Garibay said in 1977 there were more than 40,000 colonies in Kansas. Now there are just under 7,000. Garibay raises bees, produces hives and sells honey. He works with farmers to try to increase their yield and diversify.

Yields for soybeans, cotton and sunflowers increase substantially with hard-working bees nearby. Garibay said six to eight hives on one acre of crop usually increases the yield, and in the case of sunflowers, the weight of the commodity. Approximately 4,000 bees live in a hive.

Although soybeans are self-pollinating, Garibay said the yield increases from 10% to 40% when honey-pollinating bees are present. According to this beekeeper, the farmer would need six to eight hives per acre for a 40% bump in the yield. The purple-flowered plants seem

to benefit more from the insect than the white-flowered ones.

"You can produce substantial honey crops from soybean flowers," he said.

Although bees visit cornfields to gather pollen, Garibay said there is no known benefit to the crop. But, he recommends that farmers plant a row of nectar-producing plants between corn rows to benefit the bees and provide nutrition for the corn.

"You'd be producing two crops on the same ticket," he said.

For sunflowers, the bee's benefit is substantial, increasing seeds by up to 60%, Garibay said. Cotton also has increased yield with bees, although bees sometimes leave too much residue on the cotton plant.

Garibay gives presentations to farmers throughout the state. In December, he spoke at Santa Fe Trails Farms in Windom during the No-Till Field Day.

Joe Swanson, of Santa Fe Trail Farms, started using bees last summer. Garibay installed several hives near his crops, which the beekeeper takes care of, including harvesting the honey for Swanson.

"We are excited about the addition of bees in our system," Swanson said. "We were already focused

on soil health, but the bees add another vector for pollination, and we might add a little income on the honey."

Garibay said humans and bees need to find a way to work together. Sometimes he is called in to gather swarms of bees and relocate them. By placing bees in a natural habitat it is a win-win situation for the environment and the bee.

"One hundred years ago, the farmers had the bees on their land," Garibay said. "Feral honeybees are not dying but running low on habitat. I hope I can turn a page on this."

In 2019, Garibay placed 140 honey boxes to catch feral bees. He then brought the bees to locations where they thrive.

"We tend to overcrowd them in mainstream, conventional beekeeping," he said. "The great thing about bees is that they manage themselves. They feed themselves, self-breed, store up supplies for winter and clean themselves."

Bees also need the right climate. During the summer, Kansas' favorable weather helps the bees collect honey. They need access to water, pollen and nectar. Bees make honey to survive the winter. To keep the hives active, beekeepers do not take all the honey from the bees.

Tony Schwager, owner of his family-run business, the Bee Store in Lawrence, sells Italian and what he labels as "survivor bees." Both of these stocks, he said, thrive in Kansas.

"They're really good bees," Schwager said. "They resist mites. They're a tried-and-true breed."

Schwager works with farmers and urban agriculture customers. He also

teaches classes and sells all types of beekeeping equipment.

Rick and Vickie Turner, of Gridley, went into beekeeping after they retired. The Turners have raised bees for three years and have ten hives. Recently, the couple received a grant from the National Resources Conservation Service. They said this grant is to help take care of the habitat of the monarch butterfly.

"Jorge mentors us," Vickie Turner said. "He's the one who got us to convert to horizontal (beehives)."

Tim Gogolski is a beekeeper in Osage City. He has worked with bees as a hobby since he was 14 and now has 15 hives. Gogolski, like Garibay, manages hives for others, including farmers.

"When I retired, my wife told me to have something to do," Gogolski said.

Other farmers are looking to diversify for both the health of the crop and the income honey could produce.

Jerry Birdsell, who owns a farm in Jewell, said one of his sons is interested in working with bees. Along with milo, corn, wheat and soy, Birdsell grows sunflowers, buckwheat, canola and safflower on Birdsell Family Farm. In addition to the soybeans, bees enjoy canola and safflower plants.

Darren Nelson, of Nelson Bower Farms in Windom, is thinking of starting to work with bees with his three children, ages seven, eight and ten.

"I'm always looking out for something they could do so they could start earning money," Nelson said. "I can put them through college with bees."

Yvonne Burden, of Stephenson Land and Cattle in Medicine Lodge, is also examining the possibilities of diversifying with bees.

"I'm looking into how we can utilize bees to increase our grasses and benefit fruit trees," Burden said.

The beekeepers associations, the Bee Store, Garibay and other beekeepers throughout Kansas are ready to answer questions about raising bees.

"We have to believe that change will happen," Garibay said. "Farmers and not nomadic beekeepers will be the stewards of honeybees in the future."

Corral maintenance the topic of January 30 Coffee Shop Meeting

Corral maintenance will be the discussion topic at the January 30 Coffee Shop Series meeting, scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to noon at Nelson's Landing in Leonardville. Will Boyer, K-State Research and Extension watershed specialist, will be the featured speaker.

"Deep mud in cattle pens, caused by abundant rain and snow through the fall of 2018 and winter of 2019, prompted this topic being included in this year's coffee shop series," said Greg McClure, Riley County Extension Agriculture Agent. "We need to figure out how to fix the problems we had last winter and create a better environment for our livestock in years to come."

This is the second in a series of Coffee Shop meetings held every other Thursday this winter through February 27. Jason Spellman will discuss crop insurance basics on February 13, and a panel of local farmers will discuss cover crop grazing on February 27.

Reservations are requested by noon the day before each meeting. Contact Greg McClure at the Riley County Extension Office (785-537-6350) for more information.

"The Heart of the Farm" event planned for February 22 in Corning

A Statewide Women in Agriculture "The Heart of the Farm" event, hosted by Nemaha, Jackson, & Pottawatomie county conservation districts will be Saturday, February 22, 2020, at the Corning Community Building in Corning.

Register online at tinyurl.com/2020wia no later than February 14, 2020. Doors open the day of the event at 8:00 a.m., where a light breakfast will be served. Presentations begin at 8:30 a.m. There will be a break in presentations at noon for a free lunch, catered by Home Cooking of Seneca. Both men and women are welcome to attend this free and informative event and listen to an amazing lineup of speakers.

Back by popular demand this year is Jolene Brown as the keynote speaker. Jolene is known as the Champion for Agriculture and she's a passionate supporter, promoter, and champion for the people who feed, clothe, and fuel the world. She is a walking, talking spokesperson and consultant for the family-owned business. With her keen insight and result-centered approach, she's been invited to sit at lots of kitchen tables and family business meetings. Jolene's keynote address will be "It's a Jungle Out There! Blazing New Trails in Agriculture." We'll learn the value of what we do in the eye of the purchaser, not the producer. With lots of humor and real-life stories, we'll laugh while we learn the joys of blazing trails in agriculture's "jungle!"

Jolene says, "We balance soil fertility, feed rations, and our checkbooks - but we overwork, overwhelm, and overload ourselves. It's time to bring renewal and balance to our work and family lives with valuable content, real-life examples, and a whole lot of fun." Jolene will teach and show us how with "The Balancing Act: Ten Ideas to Relieve Stress and Bring Renewal to Our Farm and Family Life," a fun and interactive workshop. You won't want to miss this!

With stress on the farm comes another topic many people are familiar with but unwilling to talk about: depression and suicide. Michael Rosmann, a farmer and psychologist from Harlan, Iowa, specializes in understanding why people farm, their unique behavioral health issues, and why suicide is unusually common among farmers. The Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network legislation that was authorized in the recent Farm Bill to improve behavioral health services for agricultural producers is based on work he and his colleagues undertook.

Are you prepared in the event of a disaster? Sandy Johnson is a senior associate with SES Incorporated, and she specializes in Agriculture Emergency Preparedness. She'll share with us the steps on how to be prepared before, during, and after should a disaster strike your home or community. Sandy has 25 years of experience working with county emergency managers, public health professionals, and the Kansas farming and ranching community.

In addition to being prepared for a natural disaster, we need to be prepared for passing the farm or business along to the next generation. Dennis White has practiced law for 35 years at White Law Office in Holton, a three-generation law firm. He is aware of the increasing role of wives and daughters in the management and successful transfer of farms to the next generation. Dennis will share information on how to prepare for family farm or business succession and estate planning.

Another great speaker lined up for the day is Brandi Buzzard Frobose, a rancher, cowgirl, mama, wife, and ag communicator. She is passionate about sharing the story of beef production and engaging with grocery shoppers to help reduce confusion about how food is raised. Buzzard has shared her story and explained beef sustainability on MSNBC, FOX News, and CBS News and has also spoken about beef sustainability to White House officials on behalf of beef producers. Along with her husband and daughter, they raise purebred Gelbvieh and Balancer cattle in southeast Kansas. Come listen to Brandi share her compelling story!

Rounding out the list of speakers is Malori Henry, a nationally certified massage therapist serving clients in northeast Kansas. Along with her national certification, she is also a certified medical massage therapist, certified infant massage therapist, and a certified headache specialist. She uses these certifications to focus on pain management in her business, Benevolence Total Wellness LLC. Malori will share tips and tricks to relieve stress and pain through massage therapy.

Join them for this wonderful event that would not be possible without all the generous support and donations from sponsors. Organizers especially want to thank their platinum sponsors this year: Nemaha Valley Community Hospital, Community HealthCare System, Holton Community Hospital/Family Practice Associates, Kansas WRAPS, and Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Conservation.

Remember to register by February 14, 2020, at tinyurl.com/2020wia. For more information and to see any updates regarding the event, check out their website: www.kswomeninag.com.

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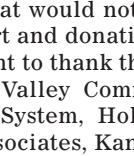
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Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

January 20 (Monday) — Selling 100 acres m/l in 4 tracts located North of Osage City held at Osage City for Elizabeth Schiller. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate, Wischropp Auctions.

Online Only Auction (soft closes January 22) — Tools, ceiling fans, painting & drywall supplies, landscape decor, kitchen & bath supplies, seasonal decorations held online at hollingerauction.hibid.com for a closed Great Bend store. Auctioneers: Hollinger Auction.

January 25 — Selling approximately 350 lots of coins including mint & proof sets, Morgans, over 20 pcs. gold & much more held at Portis. Auctioneers: Wolters Auction.

January 25 — Real Estate: very nice brick home, 4 BR, 2 BA; appliances, furniture, vintage gas station tireflator, collectibles, 20,000 sports cards & much more held at Manhattan for Sharon Hunter. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

January 25 — Machinery including tractors, combines, platforms & corn heads, planters & drills, tillage tools, hay equipment, rotary cutters, construction pieces, lawn, garden & ATVs, grain, feed & material handling, sprayers & applicators, trucks, trailers, lots of livestock equipment & more held at Paris, Missouri for Annual January Consignment Auction. Auctioneers: Wheeler Auctions & Real Estate.

January 25 — Snow blower, lawn mower, vintage furniture, collectibles, glassware, crockery, toys, lanterns & more held at Lawrence for a Private Seller. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 25 — Signs & advertising including thermometers, clocks, globes & more; tools, 1958 Ford child's electric car made in Kansas City 3 years; go cart race car, Speedwagon derby car, '20s pedal car; Ford 100 lawn tractor with blade & more held at Salina for Nelson Brougher Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 25 — Selling tractors, truck, trailers, hay & farm equipment, sprayer & much more held North of Overbrook for Erik & Amanda Finch. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

January 25 — 466.72 acres m/l in Logan, Walnut & Marysville Townships, Marshall County land: Tract 1: cropland, CRP, pasture, meadow, yard, creeks, waterways, machine sheds & 1 1/2 story house; Tract 2: farmland, native grass pasture held at Marysville for Paul Holle Trust. Auctioneers: Donald Prell Realty & Auction, LLC.

January 25 — 237.40 acres m/l of Washington County cropland held at Linn for Dianne Brooks. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik, Jeff Dankenbring.

January 25 — 157.2 acres m/l of Washington County prime farmland held at Barnes for Taylor/Pistorius Families. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik, Jeff Dankenbring.

January 26 — 1999 Ford van, 1992 Chevrolet step van 30 box van, electric shear, bending brake, welder, folder machine, drill press, bench grinder, large vise, ladders, power & hand tools, heating & air parts, air filters, drafting table, desk chairs & more held at Topeka for Topeka Heating & Cooling liquidation. Auctioneers: Simnitt Real Estate & Auction, Inc., Darrell Simnitt.

January 26 — Advertising mini jugs, crocks, Frankoma, doll collection, costume jewelry, Hummel collection, brass animals, 1882 coin set, kitchenwares & many more antiques & collectibles held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 28 — Three tracts of Rawlins County land (T1: 313 ac m/l; T2: 305 ac m/l; T3: 329 ac m/l) held at Atwood. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 30 — Antiques collectibles, household held at Concordia for Anna Townsden & Dean Townsden Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 1 — Guns, signs, prints, etc., toys, cast iron seats, blacksmith & old tools, Western items, butter churns & primitives, fishing & hunting, music instruments, advertising, photos, oil related, motorcycle items, tools, furniture & miscellaneous held at Strong City. Auctioneers: Hancock Auction & Real Estate, Paul Hancock, Jase Hubert.

February 1 — Body shop equipment, tractors, equipment, trailers, antiques & more held at Concordia for Gearld's Body Shop. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 1 — Selling two farms, 320 acres m/l in Washington County held at

Linn for The Estate of Ramona Ouellette. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

February 1 — Consignment auction held at Axtell for Axtell Knights of Columbus.

February 2 — Toys, collectibles, coins, advertising signs & more held at Salina. Auctioneers: Baxa Auctions, Mark Baxa.

February 6 — 485.14 acres m/l of Clay County farmland & rural residence held at Clifton for The Delmer Kahrs Estate & The Medora Kahrs Trust. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

February 6 — 327 acres m/l of Greenwood County Flinthills pasture land held at Eureka. Auctioneers: SunGroup Real Estate & Appraisals.

February 8 — Moving Mini-Farm auction including Challenger AWD tractor, equipment, horse items, round pen, collectibles, furniture, tools & more held at Lawrence for Gary & Connie Snow. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

February 8 — Antiques & collectibles including advertising items, signs, crocks, toys, crocks, Indian, Army & much more held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 8 — Production sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 9 — Furniture, primitives & collectibles including railroad items, spool display, costume jewelry, advertising items, toys, pictures, metal lawn chairs, mugs, marbles, records, Hesston belt buckles, graniteware, baseball, football & Star Wars cards, Chevy hunting posters & much more held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 10 — 160 acres m/l of North County farmland held at Phillipsburg for Alan & Becky Whitney. Auctioneers: Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.

February 15 — 39th Annual Production sale held at Garnett for GV Limousin.

February 17 (Monday) — 2,574 acres m/l of NE Geary County & W. Wabunsee County land consisting of pastureland, hayland, tillable farmland & excellent wildlife habi-

tat held at Manhattan for A. Leroy Fechner Estate. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

February 18 — 321.02 acres m/l Nemaha County farmland with excellent cover/wildlife habitat held at Goff. Auctioneers: Barnes Realty.

February 22 — 158.9 acres m/l of Republic County land including irrigated acres, native grass & home site acres held at Republic for Mark A. & Richard L. Stenson Revocable Trust. Auctioneers: Midwest Land and Home, Jeff Dankenbring, Mark Uhlik.

February 22 — Construction liquidation auction including trucks, trailer, construction tools & more held at Lawrence. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

February 24 — Builder liquidation auction including 3 properties with unfinished homes & 1 building lot property held at Manhattan for Bank of the Flint Hills. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 27 — 45th Annual Production Sale held at Quinter for GG&T Cattle Company.

February 28 — Total Performance Bull sale held at Quinter for Jamison Herefords.

March 1 — 18th Annual bull sale held at Wamego for Gold Bullion.

March 2 — 32nd Annual Lyons Ranch Superior Genetics Angus Bull Sale held at Manhattan for Lyons Ranch.

March 4 — Rottinghaus Farm & industrial Consignment Auction held at Beattie. Auctioneers: Rottinghaus Auction.

March 5 — 506 acres m/l in Lincoln & Russell County sold in 3 tracts & combinations held at Wilson. Auctioneers: Hall and Hall.

March 5 — Annual Bull Sale held at Courtland for

Jensen Brothers. March 6 — 43rd Annual Legacy Sale held at Manhattan for K-State Legacy Sale.

March 7 — Construction liquidation auction including a surplus of construction tools & other items held at St. George. Auctioneers: Foundation Realty, Morgan Riat.

March 7 — Judd Ranch 42nd Gelbvieh, Balancer, & Red Angus Bull sale held at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March 7 — Angus cattle including bulls, females, heifers held at Olsburg for Lafin Angus.

March 12 — 19th Annual sale held at Manhattan for BJ Angus Genetics.

March 14 — Equipment, trucks & salvage held at New Cambria for Don Janssen Estate. Auctioneers: Reynolds Auction Service.

March 15 — 23rd Annual Performance-Tested Angus Bull & Female Sale held at St. Joseph, Missouri selling fall & spring yearling bulls, cow/calf pairs and bred & open heifers for April Valley Farms.

March 18 — Cow sale held at Manhattan for Cline Cattle Company.

March 18 — Angus Production sale held at Overbrook for Woodbury Farms.

March 19 — 31st Annual Production sale held at Esbon for Benoit Angus Ranch.

March 21 — Farm items, antiques, tools held at Belvue for Raymond Pageler Estate. Auctioneers: Foundation Realty, Morgan Riat.

March 21 — On Target Bull Sale held at Blue Rapids for Springhill Herefords & Alcove Cattle Company.

March 21 — Bull sale held at Geneseo for Janssen Red Angus.

March 28 — Antique & household items held at

Manhattan. Auctioneers: Foundation Realty, Morgan Riat.

March 28 — Hereford Production sale held at Haviland for Sandhill Farms.

April 4 — Misc. farm machinery, livestock trailers, farm items, lumber, antiques, collectibles, old oil & gasoline items, household goods & miscellaneous held at Burlington for Doris McBride. Auctioneers: Col. Ben Ernst & Darwin W. Kurtz.

April 4 — Farm machinery, antiques & collectibles, automobiles held at Minneapolis for Gerald Newell Estate. Auctioneers: Bacon Auction Company.

April 11 — Guns, household, appliances, shop tools & equipment, boat & accessories, livestock equipment held at Bennington for Bill Whitman. Auctioneers: Bacon Auction Company.

April 11 — Fink Beef Genetics Spring Angus and Charolais Bull Sale held at Randolph.

April 18 — New Strawn Farm & Ranch Consignment Auction held at New Strawn. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Realty. Sales manager, Richard Newkirk.

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785-539-7558
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Manhattan, KS 66502

AUCTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020 — 4:00 PM

Auction will be held at the Fairgrounds on the East side of CONCORDIA, KANSAS

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & HOUSEHOLD
Daisy 100-38 BB gun; Japanese flag & scarf; Philippines Hawaii money; assortment Shriners items; 7 quilts; comforters; assortment linens; Army uniform; short dish cupboard; walnut parlor table; pattern back side chair; oak lamp stand; stain glass floor lamp; cedar chest; walnut tier table; 1/2 table; oak kitchen clock; other clocks; Squier guitar; Lloyd Narting painting; assortment other pictures; Large assortment Glass inc: Fostoria; hand painted bowls; pink depression pitcher & glasses; set Ivy china; hand painted bowls; red glass; Delft salt; cake pedestal; Royals glasses; Care Bear glasses; salt & peppers; **Jewelry inc:** (Army ring; 1947 Concordia class ring; other rings; bracelets; watches inc: ladies Waltham's side wind; Sieko, Elgin, pocket watches US Watch Co, Elgin, Illinois, Seth Thomas; costume jewelry); child's dresses; leather purse; dresser sets; viewer & cards; cameras inc: Minolta; pocket knives; figurines; Concordia & NCK paper items; kerosene lamps; transistor radios; assortment dolls inc: Barbie, Skipper & Ken dolls & toys; Colt 38 toy gun; assortment other toys; marbles; puzzles; several handmade wooden items; music boxes; cast iron lemon squeezer; hot dog cooker; cast iron frog sprinkler; buck saw; car side light; lanterns; coal bucket; lighting rods & balls; sled; Radio Flyer pedal fire engine; assortment books, many cook books; assortment other collectibles. **Household inc:** 60's china cabinet; beige hide a bed; pair rockers; oak entertainment center; 2 queen 60's bedroom sets w/dresser & chest; walnut drop leaf table w/2 chairs; round kitchen table w/4 chairs; 3 drawer chest; table lamps; 2 metal storage cabinets; small floor safe; picnic table; garden items; fishing poles; assortment hand tools; power hand tools; shop vac.

NOTE: There are many nice and unusual collectibles. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com.

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

ADVERTISING AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020 — 9:30 AM

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

SIGNS, ADVERTISING & TOOLS
Signs inc: Mobil Oil on base; Gargoyle on stand; Pegasus horse; Chevrolet; Genuine Chevrolet Parts & Accessories; Ferguson System Farm; Studebaker Service; REO Motor Cars; John Deere Farm Implement; Oliver Plows; Conoco Motor Oil; Edsel; Overland; Austin Service; Phillips 66; Sky Chief; Goodyear; Goodyear Silverstone; Fender Mojo Oil; FoMoCo; Mobilgas Socony-Vacuum; Red Crown Gasoline; Texaco Aviation Gasoline; Esso; Sinclair Opaline Motor Oil; Mobil; Sinclair; Wolf's Head Oil; American Telephone & Telegraph; Greyhound Bus; Continental Trailways; Ethyl Gas; Sovereign Service; Solite Gasoline; Fisk Tires; Firestone Tubeless Tire Service; porcelain Tire & Wheel, Service & Texaco in letters; Alemite; Goodyear; Firestone; Gates; NAPA; Snap-On; Gambles Western Auto; Pennzoil; BF Goodrich; Rest Room; GF price signs; (Clay Center advertising: R & D Arrow Place; Deluxe Café); cast iron Pepsi base; Coca Cola; Sprite Boy; Nesbits menu board; Nichol Kola; Crescent Beverages; AAA Root Beer; Squeeze; Clems Cola; Nesbits mileage sign; Pepsi mileage chart; Silver Seal Sodas; Republic Hotel Belleville; Railway Express; Western Union Telegraph; Velvet; Rainbo Bread; Phillips Morris; Camel Light; IH McCormick Dairy Equipment; Concordia Creamery; DeLaval Milker; Conde Milker; Swift & company Cream Buying Station; Red Goose Shoes; Barber Shop; Hair Bobbing; Pastum; Wildroot; Burma Shave; Texas & Southwest Cattle Raisers; Robins Best Flour; Horse Shoe Tobacco; Oil Max Cement; HyDrox Ice Cream; P & H; Eveready; Smokey Bear; Tung-Sol; Blackstone Cigar; Marlin; Kohler Engines; DeKalb; Chief Paint; Climax; Manhattan Milling; Diamond Edge Garden Tools; Steinhoffs Hatchery Osage City; Winchester; Mail Pouch; Viceroy; Bull Shipper; Mule-Hide; Beaver-teeth Chain Saw; Servel; Crust Buster; Evinrude; Pay Way; Singer Sewing Machines; road signs inc: Kansas 66; Very large collection of other signs; **Thermometers:** (IHC Trucks; Ford; Phillips Aviation Gasoline; Prestone; Quaker State; Skelly; Delco; Exide; Pepsi; Grapette; Mail Pouch; ExLax; Royal Crown; Dr Pepper; Double Cola; 7 UP; Crush; RCA Batteries; Atlas Perma Guard); **Clocks:** (Oldsmobile Sales; Phillips Aviation Gasoline; Gates; Skelly; Winchester; Pennzoil); **Globes:** (White Crown; Skelly Keotane; Texaco Filling Station; Champion); porcelain gum machine; 2 barber poles; Kool match holder; AC Sparkplug lamp; Diamond tire holder; Motorcraft Ford oil can rack; Phillips 66 oil can rack; Ford bedliner display; Ford Touch-Up paint rack; Pepsi store bottle case rack; Anco wiper blade cabinet; George Motor Clyde rain gauge; Wiry Joe Battery Cable display; gear shift knobs; oil jars; Kan O Tex can; large trap; siren; Windmill weights (Hummer rooster; Barnicle eye chicken; short tail horse); tire ashtrays; map holder & road maps; assortment of oil cans; Car tags several dealer; tag toppers; car lights; steering wheels; hub caps; spark plugs; light bulbs; radiator shrouds; grills; Assortment car manuals; **1958 Ford child's electric car made in Kansas City 3 years; go cart race car; Speedwagon derby car; 20's pedal car;** pedal horse; Ford TW5 pedal tractor; McCormick Deering coaster wagon; pedal scooter; cast iron fire call box; cast iron mail box; sample double engine w/propeller; several gas airplanes; several small engines; 3 slot pay telephone; switchboard telephone; lighting rods w/balls; steam whistles; ship wheel; watch fobs; Ford early 50's flat head V8 engine has been setting; stacking tool box; grinder on stand; assortment electric tools; assortment hand tools; **Ford 100 lawn tractor w/blade;** very large assortment of other collectibles.

NOTE: Nelson has collected for many years. There are many unique signs & collectibles; There are hundred's of items not listed.
Check our website for pictures www.thummelauction.com.

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

ESTATE AUCTION #5

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020 — 9:30 AM
2110 Harper Dg. Fairgrounds — LAWRENCE, KS
SNOW BLOWER, LAWN MOWER, VINTAGE FURNITURE, COLLECTIBLES, GLASSWARE & MISC. CROCKERY • TOYS • LANTERNS
See last week's Grass & Grain for listings & Please visit us online: www.KansasAuctions.net/elston for 100+ Pictures!
5th Auction from this Estate & MOST ALL Items Came Out of the Red Barn Garage ... not been touched in 50 Years! Many items date back to 1900s! DO NOT MISS THIS AUCTION! 100s of UNLISTED ITEMS! Concessions: Worden Church Ladies
SELLER: PRIVATE N. LAWRENCE, KS
Auctioneers: ELSTON AUCTIONS
(785-594-0505) (785-218-7851)
"Serving Your Auction Needs Since 1994"

BODY SHOP AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020 — 10:00 AM

315 W. 5th — CONCORDIA, KANSAS

BODY SHOP EQUIPMENT
Kansas Jack Magna Rack 4 post frame machine w/all attachments (double chain 20 ton, w/alignment capacity); mobile 6000 lb. lift on rollers; new 3 ton auto turn table; Campbell Hausfeld 220 twin cylinder air compressor w/extra storage tank; AKE 2000-B Body Man; Buske Collision repair system; Miller Matic 35 wire welder; new Titan 8500 portable generator; Resolv-R2 paint distiller; Hawke 60,000 lb. press; 2 heavy engine lifts; A frame w/chain hoist; Coats air tire machine; Nortroa spin wheel balancer; tire spreader; paint mixer; central vacuum system; new Tital power washer; KT torch w/bottles; Sure Bonder hail repair kit; Plastic mix machine; metal bender; electric cut off wheel; Slugger; Safety Kleen sand blaster; Chicago 2/10/40 battery charger; several floor jacks inc: 5 ton; bumper jack; jack stands; bottle jacks; Central 1/2 hp drill press; cut off saw; bench grinder; 6" bench vise; Reddy heater; electric

chain saw; Huck air riveter; air under coater; suction cups; come a longs; wooden bench; assortment hand tools; bars; several 4 wheel dollies; dust collector; assortment stands; 2 McCalls pattern cabinets; wringer washer; wooden ladders; lockers; roll around parts holders; night alarm; car cover blankets; shop fans; 15 hp; Briggs engine electric start; 1960's & 70's Camaro parts; assortment body parts; grills; lights; fenders; trunk lid for Bronco; racks of windshields & back glasses; assortment new clips; assortment books; 4 drawer file cabinet; assortment shelving; assortment tires; wheels; bolts; nuts; air bubble; large assortment small items.

TRACTORS, EQUIPMENT, TRAILERS, ANTIQUES & OTHER

Custom built backward tractor w/loader 6' bucket; Ford 8N tractor 3 speed over under; WC Allis tractor; IHC 104 Cub Cadet; 3 point equipment (5' shredder, 6' disc, 2 bottom plow, 5' blade, 2 row ripper,

spring tooth); 8' tandem disc; pull type 1 bottom plow; custom built tractor w/log splitter; Suzuki GT 185 motorcycle 4918 miles runs good; 8' x 16' gooseneck flatbed trailer w/winch; 2 wheel 4'x8' flat trailer; pickup 8' flatbed w/Rhino liner; 2 wheel shop built 8' trailer; bed slide; 1955 4 door Studebaker car; 1920's Chrysler body; 1957 Chev. 4 door parts car; 1994 Nissan Rodeo 4 wheel drive needs work; 80's Ford pickup box; Chev pickup box; 2 ford pickup boxes; HD 25 hyd post hole digger w/12" bit; hyd tamper; Antique Weber wood wheel wagon; cast iron light pole; US Army shade; well pump; shrimp net; antique heat radiators 4' & 8'; wooden wringer; cream cans; cast iron boiler; wash tub on stand; roto tiller; 10' x10' gazebo; Mobility scooter working; Woods 15 cu upright freezer; 15 cu refrigerator; water pump; flag poles; assortment used tin; assortment of other items.

NOTE: Gearld has been in business 59 years and is retiring. The equipment is in good condition. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com
GEARLD'S BODY SHOP • 785-243-1466
Auction Conducted By: THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC
785-738-0067



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Big Macs and Whoppers

No doubt most of you in the livestock business have a certain "family affection" for the fast food chains. Particularly those restaurants whose main attraction is the often disguised but still all American hamburger. It also is true that each of us has his

own particular favorite. Organizations like the National Restaurant Association have attempted surveys to compare the merits of each burger. Readers, you will be pleased to know that the Coyote Cowboy Co. (me) has conducted its own survey.

vey. This survey was taken with an international consultant on hand to advise: A Canadian Chianina breeder.

The burgers compared were the Double Whopper (hereinafter referred to as the WHOP), the Big Mac (the MAC) and Wendy's Double Burger (the BURG). Each was ordered on a rainy night with iced tea.

The highlights of the survey are as follows:

Patty Evaluation
1. **TRANSPARENCY** - The BURG was the only patty you could see


through.
2. **YIELD PERCENTAGE** (Meat/offal ratio) - The BURG again had the highest yield percentage.
3. **PATTY PULL TEST** (for tensile strength) - The WHOP showed the resistance to tearing.
4. **CIRCUMFERENTIAL PERFECTION** - The MAC displayed the roundest patty.
5. **SEAWORTHINESS** - Both the WHOP and the BURG sank in the iced tea while the MAC floated.
Condiments
1. **COLOR COORDINATION** - The BURG showed a certain flair with mustard, tomato and lettuce although style points were given to the MAC for the special sauce.
Bun Evaluation

1. **SWILL ASSIMILATION TEST** - Measured in BAU (bun absorption units)...the BURG scored well against the others in the second round. With ketchup it rated 8 BAU.
2. **SESAME SEED COUNT** - The WHOP won hands down with 42 seeds per bun.
3. **LIGHT REFRACTION** - None reflected light well enough to transmit Morse code messages over long distances.
4. **AERODYNAMICS** - The WHOP recorded the longest flight distance but was penalized for slicing to the right.
CONCLUSION
In our survey we found each hamburger to have its own peculiar advantages. The BURG rated high

in BAUs and color coordination but would be less suitable than the MAC if dropped in water. Neither would be as good as the WHOP if there was ever an ALL-BEEF Frisbee throw in the Summer Olympics.
I hope the information presented here will in some small way contribute to the mounds of scientific data now available on the fast food hamburger. I'm forwarding the results to *Consumer Reports*.
www.baxterblack.com

Wheat acres seeded at 6.9 million acres

Winter wheat seeded area for 2020 is estimated at 6.90 million acres, equal to last year's seeded area of 6.90 million acres, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Canola seeded area is estimated at 15,000 acres, down from last year's seeded area of 29,000 acres.



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Retail Cuts Available!!!

BEEF: \$3.29/lb hanging wght Full or half. 1/4 is 20c/lb extra
HOG: \$1.79/lb hanging wght Full and half.

Butcher by appointment - reserve your spot now! No Deliveries.
If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call!

Store Hours: Mon.-Fri., 7a.m.-4p.m. 785.499.6829
We take credit cards, checks, & cash! 303 LOWE, ALTA VISTA, KANSAS

GRASS & GRAIN



Farmers & Ranchers AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

Selling Cattle every Monday
Hog Sales on 2nd & 4th Monday of the month only!

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK TOTALED 3,943 CATTLE.

STEERS				
400-500	\$190.00 - \$208.00	3 blk	Galva	460@158.00
500-600	\$165.00 - \$187.00	24 mix	Moundridge	563@156.50
600-700	\$150.00 - \$161.00	6 blk	Canton	533@155.00
700-800	\$143.00 - \$152.25	18 mix	Assaria	582@150.00
800-900	\$138.00 - \$147.75	6 blk	Galva	598@147.00
900-1,000	\$132.00 - \$140.00	15 blk	Assaria	635@147.00
		8 mix	Bushon	604@146.00
		13 mix	Assaria	652@145.50
		18 mix	Gypsum	601@145.00
		4 blk	Canton	661@145.00
		4 red	Salina	669@145.00
		35 blk	Inman	666@145.00
		41 mix	Tescott	647@144.50
		14 blk	Clyde	606@144.00
		26 blk	Geneseo	692@141.75
		7 char	Solomon	702@140.50
		14 mix	Gypsum	716@139.75
		15 blk	Claffin	672@139.75
		25 mix	Tescott	705@139.50
		5 blk	Hutchinson	701@139.25
		35 blk	Clyde	699@139.10
		11 blk	McPherson	729@139.00
		3 blk	Barnard	727@139.00
		47 mix	Bennington	738@138.75
		17 blk	Gypsum	701@138.50
		11 blk	Minneapolis	719@137.50
		12 mix	Walton	725@137.10
		35 blk	Clyde	785@136.50
		15 mix	Salina	812@136.00
		8 mix	Gypsum	798@134.00
		12 blk	Abilene	881@134.00

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020:

STEERS			
17 blk	Leonardville	426@208.00	
12 blk	Leonardville	364@201.50	
6 blk	Clyde	465@197.00	
42 blk	Leonardville	483@195.75	
5 blk	Moundridge	437@190.00	
2 blk	Marquette	455@190.00	
4 mix	Canton	458@188.00	
5 blk	Delphos	513@187.00	
32 blk	Leonardville	554@187.00	
5 mix	Abilene	536@184.00	
7 blk	Clay Center	516@178.00	
14 blk	Assaria	557@170.50	
13 mix	Assaria	588@170.00	
17 blk	Clay Center	572@167.00	
29 mix	Moundridge	601@161.00	
17 blk	Delphos	611@159.50	
10 blk	Hutchinson	630@159.00	
20 mix	Clyde	617@158.75	
11 blk	Durham	620@156.00	
41 blk	Clyde	720@152.25	
56 blk	Clay Center	712@150.00	
17 blk	Assaria	690@149.75	
125 blk	Lincoln	863@147.75	
22 blk	Delphos	746@147.00	
50 blk	Clyde	831@145.50	
65 blk	Longford	804@145.25	
63 mix	Assaria	837@144.75	
25 mix	Clay Center	815@143.50	
15 blk	Assaria	800@142.00	
17 red	Salina	936@140.00	
25 mix	Gypsum	903@139.50	
61 mix	Hope	891@138.35	

MONDAY, JANUARY 13:

FATS			
6 fats	Lindsborg	285@40.25	
2 fats	Tescott	255@39.50	
16 fats	Tescott	296@37.50	
1 sow	Abilene	520@21.00	
5 sows	Abilene	553@19.75	
1 sow	Abilene	635@19.50	
6 sows	Abilene	554@19.25	

BULLS			
1 blk	Ellsworth	2150@85.00	
1 blk	Ada	1920@77.00	
1 blk	Brookville	1905@75.00	

COWS			
1 blk	Abilene	1610@72.50	
7 red	Maize	1819@72.50	
1 roan	Abilene	1620@71.00	
1 mix	Assaria	1626@70.50	
1 blk	Assaria	1740@69.00	
1 blk	Salina	1545@67.00	
1 bwf	Hope	1740@65.00	
1 red	Lorraine	1740@64.00	
1 blk	Claffin	1480@63.50	
3 blk	Abilene	1417@58.50	
3 blk	Assaria	1338@55.00	

UPCOMING SALES:
SPECIAL COW SALES: SALE STARTS at 11 AM
 • Tuesday, Feb. 18 • Tuesday, March 17
 • Tuesday, April 21 • Tuesday, May 5
WEANED/VACC. SALE: SALE STARTS at 11 AM
 Tuesday, February 4

IN STOCK TODAY:
 • Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders
 • 6'8" x 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER METAL TOP
 • 6'8" x 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER
 • 42' ROUND BALE DUMP TRAILERS
 • HEAVY DUTY FEED BUNKS (Silage & Grain)
 • HEAVY DUTY 5000# GRAIN TOTE

Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

SALE BARN PHONE: 785-825-0211
 MONDAY — CATTLE • HOG SALE 2nd & 4th MONDAY
 Hogs sell at 10:30 a.m. on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.
 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, BRANDON HAMEL & GARREN WALROD
 For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website www.fandrive.com

CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS
 FARMERS & RANCHERS HAS SWITCHED BACK to Cattle USA.com for our online auctions.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020

45 black & red s&h 60 days weaned 2 round vacc 600-850, 20 mostly black hfrs 100+ days weaned 2 round vacc home raised bunk broke 600-700, 44 Angus s&h long time weaned 2 round vacc 600-800, 40 black steers 80 days weaned 2 round vacc 600, 12 red & black steers 400, 90 s&h home raised weaned vacc 550-800, 60 s&h home raised vacc long time weaned Don Johnson sired 650-750, 30 black steers 800, 100 s&h gtd open long time weaned home raised vacc 900-950, 125 mostly black 825-860, 100 black s&h weaned vacc 500-600, 32 s&h home raised long time weaned vacc 750-850, 15 black s&h weaned November 1st 700, 37 black s&h weaned 2 months vaccs November 19th no implants 750-850, 55 black steers home raised long time weaned hay fed 600-850, 15 s&h home raised long time weaned 500-700, 28 black Sim/AngusX s&h long time weaned home raised, 13 s&h weaned 2 rounds vacc 550-600, 7 black heifers Fall vacc weaned 60+ days bunk broke, 40 s&h home raised long time weaned 2 round vacc mostly pure bred Angus some AI 650-800, 90 WF s&h home raised weaned vacc 450-600, 70 s&h 2 round vacc long time weaned home raised 600-800, 40 Red Angus s&h 700-850

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020 WEAN/VACC SALE:

20 s&h 500-700, 30 red & black s&h weaned 60 days 2 round vacc home raised no implant gtd open 600-800, 14 black mostly steers 500-600, 25 black heifers home raised long time weaned 2 round Fall 550-625, 40 s&h 600-650, 40 red and Char s&h 475-550, 100 mostly black/bwf s&h off rye 100 day weaned 2 round vacc steers implanted banded 500-600, 25 s&h 600-700, 26 s&h 90 day weaned vacc home raised 400-600, 35 black heifers 600-700, 55 black heifers home raised long time weaned 600-700, 100 s&h 800-900, 75 Red Angus steers 650-750, 40 s&h 2 round Fall vacc 550-700, 230 black s&h home raised long time weaned hay fed 550-700, 40 s&h 500-650, 60 mostly black heifers long time weaned Green Garden sired 600-700, 250 black steers 500-700, 90 black steers 600-700, 100 black s&h 500-600, 80 mostly black s&h 75-80+ day weaned 600-700, 90 red black CharX s&h 700-750, 60 black bwf red steers 800-875, 30 mostly black s&h 500-600, 120 mostly black s&h 45 days wean hotwire broke 500-700, 75 black steers 120 days weaned 2 round vacc 600-700, 70 CharX s&h home raised long time weaned 2 round vacc 550-750, 40 s&h 600, 39 s&h weaned Christmas shots in November 600-700

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

