

Biden nominates Vilsack as ag secretary

Last week president-elect Joe Biden announced the nomination of Tom Vilsack to lead the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Vilsack served as agriculture secretary for eight years under President Barack Obama, as well as serving two terms as the governor of Iowa. While his confirmation hearing has yet to be scheduled, it is anticipated that he will be easily confirmed in the Senate, but possibly face some opposition from the more progressive members of the House.

The response to Vilsack's nomination was largely positive from the ag community.

Julie Anna Potts, president and CEO of the North American Meat Institute, said "Secretary Vilsack brings experience and leadership to the Department of Agriculture at a critical time when the meat and poultry industry works to put food on American's tables and to keep the farm economy working in a pandemic. We look forward to working closely with Secretary Vilsack in his new role to ensure our industry remains a valuable partner to livestock producers, an efficient supplier to consumers and competitive in the international marketplace."

"The National Corn Growers Association congratulates Secretary Vilsack on his nomination to lead USDA," commented National Corn Growers Association president John Linder. "In his eight years leading the Department during the Obama administration corn farmers appreciated his willingness to listen to the input from growers across the country and his steadfast commitment to agriculture, renewable fuels, our environment and USDA's food and nutrition programs. He's been an outspoken advocate for rural America and

we look forward to working together again, along with President-elect Biden, to build long-term demand for our product, mitigate the impact of climate change, seek new markets around the globe, and continue to feed and fuel the world."

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) president Tim Palmer and President-elect Michael Crowder offered their congratulations to Vilsack.

"On behalf of America's 3,000 conservation districts and the more than 17,000 district officials who serve on their governing boards, we congratulate Secretary Vilsack on this nomination," Palmer and Crowder said. "Secretary Vilsack has a proven track record of championing conservation at USDA and working with conservation districts in every part of the country," Palmer and Crowder said. "NACD looks forward to again working with him and his staff in the incoming administration to further voluntary, locally-led conservation."

Betsy Huber, president of the National Grange, has issued a statement on the nomination of Vilsack as Secretary of Agriculture:

"The National Grange welcomes Tom Vilsack back to USDA as Secretary of Agriculture," Huber said. "President-elect Biden has made a wise choice to lead the Department at a time when farming is even more essential and food security is a serious issue for more Americans than ever."

Huber went on to say, "Secretary Vilsack's experience as a small-town mayor, a two-term governor, a former Secretary of Agriculture and as a CEO in private industry gives him a unique perspective to grapple with the upcoming challenges at USDA. His ability to rise

above partisanship will serve USDA well as it prioritizes efforts to connect unserved rural residents with high-speed broadband for distance learning, telehealth, remote business, essential services and smart agriculture. The National Grange looks forward to working with Secretary Vilsack on rural broadband, food and fiber production, the farm economy, trade, food for those in need, environment and climate change, and other rural issues," Huber said.

President-Elect Joe Biden this week nominated Tom Vilsack to be the next secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an agency he led for eight years under the Obama administration. The following statement may be attributed to National Pork Producers Council President Howard "AV" Roth, a hog farmer from Wauzeka, Wisconsin.

"We congratulate Tom Vilsack on his nomination. As both the former governor of Iowa, the top pork-producing state in the country, and the former USDA secretary, he understands how critical a vibrant American farm sector is to the rural and overall U.S. economy, and the importance of keeping consumers supplied with an affordable source of nutritious protein," said National Pork Producers Council President Howard "AV" Roth, a hog farmer from Wauzeka, Wisconsin. "We look forward to working with him on issues of importance to U.S. pork producers, including expanding exports, strengthening biosecurity at our borders to ensure African swine fever and other foreign animal diseases remain outside the country, and ensuring USDA oversight of gene-edited livestock."

Purdue faculty provide insight on critical issues facing farmers in 2021

This past year was filled with uncertainty in the agricultural markets. A lingering trade war, weather issues, and the COVID-19 pandemic impacted prices and brought change to all parts of the agricultural value chain. One of the biggest questions is whether these issues will continue to disrupt agricultural markets into 2021.

Each year, experts from the Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Economics review the economic conditions from the previous year and look ahead to what the agricultural sector can expect in the coming year. Those findings are published in the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report Annual Outlook Issue.

Brady Brewer, assistant professor and one of the report's editors, analyzes trends in the financial sector and believes the agricultural economy can expect these same issues to continue influencing markets into 2021.

"This year has been full of unprecedented disruptions to the agricultural economy," Brewer said. "Even

though we did see farm incomes increase, as well as an improvement in farmer sentiment at the end of 2020, there's still an expectation that we will continue to see volatility and uncertainty in the agricultural economy into 2021."

To read the full Purdue Agricultural Economics Report Outlook Issue, visit <https://purdue.ag/paer>. The report also provides an outlook for the following agricultural topics:

- Farmland values and cash rents.
- Trade policy: What should we expect from a Biden administration?
- Agricultural credit: Loans, interest rates, credit market.
- Dairy marketplace: Supply chain adjustments, consumption shifts.
- Retail food prices: Volatility and uncertainty.
- Purdue crop cost and return guide.
- Corn and soybean price outlook.

Delivery delays being experienced

The *Grass & Grain* office has been receiving calls that some subscribers have not received their December 1 issue and the December 8 issue has been delayed.

We have been in contact with our postal representatives and they are investigating the cause of the delays.

With the Christmas season, it is possible that the additional mail load on the post office is the cause.

We apologize and do appreciate your patience and understanding.



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We had a very aggressive to higher market on most all classes of steers and heifers for our sale held Friday, December 11th. Most of the offerings were weaned and had good condition. Cull cows were selling \$2-\$3 lower. Following is a partial listing.

BULL & STEER CALVES — 375-550 LBS.

Harveyville	4 blk	390@210.00
Wamego	4 Cross	403@206.00
Leavenworth	8 Rd Ang	464@182.00
Shawnee	5 mix	440@182.00
Olsburg	5 blk	410@180.50
Holton	10 blk	543@174.00
Wamego	9 Cross	466@174.00
Harveyville	7 blk	486@172.00
Dwight	5 blk	515@172.00
Spring Hill	12 blk	546@161.00
Frankfort	4 Heref	488@156.00
Wamego	6 blk	525@152.00
Chapman	5 blk	474@150.00

STEERS — 550-950 LBS.

Shawnee	31 blk	551@168.00
Frankfort	10 blk	550@166.00
Leavenworth	17 Rd Ang	551@163.00
Council Grove	9 blk	627@156.75
Holton	13 blk	623@155.00
Olsburg	4 blk	625@154.00
Frankfort	32 blk	658@150.75
Leavenworth	27 Rd Ang	632@149.00
Shawnee	55 blk	655@149.00
Spring Hill	5 blk	642@149.00
Harveyville	5 blk	612@148.00
Frankfort	14 Cross	736@146.50
Frankfort	12 Heref	581@145.50
Council Grove	31 blk	799@145.25
Shawnee	38 blk	746@144.00
Leavenworth	12 Rd Ang	703@143.00
McLouth	8 blk	734@142.50
Meriden	22 blk	713@142.00
McLouth	16 blk	829@137.75
McLouth	12 blk	891@137.75
McLouth	4 blk	780@137.75
Marion	6 blk	902@134.25
Meriden	4 blk	811@134.00
Cttwood Falls	4 blk	710@132.00
Tecumseh	4 Heref	571@130.00
Onaga	6 blk	930@128.50
Frankfort	4 Cross	926@127.00

Manhattan	6 Hols	841@53.00
Manhattan	5 Hols	784@51.00

HEIFER CALVES — 350-550 LBS.

Harveyville	11 blk	438@163.00
Harveyville	8 blk	353@159.00
Shawnee	19 blk	459@156.50
Wamego	4 blk	388@154.00
Olsburg	5 blk	418@150.00
Wamego	6 blk	479@148.50
Leavenworth	7 Rd Ang	543@144.00

HEIFERS — 550-1,025 LBS.

Alma	5 Rd Ang	552@144.00
Frankfort	11 blk	558@143.00
Council Grove	26 blk	631@142.75
Council Grove	22 blk	748@140.00
Shawnee	56 blk	553@140.00
Shawnee	34 blk	622@139.75
Marion	13 blk	744@139.50
Dwight	4 blk	582@137.00
Leavenworth	4 Rd Ang	585@136.00
McLouth	4 blk	761@135.00
Dwight	8 blk	682@134.00
Onaga	5 blk	864@130.00
Marion	6 blk	843@129.00
Onaga	4 blk	775@128.00
Wamego	7 blk	1024@106.00

COWS & HEIFERETTES — 750-1,850 LBS.

Alma	1 blk	875@115.00
Hillsboro	1 Cross	940@102.00
Leavenworth	2 Cross	1052@100.00
Alma	1 blk	795@78.00
Alma	1 blk	1625@67.50
Westmoreland	1 blk	1740@66.50
Wellington, CO	1 blk	1730@65.50
Westmoreland	1 blk	1630@63.50
Riley	1 blk	1830@63.00
Prairie Village	1 blk	1670@61.50
Perry	1 blk	1575@60.50
Westmoreland	1 blk	1670@60.00
Council Grove	1 blk	1515@57.50
Shawnee	1 Cross	1320@54.50
Council Grove	1 blk	1400@53.50
Perry	1 blk	1475@53.00
Shawnee	1 Cross	1200@52.50
Perry	1 blk	1455@52.00
Alma	1 bwf	1180@51.50
Easton	1 blk	1365@50.00
White City	1 blk	1325@50.00
Alma	1 blk	1250@49.00
St. Marys	1 blk	1250@47.00

Alma	1 blk	1190@45.00
Emmett	1 blk	1230@43.00
Alma	1 blk	1220@41.00
Emmett	1 blk	1000@38.00
Alma	1 blk	940@37.00
Easton	1 blk	950@33.00
Olathe	1 blk	770@31.00
Abilene	1 blk	2030@75.00
Easton	1 blk	1590@69.50
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 - 6 polled Herf OCV replacement hfrs, 2 rds shots, weaned 60+ days, 500-600 lbs.
 - 7 polled Herf strs, 2 rds shots, weaned 60+ days, 500-600 lbs.
 - 1 bwf replacement hfrs, 700-750 lbs.
 - 70 choice rep. Angus Gelv cross str & hfrs, weaned 45 days, 2 rds shots, 550-700 lbs.
 - 35 blk bwf str & hfrs, weaned 45 days, 2 rds shots, 450-700 lbs.
 - 85 Simm Angus Moser Genetics str & hfrs, weaned Oct. 1, 2 rds Fall shots, 650-750 lbs.
 - 34 blk Angus str & hfrs, 2 rds Fall shots, weaned Oct. 4, 550-650 lbs.
 - 4 Char strs, long weaned, 475-550 lbs.
 - 7 blk hfrs, weaned 60 days, 2 rds shots, 450-550 lbs.
 - 23 blk strs, long weaned, shots, 600-650 lbs.
 - 13 Heref & bwf str & hfrs, 2 rds shots, weaned 45 days, 550-650 lbs.
 - 45 blk str & hfrs, pre-weaning shots, 450-600 lbs.
 - 120 choice reputation mainly Red Angus & blk Angus str & replacement quality hfrs, complete respiratory shots in Spring, pre-wean shots in Fall, 600-750 lbs.

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NO SALE JANUARY 1, 2021

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Kansas Hay Market Report

For the week ending December 5, hay market prices were steady to 10.00 higher for grinding alfalfa in the southwest region and steady to 5.00 higher for the south-central region, due to lower supplies. Demand remained strong but movement slowed considerably due to the Thanksgiving holiday and Covid-19. Many contributors reported that either they or their hired help had been ill or in quarantine. Some lucky folks in our southern counties received either rain or snow recently, while the rest of Kansas remained dry. Ponds are slowly shrinking, and this week looks to remain warm and dry. According to U.S. Drought Monitor for the week of December 1st, Abnormal dryness (D0) increased to 25%, moderate drought (D1) decreased to 40%, severe drought (D2) decreased to 10.5%, and extreme drought (D3) increased to 10%. USDA statistics show that the winter wheat statistics were 22% poor to very poor. Nationwide, the U.S. winter wheat condition index was the lowest since 2012. If you have any extra hay to sell and/or need hay here in Kansas, use the services of the Internet Hay Exchange: www.hayexchange.com/ks.php.

Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, steady, grinding alfalfa steady to 10.00 higher, ground and delivered steady to 5.00 higher; movement good to moderate. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares 250.00-260.00, Dairy 1.00-1.05/point RFV, Supreme 185-237.00.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-178.50. Stock or Dry Cow 155.00-165.00. Grinding alfalfa

150.00-160.00, with instances at 160.00-170.00. Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies, 160.00-175.00 with an instance at 195.00. Grass Hay: small squares 8.00/bale, large 4x4 squares 100.00-110.00, large rounds none reported; Sudan: large round 85.00-90.00. Sorghum: large rounds 80.00-90.00; Corn Stalks: ground and delivered 70.00-75.00; Wheat straw, small squares 3.50-4.50/bale, large 3x4 squares 80.00-90.00. The week of 11/29-12/5, 8,722T of grinding alfalfa and 2,975T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought/sold.

South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, alfalfa pellets, steady, ground/delivered steady to 10.00 higher; movement moderate. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 255.00-275.00. Dairy, 1.00/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-225.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-178.00. Stock cow, 150.00-160.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa 135.00-145.00. Ground and delivered 150.00-160.00. Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 190.00-205.00, 17 pct protein 200.00-210.00, Dehydrated 17 pct 305.00-310.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem, 3x4 and 4x4 squares 100.00-110.00, large rounds 60.00-90.00. Brome: large 4x4 squares 100.00-120.00, large rounds 95.00-100.00. Tef: large 3x4 squares 135.00-145.00, large rounds 120.00-130.00. Sudan: large rounds 75.00-85.00. Crabgrass: large rounds 60.00- 70.00. Milo ground and delivered, 85.00-95.00. Corn stalks: large squares, 65.00, large rounds 60.00. Wheat straw: large 4x4 squares, 65.00-75.00. The week of 11/29- 12/5, 5,812T of grinding alfalfa and 170T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought/sold.

Southeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered steady, grass hay mostly steady; movement slow to moderate. Alfalfa: horse or goat, 230.00-240.00. Dairy 1.00- 1.05/point RFV. Stock cow 150.00-160.00. Fair/Good

grinding alfalfa, large rounds 130.00-145.00 delivered. Ground and delivered, none reported; Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 120.00-125.00, good 3x3 squares 100.00-125.00, good, 3x4 squares 100.00- 120.00, large 4x4 squares 100.00-110.00, large rounds 70.00-80.00. Brome, good, small squares none reported, 3x4 to 4x4 squares 95.00-125.00, large rounds 75.00-85.00. Wheat Straw: 3x4 and 4x4 squares 60.00-70.00. The week of 11/29-12/5, 1,589T of grass hay was reported bought/sold.

Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, ground/delivered steady, grinding alfalfa steady to 5.00 higher; movement slow. Alfalfa: Horse or goat, 220.00-230.00. Dairy, Premium/Supreme 1.00/point RFV. Stock cow, fair/good 145.00-155.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, 100.00-110.00. Ground and delivered locally to feedlots and dairies, 125.00-135.00. Sudan, large rounds 60.00-70.00. Wheat straw, large squares none reported.

North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered, grass hay, steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares, 9.00-10.00/bale. Dairy 1.00-1.05/point RFV, Supreme 185-237.00.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-178.50. Stock Cow, 150.00- 160.00. Fair/good, grinding alfalfa, 115.00-125.00. Ground and delivered 130.00-150.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 5.50-6.50/bale, 3x4 to 4x4 squares 100.00- 105.00, large rounds 60.00-90.00. Brome, small squares 6.50-7.50/bale, 3x4 to 4x4 squares 110.00-120.00, large rounds 75.00-85.00; Sudan, large rounds, 60.00-65.00. Wheat Straw: small squares 5.00-6.00/bale, large 4x4 squares 75.00-85.00, 100.00- 110.00 delivered, large rounds 65.00.

* Posted by Kim Nettleton, Kansas Department of Agriculture

* Prices are per ton and FOB unless otherwise noted

Ag business group re-elects Kriesek, Johansen as 2021 leaders

Greg Kriesek, CEO of the Kansas Corn Growers Association and Kansas Corn Commission, was re-elected chairman of the Agricultural Business

Council of Kansas City at the group's annual meeting held December 10. Dustin Johansen, vice president, was re-elected vice chairman of the Council.

Kriesek, a native of Kansas City, Kansas, has over 30 years experience working with agriculture and ethanol sectors. Prior to being named CEO of

Kansas Corn in 2014, his previous stints included executive positions with Kansas Department of Agriculture, ICM, Inc., and Kennedy and Coe. He earned his law degree and MBA from the University of Denver. He earned his bachelor's degree from Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

Johansen manages the Kansas City office of Osborn Barr Paramore and

leads OBP's animal agriculture and equipment practices. Previously he spent nearly 20 years at Caterpillar in sales and marketing. Johansen was raised on a farm in central Missouri and is a graduate of the University of Missouri.

The Council's Board of Directors is composed of 20 persons who serve staggered two-year terms. Those elected to the Board

for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2021 were:

- Shonda Atwater, Metropolitan Community College
 - Alan Barkema, Apical Economics
 - Eric Bohl, Missouri Farm Bureau
 - Bill Ford, Lathrop GPM
 - JJ Jones, Roots & Legacies Consulting
 - Debbie Kirchoff, Kansas State University - Olathe
 - Jackie Klippenstein, Dairy Farmers of America
 - Stephanie Siders, CC Capitol Advisors
 - Brad Tolbert, John Deere
 - Bill Vaughn, Merck Animal Health
 - Kelly Farrell, Farrell Growth Group
- Kriesek extended his thanks to several outgoing leaders who have played an influential role in the Council's activities through the years. Those include long-time board members Gary Anderson, Dennis Bode, Ron Seeber, and Alan Wessler.

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Vehicles & Trailers: 1987 Ford Dump Truck (10' bed); 5'x16' Livestock Trailer; 6'x16' Enclosed Trailer; Pickup Bed Trailer; Lawn Mower Trailer; 2 Wheel Lawn Cart.



Tractors, ATV & Equipment: 2014 Kawasaki TeryX4LE w/1026 miles (good cond); Skidloader Tree Shears (new); WC Allis Chalmers; MT John Deere; Chevy II 1939 Tractor (custom); John Deere 440 Dozer; HayBuster M-2640; Hutchinson 8'x60' PTO Grain Auger (good cond); Hesston Hydro Swing Swather; Owatonna Grinder Mixer; John Deere 2 Bt Plow; King Kutter 6' Disc (3pt); 5' Blade; Tractor Weights; IH Drawbar; 3 pt Quick Hitch; Field Cultivator Harrow Attachments;

4 Section Harrow (3pt); 12' Tool Bar Cultivator; 12' Field Cultivator (3pt); Bale Spear; Dump Rake; Implement Parts.

Farm & Ranch Supplies: 24' Self Standing Panels (heavy Duty); Cattle Panels and Gates; Water Tanks and Cattle Troughs; Fuel Barrel w/pump; HDC Meat Saw/Grinder Combo; Live Trap; Hand Tools; Vet Gun and Acces.; Yard Machine and Troy Bilt Tillers; 2 Snowblowers; Homelite 3500 Watt Generator; Air Compressor; Car Ramps; Wire Winder; Implement and Tractor Tires; Wheelbarrows; Propane Bottles; Split Rim Tire Cage; Chain Link Fence and Gates.

Farm Primitives & Collectibles: Win M-97 12 ga Pump; Stevens 12ga Single; Cast Iron and Metal Seats; Old Wooden Telephones; Lawn Furniture; Garden Cultivator Mailbox; Metal Lawn Chairs; Old Implement Wrenches; Vintage Locks and Keys; Negro Figurines (cast); Old Saddles; plus more.

NOTE: This is only a partial listing as more items being added daily, watch website for updates and photos. For more info contact Richard at 316-393-5110 or Morris at 620-899-6227.

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Conaway, Thompson commend USTR actions to enforce vital USMCA dairy provisions

House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member K. Michael Conaway (TX-11) and Republican Leader-Elect Glenn 'GT' Thompson (PA-15) issued the following statements after the United States Trade Representative's (USTR) announcement that the United States is filing enforcement action under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) to challenge Canada's allocation of dairy tariff-rate quotas (TRQs):

"The renegotiation of trade agreements between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, and the ultimate approval of USMCA is among the top achievements of President

Trump," said Conaway. "One of the major flaws of NAFTA in regards to agriculture was the failure to rein in market distorting practices by Canada that wreaked havoc on U.S. dairy producers. I want to applaud USTR Ambassador Lighthizer for not only completing an agreement that made important reforms for dairy producers but also for taking the necessary steps today to ensure Canada complies with its commitments."

"USMCA represents an enormous opportunity for American agriculture, especially our nation's dairy farmers who continue to face significant market chal-

lenges. Unlocking the potential of this trade agreement requires all parties to follow through on their promises," said Thompson. "I applaud Ambassador Lighthizer for today's announcement, challenging Canada's unfair dairy policies and for his unwavering support for American agriculture."

In August, Republican Leader-Elect Thompson co-led a letter to USTR and USDA that was signed by Ranking Member Conaway and 102 other Members of Congress asking for Canada to be held accountable for commitments made under USMCA.

Wildcat Extension District conducting local land lease survey

By Wendie Powell, Wildcat Extension District livestock production agent

Recognizing the need for reliable local lease information, K-State Research & Extension, Wildcat District is conducting pasture and cropland lease surveys, specific to Crawford, Labette, Montgomery and Wilson counties. These surveys will help us get a closer look at the average dollar amount for lease agreements, as well as some of the arrangements that are working for landowners and renters. This type of information has proven useful to landowners, producers,

and possibly in person at the Southeast Research and Extension Center. More details on this meeting will be forthcoming; please continue to follow Wildcat Extension District on Facebook, Twitter, our website, radio programs and newsletters.

lenders, as well as Extension personnel in other districts as they work through the various aspects of lease agreements. In addition to the price per acre question, you'll see questions pertaining to the arrangement. This will give us a snapshot of who does what for the operation. As we all know, each lease is different. Sometimes the landowner takes care of the fertilizing, sometimes it's the tenant. Fencing is another common factor that flips between parties. The water system is often not really a part of the conversation, but one that is

critical for livestock production.

This information cannot be gathered without the help of landowners that lease pasture and cropland as well as the renters. Both the pasture and cropland lease survey will take less than ten minutes to complete. No personally identifying information will be asked for, so all survey information will be strictly confidential and will be compiled with other responses. These surveys are voluntary and will assist us with providing accurate and reliable information.

The surveys are avail-

able online and in paper form. They can be found through our social media pages and from our website, www.wildcatdistrict.k-state.edu. I have also sent it out as a link to e-newsletter recipients. If you would like a paper copy of this survey, please call K-State Research and Extension Wildcat District Altamont Office at (620) 784-5337. We will be mailing out paper versions of the survey to landowners and tenants that may have limited internet access, or if you simply prefer good ol' paper and pencil. Additionally, we put a Google form in the e-newsletter

to submit your address for receiving a hard copy of either the pasture, crop or both surveys.

If you're interested in receiving our e-newsletters, please reach out to us. As the livestock production agent, I publish an e-newsletter titled *No BULLetin* that goes out monthly. Our crop production agent, James Coover, will be publishing one titled *The Root Review*.

The summarized data will be available in 2021 in paper and digital form. At this time, there is an Ag Lease and Ag Law meeting planned for January 23rd, available virtually,

and possibly in person at the Southeast Research and Extension Center. More details on this meeting will be forthcoming; please continue to follow Wildcat Extension District on Facebook, Twitter, our website, radio programs and newsletters.

The survey is open now through January 11, 2021. Your input is appreciated for this educational programming.

For more information, contact Wendie Powell, Livestock Production Agent, (620) 784-5337, wendiepowell@ksu.edu.

USDA announces increase to certain incentive payments for Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is increasing incentive payments for practices installed on land enrolled in the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program. USDA's Farm Service Agency is upping the Practice Incentive Payment for installing practices, from 5 percent to 20 percent. Additionally, producers will receive a 10 percent incentive payment for water quality practices on land enrolled in CRP's continuous sign-up. FSA administers CRP on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

"The Conservation Re-

serve Program provides agricultural producers and landowners with a tool to conserve natural resources on their land that is less suitable for farming," said FSA administrator Richard Fordyce. "We offer a number of CRP initiatives, including continuous CRP, which greatly benefits natural resources like water. Increasing the incentive payment gives farmers even more reason to participate in continuous CRP, one of our nation's largest conservation endeavors."

Under continuous CRP, producers can enroll environmentally sensitive

land devoted to certain conservation practices with sign-up available at any time. FSA automatically accepts offers provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the number of acres FSA is allowed to enroll in CRP, which was set by the 2018 Farm Bill.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended primarily to control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking

marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits. The program marks its 35-year anniversary this month. Program successes include:

Preventing more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, which is enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks;

Reducing nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95% and 85%, respectively;

Sequestering an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases,

equal to taking 9 million cars off the road;

Creating more than 3 million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 175,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, which is enough to go around the world seven times; and

Benefiting bees and other pollinators and increasing populations of ducks, pheasants, turkey, bobwhite quail, prairie chickens, grasshopper sparrows and many other birds.

The successes of CRP

contribute to USDA's Agriculture Innovation Agenda and its goal of reducing the environmental footprint of U.S. agriculture by half by 2050. Earlier this year, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the Department-wide initiative to align resources, programs, and research to position American agriculture to better meet future global demands.

For more information on CRP, visit fsa.usda.gov, or contact your local FSA county office.

Free SCN testing available through SCN Coalition

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

2020 saw a number of soybean fields with really nice growth - but maybe not what we expected for yields. A lot of it was attributable to weather, but other factors could be at work as well. One such possibility is a microscopic worm known as soybean cyst nematode.

Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) losses can be significant, even while going unnoticed. Nebraska re-

search has documented yield losses of over 30 percent on seemingly healthy-looking soybean stands.

How is that possible? Root feeding pests like SCN don't generally show above-ground symptoms like stunting or yellowing unless numbers are really high. That means they don't get the attention of other diseases that may look severe, even if they are not. Further, unless the yield loss is significant in one portion of the field, any slight yield losses in

one area - or even across an entire farm - are generally blamed on something other than SCN.

While found in over half the counties in Kansas, the eastern third of the state continues to be the area of most concern from SCN damage. To help determine if yield losses in your fields are a result of SCN, a free testing program supported by the SCN Coalition through support from Kansas Soybean Checkoff dollars is available to all Kansas producers. Fall is

a great time for SCN testing, and this free sampling program can help you determine what your SCN number might be. NOTE: additional charges for shipping may apply.

For additional information on the program and a sampling/shipping protocol, contact your local K-State Research & Extension Office or the Meadowlark Extension District or e-mail me at dhallaue@ksu.edu. A sampling video can be found at <https://youtu.be/b6Eo0is1110>.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020 — 11:00 AM
LOCATION: 171497 609th Avenue, BURCHARD, NEBRASKA 68323
DIRECTIONS: Lewiston intersection of Hwy 4 & 609th Ave, then 4 miles south to intersection of 609th Ave & 715 Road

ROGER TEGTMEIER ESTATE

TRACTORS: 1992 Deutz - Allis 9150, serial #9150F1502, MFWD, 4505 hrs, 18 spd, 3 pt, triple hyd, 18 4 38 rear rubber (poor), clamp on duals; 1978 Allis Chalmers 7045, Serial #02099 hrs unknown, 6 spd. power shift, wide front, 3 pt, triple hyd, 18 4 38 rear rubber 60%; 1967 Oliver 1650, serial # 193-142-452, Diesel, WF, 3 pt, dual hyd, rear wheel wts, 16.9 R 28 rear rubber poor; 1959 Allis Chalmers D17, serial # 25806 Diesel, Series 1, wide front, single hyd, snap coupler, 16.9 R 28 rear rubber 50%; 1948 Allis Chalmers WD, Serial #AM3835-7, narrow front, 13.6 28 rear rubber 60%.

STRAIGHT TRUCK: Dodge Model 600, hoist, 4x2 spd trans, V8 engine, Dual rear axle, 900-20 rubber, 16" wood box.

UTV/LAWN MOWER: 2005 Artic Cat Prowler, XT650 5900 miles 1032hrs, 4wd, manual dump box; John Deere F 620 Ztrak, Commercial 54" deck, 721hrs, 20Hp JD V twin engine.

MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, TRAILERS: John Deere 7000 Planter, 6 row 30", box fill, liquid fertilizer; John Deere 8000 Drill, 21 hole, 7" spacing, single disk, seeder box; New Holland, HT 154, 12 wheel high capacity rake;

Titan Classic, gooseneck livestock trailer, 20'x7', tandem axle, 8 bolt wheels, LT 245 75 R 16 rubber; W-W Stock trailer, gooseneck livestock trailer, 22'x6', tandem axle, 700-15 Lt rubber; John Deere 235, 21' Disk; Kelly Ryan, 4'x8', Feed R Wagon; Big Blue Silage Wagon, 16'x7', on 4 wheel model T 10 Huskee gear, 11 L Diesel, WF, 3 pt, dual hyd, rear wheel wts, 16.9 R 28 rear rubber poor; 1959 Allis Chalmers D17, serial # 25806 Diesel, Series 1, wide front, single hyd, snap coupler, 16.9 R 28 rear rubber 50%; 1948 Allis Chalmers WD, Serial #AM3835-7, narrow front, 13.6 28 rear rubber 60%.

up box trailer; Dual Wheel 13.5' truck box trailer, bumper hitch; 2 wheel trailer w/poly 500 gal. nurse tank; Kuku 3 pt, 40' boom sprayer, 500 gal poly tank, pto pump; 3 pt 28' boom sprayer, 200 gal poly tank, hyd. pump; John Deere 40 manure spreader, 5'x12', PTO Drive; Farm Hand manure spreader, PTO Drive, 10'x4.5'; Heavy Duty 8' 3 pt blade; Clarke 4 section harrow, 2 wheel carrier; New Holland, 3 pt, 2 prong bale roller; Quick Tach, bale spear; bucket attach bale spear; 2 wheel wooden semi loading chute; 2 wheel manual catch, 6' 8" livestock chute.

MISC.: Mullins 2 Dog Metal Commercial Dog Box, 12' Aluminum Flat Bottom Row Boat, Reddy 35 space heater, Pickup tool box, PTO wire winder, Ram bench grinder, Fimco 4 wheeler sprayer w/Hi Flo Pump, 14 gal. pull type lawn sprayer, air bubbles, Dayton 35,000 BTU Heater, Jepson reciprocating saw, numerous 1/2" socket sets, 1/2" ratchets & breaker bars, open end wrenches, screw drivers, drill bit indexes, hand saws, Ammo cans, metal gas can, heat lamps, saddle blankets, numerous saddle stirrups, halters & numerous other small items.

up box trailer; Dual Wheel 13.5' truck box trailer, bumper hitch; 2 wheel trailer w/poly 500 gal. nurse tank; Kuku 3 pt, 40' boom sprayer, 500 gal poly tank, pto pump; 3 pt 28' boom sprayer, 200 gal poly tank, hyd. pump; John Deere 40 manure spreader, 5'x12', PTO Drive; Farm Hand manure spreader, PTO Drive, 10'x4.5'; Heavy Duty 8' 3 pt blade; Clarke 4 section harrow, 2 wheel carrier; New Holland, 3 pt, 2 prong bale roller; Quick Tach, bale spear; bucket attach bale spear; 2 wheel wooden semi loading chute; 2 wheel manual catch, 6' 8" livestock chute.

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JB LIBAL (402) 806-1353
2008 John Deere 568 Mega Wide Plus Round Baler, Serial #E00568X348532, Cover Edge Net Wrap & Twine, 21.5L 16.1 rubber; 1999 Mac Don 9300, Serial #124595 Self Propelled Swather 4485hrs, Mac Don 920 auger header serial #126270; H-S 12 wheel HI Capacity rake; 2004 Trillmann 20' Gooseneck Stock Trailer, Good ST235/85R.16 rubber.

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2248A ZZ Rd., STRONG CITY, KS. At Saffordville Community Bldg. Saffordville is about 10 mi. West of Saffordville & 7 mi. East of Strong City on Hwy. 50. There is a large Saffordville sign along the highway. Exit the highway & go South across the railroad tracks to auction site.

COINS (Sell first)
2001 Gold \$25 USA Liberty (1/2 oz.); 1875S twenty cent piece; 12 Morgan Dollars-1881S, 1896; 5 Peace dollars. 1927D; Proof & Mint sets; 1908 Silver USA/Filipinos Peso; Silver Certificates; War pennies; Buffalo & War nickels; Silver certificates; Mercury & Barber Dimes, 1921D, 1923S, 1893, 1908S, 1912D, 13, 15; Barber halves-1892, 1900-O, 1901S, 1905, 18530 seated, 1902S; Barber quarters, 1892, 1900-O, 1901S, 1905; German 5 coin set-1938, 40, 41, 42; Silver German 1936 (1st year Swastika) & 1937; Large 1 cent-1848, 1851, 1853; numerous Walking Liberty & Kennedy Halves, Barber & Washington Quarters, Barber Dimes, Wheat & Indian cents; NRA Silver ounce; 2016 1-ounce 5 dollar Canada Silver; 2017 Silver dollar; 2007 Founding Jamestown Comm.; Presidential dollar collection showcase; America Collectible coins, display case; US Statehood quarters; Presidential coin collection; 03 UNC Kennedy & Sacagawea coins; Penny books-09-74; Chase County Centennial Silver coin & Chase County Bronze coin; Standing Liberty quarters-1928S, 1929S; 1964 P Proof Washington quarter; 1943D Jeff. Nickel slap, MS 64; 1955 Franklin Half, slab, MS 64F; 1945 Half, slab, MS 64 & MORE!

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AMMO (Sells last)
10,000 Rounds .22; 2,000 rounds 7.62X39; 2, 000 rounds .40; 2,000 rounds 9MM; 500 rounds .45; 700 rounds .223; Few 6MM, 7MM, 32-20, .38, 12 ga., .243; Some vintage ammo/boxes.

YARD ART
Concrete frogs, chickens, goose, and ceramic art-cats, etc.

Check website for photos & updates
www.hancockauctionandrealstate.com

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Chapman, 1 rwf	1765@64.00	Lost Springs, 4 blk	588@121.00	HEIFERS	
Woodbine, 1 blk	1625@64.00	Marion, 1 blk	2010@84.50	Carlton, 5 blk	496@137.00
Abilene, 1 blk	1605@64.00	Wiley, 1 blk	1985@78.00	White City, 4 blk	473@135.00
Chapman, 1 red	1770@63.50	White City, 1 blk	2075@77.00	White City, 7 blk	541@130.00
Woodbine, 1 blk	1620@63.50	Marion, 1 blk	1920@76.00	Cedar Point, 4 blk	553@130.00
Wiley, 1 Char	1620@63.00	STEERS		White City, 9 blk	614@125.00
Herington, 1 rwf	1570@62.50	White City, 7 blk	500@164.00	White City, 4 blk	603@125.00
Herington, 1 blk	1620@62.00	Carlton, 4 blk	495@151.00		
Durham, 11 mix	1303@61.90	White City, 5 blk	581@142.00		
Carlton, 1 rwf	1445@60.50	Cedar Point, 3 blk	597@140.50		
Carlton, 1 blk	1470@60.50	White City, 13 blk	635@138.50		
Chapman, 1 rwf	1525@60.50	White City, 9 blk	700@136.00		
		White City, 39 blk	804@133.50		

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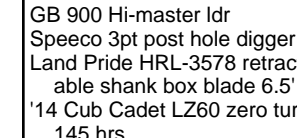
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USDA-ARS researchers introduce treatment to prevent parasites in sheep

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Service (ARS) has announced a groundbreaking treatment that prevents anemia, weight loss, poor wool and meat production, and even death in sheep.

ARS researchers partnered with Virginia Tech and the University of Massachusetts' Medical School to solve H. contortus parasite infection, which also happens to be the number one health problem in the U.S. sheep industry. The parasite infects the stomach of ruminant mammals, feeding and interfering with digestion, before ultimately affecting the animal's overall health and stability.

"The H. contortus parasite has developed resistance to virtually all known classes of anti-parasitic drugs," said ARS researcher Dr. Joseph Urban, who lead the research team in testing and implementation of a para-probiotic treatment to kill the parasite that causes H. contortus.

The worm parasite mates within the animal and its fertilized eggs pass through the animal's waste into the soil. The larvae then develop to re-infect other unsuspecting animals, spreading the infection throughout a pasture and creating a cycle of infection that hinders animal growth, development and production.

"This is a major problem and the newly-developed treatment is derived from bacteria normally found in the soil that can produce a protein that binds to receptors in the intestine of the parasite," said Dr. Urban. "The treatment will then kill the parasites and reduce debilitating infection in adult sheep."

"When the treatment was given to infected sheep at Virginia Tech there was a rapid and dramatic reduction of parasite reproduction and survival, without any negative effect observed in the sheep," said Dr. Anne Zajac, professor of parasitology at Virginia Tech's Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.

Para-probiotics are "inactive probiotics" or good bacteria that can still provide health benefits. Despite the growing interest in para-probiotic use, these types of treatments are not commercially available. The treatments are currently under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and will likely be commercially produced in large amounts once approved. This will help to protect an even larger population of animals across the country.

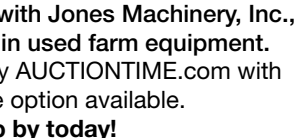
"Para-probiotics represent a new evolution and hope in dealing with a malignant and pervasive parasite," said Dr. Raffi Aroian, a professor in the Molecular Medicine program at the University of Massachusetts' Medical School. "The development of new therapeutics for this issue has been extremely difficult to come by and I look forward to watching this new advancement unfold in the global and domestic industry."

This project was supported by the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.



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In final speech, Roberts urges colleagues to rebuild the bridges of comity

After 40 years of public service, U.S. Senator Pat Roberts (R-Kan.), delivered his final speech on the Senate floor last week:

Mr. President, my colleagues, I thank the leadership on both sides for this opportunity to give the "Pat Roberts Adios Amigos" speech.

The story of how I got into politics is a pretty straight family path. As a fourth-generation Kansan, my great-grandfathers, on both sides of the Roberts-Patrick family were pioneer newspaper editors who came to Kansas as crusading abolitionists.

To say I bleed fourth-generation printer's ink would be close to the truth.

However, the main influence that drew me to public service was my dad, Wes Roberts, who was a newspaperman – and soon journalism led to politics. He served as chief of staff and an advisor for several Kansas governors, before becoming State Republican Chairman.

In 1952, my dad was asked to head up the Citizens for Ike campaign team, which was a genuine army of volunteers, made up of legions of veterans, women's groups and mostly Republicans who wanted a candidate who could win. Plus, they really liked Ike.

At 16, in my Dad's tow,

I was a sergeant of arms at the 1952 convention,

back when conventions actually chose the nominee for president. I vividly remember two lasting experiences.

The renowned Senator from Illinois, Everett Dirksen, was a key leader in the Bob Taft campaign.

Senator Dirksen, known for his long eloquent speeches, was in the midst of his convention remarks,

when the entire New York delegation, led by former Governor and presidential candidate Tom Dewey, marched in and, with considerable noise, took their seats.

Dirksen paused and pointing directly at Dewey, and with his booming voice, said this:

"You, sir, have led this Republican Party down to defeat in 1944 and again in 1948. Don't do it again!"

Whereupon, the entire New York delegation stood up and gave Dirksen the "raspberry."

And, I thought, this is what adults do at a convention?

One morning I was in a meeting with my Dad and the top Ike campaign brass – Dewey, Lodge, Brownell, and other GOP movers and shakers. He told me to sit and be quiet.

He was in the midst of suggesting the "Fair Play" amendment given that the new Ike delegates from the "Solid South" had surprised the "old guard" and won delegate seats at the state conventions – only to be replaced by the old guard at later surprise conventions. Unlike MacArthur, "old guards" never die or fade away.

My Dad said there was no downside if they lost and he believed they could win a majority of the delegates. The "Fair Play" amendment passed and Ike won on the first ballot.

I thought to myself, "Wow! My dad helped Ike win!" I met the General, shook his hand, then again at the 1953 Inaugural ceremonies when my dad became Republican National Chairman.

It was these reflections, told to my great friend and Medal of Honor recipient, Senator Danny Inouye, that prompted him to say, "I fought for Ike, you met him, it's up to you to get his memorial done."

And, after a 21-year effort, we did just that with the help from Bob Dole, Jim Baker, Susan Eisenhower, the Eisenhower family and Senator Lisa Murkowski, who kept the Ike Commission going during the tough years. Finally, we now have an appropriate, if not stunning, memorial to the Kansan

who saved Western Democracy in World War II and led America onto the world stage.

With the final dedication of the Dwight David Eisenhower Memorial at the end of my Senate career, it is a full circle family accomplishment. If my dad helped elect Ike, then the least I could do was to lead the effort to make a memorial on the mall to a great general and president a reality.

In a homecoming address Eisenhower famously said, "The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene." He was a small-town Kansas boy who saved western democracy and led the nation for eight years of peace and prosperity.

I too come from a small town in Kansas. So how did this boy from Holton, Kansas, become the longest-serving member of Congress in Kansas history?

Like father, like son, I graduated from K-State, with a degree in journalism.

My father joined the Marines in World War II and saw action in both Okinawa and Iwo Jima. I joined in peacetime, served on Okinawa and was part of the first Marine contingent return to Iwo Jima on the 15th anniversary of that battle.

From Marine Captain to newspaper editor and news director of a radio station in Arizona, I dropped everything and drove to Washington when Senator Frank Carlson asked me to come work for him.

Within weeks of leaving Phoenix, I was the Chief of Staff for Senator Frank Carlson, a venerable and highly respected senator, who made his mark on Kansas history as the only person to serve our state as a congressman, governor, senator, U.N. delegate, and the founder of the national prayer breakfast.

Life changed dramati-

cally. I always thought a bachelor was a man who did not make the same mistake once. Then, into my life came a tall, blonde, blue-eyed magnolia blossom from South Carolina.

Franki and I have been married for 51 years and have been blessed with three children and eight grandchildren. I am who I am because Franki is my wife and we are parents to David, Ashleigh, and Ann Wesley; and Papa Pat to Lorena, Patrick, Sayaka, Lilly, Charlie, Miles, Oliver, and Graham. My family is my crowning achievement.

Senator Frank was a great mentor. He always said, "There are no self-made men or women in public office, it is your friends and family who make you what you are."

He taught me a great lesson: "Your true friends stand behind you when you are taking the bows and beside you when there any boos."

Following the two year stint with the Senator, I was privileged to work 12 years for the newly elected congressman from the "Big First" district of Kansas as his chief of staff.

Keith Sebelius was a wonderful man, a leader on the House Agriculture Committee and the Interior Committee, especially with regard to improvements and restoration of our national parks.

Upon Keith's retirement, a group of party stalwarts encouraged me to run. Franki simply said, "This is what you always wanted to do, let's do it."

So, for nine months, with no paycheck or health insurance, and limited savings with three young children, Dodge City became my home. Most sane candidates would not attempt to go door to door in a district larger than most states. However, with a lot of help, we won a tough primary and not so tough general election – the first of 24 straight victories.

I was ranking to Chair-

man Kika de la Garza and when the 1994 revolution put Republicans in the majority after being in the wilderness for over 40 years – suddenly, I was chairman. In 1996, we achieved a major farm policy reform, changing 40 years of farm bill policy. To this day, farmers still have the Freedom to Farm what they want.

I have had the honor and privilege of representing Kansans for 16 years in the House and 24 in the Senate. The Pat Roberts of 1980 was fighting for Kansas values and for the issues that affect the daily lives and pocket-books of all Kansans. As the Pat Roberts of 1996, I promised that, if elected to the Senate, when Kansas spoke, Washington would listen.

I have held six gavels in the House and Senate, and that, in and of itself, might be a record. But, it's what happened during my tenures as chairman that I believe have had the most lasting impacts. It's not just having the gavel – it's what you do with it.

Taking part and leading eight farm bills in the House and Senate have touched and improved many lives, and I've always been mindful of what farm families do for our nation and a troubled and hungry world as we crafted each bill.

I was fortunate that my first committee assignments were to serve on the Armed Services Committee, as well as Agriculture. Strom Thurmond was the very senior Chairman who, as the country song goes, never even called me by name. I was recognized as "the Senator who had the good sense to marry a fine, beautiful, South Carolina girl."

My role on Armed Services Committee was to collect the small change left by the Air Force to enable the Marine Corps to continue to be our nation's force in readiness, not to mention a new warfighting

lab.

I also had the privilege of being the Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman for four years during the Iraq War, and led the Committee's investigation that exposed a worldwide intelligence failure resulting in a blueprint for the 9/11 Commission and a better Intelligence Community that kept our country safer.

As chairman of the brand-new Emerging Threats Subcommittee within the Armed Services Committee, I traveled to cities within what remained of the former Soviet Union. In one of the Soviet "secret cities," we discovered a lab that had developed strains of pathogens that could do irreparable harm to any nation's food supply! Talk about an "Evil Empire!"

I caution my colleagues: that threat still exists even as we endeavor to continue the worldwide fight against COVID-19.

It has taken over 20 years to respond to this threat with a biological containment and research lab, and we still are not done.

I've put a lifetime of work into NBAF, the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, in Manhattan, Kansas. It will soon serve as the first line of defense to protect American agriculture and the world's food supply.

I have also been privileged to serve on the HELP committee. Thank you to Lamar Alexander and Patty Murray for supporting my amendments, especially with regard to rural health care.

And, finally, I chaired the Senate Ethics Committee. I don't know what I have done wrong, but I have been a member of the committee for what I am sure is a record of 24 years.

As I move out of my office – formerly a veritable museum of pictures, awards, and stuff we all

• Cont. on page 20

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gandgeditor@agpress.com

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Office: 785-539-7558

In final speech, Roberts urges colleagues to rebuild the bridges of comity

• Cont. from page 19
 collect - all that remains are the barren beige walls, full of memories and stories, which are all classified.
 However, I still have my Marine Corps bumper sticker: "To err is human, to forgive is divine, neither is Marine Corps policy." Marines never give up, we take the hill and the discipline and focus I learned in the Marine Corps never failed me in my toughest battles in the Senate. Semper Fi!

Joel Leftwich, and James Glueck led the posse. They always checked to make sure the herd was still there, and we didn't ride into any box canyons.
 To the staff currently in this chamber with me and those watching on C-SPAN, thank you. It has been an honor to have you call me "Boss." Always remember, you are family. I couldn't have asked for a more loyal, dedicated or talented staff.

is not that hard.
 First, we represent the best of our nation - farmers, ranchers, growers, and the entire food value chain. We know we have a collective job to do in their behalf - and we do just that.
 Second, we convene in a small hearing room, in pre-COVID times, right across the table from each other.
 Third, for the most part, we actually know one another! I used to be the ranking Republican member when Senator Stabenow was the Chairperson. We worked together on the 2014 farm bill. In 2018, it wasn't our first rodeo!

staff marching orders to do the same. We also became friends, I protected her, and she protected me in conference and we got 87 votes, setting a record for a farm bill.
 Now, we ordinarily do not vote alike on the floor, but we remain friends, and that is the way it should be. Friendship and comity is the norm for the Ag Committee, it could be for the whole Senate.
 And though things in this great country are rocky, I have a news flash: these are not the worst of times.

Chicago riots, Kent State and the horrible shooting of students by untrained guardsmen. Sen. Bobby Kennedy running for president only to suffer the same fate as his brother. And then came Watergate.
 Those days were tough. It was almost impossible to not face the bitter splits over political parties and even families.

"You are the class of hope and destiny."
 The following year, President George W. Bush spoke at graduation. The size of that audience matched the size of hope that Kansans had for their future and rebuilding of their lives.
 I'm reminded of the optimism of those speeches and the optimism I have for our country.

And still in the office, of course, a framed statement with the advice of LBJ: "Sometimes you have to hunker down like a jackass in a hailstorm and just take it."
 On that note, if you want to avoid a hailstorm, get a good staff! You're only as good as your staff, and I have the best staff in Washington because they always took the Hill.

To be a member of this United States Senate is a true privilege. A working family, it is the greatest deliberative body in the world. But, today, as compared to when I first came to the Senate, it's the deliberative part that gives me great concern. I lament the loss of comity, the ability to work together, or just to get along. Sadly, gridlock appears to be the new normal. However, it does not have to be.

We know, regardless of what each of us wanted, passing a farm bill was paramount. We had an agreement: no surprises, no press the other one did not know about, and we held hearings together all over the country to listen to all of agriculture. I went to the campus of Michigan State and wore green and white, she came to Kansas State and wore purple. We not only agreed to work together, we gave

When I first came to Washington in early 1967, our nation experienced the tragedy of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. Within hours, Washington was on fire, Marines on the Capitol steps with sandbags and automatic weapons with live ammunition.
 Advised to leave the beltway, I mistakenly thought I could get to my parents' apartment house via the Rock Creek Parkway. No traffic was moving, tear gas in the air, and random gunshots rang out. I decided to jump the curb, drive on the sidewalks and eventually on the mall itself.

Today we are in the midst of a worldwide pandemic - and even that has fallen into politics - but it doesn't have to be.
 At home, Kansas has been dealt its fair share of hardships. But in Kansas, we don't let disasters define us. We grab our bootstraps and get to work. That's our normal.
 Multiple prairie fires have ravaged Kansas farms and ranches - the Anderson Creek Fire in 2016, the Starbuck fire in 2017. Those folks have learned to adapt and build back, with the help of USDA disaster programs.

We endured these hardships and came out on the other side. We did it by changing the old normal and creating a new normal.
 Here, in the Senate, only we can decide what our new normal is, and we ought to get to know one another. We don't have to let the apparent gravitational pull of more and more politics in pursuit of power to change what our founders gave us - the creation of a nation of liberty and freedom, the envy of the world - and to literally move the United States Senate from the moorings of its historic and great past to simply be a rubber stamp for radical change.

My Chiefs of Staff: Leroy Towns, Jackie Cottrell and Chad Tenpenny, my D.C. Deputy Chief of Staff Amber Kirchhoefer, and my Ag Committee staff directors: Mike Seyfert,

I am very proud that I have had the privilege of being chairman of a committee that does get along and we do get things done - the Senate Agriculture Committee. And, it really

Due to State & County Mandates, MASKS & Social Distancing are required & NO CHILDREN in the Barn. Thank you.
Market Report for 12-10-20.
1,516 Head Sold.
HFRETTES:
 1080#-860# \$123.00-\$105.00
COWS-HIGH YIELDING
 1660#-1110# \$68.00-\$60.00
COWS-LGT WT & LOW YIELDING
 1680#-945# \$58.00-\$35.00
BULLS: 2095#-1050# \$76.00-\$59.00

The police told me the parkway was closed. When they focused on the next drivers, I jumped the curb and took off on the parkway.

We also had the tale of Treece, Kansas - once a boomtown turned toxic waste dump - it was an extremely unsafe, unhealthy place for folks to live. Working with the Obama administration's EPA, no less, we relocated them to safer places and (literally) greener pastures - because working across party lines is what we do in Kansas.

The beauty is that we can decide what our normal is. We don't have to let circumstances dictate our future. Let us once again become a body of respect, humility, cooperation, achievement and friendship. That can and should be our new normal.

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STEERS/BULLS		BEEF		BRED COWS	
300-400#	\$211.00-\$175.00			\$1500.00-\$925.00	
400-500#	\$192.00-\$168.00				
500-600#	\$185.00-\$159.00				
600-700#	\$168.00-\$138.00				
700-800#	\$145.00-\$125.00				
800-900#	\$137.00-\$123.00				
900-1,000#	\$128.00-\$109.00				
HEIFERS		COW/CALF PAIRS			
300-400#	\$158.00-\$141.00			\$1675.00-\$1025.00	
400-500#	\$155.00-\$143.00				
500-600#	\$155.00-\$139.00				
600-700#	\$160.00-\$137.00				
700-800#	\$136.00-\$119.00				
800-900#	\$131.00-\$111.00				


Regular Sale: Dec. 17 * No Sale: December 24
Regular Sale: December 31

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Let's not forget about the EF-5 tornado in 2007 that completely destroyed the community of Greensburg.
 I immediately called President Bush from a McDonald's in the next town and asked for help. When I hung up, there were 25 people gathered around me, listening.

The entire country could use a little bit of what we say in Kansas, "Ad astra per aspera" - to the stars through difficulties.
 As my time in the Senate draws to a close, I have done my best to improve the lives of Kansans and all Americans. I have worked tirelessly for decades to accomplish big and small things so that this generation and future generations might live and achieve the American dream.

One old-timer in his bib overalls said to me, "Was that the president of the United States?" I said, you bet. He turned to his wife and said, "Mother, see? I told you. I told you Pat was talking to the president and we'd get help." And FEMA was there the next day.

To my colleagues, thank you for fighting on behalf of our great nation and alongside me to preserve this chamber.
 As I ride off into the sunset, to create a new normal for Franki and me, I will be cheering for the Senate to rebuild the bridges of comity that will create a new normal.

In a FEMA-issued tent, I talked to the graduating senior class whose school and homes were but a pile of debris and told them,

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Wednesday Sale, Hogs NOON • Cattle 12:30 PM

Report from December 9, 2020

STEERS	15	641	137.25		
6	430	192.00	6	666	134.50
8	429	177.00	21	646	134.25
5	533	173.00	23	854	133.50
15	567	160.00	8	693	131.50
6	588	157.00	10	836	127.00
5	619	148.00	68	766	127.00
19	653	148.00	15	800	126.50
6	669	142.00	2	905	119.00
25	907	138.75			
11	804	136.00			
5	919	135.50			
60	882	135.00			
11	845	133.00			
12	938	132.00			
HEIFERS					
4	402	155.50			
10	493	146.50			
8	493	143.00			

TOP BUTCHER COW: \$63.50 @ 1,590 lbs.
TOP BUTCHER BULL: \$77.00 @ 2,095 lbs.
BRED COWS: \$800 - \$1,150
BRED HFERS: \$1,750 - \$1,975

CONSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 16:
 130 Ang X str & hfrs 500-700 lbs w.v.
 30 blk X str & hfrs 500-800 lbs w.v.
 25 Ang X str & hfrs 700-900 lbs w.v.
 60 blk X str 850-925 lbs yrgrs

PLUS MORE BY SALE DAY!

DEC. & JAN. SALE SCHEDULE:
NO SALE DEC. 23rd - MERRY CHRISTMAS
NEXT SALE - WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30th
Wednesday, Jan. 6th - 1st Sale of 2021

Watch online with cattlousa.com
 (Tab J.C. Livestock Sales) Must register to bid.

If you need assistance in marketing your cattle please call & we will be happy to discuss it with you.

CLAY CENTER LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Cattle sales Tuesday, 11:00 AM.

Report from December 8, 2020

STEERS	29	590	136.50		
6	486	179.00	26	597	135.50
6	490	179.00	41	620	133.50
6	528	177.00	3	833	128.00
15	583	162.00	6	802	128.00
45	603	152.50	8	901	125.50
18	646	150.00			
71	745	143.50			
4	988	139.00			
10	863	135.50			
3	923	133.50			
10	939	131.00			
HEIFERS					
4	299	150.00			
10	432	149.00			
11	522	143.25			

TOP BUTCHER COW: \$72.00 @ 1,768 LBS.
TOP BUTCHER BULL: \$82.50 @ 1,815 LBS.
BRED COWS: \$975-\$1,000
PAIRS: \$1,200-\$1,250

CONSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 15:
 120 blk X str 850-900 lbs

PLUS MORE BY SALE DAY!

DECEMBER SALE SCHEDULE:
NO SALE Dec. 22nd - MERRY CHRISTMAS
Last Sale of 2020 - Tues. Dec. 29th
First Sales of 2021:
Sat., Jan. 2nd - Sheep & Goat Sale
Tues., Jan. 5th - Regular Cattle Sale

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Date: 12/9/20. Total Head Count: 1,278.
COWS: \$58-\$70.00; \$49-\$57.75; \$48 and down.
BULLS: \$73-\$80.00

BULLCALVES		HEIFERS	
6 blk.....	551@156.00	4 blk.....	630@147.00
5 blk.....	571@147.00	13 blk.....	628@147.25
		30 bkbw.....	604@146.50
		7 blk.....	616@145.00
		6 bkbw.....	635@144.50
		4 blk.....	646@140.00
		29 bkbw.....	686@140.00
		4 blk.....	670@136.50
		11 blk.....	695@136.00
		4 bkbw.....	659@135.00
		70 bkbw.....	715@139.50
		25 mix.....	766@138.25
		13 blk.....	746@137.75
		30 mix.....	745@136.25
		7 blk.....	700@135.00
		7 mix.....	766@135.00
		103 bkbw.....	800@140.00
		9 mix.....	834@136.25
		35 mix.....	815@135.00
		12 bkbw.....	860@133.00
		10 blk.....	876@133.00
		25 mix.....	845@132.50
		4 mix.....	829@132.00
		31 mix.....	854@131.25
		43 mix.....	897@128.00
		12 mix.....	913@132.00
		12 blk.....	920@131.00
		7 mix.....	931@128.00
		13 mix.....	1004@120.00

STEERS
 5 blk..... 473@168.00
 7 bkbw..... 482@165.00
 4 wf..... 431@148.50
 5 blk..... 512@168.50
 10 bkbw..... 526@165.00
 6 blk..... 530@164.50
 4 blk..... 521@156.00

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 16
 • 25 Char X str & hfrs, 550-650 lbs.
 • 15 bwf str & hfrs, weaned, 650-725 lbs.
PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME

NO SALE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23rd DUE TO CHRISTMAS

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LaCrosse Livestock was recently recognized by the Red Angus Association of America for its dedication to providing marketing opportunities to beef producers through its FCCP Special Red Angus sales. Frank Seidel accepts the award from Barrett Simon, RAAA commercial marketing specialist.

Auction markets earn Red Angus recognition for marketing opportunities

The Red Angus Association of America strives to support cattle producers who take advantage of value-added marketing programs and capitalize on demand for Red Angus genetics from feedlots and packers. Such goals are not achieved alone and the RAAA works closely with forward-thinking livestock auction markets to best represent Red Angus producers and their cattle.

Four auction markets were recently recognized for their crucial role in supporting Red Angus producers through tactical marketing and strategic partnerships. These market owners and managers have taken steps to ensure their customers have the best possible marketing options in their respective regions and have worked tirelessly to foster profitable relationships for their customers and clients. Consistency of hosting a special Red Angus sale once or twice annually, the number of calves sold in these sales, as well as promotion of the cattle and the breed were all considered when determining which markets would receive the honor. Producers and RAAA are greatly appreciative of the

efforts put forth by these auction markets, which give buyers access to superior Red Angus genetics while supporting ranchers seeking premiums for their high-quality Red Angus and Red Angus-influenced feeders.

LaCrosse Livestock, LaCrosse - Frank Seidel

Valentine Livestock Auction, Valentine, Nebraska - Greg Arendt

Mobridge Livestock, Mobridge, South Dakota - Jason Anderberg, Tigh Anderberg, Casey Perman

Ogallala Livestock Auction Market, Ogallala, Nebraska - Jay Nordhausen, Lance Van Winkle, Dwayne Mays, Scott Van Winkle

"We certainly appreciate the work that all of our partner auction markets do to make Red Angus feeder calf sales successful," said RAAA commercial marketing specialist Barrett Simon. "Providing commercial producers with the opportunity to come together and market Red Angus feeder calves in volume lends itself to a competitive bidding environment."

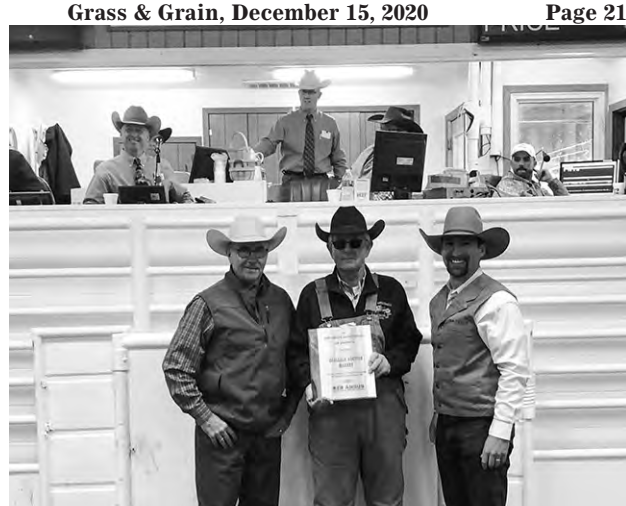
Simon continued, "Each of these four markets has gone above and beyond to make their sales



Valentine Livestock Auction was also honored by the Red Angus Association of America. Greg Arendt, manager of Valentine Livestock Auction, accepts the award from Katie Martin, RAAA commercial marketing coordinator.

reputable events that consignors and buyers alike circle on the calendar. We are very fortunate to work with so many auction markets across the country that do a tremendous job, it was a real challenge to identify just four to recognize. It says a lot about these markets; the management, and especially

the consignors that make these events standout year-after-year. The role these markets play is important to us, this is our way of saying 'thank you' to those that continue to believe in the power of Red Angus genetics and make sure that our shared customer, the consignor, has a successful marketing



Also recognized was the Ogallala Livestock Auction Market. From left are Dwayne Mays and Scott Van Winkle, Ogallala Livestock Auction Market and Nolan Woodruff, commercial marketing specialist at RAAA.

experience." For those who would like additional information on added-value Red Angus programs such as FCCP or Allied Access, or to learn more about Red Angus-specific marketing sales and grids, please contact Barrett Simon at barrettsimon@redangus.org or call (316) 452-1792.

3-State Stockyards
Falls City, Nebraska

SPECIAL BRED COW -

BRED HEIFER & COW CALF SALE

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17TH, 6:30 P.M.

- 50 Wyoming Origin Angus Cows. 3-6 years old, bred to Miller Angus or Bredeimeier Angus Bulls to start calving in March.
- 25 Big Fancy Angus 1st calf heifers, All bred to ABS Bull Magnitude an easy calving sire. All bred on June 20. A top set of heifers raised out of a local reputation. For more info call Brent Shubert, 402-245-1070.
 - 6 Young Angus Cows w/ Fall calves at side.
 - 16 Red 1st calf heifers, bred to calve in Spring.
- (18) 3-5 Year Old Angus & BWF cows bred Angus for Spring calves.
- 4 Red Angus cows bred Angus or Red Angus for Spring calving.
- 10 older black or BWF Spring calving cows, bred Angus Spring calvers.
- Pending - 30 nice Angus 1st calf hrs., bred to easy calving Angus bull.
- 2 nice young Angus bulls, (1) 14 mos., (1) 21 mos., both semen tested.
 - 5 young black cows, all with black calves on the ground.
 - 1 (4) yr old Charolais cow & calf.
- 3 young red & RWF cows, bred to calve February or March.

More by sale day - Call for more info or for late consignments. There will be some really nice bred cows & heifers at this sale. Come take a look - We'll have a free burger for everyone.

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To consign cattle or for more information, call:

Brian Witt 402-245-2485	Bob Witt 402-245-5154	Tom Witt 402-245-4641
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PaolaLivestockAuction.com

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www.centrollivestockks.com

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or Matt Hoffman (Owner): 620-727-0913

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Cattle Auction- Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
Hog/Sheep/Goat Auction- Every 3rd Saturday
Horse/Tack Auction- Every 1st Saturday

Results From December 8th Sale:

Steers	900-1000#	\$107.50-\$129.50
300-400#		\$180.00-\$191.50
400-500#		\$165.00-\$187.00
500-600#		\$135.00-\$174.00
600-700#		\$121.00-\$147.00
700-800#		\$115.25-\$139.50
800-900#		\$112.50-\$132.50
Heifers		
300-400#		\$128.00-\$165.00
400-500#		\$122.50-\$156.50
500-600#		\$120.00-\$150.00
600-700#		\$115.00-\$143.00
700-800#		\$106.00-\$128.00

Sat., Dec. 19th - Hog/ Sheep/ Goat Sale
Tues., Dec. 22nd & 29th - NO SALES
Sat., Jan. 2nd - Horse & Tack Sale

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El Dorado, KS 67042

Market Report - Sale Date 12-10-20 3,037 Head.

300-400 lb. steers, \$136-\$189; heifers, \$150-\$181; 400-500 lb. steers, \$141-\$180; heifers, \$130-\$171; 500-600 lb. steers, \$128-\$165; heifers, \$108-\$151; 600-700 lb. steers, \$113-\$153.75; heifers, \$106.50-\$143; 700-800 lb. steers, \$117-\$143; heifers, \$90.50-\$134; 800-900 lb. steers, \$116-\$136.25; heifers, \$98-\$125; 900-1,000 lb. steers, \$113-\$133. **Trend on Calves:** Steer calves steady w/ last good test. Heifer calves steady to \$4 higher. **Trend on Feeder Cattle:** Feeder steers \$2-\$4 higher than last good test. Feeder heifers \$3-\$4 higher than last test. **Butcher Cows:** high dressing cows \$57-\$64.25; Avg. dressing cows \$45-\$55; low dressing cows \$28-\$40. **Stock Cows:** Bred Cows - \$570-\$1390, mostly older cows; **Cow/Calf Pairs** - \$975-\$1275, mostly older pairs. **Butcher Bulls:** Avg. to high dressing bulls \$58-\$76.50. **Trend on Cows & Bulls:** Steady to \$3 lower.

Some highlights include:

HEIFERS	3 blk	488@176.00	
4 blk	385@154.00		
11 Char-x	472@165.00	27 blk 522@150.00 (unweaned)	
91 blk	521@151.00	10 Char-x	559@151.00
12 Char-x	549@143.50	10 mix	602@153.75
22 blk	575@139.00	47 blk 619@141.50 (unweaned)	
22 blk	630@143.00	19 mix	633@150.25
25 blk	666@136.00	24 blk	641@151.00
45 mix	711@133.00	40 mix	678@140.50
11 mix	791@128.00	42 blk	767@141.50
5 mix	1041@111.50	64 mix	828@134.50
STEERS	59 blk	878@135.80	
3 mix	353@181.00	62 mix	918@133.00
4 blk	443@180.00	48 mix	1063@120.25

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020 SALE * 11 AM

- 30 - calves, 500-600lbs
- 1 load - mostly blk steers, 825-850lbs

Thursday, December 17th will be our last sale this year. OUR FIRST SALE OF 2021 WILL BE JANUARY 7TH!

We will also be CELEBRATING Mary McClung's retirement on December 17. Don't worry!!!

Although she's retiring she has agreed to come help out from time to time. Please plan to stop in to say Hi & give her the proper send off.

SPECIAL STOCKER/FEEDER SALE: JANUARY 7, 2021
SPECIAL COW SALE: JANUARY 16, 2021

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AS WELL AS FACEBOOK FOR UPDATED LISTINGS!
STAY TUNED FOR EARLY CONSIGNMENTS!

Eureka Livestock Sale

P.O. Box 267 Eureka, KS 67045
620-583-5008 Office 620-583-7475

Sale Every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. Sharp
Like Us On Facebook!

On Thursday, December 10th, we had 1,469 head of cattle on an active market.

STEERS	6 blk	921@129.75	3 blk	657@136.00	
13 blk	430@174.00	55 bkRd	898@129.00	8 RdAng	522@136.00
5 RdAng	437@164.00	9 bkbwf	731@128.50	12 mix	612@133.00
23RdAng	559@156.00	5 blk	894@127.00	8 blk	651@132.00
24 bkRd	533@154.00	57 mix	891@126.75	8 wfbwf	706@128.00
14 bkbwf	545@147.50	43 bkRd	1000@126.10	8 blk	634@126.25
6 blk	570@145.00	6 wf	706@126.00	17 mix	740@124.50
12 bkbwf	663@144.00			52 mix	789@123.50
108 Ang	777@140.80	HEIFERS		8 bkChr	606@122.00
60 Ang	843@139.10	2 bwf	425@160.00	6 bkbwf	770@120.00
15 bkbwf	764@138.00	6 blk	460@155.00	9 bkChr	624@120.00
13 bkbwf	677@137.00	5 RdChr	448@155.00	59 bkRd	897@119.00
9 bkChr	649@135.00	5 bkbwf	464@154.00	6 mix	873@117.00
9 bkbwf	688@135.00	8 RdAng	383@151.00	BULLS	
7 bkChr	755@134.00	7 mix	366@151.00	4 bwfwf	561@134.00
12 mix	676@130.00	5 blk	468@144.00	6 bwfwf	679@114.00
10 blk	686@130.00	8 bkbwf	516@141.00		

Butcher Cows: \$35-\$72. Fleishy cows \$62-\$70. Cutter cows \$52-\$64. Cows selling steady to higher on a very active market.

Butcher Bulls: \$63-\$84, mostly \$75-\$79, steady market.

BUTCHER COWS	1 Hols	1970@62.75	
7 bkChr	1619@72.00	2 blk	1318@62.50
1 blk	1530@72.00	BUTCHER BULLS	
6 bkbwf	1644@71.50	1 blk	2225@84.00
7 blk	1551@71.00	1 blk	2020@82.00
3 blk	1718@69.00	1 blk	1565@79.50
4 bkRd	1416@66.00	1 blk	2470@79.00
3 Red	1475@65.00	1 blk	1795@78.00
1 Hols	1995@63.50	1 blk	2190@77.00

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 17

- 85 bkbwf str & hrs, 500-650 lbs, dbl. vac., off the cow.
- 31 blk Red str & hrs, 700-850 lbs, weaned & vac.
- 40 mixed Packer cows from 1 ranch.

Holton Livestock Exchange, Inc.

1/2 mile East of Holton, KS on 16 Highway
Livestock Auction every Tuesday at 12 NOON
*** STARTING TIME: 12:00 NOON ***

MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020
RECEIPTS: 1321 CATTLE
FOR FULL RESULTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM

STEERS	14 blk bwf str	755@136.50	
1 blk bull	310@197.50	6 blk str	698@134.50
1 bwf bull	320@195.00	5 blk red str	750@132.50
4 red blk str	392@173.00	HEIFERS	
9 red blk str	517@170.00	1 blk hfr	165@185.00
6 blk str	471@169.50	3 blk hfr	410@156.00
22 blk red str	515@168.50	3 blk char hfr	400@148.00
9 blk red str	516@167.00	13 blk hfr	433@147.00
19 blk str	578@157.00	15 blk red hfr	524@144.75
10 blk str	593@154.00	10 blk hfr	476@144.00
20 blk bwf str	629@153.50	8 blk bwf hfr	551@140.00
27 blk str	624@152.00	7 blk rwf hfr	636@138.50
5 blk str	656@149.50	12 blk red hfr	530@137.50
7 blk red bulls	537@149.00	10 blk bwf hfr	546@136.50
7 blk str	617@147.00	10 blk bwf hfr	581@136.00
17 bwf str	668@146.75	19 blk hfr	575@136.00
27 blk str	721@144.00	12 blk red hfr	602@133.50
12 blk str	690@143.50	8 blk rwf hfr	558@132.00
12 blk bwf str	689@142.50	6 blk hfr	696@129.25
11 blk red str	723@141.75	9 blk bwf hfr	699@129.00
13 blk str	696@138.50	9 blk hfr	758@127.00
18 blk str	727@137.25		

REGULAR WEEKLY AUCTIONS: DECEMBER 15 & 22
CLOSED DECEMBER 29
REGULAR WEEKLY AUCTION JANUARY 5
SPECIAL CALF & YEARLING AUCTION: JANUARY 12

Dan Harris, Auctioneer & Owner • 785-364-7137
Danny Peters, Corning, Auct. & Field Rep. • 785-868-2591
Dick Coppinger, Winchester, Field Rep. • 913-774-2415
Steve Aeschliman, Sabetha, Field Rep. • 785-284-2417
Larry Matzke, Wheaton, Field Rep. • 785-268-0225
Craig Wischropp, Horton, Field Rep. • 785-547-5419
Barn Phone • 785-364-4114
WEBSITE: www.holtonlivestock.com
EMAIL: dan@holtonlivestock.com

View our auctions live at "lmauctions.com"

We welcome your consignments!
If you have cattle to consign or would like additional information, please call the office at 316-320-3212

Check our website & Facebook for updated consignments: www.eldoradolivestock.com
To stay up to date on our latest announcements you can "Like" us on Facebook

Josh Mueller Owner/Manager (316) 680-9680	Steven Hamlin (602) 402-6008 (H) (620) 222-1199 (M)
Chris Locke (316) 320-1005 (H) (316) 322-0675 (M)	Van Schmidt, Fieldman (620) 367-2331 (H) (620) 345-6879 (M)

Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM

December 17th
last sale of the year

We appreciate your business!

Ron Ervin - Owner-Manager
Home Phone - 620-583-5385
Mobile Cell 620-750-0123
Austin Evenson - Fieldman
Mobile Cell 620-750-0222

If you have any cattle to be looked at call Ron or Austin

The transformation of big tech in ag

By Lance Albin
Technology continues to transform production agriculture in ways we could have never imagined. As the pace of innovation and adoption continues to ramp up, it is becoming clear that big tech has a big place in the future of American agriculture.

I have been amazed by the technology that so many farms are implementing today, which is particularly impressive

considering that many of the farmers who are using advanced tech on the farm did not grow up with a tablet or smart phone in their hand. The adaptability and progressiveness of those in production agriculture is astounding.

Things like seed and chemical advancements, GPS and autosteer, and variable rate technologies have been revolutionary over the past few decades. These types of technologies have fueled tremen-

dous gains in the productive capacity of American agriculture. But what types of technology will move us forward in the coming many years? Let's discuss a few.

Internet of Things (IoT) are tiny sensors that may have a big impact on farming. These sensors can be used to gather data on crops, livestock and equipment. Advances in data storage and wireless monitoring will push forward our ability to con-

stantly monitor crops, livestock and equipment (in real time) and proactively address problems before it's too late. IoT sensors on equipment will likely help farmers run a more efficient and better maintained fleet. It is likely that these tiny sensors will likely become cheaper and more ubiquitous over time and could become critical in achieving improved farm profitability.

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) sensors provide supply chain tracking and are useful in following crops or livestock through the entire system to ensure quality and safety. American farmers and ranchers typically produce excellent food, but RFID gives farmers the deserved credit for doing so. Consumers continue to push for transparency as

There is no doubt that big changes in ag technology are coming in the years and decades ahead. These are exciting advancements that will continue to move our industry forward as we meet the growing task of feeding the world. I encourage farmers and ranchers to embrace these opportunities as I believe leveraging them will improve your farm profitability over time.

Lance Albin is the president of UMB Bank's Agribusiness Division. He has a master's degree in business administration from Fort Hays State University. UMB Bank is one of the Top 25 Farm Lenders in the United States serving farmers, ranchers, producers, processors, manufacturers and dealers throughout the Midwest and Mississippi Delta regions. He can be reached at Lance.Albin@umb.com.

Grass & Grain Weather Report Dec. 16, 2020

Seven Day Forecast	In-Depth Local Forecast	Today's Local Outlook																																								
WEDNESDAY Partly Cloudy High: 41 Low: 23 THURSDAY Partly Cloudy High: 45 Low: 28 FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 44 Low: 26 SATURDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 43 Low: 27 SUNDAY Sunny High: 42 Low: 23 MONDAY Partly Cloudy High: 47 Low: 30 TUESDAY Cloudy High: 45 Low: 26	Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 41°, humidity of 58%. Southwest wind 3 to 7 mph. The record high for today is 65° set in 1962. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 23°. South wind 3 to 6 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 19°.																																									
Last Week's Almanac																																										
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Weather History Dec. 16, 1835 - New England experienced one of their coldest days of record. At noon on that bitterly cold Wednesday the mercury stood at four degrees below at Boston, 15 degrees below at Norfolk, Conn. and 17 degrees below at Hanover, N.H.																																										
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Kansas Farm Bureau Health Plans announces no general rate increase in 2021

Members of Kansas Farm Bureau Health Plans will see no general rate increase for the 2021 coverage year, meaning the more than 7,000 Kansans covered will continue enjoying savings when compared to traditional insurance.

"Members have reported saving up to 60 percent on their premiums while choosing coverage to best fit their lifestyle," says Erin Petersilie, KFB

Health Plans manager. "Members have reported they're using the savings to invest in their operations, are starting retirement accounts or using the extra money to add flexibility to their budgets."

KFB Health Plans also offers flexibility for members like Amanda Atkisson and her family, though she admits affordability is what drove her to consider options other than her employer-sponsored plan to cover their family of three. Her husband farms and she's a nursing home administrator in Rooks County.

count now," Atkisson says. KFB Health Plans offers substantial savings to members because of its underwriting process. In 2020, more than 87 percent of applicants were approved to receive coverage under one of the plans offering access to a nationwide network of health professionals. Additionally, members can choose to add dental and vision coverage if they currently have a plan that doesn't offer it, and Medicare plans are available for those 65 and older.

LED Lights and Light Bars

LEDs are extremely energy efficient and more durable than traditional incandescent light bulbs. Other benefits include a much longer lifespan, reduced maintenance costs and higher safety.

Toll Free: 800-255-0337 • AbileneMachine.com

Sell At St. Marys

Sell Or Buy Cattle By Auction STARTING TIME 10:30 AM Tuesdays

Buyers & sellers are welcome in the ring area with social distancing being practiced. You can watch the live auction at www.dvauction.com. If you need assistance with watching or bidding online contact DV Auction customer service at 402-316-5460. Thank you for your cooperation. If you would like approval to bid online from the safety of your home, please do the approval process on www.dvauction.com prior to Tuesday.

We sold 2075 cattle December 8. We had a good run of home raised calves, the weaned & vaccinated ones sold \$3.00-5.00 higher. Feeder steers and heifers were steady to \$5.00 lower. Cows & bulls were steady.

STEER & BULL CALVES 2 blk str 373 @ 194.00 6 blk str 363 @ 193.00 2 blk bulls 353 @ 188.00 5 mix bulls 362 @ 187.50 6 blk str 358 @ 187.00 4 blk str/bulls 326 @ 185.00 4 blk str 343 @ 184.00 3 blk str 408 @ 181.00 5 blk str 487 @ 180.00 2 blk str 423 @ 179.00 2 blk/char str 460 @ 179.00 2 blk str/bulls 448 @ 178.00 2 blk str 533 @ 175.00 3 blk/bwf str 385 @ 174.00 5 blk str 484 @ 174.00 27 blk/bwf str 515 @ 174.00 3 blk str 438 @ 173.00 5 blk str 523 @ 173.00 3 blk bulls 470 @ 173.00 5 blk/bwf str 498 @ 172.00 3 blk/bwf str 542 @ 171.50 3 blk str 502 @ 164.00	5 blk str 607 @ 152.25 6 blk/red str 658 @ 150.50 4 blk/bwf str 636 @ 149.00 23 blk str 663 @ 149.00 16 blk str 661 @ 148.25 36 blk/bwf str 659 @ 148.00 6 red str 620 @ 147.25 9 blk/red str 681 @ 147.00 6 blk/red str 613 @ 146.00 12 blk/char str 672 @ 146.00 15 blk str 668 @ 145.50 74 mix str 661 @ 143.75 6 blk str 669 @ 142.25 10 blk str 689 @ 141.00 5 blk str 733 @ 140.50 4 blk/char str 794 @ 139.25 8 blk/bwf str 613 @ 139.00 66 blk/bwf str 820 @ 138.85 62 blk/bwf str 830 @ 137.50 119 blk/bwf str 908 @ 136.75 60 wf/blk str 816 @ 136.25 5 red str 821 @ 133.75 5 blk str 804 @ 133.50 62 blk/bwf str 851 @ 133.50 62 blk/char str 814 @ 130.75 60 mix str 957 @ 130.50 6 blk str 564 @ 169.00 4 blk str 564 @ 169.00 5 blk str 555 @ 164.00 9 blk/red str 551 @ 163.75 11 blk str 580 @ 159.50 6 x-bred str 553 @ 158.00 3 blk str 587 @ 158.00 33 blk/bwf str 627 @ 153.50 14 blk str 618 @ 152.50	607 @ 152.25 658 @ 150.50 636 @ 149.00 663 @ 149.00 661 @ 148.25 659 @ 148.00 620 @ 147.25 681 @ 147.00 613 @ 146.00 672 @ 146.00 668 @ 145.50 661 @ 143.75 669 @ 142.25 689 @ 141.00 733 @ 140.50 794 @ 139.25 613 @ 139.00 820 @ 138.85 830 @ 137.50 908 @ 136.75 816 @ 136.25 821 @ 133.75 804 @ 133.50 851 @ 133.50 814 @ 130.75 957 @ 130.50 564 @ 169.00 564 @ 169.00 555 @ 164.00 551 @ 163.75 580 @ 159.50 553 @ 158.00 587 @ 158.00 627 @ 153.50 618 @ 152.50	HEIFER CALVES 1 blk hfr 340 @ 168.00 3 blk hfr 412 @ 167.00 2 blk hfr 390 @ 165.00	2 blk/bwf hfr 420 @ 165.00 3 blk hfr 365 @ 163.00 16 blk/bwf hfr 367 @ 161.00 5 x-bred hfr 367 @ 158.00 7 blk hfr 480 @ 158.00 3 blk hfr 517 @ 158.00 7 blk/bwf hfr 493 @ 155.00 10 blk hfr 520 @ 154.50 3 blk hfr 512 @ 154.00 9 blk hfr 529 @ 154.00 23 blk/bwf hfr 479 @ 151.00 4 blk hfr 503 @ 151.00 6 blk/bwf hfr 462 @ 150.00 7 blk/bwf hfr 546 @ 147.50 7 blk hfr 504 @ 146.00 4 blk hfr 375 @ 145.00 3 blk hfr 495 @ 143.00 11 blk hfr 515 @ 143.00 12 blk/red hfr 528 @ 143.00	STOCKER & FEEDER HEIFERS 6 blk hfr 551 @ 144.00 13 blk/bwf hfr 603 @ 142.25 22 blk/bwf hfr 571 @ 141.50 11 blk hfr 575 @ 140.50 25 blk/bwf hfr 594 @ 140.50 15 blk/bwf hfr 602 @ 139.75 21 blk hfr 607 @ 139.50 70 blk/bwf hfr 635 @ 136.00 80 mix hfr 637 @ 135.75 8 blk hfr 624 @ 135.00 5 blk hfr 594 @ 134.00 5 blk/red hfr 621 @ 134.00 11 blk hfr 810 @ 131.25 7 blk hfr 691 @ 130.50 12 blk hfr 797 @ 130.50	801 @ 129.75 717 @ 129.50 628 @ 129.00 821 @ 127.25 846 @ 126.50 1107 @ 90.00	COWS & HEIFERETTES 1 bwf hfrt 805 @ 84.00 1 wf hfrt 795 @ 74.00 1 blk cow 1735 @ 62.00 1 blk cow 1430 @ 60.00 3 blk/bwf cows 1245 @ 59.50 1 bwf cow 1445 @ 59.00 1 blk cow 1400 @ 58.50 1 blk cow 1350 @ 58.00 1 char cow 1210 @ 57.50 3 blk cows 1408 @ 57.00 1 bwf cow 1360 @ 56.50 5 blk cows 1479 @ 56.00 1 blk cow 1445 @ 55.50 3 blk cows 1232 @ 55.00 4 blk cows 1311 @ 54.50 4 blk cows 1409 @ 53.50 2 blk cows 1335 @ 53.00 1 blk cow 1630 @ 52.50 3 blk cows 1578 @ 52.00 2 blk/sim cows 1373 @ 51.50 1 bwf cow 1195 @ 51.00 1 blk cow 1435 @ 50.50 1 blk cow 1480 @ 50.00 3 blk/wf cows 1327 @ 49.50 2 blk cows 1188 @ 49.00 1 bwf cow 1170 @ 48.50 1 blk cow 1125 @ 48.00 3 blk cows 1352 @ 47.50	1 bwf cow 1200 @ 47.00 2 blk cows 1133 @ 46.50 1 bwf cow 1220 @ 46.00 1 wf cow 1375 @ 45.50 1 blk cow 1135 @ 45.00 1 blk cow 1005 @ 44.50 2 blk/bwf cows 1148 @ 44.00	BULLS 1 blk bull 2160 @ 79.50	1 blk bull 1675 @ 78.00 1 wf bull 1315 @ 75.00 1 blk bull 1960 @ 74.00 1 blk bull 2340 @ 72.50 1 blk bull 1820 @ 69.50 1 blk bull 1530 @ 66.00 1 blk bull 1570 @ 65.00 1 wf bull 1205 @ 64.50 1 blk bull 1180 @ 60.00
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CONSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 15:

- 40 blk str & hfrs, 500-600 lbs., weaned, vacc.
- 40 blk str & hfrs, 650-800 lbs., weaned, vacc.
- 50 blk str & hfrs, 500-650 lbs., weaned, vacc.
- 80 black Charolais heifers 650-675 lbs.
- 130 black heifers, 800-825 lbs.
- 62 black heifers, 825-850 lbs.
- 140 black steers, 750-775 lbs.
- 63 black Red Angus steers, 825-850 lbs.
- 115 blk str, 900-950 lbs., green, off brome 3 weeks
- 124 blk Red Angus steers, 850-875 lbs., Northern origin
- 61 black crossbred steers, 925-950 lbs.

CONSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 22:

- 135 black heifers, 750-775 lbs.
- 100 blk hfrs, 475-500 lbs., longtime weaned & vacc., Northern origin

THERE WILL BE A SALE ON DECEMBER 29!

Our CONSIGNMENTS can now be viewed after 12 Noon on Mondays by going to www.grassandgrain.com & logging onto the online subscription

FOR INFORMATION OR ESTIMATES:
 REZAC BARN ST. MARYS, 785-437-2785
 DENNIS REZAC ST. MARYS, 785-437-6349
 DENNIS' CELL PHONE 785-456-4187
 KENNETH REZAC ST. MARYS 785-458-9071

LELAND BAILEY TOPEKA, 785-608-4005
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 REX ARB MELVERN, 785-224-6765

Livestock Commission Company, Inc.
Rezac St. Marys, Ks.

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