

National Heritage Area being explored for Kansas and Nebraska counties

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

A proposed National Heritage Area made up of twenty-three counties in Nebraska and twenty-six in Kansas has garnered a great deal of attention in recent weeks and been the subject of eight community meetings featuring Norman Kincaide, Ph.D, who was involved with preventing an NHA from being formed in his home state of Colorado. Under the heading of "Land Grab," the meetings describe the formation of the Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership as a gateway to the infringement of property rights and eventual take-over of agricultural lands by the federal government. There was some confusion among attendees of the meetings that the formation of the National Heritage Area was part of the 30 by 30 initiative put forth in an executive order by President Joe Biden that calls for 30% of the land in the United States to be protected by the year 2030. That is not the case and there is no connection between the two.

What is a National Heritage Area?

National Heritage Areas are partnerships between the National Park Service (NPS), states and local communities. The land remains in state, local or private ownership and does not become federally owned as it does in the National Park System. The NPS distributes the funding and works to support state and local conservation. The first National Heritage Area was signed into existence by President Ronald Reagan in 1984. It was the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Area, which Reagan called "a marriage of heritage conservation, recreation and economic development." There are now 55 NHAs in the United States. The purpose of an NHA is to conserve and promote the historic, natural and scenic resources it encompasses.

The laws establishing the NHAs often contain provisions that protect private property and its use. President Donald Trump signed Public Law 116-9 on March 12, 2019, establishing six National Heritage Areas. That law stated that designation of the new NHAs would not abridge the rights of any property owner, including the right to refrain from participating in any plan, project, program or activity conducted within a National Heritage Area; require any property owner to permit public access to the property (including access by federal, state or local agencies); alter any



Twenty-six counties in Kansas and twenty-three in Nebraska are included in a proposed National Heritage Area to promote cultural tourism to the region. Twenty-nine eastern Kansas counties are already part of the Freedom's Frontier NHA, which focuses on the events that led up to the Civil War.

land use regulation; or diminish the authority of the state to manage fish and wildlife, including the regulation of fishing and hunting within the National Heritage Area. This information can be found on page 197 of the PDF containing the law at www.congress.gov/116/plaws/pub19/PLAW-116pub19.pdf.

The Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership

The Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership began in 2016 as a project of nine students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who collected information about cultural, environmental and historic resources in a study area that had been developed from profiles of people interested in traveling a distance of two hours and spending up to three days experiencing a local culture and resources. The students were looking for ways to increase economic development by using a more regional approach to cultural heritage tourism. Once the information was collected and presented at a community meeting, some of the attendees suggested the students look into a National Heritage area, so they spent three weeks investigating the requirements.

When the project ended in May, 2017 a group of citizens and directors of area museums and foundations met with the NPS to explore the possibility of forming a NHA. The Willa Cather Foundation and University of Nebraska-Lincoln put together a group of stakeholders from both states for meetings to explore the possibility of forming an NHA. In 2017 a volunteer board was formed that, based on the UNL students research, recognizes the nationally significant heritage themes of Settlement and Migration, Homesteading, Development of Land, Native Americans and Nature. By building a coalition of heritage sites, museums, Convention and Visitor's Bureaus and cities and counties that voluntarily participate, they would utilize the matching federal funding provided by the NHA to promote the entire region. Attractions in the designation include the Platte River near Kearney, Nebraska, the Homestead National Monument in Beatrice, Nebraska, the Pony Express Station in Marysville and the National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, among others. "As a network working together, the aim is to draw more people off of I-70 and I-80 that can help serve as a catalyst for economic development through heritage tourism," the group wrote in a press release.

According to an article in the *Hays Daily News*, heritage tourism is considered one of the fast-

est-growing segments in the tourism industry and equates to \$171 billion in spending annually. The article went on to state, "The average spend per cultural tourist is 60 percent more at approximately \$1,319 per trip, as compared to \$820 for the traditional, domestic leisure traveler. Cultural tourists take 3.6 trips versus 3.4 trips annually. (<https://www.buses.org/news/article/insider-exclusive-heritage-tourism-facts-figures>.)"

At the community meetings Kincaide, a member of the Southeast Colorado Private Property Rights Council, described how the group successfully prevented the formation of the Canyons and Plains National Heritage Area in southeast Colorado. This was accomplished in part through letter-writing to county commissioners and letters to the editor in local newspapers citing lack of transparency, failure to disclose, lack of due diligence, the appearance of impropriety, potential conflicts of interest and managerial incompetence on the part of Canyons and Plains. He filed Freedom of Information Act requests and was able to obtain documents from the group to help build his case. In the end Colorado county commissioners passed resolutions opposing the feasibility study and the designation of Canyons and Plains as a National Heritage Area. He encouraged attendees at the meetings to take similar actions if they desire to squelch the formation of the Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area. The above-mentioned issues with the Canyons and Plains NHA have not been raised with the Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership.

The proposed NHA would not be the first in Kansas. The Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area was established October 12, 2006 and includes 41 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri. Its focus is the events that led to the Civil War and continued pursuit of freedom and equality. Jim Ogle is the executive director and describes the NHA as a very successful public/private partnership that has never attempted to infringe on property rights. "Participation is purely voluntary," he said. "We have 200 partners and have never told any of them how they can use their land." He added that eminent domain has never been used by his or any other NHA. "We have no authority to do that, nor have we ever sought that authority," Ogle said. "It's a voluntary collaboration."

Another concern expressed has been pressure on private property own-

ers, using grant money as the incentive. "I know of no instance where grant money might be contingent on land use regulations," Ogle said, clarifying that there are always rules that have to be followed for grant awards to ensure the money is used the way it's supposed to be. "But that's put in place by whoever is awarding the grant, and they tell you ahead of time what the rules are," he stated.

Funding for NHAs is distributed through the National Park Service and this year the Freedom's Frontier received \$400,000. They will also compete for other grant awards and match the funds with in-kind donations and volunteer hours. According to a report from the Congressional Research Office (<https://fas.org/sgp/ers/misc/RL33462.pdf>), National Heritage Areas leverage an average of \$5.50 in public-private partnership funding for every \$1.00 of federal investment.

As awareness of the Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area has grown, agriculture groups have been contacted by their members for more information. According to Greg Doering of Kansas Farm Bureau, they are recommending their members talk to their local Convention and Visitors Bureaus and Chambers of Commerce for information specific to their areas. They also have a fact sheet they will provide their members that further explains NHAs and their potential impacts on agriculture. Per their policy, KFB vigorously supports landowners'

rights and opposes giving the public free access to private property, as well as giving any person or governmental agency authority for access to private property for inspection or investigation without permission from the property owner or operator. They support agri-tourism as a tool for local and regional economic development.

Kansas Livestock Association released a statement on April 12, after having received a number of phone calls about the proposed NHA. "KLA does not have direct membership on NHAs," the statement read. "However the association does have policy supporting the state law that exempts agriculture from zoning, supports limiting the use of eminent domain and supports protecting private property rights on navigable waterways, among other private property right policies." The release went on to say, "At this time, it does not appear the proposed NHA violates these KLA policies and no position has been taken by the association on the proposed NHA. KLA staff will continue to monitor this situation and answer member questions as they arise. KLA members with concerns about the proposed NHA should contact local county officials in the impacted counties."

On April 6, after receiving considerable opposition to the NHA from his constituents, Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts sent a letter to Ashley Olson, Executive Director of the Willa Cather Foundation in Red Cloud, Nebraska, stating his opposition. "While we appreciate the important contributions of Willa Cather and her writings to that area and the State of Nebraska as a whole, this designation poses the risk of federal overreach in our communities," he wrote. He also expressed concern that the designation would require a National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) plan. "NEPA is one of the most significant bureaucratic barriers to infrastructure and other important projects in our country," he continued. "Extending NEPA's reach in our state could hinder growth and development in the communities and surrounding areas."

He concluded that his office will continue to look for ways to promote Nebraska heritage and tourism while also keeping authority and control where it belongs - at the state and local level with Nebraskans.

Kansas Senator Jerry Moran weighed in on the topic as well. "The goal of National Heritage Area designations is to promote our nation's history and heritage, without expanding federal land ownership or impeding on private property rights," he wrote in a statement. "Currently, there are 55 National Heritage Areas across the country, including the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area in Kansas and Missouri, which includes 29 counties in Kansas. The decision whether to pursue a new National Heritage Area designation, which would require legislation being passed by Congress, ought to be driven by conversations among local communities and stakeholders."

Luke Mahin, who is co-chair of the Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership and serves on the marketing committee, says the opposition has changed some things for the group right now, but long-term they are still interested in the project and possibly one day pursuing the feasibility study. He sees the value in connecting both states on the topic. "Even if we don't ever pursue an NHA, we see the value in promoting what we have here," he said. He stated he has never found any evidence of counties or cities changing their zoning laws to accommodate an NHA. "I would be concerned if there was evidence of land-grabbing and I wouldn't want any part of it," he said. "We never want to impact agriculture negatively. That's the backbone of our economy." He added that NHAs have a track record of being positive for the local economy.

The Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership has been holding webinars since January, which can still be seen at www.facebook.com/KN-Heritage.

Kincaide's presentations and information can be viewed at www.facebook.com/norman.kincaide.

AG Derek Schmidt questions federal "30 by 30" provision, seeks assurance private property rights will be fully respected

A provision in a recent executive order from President Biden that seeks to have at least 30 percent of the nation's lands and waters in conservation by the year 2030 must be construed to fully protect private property rights and to preserve state and local authority over conservation measures, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said recently.

Schmidt joined with Nebraska attorney general Doug Peterson in a letter to U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland seeking assurances that the presidential directive will not be construed to tread on the rights of landowners.

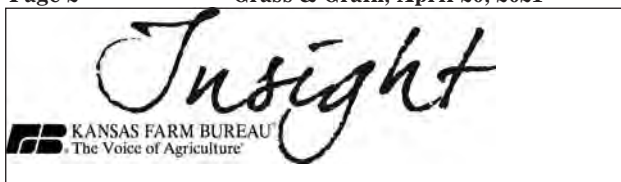
"Landowners in our states have vested interests in conservation measures to ensure their land is protected for future generations," the attorneys general wrote. "These decisions about the use of land and water, as well as appropriate conservation measures, are best made at the state and local level, and by individual landowners. America does not have, nor does it want, a centrally planned economy."

The so-called "30 by 30" provision was included January 27 in Executive Order 13990, which ostensibly outlined the administration's goals of addressing climate change. In particular, Section 216 of that executive order directs the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the chair of the Council on Environmental Quality and the heads of other relevant agencies to submit a report to the National Climate Task Force recommending steps for achieving a goal of conserving at least 30 percent of the nation's lands and waters by 2030. The executive order is vague and does not specify what constitutes conservation or whether measures are to be voluntary or mandatory.

Kansas has already joined a multi-state lawsuit challenging another provision of Executive Order 13990 that attempts to impose binding rules on federal agencies to calculate the "social costs" of greenhouse gases when promulgating federal regulations. That provision seeks to end-run Congress and the states, and threatens significant economic damage, especially in manufacturing, energy and agriculture sectors.

"Rest assured, we will be closely monitoring the actions taken in response to this presidential directive and will take action as necessary to protect private property rights and the role of states in land and water management decisions," the attorneys general wrote about the 30 by 30 provision.

A copy of the letter to Haaland can be found at <https://bit.ly/3t4IBsh>.



Burning and Other Issues

By Glenn Brunkow,
Pottawatomie County
farmer and rancher

It is springtime in the Flint Hills, and that means one thing: It's pasture burning season. Those of us who are caretakers of the Flint Hills know fire is the most important tool we have to maintain the last large-scale vestige of warm-season tall-grass prairie. Without it, invasive shrubs and trees would take over and the Flint Hills prairie would be no more. However, in recent years burning has come under extra scrutiny from the EPA because of air quality issues in the large cities surrounding the Flint Hills. Pardon the pun, but we had a burning issue.

Kansas Farm Bureau and other agriculture organizations worked with EPA, Kansas State University and others to build ksfire.org, a website that helps producers understand where their smoke will go so they can time burns to lessen the impact on our city cousins. This voluntary collaboration is an example of how working with others can ensure we have all the tools we

need to be good stewards of the natural resources we all value and rely on. In the end we have helped reduce the air quality problems with minimal impact to our essential operations.

That is why Kansas Farm Bureau is so vital to all of us as ag producers. Even if you are not a Flint Hills grazer and are not impacted by this issue, I can give several others that do have direct implications to your long-term sustainability as a farmer or rancher. Kansas Farm Bureau plays a critical role in the day-to-day operations of everyone in agriculture, and I can think of no more important reason that every farmer and rancher, or anyone involved in ag for that matter, should be a member of Kansas Farm Bureau.

We are all busy with the day-to-day details of our farms and ranches, and we only get busier every day. The incredible staff of Kansas Farm Bureau is here every day watching out for the best interests of our members. As the largest general farm organization in Kansas and as a part of the American

Farm Bureau Association, the largest general farm organization in the United States, we can work with other ag organizations, consumer groups and across the aisle with both parties to help build better and more workable solutions to protect our livelihoods.

I am sure you know those of us involved in production agriculture are a very small minority, less than 2 percent of the population, and that is why we need the unified collective voice of Kansas Farm Bureau. If you are not a member, I promise it will be the best money you spend each year. If you are a member and you know of neighbors who are not, I challenge you to sit down with them and tell them we need them. Kansas Farm Bureau has a place and a need for everyone involved in agriculture.

Because of Kansas Farm Bureau's engagement, we still have the ability to use fire as a tool to keep our Flint Hills ecosystem healthy and viable. This was a victory for all of us in Kansas agriculture and, pardon the pun, is not blowing smoke.

"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.



If you've paid attention to this column over the years, there are a few things you know about me. I'm a mediocre cook and housekeeper, woefully uncoordinated and accident-prone, not the greatest driver in the world and I can't do a cartwheel (although I do still keep trying, with encouragement from my grandchildren). But hopefully something else has been apparent among all my various and sundry shenanigans, and that is how seriously I take my job. As a journalist, I strive every single week to bring you complete, unbiased information on subjects that are important to you as agriculture producers. Now, obviously because this is an ag newspaper, the majority of the information it contains is ag-related and addresses the issues you face each and every day. I will unashamedly champion agriculture every single chance I get. I will not, however, promote misinformation or only tell the parts of a story I like or agree with. That flies in the face of ethical journalism.

This week's cover story about the National Heritage Area has the potential to make every single one of you mad at me. I could just tell you part of the story and only make half of you mad. The people-pleaser in me would love to play it safe and do that, but that would also do a terrible disservice to you as my readers. And it wouldn't be doing my job. At the end of the day, some of you will embrace the idea of a National Heritage Area and some of you will reject it. But I hope that whichever way you go, you will make that decision based on facts, not fear. I did my best to dig up as many facts for you as I possibly could, but I'm sure I missed a few. Just know that I spent a great deal of time on it and tried my best.

I'm going to leave you with a thought that has been running around in my head for the last several days. We cannot continue to treat every single issue like the world is out to get us and turn everyone we disagree with into the boogeyman. We keep finding ways to divide ourselves, and as we hunker down in our little foxholes of ideals, real enemies are lining up to do battle. How much easier will we be to defeat if each of our little beleaguered armies is going it alone?

We can disagree without being enemies. We can hold different viewpoints on some subjects without removing ourselves from each other's lives. We can have hard discussions and still be friends. We can respect opposing viewpoints, and maybe even learn something if we try. Generations of Americans before us did it, so we know it's possible. Let's give it a try, what do you say?

'Meatless Mondays' at government agencies? Marshall, Ernst say 'no way'

U.S. Senators Roger Marshall, M.D. and Joni Ernst (Ia.) are pushing back against the Left's "War on Meat" and "Meatless Mondays" with new legislation. The TASTEE Act – or the Telling Agencies to Stop Tweaking What Employees Eat Act of 2021 – would prohibit federal agencies from establishing policies that ban serving meat for employees. In 2012, the Obama-Biden Department of Agriculture infamously sent out an agency newsletter that would serve as a

catalyst for instituting the "Meatless Monday" initiative at USDA. The TASTEE Act ensures federal agencies can't ban meat and other agriculture products in government dining halls at the expense of America's hardworking farmers and producers.

"The last thing Americans need is big government stepping in and telling them what they are allowed to eat," said Marshall. "The Biden administration should not have the right to make radical

political statements at the expense of federal employees' dietary options and America's hardworking farmers and livestock producers. I'm proud to join my colleagues in introducing this important legislation that prevents Meatless Mondays and other types of discrimination against agricultural products from taking place in government dining halls."

"Growing up on our rural family farm in southwest Iowa, the work was tough—and not always pretty—but my family took extraordinary pride in what we did and the hogs and crops we raised, as do so many Iowa families, farmers, and ranchers. So, when I hear calls from the liberal Left—everyone from out-of-touch politicians to Hollywood elites—encouraging people to ban meat and the quality agriculture products we produce here in Iowa, it makes me sizzle. Our federal agencies shouldn't be encouraging people to ban agricultural products at the expense of America's hardworking farmers and producers. Congress needs to make its intention known that we should get 'Meatless Mondays' and other types of activist bans against agricultural products out of our government dining halls," said Ernst.

Fun Fact: In 2006 the average American farmer grew enough food for 144 people. In 1940 the average farmer grew enough food for 19 other people.



I got my second COVID-19 vaccination last week. No, I did not really have any side effects. The nurse who gave me the shot said that I might feel tired and achy, to which I replied, "That is normal for me, how will I know it is the vaccine?" Maybe I was more tired and achy than normal, but it is the time of the year when I am working cattle, burning pastures and many other activities that make me sore and tired. All in all, the vaccination process was not much of an ordeal.

I am not here to get into the argument about if the vaccination was necessary or any of the other arguments around the pandemic. I got the shot for my peace of mind so I could put this past year behind me and move on with my life. I do not want to hear or be told any theories about why or why not to get the shot. I assume if you are reading this you are of semi-sound mind and can make your own decisions based on the facts and theories you have available to you. The bottom line is you make your decision, I will make mine.

If this sounds like a rant, I am sorry, it is. I am fed up with conspiracy theories and looking for the boogie man behind every corner. I think we all need to be reminded that sometimes, most times, things are as they seem and there are no underlying hidden messages, meanings, or traps, despite what the internet, media or the guy at the coffee shop says. Everything you read, hear or watch is not true; in fact, I would guess much of what is on the internet is not.

Yes, the internet. Several years ago, my father mentioned that the internet was going to be the ruination of the world. I told him he was old-fashioned and needed to get with modern times but lately I wonder which one of us was right. I know, the genie is out of the bottle and we will never see a world that does not depend on the internet, but I think we all need to take a step back from it for a minute. Believe me, friends, I am included in this.

Lately I have been inundated with crazy theories and ideas from friends I know and respect. No, it is not just one theory, idea, or story but many things along a broad spectrum, but they all have a single similarity. If we could take ourselves back to the pre-internet time before Facebook, Twitter, 24-hour news and all the other things we have

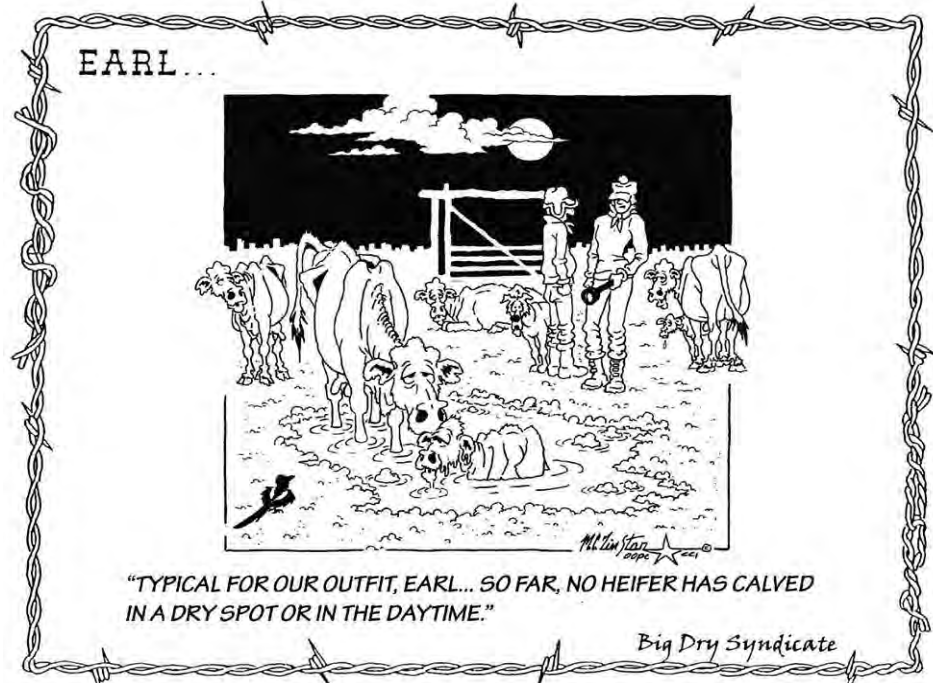
at our fingertips, we would probably be far more skeptical of such information. Now days, we are awash in an ocean of information and not all of it is factual and increasingly it is hard to tell what the truth is. That is where we need to unplug.

I do not think the internet, Facebook, and everything else associated with them are bad. Facebook allows me to keep up with old friends and family that I might not be able to otherwise. It is great for entertainment and Google is valuable to research things or look up something I have forgotten. However, all this information, news and other "stuff" needs to be taken with a grain of salt and gazed upon with a critical eye.

I also know that the past year has taken a toll on all of us, it is a prime example of what can happen when we do not spend enough time in fellowship with our friends, families, co-workers and neighbors, our minds wander. This past year has naturally made us doubt what we thought we knew, and the isolation made that even worse. It is time to break free of that and come back to the real world. We have got to start taking things at face value, work to change what you do not agree with and stop tearing apart those with whom you disagree. Just because we do not see things the same does not mean we have to be bitter enemies.

Please, do not misunderstand me, we need to always be informed and when we see something we do not agree with we need to make our opinion heard and work to change it. We also should understand that most things are as they seem and are not a part of a bigger, darker plan to ruin our lives. Work to make the changes you think need to be made but do not do it at the expense of the other side; work together and if you cannot, step aside and let someone who can.

I am sorry about the rant, but I am really tired of the all or nothing mentality that we have in this world. I am tired of looking for the gotcha in every scenario and I am tired of not trusting my fellow humans. We have got to get back to the point where we treat everyone with decency and respect, and we worry about what we are doing before we worry about the other person. Things are not as bad as they seem, life will go on and the sun will come up, regardless of what the internet might say.



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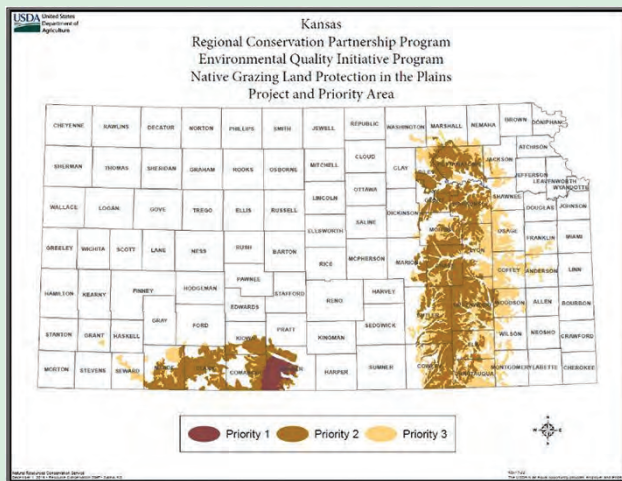
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USDA announces application cut-off for the Grazing Lands Protection on the Plain Project

To improve the health of some of the last native prairies in Kansas, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy, Kansas State University, and other partners, have joined in a Regional Conservation Partnership Program to offer financial assistance to help landowners institute conservation practices on their land. NRCS is providing funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The Fiscal Year 2021 application cut-off for this project is Friday, May 21, 2021. Applications received after this date will not be considered for funding in FY 2021.

In Kansas, the Flint Hills and the Red Hills are the targeted areas where EQIP funds are available for landowners interested in implementing conservation practices. Funding will go toward practices such as removal of red cedar trees or other invasive vegetation



such as sericea lespedeza, developing grazing plans, or conducting prescribed burning.

Funding from this project can also be used to clear dead cedar trees still standing after the Anderson Creek wildfire in south central Kansas. Without removal, new cedar trees will grow up under the dead trees.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social

distancing. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business are required to call their local Service Center to schedule an appointment. More information can be found at Farmers.gov/coronavirus offsite link image.

To learn more about EQIP or other technical and financial assistance available through NRCS conservation programs, visit Get Started with NRCS or contact your local USDA Service Center.

New legislation could protect against death tax

The Preserving Family Farms Act of 2021 was introduced recently. This bipartisan legislation to expand IRS Code Section 2032A would allow cattle producers to take advantage of the special use valuation and protect family-owned businesses from the devastating impact of the federal estate tax.

"America's farmers and ranchers deserve certainty in the tax code overall and they need certainty, especially when it comes to the estate tax. Without it, transition planning for the next generation of producers is nearly impossible," said NCBA president Jerry Bohm of Wichita.

In the Tax Reform Act of 1976, Congress recognized the disproportionate burden of the estate tax on agricultural producers and created Section 2032A to help them keep their farms. However, the benefits of special use valuations have been stymied over the years as the cap on deductions has failed to keep pace with the rising

value of farmland. While the current 2032A reduction is 55% higher than the value established two decades ago, USDA estimates cropland values have increased by 223% and agricultural land values, including on-farm buildings, have risen by 241%. Due to this rapid inflation, the 2032A deduction no longer aligns with the needs of modern agriculture, nor does it accomplish Congress' intended goal of providing meaningful protection to those most vulnerable to the estate tax.

The Preserving Family Farms Act of 2021 would

increase the maximum amount allowed under the Section 2032A exemption from \$750,000 to \$11 million. If enacted, this legislation would provide a permanent solution to an issue that long has plagued U.S. cattle producers.

Fun Fact: Raising beef cattle is the single largest segment of American agriculture. The United States produces more beef than any other country. About 34 million cows are slaughtered in the U.S. each year.

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2 1/2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
1 egg
2/3 cup oil
1 cup sour milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/2 cups fine chopped rhubarb
1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Topping:
1/2 cup sugar
1 tablespoon melted butter
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

Mix flour, baking soda, salt and brown sugar. Add egg, oil, milk and vanilla to flour mixture. Stir in rhubarb and nuts. Spread batter into a 9-inch square pan. Combine topping ingredients (sugar, butter and cinnamon) and sprinkle over top of batter. Bake at 325 degrees for 55 minutes.

NOTE: To make 1 cup sour milk for baking, use 1 tablespoon vinegar or lemon juice and enough milk to equal 1 cup.

Annette Reilly, Abilene:
CHERRY LOAF CAKE
2 cups sifted flour
1/4 teaspoon soda
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1/3 cup butter, margarine or applesauce
1 egg
3/4 cup milk
1/4 cup maraschino cherry syrup
1/2 cup chopped maraschino cherries
1/2 cup chopped nuts
Sift flour, soda, baking powder and salt together. Cream butter (margarine/ap-

plesauce) and brown sugar; beat in egg. Stir in flour mixture, mixing alternately with milk and cherry syrup. Fold in cherries and nuts. Turn into greased loaf pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour.

Pam McCall, Mapleton, Iowa:

CHEESY POTATOES
3 cans sliced potatoes, drained
1 cup cottage cheese
3/4 cup sour cream
1 cup shredded cheese
3 tablespoons flour
2 teaspoons garlic powder
1 teaspoon salt

Mix all ingredients together. Pour into a 9-by-13-inch pan and bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes until hot.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
CORN CHEESE PIE
9-inch pie shell
1 cup cream
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 egg
1 green pepper, chopped
1/3 cup chopped onion
1-pound can cream corn
1/2 cup fine bread crumbs
2 tablespoons butter
1/3 cup grated Cheddar cheese
Blend cream, salt and egg. Stir in green pepper, onion and corn. Turn into pie shell. Scatter bread crumbs over top and dot with butter; sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 375 degrees until filling is set, about 40-45 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Sherry Kent: "These are a few recipes from a cookbook I wrote years ago. Fun and easy to use. A single master cookie mix recipe from which to make 14 different kinds of cookies."

BASIC COOKIE MIX
5 cups all purpose flour
3 3/4 cups sugar
2 tablespoons baking powder
2 teaspoons salt
1 1/2 cups + 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened
Spoon flour into measuring cup and level with spatula. Put in large bowl with at least 4-quart capacity. Measure sugar, baking powder and salt into flour. Stir until thoroughly blended. Add butter and use pastry blender or clean hands to work into dry ingredients until mixture resembles coarse meal. Makes 10 cups.

Tips for best results: Store covered in air-tight container in refrigerator or freezer. Do not press down. Use mix at room temperature.

NOTE: If using margarine, do not choose diet, whipped or soft.

PECAN BALLS
3 cups Cookie Mix
3-ounce package cream cheese, softened
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/2 cups finely chopped pecans
Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease cookie sheets. In large bowl, mix together cookie mix, cream cheese, egg and vanilla. Stir in pecans. Shape into 1-inch balls. Place on prepared cookie sheet 1-inch apart. Bake about 15 minutes. Remove from oven

and while still warm, roll in confectioner's sugar to coat lightly. Cool on wire rack. Makes about 36 balls.

NOTE: You can also roll the cookies in colored granulated sugar or sprinkles. Make them festive by making red or green sugar and roll them in the sugar.

ORANGE DELIGHTS
3 cups Cookie Mix
1/2 cup finely ground almonds
2 eggs
1 cup granulated sugar
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon orange juice
1 teaspoon grated orange rind
Powdered sugar, as needed
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8-inch square baking pan. To make crust: In small bowl, mix together cookie mix and almonds. Press into prepared baking pan. Bake for 15 minutes. Do not brown. To make filling: In bowl, mix together eggs, granulated sugar, flour, orange juice and rind. Spread evenly over crust. Bake 25 minutes longer or until top is set. Cool on wire rack in pan. Cut into squares while still warm. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Makes 16 squares.

Susan Schrick, Hiawatha:
CHOCOLATE CHIPS BARS
1 box yellow cake mix
2 eggs, beaten
5 tablespoons melted butter
2 cups chocolate chips
Mix all ingredients together. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
BISCUIT PIZZA

Crust:
2 cups flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup milk
1/3 cup oil
Filling:
6-ounce can tomato paste
1/4 cup water
1 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
8-ounce package mozzarella cheese, slices cut into strips

For the crust: mix dry ingredients together. Add milk and oil. Stir until forms a ball. Knead 10 times. Roll between sheets of waxed paper to fit 14-inch pizza pan. For filling: combine tomato paste, water and seasonings. Spread over dough. Place strips of cheese on top. Bake at 425 degrees for 15-20 minutes.



Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon
Spring

My favorite things about spring? New life, fun, adventures, celebrations, warmer air, and some much-needed sunshine. Pastures are burned and that fresh green grass starts to peek its way through. Flowers start to bloom and Kansas plays its favorite game of how many degrees can I put these people through in a single 24-hour period, starting your day in warmer clothes and losing layers by mid-afternoon and then back to a hoodie by evening.

Parks get busier as kids beg and plead to go play. Ball diamonds and basketball courts start to come together to get some fresh air and some exercise, all in the name of a little friendly competition. Walking trails and dog parks are no longer scarce and are starting to be everyone's go-to place, getting those extra steps in before that summer heat sneaks up on us. Lawn mowers and weed eaters start humming as people race to have the best yard on the block. You step outside in the evening and chances are you can hear kids laughing and playing somewhere near, trying to get a few extra minutes playing before mom and dad call them to come back inside. BBQ grills start getting fired up and permeating our senses with those delightful smells. Plans start getting made for summer trips and the excitement around those will continue to grow.

Never fails that spring also tends to bring celebrations. Going into spring, I knew I had a baby shower to attend and a couple of weddings. So literally, new life and celebrations all tied into one. The first wedding was last weekend, while the weather wasn't fully cooperative, the day was still stunning. The bride was beautiful, food was delicious and at the end of it all, we were all able to celebrate two people who we all greatly adore.

While technically there to support them both, I was specifically there for the bride, a former employee turned friend. A woman that I have literally seen grow so very much over the years, finding her footing being a mom to three little boys, a wife and overall an even better version of herself. I was so proud of her.

The beginning of May brings a baby shower for my first college friend. I was sitting in a Calculus class at KSU (failing), and decided I'd better ask for help before I was failing badly enough that I couldn't rebound. I asked the shy redhead sitting next to me for help. Her name ended up being Hannah and you would have thought I tried to kill her by just saying hi, but for some crazy reason she agreed to help me, and a new friendship was born. She will welcome a little baby boy this summer and I can't wait to help her celebrate this May.

As spring continues, I hope that the world continues to move in a direction that allows us all to start interacting more. A direction that starts allowing us all to release part of the fear that has become part of our normal, but most importantly I hope it moves in a direction that allows us to enjoy the beauty of spring and everything that comes with it. I am ready for a magical spring and eager to see what all it brings.

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

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

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Spoilage in home-canned food does happen. Make sure you examine your jars carefully before serving food from them to your family, friends or pets. There are definite signs to look for, but always keep in mind that botulism can be undetectable in home-canned foods. Even a small taste of this disease-causing toxin can be fatal, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns.

Stay safe by not tasting food from a jar that shows signs of spoilage. A jar with an unsealed lid can be a sign of spoilage even if you see no other indications. Growth of spoilage bacteria and yeast can produce gas, which pressurizes the food, swells lids and breaks jar seals. Never use foods from containers that have:

- Loose or bulging lids on jars
- Foul odor
- Mold

Many people believe it is safe to scrape mold from sweet spreads and then consume the product. But it is best if you do not open a jar with mold in it at all, and, if mold grows after you open the jar, dispose of the product. For items like pickles, cloudy brine inside the jar is a sign that bacteria are starting to grow.

Spoiled food needs to be disposed of properly. If you have jars that are still sealed but show signs of spoilage, you can

leave the jars intact and place them in a heavy-weight garbage bag, close the bag and place it in the trash.

If you have spoiled food jars that are not sealed, detoxify the jars before disposing of them. Contact with botulinum toxin can be fatal whether it is ingested or enters through an opening in the skin, so take care to avoid contact with suspect foods or liquids. Follow these steps to dispose of foods that may be contaminated:

Wear rubber or heavy plastic gloves when you handle the suspect foods or clean up contaminated work surfaces and equipment.

1. Remove the lids from the jars. Carefully place both the jars and the lids on their sides in a large pan.

2. Add water to the pan until it is 1 inch above the jars.

3. Cover the pan and bring the water to a boil. Boil for 30 minutes to detoxify any possible botulinum toxin in the food.

4. Cool and discard the containers, their lids and the food in the trash.

To decontaminate your work surfaces, equipment and other items that may have been exposed to suspect food or liquid, use a fresh solution of 1 part unscented liquid household chlorine bleach to 5 parts clean water.

Spray or wet contaminated surfaces with the

bleach solution* and let them stand for 30 minutes. Wearing gloves, wipe up any treated spills with paper towels, being careful to minimize spread of the contamination. Dispose of the paper towels by placing them in a plastic bag before putting them in the trash. Next, apply the bleach solution to all surfaces and equipment again, letting it stand for 30 minutes. Rinse. As a last step, thoroughly wash all detoxified counters, containers, equipment and clothing. Discard your gloves when the cleaning process is complete.

*Bleach is an irritant itself and should not be inhaled or allowed to come in contact with your skin.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2019. "Home-Canned Foods." Botulism. Last reviewed June 6, 2019. <https://www.cdc.gov/botulism/consumer.html>.

National Center for Home Food Preservation. 2018. "Identifying and Handling Spoiled Canned Food." General Canning Information. Last reviewed May 2018. https://nchfp.uga.edu/how/general/identify_handle_spoiled_canned_food.html.

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***Correction of last column: I made a mistake in the last column when I forgot to tell you what to do with the extra cup of lemon cake mix you had set aside. It should be mixed into the second bowl of ingredients for the top layer of batter, alongside the 3 eggs, melted butter, buttermilk, juice, sugar, and zested lemon peel. I'm sorry about that!

**By Ashleigh Krispense
SIMPLY DELICIOUS
BANANA SOUR
CREAM MUFFINS**

These muffins are the most requested in our house! They're simple, straightforward, and very moist, but not overly sweet. There are also no "extras" in here, but if you'd like to change them up a little, try adding 3/4 cup of dark chocolate chips!

- 1 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves

Start by preheating the oven to 350 degrees and then greasing your muffin tin. Set aside.

In a large bowl, mash the bananas. Stir in the sour cream, lemon



juice, sugar, egg, melted butter, and vanilla. Mix well.



Add the flour, baking powder, soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves.



Fold this all together gently, being careful not to over stir.



Fill muffin tins 2/3 full with batter and

bake for 25-30 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean when inserted and the bottoms are golden brown.



Something to keep in mind is that these will be very moist, so they might feel slightly jiggly even when fully cooked! Serve by themselves or even try some soft cream cheese or butter on them. 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.

Tips For Property Cleaning Reusables

By Nancy Nelson, Meadowlark District, Family Life

Using reusable products can be a great way to reduce the need for single-use plastic. Properly cleaning your reusables goes a long way toward helping them last. Here are tips from the American Cleaning Institute® for taking care of water bottles, straws, food containers, and bags.

Bacteria thrives in damp, dark environments like the inside of a water bottle. Our recommendation is to wash your water bottle either after every use or daily if you refill throughout the day. Fill the water bottle with water and dish soap. Soak the other pieces in a bowl of soapy water. A bottle brush can be help-

ful for scrubbing the inside of the bottle, as well as the nooks and crannies of the other pieces. Rinse all the pieces and dry. Make sure the bottle is completely dry before reassembling to prevent it from becoming musty.

Metal straws are like any other utensils and should be washed after each use, even if you're just drinking water. Hand wash with water and dish soap, using a thin brush to scrub the inside. Let dry completely before storing.

Start by removing any leftover food from the plastic food container. Wipe extra grease off with a cloth or paper towel. If using a dishwasher, place on the top rack to keep the plastic from warping. If washing

by hand, use dish soap and water. To get rid of a lingering odor, try a baking soda and water scrub (one teaspoon of baking soda with one cup of water). For stubborn stains, soak the container in a solution of 2 teaspoons of liquid chlorine bleach mixed with one gallon of cold or tepid water. Wash the container in soapy water when done soaking.

Wash reusable bags after each use, following the instructions on the fabric care label. If the bags are insulated, you can use a disinfecting wipe. Let the bags dry completely before storing. To prevent bacteria growth, store the bags in a cool, dry environment.

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2021 Hay & Grazing Edition

As grain costs rise, Corteva Agriscience advises cattle producers to look to their pastures

Grain prices are projected to remain high this year. While this boon to crop producers is putting pressure on livestock feeders, the upswing presents an opportunity for savvy cattle grazers.

"Rising corn and soy-

bean prices, along with drought-tightened hay inventories and market uncertainty, are giving cattle producers ample incentive to maximize pasture production this grazing season," said Jeff Clark, Market Development Specialist at Corteva Agriscience. "Growing more, high-quality grazed forages presents an excellent cost-containment strategy. For 2021, it could pay off on the income side of the ledger, too."

With market factors signaling continued support for grain prices, many ag economists point to opportunities to add pounds in the pasture this grazing season. For cattle feeders, buying heavier weaned calves and feeding less high-priced grain enhances profit potential. That likely means increased demand for heavier weaned calves and a chance for grazers to capitalize.

"Ensuring your grazing acres are at peak production is a good place to start," Clark said. "Growing more grass and managing it well can help you ramp up per-acre beef

production. Whether that's through improved daily weight gains or by extending the grazing season, it's hard to go wrong with lower-cost gains on pasture."

Start Fast, Finish Strong

Season-long success in the pasture starts early and continues through the summer. It's not a turn-'em-out-and-forget-it enterprise, Clark says. He offers several tips that can help maximize pasture productivity:

Evaluate last year's successes and challenges and adjust grazing plans accordingly.

Scout early and often. Catch small problems, like thistle patches, before they become larger headaches.

Don't forget soil fertility. Fertilizing according to soil test and experience can increase forage quality.

Control broadleaf weeds early to increase grass production and utilization.

Go gentle on drought-stressed areas. Overgrazing through over stocking and grazing length will

prolong drought recovery.

"Annual and biennial broadleaf weeds can green up even before pasture grasses. Once growing, weeds steal moisture, nutrients and sunlight," Clark said. "Catching weeds early gives pasture grasses a competitive advantage."

Early in the season means when weeds are small and growing. They're easier to cover and control, and they haven't robbed much from the grass yet. If weather or spring workloads conspire against early spraying, treatments — and their forage-boosting benefits — can continue into summer. Just remember to adjust herbicide rates accordingly, Clark said.

Using a residual product, such as DuraCor® herbicide, early in the season stops that first weed flush while providing control of those that germinate later. This extended control will help stop weeds throughout the season, preserving moisture and allowing grasses to get a head start on the weeds.

"Remember: Every day grazed is money in your pocket," Clark said. "That rings especially true this grazing season."

Alfalfa weevils in early spring

By Rebecca Zach, River Valley District Extension agent, crop production

Alfalfa weevil larvae have been hatching throughout north central Kansas for the last couple of weeks. First larvae/feeding were reported on March 21st with leaves and brooming feeding damage on the tips of the new terminals. Larval hatching and feeding will only increase as temperatures rise. A good place to check and see what growth stage could be out in your field is by going to mesonet.k-state.edu. There you can select which station and see how many growing degrees there have been. It takes temperatures in the mid to low 20s for a couple of hours to adversely affect the young larvae.

What to look for in the field. The adult weevil will

• Cont. on page 7

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Alfalfa weevils in early spring

• Cont. from page 6

be 3/16 inch long and light brown with a dark brown strip down its back. The adults also have a distinctive long snout. The larvae will be small, light green, black-headed, and legless with a white strip down the center of their body. The larvae feed on the terminal and the upper leaves causing defoliation. When they reach the adult stage, they will start "debarking" the stem.

Deciding when and if treatment is needed. The stem-count method is the recommended way. This is where you carefully break off 30 to 50 stems and shake them individually in a clean, deep bucket. Once you count the weevils in the bucket, the treatment is based on the stage of alfalfa and how many per stem were found. If you find 33-50% infestation or one to two per stem, action should be taken. If the alfalfa field is close enough to harvest, swathing is recommended. After that first cutting, the alfalfa weevils will move on. If the field is not close to harvest, then an insecticide might be an option. For insecticide options check out Alfalfa Insect Management MF809 by KSU. In addition, it is important to spray with an adequate amount of carrier i.e., water to achieve good coverage. After application and the reentry interval continue to monitor the eggs as they may continue to hatch or until swathing. Always check the preharvest interval for your product choice.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out. Contact Rebecca Zach at 785-527-5084 or by email at zrebecca@ksu.edu.



Jarrett Ford and Joseph Moad, along with Kaden McClellan, not pictured, are in the process of refurbishing this hay hauler in preparation for starting their business.

Courtesy photo

Oklahoma teens ready to head north to haul hay

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

As a busy high school junior in Cheyenne, Oklahoma, Joseph Moad doesn't have a great deal of spare time. He helps his dad on the ranch, is in FFA, plays baseball and enjoys music. And in a few weeks, when hay season starts, he will be a businessman.

At the urging of his dad, Joe Bill Moad, Joseph has started a hay hauling business that began with refurbishing an old Kent Matco machine that he located in Retrop, Oklahoma. The model from the 1960s is one of the first the company made and it picks

up small square bales and sends them to the back of the trailer for the hands to stack. Rounding out Joseph's crew are his friends Jarrett Ford and Kaden McClellan. "I can guarantee we will work harder than any other crew and do the very best job we can for people," Joseph said.

The three young men have done most of the work refurbishing the hay hauler, and plan to paint it Caterpillar yellow before they take it on the road. He said the biggest challenge has been finding parts for it. While the work isn't quite completed yet, Joseph says it will

be by the time hay season starts. He says they will travel as far as necessary for a job that will pay, and since there are more small square bales made in Kansas than in Oklahoma, he figures the crew will be headed north. He plans to charge \$1.75 per bale, but says he will work with people on price if need be. "We take the hard part out of it for people," he said. "We'll be really reliable with what we do, constant with our work. And we'll go as far as we need to."

Joseph can be reached at 405-430-2455 for more information.

KUHN unveils FC 1061 TC & TL Series mower conditioners



The next generation of KUHN FC TC and TL mower conditioners is here. The KUHN FC 61 TC and TL Series mower conditioners offer fast, clean mowing of heavy grasses and delicate forage crops alike, combined with effective conditioning. From narrow windrows to wide swaths, these models continue to provide operators with the broadest choice of windrowing options to best match different harvesting practices and field conditions.

The new Optidisc® Elite cutter bar provides a flat, streamlined profile so soil and crop residue do not accumulate, and material flows smoothly, even in difficult crop con-

ditions. Optidisc Elite cutter bars have a very slim profile enabling short cut heights with a flat cutter bar angle to reduce the amount of dirt contamination in the crop and prolong blade life.

KUHN FC 61 TC and TL Series mower conditioners allow operators to select between three different conditioning options to best meet their operation's needs. The DigiDry® finger conditioner provides consistent drying of grass and legume crops in various conditions with little maintenance. The Diamond Block® rubber rollers have a horizontal staggered diamond pattern so there are more points for the crop to be

crimped as it flows off the disc at different angles. The DoubleCrimp™ steel roller offers consistent crimping and even feeding of thicker crops and extended life in difficult and abrasive conditions.

The heavy-duty Gyrodine® gearbox on KUHN FC 61 Series mower conditioners is designed to withstand the most severe pull-through force from the hitch to the machine. The swivel design allows in excess of a 90° turn while keeping the PTO driveline straight. This design also allows extremely tight turns for clean, square corners while minimizing PTO vibration and wear.

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Bale Mover Model 1-0121

Bottomless Feed Bunk

Feed Bunks Specifications

- Made of 10 ga. sheet metal
- 20' long 2' high 4' wide
- Approximate weight: 750 lb.
- Painted gray is optional, standard is no paint.

Model 1-0112P Painted

(Model 1-0112B Not Painted also available)



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Silage School to be offered in Salina

Last year, there were approximately 5.8 million tons of corn and sorghum silage grown in Kansas. This resource is used to feed the nearly 6.7 mil-

lion beef and dairy cattle in the state. Since silage plays such a crucial role in the production of meat and milk, those who utilize this forage need to be on top of

their game.

Cattle feeders and dairy operators are encouraged to attend a Silage School being hosted by Lallemand Animal Nutrition and K-State Research & Extension. "Power Your Silage Performance" will be held on Tuesday, May 4 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the 4-H Building located at 900 Greeley Ave. in Salina.

Company experts and university specialists will be presenting on:

- The real value of achieving density pack and how
- Silage management for minimal shrink
- Interpreting silage analyses
- Is starch digestibility

impacted by the inclusion of fiber levels and types?

There will also be demonstrations on kernel processing and fecal samples during the breaks. To conclude the evening, a dinner will be served to attendees.

This is a free program, but reservations are requested to get an accurate count for the meal. Interested participants should RSVP by Friday, April 23 to Lauren Kasten by emailing lkasten@lallemand.com or calling (414) 931-1058.

For questions or accommodations, please contact the Central Kansas Extension District at (785) 309-5850.

DOZER, EQUIPMENT & TOOLS AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021 — 10:00 AM

LOCATED: 3rd & Broadway, MARYSVILLE, KS (Follow signs)

BULLDOZER, TRACTORS, PICKUP, TOOLS

John Deere #750J Bulldozer, rebuilt mtr, new blade & ripper; Tractors: 1993 Ford #8240 (runs but needs work); JD #4010 dsl tractor (runs, mtr needs work); Oliver #1850 propane wldr; Trailers: 2006 Manac spread-axle belly dump; 1986 Transcraft flatbed hay trailer; 1998 Travalong 30' GN cargo/contractor-style, semi dry storage; Oliver field cult.; 2 bale spears; 3 pt. bale mover; Vehicle Salvage: 2005 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup; 2002 & '03 Buick Rendezvous; Hesston #560 big round baler; pickup bed dsl fuel barrel trailer; (2) 250 gal. propane tanks inc. portable; semi steel wheels & misc. tires, mostly 22.5 & 24.5. SHOP ITEMS: 1996 Ind. Gold Series twin-cyl/SP 7 1/2HP, 120 gal. vertical air compressor; Gas 18HP pressure washer; HD Chic elec. 3HP/3Ph bench grinder on stand; Toshiba 15HP elec. 3ph motor; port. 12volt hyd. pump; (2) 4" bench vises; Jacks - 20-ton hyd. air & 1 1/2-ton floor; Remington 125k BTU port. heater; oxy/acety. tanks w/cart & tips; Homelite transfer pump. TOOLS: Craftsman top tool box; Milwaukee 1/2" rt. angle hole saw/drill; Bosch spine drive/rt. angle hammer drill w/ bits; Dayton 1" stub impact; Cen. pneumatic long-nose impact; B&D 5/8" HD elec. drill w/auger bits; RotoZip; Ryobi cordless tools - drill, impact, grinder, circ. saw; (2) 12" chop saws - DeWalt & B&D; 10" miter saw; SK 1/4" socket set; 1/2" dr. crow feet (1 1/16-2"); Snap On 1/4" metric & std. sockets; Tekton wrenches (1 5/16-2 3/8"); Pittsburgh - 3/8" deep sockets (std. & metric), 1/2" shallow & deep impact socket set (7/16-1 1/4"), 3/4" socket set (up to 2"), 1" socket set (1 5/8-3 1/8"), combo metric (10-32mm) & Std. (up to 1 1/4") wrenches; gear wrench 1/2" dr. Allen-head sockets (5/16-3/4"); 171 pc. Combo Mechanic tool set; Big Hand tools - channel locks & crescent wrenches; screwdrivers; vise grips; elec. pipe threader w/dies; Snap On ring compressor; torque screws; ToolKraft radial arm saw; fiberglass step ladders - Werner 8' & 6'; Stihl gas telescopic limb saw/pruner; Stihl MS250C chain saw; B&D power pack; log chains; cable comealongs; 20+ chain boomers; rolls of HD trailer ratchet/tie down straps; Mastercool R134 A/C gauge set; Johnson laser transit w/sender & receiver; lots of elec. - 12/2 rolls of Romex wire, Cutler-Hammer breakers (3 boxfuls), pipe, conduit, switch/outlet covers, wire nuts; 2 B&D comp. connector HD crimpers; 10+ 5-gal. buckets of pipe fittings; filters, wheel seals & bearings; other items. See Websites for Pictures.

RICHARD L. FORST ESTATE

TOOLS

DeWalt 12" miter saw on stand; Craftsman 15" scroll saw on stand; N. Ind. 5 spd. drill press w/laser on stand; N. Ind. 8" bench grinder on stand; 5" bench vise on stand; Craftsman & Skil circular saws; DeWalt Sawzall; 3 1/4 elec. planer; 4 elec. sanders - Porter Cable, Skil, Craftsman & Ryobi; Chicago elec. 1/4" trimmer router; Rockwell cordless sonicrafter; 3 pneumatic brad nailers - 16 ga. & 18 ga.; RotoZip; Weller solder iron; Ryobi elec. drill; Drill Doctor; drill index; B&D heat gun; buffer/polishers - Craftsman & Ryobi; Singer hand shampoo spot cleaner; metal fold-up & poly sawhorses; Stanley port. tool box; quick grip & C-clamps; stool on wheels; step stool; 18x24" platform dolly w/hyd. lift; 1000 lb. manual hyd. pickup crane; Little Giant 6-11' ladder; drywall lift; 3" ceramic tile cutter; 110v/650 lbs. elec. hoist; 12v/2,000 lbs. winch w/remote; shop lite on tripod; Coleman Powermate 1 1/2HP air compressor; air hose on reel; Eastwood regulator & dryers; air gauges & ends; 6/12V battery charger; charger pack w/110W outlets; 3 heaters - elec. space, Dayton HD elec. & 40K BTU Kero space; rolls of elec. wire; elec. covers, boxes & breakers; nuts/bolt cabinets; ext. cords; (6) 1 1/2" ratchet straps; misc. hardware; shop towels; 4 spoke chrome 15" Universal knock-off wheels; creeper; car ramps; Clarke elec. parts washer; Eastwood metal shrinker/stretcher; bead roller w/15" throat; Cent. pneumatic 3/4HP shallow well pump; Rider motorcycle lift; eng. stand; eng. cradle; DR power grader; wrought iron patio bench; wicker patio table; metal Chiminea; Rubbermaid bench & shelf; poly utility sink; bikes - 2 kids & Schwinn 10 sp.; few HO train items - engines, scenes & parts; few die cast cars; stereo & Allegra speakers; (9) 14' 2x4 boards; other items. See Websites for Pictures.

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Koch Agronomic Services acquires Compass Minerals' North American micronutrient assets

Koch Agronomic Services, LLC reached agreement with Compass Minerals to purchase Compass Minerals' North American micronutrient assets, the global intellectual property rights, with trademarks and patents, and certain other assets associated with the Wolf Trax®, Rocket Seeds® and Hydro Bullet™ product platforms.

Through the acquisition of the micronutrient assets, Koch, a global leader in nitrogen management additives, will expand its ability to help growers across the world improve efficiency, utilization, and uptake of nutrients beyond nitrogen.

"At Koch, we strive to provide solutions to make every ton of nutrient applied more efficient than it is today, and this agreement allows us to offer a platform of innovative, efficiency solutions complementary to our existing products," said Steve Coulter, senior vice president of Koch. "We are excited to enter the micronutrient business with three product lines that fit our customers' desire to improve distribution of micronutrients across the field in conjunction with dry fertilizers, as seed treatments and as foliar applications."

Koch currently markets and distributes a proven portfolio of enhanced efficiency fertilizer products in more than 55 countries and looks forward to continuing the growth and innovation of the micronutrient product portfolio.

"Compass Minerals has been proud to grow the Wolf Trax product line and introduce both Rocket Seeds and Hydro Bullet into the specialty plant nutrition market," said Kevin S. Crutchfield, Compass Minerals president and CEO. "We're excited to see how these three innovative micronutrient product lines can continue to develop in the hands of a strong sector leader like Koch."

The transaction is expected to close in April 2021, subject to customary closing conditions.

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2020/21 Sorghum Quality Report released by U.S. Grains Council

The U.S. Grains Council (USGC) has published its 2020/2021 Sorghum Quality Report and for the second year in a row, U.S. sorghum was, on average, graded above necessary requirements for U.S. No. 1.

Protein content in sorghum was up eight percent year over year, with readings coming in at 11.2 percent, almost a full percentage point jump above last year's content.

"Protein content in sorghum is really what can set it apart from other coarse grains," said Reece Cannady, USGC manager of global trade. "When evaluating sorghum in animal diets, it's important to consider the value of this

protein, particularly when every percentage point of protein is so precious with rapidly rising costs."

The report, funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA's FAS) Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program, provides international customers and other interested parties accurate, unbiased information about the 2020 U.S. sorghum crop.

To generate the report's findings, a total of 108 samples were collected from 13 participating elevators located in Texas, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota between Sept. 30, 2020 and Feb. 23, 2021 and

were analyzed by the Am- arillo Grain Exchange and the Cereal Quality Lab at Texas A&M University. Scientists there calculated averages and standard deviations for each quality factor tested and reported results for the U.S. aggregate.

Total sorghum damage came in at just 0.0 percent in the aggregate, and broken kernel and foreign material (BNFM) was only 1.6 percent, both similar to last year's results, highlighting how hard the grain is and how well it holds up during handling and storage.

For the second year in a row, 100 percent of the samples tested undetect-

able for tannins.

"A common misconception is that if sorghum is red, it has tannins in it, since that is the case in other major sorghum producing regions like Argentina, Africa and Australia," Cannady said. "But, in the U.S., we grow a non-tannin red variety. Nutrient absorption can be problematic with high-tannin varieties, essentially depleting the value of the grain, so using a low-tannin, U.S.-grown seed yields great results in animal diets."

This report is the second in a row completed since the 2016/2017 sorghum crop. The Council plans to roll out the information through webinar distribution around the

world to all sorghum consumers and it will be a part of the Chinese corn export cargo report rollout in the near future.

"This report is helping fulfill the Council's mission to provide the latest information for end-users around the world interested in understanding

how U.S. sorghum differs from other varieties," Cannady said. "We hope the 2020/2021 Sorghum Quality Report provides valuable information about the quality of U.S. sorghum and shows our valued trade partners that the United States is a trusted supplier."

We would never trick consumers, but Impossible Foods says "We Are Meat"

Despite stating otherwise, Impossible Foods rolled out its first national advertising campaign with the tagline, "We Are Meat." The campaign features TV spots with images of the company's plant-based product burgers claiming that the Impossible Burger, which contains exactly zero meat — is meat for meat lovers — made from plants. The ads specifically target meat eaters who have not tried Impossible products.

"We would never try to trick consumers into thinking that they are eating meat from livestock," said Tyler Jameson, Impossible Foods vice president of government relations, in public testimony before the Senate Business and Commerce Committee. "We do the exact opposite by clearly emphasizing to consumers that our food comes from plants."

If it seems a bit contradictory, it's because it is. And consumers are confused. In a recent survey of 1,200 Texas consumers, one in five who had purchased a

plant-based product indicated they felt misled by the labels because they thought the product contained real meat.



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COCA COLA COLLECTIBLE AUCTION

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021 — 9:30 AM
Auction will be held at 232 N. Santa Fe - SALINA, KANSAS

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JERRY OLSON ESTATE & KANDIE OLSON

Jerry & Kandie collected Coca Cola for years. There are thousands of items. Check our web site for pictures at www.thummelauction.com. For your safety please wear your masks. If you do not feel well please call in your bids to 785-738-0067.

Auction Conducted By: THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067

AUCTION

MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021 — 11:00 AM
Auction will be held 1ST & Washington (SW corner of square) in DELPHOS, KANSAS
REAL ESTATE Sells at 1:00 p.m.

Older 2 bay building (was used as a service station. Roger has owned the building since the 1990's before then the station was closed and the tanks removed). The building sets on the southwest corner of the square in Delphos, KS. The building does need some repair. The building had a new roof in 2006. The seller will do no inspections or repair on the property. All inspections must be made by the purchaser before May 3, 2021. Possession will be upon closing. Terms will be 10% of purchase price as down payment balance will be due upon closing on or before June 5, 2021. Title insurance will be used, the cost will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser. Escrow fees will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser. 2021 taxes will be paid by purchaser. All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material. **Thummel Real Estate & Auction LLC is acting as seller agent.**

TRACTOR, TRAILERS, TOOLS & COLLECTIBLES
Cockshut 30 tractor; 7'x18' tandem axle metal trailer w/ramps; Olson 4'x6' 2-wheel trailer; 6½'x8' homemade 2-wheel trailer; pull type yard sprayer; Wizard snow blower; Snapper shredder; several mowers inc: John Deere & Snapper; cement mixer; table saw; jig saw; assortment of electric tools; assortment hand tools; laser level; air compressor; air bubble; pipe vise; small anvil; weed eaters; yard tools; jacks; tents; Redding reloader; fishing equipment; trolling motor; Redding reloader; Raytomic detector; assortment of other items.

ROGER YAGER ESTATE

NOTE: Lunch by Dry Creek Buffalo Ranch Chuck Wagon. Check our website for pictures at www.thummelauction.com. For your safety please social distance and wear your masks.

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