



Winchester brings 'ammo' for rewriting rural narrative

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

"We live in a sleepy little town."

"We're in the middle of nowhere."

"Everybody knows everybody."

"The lucky few escape."

These are just some of the stereotypes and negative attitudes shared by small towns and rural communities across the United States.

"Rural America is dying."

"There's a brain drain, all the best and brightest are leaving."

That is the picture often painted by the media in regard to rural America.

But Ben Winchester, a rural sociologist with the Extension Department of Community Development at the University of Minnesota, is out to change that narrative and help rural communities see that their situation isn't nearly as dire as what's being portrayed.

"My last name is Winchester and I'm going to give you so much ammo to beat down this negative narrative, you're not going to believe it," he told the audience at the Building Rural Communities Conference held March 4 in Leonardville, hosted by K-State Research and Extension.

"I want to talk about rewriting the rural narrative," he said. "And the subtitle is 'Speak Softly and Carry Statistics.'"

According to Win-



Ben Winchester, a rural sociologist with the Extension Department of Community Development at the University of Minnesota, spoke at the Building Rural Communities Conference in Leonardville on March 4.

Photo by Donna Sullivan



Tom Nelson, Lori Rogge, Sara Larson and Tyler Holloman presented a panel discussion moderated by Ben Winchester.

chester, the narrative of the death of rural America is based largely on anecdotal information that is presented as if it is based on serious research but is in fact based on what someone thinks is true. In reality, statistics show the rural population has increased by 11% since 1970. "What's gone down is the relative percentage of Americans that live in small towns and rural places," he explained. "In 1970 one in four people lived in rural communities. But by 2020 the whole pie got bigger, our population got bigger, the rural part grew by 11% but the urban part growth rate was 48%. So because the urban growth rate was so much higher, it leads to a relative percentage decline in people that are living in our rural places."

Winchester conceded that there have been many negative changes in rural communities. "The mechanization of agriculture alone reduced the number of farm workers in the early 1900s from 20-60% in some places," he said. "So now all the kids aren't going to get a job on the farm. Some will get a job and some will go into the city. We started seeing rural populations decline, started seeing the rise of regional centers, which goes hand in hand with the rise of roads and transportation systems. Every town wanted to be a

one-stop shop but not all towns won in that contest."

He added that globalization generally impacts all towns in the same ways, but they don't all respond the same way. "What differentiates one town from another is how well you respond to these changes that are occurring in a broader world," Winchester stated. "You have agency over a lot of ways you respond to these things."

He said it's easy to think it's one more nail in the coffin when another business in town closes or the schools consolidate, as was seen more frequently in the 1970s and '80s. People tend to blame open enrollment or private schools, when in reality it comes down to birth rate. "Your outgoing class is 20 kids, your incoming class is 14, you're net minus 6 and that carries that -6 year after year after year and that cohort gets smaller," he illustrated.

However, the narrative might not match reality. "How did we arrive at such a negative narrative that we think no one wants to live here, yet I can't find a home to buy?" he queried. "Obviously people are moving in and loving this. So what's really going on here?"

"If all these things were going to kill your towns, there should be a lot more dead towns," he insisted. "They should be everywhere."

• Cont. on page 6



Don Nebelsick, right, welcomes area producers to a Firestone Ag Tire field event hosted by Don's Tire at Wilson's Barn south of Abilene. "Of all the people we deal with in our business and who we buy from, this company stays closer to the ag market and to you guys than anyone, and to me that means quite a bit for what we do," he said.

Photos by Donna Sullivan

Don's Tire hosts Firestone field event

Greg Jones, bottom right, Global Field Engineering Manager for Firestone Agricultural Tires, discussed proper inflation pressure on tires, and the importance of weighing your tractor and having the correct distribution of weight between the front and rear axles.

"We basically preach the inflation pressure is what gives the life and longevity to the tire," Jones said. "The key to everything is, when they buy a tractor, it doesn't just get used for one thing. In harvest season it's used to pull a grain cart, then tillage, then right into row crops. So you can go from a drawbar all the way up to a three-point hitch type of situation. Well, that changes the set-up of your tractor," he continued. "The amount of inflation pressure you need on those tires when you've got that planter on and going down the rows, that's the worst for our tires, because that's when you need all that pressure to be able to carry that load, and it's all being confined in a little space. Now when it's spread out on a field, that's where the pressure needs to drop down because you don't want that compaction."



Wheat Rx seminars share K-State research results with Kansas producers

By Julia Debes

As wheat fields green up across Kansas, a pair of Wheat Rx seminars in early March delivered expert advice to growers on how to unlock the genetic potential of wheat varieties for their specific geographies and operations and use research-informed methods to produce high-yielding and high-quality wheat.

"Wheat Rx is the Kansas farmer's prescription for combining best management practices and variety selection for the economical and sustainable production of high-quality winter wheat," said Aaron Harries, vice president of research and operations for Kansas Wheat. "Informed by the research investments made by Kansas wheat producers through the Kansas Wheat Commission, these seminars are just what the doctor ordered for learning how to maximize profitability through variety selection and practices on the ground."

The March seminars took place in Dodge City and Wichita. Presenters included a roundup of leading experts from Kansas State University that discussed cover

crops and soil health, soil fertility, fungicides and the economics of wheat production.

Gregg Ibendhal and Daniel O'Brien, professors in K-State's Department of Agricultural Economics, shared the trends and predictions for wheat profitability in Kansas. They noted that machinery costs are still the largest expense category for growers, although that category is getting smaller. It's no surprise that fertilizer expenses have increased greatly along with interest rates but explained the futures markets have not fully captured the risk of the continued Russian/Ukraine war. They also discussed the current and future supply and demand situation for the world's major wheat importers and exporters.

Outside of the kernels in the bin, Dr. Romulo Lollato, K-State associate professor of wheat and forage production, discussed the agronomic, ecological and economic benefits of diversifying crop rotations with wheat. He walked through the impacts of simplified crop rotations due to a steep reduction in wheat

acreage to food security and biodiversity. Conversely, after a comprehensive review of more than 300 peer-reviewed studies, his team outlined the benefits of adding wheat back into crop rotations, including forage production, dual-purpose use for grazing, weed control, interruption of pest population cycles and other benefits.

Speaking of disease and pest management, Kelsey Andersen Onofre, K-State assistant professor of plant pathology, presented on the management of the major wheat diseases in Kansas. Statewide, diseases like stripe rust, Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus (WSMV), and scab are responsible for the most yield lost from 2013-2023. She walked through her research into disease management, including optimal timing of applications, the impact of dual applications, the influence of plant population and how well fungicides work in combination with variety resistance.

Moving from above to below ground level, Carlos Pires, a K-State agronomy post-doctor-

• Cont. on page 6



Counting Farms

By Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau
There are fewer than 2 million farms in the United States according to the USDA Census of Agriculture released last month, down from a peak of just under 7 million in the early 1930s. Any agricultural enterprise with at least \$1,000 in sales was counted as a farm, which excludes the family vegetable garden.

The census, which began in 1840 and has been conducted every five years since 1920, is the best source of comprehensive and impartial information about the state of agriculture down to the county level available. The trends it reveals, like fewer farms, older farmers and less farmland are not necessarily new, but it will inform decisions for a variety of stakeholders ranging from farmers and ranchers to private

companies and cooperatives.

The census showed Kansas followed the national trend with 55,734 farms, down almost 3,000 from the last count in 2017 and the lowest total in 25 years. The average size was 804 acres, up 25 acres from five years ago. That total would be higher, but all land devoted to farming fell by nearly 1 million acres to 44,784,702 acres.

Less than a third of farms had sales of \$100,000 or more in 2022. The vast majority of Kansas farms are owned by an individual, family or through a partnership. Just under 7 percent of farms are corpora-

tions, most of which are still family-owned enterprises.

While the number of farms shrank, the number of farmers topped 100,000, with more than a third of that total being women. The average age of a Kansas farmer increased slightly to 58.2 years (0.2 above the national average), but the number of farmers 34 and younger grew by more than 1,100 to 9,700.

It just so happens 2022 was a good year for farmers on the revenue side, with Kansas producers earning just under \$24 billion. Livestock accounted for \$15.5 billion of the total sales with crops adding \$8.4 bil-

lion. The expense side of the ledger tallied \$21.5 billion, leaving a gross profit of about \$2.5 billion, or less than \$45,000 per farm. It helps put in perspective how thin the margins are in farming, especially when the average acre costs \$2,324 and the average farm has more than \$200,000 worth of machinery and equipment.

Taken as a whole, the census shows there are challenges and opportunities in agriculture. The job has never been easy, but small and medium farms are the most strained in today's current environment. It says something about the nature of farmers and ranch-

ers that their ranks are growing. Though it's a tough way to make a living, farming and ranching does provide an appealing lifestyle.

What we should all keep in mind with the census is it's not the counting of farms that matters, rather how we can best use the information to support the people working the fields. Remember the ones who count every time you eat.

"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.

Annual food and agriculture industry study highlights critical role of food and ag sectors in bolstering the U.S. economy

Recently 32 food and agriculture groups released the eighth annual Feeding the Economy report, a historic farm-to-fork economic impact study that helps to estimate the direct and indirect economic contributions of the food and agriculture industries on jobs, wages, economic output, and business taxes.

The 2024 report's findings show that the total economic impact for the food and agriculture-related industries grew 11.8% over the last year, reaching \$9.63 trillion. This represents 20.01% of total U.S. output. The study also drills down to highlight the impact of this sector to include:

- Total Jobs: 48,665,870 (up 19.53% since the 2020 report)
- Total Wages: \$2.77 trillion (up 33.82% since the 2020 report)
- Total Taxes: \$1.25 trillion (up 36.91% since the 2020 report)
- Exports: \$181.36 billion (down 2.70% since the 2020 report)

There were almost the same number of jobs in agriculture (2.49 million) and manufacturing agricultural products (2.46 million). The number of direct jobs in food and agriculture was up almost 800,000 since the 2020 report (up 20%).

From the 2020 Feeding the Economy report to now, food and agriculture manufacturing jobs grew at a faster rate than any other job category. As a result, manufacturing of agricultural production now accounts for almost 20% of America's manufacturing jobs, over twice as many as automobile manufacturing. The report shows the significant role that the food and agriculture sectors play in supporting the U.S. economy and helps the public and policymakers better understand how these industries continue to promote those contributions.

This year's report can be found at www.FeedingTheEconomy.com.

National Sorghum Foundation announces 2024-2025 scholarships

The National Sorghum Foundation will soon open applications for three scholarships it has available to college students studying agriculture in the 2024-2025 academic year.

"These scholarships represent individuals

who had an enduring impact on sorghum and sorghum research," said Foundation chair Dr. Jeff Dahlberg. "We look forward to offering assistance to future students who exhibit these same skills and leadership capabilities."

Bruce Maunder Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is presented in honor of Bruce Maunder, a lifetime advocate and researcher in the sorghum industry. Maunder dedicated 37 years of his life to sorghum

and crop improvement and inspired a new generation along the way. Applicants must be sophomores through seniors and enrolled in agriculture-based degree programs to apply.

Darrell Rosenow Memorial Scholarship
Darrell Rosenow revolutionized hybrid sorghum in the Unit-

ed States, spending more than 40 years of his life as a sorghum plant breeder. Students applying for this scholarship must be sophomores through seniors and enrolled in agriculture-based science programs related to agronomy, plant pathology, entomology and/or plant breeding with an

emphasis on sorghum.

Bill Kubecka Memorial Scholarship
A leader in the sorghum industry for more than two decades, Bill Kubecka created a legacy of dedication and service to an industry he loved. Paired with the tuition award, this scholarship covers travel expenses for the selected student to attend the National Sorghum Producers annual legislative fly-in. Undergraduate students, sophomores through seniors, graduate students and law school students are eligible to apply. Applicants must be enrolled in a curriculum related to agricultural economics, agricultural policy or agricultural law.

Each scholarship is valued at \$1,500. The application windows for each will run from April 15 to June 1, 2024. More information about each scholarship's criteria and application forms can be found online at <https://sorghumgrowers.com/foundation-scholarships/>.



There is nothing more uncommon than common sense. I always thought Mark Twain had said this first but in doing some research I found the quote attributed to several others along with Twain. I do not know who said it for sure, but I do know that it is truer now than it ever has been.

I really worry about our world as I watch the happenings; many times I think we have lost our way. I know that we can look back at other times through history and politics and life in general were just as contentious.

I do not know about that, for most of the examples I was not alive. All I know is this world seems awfully dysfunctional and getting worse by the minute and I, for one, am tired of it. I do not know what the cause is, I want to blame the internet and social media, but I am afraid it runs much deeper than that.

We now have the entire world at our fingertips, unfiltered, unvarnished and, most importantly, unsubstantiated. We live in a society of "I am right and if you disagree, you are wrong." There is no in between, no middle ground. We see this in politics more than anywhere else and this must change.

Over and over, I am seeing good people who serve that are cut off because they dare to stand up to whoever is in charge. This is not aimed at either side alone; it appears to me that both parties are guilty. We must get past this notion that anyone who disagrees with us is wrong and should immediately be discounted and cut off.

Disagreement is good, debate is good if both are thoughtful and civil. It is not okay to simply shout down someone you disagree with. In my humble opinion good government is not an all or nothing proposition, it is about compromise and seeking common ground.

I am also concerned about the alarmist nature of politics and media. We should not immediately jump to the worst conclusion or the direst prediction. I guess that is the problem we face these days, everything is to the extreme and nothing is moderate.

I still believe that most people are moderates or in the middle. We simply

have our voices drowned out by all the noise that is made on both ends of the spectrum. I also believe that because we are moderate, it is in our nature to not want to make noise. The old saying that the squeaky wheel gets the grease is true and the wheels are very squeaky right now.

What do we do? Is everything lost? I do not believe it is and we are on the verge of the silent majority standing up and saying enough is enough. We need to make our voices heard and take our society back.

We all have a right to believe what we believe but we do not have the right to force those beliefs on anyone else. My beliefs are rooted in my Christian upbringing, I am more than happy to share them with anyone who wants to know, and they guide the decisions I make. My upbringing and the way my parents raised me gave me the foundation for what I believe in and how I think certain decisions should be made.

That does not mean there is not room for compromise; it does not mean that the way I think is an absolute. Unfortunately, there are those, and some of them are in charge, which do think in terms of absolutes and will not welcome any compromise. This needs to change.

Do not get me wrong, there are things that cannot be compromised on, but most problems do have solutions that are not absolutes, and those problems are the ones that can be solved by meeting in the middle.

I don't mean to be negative, but I am concerned. Again, I know that we have faced times like this before and our great nation has survived, and I have faith that we will again. However, I do think that those of us in the middle must stand up and be noticed.

That means we must get involved and it also means that we need to stick up for each other and make sure that those who disagree with the extreme are not shunned and discounted. I do believe that we can affect real change, but it will take courage and determination. I have faith. We just need to roll our sleeves up and get to work.



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Landmark wildlife habitat conservation bill introduced

In a letter submitted to the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee, NCBA urged members of Congress to support the recently introduced America's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act (HR 7408). The landmark conservation bill, put forth by Chairman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas, would invest in state-led conservation projects, push the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to delist species that are recovered and provide regulatory certainty for landowners who participate in voluntary conservation agreements.

Despite the best original intentions of Congress, the Endangered Species Act over the past half-century has stifled voluntary conservation work, provid-

ed endless ammunition for frivolous litigation and imposed unnecessary restrictions on farmers and ranchers. The legislation would address many of these challenges by preventing farmers and ranchers who already are participating in conservation agreements from being subject to a future critical habitat designation, requiring USFWS

to set clear benchmarks for recovery when issuing 4(d) rules and to delist when those goals are met, and extending Good Neighbor Authority to USFWS to allow the agency to work with public and private partners to conserve contiguous habitat.

HR 7408 now awaits a full committee hearing in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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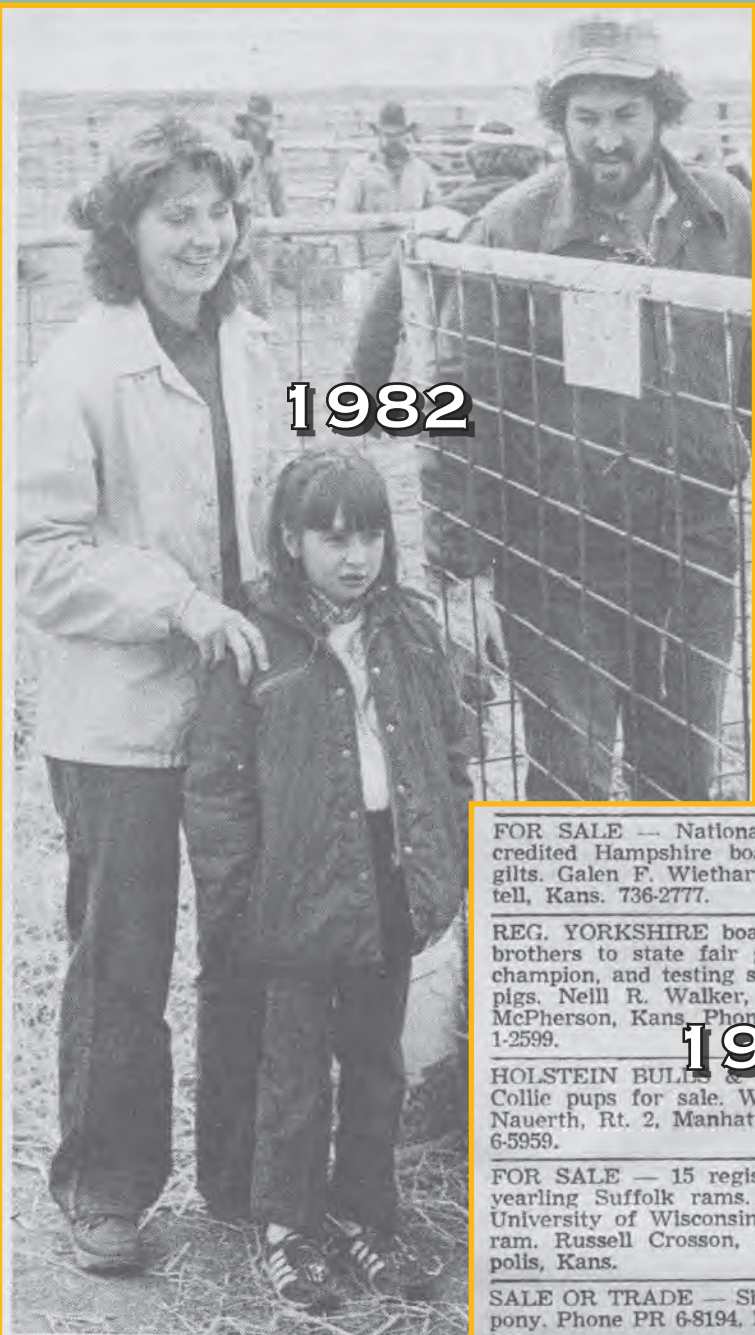
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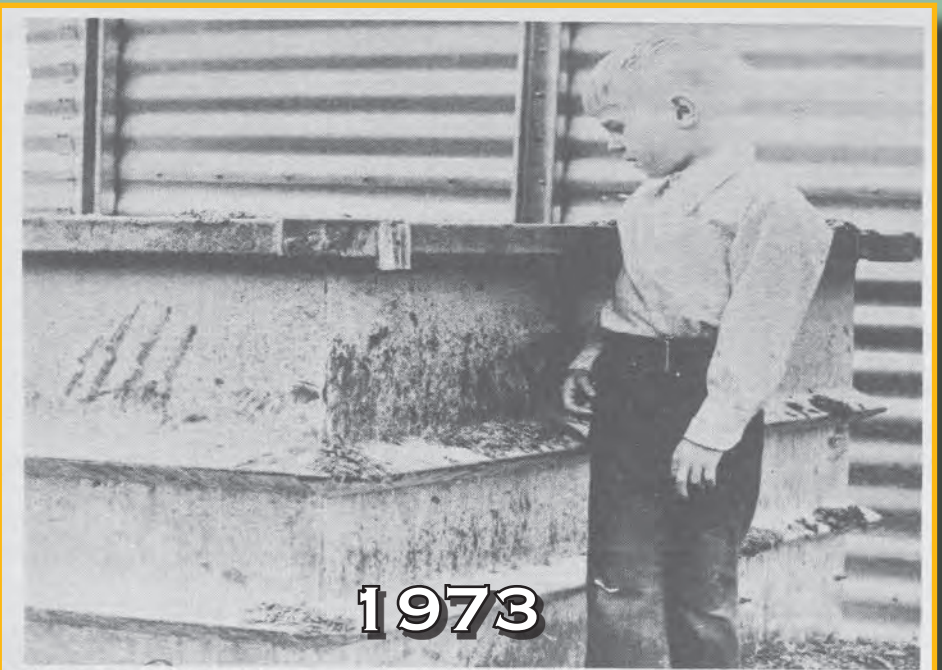
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BUSY BEFORE THE SALE
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Crenshaw and their daughter, Valeri, stopped briefly while preparing cattle for the recent 20th annual Hammarlund-Shamrock Angus Sale, St. Marys. The Crenshaws of Alma are partners in operation of Shamrock Farms.



GRAIN INSPECTOR
Dean Krouse, son of Raymond Krouse of Westmoreland, examines the high moisture grain in a feed wagon on the recent tour of production units in Pottawatomie County.

FOR SALE — Nationally accredited Hampshire boars and gilts. Galen F. Wietharm, Axtell, Kans. 736-2777. x41

REG. YORKSHIRE boars, half brothers to state fair grand champion, and testing station pigs. Nell R. Walker, Rt. 2, McPherson, Kans. Phone CH 1-2599. x41

HOLSTEIN BULLS & Friesian Collie pups for sale. Wesley Nauwerth, Rt. 2, Manhattan, PR 6-5959. SB43

FOR SALE — 15 registered yearling Suffolk rams. Also University of Wisconsin stud ram. Russell Crosson, Minneapolis, Kans. x43

SALE OR TRADE — Shetland pony. Phone PR 6-8194, Manhattan. x41

FOR SALE — Registered Polled Hereford bull, good breeder. Robert F. Moore, Rt. 3, Wamego, Kans., Phone 456-2597. x44

CHAROLAIS BULLS for sale, purebred and percentage. Mc Fadden Bros., 5 mi. east of Riley, Kansas. HU 5-2688. x44

FOR SALE — Reg. Heref. bulls, FOR SALE — 650 bales 1st cutting alfalfa, Phone 6-5947 evenings. Cotton Rogers, Rt. 2, Manhattan. SB42

FOR SALE — 2-wheel heavy duty stock trailer, self-loading end-gate. Also several Jersey cows, milking or to freshen. Raymond Schurle, RR1, Manhattan, JE 9-3249. SB42

FOR SALE — Brood mare 7 yrs. old, broke, solid color. Tom Maguin, 456-9810, Wamego. x41



1982
Charles Gilmore, Sterling, was the first farmer to plant cotton in Rice County. His success lead others to try the cash crop. The module trailer is filled with cotton harvested from Gilmore's land.

GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

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

Donna Geritz, Atchison, Wins This Week's Grass & Grain Recipe Contest

Winner Donna Geritz, Atchison:
CREAMY CHICKEN ENCHILADAS
 2 1/2 cups chopped, cooked chicken
 1 can cream of chicken soup
 1 cup sour cream
 1 1/2 cups shredded cheese
 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
 (12) 6-inch flour tortillas
 1 1/2 cups salsa

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a large baking pan (or spray). Combine chicken, soup, half of sour cream, half of cheese and cilantro. Spoon 1/4 cup into each tortilla and roll up and place seam-side down in pan. Top with salsa and remaining cheese. Cover with foil. Bake 15 minutes; remove foil and bake 10 minutes longer until cheese is melted. Top with sour cream and cilantro.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
PINEAPPLE PIE
 20-oz can crushed pineapple
 1 cup sugar
 1/4 cup flour
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1 tablespoon melted butter
 Pastry for 2-crust pie

Drain pineapple, reserving 1 tablespoon of juice for glaze. In a bowl combine pineapple, sugar, flour, lemon juice, salt and butter. Mix. Spread mixture into bottom crust. Top with remaining crust. Bake at 400 degrees for 35-40 minutes.

Glaze:
 1/2 cup powdered sugar
 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
 1 tablespoon reserved pineapple juice
 Combine powdered sugar, vanilla and pineapple juice until smooth. Spread over top of warm pie.

Claire Martin, Salina:
DIXIE PORK CHOPS
 2 tablespoons oil
 8 boneless pork chops (can use bone-in as well)
 1/2 teaspoon salt

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
BLUE CHEESE DRESSING
 10 ounces blue cheese
 1 quart mayonnaise
 1 pint sour cream
 1 teaspoon garlic powder
 1 teaspoon pepper
 3 tablespoons cider vinegar
 1/2 cup buttermilk
 Crumble cheese. Mix all ingredients together. Refrigerate.

Margaret Wetter, Norton:
ORANGE CAKE
 2 oranges, zest & for juice
 1 1/3 cups flour
 1/2 cup sugar
 2 teaspoons baking powder
 1/4 cup milk
 1/4 cup butter, softened
 1 egg
 1 teaspoon vanilla

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8-by-8-inch pan or line with parchment paper. Zest oranges and squeeze 1/2 cup juice. Stir together flour, sugar and baking powder. Add zest and juice, milk, butter, egg and vanilla. Beat at low speed. Spread into pan and bake 25 minutes. Let cool in pan.

Frosting:
 1/4 cup butter, softened
 Powdered sugar
 2 tablespoons milk
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 Combine softened butter and 3/4 cup powdered sugar. Add milk and vanilla. Beat in 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar.

Kellee George, Shawnee:
NOODLE CASSEROLE
 1 pound ground beef
 1 green pepper, diced
 1 large onion, diced
 8-ounce package noodles, cooked
 1/2 pound grated cheese
 1 can tomato soup
 1 can corn, drained
 Brown hamburger, green pepper and onion in a skillet. Mix remaining ingredients with hamburger mixture and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
PINEAPPLE CAKE
 2 cups flour
 2 cups sugar
 2 eggs
 2 teaspoons baking soda
 20-ounce can crushed pineapple, do not drain
 Mix all ingredients together and put into a 9-by-13-inch pan. Bake 40-45 minutes at 350 degrees. Frost with cream cheese frosting when cooled.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
LIME SALAD
 1 small can crushed pineapple
 1 cup water
 2/3 cup sugar
 1 package lime gelatin
 1 cup grated Cheddar cheese
 1 cup chopped nuts
 8-ounce carton Cool Whip
 In a saucepan heat pineapple, water and sugar. Bring to a boil then add gelatin. Let cool. Add remaining ingredients. Place in refrigerator to set.



The Dance Of Spring

By Lou Ann Thomas
 It's officially spring which means I'm already behind in my seasonal chores. But I'm almost always behind in my spring tasks, partially because it's just darn hard work to do all the bending, digging, tilling, lifting, carting off, hoeing, raking, trimming and planting. I rarely get very far until I can't raise my arms above my head or rise from a sitting position without assistance.

Even though the work can be exhausting, some of my favorite things are associated with spring. I love the smell of freshly mown grass and tilled soil. Having grown up on a farm I spent a great deal of time bouncing across fields on an old Farmall M tractor. While my friends were sunbathing at the community swimming pool, I was getting equally tan, but mine only went up to mid-thigh and arm.

After a few days in the fields, I was too embarrassed to don a swimming suit. The one time I was able to push my adolescent body shame aside and join my friends for an afternoon of swimming, a friend loudly squealed as I exited the changing room, "You look like you are wearing white shorts and a t-shirt under your suit!" I now question my criteria for determining whom my friends were, but at the time my self-confidence was shattered.

Attempting to even out my tan, I spent a few days wearing my swimming suit while I worked in the fields, but there was no place to carry needed tools and the old metal tractor seat with the holes for ventilation left my backside looking like a Belgian waffle. But spending spring and summer working on the farm taught me about responsibility,

working toward a common goal, the joy in a job well done and the importance of wearing sunscreen. It was those years working on this farm that taught me to appreciate freshly mown grass, tilled soil and friends who don't make fun of my tan lines.

It also taught me there are some things I don't like about this time of year. At the top of that list are snakes. I really don't like snakes, although they don't seem to mind me. I do wish the fear was mutual, then maybe they would stay in the woods and leave me alone.

On those occasions when a snake gets close to me, my feet and legs involuntarily proceed to become very light and begin a weird, free form, gravity-defying dance. Of course, as soon as my spine stops crawling into my shoulders and my feet stop tap dancing several inches above the earth, I quickly look around to see if anyone has witnessed this reptilian choreography.

My fear of snakes has been passed down to me from my father. The story goes that my father began building our new house after going into the cellar of our very old farm bungalow and having a snake drop down on his shoulder. I would have started construction that very day! It would have been a necessity since we would have had a Lou Ann sized hole in the side of the house where I made a quick exit while performing my reptile jig.

So, if you drive by and see me outside, know I am happy to be there - unless, of course, I appear to be dancing.

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

In Celebration of Grass & Grain's 70th Anniversary, we will reprint some "vintage" recipes such as this one from 1982!

OUR DAILY BREAD
 - by G&G Area Cooks

Mrs. Agnes Bernhardt, Tampa, Wins Prize
 Winner, Mrs. Agnes Bernhardt, R1, Box 56, Tampa: "If your family is getting too small to have a turkey for the holidays, this is a welcome alternative. I have used it for occasions such as this. It's festive enough for either Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner and very delicious. It also can be made ahead of time and frozen."

CHICKEN BREASTS SCOTSDALE
 1 package dried beef
 6 chicken breasts, boned & skinned
 1 package bacon
 1 can cream of mushroom soup
 1 cup sour cream
 Cut chicken breasts in half and put a piece of dried beef on top. Roll up and wrap with a piece of bacon. Put in a lightly buttered 9x13-inch baking dish. Bake covered for 30 minutes at 350 degrees. Mix soup and sour cream well and pour over the chicken rolls. Bake uncovered for another 30-45 minutes at 325. Garnish with parsley, spiced apple rings or pineapple slices.

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Thawing Method Does Not Seem To Affect Beef Quality K-State Student Shares Research At Cattlemen's Day

By Maddy Rohr, K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN — Thawing does not seem to have an impact on the quality of beef by the time it hits the consumer's table, according to a study by a Kansas State University graduate student.

Meat science student Lindsey Decker recently reported her results of tests on the palatability of strip loin steaks during K-State's Cattlemen's Day.

"With the rise in direct-to-consumer beef marketing, and consumers more frequently freezing beef due to supply chain disruptions, it was our goal to determine whether the method of thawing beef steaks effected sensory characteristics and instrumental quality measures," Decker said.

Decker said the USDA lists many ways to thaw frozen beef, but little information is available on how thawing impacts beef quality and consumer's eating experience. Beef is known as a premium protein product and consumers expect a high-quality eating

experience each time they eat it, she said.

In her study, Decker tested multiple USDA thaw methods, including thawing in the fridge, microwave and cold water; and cooking directly from the frozen state. She also tested two methods commonly utilized by consumers: Thawing in hot water and thawing on the counter. Decker worked with trained and consumer sensory panelists.

"Our trained panelists were trained over several days to determine specific quality characteristics, such as beef flavor attributes, connective tissue level, or juiciness, while consumers were pulled from the Manhattan area and had no training," Decker said. "The goal of running all of these tests was to find any differences caused by the various thawing methods; whether they were detectable by consumers; and provide further context to those results through the instrumental measures."

Decker used instrumental quality measures such as Warner-Bratzler Shear Force as an indicator

of tenderness, pressed juice percentage as an indicator of juiciness and performed laboratory assays such as TBARRs as an indicator of lipid oxidation.

"As a whole, the thawing method does not have an impact on the palatability of strip loins steaks," Decker concluded, noting that consumers detected no significant differences among all six thawing methods, and trained panelists found few differences across all six thawing methods.

"Consumers should be sure to consider food safety and choose whichever method best suits their needs," Decker said. "Research such as this allows consumers to understand, and best manage beef at home so they continue to have excellent eating experiences."

Decker's full report, and other research reports presented during this year's Cattlemen's Day, is available online from K-State's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

Links used in this story: K-State Cattlemen's Day research reports, <https://newprairiepress.org/kaesrr/vol10/iss1/>

Summer Is Coming: Vacation Planning Starts Now

Julie Smith, Family Resource Management & Entrepreneurship Agent, Wildcat

Extension District
The days are getting longer, and spring break season is here! Soon we will be tending to our gardens and trading in boots for sandals. As flowers bloom, school will wrap up for another year and summer will arrive. If you're considering a family vacation this summer, now is the time to start planning.

Whether you are thinking about a long-distance vacation or a closer stay-cation, it is important to consider your budget. Have you already set aside money in your yearly spending plan? If not, look at your budget and see how much you can save between now and your expected vacation date. Once you've set the spending limit and your location, it's time to make plans. Here are a few tips to help stretch your dollars while making lifetime family memories.

1. Lodging - think about your family size and intended travel options. If you're willing to prepare meals on vacation, looking for a place with an equipped kitchen may be an option for saving money. If you plan to eat out every meal, however, a budget hotel may be your best option and free up some cash for adventure.

2. Look for free stuff! Once your destination is

chosen, check out free resources in the area. Local travel and tourism and chamber sites are excellent resources to find out what events may be going on in the area. Look at parks, museums, lakes, etc. Even a lower cost activity like bowling in a different town may provide great fun for family members without the huge price tag.

3. Maximize savings options. Think about what resources you have available and stack them when planning if possible. For example, if you have flight points and hotel points, you may be able to save on those things and use your travel budget on meals or theme park tickets. Also, contact your local travel agent to see if there are things they can help you with that may be better priced than anywhere you find online.

If it's difficult for you

to plan ahead for vacation, note that there are many great deals on last minute travel as well. If you find yourself with a free weekend and looking for an escape, be sure to check travel sites for bargains. The most important tip is that you plan to spend the money, even if you weren't able to plan the trip in advance. Avoid going into debt for travel if at all possible. Your memories will be more positive if you're not spending months or years paying off the vacation.

No matter where you choose to spend your vacation, take time to enjoy life, family, and friends. Now, go make some memories!

For more information, contact Julie Smith, Family Resource Management and Entrepreneurship agent at juliesmith@ksu.edu or by calling 620-238-0704.



By Kelsey Pagel

Crazy Town

Matt has recovered! He still has a lingering cough that is hanging around, but it's not slowing him down. I, miraculously, never got whatever the rest of them had, so I'm grateful for that. Matt was well enough by my birthday that he made me a nice, homemade lasagna. It was very delicious and thoughtful of him.

Remember last time when I said, once the time change hits, it's go time? Well, that happened. And it is officially crazy town. My birthday gift to myself, my Fitbit, is great at reminding me/telling me just how more active I am once the time changes. My goal is 10,000 steps a day and I'm hitting more like 15-20k, on average.

My parents and sister are calving. They calve all their cows at the same time, unlike us they stretch it out to three times per year. Plus they have a lot more cows than we do. It's a lot from the middle of March to the middle of May. Well, my sister got sick, so I went down to help out a few days so she could recover rather than trying to do it and not healing up for a long time. The last time I wrote, I was keeping my fingers and toes crossed I didn't get whatever Matt had. This time I'm keeping my fingers and toes crossed I don't get whatever Kayla has. Keep thinking we're getting out of winter and this sickness stuff will go away!

Thinking of summer and hot weather, Matt is addicted to Mountain Dew and has been for all of our marriage. But we're not getting any younger and I keep telling him I don't want to find out how much it costs to get all of your teeth replaced at 35 because they all rotted out from that stupid pop. It can't be good for his body either. Well, he bought a insulated 64-ounce water bottle a while ago and said that he was going to try and start drinking more water or at least Gatorade. He just hates drinking either of those when they aren't cold. But this water bottle that he bought and likes is a pain in the hiney to put ice in. And that's because we don't have a working ice maker in our refrigerator.

You see, our ice maker started not working on our fridge about the time we were tearing apart our kitchen for the remodel so it just kept moving around the house. We, for obvious reasons, didn't want to keep putting a hole in the floor to get the water line hooked up when we weren't sure where its final home was going to be. When it finally arrived at what we assume to be the final location, neither one of us can remember what exactly was wrong with the ice maker. And Matt isn't very interested in finding out. So I've just been keeping a pitcher of cold water in the fridge and calling it good without ice. My water jug I take with me every day is big enough I can fit a big chunk of ice in it from a big cool whip container. We've been getting by.

But now, Matt said he's really going to try to cut back on the Mountain Dew. I believe that in order for him to be successful at that, he needs

to have cold water and Gatorade. Which brings me back to the water bottle he bought, and likes, that is a pain to get the chunks of ice that I freeze in cool whip and cottage cheese containers. So we bought another kitchen appliance to sit on the limited counter space I have. We bought an ice maker. We're liking it so far. We just got it over the weekend, so figuring it out. Plus we've just been so busy and gone so much. It's definitely not as convenient as a refrigerator one, but it's also a lot more efficient, in my opinion, than breaking ice out of trays. I need to decide what I'm going to store it in, in the freezer and I think it will be great. The ice maker itself doesn't hold very much ice at a time so you have to pour the cubes out so it can make more.

Well, that's all for me. It's late. Matt still isn't home at 10:30 and I've got a few more things to finish up. As we head in to "busy" season for farmers (please tell me when it's not busy season) don't forget your partners and families. An appreciative text goes a long way. Gratitude at what they're doing to keep your life turning. And try to remember that most of us aren't going to remember who the first in the field was every year. It really is your relationships that should be most important in your life. Until next time, grace, patience and love.

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 kelseyagel13@gmail.com

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Winchester brings ‘ammo’ for rewriting rural narrative

• **Cont. from page 1**
And they're not. And for good reason, because we're not dying, we're not dead, we're changing."

Winchester says data shows the average household size in this county has dropped a full person since 1940. In 1940 it was 3.6 people per household, today it is 2.6. If there are 100 homes in a town, in 1940 that would have meant 360 people, whereas today those same homes would only house 260. The fact that people are staying in their own homes longer also plays a role. "If you have two seniors in a house, then one of them passes away and the surviving spouse stays in that house, your population just went down

by one, but your occupied houses are the same," he said.

According to Winchester, 49% of the households in the United States move every five years. "We're a highly mobile population," he pointed out. "Even in a stable population, there are always people coming and going."

He said a simpler way of life and safety and security were some of the top reasons people move to a rural community. So for a stronger community, it's important that there are places for people to live, and that newcomers are made to feel welcome and part of the community.

At the end of the day, which also included

presentations by representatives of the Small Business Administration, the Governor's Office on Rural Prosperity, Network Kansas, K-State 105 and WTC, there was a panel discussion featuring Tom Nelson, Lori Rogge, Sarah Larson and Tyler from Alma. Winchester asked them about their reasons for moving to or staying in a rural community, ways they had found to get involved and advice they might give newcomers to a town.

"Don't discount Kansas," Tyler said. "It's a great place to live - dive into everything Kansas has to offer."

"Reach out to your neighbors, whether you're from here or not," Larson encour-

aged. "Immerse yourself in the community and get involved."

"I'd say community engagement," Rogge said. "We have a lot of opportunity. We have the small town feel but are close to a more urban area. Don't get into the urban versus rural conflict, we can all get along together and see what we have to offer each other."

Wheat Rx seminars share K-State research results with Kansas producers

• **Cont. from page 1**
al student, discussed methods to improve soil health. He emphasized the benefits of regenerative ag practices like minimizing disturbance through no-till or minimum-till, maximizing soil cover through practices like cover crops, maximizing biodiversity through a mix of cash and cover crop or an integrated crop-livestock system and maximizing continuous living roots by reducing fallow and increasing cover cropping. He concluded that integrating cover crops into crop rotation will increase soil carbon, the amount of microbes, biological activity and aggregation to retain water, recognizing that these practices take financial investments and time.

The seminar ended with a discussion of fertility management specific to wheat by Dorivar Ruiz Diaz, K-State professor and soil fertility specialist. He discussed the most important nutrients to

"Participate," Nelson said. "That's one of those things that those of us who grew up in a community just do naturally. I would encourage anybody who lives in a rural community to participate in the activities. It doesn't have to be on a committee, just do the fun things the community offers."

"And don't immediately ask new people to

serve on a board," Winchester admonished. "That's the quickest way to turn people off."

Newcomers to a community often help build the community, diversify the economy and buy or start new businesses. "They want to live and move here for what you are today and will be tomorrow," Winchester said.

manage for wheat, including nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur, chloride and lime (for low pH soils). He also walked through how growers can manage both yield and quality, including nitrogen volatilization and placement and the interaction of protein with nitrogen management.

The seminars are part of Wheat Rx, a partnership between Kansas Wheat and K-State Research and Extension to disseminate the latest research recommendations for high-yielding and high-quality wheat to Kansas wheat farmers. This effort includes a series of extension publications and educational outreach like the March seminars.

"We've learned a lot

from the research funded by Kansas wheat farmers on the impact of variety selection and management practices on yield and quality come harvest," Harries said. "Wheat Rx is our outreach effort to share those results with growers. We can't control the weather, but these practices and tools are ones farmers can use to make an appreciable difference in their wheat crop."

Miss the Wheat Rx seminars? Plan to attend the Soil Health and Cropping System Sustainability Field Day in Solomon/Gypsum on April 5 or the Wheat Rx Seminar and Field Day in Phillipsburg on May 23. Learn more at <https://kswheat.com/events>.

APHIS announces funding and enhancements for animal health surveillance

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is collaborating with the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) to enhance national preparedness. APHIS has allocated \$1 million in funding for rapid investigations of unexplained morbidity or mortality events to detect emerging threats early.

This proactive approach will help identify and address potential disease threats before they escalate, protecting animal and public health as well as international trade.

"The ability to rapidly diagnose unknown illnesses in animals is vital for preventing outbreaks and safeguarding public health," APHIS administrator Mike Watson said. "This new cooperative agreement marks a significant leap forward in our ability to detect emerging threats at the earliest stages through advanced testing and collaboration with the NAHLN."

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The Fightin' Bob – (The Forgotten Chapter- Part 4½)

Wow, I can't believe I sent the "Epilogue" installment before getting this, most key part of the story in to the editor! "What an idiot", I thought as I realized my mistake! My sincere apologies to my readers for this sophomore oversight!-KS

The Evans was ship-shape, wearing a new coat of paint after repairs and refitting at Ulithi following the typhoon. Training exercises were a regular activity including gunnery practice, and the crew all felt that things were shaping up for some action. April 1,

1945 marked the largest amphibious invasion in the Pacific Theater during WW2, and the bloodiest battle, which lasted 81 days.

The ongoing duty of the destroyers was to screen for the rest of the fleet, protecting aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers, and landing craft, and the dozens of support ships, from the threat of enemy submarines from below, and the steady stream of kamikaze planes from on high, as well as to pick up downed U.S. airmen from the drink. The Evans plucked her sixth Marine pilot from off the coast of Okinawa and was ordered in for resupply and a few days rest at a makeshift island harbor at Kerama Retto, west of Okinawa. The land air and sea battle for the larger island continued to rage.

One bright sunny day the small ship received new orders. A brand new Fletcher class destroyer, in theater for only a few weeks, cruised past when suddenly the Evans lurched forward and began matching the speed of the new cohort, the USS Hadley. "Hey, the old man is racing that new can!" some of the Evans crew cheered. But little did the boys know that the two destroyers had been ordered to Radar Picket Station 15, some 40 miles northwest of Okinawa.

Radar picket duty was some of the most dangerous duty on the high seas. These ships were the first contact, the "front line" defending the rest of the fleet, and also the boys on the ground fighting to take the island. They were one of the high-

est valued targets by the oncoming fighter squadrons because the radar intelligence supplied by these ships gave ample warning to the Americans, and if they could knock a hole in the picket line, those following could attack the American aircraft carriers, or assist in the land battle.

By this point of the war, the Empire of Japan was very near its end, and had commissioned every man, woman and child to "fight to the death," and suicide was preferable to surrender. Most of the Japanese air force that would be sent out to meet the American forces, by now, were trained to take off, fly, identify U.S. Navy ships and deliver their ordnance. For the most part, those pilots would never again see Japan, and they knew that when they mounted their aircraft. "Kamikaze" translates as "divine wind", and these young men were proud to do their duty to their Emperor.

4,900 American sailors were killed at Okinawa by kamikaze missions alone. In six weeks the U.S. Navy destroyers lost to the suicide planes outnumbered the entire destroyer fleet in 1941. The U.S. Task Force Commander referred to the destroyers as "bait."

As the Evans and Hadley pulled into their assigned coordinates the relieved vessels flashed a quick "Good Luck" signal and made a hasty retreat to safer waters. Within minutes the relief crews would shoot down an enemy plane. For the next few

hours an intermittent single attacker would make its way within the range of the guns of the twin ships and be splashed. After a while, two would make the attempt with the same result.

First light on May 11th, 1945, it seemed the Japanese began throwing everything available at Okinawa. Over a hundred planes came at the two feisty little ships. Of the massive number of attacking planes, the destroyers accounted for stopping forty-six of them before both ships were devastated by coordinated attacks.

First the Evans would be lined up by five kamikaze planes flying a coordinated formation about 1500 yards between each. The guns on the "Fightin' Bob" knocked the wings off the first one, splashing him a mere 500 yards off the port side. The following four suicide planes would find their mark, in quick succession, in spite of receiving the full firepower

the Evans gun crews could muster.

Our Kansas cowboy Stanley said, "You could see that pilot grinning as he flew down our smokestack." The last kamikaze released his bombs and as they hit below decks the ship jumped out of the ocean. When she settled back into it, she was dead in the water. With no power to drive the ship and operate the guns, the destroyer was out of the fight and now the main job for everyone was to save the ship from going under. The Hadley would fight on for only a few minutes more before a similar attack of ten planes would put her out of the fight as well.

"The only thing that saved us that morning was the sea was smooth as glass" recalled Stan. "If we'd had a four-inch wave come over the side we'd have gone under."

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

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LAND AUCTION! GRAY COUNTY, KS

Vaughn-Roth Land Brokers is honored to represent Lake Cruise Holdings, LP (Priddle Family) with the offering of this highly efficient tract of irrigated cropland in Gray County, Kansas. This is the type of parcel that's all business for the ag operator and investor without peripheral distractions from recreational interest. If you want to add quality and reputation to your land holdings, step up because opportunity knocks!

641 +/- Acres

Location: Rd N & Rd 25, Ingalls, KS

This property is being offered via online auction beginning at 12:00 p.m. on 4/8/2024 with a dynamic closing to start at 12:00 p.m. on 4/12/2024.

For more information, please visit our website or call Cameron Roth at 785-917-0867

VAUGHN ROTH LAND BROKERS
SELLERS OF PREMIUM FARMS & RANCHES
VaughnRoth.com 620-888-3040

FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024
TIME: 10:00 AM (CT) / 9:00 AM (MT)
LOCATION: West side of TOWNER, COLORADO, on south side of Highway 96

This will be a Live auction & Internet auction simulcast. Go to equipmentfacts.com to bid online (Powered by Tractor House). Online starts at 1:00 pm CT

SPRAYER & TRACTORS: 2012 Miller Nitro 5275 self-propelled sprayer, Cummins 275 motor, 120' booms, 1,600 gal. SS tank, Ag Leader GPS; 1991 Case IH 9270, 4-wheel drive tractor, 3 pt. pto, duals, quick hitch, 9,414 hrs.; 1976 JD 4630 tractor, 3 pt. pto, ps, 12931 hrs., #024149; 1964 JD 4020 tractor, sr trans, diesel, pto, 9,573 hrs. w/GB scoop; Hyster 80 forklift, triple mast, side shift, dual fronts, cab.

FARM EQUIPMENT: (6) JD 9400 hoe drills, 6x10, 12" w/ transports, split press; (6) JD 9400 hoe drills, 6x10, 12" w/ transports, split press; Case IH 40', air, disc drill, 10" w/ Case IH 2230 cart; Case IH 40' air drill, disc, 10"; Case IH 2330 tow between commodity cart; Case IH ADX 2330 tow between commodity cart; Case IH 40' drill used to fertilize, 30"; Noble Versatile 7x7 sweep plow w/Degelman harrows; MF 28' disc; Fallow Master 42' w/pickers; Fertilizer 30' strip till tool bar; Rhino 15' bat wing mower; JD 7100 maxi merge planter, 8-row, 3pt.; 2008 Kinze 3800 planter, 36-row, 30", bulk center fill, no-till coulters, row shut off; JD 7000 MaxEmerge planter, 12-row, pull type; Steiger 30' twin offset disk; Sunflower 32' chisel; Richardson 5x5 sweep plow.

TRUCKS & PICKUPS: 1982 GMC 65 tandem truck, auto, V-8 motor, 20' bed & hoist; 1996 Eagle International tandem truck, Cat 3406 motor, 10 spd. trans., aluminum 4-compartment feed delivery box; 1966 IHC 2000 tandem truck, diesel, 5x2 trans. w/20' bed & hoist; 1989 IHC truck, Detroit 466 motor, 6 spd. trans. w/ 20' cargo box; 1968 Chevy 50 tandem truck, 5x2 spd. trans, V-8 motor, 20' bed & hoist, roll over tarp; 1997 IHC semi-truck, Eagle, Cat 3406 motor, 10 spd. trans; 2006 Ford F-350 pickup dually, 116,280 miles, automatic trans, 4x4, Cummins 6-liter diesel motor w/Pronghorn flatbed & side boxes; 1995 Dodge 2500 pickup, no bed.

HARVESTING: 1972 MF 760 combine, hydro, 20' platform, Perkins motor; JD 55 combine, & corn head, nice; JD 400 grain cart; Westward 436 pickup head; (2) AgCo Challenger 13' pickup head; JD 910 pickup head w/rake-up; JD 930 platform w/ sunflower pans.

TRAILERS: Simonsen tender box semi-trailer w/auger; Semi tanker trailer, asphalt; JD loaf trailer; SS 1,000-gal nurse trailer; 1,000-gal poly nurse trailer; Aluminum goose neck stock trailer, 36'.

OTHER FARM ITEMS: Wire roller on large trailer; Westfield drive over pit; pivot trac closer, 3 pt.; lots of used tractor tires; Flex King pickers; JD row head parts; Mayrath auger 8"x42", pto; Case IH drill parts; stalk roller for tractor; Shelborne JD adapter; small seed cleaner; round 1,000-gal tank; lots of other parts; Tommy Lift gate; wooden fence posts on trailer; fence chargers; grain leg parts; Farm King 8x36' auger w/ hop motor.

SHOP ITEMS: Hand tools; pickup tool boxes; porta power; propane space heater; hydraulic cylinders; air tools; radial arm saw; air compressor; lights; chains; jacks; lots of bolts, nails etc.; table saw; ext. cords; many, many other items

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AREA FARMERS, OWNERS

TERMS: Must have VALID ID to register. NO EXCEPTIONS! Cash or approved check day of sale. No credit cards! Everything sold as is. No warranties expressed or implied. Not responsible for theft or accident. Announcements day of auction take precedence. **LUNCH SERVED.**

BERNING AUCTION, INC.
PO Box Q, Leoti, KS 67861, 620-375-4130

LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 — 10:00 AM
FNB Community Room — WASHINGTON, KANSAS

78± ACRES WASHINGTON COUNTY, KS LAND

Legal Description: E2 NE4 S12, T04S, R03E, 6th P.M., ACRES 78.7, (Acres represent taxable acres per the Washington County Kansas Appraisers Office)
• 78.72 FSA Farmland acres. 92% in crop production.
Property Location: From Washington: From the Hwy 36 & 15 intersection go south on Hwy 15 travel approx. 7 mi. to Hwy 15 & Hwy 148/9 intersection. Turn east on 9 Hwy & travel 1 mi. to Rainbow Rd. & turn North & travel 1/2 mi. to SE corner of the property.

ONLINE & PHONE Bidding Available - Register NOW!
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Online Bidding Opens March 21, 2024

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MIDWEST LAND & HOME
SELLER: SHIRLEY HAMILTON

Mark Uhlik, Listing Broker & Auctioneer, 785.747.8568
Gavin Uhlik, Land Agent
www.MidwestLandandHome.com

LAND AUCTION

Tuesday April 9, 2024 @ 7:00pm
Where: 406 E. Center, Inman, KS

225 Acres +/- offered in 3 Tracts in McPherson County, Kansas

Quality tillable, Potential Building Site, Home/Buildings

Tract 1: SW/4 of 33-20-04, 157 Ac +/-

Quality farm comprised of class II soils at Chisholm Rd & 8th Ave.

Tract 2: 613 9th Ave 16 Ac +/-

Beautiful ranch style home with 4 bed - 2 full & 2 half baths, full basement, and numerous out buildings. Conveniently located at Chisholm & 9th just off HWY 61. Open house will be March 24, 2-4pm.

Tract 3: A portion of the S/2 of the SE/4 52 Ac +/-

Great potential build site w/ a pond! Located on the north side of Chisholm Rd. west of 9th Ave.

Possession upon closing, subject to tenant rights on acres planted to wheat.

Call or visit our website for sale bill and more info!
Online bidding available. Complete details on website.

SELLER: Jame and Sophia Stephens
Derek Isaacson - Agent # 785-452-0566
Ray Swearingen - Broker # 785-452-8498

HFR are Seller's Agents

HORIZON FARM & RANCH REALTY, LLC
1-888-825-1199
www.horizonfarmranch.com

LAND AUCTION

Saturday, March 30, 2024 @ 1:00pm
Where: 201 Main St., Westmoreland, KS

274 Acres +/- offered in 8 Tracts in Pottawatomie County, Kansas

Pasture, Potential Homesites, Home/Buildings, Tillable & Hunting

Tract 1: N/2 of E/2 of NE/4 of 03-08-08, 24 Ac +/-

Tract 2: S/2 of E/2 of NE/4 of 03-08-08, 29 Ac +/-

Tract 3: N/2 of W/2 of SW/4 of 02-08-08, 39 Ac +/-

Tract 4: S/2 of W/2 of SW/4 of 02-08-08, 39 Ac +/-

Tract 5: 9510 Buffalo Run Rd., Westmoreland, KS 4 bed/3 bath 2,700 sq ft, Buildings, Horse Stalls, Livestock Pens, 54 Ac +/- Tillable, Pasture, Creek & Hunting

Open House March 17th 2:00-4:00pm

Tract 6: Part of N/2 of SE/4 of 11-08-08, 27 Ac +/-

Tract 7: Part of N/2 of SE/4 of 11-08-08, 24 Ac +/-

Tract 8: Part of N/2 of SE/4 of 11-08-08, 24 Ac +/-

Possession upon closing, subject to tenant rights on pasture and acres planted to wheat.

Call or visit our website for sale bill and more info!
Online bidding available. Complete details on website.

SELLER: Dreanna Hood Family Trust
Larry Koch - Agent Cell # 785-243-5150
Ray Swearingen - Broker # 785-452-8498

HFR are Seller's Agents

HORIZON FARM & RANCH REALTY, LLC
1-888-825-1199
www.horizonfarmranch.com

Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center celebrates ten years of transformative healthcare

Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center is proud to announce the celebration of its tenth anniversary on March 21, 2024. Over the past decade, Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center has been at the forefront of regenerative medicine, revolutionizing the treatment of joint pain, arthritis, and chronic conditions using patients' own stem cells. With over 4,000 patients treated not only across the United States but around the world, Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center has established itself as a global leader in regenerative health care.

Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center's founders started as patients. They personal-

ly witnessed the relief and improved mobility that stem cell therapy can bring and founded Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center to enable people to get back to the lives they love, to advance the science of stem cell therapy, and to improve access to ethical care.

Since its inception in 2014, Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center has remained committed to providing cutting-edge treatments for a wide range of conditions affecting the musculoskeletal system, as well as autoimmune diseases, neurological disorders, and cardiac and pulmonary issues. Through the innovative use of regenerative medicine techniques, Kansas Re-



generative Medicine Center has helped patients regain mobility, reduce pain, and improve their overall quality of life.

"We are thrilled to mark this significant

milestone in our journey," said John Farley, co-founder of Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center. "Over the past decade, we have witnessed remarkable transformations in the

lives of our patients. Our commitment to excellence and innovation has enabled us to offer hope and potential healing to individuals suffering from debilitating conditions."

Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center specializes in the treatment of some of the most common joint pain and chronic condi-

tions, including but not limited to:

- Knees
- Shoulders
- Elbows
- Hips
- Back and neck
- Hands and wrists
- Feet and ankles

"As we celebrate this milestone, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our patients, staff, and partners who have supported us throughout the years," said Ken Woods, co-founder of Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center. "Their trust and dedication have been instrumental in our success, and we look forward to continuing our mission of advancing regenerative medicine to improve lives."

To learn more about Kansas Regenerative Medicine Center and their innovative treatments, visit www.kansasrmc.com.

Cargill awards more than \$3 million grant to National FFA Organization

Cargill awarded a three-year grant of \$3.15 million to the National FFA Organization in support of its commitment to shape future agriculture leaders.

The grant supports a variety of National FFA Organization programs and events during the three-year period (from 2023 to 2025), including the organization's sustainability platform; the equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) pathway; and the Living to Serve program. During the National FFA Convention and Expo, the grant supports a booth, the rodeo and travel grants for career development event (CDE) participants. In addition, the funding supports the American FFA Degree and the American Star Awards.

Cargill's grant also supports programs that encourage the exploration of career pathways in agriculture. This includes AgExplorer and two career pathways - Food Products and Processing and Animal Systems. In 2024, the grant will also support the Next Gen Conference, which is focused on food, processing and products. The conference will be held June 25-29, 2024, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

During its first year, the Cargill grant has significantly impacted FFA. In the fall 2023 semester, funding helped FFA members, non-FFA members and adults complete 77,678 hours of service through projects funded by yearlong Living to Serve Grants. It also

supported 619 FFA members who participated in national competitive events related to the Food Products and Processing career pathway and 1,600 members who participated in Animal Systems competitive events. Additionally, funds provided 14 travel grants to CDE participants to enable them to compete at the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo. The grant also helped fund the State Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Collaborative, which helps state FFA associations create and implement EDI plans. The 2022-23 cohort involved nine states, and 14 states are part of the 2023-24 cohort.

National FFA and Cargill look forward to continued partnership to ensure even greater impact in the remaining

two years of the grant.

"We are honored to receive this grant from Cargill," said Molly Ball, president of the National FFA Foundation and chief marketing officer of the National FFA Organization. "Throughout our partnership, Cargill has been unwavering in its support and continues to see the potential leaders in our members and advisors. This grant allows us to reach more members and continue providing new opportunities that help feed the talent pipeline."

"Cargill is grateful for the opportunity to continue our partnership with the FFA, which spans more than 60 years," said Rob Stewart, director of Growth Ventures and Emerging Markets for Cargill's North American Protein business.

"Together, we're able to convene the best and brightest young minds to create awareness and enthusiasm for diversity, equity and inclusion as well as sustainability programming to ensure a stronger future for the agriculture industry and our world."

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 945,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024 — 10:00 AM
Heritage Hall (Fair Bldg), 12200 214th Road — HOLTON, KS

160.37± ACRES JACKSON CO, KS LAND

LEGAL: S17, T08, R16E, ACRES 160.37, NE/4 LESS RD ROW
Great Whitetail Property! Year Round Water. Perfect for Dream Home

Property Location: From Topeka (Hwy 75 & Hwy 24 Intersection) travel north of Hwy 75 for 18 miles to 166th Road. Travel east on 166th Road & travel 3.5 miles to U Road. Turn north on U Road & travel for 1 mile to 174 Road. Travel east on U Road for .5 miles. Property is located on the south side of 174th Road. **WATCH FOR SIGNS!**

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Online Bidding Opens April 11, 2024

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Mark Uhlik, Broker & Auctioneer
www.MidwestLandandHome.com



AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 — 9:30 AM

Auction will be held at 106 E. Cottonwood (3 blocks North of the Sinclair gas station on Starr) in MILTONVALE, KANSAS

TRACTORS, MOWERS & MACHINERY: Sell at Noon
1966 John Deere 3020 diesel tractor, 3 pt, single hyd w/JD 148 loader 7' bucket, 3869 hours; 1953 Ford Golden Jubilee tractor, 3 pt, runs; Ford 8N tractor 3 pt. new tires, runs; Ford 9N tractor, flat head engine 3pt. new tires, being worked on; Ford tractor needs work; John Deere 318 riding mower; John Deere LA255 riding mower; 2 Heckendorn mowers; David Bradley walk behind; yard trailers; 3 pt. 5' & 8' blades; 3 pt. lifts; 3 pt. dirt slip; 3 pt. cultivator; 3 pt carrier; 3 pt. rear mower; 2 section rotary hoe; 3 pt. springtooth.
2 WHEEL TRAILERS, TOOLS, COLLECTIBLES & OTHER
2 tin Mobil Gas signs; plastic

Mobil Oil sign; EZ Go electric golf cart; 11-2 wheel pickup trailers; 4 wheel flatbed trailer; Craftsman air compressor; hyd bumper jack; Walker engine hoist; stack tool box; drill press; acc torch w/2 sets bottles; 200 amp battery charger; bench grinder; tire machine; metal bench w/vise; Stihl chain saw; angle grinder; assortment hand tools; step ladders; Whirlpool washer; electric dryer; 60's china hutch; cedar chest; 2 small chest freezers; metal lawn chairs; Mr Pibb & Hamms clocks; Coca Cola thermometer; wood sled; walking plow; wash tub; fans; lanterns; cast iron barn & animals; dinner bell; Civil war books; other books; collectible glass; set Western glasses; green can-

ister jar; Curtiss candy jar; wall telephone; granite pans; horse shoes; Maytag & IH oil cans; car tags; Dutch oven; Perfection heater; cuckoo clocks; farm toys; gun cabinet; picnic table; fish tackle; chain saw parts; used chain saws; fans; large assortment of Ford tractor parts; large assortment of Chevrolet car parts; hub caps; 1949 Chev shop manual; 1952 Chev service news; fire wood; iron; yard gate; live gauges; buzz saw blades; yard windmills; wheelbarrow; bikes; Chev pickup tail gate; platform scale; wood wheelbarrow; new Allstate tire; porch swing; coaster wagon; 1"x6" boards; oil cans; tires; Ford tractor jack; large assortment of other items.

NOTE: Check our website for pictures www.thummelauction.com
RICHARD L. & ELISE E. TAYLOR REVOCABLE TRUST
Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067**

AUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo Center, 900 Greeley, SALINA, KS

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
Manchester arrow sign; 1000+ post cards Holiday, Abilene and other area locations; Tolen collection (Abilene; Chapman; Solomon; Hope; Enterprize; Longford; Morganville; Simpson; Clay Center; Glasco; Hays; Miltonvale; Downs; other area towns); watch fobs; Abilene custard pieces; CW Parker gas light; Belle Springs Creamery items; Joe W. Neil Solomon tray; Winchester, Keen Kutter & Ford tools; Boy Scout cannon; cast iron toy guns; 2 wooden folding chairs; Dwight's Soda wood box; 100+ pocket knives (Winchester; Remington; Case; Queen; other); 45-70-350 Winchester lift top box; several car manuals in 1930's, 50's & 60's good condition; Dr. Brinkleys Doctor book; WWII history book; Coleman lantern; 1921 silver dollar; tip trays; belt buckles; Win With Ike cloth poster;

political buttons; tin toys inc; ferris wheel; motorcycle; farm toys; salt & pepper collection; granite lunch buckets; 45 & 33 records; jars; hardware.
ANTIQUE FURNITURE & COLLECTIBLES
Oak unusual stand w/candle holders; Brass leg unusual lamp table; unusual stick & ball lamp table; stick & ball lamp table; 3 drawer chest w/ acorn pulls; Mahogany love seat & chairs; oak love seat; carved leg lamp table; Deco ash tray; Bombay side chest; pr. ice cream chairs; smoke stand; small round table; 4 oak chairs; bridge lamp; marble top 1/2 tables; oak stool; magazine rack; 20's painted table; 3 drawer chest; wicker chair; bustle seat; hand painted table lamp; many very good pictures; table lamp w/ beaded shade; deco wall magazine rack; art glass pcs; Carnival glass pcs; butter dishes; flow blue bowl; hang-

ing glass basket; handpainted plates, cups & saucers; cut glass bowls; clear composite w/dog; butter dishes; handpainted bowls; unique epergne; cruet set; Planters Peanut jar; cheese dishes; handpainted dresser set; pitcher & bowl; many pieces of good glass; several very good pictures; silver pcs inc; coffee sets, butters w/spoon holders; other; Indian ink well; Oriental pieces; mini lamps; Sleepy Eye pitchers; crock pitchers; leaf butter mold; book ends; toy sewing machines; eye glasses; lightning rod w/ball; wooden ducks; granite pcs; wooden vases; copper bucket; mantel clock; Christmas trees; crochet set; iron plant stand; iron wheel coaster wagon; maple table & chairs; maple hutch; modern couch; 2 leather recliners; double beds; 2-flat screen TV's; **many other items.**

NOTE: This is a very nice collection, it will be a large auction. There are many Abilene collectibles. We have combined 2 local estates. Check website for pictures www.thummelauction.com. We will sell the post cards and tokens at 12:00 Noon.
Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067**

AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 — 10:00 AM

Auction will be held at the shop at the West edge of KACKLEY, KANSAS

SHOP TOOLS

30+ ton heavy duty press; WF & J Barnes Co. heavy duty drill press w/3 forward gears and 1 reverse; 2002 5 hp 2-stage 80 gal upright air compressor 200 psi; Hypertherm Power Max 900 plasma cutter; Hobart Beta-Mig 250 wire welder; Miller Econotc power source & tig welder; 2 Victor torch sets w/bottles; 300 series torches; track torch; Wilton 5/8 drill press; W Wells 15" metal band saw; 14" Northern Industrial heavy metal band saw; 3 stage gas portable air compressor; Pittsburg 2 ton crane; Central Machine 9x20 metal lathe; metal lathe tools; acc tips & gauges; bead blaster; 30 gal air tank; Craftsman wire welder; parts washer; DeWalt chop saw on stand; bench grinder on stand; ATV & motorcycle hoist; air bumper jack; heavy air floor

jack; motor stand; heavy welding bench w/8" post vise; several heavy metal shop tables; shop table w/vise; Wards 10" radial arm saw; Makita sawzal; Stihl MS361 chain saw; Stihl 032AV chain saw; Prottemp 175,000 btu heater; Montezuma pickup tool box; several floor jacks; jack stands; adjustable creeper; tap & die sets; threading tools; chain saw sharpener; chains; boomers; come-along boomers; 2-100 lb propane bottles; 20 lb. propane bottles; stacking tool box; combination wrenches up to 2 1/8"; hammers; screw drivers; heavy extension cords; barrel pump; metal saw horses; socket sets (1", 3/4", 1/2"); 1" air impact; 18-volt metal recuperating saw; porta power; Milwaukee 1/2" angle drill; 1/2" Mag drill; Hitachi sander; Stihl gas concrete saw; Remington nailer;

Remington riveter; 1/2" electric drills; 18 gauge brad nailer; snap ring pliers; 1/2 ton chain hoist; air conditioner gauges; body tools; air hose; 200' cloth tape; tall pipe stands; assortment pullers; 36" cannon barrel; 30' aluminum extension ladder; folding ladder; Ford ball kit; new boat prop; heavy hooks; truck traction cables; lots nuts, bolts, grease fittings, O rings; JD 316 riding mower needs wiring; shovels; bars; Handyman jack; Arctic Cat 4 wheeler needs battery; L shape pickup fuel tank w/12 volt pump; aluminum pick up tool box; 10"x20" plastic pipe; stainless wood burning stove; assortment truck & trailer tires; 4 wheel trailer chassis; 3 pt. heavy rear slip; springtooth; tumble bug; Yamaha base amp; Roper electric dryer; folding table; some household.

NOTE: Matt has run a machine shop for many years, the equipment is good. Check our website for pictures www.thummelauction.com
JENSEN EARTH WORKS - MATT JENSEN * 785-335-7041
Auction Conducted By: **THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067**

