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Farmers to Families Food Box Program benefits producers and consumers

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

This spring, as fruit and vegetable growers were beginning to anticipate the year's bounty, the coronavirus and subsequent shutdown of life as we know it turned their plans upside down. Grocery store shelves were sometimes bare as supply chains were disrupted and panic buying became an issue, causing further shortages.

Meanwhile, many of the events that small produce farmers often hold to bolster their business had to be canceled due to stay-at-home orders issued to fight what the World Health Organization declared on March 11 to be a global pandemic. A national emergency was declared by the United States on March 13.

"We didn't get to have any of our spring events, and it was to the point of 'Are we going to make it financially this year?'" said Andrea DeJesus, co-owner of A&H Farm near Manhattan.

Then on April 17 the USDA announced that as part of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program they would purchase and distribute agricultural products to those in need through what was called the Farmers to Families Food Box Program.

A&H Farm was one of the contractors, and DeJesus said that in the first two rounds of the program, they distributed almost 34,000 boxes, consisting of nearly 850,000 pounds of food. In May and June, before much of their own produce was ready, they purchased fresh produce from out-of-state growers. As the summer wore on, almost 100% of the food in the boxes was locally grown, as sweet corn, watermelon, zucchini, cucumbers, potatoes and more became ready to harvest.

"It was an amazing program for us," DeJesus said.



Andrea DeJesus discusses the Farmers to Families Food Box Program with Rep. Roger Marshall and Greg Ibach, USDA's under secretary for marketing and regulatory programs when they were in Kansas in late August. *Courtesy photos*



Early in the program, A & H Farm purchased much of the produce for the food boxes from out of state, but as the growing season wore on, DeJesus was able to fill more of the boxes with locally grown items.

"It helped our farm and all the local farmers we used. It let us sell the product we had and not let it go to waste, and even gave us a little more demand this year." She said other local companies benefited as well, like an area truck-

ing company that was used to transport the boxes of food, a local box company, and even local restaurants. "We had to feed our staff that was working late filling boxes," she explained.

They worked with area



The Manhattan-Ogden school district was a recipient of the food boxes from A&H Farm, and handed them out on a first-come, first-served basis to the families they served.

non-profits organizations, churches and schools to get the food distributed to the families that needed it. There were no eligibility requirements. "If you needed one, you could

come get it," she said.

The Manhattan-Ogden school district served over 450,000 meals to students at sixteen sites from March to the middle of August. They distributed the produce boxes on a first-come, first-served basis.

"The partnership between A&H farms and USD 383 Child Nutrition allowed us the opportunity to distribute the USDA Farmers to Families Food Boxes to our families that were also picking up meals at our multiple meal sites over the summer," said Stephanie Smith, director of child nutrition, Manhattan-Ogden USD 383. Smith is also a member of Riley County and the City of Manhattan Food and Farm Council. "Not only did it provide a valuable service to the community by providing even more healthy and nutritious foods, it

both our school locations as well as in our more remote residential locations, helping some of our families with transportation issues or concerns to have access to healthy and nutritious foods."

Along with the Manhattan-Ogden school district, A&H Farm also worked with the Pratt and Lyon County school districts.

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program was authorized to purchase up to \$4 billion in fresh produce, dairy and meat products from American producers of all sizes. The first round of purchases totaling up to \$1.2 billion occurred from May 15 through June 30, 2020. The second round aimed to purchase up to \$1.47 billion July 1 through August 31, 2020. A third round was recently announced that will purchase up to \$1 billion, and contracts have been issued to 50 entities to supply the food. A&H Farm is not currently enrolled as a contractor for Round 3. As of September 29 the program had distributed more than 100 million food boxes.

"It is incredible to think that in a little more than five months, this food box program has gone from an idea to a reality that has provided more than 100 million boxes of nutritious foods to people in need and along the way has helped to keep farmers and ranchers in business and allowed Americans working in our nation's food supply chain to get back to work," said USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue. "I have been meeting with food banks and recipients across the country and it's been heartening to hear all the positive feedback on how the program has saved businesses and fed Americans in need. We are now into the third round of deliveries and we're working harder than ever to continue to build on the success of the program."

allowed families to remain in their vehicles to help protect them and our workers during the pandemic," Smith continued. "We were able to distribute the fresh produce at

Gov. Laura Kelly celebrates improved access to Flint Hills Trail in Osawatomie

Last week Governor Laura Kelly visited Mile Zero of the Flint Hills Trail in Osawatomie to help cut the ribbon on recent improvements, including a new two-mile portion of the trail and a parking lot near the Karl E. Cole Sports Complex.

The enhancements will improve trail access for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians who want to enjoy outdoor recreational opportunities in Miami County.

"Public access to trails, parks, and other greenspaces plays a key



Gov. Laura Kelly was recently joined by other state and local officials for a ribbon cutting for the improved access point for the Flint Hills Trail in Osawatomie. *Courtesy photo*

role in growing economic development opportunities, promoting healthier lifestyles, and improving quality-of-life for Kansans statewide," Kelly said. "I commend the City of Osawatomie and the local Flint Hills Trail Taskforce for their work to boost visitor turnout at trails and other greenspaces in their community."

Kelly was joined by Brad Loveless, Secretary for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, and David Toland, Secretary for the Kansas Department of Commerce.

"It's undeniable that Flint Hills Trail is among one of the most unique trails in the nation, and part of what makes this trail so special is the valuable relationships that have formed as a result of its use," Secretary Loveless said. "Flint Hills Trail has brought together Kansas landowners, counties, and trail users for a common purpose, adding incredible value to the communities and businesses this trail touches along the way."

In 2018, the City of Osawatomie established the Flint Hills Trail Task-

force to complete a new portion of the trail from John Brown Highway to a designated trailhead near the sports complex, where the ribbon cutting took place. The trail extension and a new parking lot marked the completion of Phase One of this project. Phase Two will include an informational kiosk and a restroom center for trail users.

"I served for 18 years as the Executive Director of the Kansas Recreation and Park Association, and improving access to outdoor recreation and park programs has always been a priority of mine," Kelly said. "My administration will continue to stand be-

side communities across Kansas to help support the outdoor activities and tourism opportunities that make Kansas a better place to work, live, and raise a family."

About the Flint Hills Trail:

The 117-mile Flint Hills Trail State Park stretches from Osawatomie to Herington and passes through five counties and several communities along the way. The trail is built on an old rail corridor and is the seventh-longest rail-trail in America. The Flint Hills Trail generally follows the Santa Fe National Historic Trail route and was designated a State Park in 2018.

Bringing in the beans



Fall harvest is progressing around the state, including at this farm in northern Riley County, where this image was captured. *Photo by Nancy Hofmann*



Immediately It Becomes Fall

By Kim Baldwin, McPherson County farmer and rancher

As my family is in the depths of the fall harvest season, the landscape all around us is beginning its annual preparation for winter. The colors surrounding our farm have begun their yearly transition and serve as a visual reminder that we have entered a new season: fall.

It's as if overnight the leaves on the trees have yellowed, the morning air has become crisp, the sun sets earlier, the moon rises sooner and the fall crops around us continue drying down.

The sights in town are reflections of this annual transition as well. The gorgeous mums now being

prominently displayed at a greenhouse, the bright orange pumpkins lining the sidewalks at the grocery store, the newly posted signs advertising the latest seasonal coffee flavor and the school-aged children wearing sweat-shirts or light jackets to school in the morning all serve as proof that fall has arrived.

As we continue our fall harvest— while also sowing wheat — it's easy to overlook these seasonal changes. While we hurry to move equipment to the next field, scurry out the door with meals to deliver to the crew or drive

the kids out to the combine operator for good-night kisses, it is possible to miss this annual transition while driving down the dirt roads on a mission. Nonetheless, the changes are occurring.

It seems like it was only days ago that the Monarch butterflies briefly made a pit-stop in our area while migrating south. The Monarchs seem to have left, continuing their journey south.

It seems like it was only days ago that my mother-in-law and I were planning our harvest meals menu, noting options needed to be cool and re-

freshing for the crew. We now discuss options that will warm them up.

It seems like it was only days ago that the air conditioner was running to cool us down, whereas now we contemplate turning on the seat warmer every morning when climbing into a vehicle.

It seems like it was only days ago that we'd go to sleep with open windows and the sounds of crickets and frogs. We now wake up with extra blankets wrapped around us.

While I try to make mental notes of these changes daily — hoping I can bottle up this season

— I know I'm also missing things I only realize once they no longer occur. I'll tell myself that I have to be ready next year to see or smell or taste or hear an element of fall I missed. It happens every year. And every year I tell myself that I must be ready because it always seems like overnight it immediately becomes fall.

"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.

Value of farm business plan shows when death or illness strikes

The value of a farm business plan becomes clear when family members need to get on the same page or when sudden illness strikes, says Joe Horner, University of Missouri Extension agricultural economist.

A farm's business plan formalizes what is in owners' heads, Horner says. Writing a farm business plan forces family owners to think things through and agree on goals.

It eventually evolves into more of an operations manual, Horner says. If an owner or key employee becomes ill or dies, the plan can guide surviving workers and decision-makers.

Some find the task daunting. "Make it easy," he says. "Start with a simple plan and revise it. A two-page plan is a fine place to start."

Don't wait to create a perfect business plan. "The goal isn't to create a polished, perfect, spiral-bound book to pitch to a lender," Horner says. "It is better to create a dog-eared, work-in-progress business plan that reflects practically who, where, when, why and how your farm business thrives."

There are many software applications for writing business plans, but few of them target commodity farming businesses. Horner recommends the University of Minnesota's AgPlan, at AgPlan.umn.edu, for a simple, free, farmer-friendly business plan app with outlines, suggestions and videos.

Farmers inspire confidence with lenders when they present clear business plans that include a financial history, some

strategic thinking and a demonstration that all the stakeholders are on the same page. "If significant borrowing becomes necessary to buy land, fund expansion or get through rough times, lender confidence is critical," Horner says. However, a business plan should be much more than a way to get credit.

"One can divide a farm business plan into two parts, sort of like a front and back yard," he says. "The formal portion of the farm business plan is what you present to outsiders, sort of like a front yard. The appendix to the business plan is more like a back yard, where you store and park stuff you might need someday."

As farms grow, employee turnover and training become bigger issues. Written standard operating procedures (SOPs) are

increasingly common on farms. The appendix of a business plan is a good place to store and refine those SOPs.

Think of a farm business plan as a cookbook for someone who needs to step into the owner's shoes, Horner says. It can be an operating manual to help the farm run as seamlessly as possible.

To save time when someone new steps into management, provide contact information for key service providers such as seed dealers, chemical applicators, veterinarians, nutritionists, repair and parts sources, bankers, lawyers, and insurance providers. Also include contact information for service providers who are used less frequently and may not be in recent paid bills file, such as the well service company,

fence builders or a painter for the grain bins.

"Your business plan appendix can be a catch-all for all of that information swimming around in the back of your head or those notes written on a scale ticket or piece of scrap paper in your wallet," Horner says.

Include calendars and checklists in the appendix. Note important dates such as lease renewals. Add copies of documents such as leases, permits, security agreements and depreciation lists.

On family farms, several members may jointly own a piece of equipment. Write this down to help prevent misunderstandings among family members in the event of one party's death.

When finished with the plan, make sure key members of your organization

and family know where to find it.

Also, share a copy of the formal part of the business plan with trusted lenders. The plan is a useful tool for bankers to document their files when called upon to make quick loan decisions if, for example, you want to bid on land or machinery at an auction.

The goal of a business plan should be to make life less stressful, Horner says.

Horner and other MU Extension specialists offer free assistance with farm business plans. Sign up through Missouri's Small Business Development Center for Agriculture at missouri.extensiondirect.com/signup?centerid=86.

You also can contact Horner at hornerj@missouri.edu or 573-882-9339.

Kansas Department of Agriculture names Earl Lewis as Chief Engineer

The Kansas Department of Agriculture announced recently that Earl Lewis has been selected to serve as the Chief En-

gineer for the agency's Division of Water Resources. As the Chief Engineer, Lewis will manage the personnel and programs of

KDA-DWR and administer laws related to conservation, management, use and control of water and water structures in Kansas.

Lewis has dedicated his career to water resources in Kansas, including more than 20 years with the Kansas Water Office where has

been serving as the director since December 2018. He began his career with KDA-DWR in 1992, and has been a licensed pro-

fessional engineer since 1998. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Kansas.

"The breadth and depth of experience in the field of water resources that Earl brings to this position will serve Kansas well," said Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam. "We look forward to the leadership he will provide to this critical division within KDA."

KDA-DWR administers 30 laws and responsibilities including the Kansas Water Appropriation Act which governs how water is allocated and used. The Chief Engineer oversees policies related to these laws, conducts hearings related to groundwater areas across the state, and represents Kansas in interstate water matters.

To learn more about the KDA Division of Water Resources, visit the KDA website at www.agriculture.ks.gov/DWR.



Did you ever have a day when you have the simplest of tasks lined up, a day that should be simple, yet you find yourself struggling to finish the most basic of the jobs you had lined up for that day? Yeah, I had one of those days this past week. Nothing complicated, not too much time involved and yet it is now Wednesday, and I still have not gotten Sunday afternoon's task done.

It all started Sunday. We got home from church and Jennifer mentioned that we should mow the lawn before we got too deep into harvest. I thought it was a good idea until she suggested that I do the weed-eating and she mow. I like the look of a good, trimmed yard but my weed-eater and I do not see eye to eye. So, after a quick discussion it was decided that Jennifer would mow, and I would weed-eat.

I was grudgingly tending to the weed-eater when Jennifer brought it to my attention that the mower would not start. The battery was dead and that led to finding the battery charger, an extension cord and starting the charging process. That delayed the mowing and started my snowball of not getting my tasks done as I had planned. Monday morning dawned and I found that I needed to feed several bales of hay to the fall cows and the ewes. I also discovered that the bulls needed watered. No big problem, except I had a neighbor coming over to help get the combine and trucks started and the header on the combine. I was not going to have time to get to my feeding and watering before my help came. No problem they could wait until later.

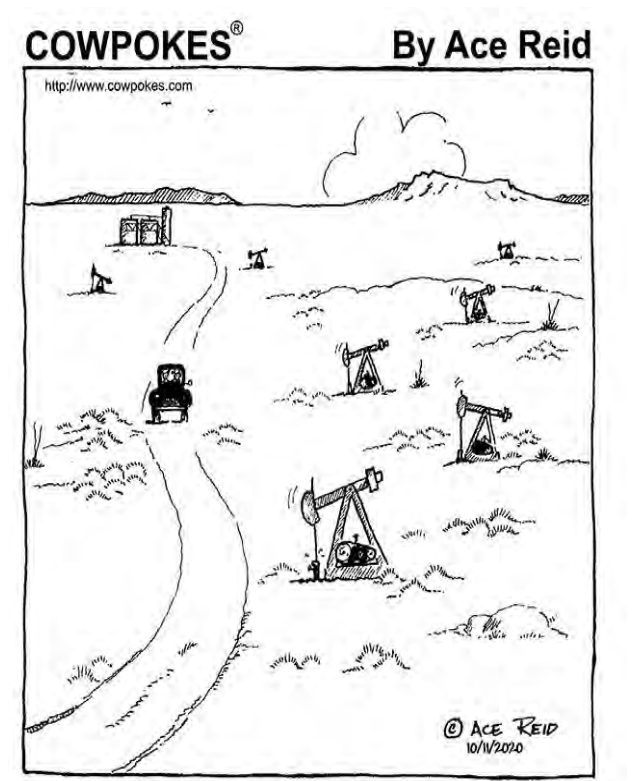
Everything went good with the combine and truck but when I got done, I looked at the clock and it was already mid-afternoon. Isaac and I set to feeding cows, at which point we discovered a new set of twins that needed to be tagged. By the time we got the twins tagged and determined that we would leave both on the cow it was late afternoon and the bulls had not yet been watered — a task that I had planned on doing before I started on anything else. On my way over to the bulls, a neighbor flagged me down to tell me I had cows out. With the help of a couple of other neighbors we got them back in and shut

the gate that had mysteriously been left open (a mystery I still do not have an answer for). The bulls finally got watered closer to sundown rather than sunrise like I had planned. When I got in Jennifer asked me if the mower was going. I had not even looked at it.

Tuesday dawned bright and cool and I had renewed optimism. That soon faded when I discovered the cows were again out through the same mysteriously open gate. They were easily ushered back in and I went to the fall cows. That was when I discovered that the cow from the night before was favoring one twin over the other and I was going to have a bucket calf (more chores, just what I wanted). In the process of pulling the calf off I found three more cows with calves. The bucket calf meant I needed some milk replacer and a trip to town. I did think to put the battery on the mower first and found out what I suspected; the battery was bad. While I was in town, I decided I needed to get a padlock for the mysteriously self-opening gate.

An hour later I got back with milk replacer and a battery. Yeah, no padlock. I called Jennifer to have her get the padlock and fed the new bucket calf. He was not a fast learner and feeding him took quite a while and a lot of my remaining patience. Soon I was back in the fall cows attempting to tag the three new calves. Two phone calls later I had the calves tagged but it was nearly dark, and I had a church meeting that evening. Jennifer asked me if the new battery made the lawn mower start. I did not know because I had not put it in yet.

Wednesday dawned even nicer than the previous days and revealed that everything that did not need hay on Monday needed to be fed. All the water tanks needed topped off and before I knew it the morning was already nearly gone. I did put the battery in the mower and that fixed the problem. That left me at almost noon on Wednesday and I was finally ready to complete the task I started on Sunday afternoon, a simple mowing of the grass. I should be able to get that done — after all it has only taken four days to get ready to mow the lawn, what else could go wrong?



"You bet these oil wells help. With them I only lose half as much on this ranch as I use to punching cows!"



Since 1954

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Trade tops conversation at Ag Outlook Forum in Kansas City

Despite an absence of in-depth media and federal department updates regarding U.S.-China trade negotiations, progress is taking place. Gregg Doud, chief agricultural negotiator at the Office of the United States Trade Representative, said his team and the Chinese "are talking." He also said it is possible that China might meet its Phase One trade commitment with the U.S. to purchase at least \$36.5 billion in agricultural products by year's end.

Ambassador Doud was speaking to a virtual/hybrid audience of agriculture industry leaders attending the annual 2020 Ag Outlook Forum hosted by the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City and Washington, D.C.-based Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc. Key presenters included Esther George, President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, former USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack, president & CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council and Rob Johansson, chief economist at USDA. U.S. Rep. Emanuel

Cleaver II, representing the state of Missouri, welcomed attendees virtually from the nation's capital.

Doud said he is watching the implementation of USMCA, particularly the situation with dairy in Canada. Another important focus will be the biotechnology situation with Mexico. Two key issues included in USMCA deal are the biotechnology component and the enforcement mechanism. Doud emphasized the new enforcement mechanism is something he believes the U.S. will really be able to "utilize in a fashion much more quickly than we had previously been able to use." He added, "We will not hesitate to use enforcement tools we have in USMCA, if necessary."

There are challenges for the dairy industry. Vilsack stated, "Canada has already begun implementing USMCA in a way that thwarts its market access promises and prevents U.S. dairy from making full use of the benefits that Congress and the administration fought so

hard to secure. There are also unanswered questions concerning how Mexico will translate its commitments to safeguard common-name cheeses into action. These are unresolved concerns that affect everyday dairy farmers and workers across our industry."

Quick Recovery

Kansas City Fed's Esther George provided an optimistic assessment of the U.S. economy. But she had a cautionary message. "The good news is the economic recovery is under way - quicker than I thought." She credited the rebound to the general resiliency of the U.S. economy, the resolve of the American spirit and the fiscal stimulus programs. "The diversity of our economy has really come through," she said. "Our economy is a microcosm of the thousands of industries in the country." She warned, however, "We're not out of the woods yet."

George commented that the Fed has been proactive in addressing a bleak outlook for some community banks. The nation's

banking system is diverse with more than 10,000 banks, several thousand of which are categorized as small. "Policy makers must understand the dynamics of small banks."

Other Trade Issues

Blake Hurst, president Missouri Farm Bureau, introduced a panel discussion on trade issues saying, "With trade we always have issues." He sees a change in Americans' attitude toward trade, and thinks many may consider it not that important to the overall economy.

Panel participant Jim Sutter, CEO, U.S. Soybean Export Council, pointed out that the world relies on the U.S. for soybean supplies. "We use 40% of our crop at home and export 60%." Sixty percent of those export shipments go to China. Panelist Bill Even, CEO, National Pork Board noted that in 1995, the U.S. was a net importer of pork. "Today, we export 30% of our pork products, and U.S. pork exports support 110,000 jobs American jobs."

Trending On The Farm

USDA Deputy Secretary Steve Censky told the Ag Outlook Forum audience that support for farmers is strong at high levels of all government agencies and departments. But he mentioned the USDA considers another round of Market Facilitation Program payments unnecessary since additional coronavirus relief is coming for producers in the next month or two.

The current interest rate environment is much more favorable than it was a year ago and should cause the farmland market to trend higher. Steve Bruere, president, Peoples Company, suggested there is a "huge demographic shift" in who is buying farm land, and outside capital is pouring in. "As farms get larger you need outside capital."

USDA chief economist Rob Johansson said the new round of coronavirus relief payments will help shore up farm income heading into 2021. He expects about \$6 billion in payments from the second

round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program to reach farmers in the first part of 2021. Johansson forecasts higher revenue next year for livestock producers, but net farm income is expected to be down because of an overall decline in government payments.

American Farm Bureau Federation's chief economist John Newton talked about the future of farm safety net. The second round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program will provide additional much-needed financial support for livestock producers, crop producers, specialty crops, as well as nursery, floriculture, specialty livestock, tobacco and several other commodity categories.

Detailed data and stats from Rob Johansson's and John Newton's presentations are available at the USDA Office of the Chief Economist, www.usda.gov/oce and at www.fb.org/marketintel, respectively.

KFB virtual annual meeting open to all members

Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) will host its 102nd annual meeting Dec. 3-5 (Thursday-Saturday) with a mix of virtual presentations, while voting delegates will gather at ten sites across the state to conduct business and set policy for 2021.

"Annual meeting is where we celebrate the outstanding work of Kansas farmers and ranchers over the past year and set the agenda for the new year," Kansas Farm Bureau president Rich Felts says. "This year the mission is the same, but the format will be different to protect the health and wellbeing of our members and their communities."

The virtual sessions on Thursday and Friday will allow all Farm Bureau members in Kansas to participate for free, including Vance Crowe's keynote address to lead off the meeting Thursday morning. Members can view the annual meeting agenda and register for individual sessions at www.kfb.org/annualmeeting.

Crowe, the former director of millennial engagement for Monsanto, will share his thoughts on how farmers and ranch-

ers can thrive in a post-COVID-19 world.

Other events on opening day include workshops, a virtual tradeshow, a panel discussion on all facets of Farm Bureau, an opportunity for members to network and a fireside chat between U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts and Kansas State University's Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh.

On Friday Andrew Walmsley will update attendees on American Farm Bureau activities in Washington, D.C., followed by an open discussion of resolutions. Additional workshops and networking sessions are planned before the day ends with a town hall featuring newly elected federal officials.

Saturday voting delegates will debate and adopt policy statements for 2021,

elect the KFB president and board members from even-numbered Farm Bureau districts. Delegates will attend in-person at

one of the ten hubs corresponding to their district. Attendance on Saturday is limited to KFB staff and voting delegates.

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LAND AUCTION CALENDAR

105 ACRES GREENWOOD COUNTY, KANSAS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020 - 6:00 PM
AUCTION LOCATION: Greenwood Hotel, 300 N Main, EUREKA KS
LAND LOCATION: From Eureka, 3 miles East on Hwy 54 to T Rd, 1 1/2 miles North.
BACHELOR CREEK, TIMBER, TILLABLE, POND, ABUNDANT WILDLIFE

923+- ACRES COWLEY COUNTY, KANSAS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2020 - 6:00 PM
AUCTION LOCATION: El Dorado Civic Center, 201 E Central, EL DORADO, KANSAS
LAND LOCATION: Along 211th Rd for 1 1/2 miles North of Atlanta, KS 40-acre watershed, 9 stock ponds, pasture, creeks, timber, buildings, livestock pens, rural water, electric, excellent fence, blacktop frontage, hunting.

785+- ACRES MARION COUNTY, KANSAS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2020 - 6:00 PM
AUCTION LOCATION: 808 Old Mill Rd, PEABODY, KS (On-Site)
6 TRACTS TILLABLE, SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

400+- ACRES CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020 - 6:00 PM
AUCTION LOCATION: Community BLDG. in Swope Park COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS
LAND LOCATION: From Clements, KS 1 1/2 miles Northeast to Camp Wood Rd.
Cottonwood River, Silver Creek, big Flint Hills, river bottom tillable, heavy timber, small house & buildings, pond, excellent hunting & fishing, Very Scenic!

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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Amy Birchmeier, Americus, Share Winning Recipe In Grass & Grain This Week

Winner Amy Birchmeier, Americus:
SUGAR COOKIES

- 3 cups gluten-free flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup melted butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons milk

Mix all ingredients until combined. Cover dough and refrigerate for 2 hours. Roll dough out onto a floured surface. Cut cookies out with cookie cutters. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown. Frost cookies after they have cooled.

Frosting:
1/2 stick melted butter
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 tablespoon milk
Powdered sugar (to desired consistency)

Darlene Bernhardt, Tecumseh:

APPLE BARS
1/2 cup melted butter
1 cup white sugar
1 egg
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup apple, peeled, cored & finely diced
1 cup chopped walnuts
Set oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a 8-by-8-inch pan. In a bowl mix butter, sugar and egg. Mix in flour, baking soda and cinnamon. Stir in apple and walnuts. Pour into pan. Bake 40 minutes or until done.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
PORK ENCHILADAS
1 pound pulled pork
3 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese, divided
1 1/4 cups chicken broth, divided
1 teaspoon garlic salt
4.5-ounce can green chopped chiles
(12) 6-inch tortillas
2 cups sour cream
Set oven to 350 degrees.

APPLE PIE FILLING
1 white cake mix
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup sour cream
3 eggs
1/4 cup water
1 can apple pie filling
Glaze:
1 cup powdered sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons milk
Heat oven 350 degrees.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:
OATMEAL PIE

2 eggs
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup sweet milk
3/4 cup syrup
1/2 stick oleo
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup coconut
3/4 cup oatmeal (quick)
Unbaked pie shell
Mix all ingredients and pour into unbaked pie shell. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

PUMPKIN PECAN DESSERT
15-ounce can pumpkin
1 cup evaporated milk
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 yellow cake mix
1 cup pecans, chopped
1 cup melted butter
Set oven 350 degrees. Spray a 9-by-13-inch pan. Stir together pumpkin, milk, sugar, vanilla and cinnamon. Pour into pan. Sprinkle cake mix over top. Top with pecans. Drizzle butter over top. Bake about 1 hour or until golden brown. Let set 10 minutes before serving. Serve with ice cream.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
APPLE PIE FILLING

COFFEE CAKE
1 white cake mix
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup sour cream
3 eggs
1/4 cup water
1 can apple pie filling
Glaze:
1 cup powdered sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons milk
Heat oven 350 degrees.

It's Time To Bring Houseplants Back Indoors

MANHATTAN – Cooler temperatures across much of Kansas and the Midwest signal a time to bring houseplants back indoors, said Kansas State University horticulture expert Ward Upham.

Many people move houseplants outdoors for the summer to give them better growing conditions and to help them recover from the stress of an indoor environment. But that summer boost ends as cooler fall days arrive.

"If plants haven't been brought inside yet, now would be a good time as many areas of Kansas had nighttime temperatures in the 40s recently," Upham said.

When bringing plants inside, inspect them first for insects or disease. Upham suggests "a sharp spray from a garden hose" to remove insects or mites from the foliage. Then, soak the pot in a tub of lukewarm water for 15 minutes to force out insects that may be in the potting soil.

Plants then need to adjust to their new lighting conditions.

"The question is how do we help houseplants acclimatize to the lower light levels inside," Upham said. "They should be started out in an area of the home that receives plenty of light and then gradually moved to their

permanent, darker location." That process, he added, may take between four to eight weeks depending on the degree of difference in light levels between the initial and final location of the plant.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

TAMALE CASSEROLE
1 pound hamburger
1 onion, chopped
(2) 15-ounce cans pinto beans, rinsed & drained
(2) 15-ounce cans crushed tomatoes
15-ounce can cream corn
6-ounce box cornbread mix
1 egg
1 cup Cheddar cheese, shredded
Cook hamburger and onion until brown in oven-proof skillet. Remove from heat. Stir in pinto beans and tomatoes. Beat cream corn, corn bread mix and egg in a bowl until smooth. Spread over top of ground beef mixture in skillet. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes in oven or until topping is done.

Understanding plant processes allows us to anticipate potential problems," Upham said. "Acclimatization gives houseplants a greater chance of retaining leaves and avoiding the stress of completely replacing them."

Upham and his colleagues in K-State's Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources produce a weekly Horticulture Newsletter with tips for maintaining gardens and home landscapes. The newsletter is available to view online or can be delivered by email each week.

Interested persons can also send their garden and yard-related questions to Upham at wupham@ksu.edu, or contact your local K-State Research and Extension office.

Links used in this story: K-State Horticulture Newsletter, <https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/info-center/newsletters/index.html>

K-State Research and Extension local offices, www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/stateandareamaps.html



Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon
Grandpa

Fudley, Snickelfritz, Becca-Lynn, Huwey-B and Scoop, five people who were all nicknamed by one of the best grandpas in the world: Edgar John Carlyon. We are his five grandkids and quite possibly what he was most proud of in this world.

On Wednesday, September 30, 2020, the call no one is ever ready for came. Grandpa had had a massive stroke and things weren't looking promising. Less than twenty-four hours later he was gone. In a world where COVID has taken away the ability to see and be with the people we love, it quickly sank in that those chances to say goodbye had been ripped away and we were all left questioning the world, wondering why him and trying to be thankful for the memories made over the years.

Grandpa was a man of few words but always a big part of our worlds. When I was asked if I had any pictures of him, I couldn't help but to smile as I looked back. The pride on his face as he stood tall next to my brothers for each of their proms. The classic cigarette picture from my cousin Anthony's wedding. Pictures of grandpa at my brothers' wedding. The heart-melting pictures of him with my Aunt Robin and his great granddaughters. Then my favorite, the reaction picture to finding out that his first Carlyon great grandchild was a girl; he was thrilled, the picture shows it all.

Pictures are great but the memories are even better. When I was younger my favorite thing to do with grandpa was to go to Denny's and get a strawberry sundae. His love of his border collies was undeniable, going to the extreme of taking Princess to Stacey's as often as possible for fresh-cooked bacon. Breaking my arm on his four-wheeler and him banning everyone from it for what seemed like forever. Going up to see cows with him and knowing you were opening and closing the gate, he'd wait for you to do it. Pulling up at my parents' house and finding him waiting in his truck for someone to come say hi or to unload his trash or finding him napping because he got tired of wait-

ing for someone to show up. Following him up or down J-Hill, screaming to myself the whole time about how I'd be 80 before I ever made it anywhere; he was a cautious driver to say the very least. All the years watching him out in the fields with the boys and watching him instill his love of the land into those he loved so very much.

Showing up to family events and having him seek out each one of us to give us each a gold dollar; I never asked why, but it always made me smile. Tuesday night movie nights with grandma when he'd be anxiously waiting to see what baked good I had brought for him to enjoy; grandma always joked about wondering if there'd be any left by the time she got home. Watching him walk into Sunday night family dinners and having him tell me how much he enjoyed my *Grass & Grain* articles and how different people he knew were reading them now too, he was so proud, and I was so touched. Seeing him light up when his great grandkids would come and give him a hug or as he watched them show off their new hidden talents or accepted their treats that they were always so eager to share.

To say he will be missed would be a vast understatement, but somehow or another we go on, knowing he is happy, knowing he is with his parents and most importantly knowing that he will forever be rooting us on and he will never miss a thing. Grandpa, we will miss you and love you forever, but we take comfort in knowing that you'll forever have our backs. You taught us well and hopefully we all continue to make you proud.

Love you!
Becca-Lynn
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: [boobsbrainsandbaking](https://www.instagram.com/boobsbrainsandbaking).
If you would like to contact Michele with comments please email mcarlyon88@gmail.com

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

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

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The Kansas Wheat Commission annual recipe booklet has been a tradition that has gone on for the past 58 years, representing Kansas as the wheat state and Breadbasket of America.

With the cancellation of the state fair this year, we want to ensure that you are able to obtain a book. There are a couple options for you to receive it this year. If you would like the physical copy, you may request it at nationalfestivalofbreads.com. There will be a direct link on the home page for you to easily access. If you would like to view the book online, you may visit nationalfestivalofbreads.com/2020recipes. This will bring you to the page showing all 18 recipes, as well as a link to download the book itself. Your local extension office may also have a supply that you may pick up.

While many people are excited to get their book, we love to hear some of the reasons behind their excitement. For some, it's adding it to a collection that they've had for many years, and others it's using the recipes from the book to get a purple ribbon at the county fair baking contest. We hope everyone who gets their hands on a book enjoys the recipes as much as the two ladies behind the book enjoyed creating and testing them.

Cindy Falk, Kansas Wheat Nutrition Educator, and Julene DeRouche, Kansas Wheat Nutrition Educator Assis-

tant, spend endless hours testing recipes, some several times each, to make sure they will be successful.

"We take pride in knowing our recipes are well tested," said Falk. One of their favorite parts is pulling vintage recipes that are meaningful and testing them to change a few ingredients to make them flavorful, more nutritious and easier to prepare. That was one of the main goals this year, as they found their inspiration from recipe archives.

The success of this book has been the dedication of past and present home economists, nutritionists and part-time assistants working in the Kansas Wheat Commission test kitchen. For the last several years, Falk and DeRouche have been creating the book, with this being Falk's 33rd, and DeRouche's 6th consecutive year. Not only did they master the recipes, they also did the baking, food styling and photography that you see in this year's book and several of the past recipe books.

"From appetizers to desserts, we want these recipes to become family favorites," said DeRouche. That's what motivates them to make the book perfect each year.

While some of the recipes come from an old family favorite or a recipe book blast-from-the-past, every other year features winning recipes from the National Festival of Breads. This is where finalists' talents are showcased and shared with others.

We invite you to request the free 2020 recipe book and enjoy the variety of recipes made from flour and ingredients produced by Kansas wheat farmers. To get your book, visit nationalfestivalofbreads.com

Written by Shayna DeGroot, Kansas Wheat Communications Intern



What Do You Believe?

By Lou Ann Thomas

When I was young I believed Brussels sprouts were vile and evil. Not only could I not stand them, but I couldn't believe anyone else could either. Liking Brussels sprouts appeared as a character flaw to me.

Then, as an adult, I was introduced to perfectly roasted and seasoned Brussels sprouts and I loved them. They were so delicious I had seconds! But that made me wonder if there were other things I may have harbored unjustified feelings and unwarranted negative beliefs about. I began to look at what I believed and from where those beliefs originated.

Examining our beliefs, whether about a vegetable or something more significant, is a good practice. Life changes us and as a result what we believe can, and maybe should, change. As we move through life we stake a claim, as it were, to what we believe is true, just and in alignment with our values. It's perfectly logical that our stakes of belief might require some adjustment because of new

information and experience. There is nothing wrong with staking your claim and saying, "This! This is what I believe." But it's also important to be willing to move your stake should circumstances warrant a re-evaluation of what now accurately reflects your beliefs.

So what do you believe? And why? From where does that belief originate? If a belief is just a thought that you think over and over again, from where did you get that first thought?

Most of the time our beliefs were formed in childhood and were shared and oft repeated by our family. Many beliefs we accepted as our own before we had the skills or experience needed to determine if they were accurate and valid for us as individuals. My father didn't care for raisins, so I grew up not liking them either. However, I don't really dislike raisins, I just believe I do because of my childhood programming. Believing I don't like raisins, when I really have no issue with them isn't

life altering, but if you grew up in a household where you repeatedly heard that life was hard or out to get you, how might that affect how fair you believe your life to be?

Life causes us to expand with each new piece of information and experience, and if we take the time to examine our beliefs those new experiences can create new insights and understanding.

We owe it to ourselves to look at what we believe from time to time, and to determine if those beliefs accurately reflect how we feel, what we've learned and who we truly are right now.

And in that process you might discover you really like Brussels sprouts.

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FALL HARVEST SPECIAL 2020

Family focus drives Bowser harvest success

By Lucas Shivers
Jarrod and Sarah Bowser, along with their daughters and extended family, farm south of Holton on a diversified crop production with sorghum, corn and beans.

As parents, Bowsers enjoy building their family and ensuring the legacy of land and love with their two daughters: Claire, 6, and Cora, 4.
“Being a dad on the farm is the best thing

ever,” Bowser said. “We love having kids around and being part of it all. Right now, it’s a little crazy to keep up with them all running around.”

Bowsers do a fair amount of cover cropping along with a commercial cow-calf herd as well with hay and forages.

“We do a few fall calves and the rest of the spring around March and April,” he said. “We wean the spring calves before harvest so we have time for the daily feedings and vaccinations before the rush.”

Jarrod farms with his brother Nicholas and wife Jessica, and parents Mike and Grace Bowser.

“Our grandparents Cecil and Betty farmed, and we learned a lot of good lessons,” Bowser said. “Grandpa passed away a year and half ago. You’re never ready for a grandpa to go. The presence of a grandparent in your life is a treasure.”

A partnership in agriculture

Sarah and Jarrod met at K-State. Jarrod finished with an animal science and ag econ degree. Sarah studied ag econ. Jarrod served as state FFA officer as a treasurer; and Sarah was vice-president.

K-State held a special place for the Bowsers.

“We had so many good friends and good times,” Bowser said. “When you leave there and come back home, we miss all the people. There were so many clubs and groups. It was great fun.”



Sarah and Jarrod Bowser are shown with their daughters Cora and Claire.

Courtesy photo

Now, as parents, Bowsers explore the agricultural interests and talents of their kids.

“Cora is all things music,” Bowser said. “Claire had to write a school assignment on what they liked to do on Saturday. She wrote: ‘I love to be in the barn handing my dad wrenches as he works on the combine.’”

As a recent highlight, the girls raise chickens and a bucket calf.

“They love feeding cows,” Bowser said. “They got a bottle calf from a twin last spring. They have a rope to lead it and ride it around. It’s like a pet dog. They spent so much time with that calf; but now it’s big. They say, ‘We can’t sell Big Red.’ I’m sure they’ll be ready for 4-H and FFA.”

Brothers

Jarrod’s brother, Nicholas, who is four years older, also farms with the family.

The brothers balance each other with respective strengths of knowledge. Nicholas studied at K-State and got a masters from Iowa State in agronomy.

“We came back to the

farm in 2006,” Bowser said.

Nicholas primarily deals with the bookwork and managing of crop rotations. Jarrod spends his days focused on marketing and management of the daily operation. By daily operation, Jarrod means the unending task of keeping the machines running.

“As brothers and partners we rely on each other’s strengths,” Bowser said. “Frankly, there is just too much work to approach farming otherwise.”

Nicholas and his wife Jessica raise their two kids, Hazel and Henry.

“They live just a few miles down the road,” Bowser said. “The kids love anything outside and having fun!”

Harvest

For the 2020 harvest, Bowser shared the positive insight from northern Kansas.

“While we have started, harvest is not yet rolling in full force,” Bowser said. “We started before the rain at the end of September. By early October, we’ll be going strong with the sunshine and all.”

Corn and sorghum look

good; the beans could have used some August rains.

“There’s some smaller pods or single beans for some of what we planted but hopefully we got some rain to help fill out the later plant beans.”

The farm is near Topeka with a terminal elevator and generally favorable market strength. At points in the marketing year, the prices have been far below break-evens.

Fortunately, the harvest price has solidified, especially relative to the price charts over these past few months. This especially holds true for sorghum with a clear signal from the market, and considerable strength of price.

Always a dad, Bowser finds ways to make it fun.

“The kids help ride a few rounds on the combine,” he said. “They ride on the armrest. It’s not great, but it’s better than what I had.”

Bowser is also on the Jackson County District Conservation Board and Kansas Association of Conservation Districts youth and education committee.

Carson and Meeker elected to lead NSP board, new directors appointed

The National Sorghum Producers board of directors recently elected Kody Carson of Olton, Texas, as board chairman and Craig Meeker of Wellington as vice chairman. Dan Atkisson was re-appointed to the board and will transition to the role of past chairman.

“Kody and Craig are strong leaders who will guide our board and industry with intelligence and grit,” Atkisson said. “I look forward to seeing the growth and continued excellence of NSP under their leadership.”

The board also elected new directors Marc Adams of Lubbock, Texas, and Jay

Wilder of Snook, Texas, who will serve three-year terms, respectively, beginning Oct. 1.

Adams is the regional vice president for CoBank and serves as an ambassador for an internal program to advance knowledge and understanding of legislative issues that affect Farm Credit and rural America. He is a member of the Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council and also serves on the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association board.

Wilder is a diversified crop and livestock producer in Snook, Texas, where he grows sorghum, cotton, wheat and soybeans and raises Limousin cattle on a farm that has been in his family since 1912. He has served on many state and national agriculture boards, including the U.S. Grains Council and as chairman of the Texas Grain Sorghum Association.

“Marc and Jay both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the board in their respective areas,” said NSP CEO Tim Lust. “We look forward to the contributions they will offer as we confront

issues like international trade, the farm economy and other policy initiatives that are important to U.S. sorghum farmers.”

The NSP board of directors also recognized two sorghum industry leaders who ended their terms on the board Sept. 30. Don Bloss of Pawnee City, Nebraska, has served on the board since 2012. He served as chairman from 2016 to 2018 and as past chairman from 2018 to 2020. Larry Dahlsten of Lindsborg has served on the board since 2014.

“We are greatly appreciative of the leadership and guidance Don and Larry have provided through their years of service,” said Atkisson. “Their dedication to improving all aspects of the sorghum industry is evident by their passion and the time they have devoted on behalf of sorghum farmers nationwide and to the betterment of our organization.”

New directors and officers will take their respective positions on the NSP board Oct. 1. Visit SorghumGrowers.com to learn more.

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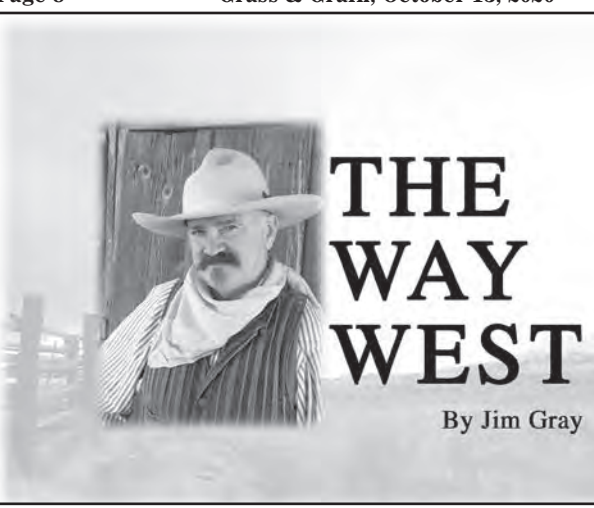
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

employee for the stage company saved his life by hiding in tall grass when the coach came to a stop.

The stage company, Jacob Hall and Company, had for some time tried to establish a stage station where the Santa Fe Trail crossed Pawnee Fork, but Kiowa and Comanche leaders objected to the establishment of any new stations. Any construction at that location would bring trouble. Earlier in September the stage company sent seven supply wagons and a team of contractors to Pawnee Fork to build the station. However, most of the troops were recalled to Fort Riley before construction of the mail station had even begun. With construction halted, for the time being, there would be no station at Pawnee Fork.

Walnut Creek (east of present-day Great Bend, Kansas), established in 1857, was the most westerly mail station on the plains. The place was popularly known as Allison's Ranche. With no additional relay stations between Allison's to Fort Union, New Mexico the stage company was left with no support for its operations on a very desolate trail.

Prior to the attack on the coach, on September 19, 1859, Captain W. D. DeSaussure met with the Comanche-Kiowa leaders gathered near Allison's Ranche. They assured him that they would not attack the new mail station. But that was before the death of Big Pawnee on September 22nd. The Kiowa chief had threatened stock tenders at Allison's Ranche. When arrested he suddenly mounted a nearby

horse and bounded away. Lieutenant George T. Byard raced after him in a wild horseback chase. Big Pawnee's mount carried him swiftly away but the officer, determined not to let him escape, at last pulled his pistol and shot Big Pawnee in the back. In a case of unfortunate timing the mail coach arrived at Allison's Ranch a few hours after the shooting. They were given an escort to Pawnee Fork, but death was waiting after they continued alone on the westward trail.

The attack finally impressed upon the government that greater protection for the mail was imperative. On October 14th, Colonel Edwin V. Sumner ordered Captain George N. Stewart and seventy-five troopers of the First Cavalry to Pawnee Fork from Fort Riley. Their mission was to set up a "fort" as a base of support along the Santa Fe Trail. They arrived on October 22, 1859. Captain Stewart selected a new site about a half mile from the former encampment, established during the initial construction of the stage station. The new encampment, eight miles above the confluence of Pawnee Fork with the Arkansas River, was named Camp on Pawnee Fork.

From the camp Stewart's men had secured the mail station. Stewart's escorts were keeping the coaches running safely and on time. However, Stewart reported on October 30th that he was seriously undermanned. Half of his men were continually on escort while work on the new post had been hampered by drought. Dry grass meant more time

taking care of the horses while the work of putting up hay and constructing barracks and corrals continued at a slow pace. The army responded by reducing the garrison instead of increasing it. The mail schedule was cut in half from a weekly timetable to once every two weeks.

Troops moved into the sod quarters in November and the escorts continued without fail. Additional troops were returned to the post in December. On January 12, 1860, Camp on Pawnee

Creek was renamed Camp Alert, indicating the need for the troops to be constantly on guard against attack. On May 12, 1860, the camp was renamed Fort Larned, serving the next twenty-eight years as the Guardian of the Santa Fe Trail 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.

KGFA assists members in receiving short line rail grant funding

• Cont. from page 7
on our highways. This is a program that makes a lot of sense for everyone and we are thankful to be a recipient."

The new cost-share grant program is a three-year, \$15 million program that provides 70 percent state money to 30 percent investment by the eligible entity for improvements. The geographically dispersed organizations awarded a total of nine projects for funding of rail sidings, rehabilitation and track extensions were: Cimarron Valley Railway, Frontier Ag, New Century Air Center Railroad, Scott City Coop, Scouler Grain, Skyland Grain, South Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad and V&S Railway.

"We want to thank Governor Laura Kelly, Kansas Secretary of Transportation Julie Lorenz and the Kansas Legislature," KGFA president and CEO Ron Seeber said. "This announcement is exciting news for the state of Kansas and for all of the entities this program touches. It will tremendously benefit the grain and agriculture input industries, their producer-customers, the small communities where these projects reside and the rural Kansas economy as a whole."

The projects span seven different counties on three short line railroads and will encompass nearly six miles of track improvement or new construction. When completed, the improved rail infrastructure will allow shippers to nearly double railcar loads annually, up to 2,400 cars a year, decreasing the amount of heavy truck traffic on Kansas highways by nearly 10,000 per year.

"We are excited by the substantial increase of the rail shipment of grain and other agriculture products on a safer - improved - short line infrastructure," Seeber said. "This will not only result in less wear and tear on our state's highways, but the economic development of bringing new business and construction to underserved communities in rural Kansas is an added bonus."

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020 from 2-4 PM
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SELLER: Property of JAMES D. VANHOOSE
This property has it all, you will fall in love with the 2-story home with a wrap around porch on 37.6 acres. Fourmile creek cuts across the SE corner of the property with mature oak trees throughout. The home was originally built in 1884, but was moved onto the property with a full walk out basement in 2013. There is 2,130 sq. ft. of living space with 3 bedrooms and 4 full baths, including a primary bedroom with private bath and closet. There is also a 40x61 Farm Utility Building with a 15-ft lean to with electricity and a half bath. **Come see this well taken care of home, properties like this are hard to find in the Flint Hills!**
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This a partial listing, see website for full listing & photos at GriffinRealEstateAuction.com

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HEIDI MAGGARD Broker Cell: 620-794-8813	& Auction	griffinrealestateauction@gmail.com

AUCTION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020 — 10:00 AM
Due to health concerns following sells as 8427 SW 77th St., AUBURN, KS (1 mi. North of Auburn, 1/4 mi. East on 77th)
MF 4253 dsl tractor w/loader; AC "WC" tractor; IH Super C; Vermeer 504H baler; Vermeer 10-wheel rake; NH 271 square baler; Hesston 5125 manure spreader; 91 WW 20x6 GN stock trailer; 2000 L&L flat-bed GN 25x8 trailer; utility 9x5 trailer; car trailer 6x7 bumper pull; 40x12 portable all steel livestock shelter; modern oak corner curio cabinet; S.Q. auto washer; Maytag dryer; antique Singer sewing machine; vintage highchair; leather sofa & easy chair; lg. selection Christmas items; assortment figurines, caps, glassware, kitchen items, MORE!; good assortment wrenches, sockets, hand & shop tools, etc., etc. **MUCH, MUCH MORE!**
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Increase seeding rates, phosphorus application to maximize yield potential for later wheat planting

With a big cool down in temperature and no rain in the forecast, wheat planting is off to the races. Over the last 20 years, roughly half of the Kansas wheat crop is planted before October 4, according to historical data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers planting wheat after this date can still maximize yield potential, however, by increasing seeding rates and applying in-row phosphorus.

"If we consider what makes an optimal planting date, we think of how the planting date is going to affect the environment in which the crop is going to be exposed," said Dr. Romulo Lollato, wheat production specialist with K-State Research and Extension. "If you plant too early or too late, we put those critical development phases of the crop into different environmental conditions."

Lollato and the team at K-State looked at roughly 20 years of variety trial data across Kansas and neighboring states to identify the perfect time periods to plant wheat. Depending on the geographic location, the optimum window for sowing wheat can range from September 10 to 30

in the northwest to October 5 to 20 in the southwest. This gradient in sowing dates is a function of temperature, with higher elevations in the northwest seeing cooler air and soil temperatures earlier in the year.

Planting later than these optimum windows puts the wheat crop at a disadvantage from the very start. Colder temperatures in October and November do not provide the plant enough time to establish a good stand. Specifically, later planting dates negatively impact the number of tillers the wheat crop can put out in the fall and the yield potential for those tillers.

"If we plant too late, we're going to delay every developmental stage of that crop, including grain fill, into later in the year, pushing into hotter temperatures," Lollato said. "Those hot temperatures can really decrease our grain yield."

For every day in planting delays past early October, Lollato reported a penalty of three to four bushels of lost yield potential in northwest Kansas. Southwest Kansas had a lower penalty, but still can see one to two bushels lost per day.

All is not lost if farmers still have wheat to plant after the optimal window. By increasing seeding rates and applying phosphorus, producers can support the establishment of the good stand needed to maximize yield potential come next summer.

"If we are planting late, we are giving the crop less time to tiller during the fall, so the yield of that crop is going to depend more on those primary tillers," Lollato said. "So we need more of those plants out there to ensure good yield potential."

Lollato recommends producers should bump up seeding rates by 10 percent for every week that wheat planting is delayed. Putting down phosphorus fertilizer in-row will also help boost tillering.

"Giving the crop greater chances to put enough tillers out there is usually money in the bank," Lollato said. "If you are delaying planting, that extra phosphorus is going to help that plant get off to a good start."

For more information, read K-State's Agronomy eUpdate: *Optimum sowing dates and seeding rates for wheat in Kansas*.

Young AVC veterinarians focus on shared values, mentorship and location to begin careers

Many young veterinarians looking for a first job in their careers shy away from geography as remote as Ashland, Kansas. Ashley Fischer and Libby Farney had the exact opposite strategy. Drs. Fischer and Farney chose Ashland Veterinary Center (AVC) as the practice to begin their careers in veterinary medicine. Both are recent Kansas State College of Veterinary Medicine graduates and intend to focus on large animals.



Dr. Libby Farney



Dr. Ashley Fischer

really wanted to go to a clinic that had a strong desire to teach."

Dr. Fischer responded, "I was told by several clinicians in veterinary school that I will only ever be as good as the veterinarians I work with the first couple years out of school, meaning the habits your mentors help you create will last a lifetime."

While Drs. Farney and Fischer are committed to careers in large animal practice, they each have different areas of spe-

cific interests including equine, surgery and cow-calf production. Both understand the importance of building relationships with clients, understanding the client's individual needs and earning their trust.

The shortage of rural practitioners in many areas of the U.S. is well documented. The American Veterinary Medical Association survey of graduating veterinary students, representing 28 accredited veterinary

schools, indicate that approximately 35% of recent graduates plan to practice in rural America, designating large animal as their choice. Dr. Randall Spare, co-owner of Ashland Veterinary Center, offered, "We are fortunate Dr. Farney and Dr. Fischer chose AVC to begin their careers. We appreciate the fact they share the core values of honesty, empathy and professionalism we practice every day. We are equally committed to teaching and mentoring in an effort to continue to stimulate their curiosity."

The Ashland community is keenly aware of the role a thriving veterinary practice serves. Today, more than 30% of the Clark County workforce is supported by food animal production and cattle

outnumber people ten to one. Clark County beef and dairy production account for more than \$73 million in county revenue.

In the aftermath of the Starbuck Wildfire that swept through the county in March 2017, AVC became the command center for emergency management and treatment of nearly 10,000 head of cattle and horses. For weeks and months to come, AVC triaged, treated, humanely euthanized and disposed of animals severely injured during the fire and provided emotional support to those in the community experiencing unprecedented losses.

Spare concluded, "It is critical to the sustainability and profitability of communities like ours that vet schools in the U.S. rec-

ognize the importance of rural veterinary medicine and its value to a global economy. Dr. Farney and Dr. Fischer, while being in the minority by choosing large animal, are perfect examples of the character, compassion, intellect and curiosity necessary to become outstanding rural practitioners. AVC and the Ashland community welcome them both."



AUCTION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020 — 9:30 AM
 Offering for sale at Public Auction, located at 543 Cherokee Rd., INMAN, KS. From the 4-way stop in Inman, 2 1/2 mi. west.
TRACTOR, FARM MACHINERY & SHOP
 1969 Versatile 145, 3 pt., dual hyd., 504 Cummins V-8 eng., sound-proof cab, 6032 total hrs., 2600 hrs. since overhaul; 1967 JD 95 combine, 20' header, 303 gas eng., 23.1x26 tires; JD 25' 3 sec. LZ drill, 10" spacing, dry fert., elec. counter; AC 30' dbl. wing fold tandem disc, 17.5-19.5" blades; Kent 35' field cult., dbl. wing fold, harrow attach.; IH 18' chisel, shop built harrow attach.; JD 14' BW tandem disc; Case 15' one-way, 27" blades; Oliver 7-16 on land plow; JD 6-16 semi mt. plow; JD 3-16 semi mt. plow; 3 pt. track scratcher; dbl. disc hitch; Hutchinson 8"x53" grain auger; Speed King 6"x34" grain auger; 19' pickup reel; Innes pickup attach.; 3 pt. springtooth carrier; 1966 White truck, 24' bed & hoist, NH 743 Cummins eng., 10 spd., 339K, air starter, rollover tarp; 1974 Ford F-600 truck, 15.5' bed, 5+2, rollover tarp, 361 HD eng., 31K; 1973 Jayco 16' camper; shop built HD 8 wheel combine/tractor trailer; shop built HD 2 wheel swather trailer; 3 - 3250 bu. grain bins, to be moved; salvage machinery; parts; air impacts; socket sets; drill fill augers; sm. augers; Lincoln 235A welder; Lincoln 250A copper wound welder; welding rod; 30" metal lathe; 100 gal. fuel tank & hand pump; 3 pt. log splitter; Air Master 18" bin fan; JD moisture tester; tire cage; hyd. cylinders; belts; parts washer; HD metal grinder; motors; 16' bale elevator; boomers; fire ext.; fuel tanks; wheels & tires; tire flaps; tractor tires; log chain; Miller-Way eng. hoist; steel tubing; grease guns; McCormick Deering cream separator; JD 200 2 row cultivator; Howe platform scale; McCulloch 35 chainsaw; oil tanks; scythe; metal buckets.
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 Kitchen table; wooden chairs; rocker; strollers; Presto pressure canner; jars; broiler oven; fixtures; planters; Martin house; water pitchers; tea pots; coolers; toys; books; bedding; quilts; fabric; insulators; child's tent; Poppy Seed planter; opossum belly cabinet base; wood burning stove; rendering kettle; school desks; typewriter; burlap sacks; '40-'50 sewing patterns; zinc lids; bread boxes; cake carriers; Pyrex bowls; old dishes; Moundridge Creamery; vintage linens, aprons, hot pads; old doors; & more.
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020 — 10:00 AM
LOCATION: 13700 Willow Road — WESTMORELAND, KANSAS 66549
Directions: Turn onto Christian Rd. from Hwy. 99 & go South for .05 mile then turn West on Willow Rd., go West on Willow Rd. approx. .03 mile, auction will be on South side of road.
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AUCTION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020 — 10:00 AM
LOCATION: 7003 Tuttle Creek Blvd. — MANHATTAN, KANSAS 66503
Directions: NW of Manhattan on Tuttle Creek Blvd. (Hwy 24), about 1/8th mi. West of Blue River Hills Int.
TRACTORS, MOWERS & EQUIP: Kubota L4630 tractor & loader (ONLY 154.0 HRS), Wheel Horse 520 Hydro lawnmower w/bagger & snow blower, 1975 Wheel O'matic Wheel Horse garden tractor, 6' 3pt. Bushhog brand rotary mower, lawn wagon. **CAMPING EQUIP:** MAC sports canopy (like new), air mattresses, Seth McGinn's can cooker, sq. cast iron skillet, Coleman Ltd. Ed. enamel coffee percolator set, Coleman 10degree sleeping bag (king), sleep cell litron hollow 3 lb. sleeping bags (x2), woobies (x2), Eastman Outdoors gourmet cooking set, lanterns, EZ beds (self-inflating mattresses, Coleman compact table, fold up shovel, propane heater, **more items not listed!** **TOOLS & SHOP:** Ratchet straps, bolt cutters, Power Grip pipe wrench, Collins 4lb axe/hammer, Stanley & Wooding's nail bars, Buckbros wood chisel set, HDX plumbing pliers, 110pc. tool set, POW'r Pak, 40 piece metric & SAE set, Pro Value mechanics socket set, Bosch I-driver, 2 spd Dremel, Schomaker jump pack, 6-12 amp battery charger, Husky 1/2" air impact, Cummins air hammer & bits, Central Pneumatic angle grinder w/ cutoff wheel, Power Glide 18 volt drill, Rotozip spiral saw, Craftsman 12v compact multi tool, Chicago elec. 1500 watt heat gun, Bosch corded angle grinder, B&D multi saw, propane weed burner, Master Force Belt sander, MAG 77 corded skil saw, B&D skil saw, ACE dual light 6" bench grinder, bench vise, Skil Sand Cat belt sander, halogen work lights, 6T bottle jack, power inverter (brand new), plumbing supplies, sump pump, 2" receiver hitch (brand new), Car Quest creeper, **many more tools not listed!** **HOUSEHOLD & FURNITURE:** Kenmore Ultra 450 reverse osmosis drinking water system, Oster digital counter top oven w/convection, Singer sewing machine, motion flood lights new in box), accelerator indoor putting training device, golf clubs, sofa w/matching chair, glass top office desk & chair, drop leaf table w/2 chairs, 3/ Logitech Keyboards w/boxes, 12" personal rotary trimmer, fireplace tools, firewood/log holder, **much more not listed!** **LAWN & GARDEN:** STIHL FS 110 weed eater, Husqvarna weedeater, TORO corded leafblower, corded hedge trimmer, Husky powerwasher, Snapper push mower, elec. fence posts, sledge hammers, post hole diggers, hand tools, log chains & boomers, ladders, alum. tailgate ramps, **much more not listed!** Please stay home if you feel ill! We will be practicing social distancing as best we can at our auction.
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