



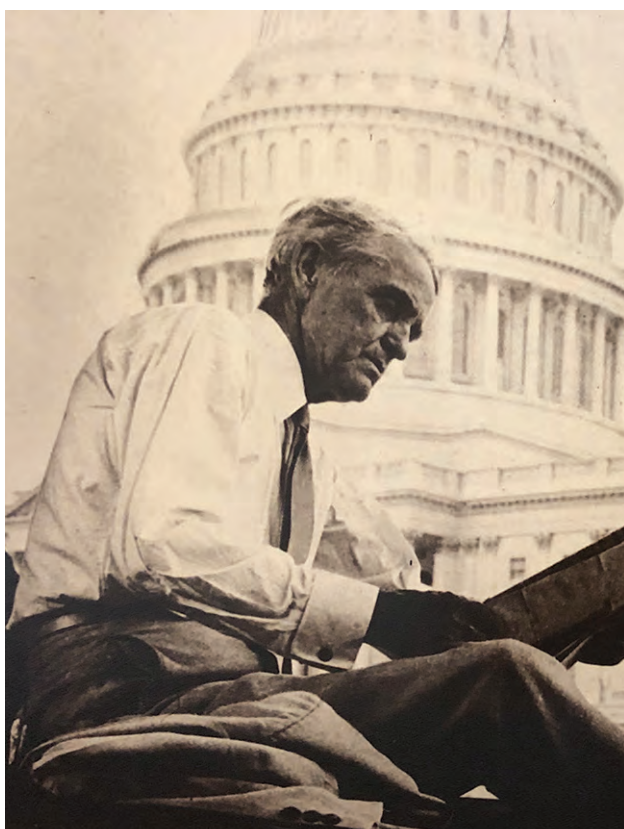
# Capper's influence on youth and agriculture still seen today

By Donna Sullivan,  
Editor

From publishing to politics, from 4-H to philanthropy, the influence of Arthur Capper can be found throughout programs in the state of Kansas. This year, the Capper Foundation celebrates its 100th anniversary, and its founder would have celebrated his 155th birthday in 2020.

Capper was born in Garnett on July 14, 1865 and began his journalistic career at the age of 14 when he became a "printer's devil" at the *Garnett Journal*. The term refers to a person, generally a young boy, who serves at or below the level of apprentice in a printing business. That foray into the world of print journalism was the beginning of a long and storied career. With his high school diploma newly in hand, he became a typesetter for the *Topeka Daily Capital* and began to work his way up the ladder until becoming an editor. He also served as a correspondent for the state legislature and U.S. Congress. In time, Capper's passion for print and desire to expand his horizons led him to journey from the Sunflower State to the Big Apple, where he went to work for the *New York Tribune*. Then it was off to Washington D.C., where he worked as a congressional correspondent.

When he returned to take up residence once again in his home state, Capper purchased two Topeka newspapers, the *Mail* and the *Breeze*. He returned to a struggling Tope-



Arthur Capper would have celebrated his 155th birthday this year, and the Capper Foundation marks its 100th anniversary in 2020, as well.

*Courtesy photo ka Daily Capital* to become its editor and publisher and in 1901, purchased controlling interests in the paper. Ten years later, the *Saturday Evening Post* called the Capital under Capper's leadership "one of the best and brightest dailies in the West."

Capper first held public office when he was named a member and chairman of the Board of Regents of the Kansas State Agricultural College, now Kansas State University. He served in that role from 1910-1913.

Politics was the next

target Capper decided to aim for. He ran for governor of Kansas in 1912 and was narrowly defeated by Democrat George H. Hodges. It was the only election he would ever lose. Two years later he ran again and became the first native-born Kansan to be elected governor, serving two terms from 1915 to 1919. He then served five terms as a U.S. senator from 1919 to 1949. While in the Senate he was chair of the agriculture and forestry committees during the 80th Congress and in 1922, co-sponsored the Cap-

per-Volstead Act, which exempted farm cooperatives from anti-trust laws, leading to a rush of agricultural co-ops. When he opted not to run for a sixth term at the age of 83, he held the Kansas record for the longest-serving senator at thirty years in office.

In 1927 Capper purchased WIBW, which was one of the first radio stations in Kansas.

Using his influence for the good of youth was a pillar of Capper's life. He formed agricultural clubs to loan money to students to start small business. Those clubs were the forerunners of today's 4-H program and Capper was later named to the 4-H Hall of Fame. 4-H is now the nation's largest youth development organization, serving nearly six million youth across the U.S. and 88,000 in Kansas.

Each year from 1908 to 1951, Capper celebrated his birthday with a huge party called "Children's Day," complete with a carnival, pony rides, games, ice cream and refreshments, all free to the public.

In keeping with his concern for children, he established the Goodfellow's Club Topeka, a group of men who gave candy and toys to youngsters on Christmas. The story is told of how, when the fear of diseases like polio rendered children unable to go outside to receive gifts, he created the Capper Fund in his top desk drawer that would be used to pay for surgeries, physical services and equip-

ment. That simple act of generosity grew to become the Capper Foundation, a non-profit incorporated in 1934 as The Capper Foundation for Crippled Children.

Capper's publishing empire included two weekly, two daily and five state farm papers, and two national magazines. *The Capper Weekly*, now known as *Capper's Farmer*, is owned by Ogden Publications and continues publishing.

When he died in 1951 at the age of 86, he left 25,000 shares of Capper Publications stock to the Capper Foundation, which allowed them to purchase land and build the campus at 3500 SW 10th in Topeka, offering services for children with disabilities. It has since expanded to include all age groups with

Upcoming celebrations include:

• **Capper Legacy Celebration — July 14, 2020**

Join us at The Vineyard in Topeka, KS, for food and ice cream, as we celebrate the 155th birthday of our founder, Senator Arthur Capper, and our 100th year of continuing his mission to build abilities.

• **100th Anniversary Gala — November 7, 2020**

In celebration of our 100th year of service, this event will be held at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center in Topeka, KS, to raise funds for Capper Foundation's program and service for children and adults with disabilities.

intellectual and developmental disabilities. Now in its 100th year, it serves 23 Kansas counties and 63 cities across the state.

From the farm gate to the 4-H meeting, the benefits of Arthur Capper's influence on agriculture and youth continue to ripple through and benefit society.

## Arthur Capper Points of Interest

Garnett, Kansas

Arthur Capper Memorial, 5th and Cedar, site of his birth home.

Anderson County Historical Museum, 418 W. 6th, houses Capper artifacts and personal belongings, including a top hat, letters and photos.

Topeka, Kansas

Capper Foundation, 3500 SW 10th, displays a walking tour memorializing his career and philanthropic achievements.

Kansas State Capitol, 300 SW 10th – second floor rotunda, displays a Pete Felton statue of Arthur Capper and a Walk of Honor Plaque on the statehouse grounds.

Topeka Cemetery, 1601 SE 10th, is Capper's resting place, adjacent to his father-in-law Governor Samuel Crawford.

Downtown Topeka Statue, 700 Block of South Kansas Avenue – west mid-block pavilion, celebrates the icon of publishing and Capper's importance to Topeka's history.

# Wheat prices bright spot in coronavirus situation

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

As the United States adjusts to the new normal brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, many are searching for bright spots in these troubling times. With the winter wheat crop breaking dormancy and producers working to get fields sprayed, prices are providing that much-needed ray of hope. Recent futures prices were close to \$5.00 per bushel for new crop contracts the middle of last week, and were approaching January highs.

According to Kansas Wheat CEO Justin Gilpin, the uptick in prices was driven at first by the increase in domes-

tic demand as consumers stocked up on bread and flour products. "Now that the initial surge of demand has passed after about a three-week flurry, we are seeing that local demand even back out as flour millers and bakers have gotten product in pipelines and back on the shelf," he said.

With domestic supply and demand becoming more consistent and stable, Gilpin says attention in the wheat market is being turned to international buyer interest and potential disruptions with government export quotas in the Black Sea region. He explained that Russia

has instituted an export quota close to what was expected, but the fact they are making government decisions on exportable supplies is concerning. "What if they take it a step further?" he questioned. "So buyers are working to ensure they have wheat in their pipelines to deal with that potential uncertainty."

The National Ag Statistics Service weekly crop progress report for the week ending March 29 provided additional good news, with Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas achieving 56%, 70% and 50% good to excellent ratings respectively. Potentially

dry conditions are always a concern and the crop will need favorable temperatures and rainfall as it finishes out. For Kansas, topsoil moisture supplies rated 5 percent very short, 11 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 5 percent very short, 11 short, 72 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. Gilpin said there are pockets of very thin stands of wheat in southwest Kansas as top soils are drying out.

The 6.8 million acres planted to winter wheat in Kansas this year is the lowest since 1909 and Gil-

pin points out that, combined with Nebraska's lowest wheat seedings on record, there is less room for error on production shortfalls in the U.S. "So the market will watch this year's crop prospects closely," he said.

Another casualty of the social distancing mandate brought on by the coronavirus is the Wheat Quality Council Hard Winter Wheat Tour, which usually takes place the first week of May prior to the USDA's first crop production forecast for Kansas. For the first time in five decades, the cars filled with wheat industry leaders will not traverse the state to report

their findings on the condition of this year's wheat crop.

While the Prospective Plantings report helped bolster wheat prices and firmed up soybeans, the indication that U.S. farmers intend to plant the most acres to corn in eight years put pressure on corn futures. The ethanol industry has also suffered, as the demand for fuel has decreased due to travel restrictions. According to a report in *Reuters*, falling gasoline prices and lower demand, some in the industry believe it's only a matter of time before ethanol plants decide to cut rates or close altogether.

# COVID-19 isolation a time to update farm and ranch record keeping

By Glenn Selk, Oklahoma State University Emeritus Extension animal scientist

The current "COVID-19" situation has temporarily changed a great deal about our daily lives. For many farm and ranch families it means that the son or daughter that had been going to high school or college is now at home and

helping with the chores. Why not take advantage of the technology skills that these young people could bring to the operation?

They probably still have online classwork to complete. Plus you need their assistance watching cows or heifers at calving time, and with feeding and caring for all livestock on the ranch. In addition, that low spot on the south 40 needs to have the fence repaired or replaced.

After all of that work is done, perhaps they could perform an especially important task of starting a new digitized record system for the cattle operation. If the ranch already has an older computerized system in place, a modernized update of the system may make it more "user-friendly" and valuable.

A good place to start on record-keeping would be to study the National Beef Quality Assurance Manual Chapter 6. This document gives guidelines of key items to record on the vaccinations and treatments that are given to cows, calves, or yearlings. The accurate, up-to-date

health records can be of value to both you and your veterinarian in assessing the effectiveness of treatments and disease protection. Plus these records can serve as aids in protecting your operation in the rare case that a violative residue is found in an animal that previously was in your control.

Health records are not the only items of information that could be put to good use by having an easily updatable record system. Production records have always been useful in selection and culling decisions. Current inventory of cattle by pasture location will be very useful in the aftermath of wildfires or tornadoes where fences are destroyed and cattle are scattered and mixed with others.

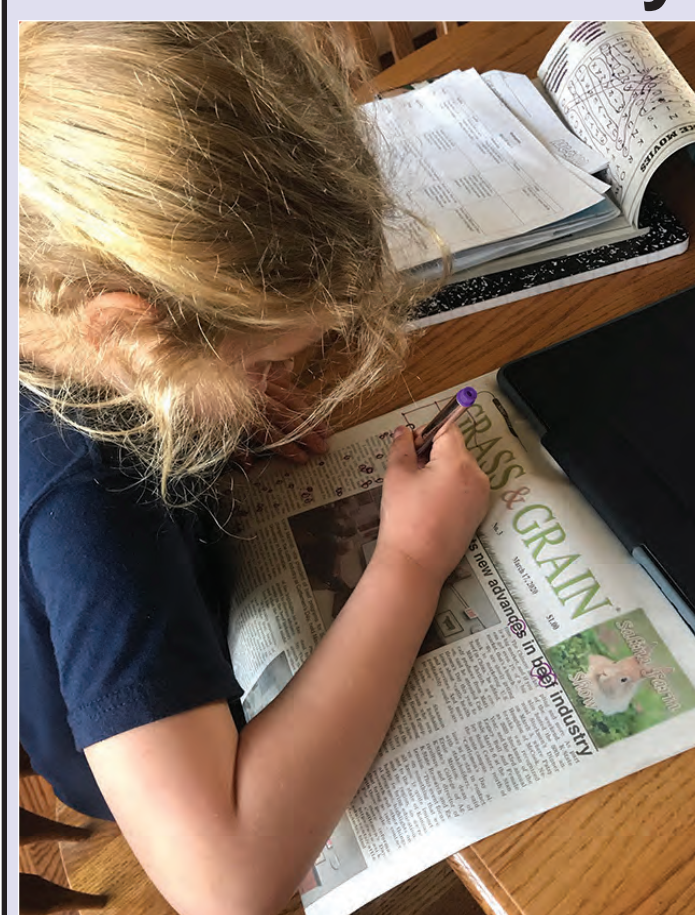
Working alongside that young, tech-savvy son or daughter as you develop a record-keeping system will make it easier for "old-timers" to understand the record program that was developed. The young people will learn a little more about the ranch operation and you

will learn a little about computer software. Who

knows, you both may come away from this effort with

more appreciation of each other's skills.

## G&G as a study tool



When Koy Nelson of Leonardville was instructed to find and circle the letter E in a newspaper, she found *Grass & Grain* beside her dad's chair and set to work.

With homeschooling now the norm for students due to the coronavirus, parents are finding many creative ways to educate their children.

Send us your homeschooling photos, whether it's the Three R's (Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic), or life skills you're sharing with your kids. We'll post them to our Facebook page and some will be printed in the paper. Email photo to [gandgeditor@agpress.com](mailto:gandgeditor@agpress.com).

Remember, we're all in this together, and together we'll get through it.

Photo by Becky Nelson





## Staying Afloat

By Noah Ochsner, Kansas Farm Bureau

I will never forget the day this “all started” on March 11. Me and some of my fraternity brothers were making our way back to Kansas after spending spring break skiing in Colorado and visiting Utah. We were headed back early because, at that time, it was only a rumor that Kansas State University would be moving instruction to online only. That night we were in our hotel room when a Utah Jazz player tested positive for COVID-19 or the coronavirus. The NBA suspended the entire season. As avid sports fans who follow the NBA, we knew this was becoming an increasingly serious situation. Earlier that day the World Health Organization declared the virus a pandemic.

The next morning we woke up to K-State announcing classes would be online until further notice. We sat in complete

## FSIS to propose voluntary COOL label

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service plans to propose a new rule that would create a voluntary country of origin label that could be used on beef products from livestock born, raised and slaughtered in the U.S. The agency said that a more accurate reflection of origin may focus on where the product is raised and slaughtered — not where it is born.

silence as we realized our lives were quickly being turned upside down. The seven-hour drive back to Kansas was largely silent. As more news rolled in, events around the nation were canceled, including the entire NCAA tournament. We arrived in Manhattan and parted ways. We didn't know it then, but that was the last moment we would all have together possibly until August. The next day, K-State announced the remainder of our semester would be conducted online. Our lives came to a complete stop.

All of this has been hard to take in for everyone. No matter who you are, in some way you have been affected by this pandemic. Personally, it has been very hard. I thrive on working with others and being around people constantly. That all changed in a matter of days.

Many of us have given up a lot. Graduations cancelled or postponed, intramural championships never to be played. Spending time with people we considered to be family, those memories you make in college, all stripped away in a matter of hours.

The hardest part for many of us is that we have no control over any of this. The feeling of helplessness and complete loss is hitting college students around the country. But we all understand why. The best thing all of us can do is stay home to protect the ones we love. We understand that although we might not be at risk if we get this virus, we absolutely comprehend the

threat it poses to many of our family members and those we love.

That's helped me realize this is so much bigger than any of the things I am losing over the next few months.

But, amidst all of this, we all have things to be thankful for. Every day I must remind myself that although this is insanely hard, everyone else is in the same boat. Yes, that boat at times seems like it is sinking and on fire simultaneously, but we are all a part of it.

These last few days have been trying moments and tough times for our state and nation. How we act now will forever go down in history. We should choose to work together, be there for our neighbors, and show the compassion and caring we Kansans are so proud of.

I have seen light in all of this that should give us all hope. People around the state are coming together to support each other when we need it most. Although we may not be able to give each other hugs, we can still show the compassion we have through one another in various ways. That all starts by staying home, only buying what we need and supporting local businesses in any way we can while maintaining the health and safety of our communities.

My hope is when this pandemic ends — and it will end — we are all able to cherish the moments we have with the ones we care about the most. Because you never know when life as you know it might come to a screeching halt.

*“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.*

## Prairie Ponderings

By Donna Sullivan

Well, as I write this I am in week two of working from home due to the social distancing mandate brought on by the coronavirus. All in all, it's going pretty well. I can honestly say that I have spent more time in my house than I have the entire time since we built it. Not going to the office every day has given me back that hour of driving time, so that's nice. I'm diligent to make sure I give my employer all the time I'm being paid for, but still have time to tackle little projects. This week's project has my family thinking I may have gone completely off my rocker because it is so uncharacteristic of me. I got three chickens.

Of course, there is a back story.

A couple of months ago, as I was driving down the driveway, I noticed this little shed-like thing a ways off, out in the grass. It may have been there awhile, because I'm not exactly known for my keen powers of observation — my husband once cut down a huge tree in our front yard and it took me three weeks to notice. He shaved his mustache off a few months ago and our 4-year-old granddaughter realized it before I did. Anyway,

I came in the house and asked him what the heck he had dragged home now.

“It's a chicken house,” he replied.

“Why in the world did you bring that home?” I demanded. I will admit to having little patience for the treasures he locates and rescues for repurposing.

“I don't know,” he said. “I thought the grandkids might use it some day.”

I stomped off and slammed a few doors to illustrate my displeasure. I don't think he noticed.

I can't even really explain what happened a couple of weeks later. I wasn't thinking about chickens or the little chicken house, but suddenly, these words just came out of my mouth. “You know, there's a little teeny part of me that would kind of like to have some chickens.”

My husband choked on his coffee and looked at me like he thought I'd either suffered a blow to the head or been kidnapped by aliens who left an imposter in my place. He remained speechless for several seconds.

“Well,” I said. “You brought home that chicken house, and I'm going to be home for awhile.

We might as well put it out by the garden and have our own fresh eggs.”

So, that Sunday afternoon, we moved the chicken house over by the garden and I went and got three chickens from my niece, who has already gained a reputation as a crazy chicken lady.

I can't even begin to describe the extreme pleasure I get from taking care of those chickens and going out each day to find three beautiful brown eggs. When I'm feeling stressed, I go out and talk to them. Not lengthy conversations, mind you, I'm not crazy. Just a “Hello girls, how are you doing today?” They respond with soothing clucks, then I return to the house and get back to work.

In this stressful, crazy time we are experiencing, I highly recommend a little chicken therapy if you can find it. You don't have to get your own — you're welcome to come talk to mine. Just be sure to keep your distance. I'll give you a hearty, welcoming wave from at least six feet away.

## Meat demand rising; supply chain is catching up

Current supplies of meat in retail cases are catching up as the supply chain works through significant increase in demand. Meat sales surged 77% the week of March 15 with ground beef as the biggest winner. Chuck and ribeyes also saw considerable growth, resulting in an extremely positive year-over-year performance for beef.

Additionally, Derrell Peel, livestock marketing specialist with Oklahoma State University Extension, says that there will be no shortage of meat in the U.S., and production of beef, pork and poultry are projected at record levels in 2020. Specifically, beef production is projected to be 1.9% higher year-over-year in 2020, totaling 27.7 billion pounds.



Well, I am the first victim of the COVID-19 crisis in my family, I was off my feet for almost two weeks. Okay, before you all get too worried, especially those who encountered me, I do not have the virus, but I was a victim of the crisis. No, my respiratory system is just fine, if you don't count seasonal allergies. I had a refrigerator accident.

My daughter's college year was a victim of the shutdown and we had to move her out of her college apartment. Not too much trouble; she did not have much furniture and had already moved a lot of her stuff home. Pretty much all that remained were a few pieces of furniture, a microwave and her college dorm refrigerator. The hardest part about the move was that she was on the second floor and the steps down were kind of rickety.

I decided that her refrigerator was the biggest item so we would bring it down first and fill in around it. Being the big, strong dad, I decided I would carry it down by myself. Carefully and slowly I made my way down the steps and soon I got to the bottom, upright and unscathed. I told everyone around that I had made it and the hard part was over. Then I took the next step.

I stepped out on the grass. It was wet from a rain that morning, and my foot slid back under me and down I went. Don't worry, the refrigerator landed on top of me and did not suffer a single dent or scratch. I, on the other hand, sounded like a bowl of Rice Krispies on the way down with a lot of snaps, crackles and three loud pops. The pain was immediate and being no stranger to leg injuries, I know when to stay down.

Tatum and the nice lady who is the superintendent of the building immediately rushed over and asked if I was okay. I told them I was not, and they got me to a chair to sit on while I tried hard not to pass out. Tatum and the superintendent's husband proceeded to carry everything down while the world spun around my head and got fuzzier and fuzzier. With the last load Tatum asked if I needed to go to the emergency room.

“Not this one,” was my reply. “Just get me in the car.” With everything going on in the medical world I did not want to visit an emergency room two and a half hours from home.

The transition to the car was not good, but soon I had a handful of Advil and some food and life was tolerable... if I did not move. It was a long drive home. When we got there, I immediately made my way to bed, propped my foot up and stayed there for four days. I knew that there was no reason to go to the doctor until the swelling was down and I did not want to go anyway. After the four days passed I started to make my way around the house gingerly and then outside. After two weeks I am happy to report that I am somewhat mobile and can at least help a little with chores.

In the meantime, Tatum really took up the slack. Everyone else had jobs to go to, so she had to do the morning chores all by herself. She learned a lot of things in the weeks I was laid up. Mostly she learned how important classes were so that she could get a paying job and move away from home. I learned just how capable both of my kids were and just how humbling it is to find out that they can run things as well as I can.

I thank my lucky stars that the injury was just a bad sprain and that life is gradually returning to normal, or as normal as it can be in this COVID-19-crazy reality we are in. It reminded me of how important my health is but also just how great and capable the rest of my family is. I think that is a realization most of us are coming to recently. Health is a precious thing and should never be taken lightly. That takes a backseat to reconnecting with our family and especially our kids.

I suspect as I continue to get better, I will get back into the busy springtime swing of things on the farm. Social distancing is not hard for those of us who farm and ranch in the spring. However, I will do so with a renewed and greater appreciation for the adults my kids have turned into. That and a slight limp.



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# GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

*Beth Scriptor, Abilene, Shares Cherished Recipe To Win Grass & Grain Contest*

Winner Beth Scriptor, Abilene: "Here is a recipe in memory of Thelma Baldock. I miss seeing her recipes in the Grass & Grain. I got her recipe book out that I have and cherish. Here is a good one for a Coffee Cake."

**COFFEE CAKE** (original recipe by Thelma Baldock)  
 3-ounce box instant vanilla pudding mix  
 1 box white or yellow cake mix  
 4 eggs  
 1 cup sour cream  
 1/2 cup salad oil  
 1 teaspoon vanilla  
**Topping:**  
 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed  
 2 teaspoons cinnamon  
 1/2 cup chopped pecans  
 Mix pudding, cake mix, sour cream, eggs, oil and vanilla in a large bowl. In a small bowl mix the topping ingredients. Grease and flour a tube pan. Pour about 1/4 cup of batter into pan then layer part of the topping mixture. Continue until all ingredients are used. End with topping. Bake at 350 degrees for 55-60 minutes. Serves 10-12.

Mary Hedberg, Clifton: "May be served with Cool Whip or ice cream."  
**MY LAZY DAY COBBLER**

2 sticks oleo  
 2 cups sugar  
 2 cups flour  
 2 teaspoons baking powder  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1 cup milk  
 1 can cherry pie filling  
 1 can crushed pineapple  
 Melt oleo in a 9-by-13-inch pan. Mix the sugar, flour, baking powder, salt and milk. Beat until smooth. Pour over melted oleo. Do not stir. Pour pie filling and pineapple over batter. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until browned.

flour, baking powder, salt and milk. Beat until smooth. Pour over melted oleo. Do not stir. Pour pie filling and pineapple over batter. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until browned.

Kellee George, Shawnee:  
**HAM PATTIES**  
 3/4 pound ground ham  
 1/2 pound ground beef  
 1 1/2 teaspoons dry mustard  
 1 egg

1/2 cup bread crumbs  
 1/2 cup milk  
 2 tablespoons brown sugar  
 6 strips bacon  
 Mix all ingredients except bacon and blend well. Shape mixture into 6 patties. Wrap bacon strips around patties and secure with toothpicks. Put on grill and cook on each side until done.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:  
**WHOOPIE PIES**

1 box spice cake mix  
 1 1/2 cups apple butter  
 1/2 cup canola oil  
 2 eggs  
 8 ounces cream cheese  
 4 tablespoons butter  
 3 cups powdered sugar  
 2 tablespoons milk  
 1 teaspoon vanilla  
 Heat oven to 350 degrees. Line baking sheet with parchment paper. In a large bowl whisk spice cake mix, apple butter, oil and eggs. With an ice cream scoop or large tablespoon, spoon batter into rounded heaps, about 2 to 3 inches in diameter onto parchment paper. Space spooned batter 2 inches apart. Bake 14 minutes. Let cool. In another large bowl beat cream cheese, butter and powdered sugar until smooth. Add milk and vanilla; beat until blended. Frost flat sides of pie halves and place halves together. Refrigerate and store in sealed container.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:  
**LEMON BREAD**

1/2 cup oleo  
 1 cup sugar  
 2 eggs  
 Grated rind of 1 lemon  
 1 1/2 cups flour  
 1 teaspoon baking powder  
 Dash of salt  
 1/2 cup milk  
 1 cup chopped nuts  
 1/2 cup powdered sugar  
 Juice of 1 lemon  
 Cream oleo and sugar until light. Beat in eggs and rind of lemon. Sift flour, baking powder and salt. Add 1/3 at a time alternately with the milk to the egg and sugar mixture. Fold in nuts. Pour into an oiled loaf pan 8-by-4-by-2-inch and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. While hot and still in the pan put several holes in the bread with a toothpick and pour over the bread a mixture of 1/2 cup powdered sugar and juice of lemon. Leave in pan for 10 minutes then remove to cool with glazed side up.



## Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon  
**Burning For A Fresh Start**

Before I even reached the bottom of J-Hill last night, I was greeted with the sight and smells of pastures burning. I already knew where it was coming from; my brothers and dad were out doing one of the things they love to do ... allowing the land a fresh start.

Growing up on Carlyon Road, I didn't get it; the fire burned my lungs and I didn't find the beauty that it held. I didn't understand the symbolism that it could provide. Last night as I got closer to the top of the hill, the smoke got thicker and I couldn't help but to smile. To be honest, life has been a little crazy right now, as I know it has been for most, but last night helped to put a little perspective back on life.

I continued down the road and around the corner to my parent's house for an intense game of hide and seek and a long conversation about what time the girls thought they should be home by. After much deliberation, they put on their shoes, loaded up and we headed out.

As I drove the quarter mile between my parent's house and my brother's house, the girls could see the fire burning through the clear-

ing and if you have ever been in the vicinity of a two- or three-year-old, you know exactly what was about to be fired my way... "why?"

How do you explain such a thing to such a small human? They were quick to inform me that: "we don't touch fire, it's dangerous, but can we go see it?" I did what any good aunt would do; I took them for a little drive. We went down the road and around the corner to the entrance of the wheat field, giving them the perfect view of the fire gracefully rolling down the hills. They begged and begged to get out and get a closer look, I neglected to honor that request.

They wanted to know why the boys were burning and why all of them were spread out while doing it.

I explained that by burning the yucky dead grass and trees they will go away and make room for something new and beautiful. I explained that if the boys were all together when burning they wouldn't be able to stop the fire if it got out of hand on the other side; they had to divide and conquer.

While I hate to compare COVID-19 to the burning of the pastures,

it seems fitting. It has literally stripped us down to nothing but the essentials and we are forced to start over from scratch. Ultimately when burning, you trust that the world will provide you with the right conditions for new grass and new life, but in the process things that once were, are now gone. COVID-19 has been a big slap in the face as a reminder that we really can't fix a bigger problem on our own, it takes everyone working together, from every corner imaginable; but together we can tackle any challenge.

I wish I had a timeline for when things would go back to normal, but while we wait, just remember to find time for the little things and never stop asking the big question, "why?" Try to be thankful for what we have and keep reaching out to ensure that people know you care about them. Find time to figure out what makes your soul happy. Life will eventually get back to normal, but until then, I will be over here in my own little world baking and counting down the days until I can have my normal back.

Michele grew up in Junction City and graduated from Kansas State University. She worked in the restaurant management field for six years before deciding to switch careers and now works as an office manager for a company that manufactures oilfield products. Her passion for blogging and food can be followed on Instagram: *boobsbrain-sandbaking*

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## Create A Sweet Easter Treat



(Family Features)--This Easter, satisfy guests of all ages with festive cupcakes modeled after the Easter bunny.

For more Easter recipes, visit [Culinary.net](http://Culinary.net).

**BUNNY BUTT CUPCAKES**  
 Recipe courtesy of Amanda Rettke of "I am baker"

Prep time: 45 minutes  
 Cook time: 20 minutes  
 Servings: 24

2-layer size white cake mix  
 1 tablespoon + 2 teaspoons McCormick Pure Lemon Extract, divided  
 1 tablespoon McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract  
 3/4 cup white chocolate chips  
 2 sticks butter, softened  
 16 ounces confectioners' sugar  
 2 tablespoons milk  
 10 drops McCormick Green Food Color  
 1-2 drops McCormick Red Food Color  
 12 large marshmallows, halved crosswise  
 3 tablespoons white nonpareil sprinkles

Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding 1 tablespoon lemon extract and vanilla. Spoon 3 tablespoons batter into 24 paper-lined muffin cups. Bake as directed on package for cupcakes. Cool cupcakes on wire rack.

To make bunny feet: In medium, microwave-safe bowl, microwave white chocolate chips on high 30 seconds. Stir until completely melted and smooth. Spoon into pastry bag or re-sealable plastic

bag. Snip small corner from bag. Pipe 24 pairs of bunny feet onto parchment or wax paper-lined cookie sheet. Use toothpick to smooth out bumps or rough edges, and gently tap cookie sheet on counter to help settle. Allow to harden 2 minutes in freezer or 15 minutes in refrigerator.

To make frosting: In large bowl, beat butter and remaining lemon extract until light and fluffy. Gradually add confectioners' sugar, beating well after each addition and scraping sides and bottom of bowl frequently. Add milk; beat until light and fluffy. Remove half the frosting and place in medium bowl. Add green food color; mix until evenly blended. Spoon into pastry bag fitted with grass decorating tip. Set aside. Remove half the remaining frosting into small bowl. Add red food color; mix until light pink. Spoon into another pastry bag.

Using pink frosting, pipe three toes and padding on each bunny foot. Once frosting has set (about 1 hour) gently press down on pink frosting to create smoother look.

To assemble cupcakes: Pipe green frosting onto each cupcake in series of short motions to create individual grass spots. Cover top of each cupcake completely.

To make bunny butts: Place cut sides of marshmallow halves onto each frosted cupcake, leaving room for bunny feet. Shape remaining white frosting into dime-sized balls then roll with white sprinkles to cover. Pipe small drop of remaining pink or white frosting onto top of each marshmallow. Press bunny tail on top.

Place both bunny feet against base of marshmallow with toes facing down.



By Linda Geist, University of Missouri Extension COLUMBIA, Mo. - Freezing offers milk drinkers a way to keep nutritious milk on hand at all times, says University of Missouri Extension dairy specialist Reagan Bluel. She works with producers in the heart of southwestern Missouri dairy land.

To extend the shelf life of pasteurized milk, freeze in freezer-safe plastic or glass containers at 0 degrees Fahrenheit, says MU Extension nutrition and health specialist Sarah Wood. Allow extra space at the top for expansion: at least a half inch in wide-mouthed pint jars and an inch for quart jars. Allow 1 1/2 inches in regular-mouth pint and quart jars. Put lids on containers.

Thaw in the refrigerator to keep it safe, Wood says. After milk thaws, shake well or run through the blender to distribute fat and solids that might have settled. Use within a few days.

Frozen milk may take on a yellow tinge. This is because the riboflavin in the milk does not freeze as quickly as the other ingredients. This does not affect its safety or nutritional value, but the taste may change. If the flavor is undesirable, use the milk for cooking and baking.

Always choose high-quality products to freeze, Wood says. Freezing does not improve quality.

Dairy lovers will be happy to hear that butter also freezes well. Use moisture-vapor-proof freezer wrap or containers to keep butter from absorbing odors and to prevent freezer burn. Butter in its original carton can be over-wrapped.

Processed and natural cheeses also freeze well, although some may become crumbly. For best results, grate the cheese then freeze in an airtight bag. Blocks should be 1 pound or less and no more than 1 inch thick.

Bluel says freezing is an economical move whenever butter and cheese go on sale. Single-person households might save money by buying milk by the gallon and freezing it in smaller quantities to prevent waste.

Bluel says there is more good news for dairy lovers: Ice cream freezes well for several months.

Source: Reagan Bluel, 417-847-3161; Sarah Wood, 573-882-6432

For more information, the MU Extension publication "How to Freeze Meat, Poultry, Fish, Eggs and Dairy Products" (GH1504) is available for free download at extension2.missouri.edu/GH1504.

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MU Extension news: extension.missouri.edu/news



By Ashleigh Krispense **Amish Cookie Bars**

This is one of the easiest desserts to throw together (without a cake mix!). If you have little kids at home, consider this a great "first recipe." They can learn the difference between old-fashioned and quick oats, how to melt chocolate (without burning it!), and maybe even how to use an oven. No matter who makes it, you'll have a delicious result awaiting you at the end!

- 2 cups quick-cooking oats
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3/4 cup chocolate chips
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter

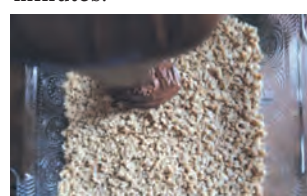
Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.



In a large bowl stir together the oats, sugar, butter and vanilla.



Press into a greased 8-by-8-inch pan. Place in the oven for about 11-13 minutes.



Melt the chocolate by placing a glass bowl over

a saucepan of water (and don't have the water touching the bottom of the bowl). Place on medium-low heat and stir the chocolate occasionally. Melt until smooth and then stir in the peanut butter.



Pour the chocolate mixture over the baked layer and chill for an hour or so, or until firm. Serve with a tall glass of milk and enjoy!

Ashleigh is a freelance writer and the gal behind the website, *Prairie Gal Cookin'* ([www.prairiegalcookin.com](http://www.prairiegalcookin.com)), where she shares step-by-step recipes and stories from the farm in Kansas. Follow PGC online or like it on Facebook for more recipes and ramblings!

Reach Out To Family, Friends And Neighbors

By Deanna Turner, Family & Consumer Sciences, Aging Programs Agent, River Valley Extension District

Can you not find toilet paper, hand sanitizer, bleach wipes, and eggs? Can you not travel out of town? Flip the script and think about the positive things you do have and things you can do during the COVID-19 crisis. Human connections promote wellness. Discover ways to reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who may be alone. Start by reaching out to those who are important to you and deepen your relationships.

Use or Learn New Technology:

- Most of us have the use of some technology. Utilize video chat such as Skype, Zoom, FaceTime, etc. as it is the next closest thing to being together in person.
- If technology is not your thing, or your loved one is not tech-savvy, a phone call is the next best thing.
- A quick text message or email is a great way to stay in touch between longer conversations.

Engage Family and Friends:

- Encourage members of your social groups (faith groups, organizations, and volunteer groups) to reach out to those who are socially isolated.
- Involve kids by having them create artwork that can be shared with grandparents, older family members, and other isolated individuals you may know.
- Creatively Engage:
  - Host a digital dinner with family and friends. Everyone joins online from their respective homes and eats together with family discussions.
  - Join online communities such as exercise groups, book clubs, webinars, etc.
  - Empower yourself to help other individuals and hopefully lift your spirits. Some examples include: calling those who are isolated or helping those who cannot get out.
  - A parade of cars to celebrate birthdays and weddings have been fun to see online.
  - Use your imagination to celebrate an occasion and keep the six feet of

physical distancing.

Spread smiles instead of germs during this crisis. Giving a smile can do wonders to cheer up a person. Count your blessings instead of your worries. Make happiness a choice in these trying times. Look on the bright side of life. Have a positive attitude as you connect with family, friends and neighbors.

Contact the Social Security Office by phone only. All local Social Security offices are closed to the public for in-person service since the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. If you had an in-person appointment, the Social Security representative will call and talk to you over the phone. You will still be able to call the Social Security Office Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. to get assistance. Call the Manhattan Social Security Office at 877-840-5741 or the Salina Office at 877-405-3494.

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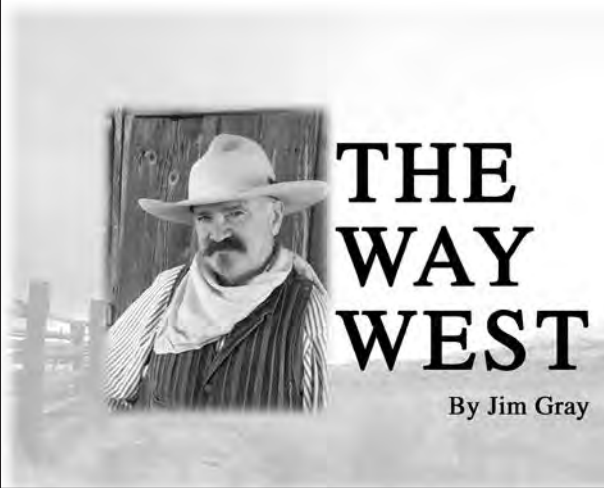



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# THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

## The Birth of War

With the close of the Civil War a nation turned its eyes westward. The vast ocean of grass known as the Great Plains offered new immigrants and veterans of the war an opportunity to start over. Eastern capitalists eager to capture new profits also looked to the undeveloped ranges of west.

But the plains and mountains were not devoid of native inhabitants.

The Cheyenne, Arapaho, Sioux, and Pawnee occupied the central and northern plains. Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache roamed the southern plains and the Crow, Blackfeet, Shoshone, Ute, and other lesser tribes inhabited the Rocky Mountains. Travelers on the Santa Fe Trail tended to interact with the Pawnee, Kiowa, and Comanche. Wagon trains on the Oregon-California

Trail also encountered the Pawnee as well as various bands of the Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho. Early experiences were often friendly in an uneasy sort of way. But as more and more wagons streamed onto the plains conflict was inevitable. Differences in culture, especially in the art of trade and title to property, were foremost in bringing war to the plains.

The Smoky Hill country of western Kansas had long been a common hunting ground for all of the tribes from both the northern and southern plains. Mountain tribes from the west and "blanket" tribes from as far east as Missouri were known to venture onto the prolific buffalo range of the Smoky Hill River. But first and foremost, among the tribes who utilized the Smoky Hill were the Cheyenne and their Arapaho allies. Smoky Hill country not only provided the Cheyenne and Arapaho with an abundance of buffalo, antelope, and elk, its ceremonial sites were central to the social structure of the people and to all that they held sacred.

Invading Anglo traders skirted the Smoky Hill country, following the Santa Fe Trail along the Arkansas River and the

California-Oregon Trail along the Platte River. When gold was discovered in the Rocky Mountains of western Kansas in 1858, a little-known direct route along the Smoky Hill River, known as the Smoky Hill Trail, also came into use. In the beginning the native people welcomed the gold hunters, thinking they would "go home" once they had found enough gold to satisfy their needs.

Ben Holladay's Overland Stage Company followed the South Platte River out of Nebraska to the foothills of the Rockies at present-day Denver, Colorado. Stage stations established along the route drew a variety of people and occasionally developed into small trade centers.

At Fremont's Orchard, near present-day Goodrich, Colorado, supplies could be purchased. News from the gold fields or the latest happening from the eastern states could be obtained as well as regular delivery of the mail. The "orchard" was a beautiful stand of cottonwood trees. No fruit could be found growing on the trees at Fremont's Orchard where majestic branches provided shade and comfort in an otherwise desolate land. The station's substantial

walls provided protection in case of Indian attack, although until 1864 the high plains had been peaceful.

That changed when the freighting firm of Irwin & Jackman out of Atchison, Kansas, reported the loss of 175 head of oxen to Cheyenne raiders in early April 1864. At the Frist Colorado Cavalry "Headquarters Camp Sanborn," Captain George L. Sanborn learned from ranchman W. D. Ripley that the Cheyenne had stolen his horses on Bijou Creek southeast of Denver City. Capt. Sanborn immediately ordered Lt. Clark Dunn into the field for the express purpose of taking back the stolen stock. Dunn's troopers spent the better part of April 12, 1864, scouting the bluffs on the south side of the South Platte River. At about four p.m., having marched seventy-five miles "over sandy hills, deep ravines, and most of the time without water," the command stumbled upon the Cheyenne raiders just north of Fremont's Orchard, preparing to run through a herd of government horses and mules.

Dunn ordered his men into a gallop and intercepted the raiders before they could run off the stock. In the distance Dunn could see riders driving a sep-

arate herd away from the soldiers. They were the stolen stock he was ordered to recover. Another line of raiders formed a defiant defensive line in front of the soldiers. Not wanting to start an Indian war Dunn dismounted and walked to the chief. Following formal introductions Dunn requested a return of the stock. His request was answered with "a scornful laugh."

When Dunn reached for a Cheyenne weapon, gunfire erupted and despite Dunn's best efforts, his action led to the birth of the Indian war of 1864 on the Way West.

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

## Farm Bureau continues tradition of giving back to hungry Americans

The farm and ranch families of Farm Bureau donated 26.3 million pounds of food and raised more than \$494,000 to assist hungry Americans in 2019 as part of the organization's "Harvest for All" program. Combined, the monetary and food donations totaled the equivalent of 24.5 million meals.

The spirit of farm communities has always been one of working together and giving back. Now in its 18th year, Harvest for All is spearheaded by members of Farm Bureau's Young Farmers & Ranchers program, but members of all ages from across the nation contribute to the effort. Their participation helps ensure Americans in need can enjoy the bounty of food farmers and ranchers produce.

In addition to raising food and funds for the initiative, farmers and ranchers tallied 14,400 volunteer hours assisting local hunger groups in 2019.

"Hunger remains a concern for many rural Americans and farming communities," said Morgan Norris of Florida, chair of AFBF's YF&R Committee. "Farm Bureau's long tradition of helping put food on the tables of those in need through Harvest for All outreach is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues."

Florida Farm Bureau took top honors for donating the most food in 2019, 18 million pounds. Illinois Farm Bureau raised the most money, \$205,900, and tallied the most volunteer hours, 7,035. Thanks to the generosity of Nationwide, these state organizations received a \$500 grant (for each type of contribution) for donation to a local food bank of their choice or for another Harvest for All

project.

Second-place winners were New York Farm Bureau for food donated at 7.3 million pounds; and Tennessee Farm Bureau for donated funds at \$126,100 and volunteer time at 2,400 hours. Each of the second-place winners received a \$250 grant (for each type of contribution) from Nationwide to donate to the local food bank of their choice.

### Most Innovative Winners

In addition, three state YF&R committees received \$250 grants from Nationwide for "most innovative" programs. Those winners were New Hampshire, New York and West Virginia.

New Hampshire Farm Bureau members focused on Thanksgiving food baskets for food-insecure families. This included farmer members raising turkeys, gathering fresh produce and canned goods, and delivery to those in need.

New York Farm Bureau members in Livingston County enhanced an annual "day on the farm" event by providing attendees with the opportunity to help pick sweet corn for donation to a local food pantry.

West Virginia Farm Bureau members collaborated with FFA members to pack 2,000 "backpack buddies" meals for school children and 500 food boxes for veterans. They also worked together to harvest 2.5 tons of sweet corn to donate to a local food bank.

The awards were presented during AFBF's virtual Young Farmers & Ranchers Conference. Since Harvest for All was launched, Farm Bureau families have gathered 323 million pounds of food, logged more than 193,000 volunteer hours and raised \$8.3 million in donations.





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# Students get head start on career skills as part of national championship crops team

Think of dynasties and you might think of sports teams like the Bulls or the Patriots, but for more than 20 years in the agricultural world, a university team of students has reigned supreme far more than any others.

Kansas State University's crops judging team has been national champions 17 of the past 21 years, giving those students a jump on any number of career choices in crop and food production when they graduate.

As a team, the students practice at least twice a week - more often as their fall competitions draw near, said Kevin Donnelly,

K-State agronomy professor and crops team coach. Many of them spend extra time on their own studying seed and plant identification, seed analysis and the proper ways to grade grain into categories.

"They must be dedicated students who are willing to put forth the study time necessary to really learn the content thoroughly," Donnelly said. "Successful winning scores are 95% or better. There is also a skills development component in carefully picking through the grain grading and seed analysis samples, so they need to have patience and persistence, and the will-



Kansas State University's crops judging team has been named national champions 17 of the past 21 years. Much of their success is due to the hours of study they put in, according to K-State agronomy professor and team coach Kevin Donnelly. Courtesy photo

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ingness to practice picking through many samples to develop their skills."

To prepare for the competitions, the students learn how to identify about 325 plants and seeds, plus do a simulation of a USDA Federal Grain Inspection System inspection in one and one-half hours.

"It's grueling, but if you prepare well, you're usually rewarded," Donnelly said.

Each October, the team competes in a regional contest in Iowa, Oklahoma or Kansas, and then spends a week in November competing in national contests in Kansas City

and Chicago.

The team has also made five trips to Australia in the past nine years to compete in the Australian Crops Competition, often funded in part by their high placement in U.S. contests.

Donnelly was the crops judging coach at Oklahoma State University for 13 years before coming to K-State. He has coached the K-State team since 2008.

He said the skills the students develop that are most transferable to careers are team members' expertise in plant and seed identification.

"When they enter jobs as agronomists, whether as crop consultants, seed company reps, chemical company reps, Extension agents, (or other careers), plant and seed identification is a valued skill, and they will be far above their peers and most likely their supervisors from the first day on the job."

Leavenworth County native Kelly (Yunghans) Marshall believes she got a running start on her career because of what she learned as a team member from 2008 to 2010, in addition to her classes and working part time in a research lab in the agronomy department.

"When I came to KSU, joining the crops team was not on my radar," said Marshall, adding that Donnelly encouraged her to give it a try. She graduated in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in agronomy.

She fondly described walking down the streets of Chicago looking for the famous Billy Goat Tavern "to get one of Dr. D's favorite hamburgers. We were often challenged to get out of our comfort zone, food-wise, while traveling with Dr. D and his rule of 'no chain restaurants or fast food' when you're visiting

a new city has stuck with me for life."

"In addition to the skills we were tested on in competition, it also helped me understand time management and prioritization, self-accountability, how to navigate a team atmosphere and help the team succeed as a whole, not just myself," she said. "I feel overall, the crops team gave me a competitive edge over some of my peers when entering the workforce by providing me with additional skills and an internal drive to succeed that I may not have had if I hadn't joined."

Marshall is now an area seed manager with Nutrien Ag Solutions, covering western Missouri and eastern Kansas.

"I would say moving forward as a senior going to grad school, time management is everything," said Noah Wynans, a senior agronomy major from Tekonsha, Michigan who was on the most recent (2019) national championship team. He said the team spends five to six hours a week in the lab preparing for competitions.

Nate Dick, senior in agronomy from Inman, who was also on the most recent team, said he plans to go into crop consulting when he graduates in May, so learning how to identify plants for the crops team will be helpful when he transitions into a career. He also appreciated the opportunity to travel and become acquainted with students from other schools.

Madison Tunnell, a junior in agronomy from Olathe, said the hours spent practicing with the team represented "a learning curve" she would never forget. Her favorite part, she said, was traveling to competitions which allowed her to strengthen ties with her teammates and make connections

with students from other schools, as well as industry representatives.

Team members learn seed analysis, which provides an understanding of the importance of good quality seed for planting, plus learning about grain grading provides them with an understanding of the standards that support the U.S. grain marketing system.

"Grain in the U.S. is marketed on the basis of U.S. No. 2 grade," Donnelly explained. "Most will not become grain inspectors, but may interact with them if they work in any career involving grain marketing, including a local co-op. If (students) should work in the seed industry directly, then seed analysis will be more directly applicable."

For those students who return to their own farming operation, they will use their weed identification skills, Donnelly said, and through learning how to properly grade grain and analyze seed, will have an appreciation for the importance of clean, high quality grain for the market.

Donnelly said he enjoys his "day job" teaching as an agronomy professor, but particularly enjoys his work outside the classroom with the team: "It is a great way for me to get to know some of our best and brightest students very well. I enjoy challenging students to push themselves further than they might initially think possible"

"The travel that we do provides students with opportunities to see cultural, scenic and agricultural sites that enhance their educational experience, and I enjoy those as well," he said. "I would like to think that it has helped attract at least some students to K-State and to major in agronomy."

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# Biology researcher receives NSF CAREER award to measure soil microbe, grazer interactions

A Kansas State University researcher aims to understand the depth of nature's social circle.

Lydia Zeglin, microbial ecologist and assistant professor in the Division of Biology, was awarded nearly \$650,000 from the National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development Program to research interactions between the tallgrass prairie's largest species — bison and cattle — and the smallest — soil microbes.

"The College of Arts and Sciences is very proud of Dr. Zeglin not only for receiving this prestigious NSF CAREER award, but also for the societal and economic impact her work will bring to Flint Hills life and the Manhattan community," said Amit Chakrabarti, dean of the college.

The interactions between grazers and soil microbes are important for prairie biodiversity and may affect how soil can remediate nitrogen pollution.

"We know how important grasslands are for carbon storage, but intact prairie ecosystems are also sponges for nitro-



Lydia Zeglin, a microbial ecologist, has received an NSF CAREER award to study interactions between prairie grazers and soil microbes.

gen," Zeglin said. "This is in part because the soil microbes can pick up nitrogen quickly and help keep it in the soil for a long time, even after plant tissue has decomposed."

Plants need nitrogen — a building block of proteins, DNA and other essential molecules — for healthy growth, but plants

can only use so much. According to Zeglin, if it wasn't for soil microbes, anything extra could leach out of the soil and pollute groundwater, streams, rivers and lakes.

"There may be a balance between the plant uptake and the microbial activity that regulates good plant growth versus poten-

tial for pollution," Zeglin said. "There's a concept called nitrogen retention, which is sort of the beneficial ecosystem service that

we are interested in making sure we are measuring and sustaining."

Zeglin's preliminary research suggests that cattle and bison may provide a service to the ecosystem by helping microbes spread their good deeds around the prairie.

"Grasslands evolved with bison and other large animals," Zeglin said. "One intriguing consideration is that bison and cattle can move microbes around as they pass across the landscape. They also redistribute nitrogen as they move around, which might help cultivate certain types of soil bacteria and archaea. Our plan is to collect samples in a way that enables distinguishing between the two mechanisms."

Zeglin's research will test soil from multiple prairie locations with a citizen scientist approach.

"Our ultimate goal is to understand the nitrogen cycle in all prairie soils

better," Zeglin said. "In order to do that, we need to interact with more people to get more coverage of different prairie soils. We will be working with The Nature Conservancy, ranchers and students to contribute soil samples from bison- and cattle-grazed areas across the Flint Hills to expand the range of understanding."

Zeglin and students, including graduate students in her fall Microbial Diversity class, will perform detailed investigations of soil microbial diversity and activity— some involving experimental manipulations — to learn whether soil chemistry determines microbial diversity, or vice-versa. The results will be shared with high school science classes, undergraduate biology classes and private landowners, with an intent to expand the scope and dissemination of the science as broadly as possible.

## Sorghum Checkoff board launches sustainability initiative, hires Everhart-Valentin as director

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program has launched an initiative to increase market value for growers by positioning sorghum as a sustainable solution for food, feed and energy sectors that serves the global community and its needs for nutrition and environmental health. The board also recently named Kira Everhart-Valentin as the organization's first sustainability director.

Everhart-Valentin will be responsible for developing and leading the sorghum industry's sustainability initiatives and will continually assess opportunities for investment and collaboration to increase the value of sorghum for farmers and industry stakeholders.

"We are delighted to have Kira join the Sorghum Checkoff," Sorghum Checkoff executive director Florentino Lopez said. "Her unique skill set and experience will bring a meaningful perspective to developing and maintaining a sustainability strategy that appropriately highlights sorghum's potential as an environmentally sus-

tainable crop while still respecting the importance of maintaining economic stability for sorghum producers."

Everhart-Valentin is a graduate of Kansas State University and has a master's degree in political science and a bachelor's degree in agricultural communications and journalism in addition to bachelor's degrees in modern languages and international studies.

She has worked in the sorghum industry for a number of years, beginning with serving Western Kansas farmers and businesses. Most recently, she served as the program coordinator with the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab on Collaborative Research on Sorghum and Millet at Kansas State University, working extensively internationally.

In this role, she managed a global program on sorghum and millet with partners across nine different countries. The program linked U.S. teams with international teams across various areas of sorghum innovation and

technology, including genetic improvement, agronomic practices and end-use processing.

"I'm excited to help define what sustainability means to sorghum as a crop and an industry," Everhart-Valentin said. "I hope to connect sorghum's many environmentally sustainable qualities to end users and consumers in a way that responds to the increasing demand for sustainable production practices while bringing value back to the sorghum grower for utilizing those responsible practices."

More information about sorghum and its sustainable benefits can be found at SorghumCheckoff.com/Sorghum-Sustains or SimplySorghum.com/Sorghum-Sustains.



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I am feeling a little overwhelmed and frazzled, as I am sure many of you are. Navigating the new normal is challenging. It isn't just the logistics of how to meet, educate, or get work done – it's the general malaise that goes along with the news.

The news is depressing, there's just no other way to put it. Losing country music star Joe Diffie was devastating. Many of my friends across the nation have lost friends, colleagues, or family members to this horrible illness.

We, as a nation, as a human family, have experienced worse. But we, in our lifetimes, at least many of us, have not. This is why we study history. It gives us perspective and it gives us hope. It reminds us that we are not alone. Even in our troubled times, in our isolation, we are not alone.

Those of us with faith know that God is with us. I believe God also gave us one another, across time and across space. Our triumphs and joys are meant to be shared, as are our sorrows and challenges. The challenge now is sharing long distance.

We are so blessed by technology! The phones and computers that we curse as intrusions are our lifelines as we check in on our loved ones and stay connected despite not being able to be in one another's physical presence.

Each week, I come into your homes through the magic, and I do mean magic, of television. It is an intimate medium, as is radio. I don't see each of you when I record the television show, but I am so aware of your presence and of your allowing me into your homes.

Thank you for allowing me to share each week here in *Grass and Grain* and thanks to each of you who reaches out to me. We really are all in this together.

Deb Goodrich is the host of the *Around Kansas TV Show* and the *Garvey Texas Foundation Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum*. She chairs the *Santa Fe Trail 200*. Contact her at [author.debgoodrich@gmail.com](mailto:author.debgoodrich@gmail.com).

## State Department clears the way for agriculture workforce

The U.S. State Department revised its restrictions on the processing of visa applications submitted by farm workers in Mexico after hearing concerns that the restrictions would lead to a farm worker shortage in the United States. Consular officers can now waive the visa interview requirement for eligible first-time and returning H-2A and H-2B applicants, making more workers in the H-2 program available while prioritizing public health.

American Farm Bureau Federation president Zippy Duvall said the following:

"We applaud the administration for recognizing the contributions H-2A

and H-2B workers make on farms across this country to ensure Americans have access to healthy, affordable food. Acknowledging the critical role of immigrant farm laborers by expanding the number eligible for visas protects the public health while ensuring families continue to have access to a stable food source.

"America's farmers and ranchers are committed to feeding America's families during the coronavirus pandemic and beyond. Workers in the H-2A program represent 20% of the country's farm workforce, so their contributions are necessary as we enter a critical time in the planting season."

# Kansas Corn STEM brings science home with continuous learning lessons

Kansas Corn STEM's continuous learning resources provide at-home learning resources to be used by teachers and students while schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These free resources can be found in the [kansascornstem.com](http://kansascornstem.com) lesson library, and can be used online or printed for use in packets for off-line learning. The Kansas Corn STEM continuous learning lessons help students learn about science and agriculture using tools like virtual breakout box activities, videos and at-home experiments that can be done with household items. Several resources are already available at [kansascornstem.com](http://kansascornstem.com), and more will be added through the end of the school year.

"Our team of Kansas teachers were excited to build new lessons for continuous learning, and we are adding more lessons as we go through this period of at-home learning. These lessons are tailored specifically for at-home use, and are a great resource for teachers, parents and students who are continuing their education efforts at home during the COVID-19 pandemic," Kansas Corn director of education Sharon Thielen, Ph.D., said.

Kansas Corn STEM is the award-winning education program of the Kansas Corn Commission. It encompasses educational programs that provide lessons for teachers from the elementary level to the high school level. The materials can be used to

help K-12 educators teach science using the topics of corn, biotechnology, ethanol, soil and water.

"Our education team continues to innovate with these new offerings," Kansas Corn CEO Greg Kressek said. "Teachers, parents and students are looking for engaging STEM lessons that can be used at home, and we have the resources they need."

Kansas Corn STEM contracts with lead teachers, inquiry ambassadors, agriculture education science trainers, curriculum writers, designers and education experts to provide lessons designed to meet Next Generation Science Standards.

"Going forward, these new resources enhance our current online educa-

tional lessons and labs and will have continued value both in conventional classrooms as well as home-school settings," Thielen said.

In the last year, Kansas Corn STEM's curriculum, training and materials reached over 51,000 Kansas students and teachers. In the current school year, the program is predicted to double its reach in Kansas schools. As the STEM program has continued to grow, the vision to continue expanding the program has continued to develop.

Kansas Corn STEM lessons are available at [kansascornstem.com](http://kansascornstem.com). Lessons are also highlighted on the Kansas Corn STEM page on Facebook: @kansascornstem.

## U.S. using less water for livestock than in 1960

By Scott Schrage, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Six decades after pouring water into its livestock production, the United States is investing relative drops in the bucket to produce its meat, milk and eggs, says a recent analysis from Nebraska's Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute.

Relying on data from the USDA and other sources, the team analyzed the annual U.S. outputs of beef, pork, poultry and milk from 1960 to 2016. The researchers also estimated the yearly amounts of water invested in each class of livestock: the rainfall and irrigation needed to grow grains and other livestock feed, the drinking water those livestock consumed, and the water used to clean the animals and their living quarters.

Annual water investments in U.S. livestock dropped 36% from 1960 to 2016.

By dividing the annual weight of each livestock product by the volume of water needed to produce it, the researchers then calculated water productivity, a per-animal measure of how efficiently U.S. producers converted water into food.

They found that U.S. water productivity for all

six livestock products — beef, pork, chicken, turkey, milk and eggs — improved incrementally but substantially across the 56-year span. The United States produced milk about five times more water-efficiently in 2016 than in 1960; pork nearly four times more efficiently; chicken, turkey and eggs, collectively, about three times more efficiently; and beef about twice as efficiently. Annual water investments in U.S. livestock dropped 36% from 1960 to 2016, the study reported.

Nebraska's Mesfin Mekonnen, the study's lead author, said the projected rise in global population — from an estimated 7.7 billion to nearly ten billion people by 2050 — will continue to demand improvements in water efficiency.

"Globally, we see that the population is growing, income is improving, and with that, the demand for livestock products is increasing," said Mekonnen, research assistant professor with the Water for Food Institute. "When comparing a livestock product to a nutrient-equivalent crop product, livestock demands more water. So with the increase in demand for animal products, there will be more water demand, creating more pressure on the limited available water."

The recent improvements in water productivity, Mekonnen said, likely stem from a few factors.

A combination of selective breeding, genetic engineering and supplements have increased the sheer size of the average livestock, he said, generally resulting in more food from each animal.

Similar efforts have also improved the efficiency with which livestock convert their own feed — usually grains, grasses or their byproducts — into meat, milk and eggs. While the total weight of U.S. livestock products increased 48% during the 56-year period, the weight of their feed rose by just 8%, the study found. Many of the grains that constitute livestock feed have themselves been bred or modified to require less water than they did a few decades ago, directly reducing the industry's water footprint.

Though the water efficiency of beef improved the least among the livestock products — beef cattle account for nearly half of the U.S. livestock industry's water footprint — Mekonnen emphasized the importance of context when evaluating consequences for the environment and food security. Many cattle, particularly those in the Nebraska Sandhills, forage on grasses that are inedible by humans and grown on rangelands ill-suited for other crops.

Mekonnen did cite the diets of grain-fed cattle and other livestock as targets for further improving

water productivity. The team reported that swapping out some corn and soybean meal for distillers' grains — byproducts of the grains distilled for biofuels and other purposes — could improve the water productivity of milk by roughly 20%, pork by more than 10%, and beef and poultry by about 5%. Because distillers' grains can contain more protein and provide more energy than corn and soybean meal, they might also indirectly improve water productivity via livestock growth, Mekonnen said.

"It creates the awareness that we need to look at the full supply chain when we talk about livestock or other products — from feed production to the final output," he said. "We cannot say, 'This is enough.' There is a need to keep on improving."

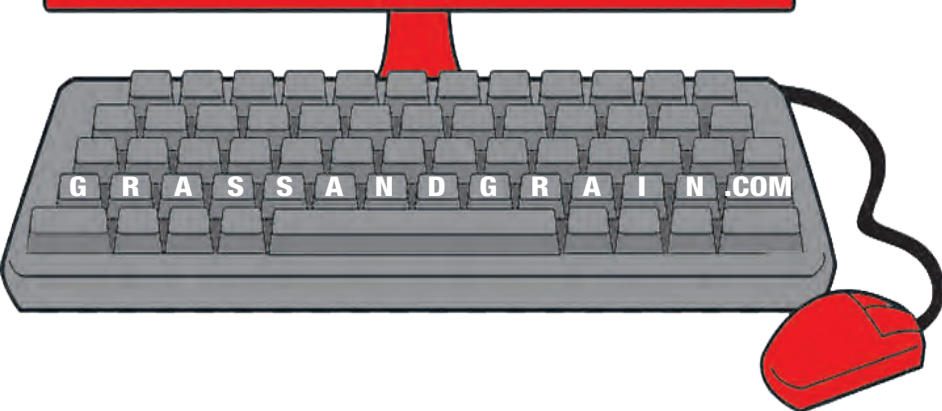
The team detailed its findings in the journal *Environmental International*. Mekonnen authored the study with the late Arjen Hoekstra, formerly of the University of Twente, along with Nebraska's Christopher Neale, professor of biological systems engineering and director of research at the Water for Food Global Institute; Chittaranjan Ray, professor of civil and environmental engineering and director of the Nebraska Water Center; and Galen Erickson, Nebraska Cattle Industry professor of Animal Science.

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# Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Due to the uncertainty of recent events, if you still plan to attend any of the following auctions, please contact the auction company to confirm that the auction has not been postponed and will be conducted.

Sealed Bid Land Auction (bids due by April 15) — 152 acres m/l of Dickinson County upland farmland for K. Reynolds. Auctioneers: Reynolds Real Estate & Auction Co., PO Box 565, Abilene, KS 67410. www.rrehomes.com

Online Spring 2020 Gun Auction (ends April 21, 6PM) — Over 400 firearms, ammo, reloading supplies, gun books, 2013 Ford F150 4x4 Crew Cab held at proxibid.com/kull or armsbid.com. Auctioneers: Kull's Old Town Station.

Sealed Bid Land Auction (bids due by May 1) — 520 acres m/l of Marion County farmland sold in 3 tracts via sealed bid for Leon Suderman Revocable Living Trust. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auction, LLC, 17162B, Switchgrass Rd., Alta Vista, KS 66834. www.hallgrenauctions.net

(This auction was scheduled for April 4 but was POSTPONED) — Farm machinery, antiques & collectibles, automobiles held at Minneapolis for Gerald Newell Estate. Auctioneers: Bacon Auction Company.

April 7 — 160 acres m/l of Cloud County cropland, grass & pit ponds, waterfowl habitat held at Glasco. Auctioneers: Gene Francis & Associates Real Estate Brokers & Auctioneers.

April 9 — (POSTPONED until Fall 2020) 320 acres m/l tillable and pasture located north of Ada. Auction held at Minneapolis. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC., Ray Swearingen.

April 11 (POSTPONED) — Tractors, hay equipment, trailers, boat, ATV, miscellaneous, Generac generator & more held at Kansas City, KS for Sylvester & Mildred Jackson. Auctioneers: Edgecomb Auctions.

April 11 — 146 acres m/l of irrigated Republic

County land held at Courtland for Dale & Danell Strickler. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik, Jeff Dankenbring.

April 11 (POSTPONED) — Guns, household, appliances, shop tools & equipment, boat & accessories, livestock equipment, large assortment of mechanics tools & 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 14 — 138 acres m/l of Dickinson County farmland held at Chapman for Ingermanson Trust. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC., Ray Swearingen.

April 16 — 563 acres m/l of quality farmland in Saline and Ottawa Counties in 5 tracts held at Salina for Ingermanson Farms, Ingermanson Trusts. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC., Ray Swearingen.

April 18 — (POSTPONED) Machinery, tools, antiques held South of Barnes for Dennis & Judy Woerman. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

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

April 25 — (POSTPONED) Tractors, windrower, balers, trailers, tractor, machinery, livestock equipment & more held at Summerfield for Milton & Kyle Stoll. Auctioneers: Jurgens, Henrichs, Harden, Sommerhalder.

April 25 (POSTPONED from April 4) — Tractors, farm machinery, pickups & truck, trailers, cattle & horse equipment, buildings & sheds to be moved, misc. arm items, tools & more held at Bunker Hill for Don Chegwidan Estate. Auctioneers: Wolters Auction & Realty.

April 25 — (POSTPONED) - John Deere pedal tractor, toys, signs, German helmet, Van Brig-

gle, Hummel figurines, coins, neon lights, tins, thermometers, clocks held at Topeka for Dan Gartner. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

April 25 (WATCH FOR RESCHEDULE DATE) — 1800s Conastoga wagon (complete), buggies, horse equipment, antiques & collectibles held near Eudora for Elden (Denny) & Marilyn Lynn. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

April 28 — (RESCHEDULED from March 31) — 57 acres m/l of Saline County farmland on spring creek held at Salina. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC, Ray Swearingen.

May 2 — 656 acres m/l of Washington and Marshall Counties Kansas land held at Hanover for The Heirs of Emil & Lyla Krause. Auctioneers: Midwest Land and Home.

May 9 — (RESCHEDULED from March 28) — Tractors, combine, trucks & machinery, motorcycles, antiques, collectibles, tools & more held West of Clay Center for Clarence & Marjorie Urban Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

May 12 — (rescheduled from March) — 415 acres m/l quality farmland on Gypsum Creek in Saline and McPherson Counties held at Gypsum for Micah Moffitt & Michael D. Becker. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC.

May 23 — (RESCHEDULED from April 4) — Collectibles & household held at Frankfort for Donna & Nilwon (Nick) Kraushaar Estate. Auctioneers: Olmsted & Sandstrom.

August 8 & 15 — Household, antiques and miscellaneous at Herington for Irene Finley Estate. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

August 22 (rescheduled from June 6) — Farm machinery, trailers, 1976 Lincoln, antiques, farm supplies, tools, iron & miscellaneous held at Talmage for Twila (Mrs. Rosie) Holt. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

## FSA makes changes to farm loan, disaster, conservation and safety net programs to make it easier for customers to conduct business

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices are open by phone appointment only until further notice, and FSA staff are available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Additionally, FSA is relaxing the loan-making process and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need.

FSA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into to the office, they will be working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible.

"FSA programs and loans are critical to America's farmers and ranchers, and we want to continue our work with customers while taking precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus," FSA administrator Richard Fordyce said. "We recognize that farm loans are critical for annual operating and family living expenses, emergency needs and cash flow through times like this. FSA is working to find and use every option and flexibility to provide producers with credit options and other program benefits."

FSA is delivering programs and services, including:

- Farm loans;
- Commodity loans;
- Farm Storage Facility Loan program;

Disaster assistance programs, including signup for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (this includes producers now eligible because of losses due to drought and excess moisture in 2018 and 2019);

Safety net programs, including 2020 signup for the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage programs;

Conservation programs; and

Acreage reports.

**Relaxing the Farm Loan-Making Process**

FSA is relaxing the loan-making process, including:

- Extending the deadline for applicants to complete farm loan applications;
- Preparing Direct Loans documents even if FSA is unable to complete lien and record searches because of closed government buildings. Once those searches are complete, FSA would close the loan; and

Closing loans if the required lien position on the primary security is perfected, even for loans that require additional security and those lien searches, filings and recordings cannot be obtained because of closed government buildings.

**Servicing Direct Loans**  
FSA is extending deadlines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially distressed and delinquent borrowers.

FSA will temporarily suspend loan accelerations, non-judicial foreclosures, and referring foreclosures to the Department of Justice. The U.S. Attorney's Office will make the determination whether to stop foreclosures and evictions on accounts under its jurisdiction.

**Servicing Guaranteed Loans**

Guarantee lenders can self-certify, providing their borrowers with:

Subsequent-year operating loan advances on lines of credit;

Emergency advances on lines of credit.

FSA will consider guaranteed lender requests for:

Temporary payment deferral consideration when borrowers do not have a feasible plan reflecting that family living expenses, operating expenses and debt can be repaid; and

Temporary forbearance consideration for borrowers on loan liquidation

and foreclosure actions.

**Contacting FSA**

FSA will be accepting additional forms and applications by facsimile or electronic signature. Some services are also available online to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

FSA encourages producers to contact their county office to discuss these programs and temporary changes to farm loan deadlines and the loan servicing options available. For Service Center contact information, visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.



Looking for an auction bill, hay prices or farm news? Subscribe to:

**GRASS & GRAIN**  
Call 785-539-7558 or visit us ONLINE at www.grassandgrain.com

**AUCTIONS POSTPONED!**  
The auction that was scheduled Saturday, April 4 for Gerald Newell Estate, Minneapolis will be held at a later date.

Also the Saturday, April 11 auction for Bill Whitman to be held at Bennington has been POSTPONED.

Watch for reschedule dates in Grass & Grain & www.wacondatrader.com. On Facebook: Ottawa County, Kansas Buy/Sell/Trade, Saline County Buy/Sell, Bennington/Minneapolis Buy/Sell/Trade

Sale Conducted By: BACON AUCTION CO. Royce K. Bacon, Auctioneer, 785-392-2465

**LAND AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020 — 10:00 AM**  
Hanover Community Building — HANOVER, KANSAS

**656± ACRES WASHINGTON & MARSHALL COUNTY KANSAS LAND**  
Tract 1: Washington County, Kansas. 310.3± acres.  
Tract 2: Marshall County Kansas. 79± acres.  
Tract 3: Marshall County Kansas. 266.7± acres.

**THE HEIRS OF EMIL & Lyla Krause, Sellers**

See March 31 Grass & Grain for complete information!  
\*\*\*\*\*ONLINE/PHONE Bidding Available ... Preregister NOW!  
For additional info visit  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)

**Midwest Land and Home**  
Jeff Dankenbring — Broker — 785.562.8386  
Mark Uhlik — Broker/Auctioneer — 785.325.2740  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)  
When you want the Best, Call Midwest!

## Opportunity for increased U.S. sorghum acres beyond 2020 prospective plantings projections

National Sorghum Producers CEO Tim Lust released the following statement in response to the U.S. Department of Agriculture 2020 Prospective Plantings report:

"The Prospective Planting report released today by USDA indicates an 11 percent increase in sorghum acres for 2020. While we are pleased to see a projected year-over-year increase in acres, a lot has changed in our world since the surveys used to help formulate this report were taken in February, and we feel there is greater opportunity for increased sorghum acres in the United States for the 2020-2021 marketing year.

When the analysis was conducted in February, sorghum prices did not reflect basis appreciation from export sales that occurred since that time. Significant purchase activity by China, approaching 1 mmt over the course of the last seven weeks, has driven basis improvements, and these purchases account for roughly 10 percent of the sorghum produced last year.

Sorghum for export traded at near-parity to corn during the entire month of February. Today, sorghum for export commands a 13 percent premium. These gains have been seen at interior country elevators, as well, with new crop basis gains of \$0.20-\$0.40 in the past two weeks. These sales and

basis improvements are encouraging, and, if this pace continues, will lead to potential for significant farm profitability gains.

With these factors in mind, both domestic and international demand will continue to drive sorghum acres, and we want to assure our customers there will be a productive,

high-quality sorghum crop in the United States for the 2020-2021 marketing year. We are committed to providing our growers with information they need to produce a high-quality sorghum crop and our buyers with the most updated information about the availability of U.S. sorghum."

**951 NE 70<sup>th</sup> St. Stafford**  
2bed, 2bath, 2cg, no basement, steel building, loafing shed, CRP land, sits on 152 acres.

Agent: Brad Elliott  
316-772-2776

**REALTY CONNECTIONS**

**LAND AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2020 — 10:00 AM**  
Courtland Art Center — COURTLAND, KANSAS  
ONLINE/PHONE BIDDING \* Preregister Now!

**146± ACRES IRRIGATED REPUBLIC COUNTY, KS LAND**  
This Incredible property is 94% in crop production with 126.5 irrigable acres that consistently produces year in and year out. Also includes a Center Pivot on approx. 46 acres & drip irrigation installed in 6 zones on the balance of the irrigable acres.

**DALE & DANELL STRICKLER, SELLERS**

See March 31 Grass & Grain's For Complete Details.  
For a VIRTUAL TOUR of this property visit  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)  
To stay up to date on auctions and listings LIKE our Facebook page Midwest Land and Home.

**Midwest Land and Home**  
Mark Uhlik — Broker/Auctioneer — 785.325.2740  
Jeff Dankenbring — Broker  
[www.MidwestLandandHome.com](http://www.MidwestLandandHome.com)  
When you want the Best, Call Midwest!

**520-ACRE MARION COUNTY REAL ESTATE AUCTION**

Offered By SEALED BIDS Due To The COVID-19 Virus  
Bids Must Be Received By May 1, 2020

**TRACT 1: 120.5 acres, more or less**, of which 119.85 acres is farmland with the balance native grass. Approx. 79% Irwin silty clay loam soil and 21% Ladysmith silty clay loam soil. Was planted to corn in 2019 and possession will be given to the Buyer at closing.  
**Legal Description:** W½ of the SE¼ and W½ of the E½ of the SE¼ of Section 24, Township 20 South, Range 2, East of the 6th P.M., Marion County, Kansas.  
**Taxes:** \$1,825.36.  
**Directions:** Approx. 1½ miles east of Hillsboro on 190th to Kansa. South on Kansa 4 miles to 150th. East on 150th ½ mile to the SW corner of the property. **Watch for signs.**

**TRACT 2: 78.5 acres, more or less**, of which 75.8 acres is farmland with the balance native grass. Approx. 57% Ladysmith silty clay loam soil, 31.5% Irwin silty clay loam soil, 8.6% Clime-Sogn complex soil, 2% Dwight silt loam soil, with the balance Clime silty clay loam soil. Was planted to beans in 2019 and possession will be given to the Buyer at closing.  
**Legal Description:** W½ of the SE¼ of Section 20, Township 19 South, Range 5, East of the 6th P.M., Marion County, Kansas.

**TRACT 3: 320.58 acres, more or less**, of which 314.37 acres is farmland with the balance native grass. Approx. 87.4% Irwin silty clay loam soil, 12.4% Ladysmith silty clay loam with the balance Clime silty clay loam soil. Approx. 240 acres are planted to wheat and possession of these acres will be given to the Buyer after the wheat is harvested. The balance of the acreage was planted to corn in 2019 and possession of these acres will be given to the Buyer at closing. There is an oil well and tank battery located on this tract.  
**Legal Description:** NW¼ and NE¼ of Section 7, Township 21 South, Range 3, East of the 6th P.M., Marion County, Kansas.  
**Taxes:** \$4,502.36.  
**Directions:** Approx. 4½ miles east of Hillsboro on 190th to Nighthawk. South on Nighthawk 7 miles to 120th. West on 120th 1 mile to the NE corner of the property. **Watch for signs.**

**Terms & Conditions:** Sealed bids on each tract will need to signed and will be opened May 1, 2020. The 4 highest bidders on each tract will be invited to a private auction to determine the successful bidders. 10% non-refundable earnest money will be due at that time on each tract. Balance due when merchantable title and Trust deeds are delivered. Closing on or before May 27, 2020. Mineral rights will transfer to the Buyer on all tracts at closing. The 1st half of the 2020 taxes and all prior years will be paid by the Seller. Cost of the Owners title policy, escrow and closing fees will be divided equally between the Buyer and Seller. Property sells in As-Is condition. All acreage amounts and soil types are based on county records and the USDA Web Soil Survey and are deemed reliable, but are not guaranteed. Sale is not contingent on the buyer obtaining financing. **Broker & Auctioneers are representing the Seller. For information contact Greg Hallgren, Broker & Auctioneer at 785-499-2897. Send signed sealed bids including the tract number, bidders address and contact information to: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions LLC, 17162B Switchgrass Rd., Alta Vista, KS 66834**

**LEON SUDERMAN REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST**

**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:** Outstanding opportunity to purchase productive farmland that has been well maintained. For maps and other information go to:  
[hallgrenauctions.net](http://hallgrenauctions.net)

**HALLGREN REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS, LLC**  
ALTA VISTA, KANSAS • 785-499-5376  
GREG HALLGREN 785-499-2897  
JAY E. BROWN 785-223-7555  
e-mail: [ghallgren@live.com](mailto:ghallgren@live.com)  
[www.hallgrenauctions.net](http://www.hallgrenauctions.net) • KSALink.com





### His Father's Son

Mary waited for Jesus outside the cave  
The promised resurrection meant He was saved.  
While others waited a savior to come  
Mary awaited her son.

The baby she had called Jesus stood in a crowd  
Others gathered around Him. She was so proud.  
She always worried in spite of His good  
That he'd be misunderstood.

stood.  
Mary, it's nothing you've done  
He always marched to some other drum  
You did all any mother could do  
He was His Father's son.  
Mary carried his sandals. Stood by his side.  
Memories, sweet reflections, shone in His eyes  
"Take care of Mary, for my time has come  
I'll always love you, Mom."

Mary, it's nothing you've done  
He always marched to some other drum  
You did all any mother could do  
He was His Father's son.  
Watch the music video online on YouTube at [https://youtu.be/aDCXRg-GV\\_xo](https://youtu.be/aDCXRg-GV_xo)  
Or type in "Baxter Black's His Father's Son"  
[www.baxterblack.com](http://www.baxterblack.com)

## Rumors surrounding stimulus package inaccurate, says KLA

With passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which includes support for livestock producers, there have been various inaccurate rumors circulating about how payments will be calculated and distributed. It is important to note that no payment formula or timeline was included in the stimulus bill. It simply designated funds to be used to provide relief for agricultural producers, including livestock producers. USDA will be developing an aid program in the weeks ahead and KLA and NCBA staff will be there to advise the agency on how best to target these disaster relief funds.

While livestock producers are not ones to ask for government assistance, the KLA Executive Committee, NCBA officers and several other state affiliates felt the pandemic was unprecedented and severe enough to ask Congress for disaster assistance, much like would be the case in response to a major wildfire, flood or drought. As a result, the cattle industry requested to be part of the CARES Act to allow USDA to deliver a one-time payment to help provide relief to those that have experienced losses. KLA staff worked with Kansas State University agricultural economists to estimate the level of damage this virus has caused the cattle sector. KLA and NCBA staff then worked together to communicate this information to members of Congress to ensure an adequate amount of funding was included in the legislative package to aid livestock producers.

### 10, 12 & 14 Bale Hay Trailers



- Cradles can be lifted w/one hand • Cradles are removable
- Safety locks for cradles in both the up & down positions, located at the front of trailer
- 1-Year Mfg. Warranty on axles & tires • 2-Year Warranty on trailer
- Heavy duty tubular construction
- 10-bale trailer has 7,000 lb. tandem axle with brakes & 10 ply tires
- 12-bale trailer has 10,000 lb. tandem dual axle w/brake & 10 ply tires
- 14-bale trailer has 12,000 lb. tandem dual axle w/brake & 14 ply tires
- Comes with a spare tire
- Now have options of hydraulic dump & 14 ply tires

**DENNING**  
MACHINE SHOP, INC.  
Toll-Free: 866-293-5450  
THE WORKHORSE OF WESTERN KANSAS

## Court rules in favor of Checkoff

The Beef Checkoff program and fifteen grassroots-led state beef councils won a major court victory as the United States District Court of Montana ruled in favor of USDA and the Montana Beef Council in the matter of R-CALF vs. Sonny Perdue and USDA.

NCBA praised the court's decision, which ends a legal battle that has spanned more than three years and interrupted beef promotion functions in Montana. The case had threatened local input and promotion efforts at the state level across the country.

"The foundation of the Beef Checkoff has always been state beef councils that collect checkoff funds and determine how those investments are used for research, marketing and promotion efforts in individual states. Those efforts are directed by the same cattlemen and cattlemen who pay the checkoff, so this victory goes a long way toward ensuring they continue to direct those investments," said NCBA CEO Colin Woodall.

Woodall emphasized that NCBA will continue to stand with state beef councils whose work is crucial to maintaining beef demand throughout the nation.



## Farmers & Ranchers AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

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

### RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK

STEERS		HEIFERS	
300-400	\$163.00 - \$178.00	25 mix	Clifton 895@101.00
400-500	\$160.00 - \$165.00	55 mix	Abilene 966@100.25
500-600	\$149.00 - \$162.50	60 mix	Hope 910@98.00
600-700	\$147.00 - \$154.25	116 blk	Hope 921@97.85
700-800	\$118.00 - \$128.50		
800-900	\$106.00 - \$114.25		
900-1000	\$97.00-\$100.25		

HEIFERS	
300-400	\$157.00 - \$165.00
400-500	\$147.00 - \$151.00
500-600	\$139.00 - \$143.00
600-700	\$110.00 - \$121.00
700-800	\$104.00 - \$115.00
800-900	\$90.00 - \$95.00

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2020:			
STEERS			
2 blk	Lincoln	326@178.00	
11 blk	Lindsborg	326@170.00	
15 blk	Tescott	562@168.00	
5 blk	Lindsborg	404@165.00	
15 blk	Lincoln	377@163.00	
34 red	Augusta	384@163.00	
19 mix	Holyrood	577@162.50	
38 mix	Salina	543@160.50	
5 blk	Abilene	538@160.00	
4 blk	Brookville	486@160.00	
16 red	Tescott	525@159.00	
4 blk	Hope	568@158.00	
18 mix	Holyrood	477@158.00	
27 blk	Tescott	510@157.00	
12 mix	Clyde	605@155.00	
16 mix	Olmitz	500@154.25	
13 mix	Tescott	470@154.00	
4 blk	Hope	501@154.00	
60 blk	Lincoln	512@154.00	
60 blk	Lincoln	437@153.50	
6 blk	Hutchinson	624@153.00	
3 blk	Claffin	577@152.00	
7 mix	Nickerson	603@152.00	
16 blk	Peabody	579@149.00	
9 blk	Marquette	624@148.50	
4 blk	Halstead	630@148.00	
24 blk	Inman	635@147.75	
34 mix	Holyrood	658@147.50	
7 mix	Delavan	634@145.50	
8 blk	Claffin	658@144.50	
5 mix	Goddard	649@143.50	
36 mix	Salina	623@143.00	
30 blk	Halstead	650@139.00	
11 blk	Goddard	698@135.75	
11 mix	Delavan	744@128.50	
26 mix	Olmitz	728@124.50	
23 mix	Nickerson	748@118.50	
120 mix	Clifton	803@114.25	
5 blk	Minneapolis	806@107.00	
28 blk	Marquette	760@107.00	
18 mix	Nickerson	879@106.50	
59 mix	Clifton	863@106.50	
58 blk	Lindsborg	910@105.00	
59 mix	Hope	895@104.25	
38 blk	Marquette	874@102.75	
65 mix	Abilene	917@101.85	

## 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](http://www.fandrive.com)

### CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS

FARMERS & RANCHERS HAS SWITCHED BACK to Cattle USA.com for our online auctions.					
1 blk	Hillsboro	1740@67.00	1 blk	Clay Center	1980@96.00
1 blk	Hillsboro	1595@67.00	1 blk	Salina	1865@95.00
1 blk	Hillsboro	1675@67.00	1 spot	Gypsum	1395@91.00
1 red	Marquette	1265@66.50	1 blk	Longford	1685@89.50
1 blk	Assaria	1500@66.00	1 red	Salina	2145@89.50
1 blk	McPherson	1845@66.00	1 blk	Jewell	2050@89.00
			1 red	Holyrood	2020@89.00
			1 blk	Wells	1700@88.00
1 blk	Longford	2020@99.50	1 blk	Longford	1685@87.50
1 blk	Wells	2195@98.00			
1 blk	Longford	1930@96.50			

**EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020**  
37 Black S&H home raised, long time weaned, hay fed 700-800  
55 Black S&H home raised, long time weaned 750-900

**EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020 COW SALE**  
**BULLS:** 1 Char 18 months; 3 Black Angus 18 months; 4 2 yr old Black Charolais semen & Trich tested; 4 yearling Black Charolais semen tested; 16 18 months Registered Angus bulls, semen & Trich tested; 10 Black Angus & Balancer Bulls yearlings, semen checked; 3 Charolais Bulls 14 months, semen checked; 1 Charolais/Red Angus Bull 13 months, semen checked; 6 Angus Bulls 20 months, semen checked; 4 Registered Charolais Bulls, yearlings, semen checked. **BRED HEIFERS:** 50 Red & Black bred Don Johnson & Lyons Angus, Fall bred for September 2nd calving, 13 Red - 37 Black. **HEIFER PAIRS:** 20 pairs Angus Hfrs & Angus Calves, home raised, calves worked; 18+18 Black Sim/Angus Heifers, home raised Hinkson Angus calves; 25+25 Black Heifer pairs, January calves black, Alpha 7, banded; 10+10 Red Angus, Fancy; 40+40 Black Sim/Angus, AI sired, all worked (Rosebrook Hfrs), home raised; 50+50 Black Heifer pairs; 45+45 Black pairs, mostly AI sired calves, 30+ 60 days old, worked for grass. **REPLACEMENT HEIFERS:** 8 Black/Char replacement heifers OCHV'd; 10 Red Angus Heifers, open, pelvic measured; 6 Red Balancer Heifers, OCHV'd-pelvic measured; 34 Black OCHV'd, checked open, pre breeding, home raised, pelvic exam, vacc 750-800; 16 Red OCHV'd, checked open, pre breeding, home raised, pelvic exam, vacc 750-800; 40 Red/RWF OCHV'd, pelvic examined; 25 Black Heifers OCHV'd, pelvic examined; 20 Black Heifers, OCHV'd, home raised, 700+; 36 Black Angus, home raised, OCHV'd, pelvic measured, pre breeding vacc 850; 40 Sim/Angus, OCHV'd, home raised, pelvic exam; 45 Angus & 11 BWF, home raised, trac & scored, checked open. **COWS/PAIRS:** 210+210 Black pairs 2-9 yrs Angus calves, complete dispersal 20 Fall bred; 35+35 Angus pairs 3-8 yrs; 220 Black cows 3-5 yrs Northern Origin, bred Sim/Angus; 120 Black/Red 3-5 yrs Bred Sim/Angus or Red Angus, August 1 for 90 days; 35 cows 4-6 yrs, bred to black bulls; 50 Black cows 3-5 yrs, bred black; 130 Black & Red Angus, Fall calvers, 3-5 yrs; 3-5 yr old, Black & Reds; 40+40 Red Angus pairs 4 to older, Red Angus calves, worked for grass; 100+100 older pairs; 27 4-7 yrs, calving now; 10+10 Running age Black Angus; 40 Black & Red cows 4-8 yrs, bred black Fall calvers; 30 Black pairs 3-5 yrs, home raised, Angus/Char calves, calves worked; 7 young Red Angus pairs; 80+80 Black Sim/Angus Red Angus cows 3-8 yrs, Sim/Angus calves, February-March calves; 60+50 Running age pairs & heavy bred, red & black, red & black calves; 80 cows 3-5 yrs bred Baker Angus bulls; 80 Black cows 3-5 bred Angus; 20 Black Cows 4-9 yrs, Fall bred Gardiner Angus; 50 Black Cows 3-5 yrs, bred Sim/Angus September 1st 45 days; 64 Black Cows 3-7 yrs, bred Griswold Sim/Angus Bulls, bulls in November 15th for 45 days; 50 3+ Fall & Spring calving cows, Red & Black Angus, Black bred Black Angus, Red bred Red Angus; 50 Fall Bred Cows 5-6 yrs, mostly black, bred Angus

**UPCOMING SALES:**  
**SPECIAL COW SALES: SALE STARTS at 11 AM**  
Tuesday, April 21 • Tuesday, May 5  
**WEANED/VACC. SALE: SALE STARTS at 11 AM**

- 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

For Information or estimates, contact:

**Mike Samples, Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-826-7884**  
**Kyle Elwood, Asst. Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-493-2901**

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

Check our listings each week on our website at [www.fandrive.com](http://www.fandrive.com)

