

Higgs siblings leave mark on WRCA National Finals Rodeo

By Donna Sullivan, Editor Eighteen-year-old Makenzie Higgs is no stranger to the toils of a ranch hand she's been working cattle on horseback on her family's Lonesome Pine Ranch in Chase County since as far back as she can remember. And she's no stranger to competition – she's been a member of the Lonesome Pine Ranch Rodeo team for several years, making her first appearance at the World Championship Working Ranch Rodeo in Amarillo back when she was just 13. Lonesome Pine won the championship with Makenzie being the only young female on a team that year.

The 2020 event was the same story, as she was the only woman to compete in the arena in the WRCA National Finals competition.

She and her brother Troy represent the third generation of the Higgs family on the team, along with their grandfather Frank and their father Bud. Bo Krueger and Travis Duncan round out the team.

Just as Makenzie was making her mark as the only woman competing in the arena, Troy battled his way to the title of Top Hand in the rodeo.

While their father is proud, he's isn't really surprised. "They have been in the saddle with me since they were in diapers," Bud said. "They've grown up doing this kind of stuff, so they have a bit of an advantage over average kids that come along."

Makenzie's appearance in the arena in Amarillo was precipitated by Bud injuring himself back in April riding a two-year old gelding. "Apparently he wasn't as far along as I thought he was," he said of the horse. He suffered a compound fracture in his right arm and broke his left wrist. The plan was to evaluate the size and temperament of the cattle in Amarillo, then decide the events Makenzie would compete in. It was determined she would run the branding iron in the branding event and rope the heels in the stray gathering. She had done the branding in Amarillo since 2014, but this was her first year to rope in the competition. She says competing on such a big stage was a little nerve-wracking. "But I had my mind set to go out and do what I usually do," she said. "There were a lot more people and you just had to go out and do the best you could."

Makenzie said she practices almost every day, "Dragging calves and roping stuff out in the pasture, we stay pretty consistent doing things like that," she said. "It's always been pretty fun, but it was more exciting this year getting



Makenzie Higgs heels a calf at the WRCA National Finals in Amarillo. Higgs was the only female competing in the rodeo. Photos by Shaie Williams

my nerves up to go rope, but it turned out good. All the work I've put into roping, it was good to be able to show everybody that I can rope. It made me feel better about myself that I can go out and do an event that really levels the playing field and gets teams spread out. It's not easy to do." She made all three of her heel catches and had to tie two of the steers.

Hughes Trailers

At the end of the com-

petition, Lonesome Pine

had captured fourth place.

Another Kansas team,

Beachner Bros. Livestock,

regarded title of Top Hand

Troy competed for the first

time in Amarillo when he

was just 13. The Lonesome

Pine team has qualified

for the national finals all

eight years since then. To

earn the Top Hand award,

he rode broncs for the

team, roped calves in the

branding and the cow in

the wild cow milking as

well as headed the three

steers in the stray gather-

ing and also competed in

the penning event. "You

And winning the highly

Like his younger sister,

placed third.

was Troy Higgs.

The patriarch of the family and the team is Frank. While he doesn't compete in any of the events at the rodeos, he still rides almost every night at home and helps work the cattle. He also raises quality horses.

"We've always credited the success we have to the horse power that he has worked for over 53 or 54 years that he's been raising horses," Troy said. "We all ride H branded horses that he raised."

Troy attended Butler County Community College for two years, where he earned a degree in farm and ranch management. He then earned an animal science degree with a production option at Kansas State University. He's now back on the family ranch working full-time as well as helping neighbors when he can. Makenzie is currently enrolled at Butler Community College majoring in farm and ranch management. But whenever possible, she's got the guys at the ranch pulling the roping dummy for her so she can practice throwing her loops.

and prizes are good, it was competing with his sister that really made the event meaningful for him. "It was pretty special to go down there and have her be the only girl competing," Troy stated. "She never missed a loop. We told her, if the arena is small, you've got to be aggressive and get your loop out of your hand, and she did that very well."

While the accolades

Makenzie had spent the summer leading up the National Finals competing with the team, so she was ready for the trip to Amarillo.

"When my dad got hurt in the spring, we were already entered in several rodeos and a lot of them have a waiting list. If you don't go, they fill your spot with someone else. She was the next person on the card that we were going to take and see what we could get done," Troy explained. "She was nervous at first, but she's had enough experience at home, and been in some tight spots and knows how to get through it."



Troy Higgs, center, is shown with his prizes for winning Top Hand in the World Championship Working Ranch Rodeo, held in Amarillo in November.

get points for every event and for how well you do in them," he explained. Being in all five events gave him a bit of an advantage. "The other thing that helped was we got along pretty good in most of the events," he said. For winning Top Hand, Troy received the use of a Hughes trailer, a custom handmade Tad Sanders saddle, a set of stirrups, pair of boots, Yeti duffel bag, a buckle and a handmade

After all, the next WRCA National Finals Rodeo is only 11 months away.

Wheat industry welcomes final congressional passage of the Grain Standards Reauthorization Act

In early December the House of Representatives passed the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act (GSA) of 2020, S. 4054. The National Association of Wheat Growers

(NAWG) applauds both the House and Senate for their bipartisan work to move the bill forward and reauthorize the GSA through September 30, 2025. NAWG and U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) have worked collaboratively over the last year and a half to identify priorities for the reauthorization process, given the critical importance of the United States' weighing and inspection system to our competitiveness in the world market.

"With our farmers facing tough economic challenges, including several years of low commodity prices and headwinds blowing against overseas demand, it is critically important that we at least maintain a smooth grain inspection system. We applaud Republicans and Democrats in the House and Senate for working together to get this piece of legislation passed by the end of the year," said NAWG president and Cass City, Mich., farmer Dave Milligan. "To maintain a properly functioning grain inspection system, NAWG

encourages the president to sign this bill into law before the closing of 2020."

"This law and our system of standardized, independent grain inspection makes U.S. wheat more valuable," said USW chairman Darren Padget, a wheat farmer from Grass Valley, Ore. "The proof of that came this year when many of our overseas buyers expressed a real concern that the pandemic would interrupt our supply chain and Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) inspections."

The Grain Standards Act serves a critical role in exporting grains and oilseeds, including U.S. wheat, of which about 50 percent is exported each year. The grain inspection system assures overseas buyers that an independent agency has certified shipments to their contracted specifications. This objective certification adds a competitive advantage to U.S. wheat and other commodities that helps maintain and grow export markets.

On Dasher, on Dancer... on John Deere M!



Kenny and Sandy Cravens of rural Manhattan created this country Christmas display at their farm northeast of Manhattan. Their eight-year-old granddaughter Emily Cravens helped Gramma Sandy cut cedar boughs from the pasture, then they tied them to an 8' wheel frame provided by their son Tim. They finished it off with Christmas lights. Grampa Kenny supplied the collector John Deere M tractor in place of reindeer – complete with whitetail deer antlers attached to the front of the hood. Kenny also has many collectible Ford tractors, other antique and classic tractors. You can view their Christmas display at 7725 Myers Valley Rd, Manhattan (Pott County). Photo by Bonnie Cravens



Moving Forward

By Glenn Brunkow, **Pottawatomie County** farmer and rancher This year, this week, we

start our 103rd year at Kansas Farm Bureau having just finished our business session at our 102nd annual meeting. One hundred and three is a big number and a lot of years. Dare I say no year has been quite like the one we just fin-

ished up? Note that I did not say it was our hardest year. It was not even our first pandemic at Kansas Farm Bureau, but it was a year a lot of us would like to move past and put in the rear-view mirror.

Yes, there have been harder years in the ag community. Years of more extreme drought, heat, rain or pests. I am sure

we have seen years with worse markets and more trying times. Maybe not, bad years and good years are so personal to each of us. If you were touched by COVID-19, 2020 may very well have been your worst year ever, and if that is the case, my heart goes out to you.

My point is 2020 was not a good year, and I am sure that most of us hope that 2021 will be a much better one. The one thing I do know is those of us in agriculture have learned to deal with adversity and keep moving forward. We know how to absorb the blow of a bad year and pick ourselves up and keep, keeping on. That is what we do, that is who we are and that is why agriculture is the backbone of the United States.

What will 2021 look like? Who knows? I have seen long-range forecasts, but I do not put much faith in them. As far as the pandemic goes, we have no idea; even the experts are split on what the next 12 months will look like. But I do know this. We will plant the next crop this spring, we will help new lambs, calves, pigs, goats, chickens and horses come into this world. We will persevere with the faith of a farmer and rancher because that is what we do.

We will go to the field and to the pasture with the same optimism that our parents and grandparents carried with them, even through the toughest of times. I also know Kansas Farm Bureau will be right there alongside us making sure our voices are heard in Washington D.C. and Topeka. That voice is one each of us have a note in, coming up from the grassroots and making sure those of us who feed the world are heard.

No. I had no idea what was ahead of us at this time last year, but we made

it through it, and I have no idea what is ahead of us in 2021. We will change and adapt just like we have for the previous 102 years, and we can all be proud knowing that we are part of an organization leading the way when it comes to ensuring our farms and ranches survive and thrive no matter what the year brings.

"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.

Farmers and ranchers wrap up business at KFB' 102nd annual meeting

Last Saturday, more than 400 Farm Bureau members of Kansas wrapped up business for their farm organization during a virtual session for Kansas Farm Bureau's 102nd annual meeting.

ed will now become the organization's road map for the 2021 legislative session. Topics of discussion included livestock marketing, trade and water.

Montgomery County farmer Rich Felts was re-elected as president.

Others elected to the board of directors include:

George Pretz, Miami County; Steven McCloud, Harvey County; Doug Zillinger, Phillips County; Joe Jury, Gray County; Kevin Holle, Rawlins County.

Other activities included a host of agriculture-related workshops and speakers including a keynote from Vance Crowe, an update on American Farm Bureau Federation activities from Andrew Walmsley and a townhall with

members of the Kansas congressional delegation, including Sen. Jerry Moran, Sen.-elect Roger Marshall, Reps.-elect Tracey Mann and Jake LaTurner, and Rep. Sharice Davids. KFB also honored re-

for his decades of service to Kansans, especially his dedication to ensuring farmers and ranchers had their voices heard in Washington, D.C.

County Farm Bureaus and volunteers were recognized for their 2020 achievements.

"Congratulations to all our state winners in this

The policies adopttiring Sen. Pat Roberts Congratulations to Kansas winners n 2020 National Wheat Y ield Contest entry.

Kansas wheat farmers demonstrated their agronomic prowess in the 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest. State winners from this vear's contest were recently released by the National Wheat Foundation, which organizes the competition.

"Our farmers continue to show why Kansas is America's breadbasket through the National Wheat Yield Contest," said Justin Gilpin, Kansas Wheat CEO. "The fifth vear of this national competition saw new growers enter the contest and some of our best producers being recognized for supreme management of their wheat acres. These results demonstrate to Kansas wheat farmers how they can maximize yield potential while maintaining excellent quality."

Seventy-seven wheat growers from 25 states participated in the contest, which allowed Kansas wheat farmers to compete against their counterparts in other states and learn more about potential ways to further boost production through new and innovative techniques. The sponsors for the 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest were AgriMaxx, Ardent Mills, BASF, Corteva, Croplan/ Winfield, Grain Craft, John Deere, Miller Milling, Syngenta and WestBred.

The contest was split into winter wheat and spring wheat and then further divided into dryland and irrigated production.

In the drvland winter wheat category, Tyler Ediger from Meade came out on top with a final vield of 108.43 bushels per acre. The variety for this winning entry was WestBred WB4792.

This plot also earned Ediger a fifth place finish in the national contest in the dryland category, based on a 205.01 percent increase over the county average. Winners in this portion of the contest were determined by yield increases

exceeding the most recent five-year Olympic county average as determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Andrew Lee from Cowley placed second in this category, yielding 105.09 bushels per acre with WestBred WB4401. Darwin Ediger, also from Meade, placed third with a West-Bred Winterhawk entry that yielded 104.43 bushels per acre.

In the irrigated winter wheat category, Ki Gamble from Kiowa took the top slot. His entry of WestBred 4792 yielded 135.39 bushels per acre.

Eric Purvis from Wallace placed second with a WestBred WB Grainfield plot that yielded 124.77 bushels per acre. Brock Neville from Sedgwick earned third place at 106.14 bushels per acre with a WestBred WB4699 vear's National Wheat Yield Contest," Gilpin said. "We are excited to watch how Kansas wheat continues to excel and increase in profitability by maximizing vields." Official rules and entry

details for the 2021 Contest will be available by Jan. 1, 2021, at https://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org/.

Peterson unveils legislation to expand CRP to 50 million acres es a minimum floor of 50

million CRP acres nation-

farmers to remove sensi-

tive land from agricultur-

al production and plant

cover to enhance wildlife

habitat and provide other

natural resource benefits,"

Peterson told reporters.

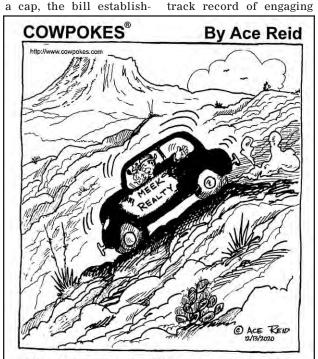
"CRP has a decades-long

incentivizes

wide.

"CRP

In a press conference recently, House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson of Minnesota announced the introduction of H.R. 8843. which makes an additional 25 million acres available over the next five years for general signup under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Instead of a cap, the bill establish-



farmers in the effort to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and create wildlife habitat."

"In addition to the increase in acreage, the bill will help CRP prioritize those applications that promote soil health and carbon sequestration," Peterson added. "Applications for the enrollment of land on which deep-rooted perennials will be planted will also be prioritized."

Peterson pointed to the importance of CRP in helping farmers and landowners meet environmental quality goals.

'Land enrolled in the program has helped to keep billion of tons of soil from eroding and sequestered millions of tons of carbon," he said. "It has improved wildlife and pollinator habitat, and it has provided benefits to farmers through rental payments and drawing hunters and other recreationists, which in turn makes its way through rural economies. This is a good bill that uses a successful, existing program to pay farmers to store carbon we don't need a whole new regime - we have CRP."



The livestock world lost a great man recently. Merv Sexton was one of the good guys - no, Merv was a great man. Anyone who has ever sold cattle at the Manhattan Commission Company knows exactly what I mean, and I am sure feels the same way.

It's funny how someone you see a couple of times a year can have such an impact on your life, but Merv was one of those guys. We sell our calves every winter and then throughout the year we come in with a few cull cows, a bull or two and other odds and ends but we do not frequent the sale barn very many times a year. That was why it was so amazing that Merv knew us and treated us like old friends each time we were there. A guy like me has to eat and I try to time my trips to the Manhattan Commission Company so I can eat at the Sale Barn Café. You could always count on Merv being at his spot at the end of the lunch counter right next to the door. He greeted everyone who came through the door and if he did not know you it probably was your first time to be there. I always enjoyed listening to Merv "hold court" and banter back and forth with the regulars. The topics were usually quite timely, and most often politics or the weather. I do not remember a lot about those conversations, but I do assure you I was listening and paying attention because Merv's opinion was one to listen to. I am really going to miss Merv the next time I go in. He was one of those special people who could make anyone feel like they were important. The conversation would usually start off with him asking you what you brought in; if you had consigned them earlier, he most often would remember what you consigned. He had a gentle way about him that made you feel at ease and you knew you had made the right decision entrusting him with the biggest sale you would make all year. Selling our calves is like a holiday for us, some of my fondest memories were going to the sale with Mom and Dad to watch the calves sell. Often Dad would spring for lunch and we would settle in to watch for our calves to come through. When they did, I remember Mr. Sexton acknowledging Mom and Dad and saying good things about our calves. As a kid that made a huge impression and I left thinking that my parents were important if Mr. Sexton knew them.

Then as I got older and I had cattle of my own I understood just how important Merv was to our family. He oversaw our once-a-year paycheck and more importantly you knew things were handled right and fairly. He was this soft-spoken, humble man who represented all that is

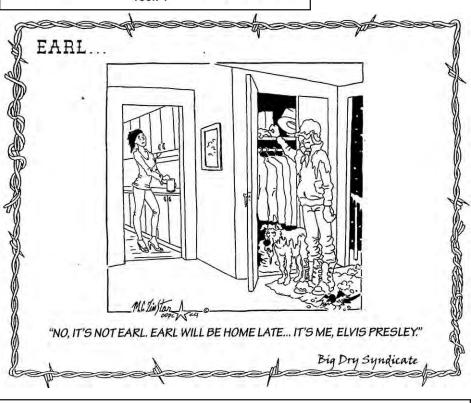
good and right in the world of livestock. In just a minute or two of talking to him you knew that he was a fair and honest man who would treat you right.

Did I mention that Merv had a disability? I did not because I do not know that I ever really noticed it. He had polio and it made it hard for him to walk. That did not stop him from working in a business that can be physically challenging and never once did I hear him complain or make excuses, he just took care of business and his customers. That is another thing that made him such a good man. It did not matter if you were a buyer or a seller, if you were there every week or a couple times of the year, Merv treated you the same. He was not on one side or the other, he was there to make sure you got a fair deal. In the very rare case something happened, Merv always made sure it was settled fairly.

Some of my favorite memories were also of the years that the Manhattan Commission Company bought one of the kids' animals in the 4-H Fair Livestock Sale. They would always make up a pie or cookies to thank their buyers and many times Mr. Sexton was the recipient of those. I always liked to stand back and watch him talk to the kids just like they were one of his biggest and best customers; they would leave thinking they were big stuff.

The livestock world and the world in general lost a great man in Merv Sexton. He was a man with a wide swath of influence and integrity and one that none of us who knew him will forget anytime soon. I know when I sell my calves here in a week or two, I will probably walk into the café for lunch and as I do, I will look to my right ready to say hello. Its going to seem odd with him not there and something will be missing. What will not be missing is the legacy of warmth, honesty, and friendship he left all of us.

"Now this is what you call "Owning a piece of the rock"!





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Publisher - Tom Carlin Managing Editor — Donna Sullivan gandgeditor@agpress.com

- Advertising Staff -Kurtis Geisler, Shelby Mall kurtis@agpress.com, shelby@agpress.com

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K-State plans 2021 calving schools

In anticipation of calving season, beef cattle experts from the Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and K-State Research and Extension are planning a series of calving schools beginning in early January.

A.J. Tarpoff, an Extension beef veterinarian, said calving schools aim to increase producers' knowledge, practical skills and the number of live calves born. Each day-long program outlines overall calving management, including stages of the normal calving process and tips to handle difficult calving situations.

"Our goal is for producers to leave better prepared for calving season," Tarpoff said. "We will discuss timelines on when to examine cows for calving problems, and when to call your vet for help if things are not going well. It's an excellent program regardless of experience level."

Speakers will share tips on when and how to intervene to assist the cow and how those times may be different when dealing with young heifers. Presenters also will demonstrate proper use of calving equipment on a life-size cow and calf model.

Tarpoff said the meetings will cover such topics as body condition scoring, colostrum management and animal health product storage and handling.

Meetings scheduled include:

Wednesday, Jan. 6, Emporia. For more information, email Brian Rees, Lyon County Extension, at brees@ksu.edu.

Monday, Jan. 11, Winfield. For more information, email Kelsey Nordyke, Cowley County Extension, at holcombk@ksu.edu.

Wednesday, Jan. 13, Blue Rapids. For more information, email Anastasia Johnson Meyer, Marshall County extension, anastasia@ksu.edu.

Thursday, Jan. 21, Dodge City. For more information, email Andrea Burns, Ford County Extension, at aburns@ksu.edu.

More information about the calving schools is available online as it becomes available.

Biden says he will not immediately remove China Phase 1 trade deal

Reuters reported last week that U.S. president-elect Joe Biden said that he will not immediately act to remove the Phase 1 trade agreement. In an interview, Biden said that the United States needed to get leverage back to use in negotiations with China.

"I'm not going to make any immediate moves, and the same applies to the tariffs," Biden said. "I'm not going to prejudice my options."

Under the Phase 1 agreement signed by President Donald Trump earlier in the year, China agreed to increase purchases of American products and services by at least \$200 billion over 2020 and 2021. The deal also leaves in place 25% tariffs on a \$250-billion array of Chinese industri-

al goods and components used by U.S. manufacturers, and China's retaliatory tariffs on over \$100 billion in U.S. goods.



Meat Institute welcomes growing support for prioritizing vaccines for frontline meat and poultry workers

Governor Laura Kelly of Kansas and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) joined a growing chorus of support for prioritizing COVID-19 vaccination for frontline meat and poultry workers.

Meat Institute president and CEO Julie Anna Potts commented:

"We welcome growing support for building on effective COVID-19 prevention measures by ensuring priority access to vaccines for frontline meat and poultry workers. "Vaccination is the next critical step that will protect this diverse workforce and facilitate vaccine distribution in rural areas with limited health services."

According to *Meat and Poultry*, Governor Kelly said December 4 that meatpacking plants will be near the top of the priority list to receive the COVID-19 vaccination following health care workers and those in long-term care facilities.

LULAC welcomed Gov-

ernor Kelly's statement, saying "Food and agricultural workers are heroes. They have been on the front lines of the pandemic, ensuring Americans have access to safe, nutritious, affordable food and they should be at the front of the line for the vaccine as well."

The Meat Institute joined the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the National Pork Producers Council in requesting the nation's governors include meat workers in priority vaccine plans.

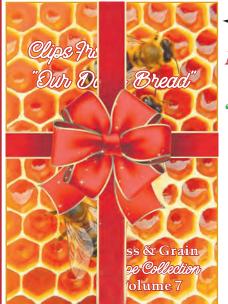
The Meat Institute is advocating that federal authorities also consider the scientific, ethical, and distribution benefits of prioritizing vaccination for frontline meat and poultry workers, which are also being considered around the world, including in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Meat Institute members are also offering cold storage capacity that could aid vaccine distribution for all Americans.



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2020 Grass eð Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma, Wins This Week's Holiday Contest Winner Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Okla-

homa: EASY BAKED BRIE

1 tube refrigerated crescent dinner rolls 1 round or wedge of Brie cheese (do not remove rind)

2 tablespoons raspberry jam or other sweet jam 1 tablespoon brown sugar

1/4 cup maple syrup

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Slice the top off the brie. If you want, start with chilled brie and use a sharp knife to carefully cut off the thin top rind of the cheese. This may help the crust stay with the cheese when served. The rind is edible so you don't have to do this step if you don't want to. On a lined baking sheet, lay out the crescent rolls flat. Place the brie round or wedge on top of the dough. Spread jam on brie; fold dough over top, cutting off excess dough. Drizzle with maple syrup and sprinkle brown sugar on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes; pastry should be golden brown. Let cool for 10 minutes × before serving. Serve with crackers or apple slices. Serves 6 to 8.

garlic

1 stick butter

Salt & pepper

pasta

cheese

1/2 cup chicken broth

1/4 cup chopped fresh

1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

8 to 12 ounces fettuccine

3/4 cup grated Parmesan

Steam florets on a rack

or steamer over boiling water, about 5 minutes

(do not overcook). Drain

and place in a bowl of ice

water to stop the cooking.

When cool, cut florets into

1/2-inch pieces. Heat olive

oil in a medium sauce-

pan. Saute garlic until

pale golden. Add chicken

broth and butter; stir in

basil, oregano, salt and

pepper. Stir in broccoli.

Cook until heated through.

Cook pasta as directed and

drain. Place cooked pasta

in large bowl. Add sauce

and Parmesan cheese: toss

well. Serves 6 as a side

dish or first course.

Cut stalk and stems off broccoli and discard.

basil OR 1 teaspoon dried

Arnelda Kepka, Dorrance: GRANDMA'S CHIPPY

DIPPY BARS

1/4 cup melted butter 1 cup graham crackers crumbs

1 cup flaked coconut, packed

1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

1 1/2 cups butterscotch chips

1 cup chopped walnuts or chopped pecans

14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In order given, layer ingredients in ungreased 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Do not stir! Bake for 28 to 32 minutes. Let cool and then cut into 1 1/2-inch squares. Makes over 3 dozen bars.

***** Loretta Shepard, Helena, Oklahoma:

PASTA WITH BROCCOLI SAUCE 1 large bunch broccoli (1 3/4 pounds) 1/3 cup olive oil 1 1/2 tablespoons crushed

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MINI LOAVES

1 3/4 cups flour 1 package vanilla instant

pudding 1 tablespoon baking pow-

der 1 teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoons pumpkin pie

spice 15-ounce can pumpkin

1 cup sugar

1/2 cup sour cream 1/2 cup butter (melted)

2 eggs

1/2 cup cashews (chopped) 1/3 cup caramel bits

2 ounces white chocolate Heat oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, dry

pudding mix, baking powder, baking soda and spice. Beat pumpkin, sugar and sour cream in a large bowl with mixer until blended. Add butter and eggs and mix well. Gradually add flour mixture, mixing well after each addition. Stir in nuts and caramel bits. Pour evenly into 4 greased and floured mini loaf pans. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes. Remove loaves from pans to wire racks; cool completely. Melt chocolate and drizzle over bread loaves.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:

PEANUT BRITTLE MUNCHING GOOD

1 cup peanuts (raw) 1 cup sugar 1/2 cup white corn syrup 1/8 teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon butter 1 teaspoon vanilla 1 teaspoon baking soda

Stir together peanuts, sugar, syrup and salt in a 1 1/2-quart casserole. Place in microwave oven and cook 7 to 8 minutes, stirring well after 4 minutes. Add butter and vanilla to syrup blending well. Return to microwave and cook 1 to 2 minutes more. Peanuts will be lightly browned and syrup very hot. Add baking soda and gently stir until light and foamy. Pour mixture into a lightly greased cookie sheet. Let cool 1/2 to 1 hour. When cool, break into small pieces and store in air-tight container.

NOTE: If roasted salted peanuts are used, omit salt and add peanuts AFTER first 4 minutes of cooking. ****** Millie Conger, Tecumseh: until blended. Press into pan, cover and refrigerate 3 hours. Microwave coating and shortening until melted. Stir until smooth and cool slightly. Lift coconut mixture out of pan and cut into 36 pieces. Roll each piece into a ball. Using toothpick, dip balls into coating. Roll in remaining coconut. Place on waxed paper. Refrigerate until set. Keep in refrigerator.

Mary Hedberg, Clifton: EASY PEACH DUMP CAKE

29-ounce can peaches 1 yellow cake mix 1 stick oleo

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour cake mix into 9-by-13-inch pan. Pour can of peaches over dry cake mix. Melt oleo and pour over peaches and cake mix. Bake 40 minutes and enjoy.

***** Hunter George, Shaw-

nee: CHOCOLATE CHIP DIP

8-ounce package cream cheese 1/2 cup butter 3/4 cup powdered sugar

2 tablespoons brown sugar 1 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup miniature chocolate

chips

Beat cream cheese and butter until light and fluffy. Add sugars and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Stir in chips. Good with graham crackers, sugar cookies, fruit, etc. *****

Linda Kepka, Dorrance:

PUMPKIN MINI MUFFINS

1 yellow cake mix 3 eggs 1/2 cup canola oil 1 teaspoon baking soda 2 teaspoons cinnamon

2 cups fresh pumpkin Preheat oven to 350 de-

grees. Blend together all ingredients with mixer. Spray mini muffin pans and fill 2/3 full with batter. Bake for 13 minutes. Makes about 72 mini muffins. Good with cream cheese frosting, if desired.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center:

CROCK-POT CUBE STEAKS

5 cube steaks (or rounds) 1 medium onion, peeled

& sliced 1 can cream of chicken 1/4 cup dark corn syrup Dash of salt

1 cup powdered sugar In a large bowl with lid, toss cereal and pecan pieces. In a microwave-safe bowl combine butter, corn syrup and a dash of salt. Let melt on high about 30 seconds. Stir and pour over cereal and pecans. Stir carefully to coat. Sprinkle with powdered sugar and shake to coat.

Kelma Frohberg, Waterville: "Balls can be baked a day before. Drain and store in refrigerator overnight."

HAM BALLS 1 pound hamburger 1 pound ground pork 1 1/2 pounds ground ham 4 eggs

1 1/2 teaspoons salt 2 cups oatmeal

1 1/2 cups milk

Mix all ingredients well and chill. Shape into about 22 to 25 balls. Place in a shallow pan and bake in a 325-degree oven for approximately 1 hour. Drain. Prepare sauce. Sauce:

1/2 cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons mustard
1 1/2 cups pineapple juice
3 tablespoons flour
3 tablespoons vinegar
1/2 cup white syrup

I remember my brother

insisting that I come over

one night about four and

a half years ago, I want to

say in May; he said there

was something he wanted

to show me. I showed up

and my brother and my

sister-in-law gave me a

gift, which caught me com-

pletely off guard. I opened

it; it was a cookbook filled

with ideas for kids' cakes

and a card. I was too ex-

cited to open the card, I

immediately asked if they

were having a baby. The

answer was yes, and my

I don't think I will ever

be able to put into words

the flood of emotions that

life changed forever.

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves Mix ingredients and cook stirring until thick. Pour over baked ham balls. Place in a slow-cooker (or oven at 200 degrees) for 1/2 to 3/4 hour.

Dolores Hollar, Paxico: "This is a very moist cornbread. It is delicious! The best cornbread I have ever eaten and made. It is a family favorite. Enjoy!" CORNBREAD

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened

3/4 cup sugar

4 eggs

1 1/2 cups cream-style corn

1/4 cup crushed pineapple 1 cup shredded mozzarella

- cheese 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 2 tablespoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt (optional) Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a

time, beating well after each addition. Blend in corn, pineapple, cheese and vanilla. Stir in flour, cornmeal, baking powder and salt. Pour batter into a 9-by-9-by-2-inch square baking dish. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour or until golden brown.

Baking With Sugarbuns By Michele Carlyon My Little Nugget

into the picture. At the same time, I have learned so much from her. She has this amazing ability to make me slow down and look around and to really appreciate my surroundings. She has taught me that it is okay to love wholeheartedly; it is okay to love without hesitation and that sometimes a hug really does fix everything. She has taught me that although forgiveness isn't always easy, it is always necessary and okay to give.

My Little Nugget, my Mika Grace, she turns four on December 19, 2020. How we are already to four is baffling to me, but I absolutely have loved every minute of the last few years and I can't wait to see what she conquers in the year to come. She is wise beyond her years and has a zest for life that is contagious. Happy Birthday sweet Little Nugget, I will love you forever and always. 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.

Jim - The Answer Man!

G&G Annual Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 24 through Dec. 22

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$40 in addition to the gift trio. **CONTEST NOW CLOSED!**

BONUS DRAWING

Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$40.

Winners will be announced Dec. 22.

HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET

What's better than a Kansas Gift Trio?!



• Volume 7 of Clips from "Our Daily Bread" Picking up where we left off, you can now enjoy a compilation of nearly 80 pages of unique & delicious recipes from "Our Daily Bread" circa 2014, including a few home recipes from the G&G staff!

• Legendary Spiced Lemongrass Soap (ordered from Grandma Hoerner's)

Blend of pure essential oils smells amazing (Legendary, even!) and will be a great addition to your kitchen or bath. Scented with Clove, Cinnamon, Lemongrass, Eucalyptus & Rosemary Oils. Poppy Seeds are added for mild exfoliation.

• Elsie Grace HOMEMADE FUDGE! Straight out of Frankfort, KS

The winner each week is selected from the recipes printed. Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-you. 1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions are clear. 2. Be sure your name, address and phone number are on the entry. Please include a street address with your recipe entries. A post office box number is not sufficient for prize delivery. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. 3. Send it to: Woman's Page Editor, Grass & Grain, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505.

OR e-mail: auctions@agpress.com

CREAMY COCONUT SNOW BALLS 1/2 teaspoon plus 1/2 cup

butter

1 3/4 cups sweetened coconut, divided

4 ounces cream cheese 3 3/4 cups powdered sugar 8 ounces white candy coating

2 tablespoons shortening Line a 9-by-5-inch loaf pan with foil. Grease with 1/2 teaspoon butter; set aside. Pulse 3/4 cup coconut in food processor until coarsely chopped. Add cream cheese and

remaining butter. Pulse until blended. Gradually add powdered sugar; pulse

soup 1 can cream of celery soup 1 package Lipton Onion Soup Mix

1/2 soup can water

Lay cube steaks in crock-pot. Place sliced onion on top of meat. Mix cream of chicken soup and cream of celery soup and pour over meat. Sprinkle dry onion soup mix on top. Pour 1/2 soup can of water over all. Cook 6 hours on low.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma: PECAN CHEX MIX

6 cups vanilla Chex Mix cereal

1 cup pecan pieces

2 tablespoons butter, cut into pieces



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rushed over me at that point. During my young adult years, I was adamant that I never wanted kids; when I found out I was going to be an aunt, my heart melted, there was something in me that I just knew I was meant to be an aunt. Watching her come into this world was a whole experience I never expected to be a part of but was so blessed and thankful for. The first look into those eyes and she broke me, she had my heart and there was absolutely nothing that could be done to break that bond, she was

my Little Nugget, and I was

has been the most reward-

ing and scariest thing at

the same time. I was com-

pletely unaware how fast

time flew until she came

Watching her grow up

her Boo Boo.

If you would like to contact Michele with comments please email mcarlyon88@gmail.com



Grass & Grain, December 15, 2020

2020 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Kellee George, Shawnee:

CRANBERRY SNOW DROP COOKIES

1 yellow cake mix 2 eggs

1/3 cup oil

Zest of 1 orange

1 teaspoon orange extract

1 cup sweetened dried cranberries

1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

Combine dry cake mix, eggs and oil; beat until well blended. Stir in remaining ingredients. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto lightly greased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes until edges are lightly golden brown.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

CRANBERRY CAKE

1 white cake mix

1 1/3 cups water

3 eggs

- 1/3 cup oil
- 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
- l cup fresh or frozen cranberries, thawed & coarsely chopped
- 1 cup finely chopped walnuts

Frosting:

- 8 ounces cream cheese 1/2 cup butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon orange zest 1/4 cup finely chopped wal-
- nuts Set oven 350 degrees.

Grease bottom of a 9-by-13inch pan. In a large bowl combine cake mix, water, eggs, oil and orange zest. Beat on low speed for 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Stir in walnuts and cranberries. Put batter in pan and bake about 25 minutes (watch how your oven bakes; do not over bake). For frosting, cream the cream cheese and butter. Gradually beat in orange zest, vanilla and powdered sugar. Frost cake and sprinkle with walnuts. NOTE: You can also make this in layer pans. Would have to adjust baking time.

Jackie Doud, Topeka, submitted the next two recipes:

CHOCOLATE ALMOND COFFEE MIX

1 cup non-dairy powdered coffee creamer

1 cup granulated sugar 1/2 cup instant coffee granules

1/2 cup cocoa

1 teaspoon almond extract In a blender or food processor finely grind all ingredients until well-blended. Store in an air-tight container. Give with a gift card and instructions. To serve: stir about 2 heaping teaspoons coffee mix into 6 ounces hot water.

SPICY CRACKERS

2 boxes saltine crackers

1 package taco seasoning mix 1 package Ranch dip mix

3 tablespoons red pepper flakes 1 1/2 cups olive oil

Put the crackers in a large bowl with lid. Dump the dry mixes over the crackers. Pour the oil over all. Put the lid on the bowl and rotate every 30 minutes for a few hours. Store in air-tight container.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma: WALNUT MINCEMEAT PIE

2 eggs, beaten 1 cup sugar 2 tablespoons flour 1/8 teaspoon salt

2 cups prepared mincemeat

1/2 cup walnuts, chopped 1/4 cup butter, melted 9-inch unbaked pie crust

Put the eggs in a mixing bowl. In a separate bowl combine the sugar, flour and salt. Gradually add this mixture to the eggs. Stir in the mincemeat, walnuts and butter. Pour into pie shell. Bake in a preheated 400-degree oven for 15 minutes. Lower the heat to 325 degrees and bake for 35 more minutes or until knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

The final two recipes are from Darlene Thomas, Delphos:

PEANUT CLUSTERS 6-ounce package chocolate chips

6-ounce package butterscotch chips

12-ounce package salted peanuts

Combine chocolate and butterscotch chips in a 75 will shorten the life 2-quart casserole. Heat in microwave for 6 minutes. Stir once during melting. Stir in peanuts. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto waxed paper. Let set until firm.

FANTASY FUDGE

3 cups sugar 3/4 cup margarine 2/3 cup evaporated milk 12-ounce package semisweet chocolate pieces 7-ounce jar marshmallow creme

1 cup chopped nuts 1 teaspoon vanilla

Combine sugar, butter and milk in a 2 1/2quart saucepan. Bring to rolling boil stirring constantly. Continue boiling for 5 minutes over medium heat, stirring constantly to prevent scorching. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate pieces until melted. Add marshmallow creme, nuts and vanilla: beat until well-blended. Pour into greased 9-by-13-inch pan. Cool at room temperature then cut into squares. Makes approximately 3 pounds.



By Ashleigh Krispense APPLE CINNAMON **CREAM-CHEESE BARS**

A multi-layer dessert bar with an easy streusel topping over layers of apples and sweetened cream cheese. A couple things to note: Make sure the cream cheese is room temperature or it will end up clumpy! Also, I used ginger in the recipe to give a little extra pop of flavor, feel free to just cut it out if you don't like ginger though. (This recipe was originally adapted from the I Am Baker website.)

Bottom laver:

1 cup quick-cooking oats 3 cups flour

2 cups packed brown sugar 1 teaspoon baking powder 1 teaspoon baking soda

3 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

MANHATTAN - For

many, the rich color of

poinsettias is a comfort-

ing symbol of the holi-

days. With proper care,

the popular plant can

last through the end of

ticulture expert with

K-State Research and

Extension, said poinset-

tias should be kept in a

spot where daytime tem-

peratures are 65 to 75 de-

grees F, and 60 to 65 at

of blooms, and below 60

degrees may cause root

tia in a sunny window

or the brightest areas

of your room, but don't

let it touch cold window

panes. Move plants away

from drafty windows at

"Place your poinset-

rot," Upham said.

"Temperatures above

night.

Ward Upham, a hor-

the year and beyond.

Cream cheese mixture: (2) 8-ounce packages cream cheese, room temperature

1 1/2 cups (or 3 sticks) but-

2 eggs, room temperature Apple mixture: 4 large apples, peeled,

2 tablespoons brown sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9-by-13-



For the bottom layer: In a large bowl, mix together the dry ingredients. Stir in the melted butter and mix until crumbly. Pull out 2 cups of the mixture and set aside for the topping.

Press the remaining mixture into the greased pan and bake for 15-20

minutes or until turning golden brown and puffy. For the cream cheese

mixture: (Be sure the cream cheese is room temperature or you will end up with clumps!) In the bowl of your stand mixer, add cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla. Mix until smooth and creamy. Then on low speed, add eggs, one at a time. Mix well and set aside.



Apple mixture: Gently stir together the thinly sliced apples, flour, brown sugar, and cinnamon.



Once the crust has cooked, set the apples

on top of it. Then spread over the apples the cream cheese mixture. Grab the remaining oat mixture that you had set aside and crumble it over the top of the cream cheese.



Pop it back in the oven for another 35-40 minutes. Let cool to room temperature before serving or storing the bars in the refrigerator. Enjoy!

Ashleigh is a freelance writer and blogger for her website, Prairie Gal Cookin' (www.prairiegalcookin. com). She shares everything from step-by-step recipes and easy DIY projects, to local history, stories, and photography from out on the farm in Kansas. Follow PGC online or like it on Facebook for more recipes and ramblings!

to avoid cold damage."

Upham called poinsettias "finicky" when it comes to soil moisture.

"Avoid over-watering poinsettias because they do not like 'wet feet,'" he said. "On the other hand, if the plant is allowed to wilt (due to not getting enough water), it will drop some leaves."

To maintain proper moisture, Upham suggests sticking a finger about 1/2 inch deep into the soil. "If it's dry to ¹/₂ inch, the plant needs water," he said. "When it becomes dry to the touch, water the plant with lukewarm water until some water runs out of the drainage hole, then discard the drainage water."

K-State Research and Extension has produced a video to help in choosing the best poinsettia.

With Care, Poinsettias Can Last Through The Holidays **ARE POINSETTIAS POISONOUS?**

Despite rumors to the contrary, poinsettia leaves are not poisonous to humans or animals. Upham said that members of the Society of American Florists have tried to dispel the rumors in the past by eating poinsettia leaves at press events.

He said the plant could cause an allergic reaction to the milky sap in the leaves. There has never been a recorded case of poisoning due to a poinsettia, he said.

Some members of the genus Euphorbia, to which the poinsettia belongs, have a toxin that can cause vomiting. The poinsettia, however, does not contain that toxin.

Upham and his colleagues in K-State's Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources

produce a weekly Horticulture Newsletter with information on these and other horticulture-related topics. The newsletter is available to view online or can be delivered by email each week.

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

Links used in this story: Video: Choosing the best poinsettia, https:// kansashealthyyards.org/ all-videos/video/choosing-the-best-poinsettia

K-State Horticulture Newsletter, https://hnr.kstate.edu/extension/info-center/newsletters/ index.html

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



"Alexa, turn on KFRM"

Page 5

1/2 cup sugar 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

ter. melted

cored & sliced thinly 2 tablespoons flour

2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

inch pan.





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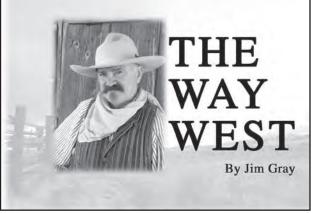
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Grass & Grain, December 15, 2020



The Place Where Crying Began

Back in May of this year wrote a story of Robert Poisal's "lost summer." Poisal was half Arapaho, from the sister of Chief Left Hand and a Kentucky-bred trader by the name of John Poisal. Robert was wagonmaster for a train that had lost its mules to a Cheyenne raiding party. Since the Arapahos had close ties to the Cheyennes he knew their ways and spoke the language. He spent the summer looking for the mules

and finally found that the army was holding them at Fort Sedgwick (near Julesburg, Colorado). Poisal was obliged to travel to the fort to identify them before taking them to the owner of the freighting company at Fort Union, New Mexico.

Anything do with the Arapaho people pulls me in right away. I cannot prove my notion that Arapaho people may have been living in the shadow of the Rockies long before any of the other tribes of that region. I like to call them the original people, which I am sure carries a good bit of personal prejudice in favor of the Arapahos.

I have held an admiration for Chief Left Hand since first learning about him and his dedication peaceful relations to with the Americans even though they were invading his homeland. Left Hand's knowledge of the English language allowed him to make great strides toward peace. That proficiency came from Robert Poisal's father. John Poisal encountered the Arapahos in the 1830s when Left Hand was a young boy. Poisal met and married Left Hand's older sister. Ma-Hom or "Snake Woman," at their winter camp along Boulder Creek. Today the city of Boulder, Colorado, covers the traditional Arapaho winter camp.

John Poisal's presence in Left Hand's family afforded the young man the opportunity to learn the English language. He and his brother, Neva, became Poisal's students, not only in language, but in the ways of American culture. That understanding was later enhanced when in 1849 Indian Agent Thomas Fitzpatrick married John and Ma-Hom's daughter, Margaret. Fitzpatrick learned much of Arapaho ways from his marriage. For his part as agent, Fitzpatrick did all that he could to explain Indian country to the government.

By the mid 1850s Left Hand became chief. His first recorded test came when gold was discovered in Colorado. On their way to the mountains a party of gold seekers stopped to winter over on Boulder Creek Several cabins were already built when Left Hand's people arrived to prepare for winter. Alarmed, the young men of the tribe threatened to drive the invaders out. With support of the elders Left Hand held the young men at bay and met with the prospectors. Assured that they would move into the mountains when winter turned to spring Left Hand guaranteed their safety. During one of the conferences a man known as Bear Head prophetically related a dream of a great flood of water that overflowed the banks of Boulder Creek washing all "the people" away. When the waters subsided only the white men remained. It was already dismally evident that nothing could be done to stop the tide that was washing over them.

In the coming years Left Hand would thread the needle between peace and war, time and time again, which brings me to the strange part of this story. Over the past several days (late November 2020) a rewind of a dream has come and gone like the unbearable "ear-worm" that plagues my thoughts of being awakened from a peaceful, sound sleep to shouts of "Soldiers! Soldiers!" From within my lodge of tanned buffalo hide I rush outside as bullets seem to shred the air. Panic and pandemonium arrests the peace of the valley. All is chaos and confusion. Soldiers are in the camp!

Perhaps the dream is the result of pandemic apprehension. Maybe all these stories just bouncing around in my head trying to get out, or maybe I am being heralded to tell this story. I wake up, but the dream returns. Not just in my sleep, but haunting and relentless in my waking hours as well.

Ma-Hom returned to live with Left Hand's people after she was widowed in 1861. She and her daughter were part of a handful of Arapahos that survived the infamous Sand Creek Massacre. Left Hand fled with the survivors, but died of his wounds somewhere on the prairie.

Sand Creek was not just another fight, it was the place where crying began, the place from which nothing would ever be the same 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.

Joe Newland, Wilson

County, is a dedicated ag-

riculturalist, farming more

than 2,800 acres of wheat,

corn, soybeans and hay,

as well as managing a 300

head cow/calf herd. He was

elected to KFB's board of

directors in 2011 and re-

signed in 2019 to replace

Representative Larry Hib-

several years.

KANSAS Farm Bureau experience that launched Kansas Farm Bureau and on KFB's Board of Direc- is an avid ag supporter Bureau coordinator for

Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) recognized members and supporters at its 102nd annual meeting, Dec. 3-4 in Manhattan.

Edie Dahlsten, McPherson County, received KFB's Distinguished Service award. Edie and her husband, Larry, have spent their lives advocating, educating and serving on behalf of their farm organization. Dahlsten started out on the State Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee and it was this experience that launched her appointment to the KFB Board of Directors in 1989, then was elected vice president in 2002 and made the decision to retire in 2011. Today, she still serves Kansas Farm Bureau as a board member for KFB's Foundation for Agriculture.

The organization also presented 13 Friends of Agriculture awards. This award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to

WRE

Kansas Farm Bureau and agriculture. They included:

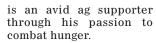
Erik Atkinson, Wabaunsee County, has worked in the agriculture industry throughout the last 40 years. He now hosts "Agriculture Today" for the K-State Radio Network to inform Kansans on leading agricultural topics.

Stacey Forshee, Cloud County, has served agriculture for 30 years in various roles throughout Kansas Farm Bureau, including on KFB's Board of Directors, as YF&R State Committee Chair, District Resolutions Chair and an Ag Advisory Board member. She has always committed herself to advocating on behalf of farm families.

Herschel George, Miami County, started his career in agriculture 50 years ago. He has served as a 4-H Extension agent and a watershed specialist, educating farmers on strategies concerning water supply. Throughout his career, he has provided expert advice to many in the industry.

Rick McNary, Butler County, is a published author, photographer and global hunger expert. He also founded the Facebook group "Shop Kansas Farms," which has become an avenue for consumers to connect with local farmers. Although not directly engaged in farming, Rick





Keith Miller, Barton County, has served agriculture for more than 45 years. He is a third-generation farmer and raises wheat, alfalfa, milo, corn and sovbeans. He served on KFB's board of directors for 17 years and continues to serve agriculture as a commissioner for the Kansas Sovbean Commission. Keith is a devout Farm Bureau member and his contributions to the industry are greatly appreciated.

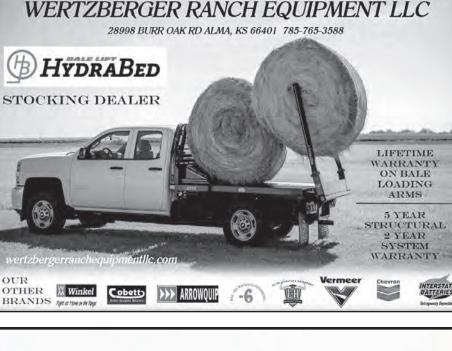
Laura Moffet, Rooks County, is dedicated to educating youth about the importance of agriculture in our world by planning events such as Bushels for Backpacks and Ag in the Classroom. Along with her educational outreach efforts, she has served as the Rooks County Farm bard who retired from the Kansas 13th House District. He's served as president of the Wilson County Farm Bureau board, on the state Resolutions Com-

mittee and volunteered on various school and bank boards. Barbara Roux, Harvey

County, has committed her career to preparing youth in the agriculture industry to be successful in life by serving the Kansas 4-H where she worked as an Extension agent and coach. She also served on the Harvey County Farm Bureau Board for ten years.

Harland Rupp, Ellis and Barton counties, has worked for 23 years to help Ellis and Barton counties with their agricultural accomplishments. He worked alongside K-State Research and Extension to develop the first Farm Safety Day and Kids Ag Day for students in both counties.

Randol Walker, Shawnee County, has made many contributions to agriculture throughout the last 47 years. He's been a member of the K-State Extension board and held several roles in Shawnee County Farm Bureau. Walker has also spoken at numerous county commission meetings on local agricultural issues. Jay Overmiller, Smith County, received the Kansas Farm Bureau National Resources Award. This award goes to the farm family who exemplifies good land stewardship. Jay and his family operate a fourth-generation farm and grow wheat, soybeans and milo on 2.500 acres of side hills. The Overmillers use no-till techniques and implement vigilant soil testing, as well as utilize Conservation Security Program buffers to filter chemicals from field runoffs and provide a habitat for wildlife. The family has also planted nearly 300 trees and bushes over the last two years to increase water filtration and add more nutrients to the soil. Jay's ongoing passion is to preserve the land he tends so the next generation of Overmillers can continue to protect their natural resources. Ray Will received the Farm Bureau Kansas Partnership Award. This award recognizes someone from Farm Bureau Financial Services (FBFS) who has gone above and beyond for the state's largest farm organization. Ray is a **Business Center Director** for FBFS with both underwriting and claims staff oversight. He has been a tremendous partner for KFB and helps ensure members have a positive claims and underwriting experience.





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Yard & Garden Tips By Gregg Eyestone The Mexican Poinsettia

It seems like the Christmas spirit arrives earlier every year. Holiday plants are readily available now. Cacti, Amaryllis, Christmas trees and the ever popular poinsettia.

A red poinsettia is a favorite Christmas time decoration. Several breeders have put a spin on the color red. Besides many shades of red, poinsettias come in white, marble, pink speckled and others. You can take a white one and dye it any color you want, such as purple. Poinsettia plants be-

came a Christmastime dec-

are not that eye-catching. They give way to the colorful bracts or modified leaves. However, the flowers are a good indicator of the maturity of the plant. A fresh poinsettia is one on which little or no yellow pollen is showing on the flower clusters in the center of the bracts. Really old plants are missing their flowers, however, the colorful non-poisonous bracts remain.

The flowers themselves

Once you make your selections, place your poinsettia in a spot with bright natural light, but don't let it touch cold window-

Grass & Grain, December 15, 2020 panes. The day temperature is best when it doesn't get above 75 degrees with 60 to 65 degrees at night. Temperatures above 75 degrees will shorten bloom life, and below 60 degrees

may cause root rot. Move

plants away from windows

at night or draw drapes be-

tween them to avoid dam-

a constantly moist but not

wet potting media. Ex-

amine the potting media

daily for moistness. Pick-

ing up the container can

be a good indicator of

moisture. Heavy pots don't

need water and light pots

Poinsettias do best with

age from the cold.

Page need moisture added. Use room temperature water, add until some water runs out of the container's drainage holes and the potting media is moist Discard the excess water.

You can find out more information on this and other horticulture topics by going to the Riley County, K-State Research and Extension website at www. riley.ksu.edu. And you can contact Gregg Eyestone at the Riley County office of K-State Research and Extension at 110 Court house Plaza in Manhattan, by calling 785-537-6350 or e-mail: geyeston@ksu.edu

g member selected .S. house ag commi ttee chair and rankin

oration because in their

natural habitat of Mexi-

co; they are in full flower

at that time. Flowering is "photoperiodic" induced

in the poinsettia. Without

long nights of 14 hours,

this plant will continue to

produce leaves and will

grow but never flower.

U.S. Rep. David Scott (D-Ga.) will replace long-time agriculture leader Rep. Collin Peterson (D-Minn.) as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Scott ranks highest in seniority on the committee and has served since his election in 2002. He previously served as the subcommittee chair of the Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit subcommittee. He will be the first representative from Georgia to serve as a chairman.

National Cattlemen's Beef Association CEO Collin Woodall welcomed the nomination and called Scott a "devoted friend of America's cattle producers." Woodall

added, "His leadership and expertise on cattle issues demonstrates his commitment to helping producers succeed. He is a consummate leader and an ideal choice to lead the committee.'

U.S. Rep. G.T. Thompson (R-Penn.) will serve as the next ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee. Thompson will replace former chairman and current ranking member Rep. Mike Conaway (R-Texas) who is retiring from Congress at the end of the year.

"Cattle producers in Pennsylvania and across the country are well represented by Congressman Thompson," Ethan Lane, NCBA vice president of government affairs, said. "From his long-standing track record of bipartisan legislative victories to his work mentoring the next generation of agriculture leaders, G.T. does it all. He is an exemplary choice to guide the Committee for years to come and we are excited to work with him and his team in the next Congress."

The full committee membership roster will be announced in January after the Republican and Democrat steering committees make their recommendations and their respective caucus leaders approve.

Christmas cactus is prone to root rot. Avoid overwa

"Given proper care, Christmas cacti often outlive

tering and maintain strict sanitation. Remove common

their caretaker and provide years of brilliant color around the holidays," said Trinklein. "The small amount

of effort required by these plants is well worth it when

one considers the reward of seeing an 'heirloom' plant

insect pests, which include mealybug and scale.

disappointing flowering, Trinklein said.

Treat it right and nas cactus TO bloom another year lights can disrupt the required dark period and cause

With proper care, Christmas cactus is a gift that gives for many years, says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

Trinklein has recommendations for success with Christmas cactus:

Christmas cacti tolerate low light but perform best in bright, indirect light in the home. They benefit from brighter light during winter, but full summer sun can result in pale plants. If placed outside for the summer, keep plants in a semi-shady location. Christmas cacti prefer temperatures of 70-80 F for the April to September growing season.

Like most cacti. Christmas cacti tolerate under-watering better than over-watering, Trinklein said. Water only when the growing medium is dry to the touch. If you put a saucer under the pot to collect excess water, empty it to keep the water from wicking back into the pot. Failure to do so results in a soggy root environment, which is an open invitation to root rot.

Reduce watering from fall through spring. Only fertilize plants during their growth period of early spring through late summer. Use a regular fertilizer at one-quarter strength or a houseplant fertilizer according to label directions.

Keep Christmas cacti slightly pot-bound to induce prolific flowering. Repotting may be necessary every three years. Use a porous, well-drained potting mix. Commercial mixes made for epiphytes are good choices. Make regular peat-lite mixes into epiphytic mixes by adding perlite or sterile sharp sand to increase porosity. Reblooming Christmas cacti can be challenging, Trin-





Merry Christmas FROM EVERYONE AT

klein said. The cacti are short-day plants, but temperature affects their response to day length. In fact, flowering will occur regardless of day length under cool night conditions (50-55 F).

Prolific flowering happens when plants experience cool nights with at least 13 hours of darkness. Reducing water at this time to slightly stress the plant improves flowering. Expose Christmas cacti to short days, cool nights and dry conditions in mid-October for full bloom during the holiday season.

Sudden changes in temperature, light or other factors, such as excessive drying of the growing medium, can cause Christmas cacti to drop unopened flower buds. Poor flowering also happens when stray light interrupts the required long periods of darkness during short-day treatment. Interior lights, streetlights and even car

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Grass & Grain, December 15, 2020



Things that keep running through my head: Merle Haggard's If We Make It Through December and the Bible verse, "It came to pass..." We have high hopes that 2021 will be

kinder to us than 2020 has been. We can only make plans as though events will happen and be ready for Plan B if they cannot. With that in mind, we hope you can join us at the Fort Wal-

The Guardians of the Fort Wallace Museum will

host its annual symposium on March 13, 2021. The theme is "Taking the Smoky Hill Trail to Santa Fe" and will focus on the links between the two historic trails. The cost for the symposium is \$50 and includes lunch. The day culminates with Capt. Keogh's Emerald Banquet and Auction on Saturday evening. The banquet is free with a Guardians membership which begins at \$25.

lace Museum for events we

have planned this year.

In 2021, the Santa Fe Trail will mark 200 years **Corn harvest quality report: higher average test weight, lower moisture and damage**

since it was opened for trade between the United States and Mexico. For six decades, until supplanted by the completion of the railroad, it was a vital trade route. As the railroad moved westward following the Civil War, the Smoky Hill Trail became an integral part of this route.

Speakers include: Joanne VanCoevern, An Overview of the Santa Fe Trail; Marla Matkin, Women on the Santa Fe Trail; Mike Olson, Otero, Sellar & Co. - A Saga of Two Families.

The Dennis K. Clark Lecture will be delivered by Frank Norris who will discuss the ever-changing route of the trail. The lecture series was established two years ago to honor Lt. Col. (ret.) Dennis K. Clark for his distinguished career in service to our country as a soldier and instructor.

The Fort Wallace Museum is about 25 miles east of the Colorado state line on Highway 40. The nearest motels are in Sharon Springs, nine miles to the west: Goodland, 41 miles to the northwest; and Oakley, 45 miles to the east.

Social hour for the banquet will begin at 5:00 p.m. with the dinner at 6:00

p.m. Featured entertainment will be Murder at the Museum, written and performed by Marla Matkin (with a little help from her friends). Live and online auction to follow.

For more information. email museum@ftwallace. com or call 785-891-3564.

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, the bicentennial of that historic route in 2021. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail. com.

lower moisture and lower The 2020/2021 U.S. corn crop - entering markettotal damage relative to U.S. Grains Council's (USeach quality factor's aver-GC's) 2020/2021 Corn Haring channels now - has a higher average test weight, age of the previous five vest Quality Report. The report is the tenth annual such examination YDRA BED of the U.S. corn crop and was recently published globally. for U.S. No. 2. OPTIONS: While wet weather con- Post Hole Digger ditions in April and May - Tool Boxes

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crops, according to the

contributed to historic delays in planting and crop maturity in 2019, the 2020 crop was planted slightly ahead of the average pace of the previous five crops and experienced generally favorable conditions during the remainder of the growing season, resulting in both high grain quality and yield.

The average aggregate quality of the representative samples tested was better than the grade fac-

tor requirements for U.S. No. 1 grade. The report also showed that 84.7 percent of the samples met the grade factor requirements for U.S. No. 1 grade and 94.5 percent met the grade factor requirements

"Through trade, the Council is committed to the furtherance of global food security and mutual economic benefit. We offer this report to assist buyers in making well-informed decisions by providing reliable and timely information about the quality of the current U.S. crop," said USGC chairman Jim Raben, a farmer from Illinois. "This year's ample supply allows the United States to remain the world's leading corn exporter and accounts for an estimated 36.4 percent of global corn exports during the marketing year."

The report is based on 601 yellow corn samples taken from defined areas within 12 of the top corn-producing and exporting states. Inbound samples were collected from local grain elevators to measure and analyze quality at the point of origin and provide representative information about the variability of quality characteristics across diverse geographic regions.

This year's crop showed higher test weight than the 2019 and five-year average results; lower average broken corn and foreign material (BCFM) than in 2019; lower average total damage than 2019 and the fiveyear average; and lower average moisture content than 2019 or the five-year average. The crop also showed higher-than-average protein concentration than 2019 and the five-year average; lower average stress cracks than 2019; and lower average 100-kernel weight than 2019 or the five-year average.

More than 99 percent of the samples tested below the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) action level for aflatoxins. A full 100 percent of the samples tested below the 5.0 parts per million FDA advisory level for deoxynivalenol (DON) or vomitoxin. Of the samples tested for fumonisin, 98.9 percent tested below the FDA's strictest guidance level of 5.0 parts per million.

The 2020/2021 U.S. corn crop is expected to be the third largest (368.49 million metric tons/14,507 million bushels) and has the third highest average yield on record (11.04 metric tons/hectare or 175.8 bushels per acre), according to the U.S. Department of

Agriculture (USDA) World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimate.

The 2020/2021 Corn Harvest Quality Report provides information about the quality of the current U.S. crop at harvest as it enters international merchandising channels. A second Council report, the 2020/2021 Corn Export Cargo Quality Report, will measure corn quality at the point of loading for export. It will be available in early 2021.

The Council virtually presented the new report's findings to buyers around the world in rollout events that began Dec. 11 in Southeast Asia. Presentations will continue through the first quarter of 2020, aiming to offer participants clear expectations regarding the quality of corn for this marketing year. During these events, crop quality information is accompanied by presentations on U.S. corn grading and handling, which helps provide a better understanding of how U.S. corn is moved and controlled through export channels.

Additional roll-out events are scheduled in January in Latin America, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Northeast Asia and Mexico.

USDA projects increased feed prices

es have been raised sig-

Forecasts for feed pricnificantly, USDA said in

the November Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Outlook from the Economic Research Service.

The corn price estimate for the 2019-20 marketing year is \$3.56 per bushel, and the 2020-21 forecast is \$4.00 per bushel, up 40 cents from last month's forecast. The soy-



bean meal price estimate for the 2019-20 marketing year is \$299.50 per short ton; the 2020-21 forecast is \$355 per short ton, \$20 higher than the last forecast.

Record U.S. corn exports are projected for 2020-21, the ERS said in its Feed Outlook report for November. The United States is expected to export 2.65 billion bushels of corn in 2020-21, a 325-million-bushel increase from the October report.

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Busting the bin in the 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest Derek Friehe of Moses al irrigated winter wheat Released in 2018, LCS Trigger is low in protein On the state level, LCS • 1st Place, % Increase

Lake, Wash., led the field in the National Wheat Foundation's 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest (NWYC). Friehe's 206.7 bu/ ac yield with LCS Jet was the highest in the contest and landed him the Bin Buster award for irrigated winter wheat.

LCS Jet is a NWYC heavy-hitter, giving LCS farmers wins for the past four years and topping the contest for three of those four years. Friehe knew about LCS Jet's past NWYC performance and had been following the data. "In all the trials, LCS Jet has done really well in our area," explains Friehe, who has been planting LCS Jet for a few years. "It's one of the top yielders with good quality, and this year we grew it at full irrigation."

LCS varieties delivered NWYC award-winning yields for growers in both irrigated and dryland wheat, including a national irrigated winter wheat win for Joel and Emily Zwainz with LCS Shine and a national dryland spring wheat win for Jon Wert with LCS Trigger.

LCS Shine was recommended to Emily and Joel Zwainz by their local cooperative HighLine Grain Growers after strong yield trial results. "It performed extremely well for us," says Joel, who also credits their Nutrien agronomist with helping them achieve big yields. "This was our first year farming irrigated."

"We're dryland farmers who got a chance to farm with water for a change," laughs Emily. "We had a good first year with the water." Joel and Emily knew the yield they were getting with LCS Shine and how their neighbors were faring in comparison. They thought they had a shot, decided to enter the yield contest for the first time and came away with a national win.

Released in 2018, LCS Shine is a relatively new variety for Limagrain Cereal Seeds. Emily and Joel Zwainz were part of a smaller group of farmers in the Pacific Northwest who received early access to Certified seed last fall. "Now, anyone who wants to grow LCS Shine has a better chance of getting seed," reports Hannah Kammeyer, Limagrain Cereal Seeds marketing lead. "We've been ramping up seed production to try and meet growing demand. LCS Shine is broadly adapted across the PNW, so seed increase has been a group effort with dealers in the region."

In the Northern Plains, LCS Trigger has been a blockbuster yielder for Jon Wert. 2020 marks his third NWYC win in as many years.

"LCS Trigger is such a great variety with such high yield potential. It just performs. It's insane," says Wert. He cautions that LCS Trigger is low in protein but is otherwise, "the best variety I've ever had."

"In addition to yield, it has disease tolerance and standability — and shatter tolerance." Shattering isn't usually a problem for Wert, but last season brought a pummeling. "When the hail hit, the variety [planted next to LCS Trigger] completely shelled out from the hail, but LCS Trigger did okay."

The National Wheat Foundation created the National Wheat Yield Contest in 2015 to spur wheat productivity and encourage innovation in wheat growing. The competition has grown along with yields over the years, attracting a record-breaking 418 entries from across the United States this year.

"It's great to have a place for healthy competition," says Friehe about his decision to enter the contest. "You can really see where you stand on a national level."

On the state level, LCS varieties swept the NWYC irrigated winter wheat category in Washington, led dryland spring wheat in South Dakota and produced dryland winter wheat winners in Idaho and Washington.

"Having our varieties win awards is a lot of fun, but what I enjoy most is getting phone calls and texts during harvest when farmers are excited about their yield," declares Kammeyer. "With or without wins, the National Wheat Yield Contest is great for generating interest in getting the most out of your wheat crop."

LCS National 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest Winners:

• Bin Buster, High Yield Winter Wheat Irrigated: Derek Friehe, 206.7 bu/ac with LCS Jet

• 1st Place, High Yield Winter Wheat Irrigated: Joel and Emily Zwainz, 197.15 bu/ac with LCS Shine • 1st Place, % Increase Spring Wheat Dryland: Jon Wert, 160.68% increase of county average, 105.0 bu/ac

with LCS Trigger LCS State 2020 National Wheat Yield Contest Winners:

• 1st Place Washington, Winter Wheat Irrigated: Derek Friehe, 206.7 bu/ac with LCS Jet

• 2nd Place Washington, Winter Wheat Irrigated: Joel and Emily Zwainz, 197.15 bu/ac with LCS Shine

• 3rd Place Washington, Winter Wheat Irrigated: Travis Schuh, 196.44 bu/ac with LCS Jet

• 2nd Place Washington, Winter Wheat Dryland: Jason Beechinor, 171.92 bu/ac with LCS Artdeco

• 2nd Place Idaho, Winter Wheat Dryland: Harlan Zenner, 176.4 bu/ac with LCS Hulk

• 1st Place South Dakota, Spring Wheat Dryland: Robert Holzwarth, 87.73 bu/ac with LCS Cannon

American Farmland Trust releases guide to 'Outcome Estimation Tools' to support farm conservation practice projects

American Farmland Trust, the organization that for 40 years has been saving the land that sustains us and advancing the implementation of regenerative practices on the land has released, A Guide to Water Quality, Climate, Social, and Economic Outcomes Estimation Tool: Quantifying Outcomes to Accelerate Farm Conservation Practice Adoption featuring tools and methods for use by managers of projects funded by the USDA, EPA, states, and the private sector who are supporting conservation practice adoption on millions of acres.

Agricultural production can result in the unintended effects of impairing water quality in surface and ground waters and producing harmful climate changing gases. In fact, agriculture remains "the leading source of water quality impacts on surveyed rivers and lakes" (EPA, 2016) and as a sector, "agriculture emits an estimated 9.9 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gases" (EPA, 2020). Addressing these unintended environmental impacts, increasing resilience to climate change, and keeping farms viable are among the paramount challenges that agriculture faces today.

A large and diverse conservation community is addressing these challenges from many sectors including government, academic, environmental and farm groups, and more recently, corporations with supply chain sustainability programs. This community supports farmers through educational, financial, and technical assistance projects to adopt conservation practices that can result in improved water quality, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, increased soil health and carbon sequestration, a boost to the farmer's bottom line, and many other benefits. AFT estimates there are over one thousand federally-funded farm conservation projects collaborating with tens of thousands of farmers on millions of acres.

"One way to develop awareness and positive farmer attitudes for farm conservation practices is to quantify results. In fact, outcomes quantification is moving to the forefront of the emerging food and corporate supply chain sustainability efforts, state policy consortiums like the U.S. Climate Alliance, and USDA programs focused on soil health and carbon sequestration," said Michelle Perez, AFT water director. "We hope that estimating practice outcomes will increase farmer confidence in the conservation practices and we envision "a self-strengthening cycle" where outcomes quantification results in more practice adoption which then offers more quantification opportunities inspiring even more adoption."

"AFT believes outcomes quantification may help project managers to dialogue more persuasively with local farmers and develop more effective outreach and educational

events to help "sell" conservation better, faster, and across more acres," said Emily Cole, AFT's climate and agriculture program manager. "Effectively, practice- and project-scale outcomes quantification by local project managers can become another "tool" in the "conservation toolbox" alongside educational, financial, and technical assistance efforts to accelerate practice adoption." The guide features 14

tools and two methods that provide quantitative estimates of the impacts that conservation practices can have on of water quality, climate, social, or economic outcomes. The featured tools were chosen based upon their availability, applicability, and usability by conservation project managers.

Finally, the paper offers 14 recommendations to stimulate efforts by government agencies, academics, foundations, and the private sector to: (1) further refine existing tools and methods, (2) provide additional guidance and support to project managers, and (3) build a national dataset to continually calibrate and validate outcomes quantification models and tools.

If you would like a free print copy of the 100page guide mailed to you, please fill out this form: https://farmland.salsalabs. org/outcomesguide_free_ copy/index.html. AFT will host an in-depth webinar presentation on the Guide and discuss the recommendations on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 11 a.m. to noon Central. See registration details here to join: http://farmland.org/ outcomes_guide_webinar.



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A N D G R

Page 10 Grass & Grain, December 15, 2020 Kansas 4-H leaders talk about core concepts of state's programs

Though Kansas 4-H members have their pick of nearly three dozen projects offered each year, there really are three key principles they're likely to pick up: Leadership. Communication. Civic engagement.

"I was just having a conversation with another person the other day with how thrilled it makes me to see young people who have been in the 4-H program to put up their 'I Voted' sticker," said Beth Hinshaw, a Kansas 4-H youth development programs in 2019.

specialist in southeast Kansas. "Young people who are involved in their communities, taking leadership and communicating... are going to do that as adults, as well."

Sign-up for Kansas 4-H programs is currently underway across Kansas. and Hinshaw is encouraging youth to check out what the state's largest youth organization might offer them. In Kansas, more than 86,000 youth and their families participated in a variety of 4-H

Aliah Mestrovich Seay, a youth development specialist for community vitality, notes that while youth are often drawn to 4-H programs because of their interest in a subject area - such as woodworking, shooting sports, livestock and many others - it is what they learn by participating in those activities that is the real benefit.

"We build 4-H programs intentionally so that youth can be agents of change in their community while they're also using leadership and communication skills," she said.

Hinshaw notes that such events as the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum relate to leadership. Ongoing activities like project talks, demonstrations and public speaking build on their communication skills.

"Communication is not just about speaking," Mestrovich Seay said. "It's also about learning how to deeply listen... to what your community needs, what your peers need and what people who might not have the same privileges need."

The program also hosts well-known activities like Citizenship Washington Focus and 48 Hours of 4-H that focus on service to one's community and world.

Newer programs, Mestrovich Seay added, incorporate all of these skills, such as a Community Conversations series that relies on youth serving as facilitators for talks around often-contentious issues

"When Aliah talks about listening, we want to listen to understand." Hinshaw said. "We have to put that leadership and citizenship hat on to think about what it is that I really heard and how others might interpret that. I think that 4-H helps youth build those skills."

Hinshaw urges youth and families to learn more about the program by contacting their local 4-H club leader, or their local K-State Research and Extension agent.

What are you "in search of" on HitchPin? Platform rolls out new categories in app, and all with records stored that you can refer

Connecting farmers and ranchers to the goods and services they need has allowed HitchPin to grow to a point where there are listings in every state in the U.S. This online marketplace offers many of the advantages farmers turn to online auctions and sale sites for, with added benefits of giving more control and security back to the buyers and sellers.

After starting out in hay, the platform quickly grew to include categories for livestock, agriculture equipment, custom farming and livestock services, and even farmfresh food. This drew quite the crowd of online visitors as more and more farmers and ranchers found opportunities to list their items or services for sale.

The next logical step in further connecting supply and demand in agriculture was to provide an outlet for those involved in the agriculture industry to post items and services they needed. With the release of their "in search of" feature, HitchPin has further completed the circle

"Up to this point, the opportunity has been in the hands of the buyer. We relied on sellers and service providers to create listings on HitchPin and buyers to come seek those out. Now, we are giving buyers the opportunity to list things they need, like a bull for rent or a specific type of implement. The folks who can fulfill those needs then have an opportunity to take action and connect with them. Being able to offer both sides of the equation to farmers at the same time really makes business better for both sides," says McKeeman, founder of HitchPin.

Creating an "in search of" listing on HitchPin takes only about a minute.

After signing up for a free account at HitchPin.com. a listing can be created with a few clicks of the button, stating what category of item or service you are looking for and any specific requirements or requested dates for a service to be completed.

Then other farmers and ranchers can send a bid for your listing and chat with you about moving forward, all

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communication. Finally, payment is made in the app from the buyer to the seller, keeping all transfers of funds secure and timely, so both parties know exactly where the money is

back to in the future so there is no opportunity for mis-

during each step of a transaction. This flexibility in allowing buyers and sellers to come together through different types of interactions gives everyone more choices and makes more economic sense. The value of technology built specifically for agriculture, by companies who understand how agriculture works, becomes apparent in an age where refusing to try new things often means being left behind.

"The HitchPin team is composed of people who grew up farming and those that love technology. We chose to build HitchPin in the heart of ag country. We understand how complex agriculture is and want to deliver the most powerful tool possible for farmers, to level the playing field. If you see something we should add or can improve, contact us" said McKeeman.

Prepare now for calving season

As a young boy growing up in Central Nebraska, we had a spring calving cow herd. The "calving shed" that was available to us was one side of a large red barn. This barn was built in the early part of the 20th century and had stalls on one side that were meant to stall draft horses. Because we used the stalls only during March and April for the "calving shed," the other ten months of the year they became a storage facility.

Fencing materials. five-gallon drums of grease for farming machinery, sacks of grass seed, and mineral blocks were just some of the items that were stored in the stalls. Invariably, the calving season would begin before the gestation table suggested that it should. One of us would find a two-year-old that was in the midst of labor, and the calving shed was still full of supplies.

Someone once said "Success occurs when Opportunity meets with Preparation." Planning and preparing ahead for next spring's calving season can help increase the chances of success. There are several key preparation steps that would be good to conduct in December to ensure success in February, March, and April. Before calving

season starts do a walkthrough of pens, chutes, and calving stalls. Make sure that all are clean, dry, strong, safe, and functioning correctly.

Check the gates and the squeeze panels to make certain that they are ready for use. Do you still have the extra farm supplies stored in the calving shed or stalls? Now would be a good time make certain that these items are placed in another facility or at least out of the way. This is a lot easier to do on a sunny December afternoon than on a cold dark night when you need to have the calving area ready in a short time.

If calf diarrhea has been a significant issue in your herd in the past, now is a good time to visit with vour large animal veterinarian. Ask about a scours vaccine given to the cows before calving, and about other management strategies that help reduce the pathogen exposure to baby calves when they are most vulnerable.

More information about management of cows and heifers at calving time can be found by downloading and reading the Oklahoma State University Circular E-1006 Calving Time Management for Beef Cows and Heifers.



We want to see your Kid's Corner pages!

Send us any completed Kid's Corner page and you could win a prize!

Week 1 - December 1st: Winner will be drawn randomly from all submissions received by 9 a.m. Friday, December 4th.



K-State Sock Monkey 350

Big Piece

Snowman

Puzzle*

K-State

Card

Matching

Game

Small

Week 2 - December 8th: Winner will be drawn randomly from all submissions received by 9 a.m. Friday, December 11th. *prize changed due to shipping complications

Week 3 - December 15th: Winner will be drawn randomly from all submissions received by 9 a.m. Friday, December 18th.

TTO III (

Week 4 - December 22nd: Winner will be drawn randomly from all submissions received by 9 a.m. Wed., December 23rd. *prize changed due to shipping complications



Mystery Prize!*

No limit on number of submissions, but you may only win once.

Be sure to include your name, age, mailing address & phone number with each submission.

> Mail your submissions to: PO Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505 Or bring them by the office: 1531 Yuma St., Manhattan, KS 66502

Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Due to the uncertainty of events, if you plan to attend any of the following auctions and have any doubts, please contact the auction company to confirm that the auction will be conducted and inquire about safety procedures if you are concerned. And please check their websites.

Always great online Equipment auctions www.purplewave.com

December 15 — Real Estate: Tract 1: 66.3 acres m/l Smith County farmland, grass & creek: Tract 2: 69.8 acres m/l Smith County farmland held at Gaylord for Aaron James. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

December 17 — 137.99 acres m/l of Shawnee County land including tillable & pasture, deer & wildlife habitat, building site held at Wakarusa for Don & Chris Perry. Auctioneers: J&D Auction Service, LLC, Jase Hubert & Dwavne Coble.

December 18 - Land auction consisting of 65 acres m/l of pasture held at Bremen for Constance Kraemer. Auctioneers: Olmsted Real Estate & Auc-

December 19 — Tractors including 1992 Duetz-Allis 9150, 1978 Allis Chalmers 7045, 1967 Oliver 1650, 1959 Allis Chalmers D17 & 1948 Allis Chalmers WD: Dodge Model 600 straight truck, UTV, lawn mower, machinery, equipment, trailers & miscellaneous including tools held at Burchard, Nebraska for Roger Tegtmeier Estate. Also selling 2008 JD 568 mega wide plus round baler, 1999 Mac Don 9300, hi capacity rake, 2004 Trailman gooseneck stock trailer for JB Libal. Auctioneers: Jurgens, Henrichs, Hardin, Som-

merhalder. December 19 - Coins including 2001 Gold \$25 USA Liberty, 1875S 20-cent piece, Morgan & Peace dollars, proof & mint sets, silver certificates, war pennies, buffalo & war nickels, Mercury & Barber dimes, Barber halves & quarters, Silver German 1936 (1st year Swastika) & 1937, Walking Liberty & Kennedy halves & more; also selling tools, lots of AMMO, yard art held at Strong City. Auctioneers: Hancock Auction & Real Estate.

December 19 - Tractors, trailers, portable restrooms, banquet tables, folding chairs, showcases, wagons & much more at Osage City. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

January 16, 2021 — Farm auction selling Bobcat skid steer, skid steer attachments, tractor, trailers, equipment, 1997 Mercedes Benz, tools, collectibles held at Lawrence for Schneider Family Trust. Details soon! Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 21, 2021 - Pottawatomie County Land Auction: 550 acres, m/l of Native Grass with ponds sold in 2 tracts consisting of 313 Acres m/l located in Sec 9-T7-R9 on 99 Hwy, and 237 Acres m/l located in Sec. 7-T7-R7 West of Hwy. 99 on Huff Road held at Manhattan for Alfred Heidel Trust. Auctioneers: Ruckert Realty & Auction, Jeff Ruckert.

January 23, 2021 400+ Toys including IH, JD, Case, Ford, Oliver, MM, MF, Cat, Arcade, Tru-Scale; Ertl, Franklin Mint, Precision, SpecCast, Structo, Tonka. 1/12th, 1/16th, 1/24th, 1/43rd, 1/64th, most all toys have the boxes. Also selling collectibles, household, tools & miscellaneous held at Lawrence for Sam Stanley Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions. Mark Elston.

April 10, 2021 — Fink **Beef Genetics Spring Bull** Sale held at Randolph.

KDA offers direct-to-consumer meat marketing and consumer webinars

Now more than ever. consumers are looking to build relationships and buy their food direct from the source. The Kansas Department of Agriculture will host a series of informational webinars early January 2021 provide information in to about direct-to-consumer meat sales. "Adding direct-to-consumer sales can be an option to diversify farm income," said Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam. "We are pleased to provide innovative programing and educational opportunities to help Kansas' farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses grow and expand market options and continue to serve as economic engines in their communities."

During the week of January 4, KDA will be offering a webinar series designed to provide more insight in the direct-to-consumer business model. This five-part webinar series will be held daily, January 4-8, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., and will feature meat marketing and regu-latory experts. This series

American Gelbvieh Association

Members of the American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) elected five candidates to the board of directors during the 2020 AGA Annual Membership Meeting held virtually on December 4. 2020.

The newly elected board member is William

is designed for those who wish to sell direct-to-consumer. In addition, KDA will host a second onepart webinar which will be focused on information for consumers and will address their questions about direct purchases of meat products. It will be held on Wednesday, January 6, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Throughout the first webinar series, Kansas Meat Marketing Basics: Putting You a Cut Above, participants will learn the basics of starting a farm-to-fork business, including discussions about naming your business, product selection, pricing, social media marketing, regulatory considerations and more. The series will feature presentations by Rachel Cutrer, Ranch House Designs, Inc. and B.R. Cutrer. Inc.: Danette Amstein and Myasia Burns, Midan Marketing and Dr. Liz Boyle with Kansas State University's value-added meats pro-

gram. At the second webinar, Clearing the Confusion: Meat Marketing Consumer Basics, participants will learn about basic meat science and meat processing and will receive recipes and resources for consumers to utilize cuts of beef. Guest speakers will include Collette Kaster, American Meat Science Association; Chad Bon-trager, Yoder Meats, Bowser Meat Processing and Heartland Meat Market; and a representative from the Kansas Beef Council.

Registration is now open for both the webinar series and the consumer webinar, and there is no cost to participate. You can participate in one or more of the webinars, as the speakers and content will be different for each session. Find detailed agendas and register at: www.agriculture.ks.gov/ BusinessDevelopment.

It is the mission of KDA to support all facets of agriculture, including lending support to those who wish to market and sell their products off the farm. For more information, contact KDA compliance education coordinator Dana Ladner at Dana.Ladner@ ks.gov 785-564-6660.

elects board of directors

lin.

McIntosh, Georgetown, Kentucky. Re-elected to serve a second term were Dustin Aherin, St. Charles, Missouri: Jeff Loveless. Spanish Fork. Utah: Dan McCarty, Rifle, Colorado: and Derek Martin. Buck-

The AGA board of directors also elected individuals to serve in leadership positions on the executive committee for 2021. Dan McCarty was re-elected president. Klint Sickler was re-elected vice president. Both John Carrel. Columbus. Montana. secretary, and Derek Martin. treasurer, were elected to serve a second term

in their role.

Other members of the board include: Todd Bickett. DVM. Chickamauga. Georgia; Leland Clark, Barnard; Mark Covington, Montrose, Colorado; Lori Maude, Hermosa, South Dakota; Andrea Murray. Oklahoma: Kingfisher. Randy Sienknecht, Gladbrook, Iowa: Jeff Swanson. Oxford. Nebraska; Tom Vehige, Billings, Missouri.

The retiring member of the 2020 AGA board of directors was Lowell Rogers, DVM, Seminary, Mississippi. The AGA would like to thank Lowell for his years of service on the AGA board of directors.

Company providing engineering expertise to aspiring entrepreneurs

By Pat Melgares

Courtney Swanson figures there are a whole bunch of individuals and businesses in Kansas and the nearby region who have some pretty innovative ideas.

As the outreach coordinator for the Great Plains Technology and Manufacturing Cluster in Manhattan, part of her job is to go find them. Then, she says, good things can happen.

"We can provide technical services to help develop new products and technologies for the market," Swanson said.

Swanson was the featured speaker Dec. 4 during K-State Research

and Extension's monthly online series, First Friday e-Calls, which helps to nurture small businesses and inspire entrepreneurship in Kansas.

Great Plains TMC is an initiative through the U.S. Small Business Administration's Regional Innovation Clusters program and was formed in January, 2019. The goal of this program is to help entrepreneurs and companies with connecting to the technical and business resources needed to grow and drive innovation throughout the Great Plains region.

The Great Plains TMC is hosted by the K-State Technology Development

Institute (TDI), which is part of the university's College of Engineering. TDI is located off-campus on the eastern side of Manhattan, with a full-time staff and several students that help entrepreneurs and existing companies with new product and process development. TDI also has a fabrication prototyping shop staffed by engineers.

"We are able to walk through the process from start to finish," Swanson said. "On the business side, we can help with market research and walk through a business plan. Once the business side is done, we can switch to engineering a product, including prototyping, test-

Swanson added that the

"In addition to these resources, the Great Plains TMC lists workshops and online trainings from partners and local regions that can help businesses grow."

Swanson said one popular aspect of the company's services has been free assistance with planning and designing a website. The only cost to aspiring entrepreneurs, she said, is the monthly service fees charged by the web platform's host, GoDaddy.

She noted that Great Plains TMC is planning to

AUC τιον SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020 — 10:00 AM Located at WISCHROPP AUCTION FACILITY, 930 LAING ST., OSAGE CITY, KS (just east of the Sonic Drive-in on HWY 31)

120+/- folding chairs; 10 stackable chairs; rolling chair caddy; 25+/- 6' & 8' plastic top banquet tables: asst. of older traffic cones; 10+/- table top showcases; 3 Smoke Cigarette stands; 3 port. handicap parking signs; Marque 4x8' sign w/letters: aluminum 20' ext. ladder; aluminum folding ladder; aluminum ap-pliance dolly; Life-Size George Strait cut out; 20+/- mostly Western theme framed pictures; 2 sets steer horns, 1 small, 1 large History of Ford Tractors 45x33 framed: several metal modern Tractor Signs; wooden slide-ir dog box; several log chains & nylon straps; Select: tarps, ext. cords, totes, packing blankets, some Hand Tools, etc.; selected Western paperback books; (5) four wheel flatbed wagons 7x14'; 2007 Load Master 18 plus 2' dovetail flatbed bumper pull trailer w/fold-up ramps shedded. Good Cond.; 2006 Haul Mark 8x20' Car Hauler Trailer, bumper pull, drop rear door hail damage; 1991 Top Hand Gooseneck Trailer, low profile w/rails, 22'x81" wood floor; 1991 Top Hand Gooseneck K Trailer, low profile, 20'x81" w/rails, all steel; 1999 Buick LeSabre Limited 4dr, leather, straight/clean, runs great, 123,000 mi; portable restrooms 2 unit fiberglass on trailer w/RV clean-out port; por-

table All-Steel 2 unit restroom or trailer, RV clean-out port; plastic portable accessible restroom or Custom Built 5" riser w/fork slots & ramp w/RV clean-out port; set of pallet fork extensions; Water loo bottom roller tool chest; Bos titch Oil Free 20 HP pancake air comp; Lilliston 7' roto-speed pull type rotary mower, older IH 3400 Series A gas hydrasta Tractor w/IH front loader, forks folding machinery boom, ROPS 3 pt w/GN yoke, 6' bucket; IH N Farmall Tractor, WFE, powe steering, new battery, add on 3 pt, ROPS; Custom Built meta portable Auctioneer Stand with 2 risers & 2 stools (48x48x46") Ducks Unlimited Ed. Stoege P-350 12 ga; Remington Sportsmaster Model 34 22 bolt; JC Hig ains Model 20 w/choke: 2 Mil itary Rifles; Spanish made Dbl Barrel Shotgun; Traditions Black Powder w/scope; Westernfield 12 ga Shotgun w/Duck Scene Stevens Model 58; Westernfield Model 80; Mossberg 500A 12 ga (Camo color); Remington Mod-el 11 (pat. 1903); Ruger Model 10/22.22 w/scope; Westernfield Model XNH560; Savage Arms 12 ga w/Hunting Dogs Scene; Mossberg Model 88 12 ga; Daisy BB Gun. MISC: pistols, gun parts, gun boxes, gun cases, knives, binoculars & ammo.

KCA hosts 22nd annual KCA **Convention and Trade Show**

sas Cattlemen's Associa- entire KCA membership. how they are funded, projtion (KCA) Convention and The members at the busi- ects undertaken by the

The 22nd annual Kan- lot to be mailed to the State Beef Councils and

Cattlemen's Beef Board

ing and marketing."

Great Plains TMC has developed partnerships with organizations throughout the region "that can help provide support and expertise to areas including workforce training, engineering, business support, commercialization, market research and more.

vember 13th and 14th, 2020 at the Courtvard by Marriott in Junction City. KCA brought together experts from around the country to share the most up-todate information and education in the cattle industry. The convention kicked off with Policy Review Sessions, where members came together to go over and recommend changes to expiring and existing policies, as well as introduce new resolutions.

Friday's schedule included some presentations. First up was Brian Hastings to discuss mental health. Brian is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist serving families in southwest Kansas through his family counseling practice, Hastings Family Services. Hastings discussed stress and anxiety, mental illness, and the effects of suicide on farmers and ranchers of rural Kansas communities. He explained that treatment can often be simple and not long-term. He discussed many tools for diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Brian Fieser, of ADM presented an animal nutrition seminar on Friday afternoon. He discussed how balancing nutritional needs of livestock can save money and improve profitability.

On Friday afternoon, the KCA membership conducted their annual business meeting. During this meeting, the active membership nominates board members, review expiring resolutions, recommend and adopt resolutions and bylaws, and build the baltiatives to the ballot.

Following the business meeting, the KCA members and trade show participants attended an evening social and bbq sponsored by Roto-Mix.

Saturday kicked off with time for attendees to visit with exhibitors in the trade show. Following the trade show time, Sam Davis presented findings on some of his research at Kansas State University.

Davis discussed his thesis research focusing on the sensory differences between plant-based ground beef alternatives and traditional ground beef. His research involved tasting groups of 20 people each, where they were served ground beef of various fat contents, and three plant-based ground meat alternatives. The subjects then rated the products for beef flavor, texture, and other characteristics.

Jason Guenther and Alan Clark provided the Cattle Market Update with Schwieterman, Inc. They discussed key market indicators like cattle on feed, captive supply, and slaughter rates/carcass weights and their effects on the cattle markets. Additionally, they discussed the Green New Deal, the 50/14 Legislation, and grain commodities.

A panel of members discussed the Beef Checkoff during an afternoon presentation. D.J. Edwards, Perry Owens, and David Pfrang provided insights into the Beef Checkoff setup. They discussed the Federation of and Kansas Beef Council, and the Kansas Livestock Association's ownership of the Kansas Beef Council. Finally, they reviewed the Beef Checkoff Referendum Petition and ways cattlemen can redirect their Beef Checkoff Assessments from the Kansas Beef Council to the Cattlemen's Beef Board.

Dr. Tom Noffsinger, veterinarian and owner/ member of Production Animal Consultation, Pierson Precision Auscultation and the Cattle Performance Enhancement Company presented attendees with expert education and knowledge on low-stress cattle handling and stockmanship. Dr. Tom utilizes field videos and tools during his presentation to demonstrate the good and what could use improvement in cattle handling with clients.

Upon the completion of the presentations Saturday afternoon, attendees took part in the annual social and KCA benefit auction. KCA vice president Andy Miller auctioneered. Up for auction were over 50 items donated by members, exhibitors and sponsors ranging from wall art to minerals and drench. The auction was concluded with the annual heifer auction generously donated by John Ericson of Cloverdale Angus. The heifer was rolled over and eventually sold to Lee Robbins. The benefit auction raised over \$17,000.

Following the auction, attendees enjoyed some final time together during the KCA annual banquet.

offer future programs to assist the region's entrepreneurs and businesses with commercialization, employee recruiting and open innovation.

Membership in the organization is free and available online. Swanson said members receive regular communication from the Great Plains TMC, and will be part of a database to help in finding resources - or to be found by other companies looking for a product that they may offer.

Swanson's full talk and other First Friday presentations are available online from K-State Research and Extension.

NOTE: WISCHROPP AUCTIONS WILL BE REDIRECTING OUR FOCUS TO ON-SITE PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTIONS, LAND AUCTIONS & REAL ESTATE AUCTION/SALES. AS SUCH, THE AUCTION FACILITY IN OSAGE CITY HAS BEEN SOLD & WE WILL BE LIQUIDATING AUCTION EQUIPMENT AT THIS AUC-TION. We look forward to continuing to serve our customers in an on-site auction capacity. Guns, etc will sell first. Guns sell to Kansas Residents only. FFL Rules & Regulations apply. Many other items not listed! Inspection Day of Sale Only.



INVITATION TO BID

Philip Tangeman, trustee of the Vincent Tangeman & Angela Tangeman trust, is accepting sealed bids on the following Nemaha County real estate:

The North Half of the Southeast Quarter in Section 15, Township 4, Range 11, in Nemaha County, Kansas, containing 80 acres more or less.

To view the property please contact Galloway, Wiegers & Brinegar to schedule an appointment or drive by on E Road just west of the Centralia Lake.

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Parte Beck	Larry & Ellen Nordhus 155.10		AKE	122	Brian & Betsy Macker	RD
Rex & Virginia Faintia Trust	the first	14	R	And of a	13	72ND

Bids sheets can be obtained by contacting Galloway, Wiegers & Brinegar or by visiting the website: sealedbidauction.net

Bids must be received by 12:00 p.m. January 8, 2021. Seller reserves the right to accept any bid, reject all bids or invite certain bidders to a subsequent private auction.



GALLOWAY, WIEGERS & BRINEGAR, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

520 Main Street	1114
Seneca, KS 66538	P.O.
785-336-0021	Mar
jason@gwblaw.net	785
gwblaw.net	Fax:

4 Broadway Box 468 rysville, KS 66508 -562-2375 Fax: 785-562-5348



A Cowman's Christmas List

1. New baler twine to tie up last year's five-buckle overshoes. 2. Something that will

3. A hot shot that works

kill Canadian thistle.

for more than a morning. 4. A dog that does more good out of the pickup than in it.

5. A cattle buyer who admits that he likes your

ATTENTION: HOLIDAY ADVERTISING **DEADLINE CHANGE**

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS (classified AND display) for the **DECEMBER 29th EDITION** WILL BE: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23rd, **ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN** <u>12:00 NOON</u>

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS (classified AND display) for the **JANUARY 5th EDITION** WILL BE: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30th, **ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN** 12:00 NOON

Thank you for your cooperation!

calves.

6. A feedlot customer with a bottomless wallet.

7. A molasses salesman who thinks your hay will be adequate without his \$200-a-ton supplement.

8. A vet who suggest that you buy your vaccine at the Co-op.

9. A teenage daughter who thinks her allowance is too high.

10. A son-in-law with a steady job.

11. A Christmas day freak snowfall that blankets the mountains and your front yard but leaves the

cow lot dry as a bone.

12. An implement dealer who insists on being paid in bales of hay.

13. A banker who inadvertently has gotten your financial statement mixed up with Jeff Bezos'.

14. A son who can rope and ride, loves to work and doesn't plan on going to vet school.

15. A wife who rubs your back.

16. The time, occasionally, to enjoy what you do for a livin'.

17. And a loving God who doesn't look down at you every time and say, "Oh, well, I can't win 'em all!"

www.baxterblack.com

Strong October for pork and beef muscle cut exports; variety meat trends lower

U.S. pork exports posted broad-based gains in October, solidifying 2020's record pace, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Beef muscle cut exports were also higher than a year ago in October, though lower variety meat volumes pushed total beef exports slightly below last vear.

October pork exports were up 8% year-over-year to 242,536 metric tons (mt), with value also increasing 8% to \$641.1 million. Exports to Mexico, Japan, China/Hong Kong, Canada and the Philippines were substantially higher than a year ago while shipments to Central and South America were the largest since March. Through the first ten months of the year, pork exports were 15% ahead of last year's record pace at 2.46 million mt, with value up 16% to \$6.33 billion. With Mexico as the top volume destination, October muscle cut exports posted double digits gains at 201,723 mt (up 11%), with value up 10% to \$551.8 million. This pushed January-October

totals for pork muscle cuts to 2.07 million mt (up 20%) valued at \$5.49 billion (up 18%).

October beef exports were slightly lower than a year ago at 107,591 mt (down 0.4%), valued at \$646 million (down 0.5%), but exports to China set another new record and volumes were above year-ago levels to Japan, Taiwan, Central America and Africa. While still below last year, beef exports to Mexico were the largest since March. For January through October, beef exports trailed last year's pace by 7% in volume (1.02 million mt) and 8% in value (\$6.2 billion). Beef muscle cut exports trended higher than a year ago in October, increasing 5% to 85,445 mt valued at \$573.8 million (up 1%). January-October muscle cut exports were 5% below last year in volume (791,694 mt) and 8% lower in value (\$5.48 billion).

"While the tight labor situation continues to limit the cut and variety meat specifications available for export, red meat demand is strengthening in many critical markets,"

said USMEF president and CEO Dan Halstrom. "October exports of bonein hams, for example, were near the July record and up 50% from a year ago. This has been a volatile year, filled with shifts in consumer preferences and a lot of uncertainty for international buyers. But the U.S. industry has responded positively to these challenges and the demand dynamics for red meat are quite strong as we approach year's end. When the gains made at retail over the past several months are combined with a stronger foodservice recovery, the prospects for export growth are very promising."

October exports of U.S. lamb were below last year but muscle cut exports trended sharply higher, mainly on strong growth to Mexico. Through October, lamb exports increased 31% from a year ago to 17,355 mt, but value was down 5% to \$20.5 million. Lamb muscle cut volume was substantially higher at 8,203 mt (up 355%) with a more modest increase in export value (\$12.4 million, up 7%).

Farmers & Ranchers **AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY**

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

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK: 3,846 CATTLE.

				5,040 OATTE	
	STEER	S		HEIFERS	
300-400		\$195.00 - \$205.00	9 blk	Longford	403@169.00
400-500		\$184.00 - \$194.00	2 bwf	Sedgwick	333@165.00
500-600		\$163.00 - \$173.50	3 blk	Inman	342@165.00
600-700		\$143.00 - \$153.00	6 blk	Delphos	430@163.00
700-800		\$132.00 - \$142.75	6 mix	Halstead	449@160.00
800-900		\$132.00 - \$142.50	5 blk	Tescott	423@158.00
900-1,000)	\$124.00 - \$134.50	2 blk	Abilene	348@157.00
300-1,000	HEIFEF	φ124.00 - φ134.30	13 mix	Ellsworth	453@156.00
300-400		\$155.00 - \$165.00	3 blk	Wilson	455@156.00
400-500		\$159.00 - \$169.00	7 mix	Salina	448@156.00
500-600		\$140.00 - \$150.50	19 blk	Longford	474@155.50
600-700			6 red	Salina	437@154.00
		\$138.00 - \$148.00 \$123.00 - \$133.50	2 mix	Brookville	438@153.00
700-800		\$120.00 - \$130.50	6 blk	Concordia	443@153.00
800-900	`	\$120.00 - \$130.50	8 blk	Hutchinson	451@153.00
900-1,000)	\$107.00 - \$117.00	4 blk	Inman	505@151.50
тш		MRED 40, 2020	10 blk	Delphos	506@151.00
	IRSDAY, DECE		8 mix	Halstead	504@150.50
0.64	STEER		2 blk	Barnard	618@148.00
2 blk	Hutchinson	353@207.50	4 mix	Alma	515@147.00
1 blk	Lincoln	325@205.00	5 red	Salina	513@146.00
15 blk	Longford	439@203.00	13 blk	Concordia	518@145.00
9 blk	Hutchinson	426@202.50	3 blk	Carlton	518@145.00
2 blk	Abilene	373@200.00	5 blk	Lehigh	516@144.00
1 char	Claflin	425@199.00	12 blk	Inman	626@134.00
1 blk	Abilene	315@197.00	5 mix	Randolph	658@134.00
1 blk	Delphos	380@196.00	7 blk	Abilene	626@134.00
2 blk	Tescott	403@194.00	21 char	Randolph	703@133.50
2 blk	Delphos	398@193.00	5 mix	Halstead	641@133.00
10 blk	Tescott	465@191.00	16 mix	Clay Center	610@133.00
2 bwf	Inman	425@187.00	6 mix	Hillsboro	618@133.00
7 blk	Delphos	450@187.00	9 blk	Carlton	610@132.00
7 blk	Concordia	424@186.00	30 blk	Tescott	801@130.50
2 blk	Woodbine	488@185.00	64 mix	Whitewater	782@130.50
2 blk	Alma	430@185.00	14 blk	Gypsum	732@129.25
20 blk	Longford	501@173.50	36 mix	Gypsum	784@129.00
13 red	Smolan	505@171.00	23 mix	Bushton	711@128.50
17 blk	Tescott	533@170.00	9 blk	Barnard	759@128.50
9 blk	Osborne	516@169.00	12 blk	Gypsum	729@128.00
12 blk	Woodbine	544@168.50	63 mix	Whitewater	711@127.50
6 blk	Alma	529@168.00	12 mix	Miltonvale	811@127.00
12 blk	Inman	544@166.00	19 blk	Tescott	711@126.00
7 blk	Lincoln	541@165.00	12 mix	Gypsum	887@125.50
4 blk	Wilson	514@165.00	11 mix	Galva	871@120.50
15 blk	Hutchinson	563@164.00	6 blk	Barnard	829@120.00
3 blk	Carlton	518@164.00	8 mix	Clay Center	803@118.00
6 blk	Abilene	633@156.00	7 blk	Tescott	901@117.00
8 mix	Halstead	610@155.50	27 mix	Galva	966@112.00
11 blk	Lehigh	626@155.50	7 rwf	Salina	979@110.00
9 blk	Lincoln	617@154.50	15 mix	Durham	998@107.75
5 blk	Ellinwood	600@153.00		ONDAY, DECEMBER	
7 blk	Osborne	618@153.00	2 mix	Marion	1530@67.00
2 blk	Delphos	605@151.00	1 blk	Sylvan Grove	1675@66.00
12 mix	Alma	625@150.50	1 red	Ada	1595@65.00
17 blk	Clifton	618@150.00	1 blk	Marion	1385@60.00
15 blk	Smolan	659@149.75	1 blk	Salina	1760@59.50
6 red	Ellsworth	740@144.50	1 blk	Geneseo	1355@58.50
4 red	Ellsworth	764@144.00	1 blk	Halstead	1340@57.50
33 mix	Bushton	710@143.75	1 red	Halstead	1275@57.00
13 char	Randolph	741@143.75	1 char	McPherson	1460@57.00
12 blk	Salina	783@143.50	3 blk	Solomon	1117@56.50
8 mix	Alma	708@143.50	1 blk	Abilene	1150@56.00
11 blk	Marion	784@143.25	1 blk	Geneseo	1165@55.50
14 blk	Smolan	703@142.75	2 blk	Clay Center	1323@55.00
9 blk	Tescott	756@142.50	1 red	Halstead	1225@55.00
62 mix	Beloit	803@142.50	1 blk	Solomon	1190@54.58
63 blk	Tescott	884@142.00	2 blk	Ellsworth	1423@54.50
15 blk	Clay Center	726@141.50	2 blk	Geneseo	1320@54.50
22 char	Randolph	858@140.00	2 blk	Clyde	1178@53.00
23 mix	Hope	840@139.00	1 red	Assaria	1305@53.00
11 blk	Gypsum	898@138.50	1 bwf	Geneseo	1215@53.00
33 mix	Abilene	823@138.00	2 blk		1040@52.50
17 mix	Gypsum	877@136.50	∠ bik 1 blk	Sterling	1040@52.50
61 mix	Valley Center	917@135.50		Gypsum	
121 mix	Hope	895@134.75	1 blk	Tampa	1140@51.00
8 blk	Tescott	906@134.50	2 blk	Clyde	1093@51.00
58 mix	Abilene	911@134.25	1 blk	BULLS Galva	2180@90.00
			1 red	Halstead	2025@89.50
			i ieu	nalotodu	2020 803.00

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

1 blk	Galva	2150@88.50	1 blk	McPherson	2395@78.50
1 blk	Tescott	1820@88.00	1 blk	Durham	2365@77.50
1 blk	Barnard	2365@88.00	1 blk	Ellsworth	1500@76.50
1 blk	Barnard	1880@86.00	1 blk	Salina	1965@75.00
1 blk	Gypsum	2335@84.00	1 red	Halstead	1965@70.00
1 blk	Durham	2270@83.50		CALVES	
1 char	Canton	1695@82.50	1 blk	Assaria	240@450.00
1 blk	Minneapolis	1700@81.50	1 red	Salina	80@310.00
1 blk	Tampa	1800@79.00	1 blk	Lindsborg	190@225.00
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EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

- 55 S&H 600-700, 35 days weaned/fink genetics
- 120 blk/bwf S&H 500-700, long weaned/2rd fall vacc
- 65 blk&char S&H 700-825, HR/80 days weaned • 75 S&H 500, weaned 30 days/HR/knife cut
- 10 S&H 350-450, HR

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES: All Sales are on Tuesday at 11 AM WEANED/VACC. SALES: Tuesday, Jan. 5 • Tuesday, Feb. 2

COW SALES: Tuesday, Dec. 15

IN STOCK TODAY: • Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders • 42' ROUND BALE DUMP TRAILERS • HEAVY DUTY 5000# GRAIN TOTE

- 30 S&H 500-800, HR/weaned early Oct
- 70 S&H 750, LTW
- 20 red S&H 500-600, 2rd/Implanted/off cover crop
- 225 blk S&H 550-775, weaned 90 days, 2rd fall vacc/latalace
- 5 strs 600, weaned / fall vacc
- 82 strs 700-800, HR/LTW/knife cut/2rd vacc/off reg angus bulls
- 9 hfrs 350-450, 45 days weaned/fall vacc
- 60 blk strs 700-800, HR/LTW/2rd vacc
- 130 blk S&H 500-700, HR/weaned 60 days/vacc
- 22 blk S&H 650-750, 60 days weaned/vacc
- 36 blk S&H 500-650, fall vacc
- 15 S&H 400-600, weaned 45 days/fall vacc/wolf ceek or Chevenne angus
- 61 mstly blk strs 925, all native

SPECIAL WEANED/VACC. SALE, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 All weaned at least 30 days & all fall vacc.

13 blk S&h 450-600; 20 blk S&H 450-600; 47 S&H 400-450; 65 blk S&H 500-550; 75 blk S&H; 50 charx S&h; 100 blk S&H 500-600 docweiler angus sired; 96 blk&red S&H 450-700; 18 S&H 500-600 blk ang/60days weaned fall vacc; 110 blk&red S&H 550-700 Judd Ranch; 110 S&H 700-800 HR weaned September green garden BJ sired hfrs OCHV; 45 blk S&h 500-700; 70 blk few red S&H 600-800b,ostly balancer&angus sired; 85 blk&charx S&H; 110 sim/ang S&H 750-900; 500 blk S&H 650-800 FANCY walrod simk composite; 200 blk S&H 550-800; 85 S&H 550-700; 320 blk S&H 650-850; 340 blk S&H 650-850 hfrs rep1 quality; 110 S&H 650-800 sim/angusx; blk strs 600-700 90 days weaned vacc; 90 S&H 600-800 75 days weaned vacc; 115 blk S&H 550-650 HR; 130 blk S&H 600-650 HR; 70 blk S&H; 160 S&H 600-750 2rd vacc; 200 blk/bwf S&H 2rd vacc; 75 strs 650-800 weaned Nov 5th vacc; 25 S&H 650-850 vacc; 56 S&H 600 Don Johnson angus sired open; 60 S&H 700-750; 120 angus strs 650-800; 50 char S&H 650 vacc weaned; 125 ang strs 700-775; 25 blk S&H 650-800; 44 blk S&H 650-800 HR 2rd no implant weaned Nov 1st; 41 blk/bwf S&H 700-800 HR 2rd fall vacc weaned Oct 30th; 90 blk balance-x S&H 600-850

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 WILL BE THE LAST THURSDAY AUCTION OF THE YEAR!

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

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

Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS



Cattle Sale Broadcast Live on www.cattleusa.com1150 KSAL, Salina 6:45 AM -MON.FRI * 880 KRVN 8:40 AM - WED.-THURS. *550AM KFRM - 8:00 am, Wed.-Thurs.