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Abilene Machine celebrates 40 years in ag parts business

The autumn of 1980 found 29-year-old Randy Roelofsen and his friend Loren Engel solving problems for the ever-changing agriculture industry. In the early '80s, farmers were facing lean times, as many factors were driving the prices of commodities as well as land value down.

As any farmer knows, despite these challenges, harvest must go on.

One of the many virtues that farmers are known for, especially during dark financial times, is thrift. Randy, who grew up on a farm and had also seen the inside of the salvage industry, had an idea that would connect old tractor parts with new users.

Recycling good used tractor and combine parts not only helped farmers stretch their budgets – it proved to be a business venture with legs. Taking root along Old Highway 40 between Solomon and Abilene, Randy and Loren grew their endeavor with hard work, a bit of good luck and the kind of go-hard attitude that growing up as a farm boy instills.

Todd Roelofsen, Randy's nephew, joined the salvage parts and equipment resale operation in 1981. Eight years later, the business officially became Abilene Machine.

By 1990, the team was 50-strong. As the company grew and more employees joined the team, many things changed. But, one thing remained the same from day one.

"We think family all the way up and down the ranks. I preach that to my people," Randy said. "I'm proud of our outstanding team. They work tirelessly to ensure that every time a customer interacts with Abilene Machine, they receive the highest level of service and satisfaction."

In the early days, Todd saw opportunity to expand their operation.

"When I first started, I was the only parts guy," he said. "We kept getting calls for the same used parts. At times, we would sell our entire supply of certain used parts."

Rather than send customers away, the team found ways to rebuild old parts and even manufacture some new ones, leading to the company's



The Abilene Machine main warehouse and headquarters at 407 Old Highway 40, in Solomon, Kansas was built in 2005, after a fire destroyed the business' management, sales and accounting departments, and one used parts warehouse Aug. 10, 2004. The new facility boasts 39,000 square feet of space for warehousing new aftermarket tractor and combine parts.

Photo by Torey Griffith, Digital Marketing Specialist



Ray Rahe, a fabricator at Abilene Machine, welds weights to an auger flighting, which balances the rotating assembly for smooth operation and longevity. Abilene Machine manufactures their own augers, which are purchased by farmers all over the U.S.

expansion into aftermarket agricultural machinery parts.

"Our main goal was to acquire the ability to provide the parts our customers needed. We've always been here to help farmers succeed," Todd said.

Abilene Machine remanufactures hydraulic pumps, fuel injection pumps for diesel engines, final drives, and even complete engines and transmissions. Each is rebuilt to OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) specifications by team members who come from mostly agricultural backgrounds. The roots run deep here.

In 1992, Abilene Machine released its first parts catalog. With 72 pages featuring used and remanufactured parts, the

company began to establish a national footprint in the ag parts industry.

Four decades later, the Roelofsens are still in the business of providing value to the agriculture industry with their family-owned and operated company. So what's the secret to success in this industry? In a word – innovation. Just like other sectors of the agriculture industry, these last 40 years have been about adapting to the ever-changing conditions to overcome each challenge.

For example, a 2004 fire destroyed Abilene Machine's main office and 15,000 square feet of warehouse and inventory. On the cusp of a worldwide economic recession, Randy and Todd faced the

Tradexpos postpones Topeka Farm Show

Tradexpos, Inc. has announced the postponement of the Topeka Farm Show. With regard to the restrictions caused by the pandemic, carrying out the annual Topeka Farm Show in January is no longer a reasonable possibility.

Tradexpos is working with the Stormont Vail Events Center on possible alternate dates.

The first Topeka Farm Show was in 1989 and has been a fixture of the

local agricultural community ever since. Farmers and ranchers know that in early January they can attend the show and talk with an abundant amount of agriculture industry experts on how to improve their business at this event.

Tradexpos has been striving to produce top quality agricultural trade-shows since its inception

in 1988. The company also produces the Wichita Farm and Ranch Show, Fort Wayne Farm Show (Fort Wayne, Ind.), and the North American Farm and Power Show (Owatonna, Minn.). Based out of Austin, Minn., their five-person operation works year-round to serve the agricultural community with their events.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve Quarter released

Who says you can't fit the prairie in your pocket? You can now carry a piece of the prairie with a beautiful butterfly in your pocket, and it won't matter if it gets washed.

With much anticipation, the U.S. Mint released its 55th 2020 America the Beautiful Quarter honoring the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve on November 25, 2020. The design depicts a skyward view of a Regal Fritillary butterfly among a background of Big bluestem and Indian grass, both iconic to the preserve. Educational materials about the preserve's quarter is available at the U.S. Mint's website, as well as information about the quarter's designer, Emily Damstra and sculptor, Renata Gordon. Go to <https://www.usmint.gov/learn/educators/coin-program/america-the-beautiful-quarters-lesson-plans> to download the materials.

The quarter is available locally at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, 315 S. 3rd Street, Manhattan, KS. Bring in your old quarter and exchange for a new Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve quarter while supplies last.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway). The preserve is a unique public/private partnership between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy.

For more details about the quarter, call 785-587-2726 or visit 315 S. 3rd St. in Manhattan.



Alex Shewmon, Combine Parts Technician at Abilene Machine, takes good used parts from a damaged John Deere Combine at one of the shops at the company's facility near Solomon. Abilene Machine started in 1980 as an agricultural machinery salvage parts and equipment resale operation. In addition to used parts, the company now sells new aftermarket parts, some of which are manufactured in-house.

task of rebuilding their business to replace what was lost.

Adaptation is key, according to the Roelofsens. For decades, parts sales happened in person and over the phone. People ordered from catalogs, went to trade shows or learned about the company through word-of-mouth. Recent economic events have shown how important a strong digital presence is for a retail company's

continued success. Or survival, for that matter.

A newly updated website enables a customer to sign into a personal account and add all of his or her equipment to a "shed." Each personalized shed stores equipment information so the customer can easily look up and order parts in minutes. Once ordered, the parts are shipped right to their door.

"The new generation of farmers is adopting

ities and a 39,000-square-foot new aftermarket parts warehouse at their Kansas headquarters, they have also built successful operations in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Bishopville, South Carolina.

"It's an amazing business," said Todd, who is now an owner and vice president. "We have a lot of great people working here, and each of them is just like family."

A social distancing reminder



Ron Wilson of Lazy T Ranch, Manhattan, stopped by the Grass & Grain office with a special delivery – a Llama-Gram. The official certificate included a light-hearted social distancing reminder to keep one llama length of space (six feet) between you and others due to the coronavirus pandemic.



Looking back, I had a lot of pre-teen anxiety about the effects this had on our holiday celebration and family traditions. It was the first time we ever changed our family routine, and I was convinced the changes were going to ruin Christmas. We had to shorten our visits with extended family on Christmas Eve so we could get a few hours of sleep before our 3 a.m. departure. We would not be opening presents around the tree on Christmas morning. It all just felt wrong.

Our Christmas in downtown Chicago ended up being a great adventure. The city was like a ghost town. The only restaurant open was a two-story McDonald's, and my siblings and I were so proud to rack up a \$30 total, which makes me laugh now as it would be a bargain for a family of six today. We visited an equally deserted Navy Pier where our entertainment became exploring a water gunboat and chatting with the on-duty firefighters staffing it. We ended the day watching the latest James Bond movie at the theater since it was the only thing we could find open.

This odd and presumably ruined holiday ended up being one of our most memorable Christmases. The highlights of the day were not presents, which I cannot even remember if we exchanged, or cool experiences. The greatness of the day came from the spoiled plans,

laughter and shared experience of making memories together.

We didn't know it at the time, but this was the last Christmas we spent together as a family. Ten months later, my middle brother died in a car accident; my oldest brother was away from home for six years in the Navy; and my sister and I became adults with our own careers and families to work around for the holidays.

I will not pretend that my family's Chicago Christmas was magical, tradition-worthy or even worth repeating. However, I am grateful for the time it gave us together and the way it mentally prepared me for the hard lessons of life's changes.

If you are anxious about how the holidays will turn out for your family and friends, I can share from experience that a break from tradition isn't the worst thing that can happen. Even if you are sad, mad or disappointed about the circumstances, you can still make memories and celebrate with loved ones. It will give you something to talk about in future years when you are enjoying your holiday celebrations and family traditions.

"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.

Breaking Tradition

By Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

This past year has been a hard one. Though we are close to the renewed hopes of a new year, we still face what could be the hardest days of 2020 for some.

No matter what you are celebrating this season — Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Festivus — most plans have likely been altered. Some people have been lucky to experience only minor inconveniences or shifts, while others are facing a total breakdown of holiday celebrations and family traditions.

My heart goes out to people who are struggling with this change. I was once just like you.

When I was 12 years old, my oldest brother enlisted in the Navy and left for basic training near Chicago just before Thanksgiving. Since the base was only a five-hour drive from home, our family was able to participate in a Christmas Adopt-a-Sailor program to spend the day

"Our livestock producers need all the tools in the toolbox to help protect against animal diseases and continue to meet the challenge of feeding everyone now and into the future. If we do not put these safe biotechnology advances to work here at home, our competitors in other nations will," said Perdue. "Science-based advances in biotechnology have great promise to continue to enhance rural prosperity and improve the quality of life across America's heartland and around the globe. With this effort, we are outlining a pragmatic, science-based, and risk-based approach that focuses on potential risk to animal and livestock health, the environment, and food safety in order to provide our farmers and ranchers the tools they need to continue to feed, clothe and fuel the world."

Background

Last year, President

Trump directed federal agencies to modernize the regulatory framework for agricultural biotechnology products by establishing regulatory approaches proportionate to the product's risks, avoid unjustified distinctions across similar products, and promote future innovation and competitiveness. USDA will publish an ANPR on animal biotechnology as a keystone effort in fulfilling this Executive Order.

This ANPR will transition portions of FDA's pre-existing animal biotechnology regulatory oversight to USDA. USDA will consult with FDA to ensure our reviews benefit from FDA's expertise, while providing developers with a one-stop-shop for their products at USDA. USDA looks forward to FDA experts participating in the development of our review process.

Through this ANPR, USDA is proposing to

establish a flexible, forward-looking, risk-proportionate and science-based regulatory framework that provides a predictable pathway to commercialization and keeps pace with advances in science and technology for certain farm animals (cattle, sheep, goats, swine, horses, mules, or other equines, catfish, and poultry) developed using genetic engineering intended for agricultural purposes.

USDA's proposed safety review would cover molecular characterization, animal health (including noninfectious, infectious, and zoonotic diseases), efficacy (for disease and pest resistance traits), environmental considerations, food safety evaluation of any expressed substance (including allergenicity and compositional analyses of key components), and food storage and processing. USDA's proposal would provide end-to-end regulatory oversight from pre-market reviews through post-market food safety monitoring of animals. USDA will continue to coordinate closely with

the FDA to fulfill oversight responsibilities and provide the appropriate regulatory environment, ensuring the safety of products derived from new technologies, while fostering innovation at the same time.

Under the regulatory framework being contemplated, USDA would provide regulatory oversight from pre-market reviews through post-market food safety monitoring for certain farm animals developed using genetic engineering. USDA would promulgate regulations using the authorities granted to the Department through the Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA), the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA). Pursuant to these authorities, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) would conduct a safety assessment of organisms developed using genetic engineering that may increase an animal's susceptibility to pests or diseases of livestock, including zoonotic diseases, or ability to transmit the same. The

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) would conduct a pre-slaughter food safety assessment to ensure that the slaughter and processing of animals developed using genetic engineering would not result in a product that is unsound, unhealthful, unwholesome, or otherwise unfit for human food.

Coffee Shop Meetings begin January 14, 2021

Herbicides and Weed Control will be the topic on January 14, 2021 at the first session in this year's Coffee Shop Agronomy series of educational meetings, organized by the Riley County Extension Service. Sarah Lancaster, K-State Research & Extension Weed Scientist, will be the featured speaker.

The 2021 Coffee Shop Series will be hosted virtually on Zoom. Producers will attend from their home computer, using a link sent to each registrant. Coffee Shop meetings will start at 11:00 a.m. and adjourn by 12:00 noon every other Thursday from January 14 through February 11.

Meeting dates, topics, and speakers are:

- January 14 — Herbicides and Weed Control — Sarah Lancaster, K-State Research & Extension Weed Scientist
- January 28 — Plant Tissue Testing to Fine Tune Fertility Programs — Dave Mengel, K-State Research & Extension Soil Fertility Specialist (retired)
- February 11 — Best Management Practices for Row Crops — Ignacio Ciampitti, K-State Research & Extension Cropping Systems Specialist Registration is required since a link will be needed to connect to each session. Producers are asked to register online at www.riley.ksu.edu by noon the day before each meeting.

For more information contact Riley County Extension Agent Greg McClure at 785-537-6350.

Secretary Perdue announces groundbreaking proposal to transfer agricultural animal biotechnology regulatory framework to USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced a significant step in modernizing regulations of agricultural animals modified or produced by genetic engineering. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be moving forward with an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to solicit public input and feedback on a contemplated regulatory framework that would modernize our system into a scientifically sound, risk-based and predictable process that facilitates the development and use of these technologies for U.S. farmers and ranchers under USDA's authorities. This initiative follows President Donald Trump's Executive Order on agricultural biotechnology that called upon federal agencies to make regulatory improvements to rectify some of the long-standing barriers to innovation for U.S. agriculture.



by Glenn Brunkow

This week is my week of holiday chores. Chores get to be a grind, especially during the winter, but there is something about holiday chores that break the doldrums of the mundane and remind me of why I love what I do. What makes holiday chores so special, you ask? I cannot exactly put my finger on it, but see if you agree with me.

My kids are home, especially for Christmas. Ike lives nearby but usually we go to church on Christmas Eve and then come home and play cards and eat some snack stuff. It is one of the few nights he stays here instead of going back home for the night. Tatum will be home from college and for one night a year, we are all under the same roof at the same time. That alone is enough to do my heart good.

Christmas morning, we get up, the coffee is on and a good breakfast is planned out. We do not often eat much of a breakfast, but we do on Christmas morning. Then it is off to do chores. I get that Christmas morning for those of you with little kids is a bit more hectic. Enjoy those days, even the late-night assembly of Santa's presents, the time is fleeting and soon it will go away. Christmas with big kids is a lot more laid-back, at least at our house.

We attack chores with a lot more help than I am normally used to, and it really goes fast, except that it is a morning when we can stop and admire the animals that we are entrusted with caring for. I am not sure why but on Christmas morning it seems like the animals are a lot more laid back too. I know a scientist would tell you that it is probably all in my attitude and the signals I am giving off. I am also sure it is because I am in a good mood and more willing to forgive and forget. I chose to believe it is because it is Christmas morning, and all is right in the world, if only for a moment.

We look at the animals, maybe add a little extra feed and discuss plans and thoughts for the upcoming year. The traffic is another thing that seems to help the mood of the morning. There is no traffic. Roads are quiet as people are not moving that early in the day. All of

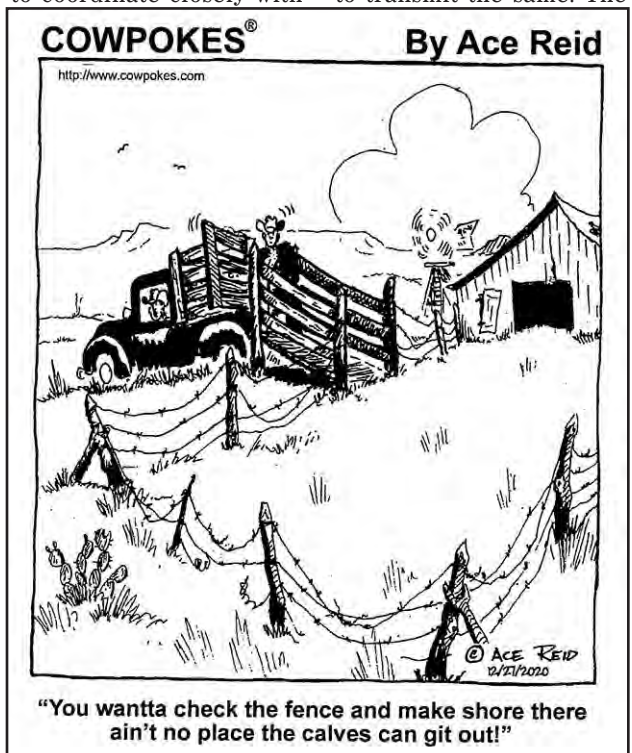
that lends itself to a stillness that adds to the nature of the morning and the awe of the season. I suppose chores are more relaxed too because we have done most of the feeding and watering the day before in anticipation of Christmas morning. We try to keep the chores light.

There is a difference, a lightness in our step, a bounce in our moods because it is Christmas. The animals also seem to have a calmness, a gentleness that comes with the day. It is the one morning we forget the troubles that bother us the rest of the year and focus on what is good. It could also be that we are looking forward and anticipating being done with chores and that second cup of coffee when we are opening presents.

That is my Christmas morning, and it is probably more laid-back because of the year and the fact that we are not going anywhere. I understand that for some it is more hectic as you hustle around earlier to get to a family Christmas that requires traveling. We have been there, done that and there are parts of those mornings that are special too. Christmas on the farm can be exhausting, but for us, this year, it will be casual and relaxing.

I also realize that this may be one of our last Christmas mornings like this. The kids will soon have their own families and we will not always have them Christmas Eve and Christmas all to ourselves, but the last two years have been amazing. I know this year has been challenging and I hope that this holiday season finds you with a chance to relax, reflect and enjoy all that you have been blessed with.

I hope that your holiday chores left you with a chance to take that deep breath, even if the morning was hectic, and see the peace that was all around you. Holiday chores only come around once a year, and that is a good or bad thing depending on your perspective. I hope your chores found you with everything in, all your waterers unfrozen, your batteries charged and your critters healthy. The secret of life is to enjoy the moment and find happiness in the little things like holiday chores.



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You inherited the farm – now what?

A Knowledge @ Noon series titled, "You Inherited the Farm – Now What?" will be offered as a virtual conference, starting January 12, 2021. Sessions will be presented via Zoom at 12:00 noon on four Tuesdays, from January 12 through February 2. Greg McClure, Riley County Extension agriculture agent will be the conference host and presenter.

The first session will be an introduction to farm ownership, covering some of the decisions new landowners might face, including whether to keep the land with multiple owners, sell it, or divide it among multiple heirs.

Series dates and topics are:

- January 12 – Intro to Farm Ownership — Where do you begin now that you are a farm owner?
- January 19 – Lease Law and Common Leasing Practices
- January 26 – Kansas Fence Law — Who is responsible for fence maintenance?
- February 2 – Soil Fertility Basics — Understanding soil fertility, fertilizers, and crop nutrient needs.

Landowners can sign up for the entire series, or for individual sessions, but registration is required by noon the day before each session. Zoom connection instruction will be sent to participants via email. Register online at www.riley.ksu.edu. For more information, contact Greg McClure at the Riley County Extension Office by phone at 785-537-6350 or by email to gmclure@ksu.edu.

Tool helps develop custom biosecurity plan for disease prevention in beef

In support of cattle producers across the country dedicated to preventing disease, improving animal welfare and reducing production losses, the Beef Checkoff-funded Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program developed a Daily Biosecurity Plan for Disease Prevention template. The template, which helps cattle producers implement daily biosecurity measures on their operations, is available digitally as a PDF or can be printed for handwritten plans.

The template was specifically designed to be customizable, giving producers flexibility in determining management practices that work best for their cattle operation and covers everything from animal movement to worker training.

The goal of this introductory and stepwise program is to provide beef farmers and ranchers across the country with the information needed to implement biosecurity plans. In addition to providing basic information, the tool emphasizes why biosecurity is vital on cattle operations and provides an opportunity for producers

to have conversations with their herd veterinarians, extension agents, and state BQA coordinators about biosecurity preparedness.

"Biosecurity is a top priority for the beef industry," said Kim Brackett, an Idaho cattle producer and chair of the BQA Advisory Group. "This Beef Checkoff-funded tool allows beef farmers and ranchers to develop their own biosecurity plans unique to their operations. Whether a cow-calf operation in California, a backgrounder in Mississippi or a feedyard in Kansas, being proactive and developing a written plan ahead of a crisis allows producers to implement and become familiar with biosecurity precau-

tions. Even more importantly, producers will be prepared if a biosecurity threat were to happen."

The Daily Biosecurity Plan for Disease Prevention template was created in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture and its Secure Beef Supply plan. By intersecting these resources, producers that already have biosecurity steps in place for day-to-day operations are able to easily move to an enhanced biosecurity plan to prepare for a potential foreign animal disease outbreak.

For more information about BQA and the BQA Daily Biosecurity Plan, visit BQA.org.

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Do you renew your Grass & Grain subscription at the Topeka Farm Show?

Since the show has been postponed from early January till mid-April, we are offering the same tax-free special we give at the show.

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KANSAS AG REPORT

Ken Rahjes, Host

For TV Show times check your local listings or watch at kansasagreport.net

Reinke's ESAC wins two national awards

ESAC™, Reinke Manufacturing's electronic swing arm corner technology, has won both an AE50 award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) and the Irrigation Association New Product People's Choice Award for agriculture irrigation. A global leader in irrigation systems and technology, Reinke introduced ESAC to growers in the U.S. and Canada earlier this year.

"We're very excited to be recognized by these organizations, especially since they represent both engineers and growers," said Chris Roth, Reinke president. "Our team has worked for some time perfecting ESAC's ability to improve water uniformity on corners and help producers grow more with less. These awards are a signal that we've achieved those goals, by providing the most advanced swing arm corner in the irrigation market."

The AE50 Awards are the only one of their kind, celebrating product innovations in the area of agriculture, food, and biological systems. Only 50 products are recognized each year; those ranked highest

in innovation, significant engineering advancement and impact on the markets they serve.

The Irrigation Association's New Product Awards are determined during the annual Irrigation Show and Education Week. A total of 31 new products and technologies were entered in five categories, evaluated on innovation, design quality, increased water/resource-use efficiency, ease of use and product life expectancy.

ESAC will provide growers with highly efficient and uniform water

application, increasing yields under their Swing Arm Corners. In field tests, ESAC showed major improvements for irregular-shaped fields and corner applications on rectangular and square fields. Based on GPS positioning, ESAC's electronic six or 12 zones control the precision application of water or chemical applications to individual field specifications. ESAC is available on all swing arm models.

Visit Reinke.com/swing-arm to learn more about ESAC and to find a Reinke dealer in your area.

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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Mary Ellen Wetter, Marysville, Wins Weekly Recipe Contest

Winner Mary Ellen Wetter, Marysville: "Since the Holidays are approaching, thought I'd share a recipe that is great for using leftover meat: chicken, turkey or ham! I think it would work with any of these meats! Enjoy!"

SPAGHETTI-HAM CASSEROLE
 1 pound spaghetti, broken into 2-inch pieces
 1 can cream of mushroom soup
 1 cup milk
 1 tablespoon finely chopped onion
 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 2 cups diced ham
 1 cup shredded cheese
 2 teaspoons salt
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 1/4 to 1/8 cup parsley (I use 1/4 cup)
 Cook spaghetti as directed on package. Drain. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Combine soup and milk; add rest of ingredients. Place in greased 2 1/2-quart casserole and bake 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly! Serves 8.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:
HOT CHOCOLATE MIX
 2 cups instant nonfat dry milk mixed with water
 1/2 cup cocoa, unsweetened
 1 cup sugar
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 Mix all ingredients and store in air-tight container. To make a cup of hot chocolate, mix 1/4 cup dry mix with 1 cup boiling water. Top with marshmallows, whipped cream or cinnamon and enjoy. Makes approximately 14 cups.

Susan Schrick, Hiawatha: "Great fudge in less than 20 minutes!"
OLD-FASHIONED FUDGE
 2 cups sugar
 4 tablespoons Hershey's cocoa
 1 stick salted butter
 5-ounce can Carnation evaporated milk
 1 teaspoon vanilla

Nuts are optional
 Mix sugar and cocoa in a saucepan then add a stick of butter and the can of evaporated milk; stir until the mixture starts boiling. Stir continuously for 7 minutes then remove from heat and add vanilla (and nuts if using them). Stir the mixture continuously for 3 minutes then pour into a buttered baking dish to set.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
HAM DIP
 8 ounces deli hickory smoked country ham, chopped fine
 4 ounces cream cheese
 1/3 cup mayonnaise
 2 tablespoons chopped green onion
 2 tablespoons mustard
 2 teaspoons minced shallot
 2 teaspoons hot sauce
 1 teaspoon black pepper
 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Put ham in food processor and pulse until almost smooth. Add cream cheese and all other ingredients; pulse until smooth. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours. Dip with crackers, bread cubes, etc.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
BLUEBERRY CREAM MUFFINS
 2 eggs
 1/2 cup oil
 1 cup sour cream
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 1 cup sugar
 2 cups flour
 1/2 teaspoon soda
 1 1/2 cups blueberries
 Mix the eggs, oil, sour cream, vanilla and sugar. Stir in the flour and soda just until mixed. Batter will be lumpy. Gently stir in blueberries. Pour batter into 12 paper-lined muffin tins. Fill each about 2/3 full. Bake at 375 degrees for 20-25 minutes.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
CRANBERRY DIP
 8 ounces cream cheese
 1/2 cup whole cranberry sauce
 1/4 cup orange marmalade
 1/4 cup slivered almonds
 Spread cream cheese onto bottom of a 9-inch pie plate or pretty plate. Mix other ingredients except nuts and spread on cream cheese. Top with nuts. Serve with round buttery crackers or other crackers.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
PEANUT BUTTER SNACK MIX
 (2) 11-ounce bags small pretzels
 12-ounce package peanut butter chips
 1/2 cup butter
 1 jar marshmallow creme
 4 tablespoons honey
 4 tablespoons milk
 6 cups powdered sugar
 Place pretzels in a very large bowl. Stirring con-

stantly melt peanut butter chips in a medium saucepan over low heat. Add butter, marshmallow creme, honey and milk; stir until smooth. Pour peanut butter mixture over pretzels and stir until evenly coated. Coat pretzel mixture with powdered sugar in batches. For each batch place 2 cups powdered sugar into large ziplock bag. Add 1/3 cup pretzel mixture close bag and shake briefly. Spread mix on waxed paper. Cool completely. Store in an air-tight container. Makes about 23 cups.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
CRANBERRY LEMON CAKE
 20-ounce can crushed pineapple, undrained
 14-ounce can whole berry cranberry sauce
 1 lemon cake mix
 3/4 cup butter, melted
 Set oven 350 degrees. Spray a 9-by-13-inch pan. Spread pineapple and cranberry sauce in prepared pan. Top with the dry cake mix, spreading evenly. Pour butter over top covering cake mix as much as possible. Bake 50-55 minutes or until toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool at least 15 minutes before serving.

Darlene Thomas, Delphos:
PARTY CHEESE DIP
 5-ounce jar Neufchatel cheese spread with pimiento
 1 cup dry curd cottage cheese
 3 tablespoons skim milk
 1 teaspoon prepared horseradish
 Several drops bottled hot pepper sauce
 Combine all ingredients; beat until thoroughly blended and fluffy. Chill. Makes 1 1/4 cups. 29 calories per tablespoon.



Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon
My Mom's Magic Of Christmas

Growing up, I went through phases of loving and hating my mom's over the top Christmas décor, but I think that all comes down to the fact that I didn't get it. Having two little nieces running around who are really getting into Christmas and the magic of it all, I finally get it.

The looks of awe on their faces when they walk in and start seeing the Christmas spirit has taken over. Santa's, snowmen, Christmas trees, stockings, presents and even a whole collection of Christmas-themed cookie jars have a special home on the top of the cabinets in the kitchen. They love it all, but they especially love the Christmas countdown calendars. There are big things, little things, soft things, breakable things, hanging things, literally everything Christmas that you can imagine.

Every possible Christmas movie is recorded and watched on the regularly. To be fair, if the TV is on and my mom is around, that is what you are watching. If you ever need a good giggle, ask my brother to give you a synopsis of Hallmark movies; he has a hilarious but accurate one. When we were younger Christmas lights weren't done in moderation either, my dad and brothers covered the outside of the house just as much as my mom covered the inside of the house. I am sure soon enough that tradition will come back to life for the sake of two little girls.

Christmas cookies were another one of my mom's big Christmas things. She would give us three kids free rein of her kitchen; we would invite friends over and spend a whole day baking Christmas cookies. Right now, the girls aren't quite focused long enough to spend a whole day in the kitchen, but they do love decorating Christmas cookies just as much as we all did as kids, although I don't remember us being quite as messy; probably selective memory I suppose.

Another big thing my mom did to spread her

Christmas magic was to adopt a family or do something to give back to a family for the holidays. She would reach out to either a school or to a church, find out a family that needed some help and then take us kids to go with her to go shopping for them. Growing up with very little other than love, it has always been crucial to her to give back any chance she could, and she has instilled that into us from a young age, even took my nieces this year to help shop for a food drive.

Christmas celebrations with both sides of the family were always a big part of the magic as well. Christmas Eve and Christmas lunch was usually with my dad's side and Christmas Day with my mom's side would depend on when everyone could get together, but my mom never hesitates to put her touches on it all, gifts, food, bringing people together, everything.

The biggest part of her Christmas magic though? It must be Christmas morning. There isn't a thing in this world that she wouldn't do to ensure that Christmas wasn't magical for those that she loves. Santa always came through when we were younger and quite frankly continues to do so at thirty-two, but how could he not when you had such an amazing teacher of the magic of Christmas. If you believe, anything can happen and to this day, it still does.

From my family to yours, we hope your Christmas was magical.

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

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

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Prizes And Rules Now Posted For 2021 National Festival Of Breads

Written By Julia Debes for Kansas Wheat

The holidays are the perfect time to turn pandemic baking projects into entries for the 2021 National Festival of Breads. The event is going virtual for 2021, further expanding the opportunities to compete in the premiere yeast bread baking contest for youth and adults. Winners will receive cash prizes and baking bundles from the event's sponsors: Kansas Wheat, King Arthur Baking Company and Red Star Yeast.

"The National Festival of Breads is the only baking competition of its kind, recognizing the best bakers' skills and creativity," said Cindy Falk, co-chairperson of the event and nutrition educator for the Kansas Wheat Commission. "This year's virtual contest builds upon the rich tradition of grassroots support that has made the festival an experience like none other."

The official rules and regulations for the contest are now posted at <http://nationalfestivalofbreads.com/>. Entries for the National Festival of Breads must be an original yeast bread recipe, must use a Red Star Yeast product as a leavening agent and 75 percent or more of the total flour in the recipe must be King Arthur unbleached wheat flour. A variety of both branded products are eligible for use in the competition.

The contest is split between two divisions - adult

and youth - with sub-categories for each, including:

Adult Categories

* Savory Rolls: herb, garlic, onion, cheese, etc.

* Sweet Bread/Rolls: tea rings, braided breads, variations of cinnamon rolls, fruit/nut rolls, twists, etc.; with or without icing.

* Traditional Breads: white, wheat, whole grain, multi-grain, etc. May be any shape: rectangle, round, braided, etc. A bread great for sandwiches.

Youth Categories

* Sweet Rolls: variations of cinnamon rolls, fruit/nut rolls, twists, etc.; with or without icing.

* Creative Bread Shape: edible yeast bread sculpture, i.e. animals, flowers, team mascot, sports theme, holiday, colored yeast dough, etc.

Entries open at 12:00 AM Central Standard Time (CST) on Jan. 8, 2021 and end at 11:59:59 PM CST on Feb. 22, 2021. Each entry must adhere to specific requirements outlined on the contest's website.

Winners will be notified in early May 2021, with on-line voting for the contest's "People's Choice" award beginning on May 14, 2021. Prizes for the contest include:

\$2,000 + Baking Bundle: THREE (3) Category Winners will be selected, one from each category (Savory Rolls, Sweet Breads/Rolls and Traditional Breads). Each will receive a \$2,000.00 check and a "Baking Bundle" from sponsors, ERV \$250.00.

Best of Breads Champion: One (1) Overall "BEST OF BREADS" Champion will be selected from the three Category Winners. The Champion will be determined by the Judges' score. The Champion will receive a year's supply of Red Star Yeast (eighteen 3-strip packets of Platinum® Yeast); a year's supply of King Arthur Flour (twelve coupons for a free 5-pound bag of flour); and a \$500.00 King Arthur Baking Company Gift Card that may be used towards a baking class.

Youth \$500 + Bundle: TWO (2) Category Winners will be selected, one from each category (Sweet Rolls and Creative Bread Shape). Each will receive a \$500.00 check and a "Baking Bundle" from Sponsors, ERV \$250.00.

People's Choice: Winners will be selected from the three (3) ADULT Category Winners and the two (2) YOUTH Category Winners. One (1) YOUTH and (1) ADULT "People's Choice" award winner will receive bakeware, ERV \$100.00.

In addition to these category winner prizes, one entrant will win the grand giveaway of a KitchenAid® Artisan® Series 5-quart Tilt-Head Stand Mixer and 10 additional entrants will win various bakeware prizes.

Read the full set of rules and tips to perfect your entry and learn more about the National Festival of Breads at <http://nationalfestivalofbreads.com/>

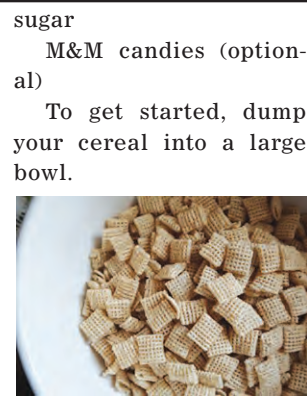


4-Ingredient Puppy Chow

This is one of those recipes that you want to write out and hang inside your kitchen cabinet, just to keep it close at hand! While I've shared it before, puppy chow is still one of the easiest little sweet treats to whip up. (And even better if you stir in some M&M candies at the end!) If you're creating little baskets of goodies to give away to friends, try filling a mason jar with puppy chow and then wrapping it in red and burlap ribbons. If you're needing other ideas for sweet treats, here are a few: peppermint bark, peanut brittle, chocolate dipped oreo balls, shortbread cookies, candied nuts, frosted sugar cookies, mini quick breads, dipped pretzels, and peppernuts. Happy baking!

You'll Need:

- 6 c. Chex cereal (rice or corn)
- 1 c. dark chocolate chips
- 1 c. creamy peanut butter
- 1 1/2 - 2 c. powdered



Heat a saucepan of water on the stove and set a glass bowl over the top of the pan (don't have it touching the water). Dump your chocolate chips into the bowl and stir occasionally until melted. Stir in the peanut butter.

Pour the chocolate mixture over the cereal and gently stir together.

Once the cereal is thoroughly coated in chocolate, add in the powdered sugar and gently stir together again until thoroughly coated. Let cool and store in an airtight container. Enjoy!

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

Healthy Aging Goes Beyond Eating Right, Exercise External Factors Contribute To Healthy Lives

MANHATTAN – Most people know that exercising regularly and eating healthfully is directly connected to aging well, and Kansas State University aging specialist Erin Yelland certainly agrees.

But, she says, those two factors alone are not enough.

"So many times when we hear about health, we're hearing about those specific health behaviors that we should be doing: eating right and exercising," Yelland said. "Of course those play a huge role in our health, but when you look at all the things that contribute to our length and quality of life, those specific health behaviors only contribute 30%. The other 70% relates to external factors different from eating well and exercising."

Speaking recently on the K-State Research and Extension radio program, Sound Living, Yelland said that such external factors as environment, geographic location, education, socioeconomic status and others contribute to a person's health at any age.

She noted that each individual's level of risk often corresponds to public health programs enacted by the community, county or state they live in. One example she cited is a public information campaign to limit tobacco and alcohol advertising in stores.

"That is one example where public health initiatives work to reduce the marketing message that makes consumers think about cigarettes and alcohol, which then makes you less likely to want to buy them," Yelland said. "These types of local policies can be huge in determining your health behaviors."

Speaking on the factors that influence healthy

aging, Yelland said:

* **Environment.** Air and water quality, housing and transit are included in this category. "Do you live in an environment where there is clean air, or do you live near a factory?" Yelland asked. "Or, do you have clean water with fluoride in it, or do you live in Flint, Michigan," a city that since 2014 has struggled with high levels of lead in drinking water.

A safe home – free from asbestos or other hazards – and access to transportation are also important to good health.

* **Geographic location.** Urban, suburban and rural communities each have their challenges. Neighborhoods in which younger residents feel unsafe to walk to school are stressful. "It can affect your brain development, and obviously it can be dangerous," Yelland said.

Rural areas may not feel the pressure of unsafe neighborhoods, but can struggle with access to transportation, food, internet and medical care.

* **Education.** "First of all," Yelland said, "do you have parents who read to you and support you positively from a young age?" Older children who work to support the family or raise siblings also are at a disadvantage. "There are a lot of questions that go into whether you are able to attain a high school diploma, let alone go on to trade school or a four-year university."

Education also affects brain composition for the rest of one's life. "We see that certain aspects of the brain are smaller in people who have higher levels of stress and lower levels of education. The more educated you are, the more likely you are to live a lon-

ger and healthier life."

Yelland added that socioeconomic status "always" affects external factors.

"When we think about things such as broadband internet or healthy eating, having a stable job influences your behavior. If you have more money, you're more likely to have faster and more stable internet. If you have more money, you're more likely to be able to access nutritious and healthy, fresh food."

K-State Research and Extension agents across Kansas are helping to promote healthy communities by building local coalitions that address residents' needs. Yelland said many of those efforts aim to identify "projects that we can help spearhead or partner with to make our community a safer and healthier place."

"K-State is using data developed across the world to talk about how we can make Kansas a healthier place, as well as doing our own research," Yelland said. "There are a lot of things that extension is doing to address the 70% of outside factors that contribute to our good health."

More information on healthy aging is available online.

Links used in this story: Sound Living (radio), www.ksre.k-state.edu/news/radio-network/sound-living.html

Adult Development and Aging, www.aging.k-state.edu/programs/index.html

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AROUND KANSAS
by Deb Goodrich

It's one of those windy mornings that sweeps the prairies clean. How does this old house stand in its path? I never fail to think of those in the past and how they faced the weather: plains tribes in their tipis, soldiers in their tents (or without them), settlers in soddies, the weary traveler on horseback riding into the sleet, ragged refugees displaced and walking through the cold mud.

Weather is the great equalizer, or perhaps, the great leveler. Their first winter at Fort Wallace, Capt. Myles W. Keogh and four other officers lived with no heat in their tent because the Army had sent stoves but no pipe. My daddy, one of 12 children growing up in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, recalled waking with snow on his blanket. It had blown through the cracks in the clapboard. There was no insulation in that old house, no storm windows, no central heat. Just the wood cookstove in the kitchen and the wood heat stove in the front room.

The year our first house burned down (I was maybe nine years old), we moved in with Granny and Grandpa while we rebuilt. My sister and I slept upstairs where there was no heat and Granny piled so many quilts we couldn't turn over underneath them. But the kitchen was always warm and we scurried there as fast as we could. May you always have a warm refuge no matter what the weather, and may you have a blessed 2021.

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 trail. Contact her at author: debgoodrich@gmail.com.

Soy growers pleased with final 2020 COVID relief and omnibus

Congress has now approved H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and the American Soybean Association (ASA) is very pleased. The long-anticipated coronavirus relief bill, which passed both chambers with large majorities, will bring needed aid to members of the agriculture community and other Americans.

Kevin Scott, ASA president and soy grower from Valley Springs, South Dakota, said, "We are very thankful that so many measures in this relief package and the attached omnibus are priorities for which soy growers have diligently pushed: enhanced assistance under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program and other direct aid to producers — including a shot in the arm for PPP and per-acre payments for eligible row crop producers — broadband funding, WRDA reauthorization and more."

Importantly, the legislation provides \$13 billion to address COVID-related impacts on agriculture and \$7 billion for broadband funding — including \$300 million for a much-needed rural broadband build-out — along with an additional \$13 billion to support nutrition programs. And, the legislation includes a reauthorization of the 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), with an adjusted cost-share ratio for Inland Waterway Trust Fund projects from 50% IWTF/50% General Revenues to 35% IWTF/65% General Revenues through FY2031, a major priority for U.S. soy growers.

"The bill also provides block grant funding for state departments of agriculture to support farm stress programs. Back in April, shortly after all this really escalated, the ASA COVID Task Force highlighted the need for stress relief across our ag communities—and ASA worked in conjunction with our state soy affiliates, the United Soybean Board, and even several interested state departments of agriculture and universities—on the #SoyHelp program to provide tools and resources to those in need. So, this is just one more component included in this legislative package that is keenly important for our ag communities," said Scott, who led the task force for months.

In addition to provisions specific to agriculture, the 5,593-page bill includes many other important measures; notably, funding for distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, another much-needed step for which ASA has advocated. And, the \$900 billion stimulus package includes \$1.4 trillion to fund the government through September, more welcome news.

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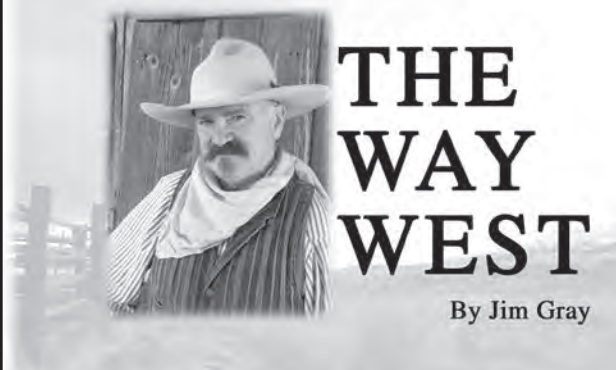
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Building His Own Monument

Johnson County, Kansas was established by Kansas Territorial government on August 25, 1855, in honor of Reverend Thomas Johnson. Reverend Johnson and the Reverend Alexander McAlaster, the presiding Methodist elder of the Cape Girardeau Missouri district, met with representatives of the Shawnee Indians in November of 1830 to gain permission to establish a mission among their people. By December 1st Rev. Johnson returned with his bride Sarah T.

(Davis) to begin building the mission. He was twenty-eight. She was twenty.

The Methodist mission was located on a wooded bluff overlooking the Kansas River, approximately three-quarters of a mile southeast of present-day Turner, Kansas. The Chouteau brothers' American Fur Company was about a mile away (just north of present-day Turner).

Alexander McAlister Johnson was born to Sarah and Thomas Johnson at the Shawnee Methodist Mis-

sion on July 18, 1831, but sadly only survived until August 15, 1831. The following year, a second son, Alexander Soule Johnson, was born on July 11, 1832. Four more children were born by 1839.

In 1838 Thomas began planning for a new Shawnee Methodist Mission and Indian Labor School. Rev. Johnson persuaded the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal Church to provide seventy-five thousand dollars to build the new mission and labor school. Traveling to Washington, D. C., he then induced the government through the Commission on Indian Affairs to grant two thousand four hundred acres for service in training in agricultural arts. The new location was six miles south of mouth of the Kansas River and one-half mile west of the Missouri border (the present Shawnee Indian Mission Indian Historic Site).

By February, 1839 forty acres had been fenced, comprising twelve acres of young apple trees, the first orchard planted in Kansas, and one hundred seventy-six acres prepared for planting corn in the spring. Cattle, hogs, and horses were run on the surrounding prairie.

Forty Indians were employed to cut fence rails and construct the buildings. Bricks for the buildings were produced on site in brick kilns. Lumber was sawn onsite with their own saw mill. Everything to ensure sustainability was provided, from blacksmiths and shoemakers to a water-powered flour mill. The large dining hall could serve two to three hundred people at a time.

The school was attended by more than the Shawnees. Delawares, Chippewas, Gros Ventres, Peorias, Pottawattomies, Kansas, Kickapoos, Munsees, and Osages attended the mission school in the first year.

In 1855 the first territorial legislature convened in the main building at the mission after its initial assembly at Pawnee, Kansas. Rev. Johnson was

elected president of the upper house of the legislature. Territorial Governor Andrew Reeder and his staff were quartered at the mission throughout 1855. The pro-slavery legislature was deemed the "Bogus Legislature" by Free Staters and soon failed. Even so, Rev. Johnson, being one of the most prominent men in Kansas Territory, was honored by the organization of Johnson County in 1855.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861 Rev. Johnson was forced to come to grips with his support of slavery. He was a Virginian by birth, however, his close ties with the federal government had been beneficial to the success of the mission and his personal success as well. He had moved in 1858 to the Davenport House, a colonial-style mansion near Westport. When Kansas entered the Union as a free state Johnson turned away from his southern friends to support the Union.

His shift of allegiance infuriated former pro-slavery colleagues. Treachery was around every corner. The evening of January 2, 1865, a large number of horsemen approached the house at about 11 p.m. Going to the door, Johnson asked what they wanted. The men said they were looking for a drink of water, to which, they were directed to the well behind the house. But they were cold and wanted to come in to get warm by the fire. But the fires were no longer blazing, and not wanting to disturb his sleeping family, he denied them entry.

By that time the family was gathering near the door. His wife urged him to close it, and as he did a bullet splintered the

wood, striking Johnson in the chest. A volley of bullets struck the house as family members defended themselves with firearms stored within the house. The back porch was set on fire but doused with water from the kitchen. The standoff lasted over an hour when Mrs. Johnson shouted to the raiders that her husband was dead.

His body was taken to the mission cemetery the next day. The marble shaft that marks his grave declares that Rev. Thomas Johnson had built his own monument. "A Monument of Good Works" on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kan-*

sas on the Violent Frontier, Ellsworth, KS. Contact Kansas Cowboy, 220 21st RD Geneseo, KS. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.



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"Winning the Game" marketing class to be held in February

The River Valley and Post Rock Districts are working together to put on a Corn Marketing class in Belleville, on February 9th from 12:30-5:30 at the 4-H building on the Fairgrounds. This corn marketing workshop will focus on developing pre-harvest marketing strategies for the 2021 Kansas Corn crop. The emphasis will be on using the cost of production and seasonal price trend tendencies to develop seasonally flexible 2021 corn marketing plans for Kansas farmers. A variety of marketing tools will be used in the workshop including forward, basis, and hedge-to-arrive contracts, short futures hedges, and put/call options. Instructors for the workshop are Mark Nelson, Director of Commodities for the Kansas Farm Bureau, and Daniel O'Brien, Extension Agricultural Economist, Kansas State University.

Registration is required, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/387zMVr>. There will be a Zoom option available and we will be following K-State's COVID-19 guidelines which include facemasks and social distancing. There will be a limit of 50 people.

This meeting is sponsored by Kansas State University Extension, Kansas Farm Bureau, and the North Central Extension Risk Management Education Center.

If you have any questions contact Rebecca Zach at the Belleville office at 785-527-5084 or by emailing zrebecca@ksu.edu.

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, Wieggers & Brinegar to schedule an appointment to drive by on E Road just west of the Centralia Lake.

Bids sheets can be obtained by contacting Galloway, Wieggers & 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.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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jason@gwblaw.net
gwblaw.net

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First learning modules for 'Regen Ag 101' now online

The non-profit Soil Health Academy has announced that the first three learning modules of its Regen Ag 101 virtual school are now online and available to help farmers, ranchers, gardeners and others successfully transition from chemical- and tillage-dependent conven-

tional agricultural practices to soil health-improving regenerative agricultural practices.

The curriculum was developed by regenerative ag pioneers Ray Archuleta, Gabe Brown, Shane New and Allen Williams, Ph.D., based on their decades-long, on-farm ex-

perience in applying soil health-centric, regenerative agricultural principles and practices.

"We're delighted to make the first three learning modules available now so our students can begin interacting with the course content," New said. "The modules come com-

plete with video instruction from SHA's world-renowned cadre of instructors along with supplemental media for students to search, read, watch and interact with," he said.

According to New, an additional six learning modules will round out the Regen Ag 101 course curriculum and will be available shortly after the first

of the year.

"Regen Ag 101 contains video lectures, case studies and supporting research gleaned from the very best of Soil Health Academy live workshops across the U.S.," New said. "Through this interactive platform we're able to provide the foundational knowledge and understanding of regenerative

principles and practices that will allow our fellow farmers and ranchers to practically and profitably make the transition from conventional agriculture to regenerative agriculture."

To register or to learn more about Regen Ag 101 visit www.soilhealthacademy.org.

Handke to serve as Gelbvieh World editor

The American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) is excited to announce the addition of Laura Handke to the AGA publications team, serving as editorial contractor.

In her role, Handke will help to create and coordinate content for *Gelbvieh World* and *The Profit Picture* publications as well as other AGA communications efforts. Handke previously contributed to the publications through freelance writing.

Handke, her husband and eight-year-old daughter, Audrey, live in Easton and run a small herd of commercial cattle. Handke holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in agriculture science from



Northwest Missouri State University and has been professionally involved in agriculture communications for the past decade, working on education initiatives and content for crop and health animal companies and associations.

Handke says of the opportunity to join the AGA team, "I am excited to

have the opportunity to join the AGA team, and look forward to sharing the story and communications of a breed that has meant so much to me throughout my life."

"Laura has contributed great work to our publications in the past and we are excited to have her a part of our team in this new capacity," says Megan Slater, AGA executive director. "She has a wealth of experience in ag communications and will be a great asset in growing the *Gelbvieh* and *Balance* message."

Handke began her role at AGA on December 1 and can be reached at laura@gelbvieh.org.

Kansas cattle on feed up 3 percent

Kansas feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.50 million cattle on feed on December 1, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

This inventory was up 3% from last year.

Placements during November totaled 415,000 head, unchanged from 2019. Fed cattle marketings for the month of No-

vember totaled 425,000 head, up 8% from last year. Other disappearance during November totaled 10,000 head, unchanged from last year.

Adoption of precision ag varies across generations

Farmers who fear they are falling behind in farm technology might not be as behind as they think.

Kansas State University cropping system economist Terry Griffin explains that a recent Kansas Farm Management Association study on farm technologies dispels the myth that all farmers use all of the lat-

est technology.

Griffin was one of the speakers at the December 2020 University of Missouri Crop Management Conference, held online.

Studies show that farmers are slower to adopt new technology than previously thought, Griffin says. It usually takes 15 years for technology to reach a critical mass. Many factors weigh into the speed and degree with which they adopt new ways of farming.

Farm size is one of the main factors: The larger the farm, the quicker and higher the adoption rate.

Age, wealth and type of farming operation also are factors.

The number of generations of a family on the farm and the birth year of the farm operators also affect adoption rates. Not surprisingly, younger farmers are introducing digital resources to older generations on the farm.

Many technologies have been available for more than two decades but still are not widely adopted, Griffin says. Of available technologies, farmers may choose to invest in only a few.

The Kansas Farm Management Association found that Kansas farmers used three of eight surveyed technologies most commonly. Many used none. Very few used all eight.

For example, automated guidance became commercially available more than 20 years ago, yet only 70% of farmers surveyed in Kansas have adopted this technology.

MU Extension assistant teaching professor of precision agricultural technology Kent Shannon says his observations show that Missouri farmers are similar in their willingness to invest in precision ag.

Many factors affect how farmers look at return on investment and the installation and maintenance costs of precision agricultural equipment, Shannon says.

An agricultural resource survey from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows that farmers use technology in different ways. They may use it

to divide crop production, negotiate new crop leases, install tile drainage, monitor crop technology or document yields. Many used monitors to conduct field experiments.

Shannon says lack of internet access in many rural areas slows change. A USDA report shows that only 75% of U.S. farms reported having internet access, and that half of the farms use smartphones or tablets rather than desktop or laptop computers to conduct farm business.

As tech-savvy younger generations join established operations, changing perspectives are inevitable, says Griffin. The numbers of farm owners in the "silent generation" (born before the end of World War II) and baby boomers (born 1946-64) continue to decrease.

Differences in business structure also affect adoption rates.

Multigenerational farms tend to embrace changes quicker than sole proprietors. They also likely own more acres, have more financial resources to invest and can prorate the expense.

Additionally, younger family members, although lacking the financial resources, may convince older, more risk-adverse family members of the value of technology.

The silent generation's contribution remains strong despite dwindling numbers, says Griffin.

With life expectancies increasing, many remain active in the farm operation and retain ownership. Their heirs increasingly reach retirement age before inheriting the farm. As a result, the current younger generation will control farm operations at an older age than previously, Griffin says.

Farmers should decide if new technologies are for them, he says. "Ag tech is not for every grower on every field. Sometimes waiting is an optimal decision."

Decide how technology improves efficiencies, profit and quality of life on your farm, Griffin says.

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Happy New Year!

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SONNWMA 2 27 14 17 23

SORONMTWS 6 22 24 16 26

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 7 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 16 20 21 22 5 23 24 25 10 26 27 28 24 29 30



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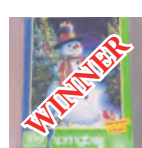
- 1: Color the chimney in a red and white pattern.
- 2: Color the roof yellow.
- 3: Color the gumdrops above the roof, green.
- 4: Color the gumdrops below the roof, orange.
- 5: Color the main house yellow.
- 6: Color the candies above the door, green & white.
- 7: Color the door red, and the doorknob green.
- 8: Color the window in the door, yellow.
- 9: Color the candy canes red and white.
- 10: Color the gumdrops beside the door, green.

We want to see your Kid's Corner pages!

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

December 8th:

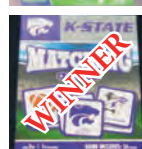
Congratulations Tate W. of Alma, KS!



350 Big Piece Snowman Puzzle

December 15th:

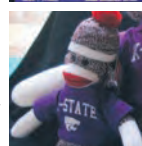
Congratulations Molly K. of Concordia, KS!



K-State Card Matching Game

December 22nd: DEADLINE EXTENDED

Winner will be drawn randomly from all submissions received by 3 p.m. Wed., December 30th.



Small K-State Sock Monkey

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

January 7, 2021 — Bred Cow & Heifer Special sale consisting of 1st calf bred heifers, bred cows & cow/calf families, held at Beatrice Livestock Sales, Beatrice, Nebraska.

January 9 & 10 (Rescheduled from November) — 1994 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Sedan, collectibles, vintage furniture, household, tools & miscellaneous including cast iron vintage toys, wooden advertising boxes, South-

west signed items, KU items, glassware & much more; 200+ lots of jewelry including turquoise, gold & diamond rings, watches, many vintage pieces, 500+ lots of coins including \$10 Buffalo Bill Silver Bill, 1861 restrike Confederate half dollar, Morgan & Peace dollars, Eisenhower dollars, Liberty & Franklin halves, quarters, dimes, nickels & more held at Lawrence for Joan Handley Estate & Ruby Freels Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 9 — Furniture, Antiques, Primitives, Collectibles and Misc. Household Items Auction to be held in Portis, KS for Julia & the Late Don Chegwid. Auctioneers: Wolters Auction & Realty.

January 16, 2021 — Antiques & collectibles including large collection of farm toys, 1950s, 60s trucks, cars & other toys,

Pepsi coin operated pop machine, 7UP & Pepsi coolers, crocks, oil cans, car parts, assortment of signs & much more held at Salina for Brent Leaman. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

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 — Potawatomi 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. Auc-

tioners: 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.

January 28, 2021 — 4 Tracts of Clay County Farmland south of Clay Center for James D. Braden & Margie Clark Tidwell Braden Trust and Pleasant Hill Farms, LLC. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate & Auction Service, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

January 30, 2021 — Real Estate auction consisting of 44.9 acres Residential Development Potential property held at Wamego for Richard Meyer Estate. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

January 31, 2021 — 340 acres m/l of primarily native grassland with just

under 20 acres tillable. pond & fences located West of Maple Hill. Auction location yet to be determined. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 6, 2021 — Axtell Knights of Columbus Consignment Auction held at Axtell. Contact Bob at 785-736-2787 or Jim at 785-736-2821 to consign.

February 6, 2021 — 689.7 acres m/l of Clay County land consisting of T1: 133 ac m/l with 122.8 m/l cropland & 10.2 m/l of waterways and wildlife habitat; T2: 157.3 ac m/l with 144.8 m/l cropland & 12.5 m/l waterways; T3: 82.77 ac m/l with 74.24 m/l cropland & 8.53 m/l waterways; T4: 156.21 ac m/l with 138.78 m/l good native grass pasture, 17.43 m/l cropland; T5: 160.2 ac m/l with 133.9 m/l cropland & 26.3 m/l waterways, hay meadow & wildlife habitat to be held at Clay Center (online bidding available at www.MidwestLandandHome.com). Seller: Gardner Trust. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Uhlik listing broker & Jeff Dankenbring, broker.

February 13, 2021 — Retirement farm machinery auction consisting of mostly John Deere equipment: tractors, combine, planter, a full line of tillage and haying equipment and trucks held West of Manhattan for Wood and Wood Farm, Daryl Wood. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

March 1, 2021 — Great quality line of Farm Equipment held at Abilene for T. Lee Gruen & Jason Kookan. Auctioneers: Reynolds Auction Service, Randy Reynolds & Greg Kretz, auctioneers.

March 6, 2021 — Farm machinery & miscellaneous Southwest of Abilene for Paul Lehman & Dorothy Lehman Trust. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

March 27, 2021 — Farm machinery, skid steer, antique machinery, farm-related items & household goods held Northwest of Randolph for Byarly Family Trust. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

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

New record set in 2020 NSP Sorghum Yield Contest

National Sorghum Producers is proud to announce a new U.S. dryland sorghum yield record has been set at 245.86 bushels per acre by Ella Johnston of Fulton County, Pennsylvania, in the 35th National Sorghum Yield Contest.

Facing weather challenges, economic uncertainty and a challenging year overall, sorghum farmers showed resilience, continued to farm and produce high yielding sorghum, matching the pace of strengthened national average yields annually.

The 2020 National Sorghum Yield Contest had seven national winners, selected from three categories for both the eastern and western regions of the U.S., and one winner

was selected for the food grade division. This year's top yield and Bin Buster winner is Johnston's dryland record of 245.86 bushels per acre achieved with Pioneer seed variety 84G62.

"The National Sorghum Yield Contest is an avenue to not only highlight the yield achievements of our producers but also to discover, learn and engage with our members from New Jersey to Idaho and in between," NSP Board of Directors Chairman Kody Carson, a sorghum farmer from Olton, Texas, said. "This year demonstrates the resilience of our producers, and we are proud of those pushing boundaries and revealing the potential sorghum has

in record-setting ways. These producers have prospered with high yield achievements in addition to strengthened prices for sorghum—a silver lining to the 2020 growing season—and I congratulate our winners and look forward to next year."

The 2020 first place winners of the NSP Sorghum Yield Contest were Ki Gamble of Kansas in the Irrigated West category with a yield of 223.51 bushels per acre; Jeffrey Barlieb of New Jersey in the Irrigated East category with a yield of 200.71 bushels per acre; David Knoll of South Dakota in the Dryland-Tillage West category with a yield of 205.32 bushels per acre; Santino Santini Jr. of New Jersey in the Dryland-Till-

age East category with a yield of 203.94 bushels per acre; Long Farms-Jerry and Sue Long of Kansas in the Dryland-No Till West category with a yield of 186.84 bushels per acre; Ella Johnston of Pennsylvania in the Dryland-No Till East category with a yield of 245.86 bushels per acre; and Stephanie Santini of New Jersey won the Food Grade category with a yield of 189.10 bushels per acre.

Yield contest winners will be recognized in the Winter issue of *Sorghum Grower* magazine and are traditionally acknowledged during Commodity Classic. With that event now taking place virtually, NSP and its sponsors are planning alternative options to recognize 2020

yield contest winners and their achievements. Details will be announced in 2021.

To see a complete list of the NSP Sorghum

Yield Contest national, state and county results, or to learn more about the contest, visit <https://sorghumgrowers.com/yield-contest/>.

UNL helps city youth become rural leader

"Rural matters." That's the clear message Andrew Ambriz conveys when speaking about his job linking people to people and people to resources, as well as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's critical role in getting him there.

"Agriculture is what we are as a state, and ag doesn't exist at scale in the big city," said Ambriz from his Broken Bow office as executive director of the Custer (County) Economic Development Corporation. He is particularly fond of the Williams Jennings Bryan quote that he said just sticks with him:

Burn down your cities and leave our farms and your cities will spring up again as if by magic.

But destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country.

Sound like passion from a Nebraska farm kid? Not at all.

"I'm the furthest thing from a farm kid there is," said Ambriz, who spent most of his growing up years in what he termed "not the best" neighborhood in Los Angeles, Calif. His parents pulled up stakes in 2005 and moved to Pender, where his mother grew up.

"When I got off the airplane at Eppley (Airfield, in Omaha), it was a cold evening. I didn't own a pair of long pants," he recalled. "I remember noticing very quickly that everything disappeared."

Ambriz enrolled in West Point High School, where he joined FFA. Through FFA, he became psyched about public speaking, leadership and, best of all, meat judging — his chapter even nabbed a national title. Ambriz graduated from West Point High School in 2012 and headed to UNL's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, where he majored in animal science.

In the summer of 2016, he headed to Mc-

Cook, where he received a summer servicership in McCook, through the University. That servicership, a predecessor of today's Rural Fellows program, placed college students in rural communities to live and work for ten weeks each summer.

Along with his new wife, Ambriz lived in a carriage house "where you could literally sit on the sofa, grab something out of the fridge and put it on the stove without getting up," he recounted with a grimace and chuckle.

For his fellowship, he assessed business life cycles on main street. He called the experience "hitting the bricks," since the effort involved talking with business owners in brick buildings on Main Street. He particularly relished interacting with a wide diversity of personalities.

"In any given day, you could meet with business leaders, connect with old dudes at the coffee shop and interact with community volunteers," he said. "Loved it."

The fellowship led to a career in economic development, in which, along with his vast other duties, he makes supervision of Rural Fellows a priority. Why?

"We have all these big goals, and not enough capacity," he said. My approach is to "give students autonomy, to put the project in their court," he said. He is proud that two fellows he has supervised have taken on economic development roles in Nebraska.

Through his fellowship and now professional role, he has come to view economic development as "personal growth through a community lens," he said. "What matters is results — quality of place and quality of life."

Day-to-day, Ambriz primarily focuses on local leadership development, and business and workforce retention and recruitment.

"Just today, I connect-

ed three people who want to pull together a dog park," he said. "We make things happen."

Those things include securing funds to pour two basements for new houses, pulling together plans for an indoor recreational facility and teaching business acumen where a leadership class earned \$12,000 in grant funds for an early childhood collaborative.

"There's a different quality of life here in rural America. You wake up and know your neighbor. I hear from employers who recognize the strong rural work ethic," Ambriz said.

Student fellows benefit from that work ethic, too.

"They learn how to ask hard questions (who benefits and why)," he said, "and communities get the work done."

The Rural Fellows program is part of Rural Prosperity Nebraska, housed in UNL's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Re-

LAND AUCTION


SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

AUCTION LOCATION: To Be Determined. Watch for Updates!

LAND LOCATION: Corner of Hawk & Warren Road, West of Maple Hill, Kansas

DESCRIPTION

This is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity to own a beautiful piece of the Flint Hills. Based off of our historical evaluation, the property has not been offered to the public for as far back as we had records. **The 340 +/- acres** is primarily native grass but there is just under 20 acres of tillable as well to supplement the property. Property is served by a great pond and fences are in a solid state as well.



REAL ESTATE TERMS: Property sells AS IS, WHERE IS. 10% non-refundable down payment is required day of sale by check. Buyer must be able to close on or before February 3, 2021. Buyer needs bank letter of loan approval or funds verification. Cost of Owners Title Policy to be split equally between Buyer and Seller. Buyer is responsible for understanding zoning and building regulations associated with the property prior to the auction. All announcements day of sale take precedence over written materials. Crossroads Real Estate & Auction LLC is representing the Seller.

Check us out on Facebook & Online for more info www.kscrossroads.com www.facebook.com/KSCrossroadsauctions

Crossroads Real Estate & Auction LLC BILL DISBERGER, Listing Agent/Auction Coordinator, 620-921-5642

TERRI HOLLENBECK, Broker/Owner, 785-223-2947
ANDREW SYLVESTER, Auctioneer, 785-456-4352

2-DAY ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

*** 9:00 AM EACH DAY**

1545 N. 3rd, LAWRENCE, KS (N. Lawrence). Very Large Inside Building!

DAY #1 SATURDAY CAR

1994 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Sedan 4.6L V8 59K (Joan Bought NEW! Always Inside!).

COLLECTIBLES, VINTAGE FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD, TOOLS & MISC.

1900s "Chautauqua" Hand Crank Roller Organ (Very Rare!); 1869 Union Pacific RR Omaha Platte Valley Route framed Poster Picture; Cast/Brass Tear-Drop Jadeite Desk Lamp; Western Electric Oak Wall Phone; Oak Wooden Small Ice Box; Spring Wagon Seat; Wooden Whiskey Barrel w/Spigot & Legs; 1862 cast-iron Soap Dish w/lid; Wooden Dough Bowls; Oak Single Drawer Spool Table (Unusual); 1800s Tin Type Photo Album; **Cast-Iron Vintage Toys:** 2 Horse Ladder Fire Engine w/drivers, 2 & 3 Horse Fire Pump Wagons w/drivers, 1 Horse Police Cart w/driver, Stake Truck, Sedan Car, US Uncle Sam Mechanical Bank, Bull Dog & Cat Banks; Texaco oil can; Oil Can Spout; Say "Pepsi Please" Metal Thermometer M-165; brass Bugle; Queen miniature cast-iron stove; cast-iron Hanging Monkeys; Export Grist Mill "Family Grist Mill" on wooden bench RARE!; #4 Quaker City Hand Corn Mill; Coffee Mill Grinder; Advertising Tins: Gingers/ Sunshine Waters/etc.; Black Silk Polish Bottle; **Wooden Advertising Boxes:** Edelbrew Beer, Humboldt Beer, Bloomer Brewery, National Lead Dutch Boy, etc.; Texas Nail & Wire Nail Keg; #15 Red Wing Crock; #4 Union Red Wing Butter Churn; Western Whiskey Jugs; #40 Dazey Butter Churn; Grady Farms Dairy gallon jar; Chuckwagon Enamel Pitcher; Vintage Christmas; 1951 "Ice Coca-Cola Here Sign" Double Sided Porcelain Canadian Flange Sign; 5 cent Coke mirror; Coke items: trays, pitchers, bottles; wind-up toys; Duck wooden Gun Rack; Carry-Lite Duck Decoys; Vintage bicycles & golf club set; Vintage hardware & wooden cabinets; **Southwest Signed Items:** Runner/Rugs, Pottery, Kachina's, Pictures, Art, Vases, many others! **BLACKBEAR BOSIN Signed Southwest Picture;** Signed Art Work Pictures; Benjamin Franklin pellet pistol; Gingerbread Asonia Wall Clock; Seth Thomas clock; Elgin Pocket Watch; Marbles; 1969 KC Chiefs Decanter; 1974 OSU Cowboys Decanter; oil lamp; Rooster Weather Vane; Wooden Canes (Carved/Southwest); Dotson Dog Collection; Henry Disston level; Wicker Doll Buggy; **KU:** Vintage 30s Jayhawk Spoon, 1984 Sports Soda, pennant, etc.; match books; Superior SS & Oneida dinnerware sets; Quilts; Area Vintage Rugs; small 6 glass drawer hardware cabinet; 2-Oak 4 drawer index card drawer cabinets; Matching Red Velvet Victorian Chairs; small Drop-Front Desk; Duncan Phyfe Sofa Settee; Loveseat Settee; Marble-Top Coffee Table; Square Marble Top Parlor Table; 3 tier stackable end table; Mid-Century Chest; Victorian Walnut Bed; Victorian Walnut

Dining Table w/4 matching Chairs; Queen Anne Style Chair; Beautiful Vintage Steamer Dome Trunk w/tray; Sewing Rockers; Dressing Screen; Wicker Chairs; School Desk; 70s Ethan Allen Maple Bedroom Suite; Ethan Allen Small Maple Buffet; Athens Newspaper Matching Tables & Coffee Table; tile top painted Kitchen Cabinet; Drysink Bathroom Chest; (2) 3-drawer Walnut Chests; Parlor Tables; Kincaid Hunter's Court Solid Oak Hutch w/Matching Micarta Table & Chairs; Cedar Chest; Rockers; End Tables; Fenton Cranberry Lamp; Van Briggie Pitcher; Vaseline Glass Salt Dish; RS Prussia Berry Bowls; Nanton Germany Bavaria & Theodore Haviland Limoges Sets w/many extras; Nippon/Germany/Pink & Green Depression/Clear/Glassware; kitchen primitives; Pottery & Mexico Mixing Bowl Sets; cook books; **Books:** Dogs/ Birds/Garden/KS/Paper Back/ Many More; Vintage Yamaha Stereo Receiver CR-820 & Cassette Deck TC-320; Vintage Albums; Magnavox Console Stereo; turntable; Howard Miller Wall Clock; New England Regulator Clock; Terry Redlin "Heading Home" & "Prairie Skyline" framed prints; Natarion Cherry Dresser & Nightstand; Flex-A-Bed Electric Bed finished size; matching swivel recliners; Pride Lift Chair; Panasonic 46" Flat Screen TV w/stand; 40" Sony LCD TV; Loveseat Hide-Bed; Maximus Electrolux; wrought iron Patio Set; Sentry Safe; matching Kenmore 70 Series Washer/Dryer; Kenmore Series 500 Washer; Kenmore Refrigerator; Kenmore Upright Freezer; household décor; Stihl 011 AV Chainsaw; Craftsman tools/wrenches/sockets; many power & hand tools of all sorts; fishing poles & tackle; Atari Game; **many items too numerous to mention!**

DAY #2 SUNDAY

Wallace Sterling Flatware Service Set 60+ pcs. w/serving pcs. JEWELRY 200+ LOTS

Turquoise Squash Blossom; Turquoise Rings, Earrings, Bracelets; Zuni Fetish Necklaces; 14K/10K Rings & Necklaces; **Rings:** Wedding Bands Diamond, Ruby, Amethyst, Aquamarine, Emerald, Onyx, Opal, Sapphire, etc.;! Diamond Tennis Bracelets; Costume pcs.; Jade & Sterling; Cameos, Pins Necklaces, Pendants, Earrings, etc.;! **Watches:** Elgin Waltham Hamilton Seiko, etc.! Pocket Watches! **Many Vintage Jewelry Pieces! Great Selection & Offering! Do Not Miss this Opportunity!**

10K COINS 500+ LOTS

\$10 Buffalo Bill Silver Bill; 1861 Restrike Confederate Half Dollar; Morgan & Peace Silver Dollars; Eisenhower Dollars; Liberty/Franklin Halves; Silver Quarters/Dimes/Nickels; Barber 1901 S Quarter; Graded Coins; Mint & Proof Sets; 2000 Wheat Pennies; Indian/Lincoln Pennies; Large Selection Foreign & Commemorative! **See Internet For Complete Lot Lists For Jewelry & Coins!**

SELLERS: JOAN HANDLEY ESTATE & RUBY FREELS ESTATE

AUCTION NOTE: Very Large Auctions Both Days. RARE ITEMS & The Quality is Excellent. DO NOT MISS! Concessions: Worden Church Ladies. INSPECTION DAY OF AUCTION ONLY!

Due to Covid 19 we are taking precautions for the health and well-being of our Customers & Staff. Out of the abundance of caution and in accordance with local, state, federal guidance/recommendations in place please follow the social distancing/ facial covering while attending. We ask everyone to please do what is best for themselves & if in doubt, please stay home. Thanks for your patronage and cooperation in the New Normal of the Auction Industry!

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Pleasure Horse

I consider myself among other things, a former horse mechanic. The horses I did veterinary work on were ranch and feedlot beasts of burden. Workin' animals from man's point of view.

Up until about fifty years ago that would describe most of the horses vets worked on. I was always a little vain about distinguishing that my patients worked for a living, earned their daily oats and made a contribution to the good of mankind.

Backyard horse practice sorta ranked with spayin' cats and trimming Chihuahuas' toenails.

That same kind of 'snobbery' still exists, I think. Somehow working on a valuable race horse, a Tennessee walkin' show horse, an endurance Arabian, a Budweiser Clydesdale, Fred Whitfield's ropin' horse, Kathy Petersen's barrel racin' horse, a New York city policeman's horse, a ranch horse, a rodeo buckler, a Quarter

Horse cutter, an outfitter's pack mule or a Lippizan performer is interpreted as doing something more worthwhile than floating the teeth on a backyard plug.

These working horses have a purpose. That dignifies your veterinary efforts, lends some value to your education and experience. All your acquired ability isn't being wasted in frivolous endeavor on a horse that isn't really "workin' for a livin'."

But, with all that being said, what's work to a horse? Is it something they feel good about? Does it give them a sense of self-worth? Of course not.

"Well, my little mare, I better finish this hay. Crooked Jack will be comin' to take me to the mall where I can walk in circles all day giving joy to little boys and girls."

"I'm so proud of you, Geldy. You bring so much happiness into the world."

Coyote Cowboy Proverb: Work to a horse is

anything he does because you make him do it.

I tell people my horse likes to rope. Meaning, I guess, that he likes to chase cattle. But he spends a lot of time in the pasture with cows and calves, I've never seen him chase them on his day off.

Ah, but you good horsemen say, "This horse loves to run," or "He was born to buck," or "I can tell he loves to pull this plow. He can't wait for me to crack this whip!"

I see them run and kick up their heels in an open pasture... but not for long. Are they having fun? Can horses have fun? Are they bored? Can they get bored?

I'd be hard-put to argue that they can't have fun, get bored or get mad.

Horses are domesticated animals. Under the care of and at the pleasure of those who pay for their keep. It is not their choice. It is ours. Like teenagers, if we give them room and board we expect something in return. At our pleasure, even if our pleasure is team roping, showing Arabians or just a good companion.

But in the end, it's all work to a horse.

www.baxterblack.com

USDA, NASA sign agreement to improve agricultural, earth science research

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and NASA have signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at strengthening their longstanding partnership on space-based assets benefitting life on Earth.

The agreement brings together NASA's experience with technology development and space-borne Earth science measurements and USDA's scientific experience and knowledge of agricultural production, resource conservation, food security and safety, and forests and working lands.

USDA and NASA will explore research gaps of importance to the agricultural community that could be addressed through innovative Earth observation systems and technologies developed over the next decade. The collaboration also will address recommendations made in the 2017 National Academies' Earth Science Decadal Survey.

"As we've seen over the past 100 years, increasing innovation in agriculture is limitless," said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. "This partnership between USDA and NASA will bring to-

gether the best research, science, and technology we have to offer to help produce more food to feed the growing world. We are continuing an already great collaborative effort to utilize space-based technologies across sectors and into agriculture."

"When we combine research on the International Space Station with the amazing capabilities that Earth observation provides, I believe that NASA, in partnership with USDA, could transform farming and bolster agricultural production in ways we can't even imagine today," said NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine. "Microgravity research can unlock secrets in a wide variety of fields, and I'm particularly excited about our agency's potential impact on next-generation agricultural techniques."

The agreement also will leverage USDA's connections with the agricultural community and the global marketplace.

The partnership outlined in the agreement will benefit a variety of Earth and space-based goals, including activities in support of NASA's Artemis program, which will land the first woman and

the next man on the Moon and establish sustainable exploration with our commercial and international partners. Plant-related research on the International Space Station, and other space or ground platforms, may lead to creative new ways to improve American and global agriculture, protect the environment, and contribute to better human health.

In addition, the agencies collaborate on education and communication activities to inspire youth in America to pursue careers in STEM and agriculture through the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on STEM Education.

For more information about NASA's Earth science activities, visit: www.nasa.gov/earth

Don't Delay!

You don't want to miss an advertising opportunity!

Get your ads for Grass & Grain in on time!

Finalized ads must be received before:

1st Section ads: 12:00 p.m. Wednesday

Classified Liner & Display ads: 10 a.m. Friday

All other Display ads: 12:00 p.m. Friday

Farmers & Ranchers AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

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

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK: 606 CATTLE & 1 HOG

STEERS		COWS	
300-400	\$183.00 - \$193.00	1 blk Lindsborg	1895@83.00
400-500	\$197.00 - \$207.50	1 blk Kanopolis	1570@67.00
500-600	\$160.00 - \$170.00	1 blk Kanopolis	1565@67.00
600-700	\$147.00 - \$157.00	1 blk Courtland	1288@65.00
700-800	\$132.00 - \$142.50	7 blk Beloit	1640@69.00
800-900	\$131.00 - \$141.50	2 blk Beloit	1530@65.50
900-1,000	\$124.00 - \$134.25	1 red Canton	1675@66.00
HEIFERS		1 roan Smolan	1505@66.00
300-400	\$155.00 - \$165.00	1 red Hope	1520@66.00
400-500	\$145.00 - \$155.00	1 blk Longford	1530@70.00
500-600	\$142.00 - \$152.00	1 blk Tescon	1530@67.50
600-700	\$129.00 - \$139.00	1 blk Ellsworth	1655@69.00
700-800	\$122.00 - \$132.00	1 bwf Salina	1690@66.50
800-900	\$122.00 - \$132.25	2 blk Sudan	1590@66.00
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020		11 mix Sudan	1521@66.00
BULLS		CALVES	
1 spot Assaria	1355@81.00	1 blk Hope	175@300.00
1 blk Clearwater	1880@92.50	1 red Hope	115@300.00
1 red Canton	1990@93.50	1 blk Tampa	100@310.00
1 blk Salina	1635@87.50	1 blk Brookville	250@460.00
1 red Longford	2155@92.50	1 bwf Brookville	300@450.00
1 blk Salina	2175@87.50	1 blk Salina	170@375.00
1 blk New Cambria	2165@83.00	1 blk Salina	250@450.00

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.fandrive.com

CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS

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

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 doc weiler 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, mostly 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/angus; blk str 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 str 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 str 650-800; 50 char S&H 650 vacc weaned; 125 ang str 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; 50 blk S&H 250-550 weaned/HR.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

75 S&H 600-900 sim/Angusx 90 days weaned fall vacc open; 20 blk str 700 LTW vacc; 65 S&H 400-650 30+ days weaned; 95 blk str 550-750 LTW vacc off wheat; 28 blk S&H 700-800 weaned Oct. vacc; 180 S&H 500-750 HR LTW vacc open Gardiner ang sired; 30 str 600-800 60 days weaned 2rd fall vacc; 55 S&H 700-800 HR open 2rd; 180 blk S&H 500-700 70 days weaned vacc; 51 S&H 650-750 HR LTW; 45 str 600-800 weaned fall vacc; 30 S&H 600 weaned 45 days fall vacc; 110 S&H 600-700 2rd vacc weaned oct off cover crop; 70 blk sim/ang S&H 700-800 HR LTW; 35 blk S&H 550-650 vacc weaned Nov 1st; 20 S&H 700-800 weaned Sept vacc bunk broke; 85 mostly blk str 525-550 LTW 2rd hotwire broke; 62 blk str 875-900; 120 hfrs 650-700; 60 str 925; 75 blk S&H 500-650 HR LTW vacc Green Garden.

SPECIAL COW SALE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021

30 red angus hfrs OCHV'D vacc bred to proven red angus bulls start Feb 15th Torn or Janssen hfrs red angus origin; 20 bred hfrs; 140 blk hfrs one iron AI bred to Herbster Angus bull clean up w/ proven LBW Hereford calve march 1st short period 1100# plus Wyoming origin; 10 blk hfrs; 80 blk hfrs; 40 blk hfrs; 50 blk hfrs OCHV Lyons angus genetics pelvic measured AI bred may 20 to franchise (red angus) cleaned up with son of Tourot&duty blk angus gentle 1100# plus; 40 blk hfrs bred to Bredemeier angus bulls start calving Feb 16th 60 days or less; 25 blk&red spring cows 4-6yr old bred blk or red sim angus bulls.

Happy New Year!!
Thank you for your business, we look forward to seeing you in the coming year!

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES 2021:
All Sales are Tuesday at 11 AM

WEANED/VACC. SALES: Tuesday, Jan. 5 • Tuesday, Feb. 2

COW SALES: Tuesday, Jan. 19 • Tuesday, Feb. 16 • Tuesday, March 16 • Tuesday, April 20 • Tuesday, May 4

DON JOHNSON ANGUS BULL SALE: MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021

IN STOCK TODAY:

- Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders
- 42' ROUND BALE DUMP TRAILERS
- HEAVY DUTY 5000# GRAIN TOTE

For Information or estimates, contact:

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

Jim Crowther 785-254-7385 Roxbury, KS
Lisa Long 620-553-2351 Ellsworth, KS
Cody Schafer 620-381-1050 Durham, KS
Kenny Briscoe 785-658-7386 Lincoln, KS
Kevin Henke H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525 Agenda, KS
Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS

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

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