



Shop Kansas Farms becomes digital hub for local foods

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

It was a moment that altered the trajectory of his life forever. While on a mission trip to Nicaragua, a starving child crawled up into Rick McNary's arms and asked him to feed her. "I made a vow to God that I would spend the rest of my life doing what I could to feed hungry people," he recalled.

At the time he had been a minister in Potwin for twenty years, but then got involved with international hunger relief. Standing in Central America, surveying crops that had been lost to flooding, he remembers the mayor of the village gesturing towards the farmers themselves and the fertile hillsides behind them and saying, "Without them, we die."

It came as an epiphany for McNary. "If I was going to be serious about global hunger, I had to support farmers," he said. "It seems like a no-brainer, I just didn't know it. They feed us three times a day, we should support them."

At an agriculture conference about ten years ago, he asked about the signs posted by Kansas Agri Women that state, "The Kansas farmer feeds 155 people plus you."

"I made the comment that I didn't know a farmer I could actually buy things from. How does that work?" McNary said. He was told that the products get harvested, sent off for processing then brought back. "That got me interested in sourcing things locally and local food systems," he continued. He learned the average calorie travels 1500 miles to get to the consumer. He talked to Curt Kastner, who was then the director of Food Science Institute at Kansas State University, and other agriculture experts in an effort to understand what he could do to move forward the idea of locally sourced foods. "What I had seen was there was a need for a digital hub," he described.

Over the next decade he continued with international hunger relief and development, working with a non-profit organization in Iowa to both provide food, and teach life skills to break the cycle of food insecurity.

Then came 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic. On the evening of April 28, he and his wife were watching a Hallmark movie after dinner. "We had just eaten beef we had purchased from Katie and Gregg Carothers from Anthony, who have KCK Farms, Inc. My wife told me the grocery store shelves were almost empty that day, and I thought that was odd, as I'd just had the best beef I'd ever eaten." He grabbed his laptop and looked at



Rick and Christine McNary are the driving force behind the Facebook group Shop Kansas Farms.

starting a Facebook group where he could invite friends and family to buy and sell locally produced food like what he'd enjoyed from KCK Farms. "I had enough marketing to know you name something what you want it to be and do," he said. So Shop Kansas Farms was born. "I don't have the courage, the intelligence or the faith to be a farmer," he admitted. "But I'm a huge fan." He invited people who he knew raised products to sell. He began at 6:58 p.m. and by 10 p.m. 400 people had joined the group. In 24 hours it had grown to 5000 members, then to 50,000 in seven days, and in six weeks had ballooned to 130,000 members. They recently surpassed 150,000.

"I began the group with one rule I learned from my niece who is a kindergarten teacher," he said. "Be nice and share or you'll end up in time out. Being the Pollyanna that I am, I thought people would behave themselves, and of course, they won't."

While his vision was simply to connect consumers with farmers to be able to purchase the food they need, keeping the project on course proved to be a bit of a challenge. "As social media, the trolls came out," he said. "Unpleasant people who wanted to

make it something different that what I had the vision for. People wanted to make it political or bring other issues into it. It was during the election, so I had to really watch that."

But McNary could tell by the number of comments and messages going back and forth that commerce was indeed taking place. He didn't realize it right away, but the digital hub he had envisioned more than a decade before was coming to pass. "To show I'm not the sharpest tool in the shed, it wasn't until Thursday when we

were at twelve or thirteen thousand people that I realized it was the digital hub I was looking for," he admitted.

Many people stepped up to help McNary along the way, as he navigated this new venture. "None of this would have been possible without the fantastic admins that came along to help me," he said. "I often say that I was like a little kid walking along a dam, saw a plug and said, 'Hmmm, I wonder that happens if I pull on this?' Then I was swept into a flood going head over teakettle down a social media river and was drowning. Then along came great people to rescue me like Meagan Cramer and Nancy Brown of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Olivia Fletcher, Katie Carothers, Darrell Peterson, Jr., Megan Gilliland and Caitlin Henderson. They saved my life!"

It wasn't all smooth sailing – there was a learning curve for people who were used to making their purchases at the grocery store and didn't understand everything that went into the products they were buying, or the value of locally produced food.

"Consumers were so used to paying 99 cents a pound for hamburger that when producers listed their prices, they frequently got attacked," said McNary.

"So we had to start another rule – if you don't like the price, move on, don't comment. Farmers were taking it personal, as they should, because they were being attacked." He said it got bad enough he had to threaten to remove people from the group for inappropriate comments.

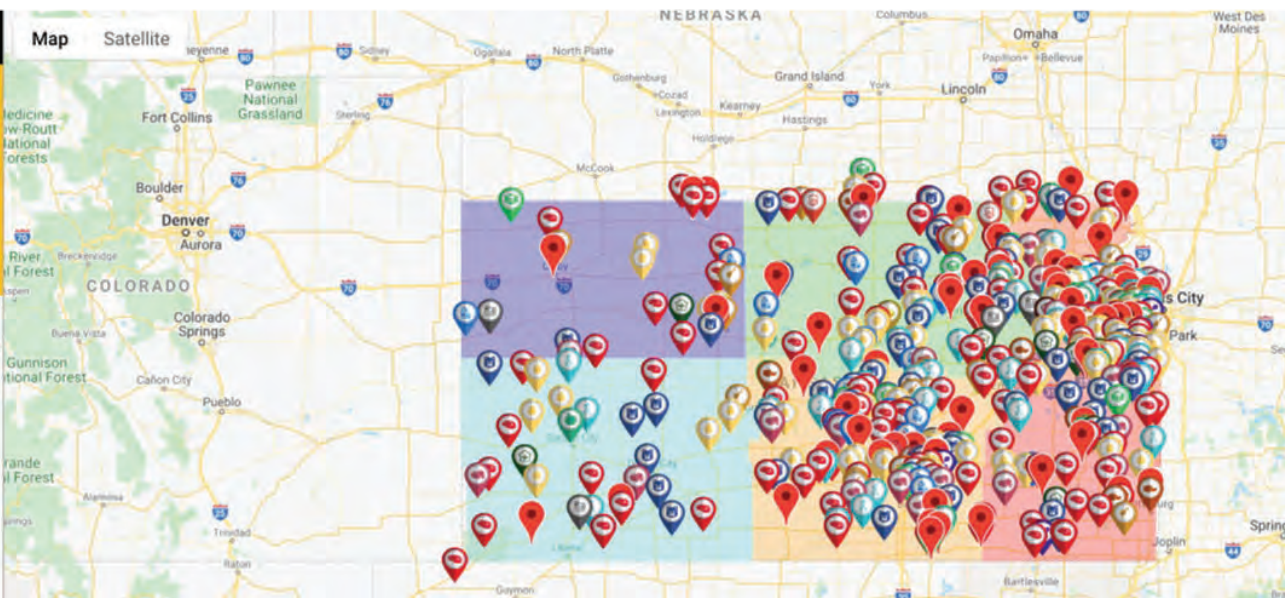
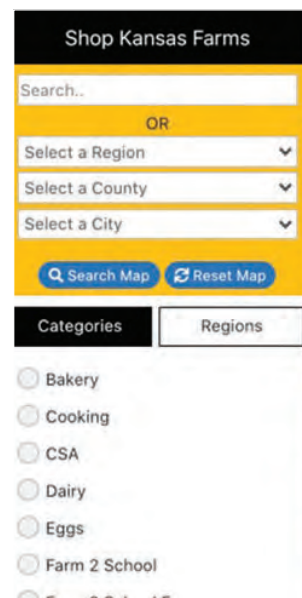
Consumers not understanding the lingo used by producers – such as hanging weight... a quarter of beef going to the locker – has continued to be a challenge, but also presents learning opportunities. McNary tells of Junehee Kwon, a professor from K-State, who purchased a quarter of beef and was disappointed in the amount of meat she brought home as compared to the weight of the animal that went to the locker. She later received a large grant to help educate consumers on how to buy meat in bulk from producers.

Initially, all of McNary's efforts, while time-consuming, had been without cost. But he recently invested in creating a website, map and database to allow people to find the participating farmers. It will also keep the list of farmers secure in the event Facebook was to shut them down, as well as protect people from scammers and con artists.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought to light how fragile the food system actually is. McNary recalls a comment from a woman early on, "We don't live off the land, we live off those shelves. When those shelves were empty, it struck fear in our hearts."

He admits that what drove Shop Kansas Farms initially was that fear. But he hopes the force that will continue to drive it is hope. Hope for rural revitalization and prosperity, as market opportunities open up for locally produced and value-added products. "The vision for Shop Kansas Farms is that it serves as a hub and a stimulator for local and regional food systems," he said. "So every decision I make about that is based on something that has been on my heart for over a decade. There are three components – production, processing and distribution. How does that get created in communities and regions and what can Shop Kansas Farms be to make that happen?"

"I believe this is the key to rural prosperity," he concluded. "It's how we revitalize rural communities. It gives opportunities for people living in rural areas, especially with value-added products, to make a living."



The McNarys recently invested in an interactive map that allows people to locate the more than 900 farms currently involved with Shop Kansas Farms, where they can purchase locally produced agriculture products.

Farmer sentiment weakens amid rising concerns of a cost-price squeeze

The Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer recorded a drop in producer sentiment in October, down three points to a reading of 121. The modest drop was part of a three-month slide for the index primarily due to producers' weakened perceptions for both current and future conditions in the production agriculture sector. The Index of Current Conditions was down 5 points to a reading of 140, while the Index of Future Expectations fell 2 points to a reading of 114. The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers' responses to a telephone survey. This month's survey

was conducted Oct. 18-22.

"Recent weakness in farmer sentiment appears to be driven by a wide variety of issues, with concerns about input price rises topping the list," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture. "Rapid run-ups in input prices, especially fertilizer for crop production, are giving rise to concerns among producers about their operating margins weakening. Livestock producers are also concerned about a cost-price squeeze, especially in the pork and dairy sectors."

Producers' view of

their farms' financial situation was less optimistic in October compared to September. The Farm Financial Performance Index declined six points to 104 in October. Over half (51%) of producers in the survey said they expect input prices to rise 8% or more in the coming year, and one-third of producers said they expect those prices to rise by 12% or more. While the dramatic rise in fertilizer prices that's taken place in recent months is a key factor, rising input costs also extend to other inputs such as seed, pesticides, machinery repairs and ownership costs, leading farmers to become increasingly concerned about a cost-price

squeeze on their operating margins, Mintert said.

Rising input costs are starting to have a dampening effect on expectations for farmland cash rental rates. In October, the percentage of corn and soybean producers expecting higher farmland rental rates in 2022 compared with 2021 dipped to 43%, down 7 points from September, with more respondents expecting rates to remain unchanged in the coming year. Despite these concerns, producers remain bullish on farmland values. The Long-Term Farmland Value Expectations Index set a new record high this month with a reading of 161, 2 points, while the short-term index

rose 1 point to 156.

Tight machinery inventories continue to hold back producers' machinery investment plans. Nearly four of ten respondents said their purchase intentions were impacted by low farm machinery inventory levels. Even so, the Farm Capital Investment Index improved modestly in October, up 3 points to a reading of 46. Even with that rise, however, the index was still 50% lower than it was at the beginning of the year. Weaker construction plans among producers this month also weighed on the investment index as the percentage of producers planning to increase building and grain

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The Professional Farmer

By Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

Paid time-off for farmers is one of the intriguing ideas that caught the attention of our group during the recent Kansas Farm Bureau Casten Fellows international travel experience to the Baltics. One of the young farmers we met shared that the Replacement Farmers program provides subsidized, qualified workers to help during illness or time away on vacation.

This first-generation farmer said she uses the Replacement Farmers for education and expertise because of the knowledge and experience required of the fill-in workers.

That clear recognition of the mastery needed to succeed in farming was a lightbulb moment for our group. We realized that every farmer we met with in the Baltics has made a conscious decision with their career and business ownership.

There is no multi-generational pressure because farm ownership is still in the first generation. People choosing farming careers take their work seriously; they seek out education and training opportunities to improve themselves because everyone there remembers how many people failed at farming after the region was liberated from Soviet occupation. Farming is a respected profession.

Can a farmer be considered a professional? The status of being a professional probably seems like a silly question, but it's worth pondering.

The Oxford Languages

dictionary definition of professional focuses on a person with "prolonged training or a formal qualification."

So many people in our world think farmers are people who lack intelligence and ambition. They definitely have no idea how many are college-educated with degrees in everything from engineering and finance to chemistry and genetics. I always enjoy enlightening people who have never met a farmer and have visions of farmers being what they were portrayed as on television shows of the 1950s.

I think most modern farmers could pass the litmus test of training and qualification. However, in direct conflict with the idea of farmers being professionals is the Merriam Webster definition, which specifically states, "An occupation that is not mechanical or agricultural." That definition aligns with more medieval views that separate the learned professions (law, medicine and divinity) from other trades or farm laborers.

However, if we are going to believe historical definitions we need to include ones that add the idea of professionals providing services for the benefit of the client or the public. Farmers definitely do that.

As Americans, we enjoy the most abundant, safest and cheapest food supply in the world. That has allowed the public to detach itself from the realities of what it takes to ensure the security of this foundational need. The supply chain disruptions of the past 18

months are the first time in the lives of many generations that we have had even the slightest moments of scarcity.

If you are one of the people just noticing farmers, I hope you see the way they have worked to improve their practices to ensure food safety; updated equipment and inputs to increase efficiency keeping costs low; and innovated and experimented to increase yields to keep up with global demand. They continue to plant their crops and care for animals whether prices are high or low. They wear dozens of hats and are continually learning to stay on top of their ever-changing industry.

Maybe you have never thought of farmers as professionals and think they do not strictly fit into the dictionary definitions. But, I challenge you to consider the complex nature of modern agricultural systems, their benefit to the public and the required skills formed through prolonged training it takes to produce our food. In the big picture, I believe farmers have earned the designation of professional.

"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.

NCGA applauds new agreement to lift E.U. tariffs on U.S. corn

On the sidelines of the recent Group of 20 Summit, European Union officials and the Biden administration brokered a deal that will ease tariffs on E.U. steel and aluminum imports into the U.S. while eliminating retaliatory duties from the E.U. on sev-



This week we are running a special "Shop Local" edition in advance of Small Business Saturday on November 27. Small Business Saturday was created to follow up Black Friday, when consumers flock to the big box stores to get the best deals on the latest gadgets. Small Business Saturday beckons us to get out of the long lines and stroll leisurely through local businesses, who feel the effect of every single dollar you spend – or conversely – don't spend.

In the past month I have been in Des Moines, Omaha, Davenport, Denver, Dallas and Branson. This small town girl spent some time in the city and reaffirmed her belief in Dorothy's admonition that there really is "No place like home."

Whenever I travel I make it a point to visit the Mom and Pop stores and restaurants that give each community its personality. My family and friends know better than to ask me to go to a chain restaurant when road-tripping.

I'm not an all-or-nothing kind of person – I think the mentality that there is only one correct way to do everything is part of what has gotten us into the mess we are in as a country. There's a place for cities and big box stores and

volume buying for discounts and chain restaurants. They contribute mightily to our economy. So by golly, on Black Friday, shop to your heart's content. But save a little time, money and energy for Small Business Saturday. Have a cup of coffee and piece of pie at the little cafe on the corner, buy some of your Christmas decor at the shop that has such cute window displays, and maybe purchase a gift or two from a local craftsman. Gift certificates to local stores and restaurants are always welcome and benefit both the person who receives it and the business where they spend it.

It really doesn't take much to make a difference in a small business. Each of us committing to spending just a few more dollars locally each year greatly increases the chances those businesses will remain viable into the future. Viable, and doing all the things they do well – supporting the youth of the community, lending local flavor and personality, and being there with the goods and services you need right when you need them. Let's all do our part to keep it that way.

Because truly, Dorothy was right. There really is no place like home.



I do not know about you, but I have sensed a lot of turmoil in our world lately. It seems like everything is doom and gloom and no matter which side you are on the other is driving our nation and our world into the ground. There just seems to be a whole lot of negativity going around and it is really hard to find the joy in anything.

That was the way I was feeling yesterday, I felt like I had the weight of the world on my shoulders. On top of that I had an extensive list of things on my to-do list that need to be done soon. It does not help that the cows are still in the lot, and I am feeding them hay every day. I had planned on them being out on the crop residue, sudan grass and rye but I need a hard freeze for that to happen. In short, I had the blues.

Yesterday was one of those picture-perfect fall days. It was about seventy, no wind and lots of sunshine. With rain and colder temperatures in the forecast I decided to focus on building some electric fence around the rye. It was a hard decision which task to start because I have several that need to be done but fencing seemed like the most logical. Too many things to do, too little time to do them.

To top it off, I was by myself. Electric fence building is one of those tasks that work a whole lot better with two people. By yourself it means a whole lot of backtracking and walking back to the side-by-side. I know that is a first-world problem because the side-by-side makes the fence building a whole lot more efficient on its own. Even then there is a lot of time spent deadheading it back and if there is one thing this fat old guy does not like it is unnecessary walking. I may need that unnecessary walking but that does not mean I have to like it.

So, there I was, alone, feeling sorry for myself and wondering what this world is coming to. The field I was on is a place where you can see no houses and there is not a lot of traffic on the road, especially during the middle of a weekday. It is about as isolated and peaceful as any ground we have. It is also about the highest point on any of our properties

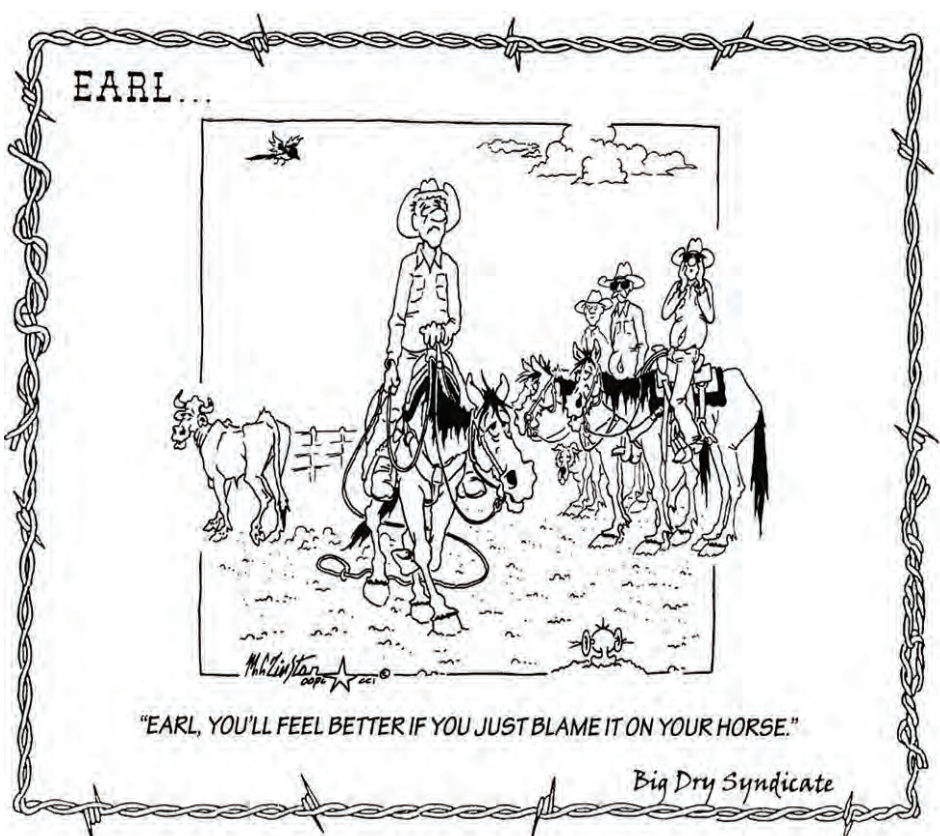
and the view is incredibly good.

I had been rolling up some cross fence so I could move it to where it needed to be. The side-by-side was parked at the highest point of the hill. I had just finished rolling up the wire and had pulled up the posts and decided I needed a break. I sat there for a second and looked out over the landscape. The field in front of me was green with new rye, the pasture just beyond was the orange-brown that native grass gets this time of the year and the trees surrounding it were the best fall colors I had seen in years. To top it off the sky was a deep blue with cotton candy clouds floating along. No artist could have painted it and done the view justice.

Nothing could have done more for my mental state than that moment did. The gentle fall breeze had the smell of clean prairie and new rye, and the world was quiet for that moment. I have to admit that I sat there for several minutes drinking it in and much of the stress started to melt away. Short of a burning bush that told me in plain language, I could not have received a clearer sign that everything was going to be okay.

I wondered how many times over the ages someone had sat in that same spot with the weight of the world on their shoulders and had gotten that same message from God. We think we are in control of our lives and the world around us, but we are not. At that moment I realized that was a particularly good thing and something to be thankful for. The God that made that landscape is the one who controls the future and all I need to get through is a little faith.

All I needed was faith the size of the turnip seed I planted a few weeks earlier that looked like a speck of pepper on the rye seed and now is a growing, green plant. As far as the future, I do not know if it is good or bad and there is not much I can do about it. However, I do know the answer and it was clear as the sky on the horizon. I am sure that I will forget that lesson very soon and need to be reminded of it over and over but for that fleeting moment all was right in my world.



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Plan now for antibiotic changes on the horizon

While 2023 might seem a long way off, it's not too early for livestock producers think about how recent Food and Drug Administration guidance might affect their operations, says University of Missouri Extension veterinarian Craig Payne.

On June 11, the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine published Guidance for Industry No. 263 (GFI #263) in the Federal Register. The document outlines a strategy and timeline for bringing all medically important antibiotics that are

currently available over the counter under veterinary oversight. This will affect several antibiotics familiar to livestock producers.

If you have a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR), the impact will be minimal because a veterinarian will be able to issue a prescription for these antibiotics, says Payne. If you don't have a VCPR, now is the time to find a veterinarian willing to work with you to ensure future access to antibiotics.

Under a VCPR, a veterinarian must have sufficient knowledge of your operation to make medical judgments, he says. It also means you agree to follow the veterinarian's instructions.

In 2017, many antibiotics used in the feed or drinking water of livestock moved from over-the-counter status to requiring a Veterinary Feed Directive or prescription. However, a small percentage remained available OTC in other forms, such as injectables, intramammary tubes and boluses, Payne says.

GFI #263 specifically addresses this small percentage. The FDA expects the labels of these remaining OTC antibiotics to display the following language by June 11, 2023: "Caution: federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian."

"This will end over-the-counter sales of antibiotics, and livestock owners will need a prescription from a veterinarian in the future if they want access to antibiotics," Payne says.

He emphasizes that antibiotics won't necessarily have to be purchased through a veterinarian, but a prescription will be required.

GFI #263 is available at www.fda.gov/media/130610/download.

Planning fall anhydrous ammonia applications

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

Corn fertility programs for 2022 have been shaping up to be a challenge all fall. With an inch and a half (give or take) of moisture received across much of the area recently, our fall application window shrunk just a little further. Anhydrous ammonia has long been a popular N option for area producers. When priced in comparison to other N sources, it will likely stay that way, even as increased fertility costs across the board require us to make sure we are making applications as efficient as possible. The following are three 'tips' to ensure you do so:

Start by understanding the role of temperature in the application process. Fifty-degree soil temperatures (at a four-inch depth) are the general recommendation when it comes to 'opening' the fall application window. The reason: ammonia - a N form with less potential for loss in soils - converts to nitrate (greater loss potential) whenever temperatures are above freezing, with the conversion rate decreasing when temperatures drop consistently below 50 degrees. Additionally, be sure soil tempera-

tures are not only below the 50-degree threshold, but trending downward to best maintain anhydrous in the ammonia form. A great resource for soil temperatures can be found at: <https://mesonet.k-state.edu/agriculture/soiltemp/>.

Second, consider a nitrification inhibitor. There are a number available, all designed to slow the micro-organism activity that converts ammonia to nitrate-N, to reduce fall applied anhydrous losses. They won't last indefinitely, and length of effectiveness can vary with soil temperature. If conditions for N loss aren't favorable, you may see no benefit to them at all, but they do

deserve a second look if you are applying into conditions where N loss could occur.

When you're finally ready to run, be sure you are getting a good seal of the application slot. If you can smell ammonia, N is being lost. It's difficult to tell how much might be being lost, but the longer you can still smell ammonia in the field, the greater the potential for loss.

For more fall application information, check out our KSU Agronomy eUpdate at: https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article_new/considerations-for-fall-applications-of-anhydrous-ammonia-467-1.

Farmer sentiment weakens amid rising concerns of a cost-price squeeze

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Purbin construction on their farms fell to 10% in October compared with 13% in September.

Over the past year, there's been little change in producers' awareness of carbon capture opportunities on their farms. Just 29% of respondents in the October survey said they were aware of opportunities to receive payments to capture carbon on their farms, on par with survey results from last winter and spring. Of those aware of the opportunities, just over 2% said they had discussed carbon capture payments with any companies, compared with 5% last winter and spring.


Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results. For even more information, check out the Purdue Commercial AgCast podcast. It includes a detailed breakdown of each month's barometer, in addition to a discussion of recent agricultural news that affects farmers.

The Ag Economy Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGEGBARO, AGECCURC and AGECFTEX.


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Winner Margaret Wetter, Norton:
MAPLE BUNDT CAKE

4 tablespoons unsalted soft butter
2 cups maple syrup
2 eggs
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 teaspoon vinegar or lemon juice
1 3/4 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix all ingredients and pour into a bundt pan. Bake 45 to 50 minutes until golden brown.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
SALMON CASSEROLE

1 tall can salmon
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
2 eggs
20 crackers
1 cup milk
3 tablespoons Butter
Crumble salmon in 1 1/2-quart casserole. Mix in salt pepper and eggs. Crumble crackers into mixture; mix well. Heat milk and butter. Add to salmon mixture and mix well. Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes.

Susan Schrick, Hiawatha:
PUMPKIN SPICE BREAD

2 cups canned pumpkin
3 cups sugar
1 cup water
1 cup vegetable oil
4 eggs
3 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
3/4 teaspoon ground clove

Mix pumpkin, sugar, water, oil and eggs in a bowl and set aside. Mix flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg in another bowl. Add dry ingredients to pumpkin mixture slowly and beat well. Pour into a greased pan and bake for 60 to 70 minutes in a preheated 350-degree oven.

Slice and serve plain or with cream cheese.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
SCRAPPLE

3 cups cornmeal
10 1/2 cups hot water
1 tablespoon chicken bouillon
1 pound sausage, browned
Mix all ingredients and bring to boil. Boil at least 10 minutes stirring constantly until it becomes too thick to stir. Pour into two greased 9-by-5-inch pans. Cool overnight in refrigerator. Slice 1/4-inch thick on floured surface. Dip into flour and fry in oil to brown on both sides. Serve hot with syrup or honey.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
DATE PUDDING

2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 cup sugar
Pinch of salt
1 cup milk
1/2 cup walnuts
1 cup chopped dates
1 1/2 cups boiling water
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
1/4 cup butter
Whipped cream

Put boiling water in baking pan. Dissolve brown sugar and butter in water. Set aside. Mix flour, baking powder, sugar and salt. Add milk, walnuts and dates. Spoon over the water mixture in pan and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes until firm. Serve warm

with whipped cream.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
PINEAPPLE WEDGES

8 ounces cream cheese
1/3 cup sugar
2 tablespoons rum extract
3 1/2 cups Cool Whip
8-ounce can crushed pineapple in syrup
2 2/3 cups coconut
1 graham cracker pie crust
Beat cream cheese with sugar and rum extract until smooth. Fold in 2 cups Cool Whip, pineapple with syrup and 2 cups of coconut. Spread into crust. Spread with remaining Cool Whip and sprinkle with remaining coconut. Freeze until firm, about 3 hours. Cut into wedges.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
ACORN SQUASH

2 acorn squash
1 cup butter
1/2 cup brown sugar
Pinch salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
Cut squash in half and scoop out seeds. Score inside of squash with knife. Mix butter, brown sugar, salt and cinnamon. Divide between the squash halves, packing the inside of squash. Place in a baking pan filled with 1/2-inch water. Bake at 350 degrees

for 45-60 minutes. Check to see if done at 45 minutes.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
APPLESAUCE PANCAKE SYRUP

1 cup white syrup
1 cup unsweetened applesauce
Heat syrup then add applesauce and mix well. Serve warm.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
APRICOT BANANA BREAD

2/3 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 1/2 cups mashed bananas
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 3/4 cups flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup dried apricots, chopped
1 tablespoon flour
Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs and mix until fluffy. Blend bananas and lemon juice and add to mixture. Mix flour, soda and salt then blend into the liquid mixture. Mix apricots with 1 tablespoon of flour and stir into the batter. Pour into a greased 5-by-9-inch loaf pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 70-80 minutes. Let cool 10 minutes and remove from pan.

Pesky Pantry Pests

By Cindy Williams, Food, Nutrition, Health & Safety, Meadowlark Extension

Pantry pests can invade food storage spaces and cause havoc. Many of these pests enjoy grain-based products. Here are the common insects seen in home pantries:

- * Booklice (Psocids) — Found in stored cereals and grains.
- * Carpet Beetles — Found in cereals, flours, and baking mixes.
- * Cigarette Beetles — Found in dried herbs, spices, cereals, flours, dried fruits, seeds, dried dish and meats.
- * Clothes Moths — Found in some beverages.
- * Drugstore Beetle — Found in pet food, seeds, flours, mixes, and spices. It is said they "eat any except cast iron!"
- * Flour Beetle — Any grain product, flour, kernel or cereal.
- * Indian meal Moth — Found in cereals, stored grains, dried fruits, chocolate, and nuts.
- * Saw-Toothed Grain Beetle — Found in foods of vegetable origin, grain products, nuts, candies, dried milk, and dried fruits.

Preventing Pantry Pests

Keeping storage areas clean and dry are the first line of defense against pests invading your food. Periodically clean storage areas to remove spilled food and damaged packages of food. A vacuum cleaner can easily remove spills from cracks and crevices. Eliminate hiding places by sealing cracks and crevices with putty or caulk.

If packages are damaged, inspect for insect presence or damage. If the food is still good, re-package in a sealable sturdy container. Cold-treat flours, cake mixes, and spices at 0 degrees F for 3-7 days, making sure that the cold penetrates the materials. Heat-treat beans, nuts, and whole grains by spreading them in a shallow pan and placing them in a 150-degree F oven for 15-20 minutes.



Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon
For The Love Of Cats

When you lose someone close to you, close enough that you must go through their belongings after their passing, it makes you start to re-assess what all you are holding on to and if it is necessary. With my grandma's passing, my mom and her siblings were tasked with going through her home and trying to determine how she would have wanted things distributed. Some things were donated, family members took things and she also had things labeled as to whom she wanted it to go to.

There were countless hours going through pictures. Pictures that truly mean so much to everyone. Deliberating who was going to get what, going to make copies and then trips to the post office to mail some out. After the dust all settled, something was triggered in my mom to where she decided it was her turn to start going through pictures.

My brothers tease me on a regular basis about how many pictures I take, but I likely got it from her. She has gone through tub after tub, sorting and then distributing to not only my brothers and I, but also to friends from her past. I have laughed and cried and then laughed again as I continuously question what she was thinking when it came to my hair styles throughout the years.

I have not had a chance to make it through all the pictures yet, but there are a couple of resounding themes amongst them all. First one being, family is everything, always has been. Second, when your child has a long face and naturally curly hair, a perm and bangs curled tight are not necessary, humorous twenty some years later, but not necessary. Thirdly, I have loved the furry friends from the beginning of my time.

I cannot remember a time growing up that we did not have a cat running around. Living in the country it was a part of life, but living with me, it was more than a part of a life, they were and always have been my favorite animals. There are pictures from all stages of life with me loving on one of my many furry friends from over the years, eventually them finding their way into our house.

I would have to imagine that my mom thought I would grow out of loving them so fiercely, but then came college and wrangling kittens out from under cars or

out of storm drains and dragging them home to her every chance I got. Once I moved back to town, word must have gotten around that I was cat-friendly, as I followed a kitten into the woods, or got one unstuck from a tree and worked tirelessly to convince people to house them until I could find them homes or rescues to take them.

When I bought my house, I thought I was finally in the clear, I had my beloved Max and Mia, my two inside cats and I assumed being in town the chaos would slow down. It did not, it never does. They always find me. A mama cat showed up at work, we dug one of her kittens out of the wall and then proceeded to find the remaining four in our separate warehouse.

A mama cat appeared at my house and ended up having two litters of kittens. I am currently nursing one of her kittens back to health in my garage, a handsome little buff tabby that will be looking for his forever home shortly (do not be shy if you are looking for a new friend). Top it all off with a kitten showing up stuck in the axle of a coworker's truck with a fishhook in her mouth.

So many adventures and so many cats and kittens have crossed my path in even just the past couple of years, but my love for them never changes. I remind myself constantly that my limit is two, but that will never stop me from doing everything in my power to help each one that crosses my path. I must note though, that without the help of AMAZING organizations like Cattails and Friends of Animals, my efforts would have felt hopeless at times, but both organizations are led by amazing ladies who will do anything in their power to help the furry friends as well. They have given advice, helped to spay strays, and found homes for babies, true life savers for so many.

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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G&G Announces Its Annual Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 23 through Dec. 21

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$40 in addition to the gift. Recipes received NOW through DECEMBER 13 will be entered in the holiday contest. Enter as often as you like during this period.

BONUS DRAWING

Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$40. Winners will be announced Dec. 21.

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- Measurements: 10"W x 9 1/4"D x 1 3/4"H, each
- Care: Dishwasher, microwave and freezer safe

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

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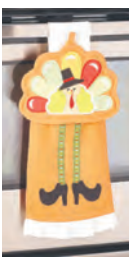
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The winner each week is selected from the recipes printed. Send us your favorite recipe. It may be a main dish, leftover, salad, side dish, dessert, or what-have-you. 1. Check your recipe carefully to make certain all ingredients are accurate and instructions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

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Small Business Saturday Edition, 2021

Don't miss these top Kansas events for the holiday season

By Jordan Roerman
You'll love the holiday season in Kansas! Communities around the state come together and put on incredible light displays and events to celebrate our festive holidays. While these events may look a little bit different in 2021, joining in on the festivities is a perfect way to "wrap up" another wild year.

And remember, who knows what the holiday season may look like, so take the time to double and triple-check that the event is still occurring before your road trip!

1. Christmas City of the High Plains Tree Lighting Ceremony, WaKeeney

Considered the largest Christmas tree and light display between Kansas City and Denver, since 1950 the Christmas-made town of WaKeeney has held the title "Christmas City of the High Plains." From the Saturday after Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, the town magically transforms into a holiday wonderland. Make WaKeeney a tradition - see the 35-foot tree of fresh pine, thousands of lights, handmade decorations, fresh greenery, and the North Pole that will make you think you're not in Kansas any more. This year will be the 71st celebration of the twinkling event, so it's not one you'll

want to miss! The town will host a tree-lighting ceremony on November 27th to kick off the holiday season complete with a visit from Santa Claus himself, but don't worry if you can't make it to the kick-off event... These decorations will stay up all season long!

2. Outhouse Tour and Festival, Elk Falls, November 19

Now, we're taking the word 'holiday' pretty liberally on this one, but the 26th Annual Outhouse Festival in Elk Falls is a must-see event. You read that right... Elk Falls is the Outhouse Capital of Kansas, and they take their title very serious. Every year about 20 brave souls decorate their wooden thrones for their shot at glory.... Which in this case is a custom-made stone-ware chamber pot trophy. This contest will have you rolling with laughter and is perfect for kids of all ages, 9 to 99! The festival will also host a craft fair, quilt show, vintage camper gathering, Elk Falls Pottery open house and demonstrations, free 'gas' (aka ham and beans) and a bluegrass band in addition to the outhouse contest.

3. Candlelight Tour, Fort Scott

Fort Scott National Historic Site is again hosting their Candlelight Tour.

During the Candlelight Tour, over 1,000 candle lanterns illuminate the site and over 100 re-enactors bring the fort to life as you travel back in time. The 40th Annual Candlelight Tour is December 3 and 4, 2021. Tours on December 3 will begin at 6:30 p.m. and leave every 15 minutes until 9 p.m. On Saturday, December 4, the tours will start at 5 p.m. with the final tour leaving at 8:45 p.m. Remember, this will be a chilly event, so bundle up! Tickets are available by calling the Fort at 620-223-0310 (with a major credit card) or by stopping by the Visitor Center on Old Fort Blvd. They are \$8.00 per person and non-refundable, children 5 and under are free. It is recommended that you get your tickets early for your choice of tour times as this event frequently sells out.

4. Hyde Park Luminaria, Hutchinson

Stroll, drive or ride through Hutchinson's Hyde Park neighborhood for the annual Hyde Park Christmas Luminaria. Scheduled annually for the Saturday before Christmas, visitors can expect an old-fashioned celebration in the decorative and historic neighborhood. Enjoy musical entertainment and horse-drawn wagon rides, along with cider and cookies in Hyde Park.

Don't forget to share your wish list with Santa at the corner of 20th and Washington in Hutchinson! This year's celebration will be on December 18.

5. Brown Mansion Candlelight Tour, Coffeyville

35 exquisitely decorated Christmas trees fill the halls of the stately Brown Mansion and believe us, there's nothing more stunning than that! The Brown Mansion Christmas celebration extends through select dates in December. Guests are able to wander all three floors of historic halls by candlelight, a journey that is sure to leave you in the holiday spirit. If you love holiday home tours, this is definitely the event for you.

6. Chase County Country Christmas, Chase County

Chase County Country Christmas hosts everything from their famous fruitcake toss to horse-drawn carriage rides. Music and entertainment can be found alongside holiday shopping. This year's celebration will be slightly scaled back, but we promise it will be as charming as ever! Discover the small-town hospitality and holiday cheer in Cottonwood Falls, take a scenic drive down to Pioneer Bluffs for beautiful decorations and the perfect Christmas Card Photo Op, and watch the lighting of the Historic Caboose in Strong City. This year's festivities take place on November 28.

7. Saint Lucia Festival, Lindsborg

Lindsborg's Saint Lucia Festival is inspired by Swedish lore... Centuries ago, many Swedes were starving during a bleak, cold winter. One dark night, the people of a hard-struck village saw the light of Saint Lucia across the lake as it moved into their town. Lucia brought the people food and reignited hope to fuel them through the rest of the winter. The legendary event

is celebrated in Sweden on December 13th, but the people of Lindsborg have made a tradition of celebrating on the second Saturday of December. The community re-creates the legend as a young woman clothed as Saint Lucia brings joy and light once again into the community. Participants will find a day of Swedish folk dancing, live music, food, children's crafts, and most importantly a shining light of hope and joy to fuel you for the season.

8. Illuminations at Botanica, Wichita

Grab your coat and cold-weather accessories to take the family through an enchanted Christmas forest at Illuminations at Botanica. More than two million lights are strung atop trees in 30 holiday-themed gardens. November through December, Botanica Wichita transforms into a winter wonderland filled with dazzling lights, festive music, and a visit from the man of the hour - Santa Claus. Don't forget to bring your letter for Santa to be mailed to the North Pole! It's always easier for Santa to keep track of your kids' requests with a follow-up letter. Keep warm with hot chocolate and s'mores as you celebrate the season. And remember, the walk-through does require a ticketed time slot that must be purchased online ahead of time in order to keep crowds low!

9. Stars on Ice: Holiday Performance, Dodge City, December 17, United Wireless Arena And Boot Hill Casino And Resort Conference Center

Can't wait until February for a taste of the Winter Olympics? No problem! Stars on Ice is bringing you Olympian ice skaters during a special holiday performance in Dodge City! Watch as Olympic gold medalists and two-time World Champions Meryl Davis and Charlie White headline

a celebration of the season. The dynamic duo is accompanied by legendary figure skater Kurt Browning and other premier figure skaters that will wow you with their technical abilities and beautiful artistry. This special holiday presentation will only be performed in five cities in North America, you won't want to miss this rare opportunity in Dodge City!

10. A Country Christmas at Fulton Valley Farms, Towanda

A Country Christmas at Fulton Valley Farms may just be your newest family tradition. It's a magical place where you can stroll through hundreds of thousands of lights scattered around the farm, meet Santa and his reindeer, view a living nativity and even have a Christmas dinner. The magic kicks off on November 26th and continues every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday night until December 19th. This is a ticketed event, so we recommend purchasing them ahead of time at FultonValleyFarms.com.

11. Luminary Walk, Overland Park

Take a step into a magical holiday oasis! Meet your neighbors at the gnome and fairy villages, wander the serene winter woods, enjoy musical performances and meet Santa during your excursion to the Luminary Walk at the Overland Park Arboretum. Don't forget, there's also an Adults-Only Candlelight Stroll on December 2. Remember the walk requires for tickets to be purchased in advance, so don't arrive without having tickets in hand or on your phone!

Kansas Tourism aims to inspire travel to and throughout Kansas to maximize the positive impacts that tourism has on the state and local communities. For more trip inspiration and to order a free *Kansas Travel Guide*, head to travelks.com.

Beef Industry University to feature Blach, Bohn

CattleFax chief executive officer Randy Blach will return for the 2021 KLA Convention, December 1-3, to talk about what the cattle and beef market might hold in store over the next year. He will take the stage Thursday morning during Beef Industry University (BIU) to deliver his comprehensive outlook, which will assess where the industry stands regarding cattle numbers and what that means for beef supplies in 2022. During his presentation, which is sponsored by the Farm Credit Associations of Kansas,


he will factor the economy and competing meat supplies into his forecast for domestic beef demand and will discuss the potential for further growth in U.S. beef exports. Feed and energy cost projections will be shared as well.

NCBA president Jerry Bohn also will be on hand to provide an update on issues being debated in Washington, D.C., including cattle marketing, tax policy, waters of the U.S. and others. Bohn served as KLA president in 1997 and is part owner of Pratt Feeders, which he helped

manage for more than three decades.




Another highlight of Thursday morning's BIU will be recognition of the KLA Cattle Feeders Council's (CFC) 50th Anniversary. Formed in 1971 to better serve the needs of the growing feeding industry in Kansas, the council today is comprised of nearly 100 yards that represent almost 90% of the state's feeding capacity. The session will feature current and past KLA staff and CFC members sharing highlights from the past five decades.

17TH ANNUAL



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November 27th @ 7:00 P.M.

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26 Opening Day: 5-8	27 Vendor Day: 11-4	28 Coffee Bar: 11-5

December

FRI	SAT	SUN
3 Open for bidding: 5-8	4 Open for bidding: 11-5	5 Santa! Bidding ends: 11-3:30!

VENDOR DAY:
— Nov. 27th —
@ Sikes Room & Frontage 109
Shop LOCAL for Christmas gifts!

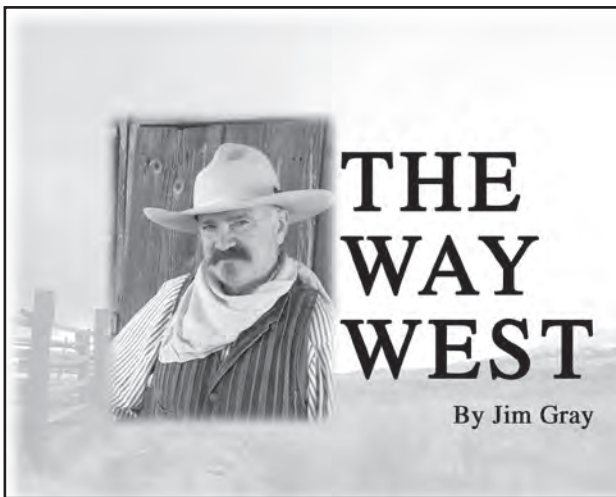
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Nov. 27th @ Dark

SANTA COMES TO TOWN: 4:30-6
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SILENT AUCTION FOR CHRISTMAS WREATHS & TREES:
All proceeds go back into the community

We will be collecting toy donations throughout the festival.

Contact the Leonardville Area Business Association on Facebook for more information!



A Welcome Sight

Early in 1864 the United States Army organized the 1st Volunteer Infantry, a regiment of Confederate prisoners of war mustered into service. The former rebels were pardoned and “galvanized” after taking the oath of allegiance to the United States. Richard W. Musgrove was appointed Captain and took command of the regiment of Galvanized Yankees on April 24, 1864.

Richard Musgrove’s autobiography was published in 1921, offering wonderful insight into his Kansas experience. After several temporary assignments the 1st Volunteer Infantry was ordered west. The troops arrived at Fort Leavenworth in late October, 1864. The battalion was under the command of Lt. Colonel William Tamblin, who was to build the new post of Fort Fletcher. Captain Hooper Straut was to establish a post at Monument Station, and Musgrove’s destination was Pond Creek Station, four hundred fifty miles west of Fort Leavenworth in far western Kansas. All of the locations were along the Smoky Hill Route of Butterfield’s Overland Despatch, a newly established freight and stage line from Atchison, Kansas, to Denver City, Colorado.

The troops left Fort Leavenworth in the rain with the support of five wagon trains, making a total of one hundred nine wagons filled with company supplies, tents, commissary, and quartermaster’s stores, as well as many wagons of lumber for constructing the posts.

The army wagons were drawn by six mules. “The driver of each team sat on the high (left) wheel mule, and guided the animals by a single rein attached to the high leader. In his right hand he swung a long whip with such dexterity that he could plant a blow at any point desired, even on the heads of his leaders. The science of driving consisted of a series of jerks with the rein, a liberal use of the whip, and a constant stream of yells and oaths.

tution, furnished facilities for an education. Polygamy was still practiced among them. They seemed happy and prosperous.”

Musgrove continued, “Much of the land on this reservation was low and marshy, and fever and ague prevailed to a wide extent.” Unfortunately, he also became ill and was forced to travel to Fort Riley by ambulance.

Following a short rest at Fort Riley the march continued through Junction City to Salina and the open prairie before them. In the heart of Indian country Colonel Tamblin established Fort Fletcher, south of present-day Walker, Kansas, on November 20th. An Indian camp had only recently been abandoned before their arrival. Two of the wagon trains, or about fifty wagons, were unloaded before beginning their return to Fort Leavenworth.

After another rest of a day or two Company A under the command of Captain Straut and Company I under Captain Musgrove resumed their western march along the Smoky Hill River. The

two companies were supported by fifty-nine supply wagons.

Having found a favorable campsite on the river bottom and it being Sunday the troops went into camp at noon on November 26th. They settled in for a rest while the mules grazed on the lush river bottom grass. By mid-afternoon a report of Indians brought Musgrove out of his tent. From a nearby bluff he raised his field glasses to see a band of Indians “Swinging their blankets in the air and yelling like demons, they swept down upon the herd guarded by only a few teamsters.” The astonished herders offered no resistance. Within seconds fifty-seven mules were stampeding over the prairie “in a wild fright.” Musgrove mounted his men on mules and charged in pursuit but soon realized the hopelessness of overtaking them.

With no mules for the nine wagons the supplies were loaded into the other wagons. They moved out with the wagons in parallel columns the next morning. Musgrove noted that a year later he saw the wagons still sitting where they were abandoned.

The covers were rolled back a few feet to allow two armed men to stand ready for attack. Within a few miles they encountered six men and two women fleeing the Castle Rock station of Butterfield’s Overland Despatch. Cheyenne raiders had run off the company’s livestock, while the men and women had made their escape on foot. North of Downer’s Station, nine miles to the east, burning buildings could be seen and screams of ranchmen being tortured could be heard. The evidence of torture was plainly seen when Musgrove reached

Downer’s Station. After burying the victims Musgrove’s troops moved on. Within but a few miles three more victims were found, having evidently been caught in the open along the trail.

For forty miles smoke signals could be seen in the distance, but the Cheyenne remained hidden. The column passed through immense herds of buffalo moving south. The Galvanized Yankees had been introduced to warfare unlike anything they had known in the great Civil War. Cavalry troopers at Monument Station were truly a welcome sight after a long, nervous day on The Way West.

“The Cowboy,” Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier*, Ellsworth, KS. Contact Kansas Cowboy, 220 21st RD Geneseo, KS. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.

AUCTION



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021 — 12:30 PM

Morris County 4-H Building, 612 US Hwy. 56 • COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS
Directions: 1 mile East of Council Grove on US Hwy. 56. WATCH FOR SIGNS.

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20+ crocks including Redwing #4, #5, & #6; Redwing #3 chum, no lid; Pittsburg #2, #3 & #6; Crown #4 water crock; Western #2 & #5; Union #10; Coffeerville #5; Waconda #5 water crock; S, P&S #5 jug; Pittsburg #3 chum, no lid; several crock jugs; approx. 30 vintage fishing lures; wood pulleys; Whirlpool clock & sign; small steel wheels on axle; CI implement seat; CI horse; Lev-L-Lite headlight adjusters; Jiffy Steamer; Golden Dawn wool blanket; small hand pump; National glass washboard; several handmade quilts; vintage jars & bottles; various prints;

wood cheese box; various signs; Radio Flyer tricycle; 5 gal. water bottle; wood milk crate; wood ironing board; bird houses; match book collection; animal figures; milk cans; wood fire-works box; Big Red wagon; handled pickle jars; large painting on canvas by Lee Reynolds; numerous Native American items.
FURNITURE, TOOLS & MISC.
Lebeda queen size bed, good cond.; ladies oak rocker; several oak dining chairs; pine bench; oak chest of drawers; various lamps; CI patio bench; walnut library table; large animal cage on casters; various child’s furniture; maple buffet;

oak dropleaf table; Singer 99K sewing machine in blonde oak cabinet; large cedar chest; several occasional chairs; DeWalt ½” electric impact; Milwaukee 3/8” drill; Craftsman 7” hand grinder; B&D polisher/sander; Skil belt sander; Neike 400 watt power inverter, new; Craftsman router; Craftsman dovetail fixture; Tool Shop 18 volt cordless drill; PlasaPlugs grinder; Workmate vise attachment; Poulan Pro 18” chainsaw; Poulan 14” chainsaw; K-State mailbox, new; lawn wagon, 4x2 ½, like new; Total Gym Ultra; Schwinn Airdyne exercise bike; 7x9’ aluminum roll up door.

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By the time you read this, I should be in Santa Fe, or on my way home from Santa Fe Trail 200th events and on my way to the opening of the new Santa Fe Trail exhibit at the National Cowboy and

Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

What a whirlwind year it has been, even with the challenges presented by COVID.

I have put umpteen miles on my car. My me-

chanic said, "You are the only one of my customers who gets an oil change once a month."

"Seriously?!!!"

The job suits me well. I was born to be on the road. In the hopes I would finally fall asleep, Daddy would drive me up and down the road. He had the wanderlust, too. On Sunday afternoons after church we just went down unfamiliar roads, paths we had never taken. Sometimes, Daddy would just pull into some old mountaineer's yard and start up a conversation with the curious strangers on the front porch.

Thus it has been with

the Santa Fe Trail Association and the events marking the bicentennial. From Missouri to New Mexico, Kansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma, towns and groups have showcased their connections to the Trail and I have pulled into the driveways of strangers and found new friends and common ground.

But it doesn't end now. For the past couple of years, we have been working for the 200th. For the next four years, the 200th will work for us. Without so many dedicated events we can do more outreach and research. Our symposium in 2023 will be held

on the Missouri end of the Trail and will focus on art. I couldn't be more excited about that theme! When our symposium was in St. Louis a couple of years ago, a handful of us went to the St. Louis Art Museum to see sketches made along the Santa Fe Trail. Before photography and film, artists recorded their particular window into life on the Trail. They continue to produce works that tell those stories. Our Arts Committee plans to host events over the next couple of years that relate to that theme.

While I may not be putting quite as many miles on the car in the com-

ing year, I have already started scheduling presentations (many of them on Zoom) that tell some piece of the Trail's story. If you'd like to be involved, or have me speak to your group, drop me a line!

The Santa Fe Trail 200 is officially extending into 2025. Let's meet on the road somewhere during that time.

Deb Goodrich is the co-host of the *Around Kansas TV Show* (with Michelle Martin) and the *Garvey Texas Foundation Historical* in residence at the *Port Wallace Museum*. She chairs the *Santa Fe Trail 200*. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.

Speaker outlines prospects for broadband growth in Kansas

By Pat Melgares

The director of the Kansas Department of Commerce's broadband development office said funding to improve Internet connectivity across Kansas is likely coming, and communities should be ready to take advantage of those opportunities.

Stanley Adams was the featured speaker Nov. 5 during K-State Research and Extension's monthly online series, First Friday e-Calls, which helps to nurture small businesses and inspire entrepreneurship in Kansas.

Adams told the gathering of nearly 50 people that the challenge of broadband connectivity – especially in

rural areas of Kansas – "is real."

"As you all most likely know, broadband has become a very important topic in our state," he said. "And in our office, it was an important topic even before the pandemic. There was a lot of effort on our part to expand broadband across Kansas."

Adams said that a goal for broadband in the state is for communities to have access to Internet that provides upload and download speeds of 100 megabytes per second. That threshold, however, is quickly becoming a minimum standard, and he'd really like to see speeds of one gigabyte per second across Kansas.



BF PCC Queen 80H won grand champion female at the 2021 Kansas State Fair Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Sept. 18 in Hutchinson. Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, owns the April 2020 daughter of Schilling's R&L Confidential. She also won junior champion. Craig Sands, Stillwater, Okla., evaluated the 72 entries.

Photo by Legacy Livestock Images

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The High Plains alfalfa farm totaling 975.15 acres m/l in Finney County, KS will be offered in 4 tracts ranging from 135.02 acres m/l to 319.25 acres m/l via the multi parcel auction format. The farm is comprised of approximately 778.57 FSA cropland acres m/l with 17.64 acres m/l enrolled in the CRP through 2022. This farm is authorized to irrigate 938 acres m/l through 7 well maintained Valley pivots with the entire farm currently planted to high quality alfalfa. Utilizing high quality alfalfa varieties, local cattle manure, and extensive management practices, this farm has consistently produced alfalfa yields well above county averages. Visit: HighPlainsAlfalfaFarm.com

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LAND AUCTION

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TRACT 1 FSA INFO: Total Acres: 76.1±; DCP Cropland Acres: 64.17±. A good dryland farm with potential for more cropland acres. **TRACT 2 FSA INFO:** Total Acres: 144.4±; DCP Cropland Acres: 109. Gently rolling dryland farm with 40 ac. m/l in native grass pasture. 40x60 equipment storage shed. Properties are on good gravel/rock roads with easy access. Contact Mark Uhlik - Listing Broker - Cell: 785.747.8568

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FARM AUCTION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021 - 9:30 AM
1174 East 2300 Rd, EUDORA, KANSAS
From Hwy 10 Eudora South on 1061 1 mile to 1200 Rd. turn East 1 mile to 2300 Rd. turn South to Auction! WATCH FOR SIGNS!

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LAND AUCTION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021 — 2:00 PM
LOCATED: Blue Rapids Community Center - BLUE RAPIDS, KS. (Follow Sign)

246+/- ACRES MARSHALL CO., KS CROPLAND

Tract #1: SE 1/4 West of Co. Rd in Section 15 -Township 4 South-Range 7 East of the 6th P.M., Marshall Co., KS, consisting of 134+/- acres more or less.
FSA Info: Farmland Acres- 133.65; DCP Cropland Acres- 81.90; Base Acres- Soybean 30.08, Corn 26.77, Wheat 21.90; PLC Yield- Soybean 28, Corn 91, Wheat 35.
Farm Located: From Hwy 77/Hwy 9 junction near the Big Blue River bridge, go 1 mile easterly on Hwy 9 to 11th Rd, go north 1 mile on 11th Rd & the farm sits on the west side.
Description: Farm consists of 82+/- acres of Cropland that is majority creek bottom. The balance is mostly Elm Creek & Timber that offers recreational hunting & fishing. There is also a 24x51 ft metal shed located in the southeast part of the farm that is accessed from 11th Rd, and features Rural Water (#3) and Nemaah-Marshal Electric service. This farm recently has been in a Com and Bean crop rotation. The farm is conveniently located only 1 mile east of Hwy 77 & 1 mile north of Hwy 9.
Tract #2: SE1/4NW1/4, All SW1/4 Lying E&N of Co. Rd Less Beg. 320'E & 85'SW of NE COR SW1/4SW1/4 TH NE600' SE550' SW600' NW550' To POB, & Beg. 1 10'W of NE COR SW1/4SW1/4 TH W560' NW774.22' To US Hwy 77, NE244.67' SE 160' To POB, All in Section 22 -Township 4 South- Range 7 East of the 6th P.M., Marshall Co., KS, consisting of 112+/- acres more or less.
FSA Info: Farmland Acres- 112.37; DCP Cropland Acres- 78.66; Base Acres- Soybean 28.89, Corn 25.72, Wheat 21.04; PLC Yield- Soybean 28, Corn 91, Wheat 35.
Farm Located: From Hwy 77 /Hwy 9 junction near the Big Blue River bridge, go 1/8 mile east on Hwy 9 & the farm sits on both the north and south side of the highway.
Description: This farm has a total of 79+/- Cropland acres- North of Hwy 9, the farm consists of 46+/- acres of Terraced Cropland. South of Hwy 9, there is 33+/- acres of Cropland that the majority is Bottom ground. The balance is mostly Elm Creek & Timber that offers recreational hunting & fishing. This farm recently has been in a Com and Bean crop rotation, and is conveniently located along Hwy 9.
Terms for each Tract: Cash with 10% down payment/earnest money on day of sale with the balance due in full on or before December 30, 2021 with delivery of deed, and marketable title. Full possession will be given at closing. Seller & Buyer equally split cost of standard title insurance, and attorney fees for preparation of contract deed-escrow. This land is located in a good farm community, and should merit the serious consideration of anyone wanting an individual unit or add-on acres. Look it over before sale day, and come prepared to bid. Statements made day of sale take precedence over any advertised or previous statements.

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ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Team Ropin' Conversation

"There's only one thing worse than eating next to a left-handed person, and that's heading for him. It's like trying to screw the male end of a garden hose into the matching threads on your stock tank drain," so spoke Bob to Allen,

two fair-to-middlin' team ropers, both fives, in the prime of their addiction. The equivalent of two-pack-a-day ropers.

"Yeah, team ropin's gone to hell," answered Allen. "Used to be one guy had an arena and twelve

guys came to his place to rope. You got in good practice, lots of pretty good ropers. It was a social occasion, too.

"Nowdays, everybody's got an arena and nobody comes. You have to rope with your wife and she's learning to barrel race. Fair is fair, so now all my rope horses run barrels too. And of course, she isn't interested in learning to heel, so you have to."

"Right." Said Bob, "Denny Gentry ruined everything. USTRC has made team ropin' so popular every horseshoer, ex-vet and dairyman thinks he's Alan Bach."

"I know," said Allen, "It's also attracted so many social ropers with money that I'm embarrassed to buy a new trailer. Used to be the best ropers pulled to ropin's in their 12-year-old stock trailer with re-caps and rust holes for ventilation. There wasn't enough money in ropin' to cover the cost of gas."

"At ropin's today there's so many duallies and three-horse slants with dressing rooms, it looks like a Arab horse show. And the guy can't even throw a rope!"

"I know what you mean," said Bob, "I've got a motley handful that

come to my arena. I get to head but it's a rare occasion they ever catch. I'm always havin' to offer constructive criticism or advice. It's like a continuing team ropin' clinic for the ability deprived. There's only one left-handed guy that goes through horses like an Amish trader. He still thinks it's the horse's fault! But I'm lucky I've still got a few traditional heeleders that come by. You know, fresh divorced, ridin' a house that's for sale and pullin' a '92 Hale two-horse rig. A real roper that gets there after you've wrapped the hons and drinks your beer. But at

least I feel like I'm practicin' ropin' and not just practicin' practicin'."

"Yeah, they're in demand," sighed Allen.

Bob continued, "I've even fenced off an area in the arena for kids. Swing set, ropin' dummy and park bench with some shade. Sort of day care whey they have the kids on weekends."

"Day care... I like that," mused Allen.

"Yup," said Bob, "If you're gonna have your own arena you gotta learn to compete."

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AML Point Taken 020 won reserve supreme champion bull and grand champion bull at the 2021 Kansas State Fair Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Sept. 18 in Hutchinson. Brent Boyce Farms, Marshfield, Mo.; AM Livestock, Springfield, Mo.; and Jackson Dill, Marshfield, Mo., own the October 2020 son of Stevenson Turning Point. He first claimed senior calf champion. Craig Sands, Stillwater, Okla., evaluated the 72 entries.

Photo by Legacy Livestock Imaging

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum on the horizon

Kansas youth will have an opportunity to learn and practice new skills when the annual Kansas Youth Leadership Forum takes place Nov. 21-22.

The event is open to youth ages 14-18 and will be held at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch. A draft schedule of events and workshop descriptions can be found on the KYLF website. Registration ends on Nov. 4

"The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is an annual event that the Kansas Youth Leadership Council organiz-

es and hosts," said Beth Hinshaw, a 4-H youth development specialist in southeast Kansas. "There are a lot of different opportunities to think about leadership throughout the weekend, including workshops, small groups and speakers." 4-H Leadership Council Elections will also be held.

Hinshaw said the leadership council is excited for a lineup that includes new presenters and workshops that have not previously been a part of KYLF.

"Youth have the opportunity to attend three workshops, so they can read through and make those choices based on what interests them most," Hinshaw said.

"Knowing the power of experiential learning, we encourage our presenters to have some type of hands-on experience as a part of their workshop."

Workshop topics range from learning about different communication styles, acknowledging who you are as a leader, and making sense of the college search process.

Hinshaw said KYLF

is not solely focused on learning.

"We always want to have fun when we get together," she said. "In addition to all the learning that happens, we have some fun things planned for Saturday night including a dance, board games and activities."

In addition to opportunities for youth, the Kansas Volunteer Leader Forum is being held at the same time.

Registration and more information regarding both forums is available online.

Farmers & Ranchers

AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

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

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK: CATTLE 3,713

Table with columns for STEERS, HEIFERS, and BULLS with price ranges and counts.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021 CALF SALE: STEERS

Table listing cattle sales for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, including breed, weight, and price.

BULLS: \$89-\$98.50 * COWS: \$66-\$93

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Table listing cattle sales for Thursday, November 11, 2021, including breed, weight, and price.

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.

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For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website www.fandrive.com

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Table listing cattle sales for Monday, November 8, 2021, including breed, weight, and price.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Table listing cattle sales for Monday, November 8, 2021, including breed, weight, and price.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021

150 s&h, 650-700, long weaned, fall vacc, home raised, checked open. 75 s&h 500-600, home raised, knife cut. 25 s&h, 600-800, weaned 30 days, home raised. 50 s&h, 750-800. 45 s&h 600-625 long weaned, 2 rounds vacc, home raised. 50 blk s&h, 550-650, PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021 WEANED/VACC SALE

100 red angus/char str, 500-650, 60 days weaned, knife cut. 25 str, 550-650. 11 s&h, 600. 60 steers. 25 blk/bwf, 600-700. 40 blk s&h, 650-750, home raised. 16 blk/bwf str, 650-850, 60 days weaned, 2 rounds vacc. 40 s&h 500-600. 100 s&h 500-600. 37 blk s&h, 600-700, 45 days weaned, balancer sired. 90 s&h 850-900. 120 blk s&h, 500-650, ochv'd. 110 blk steers, 500-650 GGA sired. 120 mostly char x s&h. 100 blk s&h, 500-750. 54 s&h, 600-700, 2 rounds vacc, knife cut, no implant. 135 char x/blk/bwf s&h 550-750, home raised, long weaned, 2 rounds vacc. 30 s&h 550-650, home raised, long weaned, 3 rounds vacc. 75 blk s&h 500-600, fall vacc. 55 s&h 600-700. 30 blk s&h, 500-600, 2 rounds vacc, 45 days weaned. 285 blk s&h, 550-750. 35 steers. 80 blk s&h, 650-750. 80 blk/bwf steers, 450-550, 2 rounds vacc, 45-60 days weaned. 100 s&h, 500-600. 50 s&h, 500-600, home raised. 100 s&h. 35 blk s&h 500-600, home raised, 45 days weaned, fall vacc. 45 blk s&h, 500, weaned, fall vacc. 14 blk s&h, 500, home raised, 60 days weaned, fall vacc. 19 blk s&h 550-600, home raised, 60 days weaned, fall vacc. 321 char s&h, 500-750, home raised, long weaned, 2 vacc. 19 blk s&h, 600-650, home raised, weaned, 2 vacc, PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES:

All Sales are on Tuesday at 11 AM

SPECIAL COW SALES: Tuesday, Nov. 16 • Tuesday, Dec. 21

WEANED/VACC SALES: Tuesday, December 7

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Cody Schafer 620-381-1050 Durham, KS

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Kevin Henke H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525 Agenda, KS

Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS

