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Thursday, August 13, 2020

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Above: The cows were happy when the kids at Showley Farms in Rochester, Ind., decided to share some recently picked sweetcorn with them. Photo by Janet Showley.

Permits putting a drain on Indiana ditch repair

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
 Indiana Correspondent



Above: The county legal drain Steve Slonaker was attempting to clear on his property in March when the Indiana Department of Natural Resources told him to stop the work because he didn't have a permit. (Photo provided by Steve Slonaker)

CENTERVILLE, Ind. – A Wayne County farmer is questioning the permit policy of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) after he was fined for attempting to clear a drain on his property without a permit.

In March, Steve Slonaker was removing 18 small trees from a county legal drain in order to repair flood erosion. IDNR stopped the work and fined Slonaker \$145 for failing to get an IDNR permit. The county's drainage board had approved the project, he said. The agency told Slonaker, despite the local board's approval, he would need permits from IDNR, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), the Army Corps of Engineers, the county and the town of Centerville.

Within 48 hours, Slonaker said he filed an IDNR permit application, paid a \$200 fee and the fine. He was told by IDNR his application was not adequate because it did not include engineering calculations. He was also told the 14 surrounding property owners had to be notified by mail. The Slonaker family has owned four sides of the ditch since 1936. Slonaker has farmed for 38 years and has owned Slonaker Farm Management for 35 years.

Slonaker said he repaired a bigger area of the same drain with county approval and no IDNR or IDEM permits three years ago. He's concerned the control of

(Ditch repair continued on page 5)

Farmers reporting fair-to-average wheat yield

By Kevin Walker
 Michigan Correspondent

CASS CITY, Mich. – With this year's wheat crop now complete, growers are reporting a fair-to-average yield, with some states reporting different weather issues that affected the size of the crop.

In Michigan, dry weather was a problem that affected yield, said Dave Milligan, a grower near Cass City in the state's Thumb region. Milligan is president of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG).

"Dry weather and smaller kernels made for a lower yield," Milligan stated. Milligan also grows soybeans and dry beans. "In some cases there wasn't enough water to bring the crop up to potential. Weather was hot during grainfill. That was a problem."

On the other hand, Milligan added the quality of the crop was good overall. Test weight was average, which was better than last year and vomitoxin wasn't a problem at all this year, he explained. In Michigan, two-thirds of the wheat crop is soft red winter wheat, with the rest soft white winter wheat. Milligan said there were similar weather conditions in Ohio. There was a

freeze event in mid-April in southwest Kentucky and northwest Tennessee. That event affected the crop in Kentucky; however, it's not clear it was severe enough in Tennessee to affect the wheat crop there.

According to the USDA's crop progress report for Illinois dated July 27, the winter wheat harvest was 97 percent complete by that time. The five-year average in Illinois is 98 percent by that time. As of July 1, USDA forecast 68 bushels per acre for Illinois this year, up one from last year; 70 bushels in Indiana, up eight; 80 bushels in Michigan, up nine; and 75 bushels in Ohio, up 19. None of the crop weather reports for Illinois going back to the beginning of April indicated any freeze events there affecting the wheat crop.

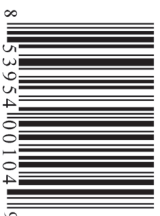
"The crop in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan was reported to be much better than last year's crop, which was very negatively affected by wet spring conditions," said Jim Collom, a statistician with the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. "To date, wheat has been reported to be of excellent quality with no issues with falling numbers or vomitoxin. A few farmers had stinking smut problems in Michigan's Thumb but it wasn't widespread. Kernel size appears to have been



Above: Northwest Tennessee was also hit with the same freeze event. According to a report from the University of Tennessee's Institute of Agriculture, it didn't look like the wheat crop would be adversely affected.

smaller than normal on some farms because of dry weather during grainfill. Earlier planted fields last fall saw some yield advantages over later planted fields."

(Wheat continued on page 4)



Wasps used to fight Emerald Ash Borer
 - PAGE 1B



IN THIS FARM WORLD:

- \$32 million urban farm coming to Chicago's southside Page 2
- USDA makes hiring farm workers easier online Page 5B

\$32 million urban farm coming to Chicago's southside in 2022

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

CHICAGO, Ill. — The South Side of Chicago, according to the late folk singer Jim Croce, is the baddest part of town. It will soon also be known as one of the greenest parts of town, thanks to a \$32 million, state-of-the-art urban farm and renewable energy site being developed on the footprint of an old International Harvester plant in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood.

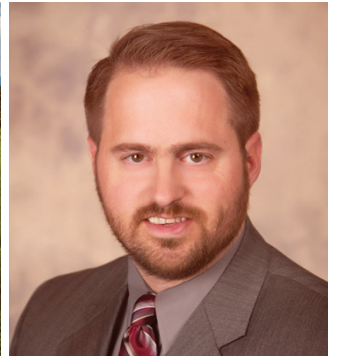
Calling the project a modern day "victory garden," Governor JB Pritzker visited the nine-acre brown-field site last Friday to help break ground on the project, which will feature a 13,000 square foot greenhouse (expected to produce over 26,000 pounds of food each year), an aerobic digester, gardens, and more.

Pritzker said the project will estab-

lish Illinois as a national model and prove that a green economy — one of the governor's campaign pledges — can incentivize economic development.

\$3 million of the \$32 million project — dubbed the Green Era Urban Farming Campus — was allotted to the project under Pritzker's Rebuild Illinois plan, which is largely funded by an increase in the state's motor vehicle tax. The state funds will be paired with several local funding partners to fill the final funding gap for the project.

"Rebuild Illinois is designed to fuel innovative community redevelopment projects just like this one," said Pritzker. "Investing in our infrastructure and creating jobs aren't at odds with creating a more sustainable world. In fact, this project, which brought so many voices to the **(Urban Farm continued on page 5)**



Below: The governor of Illinois and local community leaders came together recently to break ground on \$32 million urban farm on the southside of Chicago.



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Urban Farm

FROM PAGE 2

table from inception to production, is a testament to our ability to advance all three of those goals at once. “

Early estimates show that the site will be capable of handling 85,000 tons of recycled food and waste, and will reduce up to 42,500 tons of Co2 annually — the equivalent of taking over 9,000 passenger cars off the road each year — in addition to producing 13 tons of fresh, locally grown food.

“This project would be monumental in normal times, but it’s especially critical that we push forward with this support right now. This community has been disproportionately hit hard by the health and economic effects of COVID-19,” said Pritzker.

Senator Jackie Collins of Chicago joined Pritzker, Green Era proponents and members of the Auburn Gresham community to announce the investment. Collins said her neighborhood will experience a revitalization due to the project, with hundreds of permanent and construction jobs expected to be filled by community residents.

“This joins another victory we

enjoyed yesterday, with the awarding of the \$10 million (private Pritzker-Traubert Foundation) grant to the Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation,” Collins said. “As a legislator, it’s been an honor to work with you, Governor Pritzker, on Rebuild Illinois. And let me say that you have been presented with challenge after challenge, but you have prevailed and have risen successfully to meet each one.

“In the midst of the virus and the violence, today is a day of turnaround and triumph.”

Collins lauded community business leaders Erica Allen and Jason Feldman for having the vision to “bring an aerobic digester to a contaminated field” and “sowing the seeds” for a stronger and healthier Auburn Gresham neighborhood.

“You have afforded our residents an opportunity to eat healthier and spend less. Food deserts are the genesis of what has become a public health crisis in some of our urban areas today. The relationship between access to fresh foods and health, academic performance and overall quality of life is well known,” said Collins. “Urban farming, with job creation, is an investment to transform struggling neighborhoods such as Auburn Gresham.”

Construction on the vacant site is scheduled for March 2022.

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Wheat

FROM FRONT PAGE

Doug Goyings, a farmer from northwest Ohio, also described a somewhat average year for wheat growers there. He sits on the board of U.S. Wheat Associates, an organization dedicated to the promotion of U.S. wheat worldwide. U.S. Wheat Associates has offices around the world that help foreign millers handle and process American grown wheat. Goyings, based near the town of Paulding not far from the Indiana border, said the state had an average crop this year. Ohio grows all soft red winter wheat.

“We had about an average crop, it wasn’t poor by any means,” he said. “Harvest went pretty well overall. We were a little too dry and that affected the yield.” He added the situation was similar in Indiana.

Wheat is widely grown in southwest Kentucky, said Pat Clements, a seed seller who is on the NAWG board. Clements said a freeze event in mid-April made for a more “variable” year than usual as far as yield is concerned in Kentucky. “We expect to be off by 10 to 15 bushels an acre this year due to the freeze,” he said. “That’s more than the profit.” However, he stated the event was unusual enough that he didn’t think growers would be put off from growing wheat in future years. Wheat is used as a rotational crop along with soybeans and corn in a two-year cycle. Clements described this as a sustainable practice and one that is profitable over time.

Paul Martin & Sons

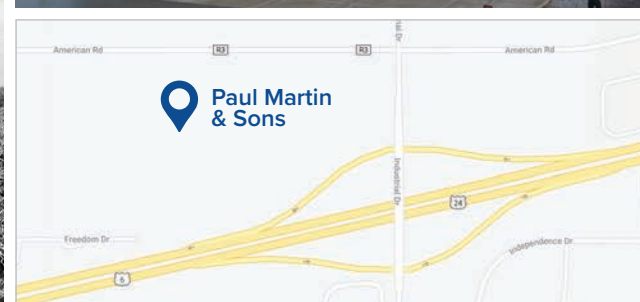
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Ditch repair

FROM FRONT PAGE

drain maintenance and repair is being taken away from local drainage boards. “This is an impediment to an agriculture state,” he said. “It’s an assault on our industry that has become onerous.”

Since being forced to stop work on the drain, Slonaker has met with state legislators. He’s forming a partnership with such organizations as state corn and soybean associations, Indiana Farm Bureau (INFB), drainage contractors and the Indiana Bankers Association.

“I believe Indiana’s strong agricultural history of drainage improvements to conserve productive farm land is being threatened by these DNR permit rules,” he noted. “I hope Indiana legislators will address this threat to private landowners’ rights and local county control.”

IDNR floodway maps introduced in the last year or so greatly expanded the amount of land considered to be in flood zones, Slonaker said. He doesn’t understand why the state has new maps and why recognized maps from the Federal Emergency Management Agency are not adequate.

As for his drain work, an IDNR officer told him the agency received an

anonymous complaint the tree removal would destroy owl habitat. “We are targets anymore for all neighbors who have moved out to the country,” Slonaker said. “It’s a real problem for our industry. There are 40 homes nearby my farm on land sold by neighbors. They want a quarter of an acre in the country but they really want to control about 160 acres.”

George C. Bowman, assistant director for IDNR’s division of water, said he wasn’t familiar enough with Slonaker’s situation to comment. He did encourage farmers and landowners wanting to work on a drain on their property to contact their county drainage board and to use a new portal – www.in.gov/waterways/ – to reach IDNR and IDEM to determine if a permit for the work is necessary. The portal, which launched in March, allows landowners to give a description of the work they intend to do. The agencies will let the landowners know within 10 business days if a permit is necessary.

“For the most part people – if they know about them – try to adhere to the rules,” Bowman said. “We’re trying to improve our public outreach efforts. There is the question of those who don’t have computers – how are they going to access the information. You hope the lines of communication are good.”

In Indiana, any construction, excavation or filling in a floodway requires a floodway permit from IDNR. This applies to any waterway that drains one square mile or more (or 640 acres).

There are some activities, such as removing a log jam or debris, that might not require a permit, depending on the situation, he noted. It’s still best to check with the local drainage board, IDNR and IDEM first, Bowman added.

“These two types of projects (removing log jams or debris), in most cases, individual landowners can do the work and not require a permit from our office. If they bring in a truck, pick up the material and move it out of the floodway, that would be OK. What gets them into trouble is if they’re excavating or moving dirt. A landowner can cut trees but you can’t remove the stumps or take out the root system. With that, you’re talking about moving or disturbing the soil.”

The moving of dirt could cause a change in water flow, which is why IDNR and IDEM want to review the project, he said. Officials want to be sure landowners aren’t doing something that could cause problems for their neighbors, Bowman stated. When looking at a project, the agencies want to be sure it won’t have an adverse effect on the floodway or an adverse impact on the safety of the public or property. They also want to be sure it doesn’t impact fish, wildlife or botanical resources.

Some drains, especially those in the agricultural community, might be classified as county regulated drains. There is a process in place for maintenance and reconstruction projects on those drains to be done at the approval of the county drainage board.

“If you’re paying a ditch assessment on your property taxes, you’re paying for that drain or waterway to be maintained,” he said. “You should touch base with them about your project. Is that something the county drainage board will do? Is it something already on their schedule to do?”

Landowners who work on a drain without a permit when one is necessary could be fined, though Bowman said IDNR prefers to work with them to avoid a penalty. “Every case and site is assessed on its own merit,” he said. “We evaluate for impact (the work has had) and the willingness of the party to bring the site back into compliance. We consider a fine a last resort.”

Jeff Cummins, associate director for policy engagement for INFB, said IDNR, in requiring permits, is looking to prevent flooding downstream and to find ways to mitigate the impacts of certain projects. In addition to the waterways portal, IDEM has been making it a practice to set pre-application meetings for producers on the confined feeding side, he noted.

“If guys just went out and started moving dirt all over the place, there would be a negative effect,” Cummins said. “But certainly the process could be streamlined. I understand the frustration at having to do any of this (permit process) at all. Going through this is time consuming, expensive and frustrating. I don’t expect anyone to jump for joy there’s a portal and meetings with an agency. It’s a fact this regulated space can be a quagmire.”

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VIEWS AND OPINIONS

'Tough as Nails' celebrates everyday American people



BRIDGING THE GAP
By Amanda Radke

Does agriculture have a public relations problem? Perception of who we are in agriculture has been a constant struggle we have faced as more consumers move away from rural communities in favor of urban life.

This problem has escalated in recent years for a multitude of reasons – one, greater efficiencies in the industry have resulted in fewer hands involved in the work of putting food on the table; two, an abundance of food at the grocery stores means people never have to worry about where their next meal will come from; and three, instead of people being able to witness first-hand how food is grown, information derived from social media, activists, politicians and Hollywood has resulted in more confusion than ever before.

As a result, it's been difficult to find our common ground and our shared values. I've always believed, however, if we could sit down with our counterparts, we would find we care about the same things when it comes to purchasing food at the grocery store to feed our families – safety, nutrition, taste, affordability, environment and animal welfare.

Even knowing we share these commonalities, there's still a great deal of work to be done to make agriculture cool and sexy once again.

The one silver lining of the pandemic has been the "essential workers," those who provide the goods and services we need to function in our everyday lives, are in the spotlight. All of a sudden, we care more about where our toilet paper, hand sanitizer, meats, dairy, eggs and other products we can't live without come from. There's a stronger push to get to know the people behind the products, and the opportunities are great if we can take advantage of this open window to share our stories.

However, in the current political climate, you may want to simply go off the grid, ignore the craziness of the outside world, shut off the mainstream media and just keep working the land and raising the livestock you love.

I totally get it, and I go back and forth from feeling like I need to reach out to our consumers to thinking it's time for me to shut down and hide away from the world for a bit.

If you need a distraction for a moment, may I suggest a television show that celebrates the hard-working Americans who provide the food, fiber and energy to support our country and the world.

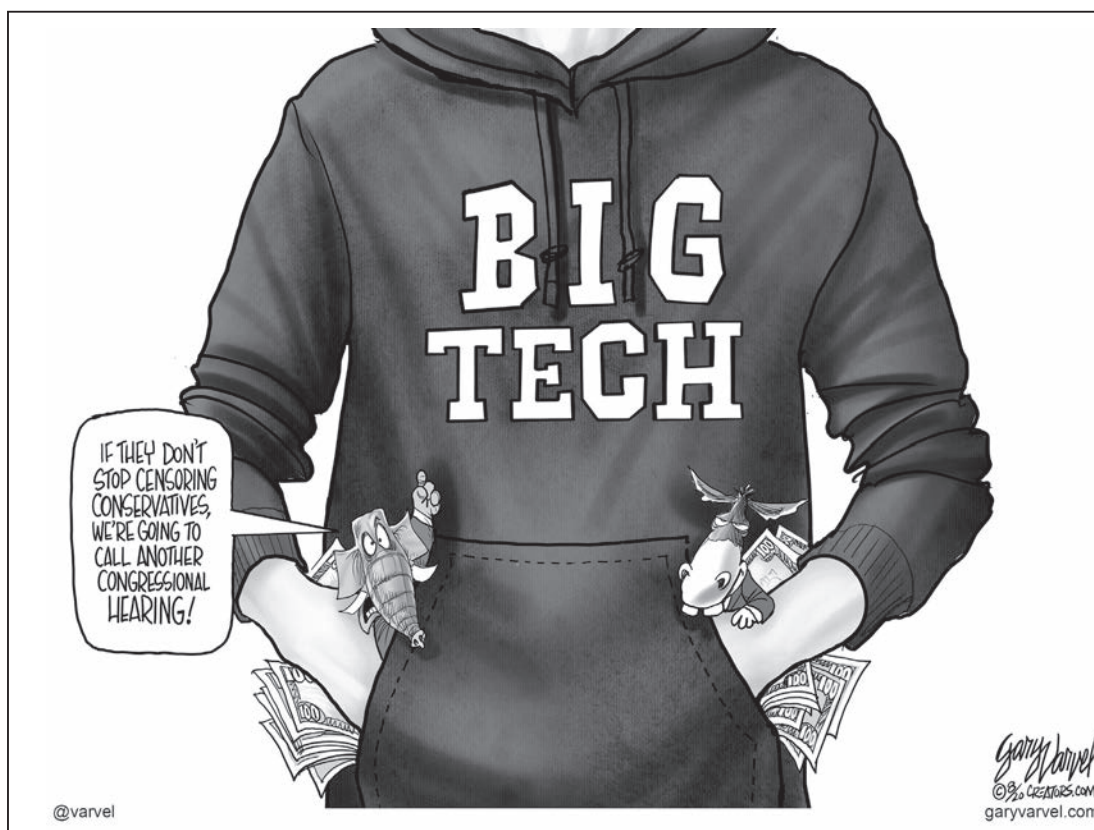
CBS has a new show called, "Tough As Nails," and a friend alerted me to this really awesome series. This all-new reality competition squares off everyday Americans who get their hands dirty while working long, hard hours to keep the country running. In season one, we get to meet a welder, firefighter, farmer, roofer and Marine Corps veteran, just to name a few.

According to CBS, "These competitors, who consider the calluses on their hands a badge of honor, will be tested for their strength, endurance, life skills, and, most importantly, mental toughness in challenges that take place at real-world job sites."

Host Phil Keoghan said, "I was inspired to create this show almost a decade ago because of my working-class family of farmers, gold miners, builders and coal miners. I'm proud of my family and wanted to shine a light on people who are not afraid to roll up their sleeves and get their hands dirty to do a hard day's work. Now, more than ever, it is important for all of us to recognize this country's essential workers: real people in real life who are real tough."

The show airs every Wednesday night on CBS.

It's shows like this that are a win-win because it brings rural America and those who work in these important fields to the forefront. When it comes to a public relations campaign for the food, fiber and energy industries, this one gets the job done. Check it out and let me know what you think!



The third time might not be a charm

It turns out that the old Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times," is neither Chinese nor a curse.

According to multiple sources, the adage's roots reach back to a late-19th century member of Parliament commenting on how Great Britain's expanding empire had made for "interesting times."

True enough for the empire's builders; not so much for their subjects.

Parallels abound in the powerful reach of today's corporate empires. For example, Apple Inc.'s share price rose 10 percent, or \$172 billion, July 31, on news that the company would offer a 4-for-1 stock split. The staggering rise is, incredibly, more than two times the USDA's estimated value of the 2020 U.S. corn and soybean crops combined.

Such are today's interesting times: the expense, sweat and risk required to grow America's two biggest field crops this year are but half the value, about \$85 billion, of a single corporation's one-day stock rise.

The "times," however, aren't the culprit. American agriculture has been headed in this high yield, low value industrial direction for decades. This year's pandemic, piled atop unwinnable trade fights and a renewed U.S./China shoving match, just moved up the arrival date.

Two other ag sectors, poultry and pork, are already industrialized and a July 2020 report from USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) confirms that a third, dairy, has joined their ranks. According to ERS:

- In 1987, half of all U.S. dairy cows were in herds of 80 or fewer animals; half were in

herds of 80 or more cows. In 2017, that mid-point was an incredible 1,300 cows.

- "In 2016, total costs of [milk] production fell steadily as herd size increased, from \$33.54/cwt. in the smallest herds (10-49 cows) to \$17.16/cwt. in the largest herds (2,000 or more cows)."

- That difference made all the difference. The cost to produce a gallon of milk "in the smallest herds" was about \$2.89, or almost twice the cost, \$1.48 per gallon, for "the largest herds." (One cwt., or hundredweight, equals 11.62 gals. of raw milk.)

That wide gap was jet fuel for dairy's expansion. Since 2002, ERS said, almost every dairy with less than 500 cows has lost money while most dairies with over 500 cows have remained profitable.

As the report makes clear, there is almost no possibility that family-operated dairy farms will survive another generation of today's rapid industrialization without major changes in dairy policy and large government subsidies. Few, however, are advocating either.

In many ways, it's 2002 for grain and soybean growers. Years of rising global competition, improved technology and fair weather have brought nearly a decade of increased stockpiles, falling prices and rising government intervention.

Those trends – especially rising government interventions – now appear semi-permanent. Indeed, a July 29 farmdocDaily post

(Farm and Food continued on page 9)



FARM AND FOOD FILE
By Alan Guebert

Farm World

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P.O. Box 90 — 27 N. Jefferson St.

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Contacts

TONY GREGORY, Publisher, ext. 321
E-mail: tgregory@midcountrymedia.com

Melissa Peggs, Advertising Director, ext. 222
Cent./South. Indiana, Kentucky/W. Central Ohio
E-mail: mpeggs@farmworldonline.com

CONNIE SWAIM, Managing Editor, ext. 131
E-mail: connie@farmworldonline.com

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Crop ratings remain high

Trade seems to be paying less attention to U.S. crop ratings this year than those in recent history. One reason for this is that crops are holding ratings which are higher than in recent years. Another is that even with the good-to-excellent ratings slipping, very little of the crops are rated poorly. In fact, just 7 percent of the U.S. corn crop and 6 percent of the soybean crop are rated as poor/very poor.



MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

value on corn which is benefiting margins.

More analysts have started to reduce their corn yield estimates from what the USDA published in the July WASDE report. Many of these are closer to 175 bushels per acre, and while 3.5 bpa less than the July projection, is still above trend. A yield this high would equate to 14.6 billion bushels of production. If

demand remains little changed from where it currently is, this would leave ending stocks similar to what we are projected to have this year. While this is not a bullish level, it is more friendly than what was predicted at the start of the planting season.

(Setzer continued on page 9)

One rating that does continue to suffer is the U.S. pasture rating, which is 30 percent poor/very poor. This could easily lead to higher and earlier cattle placements into feed lots this year and elevate our feed demand as well.

China continues to auction corn out of government reserves to satisfy immediate demand. Since the state corn auctions started in May, China has sold a reported 28 million metric tons, which is nearly all of the corn offered. Another 4 mmt is expected to be offered this week. The main reason for these auctions is to rotate government reserves. China has been buying U.S. corn to replace this, but there are now thoughts Brazil will start to supply some as well given the start of its export program.

When it comes to demand, more interest is being placed on Chinese soybean purchases. While China has made several purchases of U.S. soybeans in recent weeks, there has been little consistency in their buying habits. We are now seeing China book soybeans from Argentina for August delivery, further cutting into U.S. sales potential. This makes it much less likely we will see China reach their phase one objective.

A bigger concern with soybean sales at the present time is the lack of buying from countries other than China. While new crop soybean sales are at a record high level, the vast majority of these are to China. In fact, sales to buyers other than China are currently at a 5-year low. The worry is that once China fills its needs we may see all demand falter and drop below the projected total.

While we have seen several sales of soybeans in recent weeks, trade is still concerned with old crop loadings. The current export total on old crop soybeans is 1.39 billion bushels. This is the lowest volume of soybean exports for this time of the year since the 2012/13 marketing year. The difference between then and now is that exports were hindered by low stocks in the 2012/13 marketing year from the drought during the 2012 production season.

Much of the talk in the market on production has been on planted acres this year, but the volume of acres that went unplanted this year is down considerably from recent years. Updated data shows just 6.6 million acres this year were listed as prevent plant on a whole in the United States. This compares to 17.5 million in 2019 and just 1.6 million in 2018. Acres in the Conservation Reserve Program held mostly steady this year at 21.8 million compared to 22.3 million a year ago and 22.6 million in 2018.

The U.S. ethanol industry has seen an economic recovery in recent weeks, but long term, the outlook remains uncertain for the industry. In the four months following the coronavirus outbreak, the U.S. ethanol industry lost nearly \$3.5 billion as fuel demand on a whole dropped off considerably. We have seen a recovery in the industry, but even so, economists believe yearly losses will still total close to \$7 billion. Economists believe the industry will see better numbers in 2021 but will still see a loss of \$2 billion. One benefit for the ethanol industry is the lower



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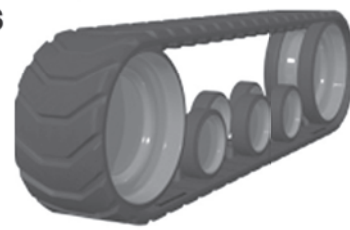
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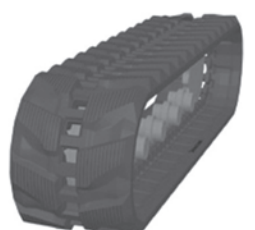
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Setzer

FROM PAGE 8

We are starting to see more estimates released on Brazilian soybean plantings ahead of their growing season. Thoughts are we will see soybean plantings of 94 million acres in Brazil next year compared to 91 million this year. Thoughts are this will increase the country's soybean production from 120 million metric tons to 130 mmt. Total production may be even higher if Brazil sees a return to more normal growing season weather.

Interest on the developing La Nina weather event has increased in recent weeks. Forecasters have indicated a La Nina event is building, and the odds of one forming are now at 54 percent. This is currently more of an issue for South America, mainly Argentina. Argentine officials claim this event is currently impacting wheat production but are looking at what it could mean for the upcoming planting

season. Weather experts claim the La Nina will build into September through December which is when much of Argentina's crops are seeded.

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Farm and Food

FROM PAGE 7

sees this year's nearly \$30 billion in "ad hoc," government farm payments as a "new plateau" that likely will "then be incorporated into the farm bill safety net."

It's happened before, its writers explain. The 1973 Farm Bill devised a target price/deficiency payment scheme that increased annual farm subsidies from \$1.5 billion a year in the 1970s to nearly \$9 billion in the 1980s.

After Freedom to Farm became law in 1996, "average payments... increased to \$15.9 billion per year" from 1998 to 2006. In 2019 and 2020, "...farm payments [are] averaging \$23.2 billion.

Eighty-four percent were ad hoc..."

The question now is, they ask, are these payments "a statement by policy that market-based farm prosperity remain(s) an attainable aspiration in the near future... [or] an acknowledgement by policy that market-based prosperity is not attainable in the near, perhaps intermediate, future?"

Here's a more different way to ask the same question: Since increasing the farm payment plateau in the 1970s and 1990s never brought "market-based farm prosperity" either time, why would a third increase work?

Maybe the answer isn't more money; maybe it's a different policy.

At least let's consider it before independent corn and soybean farmers become as endangered as independent hog, chicken and dairy farmers.

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David Yoder

U.S. cattle prices hold their own or move higher to start August

By Doug Schmitz
Iowa Correspondent

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - U.S. cattle prices continue to hold their own or move higher to kick off the month of August, which is not typical for this time of year, according to Andrew Griffith, University of Tennessee agricultural economist.

"It is rare this time of year to be able to say that all classes of cattle are witnessing steady to stronger prices, but that is the case in today's market," he said.

ased on Tennessee weekly auction market price averages, Griffith said steer prices were steady to \$4 higher, compared to the previous week, while heifer prices were \$2 to \$5 higher, compared to about three weeks ago. Slaughter cow and slaughter bull prices were \$2 to \$4 higher, compared to prices the previous week, he said.

"One would generally expect calf prices and slaughter cow prices to begin softening at this point in the summer," he said. "However, slaughter cow and slaughter bulls remain in strong demand."

He said this is likely due to the

demand for lean grinding beef that has skyrocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic, "as consumers are pulling ground beef off meat counter shelves rapidly."

From the calf price standpoint, he said the reason prices are holding their own is most likely due to how low prices were in the spring. "Thus, it is not that calf prices are strong. They are simply trying to find where they should be, given today's market. This class of cattle will start to see some pressure toward the end of summer and moving into the fall months."

He said the group of cattle producers that are probably the most excited are those that "shoot for yearling cattle sales during the August and September time frame. The yearling cattle market has found support at just the right time as feedlots look to secure cattle that will come off feed during the early winter time period," Griffith said.

"There is definitely optimism in the market right now, but optimism has a way of turning into pessimism rather quickly these days," he said. "Producers should take advantage of the marketing opportunity being made available to them right now. If the cattle will make money with a sale

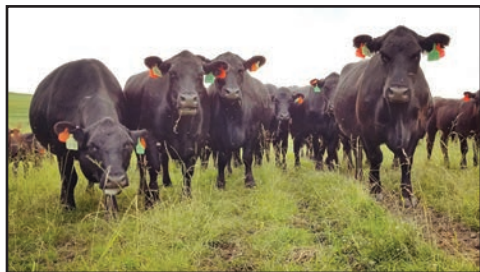
today, then move them. If the cattle need a few more days of growing, then try to forward contract the cattle."

As for the latest numbers, Jason Franken, Western Illinois University associate professor of agricultural economics, said there were very few surprises in the USDA Cattle Inventory and Cattle-on-Feed Reports, released

July 24, one of which being U.S. producers are no longer expanding their cow herds.

"The U.S. cattle herd is known to cycle through periods of expansion and contraction roughly every 10 years or so," he said. "High feed prices from

(Cattle prices continued on page 11)



Left: U.S. cattle prices continue to hold their own or move higher to kick off the month of August, which is not typical for this time of year, according to Andrew Griffith, University of Tennessee agricultural economist. (photo courtesy of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association)

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Cattle prices

FROM PAGE 10

2007 through 2013 contributed to one of those contraction phases, with beef cow numbers reaching a low in 2014.

"Of course, low supplies translate into higher prices, motivating producers to expand," he added. "Currently, there are over 7 percent more beef cows in the U.S. than during the low point in 2014. Last January showed signs that the expansion of the beef herd was leveling off, and recent reports suggest that appears to remain the case."

According to the USDA's July 1 Cattle Inventory Report, the total number of cattle and calves was at 103 million head, just slightly above last July's inventory of 102.9 million head and fairly in-line with pre-report expectations.

The report also said all cows and heifers that have calved totaled 41.4 million head, just 0.5 percent below last July, which is driven by 1 percent fewer beef cows at 32.1 million head, as milk cows at 9.35 million head are about 0.5 percent higher than last July.

"With somewhat fewer cows and heifers calved, the USDA has revised downward its January estimate of the 2020 calf crop to 35.8 million head, so that, consistent with pre-report expectations, it is now 1 percent below the 2019 level," Franken said. "This may help hold down the number of animals on feed and beef production for the remainder of 2020 and into 2021."

Franken said the USDA's July 1 Cattle-on-Feed Report indicated 11.4 million head on-feed or just 0.4 percent less than July 2019, "consistent with expectations that it would be on par."

"In June, feedlots placed 2 percent more cattle than a year ago, and marketed 1 percent more animals," he said. "Each of those numbers was within

the expected ranges, but somewhat lower than the ranges' midpoints."

He said the slightly lower number of cattle-on-feed reflects 1.5 percent fewer heifers and 0.3 percent more steers than a year ago.

"Even so, heifers still comprise over 38 percent of the cattle currently in feedlots, as compared to only 31 to 33 percent during much of the last expansion," he added. "This is additional evidence that the breeding herd is leveling off, or at least not expanding."

Given the inventory and cattle-on-feed numbers, beef production is anticipated to be no more than 1 percent higher in 2020 than last year, and then drop 2 percent next year, he said.

"In terms of domestic demand, per capita beef consumption is expected to remain at about 58 pounds per person in 2020, and drop to 56 pounds per person in 2021," he said.

Meanwhile, given limitations due to packer closures, he said exports have taken a hit this year at 2.5 percent lower, but are expected to rebound 6 percent in 2021.

"All things considered, prices for the next four quarters are likely to follow similar seasonal patterns as in prior years, albeit at lower levels," he added. "Slaughter steer prices are forecast to average, respectively, about \$99/cwt and \$110/cwt for the last two quarters of 2020, and \$114/cwt and \$101/cwt for the first two quarters of 2021."

For 600-to-700-pound feeder steers, he said prices are forecast to average about \$146/cwt and \$148/cwt for the last two quarters of this year, and \$141/cwt and \$137/cwt in the first two quarters of next year.

"Again, the major factors that could result in notably lower prices are uncertainties surrounding trade and the coronavirus," he said.

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AFBF appealing for changes in milk pricing reform

**By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - American Farm Bureau Federation is appealing for changes it believes will help stop dairy farmers from getting the short end of the stick on milk prices.

The Washington, D.C.-based organization, in response to a record amount of red ink for milk producers across the country, is calling for all dairy farmers in USDA-governed pools to be given a say on pricing.

"Milk pricing has long been complicated and many milk producers are frankly fed up," AFBF stated in its July 28 call for action.

Currently, USDA rules permit only independent dairy farmers and cooperatives to vote on issues like pricing and pooling under the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) system established more than 80 years ago. AFBF also wants dairy farmers in the cooperatives to have a vote on milk pricing and pooling rules under the FMMO program.

FMMO, governed by USDA, acts as a safety net by allowing milk processing plants and cooperatives to pool their milk together so producers receive the average of all market prices for milk in the pool.

However, AFBF Chief Economist John Newton said cooperatives, as an example, are allowed to temporarily drop out of the FMMO to achieve a higher price for their milk from customers in short supply, perhaps, willing to pay it.

Newton said the higher priced milk taken out of the pool basically lowers the average price for the rest of the producers not guaranteed

compensation for the difference. He said dairy farmers should have a say on activity from within their pools hurting their bottom lines.

"It allows them to get outside their fence rows and have a voice in ultimately what impacts their farm's profitability," Newton said.

According to AFBF, de-pooling during extreme market volatility

caused partially by COVID-19 has cost dairy farmers "hundreds of millions of dollars." Such lack of fairness and transparency in milk pricing regulations existed long before COVID-19 but market uncertainty triggered by the virus has exasperated the problem, AFBF said.

"The wild price swings brought

about by COVID-19 have shone a spotlight on the need for a more equitable compensation system for the hardworking men and women in our dairy industry," AFBF said.

To modify a FMMO, at least a two-thirds majority of the eligible producers or eligible producers

(continued on page 13)

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Milk reform

FROM PAGE 12

supplying more than two-thirds of the milk must vote in favor of any proposed changes in a referendum.

Under the current rules, though, cooperatives don't have to inform their producers of the question contained in a referendum or how the cooperative plans to vote on the question, AFBF said.

AFBF wants to require cooperatives to notify members about matters coming up for a vote and how they intend to cast their ballot and if a dairy farmer in the cooperative decides to vote individually explain the procedure for doing so.

"Except for the 2018 Farm Bill, the Federal Milk Marketing

Order program has not undergone substantial reform in almost two decades. Reform is overdue and giving dairy producers the ability to vote directly on the milk pricing rules is a good start," AFBF said. "As this industry discusses reforms that will surely impact dairy farmers and their ability to operate in an ever-changing world, it is critical that these dairy farm families have a say in their future."

Newton said it will take an act of Congress to include dairy farmers in the policy making on pricing, but AFBF plans to lobby hard for the changes. "We will continue our engagement with farmers on this issue and make sure they're sharing their perspective with lawmakers," he said.



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Above: A video produced by Abbie Johnson, an FFA and 4-H member from La Harpe, Ill., on COVID-19's impact on the food industry is garnering interest.

Video showing COVID-19 effect on food chain gains popularity

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

LA HARPE, Ill. — A 16-year-old has captured the attention of agriculture social media through her brief, informative video describing COVID-19's effect on the food chain in relation to pork. Abbie Johnson, an FFA and 4-H member from La Harpe created the informative video with the help of her family, which raises finishing pigs in Hancock County in association with Carthage Veterinary Service.

The 5:27-minute video is framed by an image of a consumer considering cuts of pork in a depleted supermarket aisle. Johnson explains that a lot of factors, including animal gestation periods and processing plant

limitations, goes into keeping the pork supply chain running smoothly. "The pork supply chain starts with producers. Piglets begin their lives at a sow farm. Sows are artificially inseminated. About 114 days later, they give birth to 12 to 14 piglets," she narrates.

From there, Johnson explains how the live piglets are delivered to the packer to be turned into pork products, how the products are packaged and stored, and, finally, delivered to some of the nation's 40,000-plus grocery stores and 650,000 foodservice facilities.

She then turns her attention to how the pork supply chain was disrupted when states began issuing stay-at-

(continued on page 15)

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Video

FROM PAGE 14

home orders in mid-March.

“Due to COVID-19...the foodservice industry saw changes in demand. The foodservice industry purchases different cuts of pork than the average consumer. This caused the first disruption in the supply chain as packers had to modify the products they produce,” Johnson explains in the video. “Soon after cases of COVID-19 began rising among plant employees, causing many plants to shut down for many days.”

Johnson goes on to explain how pork processing plants worked to install social distancing measures at the cost of rendering expediency. “This caused the next disruption in the food supply chain,” she says, as provided video offers viewers inside glimpses at modern pork processing lines, replete with plastic screening separating gloved and masked workers.

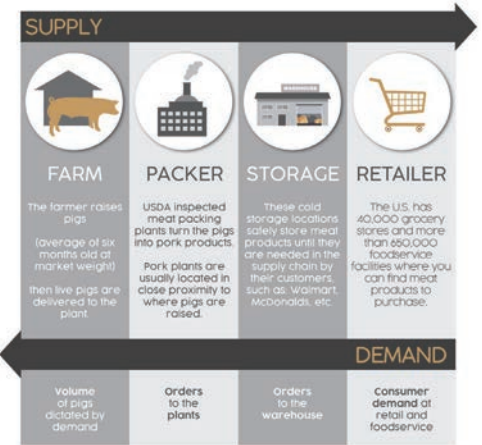
Johnson also described how many pigs, particularly those weighing between 300-350 pounds, had to be euthanized because processing plants are not designed to handle animals of that size and weight.

“It is important to know that COVID-19 and other viruses cannot be

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Above: This graph helps explain how COVID-19 impacted the food industry.

transmitted through meat,” Johnson adds.

Her video was praised by the Illinois Pork Producers Association, which circulated it among its Facebook friends and members. As of Sunday, July 26, Johnson’s video had received almost 300 “likes” on the IPPA Facebook page and almost 500 views on YouTube.

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Inaugural Ohio Youth Livestock Expo is a 'go'

By Doug Graves
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio - The Ohio State Fair may have been scrubbed this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but Ohio youth livestock exhibitors will have a competitive arena to finish their beef, sheep, swine and boer goat projects. Thanks to a group of agriculture industry volunteers and livestock show enthusiasts, the Ohio Youth Livestock Expo (OYLE) will host a show for junior exhibitors over a series of dates from now through August.

More than 900 Ohio 4-H and FFA members will exhibit nearly 3,280 individual entries at this inaugural event.

"The Ohio Youth Livestock Expo was created to provide the show opportunity for Ohio's junior livestock exhibitors during the timeframe when their intended show may have been canceled," said Tracy Dendinger, livestock judge, agricultural educator and OYLE volunteer. "It is not only the Ohio State Fair. There are other difficult decisions being made within our 88 counties in Ohio where shows may have been canceled."

Forty county fairs in Ohio have either partially or fully canceled for the 2020 year. This prompted OYLE to plan multiple shows through the summer.

Beef cattle, sheep and boer goat projects were shown at the Darke County

Fairgrounds in Greenville through Aug. 5, while hogs will show at the Pickaway Agriculture & Events Center in Centerville Aug. 9-18.

The purpose of separate shows is to provide a livestock show environment that also fosters adequate social distancing. Organizers felt that separate show days, separate species and smaller numbers of exhibitors on the grounds would make for a safer environment.

"Safety comes first for everyone involved," said Megan Wendt, OYLE volunteer and business owner from Dublin, Ohio. "Spreading out shows, cleaning barns between shows and providing online streaming for family and friends at home are all steps we are taking to keep our exhibitors and volunteers safe."

A group of nearly 50 volunteers is coordinating this effort, including raising tens of thousands of dollars, working with local health officials, implementing safety protocols and providing an opportunity for kids to complete youth livestock projects that (in many cases) started nearly a year ago.

"One of the hallmarks of youth livestock projects is that it teaches kids the value of hard work, even in uncertain times," Wendt said. "We felt we owed it to those kids to give them the chance to finish what they started and enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done."

In addition to the junior shows at the



Above: The Ohio Youth Livestock Expo includes more than 900 Ohio 4-H and FFA members who are exhibiting nearly 3,280 individual entries at this inaugural event.

Ohio State Fair, many livestock shows have been canceled in 2020. It hasn't been easy. OYLE volunteers have tackled the significant logistical and regulatory issues to fulfill the mission of the group and put on shows for Ohio's junior livestock exhibitors.

"First and foremost our mission is to foster the development of Ohio's youth livestock expositions in our state," Dendinger said. "That includes multiple segments of our industry such as feed, supplies, hay, straw, bedding, veterinarian services, trucking services, breeders and 4-H and FFA advisors that

continue to help guide, shape and drive the passion of livestock in our youth in Ohio. It's a long chain that is connected through exhibition.

"The people in those industries look forward to having the opportunity to be an economic growth tool for our youth as they put those inputs into their livestock to learn and grow and take those skills into their adult life. This is an industry where one depends on the other to move the ball forward."

More information about the Expo, including a full schedule of events, is available at www.theOYLE.com.

USDA offers deferral option for FSFL borrowers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - To assist Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) borrowers experiencing financial hardship from the pandemic and other challenges in production agriculture, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is offering a one-time annual installment payment deferral option. No fees or prepayment penalties apply for borrowers who choose this FSFL flexibility option.

"Farmers are facing challenging times because of the pandemic and FSA is constantly looking for ways to offer flexibilities to our customers to help alleviate financial stressors," said FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce. "This storage facility loan servicing option affords eligible borrowers more time to make a payment and may stop loan acceleration, foreclosure or liquidation."

Eligible borrowers can request a one-time only annual installment payment deferral for loans having terms of three, five, seven or ten years. The installment

deferral option is not available for 12-year term loans.

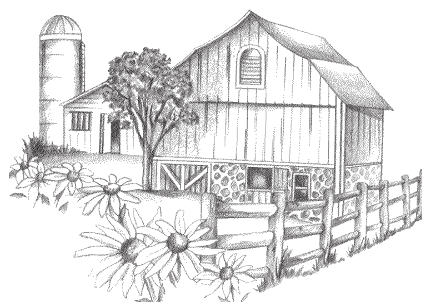
The FSFL installment payments will remain the same, except for the last year. The original loan interest rate and annual payment due date will remain the same. However, because the installment payment deferral is a one-year loan term extension, the final payment will be higher due to additional accrued interest.

Borrowers interested in exercising the one-time annual installment deferral option should contact FSA to make the request and to obtain, complete and sign required forms. FSFLs provide low-interest financing for producers to store, handle and transport eligible commodities.

In addition to offering flexibilities for FSFLs, FSA has also made other flexibilities to help producers impacted by the pandemic, including relaxing the loan-making process for farm operating and ownership loans and

implementing the Disaster Set-Aside provision that enables an upcoming installment on a direct loan to be set aside for the year. More information on these flexibilities can be found at www.farmers.gov/coronavirus.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including some that are open to visitors to conduct business in person by appointment only. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors may also be required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Field work will continue with appropriate social distancing.



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Propane group advising Midwest producers to plan now

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Due to increased corn and soybean plantings this spring, the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) is advising Midwest producers to plan ahead now for this upcoming harvest season to ensure they have access to adequate propane supplies.

“More corn and soybeans planted means an increase in demand for propane, whether it’s used to power irrigation equipment or to help dry grain at harvest time,” said Mike Newland, PERC director of agriculture business development.

According to the USDA’s Planting Intentions Report released in March, U.S. corn planted in 2020 is estimated at 97 million acres, up 8 percent from 2019. Thirty-eight of the 48 states reporting corn as a planted crop are expecting plantings to be at or above 2019 levels.

The report added U.S. soybean plantings are reporting an even larger increase, with 83.5 million acres of soybeans that will be planted in 2020, a 10 percent increase compared to last year; 22 of the 29 states planting soybeans expect levels to be at or above those in 2019.

Regarding last year’s propane bottleneck, during the last half of October 2019, for example, three factors coincided that led to significant strains on the propane supply to Iowa’s agricultural sector, said State Horticulturist Paul Ovrom, who monitors the state’s propane supply.

“The first was a two-to-three week later-than-normal season shift in Midwest corn harvesting due, in large part, to a wet, cold spring that delayed planting when compared to the five-year average,” he said.

Secondly, he said, the capacity limitations of pipeline deliveries to Iowa became evident in mid-to-late October, with many propane retailers unable to access adequate supplies at pipeline facilities to meet customer demand.

“Truck lines began to develop at most pipeline facility outlets, including trucks from neighboring states that lack Iowa’s pipeline infrastructure,” he said. “This occurred despite adequate propane supplies at Midwest wholesale facilities primarily housed at Conway, Kan.”

Thirdly, he said intermittent, wet, cold weather in the Midwest beginning in late October meant increased demand for propane for livestock facilities, and home heating.

“It also amplified the need for more propane to adequately reduce moisture content in corn harvested for long-term storage,” he said. “These three factors led to severe constraints on the delivery of propane to many users in the Midwest.”

Deb Grooms, CEO of the Iowa Propane Gas Association, said in 2019, the wet spring made planting difficult, resulting in a late harvest because corn stayed in the field longer to mature.

“Then, multiple states began harvesting at the same time, which caused a significant rush in demand across a large part of the Midwest,” she said. “And, at the same time huge volumes of propane were being used to dry the crop, we had an early, record-breaking cold snap that resulted in earlier-than-usual demand from residential customers.”

“There was not a propane shortage, but there were limits on the safe transportation of the propane that was needed by consumers from supply points, as well as limits on propane capacity.”

Kayla Tebbe, River Valley Cooperative strategic customer manager in Davenport, Iowa, said if propane inventories continue to build this summer (since April, we have averaged 1.45M/bbl propane inventory builds each week), the industry should be adequately supplied for harvest 2020.

“The issue is adequate domestic supply does not always equate to adequate regional propane supply,” she said. “More importantly, it does not always alleviate the annual logistical challenges our industry faces when peak demand periods hit, hence the propane supply disaster experienced during the 2019 harvest.”

“Our pipelines are aging,” she added. “Many of the vital pipelines were constructed in the 1960s. According to the USDA, most cropland was operated by farms with less than 400 acres in the early 1969; today, many farms are five to 10 times that size.”

She said this ongoing shift in farm structure and size, along with dramatic increases in industrial propane use, continues to put pressure on aging pipeline systems to provide adequate supply.



Above: Due to increased corn and soybean plantings this spring, the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) is advising Midwest producers to plan ahead now for this upcoming harvest season to ensure they have access to adequate propane supplies (photos courtesy of River Valley Cooperative in Davenport, Iowa).

Right: Kayla Tebbe, River Valley Cooperative strategic customer manager in Davenport, Iowa, said if propane inventories continue to build this summer, the industry should be adequately supplied for harvest 2020.

“Adding additional storage capacity, both on the farm and at retail locations, will help stretch run time for producers as well as retailers,” she said. “Along with added storage capacity, sourcing propane from different supply avenues such as rail companies is also another way to mitigate retailer supply risk, although adding storage and diversifying sources can bring additional costs to the price per gallon of propane.”

She said the main factors affecting wholesale propane price are crude oil and natural gas prices, proximity of supply, production, volumes being exported, weather and cyclical demand periods.

“If crude oil prices dramatically rise or fall, it will most likely drag the value of propane up or down, respectively,” she said. “Increasing geopolitical instabilities, along with uncertain energy product demand due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, will continue to make all energy markets volatile and undoubtedly make for another interesting and unpredictable harvest price in 2020.”

That’s why PERC is encouraging farmers — especially in the Midwest states — to establish a strong line of communication with their propane suppliers now.

“Last year’s energy demand issues that played out at harvest time across the Midwest are still fresh in everyone’s mind, which is why we’re reminding farmers of a few steps they can take now to prevent potential issues later,” Newland said. “A quick conversation now can go a long way to preventing energy supply headaches later.”

PERC recently launched a grain drying calculator



tool to help producers determine the number of propane gallons needed each season, using just three simple data points. “Users of the calculator simply input their average expected yield to determine the number of propane gallons needed to dry their crops by a specific moisture percentage,” PERC said.

From there, PERC’s tool will calculate approximately how many gallons of propane will be needed.

“The calculator uses (these) three simple data points and gives an estimate of propane each operation will require, making it easier to fill tanks early and prepare for supply needs prior to an increase in demand,” Grooms said.

Beef company to open Idaho plant

JEROME, Idaho — A beef processing company said Friday it will open a new plant in south-central Idaho and hire 400 workers. Agri Beef announced plans to build the plant that will operate as True West Beef in Jerome. It will be able to process 500 cattle a day.

The *Times-News* reported that the company already owns a mid-sized processing plant in Washington and since 1968 has operated feedlots in Idaho. It owns the Snake River Farms and Double R Ranch brands.

The company said its workers make about \$52,000 annually. The company said the plant will work directly with livestock producers who will have an equity ownership in the facility.

“With an educated and motivated workforce, access to plentiful agricultural resources, and a vibrant community with a can-do spirit, Jerome and Idaho checked the box for everything we were looking for,” Agri Beef Executive Vice President of Business Development Wade Small said in a statement.

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Wasps used to fight emerald ash borer

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

OXFORD, Ohio – John Kinne has about 50 acres of trees. That includes living ash trees alongside some that fell prey to the emerald ash borer (EAB). A member of the American Tree Farm Society, Kinne is hoping to save those living ash trees by releasing parasitoid wasps, with USDA's assistance.

"Ten years ago, I noticed that ash trees were dying," Kinne said. "I

learned about the EAB, and I looked for some way to combat it. I found that Michigan and Kentucky state forestry divisions had programs where they were releasing these tiny wasps on tree farms. I looked for a similar program in Ohio."

The EAB is responsible for the destruction of tens of millions of ash trees in 30 states. Native to Asia, it likely arrived in the United States hidden in wood packing materials. The first United States identification of the pest was in southeastern

Michigan in 2002.

Kinne, and his wife, Bobbi, found Alistair Reynolds, a forester with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), who knew about USDA's research with parasitoid wasps as a weapon against EAB. These wasps are not like the social

wasps most people imagine when they hear the word "wasp." Parasitoid wasps are tiny insects that attack a narrow range of other insects.

"I told them I wanted to get involved in the program," Kinne said. "They said I had to have healthy ash (Wasps continued on page 8B)

Below: Dr. Steve Sullivan, Alisha Singleton and her daughter Ember, and John Kinne doing a wasp release. Under Kinne's right hand you can see a small section of a branch tied to a diseased ash tree with a string. That branch segment contains living Emerald Ash Borer larvae which are infected with Asian Wasp larvae. The wasp larvae will kill the EAB larvae and then lay their eggs in other EAB larvae. (Photo courtesy of Carla Blackmar)



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Indiana Water Summit and what it means for farmers

By Cindy Ladage
Illinois Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS - Water quality is at the top of many people's environmental lists, including Jill Hoffmann's, White River Alliance's executive director. The White River Alliance is the organization for regional water resource protection in Indiana. Hoffman explained that they are, a not for profit in central Indiana, the White River Alliance serves to protect to basin upper White River.

"We focus most our work here in the watershed. The White River starts in Randolph County east of Muncie and Delaware, then it goes to Anderson in Madison County and on to Carmel, Fishers and Noblesville, then to Marion County, Morgan County and then that's as far as our watershed covers. The White River continues to confluence at the Wabash, but we focus on the upper reach, which is one third of the population. Other groups work in other areas around the state."

This year will be the third year for the Indiana Water Summit and Hoffman said the reason for the summit was, "We need to have broader conversation and we need public leaders involved. This conference started in 2018. The conferences are interactive, and they focus on what should be a priority and we try to find best practices."

Hoffman said she has been busy preparing for the summit that will be fully online this year. Trying to arrange a virtual conference during a pandemic can be a bit challenging, but she was up to the task. The Indiana Water Summit is Aug. 12-13, online from the Athenaeum in Indianapolis.

Hoffman explained, "The conference is an apolitical and inclusive forum developed to examine the complex interests and issues that face our state's diverse water supply."

Topics for the conference include: regional water planning advancement; water trends in our food and beverage industry; source water protection and its intersection with agriculture; and local stormwater management.

For the farmers and agribusiness leaders, Hoffman thought the session they would be most interested in will take place on Aug. 13. "The session for farmers is the intersection between agriculture and source water. The

speakers are Zooming in from Iowa." She explained that there is a partnership between the City of Cedar Rapids and the Iowa Soybean Alliance that has been put in place to help utilities protect drinking water. "The Soybean Alliance is the match maker and moving funds between groups and they are trying to get the work done here. Local agricultural groups will respond to that."

(Water Summit continued on page 9B)

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Worry causes anxiety that you don't need in your life

Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will

guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Have you ever noticed how the things you worry about almost never happen? In fact, the problems I encounter usually stem from

situations I never gave a thought to. In the end I've found it is a waste of time to worry. A person can't control everything in his or her life. Instead why not just trust the One who can! This past weekend Nathan got

married. For months before, I spent a lot of mental energy fretting over scores of bothersome concerns. And as usually happens when planning a wedding, a few mishaps did occur.



VERSES FROM MAMA
By Sandra Sheridan

All of these glitches created frustration, but worked themselves out. But on Wednesday of the wedding week the one thing I never dreamed of happened.

After spending the day setting the reception tables, I ran home to prepare for some dinner guests. On arrival John-Keith informed me that earlier that day he heard a crash that resulted from the kitchen sink falling out of the counter. Has ANYONE in the world ever worried about their kitchen sink falling out of the counter on the day of a large dinner party?

Thankfully, John-Keith was able to prop it back up with supports, and our dinner was a success despite this disaster. The next day a friend fixed the problem.

It just shows you that worrying is a waste of time. But it's also a lack of faith. God tells us we should not be anxious about anything, but present our requests to Him in every situation. This is how to experience His peace.

There will always be mishaps and even a few disasters. But we shouldn't worry about them. Instead we must unload our concerns on God, and then move forward enveloped in His peace. He has control of every situation we will ever encounter. And He will help us find joy despite any misadventures.

The wedding was beautiful! None of the frustrations dampened the day. And now we have another beautiful daughter added to our family.

So don't bother worrying about anything - not even your kitchen sink falling out. It will probably never happen. But if you do experience anxiety over unknown mishaps, take your worries to the Lord in prayer. Recognize His complete control over all circumstances. Thank Him for His love and power. And then relax into His comforting arms of peace.

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USDA makes hiring farm workers easier online

**By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent**

WASHINGTON D.C. - An online service provided by USDA has been revamped to make it easier for farmers to hire workers with temporary visas from other countries.

New features added to the USDA Farmers.gov website created in 2018 are designed to make surfing the complex federal H-2A program less confusing and time consuming.

"My mission from the beginning of my time as secretary was to make USDA the most effective, most efficient and most customer focused department in the entire federal government," USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue said during the July 27 unveiling of the revamped website. "These changes to Farmers.gov are doing just that."

The H-2A program is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the State Department. The program allows employers in agriculture to hire workers from other countries on temporary work permits for farm related jobs lasting 10 months or less, according to DOL.

Employers must first show they have tried unsuccessfully to find U.S. citizens to meet their labor needs before hiring an H-2A guest worker, DOL officials said.

According to USDA, the new features of the website include a real-time dashboard giving farmers the ability to track the status of their eligible employer application and visa applications for temporary workers.

The features also provide for streamlining the log-in information, so if farmers have an existing login.gov account they can save multiple applications and their tracking

numbers for quick look-up at any time, USDA said.

According to USDA, the upgrades also provide quick access of the DOL's Foreign Labor Application Gateway and allow farmers to track time-sensitive actions taken by the Office of Foreign Labor Certification during the course of a temporary labor certification application. The revamped website also gives farmers access to all online application forms.

According to the DOL, workers with temporary visas must be given a copy of their work contract and be paid at least twice monthly at the rate stated in the work contract. Workers must be given pay stubs listing their rate of pay, hours worked along with deductions and earnings. They must also receive at least 75 percent of the work hours outlined in their labor agreement, DOL said.

Other requirements of employers under the program include providing workers' compensation and any required work related tools, supplies and equipment at no cost to the employees.

In April, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) made changes in the H-2A program to help with the labor needs of farmers that could be strained from the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to USCIS, farmers already with valid temporary labor certification could immediately start hiring certain foreign workers currently in the United States with valid H-2A status.

The move was made to help with barriers to hiring such as travel restrictions and visa processing limitations imposed to help mitigate the spread of coronavirus. USCIS also temporarily amended its regulations to allow H-2A workers to stay in the country

beyond the three-year maximum period to help any labor shortages during the public health emergency.

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Agriculture and science have a long history together

The question, "How has science shaped agriculture?" generates as many differing opinions as there are methods of farming. Opinions range from "Only with advanced technology developed through science will farmers be able to feed the people of the world," to "Only those farming practices that have been handed

down from previous generations and which depend solely on nature will be sustainable," and many variations that incorporate some features of both approaches.

The value of scientific information has become contentious these days. Scientifically derived information is being questioned by persons who contend their own beliefs and opinions are more correct about such matters as global

warming, vaccination for diseases and managing the COVID-19 epidemic.

Dismissal of scientific information is not new however. Prior to Ferdinand Magellan's demonstration during 1519-1521 that the earth is round by circumnavigating the globe, most people believed the earth was flat. Nearly everyone also dismissed the mathematical calculations by the Greek astronomer Pythagoras some 2,000 years earlier that provided logical proof otherwise. Still today, various Flat Earth Societies maintain our planet is flat.

Most authorities, such as biologists, contend that present-day science owes its beginnings to Aristotle, but scholars in Arab countries and Southeast Asia independently devised their own methods of science either prior to or around the same time as Greek philosophy was in its heyday. The English philosopher/scientist, Francis Bacon (1561-1626), is often credited with establishing the scientific method as the logical analysis of questions. The French biologist, Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), was one of the first researchers who applied the scientific method to successfully develop vaccines for anthrax and rabies; he also discovered that heating raw milk killed harmful bacteria through the process that bears his name, pasteurization.

Science relies on application of the scientific method. The scientific method has five steps: 1) Test a question that is based on an observation or hunch, such as "Does applying chicken manure as fertilizer prior to planting rye increase its yield?" 2) Formulate a testable hypothesis, that is, a prediction that "Rye that has been fertilized with chicken manure will out-yield rye that has not been fertilized;" 3) Test the hypothesis in a controlled experiment in which one plot of rye receives chicken manure that is disked into the soil prior to planting, and another plot that does not receive the fertilizer, but is disked similarly while keeping all other conditions similar, such as the soil type, prior cropping history, planting date, and rainfall; 4) Complete the experiment by harvesting the mature rye grain from both plots, using the same harvest method, and compare the yields by weighing the grain from both plots and calculating the difference, if any; and 5) Determine a

conclusion, such as "The fertilized plot yielded more rye grain;" if a positive difference is statistically different. Replications of the experiment can be undertaken to see if the same result occurs consistently.

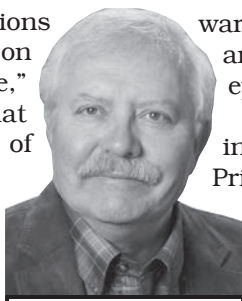
A sixth step can be undertaken to test additional hypotheses based on the experimental results that guides future research, such as "Does varying the amount of chicken manure affect the yield of rye," and "How does chicken manure versus cattle or hog manure affect the rye yield?" Importantly, pure science relies completely on objective methods of testing hypotheses and is devoid of opinions and beliefs.

Clearly, science has advanced agriculture, as demonstrated by the efficacy of pesticides and genetically modified organisms in producing abundant food, but these advances have led some critics to challenge if these inventions do more harm than good because of deleterious effects such as reducing beneficial soil microbes, insects and species diversification, as well as requiring reliance on mega-corporations that control their manufacture and cost to farmers. Maybe a better question to ask is: "How has agriculture shaped science?"

A rapidly growing body of findings by anthropologists, archaeologists and paleontologists indicates that our earliest human ancestors were clans of highly territorial hunter-gatherers in Africa who scavenged seeds, fruits, tubers, insects, birds, eggs, fish and the meat, bones and skins of small animals and the carcasses of larger animals, many of which they learned to kill by coordinated hunting methods.

When the clans outgrew the carrying capacity of their African territories, they migrated in successive waves of increasingly modern humans, beginning some 50-70,000 years ago into Southwest Asia and gradually spread across all the continents except Antarctica. Ever more advanced immigrant humans interbred and displaced less sophisticated clans such as the Neanderthals.

In his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Jared Diamond indicated that the earliest deliberate cultivation of crops occurred on the plains that intersect the Zagros Mountains of modern-day Iran, Turkey and Iraq some 13,000-15,000 years ago. These first farmers selected the most nutritious and

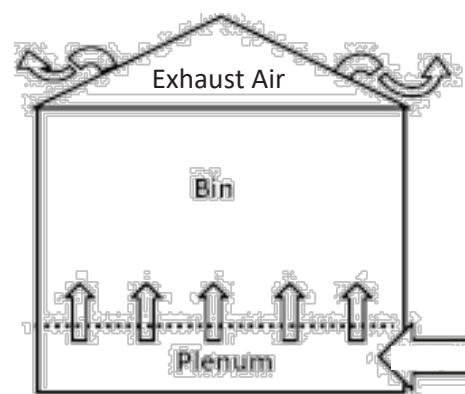


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(Farm and Ranch on page 6B)

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Farm and Ranch

FROM PAGE 5B

tasty grains, fruits, tubers and other crops that could be planted, hoed, watered, harvested and stored for later consumption.

Through selection of plants with desirable traits, the first farmers in Asia proliferated plants that they introduced wherever they could grow them. A few thousand years later the earliest farmers emerged in Southeast Asia, Australia, the Pacific Islands and the Americas.

Whether these new generations of humans developed agriculture

independently or because they remembered from their ancestors how to grow food, farmers became ever more proficient producers of food. The development of corn with ears separate from the flowers that maize depended on for its seed, is an example of the application of careful selection by the Mayans in Central America.

Agriculture enabled humans to thrive while living in mostly permanent locations. It took fewer people to produce the food needed by an entire community, thus enabling other members of the community to specialize in trades such as construction, teaching, metallurgy, herbal medicine and so forth.

As it became necessary to remember production methods and trade agreements, the necessity for written language became clear. Eventually the standardized modern alphabet and Chinese characters led to writing as we undertake it today and replaced hieroglyphs and other drawings.

Increasingly sophisticated communities of modern humans figured out that they needed a method of counting that could replace fingers, toes and beads. They needed to be able to count how many baskets of food were produced and to have written records of the numbers of items needed, measures of time, and so forth. Thus, the numeral system

was devised and refined to become what is used today worldwide.

Eventually mathematical thinking was developed that lent to scientific discoveries. Observational thinking was replaced by systematic logical thinking and mathematical comparisons, which are essential characteristics of the scientific method.

It can be said that agriculture spawned science. How we apply the scientific method in agriculture depends on our point of view.

Dr. Rosmann is a farmer and psychologist near Harlan, Iowa. Contact him at: mike@agbehavioralhealth.com.

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1-21

Wasps

FROM PAGE 1B

trees, and I had to have an active infestation of EABs; otherwise, the wasp will die. I had both."

In the spring of 2019, Reynolds visited Kinne for an ash tree survey. He wanted to document that Kinne had ash trees in a variety of conditions from very healthy to dead and to record their size and the degree to which EABs had infected them.

The EAB lays its egg under the bark of the tree, Reynolds explained. That egg turns into larva and it eats through the sugary tissues of the tree. When this larva eats the tissues away, it disturbs the flow of sugars. That's what kills the tree.

Of the three parasitoid wasps that USDA was investigating, two lay their eggs in the EAB's larva. They use the larva as a host and it eventually dies. The third kind lays its egg on the egg of the EAB and parasitizes it.

At the beginning of USDA's research, they sent out whichever type of wasp was available - the wasps are difficult and costly to raise. Now, they consider the location, temperature, the length of days and the amount of time that the wasp will have to complete its life cycle before determining which wasp species will be most efficient.

"After you release the insects for a couple of years, you go back and start hand-trapping them," Reynolds said. "That's how you tell if they have become established. The wasps are species-specific to the EAB, so there has to be adequate host."

Before Reynolds visited his farm, Kinne contacted Miami University to see if anyone was interested in taking part in the research. Steven Sullivan, a natural historian and the director of Miami's Hefner Museum, was interested.

"I'm a facilitator to help get students involved in meaningful

research, and this is an ongoing research project," Sullivan said. "It is exciting from a host of different disciplines. Unfortunately, COVID curtailed some of our student involvement."

The USDA is researching, including finding these parasitoid wasps in China, bringing them back and doing a variety of tests to ensure that they would be safe for environmental release, Sullivan said. The data soon demonstrated that the program was worth the time, money, and effort.

"We often think of these wasps as stinging, one of the many concerns of people," Sullivan said. "Most of them are incapable of stinging humans if for no other reason than they are too small to do so."

Alisha Singleton, a Miami University graduate student in botany, said, "They're the size of a gnat or smaller." Singleton is collecting data from the release trees on Kinne's farm. She is part of Project Dragonfly, an education reform initiative with master's degree programs in biology, graduate courses, learning media, public exhibits and community partnerships across the United States and globally.

"We're collecting the same data as we did when we did the survey," Singleton said. "How big is the tree, how big is the crown, the condition and is there epicormic (a shoot or branch growing from a previously dormant bud on a limb or trunk) branching. It takes several years to get a population of wasps large enough to make a big impact. The first few years of the USDA program are just release. Then we go back and start collecting to see if we can see signs if the wasps have increased and see how the trees are doing."

But is there a chance the wasps will become a pest like the multi-colored Asian lady beetles USDA released a while back?

"We don't know that's not going to happen here," Reynolds said. "It's kind of risk and reward. The risk of

not doing it is that we will lose all future generations of ash trees. The reward would be that if we do release them, we will hopefully have some coverage in the future."

USDA is looking to release more wasps in Ohio. If anyone is interested and has a lot of live ash trees, contact Reynolds at alistairreynolds@dnr.state.oh.us.

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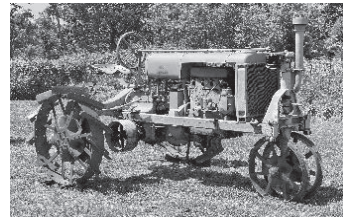
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Water Summit

FROM PAGE 2B

Many Indiana farming groups are part of the summit with members from both corn and soybean organizations.

The conference is free on Aug. 12; there is a nominal fee for Aug. 13. Hoffman shared that there will be live music on breaks and that they are keeping the conference lively.

To become a part of the White River Alliance's Water Investors group, established specifically to support future Water Summit events, and/or to register for Summit events, visit www.indianawatersummit.org.

Hoffman added, "The goal of this year's event is to continue to lay the foundation for the long-term planning of Indiana's water management needs while ensuring that all interests have a voice in directing our water future."

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MISCELLANEOUS

Upright Frigidaire Deep Freeze (like new); Childs JOHN DEERE PEDAL TRACTOR w/WAGON; Six Bicycles of Various Sizes; Alum. Expandable Flag Pole; Lawn Roller; 12 Ft. Wood Ladder (like new); Rear Hitch for "H" or "M"; Swing Drawbar Hitch; Rear Hitch for Allis Chalmers; Tractor Jack Stands; 300 gal. Overhead Gas Fuel Tank; 500 gal. Diesel Ground Tank; Two TURF TIRES like New 21.5Lx16x1 SL.

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The ins and outs of choosing a politically correct name

As I write this the going through very public come up with a new name. One of the suggestions was Code Talkers. If Washington, appropriate name they'd call Crooks, or the Washington read this the Redskins will name. After the Redskins Atlanta Braves, Golden Chiefs and Cleveland. Frankly, there are many professional sports that soccer.) We have the sexist are the Does and am I to assume that the Nashville Predators are a bunch of perverts and sexual deviants? The San Antonio Spurs are named after an instrument used to jab a horse and the animal rightists can't be pleased about that. Perhaps they should rename themselves the San Antonio PETA's. The Los Angeles Lakers are named after the lakes in Minnesota and I'm sure all the old hippies who enjoy baseball would much prefer the name The L.A. Draft Dodgers. New York teams are named after Giants, Knickerbockers and Yankees so to be fair shouldn't we have The Atlanta Confederates? Perhaps the Yankees would more appropriately be called the New York Leftists and the New England Patriots, in the spirit of the day, should be called the New England Slave-Owning Patriots.



It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

Washington Redskins are agonizing spasms trying to that doesn't offend anyone. The Washington Navajo DC, really wanted an themselves the Washington Swindlers. By the time you have a new politically correct change their name can the State Warriors, Kansas City Indians be far behind?

names of the four major offend me. (I don't count Milwaukee Bucks but where

I'm sure enviros and greenies are offended by all the references to fossil fuels like the Oilers, Pistons, Flyers, and Jets. The Chargers are probably okay but don't be surprised if they change their name in the future to the L.A. Solar Panels. And it doesn't set a very good example for our young people to see mature adults spell team names "Sox" instead of "Socks". We should call them the Chicago Illiterates. Speaking of Chicago, we have the Chicago Bulls but where are the Chicago Cows or Chicago Heiferettes? There are other sexes, you know? The gay community should insist that the Golden State Warriors have a sex change to The California LGBTQ's. And while we're being more honest, the Green Bay Packers would more appropriately be called the Monopolistic Packers, Tyson Packers, Imported Cheese Heads or The Holsteins. We have teams with several references to animals but where are the Las Vegas Vegans, Salt Lake City Vegetarians or Tampa Bay Flexitarians? Isn't the Milwaukee Suds a much better name than the Brewers? If we're going to name teams after alcoholic activities where are the San Jose Winos?

(continued on page 11B)

CONSIGNMENT AUCTION SATURDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 1 PM 2340 W. US Hwy. 40, CLAYTON, IN 46118

Drive-Thru Ring: SxS's, 4-Wheelers: 2005 Suzuki Carry Mini Truck, 2005 Polaris Ranger 700, Kawasaki Mule 4010, (2) 1999 Arctic Cat Snowmobiles. **Tractors & Equipment:** 2013 Gehl RS6-34 Telehandler, Kubota M8540, Kubota BX2660, Case IH DX24E, Kubota B6200, Kubota B2410, John Deere 2520, Kubota B2400, Massey Ferguson GC1705, (3) 97" Quik-Tach Snow Box Blades, 78" Quik-Tach Grapple, (2) 84" Rock Rake, 79" Rock Rake, 75" Rock Rake, 66" Rock Rake, 66" Root Rake, (3) 72" Forklift Extensions. **Mowers:** John Deere Z915E, Kubota ZD18, Kubota ZG327A, Hustler SuperZ Hyperdrive, John Deere 737, John Deere E130, John Deere X300, Dixie Chopper Classic, Dixie Chopper Zero-Turn, John Deere X300, John Deere X320, John Deere X320, John Deere D100, John Deere LT180, John Deere 325, John Deere X300, John Deere X300, John Deere WHP61A, Lesco Commercial Plus Walk Behind, John Deere GX85, Husquvarna YTH23V48, Snapper SR150, John Deere LX176. **Vehicles:** 1973 Ford F250 Camper Special, 2014 Subaru Forester, 1989 Ford Bronco II, 1987 Dodge Omni, 1994 Dodge Ram 350, 1999 Ford Ranger, 2005 Nissan Pathfinder, 2004 Chevy Colorado, 2006 Honda Odyssey, 2004 Dodge Durango, 1996 Ford F-350, 2004 Chevy Trailblazer, 2000 Dodge Durango, 2003 Dodge Dakota, 1998 Chevy G30 Cutaway, 2005 Mercury Montego, 2003 Dodge Ram 1500, 2006 Toyota Highlander, 2003 Ford Escape XLT, 2013 International Bus. **Boats & Trailers:** 2001 Haulmark Enclosed Trailer, 2011 Gator Made Enclosed Trailer, 2000 Pace American Enclosed Trailer, 2013 Sure-Trac Dump Trailer, 2007 Moritz Dump Trailer, 2006 Moritz Dump Trailer, 2015 Bravo

Trailers Concession Trailer, 2016 Cargo Mate 24' Enclosed Trailer, 2004 Liberty 2-Axle Trailer, 2003 Keifer Genesis SSL-2. **Tools:** Toro SGR-1 Stump Grinder, Ariens Deluxe 27 Snowblower, Troy-Bilt Chipper/Vac, Excell Pressure Washer, Ryobi Easy Start Generator, Snap-on Drills, Sockets, Ratchets, Wrenches, Impacts, MAC & Matco Tools, Sockets, Wrenches, Blue-Point Tools, Craftsman Tools, NAPA Tools, Kobalt Tools, DeWALT Cordless Tools, 7.4/14/18 Volt, Drill Doctor, Stanley Fatmax Toolbox, Senco Finish Nailer, Stihl Demolition Saw, (6) GreenWorks Electric Push Mowers, PowerTrain Generator Brand New, Campbell Hausfeld Pressure Washer Brand New, (5) Char-Griller Professional Smokers, And Many More Tools. **Advertising/Collectible Items:** Phillips 66 Oilcans, Hard Hats, and so much more, Large Cans including Allstate, Riley Bros., Ultra Lube, Shell, Phillips 66, Large Phillips 66 Light Up Sign, Phillips 66 Trop-Artic Sign, Shell Rotella T Light Up Sign, Phillips 66 Locks, Schlitz Beer Serving Trays, Kendall Cups, Shell Clock, Shell Hard Hat, Shell Anti-Freeze Jug, Arco Hard Hat, Mobil Small Oilcans. **Ring 2: Furniture:** Many Antiques, Large Buffet, Brass Bed, Hoosier Cabinet, Multiple Table & Chairs, Washstand, Pump Organ, Multiple Bedroom Suites & Beds, Lift Chair Recliner, Recliners, Couches, Grandfather Clocks, Large Antique Mirror, Curio Cabinets, China Cabinets, Outdoor Furniture, Wooden Chairs, Corner Shelves, Lamps, Brass Lamp, Curved Front Curio Cabinet, End Tables, Coffee Tables, Rocking Chairs. **Ring 1: Smalls:** Flatirons, Dishes, Dishware, Cups, Mugs, Plates, Baskets, Utensils.

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OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Kenmore washer & dryer; Amana refrigerator; Kenmore freezer; 4 pc. full size bedroom suit; hutch; 3 cushion sofa; knee hole desk; (2) occasional swivel chairs; wood rocker; primitive cupboard; Oak pedestal plant stand; Oak table with 4 chairs; twisted wire tables, chairs, and stools; carpet beaters; library table; Waterbury clock; WICKER: rockers, side chairs, and fern stand; 48 bin wood cabinet with metal drawer fronts; Oak church pew; organs; portable air conditioner; floor lamps; banks; glass insulators; steins; white button wall rack; Brass pieces; small oil lamps; cast iron cornbread pan, muffin pan, and 2 qt pan; crocks; claw foot organ stool; canning jars and zinc lids; bird cages; coal shovels; souvenir spoons; large assortment of cookie jars; cast iron beer wagon; spice jars; Victor vintage adding machine; grinder; sausage stuffer; Duck crockery churn; hobby horse; Ty Beanie Babies; child's wood rocker; Lincoln Logs; Mr. Peanut plastic bank; hen on nests; vintage children's clothing; world globe; baby carriage; metal doll house; kid's chrome table; CEMENT ITEMS: lighted man, bird bath, fountain, ducks, draft horses, planters, and angels. garden dusters; cigar boxes; OUTDOOR LIGHTED DECORATIONS: Snowman, Santa, and Pumpkin to name a few. license plates; wire baskets; gas pump; parking meter; steel wheels; Standard Perfection wood washing machine; cream cans; galvanized tubs; metal plant stands; coal hods; cow stanchions; metal scooter; double rinse tubs; platform scales; porcelain signs; Marlboro sign; geese decoys; Buddy L toys; Tonka toys; cast iron tubs; washboards; nail kegs; Bell City #9 silage cutter; wrought iron bench; galvanized brooders; galvanized and plastic chicken feeders; chicken crate; green porcelain lights; metal gas cans; military gas can; feed sacks; shingle cutter; wood boxes; metal porch posts; 4 pane windows; porch swing frames; horse collars; leather fly sheets; lanterns; horse shoes; wood trunk; stove movers; DX cans; brass front scales; pitcher pumps; kerosene cans; funnels; large assortment of Christmas decorations; metal park bench; picnic table; DVD's; games; pictures; frames; books; figurines; record albums; yardsticks; wagons; and many other items not listed.

TRUCK - TRACTORS - FARM IMPLEMENTS - MOWERS - TOOLS
1989 Chevrolet Silverado 4 x 4 single cab truck with new motor, automatic, power windows and locks and top; Allis Chalmers D17 Serier LV wide front gas tractor with wheel weights, 3439 hours; Intern B narrow front tractor with rear wheel weights, ID # FAB30559; McCormick Deering 1020 tractor on steel; Allis Chalmers WC narrow front tractor with AC side mount 7' sickle mower; John Deere 11 1/2' outboard wheel disc; John Deere 2 section spike tooth harrow; AC snap coupler 3 bottom slatted moldboard plow; Indiana wood wagon with seat; buggy seat; John Deere left hand plow; Oliver 12 row drill with grass seeder; John Deere 494A 4 row planter with herbicide boxes; Van Brunt drill on rubber; John Deere 2 row cultivator; John Deere pull type road grader; Genius 2 bottom pull type trip plow; pull disc; Allis Chalmers 7' sickle mower; Deering Ideal horse drawn sickle mower; McCormick #7 horse drawn sickle mower; 3 pt. backhoe; Allis Chalmers 626 hydro garden tractor; Simplicity 6216 Trac-o-matic garden tractor with rear rototiller; Simplicity 16 hp garden tractor; John Deere 112 riding lawn mower; Troy Bilt Pony rototiller; John Deere 110 mower; vintage Bolens 3 1/2 hp rototiller; hay wagon with side fronts; Huskee 22T log splitter; John Deere 526 snowblower; 5' grader blade; Bush Hog SQ 72 squealer; tractor weights; 50 gallon trail type sprayer; Red line 150,000 BTU salamander; Coleman PowerMate 7000 electric start generator; Wisconsin gas engine; Troy Bilt 10 hp chipper/shredder; Simplicity front mount snowblower; Briggs & Stratton Clean Power 60 pressure washer; 12 hp. Briggs electric gas motor; overhead gas tank; Craftsman gas blower/vac; Yard Machine 20" push mower; Stihl 011 chain saw; several tractor tool boxes; Black and Decker scroll saw, finishing sander and circular saw; Dremel 15" scroll saw; Mikita 7 1/4" power saw; Wizard Versa Pak battery system; table top planter; garden cultivators; stalk chopper; anvil; hog oilers; Wards 3 wheel push mower; corn shellers; horse drawn spring tooth, plows, and 6 run drill; walk behind potato plow; Oliver 1 row walk behind planter; reel mowers; hand edger; AC cylinders; tractor seats; corn jobbers; Model A or T luggage rack; single and double trees; AT Ferrell grain cleaner; hay forks; hay knives; hay trolleys; hay spears; Farmall B parts; cow kickers; ditch shovels; block planes; blow torches; pipe vise; buck saw; hand whips; International wheel weights; Wisconsin gas engine; Bainbridge electric band saw; Delta 12" portable planer; portable work light; Craftsman table saw; Body Work tools; furniture clamps; 6" bench grinder; Delta table top drill press; Rigid pipe threader; Ridgid pipe cutters; Amco torque wrenches; large assortment of Ford and Deering wrenches; kerosene heater; conduit benders; pipe threaders; military generator; tractor wrenches; metal gates; 20 lb. sand blaster; cement mixer; reddy heater; tarps; steel storage cabinets; saw blades; wood vise; drill bits; wrenches; pliers; hammers; levels; hand saws; number punch set; wire cages; sheet metal; barb wire; lumber; metal and galvanized gates; poly water tank; metal utility carts; tree stand; indexer; bolts; screws; log chain; shovels; rakes; trimmers; wheelbarrows; wood ladders; pitchforks; potato forks; live traps; cythes; cement blocks; bricks; tires; fence posts; and many other items not listed.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is the 3rd and final auction of the massive collection of the Ferguson's. This is only a partial listing of the items to be sold and please note that we will be running 2 rings throughout the day. Loader tractor will be available to assist with loading day of auction.

FERGUSON FAMILY

LOY AUCTION #31600027

AUCTIONEERS

Gary Loy AU 01031608 Ben Lyons AU 10700085 Travis Theurer AU 11200131 Aaron Loy AU 11200112

Pitts

FROM PAGE 10B

There are too many teams named after bears like the Bruins, Cubs, and Grizzlies but where are The Teddy Bears and The Portland Endangered Polar Bears? There are also far too many bird names like Pelicans, Falcons, Eagles, Penguins, Blue Jays, Orioles, Cardinals, etc. But where are the Rodents? I couldn't find a single team named after rats or mice. The Orlando Magic would be a natural as the Orlando Mice with Mickey Mouse as their mascot, and the Anaheim Ducks would sound better as The Anaheim Donald Ducks.

Several teams are named for disastrous climatic events like The Thunder, Hurricanes, Lightning, Avalanche, Heat, Earthquakes and Flames but this is the 21st century folks, where are The Phoenix Climate Changers? (The Phoenix Sunburns

is more accurate than The Phoenix Suns.) There are also lots of teams named after fish like the Rays, Marlins, Sharks, etc., but where are the Monkfish, Sea Bass, Salmon, Suckers or Steelheads? The Miami Dolphins would be more politically correct as the Miami Dolphin-Free Tunas and following recent protests, Seattle's Seahawks should be changed to The Seattle Communists.

I'm outraged I could find only one team named after snakes and one after insects.

We have the New Jersey Devils, the Los Angeles Angels and the San Diego Padres but where are The Minnesota Lutherans, Albuquerque Catholics, L.A. Methodists, Dallas Buddhists, Ohio Muslims or Indiana Atheists? We have the Montreal Canadiens and the Vancouver Canucks but not one team is named after the United States. Wouldn't the best name for our nation's capital's football team be the Washington Americans?

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Contact: Julie Matthys 574.310.5189

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Sheep and goat breeding moon arrives on Aug. 18

But I shall see the August weather spur

Berries to ripen where the flowers were

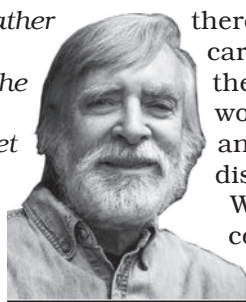
Dark berries, savage-sweet and worth the wait

And there will come the moment to be quick

And save some from the birds, and I shall need

Two pails, old clothes in which to stain and bleed,

And a grandchild to talk with while we pick. — Richard Wilbur



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK
By Bill Felker

there will be a long and steady cardinal song before sunrise, then silence. Hummingbirds, wood ducks, Baltimore orioles and purple martins start to disappear south.

When katydids call at dusk, cottonwoods are yellowing.

Locust leaves turn brown, damaged by leaf miners. Violet Joe Pye weed grays like thistle-down. The prickly teasel dies back.

Spicebush berries redden. Tall goldenrod heads up. Rose pinks and great blue lobelia color the waysides. In the thunderstorms of Late Summer, green acorns and black walnuts fall to the sweet rocket growing back among the budding asters.

In the Field and Garden

In the perennial gardens, red, white, and violet phlox, golden and purple coneflowers, bright helianthus and pale Resurrection lilies define the season of late summer.

(continued on page 13B)

The First Week of Late Summer Astronomical Data and Lore

The Tomato and Sweetcorn Moon, entering its fourth quarter at 11:45 a.m. on Aug. 11, wanes throughout the week, becoming the new Sheep and Goat Breeding Moon at 12:33 on Aug. 18. Rising in the morning dark and setting in the evening, this moon passes overhead near midday, encouraging dieters and fish to bite at that time, especially as the high-pressure system of Aug. 17 approaches.

Weather Trends

When the Aug. 17 weather system comes through the region, it brings the chance of a killing frost to portions of the North; snow even occurs at upper elevations in the Rocky Mountains. New moon this year on Aug. 18 (combined with lunar perigee on the 21st) is likely to intensify the effects of this high-pressure wave, especially in the West. Expect rain in Ohio as a low pressure trough precedes the cold front.

Notes on the Progress of the Year

As Late Summer deepens, all the katydids are singing in the night. They call out the close of the Dog Days, and even though the heat often lingers, the rhythm of the season has shifted, its tones have been altered, colors and sounds and scents all pointing to fall.

Now, almost everywhere in the country, average temperatures start to drop a degree and a half every seven days until the middle of September, at which point they decline about one degree every three days into January. Migration clucking among the robins increases. Some days,

FARM AND TOOL AUCTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15th at 10:00 AM

900 Garringer Rd., JAMESTOWN, OH 45335

FIREARM: Hi Point model C9 9mm Luger, compound bow w/case, 3 Mec 12 gauge-reloaders, misc. archery supplies, Buck Buster carbon arrows.

TRACTOR/MOWERS: 49 8N Ford tractor w/Sherman over under, pull type Power built pull behind mower, pull behind detach, Neuton electric push mower 18in, Troy-Bilt 21in self-propelled lawn mower, Huskee 420cc riding mower w/42in deck, M.T.D push mower (20in) tractor seat, Ford tractor rear hubs 8 hole (new).

EQUIPMENT/TOOLS: Farmhand Flux core welder (115), Lincoln A.C. 225 amp welder, 4ftx8ft utility trailer, Coleman Power Mate pressure washer w/Honda motor, 2000psi electric power washer, Homelite 2500psi pressure washer, free standing propane heater (20,000 BTU), LB White propane heater (60,000btu), Knipco space heater, (2) electric heaters, Troy-Bilt Tuffy walk behind tiller, 2017 F150 truck hood & grill, (2) Toro power curve 1800 snowblower, 36in yard roller, (2) truck bed fuel tanks, (2) 1 bottom plows, metal wheelbarrow, misc. Hanley engine parts, (2) livestock water tanks, assort. lawn mower tires, motor craft metal wall cabinets, drafting table w/frame, 48in Cub Cadet mower deck, 4ft fluorescent lamps, metal yard cart, floor mount hydraulic lifting arm, Jeannie garage door opener & track, 1 alum. Ford F150 running board, 3 point quick hitch (category 1), Mojack multi-use hitch w/tool carrier, (2) 16ft farm gates (new), 2 propane tanks (40lbs), misc. welding supplies, Duro power electric start generator w/wheel kit & cover (dp 10,000 etc), 12in Craftsman bandsaw on stand

(1hp), Delta scroll saw, 10 speed floor drill press, Ryobi gas powered blower, Stanley roll-around toolboxes (top & bottom), Kennedy roll around toolboxes (top & bottom), Plastic Rhino car ramps, 6in bench grinder on stand, 2 man crosscut saw, Badcock window cleaning ladder, approx. 50ft 1in H.D. water line, pull type aerator, folding saw horses, Skill scroll saw, Eco-Flo shallow well pump, misc. tools (drill bits & air tools), Superior Fox battery charger, misc. hard ware, singletree, squirrel cage fan, jack stands, Craftsman weed eater, Ryobi cordless circular saw & drill, Black & Decker belt sander, Charge Air air compressor (3/4hp), (2) Black & Decker Work Mate bench, nylon tie-down straps, floor creeper, blue tarps, old metal seed planter, heavy duty casters, 3000lbs winch, misc. electric tools,

OUTDOOR: Silver Canyon 21 speed mountain bike, Kent 21 speed mountain bike, Aero 700 exercise bike, Anza Magna 18 speed mountain bike, Ulysses Planet 300 18 sp. mountain bike (all aluminum), Kent 700Road Tec 18 speed bike, Magturbo stationary bike, flower pots & stands, metal lawn chairs, (2) Little Tykes toy boxes, Olin snow skis, Alta Scott kids 4-wheeler, leather saddle bags, blow up hot tub w/all accessories, Boulder Creek cooker/smoker (new), assort. life jackets, Muddy 2-man tree stand, Shed in a box 10ftx10ftx8ft tall, swimming pool solar cover, D.E. pool filter (sequel II), Hayward pool filter pump (Power Flow LX), fishing poles, 2 person go cart (13hp),

HOME GOODS: Crofton mini chest freezer (like new), 2.7 cu ft apartment fridge (new), G.E washer & electric dryer, Estate washer, Granite canning pots, approx. 8 pcs of granite.

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TRACTORS: AC 170, AC 500 ldr; JD 4020, dsl, diff lock, dual hyds, WFE.

INDUSTRIAL: JD 350 Crawler, gas; Komatsu WA-75 Combo Hyd Bucket.

MECHANIC SPECIALS: Massey Harris 2cyl, dsl, P&H, WFE, not running; Massey Harris 44, good 12.4-38, no eng; Case DC Tractor for parts.

COLLECTORS: IH H, SN 204405, like new 12.4-38; Sears Flare Box Metal Wagon; MM 5 Star, '57 or '58; JD B Tracotr, hyds, '47 or '48; 1958 AC All Crop 66 Combine, runs, needs canvas/reels/beaters, bin ext, 17 bu, early model; AC All Crop 60A Combine.

COMBINES: JD 9670 STS, 2009 yr, 2WD, 1933/1316 hrs (orig meter), Contour Master, ext auger, reman eng 4 yrs ago; JD 9560 STS, 2005 yr, 2WD, 2571/1739 hrs, Contour Master, 18.4-38 w/duals; JD 6620, hydro, reverser, farmer retirement; JD 9760, 2005 yr, 3600/2500 hrs, CM, 22" un-load auger, duals, farmer retire;

CORN HEADS: IH 863, 6R-30".

HEAD CARTS: EZ Trail 672, 30".

GRAVITY WAGONS: (2) Brent 360; DMI 440, double door, roll tarp, lights, brakes; (2) EZ Flow 375 on JD 1074 gear; Ficklin 175 Bu; Parker 150 Bu; Ficklin 300 Bu on JD gear; DMI 300 Bu.

GRAIN AUGERS: Feterl 8" x 32'.

FORAGE: JD 3955 Silage Chopper, low profile, hyd hitch, 2R-30" CH, green, low profile & JD 7' Hay Head, green, sharp; Miller Pro 5200 Silage Wagon, 20', RH discharge, open top, factory screen ext; Kewanee 500 46' Grain/Hay Elevator, pto lift; Gehl 600 Silage Chopper, w/2R-30" CH; NI 5209 Discbine, good cond; NH 1431 Discbine, single pt hitch, sharp; H&S 175 Manure Spreader, 2 sp; NI 205 Manure Spreader; NH 520 Manure Spreader; CIH LBX431

Round Baler, controls & manuals; JD 567 Round Baler, net wrap, cover edge, 11,000 bls, sharp.

GRAIN DRILLS: CIH 5100, 21x7, grass, press, sharp.

TILLAGE: CIH 3900 Disk, 26", rear hitch, 7.5" sp, 19" blades; Kewanee 1100 Disk, 20", single bar drag, 7" sp, 20" front & rear blades; Kewanee 1100 Disk, 20", single bar drag, 7" sp, 20" front & rear blades; CIH 3900 Disk, 26"; JD 630 Disk, 25", 7.5" sp, coil-tine harrow; IH 475 Disk, 21", 20" blades, hyd fold, vert; IV 5x Zone Builder Ripper, auto reset; GP TC5113 Turbo Chisel VTT, 13x, 2010 yr, walking tandems, rolling baskets; GP TC5113 Turbo Chisel, 13x, 2010 yr, walking tandems, rolling baskets; Glencoe F552A Soil Saver, 9x; Kewanee 5x, 3pt Chisel Plow; AC 2x Plow, snap coupler; IH 3x-14" Trip Pull Plow, good cond; DMI TMII 30' Field Cult, coil-tine harrow, hitch & hoses to pull crumbler; Glencoe 10' Field Cult, danish-tine; (2) IH 183 Cult, 8R-30", danish-tine, rolling shields.

SPRAYERS: Kuker 500 Gal.

MOWERS: Woods Cadet MD/72, 540 pto; Swicher 5' Trail Mower, 12hp; JD LX188 Lawn Mower; Power King Jim Dandy Economy 12hp Tractor w/mower.

TRUCKS & TRAILERS: JD 101 Donahoe 28' Imp Trlr; Weld-Built Livestock Trailer.

MISC EQUIPMENT: JD 963 Running Gear; Kory Running Gear; Homemade Grass & Rock Blower; Tyler Brandt 8T Fert Spreader; IH 1300 3pt Sickle Mower; JD 200 Dirt Pan w/dolly wheel; Ashland 4.5 yd Dirt Scraper, sharp; FM Machinery 7' Snow Bucket; AC D87 6' Snowblower; Pr 5.00-15 T/R; Pr of 11.2-24 Tires w/AC rear end; (4) 13.00x24 T/R; (4) 12.5L-15 T/R; (4) 7.60-15SL T/R; (12) 11L-15SL T/R; (4) 8.5L-15 T/R; Wallace 5' Mower; (2) New 10.00-16 Carlisle Bobcat Tires; (2) New 13.6-36 Star-max Tires.

MANY SMALL ITEMS WILL ALSO BE ON THE AUCTION. A LIST OF THESE ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON OUR WEBSITE @ www.stanneconsignmentauctions.com

. . . with much more to be added before the auction!

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67th Semi-Annual

Milroy Amish School Auction

Sat., Sept. 5, 2020
9:00 am

at the Milroy School
2101 W 900 S

Milroy, IN 46156

We Need Consignments of Farm Equipment, Horses, Tack, Saddles, Good Antiques, Furniture, Quilts and Misc. (No Firearms, Tires without Rims, Small Farm Animals, Electric Kitchen Appliances, TVs or Computers)

Call your consignment in by August 20 for Free Advertising. Consignments will be accepted on September 3 and 4

Call Norman - 765-561-9824
Call Dan - 765-629-2345

LINCOLN CO. KENTUCKY FARM AUCTION

109 ACRE FARM SELLS ABSOLUTE

Also Selling JD Tractor & Equipment

6380 KY-198, HUSTONVILLE, KY 40437

GPS Coordinates: 37.421895, -84.793858

DIRECTIONS: From Danville KY follow US-127 South to Hustonville, continue S. on Danville Pike to Main St. then East 2/10 to Mt. Salem Rd. go S. 4.7 miles to KY-198 and East to Farm Signs Posted.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 2020 @ 5:00 PM

REAL ESTATE SELLS FIRST!

109+/- Acres *1,800 SF. 4 Bed 1 Bath Home * Garage * Horse Stable & Barns* Crop Land & Pasture * Building Lot Potential * Ponds & Peltis Fork Creek * Fenced * Hunting Land* Stock Farm * Lincoln County * Lincoln Co. Schools



PROPERTY PREVIEW: Wed., Aug. 12th at 5:00 PM
Selling a 109+/- acre farm with improvements just South of Hustonville, KY. The land is comprised of an excellent mix of pasture, some tillable bottom ground, along with enough woods to offer good KY hunting. The farm features an older 1.5 story 4-bedroom, 1 bath farmhouse along with a 1 car garage, a horse stable, loft barn and tobacco or livestock barn on the rear of the property. There is county water along with a traditional septic. Peltis Fork creek meanders through the property and its rock bottom

invites you to take off the shoes and wade on in! The farm offers agricultural opportunity as well as great views & vistas for future home sites. Come join us at the property tour on Wednesday, Aug. 12th at 5:00 PM. or call auctioneer to set up a time to view. The farm will be offered in parcels and you will also have an opportunity to purchase it in its entirety.

Parcel #1: 6.5 +/- Acres with home, barn and stable.
Parcel #2: 15.5 Acres vacant open land with pond, 100' access on KY-198
Parcel #3: 87 Acres of excellent tillable, pasture & woods w/great vistas. Includes barn & creek.
Legal: Parcel #336157 of Lincoln County. Annual RE Taxes are app. \$1,300

JOHN DEERE TRACTOR * EQUIPMENT * TOOLS

JD 5085E 4x4 tractor w/H260 loader, 1800 Hrs. ROPs: JD. MX 10 brush cutter; New Holland 310 sq. Baler; Artway 425-A grinder mixer; hay/grain elevator; 3 pt. Grader blade; 3 pt. York rake; 15-ton feed bin; hydraulic hog transport trailer; hog waterers; Ritchie hog waterers; hog feeders; farrowing crate on skids; hog panels & fencing; 10' disc; 3 pt. Carry all; pull type seed broadcaster; Bag-a-Nut 2 basket nut picker; Surrey buggy; single buggy; Honda propane generator; 275 gal. Fuel tank; 48" Exmark walk behind mower; DeWalt table saw; Makita chop saw; Troy Bilt horse & pony tillers; Hitachi stapler; Paslode cordless spiker; Bostich roofing nailer; Acetylene welder kit; Makita router; 2-300' tape measures; other hand tools; Bone collector & Summit deer stands.

TERMS: 10% Buyer's Premium. 10% nonrefundable down payment day of sale with the balance due at closing. No financing or other contingencies, property sells "AS IS". Any required inspections must be completed prior to bidding. Property sells subject to all articles of record. Announcements day of sale take precedence over all previous advertising and statements. Auction will be offered in various amalgamations, including as individual parcels or lots, combinations of parcels or lots, and all parcels or lots. Contact agent for the sale order pertaining to this auction and or see sale order addendum day of sale for more details. Go online at beckortauctions.com/ or Kaufman-auctions.com for additional bidding terms. Call Jason with questions 740.541.7475.

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Poor Will

FROM PAGE 12B

Second-brood corn borers, second-generation bean leaf beetles, and rootworm beetles still work the fields. Banded ash clearwings attack the remaining ash trees. Webworms continue to eat the fruit trees.

Gradually increase nutrition to ewes and does in order to increase fertility and the conception rate. Continue to increase grain to the animals that you'll show this August in order to improve their coats and general condition. And keep talking softly to them.

Check to see how much honey the bees have stored for winter food and watch to make sure the late asters and goldenrod give them enough to over-winter.

After the honey crop is removed from the hives, treat your bees for mites.

Skrambler IQ, award yourself 15 points for each word unscrambled, adding a 50-point bonus for getting all of them correct. If you find a typo, add another 15 points to your IQ.

SLEBS	BLESS	
SSEHC		CHESS
SERCS		GRESS
SESDER		DRESS
USESG		GUESS
SEJS		JESS
SSEL		LESS
MESS		MESS
SSPRE		PRESS
SESRTS		STRESS
SETS		TESS

This Week's Rhyming Skrambler

SSSCBAE
SSCCAE
DDSSAER
SSSSEA
SSENERAB
RESSAC
CMPRSSOE
NOCESF
RESSPED
DEIDGRSS

Answers To Last Week's Skrambler

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BIDDING CLOSES: September 3rd at 6 pm EST

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White County | Cass Township
OWNER: MJM Lawson Farms, LLC
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Figert Farm Equipment Retirement AUCTION

10483 Rd. 21, Antwerp, OH

Sat., Aug. 22 Starting at 10 A.M.



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GRAIN TRUCK - TRAILER - TRACTORS - PLANter - DRILL

1988 Mackliner Grain Truck, 16' Scott Grain Bed with Tarp, 248k Mi.; 24' Flatbed Gooseneck Tandem Axle Trailer with Ramps; White 6195 Tractor, FWA, 195HP, 18.4x46RR Duals, 380/8534 F, 3 Remotes, 3,341 hrs.; White 2-85 Tractor, 85HP, 15.5Rx38 Tires, 2 Remotes + Constant Flow, 5,517 hrs.; 1993 John Deere 750 No-Till Grain Drill, 15' Rolling Basket; White 6100 6-30" Row Planter, SM3000 Monitor, No-Till Coulters, 2' Pumps, Spike Closer Wheels;

TILLAGE EQUIPMENT - SPRAYERS & TANKS

IH 496 24' Folding Disk; Unverferth 26' Rolling Harrow; 1994 M&W 15' Rotary Hoe; Kongskilde 24' Res-Till Vibra-tine Cultivator; Noble 3-pt., 6-Row Cultivator w/ Extra Row Shields; Hiner 3 pt. 6-Row Cultivator; 1991 Tye Paratill 3pt. 4-Shank Plow; M&W 965 5-Shank Disk Ripper; IH 12' Disk; 15' Converted Drag Harrow; 4 - 24' Spike Tooth Harrow Sections; Amco 3-Pt. Rotary Trencher, 18" Wheel, 1000 RMP, Hyd. Depth Control; Woods 3180 15' 540 PTO Batwing Mower; 750 9' 3-Pt. Hyd. Angle Grader Blade; Hardi CM750 750 Gallon Sprayer, 540 PTO, 60' Boom, 12.4x42 Tires; John Blue 7-Shank 28% N. Applicator, New Yetter Coulters & Closing Wheels; 1000 Gal. Nurse Tank 20002 Briggs & Stratton Engine, Tandem Axle; Cobey Chemical Mixing Tandem Axle Wagon w/ Pump & 500 Gal. Tank; 2011 Elliptical 1025 Gal. Tank w/ Frame; 1000 Gal. Water Only Poly Tank; 300 Gal. Poly Tank w/ Frame on Stand; Auger Mate 8HP Briggs & Stratton Coil Start; Auger Mate Wisconsin S-12 D, Electric Start;

GRAVITY WAGONS - AUGERS - FUEL TANK

J&M 385 Gravity Wagon, 350 Bu., Electric Brakes, Tarp, 425/65R/22.5 Tires; 2014 Unverferth 325 Gravity Wagon, 350 Bu., Elec. Brakes, Tarp, 385/65R/22.5 Tires; Killbros 375 Hopper Wagon on 12-Ton Killbros Gear, 350 Bu., Wood Ext Boards; Killbros 350 Gravity Wagon w/ Hyd. Brush Flight Auger, New Idea Gears; 2009 Unverferth 325 Gravity Wagon, Elec. Brakes, 350 Bu., 385/65R/22.5 Tires; 1989 Unverferth 325 Gravity Wagon, 350 Bu. w/ Tarp, 11/R/22.5; Killbros 350 Wagon; 2- J&M 250 Gravity Wagons w/ Augers & Tarps; Harvest Handler 16' Alum. Chain Elevator; 6"x30" Grain Auger w/ Tecumseh Elec. Start Gas Engine; 14' Hyd. Wagon Auger, Brush Flighting w/ Hopper; 14' Hyd. Wagon Auger, Cup Flighting w/ Hopper; 2- 12'- 4" Augers; Auger Mount for Unverferth 325 Wagon; 500 Gal. Fuel Tank w/ 120V Electric Pump; Pacer Transfer 127CC Pump; 205CC Transfer Pump; 2-Transfer Hoses, Meter & Hand Pump; 3-Phase 7.5HP Elec. Motor; IH 3-Pt. Quick Hitch, Cat 2; White 3-Pt. Quick Hitch, Cat. 2; T-Rail 15.5x38 Duals; IH Rear Weights; Oliver Wheel Weights; Oliver Front Pad Sq. Weights; Olver Rear Wheel Weights; 2-Wheel Weight Adapters; 2-Aerators & Extra Tube; Hand Crank Drum Pumps; Ridgid KM1500 120' Tile Router; Modine 60k BTU Hanging LP Furnace;



AUCTION MANAGER:
GARY SPANGLE
574-551-1768



Finding a repairman

It was a five-day run to three cities to cover eight different shows and we were ready. I had everything packed and we headed out early to cover the Elkhart County 4-H Dairy Shows. We arrived in plenty of time to get the camera set



TRUTH IN THE TRENCHES
By Melissa Hart

up when the first heifer entered the ring. As I opened my laptop, it took longer to boot up than normal. I shut it off, turned it back on and waited. The little circle kept spinning under the HP logo and the screen never changed. As the show time crept closer, I decided to pinch hit and use the spare laptop that we brought along, just in case.

After getting everything ready to go, I went back to troubleshooting on my laptop. With each instruction I hoped I had found the fix, but no, the circle was still spinning.

I decided to just leave it and see how long it would spin. I woke up the next morning with hope for a resolved laptop and...nope. Nothing.

We headed west to Manchester, Iowa, and with seven shows still left to cover, I knew I had to find a solution to my spinning computer. I called the big box store and the earliest appointment was in three days and it had to be in

(continued on page 15B)



4th Annual Female Sale

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2020

2:00 PM CDT - CROWN POINT, INDIANA

PREBLE COUNTY FARM EXPO AUCTION

SATURDAY, AUG. 15 • 10 AM

722 S. Franklin (St. Rt. 122 S) - Eaton, Ohio
Preble County Fairgrounds Expo Building

** WE ARE ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS FOR THIS AUCTION **

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We had over 600 registered bidders & over 100 consignors at our 2019 Farm Expo Auction!

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LINZ PANDEMIC 9705



+19512223

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SB	SC
+8	+3	+104	+174	+19	+71	+.56	+.75	+71	+99	+151	+267

This Dually son has us fired up with his combination of dimension and build! He is the only non-parent bull in the breed to have a spread of .3 to 174 and still boast a 267 \$C - Linz Pandemic 9705 is an absolute must see bull!



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CONTACT
GLENN DAVIS
219-776-7584





GRABER'S ANGUS FARM

2ND ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 5, 2020 • 3:00 PM EDT

Held at the Gasthof Amish Village - Montgomery, Indiana

SELLING 90 HEAD!
 COW CALF PAIRS * BRED HEIFERS * HEIFER CALVES
 HEIFER PREGNANCIES * DONORS



She Sells!

GAF ISABEL 292-9192 | REG. 19658855
 Sire: R B Active Duty 010 | Dam: Baldrige Isabel E292

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
+11	+4	+77	+125	+26	+50	+30	+58	+75	+120	+231

*9192 - #1 Active Duty daughter for CED, BW, YW



She Sells!

GAF LADY NO DOUBT 6010-921 | REG. 19651575
 Sire: Hoover No Doubt | Dam: Powell Lady Prideva 6010

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
-1	+4.5	+96	+169	+28	+90	+94	+114	+63	+200	+322

*921 - #1 No Doubt daughter for BW, WW, and YW



She Sells!

WF-GAF LADY PRIDEVA 9010 | REG. 19455784
 Sire: KB-Full Measure C40 | Dam: Powell Lady Prideva 6010

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
+7	+2.9	+83	+150	+39	+77	+71	+1.02	+67	+188	+311

*9010 - #1 Full Measure daughter for WW, YW, and HP.



She Sells!

GAF ISABEL 292-9401 | REG. 19651848
 Sire: Hoover No Doubt | Dam: Baldrige Isabel E292

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
+2	+2.0	+81	+143	+27	+69	+68	+63	+82	+164	+295

*9401 - #1 heifer in the breed for SC and HP.



She Sells!

GAF NO DOUBT 292-938 | REG. 19651847
 Sire: Hoover No Doubt | Dam: Baldrige Isabel E292

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
+2	+2.6	+83	+143	+20	+58	+66	+68	+73	+147	+264

*Buyer only pays 25% at sale for the bulls and the rest in the spring before picking them up. We will keep the bulls at no extra charge.



She Sells!

GAF NO DOUBT 7397-934 | REG. 19670769
 Sire: Hoover No Doubt | Dam: WMS Blackcap May 7397

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	CW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$B	\$C
+7	+1.4	+62	+117	+24	+49	+35	+91	+64	+132	+235

The \$450,000 ST Genetics AI Sire whose
 full sister and service sell!



GRABERS MR ANGUS 9080
 Reg. 19426221
 Sire: Spring Cove Reno 4021
 Dam: Baldrige Isabel E080



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Truth in Trenches

FROM PAGE 14B

OshKosh, Wis. This would not do. What are the chances we would find a small, computer repair store in corn country, that would work on my laptop on a Sunday? Slim to none, but we gave it a shot.

The first number I called, I had to leave a voicemail. So, I decided to text them just in case it was a cell number. They responded with this text:

"Please put your laptop in the blue bin on my front steps. I have no contact drop-off due to Covid. Please include charger and password to get into your laptop and all of your contact info and I will do my best to get it looked at this weekend. Thanks!"

So, let me get this straight, I'm gonna drop off my laptop in a tote on a stranger's porch without even speaking to you and you're going to have access to all of my info. Would you like my social security number too? How about all my banking info and my debit card...just in case? Oh and one more question, what are you smoking?

I tried the only other number for computer repair in Manchester, Iowa, left a message and hoped for the best.

A few minutes later, I was explaining my plight to a concerned repairman. He offered options and his address.

Two hours later I dropped it off with a real person and a promise of a diagnosis. A couple of hours later, we had a diagnosis, a solution and I would pick up a fixed computer the next day. He even cleaned out all the dust and grime that had settled into my laptop from all the dusty show rings and sale arenas.

When I picked it up, he still kept his distance and I'm sure was wondering why this laptop was so dirty and what I did for a living. He didn't ask and I didn't offer any explanation. I thanked him profusely and felt like the weight of the world had been lifted off my shoulders.

As I spent the next five hours sorting through show photos and posting them on the website with my better than new laptop, I kept wondering, 'What are the odds of getting a laptop fixed overnight in the middle of small town Iowa, by a trustworthy man in the middle of a five-day road trip?'

Slim to none.

But I'm glad I came out on the better side of those odds.

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