



Ag business group elects Seeber, Larson as 2024 leaders

Ron Seeber, who serves as CEO Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association, Kansas Grain and Feed Association, and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association was elected chairman of the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City at the group's annual meeting held December 14. Kristie Larson, Strategic Relationship Manager, The DeBruce Foundation, was elected vice chairman.

Ron Seeber assumed his current position with the three associations in 2017 after working for the groups since July 2008. An expert in state and federal legislative affairs, Seeber also worked for Senator

Bob Dole in policy and political capacities. He has spent his entire career in the regulatory arena.

Kristie Larson is the strategic relationship manager of the DeBruce Foundation where her focus is on developing strategic, innovative partnerships with stakeholders across the nation. Prior to this role, Larson dedicated her professional career to the advancement of agriculture education through work in a variety of industry segments and organizations including the American Royal Association, National Pork Board, and Dairy Farmers of America.

The Council's Board



Ron Seeber has been elected chairman of the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City.

The Council's Board of Directors is composed of 20 persons who serve staggered two-year terms. Those elected to the Board for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2024, were:



Kristie Larson was elected vice chairman of the organization.

- Davin Althoff, Missouri Farm Bureau
- Tom Brand
- Chelsea Good, Livestock Marketing Association
- Terry Holdren, Kansas Farm Bureau
- Chris Klenklen, Missouri Dept. of Agriculture
- Jackie McClaskey, American Royal
- Amber Oerly, Fulcrum Global Capital
- Paul Schadegg, Farmers National Company
- Matt Teagarden, Kansas Livestock Association
- Robin Wenneker, Wenneker Properties

- And, to fill a mid-term vacancy, the Council elected Sarah Kolell, American AgCredit, to a one-year term.
- Those directors elected for new terms join these incumbent directors:
- Eric Bohl, Bockorny Group, Inc.
- Justin Gilpin, Kansas Wheat
- J.J. Jones, Cultivated Conversations
- Jackie Klippenstein, Dairy Farmers of America
- Haley Larson, Kansas State - Olathe
- James Nygren, Frontier Farm Credit/Farm Credit Services of America
- Emily Schuckebrook, Agriculture Future of America
- Brad Tolbert, John Deere
- Bill Vaughn, Merck Animal Health

Bob Petersen and Erica Venancio continue to serve as staff members for the Council, Petersen as the executive director and Venancio as director of member services.

Soy positioned to fly high under new SAF guidance

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has issued long-awaited guidance on the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Credit (40B) estab-

lished by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and the news is positive for U.S. soybean farmers.

"America's soybean

farmers are always innovating in an effort to expand our markets and provide even more benefits to consumers," said Josh Gackle, American Soybean Association president and North Dakota soybean farmer. "We are very pleased with this guidance and the opportunities it could bring for soy. Biofuels continue to be not only a viable market but a growing market when it comes to U.S. roadways and workforce fleets. There is legislation on the table that would expand biofuels' great functionality and environmental benefits to ocean-going vessels. And now, with this guidance supporting soy and other plant-based feedstocks going into sustainable aviation fuel, the sky truly is the limit for soy."

ASA and others in the biofuels industry have pushed for use of the Ar-

gone National Laboratory (ANL)-GREET model, updated annually, to determine eligibility for the SAF Credit. However, the Environmental Protection Agency determined ANL-GREET was insufficient on its own to satisfy the parameters set forth by the Clean Air Act to determine lifecycle GHG emissions. Instead, EPA will work with other agencies to develop a new GREET methodology to be re-

leased March 1, 2024, that incorporates all aspects of a feedstock, including Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices.

Importantly, EPA did determine that the methodology it uses for the Renewable Fuel Standard Program (RFS) does satisfy these requirements. Given that, Treasury has determined SAF that currently qualifies as biomass-based diesel (D4) or advanced biofuel (D5) under the

RFS will be considered as having a 50% GHG reduction for the purposes of this credit. This action is positive for soy-based SAF, which will be eligible for the SAF Credit at the \$1.25/gallon rate.

The tax credit will be retroactive to January 1, 2023, and will run through December 31, 2024, before shifting to the Clean Fuel Production Credit (45Z), also established under the IRA.

Heralding the Good News



The angel tells of the soon-to-be born Savior at the Bethlehem Revisited re-enactment near Keats in early December. Photo by Mary Pauli

New legislation could help protect livestock producers, address ever-rising costs

Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley introduced the Protecting Interstate Commerce for Livestock Producers Act to protect farmers from costly regulations - made in other states - that will hurt their business and drive up costs for consumers.

California voters passed Proposition 12 that bans the sale of pork, eggs and calves for veal that were not produced with certain space requirements. It is estimated that California accounts for 13 percent of all pork consumption in the U.S., Hawley's office said in a release. Hawley doesn't believe that farmers across the country should have to comply with California's preferred requirements to access the California market.

To ensure that no state can mandate animal welfare standards in another state, Hawley's Protecting Interstate Commerce for Livestock Producers Act does the following:

- Pre-empts states and local governments from regulating the raising, production, and importation of livestock or livestock-derived goods from another state or local government.
- Allows states to regulate the importation of livestock in the event of animal disease.
- Protects farmers from states implementing laws that are pre-empted by this bill.

U.S. ethanol exports top 117 million gallons in October

By Erin Voegele

The U.S. exported 117.09 million gallons of ethanol and 896,708 metric tons of distillers grains in October, according to data released by the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service on Dec. 6. Exports of both products were up when compared to October 2022.

The 117.09 million gallons of ethanol exported in October was down slightly when compared to the 120.49 million gallons exported during the previous month, but up significantly from the 85.2 million gallons exported in October 2022.

The U.S. exported ethanol to approximately three dozen countries in Octo-

ber. Canada was the top destination for U.S. ethanol exports at 64.61 million gallons, followed by India at 13.69 million gallons and the U.K. at 12.62 million gallons.

The value of U.S. ethanol exports reached \$299.62 million in October, down from \$317.81 million in September, but up from \$236.27 million in October of last year.

Total ethanol exports for the first ten months of the year reached 1.16 billion gallons at a value of \$3.13 billion, compared to 1.16 billion gallons exported during the same period of last year at a value of \$3.23 billion.

The U.S. also exported

896,708 metric tons of distillers grains in October, down from 1.03 million metric tons the previous month, but up from 795,012 metric tons in October 2022.

The U.S. exported distillers grains to more than three dozen countries in October. Mexico was the top destination for U.S. distillers grains exports at 193,524 metric tons, followed by Vietnam at 121,271 metric tons and Canada at 92,924 metric tons.

The value of U.S. distillers grains exports reached \$249.57 million in October, down from \$287.01 million in September, but down from \$251.92 million in October of last year.

Total distillers grains exports for the first 10 months of the year reached 8.99 million metric tons at a value of \$2.79 billion, compared to 9.37 million metric tons exported during the same period of 2022 at a value of \$2.87 billion.



KLA members honored for 50 years of membership pictured from left are Rob Stryker, Lisa Stryker, David Parker, Becky Lindamood, Jack Lindamood, Don Hineman, Larry Oltjen, Marty Oltjen and Luke Knight.

25 members celebrate 50 years of KLA membership

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) honored 25 members at the 2023 KLA Convention for decades of loyalty to the association. Thirteen individuals and 12 businesses joined the association in 1973 and marked a half-century of continuous membership in 2023. This brings the total number of members who have been loyal to KLA for 50 years or longer to 162.

Those honored were A&D Lindquist Ag Inc., Waterville; Boles Ranch LLC, Liberal; Cornwell Farms, Saint John; Bob Davies, Jr., Liberal; Mike Demmer Trust, Kingman; Ron Estes, Atchison; Farmers & Drivers Bank, Council Grove; Farmers State Bank, Fairview; Frontier Farm Credit, Manhattan; Jarold Hayden, Concordia; Hillcrest Farms, Havana; Don Hineman, Dighton; Alan James, Dighton; Marian Kleweno, Bazine; Knight Feedlot, Lyons, an ILS yard; Pat Koons, Burdick; Lewis, Hooper & Dick LLC, Garden City; Jack D. Lindamood, Virgil; National Beef Packing Co., LP, Kansas City, Liberal and Dodge City; Larry Olsen, Maple City; David D. Parker, Manhattan; Wayne Ruud, Concordia; Lyle Shattuck, Prescott; Arden Vernon, Turon; and Vogel Cattle Company, Ness City.

Max Oltjen of Hiawatha was recognized for 55 years of membership. He joined KLA in 1968.

Elizabeth Oswald of Hutchinson and Ronald Schultz from Haviland both became KLA members in 1963. They were honored for 60 years of membership.

Three members were recognized for attaining 70 years of membership, including Harvey Raaf, Gridley; Joan Smith, Sharon Springs; and 3 Bar Ranch Inc., Coldwater.

The faithful support and sharing in the association's mission from these individuals and businesses through the decades represent the key to the success of KLA.

Oh, the weather outside is frightful...



The youth division of the Ranchland Trust of Kansas photo contest was won by Youth - Kaycee Gross, Brownell.



Driving Into Winter

By Greg Doering,
Kansas Farm Bureau

The first significant snow arrived well before winter this year. Thankfully, it fell over Thanksgiving weekend, which meant I could savor the landscape's transition to white from the comfort of my living room. This was fortunate because I hadn't yet taken the proper precautions for cold, snowy weather.

My two-wheel-drive truck didn't have any added weight in the back. There also was no extra coat, extra boots with wool socks and a pair of winter gloves stashed in the cab along with an emergency blanket that looks like a big piece of aluminum foil. I've added all of those and also topped up the tires with air. If I do end up in a ditch, I'd much rather be warm and dry while waiting for help.

Despite all this preparation, I'd still rather not risk finding a ditch or worse during winter weather. The best course is to stay home. When that's not possible, however, it's

best to be prepared with some extra clothes and a few essentials that should be in a vehicle regardless of the season. Items like a working flashlight, extra batteries, matches, candles and, if you regularly travel to areas with limited cell reception, some food.

Cold, wet weather makes the difference between a bad day and a catastrophic one razor-thin. If you do run into trouble, help will take longer to arrive and your survival will depend on what you have in your vehicle. Topping off your gas tank before a trip can ensure a few extra hours of heat if you get stranded.

Usually, your vehicle will offer the most protection from the elements and will be easier to spot in wintry conditions than an individual. If it's safe, the best thing to do is stay inside the cab and keep warm. Being on the side of a slippery road with reduced visibility is a recipe for getting hit by oncoming traffic. And, in blizzard conditions, it's exceeding-

ly easy to get lost just a few feet from your vehicle.

Common sense when driving also goes a long way. Check the weather on the route to your destination before leaving. You can even check road conditions at places like www.kandrive.org. Give yourself more time to account for driving slower and stopping more often if necessary. Do without the cruise control if it's snowing or icing up and remember four-wheel-drive doesn't do anything to increase your ability to stop on slick surfaces.

If conditions allow you to be outside the vehicle, proceed with caution. If you're attempting to dig out of a snowbank or performing other physical tasks, take plenty of breaks and stay warm. Slow and steady will help keep one accident from becoming another.

It's far better to arrive at your destination a little late than to never arrive at all. Take the extra time to prepare as we drive into winter so we can all enjoy the longer, warmer days that lie ahead.

"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.



Prairie Ponderings

By Donna Sullivan

The question was innocent enough. My sales manager Briana was describing her family's plan to go snow skiing for Christmas.

"Do you ski?" she inquired.

Now, the girl has known me for over a year, has seen me trip over things other people navigate successfully and cause accidents that leave everyone in close proximity thanking God for their protection while scratching their heads saying, "How could that have even happened?"

So, no – I don't ski.

Somehow, strapping skinny wooden slats to my feet and hurtling headlong down a snow and ice-covered mountain just doesn't seem congruent with my skill set... or lack thereof. I seriously doubt I would even survive getting on and off the skilift.

I do however, love to sled, and do so every chance I get with my grandkids. I can also – believe it or not – ice skate. It's not graceful by any means, and the stares I attract are not generally due to the beautiful spins and turns I execute. They are generally stares of incredu-

lous relief shot my direction by people who just experienced a near death experience as I flung myself towards the nearest wall to keep from falling. Like I said, it's not pretty. But I enjoy it.

"What about water-skiing?" she asked next. Seriously, has working for me the past year caused some sort of trauma-induced amnesia? All of the challenges brought on by physics and my inability to co-exist peacefully with them on planet Earth also came into play the two times I tried to learn to water ski. It was painful, embarrassing, and not something I ever care to experience again.

So, while she and her family celebrate Christmas on the slopes, I will be carefully avoiding activities that could land me or innocent bystanders in the emergency room.

You're welcome.

And Merry Christmas. I hope your celebration of our Savior's birth is meaningful and filled with memories and moments that take your breath away.

Another record month for pork exports to Mexico; beef exports show modest rebound

U.S. pork exports posted another strong performance in October, led by record-large shipments to Mexico and broad-based growth elsewhere, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). October beef exports remained well below last year's large totals but improved from September, led by stronger demand in Mexico and Taiwan.

Monster year continues for pork to Mexico;

strong October rebound in Colombia

October pork exports totaled 245,345 metric tons (mt), up 3% year-over-year and the largest since June, valued at \$688.2 million – down 2% from a year ago. Shipments to leading market Mexico reached new highs for both volume and value, while exports to Colombia were the largest since mid-2022 and achieved the highest value in nearly two years. October exports to Central America were among

the largest on record and included record-large shipments to Guatemala. Exports also increased year-over-year to the Dominican Republic, South Korea and Oceania.

For the first ten months of 2023, pork exports increased 9% from a year ago to 2.38 million mt, with value up 6% to \$6.66 billion.

"At a time when the U.S. pork industry needs to maximize revenue, I run out of superlatives when talking about the re-

markable demand we are seeing in Mexico," said USMEF president and CEO Dan Halstrom. "Pork exports are also achieving excellent growth across the Western Hemisphere and retaking market share in the Asia-Pacific."

Bright spots for October beef exports include Mexico, Taiwan, Central America

Beef exports totaled 104,446 mt in October, down 17% from a year ago but 6% above the low volume posted in September.

Export value was \$836 million, down 11% year-over-year but 5% higher than September. October exports posted significant year-over-year increases in Mexico, Central America (including a record volume for Costa Rica), Taiwan, Europe and Africa, but continued to trend lower to Japan, South Korea and China.

January-October exports of U.S. beef reached 1.08 million mt, down 13% from the record pace of 2022, while value fell 17%

to \$8.32 billion.

"On the beef side, economic headwinds in our largest Asian markets continue to weigh on demand, as consumers trade down to lower-priced proteins," Halstrom said. "The recovery in Asia's foodservice sector has been limited, but we remain hopeful that it will accelerate in 2024. Recent efforts to jump-start economic activity in these countries and address weakened currencies could also improve the business climate."

Lamb exports trend lower in October

While achieving growth in Central America, October exports of U.S. lamb trended lower overall, falling 47% from a year ago in volume (182 mt) and 28% in value (\$1.13 million). Through the first tenmonths of the year, lamb exports fell 11% to 2,054 mt, while value declined 12% to \$10.7 million. Exports increased to Central America (driven by growth in Costa Rica and Guatemala), Japan and the Middle East, but these results were offset by lower shipments to the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.



Over the years many people have taken a stab at personalizing *The Night Before Christmas*. Not to be outdone, I thought I would pen my own version but make it from the farm point of view. Good or bad, here it is and Merry Christmas to Everyone!

It was the night before Christmas (better known as Christmas Eve) when all through the house, nothing was moving, except for that darn mouse. My coveralls were hung by the woodstove with care, praying that by morning the calves would still be there. The dog was asleep, snug in her bed with visions of squirrels running through her little head. Mama with curlers in her head and me still wearing my seed corn cap, right there in the recliner where I had accidentally taken a little nap.

When outside there was this awful clatter, I staggered out of the chair the sheep fence couldn't be any flatter. The ewes stampeded past the picture window in a wooly flash, I turned around and tripped over the dog, falling with a crash. There must have been six inches of wet snow, and the temperature was somewhere around thirty below. When what to my bloodshot, dry eyes did appear, but the darn horse and the butcher steer. Everything appeared to be out, and I had a nervous tic, this night had sure gone downhill really quick.

They were running and bucking the lawn was never going to be the same, my head was in a fog, I didn't know who or what to blame. I hollered to Ma that we had some fence to be fixing, the sheep and cattle had started to mingle and were mixing. Was that a cow on the porch? An ewe on the retaining wall? Get out of here right now or I will make stew meat out of you all! They would not go back into their pens as much as I might try, in fact they all scattered into the pitch-black night sky. Around the house the curse words they flew, I used my old standbys and made up some that were new.

Just when I thought it couldn't get worse, my blood pressure was through the roof. I swore that we would sell every last thing with a horn or a hoof. As I was putting on my wet chore clothes and getting around, out the door went the over eager cow dog with a bound. A flash of white fur she was energy from her head to her foot, my chore clothes were still wet and covered in something worse than soot. All I wanted was for the critters to their pens to go back, I was so desperate I looked for a feed sack. Ma was out by now and the look she gave me was really quite scary, I think she was wondering why it was me she had decided to marry.

Her mouth was pinched, she looked like she might blow as she circled the livestock ankle-deep in wet snow. I cursed all the animals through clenched teeth, especially the ewe who ran off with Ma's new Christmas wreath. She had an old jug head and a big old belly, I suddenly thought about how good she would look roasted with mint jelly. Then suddenly there appeared this stubby, fat little elf, I suddenly started laughing, I couldn't help myself. In the blink of an eye, he went to their head and turned every one of the beasts before they could have fled. He pushed them back in, made it short work while I stood there stunned, man did I feel like a jerk. He went to work on the fence and soon it arose, I was about frozen, and I had lost feeling in my toes. He jumped in his pickup and gave it a whistle, then he took off down the road as fast as a missile. I heard him shout as he got out of sight. "They are all back in, Merry Christmas, it will be a good night."

Ok, so it isn't so much of a classic, but I hope you giggled. My wish is that each of you will have a happy and blessed Christmas with the family and friends that you love. Take time to remember why we celebrate Christmas. Merry Christmas, All!

Country Chuckles by Jonny Hawkins



"Wow - you're right. It is a good crop."



"YA KNOW, I'VE GOTTA GET AROUND TO REPLACIN' THEM ROTTEN POSTS IN THE LOADIN' ALLEY ONE OF THESE DAYS..."

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Avian influenza identified in McPherson and Rice counties

The Kansas Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS), has identified highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in two egg layer facilities — one in McPherson County and one in Rice County. This marks five cases of HPAI in Kansas this fall; since the start of the outbreak in 2022 there have been 21 cases of HPAI in Kansas.

KDA is working closely with USDA-APHIS on a joint incident response at the affected premises in the two affected counties. According to KDA's animal health officials, the

facilities both increased their biosecurity upon the initial HPAI outbreak in 2022 and have been continuously monitoring their flock. Upon noticing clinical signs of HPAI in their birds, they immediately contacted KDA. The affected premises were placed under quarantine and the birds will be humanely depopulated and disposed of in an approved manner to prevent the spread of the disease.

In addition, KDA will be establishing a 12.5-mile surveillance zone around the infected premises, and other farms or properties with poultry that fall within that zone will not be allowed to move birds or poultry products

on or off their property without permission from KDA. The animal health team is working to locate all poultry owners in the area to ensure they know the symptoms of HPAI and are taking critical steps to protect their birds. If you own poultry and live in McPherson or Rice counties, please contact KDA at 833-765-2006 or KDA.HPAI@ks.gov. You can also self-report your birds at <https://fs22.formsite.com/KansasDeptAg/zlb9fer9oc/index.html>.

This outbreak of HPAI is primarily spread by migrating wild waterfowl, so a critical part of protecting your flock is to establish separation between your domestic birds and

wild birds as they migrate through your region. Anyone involved with poultry production from the small backyard chicken owner to the large commercial producer should review their biosecurity activities to assure the health of their birds. Find guidance on biosecurity on the KDA Division of Animal Health webpage at agriculture.ks.gov/AvianInfluenza.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza is a contagious viral disease that can infect chickens, turkeys and other birds and can cause severe illness and/or sudden death in infected birds. Poultry owners should attentively monitor your birds for symptoms of HPAI which

include: coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge, and other signs of respiratory distress; lack of energy and appetite; decreased water consumption; decreased egg production and/or soft-shelled, misshapen eggs; incoordination; and diarrhea. Avian influenza can also cause sudden death in birds even if they aren't showing other symptoms.

If these symptoms are observed in your birds, immediately contact your veterinarian. If you don't have a regular veterinarian, contact KDA's Division of Animal Health office toll-free at 833-765-2006.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the

recent HPAI detections do not present an immediate public health concern or a food safety concern. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of all poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165°F is recommended as a general food safety precaution.

For more information about HPAI, including current status of the confirmed cases in other states and more information about biosecurity for your flock, go to KDA's avian influenza webpage at agriculture.ks.gov/AvianInfluenza or call KDA at 833-765-2006.

End of year good time to think about family farm business transition

By Ross Mosteller, Meadowlark District Extension agent, livestock and natural resources

The increased asks for information on current "going" rental rates, purchase of Farm Account books and the arrival of the Farmers Tax Guides in the Extension Office signals the end of a calendar year approaching. Along with this time of year is a financial look back on the past year and ahead to the coming year. We often think in the short term of yearly finances, but what about longer term with generational transfer and planning?

Talking about transition of a family farm is a topic that few people like to address, but this is such a critical link to the success of the business. It is never too early to start thinking about generational transfer of the family farm, something most families want to see happen. Careful planning and good communication skills increase the chances of a smooth transition of a business and maintain harmony among family members involved.

Historical statistical analysis shows that

about 30 percent of family-owned businesses are successful in transferring to the second generation. Approximately 15 percent go on to the third, only 5 percent make the fourth, and less than 2 percent will survive until the fifth generation. The factors affecting these statistics are many, such as a younger generation's lack of interest in the business or older generation's fear of retirement and "death planning," but in many cases it is simply a lack of planning or a failure to communicate effectively.

The first step in making a transition is to assess the current business, by evaluation of its financial health, and its strengths and weaknesses. Financial measures may reveal the need for substantial changes. Businesses that have not met or exceeded the industry average profit level in the past will probably have trouble surviving in the future. In addition, family members need to evaluate what areas of their business are competitive and what areas need improvement.

A comprehensive "planning thought process" is needed to in-

crease the likelihood of a successful business transition. This is an ongoing, never-ending cycle of planning that begins with the development of a shared stakeholder vision. A vision is a long-term concept focused on the plans for the future. Businesses that have a vision of where they are going and what they want to achieve, are more often successful than those who don't.

Development of associated mission, objectives, goals, strategy and specific tactics comes next. This will help the family business ultimately achieve the vision that the stakeholders have in mind. Going through the process of discussing these things, and actually writing them down, help all involved understand where they are and where they want to go. As a final step in the process, stakeholders need to determine what changes will be needed in the current resource base in order to achieve the vision of the business.

When planning for the future of family-owned businesses, good communication is the key. How

well a family communicates on a daily basis relates strongly with the probability of success. If the family decides to pass down their business to the next generation, a transition plan is needed. A plan will summarize retirement plans for the existing generation and will address the question of fair versus equal for each stakeholder. A comprehensive plan will also need to establish the financial, organizational, and management structure of the business.

The succession process will be most successful if a "team approach" is established, supported by good communication, and has continuous skill development. The process can be relatively short, or it can take several years, and can sometimes lead to frustrations. There is good news, however! Ag-Kansitions, from the Kansas State University Office of Farm and Ranch Transition, is a resource here to help. Visit <https://www.agkansitions.org/> or contact your local Extension office for assistance connecting to this resource.

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2023 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Annette Wetter, Colby, Wins Final Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Winner Annette Wetter, Colby:

MAGIC PEANUT BUTTER MIDDLES

1 1/2 cups flour
1/2 cup cocoa
1/2 teaspoon soda
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup margarine, softened
1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla

Filling:

3/4 cup creamy peanut butter

3/4 cup powdered sugar

Mix flour, cocoa and soda; set aside. Cream margarine and sugars together. Add peanut butter, egg and vanilla. Stir in dry ingredients. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine peanut butter and powdered sugar together for the filling. Roll peanut butter filling into (30) 3/4-inch balls. With floured hands, flatten 1 tablespoon of the chocolate dough and wrap around the peanut butter and place on a baking sheet. Flatten balls with the bottom of a glass dipped in sugar. Bake 7 to 9 minutes or until set. Cool on a rack.

Pat Adams, Beloit: "Merry Christmas Grass & Grain! I have received the paper for 59 years. We are now retired farmers and moved into Beloit. I look forward to the paper every week. I still love to cook. These Cranberry Party Meatballs are delicious and very festive for the holidays."

CRANBERRY PARTY MEATBALLS

14-ounce can whole-berry cranberry sauce
12-ounce bottle chili sauce
3/4 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon chili powder
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
32-ounce bag frozen meatballs, thawed

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine cranberry sauce, chili sauce, brown sugar, chili powder and cayenne (if using); whisk until smooth. Simmer until sugar is dissolved, about 5 minutes. Add meatballs; cook until heated through (about 15 to 20 minutes). Serve with cocktail skewers. Serves 10-12.

Carole Monahan, Westmoreland:

STUFFED MUSHROOMS

8 ounces mushrooms
1/4 cup chopped onions
1/2 pound sausage
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
A few drops of Tabasco sauce, optional
4 ounces cream cheese

Rinse mushrooms and pat dry. Scoop out and chop stems. Mix stems with onions and sausage. Place in a saucepan and cook and stir until done; drain grease. Stir in remaining ingredients. Spoon into mushrooms and bake at 400 degrees for 15 minutes.

Kellee George, Shawnee:

PRETZEL TOFFEE

16-ounce bag of snap pretzels
2/3 cup butter
1 1/4 cups brown sugar
1/3 cup corn syrup
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
8-ounce bag Heath Bits
1/4 cup finely chopped roasted peanuts

Set oven to 200 degrees. Line baking sheet with parchment paper. In pan heat butter, brown sugar

and syrup; heat until reaches a boil. Then boil 2-3 minutes. Mix in baking soda and vanilla. Add pretzels to large bowl. Pour mixture over pretzels. Stir in Heath Bits. Transfer to baking sheet and bake 45 minutes, stirring 2-3 times. Remove from heat and top with chopped peanuts. Cool. Store in air-tight container.

Amy Feigley, Enterprise:

SLOW-COOKER

FLANK STEAK SLIDERS
1 flank steak (2-3 pounds)
Salt & pepper to taste
0.6-ounce packet Zesty Italian dressing mix
1/2 cup water
Slider buns
Softened butter
Provolone cheese slices

To your crock-pot or slow-cooker, add the flank steak. Lightly sprinkle with salt and pepper, then add dry dressing mix and water. Cover and cook on low for 6 to 7 hours. The meat will easily fall apart. Shred meat with two forks and stir so meat is covered in juices. Cut/pull buns open and spread butter on both sides, then place face up on a cookie sheet. Cover top half of the bun with cheese and put into a 350-degree oven for 3 to 4 minutes, or until cheese is melted. Remove from the oven and pile shredded steak on the bun. Enjoy!!!

Jackie Doud, Topeka:

PEANUT NOODLES

3 1/2 cups chow mein noodles
2 1/2 cups salted cocktail peanuts
32 ounces white chocolate candy coating
Candy sprinkles

Mix noodles and peanuts in large bowl. Melt chocolate over low heat. Pour over noodle and peanuts. Mix well. Drop by spoonfuls onto waxed paper-lined baking sheets. Sprinkle with sprinkles. Cool completely. Store in air-tight container.

Shirley Deiser, Ellsworth:

DRUNKEN PORK CHOPS

6 to 8 pork chops
Salt & pepper to taste
1 can beer
1/4 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup ketchup

Fry pork chops until browned on both sides. Season chops with salt and pepper. Combine beer, brown sugar and ketchup. Add to pork chops and let simmer for 30 to 40 minutes.

Joy Ferdinand, Reading:

CARAMEL POPCORN

1 cup or 2 sticks butter or margarine
2 cups firmly packed brown sugar
1/2 cup light or dark corn syrup
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
6 quarts popped corn

Melt butter in a large saucepan. Stir in brown sugar, corn syrup and salt. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Boil without stirring for 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in baking soda and vanilla. Gradually pour over popped corn in 2 large baking or roasting pans. Mix well. Bake in a 250-degree oven for 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely. Break apart and store in tightly closed containers or bags.

Beth Scripser, Abilene:

CORN SALAD

(2) 15-ounce cans corn, drained
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup chopped green pepper
1/2 cup chopped red onion
10-ounce package chili-flavored Fritos

Stir all ingredients (except Fritos) together well. When you are ready to serve crush Fritos and stir into salad.

Jean Wrosch, Onaga:

WHITE CREAM SAUCE

1 box yellow cake mix
3 1/2-ounce package instant vanilla pudding
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup white sugar
2 teaspoons cinnamon
4 eggs
3/4 cup oil
3/4 cup water
1/2 cup white wine
Mix dry ingredients together. Add eggs, oil, water

and wine. Mix thoroughly. Pour into a greased bundt pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes. When cake is done remove from oven and leave in bundt pan. Mix together:

1/4 cup white wine
1/2 cup white sugar

In a saucepan bring wine-sugar mixture to a boil. Pour hot mixture over the hot cake and let stand in pan 1 hour or more.

Dona Schultz, Miltonvale:

FROZEN

ALMOND PUNCH

3 small boxes gelatin (any flavor, mostly for color)
4 cups sugar
16-ounce Real Lemon juice
2 large cans pineapple juice
1 bottle almond extract
Water (called for in directions)
2 quarts of Ginger Ale (add when serving)
Dissolve gelatin in 9 cups of boiling water. Dissolve sugar in 4 cups boiling water. Add all ingredients (except Ginger Ale) together and freeze.

When ready to serve remove from the freezer, thaw until slushy. Add 2 quarts ginger ale.

Bernadetta McCollum, Clay Center:

HOLIDAY CHEESE BALL

16 ounces cream cheese, softened
8 1/2-ounce can crushed pineapple, drained
2 tablespoons onion, finely chopped
1/4 cup green pepper, finely chopped
2 cups pecans, chopped

Mix all ingredients with a fork, except pecans, and form into a ball. Roll in pecans. Wrap in plastic and refrigerate.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

CRAB NUGGETS

1 pound crab meat
3 slices of white bread, crust removed
1 egg
1 tablespoon mayonnaise
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon Old Bay seasoning
1 tablespoon parsley
Oil for frying

Chop up crab meat. Mix egg, mayonnaise, mustard, Worcestershire sauce. Add torn-up bread, Old Bay seasoning and parsley. Add crab meat by hand to avoid breaking up too much. Shape into 24 balls. Heat oil and fry until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve with favorite sauce.

Marcile Shippy, Woodbine: "Quick and easy!"

APPLE-CRANBERRY SALAD

1 apple, diced
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
3-ounce package cherry gelatin
1 cup water
1 can whole cranberry sauce
1/2 cup cold water

Dice the apple into the bottom of a 1 1/2-quart flat bottom serving dish. Sprinkle walnuts on top of apples. Bring the gelatin and 1 cup of water to a boil. Stir in the cranberry sauce and cold water. Pour over apple-walnut mixture and set to gel in the refrigerator.

Linda Kepka, Dorrance:

MICROWAVE

STICKY BUNS

3 tablespoons margarine
1/3 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 tablespoon water
1 can of 8-count biscuits
Heat the margarine, brown sugar, cinnamon and water in a microwave-safe bundt pan for 1 minute. Tear or cut each biscuit into four pieces. Add the pieces to the bundt pan and microwave for three minutes, stirring occasionally to coat all pieces with mixture.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

MONKEY JAM

4 really ripe bananas, no spots
14 ounces crushed pineapple with juice
2 cups sugar
3 tablespoons coconut
3 tablespoons lemon juice
Chop bananas into thin slices. Combine all ingredients in saucepan. Bring to a boil; turn on low and continue cooking down until mixture thickens slightly. Cool down.

NOTE: Good on ice cream, toast, bread, etc. Keeps good in refrigerator.

Claire Martin, Salina: "Dried cranberries add a touch of sweetness and autumn appeal to this skillet supper."

CRANBERRY PORK CHOPS

4 bone-in pork loin chops (1/2-inch thick)
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
1 cup chicken broth, divided
1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed
1/4 cup sliced green onions
1/4 cup dried cranberries
1/8 teaspoon pepper
3 teaspoons cornstarch
Hot cooked rice

In a skillet brown the pork chops in butter for 3 minutes on each side. Add 1/2 cup broth and rosemary. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 5 minutes or until meat juices run clear. Remove chops to a serving dish and keep warm. Add the onions, cranberries and pepper to skillet. Combine cornstarch and remaining broth until smooth. Gradually add to skillet. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Serve over pork and rice. Yield: 4 servings.

More Recipes On Next Page

Merry Christmas!

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Nov. 21 through Dec. 19

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$40 in addition to the gift.

CONTEST IS NOW CLOSED

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Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$40. Winners will be announced Dec. 19.

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"Our Daily Bread"

Holiday Bonus Drawing Winners

All G&G Area Cooks who sent recipes for the holiday contests were entered in a special drawing. The four cooks whose names were drawn will each receive \$40. They are:

Jean Wrosch
Onaga, KS

Joy Ferdinand
Reading, KS

Carole Monahan
Westmoreland, KS

Pat Gretencord
Olathe, KS

A big THANK YOU to all who shared their favorite recipes with G&G Cooks during this holiday season!

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2023 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

Loretta Shepard, Helena, Oklahoma:

PIZZA BAKE

1 pound ground beef
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 pint pizza sauce
1 cup Bisquick baking mix, divided
1 1/2 cups cheese
2 eggs
1 cup milk
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a skillet brown beef and onion. Add pizza sauce and 2 tablespoons of Bisquick. Pour into a 9-by-13-inch pan and top with cheese. In a bowl mix eggs, milk and remaining Bisquick. Pour on top of first mixture and bake 30 minutes.

Arnelda Kepka, Dorrance:
LIVER & ONIONS
2 tablespoons fat or oil
2/3 pound sliced beef or pork liver
About 3 tablespoons flour
3/4 teaspoon salt
Pepper, as desired
1 onion, sliced
3 tablespoons water
Heat fat in fry pan. Cover liver with flour and put in pan. Cook until browned on one side. Turn liver. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place onion on top. Add water. Cover pan tightly and cook liver over low heat about 20 minutes until tender. Add a little water during cooking, if needed. Makes 4 servings.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
CORN DIP
4 cups kernel corn, drained
1 tablespoon olive oil
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup sour cream
1/2 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
Mix all together and place in bowl. Serve with crackers, veggies, etc.

Bernadetta McCollum, Clay Center:
EASY HOLIDAY COOKIES
1/4 cup butter, softened
9-ounce yellow cake mix
1 egg
3/4 cup red & green M&Ms
Heat oven to 350 degrees. Combine butter, cake mix and egg in a large bowl. Beat at medium speed, scraping bowl often until well-mixed. Stir in chocolate M&Ms by hand. Drop dough by rounded teaspoons 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 11-13 minutes or until set. Makes about 1 1/2 dozen cookies.

Joy Ferdinand, Reading:
"Really good with a few red hots, also!"
SPICY TEA MIX
3/4 cup instant tea
2 cups powdered Tang
2/3 cup powdered, sweetened lemonade mix
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
Mix all ingredients together in a jar. To serve, add 1 tablespoon mix to 8 ounces boiling water.

Annette Wetter, Colby:
ALL DAY COOKIES
2 cups sugar
1 cup Crisco
1/2 cup sour cream or buttermilk
2 eggs, beaten
2 teaspoon soda
2 teaspoon cream of tartar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 teaspoon salt
5 cups flour
Mix all ingredients together. Form dough into 2 logs and refrigerate overnight. Slice into 1/4- to 1/2-inch slices. Sprinkle each cookie with colored sprinkles. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes.

More Recipes will be printed in the next issue!



By
Kelsey
Pagel

Peace Through Tribulation

Another year is almost wrapped up again. 2023 wasn't a great year for me, if I'm being honest. I share a lot, but most of what happened remains private with only a couple of people knowing everything. It was a year of emotional ups and downs. A lot of areas of my life were hit at different points and since May it has been one thing after another. Just when I think life is settling down, something else happens. I'm grateful that it's nothing life-threatening for myself or any of the people I love, it's just been a lot.

I've learned much through the year. First off, hormones are important. When they get out of whack, crazy stuff happens. Second, even in the darkest times, I'm thankful I have a support system that will love me and do what I need. Third, I'm looking forward to not being the one that needs the support, but giving it back to them. Fourth, life is hard. Decisions are hard. One of my favorite sayings from this year and I don't know who to give credit to, "Our brains/nervous system will choose a familiar hell over an unfamiliar heaven every time." Change is scary, but sometimes it's the best thing that could have ever happened.

Another favorite saying, "Your version of hell is somebody else's version of heaven." When you're walking through bad days: fighting with your spouse, upset at your kids, wondering how you're going to get all the farm work done, know there are people, probably not very far from you, that would love to have a spouse, have been trying for years and spending thousands of dollars trying to have kids, or would love to be able to farm and ranch.

I've told you before, I haven't figured out how to walk the tightrope of being grateful for having a spouse that loves me and works hard, but also being incredibly upset that there are socks all over the house (Literally opened the silverware drawer this week in the kitchen and found a pair of socks. Thank goodness they were clean!). We went out to eat this week with my cousin and her husband. Since my parents had us later in life, my cousin is more like my aunt. We grew up with our second cousins instead of first cousins. It can feel

daunting to find role models that value marriage. At the end of the day, I think all of us want to be happy and so few of us truly are. Donna and Denny truly want to be together after almost 40 years of marriage. They want to wake up with each other, they want to do things together, they want to laugh and love together. And that's what I want out of life. Having nice things is all well and good. But at the end of the day, I want a partner that I'm happy with. Period.

And this year has been hard in all the ways. I'm not a hugely religious person. I'd like to believe there's a God that cares, but intellectually, it's almost impossible for my mind to wrap around the fact that He could know how many hairs are on the heads of 7-9 billion people, however many are on Earth now. I mean I shed a lot so that number would constantly be changing. A God that hears and cares about me, a God that can hear and care about all of these people. A God that gave us free will which is why there are so many bad things in the world.

But after this year, I felt I wanted to delve in to the Bible. I wanted to read it and understand and learn what's in it. And I tried, but couldn't decipher the meanings of very many chapters and wound up more frustrated. I asked my sisters for help, both who are very faith-filled people that absolutely believe in God. Kayla gave me The Wiersbe Bible Commentary. There's two books, one for the old testament and one for the new. They are THE best at helping me understand what is actually happening. If you're searching or questioning, these books are phenomenal!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas. I'm so blessed to have an audience that cares enough to message Matt and I. You truly have no idea how humbled I am when I receive messages from you. It means the absolute world and more. I hope you know how special you are. If you went through hard things this year, I'm hoping next year will bring peace through the tribulations. I'm telling myself this as much as you, but grace, patience and love my friends!

Kelsey Pagel is a Kansas farmer. She grew up on a cow/calf and row crop operation and married into another. Kelsey and her Forever (Matt) farm and ranch with his family where they are living their dream and loving most of the moments. She can be found on IG & FB @ teampagel.

You may email Kelsey your comments at kelseypagel13@gmail.com



Why Do We Do It?

By Lou Ann Thomas

Every family has their own Christmas traditions. Maybe you always go to midnight mass or open your presents on Christmas Eve and you may know where and with whom these traditions originated. However, we also join in many traditions that are shared experiences - like decorating a tree, making a gingerbread house or hiding a pickle in the tree. But how did these traditions begin?

Well, decorating Christmas trees began in Germany in the Middle Ages. By the early 19th Century German and other European immigrants had popularized the tradition. As the practice grew it created a demand for trees and the first Christmas tree lot opened in the United States in 1851. By 2019, according to the American Christmas Tree Association, 77 percent of U.S. households displayed a Christmas tree in their home.

And that tree probably has lights, since over 150 million sets of Christmas lights are sold in the United States each year. Many of those are likely pur-

chased after hours spent in failed attempts to untangle last year's string.

The gingerbread house was another tradition claimed to have begun with the Germans. The tradition spread worldwide when the German Brothers Grimm wrote "Hansel and Gretel." And the pickle hidden in the tree? Well, I must admit I was today year's old when I heard of this American tradition. A green ornament, often a pickle, is hidden on the tree and the first child to find it wins a gift. I assume that the gift is not the pickle.

I have heard about the Elf on the Shelf. This tradition is about hiding the little red elf somewhere in the house every night between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Parents either love it or hate it, but finding the elf in a new place or situation every morning delights children, and some parents create elaborate and creative poses and set ups for the hapless elf. Which can result in Elf Envy for less motivated parents.

Leaving cookies and milk for Santa dates to ancient Norse mythol-

ogy. The tradition grew sweeter in America during the Great Depression in the 1930's. Unable to buy presents the sweets were left out to show gratitude during this time of struggle. Another sweet tradition is adorning trees with candy canes. This practice dates to 1670 Germany and was brought to the United States in 1847 when a German-Swedish immigrant placed the red and white striped candy on a tree. Candy canes are now the number one selling non-chocolate candy in December and can be found on trees, boughs and in bellies.

Another holiday tradition that has become a big seller began in Vancouver, Canada in 2001. The Ugly Christmas Sweater began as a party joke, but many of us now have one or two tucked into our closet. We proudly don them for festive gatherings and good gags, which, according to Fox Business, has created a multi-million-dollar ugly sweater business.

Then there are Christmas cards, which first debuted in England in 1843. Mailed holiday greetings caught on in Britain and the United States when Hallmark Cards created a folded card sold with an envelope in 1915. Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, more than 1.6 billion holiday cards are sold annually.

Whatever traditions you celebrate, create or repeat, may you all enjoy the happiest and warmest of holidays!

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

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Heifers on Ice (Part 2)

Brett and I began chopping grooves in the ice, beginning at the edge of the hole where the three heifers were standing with just their heads and backs above the water level and the surrounding ice pack. The ice was thick enough they could not break it, and they stood deep enough they could not get up onto it.

As we cut our respective grooves, parallel to each other, the cows seemed to know what we were doing and as we retreated, leaving a few feet of ice between them and us, they would push and struggle enough they could break a big block off and

move forward. Knowing these girls were in danger of hypothermia and time was of the essence, the two of us worked as fast as we could, rhythmic as a couple of old-time steel drivers on the railroad. Every few feet we could see the cows were gaining ground until finally the lead cow was able to get a front foot up on the ice ledge we had scored and broke off a large slab, big enough for her to use it to scramble up onto the solid pack.

As she made her way across the ice to shore, the next one followed, not far behind. Now only one remained. She was the submariner and she was show-

ing signs of hypothermia, growing too weak to heave herself up high enough to clear the ice shelf. We continued chopping. Just a couple feet more and we had cleared the way enough that she could get her front feet up and out of the mud below. She more or less just sat there in that water channel with front legs out. She had quit shivering now.

I fashioned a quick rope halter around her head and Brett tied the other end off to the tractor he'd brought down. I waved him ahead and he drug that heifer up onto the frozen ground, a safe distance from the pond edge. I phoned my wife, watching from her pickup, to run to the house and get my drenching pump and tube, the big water jug full of hot water with two packets of electrolytes, and a syringe and some Banamine. "And grab that blue tarp from the garage!"

While she ran for that stuff, I unrolled the late feeding of hay alongside the cow. Brett and I rolled

her over and onto the hay and began pulling hay up and over the cow. Denise arrived with the hot drench solution and as I tubed the cow, she began pumping it into her. Brett injected the Banamine in several sites along the cow's neck and shoulders.

The cow was still not very responsive at this point, and still not shivering, but we did manage to get her in a resting position on her belly with front legs folded properly underneath, although muzzle on the hay-covered ground beneath her. We pulled the tarp over the entire cow, head and all.

All of us, exhausted by now, retreated to our homes where supper had been put on hold. After a hot shower, the food was ready and in another hour I decided to go see if the cow was dead yet. I had looked her up in my calving book, and she'd had a ten-day-old calf. I feared the worst for him.

Driving out to the site of 'bovine tarpization' I discovered the tarp was

removed from the hay, a dozen other heifers were munching contentedly on the hay our patient had been left in, and the patient was lying prone, on the bare snow covered, frozen ground about 40 feet away.

I hastily gathered up as much hay as my short-handled pitchfork could carry and scattered it around on and beside her, then dragged that tarp back to her, once again covering her completely. She was shivering violently now, and considering her condition about two hours ago, it was an improvement, and I was beginning to have a little hope she might actually survive.

I went back to the house for a couple hours and although the 10 o'clock hay was already being consumed, I stopped by the stack yard and picked up another bale. Driving a bit farther than my earlier feed line, I stripped the net, and unrolled a bit more hay, as much a distraction as a meal. As the herd moved onto the fresh

line of hay, I made my way back to the place I had left young 'bossy.'

She was gone. No, not dead! The cow was physically not there! The tarp and the remnants of the hay were there, but that heifer was nowhere to be found. I drove the perimeter of that end of the pasture thinking that she had gone to the woods to die, but except for a few well-behaved pairs enjoying the evening, there was no 'submarine' cow.

Driving back down the feed line, I found her standing in the rest of the herd just like nothing had happened four hours ago, munching on sweet brome hay just as happy as you please! You could've knocked me over with a feather!

Next morning I found her baby nursing on her, and the night of wonders was complete!

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

NSP announces 2023 Sorghum Yield Contest winners; Kansas partnership tops list

National Sorghum Producers is pleased to announce the winners of the 2023 National Sorghum Yield Contest, including Bin Buster awardee Chris Santini from Stewartville, New Jersey, securing the contest's highest yield at 221.75 bushels per acre.

"The winners of the 2023 sorghum yield contest are extended warm congratulations by National Sorghum Producers," NSP Board of Directors Chairman Craig Meeker said. "Despite a demanding season with weather highs and lows, remarkable top-tier yields are evident nationwide. We applaud the winners and eagerly anticipate honoring them at the 2024 Commodity Classic in Houston."

Noteworthy yields are spotlighted across three distinct divisions spanning from the eastern to western U.S.

regions, along with an overarching food grade champion. In the 2023 National Sorghum Yield Contest, first place honors go to:

- Bibb and Nighswonger Partnership from Comanche, Ks., in the Irrigated West division, achieving a yield of 218.64 bushels per acre - Dekalb DKS44-07;
- Howard DeShong from Lancaster, Pa., in the Irrigated East division, achieving a yield of 168.34 bushels per acre - Pioneer 84G62;
- David Knoll from Charles Mix, S.D., in the Dryland Tillage West division, achieving a yield of 183.32 bushels per acre - Pioneer 89Y79;
- Santino Santini from Warren, N.J., in the Dryland Tillage East division, achieving a yield of 221.06 bushels per acre - Pioneer 85P58;

- Mark Bloss from Pawnee, Neb., in the Dryland No-Till West division, achieving a yield of 181.00 bushels per acre - Pioneer 84P72;

- Chris Santini from Warren, N.J., in the Dryland No-Till East division, achieving a yield of 221.75 bushels per acre - Pioneer 85P58;

- and JnL Farms from Appanoose, Ia., securing victory in the Food Grade division with a yield of 139.56 bushels per acre - Richardson G37.

"This year's contest results underscore the enduring resilience of sorghum," Meeker added. "While drought significantly impacted numerous growers this season, we take immense pride in the overall achievements of the industry and commend these growers for their exceptional yield accomplishments."

The national and state winners will receive further recognition in March 2024 during the Commodity Classic in Houston.

Four Hall of Fame winners will also be recognized for having achieved at least three wins at the national level. They include:

- Jeffrey Barlieb - Warren County, N.J.
- David Knoll - Hyde County, S.D.
- Chris Santini - Warren County, N.J.
- Santino Santini - Warren County, N.J.

For a comprehensive rundown of the NSP National Sorghum Yield Contest's national, state, and county outcomes, or to learn more about the contest, please visit sorghumgrowers.com/yeild-contest.

Cow found mutilated in Pottawatomie County

A KLA member has reported finding one of their cows mutilated recently. The crime likely happened on the evening of December 7. The cow was six or seven years old and was located in a pasture between Louisville and Westmoreland in Pottawatomie County.

\$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) involved in this crime. The reward program only applies when the producer is a KLA member. Anyone with information should contact the Pottawatomie County sheriff's office at (785) 457-3481.

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From our family to yours,

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We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

LYONS RANCH



Marshall, Mann lead bipartisan letter to the ITC on phosphate fertilizers

U.S. Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. led a letter with Representative Tracey Mann (R-KS-01) to the International Trade Commission (ITC) with concerns that the voices of farmers and agricultural retailers are not being heard by the Commission regarding countervailing duties on phosphate fertilizer.

The Commission has only narrowly opened the record after its previous determination to put tariffs on phosphate was remanded back to the Commission by the U.S. Court of International Trade. The Court gave the Commission wide latitude to re-open the record, yet the Commission is not allowing commodity organizations and agriculture retailers to provide information about the U.S. fertilizer market.

Members joining Marshall and Mann's efforts are senators Bill Hagerty, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Pete Ricketts, Deb Fischer, John Boozman, and representatives Jake LaTurner, John Rose, Greg Pence, Julia Letlow, James Baird, and Jim Costa.

Highlights from the letter include:

"Since this process began in 2020, growers, retailers, and suppliers have provided information to the Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce about the U.S. fertilizer market and the

worsening challenges we face obtaining adequate domestic supply... we believe that the Commission is arbitrarily limiting both the information allowed to be submitted and the parties permitted to respond. As you are aware, a questionnaire was sent only to U.S. producers and U.S. importers of phosphate," the legislators said.

"We believe additional parties, namely the farmers who need phosphate fertilizer to grow crops, the retailers who sell phosphate fertilizers, and the organizations who represent them, should be given the opportunity to respond," the legislators

continued. "The bottom line is that fertilizer is critical to national security and national defense. Its affordability is also critical to the farm economy. Any decision that has the ability to increase the cost of production for U.S. farmers and ranchers threatens our food security and national security. This makes it pre-eminently important that the Commission takes a wide approach to gathering relevant information rather than a narrow one," the legislators voiced.

"We urge the Commission to give careful consideration to the information it has received in the remand proceeding before issuing its response and request that the Commission expand the recipients of the questionnaire. Thank you for your consideration," the legislators concluded.

Wow, have you ever seen so many people excited about a license plate?

I was on the bandwagon when the groundswell began against the first one unveiled by the state. It was awful on so many levels.

Boring. The folks in Topeka, many of whom are my friends since I lived in our capital city for twenty years, heard Kansas loud and clear and came back with five choices and the opportunity for us Kansans to vote on the license plate of our dreams.

Then, they rolled out our five choices. Boring. Boring. Boring. Boring, and, BORING!

So, B T Creative (founded seven years ago by Ben Tegtmeyer from Eudora) shared a design idea that might have been a little busy for some folks' taste but lots of Kansans loved it. He acknowledged he was too late for the official competition but shared it on social media nonetheless. It featured the buffalo (bison for the nerd faction out there), the sunflower, Monument Rocks (a personal favorite here in Oakley), a silhouette of Ad Astra from atop the capitol dome, and, drumroll, the entire Kansas motto--Ad Astra Per Aspera.

As of this writing, Ben counted more than 575,000 engagements on social media in favor of the rogue design.

That is more than either gubernatorial candidate received in our most recent election.

The moral of the story is -- quality does matter.

So even though the "winning" entry was not on the ballot for us, Ben has gotten publicity that is beyond what he could have hoped for. He will figure out how to market his design on something other than the official Kansas license plate, and lots of people will want it.

And we, Kansans, will motor down the highway with boring plates -- unless we spring for vanity plates, orders for which will no doubt skyrocket.

Ad Astra, Ben, Per Aspera!

Deb Goodrich is the host of Around Kansas and the Garvey Texas Foundation Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum. She chairs the Santa Fe Trail 200 and may be reached at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com



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K-State researchers lower gluten content, maintain dough quality in bread wheat

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

Kansas State University researchers have reported a breakthrough in developing wheat-based foods that contain lower amounts of gluten, a discovery that may lessen the adverse effects for those with celiac or other autoimmune diseases.

Scientists from K-State's Wheat Genetics Resource Center and the USDA's Agricultural Research Service – in partnership with Kansas Wheat – successfully used a gene editing technique known as CRISPR-Cas9 to reduce the presence of two types of gluten-coding genes called gliadins that are known to be abundant in immunoreactive peptides – the amino acid building blocks that form proteins.

Gluten is a protein often found in wheat, barley and rye. When people with celiac disease eat gluten, their body mounts an immune response that attacks the small intestine and the small, fingerlike projections known as villi that help the body absorb nutrients properly.

According to the Celiac Disease Foundation, celiac disease affects one in 100 people worldwide, but only about 30% are properly diagnosed.

“We were very surprised that once we edited those genes, we reduced the immunotoxicity caused by gliadin genes in wheat by 47-fold,” said Eduard Akhunov, University Distinguished Professor in K-State's Department of Plant Pathology and director of the Wheat Genetics Resource Center. Akhunov leads a group

of scientists applying advanced methods of genomics, genetics and genome editing to improve wheat. In this project, the editing of gluten genes was performed by postdoctoral researcher Zitong Yu.

Akhunov said gluten likely will never be completely removed from wheat since it is important for bread-making. Gluten provides the texture, flavor and moisture in such products as bread, bagels, pastries, noodles and more.

“In our edited lines, we also found that while there was a reduction in toxicity (due to lower levels of toxic gluten molecules), we did not have any reduction in the dough quality that is important for bread-making,” Akhunov said. “That's extremely important. We achieved these two seemingly contradic-

tory objectives – reducing toxicity, but maintaining the ability to develop quality dough.”

Akhunov added that even though reduced levels of gluten achieved in this study won't make wheat immediately safe for those with severe levels of celiac disease, “it is important to step forward.”

“Wheat varieties with reduced toxicity levels will help to broaden wheat-based product options for people with minor gluten-related issues,” he said. “The knowledge gained in this research could eventually pave the road for developing new varieties that will be safer for people with celiac disease.”

The very nature of scientific study and wheat breeding means varieties with reduced gluten con-

tent may not be available to consumers for many years. Aaron Harries, the vice president of research and operations for Kansas Wheat, said the trait would not be included in all new varieties and “most likely would be grown under contract with food manufacturers.”

“Wheat research is focused on developing new varieties that meet the demands of the consumer – both domestic and international,” Harries said. “Developing wheat that is safer for celiac sufferers decreases the number of consumers forced to consider wheat alternatives.”

He adds: “There are many wheat farmers and members of their families in Kansas that have celiac disease. It is ironic and unfortunate that they raise wheat for a living but can't eat wheat foods.

Most consumers would prefer not to give up wheat foods in their diet. Developing wheat varieties that are consumable by people with celiac disease would make their lives much easier.”

CRISPR-Cas9 is a genome editing tool that is faster, cheaper and more accurate than previously used methods of genome engineering. Akhunov said his research team worked with a common wheat cultivar known as Fielder, which is amenable to genome editing.

K-State's research – which has received funding from Kansas Wheat, USDA's National Institute for Food and Agriculture, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation – is published in the Nov. 17 issue of the *Plant Biotechnology Journal*.

Are you managing for the cow of today?

The evolution of production and reproduction over the last 40 years has greatly influenced how we manage today's dairy herds.

The dairy industry's “perfect cow” has changed dramatically over the past 40 years. Advancements in genetics, management practices and data collection have shaped the cow of today into a high-performing athlete, making more milk than ever with fewer resources.

“Focuses on reproduction and feed efficiency allowed for significant enhancements in the average cow, allowing her to do more with less and be more reliable in producing healthy calves year after year,” says Taliyah Danzinger, senior manager of dairy intelligence at VAS.

As the cow of today has evolved, so too have herd management tools, allowing you to manage to a new level of cow performance.

“Innovations in data collection and analysis over the last 40 years have made it easier to understand what's happening on the farm and how a cow performs,” says Danzinger. “When we know more about the cow and everything impacting her performance, we can effectively manage her to achieve more.”

Improving your herd with sustainability in mind

On average, cows today produce more milk with a higher fat percentage and lower somatic cell count (SCC) than ever before. Data from the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding shows the national average fat percent hit 4.0% for the past two years, and the average SCC has been consistently below 200,000 for multiple years. Twenty years ago, the national average for fat was around 3.7% and the SCC was 322,000.

“In addition to increasing production and improving milk quality, we've gained a deeper understanding of the impact a cow's health events have on the dairy,” says Danzinger. “The more health events a cow has, the more resources she uses, which impacts production and overall sustainability of the business.”

Herd management software helps connect health events, production and sustainability. Software like DairyComp can show an overview of herd performance and highlight trends. With the right data management tools, you can quickly identify the health events impacting your dairy most and create solutions to tackle your challenges.

“We all understand the importance of maintaining a

healthy herd because a healthy cow is a profitable cow, but she is also a sustainable cow,” says Danzinger. “We'll continue to advance as an industry toward a more sustainable dairy, and herd management tools will continue to play a role in telling that story.”

Finding success in reproduction

How we approach reproduction has advanced by leaps and bounds, with developments in genomic research, in-vitro fertilization and the rise in beef x dairy breeding strategies.

Technological advancements have also improved how we monitor reproductive performance. New herd management tools have allowed you to focus on pregnancy rate data, helping capture a better picture of what's happening in the herd.

“Just a few short years ago the common goal was to reach a 30% pregnancy rate,” says Danzinger. “That was a lofty goal then, but now the 80th percentile for Ag-Source herds over 500 cows is over that benchmark. The unattainable is becoming the normal.”

In addition to monitoring pregnancy rates across the herd, data monitoring tools also help evaluate individual cow performance.

“Today, we can track the ideal voluntary waiting period and make educated decisions on when to breed a cow back,” says Danzinger. “We can also objectively analyze a cow's body condition through technology and review health events to determine if she's in suitable condition to get pregnant.”

Using data to manage high-performing cows

Data management tools like CowVAL in DairyComp make it easy to compare cows within your herd and determine, based on various factors, your highest and lowest-performing cows. HealthVAL, another tool in DairyComp, provides context based on health events and allows you to compare benchmarks to similar-sized herds.

“How we manage, feed and house a genetically well-built cow changes what she can and will do,” says Danzinger. “For 40 years, we have evolved how we manage our herds – changing what we feed, how and when we milk and who we breed and cull. Dairies that take advantage of all data management tools offer an easily implement changes and push their herds further, faster.”

When using data management tools, the key is to stan-

dardize your data to the value that makes the most sense for your farm. Make your management decisions based on the data you are collecting and the current market values.

Looking 40 years ahead

How we manage the cow of today will influence what she looks like in the next 40 years.

“The industry will shape today's average cow to be more feed efficient, have fewer health events and holistically move to be above today's average,” says Danzinger. “We'll find new ways to manage her to optimize those genetic advancements, and technology will help us do that.”

“From a data perspective, the profitable cow will continue to be a well-kept cow.”

Continued profitability looks promising in 2024

While 2023 proved to be the second most profitable year in history for the U.S. cattle industry, a delay in cow herd expansion caused a recent recalibration in market prices, CattleFax CEO Randy Blach told those attending Beef Industry University at the recent KLA Convention. Blach's presentation was sponsored by the Farm Credit Associations of Kansas.

“The markets had too much expansion built in going into late summer and fall, but it didn't happen due to ongoing drought conditions in many areas,” he said. “Heifers still make up 40% of cattle on feed, but when they start staying on the ranch, the supply of feeder cattle is going to tighten up.”

As expansion begins to take shape, Blach predicts 2024 calf prices will average \$285 to \$290/cwt. and feeder prices will range from \$235 to \$240/cwt. Fed cattle prices are expected to average \$180 to \$185/cwt., with 10% swings possible as margins narrow.

“As we go through this stage of the cycle, I think we'll be able to sustain good profitability through the next two to three years,” he said.

On a global scale, he said decreased supply and increased wholesale prices caused a nearly 13% decline in exports in 2023, as the top three importers of U.S. beef – Japan, South Korea and China – lost purchasing power due to the strength of the U.S. dollar.

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FSA makes changes to two livestock disaster assistance programs

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is waiving the requirement to submit notices of loss within 30 days of the loss becoming apparent this year for the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). Instead, producers have the flexibility to submit 2023 notices as soon as possible, once losses are realized, or no later

than the established annual program application for payment deadlines for each. Therefore, producers who incurred ELAP-eligible losses in 2023 will need to submit a notice of loss by January 30, 2024. Those applying for LIP payments will have until February 29, 2024, to submit their notice of loss for 2023.

ELAP provides assistance to producers who

have experienced eligible losses due to adverse weather, including blizzards, drought and wildfires. It covers grazing and feed losses, transportation of water and feed to livestock and hauling livestock to grazing. ELAP is designed to address losses not covered by other FSA disaster assistance programs.

LIP provides disaster assistance to producers

and contract growers who experience livestock deaths above normal mortality caused by eligible loss conditions, including adverse weather, disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators. LIP also helps producers who must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from certain loss conditions.

FSA county committees will review all notices of loss for both ELAP and LIP that previously were disapproved for the 2023 program year due to late filing and re-evaluate them to determine if the waiver applies. Producers who are unsure about the status of their notice of loss or application for payment should contact their local FSA office as soon as possible.

K-State ASI students participate in Undergraduate Research Symposium

A total of 21 undergraduate students presented research posters during the Kansas State University Animal Sciences and Industry Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday, December 8. The symposium, hosted at the Town Hall in Leadership Studies, highlighted ASI undergraduate research for the fall 2023 semester.

The Dr. Mark and Kim Young Undergraduate Research Fund in Animal Sciences and Industry sponsored this year's symposium and the Undergraduate Research Awards distributed during the event.

Four students were awarded \$1,000 scholarships based on a combination of their scientific abstract, poster and presentation of data. Winning the scholarships were Kristen Kahler, Lindsay Miller, Cassia Gruis and Mingxiang Huang.

Guest Editorial

Dairy defined: whole milk brings the nutrition children want, and need

By National Milk Producer's Federation

Much has changed about milk consumption since 2012, the year that whole and 2 percent milk varieties were no longer allowed in federal school meal programs. Since then, the body of research supporting the benefits of fuller-fat milk has grown more robust, with research showing that dairy foods at higher fat levels are linked to outcomes such as lower total body mass in kids and lower childhood obesity. Milk is, simply put, a nutrition powerhouse.

Concern over food waste has also grown, with food waste rising when kids are given meals they don't want to eat. Meanwhile, the gulf between what kids drink at home versus what they're served in schools – already gaping when the ban took effect – has only widened.

This is the percentage of U.S. fluid milk consumption, excluding flavored varieties, in 2012, and again in 2022. Even at the time the rules changed, keeping whole and 2 percent milk off school meal menus was out of step with what parents gave their own children, with roughly 68 percent of consumption coming from those varieties. That should have been an ominous sign for anyone who ever thought children

would flock to milk that didn't taste like what they had at home.

That disconnect is even worse today.

In 2022, whole and 2 percent milk accounted for roughly 80 percent of consumption – and still, students don't have access to the same healthy choices they almost certainly have at home. This is a lost opportunity for high-quality, affordable nutrition that kids would gladly consume. And that's why, when the House of Representatives takes up the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, lawmakers should take heed of the choices voters make at the grocery store – decisions that align with the latest scientific research on the benefits of dairy at all fat levels as well as consumer preference.

Having whole and 2 percent milk in school meals will nourish children and reduce food waste. And most importantly, it encourages kids to consume the nutrients they need. Taking the most popular varieties of milk out of meals was a questionable decision in 2012 – it's indefensible in 2023. NMPF has a call to action urging lawmakers to pass the bill – the bigger the margin, the more pressure on the Senate to make it law. Dairy farmers, as well as parents

and educators everywhere, will be watching the House with great interest.

And when common sense wins, we know exactly what we'll drink at the celebration.

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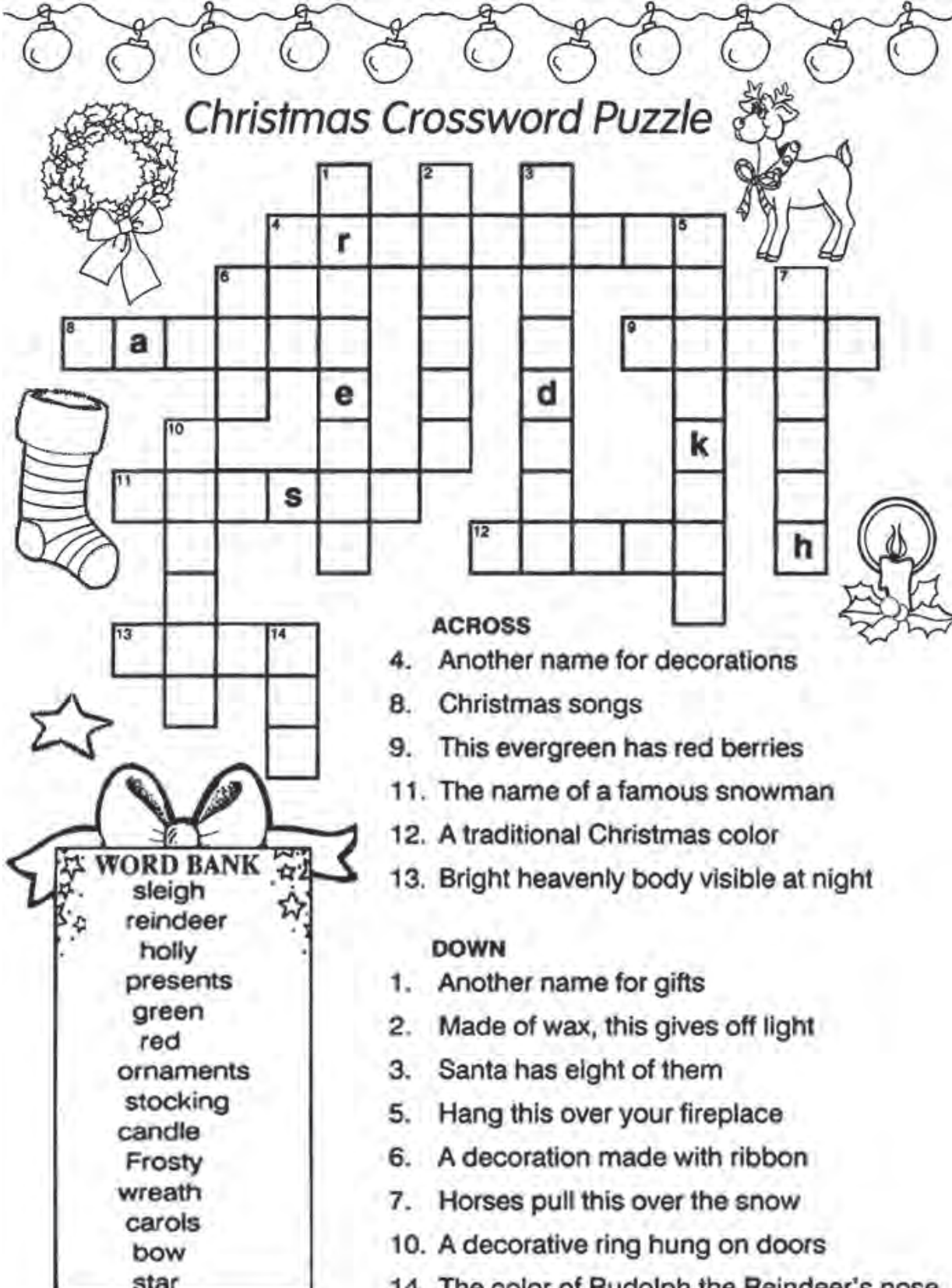


Please include your name and city with submissions, and any other info you want shared about your submission. Photos sent may be published in the paper and online editions of Grass & Grain, as well as to our social media accounts.

Kid's Corner

Name: _____
 Date: _____

Merry Christmas!



ACROSS

4. Another name for decorations
8. Christmas songs
9. This evergreen has red berries
11. The name of a famous snowman
12. A traditional Christmas color
13. Bright heavenly body visible at night

DOWN

1. Another name for gifts
2. Made of wax, this gives off light
3. Santa has eight of them
5. Hang this over your fireplace
6. A decoration made with ribbon
7. Horses pull this over the snow
10. A decorative ring hung on doors
14. The color of Rudolph the Reindeer's nose

Complete the crossword puzzle above and color in the pictures!

Dazzle your friends with this riddle: "I can travel all around the world just like Santa Claus without ever leaving my corner. What am I?"

A Stamp

Registration now open for KFB Campaign School, mini sessions

Kansas Farm Bureau's (KFB) Campaign School will hold seven mini sessions beginning in January and its comprehensive two-day training in Wichita on April 17-18. The sessions are for current and future office holders, campaign managers and volunteer leaders on how to mount a successful campaign.

"Putting your name on the ballot for any public office is the first step of many before raising your hand and swearing your oath of office," KFB's Director of Political Affairs Brenden Wirth says. "KFB's Campaign School can help you take crucial steps to give you a winning advantage on Election Day. This program has been used across the nation with candidates winning more than 80 percent of their races."

This nonpartisan, unbiased program offers in-depth

instruction from national political experts on topics like strategy, tactics, selecting issues, budgeting, fundraising and identifying voters. KFB Campaign School was designed to give potential candidates a solid foundation as they seek elected office. It also offers incumbents an opportunity to enhance their campaign skills.

The full KFB Campaign School is limited to 20 participants. Farm Bureau members of Kansas can attend for \$250 and nonmembers can join for \$300.

Mini sessions are condensed opportunities to learn the fundamentals of campaign management skills and cost \$50 for KFB members and \$75 for nonmembers. Up to 20 participants can take part in each session. They will be offered across the state at the following times and dates:

- 1-5 p.m., Jan. 16, Kansas Chamber Office, Topeka
- 2-6 p.m., Feb. 2, Manhattan Conference Center, Manhattan
- 1-5 p.m., April 10, Overland Park Chamber Office, Overland Park
- 1-5 p.m., May 15, BriefSpace, Hays
- 1-5 p.m., May 16, McPherson Chamber Office, McPherson
- 1-5 p.m. June 11, Pioneer Memorial Library, Colby
- 1-5 p.m. June 26, Allen County Community College Main Building, Iola

To learn about KFB's Campaign School or register for any of the upcoming sessions, visit www.kfb.org/CampaignSchool.

Planning for future pest and disease pressure

Pests and diseases are a given each growing season, but the degree of the pressure can vary drastically. After harvest, growers should be planning for the best course of action to deal with pests and disease pressure. Effective planning and deci-

sion-making go a long way and can significantly impact success next growing season.

"Growing seasons are always unpredictable," said Crystal Williams, Pioneer field agronomist. "And while I can't control how much moisture we'll

get in May or June, I can plan for pests and diseases."

Knowing a field's history is an important step to combating pest and disease pressure. If a particular field has had issues with white mold in soybeans or tar spot in corn in the past, for example, growers should be prepared to select products

that are resistant to those diseases.

Selecting a portfolio of products can also help spread risk. Growers should identify priorities for each field when choosing traits or disease-tolerance levels in corn and soybeans and should have a plan to protect their seed investment.

Fungicides, herbicides

and insecticides will help ward off pests and diseases during the season. However, they should not be deployed as a last-minute rescue attempt.

"I wouldn't lean on only one method of control for a pest or disease," Williams said. "Layering an insecticide or pesticide with a treated product can go a long way toward combat-

ing field issues."

The early part of winter is a great time to lay the groundwork for a successful 2024 growing season. While there is no simple solution for each field, having a plan going into the season can help growers be better prepared for the pests and diseases that will inevitably pop up.

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AgCon2024 in Overland Park April 11-12

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Center for Risk Management Education and Research (CRMER) at Kansas State University will team up again to host AgCon2024 on April 11-12, 2024 in Overland Park. It will be the third Agricultural Commodity Futures Conference jointly hosted by the CFTC and CRMER and the first such conference since 2019. Registration for AgCon2024 is now open with conference details coming soon.

AgCon2024 will again bring together government officials, agribusiness,

and academia to discuss a range of topics that are important to the agricultural community who depend upon the futures markets.

"The CFTC is proud to partner again with Kansas State University to bring together the agricultural community at the third agricultural commodity futures conference in April 2024," said CFTC chairman Rostin Behnam. "All of the CFTC benefits greatly from bringing stakeholders together from across the value chain, government, and academia to explore and discuss a wide range of topics that are

impacting the agricultural economy. During a time of unprecedented challenges, I look forward to building upon the work of prior conferences to ensure that CFTC markets are working for America's farmers and ranchers as they carry out their vital work for the United States and the world."

"Kansas State University is honored to host the third agricultural commodity futures conference with the CFTC. As the nation's first operational land-grant university and the aspiration to emerge as a next-generation land-

grant university, the conference fits perfectly with our focus on agricultural and food industry research and leadership," said Ernie Minton, the Eldon Gideon Dean, College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension. "The conference provides a platform for all parties to come together and discuss the price risk management functions for sustainable food and fuel supply chains. Communities benefit economically when farms and agribusiness have the tools they need to manage their risk," added Minton.

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David Sundgren 316.322.5555 Kellie Nesmith 808.295.0214
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Act now to control volunteer trees

While we tend to focus on Christmas trees this time of year, there are another kind of tree we should think about in December: volunteer trees. Volunteer trees are saplings that appear on their own from seeds without human help. Volunteer trees are a vital part of our landscape, but if they are in your yard, garden, or pastures, they can be a nuisance. If the volunteer tree is desirable but in the wrong place, you can wait and transplant it in the spring. Other volunteer trees can be cut down and treated to remove them from the landscape. December and January are a surprisingly good time to treat for these trees.

The first step to control volunteer trees is to cut them down. Some trees, like eastern redcedar, will

not resprout after being cut. Many common trees, however, including oak, maple, elm, ash, hackberry, cottonwood, and sycamore, will resprout after cut if you do not dig out the roots or treat the stump with an herbicide.

There is a common misconception that trees must be growing for herbicides to work. It is true that without any leaves, a foliar herbicide spray will not do any good. Applying herbicide to a cut stump, however, can kill the tree at any stage of growth. Often, the winter is a convenient time to remove volunteer trees, and the absence of leaves and greenery helps you find and treat small trees.

Glyphosate (found in Roundup) and Triclopyr, are the most common active ingredients in stump treatment herbicides for homeowners. Whereas

you usually use a diluted herbicide for foliar spray, stump treatments generally use an undiluted or lightly diluted herbicide. Before purchasing the herbicide, make sure the label says that it can be used for stump treatment. Make sure to read all instructions on the label and wear all the necessary protective equipment.

The goal is for the tree to absorb the herbicide and transport it to the roots. To do this, we need to apply the treatment in a ring on the outer edge of the stump immediately after cutting it. Trees have small veins in the outer rings that transport food and water, known as the phloem and xylem. Apply the herbicide on the outer edge of the stump to get the herbicide into the tree's veins. We recommend applying the herbicide immediately after cutting the

tree, as the veins, when exposed to air, will start to close off and won't absorb the herbicide. These stump treatments should only be applied when temperatures are above freezing, or the herbicide may freeze on the stump instead of moving down into the roots.

While these stump treatments are great for getting rid of volunteer trees, they should not be used on suckers. Suckers are small shoots that appear at the base of a tree. If an herbicide is applied to a sucker, it will transport the herbicide to the roots of the main tree, and you may damage or kill your tree.

If you are having trouble with volunteer trees in your yard or garden and need more guidance, feel free to reach out to your local Extension office for more information.

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MORRIS YODER AUCTIONS

Thursday & Friday December 28 & 29 2023

2 Day Antique Auction

ANTIQUES - TOYS - COLLECTIBLES

Located at: Pleasantview Activity Center
5015 S Dean Rd Hutchinson, KS 67501
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Preview Thursday Dec. 28 starting at 10:00 am

4:00 pm
Thursday Dec 28th - Approx 400 lots not cataloged, Live only
100's of collectables Toys, Peddle Tractors, Collectable Coins, 35+ sets of coin Proof Sets, 20 Plus Schrade Knives, Cast Iron, Jars, Old Bottles, Fisher Price, Crocks, Depression Glass Pink and Green, Maytag Motors, Cow Hides, JD Books and Manuals, many other Antique Items
Visit Website for full listing and pictures.

9:00 am
Friday Dec. 29th - 500 plus lots - cataloged online & live
Lots of toys - Ertle, Tractors, Tin Toys, Metal Trucks, Sand Cast, Die Cast, Peddle Tractors, and more. Approx 100 pcs Cast Iron Griswold, Wagner, Indian Head. Approx 40 Collectable Scrade Knives, Many Antique Primitive Farm Collectables, Butterchurns, Milk bottles, Cream Cans, Coleman, Mini Hog olers, Tools, Bottles, Windmill Weights, Tins, Music Boxes, Goat Wagon, Anvils, Signs, and much much more. To numerous to list, Must see!
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Food Stand by Kevin & Sharon Knapp Family



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Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Due to the uncertainty of events, if you plan to attend any of the following auctions and have any doubts, please contact the auction company to confirm that the auction will be conducted and inquire about safety procedures if you are concerned. And please check their websites.

Hundreds of auctions, online and in-person. www.kansasauctions.net/gg/

2-Day Online Only Auction (OPEN NOW; Day 1 begins closing 2 pm Dec. 18; Day 2 begins closing 2 pm Dec. 19) — Selling 650+ lots including 120+ lots of Fiesta, Antiques, 90+ lots Vintage Toys, GI Joe, Star Wars, Barbie, Comic Books, Precious Moments, Coins & Stamps, Belt Buckles, Sports Items, Holiday, Dolls & more for property of the Late Dennis & Ellen DeLay held online at www.GriffinRealEstateAuction.com. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction.

Online Land Auction (bidding opens December 18, 12 p.m. with a dynamic closing starting at 12 p.m. on December 21) — 281 acres m/l of Morris County land with 219.33 acres of highly productive cropland (land located east of Council Grove), recreational appeal, great location selling for Jacobsen, LLC. Bidding at VaughnRoth.com. Auctioneers: Vaughn-Roth Land Brokers, Cameron Roth.

Online Farm Equipment Auction (bidding opens December 20, and bidding closes December 27) — 1997 Freightliner Truck/Tractor, 2006 Neville grain trailer, sprayer, manure spreader, grain cart, combines, grain truck & other farm equipment. Visit www.FloryAndAssociates.com. Auctioneers: Flory & Associates Realty & Auctions.

December 28 — Impound Auction for Flint Hills Towing including 2004 Chrysler Pacifica, 1992 Jeep Cherokee, 1997 Honda Civic, 1997 Dodge Ram 1500, 2000 Ford Ranger & more; other items not associated with Flint Hills Towing: trailers, car parts, shop items & more held at Emporia. Auctioneers: Hancock Auction & Real Estate.

December 28 & 29 — 2-day Antique auction: Selling Dec. 28: Approximately 400 lots (live only), 100s of collectible toys, pedal tractors, collectible coins, coin proof sets, knives, cast iron, crocks, Depression glass, Maytag motors & more; Dec. 29: 500+ lots (live & online), Lots of toys, approx. 100 pcs cast iron Griswold, Wagner, collectible knives, primitive farm collectibles, butter churns, goat wagon, anvils, signs & much more held at Hutchinson with online bidding available (AuctionZip.com ID#6612). Auctioneers: Morris Yoder Auctions.

December 30 — Estate auction including 1982 Ranger Chief 380 w/Evinrude motor, striper mount, fishing gear, JC Higgins cooler, Lawn Chief 46" riding mower, Craftsman riding mower, power tools, hand tools, antique wood cabinet & more held at Hedville. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

Online Land Auction (bidding opens January 4, 12 p.m. with a dynamic closing starting at 12 p.m. on January 9) — 730 Acres m/l of Wabaunsee County land (land located near Eskridge), T1: 252 ac. m/l, T2: 478 ac. m/l, T3: 730 ac. m/l (T1 & T2 combined). In the heart of the Flint Hills, 3 creeks, former bottomland cropland, wildlife sanctuary selling for Stuart R. Collier Rev. Trust. Bidding at VaughnRoth.com. Auctioneers: Vaughn-Roth Land Brokers, Henry Ott.

January 6, 2024 — Guns including Mossberg, Remington, Marlin, Stevens, Mauser, Rossi, Winchester, Iver Johnson &

more, 2001 Chevrolet 3500 pickup, 2000 Buick LeSabre, trailers & scooter, horse equipment, tools & more held at Salina for Charles Barlow Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 6, 2024 — Estate Auction #3 selling Ethnic carved folk masks, head-dresses, 100s of collectibles including musical, sculptures, Folk Art, Religion, Indigenous, Native American pots, glass paperweights, Wedgewood, tobacco items, book jacks, table lamps, glassware & more held at Lawrence for William P. Bishop Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 7, 2024 — Furniture & collectibles, clocks, pictures, Fenton, necklaces, Budweiser Idaho centennial picture, kerosene lamps, railroad pictures & more, toys and banks including cast iron toys, mechanical trick pony, doll furniture, John Deere china cabinet, 1885 Deere Mansur & Co. pocket ledger, Precision tractors, JD collectibles, plastic Cracker Jack pieces & more, electric mobility cart, wheel chair, shop tools & equipment held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 10-12, 2024 — Superior Livestock Auction Bellringer Video Auction at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. SuperiorLivestock.com

January 12, 2024 — Land Auction consisting of 320 acres m/l of Marshall County land; T1: FSA Farmland = 157.16 ac. w/126.24 DCP acres; T2: FSA Farmland = 158.99 acres w/120.23 DCP acres held at Beattie for Harley & M. Elaine Keller Trust. Online bidding available (opens December 29, 2023): www.MidwestLandandHome.com. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home, Mark Dankenbring, listing broker.

January 13, 2024 — Antique furniture, advertising items inc. trays, tins, thermometers, oilers, tokens, lots of primitives, Schwinn 12" Lil Tiger banana seat child's bike, nice set of toys, sterling silver & flatware, glassware, china, pottery, crocks, lamps, jewelry & watches, books, cameras, knives, sewing & so much more held at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 13, 2024 — Land Auction consisting of 440 acres m/l of Dickinson & Ottawa County Pastureland sold in 4 tracts held at Abilene for Mills Sibling Trusts. Auctioneers: Reynolds RE & Auction, Dan Reynolds, auction manager.

January 14, 2024 — Estate Auction #2: Firearms including 75+ outstanding firearms, ammo, hunting & miscellaneous held at Ottawa for Mrs. Karon "John" Stevens. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 19 (Friday), 2024 — 160 acres of Marshall County & 80 acres of Nemaha County cropland Farm Auction held in Centralia for Delores Harries Trust. Auctioneers: Olmsted Real Estate & Auctions.

January 20, 2024 — Antiques & collectibles including a rare horse-drawn cotton planter, cream separator collection, cast iron & tin seats, buggy step collection, Railroad lanterns, wrench collection, kitchen primitives & many more primitives held at Belleville for Frank J. Hartley Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 20, 2024 — Real Estate auction with a 5200 sq. ft. Executive home on .8-acre lot, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3 fireplaces, garages, sunroom, 2 decks, storage shed & much more held at McPherson. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service, Lonnie Wilson, broker.

January 20, 2024 — New Strawn Consignment Auction by S&S Sales, LLC. including Farm & Construction Equip., tools, vehicles, tractors, trucks, trailers, ATVs, skid loader attachments, cattle equip. & more held at New Strawn.

January 20, 2024 — Household goods, doll collection & miscellaneous held at Clay Center for Larry & Dee Mosburg and Geraldine Bushell. Auctioneers: Kretz Auction Service.

January 21, 2024 — Pottery, crocks, glassware, Aladdin lamp, ice cream table, belt buckles, Christmas items, prints, cast iron, bird cages, Hoosier cabinet & some furniture & more primitives held at Salina for Kenny Brichacek Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 27, 2024 — Land Auction consisting of 905 acres m/l of Washington County land selling in 6 Tracts: T1: 135.3 FSA acres; T2: 157.59 FSA acres; T3: 156.95 FSA acres; T4: 151.52 FSA acres; T5: 157.82 FSA acres; T6: 144.42 FSA acres held live at Hanover selling for Raymond & Anne Feldkamp Family Trust. Online bidding available (opening January 13) at www.MidwestLandandHome.com. Auctioneers: Midwest Land & Home.

January 27, 2024 — Furniture, signs, crocks, collectibles, Wurlitzer juke box, clock collection, dolls, table lamps, pictures, prints, head vases & much more held at Belleville. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

January 27, 2024 — John Wayne Collection, collectibles & miscellaneous held at Lawrence for Robert "Bob" Lemon Estate Auction #1. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

January 28, 2024 — 150+ pieces of Fenton, many signed, other nice glassware, collectibles, prints, decanters, 1910 catchers mitt, cast iron items, gumball machine, wooden boxes, yard art & more collectibles held at Salina for Jeff & Kay (Bearnese) Heilman Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 3, 2024 — Axtell Knights of Columbus Consignment Auction held at Axtell.

February 3, 2024 — Nice collection of vintage signs, crocks, Coca Cola portable bar, tobacco tins collection, hand tools, vintage toys, lunch boxes, Star Trek collections, dolls, clocks, jewelry, Keith Urban electric guitar w/amp, English saddle & more held at Salina for Scott & Lisa Schwinn. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 17, 2024 — Farm auction including 20+ IH Tractors, IH parts tractors/equipment, IH parts & memorabilia, hit & miss engines, tools, collectibles & more held at Tecumseh for Wayne Anderson. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

March 16, 2024 — Springhill Herefords - On Target Bull sale: Our 2024 offering will include bulls sired by Houston, Wall Street, Defiance, Long Haul, Perfecto, Leader 182F and KCF Trust B279. Visit our website for more details about the sale, private treaty offerings.

KBC at the annual KLA convention

The annual Kansas Livestock Convention is one of the few opportunities for beef producers to come together, learn more about the future cattle markets and connect with other industry entities.

The Kansas Beef Council (KBC) staff hosted a trade show booth and the Kansas Soybean Commission-sponsored Consumer Trends forum. Mandy Carr, NCBA senior executive director of scientific affairs, spoke during the forum. Carr's presentation was broken into three parts: who the modern consumer is, where the modern consumer is and what it means for the beef industry.

The modern consumer spends more than 12 hours a day consuming media, and digital media consumption will reach nearly eight hours by 2025[1]. "Streaming is where we are going to meet consumers," Carr said.

Both NCBA and KBC have already started shifting marketing efforts towards streaming advertisements. In 2023, KBC had over 5 million views on videos placed on YouTube and ConnectedTV (Hulu, Disney+, and other streaming sites).

The beef industry has made significant changes in beef genetics and product quality — through the help of Beef

Checkoff-funded research — over the past few decades. This has resulted in beef's unique and high-quality flavor profile. Beef's eating experience once again reigns as the top reason people eat more beef. "We can't afford to lose beef's eating experience," Carr said.

While taste is what keeps consumers coming back to beef, lean cuts and recipes are the ways for beef to enter someone's diet.

When looking at consumer protein preferences, Carr pointed out that consumers want variety. Over 70% of consumers who eat alternative proteins also consume beef every week. Consumers are not turning away from beef; they simply add alternative proteins to their diet.

"The yearly Consumer Trends forum at the KLA convention allows for an in-depth look into the ever-changing consumer, their protein preferences, and how checkoff-funded programs are efficiently marketing to this diverse population," Scott Stebner, KBC executive director, said.

KBC would like to extend a thank-you to all who stopped at the beef council's booth or attended Consumer Trends forum during the KLA Convention.

Martin named 2023 American Gelbvieh Association Breeder of the Year

Derek Martin of Bucklin was announced as the 2023 American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) Breeder of the Year at the 53rd Annual AGA National Convention on November 30, 2023, at the Omaha Marriott Downtown at the Capitol District in Omaha, Nebraska.

Martin, along with his brother and sister-in-law, Eric and Holly Martin, own Golden Image Cattle near Ford. The operation focuses on producing functional cattle that work for their commercial customers. An emphasis on structure and eye appeal in the operation's breeding program has resulted in the cattle having success in the show ring. In addition to his Gelbvieh operation, Martin is the manager of Kinsley Feeders, LLC, a 30,000-head feedlot located near Kinsley.

Martin recently completed his second term on the AGA board of directors, where he has served as secretary and treasurer. He has also served as the AGA representative on the American Gelbvieh Foundation board of directors. Martin manages the steers delivered to Kinsley Feeders for the AGF Steer Challenge and Scale and Rail Contest, where he provides reports and data on individual steer performance to the AGA to increase the amount of carcass data in the genetic evaluation.

In addition to his AGA involvement, Martin has been involved in the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Beef Council, and Beef Empire Days.

Congratulations to Derek Martin on being named the 2023 AGA Breeder of the Year!

USDA updates Good Farming Practice definition, strengthening support for conservation practice adoption

Recently, USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) announced important updates to the definition of Good Farming Practices (GFPs), removing a longstanding obstacle to the adoption of Natural Resources Conservation Service-approved conservation practices and enhancements for insured producers.

"The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) applauds this decision from RMA to update the definition for GFPs, which has been a priority for our coalition members for more than a decade," said Billy Hackett, NSAC policy specialist. "This represents an important step that removes a persistent disincentive against the

voluntary adoption of good soil health practices for farmers enrolled in the crop insurance program or seeking enrollment."

Previously, the Good Farming Practices Handbook recognized NRCS conservation practices as GFPs "provided" that practices did not negatively impact a crop's ability to make normal progress toward maturity or affect yields in any way. It is, however, customary that farmers experience temporary yield drags when adopting a new conservation practice. The updated handbook removes this condition, affirming the appropriate use of USDA-approved conservation practices as Good Farming Practices for crop insur-

ance.

"RMA continues to make notable regulatory improvements in service to the diversity of American farmers," continued Hackett. "There is more work to be done, and we look forward to continuing to partner with the agency toward continued improvements for the Whole-Farm Revenue Protection program, enhanced collaboration with the Farm Service Agency, and improved cover crop termination guidance to better serve producers that are underserved by the farm safety net."

"This is a victory for common sense, consistent support for conservation across government," added Jesse Womack, NSAC's conservation policy specialist.

Funds now available for lamb branded retail and foodservice programs

The American Lamb Board (ALB) allocates funds to support branded retail and foodservice initiatives for American Lamb suppliers through the Supplier Cooperative Funding Program. This program is designed for those willing to collaborate in sharing costs and resources for the funded project.

Funds are designated for activities created to increase consumer demand for American Lamb.

Recently, the American Lamb Board partnered with Superior Farms to support a retail sampling program and digital grilling campaign initiative.

- Superior Farms conducted in-store sampling events at more than 200 grocery stores across the country.

- Superior Farms launched a digital grilling promotion for Kroger's Simple Truth Natural Lamb across various digital platforms.

Both programs generated a significant increase in lamb dollar sales.

"ALB works to support our American Lamb retail and foodservice customers and invest in programs and

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LAND AUCTION! WABAUNSEE COUNTY

Vaughn-Roth Land Brokers is honored to represent the Stuart Collier family with the sale of this premium acreage via online auction. These are highly attractive recreational tracts located in Wabaunsee County and are some of the most attractive deer hunting parcels we've set foot on. Located in the heart of the Flint Hills along Rock Creek with features including 120' of topography change, thick bedding cover and oak ridges, three creeks, and former bottomland cropland that could be put back into production if desired. This property is a true wildlife sanctuary.

Location: 28720 Chalk Ln., Eskridge, KS

Tract 1: 252 +/- Acres

Tract 2: 478 +/- Acres

Tract 3: 730 +/- Acres (Tracts 1 & 2 combined)

These properties are being offered via online auction beginning at 12:00 p.m. on 1/4/2024 with a dynamic closing to start at 12:00 p.m. on 1/9/2024.

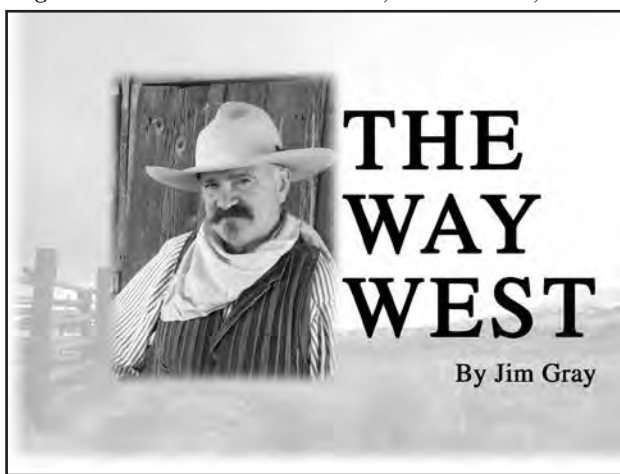
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

A Christmas Ball

Thursday morning December 19, 1872, the citizens of Ellsworth woke up to see the ground covered with snow. First thoughts

on beholding the beautiful snow was that it might interfere with the Festival and Ball that evening at the brand-new Grand

Central Hotel. According to the Ellsworth Reporter, "There was little wind stirring though, and an inch of snow would not be likely to keep many away..." It was the season of Balls and hope. Out on the Kansas plains the people were great on balls.

Balls were grand social affairs that drew communities together with an element of grandeur. "Grand Balls" were generally magnificent affairs staged as pleasant distractions taking one away, if only for a few hours, from the long and dreary stretches of the winter season. A certain decorum, with emphasis upon the traditions of proper society was closely observed, at least as close as frontier resources would allow. Ellsworth as a Kansas cattle town was winding up a very successful year of hosting the southern Texans and their wild longhorn cattle. Nearly forty-two thousand head of cattle were shipped from the stock yards. Tens of thousands more were sold on the range to be driven to other destinations to stock new ranches and open grazing operations.

Arthur Larkin's red brick Grand Central Hotel sat on the corner of North Main and E Street (Lincoln Avenue). The hotel was

erected at a cost of twenty-seven thousand dollars in preparation for an expected escalation of the cattle trade in the coming season. The hotel boasted a manganese limestone sidewalk at a cost of four hundred dollars. The magnificent stone walk was said to be the finest west of Kansas City. The Catholic Church had just been finished and being a Catholic adherent Arthur Larkin held the event as a benefit for the new church. The Festival and Ball would be the first social event to be held in Larkin's newly completed hotel.

Ellsworth folks were happy to help add the finishing touches to the yet unoccupied ballroom. "All day the Grand Central was alive with the noise of preparation. Extra hands were called into service. The new furniture, the new crockery, the new silverware were unpacked, the eight walnut extension tables were drawn out, the tapestry carpets were put down. The hall was decorated. The kitchen was the scene of important culinary operations. By noon people from the country began to come in. All the afternoon there was hurrying to and fro - men and women carrying frosted cakes and other kinds of cake to add to Mrs. Lar-

kin's large supply. At 8 o'clock the Grand Central was full; and 10 o'clock it was crowded and if the snow did keep any away it was well for the comfort of all. This city turned out almost en masse. Representatives from the surrounding countryside turned out. Brookville did nobly; Lincoln County had some delegates present and would have had more if it had not been for the snow; Russell contributed to the number of Festivalers, and we presume other counties."

Dancing commenced at about nine o'clock. Bradshaw, Parkhurst, Hank, and Hagerman furnished excellent music. About ninety couples were present and all of course could not dance at once but as the ball lasted till the full orb monarch of day presented himself through the east windows, all had as much exercise as they could desire. A little after 12 o'clock supper was announced. The tables could only accommodate a third of the company at once. The feast was a most beautiful one... The meats were good, the cakes were good, the sauce was good, everything was good and the new silver forks did good duty in carrying away the supper."

Beef, chicken, and tur-

key were served in abundance with all the trimmings, and being a frontier town on the wide Kansas plains buffalo tongue was the premier delicacy of the evening. Beer, ale, porter, wine, and brandy buoyed the good cheer that permeated throughout the hall.

"Following the grand feast participants were encouraged to cast a monetary "vote" for various categories such as "handsomest young lady." Prizes included a cane, set of silver spoons, gold bracelet, smoking cap, and a watch.

"After all this was over the dance was renewed. Those who could not dance enjoyed looking on. There were handsome ladies dressed elegantly and it was a pleasure to watch them go through the mazes of the dance, their light feet keeping time to Bradshaw's music."

Only the dawning of daylight's bright sun upon the glistening blanket of snow could bring the revelers to a spent tranquility that accompanied each and every one through cheerful streets while looking forward to Christmas day on The Way West.

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

GRASS & GRAIN HOLIDAY HOURS:

We will be **CLOSED**:

MONDAY, Dec. 25th;
TUESDAY, Dec. 26th

AND

MONDAY, Jan. 1st;
TUESDAY, Jan. 2nd

Thank you for your cooperation, and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year's!!

Farmers & Ranchers

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TOTAL FOR THE WEEK: CATTLE - 3,934. HOGS - 113.

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COWS: \$100.00-\$112.00 17 Blk Hope 1015@\$193.50

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400-500	\$317.00 - \$329.00	13 Blk	Salina 460@\$275.00
500-600	\$300.00 - \$310.00	7 Blk	Marquette 504@\$268.00
600-700	\$255.00 - \$267.50	10 Char	Minneapolis 530@\$268.00
700-800	\$230.00 - \$241.00	4 Red	Blaine 483@\$267.50
800-900	\$210.00 - \$221.50	7 Mix	Kanopolis 444@\$267.50
900-1,000	\$203.00 - \$215.00	3 Blk	Wilson 482@\$265.00
		9 Blk	Longford 464@\$264.00
HEIFERS		6 Blk	Galva 425@\$262.00
300-400	NO TEST	3 Blk	Galva 503@\$261.00
400-500	\$265.00 - \$276.00	34 Mix	Longford 538@\$260.50
500-600	\$255.00 - \$268.00	15 Blk	Galva 519@\$259.00
600-700	\$233.00 - \$243.00	9 Mix	Kanopolis 509@\$254.00
700-800	\$200.00 - \$212.00	5 Mix	Salina 527@\$250.00
800-900	\$199.00 - \$210.25	10 Mix	Kanopolis 577@\$249.00
900-1,000	\$178.00 - \$189.50	17 Blk	Inman 559@\$248.00
		27 Blk	Galva 572@\$247.00
		11 Blk	Galva 648@\$243.00
		10 Blk	Ellsworth 641@\$242.00
		15 Char	Minneapolis 625@\$242.00
		2 Blk	McPherson 605@\$240.00
		11 Mix	Blaine 560@\$235.00
		8 Blk	Salina 613@\$235.00
		11 Blk	Inman 621@\$234.00
		6 Blk	Galva 619@\$232.00
		3 Char	McPherson 540@\$230.00
		5 Mix	Wilson 608@\$226.00
		4 Blk	Smolan 624@\$219.00
		17 Blk	Wilson 669@\$219.00
		15 Blk	Bennington 665@\$219.00
		7 Blk	Galva 696@\$212.00
		8 Blk	Sylvan Grove 716@\$212.00
		3 Blk	Clay Center 718@\$211.00
		60 Blk	Salina 821@\$210.25
		7 Blk	Marquette 734@\$210.00
		48 Blk	Bennington 779@\$207.50
		10 Blk	Salina 742@\$207.50
		10 Red	Salina 726@\$207.00
		13 Mix	Ellsworth 702@\$206.50
		18 Mix	Burns 759@\$206.50
		17 Mix	Durham 816@\$204.50
		4 Blk	Perry 766@\$204.00
		67 Mix	Halstead 784@\$204.00
		66 Mix	Lindsborg 800@\$202.75
		11 Mix	Perry 813@\$202.00
		10 Mix	Salina 831@\$202.00
		6 Blk	Wilsey 700@\$201.00
		17 Mix	Wilson 711@\$201.00
		66 Mix	Wakefield 810@\$200.00
		59 Mix	Wakefield 878@\$196.00
		118 Mix	Assaria 870@\$195.00
		43 Mix	Burns 886@\$194.50
		64 Mix	Hillsboro 854@\$193.00
		56 Mix	Lindsborg 911@\$189.50

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023

STEERS		HOGS	
14 Blk	Salina 466@\$329.00	4 Fats	Pawnee Rock 339@\$61.00
9 Blk	Kanopolis 461@\$322.00	14 Fats	Lincolnville 288@\$54.00
9 Blk	Longford 429@\$316.00	2 Fats	Miltonvale 250@\$51.00
4 Blk	Galva 431@\$312.00	1 Sow	Tescott 475@\$28.00
9 Blk	Longford 494@\$311.00	1 Sow	Inman 515@\$25.00
8 Mix	Kanopolis 508@\$310.00	1 Sow	Tescott 655@\$20.00
4 Mix	Clay Center 515@\$307.50		
2 Blk	Marquette 488@\$305.00		
10 Blk	Blaine 503@\$302.00		
13 Red	Minneapolis 517@\$298.00		
23 Blk	Salina 543@\$298.00		
5 Mix	Beverly 427@\$294.00		
2 Blk	Galva 533@\$290.00		
31 Mix	Galva 555@\$282.50		
12 Char	Minneapolis 609@\$267.50		
16 Mix	Minneapolis 585@\$264.00		
8 Mix	Little River 620@\$261.00		
19 Blk	Salina 648@\$258.50		
6 Mix	Minneapolis 631@\$257.00		
23 Mix	Blaine 580@\$255.00		
14 Mix	Minneapolis 626@\$255.00		
7 Blk	Beverly 586@\$254.00		
19 Blk	Galva 633@\$250.00		
17 Mix	Clay Center 667@\$249.00		
10 Blk	Marquette 666@\$245.00		
8 Blk	Wilson 665@\$244.00		
12 Blk	Galva 675@\$242.00		
25 Blk	Wilson 730@\$241.00		
20 Blk	Little River 743@\$240.50		
8 Blk	Clay Center 712@\$239.00		
13 Char	Minneapolis 697@\$238.00		
20 Blk	Salina 732@\$235.00		
14 Mix	Wilson 783@\$234.00		
33 Mix	Minneapolis 702@\$228.00		
161 Red	Beverly 720@\$226.00		
5 Mix	Ellsworth 707@\$224.50		
30 Mix	Minneapolis 780@\$224.25		
3 Mix	Marquette 823@\$221.50		
9 Blk	Sylvan Grove 890@\$220.00		
124 Blk	Lincoln 887@\$219.50		
29 Mix	Hope 831@\$218.50		
25 Mix	Perry 848@\$216.00		
22 Mix	Burns 858@\$216.00		
7 Blk	Miltonvale 885@\$215.00		
65 Blk	Mahaska 900@\$215.00		
11 Mix	Burns 842@\$214.00		
26 Mix	Tampa 832@\$210.00		
7 Red	Salina 906@\$209.50		
59 Mix	Hope 906@\$209.00		
16 Blk	Miltonvale 968@\$205.50		
58 Blk	Mahaska 1019@\$198.50		

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES

SPECIAL COW SALES: Tuesday, December 19 * Tuesday, January 16
* Tuesday, February 20 * Tuesday, March 19 * Tuesday, April 16 * Tuesday, May 7
WEANED/VACC SALES: Tuesday, January 2 * Tuesday, January 9 * Tuesday, February 6

IN STOCK TODAY: Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders • Heavy Duty Feed Bunks

For Information or estimates, contact:

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

Jim Crowther
785-254-7385
Roxbury, KS

Lisa Long
620-553-2351
Ellsworth, KS

Cody Schafer
620-381-1050
Durham, KS

Kenny Briscoe
785-658-7386
Lincoln, KS

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

Austin Rathbun
785-531-0042
Ellsworth, KS

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

Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

SALE BARN PHONE: 785-825-0211

MONDAY — CATTLE • HOG SALE 2nd & 4th MONDAY
Hogs sell at 11:00 a.m. *on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.*
Cattle at 12:00 Noon. Selling calves and yearlings first, followed by Packer cows and bulls.

THURSDAY — CATTLE ONLY

Selling starts at 10:00 a.m. Consign your cattle as early as possible so we can get them highly advertised.

AUCTIONEERS: KYLE ELWOOD, BRANDON HAMEL & GARREN WALROD

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

CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS

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

1 Blk	Minneapolis 155@\$400.00	1 Blk	Tescott 1765@\$105.00
1 Bwf	Miltonvale 135@\$335.00	2 Blk	Salina 1783@\$105.00
1 Blk	Miltonvale 120@\$325.00	2 Mix	Salina 1665@\$104.50
1 Blk	Holyrood 120@\$300.00	1 Blk	Holyrood 1770@\$104.00
		1 Red	Lincolnville 1610@\$103.00
		2 Mix	Tescott 1733@\$102.50
1 Blk	Beloit 2415@\$125.00	1 Blk	Glasco 1560@\$102.00
1 Char	Durham 1855@\$122.00	1 Red	Halstead 1490@\$100.50
1 Red	Tampa 1820@\$120.00	1 Blk	Windom 1630@\$100.00
1 Blk	Gypsum 2010@\$117.50	1 Blk	Beloit 1535@\$100.00
1 Blk	Minneapolis 1880@\$117.00	1 Blk	Glasco 1755@\$100.00
1 Blk	Hillsboro 1575@\$116.00	1 Blk	Salina 1460@\$100.00
1 Wf	Hillsboro 2075@\$116.00	2 Blk	Hope 1718@\$100.00
1 Blk	Assaria 1945@\$115.00	3 Red	Lincolnville 1557@\$100.00
1 Blk	Little River 1525@\$114.50	3 Blk	Salina 1487@\$99.50
		2 Blk	Lincoln 1428@\$98.50
		1 Bwf	Viola 1520@\$98.00
1 Blk	Enterprise 1800@\$112.00	1 Blk	Abilene 1665@\$97.50
1 Bwf	Lorraine 1710@\$111.50	3 Blk	Lincolnville 1450@\$97.00
1 Blk	Lorraine 1585@\$109.50	1 Blk	Salina 1410@\$96.00
1 Blk	Minneapolis 1770@\$107.00		
1 Blk	Beloit 1800@\$106.00		
1 Blk	Hillsboro 1880@\$106.00		

Early Consignments For THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

20 black char heifers, 600#s, wean 45 days, vaccinated; 62 steers, 850-900, no sort; 70 black steers, 700#s, home raised, long time weaned, 2 round vaccinations, knife cut, Don Johnson sired; 46 heifers, 675#s, long time weaned, vaccinated, open, no sort; 40 black steers, 750-800, home raised, 45 days wean; 27 black steers & heifers, 600-750, home raised, long time wean, 2 round vaccinations, open; 105 steers & heifers, 500-650, off wheat, long time wean, fall vaccinations; **PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st: We will be doing a roll over auction to benefit SAM GODDARD, to help with medical expenses. Last Sale of the Year!

Early Consignments For Wean/Vacc Sale: TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

9 blk s&h, 500-800, weaned 100 days; 75 blk s&h, 500-750; 100 blk s&h, 500-700, wean 10/28, 2 rnd vaccs; 12 blk str, 700#s, wean Aug.1, 2 round vaccs, knife cut, Gardiner genetics, off grass; 40 blk/charX s&h, 600-700; 14 blk s&h, 500-600, wean 60 days, vaccs, open; 35 charX s&h, 750-850, long wean, vaccs; 50 blk s&h, 500-700, wean Oct. vaccs, open; 50 blk s&h, 500-700, wean October, vaccs, open; 30 blk hfrs, 575-650; 50 blk s&h, 550-800, home raised, weaned, vaccs; 240 blk/red Ang. s&h, 500-600, hay fed; 90 blk s&h, 550-600, Cow Camp sired; 60 blk/red s&h, 700-850, wean Oct. vaccs; 90 Ang & Ang/charX s&h, 500-700, Fink sired; 90 s&h, 500-700, home raised, wean Oct., vaccs, open; 20 blk/red s&h, 750#s, wean Oct. 7, vaccs, knife cut; 30 blk s&h, 750-800; 36 blk s&h, 600-700; 52 blk s&h, 625-700, open, vaccs, Don Johnson sired; 50 blk s&h, 750-800, wean Oct., vaccs, open; 60 blk str, 550-700, wean Nov. 1, 2 rnd vaccs; 130 Ang/SimAngus s&h, 600-700; 47 blk s&h, 550-800, home raised, weaned, vaccs; 100 blk str, 900-950, wean 120 days, 3 rnd vaccs; 250 blk s&h, 650-850; 250 blk s&h, 650-850; 48 blk/bwf, s&h, 600-800, wean Oct.10, 2 rnd vaccs, open; 30 WagyuX str, 600-700, wean 60 days, vaccs; 80 blk str, 700-750, wean Oct. 15, fall vaccs, fancy; 80 red Ang. str, (1/4 sim) 750-800, wean Oct. 1, fall vaccs; 145 blk/bwf s&h, 550-750, wean Nov. 12; 109 red s&h, 650-800; 80 blk s&h, 700-800, home raised, off wheat; 55 blk hfrs, 800#s, off 1 ranch, no implants, replacement quality, off wheat; 50 blk s&h, 700-800, home raised, off wheat; 85 blk s&h, 500-600, long wean, green; **PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.**

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

