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Annual wheat tour showcases dismal year

Editor's Note: This is the first installment of our four-week Wheat Harvest series. Sponsors this year are Polanksy Seed, Luco Mfg., Herrs Machine Hydrostatics, CVR Manufacturing, Hoffman Brothers Welding and Fabrication, Hess Services, Inc., Superior Real Estate and Harris Crop Insurance.

By Lucas Shivers

In mid-May, the 2023 Wheat Quality Council's Hard Winter Wheat Tour crisscrossed the Midwest with three days of wheat scouting. Teams calculated a predicted 30 bushels per acre yield for this year's wheat harvest.

Drought, abandoned fields and freeze damage caused limited stand establishment. Multiple fields were remarkably spotty with thin and short wheat.

Tough Forecast

Romulo Lollato, associate professor with Kansas State University Research and Extension, gave a dim report on the status of Kansas wheat crops this year.

"Personally, I haven't seen this many abandoned fields over the past eight years I've been on tour," Lollato said. "It is actually going to be in tough shape."

Lollato said the wheat conditions are in a little better shape in the northwest from the recent rain showers.

"There is a vast difference between cropping systems in the central and western parts of the state, compared to after corn and soybeans and after fallow," he said.

In recent reports, overall Kansas winter wheat conditions were rated 34% very poor, 34% poor, 22% fair, 9% good, and 1% excellent.

Tour Stats

The 106 tour partici-

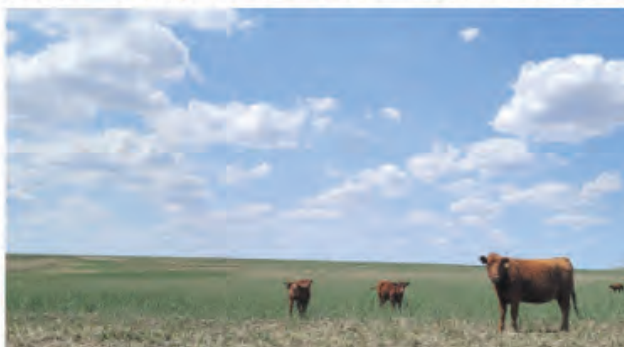
K-State lands \$1.15M award to support local food systems

By Pat Melgares, K-State Research and Extension news service

Kansas State University will receive \$1.15 million as part of a five-state project that aims to help underserved populations in rural communities gain access to local and healthy foods.

Rial Carver, a co-leader of K-State Research and Extension's Local Foods Transdisciplinary Team, said the program will be part of one of 12 regional food business centers supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

She said K-State received a sub-award from the Heartland Regional Food Business Center, which is managed by the



The snapshot of the 2023 wheat crop was not a pretty one, and only 9% of the crop is rated as good, and 1% excellent in recent reports.

Photo courtesy of Kansas Wheat

pants came from 22 states plus Mexico, Canada and Colombia in 27 vehicles gathering data from 652 fields.

With 8.1 million acres of wheat planted in the fall, the potential harvest in Kansas will be around 178 million bushels.

Kansas wheat crops suffered a continued drought, stunting yield potential and netting an abandonment rate at 26.75% above the earlier estimates of 18.5%.

Wheat between Wichita and Manhattan looked better, improving as the tour moved north. This

area averaged 44.1 bushels per acre.

The formulas from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service model calculates both early and late season amounts, based on the number of wheat heads, number of spikelets and kernels per spikelet. There are still several variables such as weed pressure, disease and pests.

The tour captures a moment in time for the yield potential for fields across the state. The fields were still a few weeks from harvest with factors still in

play to affect final yields and production.

Regional Stands

Wheat in southwest Kansas looks rough, with intense drought conditions, poor stands and some freeze damage. There was little disease pressure this year due to the drought conditions.

Short wheat plants extended into central Kansas. In central areas, hail damaged wheat and pests started to appear. Due to the combination of drought and cold temperatures over winter, the central portion of the state is in really tough shape.

The eastern part of the state showed a very low yield based on the region's potential.

In addition to Kansas reports, scouts from neighboring states shared reports.

Down south, data from the Oklahoma Wheat Commission estimated yield of 23 bushels per acre.

Mike Shulte, who presented with the Oklahoma Grain Feed Association, shared that they predict 49.9 million bushels, with about 2.2 million acres of wheat harvested out of 4.6 million acres planted.

"The four largest

University of Nebraska program, Rural Prosperity Nebraska. The USDA awarded \$25 million to UNL for this project.

The projects includes supporting small and mid-sized food producers in Kansas by helping them:

- Access technical and financial assistance.
- Reach new markets.
- Overcome barriers to market access.

"The Regional Food Business Center funding program came at an opportune time for K-State Research and Extension," said Carver, who is also an extension specialist with K-State's Rural Grocery Initiative. "Participation in this program will allow

K-State Research and Extension to provide another layer of support to local and regional food businesses."

K-State is one of 32 partners in the Heartland Food Business Center, which is based in Lincoln, Nebraska. Partners include Extension offices in Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Iowa; non-profit organizations; tribal and indigenous groups; and others.

The USDA funded 11 other regional projects, covering the United States. K-State will receive \$1.15 million over four years.

Carver said K-State Research and Extension's Local Foods Transdisciplinary Team has been building capacity for local food systems across Kansas, including a recently awarded USDA Regional Food Systems Partnership grant.

Team member Marlin Bates, also a principal investigator in the project and director of K-State's Extension office in Douglas County, said "The groundwork laid by the Local Foods Transdisciplinary Team over the past few years has positioned K-State Research and Extension well" to be part

of the Heartland Regional Food Business Center.

The Kansas Rural Center and KC Healthy Kids will also be partners in the Heartland Regional Food Business Center. Carver said she anticipates partnerships with other groups, including the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Shop Kansas Farms and the Kansas Small Business Development Center.

"In our experience, local and regional food systems work requires strong partnerships," said Londa Nwadike, a principal investigator on the project and team member

wheat producing counties in Oklahoma are looking very rough, extremely dry," Shulte said. "They did not receive enough moisture, and many farmers are cutting their wheat for hay."

Royce Schaneman, executive director of the Nebraska Wheat Board, reported that the entire state of Nebraska received about one inch of rain in mid-May.

Nebraska yield is estimated at 29.6 bushels per acre, down from an average of 48 bushels per acre. Planted acres are 1.1 million with 90% to be harvested.

Brad Erker, executive director of Colorado Wheat, estimated a 32-bushel yield from 54 million bushels due to the rainfall the second week of May.

Grain Chain

The Wheat Quality Council coordinates efforts by breeders, producers and processors to improve wheat and flour quality. The tour helps make connections within the wheat industry to allow participants to meet wheat farmers and see the growing crop.

Mariam Dubin, who is employed with Ardent Mills, participated in her first wheat tour.

"I have been so excited to be able to get out into the field, see the wheat growing, talk to farmers and learn more about the industry," Dubin said. "I really only have a small materialist snapshot of what actually happens. Just getting to know about (crop rotations) has been a massive eye-opener."

Tour participants include millers, bakers, food processors and traders and provide Kansas farmers interactions with customers worldwide.

who holds dual extension appointments in Kansas and Missouri. "We are happy to incorporate partners from across the state to participate in this project."

Officials with the Heartland Regional Food Business Center said they plan to build an interactive platform where food buyers, sellers, producers, processors and market managers can communicate and collaborate on the local level.

Carver said the Kansas team will begin its work within the next few months.

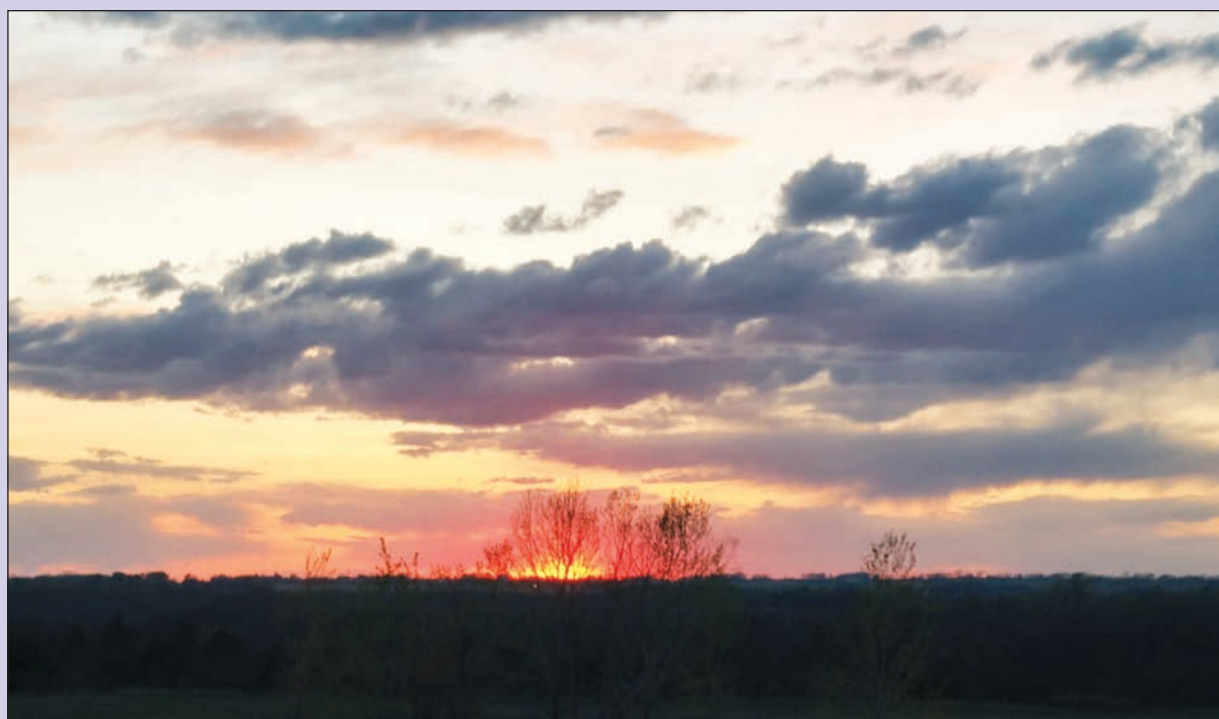
KDHE reports on 2023 prescribed burning

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) recently reported about 1.07 million acres of Flint Hills grasslands in 17 Kansas counties were burned this spring, compared to 1.87 million acres in 2022. An additional 128,683 acres of tallgrass prairie were burned in four counties of northern Oklahoma.

This is the fewest acres burned since 2013, when the last major drought impacted the state. The most current drought monitor shows nearly 60% of Kansas is in extreme to exceptional drought.

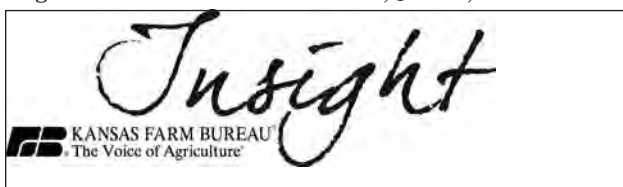
KDHE also noted preliminary data indicates no ozone readings between February 3 and May 1 exceeded Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards.

Midwest Majesty



A Riley County sunset showcases the beauty of the Midwest landscape.

Photo by Ken Sullivan



Engaged Kansas

By Glenn Brunkow,
Pottawatomie County
farmer and rancher

It seems as though the news is full of headlines about nothing but bickering at all levels of government. I don't know about you, but at times I want to send them all to their corners until they can be civil to each other. Often, I hear from people that this discord and constant fighting are why they have

no confidence in our leaders, and they think our government is broken.

I disagree with the notion that our government is broken. It has survived this long, and I would guess our ancestors saw this level of political bickering before. I do agree it is disheartening and downright irritating. The elected officials are in office to represent our best interests, not what many

of us consider extreme political views. Do you know whose fault this is? Sure, some of the blame should be cast on the parties and elected officials but much of the blame for the disconnect between government and the people lies with us.

Yes, we have only ourselves to blame if we don't like what is going on at any level of government and it doesn't change. The only way real change can happen is if citizens become involved or engaged. That is why the Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) along with diverse groups such as the Kansas League of Municipalities, Kansas Association of School Boards, and the Kansas Chamber to

name just a few partners have launched Engaged Kansas.

This nonpartisan effort is meant to help citizens understand how government works and how to engage or become active in local bodies. The website, www.engagedkansas.org states right off the bat it is for "building civic-minded leaders." There are different tabs that one can use to research what involvement at different levels such as school boards, city councils or county commissions would look like and what would be involved at each level.

It also has links to KFB's Campaign School and the Kansas Leader-

ship Center for more in-depth information. The website is a gateway or a starting point for those who want to make a difference and help guide how our government is run. Let's also be honest, while Topeka and D.C. capture all the headlines, local government such as your school board and county commission have far more impact on your day-to-day life and tax bill. Local government at the most basic level is also where we can see the most change and make the most difference.

Who knows, after you get your feet wet at the local level you might be ready to move up and try to effect change at a higher level. That is what we

need — more citizens to take an active interest in what happens at all levels of government. Then we will start to see our elected officials have their feet held to the proverbial fire, but it all starts at the most local levels and that happens when citizens become engaged. Take an interest, get involved, after all it is a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

"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.

USDA extends application deadline for Revenue Loss Programs to July 14

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the deadline for the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two and Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) to July 14, 2023, to give producers more time to apply for assistance. The original deadline was June 2.

Additionally, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is partnering with nine organizations to provide educational and technical assistance to agricultural producers and provide assistance in completing an ERP Phase Two application. The extended deadline will give producers more time to work with these partner organizations and apply for assistance.

"Farm Service Agency recognizes that there is a learning curve for producers applying for our new revenue-based programs and we want to make sure producers

have the time they need to apply for assistance," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "Partnering with these organizations through cooperative agreements provides additional educational and technical assistance to producers who may need help with the Emergency Relief Program Phase Two application process. The deadline extension gives producers more time to locate and work with these organizations to complete their program application."

Cooperative Agreements for ERP Phase Two Application Assistance

Through cooperative agreements with FSA, the following organizations are providing free assistance to producers across the United States and territories.

- Alabama State Association of Cooperatives
- Farmers Legal Action Group, Inc.

- Flower Hill Institute
- Intertribal Agriculture Council, Inc.
- North South Institute
- Renewing the Countryside II

- Rural Advancement Foundation International - USA

- Rural Coalition
- Texas Small Farmers and Ranchers CBO

Depending on a producer's location, these nine partners can provide assistance either by phone or through online meeting software like Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

There is never a charge for technical assistance provided by FSA employees or cooperative agreement recipients. These organizations will assist producers with completing the application and any follow-up future insurance coverage requirements. Producers who receive ERP payments are statutorily required to purchase crop insurance

or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the next two available crop years. These organizations will not collect producer records, complete or sign the application form, or act on the producer's behalf in any way throughout this process.

Find more information on FSA cooperative agreements and contact information for the nine organizations please visit fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/cooperative-agreements/index.

PARP Application Assistance

USDA will host a webinar that focus on completing the PARP application form on June 8, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Central time with members of the National Farm Income Tax Extension Committee.

Eligibility

To be eligible for ERP Phase Two, producers must have suffered a decrease in allowable gross revenue in 2020 or 2021 due to necessary expenses related to losses of eligible crops from a qualifying natural disaster event. Assistance will be primarily to producers of crops that were not covered by Federal Crop Insurance or NAP, since crops covered

by Federal Crop Insurance and NAP were included in the assistance under ERP Phase One.

To be eligible for PARP, an agricultural producer must have been in the business of farming during at least part of the 2020 calendar year and had a 15% or greater decrease in allowable gross revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to a baseline year.

FSA offers an online ERP tool and PARP tool that can help producers determine what is consid-

ered allowable gross revenue for each respective program.

Producers should contact their local FSA office to make an appointment to apply for ERP Phase Two and PARP assistance. Producers should also keep in mind that July 15 is a major deadline to complete acreage reports for most crops. FSA encourages producers to complete the ERP Phase Two application, PARP application and acreage reporting during the same office visit.

Beekeeping on solar sites can enhance value, agricultural production

As demand for solar energy continues to grow, the co-location of solar and agriculture—also known as agrivoltaics — offers opportunities for conservation, food production, increasing pollinator habitat, and adding farm revenue streams while producing affordable renewable energy.

A new resource from the Center for Rural Affairs explores the benefits of one such method of agrivoltaics—solar beekeeping.

"Placing beehives on or near solar sites can enhance the value of the land by keeping it in ag-

ricultural production and providing new streams of income for local farmers," said Lindsay Mouw, a Center policy associate. "Solar beekeeping also has environmental benefits, such as providing pollinator services to local crops. When solar panel fields are planted with native and non-invasive vegetation, the land serves as critical habitat for bees, monarch butterflies, and other insects, birds, and animals."

In addition to exploring the benefits, "Making the Case for Solar Beekeeping" includes recommendations for developers, landowners, and policymakers to consider during the planning process.

"Policymakers can develop zoning regulations that require, incentivize, or otherwise encourage utility- and community-scale solar projects to be seeded with native and non-invasive vegetative ground cover," Mouw said. "These regulations can set up a project site for beekeeping, even if it is not included as a goal during original project planning. It is important that regulations not be so strict they reduce opportunities for other beneficial practices, such as grazing."

To learn more about solar beekeeping, view and download the "Making the Case for Solar Beekeeping" fact sheet at cfra.org/publications.



I owe my neighbors an apology. I am the reason it did not rain yesterday. I guess if you were planting or doing some other activity that it needed to be dry for, I was your hero and I scared the rain off. In either case, it was my fault that the rain building up over the top of us went on to the east, dropping just enough to smear up a windshield. I knew better than to do what I did but that did not stop me.

I was going around some electric fence in preparation for moving a set of cows onto new grass. This was the first move of the year onto this pasture so there was a lot of clearing of the electric fence that needed to happen. Normally I do this before the grazing season and before the vegetation has greened up and grown into the fence. Not this year, I decided to wait until the grass and brush had come to life, adding to the difficulty of getting the fence back online.

Add to the vegetation the ever-present threat of ticks. At last count I had found eight on me and at least that many on the dog. I don't know if there is any other living creature that I despise as much as ticks. When I get to heaven, I am going to ask someone why they allowed Noah to bring them on the Ark. There is nothing worse than finding a tick because for the next two days you can feel phantom ticks crawling all over. Back to the story, there I was in the jungle cutting brush and weeds off of the electric fence. I was pretty much absorbed by the job, not really paying attention to the world or weather conditions around me. It was hot and humid when I started, there was not much wind, and the sun was out. Most normal people would have probably done this earlier in the morning, but that was not challenging enough for me.

I kept hearing something and that is when it dawned on me that I was hearing thunder. I looked to the east and saw a thunderhead building. I knew the storms were moving east so the only question was if it would build up over me. I also had heard that if you could hear thunder, you would be in danger from the lightning. Working with an electric fence also seemed like a bad idea in a thunderstorm. What did I do? I kept working.

The fence took me down to a densely

wooded area, teeming with ticks and blocked from the eastern horizon. I kept after the fence, once again losing track of the world and weather around me. That was when I noticed that it had gotten considerably cooler, and the wind had picked up. The thunder did seem to happen more often, and it was somewhat louder. Then I looked at the sky; it was that dark angry look you get before the downpour.

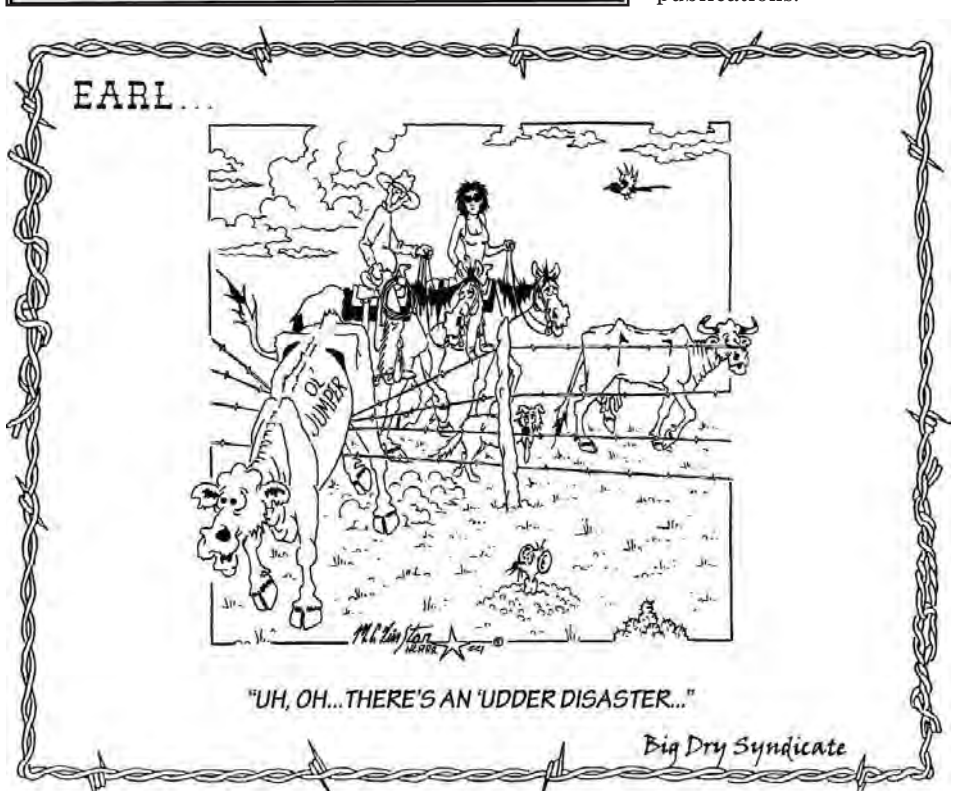
At that point I had a choice to make. I could continue to work, risking lightning strike or worse yet, a good soaking. I don't know about you, but I hate to get soaked. The place I was in was also not easy to get out of in good conditions, let alone driving rain and thunderstorm. On the flip side, I knew that if I abandoned my post and went back to the house the rain would be scared away and we would end up with nothing.

I have to admit that I am scared of thunderstorms, I have been close a couple of times in my life to lightning strikes and I really hate to be shocked. I also know that the chance of being hit by lightning is close to the odds for the lottery. I promise I know which one would happen to me first. I chickened out and made my way out of the jungle and back to the top of the hill. The storm was much closer to me than it had been before. I decided I had won my game of chicken and I made my way to the road and back home. The dog confirmed that I had made the right decision to duck and run for cover.

As I pulled into the driveway the rain started. It was just enough to smear up the windshield, but it looked like the beginning of much more. Not wanting to waste time, I decided to run a couple of errands. My errands took me west and away from the storm. In less than an hour I made the return trip home, expecting to run into rain along the way. I never did and I returned home to dusty roads and a dry rain gauge.

So, there you have it; the lack of rain was my fault, I knew better than to play chicken with Mother Nature. Next time we get good rain, if you see me with frizzy hair and a twitch, you will know that I took one for the team. Sometimes you just have to do what you have to do to make it rain.

Country Chuckles by Jonny Hawkins



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Cowboy poets to compete for championship

Cowboys and cowgirls will ride into Manhattan to compete in the finals of the 2023 Kansas cowboy poetry contest. The annual championship competition will take place at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 9. There is no admission fee and the public is invited.

"We're excited that the top contestants from two regional qualifying contests will come together to recite their original poetry and compete for the coveted Governor's trophy buckle," said poetry contest chair Ron Wilson of the Lazy T Ranch near Manhattan. Champions will be chosen in both the serious and humorous categories.

Qualifying contests were held in Fredonia and Hays. "We had 17 entries from three states," Wilson said. Finals contestants are as follows (towns in Kansas unless listed otherwise): Serious poem category: Betty Burlingham, Manhattan; John Marks, Gypsum; Mary Powell, Longton; Colby Richard, Ellsworth; Kasey Rieff, Sar-

coxie, Mo.; and Scott Wiswell, Valley Center. Humorous poem category: Betty Burlingham, Manhattan; Russell Graves, Arkansas City; John Marks, Gypsum; Mary Powell, Longton; Kasey Rieff, Sarcoxia, Mo.; and Scott Wiswell, Valley Center.

State champions in each category will receive the Saddlejack Bradrick Award, the coveted Governor's Buckle, gift certificates from leading western wear stores, free membership in the International Western Music Association-Kansas Chapter, and two tickets to the Symphony in the Flint Hills.

The cowboy poets will be evaluated by a panel of celebrity judges, including former Kansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Lawton Nuss, State Representative Kenny Titus, Manhattan City Mayor Mark Hatesohl, and Janet Bailey, former Miss Rodeo K-State and now president and CEO of the Kansas Dairy Association. Musical entertainment will be provided by Jeff Davidson and Brad Hamilton.

"We are much obliged to our sponsors who make this possible," Wilson said. "Many thanks to the Flint Hills Discovery Center, the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation, the Kansas Farm Bureau, the Western Wordsmiths and Kansas chapters of the International Western Music Association, the Hays Public Library, KanEquip, Prairieland Partners, Symphony in the Flint Hills, and our locally owned western wear donors: Vanderbilts of Wamego, Roberts Cowboy Outfitters of Salina, R Bar B of Topeka, Rittel's Western Wear of Abilene, Outpost Western Store of Manhattan, and High Call Outfitters of Great Bend."

State contest committee members include: Orin Friesen, president, International Western Music Association - Kansas Chapter, Benton; Jeff Davidson, Eureka; Brad Hamilton, Hoyt; Martha Farrell, Towanda; and Ron Wilson, Manhattan. For more information, visit www.cowboypoetrycontest.com.

Angus Foundation honors breed's anniversary with celebratory events

The Angus Foundation had a successful week commemorating the 150-year anniversary of the breed's arrival to the United States. On May 17, 1873, Scottish Angus breeder George Grant settled in Victoria, Kansas, with the first four Angus bulls. This milestone was celebrated May 17 with the Foundation's annual Angus Day of Giving and May 19 in Berryville, Virginia at the Ranchers' Revelry event. Angus Day of Giving raised over \$80,000 for the Foundation's Legacy Built campaign, and Ranchers' Revelry raised over \$80,000 as well. In total, the breed's anniversary celebrations garnered \$160,000 in unrestricted funds to help support the organization's mission and ensure the Angus legacy continues.

Angus Day of Giving has been celebrated since 2021 to commemorate the day Grant arrived to the prairies of Kansas. This year, Angus Day of Giving marked the starting point of the Foundation's goal of 1,000 donations by December 31, 2023, to its Legacy Built campaign. The campaign was launched to honor the breed's 150-year milestone, and asks donors to pledge \$150 to sustain the Angus legacy for the future. Donations are earmarked to the Angus Fund, which uses unrestricted funds to support a multitude of American

Angus Association® programs.

The Foundation received 309 donations to the Legacy Built campaign to kick off its challenge. These gifts had double the impact with the help of a \$30,000 matching gift from an anonymous donor. In total, the celebration raised over \$80,000 to support the Angus Foundation's mission to advance Angus education, youth and research.

"It's always amazing to see the outpouring of support from our Angus family, and this day of giving was no different," said Jaclyn Boester, Angus Foundation executive director. "With the generosity of all who contributed to the Legacy Built campaign, including our anonymous match donor, we're well on our way to ensuring the Angus legacy is sustained for the next 150 years."

Ranchers' Revelry was held May 19 in Berryville, Virginia, at Audley Farm. For over two centuries, Audley Farm has been a part of American history, with the most well-known of its residents being Eleanor "Nelly" Custis Lewis, the adopted daughter of George and granddaughter of Martha Washington. Nelly was known for her "revelry" as the hostess of Audley Farm.

"We thought we could bring a little bit of a unique offering with our

Thoroughbred program, our Angus program and just the rich history of this farm," said Turner Kobayashi, Audley Farm general manager. "To be a part of history and honor it and honor Mr. Grant, and just to meet and develop the fellowship and comradery with other ranchers out here, it's just a wonderful opportunity."

During the Friday evening event, a unique collection of exclusive experiences, art, collectibles and business services were auctioned, raising \$67,950. Attendees enjoyed a night of Angus fellowship in celebration of the anniversary, with Audley Farm beef served for dinner. The evening also featured "The Steaks Races," a tribute to Audley's Thoroughbred racehorses with prizes sponsored by Certified Angus Beef. The opportunity allowed guests to "claim horses," entering to win a variety of Certified Angus Beef ® brand items. In total, the event raised over \$80,000 to benefit the Angus Foundation's mission.

"Ranchers' Revelry was an incredible evening to celebrate our great breed among Angus friends and family, and we are so appreciative to those who made it possible," Boester said. "The Angus Foundation is grateful to Audley Farm for underwrit-

ing this event, the Angus breeders and allied industry members who donated to this fundraiser and those who supported by bidding and buying in our auction. This was a truly memorable event that gives me great confidence in the future of our

legacy."

In addition to Audley Farm, Ranchers' Revelry was made possible by a dedicated group of volunteers. Event coordinators Julie McMahon French, Belle Point Ranch, and Wynn Dalton, Daltons on the Sycamore, along with

many Virginia Angus breeders and Angus Foundation supporters, volunteered their time and efforts to the event. The auction garnered support from Angus enthusiasts around the country, as both item donors and buyers.



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GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Norma Gasaway, Ada, Wins This Week's Grass & Grain Recipe Contest & Prize

Winner Mrs. Norma Gasaway, Ada: "A cool salad for summer evenings."

SUMMER SPINACH SALAD

- 4 cups fresh torn spinach
- 4 cups torn lettuce
- 8-ounce can sliced water chestnuts, drained
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- 6 to 8 bacon strips, cooked & crumbled
- 1 small onion, sliced

Dressing:

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup white vinegar
- 1/8 cup ketchup
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

In a large bowl combine salad ingredients. Mix dressing ingredients and shake well to mix. Just before serving, pour over salad and toss. Serves 8.

Margaret Wetter, Norton:

- GRILLED ASPARAGUS**
- 1 pound asparagus, trimmed
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 30-ounce package prosciutto or thin ham

Toss asparagus in oil, salt and pepper. Wrap three spears of asparagus in meat and grill 5 minutes.

Jackie Doud, Topeka: "This is good on meat."

- SOUR CREAM HORSERADISH SAUCE**
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons horseradish
- 3 teaspoons lemon juice
- Dash paprika

In a small bowl combine all ingredients except paprika; blend well. Sprinkle on paprika.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

NEW POTATOES WITH CHIVE BUTTER

- 1 to 1 1/2 pounds small new potatoes
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped chives
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Dash pepper

Scrub or peel potatoes. In saucepan cook potatoes in boiling water for about 25 minutes or until fork-tender. Drain well. Return potatoes to saucepan or serving bowl. Add butter, chives, salt and pepper; toss gently to coat.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh: **SMOKED TURKEY SALAD**

- 2 red apples, chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 pound smoked turkey, cubed (can be purchased at deli)
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 4 cups torn Bibb lettuce
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts

In a bowl combine apples, celery, turkey and mayonnaise; mix well. Arrange lettuce on plates to serve. Spoon apple mixture onto lettuce. Sprinkle with walnuts.

Kellee George, Shawnee:

BAKED RIBS & SAUERKRAUT

- 3 pounds spareribs or country style ribs
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 32-ounce jar sauerkraut, undrained
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tart apples, peeled & chopped
- 1 small onion, chopped

Heat oven to 450 degrees. Cut ribs into serving size pieces. Place in ungreased 9-by-13-inch pan. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake for 20 minutes. Reduce oven to 350

degrees. Remove ribs from pan and drain meat drippings from pan. In same pan combine sauerkraut and remaining ingredients; spread evenly over bottom. Arrange ribs on top of sauerkraut mixture. Bake for 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until ribs are tender. Stir occasionally.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

CARROT SALAD

- 3 cups shredded carrots
- 1 cup raisins
- 3 tablespoons oil
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg

In a bowl combine carrots and raisins. In a small bowl combine all remaining ingredients; mix well. Pour over carrot mixture and toss until well blended. Keep in refrigerator.

Grillin' And Chillin'? Remember Food Safety, Says K-State Expert

Washing Hands, Using A Meat Thermometer Are Among Top Tips

K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN – Kansas State University food scientist Karen Blakeslee says food safety needs to be part of summer parties, especially when those get-togethers involve grilling food outdoors.

"To start with," she said, "wash your hands. That's the No. 1 step before you start handling any food, and then wash them again after you've handled any kind of raw meat."

Much like cooking food indoors, home chefs need to keep a food thermometer close at hand, Blakeslee said. For meat, there are three temperatures that consumers should store to memory:

* **145 degrees Fahrenheit** for steaks, roasts, chops, fish and other whole cuts of meat.

* **160 F** for ground meat, including beef, pork and lamb.

* **165 F** for all types of poultry.

Those temperatures include products that

are smoked, cooked on a grill or indoors.

The recommended temperatures relate to the internal temperature of the meat. "Without a food thermometer, it's very subjective" as to whether the meat is cooked properly, Blakeslee said.

Judging doneness by color or pressing the meat with your finger are also subjective, she noted.

To more accurately measure for doneness, insert the tip of the thermometer into the center of the meat. With a digital thermometer, the temperature sensor is normally in the tip, so those can be inserted into the top of the meat product.

"But the ideal way to do it – like with a hamburger – is to insert it from the side," Blakeslee said. "That is the best way to reach the center of the product."

A thermometer with a dial display is another option. "If you look on the stem of a dial face ther-

mometer, there should be a dimple, about half-way up the stem. Insert this type of thermometer into the food so that the little dimple gets into the meat product to get an accurate measurement."

Some other food safety tips that Blakeslee offered:

Keep meat cold until you're ready to use it

Resist the temptation to let meat sit on a counter for long periods of time. "You could let it warm up a little bit (before cooking) – about 30 minutes. But please refrain from letting it sit out for hours. That invites any bacteria that could be on the meat to start growing, and cooking may not destroy all of the bacteria."

Freeze meat that won't be used soon after you buy it

If planning an event, consider buying meat 2-3 days before cooking it. Otherwise, Blakeslee said, "you need to freeze it."

Frozen meat is best thawed in the refrigerator, not on a countertop. "Plan ahead for thawing," Blakeslee said. "The amount of thawing time you'll need depends on the size of your meat product."

Steaks can typically be thawed in a refrigerator in 24 hours. A brisket might take 3-4 days.

Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold

Side dishes are usually cold foods; keep them in a refrigerator until you're ready to serve them. Ice chests are handy for chilling side dishes. Cold foods should be kept at 40 F or lower, while hot foods should be kept at 140 F or higher.

Store food and eat leftovers promptly

Store food within 1-2 hours of serving them. Foods should be divided into shallow containers and placed in the refrigerator. "Today's refrigerators are very efficient, so you do not need to set them on the counter until they cool," Blakeslee said.

Leftovers should be eaten within 3-4 days, otherwise transferred to the freezer for later use. "We all need to work better at reducing food waste," she said. "One way to do that is managing leftovers. Leftovers are great; they make an easy lunch or quick supper, or you can re-purpose them into a completely different meal."

'Give Mayo a Break'

Blakeslee said mayonnaise often gets a bad rap for being a food safety concern, but the popular dressing is high in acid and can fend for itself.

"Mayo is not the problem," Blakeslee said. "It's what you mix into the mayo that is the problem. Cooked potatoes, hard boiled eggs...those are the ingredients that need refrigeration to reduce food safety risks."

"The mayonnaise is just holding the mixture together and adds flavor," she adds. "So, give mayonnaise a break. It's how you handle the rest of the food that really matters."

More tips on food safety are available online from K-State Research and Extension.

Links used in this story: K-State Research and Extension local offices, <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/statewide-locations.html>



Day Tripping

By Lou Ann Thomas

With schools out and Memorial Day past, this year's summer vacation and travel season has officially begun, and we are a people on the move! After a few years of being fairly limited in travel opportunities and plans we are getting ready to go, go go.

But where shall we go? And what if we don't really want to join in the masses trying to catch a flight without getting into a fight? I no longer find flying fun and it can be challenging to get away from the farm for a long road trip during the summer, so I am always on the lookout for day trips or a long weekend road trip close to home.

This year I have my sights set on checking out Little Jerusalem Badlands State Park, near Oakley. As Kansas' 28th and newest state park, Little Jerusalem is a relic of the state's aquatic past. The park is home to the state's largest Niobrara Chalk formations with two permanent hiking trails and several outlook points, some towering over 100 feet above the nearby Smokey Hill River. You can learn more about the park at www.ksoutdoors.com and www.kdwpt.ScottSP@ks.gov.

There are several outstanding resources for planning a Kansas road trip or exploring interesting options. The state's Travel Kansas website (www.travelks.com) not only lists many sites, scenic drives, and unique eateries but side bars of historical background and interesting facts to make your trip even more interesting.

Another website that offers fun travel options is www.onlyinyourstate.com. This group has several themed road trips listed and mapped out. I think the 630-mile U-

timate Waterfalls Road Trip sounds perfect on a hot, humid weekend. Maybe you're into hunting for haunted places. For you there's the Haunted Road Trip which takes you on a six-hour drive from Kansas City, through Atchison, Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, then on to the Stull Cemetery west of Lawrence. If you're feeling brave you can even spend the night at the Wolf Hotel in Ellinwood. It is said this hotel is haunted by several spirits who often roam the underground tunnels which span two blocks below the hotel. In a similar vein there is also a Ghost Town Road Trip that winds from Stull to Silville, on to LeHunt and Diamond Springs.

Kansas may have more picturesque small towns than any other state and the Small-Town Road Trip takes you through many of them from Alma, Wamego, Clay Center, Phillipsburg, down to WaKeeney, then pop up to Lucas, back south to Lindsborg, and on through Cottonwood Falls and Council Grove. The Only in Your State website also features a One Tank of Gas Road Trip which starts at Amelia Earhart's birthplace in Atchison and stretches west to Russell then back through McPherson and Cottonwood Falls. Along the way there are interesting restaurants, historical sites, architecture and always beautiful scenery.

It's time to get out and explore. And you won't have to wait in a long line or take your shoes off to begin your adventure along the road of these trips. Unless you really want to.

Check out Lou Ann's blog at: <https://louannthomas.blog>

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Kansas Profile – Now That's Rural: Tami Howland, Dala Horses

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University

The horses are out! They're all over town!

But these horses aren't running away; they are standing strong for their community.



for them to decorate each one as they wanted," Howland said. "The only rules were: Nothing political, and nothing vulgar."

In 2021, Olsburg PRIDE ordered 25 Dala horses. "Immediately, we needed more," Howland said. The horses were individually painted by each business or organization and then clear-coated by a nearby auto restoration company before being displayed outside at each site. Each horse also was named.

Then people learned that they could buy and paint their own. "Some people said, 'But I'm not Swedish,'" Howland said. "Then they saw how different people were using them and the idea took off."

"The creativity has been amazing," she said. "Everybody had such great ideas."

The Dala horse named Ole stands next to the town's 'Welcome to Olsburg' sign.

A red-white-and-blue horse named Liberty stands in front of the American Legion.

The one by the school is decorated like the school mascot.

The one named Stamps is at the post office.

The local veterinarian has one named Cupcake, who is displayed tied to a gate.

The one named Esther Williams is on a surfboard above the swimming pool.

The list goes on and on. It appears the citizens of Olsburg are having too much fun with this project.

Each one is individually and intricately hand

These are Dala horses, the beautifully decorated horse-shaped figures that are a symbol of Sweden. Today we will visit a rural Kansas community that is using Dala horses to beautify the town and engage its people.

Tami Howland is president of Olsburg's Kansas PRIDE program, now known as Kansas Community Empowerment. Howland also works at Union State Bank in Olsburg.

The town was founded in 1880 by an immigrant Swede named Ole Thruson. Originally named Olesburgh, the name was later shortened to Olsburg. One Swedish tradition is the display of Dala horses: wooden carvings of horses that are painted and displayed outside homes and businesses.

PRIDE members wanted to enhance the community. In 2021, they received an anonymous donor's gift to be used for beautification.

Using the Swedish theme, PRIDE members decided to launch a public art project consisting of large Dala horses to be decorated by local businesses and organizations. The project received a matching grant from the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, which is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts. PRIDE members contacted a Nebraska company that produced fiberglass Dala horses 3 1/2 feet tall.

"We gave one to every business, church, and the school in town. We supplied paint and brushes

painted by local people, including Howland herself. "I love to paint, it's a fun thing for me," she said. The painters range in age from six to 90. The horses are extraordinarily well-done. They are really works of art.

"It's amazing how much talent comes out in our small town," Howland said. Not only are the Dala horses populated throughout Olsburg, several are displayed near homes in the outlying region. Howland's cousin has one in Nebraska and another is enroute to Oklahoma.

In December 2022, the first eight came back from clear-coating. Howland put them out as a Christmas display, placing them in a line followed by a miniature sleigh and Santa. The pictures she posted got a response from as far away as Sweden itself.

"I'm so proud of the way our community has embraced this idea," she said. "It makes my heart smile."

Now there are 47 Dala horses in town. "We have more Dala horses per capita than anywhere in the nation," Howland said.

That's impressive for a rural community such as Olsburg, population 218 people. Now, that's rural.

"We want people to come see and enjoy them," Howland said. For more information, see www.olsburgks.com/dala-horses.

It's time to leave Olsburg, where Ole the Dala horse stands proudly next to the Welcome to Olsburg sign. We salute Tami Howland and all the volunteers who are making a difference with their public art.

I join Ole in saying "Valkommen."

Audio and text files of Kansas Profiles are available at <http://www.kansas-profile.com>. For more information about the Huck Boyd Institute, interested persons can visit <http://www.huckboydinstitute.org>.



By Kelsey Pagel

A Clean House

Time is such a precious commodity. There never seems to be enough. We all have different priorities and importance levels on specific tasks, but I'd argue that we feel our best when we have a clean house. I'm so guilty of walking by something and thinking I'll get that later only to have it there two weeks later. After coming home from a long day of working, it's so nice to walk into a house that is put together. I'm not arguing for pristine houses that look like they're off the pages of a magazine. I'm arguing for a plan in place that you don't have to think about. My plans are posted in the house so if my husband ever has the urge to help, he can look at the plans.

Sometimes a rainy day pops up and I can do multiple days on the same day or I can do a more thorough deep-clean or add things to the list that I don't do on a weekly basis. Sometimes life gets too busy and I prioritize sleep over cleaning. But having the schedule there, with detailed things to do in each room, keeps me in check. Even if I miss a day one week, I know I'll get to it the next week. I intentionally leave a couple days open in my schedules so I can have "make-up" days. Then depending on my commitments for the week, I can shift the cleaning tasks to make everything click.

I've printed these schedules out in pretty colors and fonts to make it enticing to look at. I don't like to clean, but I like a clean house. Reality check, that clean house isn't happening unless I make it happen. Bless my husband, he will comment when everything is put away and the house smells like Pine-Sol (I LOVE Pine-Sol smell!), that it feels so good to be home. Then will proceed to throw everything out of his pockets and clothes on that freshly mopped floor. It's a lot of work to keep a clean house. Creating habits helps.

This feels like the point that I should insert that this is not the "olden" times, in most homes, where the woman is in charge of the house and the man provides for the family. Though I do envy the time when roles were set and there were clear-cut responsibilities. My husband and I don't have kids and we both work on the farm more than full time. We've had the discussion of hiring a maid and have both agreed not to. But that means that if we both want a clean house and clean laundry and all the things, there has to be time to do that. That means that even though there is always work to do on the farm, sometimes I'm taking a day off to do more of the deep clean that the schedules don't include. If you have your life perfectly balanced out and figured out, share your secrets! Ten years in and we're still figuring it out.

The point with these schedules is to open up brain space so I don't have to dwell on what to do, to make things automatic. I know I feel my best when I'm doing some form of exercise every day (I'm almost always following

a free schedule from a YouTube creator - currently doing a 30-day yoga challenge that is going to take me about 60 days to actually complete because I've missed days here and there. It's not about perfection), eating nourishing foods, have a calm space to be in when crazy farm days are done and knowing where my clothes are that I want to wear. I've created schedules for all these things.

Each week I plan 3-4 meals, if not more. I use that as the main dishes, side dishes, dessert/breads (and the corresponding cookbook the recipe is in, if necessary) as well as space for all the ingredients for everything for the week. It's easy to see what meats I need to get out of the freezer, what needs to go on grocery list and what is already in pantry.

With that said, I hope you can take these general thoughts and adjust to make them work for your house and life!

Cleaning Schedule:

Monday: Living Room (put away clutter, dust, sweep, mop, water plants, wash windows)

Tuesday: Bathrooms (put away clutter, clean shower, scrub toilet, wash mirrors, sweep and mop)

Wednesday: Bedroom (put away clutter, dust, vacuum, tidy)

Thursday: Kitchen (put away clutter, disinfect countertops, wipe down cabinets, clean fridge)

Friday: Laundry (fold and put away all clothes)

Laundry Schedule: The intention is to get the clothes washed, dried, folded and put away on its specific day, but a day is built in to my cleaning schedule if this doesn't happen.

Sunday: Beds/Blankets

Monday: Delicates/Town Clothes

Tuesday: Towels

Benefits Increase For Individual Participants In Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

TOPEKA – The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has announced that the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (KSFMNP) is increasing the value of coupons for low-income seniors from \$35 to \$50. The coupons are given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Seniors can apply at local distribution agencies between Thursday, June 1 and Friday, September 15, 2023, or until benefits are gone.

The coupons will be sent at once and available in \$5 increments. These coupons can be redeemed from authorized vendors at participating farmers' markets, which will be identified with signage showing they are authorized to accept the coupons.

Seniors are eligible if they complete an application and are 60 years or older or at least 55 years old and a member of an Indian Tribal Organization. Eligible seniors must also have an annual gross household income (before taxes are withheld) at or below 185% of the federal poverty level.

Eligible foods to purchase with the KSFMNP coupons from authorized farmers at participating farmers markets are defined as fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, locally produced honey and cut herbs produced in Kansas under normal growing conditions.

"The KSFMNP helps support Kansas seniors and our local Kansas farmers at farmers markets," said Courtney Koenig, KSFMNP coordinator. "The program is great because it brings new people to the markets, increases sales for farmers and provides nutritious foods to people who need it."

Seniors can find more information on the KSFMNP coupons by visiting the KSFMNP website: <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/1041/Kansas-Senior-Farmers-Market-Nutrition-P>

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Inaugural David Radenberg Memorial Scholarship awarded to Annika Wiebers

From buying her own market lambs to show at her county 4-H fair to testifying before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, Annika Wiebers combines an affinity for agriculture with a mission to bridge the gap between production agriculture and folks like herself who did not grow up on the farm. Combined, these qualities make her an ideal first recipient of the David Radenberg Memorial Scholarship.

"Unlike many people in Kansas, I didn't grow up with a background in production agriculture," Wiebers said. "I had relatives who were farmers and ranchers, but I didn't have any personal experience with agriculture until I was in high school and chose to expand my 4-H work to include livestock projects. This involvement opened my eyes to the

need for communicating and educating people on the importance of agriculture."

Wiebers got her earliest touches with production agriculture from relatives who were farmers and ranchers, but it wasn't until she decided to buy some market lambs to show through 4-H that she had her first real-world experience as a livestock producer.

"The learning curve was incredibly steep, but I loved the experience and enjoyed taking on the responsibility," Wiebers said. "Since then, I have grown increasingly more interested in agriculture both through my own experiences and those of my friends."

Wiebers continued to pursue both livestock projects in addition to cultivating a natural skill set for communications.

In 2018-2019, she earned the top prize in Kansas as the state 4-H winner in the communications project. Since then, she has put those skills to work advocating for agriculture, including speaking to the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture regarding the 2022 Farm Bill, as part of her experience at that year's National 4-H Conference. Today, Wiebers is a sophomore at Kansas State University, pursuing a degree in agricultural communications, furthering her goals of connecting consumers and farmers.

"By pursuing a degree in agricultural communications, I am combining my communication skills with my growing affinity for agriculture," Wiebers said. "As someone who wasn't born into the industry but instead chose to be involved, I would also be a valuable advocate high-

lighting the value of agriculture and helping others have this opportunity for discovery."

One can only imagine the proud chuckles of David Radenberg had he the chance to meet Wiebers in person. Radenberg, a lifelong wheat farmer in Clafin and long-time Kansas Wheat Commissioner, could often be spotted peeking over the cubicles or sitting laid back in an office to chat with staff. Radenberg passed in 2021 after a lengthy battle with cancer, but the scholarship in his name is a testament to continuing his support of the future of Kansas agriculture.

This year is the first offering of the David Radenberg Memorial Scholarship, which awards one \$1,000 scholarship to a current undergraduate or graduate student from Kansas who is pursuing a

career in the field of agriculture.

Radenberg represented central Kansas on the Kansas Wheat Commission from April 2011 to March 2020, including serving as chairman from August 2018 to May 2019. Radenberg was also a founding board member of the Kansas Wheat Commission Research Foundation.

During his tenure as a commissioner, he supported wheat research and international marketing efforts, including attending the 31st annual Latin American Millers Conference in Lima, Peru, in 2013. At the time, he expressed how he enjoyed sharing with millers, bakers and merchandisers about the research investments Kansas farmers are making to provide a better-quality product.

The selection of Wiebers - as a communica-

tions major - as the scholarship recipient furthers Radenberg's legacy as an advocate for sharing the story of Kansas agriculture with others.

"My background gives me a strong awareness of how much people simply don't know about where their food comes from and the importance of agriculture in our society," Wiebers said. "I now have a better understanding of what it's like to be on both ends of the production agriculture spectrum and believe I will be valuable in bridging the gap between what can seem like two completely different worlds."

Learn more about the David Radenberg Memorial Scholarship at <https://kswheat.com/growers/scholarships/david-radenberg-memorial-scholarship>.

\$13.6 million grants boost technical assistance for farmers adopting cover crops through Farmers for Soil Health

Farmers adopting cover crops through Farmers for Soil Health can look forward to enhanced technical assistance. The recent \$13.6 million grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation mark a significant step forward for farmers who plan to enroll in the program later this year. The grants, a key component of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's \$95 million Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities, will offer personal, on-the-ground technical support to farmers in 19 states.

Farmers for Soil Health is a collaboration between the National Corn Growers Association, National Pork Board and United Soybean Board with the goal to advance conservation practices to improve soil health across the U.S., including doubling cover crop acres in the U.S. to 30 million acres by 2030.

"U.S. farmers are dedicated to implementing sustainable practices that will not only feed and fuel a growing

population but also protect our environment," said Jack Cornell, director of sustainable supply for the United Soybean Board. "Adopting cover crops is one way farmers can continue to pursue best management practices. These grants provide technical assistance from crop advisors familiar with each state's agronomic and production environment. The advisors will help farmers select cover crops that offer the most soil health benefits, minimize issues during planting and add value to their overall production efforts."

Regionally based technical assistance is important as farmers work toward economic and long-term success. The grants ensure that the technical assistance providers are trusted partners that have established relationships with farmers.

"We are excited to offer this opportunity to our state partners and affiliated organizations," said Nathan

Fields, National Corn Growers Association vice president of production and sustainability. "We recognize that the success of Farmers for Soil Health will be determined by these partners who work tirelessly on the front lines and have already earned the trust and support of their local farming communities. It's a privilege to provide them with the resources they need to carry out this important work."

Grantees will also help farmers enroll in a digital platform facilitating the marketing of crops to end users interested in sustainably produced corn and soybeans.

For more information on Farmers for Soil Health and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grants, visit farmersforsoilhealth.com or nfwf.org/programs/farmers-soil-health.



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Kansas cattle on feed down 2%

Kansas feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.44 million cattle on feed on May 1, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This inventory was down 2% from last year. Placements during April totaled 420,000 head, down 2% from 2022. Fed cattle marketings for the month of April totaled 400,000 head, down 11% from last year. Other disappearance during April totaled 10,000 head, unchanged from last year.



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The National Wheat Foundation partners with My Plate

The National Wheat Foundation is pleased to join the USDA Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion as a MyPlate National Strategic Partner. The partnership presents a wealth of resources and collaborative opportuni-

ties, aimed to enlighten individuals about the advantages of incorporating wheat into their dietary choices.

At its core, MyPlate is a scientifically grounded initiative, crafted to impart knowledge on the merits

of wholesome eating and encourage adjustments in our dietary habits that can yield significant long-term benefits.

"We are looking forward to working with MyPlate as we help educate the benefits wheat can

have in a person's diet by empowering individuals to make informed dietary choices," said Bernard Peterson, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation and wheat farmer from Kentucky. "By teaching people about the bene-

fits of incorporating wheat into their eating habits, we have the opportunity to positively impact their lives and foster a healthier future for everyone."

To learn more about MyPlate, they invite you to explore MyPlate.gov or

use the Start Simple app. We also encourage everyone to embark on their journey with the MyPlate Quiz, offering an engaging and informative way to begin this transformative eating endeavor.

Wheat lags, corn and beans slightly ahead of average

For the week ending May 28, 2023, there were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 16% very short, 34% short, 45% adequate, and 5% sur-

plus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 35% very short, 33% short, 30% adequate, and 2% surplus.

Field Crops Report: Winter wheat condition rated 39% very poor, 30% poor, 21% fair, 9% good, and 1% excellent. Winter wheat

condition was 95%, near 99% for both last year and the five-year average. Headed was 84%, behind 94% last year and 90% average.

Corn condition rated 3% very poor, 6% poor, 39% fair, 45% good, and 7% excellent. Corn planted was

82%, near 85% last year and 84% average. Emerged was 66%, ahead of 59% last year, and near 65% average. Soybeans planted was 71%, ahead of 55% last year and 52% average. Emerged was 46%, ahead of 33% both last year and aver-

age. Sorghum planted was 22%, near 19% last year, and ahead of 17% average. Cotton condition rated 2% very poor, 10% poor, 47% fair, 40% good, and 1% excellent. Cotton planted was 59%, well behind 82% last year, and near 60% aver-

age. Sunflowers planted was 6%, behind 12% last year and 18% average.

Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 25% very poor, 26% poor, 34% fair, 15% good, and 0% excellent.

Farmers stand to increase crop yields and profits up to 25% by transitioning to regenerative farming practices

Farmers could expect a 15-25% increase in profitability after transitioning from conventional to regenerative agriculture systems, however the transition can take three to five years, according to a report and economic analysis released by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development's (WBCSD) One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) coalition. The new report, "Cultivating Farmer Prosperity: Investing in Regenerative Agriculture," examines the major financial advantages and systemic barriers for farmers trying to adopt sustainable farming practices and offers public and private-sector solutions to assist farmers in the transition period.

The report, which surveyed and interviewed over 100 U.S. farmers, found that early adopters cited tangible benefits from regenerative systems - notably healthier soil, reduced input costs, fewer complications from fertilizer run-off, greater biodiversity, and better resilience to extreme climate.

Based on the surveys and interviews with farmers and a financial analysis of wheat farmers in Kansas, the report found that there can be a positive business case for regenerative agriculture in the long run, with profits reaching as much as 120% above the earnings of farmers using conventional practices.

"The time to support large-scale transition to regenerative agricultural practices is now," according to Doug Petry, report author and manager, One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B), WBCSD. "Our findings show that there is a positive business case to be made for transitioning to regenerative agricultural practices - but farmers need more help. The short-term risks during the transition period are significant, which is why we must

provide a support structure that includes both financial and technical assistance. We can't let our farmers shoulder the upfront financial costs of transitioning to regenerative agricultural practices on their own."

The report found that during the three-to-five-year transition period, farmers can expect up to nearly a USD \$40 per acre profitability loss due to decreased crop yields and capital outlays for specialized equipment. But the short-term financial risk to transitioning farmers can be mitigated by a myriad of support options including cost share programs, sustainable leases, improved insurance terms, regenerative crop warranties, government subsidies, price premiums, lending programs, and ecosystem services markets.

"Our goal should be to de-risk the transition from conventional to regenerative systems for farmers," said Sonya Hoo, managing director and partner, BCG. "Both companies and governments need to step up to the plate to lessen the burden on farmers and accelerate the overall transition to more sustainable farming practices. Our economic modeling shows that in the long run, the switch to regenerative farming is a win-win for farmers, consumers, and the planet."

"As a seventh-generation Iowa farmer, I'm seeing firsthand the opportunities to use regenerative agriculture practices to be more profitable and resilient," said Mitchell Hora. "With our use of no-till, cover crops, and other soil health building practices, we've decreased our fertilizer use by 50% and our pesticides by up to 75% while increasing our yields. We had hiccups early on but overcame the logistic and economic risks and have found success."

"The urgent need to transition to and maintain regen-

erative agriculture requires multiple players providing educational and financial support to farmers to help mitigate the risks and reward positive outcomes. This report shows the value and economics to help enable us to collectively support farmers," said Hanneke Faber, Nutrition Business Group president, Unilever.

"People are the foundation of the world's food system and PepsiCo's business. That is why it is critical to ensure that each farmer has the livelihoods they need to grow, thrive and ensure the long-term health of the global food system," shared Rob Meyers, VP, Sustainable Agriculture, PepsiCo (an OP2B member). "As shared in this latest report, mitigating the financial risk and learning curve associated with transitioning to climate-smart practices is key to ensuring our farmers' success. Driven by PepsiCo Positive (pep+), we work with credible partners to enable the transition to sustainable and regenerative agriculture practices through expert technical assistance, upfront investment in outcomes, peer-to-peer networking and inclusion of farmers experienced with sustainable and regenerative agriculture systems."

The global environmental, health and socioeconomic costs associated with the current food and land use system total nearly USD \$12 trillion per year. Sustainable farming practices can help mitigate that damage while restoring ecosystem health. With the increasing frequency of extreme weather events (such as droughts, flooding, and extreme heat), combined with the immense loss of biodiversity due to agriculture over the past several decades, regenerative farming practices can be a powerful tool for farmers to adapt to a changing climate and increase profitability by doing so - for legacy and novice farmers alike.

Focus on mental health in agriculture continues

Although Mental Health Awareness Month has come to an end, the Kansas Department of Agriculture reminds all those in the Kansas agriculture community that mental health needs to be a priority all year round. As farmers and ranchers face unavoidable pressure from the daily challenges that are part of agriculture, from unpredictable weather to fluctuations in commodity market prices, added stress can be difficult to manage.

Several years ago, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, along with several Kansas ag partners, developed a website to provide resources and support to those dealing

with ag-related stress. The website can be found at KansasAgStress.org.

The website serves as a resource for those struggling with issues ranging from mental health, anxiety and suicide to substance abuse and food insecurity. Visitors will also find information regarding financial counseling, legal assistance, disaster recovery, and much more. As more tools are developed and become available, this website continues to be updated and serves as a hub of current information and resources. For example, KDA collaborated with Kansas Corn to add a section of mental health providers with agriculture-specific experience,

called Ag Aware.

KansasAgStress.org features resources and support for every member of the family, from teens to aging adults. Unique resources are also available to assist our farmer veterans, who face the issues that come with farming, along with the possible challenges of being a military veteran.

"The purpose of this website is to help care for and assist Kansas farmers and ranchers in their well-being," Beam said. "We encourage all Kansans to care for themselves and their neighbors in difficult times, and this

site provides information about the resources available in communities across the state."

The Kansas Department of Agriculture and the State of Kansas is committed to serving Kansas farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses and the customers they serve. Together with our partners, we have made it a priority to provide support and assistance to Kansans battling ag-related stress and mental health struggles.



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Kansas milk production up 5%

Milk production in Kansas during April 2023 totaled 360 million pounds, up 5% from April 2022, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The average number of milk cows was 180,000 head, 9,000 head more than April 2022. Milk production per cow averaged 2,000 pounds.

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~ Jim V.



Timber!

I have mentioned my time as a logger a time or two in this column, and I still remember those days with fondness. I learned a lot about the industry, although it was a lot more mechanized, even in the late '70s and early '80s, than we took advantage of, or even could afford. I mean, one of those tree shears that rolls up, grabs the tree by the trunk, cuts the stump off at the ground, backs up, de-limbs it, and cuts the logs to prescribed length would have definitely been handy for those limestone-grown cedars we cut on Fancy Creek. But we were quite primitive in the equipment we had available and so we made due with limited rolling stock and chain saws.

There is a knack to felling a tree, and a good eye

can tell which way that tree is going to want to fall once it's detached from its grounding. Physics is fun, when you don't know that's what you're learning! It's also unforgiving when a multi-ton object that was once anchored in terra firma is suddenly set free and the force of gravity that tree has overcome all its life, wins the struggle.

So care must be taken to control the direction of the falling tree, as well as how you cut her loose, so as not to ruin the log by failing to assess the balance of the tree, and prevent splitting and twisting of the log, which separates the wood grain internally, making the log worth whatever the market price is for firewood, not to mention the danger of that log coming apart on the mill, shooting shards of wood back

at the sawyer, and anyone else nearby. Therefore, careful study, planning and accurate predictions need to be made before the first cut is begun. It was all dangerous work. I mean, every part of the process, from the chain saws in the woods, to the motorized equipment, the big 48" or larger blades mounted on a three-phase electric motor, the edging/rip saws that takes the bark off the edge of the fresh milled boards and cuts them to width, to the big four-foot band saws we used to artfully extract gunstock blanks from two and 5/8ths-inch thick walnut flitch, there's a lot of stuff that can make you bleed, a lot, really quickly! Carelessness and inattentiveness could be deadly!

I enjoyed it all, but my favorite phase of it was working in the woods. I learned how to use different cuts, steel wedges, and just how much you can take out of a tree trunk and still have it stand there defiantly.

I was able to demonstrate my knowledge in the art of "felling" to my in-laws, pretty early in my marriage. I mean, I had just recently been a "pro-

fessional lumberjack", still had my good saw, and my father-in-law had a huge elm tree that was dying in his yard. It wasn't just a simple, "cut the tree down" job, because it was only about 20 feet off the corner of the house, and that tree had a big limb going off toward the house, which is why he wanted a controlled take-down of this monster before a Kansas summer storm put it on the house.

So one day as we were packing up for a visit, I stowed my saw, a couple of extra chains and steel wedges, and upon arrival, set to studying this tree. We had dinner, and I devised my plan of attack. The key here is, I'm new to the family, and we don't want this tree coming down on the house!

I started my saw and went to work. After about

20 minutes of making my cuts that included removing a large wedge of trunk which would guide this big tree away from the house, I started working on the relief cuts on the backside, where I began carefully placing and driving my steel wedges which would be an extra "push" to help force the tree away from the house.

Finally, with all my wedges worked into position, and a final warning that the next cut would release the tree, I plunged my blade into that big trunk and she gave a single "pop." As I kept that throttle wide open, another pop, then several in quick succession warned that the fibers were letting go. I looked up as I stepped back away and the movement of the tree was slow and deliberate. I killed my saw, and stepped

back farther. That big elm tree leaned a bit, settled into my safety wedges, and slowly rotated away from the house. I began celebrating within my head just as I realized that about 60 feet from that tree stump was the potato sorting shed, and this massive tree was about 80 feet tall! My wife later told me the look on my face and what she read on my lips (which cannot be included here) made her laugh. I wasn't laughing though, and although the main body of that tree missed the shed, one large limb knocked a pretty good patch of shingles off that roof.

Her dad looked at me and said, "Didn't hit the house!"

Kirk Sours is a ranch manager and columnist in northeast Kansas. Email him at: sours.kirk@yahoo.com

KLF awards Legacy Scholarships

Caleb Eilert of Jewell and Logan Ohlde of Winchester both have been awarded \$1,500 Douglas A. Laue Memorial Scholarships through the Kansas Livestock Foundation (KLF). Eilert is the son of Joe and Kari Eilert and will be a junior at Kansas State University this fall. Ohlde is the daughter of Curtis and Winda Ohlde. She also will enter her junior year at K-State in the fall. Laue was a long-time member of the KLA Cattle Feeders Council and served as its chairman in 1991-92.

Ava Perrier received the Scott Johnson and Family \$1,000 Scholarship through KLF. Perrier is from Eureka and will enter her junior year at K-State this fall. She is the daughter of Matt and Amy Perrier. This scholarship is designated for students at K-State majoring in animal sciences and industry, agricultural communications and journalism, agribusiness or agricultural economics. It's given by the Johnson family in appreciation for the support of KLA and its staff throughout Scott's health issues. Scott was the director of information technology at KLA from 2015 until his passing in 2021.

The Fred H. Woodbury Memorial \$500 Scholarship was awarded by KLF to Dylan Harris of Overbrook. Harris is the son of Delvin and Keri Harris and will be a freshman at K-State this fall. This stipend is given in memory of Fred H. Woodbury, a long-time KLA member from Quenemo.

KLA members who would like to leave a similar legacy to assist future generations should contact Ryan Higbie at ryan@kla.org.

Jones selected to receive the Mark and Eva Gardiner Innovation and Excellence Faculty Award at K-State

Dr. Cassie Jones, K-State Animal Sciences and Industry professor and teaching coordinator, has been selected to receive the 2023 Mark and Eva Gardiner Innovation and Excellence Faculty Award.

Dr. Jones joined the K-State faculty in 2012 after earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science from K-State and a doctoral degree in nutritional sciences from Iowa State University. Dr. Jones has taught more than 2,500 students in eight different classes. She currently teaches freshman orientation, fundamentals of nutrition, principles of feeding and monogastric nutrition. She is a faculty advisor to more than 80 students and serves as teaching coordinator for the ASI major, which is the largest major on campus.

In addition to her contributions in teaching, Dr. Jones leads a highly productive research program that focuses on preventing disease transmission through the feed supply chain, including the prevention of foreign animal disease. Collectively, she has published more than 90 peer-reviewed manuscripts and \$8 million in grants and gifts to support K-State's teaching and research programs.

Dr. Jones is also the recipient of the 2023 University Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentoring of Undergraduate Students in Research, the 2022 U.S. Department of Agriculture Excellence in College and University Regional Teaching Award in Food and Agricultural Sciences, and the 2021 Mortar Board Outstanding Faculty Award.

She and her husband, Spencer, have three children, Ty, Hayden, and Hadley, and raise Angus cattle in Wabaunsee County.

"We are grateful to Mark and Eva for recognizing Cassie with this award. She is one of the most productive faculty members in the department with a tremendous capacity to positively impact our teaching, research and ex-

tension missions in ASI," said Ernie Minton, dean of K-State's College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension.

In announcing the award, Mark Gardiner said, "As K-State alums and generational beef producers, our family is profoundly aware of the value of our education at the nation's first land grant university. If American agriculture continues to be the world's beacon to address global food insecurity through agriculture and meat protein production, faculty members like Dr. Cassie Jones will lead us to those outcomes. Eva and I are grateful for her commitment to excellence at K-State."

Gardiner Angus Ranch is a family-owned and operated beef operation that produces registered and commercial Angus cattle. The original ranch was homesteaded near Ashland in 1885 by Henry Gardiner's grandfather. Today, Gardiner Angus Ranch is one of the largest registered Angus seedstock and commercial operations in America and continues to make genetic advancements using only artificial insemination and embryo transfer.

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"The British are coming! The British are coming!"

So Jayne Pearce announced when she called to tell me five British officers were headed to Fort Wallace.

Many moons ago, 200 majors from the British Army were attending an annual training exercise at Fort Leavenworth's Command and General Staff College. I was consulting on staff rides and media training so I had the great good fortune to spend time with some of these soldiers and their colonel. Thanks to my good friend Scott Porter (on staff at CGSC), I accompanied these men and women to the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City. I will never forget their moaning on the bus ride - "We had the war! What do you Yanks have over here?" The unspoken part of the lament was "Especially out here in the mid-

dle of the country!!"

It was most satisfying to see how much they enjoyed the World War I museum and the reception afterwards with their Lt. Gen. James Bashall was a memorable event.

So, when I shared a photo from that event with one of these YOUNG British majors and recounted those glory times, he remarked, "Gen. Bashall sure has aged since then."

I might add that the now-retired Lt. Gen. Bashall is four years younger than I, but I digress...

When these majors come to Leavenworth for two weeks, they have the middle weekend off to go wherever they can in a couple or three days. They visit iconic cities like Las Vegas or Chicago, squeeze in the Grand Canyon, see the arch in St. Louis. Our select group wanted to see a rodeo so they searched

for a place hosting such an event. Voila! The Fort Wallace Memorial Association's 69th rodeo just happened to coincide with their free time.

Their phone calls reached Jayne, who, like me, is a transplanted Southerner, but who is married to Wallace County stock and has been one of the 60 official residents of this western Kansas town for decades. She is nearly a local.

Jayne and her husband, Cecil, are veterans of the Air Force Singing Sergeants, in which they traveled the world as musical ambassadors for America. Their son, Taylor, is an Air Force pilot. Their appreciation for our military runs deep, as does mine.

We determined to make this a memorable trip and do our part to facilitate friendly relations between the U.K. and the U.S.

On Saturday night, the Brits joined Jayne's family to watch the rodeo and perhaps to prepare. Jayne had signed them up in the calf-dressing contest on Sunday evening. For folks who had never seen a rodeo, this evening was very educational.

On Sunday morning, I took the guys on a personal tour of the museum. This is my passion. Sharing the stories of the people who came before at this histor-

ic post is pure joy, especially for people as knowledgeable and curious as my guests. They asked questions about railroads and western expansion, and their comments impressed me as so thoughtful and considered. I honestly didn't want it to end.

But we had wild horses to visit. Along with Jayne's family, we piled into Rangers and pickups to bump along the pasture for a better view of the BLM herd managed on the Pearce ranch. It is an impressive site.

Then we headed to lunch at the museum to celebrate Cecil's birthday and Taylor's master's degree, a lunch prepared by Virginia Renner which in itself is worth visiting western Kansas for.

I had little ones with me but wanted to show the Brits one more place - the Fort Wallace Cemetery and the interpretive signs that have been placed there. The kids were worn out and a couple of majors gave them piggy-back rides back to the car.

Goodbye hugs for me, but their night was just beginning. I have seen the video from their rodeo performance and it was a Kodak moment. The object is to dress a calf in a bra,

underwear, and two socks. The first team to catch, dress, and get the calf back over the line wins.

Well, the Pearce Team - Taylor, brother Cody, and cousin Brenda Tropf - were off to a rocky start when Brenda pulled her shoulder and was not able to dress the calf. (While her husband watched the kids, Taylor took her to the emergency room where, when the form asked how the accident had happened, answered, "Tripped and fell down while putting a bra, socks, and underwear on a calf").

The Brits came in second. They were first across the line, but the bra fell off. Darn.

They asked that I not use their names but just refer to them as "British officers." You can't blame them. If you had come in

second in the calf-dressing contest because the calf lost a bra, you wouldn't want people knowing your name either.

They headed back to Fort Leavenworth on Monday morning and will head home in a few days. Our best wishes go with them and hopes of seeing them again, maybe with their families.

A rodeo and a little history go a long way in bringing the world together.

Deb Goodrich is the host of *Around Kansas* and the *Garvey Texas Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum*. She chairs the *Santa Fe Trail 200*, marked from 2021-2025. She is also a producer of *Sod and Stubble*, set to begin filming later this summer. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.



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An integral approach best for early-summer sericea control

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

A lot of work has been done to fight the spread of sericea lespedeza since it became a Kansas noxious weed in 2000. Unfortunately, many of the plant's attributes have allowed it to survive many of our most well-intentioned control efforts.

It won't be long until the control window is wide open and another control opportunity will be at hand. With multiple control options (mowing, prescribed fire, grazing with different livestock species, etc.) available, an inte-

grated control approach is often the best one, and often includes a herbicide component.

Early-season (while sericea is in the vegetative stage) control often includes triclopyr- only containing products (Remedy Ultra) or products containing triclopyr plus fluroxypyr (PastureGard HL). Products containing picloram plus fluroxypyr (Surmount) is also an option. Spray volumes of 10-20 gallons/acre will provide the best results (aerial applications should be at a minimum spray volume of three gallons/acre). Repeat treatments will likely be necessary.

If sericea control is on your to-do list, start planning now. Great information can be found via your County Noxious Weed Department. There's also an entire page in the 2023 KSU Chemical Weed Control Guide dedicated to chemical control of sericea. Contact us for a copy or check it out online at: <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/CHEM-WEEDGUIDE.pdf>.

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Poll finds Americans stick with meat

An exclusive poll of 1,500 eligible U.S. voters conducted by Redfield and Wilton Strategies found that a majority of Americans regularly eat meat and believe that it's a healthy choice. The poll also found that most Americans do not think the meat industry is bad for the climate.

Some 81 percent of people eat meat at least once a week, while ten percent reported eating meat only once or twice a month. Only four percent respectively said they rarely or never eat meat. According to the poll, 35 percent strongly agreed with the statement that it's healthy to eat meat.

The poll also found that while 34 percent believe eating less red meat would help reduce global carbon emissions, 40 percent said they did not believe this, and 26 percent said they were unsure.

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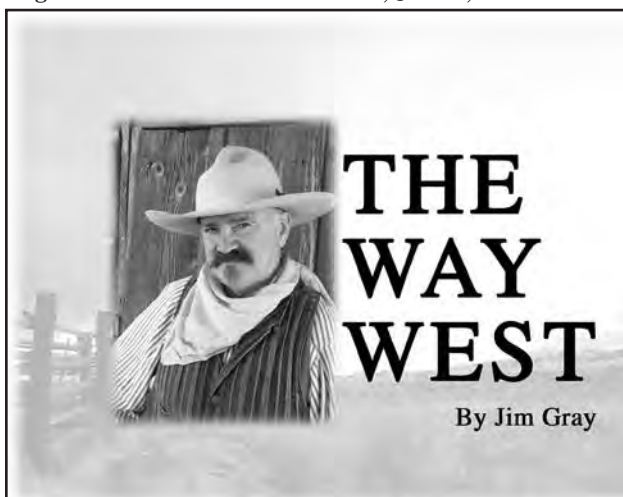
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Quest for Peace

Colonel Henry Dodge led a squadron of one hundred twenty-five First United States Dragoons out of Fort Leavenworth on May 29, 1835. Their mission was to seek out and hold peace councils with the Plains tribes along the Platte River valley and those tribes living on the front range of the Rocky Mountains.

Riding northeast the expedition reached the Otto village, holding council with principal Chief Jutan and his leading men on June 11th. Dodge's adjutant Lt. Gaines P. Kingsbury kept the official journal. Kingsbury faithfully recorded the proceedings. Colonel Dodge spoke sin-

cerely of the great father in Washington and his desire to have peace for all his red children, that they live in the same country like brothers, and exchange their weapons for "implements of husbandry." Dodge continued, "A great people will always pay a proper regard for the weak; you see but a small part of the dragoons which your great father can send every year to see that the Indians do not intrude upon the frontier settlers, and that they do not intrude upon the Indians, nor introduce whiskey into your country which will lead to the ruin and destruction of your people."

Jutan and his chiefs assured Colonel Dodge that the Otto intended to raise a big crop of corn and in the next year Jutan promised that his people would begin raising cattle and horses. Presents of blankets, knives, tobacco and other items were distributed and Colonel Dodge was honored with a "war dance."

The dragoons remained encamped near the Otto village with the expected arrival of the Omahas. The morning of June 17th about fifty of the Omaha principal chiefs and warriors swam their horses over the Platte. The river was a mile and a half wide at that point, but naturally shallow. Their "baggage" was floated over in skin boats.

Upon their arrival provisions were issued and promptly eaten before Dodge addressed them as he had the Ottoes. Principal Chief Big Elk recognized in the great father a sense of compassion for the Omaha people. "It is because the powerful have compassion upon the weak that I have suffered to live to the age you see me (approximately sixty years). Yet Big Elk was a realist. "You know that a man cannot always do as

he would wish." The chief recognized an evil in the presents spread before him. "I know that they are given by good men, and I feel grateful for them; but it has a contrary effect upon some of my neighbors, and they do not feel grateful when they receive these things for nothing, but think they are entitled to them."

Dodge recognized the wisdom of Big Elk's words, noting that the chief was "remarkable for his sound practical sense." His words left their intended impression.

The dragoons moved westward through the broad valley of the Platte. Lt. Kingsbury wrote, "From one of the high points near the river the eye could wander over... the broad surface of the river, studded with islands covered with groves of timber; the green level valley, terminated by every variety of shape, beyond which there was a successive range of hills, until the view was terminated by the distant horizon."

The Pawnees were described as being in a turbulent state. The larger tribe was made up of four sub-tribes. The village first visited was that of the Grand Pawnees. The

Loup Pawnees had stolen horses from the Wichita people in the south. That in turn had produced "some difficulty" with the Grand Pawnees. The Pawnee Tappagies lived about twenty miles northeast of the Grand Pawnees. The Republican Pawnee were a smaller family, taking their name from the Republican River. All of the Pawnees were in a constant state of war with their neighbors, the Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho and virtually everyone on the plains.

Dodge had his hands full when he held council with a tipi full of contesting Pawnee chiefs. Within the lodge of Angry Man, chief of the Grand Pawnees, Colonel Dodge spoke of peace and all the things spoken to the Ottoes and Omahas.

Angry Man thanked Dodge for his efforts to unify the Pawnee people, but the atmosphere grew dark when he turned to the other chiefs within his lodge. "Here are my friends... I would like to know what they have against me." Angry Man wondered why the Pawnee Loups go to war to steal horses and threaten his peace parties.

Axe, chief of the Paw-

nee Loups, and son-in-law to Angry Man, replied, "It is true... You know that this stealing is done without my consent... my young men have disregarded my counsel. They have thrown me up to be scattered by the winds of heaven." Axe reassured Dodge that he was for peace with a heart that was always leaning toward the white father. He offered a piece of advice to Angry Man. "Do not listen so much to bad men, and pay more attention to the advice of the good."

The chiefs from the Tappagies and the Republicans did their best to stand between the disagreements and even expressed a desire to make peace with their Cheyenne and Arapaho enemies. Dodge recognized the proper timing to bring the council to a successful close, but there were more councils to be held on the way to the Rocky Mountains. Colonel Dodge and his dragoons would have many more challenges in their quest for peace on The Way West.

(Next Time - Witness)

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray can be reached at 220 21st RD Geneseo, KS. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.

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Lot #	Consignor:	Name/Assoc.	\$	Notes
9	STOVER, JAMIE	SMOOTHLY STYLED AQHA	\$24,500	2017 sorrel mare by Smooth As A Cat, ranch, team rope, broodmare
21	HARRIS, CHAD	MY BLOODRUNSBLUE AQHA	\$22,000	2019 bay roan gelding grandson of Mecam Blue, ranch, head horse
28	TORRES, SALVADOR	TFR GOODA OAK AQHA	\$20,000	2018 sorrel gelding grandson of Docs Oak, RHC winner
67	BAIR, BRITT	MR ROCKET PLAYER AQHA	\$19,000	2015 palomino gelding grandson of Mr Baron Red, Family horse
79	POWELL, RUSSELL	HANKIES WILD DANCER AQHA	\$17,000	2012 grandson of Boonlight Dancer, ranch horse
45	O'ROURKE, MICHAEL	CN DAZLER BOON STEP AQHA	\$13,000	2013 palomino gelding by grandson of Sonny Dee Bar, head horse
35	CRUM, TYLER & JESSIE	PATCHES GRADE	\$12,500	2010 paint mare pony, family pony
8	WOODS, JAKE & ASHLEY	RYTHMS RUBY DEW AQHA	\$12,000	2008 sorrel mare granddaughter of Smart Little Jerry, reined cow horse
30	NOTHERN, DUSTIN	SPOILER GRADE	\$12,000	2010 palomino gelding grade, head horse
83	HIGGS, FRANKLIN D.	CACTUS RONDO BUD AQHA	\$10,000	2018 sorrel gelding by Cactus Rondo, ranch horse
10	BEVERLIN, CASEY & JAMIE	TEXAS FAX AQHA	\$9,700	2016 black gelding by Texas Top Star, ranch horse
17	LILLEY, JOSH	JINXED GIN AQHA	\$9,500	2016 sorrel gelding grandson of Paddy's Irish Whiskey, team rope, ranch
103	JESS, DYLAN	IMA HARLAN BELLE AQHA	\$9,000	2017 bay mare granddaughter Two Eyed Red Buck, team rope
13	LOUDER, CURTIS	ALOTTA LYNX DR AQHA	\$9,000	2017 sorrel gelding grandson Docs Hickory, ranch
22	BREEDING, JOSH	JAYCEE SHUDABEENBLUE AQHA	\$8,500	2019 bay gelding grandson Royal Blue Quixote, ranch
123	PETERSEN, LANDON	OGRADY'S IRISH LUCK AQHA	\$8,500	2017 sorrel gelding by Streak Of Fayme, team rope, ranch, barrels
4	BEETSON, MERLIN	WATCH DUKE SHINE AQHA	\$8,000	2007 bay gelding by Watch Jack Shine, team rope, ranch
18	HOUGH, GEORGE	JS RED AQHA	\$8,000	2016 sorrel gelding by Fourway Sugar, rope, ranch
50	ELWOOD, DANNY	ZAN PARRSSHININGSTAR AQHA	\$8,000	2015 bay gelding by Four Flake Royal, ranch
120	ELWOOD, KYLE	COWHNTNHKRYDIKRYDOC AQHA	\$8,000	2008 dun gelding by Cat Dual, team rope



High Seller Lot #9
\$24,500



2nd High Seller Lot #21
\$22,000



3rd High Seller Lot #28 - \$20,000
Ranch Horse Competition



4th High Seller Lot #67 - \$19,000



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\$12,500

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*** Top 15 Avg. - \$13,850 * Top 20 Avg. - \$12,410**

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