





# The Bennington State Bank celebrates 135th anniversary

In 1887, the Bennington State Bank became one of the first banks chartered by the State of Kansas. What started as a single-branch operation in the small town of Bennington has grown these past 135 years into an expansive operation with nine locations in eight Kansas communities. While that growth story may be impressive, president and CEO Darren Gragg said it has also been with intentional focus on customers, employees and communities. The Bank, he said, will never grow beyond its means to do business face-to-face and to develop deep-seated relationships in the communities it serves. “It’s about the value of the conversation,” Gragg said. “Most banks want to get that loan booked and move on to the next one as fast as they can. We’re the opposite. The quality of those conversations and our willingness to spend the time is what’s been important to us.” That model speaks to the Bank’s legacy of being locally owned and operated for its entire 135-year existence. It also speaks directly, Gragg said, to the lessons taught for 55 years and counting by Mike Berkley. On December 1, 1967, Berkley and his seven siblings purchased the Bennington State Bank from their parents and uncles, who had owned the Bank since 1945. The family tapped



Mike Berkley is shown with Bennington State Bank president and CEO Darren Gragg. Berkley is celebrating 55 years in banking and Bennington State Bank is observing its 135th anniversary.

Berkley to run the operation, though he initially agreed to do so under the condition that he’d only be there a few years. “I had just gotten out of law school and was working in Denver for a CPA firm,” Berkley recalled. “I liked it in Denver, and I was planning on getting a CPA certificate. My plans were eventually to come to Salina and practice law.”

Fifty-five years later, while now retired, he chairs the Bank’s board of directors. He never practiced law, as banking became his life-long business endeavor. When Berkley took control of the Bank in 1967, it had assets of about \$5

million. Today, total assets are approaching \$1 billion. Through it all, the Bennington State Bank has maintained strong capital and holds a five-star rating by Bauer Financial, the nation’s leading independent bank rating firm. Berkley and team

Courtesy photo

## EPA and Army finalize rule establishing definition of WOTUS and restoring fundamental water protections

Last Friday the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of the Army (the agencies) announced a final rule establishing a durable definition of “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) to reduce uncertainty from changing regulatory definitions, protect people’s health, and support economic opportunity. The final rule restores water protections that were in place prior to 2015 under the Clean Water Act for traditional navigable waters, the territorial seas, interstate waters, as

well as upstream water resources that significantly affect those waters. It will take effect 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register.

“When Congress passed the Clean Water Act 50 years ago, it recognized that protecting our waters is essential to ensuring healthy communities and a thriving economy,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan in a statement after the announcement. “Following extensive stakeholder engagement, and building on what we’ve learned from

previous rules, EPA is working to deliver a durable definition of WOTUS that safeguards our nation’s waters, strengthens economic opportunity, and protects people’s health while providing greater certainty for farmers, ranchers, and landowners.”

“This final rule recognizes the essential role of the nation’s water resources in communities across the nation,” said Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Michael L. Connor. “The rule’s clear and supportable definition of waters of the United States will allow for more efficient and effective implementation and provide the clarity long desired by farmers, industry, environmental organizations, and other stakeholders.”

The subject of WOTUS has long been a concern for agriculture producers. In April 2022, National Association of Wheat Growers filed an amicus brief along with other agriculture groups in the Supreme Court case, which is examining the scope of federal jurisdiction as a Water of the United States under the Clean Water Act. “The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) is deeply concerned that the EPA and U.S. Army Corps rushed to get this revised definition out prior to the end of the year instead of waiting for the decision in the Sackett case before the Supreme Court,” said NAWG CEO, Chandler Goule. “While we continue reviewing the final rule, since the rulemaking process was announced last year, NAWG has stressed that farmers need clarity regarding jurisdiction, recognize important agricultural water features, and more long-term certainty from the courts and administrations.”

“It’s extremely disappointing to see the Biden Administration move forward with a new WOTUS rule before the U.S. Supreme Court has had a chance to review the previous, Trump-era rule,” said Senator Roger Marshall. “The EPA’s new rule has significant flaws and will allow the agency to operate well outside of its jurisdiction. Today’s announcement will amount to another massive land grab by this Administration.”

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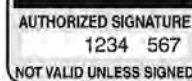
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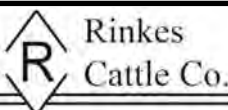
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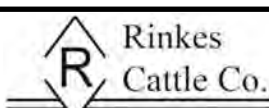
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# American Gelbvieh Association elects five to Board of Directors

Members of the American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) elected five candidates to the board of directors at the annual membership meeting held December 9, 2022, during the AGA National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Newly elected board members are David Larson, Clearbrook, Minnesota; Brent Overmiller, Smith Center; and Cory Voss, Bruning, Nebraska. Re-elected to serve a second term were Mark Covington, Montrose, Colorado, and Tom Vehige, Billings, Missouri.

The AGA board of directors also elected individuals to serve in leadership positions on the executive committee for 2023. Lori Maude, Hermosa, South Dakota, was elected president. Dan McCarty, Rifle, Colorado, was elected vice president. Derek Martin, Kinsley, was elected secretary, and William McIntosh, Georgetown, Kentucky, was elected treasurer.

Other members of the board include: Dustin Aherin, Jefferson, South

Dakota; Todd Bicket, DVM, Chickamauga, Georgia; Zack Butler, Milton, Tennessee; Gary Felger, Lohman, Missouri; Gregg Hartman, Pueblo, Colorado; and Jeff Loveless, Spanish Fork, Utah.

Retiring members of the 2022 AGA board of directors were John Carrel, Columbus, Missouri; Leland Clark, Barnard; and Klint Sickler, Gladstone, North Dakota. The AGA thanks those members for their years of service on the AGA board of directors.

## Sen. Marshall, colleagues unveil bicameral measure nullifying lesser prairie-chicken listing

U.S. senators Roger Marshall, M.D., Jerry Moran (KS), James Inhofe (OK), and James Lankford (OK), along with U.S. representatives Tracey Mann (KS-01), Jake LaTurner (KS-02), Ron Estes (KS-03), Markwayne Mullin (OK-02), Frank Lucas (OK-03), and Stephanie Bice (OK-05) have officially introduced a Congressional Review Act (CRA) joint resolution of disapproval in their respective chambers to strike down the Biden administration's recent listing of the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). If the CRA resolution is enacted, the measure would prevent the listing from having any force or effect.

entirely unnecessary due to successful conservation efforts benefiting the LPC and its habitat. I am glad to join my colleagues in introducing a resolution that would overturn the unnecessary listing of the LPC under the ESA."

"The Endangered Species Act is being used as a tool for a federal takeover of energy, agriculture, and commerce in my great state," said Lankford. "Oklahoma energy, agriculture, and construction companies have cooperated with the federal process to recover the Lesser Prairie Chicken and prevent its listing under the Endangered Species Act. Now Fish and Wildlife is moving to list the Chicken under the Act, which would create new requirements—no longer voluntary—for Oklahomans and other states. I remain opposed to listing the Chicken under the ESA, which is why I'm standing up with our neighbors in Kansas and elsewhere against this rule."

ful. All this reckless listing will do is create additional red tape making it more difficult for hard-working Kansans to succeed."

"Time and again we've seen the Biden administration assert their overreaching and burdensome regulations on the lives of hardworking Kansans. The recent classification of the lesser prairie-chicken is another example of using Washington bureaucrats to dictate how Kansans live and work. The farmers, ranchers and energy producers of the Midwest have made great strides in conserving our land and protecting our natural resources. Now it's necessary for Congress to rein in these out-of-control regulators and restore the rights of Kansas ranchers and energy producers," said Estes.

"Once again, the federal government is playing its 20-year back-and-forth game, re-listing the lesser prairie chicken as "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act," Mullin said. "I firmly believe that the radical environmentalists are doing all they can to hinder energy independence and production in Oklahoma. We do not need the federal government interfering in state business —this is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Our farmers, ranchers, and domestic producers deserve better."

"I am extremely frustrated at the actions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listing the lesser prairie-chicken under the Endangered Species Act," said Lucas. "The Fish and Wildlife Service's listing of the lesser prairie-chicken creates an unnecessary and burdensome layer of regulation on Oklahoma's agriculture and oil and gas industry, despite strong conservation efforts by farmers, ranchers, and landowners in Oklahoma and other states. In fact, the extensive conservation measures that were developed by states, landowners, and industry stakeholders has benefited the lesser prairie-chicken and the population of the species has increased by more than 50 percent since the Fish and Wildlife Service began their process. I'm proud to join my colleagues across Oklahoma and Kansas in introducing this legislation to strike down the Biden Administration's illogical action's listing the lesser prairie-chicken under the Endangered Species Act."

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# Kansas youth receive \$30,000 in scholarships

Twenty-seven scholarship winners for the 2022-23 school year were recognized during the annual Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) Convention November 30 in Wichita. A total of \$30,000 was presented by the Kansas Livestock Foundation (KLF) and its partners.

Five Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine students each received a \$1,500 Cartridges for Cash (CFC) scholarship from Merck Animal Health and KLF. This scholarship is awarded to a K-State veterinary medicine student with a career goal of being a large animal veterinarian. Third-year vet student awardees were Tegan Bowers of Oskaloosa and



Pictured front row from left are: Emma Albers, Chancy Johnson, Corley Becker, Lauren Gatz, Jessica Jensen, (middle row, L to R) Mackenzie Birney, Jordan Sylvester, Grace Fike, Valerie Haskett, Rachel Miner, Lauren Aust, Cailin Parks, (back row, L to R) Lily Judd, Anna Westerman, Chanae Parker, Korben Clawson, Jacob Argabright, Aiden Yoho, Grace Luebcke and Weston Schrader.

er is a junior majoring in agricultural education at K-State. This scholarship is awarded to a student entering or returning to a Kansas community or senior college and pursuing a degree in agriculture or a related field. Funding for the Cattlemen's Scholarship was generated through the sale of a bale feeder donated by GoBob for the fundraising auction during the 2021 KLA Convention, and the purchase of GoBob products by KLA members. The company donates a percentage of all member purchases to KLF. GoBob is a distributor of farming supplies, such as steel pipe and gates, corral and fence materials, and heavy-duty equipment.

Two \$1,000 Hampel Oil/Mobil Delvac Scholarships have been presented to Kansas students. Chancy Johnson of White City is a junior majoring in agricultural business and accounting at K-State. Anna Westerman of Yates Center is a junior majoring in agribusiness at Fort Hays State University. This scholarship is awarded to students entering their junior or senior year at K-State or Fort Hays State University and pursuing degrees in agronomy, agribusiness or agricultural economics. Preference is given to applicants with a career goal of being actively engaged in a farming or feedyard enterprise.

Five students from across the state received \$1,000 "Youth in Agriculture" scholarships from KLF. Lauren Aust of LaCygne is a freshman majoring in agricultural communications and journalism at K-State. Korben Clawson of Meade is a freshman majoring in agricultural economics and animal sciences and industry at K-State. James DeRouchey of Wamego is a freshman majoring in agricultural business at K-State. Weston Schrader of Wells is a freshman majoring in animal sciences and industry at K-State. Aidan Yoho of Yates Center is a freshman majoring in meat science at Allen Community College. Funded by the KLF Club Calf Sale held during the Kansas Junior Livestock Show,

these scholarships recognize students entering or returning to a Kansas junior or senior college and pursuing degrees in agriculture or a related field.

KLF awarded seven Kansas CattleWomen (KCW) \$1,000 scholarships. Emma Albers from Denton is a freshman majoring in veterinary nursing at Colby Community College. Three scholarship recipients are majoring in animal sciences and industry at K-State. Grace Fike of Westmoreland is a sophomore, Jordan Sylvester of Wamego is a freshman, and Katrina Turner of Derby also is a freshman. Two scholarship awardees are majoring in agricultural communications and journalism at K-State. Jessica Jensen of Courtland is a junior and Cailin Parks of Holton is a sophomore. Lily Judd is a freshman from Pomona majoring in livestock management and merchandising at Butler Community College. This scholarship, funded by the KCW silent auction held during the KLA Convention, is awarded to students entering or returning to a Kansas community or senior college and pursuing degrees in dietetics, food safety, agriculture or a related field.

Amanda Wray of Ottawa was awarded the \$500 Fred H. Woodbury Memorial Scholarship through KLF. Wray is a senior majoring in animal sciences and industry at K-State. This scholarship is presented to a student attending a Kansas junior or senior college and pursuing a degree in agriculture. Preference is given to students residing within Chase, Franklin, Lyon, Osage or Wabaunsee counties.

The \$1,000 Scott Johnson and Family Scholarship was awarded to Lauren Gatz of Fairview. Gatz is a sophomore majoring in agricultural communications and journalism at K-State. This scholarship is awarded to any student attending K-State and pursuing a degree in animal sciences and industry, agricultural communications and journalism, agribusiness or agricultural economics.

## Herington

**LIVESTOCK COMMISSION Co.**

**CATTLE SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY: 11:30 AM**

**Results for December 28, 2022**

— COWS / HFRTTS / BULLS —			
	Weight	Price Range	
<b>Cows:</b>	1230-1625	\$65.00-\$73.00	
<b>Bulls:</b>	1680-2415	\$80.50-\$92.50	

— TOP STRINGS OF EACH CLASS —			
	HEAD	WEIGHT	PRICE
<b>STEERS</b>			
Elmdale	13 blk	459	\$221.00
Ramona	5 mix	435	\$209.00
White City	5 blk	514	\$198.50
Elmdale	21 blk	598	\$196.50
Elmdale	8 blk	715	\$184.75
White City	5 blk	707	\$184.00
White City	7 mix	663	\$177.50
Burdick	60 mix	904	\$175.00

— HEIFERS —			
Herington	9 blk	593	\$170.00
Ramona	67 mix	863	\$169.75
Herington	73 mix	818	\$168.00
White City	5 blk	570	\$162.00
Hope	4 Bwf	1193	\$116.00

**EARLY CONSIGNMENTS**

**JANUARY 4, 2022**

**CHECK WEBSITE FOR CONSIGNMENTS**

**Manager: Tracy Ediger, 785-366-6645 \* Barn Phone: 785-258-2205**  
**Seth Bartel, 620-382-7041 • Tate Becker, 785-258-4165 • Dave Bures-402-766-3743**  
**Bob Kickhafer, Cell-785-258-4188 • Tim Wildman, 785-366-6152**  
KFRM AM 550, Every Wed., 8:00 a.m. • [www.HeringtonLivestock.com](http://www.HeringtonLivestock.com)

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## North central Kansas farmer/artist donates painting to Kansas State Fair

The Kansas State Fair received a "Fair-themed" painting from north central Kansas resident Gerald Moore, in July. The substantial canvas, measuring at 3'x10', captures the excitement of the Midway in grand detail, complete with rides and fair patrons.

Moore, a multi-generational farmer near the Nebraska border, has been painting for many years. This unique piece was created in 2001. In late 2021, Don Lambert, a long-time friend of Gerald's, contacted the Fair's general manager, Bryan Schulz, to discuss the donation of this piece to the Kansas State Fair. "We were honored to receive such an incredible gift that illustrates the Fair in such a remarkable way," stated Schulz. "We celebrate all things Kansas, and this is an example of the extraordinary talents and generosity of our fellow Kansans."

The Midway landscape is currently displayed at the Kansas State Fair administration office in Hutchinson.

## JC LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Wednesday Sale, Hogs NOON • Cattle 12:30 PM

**Results for Dec. 28th, 2022**

STEERS			TOP BUTCHER COW:		
15	531	219.00	65	760	168.00
20	591	189.50	17	801	166.25
85	673	185.00	72	790	166.00
22	711	178.75	72	716	163.50
22	805	173.75	15	957	151.00
48	909	173.00	<b>TOP BUTCHER COW:</b>		
2	910	167.00	\$76.50 @ 1,573 LBS.		
2	1105	157.00	<b>TOP BUTCHER BULL:</b>		
			\$109.50 @ 2,250 LBS.		

HEIFERS			BRED COWS:		
14	495	181.50	\$870-\$1,425		
140	687	179.25	<b>PAIRS:</b> \$1,000-\$1,550		
69	769	174.25	<b>BRED HEIFERS:</b>		
17	785	170.50	\$1,560-\$2,050		

**Please check our Facebook page**

- Junction City and Clay Center Livestock Sales -

**for the latest consignments.**

Watch online with [cattleusa.com](http://cattleusa.com) (Tab J.C. Livestock Sales)

Must register to bid.

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

**JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS • Barn Phone 785-238-1471**  
**Seth Lauer 785-949-2285, Abilene**

Radio Market Reports  
KFRM 550  
Tues. & Wed.  
8:00 am

**KARL LANGVARDT**  
Cell: 785-499-2945

**MITCH LANGVARDT**  
Cell: 785-761-5814

**LYNN LANGVARDT**  
Cell: 785-761-5813

Radio Market Reports  
KCLY-Fm 100.9  
Tues. 6:45 a.m.

## CLAY CENTER LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Cattle sales Tuesday, 11:00 AM.

**Report from December 27th, 2022**

STEERS			TOP BUTCHER COW:		
6	388	205.00	\$78.50 @ 1,677 LBS.		
3	642	180.00	<b>TOP BUTCHER BULL:</b>		
18	774	178.50	\$98.00 @ 1,875 LBS.		
16	841	172.00	<b>BRED COWS:</b>		
1	1030	156.00	\$850-\$1,200		

HEIFERS			PAIRS:		
6	314	203.00	\$1,000-\$1,400		
9	391	193.00	<b>BRED HEIFERS:</b>		
17	720	168.75	\$1,550-\$1,700		

**Be sure to check our Facebook page:**

**Junction City and Clay Center Livestock Sales**

**for the latest consignments & info.**

**NEXT SHEEP & GOAT SALE:**

**SAT., JANUARY 7TH**

Hay & Equipment - 9:00 A.M.

Sheep & Goats - 11:00 A.M.

**Clay Center, Ks • Barn Phone 785-632-5566**  
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**NO SALE ON DEC. 28**

*HAPPY NEW YEAR!!*

**EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 4**

- 28 Char str & hrs-longtime weaned, 400-700#
- 80 blk & red hrs-longtime weaned, 500-650#
- 27 blk & red str & hrs, 650-750#
- 34 Red Angus str, 700-900#
- 61 mostly blk str & hrs, 800-1000#
- 24 mix str & hrs, 650-850#
- 30 blk hrs, 775-850#
- 58 mix str, 875-950#

**PLUS MORE BY SALE DAY!**

**EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 11**

- 430 mix str, 825-950#

**PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!**

**ANNIVERSARY SALE - JANUARY 18**

- 260 mix str, 825-950#

**PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

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**DALTON HOOK, Field Representative, 785-219-2908**  
WIBW 580 • 6:45 A.M. Thurs; KVOE 1400 • 6:30-6:45 A.M. Thurs. & Fri.  
**To see more consignments go to: [emporialivestock.com](http://emporialivestock.com)**



# KARTA announces 2023 AgTech Conference

The Kansas Ag Research and Technology Association (KARTA) has announced that it is hosting its first Kansas Agricultural Technologies Conference (KATCON) since 2019 on January 19-20, 2023 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Junction City. The popular event, which looks closely at AgTech and its benefits to production agriculture, is back with a great line-up of speakers, learning, networking opportunities and more. Registration is open at <https://www.karta-online.org/karta-conference>.

This year's keynote speakers will include a variety of industry leaders such as Dan Poston, director of agronomy at Pivot Bio. Poston is an experienced re-

search manager skilled in agrochemicals, farms, crop protection and Sustainable Agriculture with a Ph.D. focused on Plant Physiology/Weed Science from Virginia Tech.

"We at KARTA are really proud and excited for the opportunity to meet in person again with colleagues and friends across the great state of Kansas that are invested in agriculture and how to increase the role of tech in what we do at KATCON 2023," said Darren Hoffman, KARTA president for 2022. "We are putting the final touches on our speaker schedule and hope our membership is ready for a great two-day event filled with industry updates, new opportunities, and ways to

connect and encourage one another. We look forward to seeing everyone there in January!"

In addition to gaining insight from leaders and educators across AgTech, KATCON attendees will hear from growers and farmers that have been leveraging grants from KARTA to conduct on-farm regenerative ag research, have open dialog across multiple participants and spend time with exhibitors during the event to see how AgTech can help them maximize yield and thrive during difficult times.

For more information on the event, and to see if exhibiting at the event would benefit you, please visit <https://www.karta-online.org/karta-conference>.

## Fair land lease workshops to be held in southeast Kansas

K-State Research and Extension will be hosting The Power of Negotiation and Communication, a Land Leasing Series. This program will cover farm leases of every type and prepare attendees, both landlords and tenants, to create intelligent and fair leases. It will also cover communication skills and relationships. This four-part workshop will be held on January 18th, January 25th, February 1st, and February 8th and will be held in four different locations in Southeast Kansas including Cherokee, Edna, Erie, and Neodesha. The total registration fee cost for this event is \$50, to cover dinner. Call (620) 784-5337 or visit [www.ag-manager.info/events](http://www.ag-manager.info/events).

Nearly fifty percent of all crop and pasture land is leased. The vast majority are verbal leases and were agreed upon long ago. This can create a great number of problems, a big one being when it comes to estate planning. The following scenario happens entirely too often. A (mostly) retired farmer or land owner dies, the

estate is settled, and then the surviving family has no idea what the leases of the farm ground are. More often than not, everyone has already moved away from what was once the family farm. In the end, the family wants to know what is fair to the leasing farmer, but still make the most rent or crop share profit. The only good solution is to get these leases in writing now, not only for the next generation, but also for the landlord to protect their assets and for the farmers and ranchers to protect their businesses.

### What's in a Good Lease?

If at all possible, the first step in creating an agriculture lease is to know what lease is currently held. To get this information, you will have to ask the person who made the lease what the contract details are. If you are lucky, the details are already down in a written contract. If you are that person, then do your family a favor and write the contract details down. Whether writing down a verbal contract or starting

over with a written contract, the following contract details are important.

- Contracting parties: This might seem simple but often farmers have shared operations and multiple family members can own land. A land contract is not automatically transferred when a farmer retires and the farming partner takes over.
- Property Description: The legal boundaries can be determined at the county deeds office and is required for a proper contract.
- General Terms of the Lease: Pretty cut and dry terms like dates on the contract, no subleasing, right of entry, etc. It is important to detail hunting rights, as well as road and fence repair obligations.
- Payments and Due Date: Payments of cash rent and the date in which payments are to be made by.
- Land Use: This is the meat and potatoes and by far the biggest part of the contract. This will be the hardest part for people not familiar

with farming; especially in crop share agreements as it will contain the percentages; expenses and income. Sometimes a landlord will designate a specific practice such as cover crops, tillage, or conservation practices.

- Maintenance: Who is responsible for fencing, conservation, noxious weeds, repairs and general maintenance?
- Hunting: Who can hunt on the land and can the land be leased to hunters?

Examples of agricultural contracts can be found on [agmanager.info](http://agmanager.info) or other state Extension websites. Even though many are fill in the blank, it is ideal to have a legal professional look them over.

### What is a 'Fair' Lease?

Determining 'what is fair' for cash rent or for a crop share can be difficult. Data is collected from yearly surveys to determine average cash rents, which can be a starting point. However, the data does not differentiate between land types; upland or bottomland, native or fescue, or state of condi-

tion. In addition, not many people submit completed surveys so rental rate averages are sparse and variable. For crop share, the question is who pays for what and in what percentages.

The majority of crop share contracts in southeast Kansas are on a one-third: two-third ratio basis. Data from surveys about leasing agreements were collected last year. Seventy-five to one-hundred percent of the one-third: two-third contracts split fertilizer costs, depending on crop type. Splitting herbicide cost was more common in soybeans and wheat than it was in corn, and splitting insecticide cost was less common in each crop type. Looking at the arrangements from the rest of the state, splitting of fertilizer and herbicide costs is common in one-third: two-third agreements. For sixty-four and fifty-fifty arrangements, nearly all split fertilizer, herbicide, and pesticide are split

on that percentage. This makes sense because the landlord should cover more costs as they receive a higher percentage of the crop. The surveys do not ask about liming costs, which are often split fifty-fifty by the landlord and farmer, no matter the crop share percentages.

In the end, what is fair is subjective, and the data that we use to determine what is common or fair isn't always statistically robust because so few turn in the land use surveys. Forming a well written lease and telling family members about the lease details will always be helpful later on. Statistics on rental rates, crop share agreements, and blank contracts can all be found on K-State Research and Extensions Economics Website, [agmanager.info](http://agmanager.info).

For more information about soil fertility or crops, please contact James Coover, crop production agent, [jcoover@ksu.edu](mailto:jcoover@ksu.edu) or (620) 724-8233.

## Key agricultural nominees confirmed by the senate

The U.S. Senate has confirmed Doug McKalip as Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Alexis Taylor for the role of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, and Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban to Under Secretary for Food Safety.

McKalip has served as an agriculture policy leader and trade expert for 29 years. Since March 2021, he has served as senior advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack on all agricultural matters relating to trade, national security, animal and plant health regulations, and a wide portfolio of domestic and international issues. McKalip formerly served in a leadership capacity in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Biotechnology Regula-


tory Services. He served as a senior advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture from 2015 to September 2016, and also as acting chief of staff. He served as the director of the White House Rural Council and coordinated the executive branch-wide response to the 2012-2013 drought. McKalip has served in a variety of other roles at USDA, including as Confidential Assistant to the Secretary, and director of legislative and public affairs for the National Resources Conservation Service at USDA.

Taylor is an Iowa farm native and served in the U.S. Army Reserves before taking office as Oregon's Department of Ag director since 2016. She also served on the 2020-2021 NASDA board of directors to sharpen states' impact on federal agriculture pol-

icy. In her new role, Taylor will focus on food insecurity, strengthening export markets and expanding market opportunities.

Dr. Esteban has worked in several roles at the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). Since 2018, he has held the position of chief scientist at the FSIS. Esteban has worked with the agency since 2001. Before joining

the USDA, Esteban worked at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an epidemic intelligence service officer, staff epidemiologist, and assistant director of the food safety office. He serves as the chair of the Codex Alimentarius Commission Committee on Food Hygiene, a committee that helps define food hygiene standards for international trade.


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**Market Report for 12-29-22. 1531 Head Sold.**

STEERS/BULLS	Individual Report	COW/CALF PAIRS:
<b>BEEF</b>		<b>N/T</b>
300-400#	N/T	<b>BRED COWS:</b>
400-500#	18 blk @497# \$226.50	N/T
500-600#	23 blk @549# \$222.00	<b>HFRETTES:</b>
600-700#	12 blk @610# \$209.00	N/T
700-800#	180 blk @741# \$193.50	<b>COWS-HIGH YIELDING:</b>
800-900#	20 blk @897# \$178.00	\$82.00-\$71.00
900-1,000#	\$162.00-\$155.00	<b>COWS-LGT WT &amp; LOW YIELDING:</b>
<b>HEIFERS</b>		\$65.00-\$45.00
300-400#	N/T	<b>BULLS:</b>
400-500#	17 blk @656# \$180.00	\$95.00-\$77.00
500-600#	86 blk @728# \$179.00	
600-700#	17 blk @862# \$169.50	
700-800#	36 blk @756# \$165.75	
800-900#	\$169.00-\$154.00	
900-1000#	N/T	
<b>FIELDMEN</b>		
Jim Dalinghaus 785-799-5643 Baileyville, KS	Dave Bures, Auctioneer 402-239-9717 Odell, Nebraska	Jeff Cook 785-564-2173 Hanover, KS
Trevor Lundberg 785-770-2271 Frankfort, KS	Taylor Schotte 785-268-0430 Marysville, KS	Greg Anderson 785-747-8170 Waterville, KS
	Bill Keesecker 785-410-6117 Washington, KS	Greg Schultejeans 785-294-0676 Corning, KS


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**Office: 620-662-3371**

**Hay Auction- Every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Cattle Auction- Every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.**  
**Sheep/Goat Auction- Every 3rd Saturday at 11:00 a.m.**  
**Horse/Tack Auction- Every 2nd Saturday**

**Tues., Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> - Calf/Yearling Special**  
**Sat., Jan 14<sup>th</sup> - Horse & Tack Sale**  
**Sat., Jan 21<sup>st</sup> - Sheep/Goat Sale**  
**ALL WEIGH COWS & BULLS SELL AT THE END**

**Holton Livestock Exchange, Inc.**  
 1/2 mile East of Holton, KS on 16 Highway  
**Livestock Auction every Tuesday at 11:00 AM**  
**\*\*\*\*STARTING TIME: 11:00 AM\*\*\*\***

**MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**  
**RECEIPTS: 1411 CATTLE**  
**FOR FULL RESULTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**  
**[WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM](http://WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM)**

**DECEMBER 27 CLOSED for Holiday!**

Happy New Year!

We appreciate your business!

**Tuesday, January 3, Weekly Livestock Auction**  
**Tuesday, January 10, Special Calf & Yearling Auction**

**Dan Harris, Auctioneer & Owner • 785-364-7137**  
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**316-320-3212**  
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**2595 SE Highway 54, P.O. Box 622, El Dorado, KS 67042**  
**No Sale Last Week due to Holiday.**

**Thank you to all of our buyers & sellers in 2022, we look forward to being your preferred Livestock Auction in 2023 & years to come.**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

**See y'all back on January 5th for a SPECIAL STOCKER FEEDER SALE!**  
**NO SALE: 12.29**

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE FOR DAILY CONSIGNMENT UPDATES**  
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**We welcome your consignments!**  
 If you have cattle to consign or would like additional information, please call the office at 316-320-3212

**Check our website & Facebook for updated consignments: [www.eldoradolivestock.com](http://www.eldoradolivestock.com)**  
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**Seth Greenwood**  
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 (620) 583-3338  
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**Van Schmidt**  
 Auctioneer/Fieldman  
 (620) 345-6879  
**Charly Cummings**  
 Auctioneer/Fieldman  
 (620) 496-7108  
**Brandon Fredrick**  
 Fieldman  
 (620) 204-0841

**Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM**


**VALENTINE LIVESTOCK AUCTION CO. Valentine, Neb.**


**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023**

**Special Feeder Sale**  
 S.T. 11:30 A.M. Expecting 5000 hd

**Two BIG sales Jan 5 & Jan 12- over 10,000 hd!**  
**All calves weaned over 60 days and preconditioned**

**Listings:**

178. Herf strs NI Van Newkirk sired big outline!.....575-700#.....Jack & Marsha King  
 300. rd & blk (230s-70h) NI strs front end -hfrs not topped650-775#.....Grage Ranch  
 230. blk & Ang strs NI.....600-750#.....Byron & Tyson Cox  
 180. Ang strs NI 1 ld @ 700#.....450-700#.....Jim Lee Ranch  
 180. Ang & blk strs NI Mar & Apr bom.....700-800#.....Shawn & Rod Klein  
 150. blk strs NI top of 300 hd.....700-750#.....L & C Land & Cattle  
 140. Ang strs NI Risse genes.....600-750#.....Brett Galbraith  
 90. blk strs NI Connealy genes.....700-735#.....Powder Horn Rn  
 70. blk strs NI.....750#.....Randy & Chris Huddle  
 70. blk strs Connealy genetics.....700#.....Sunny Slope Rn  
 46. Ang & blk strs NI A.I. genes 25 yrs good look!.....650-700#.....DD & Glenda Linse  
 550. Ang (60s-60h) NI hfrs breedable-Reknown & Ashland genes.....575-725# Matt Vandermay  
 300. Ang hfrs NI Sitz genes.....500-650#.....Ramm Ranch Cattle LLC  
 225. blk & rd (60) hfrs NI breedable.....550-650#.....Williams & Martin  
 100. blk hfrs NI 70 hd @600#- breedable Raven & Green Valley.....550-600# Mansfield Rn. #4  
 70. Ang & blk hfrs NI.....550-650#.....Randy & Justin Klein  
 145. blk & Ang (120h-25s) hfrs not topped- Mohnen & 21 Ang genes.....550-725# Leo Goss #4  
 120. Ang(60s-60h) NI hfrs breedable-Reknown & Ashland genes.....575-725# Matt Vandermay  
 375. blk, bwf & x-bred.....400-575#.....River Valley Ranch  
 360. blk NI May born hfrs not topped.....475-650#.....Mark Johnson  
 200. blk, bwf nice set! Van Newkirk & Flying M genes.....500-625#.....Judd Schomp  
 190. blk, few char-x (125s-65h).....700-800#.....McClary Farms  
 150. rd Ang, Hereford & blk NI.....500-600#.....Wolffenden Hereford  
 141. blk (88s-53h) NI Nutter sired.....500-600#.....John Ehler & Brett Haake  
 105. Ang (54s-51h) NI.....525-625#.....Hayland Cattle  
 85. Ang.....600-700#.....Gary Travnick  
 61. blk (36s-21h) NI Vanlek & Logterman genes.....500-625#.....Box V (Matt Stephens)  
 55. blk & Ang (2 rd-1 bwf) NI disposition plus!.....600-700#.....Darrel Titus  
 50. blk NI.....700-850#.....Howard Schmidt  
 30. blk & Ang NI Select Sires-Niagara.....500-650#.....Ryan Gumb  
 33. Herf, rd & nwf hfrs NI rd, nwf not topped.....500-650#.....Ken & Kayla Stephens

**PLUS MORE FROM: Duffield, Stoner**

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2022 Census of Agriculture under way in Kansas; respond online or by mail

In late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) mailed the 2022 Census of Agriculture paper questionnaires to all known agriculture producers across the nation. The previous month, producers received their survey

codes with an invitation to respond online. Any Kansas producer who did not respond online now has the option to complete the ag census at agcensus.usda.gov or by mail. Producers who have already responded to the 2022 Census of Agriculture online do not need to respond again. The deadline for response is Feb. 6, 2023. "For producers in Kansas, the Census of Agriculture is their opportunity to show the value and importance of Kansas agriculture. Producers, policy-makers, and business leaders all use Census data to make informed decisions that will shape the future of the in-

dustry," said Doug Bounds, NASS state statistician for Kansas. "Responding to the Census is more convenient than ever before. The online version is fast, user-friendly, and secure. Thank you to those producers that have already responded." The Census of Agriculture remains the nation's only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county, and U.S. territory. Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, which produced and sold, or normally would have sold \$1,000 or more of agricultural products in 2022 are included in the ag census. The Census of

Agriculture helps shape the future of American agriculture. Responding to the Census of Agriculture is required by law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113. The same law requires NASS to keep all information confidential, to use the data only for statistical purposes, and only publish in aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation. NASS will release the results of the ag census in early 2024. To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit [nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus). Follow @usda\_nass for the latest information.

### Grass & Grain Weather Report

#### Jan. 4, 2023

##### Seven Day Forecast

**WEDNESDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 35 Low: 16

**THURSDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 34 Low: 17

**FRIDAY**  
Cloudy  
High: 35 Low: 15

**SATURDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 36 Low: 18

**SUNDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 37 Low: 17

**MONDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 38 Low: 20

**TUESDAY**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 35 Low: 13

##### In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 35°, humidity of 66%, Northwest wind 6 to 10 mph. The record high for today is 61° set in 2003. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 16°. Northwest wind 3 to 6 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 14°.

##### Last Week's Almanac

Date	H/L	Normals	Precip
12/23	13/-2	40/18	0.00"
12/24	20/1	40/17	0.00"
12/25	31/1	40/17	0.02"
12/26	25/8	40/17	0.00"
12/27	41/21	40/17	0.00"
12/28	54/32	40/17	0.00"
12/29	60/30	40/17	0.00"

Rainfall ..... 0.02"  
Normal rainfall ..... 0.21"  
Departure ..... -0.19"  
Average temp ..... 23.8°  
Average normal ..... 28.6°  
Departure ..... -4.8°

##### This Week's Sun & Moon Chart

	Full	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	New
1/6		Wednesday	7:46 a.m.	5:17 p.m.	3:17 p.m.	6:04 a.m.	1/21
		Thursday	7:46 a.m.	5:18 p.m.	4:04 p.m.	7:02 a.m.	
		Friday	7:46 a.m.	5:19 p.m.	4:57 p.m.	7:54 a.m.	
		Saturday	7:46 a.m.	5:19 p.m.	5:55 p.m.	8:39 a.m.	
		Sunday	7:46 a.m.	5:20 p.m.	6:55 p.m.	9:17 a.m.	
		Monday	7:45 a.m.	5:21 p.m.	7:56 p.m.	9:49 a.m.	
		Tuesday	7:45 a.m.	5:22 p.m.	8:57 p.m.	10:16 a.m.	

##### Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure


3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

##### Weather History

Jan. 4, 1989 - Up to a foot of snow blanketed the mountains of West Virginia and strong winds in the northeastern United States produced wind chill readings as cold as 60 degrees below zero in Maine. Mount Washington, N.H. reported wind gusts to 136 mph.

##### Growing Degree Days

Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
12/23	0	12/27	0
12/24	0	12/28	0
12/25	0	12/29	0
12/26	0		



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### CROPLAND & COMMERCIAL LOTS

#### 72.63± ACRES ATCHISON COUNTY, KS

» SELLING IN 4 TRACTS «

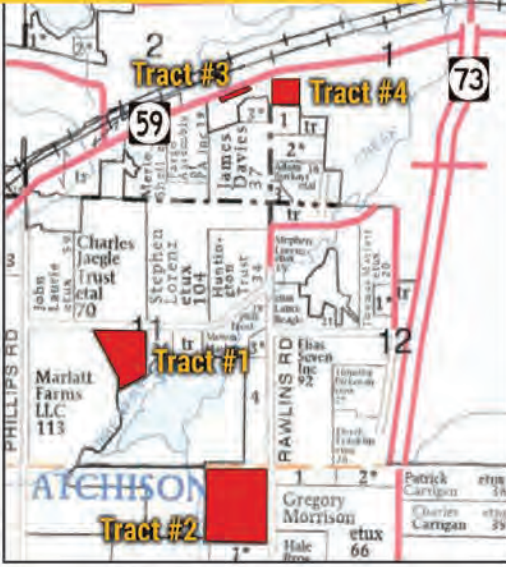
## UNRESERVED ONLINE LAND AUCTION

Bid Online  
**JAN. 17-31, 2023**

Seller: Marlatt Construction Company, Inc  
Contact Listing Agent  
**Mike Campbell 785.821.0619**

**BIDDING ENDS JANUARY 31 AT 11 A.M. CST**

Get a salebill, register and bid at [www.bigiron.com](https://www.bigiron.com)  
Personal Property Sells Wednesday, February 1, 2023



**Tract #1: 20.51± acres**  
» 17834 274th Rd, Atchison, KS  
» 6 buildings 35,533 sq. ft.  
» 3) 10,000 bushel bins  
» Adjoins Warnock Lake

**Tract #2: 44.95± acres**  
» East 1,475 ft of N 1/2, NE 1/4 14-6-20E  
» 40.69± acres cropland  
» Adjoins Warnock Lake

**Tract #3: 0.77± acres**  
» Commercial lot Atchison, KS  
» 527.9 ft Hwy 59 frontage

**Tract #4: 6.4± acres**  
» Commercial lot Atchison, KS  
» 226 ft Hwy 59 frontage

**All Tracts:**  
» Seller's mineral and wind rights pass to buyer  
» Tracts sell individually  
» Possession at closing

Information was obtained from sources deemed reliable, but broker makes no guarantees as to accuracy. All prospective buyers urged to fully inspect property and rely on their own conclusions. Copyright 2023 BigIron Realty. All rights reserved.

**Attend an Open House**  
**Monday, January 23, 2023**  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CST  
**Marlatt Construction Company, Inc.**  
17834 274th Road Atchison, KS 66002  
Located on Tract #1

**Attend the Auction**  
**Tuesday, January 31, 2023**  
9 a.m. CST until bidding ends  
**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**  
401 Main Street Atchison, KS 66002

BigIron Realty representatives will be there to answer questions about the property and assist buyers with bidding online. You do not have to be present to bid online, but you are required to be available by phone. Sellers: Thinking of selling your property? Please attend this auction to see how it works!

# Sell At St. Marys

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

**We sold 863 cattle December 27. Steer and heifer calves were in good demand at steady to higher prices. Feeder steers were steady to \$2.00 higher. Cows and bulls sold \$2.00-\$3.00 higher.**

STEER CALVES	61 mix str	911@175.00
13 blk str	539@211.00	60 mix str 934@174.85
3 blk str	508@207.00	8 blk str 713@170.00
3 blk/red str	522@206.00	2 blk str 755@158.00
11 blk/bwf str	544@201.00	8 blk/bwf str 1013@136.00
2 blk str	548@191.00	
<b>STOCKER &amp; FEEDER STEERS</b>	6 blk/bwf hfrs	412@204.00
3 blk str	553@197.00	7 blk/char hfrs 434@194.00
140 blk str	714@195.00	9 blk/bwf hfrs 484@191.00
9 blk str	624@194.50	8 blk hfrs 546@180.00
6 blk/bwf str	632@189.75	2 blk hfrs 445@176.00
4 blk str	631@188.25	2 x-bred hfrs 545@175.00
59 blk/red str	891@179.10	1 blk hfr 505@171.00
59 blk/bwf str	842@179.00	4 w/bwf hfrs 431@170.00
64 blk/bwf str	840@177.25	1 blk hfr 365@161.00
60 blk/char str	932@177.00	
58 blk/red str	920@176.00	<b>STOCKER &amp; FEEDER HEIFERS</b>
67 blk/char str	875@175.00	5 blk hfrs 642@166.00

COWS & HEIFERETTES	1 blk hfrt	1175@130.00
1 blk hfr	665@149.00	1 blk hfrt 1290@127.00
1 red hfr	715@150.00	1 blk hfrt 1070@107.00
1 blk hfr	665@149.00	1 blk hfrt 1195@90.00
1 red hfr	655@140.00	1 sim hfrt 950@86.00
1 blk hfr	855@139.00	1 blk cow 1500@75.00
1 bwf hfr	1015@133.00	1 blk cow 1395@74.50
1 sim hfr	1005@127.00	1 blk cow 1420@74.00
		1 blk cow 1685@73.50
		1 blk cow 1255@73.00

BRED FEMALES & PAIRS	2 blk/bwf cows/cvs	@1850.00
1 blk cow	1585@72.50	6 blk cow @1800.00
1 blk cow	1500@72.00	1 bwf cow @1575.00
1 bwf cow	1420@71.50	
1 blk cow	1450@71.00	
1 blk cow	1565@70.00	
1 blk cow	1150@69.50	
1 bwf cow	1365@67.50	
1 hol cow	1400@67.00	
1 bwf cow	1390@66.50	
1 blk cow	1380@66.00	
1 blk cow	1405@65.00	
1 blk cow	1385@64.50	
1 hol cow	1810@64.00	
1 blk cow	1030@62.00	
1 blk cow	1305@61.00	

BULLS	6 blk cows	@1550.00
1 blk bull	1910@105.50	
1 brang bull	1505@100.00	
1 blk bull	2070@90.00	

**CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 3, 2023:**

- 20 blk str, 600-700 lbs., weaned, vaccinated.
- 20 blk str, 700-750 lbs., weaned, vaccinated.
- 80 Ang str, Oct. 23 weaned, vaccinated, 600-700 lbs.
- 50 blk str & hfrs, weaned, vaccinated, 600-700 lbs.
- 47 blk str & hfrs, weaned, vaccinated, 650-750 lbs.
- 70 SimAng str & hfrs, 750-900 lbs.
- 145 Angus str, 750-850 lbs., Gantz Farms.
- 120 Angus Char str, 850-875 lbs.
- All above consignments are home raised
- 60 Angus Char str, 900-925 lbs.
- 60 blk str, 925-950 lbs.
- 60 blk Char str, 900-950 lbs.

**CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 10, 2023:**


- 27 SimAng str & hfrs, weaned, vaccinated, 600-700 lbs.
- 125 Angus hfrs, home raised, 700-750 lbs., Gantz Farms.

Our CONSIGNMENTS can now be viewed after 12 Noon on Mondays by going to [www.grassandgrain.com](https://www.grassandgrain.com) & logging onto the online subscription

FOR INFORMATION OR ESTIMATES:  
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DENNIS' CELL PHONE 785-456-4187  
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LYNN REZAC ST. MARYS, 785-456-4943  
REX ARB MELVERN, 785-224-6765

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**St. Marys, Ks.**