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Tariffs may mean corn growers will have to seek new markets

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

WATERLOO, Ill. — With Chinese retaliatory tariffs against U.S. imports climbing to over 80 percent, U.S. farmers are left with little choice but to search for new and expanding markets — preferably in those countries less affected by President Trump's Tariff Wars 2.0. This is according to National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) President Ken Hartman, who told Farm World that though China is not the top importer of U.S. corn, market signals are erupting from the topsy-turvy trade war that indicate an expansion of foreign markets may be necessary for corn to maintain its export market share.

"The concern that we have long-term is that some of these countries, obviously China, could seek other (import) markets and Brazil and Argentina could take some of our customers. If we have a tariff for a long period of time, we think that we will lose some of our (sales) to them, but at the same time we are willing to see how things go with the president," said Hartman, who praised Trump for completing the U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) trade agreement during the president's first term in office.

"Right now Mexico is our number-one customer for corn, and Canada is our number-one customer when it comes to ethanol made for corn. We're very concerned with Mexico as far as keeping our relationship there. The president hasn't put any new tariffs on Mexico since (his initial 25 percent tariffs on February 4), and they still seem to be buying corn from us and we're doing okay with them," said Hartman, who was in Illinois tending to his farming operation at the time of

his remarks, but had been flying back and forth to Washington frequently to meet with legislators and stakeholders.

"Some of the other countries we have concerns with include Colombia, which is a big purchaser of corn from us. (Trump) was going to put a (25 percent) tariff on them (in late January), but they're negotiating and we're happy with that so far. We just don't want to see tariffs for a long period of time, because that is how other countries are going to take away our customers," he added.

Experience and research have shown that U.S. agriculture often bears the brunt of trade disputes and tariff wars, according to NCGA and American Soybean Association economists.

"A reignited trade war would reduce both U.S. soybean and corn prices and the combined production area of the two crops. If it were to occur, a trade war would not only reduce the value of production for U.S. farmers but also have a ripple effect throughout the U.S. economy," the farm economists predicted in October, 2024.

"Meanwhile, farmers in Argentina and Brazil would see higher soybean and corn prices and be poised to more rapidly expand their production areas. The economies of these two countries would benefit from rising production value. In short, South America would gain on all fronts at the expense of U.S. farmers and the U.S. economy."

To hedge against an extended, international trade dispute, Hartman said corn growers must seek new and expanded markets — both domestic and foreign — for their products. "Vietnam is an opportunity for us, and I know some of the livestock folks are hoping we can get a trade agreement worked out there. India is a huge opportunity for corn growers because they are at the point where they need to buy corn," he said, adding that NCGA is hoping the president can convince Mexico to relax the 18 percent tariff they currently have on imported ethanol products.

"We want free trade but we also want fair trade, where everyone is on the same playing field," Hartman said, adding that certain African and East Indies countries also provide growth opportunities for U.S. corn.

NCGA leaders have had communications with "some areas of the White House," according to Hartman, including at the recent Commodity Classic

(See Tariffs on page 2)



Above: High winds in mid-March took out several barns in Parke County, Ind., including this one near Rockville, Ind. Steven Gerrish said two century-old barns were down due to the winds and another lost part of a roof. "Lots of Parke County boys spent time in all of those barns," he said. This barn belonged to Gerrish's grandfather, James Clarence Gerrish. Photo by Steven Gerrish.

FARMLAND Act bill aims to protect farmland from foreign ownership

By **DOUG SCHMITZ**
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. lawmakers recently introduced the Foreign Agricultural Restrictions to Maintain Local Agriculture and National Defense (FARMLAND) Act, a bipartisan bill designed to protect American farmland from foreign ownership.

Introduced by U.S. Reps. Randy Feenstra, R-Iowa and Kristen McDonald Rivet, D-Michigan, the bill seeks to strengthen national security and food supply protection, which would authorize the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) to review all purchases or leases of American farmland by foreign entities that exceed \$5,000,000, or 320 acres.

Lawmakers said the bill would also require the USDA Secretary and the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security to publish an annual report outlining any threats or national security risks of foreign investment in American farmland; direct the USDA Secretary to develop a public database of all farmland owned by foreign governments and other entities; and limit foreign-owned or operated land from participating in Farm Service Agency programs like the commodity programs.

Feenstra said, "It is in the interest of the United States to review purchases of American farmland by foreign entities to protect our farms and agricultural production from our foreign adversaries, especially China. But for far too long, our government has repeatedly failed to enforce the laws on

the books, monitor foreign purchases of our farmland, or assess financial penalties on those who break our laws.

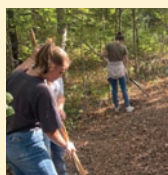
"Born and raised in rural Iowa, I firmly believe that American farmland belongs to American farmers, and I will continue to lead the fight to protect our farmers and ensure that our farms are passed onto the next generation," he added.

McDonald Rivet said, "Allowing China or other foreign competitors to buy up large swaths of American farmland puts our national security and food supply at risk."

U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, recently introduced companion legislation in the U.S. Senate: "Through the FARMLAND Act, I'm drawing a line in the sand to overhaul this flawed way of doing things, increase reporting and transparency, strengthen oversight of the influence of our foreign adversaries, and force the sale of foreign-owned land. It's time to show the world we will do what it takes to protect our agriculture industry, our national security, and our food security."

Under current law, the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) of 1978 requires foreign investors who acquire, transfer, or hold any interest in American farmland to report holdings and transactions to the USDA Secretary. However, enforcement of AFIDA has been virtually nonexistent as federal agencies do not enjoy explicit investigative power, lawmakers said.

(See FARMLAND page 2)



Henderson County, Ky., FFA among top chapters in country.
..... Page 1B

In this Farm World:

Man travels the country in horse-drawn vehicle
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FARMLAND

FROM PAGE 1

According to the USDA's latest AFIA Report, 45.85 million acres of U.S. agricultural land were held by foreign investors in 2023, which represents 3.61 percent of total privately-held agricultural land in the United States. This marks a 1.58-million-acre (3.6 percent) increase from 2022, and a five million-acre (12.2 percent) rise since a previous analysis by Danny Munch, an American Farm Bureau Federation economist, based on 2021 data.

Canadian investors own the largest portion of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land with 33.5 percent (15.35 million acres) of the total. Following Canada, investors from the Netherlands, Italy, the United Kingdom and Germany own 0.41 percent (5.2 million acres), 0.22 percent (2.7 million acres), 0.21 percent (2.6 million acres), and 0.20

percent (2.5 million acres) of U.S. agricultural land, respectively.

"To highlight the lack of oversight, China's ownership of American farmland increased by 30 percent between 2019 and 2020 alone, and we've seen purchases mere miles from sensitive military sites," Feenstra said. "Modernizing the AFIDA reporting process through the FARMLAND Act provides the needed national security that our farmers and rural communities deserve."

According to a 2023 article in Forbes China owned less than 400,000 acres of U.S. Farmland.

By state, Texas has the largest quantity of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land at 5.7 million acres. Maine has the second-largest quantity of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land at 3.5 million acres.

According to Munch, Ohio's foreign-owned farmland represents 2.7 percent of all privately-held agricultural land, slightly below the national

average of 3.6 percent. He added that most foreign-owned land in Ohio is linked to renewable energy projects, which account for 55 percent of increased foreign land ownership since 2010.

Ernst said she introduced the FARMLAND Act to amend the AFIDA, which was established to develop a nationwide system for collecting information on foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land. She added that this new legislation would also expand the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States' (CFIUS) authority to include a new focus on food and agriculture to better safeguard U.S. national security interests.

Specifically, the bill will increase reporting and transparency and strengthen oversight by: Modernizing the AFIDA reporting process to better track foreign land ownership, which includes: 1) An online submission process for reporting land ownership, which would replace the outdated paper-based system; 2) an increased civil penalties for non-compliance against individuals or entities that fail to com-

ply with AFIDA reporting requirements; and 3) the development of a publicly-accessible database of agricultural land owned by foreign persons.

Katie Hall, Iowa Soybean Association senior director of advocacy, told Farm World, "The Iowa Soybean Association supports increased oversight and reporting of foreign agricultural land and business transactions in the U.S. At the state level, Iowa farmers were vocal on this issue and benefited from legislation passed in 2024 (in Iowa) that strengthens the reporting and ownership requirements to ensure transparency of Iowa's land ownership."

Ethan Lane, National Cattlemen's Beef Association senior vice president of government affairs, told Farm World, "Foreign land purchases are a significant concern for our members, but just as important is the threat of massive land buyouts by corporate investors that forever pull farmland out of agricultural production. Regardless of who is trying to take it from them, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association is working to help keep farmland in the hands of farmers."

Tariffs

FROM PAGE 1

in Denver when corn, sorghum and wheat representatives sat down with Ag Secretary Brooke Rollins. Hartman also paid USDA a visit in March to discuss concerns and opportunities.

"We are definitely communicating, and I hope that they are listening to us. We've got some good reasoning, and I think some of the things they are doing are for the betterment of agriculture," he said.

NCGA is actively working to get legislation allowing year-round E-15 ethanol access for motorists passed in the House and Senate. Making year-round access permanent law would

help compel fuel providers to upgrade their infrastructure to accommodate new tanks and pumping stations, the NCGA president said. "EPA has different things they can do, but if we want E-15 permanent we will need a bill," said Hartman.

On Wednesday, April 9, two days after Hartman's comments, Trump postponed additional tariffs on all nations other than China for a period of 90 days, stating that those nations that "are cooperating" by entering into negotiations would be spared the latest round of tariffs — for now. Contacted for comment on this development on Thursday, April 10, Hartman told Farm World, "I think we're just waiting to see what's going to happen at this point."



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New Michigan Corn leader has long roots on the farm

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

LANSING, Mich. - The Michigan Corn Growers Association (MCGA) has a new executive director whose roots in agriculture date back to 1852 on the farm where his family still lives and operates.

Scott Piggott has been in his new role since March 12 following a 24-year career at Michigan Farm Bureau, where he split his time as CEO of the organization and working in areas like public policy on environmental issues protecting farms.

He was also the natural resources

and right to farm specialist at Michigan Farm Bureau and manager of its Agricultural Ecology Department.

"I feel like it's the right place for me to be at the right time. So, I'm very excited," he said.

His new duties include serving as executive director of the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM).

Matt Holysz, president of the CMPM, cited Piggott's "wealth of strategic leadership along with a deep understanding of the agriculture industry in Michigan" for his selection by the CMPM's board of directors.

Piggott, 53, said his primary objectives are increasing demand for Mich-

igan corn and being a "great partner" to other agriculture organizations to strengthen the industry, in general, in the state.

He sees opportunity to expand the market for corn through the state's ethanol industry, which accepts about 36 percent of corn produced in Michigan for making the fuel blend.

Piggott said the livestock industry is another potential source for increasing demand for Michigan corn growers.

"The tide rises all boats when a majority of corn in the state goes into livestock. The livestock industry is very important and we want to make sure all of Michigan agriculture is successful and we'll have our place in it," he said.

His other responsibilities are educating and promoting corn with members of the public, funding research to improve production and finding new uses for corn.

He will also lead the MCGA in efforts to advance legislation at the state and federal levels aimed at growing Michigan's corn industry and increasing the profitability of raising corn.

A willow tree now exists where a log cabin once stood as the first homestead on his family's 1,000-acre farm in Fowler, about 30 minutes north of Lansing.

Piggott said the rest of the dwellings that followed are lived in now by other family members, including a roughly 150-year-old residence where he and his wife raised their children and still call home.

His father, Dan, and uncle, Dave, with help from family members, re-

main the primary operators of the farm but Piggott still pitches in with things like planting seed whenever he gets a chance.

"I love being out there when I am and love serving farmers when I'm not," he said. His family raises corn, soybeans, wheat and beef cattle.

It's corn that seems to flow mostly in Piggott's veins, though.

Corn production was one of his major focuses while working toward his bachelor's and master's degrees in ag engineering at Michigan State University.

Piggott said he's very proud to be a sixth-generation farmer on the same ground, but with it comes a sense of great responsibility to make sure it's there for family members coming up the ranks.

He also spoke about a special bond with like-minded family members like his father. "I've been able to work with dad as a partner and friend. It's been one of the joys of my life," he said.

Piggott's resume also includes serving on more than 20 boards and committees in roles such as co-chairman of the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program and the Michigan Groundwater Conservation Advisory Council.

He's also served MSU in leadership and advisory capacities in areas like curriculum reviews and played a role in the development of the Great Lakes Compact, which prohibits water in the lakes from being diverted outside the Great Lakes basin.



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‘Horselogger’ travels the country in a horse-drawn vehicle

By Leondia Walchle
Indiana Correspondent

Lee Crafton, known as Lee the Horselogger, along with his Suffolk horse, Jessie, travel roughly 15 miles a day at a speed of 3 mph across the continental United States.

This year marks the fifth trip from Montana to Boston, Mass. He does not always travel the same route each time. For the last few years he has been using just one horse, Jessie, but in the past he has had as many as five horses he traveled with.

As of March 25, Crafton was making his way through Decatur, Ind., on U.S. 224 heading into Ohio. Catching sight of the rear of his unit which reads “Follow Us Online X America by Horse,” he will happily stop to talk if you are taking photos and want to learn more.

His continuous journey started in August 2006 after his parents sold



Above: Lee’s biggest concern is other vehicles giving him enough space on the roadways.

their ranch in East Glacier, Mont. Crafton, now 63 years old, no longer has family and wanted to see what goes on in the world, along with the fact that traveling with his horse is his passion.

Crafton makes it a point to stop at nursing homes and elder-care facilities to talk about his adventures. In the past he would visit schools, but the changing times have made it hard to do. Over the years he has established a network of friends who help him with groceries or delivering feed for Jessie.

He will look for places to stay that have a large parking lot and water available for Jessie. Crafton states, “without other people helping, this trip wouldn’t be possible.” He has been on the road for 18 years, which is just his way of life.

Crafton has been logging since he was 18 years old, and in the past would use his horse to log. To make ends meet, he will now drive others’ horses and take tourists for rides and transport goods. He has lived without modern amenities and has no intention of changing his ways.

Throughout Lee’s travels on the roadways, the major issue is other vehicles giving him enough space. There are a lot of impatient and distracted drivers out there, but for the most part everyone seems courteous.

Not all of Crafton’s on-road experi-



Above: If you can flag Lee down, he is always willing to talk about his travels

ences have been delightful. On one occurrence, a driver struck the side of his unit, destroying it completely. Luckily, neither Crafton nor Jessie was injured. After a month off to obtain a replacement cart, when he found it necessary to establish a GoFundMe account and sold some of his own merchandise, he was on the road again. About 15 years ago, Crafton had a cancer scare, which served as a wake-up call. He commented that he will continue traveling until he is no longer around.



Crafton documents his revelations

and posts them to his YouTube channel or Facebook page when he has time. The Horselogger enjoys learning from different people and places and likes to live in the moment. He does not see a reason to settle down. “This experience is one I will never forgo,” he said.

For more information on his journey, Google: X America by Horse; Lee the Horselogger; or send an email to xamericabyhorse@gmail.com.



Above: Lee the Horselogger would like you to follow his Journey “X America by Horse”.

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Artist uses oxen to design pollinator-friendly creation

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – She has a passion for art. She loves animals. Ruth Burke has found a unique way of using animals to create her art-work in earthwork form.

Ruth Burke is an interdisciplinary artist whose socially engaged practice straddles the fields of contemporary art, human-animal studies and agriculture. Her work focuses on collaborating with animals. Her current focus is a series of large-scale native plant earthworks powered by animal traction.

Since 2015, Burke has focused on collaborating with animals in her earthworks, using animal traction to create her installations. One of Burke's notable pieces is "Graze," created in 2022. That design is a circular earthwork created by bovine grazing and measures 32 feet in diameter. Her upcoming creation, one at Illinois State University, will feature a series of large-scale native plant earthworks, showcasing her interest in ecological art. Burke will use a pair of oxen to create this



Above: Oxen named Clark and Sparky will help Ruth Burke create an earthwork project on the campus of Illinois State University this spring. (Tyler Mardis photo)

earthwork.

"Oxen are the original tractors, they're strong and resilient animals that were widely used by central Illinois farmers for more than a century," Burke explains. "They're magnificent creatures, and they are so perceptive."

Earthworks are sculptures that can be large or small and are often created outdoors. They are fabricated from natural materials.

Burke holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ohio State University, and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan. She is currently an assistant professor of video art at the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts, School of Art. She also runs DAP STUDIOS LLC, an art-and-agriculture business for hire on public artworks and small-scale agricultural or garden projects.

Burke has created earthworks in three states (Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and now Illinois), and has received numerous grants from various entities.

As the recipient of a nearly \$50,000, two-year grant from North Central Region SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education), Burke is building four pollinator-friendly earthworks in McLean County, Ill. And helping her perform this artwork are a team of 5-year-old oxen that she purchased when they were less than a year old. Burke named them Clark and Sparky.

Since their early age the pair have been trained to pull small loads. Today, Burke uses the pair to till her large garden and haul loads of ma-

(Artist continued on page 6)

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Artist

FROM PAGE 5

nure to the compost pile. The pair can now pull 4,000 pounds for a half mile on flat ground.

“I have to treat them like athletes and they have to build stamina,” Burke said. “With any team of oxen and their driver, there has to be mutual respect, and I think respect and trust is what grounds our relationship. That was one of the best days of my entire life when these guys got off the trailer.”

Burke’s idea for earthworks got sprung while she was attending classes at University of Michigan. She was inspired by another acclaimed performance artist who merged a passion for animals and art. Burke brought her earthwork idea with her when she joined Illinois State University’s faculty in 2020.

“I started dreaming of this project in 2018, and I knew that it was going to be a huge undertaking,” she said.

The horse was her favorite animal growing up, but she chose to use oxen instead.

The four locations for Burke’s SARE’s-funded earthworks include large-scale projects at the Illinois State’s Horticulture Center in Normal and another near Gibson City, along with smaller, linear pollinator strips in Downs and Heyworth.

In order to secure locations for her artwork, Burks connected with local farmers who supported the mission of her research, which is to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity and healthy food systems by creating pollinator food-habitats, enhance soil health and foster resilient community infrastructures.

Burke’s site for her creation at Illinois State will be in a vacant, grassy one-acre plot near the University



Above: Ruth Burke stands alongside a sculpture she made using recycled two types of baling twine, baling netting and chicken wire. The artwork is found in her studio on her farm east of Bloomington, Ill. (photo submitted)

Horticulture Center. It will consist of a mound of logs and sticks covered in topsoil and purple prairie cover with nearly 30 types of pollinator-friendly flowers and plants extending outward to resemble a sun measuring 60 yards by 52 yards. Clark and Sparky, along with several other draft teams, will plow and till the field. She will also use her oxen to haul logs and other materials to build the earthwork’s central mound.

After this initial work, Burke will invite the community to help plant dozens of native plants and flowers that will make her earthwork bloom.

“I’m hoping these experiences inspire people,” Burke said. “Whether you have a small pot in the kitchen or a garden, you can make some deliberate choices about your environment that will not only be beautiful to look at but will benefit the soil and the pollinators. And, I hope these earthworks cause people to take action somewhere else in their life, whether that’s planting native plants, teaching their kids about Indigenous history or just having a beautiful meditative moment.”

Burke’s work at Illinois State University will begin later this spring.

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2019 JD 6110M, PQ, MFD, 1300 HRS
2020 JD 5100M, CAH, MFD, 1100 HRS
2013 CHALLENGER MT655D, CVT, MFD, GUIDANCE, 3600 HRS

PLANTERS

2015 KINZE 3600 12R30 PLANTER, LIQUID FERT
2017 KINZE 3600 ASD 16/32 PLANTER
2013 KINZE 3500 8/16 NO-TILL PLANTER
2011 KINZE 3000 6/11 NO-TILL PANTER

HEADS

2019 JD 745FD HYDRAFLEX DRAPER
2010 JD 625F HYDRAFLEX GRAIN HEAD
2021 MAC DON FD140 40FT DRAPER, CNH ADAPTER
2015 MAC DON FD75S 35FT DRAPER, CNH ADAPTER
2012 CASE IH 3020 20FT GRAIN HEAD
2013 JD 608C, KR, HD, HH, RS, REEL
1997 JD 693, RR, HD, SINGLE POINT

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CASE IH RMX 690 7 SH DISC RIPPER
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2024 BOBCAT S66, CAH, 2 SPD, 35 HRS
2023 CAT 259D3, CAH, 2 SPD, HIGH-FLOW, 700 HRS

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BRENT 472 TARP, SCALES
UNVERFERTH 325 GRAVITY WAGON
KILLBROS 390 GRAVITY WAGON
KILLBROS 385 GRAVITY WAGON
KILLBROS 375 GRAVITY WAGON

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Mainetainer bull brings high price at the Ohio Beef Expo

By Mike Tanchevski
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio – John Vidovich, a Calcutta, Ohio, cattleman, liked W/G Boardwalk Empire so much that he paid \$68,000 for the Mainetainer bull in March 2024.

“I saw him as a calf, and I liked him as a calf, but it was one of those deals, you weren’t sure what he would turn out to be,” Vidovich said. “I thought he had great potential.”

Boardwalk Empire turned potential into winning time after time. In 2024, the bull won grand champion titles at the National Western Stock Show as a calf and state fair titles in Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kansas, Arkansas and Illinois. He also won at the Keystone International Livestock Expo.

The bull is registered through the American Maine-Anjou Association, which recognizes four categories of

Maine-Anjou cattle based on bloodline percentage. Anything with a 25-75 percent Maine-Anjou bloodline is classified as a Mainetainer, and the latest recognized category is a MaineAngus cross.

Boardwalk Empire is 3/8 Maine-Anjou and 5/8 Angus. He has the all-black coloring of an Angus with a stout, wide base and powerful build.

“The bull’s not fake – the judges always call him a free cat because he’s so big, massive, and free-moving,” Vidovich said. “He’s sound. He’s 100 percent real.”

Vidovich is using Boardwalk Empire to improve his herd.

“We have everything bred to him, and we’re just waiting for the calves to hit the ground at the end of March,” he said. “I don’t personally care what kind of cattle you’ve got as long as they’re good. That’s our objective, to raise good quality sound cattle.”

(Bull continued on page 9)



Above: Boardwalk Empire in the sales ring at the 2025 Ohio Beef Expo Beef Expo.



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Tariff news rocks markets; China could look to Brazil

One of the biggest commodity market news stories in recent history was the implementation of tariffs on all U.S. trade partners. While several countries now have tariffs on them, the one getting the most attention is China. The U.S. has placed several additional tariffs on China, taking total tariffs well above 100 percent. The actual rate remains unknown. China has already vowed to retaliate, and the ag sector may suffer.

The most concern is what this may mean for soybean demand. China has already scaled back its U.S. soybean demand to the bare minimum, but with Brazil producing a record soybean crop this year, it may allow China to further trim their need for U.S. soybeans. At the same time, this may also cut imports of used cooking oil from China, boosting domestic soybean consumption. China currently has no soybeans from the U.S. on the books for the 2025/26 marketing year.

The livestock complex was also impacted by tariff reactions. No tariffs will be placed on Mexico or Canada, which was supportive for pork demand. Other importers will see tariffs though, including Japan at 24 percent, South Korea at 25 percent, and China will see an additional 34 percent. Heavy liquidation developed in both feeder and live cattle contracts as those are the contracts with the greatest managed money length. Losses were compounded for cattle by thoughts that if the U.S. economy starts to suffer, beef consumption will decline first.

Basis values across the Interior market have started to firm, especially on corn. Producers across the U.S. have been active corn sellers this year and many report being 80 percent to 90 percent sold on old crop inventory. There is little urgency to market these final bushels, especially with the start of the spring fieldwork season that does tend to diminish selling interest, primarily in years with depressed market values. The most basis strength is in the Eastern Corn Belt, with basis tightening to levels that corn is starting to move out of the West to sell into these areas which is not a common practice.

We are now seeing improvement in processing margins for both ethanol grind and soybean crush. The average return for an ethanol plant is now between 10 and 15 cents a gallon, and on soybean crush it is holding near \$1.50 per bushel. As a result, processors are more willing to push for deliveries. This will open windows for favorable cash sales over the next few weeks, but these will likely be short lived.

Even though harvest is advancing in South America, we are not seeing the export pressure that would be expected from crop sizes that are reported. The primary reason for this is building domestic demand in South American countries, mainly for ethanol manufacturing. The South American pipeline was more empty than normal this year which is also taking longer to fill. A bigger factor in slow South American marketing is currency exchange rates. The U.S. dollar has softened recently, and this

tends to slow South American selling, or halt it altogether.

The USDA's Foreign Ag Service has revised its Chinese soybean balance sheets. The FAS has Chinese soybean production this year at 19.8 million metric tons, a slight reduction from last year. The FAS sees Chinese soybean imports growing by 2 percent as a result, taking them to 106 mmt. Less wheat feeding will also bump soybean demand in the country, as will a rebound in hog production. Others point out how Chinese livestock production is becoming more efficient though, and supplement demand may actually decline.

One plus the United States has seen in Chinese trade is a sizable increase in soybean demand to start 2025. During the first two months of 2025, the United States shipped China 9.13 mmt of soybeans, an 84 percent increase from the start of 2024. Delays to the start of the Brazilian soybean harvest benefited demand, as was a push to make imports ahead of the tariffs the US had proposed on Chinese trade. This demand has already started to fade as

Brazilian soybeans are now working into the global supply line.

China is reporting a rebound is taking place to the country's pork demand. Pork consumption is currently running 33 percent higher than last year, and daily demand has reached its highest level in the past five years. Improved economic conditions and a more steady supply of hogs are behind the higher demand, and news of another stimulus package is likely to push it even higher.

China was an active buyer of U.S. beef for several months, but this has ground to a halt. All U.S. red meat import registrations with China expired but this had little impact on trade. The Phase 1 trade agreement with China included approval for all U.S. packing, processing, and storage facilities, but hundreds of these had since expired. Even so, China was not using the lack of approval against the U.S. The U.S. pushed China on these registrations, leading to an approval for pork and poultry facilities for the next five years. Beef facilities were omitted, however.

Chinese importers are now hesitant to book U.S. beef, especially with trade tensions between the two countries heating up. Chinese im-

porters do not want to purchase U.S. beef to find it does not meet import guidelines and is rejected at port facilities. This follows a statement from the Chinese government that while tariffs may not impact commodity supplies, they will alter future trade patterns.

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MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer



International 4386
CAH, 20 Spd. Trans.,
Drawbar, 3 Remotes,
18.4x38 Tires...
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Vermeer FPX 9000
Final Cut Bale Grinder,
1000 PTO, Rear Bale Lift,
Work Ready...
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2003 Bush Hog 2615
Legend
15', 1000PTO, Stump
Jumpers, Pleated Tires,
Low Use, Nice...
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2022 JD 324G
CAH, Pilot Controls, Aux
Hyd Quick Tach,
72" Bkt, 1300 Hrs.
w/Warranty Till Sept...
\$42,500



2015 Snorkel TB60
Kubota Dsl., 4X4,
Good Tires, Work Ready ...
\$19,500



Tyler Patriot XL
JD Dsl., Hydro Jyd Fold
Boom, 1200 Gal Tank,
Foamer, 3900 Hrs...
\$9,450



2003 JD 9220
CAH, PS, Drawbar,
4 Remotes, 620/46 Tires
w/Duals...
\$57,500



2023 JD 4066R
CAH, Hydro 4x4 Loader,
3 Pt. PTO,
115 Hrs. w/Warranty...
\$49,500



1988 JD 4850
CAH, 15 Spd., PS,
3 Pt PTO, 4 Rem.,
18.4x42 Tires w/Duals...
\$34,500



White 5100 6-30
Planter
PTO, Pump,
Good Openers,
Nice Paint...
\$2,750



2003 CAT MT855
CAH, C15 PS Trans.,
Drawbar, 4 Rem.,
w/Rare PTO, Good Tracks...
\$99,500



2012 H&S 5226
2600 Gal, 1000PTO,
Poly Skid Plate in Bed,
Through Dealer Shop,
Work Ready...
\$14,500



1997 JD 726
25' Finisher, 5 Bar Spiked
Tooth Harrow, Rear Hitch
w/Hyd. Connection,
1 Owner Retirement...
\$14,500



Friesen 220 Seed
Tender
Tandem Axle,
Honda Engine,
Field Ready...
\$4,750



2011 JD 1770NT CCS
3 Pt, Pro Series XP Row
Units, Elec Row Shut Offs,
New Style Vac, no till, dbl
disk openers, 2000 ac on
complete rebuild, Just
Serviced, Field Rdy...
\$69,500



2016 Hyundai HX300L
Erops w/AC, 32" Pads,
Long Stick, Hyd. Thumb,
Aux. Hyds., Runs Good..
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Field Ready...
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Monitor, 11,000 Total Bales,
1 Owner, Sharp...
\$17,500



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Tandem, Stump Jumers,
Good Blades &
Gear Boxes...
\$9,450



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BR7090
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Monitor, Fair Belts but
Would Work...
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Small Farm Tractor...
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3 Pt., 2 Rem., 1000 PTO,
5430 Orig Hrs...
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2017 Yale Veracitor 80VX
EROPS, Kubota Dsl.,
2 Stage Mast, 48" Forks,
No SS, Work Ready...
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No-till Coulters,
Good Cheap Planter...
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3 Pt PTO, 4 Rem., Joystick,
18.434 Tires...
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Bull

FROM PAGE 7

At this year’s Ohio Beef Expo, Vidovich sold a 50 percent revenue interest in Boardwalk Empire for \$80,000 during the Maine-Anjou seedstock sale. As part of the sale, Vidovich kept possession of the bull.

“We want to finish his show career, which will end this year,” he said. “That’s why we kept possession of him.”

Vidovich is planning on doing about 10 shows again this year.

“I’m thinking we’re going to go to a show in New Jersey in May and after that at the Ohio State Fair,” he said. “The big show season runs from July to October.”

The sale opened with six bidders bidding to buy a quarter of the bull. When the price hit \$35,000, buying a quarter share or bumping it up to a half share was possible. Vidovich made that offer a little sooner.

“When he hit \$30,000, I told him they would own half interest in him,” Vidovich said. “Then that kicked up.”

Only two bidders remained at that price. “There were two of them, back and forth, all the way to \$80,000,” Vidovich said.

Success in the show ring and his increased value has translated into high demand for Boardwalk Empire’s semen. Currently, he’s sold over 3,400 straws of semen since the fall of 2024 through a

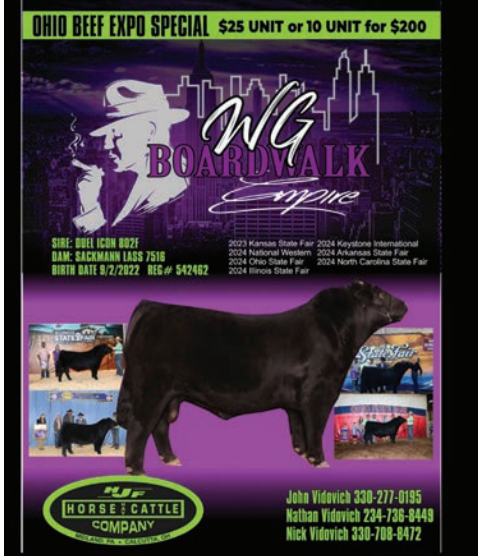
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Normally, a straw of Boardwalk Empire’s semen was selling for \$50. Vidovich lowered the price to \$25 for the Expo. “Some people took advantage of it,” he said. That was before the sale. “It was kind of funny, but people who were tire kickers, once they saw the price, took advantage.”

Not only did Vidovich increase Boardwalk Empire’s value while at the Expo, but he also purchased his competitor, paying \$20,000 for Lucky Day, a Mainetainer bull.

Lucky Day, the Grand Champion Maintainer Bull at the 2024 North American International Livestock Exposition the 2025 Cattlemen’s Congress, and Boardwalk Empire may be the envy of many cattlemen.

“Now we have both of them,” Vidovich said.



Above: Boardwalk Empire's 2025 Ohio Beef Expo Marketing Flyer Beef Expo.



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Above: Du-All lineup

Antique tractor collector turns love of telling stories into novels

NEW BERLINE, Ill. – Rick Shaw is an antique tractor collector who has turned his love of telling stories into writing novels. Shaw said he has been writing all his life, but publicly his first published work started on his Facebook page. He then started a Facebook group and titled it Antique Iron Mafia. “I started with snip-pets and got encouraged. I thought I would start a blog.” Shaw’s successful blog is Antique Iron Media, and over the years it has mostly focused on the antique tractor collecting hobby although in recent years he has expanded a bit about his writing life. Shaw has been doing the blog since 2018, and he published his two books with House of Honor Books. His stories are not about farming, but time travel and crime thrillers, but they do show his agricultural past. “I mention tractors in my book Perspectives, and Coming



WRENCHING TALES
By Cindy Ladage

Home, both books have International Harvester tractors.” Besides his lawn and garden collection, Shaw has also collected a 1947 Farmall H and a 1955 Farmall 300. Shaw’s family farmed with International Harvester on the farm they managed in Knox County, Ill. While they drove International Harvester tractors, Shaw was the first one in his family to own one. Because of the family connection, he chose that brand to share in his novels. Today although still involved, he is not the main moderator of Antique Iron Mafia Facebook page. He took a step back so that he could have more time for his latest pursuit, book writing. A heart episode in 2022 made him look at his life and reprioritize. Besides the books, Shaw also has some magazine credits as well. His

(Wrenching Tales continued on page 11)



Above: Rick on one of his lovely Shaws.



Above: Another cool Shaw that Rick owns.

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Wrenching Tales

FROM PAGE 10

first published article was for Lawn and Garden Magazine in 2019. “And then I wrote three or four for the Oliver Hart Parr publication.”

He was excited that one of his stories became a cover story. Besides writing, Shaw also is a photographer.

Growing up on a farm in Knox County, Shaw worked on the farm until moving to central Illinois, where he became a professional truck driver. On the farm, Shaw shared, "I didn't know what a great blessing it was back then, but I picked ear corn and put it in and out of a corn crib. I ran a field cultivator and moldboard plows, things that are not done today."

This background allowed Shaw to live the ag heritage he loves. Today he works hauling grain, so he continues in the ag related realm. Shaw's interest in the antique tractor hobby began in 2009 when he started collecting lawn and garden tractors and attended his first antique tractor show at Jacksonville's Prairieland Museum.

Shaw's garden tractors include both Gibsons and Shaw Du-Alls. Shaw said, "I like the Gibsons because they have a tiller steer, and I like the way they steer. Right now, I

have a Model D, and a Model A.”

Rick shared that his Model A was an enhanced tractor that had been updated to be is handicap accessible because the gentleman that restored it was paralyzed.

Rick added about the modified Model A, "That's why I like human interest stories. I like the back story."

In the beginning, Shaw said, “I started with Simplicity and Allis Chalmers. I tried to modify them and make them more tractor like. I did a lot of customs back when although I don’t claim to be a mechanic.”

One special tractor he claims was, "The only narrow front riding lawn-mower that started life as a Simplicity and got converted into a narrow front tractor. This was featured in LACG. That was my first submission for the magazine. I collected Case tractors up until last winter. I had a collection of the first 4 series that Case built when they got into lawn and garden tractors. That was a shared interest with my dad, Harold Shaw."

The tractors that share his last name are the Shaw Du-Alls. "I discovered the Du-Alls during COVID. My first was Du-All was on Aumann Auctions. I started collecting them at the tail end of 2020 around there. After my first encounter at Auman's, I found a nicer one in Ohio and went and got it. I didn't even know they existed before this. Now I have five of

them.”

The Shaw Du-All models in his collection include a 1951 R12T. "It is a favorite; it is Wisconsin powered. Then I also have a 1956 N8W, which is also Wisconsin powered. This has been restored; Doug Edwards and Jerry Rawlings had a hand in it. I also have an N5 1954. My favorite is the N8W, Then, one I bought from Duane Stone was a basket case, it is I think a 1947 R8. When I ended up with the tractor I was in a parade in Waverly."

Writing about antique tractors, Shaw said most of his tractor stories are human interest stories, and he shared that's what he likes to do for his characters in his books. Besides the two published books with House of Honor, Shaw said, "I have also been featured on podcasts, for my short stories, Strangeness in the South Forty was featured twice."

The story can be found on Shaw's blog. The short story was narrated by Cam Buckner of Dixie Crypted/What if it's true, and the other was narrated on Hidden Corners. They also made a second story, The Promise.

Shaw is on the road for his work, and he travels for his tractors as well. "I have traveled to Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and went to Indiana for parts. Then some were in my own backyard, in New Berlin. I also have a work in progress, an R6 that came out of Mackinaw, Ill. I found it on



Above: Rick with his favorite Shaw Du-All.

eBay, it had a bunch of attachments which interested me as much as the tractor.”

Besides the R6 being a work in progress, Shaw also has another novel in his series that is also a work in progress. For information about Shaw's books, log onto House of Honor.

Ohio Beef Youth days planned for May 17 and 31

MARYSVILLE, Ohio – In partnership with Ohio State University Extension, 4-H Youth Development, and the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine, the Ohio Beef Youth Council is offering two beef youth days.

The beef youth days are scheduled for May 17 at The Ohio State University, Columbus, and May 31 at Ohio State ATI, Wooster. Sessions will begin at 8:30 a.m. and run until 3 p.m. Youth ages 8-21 years of age are welcome, and parents are invited to attend as well. There is a registration fee to attend that includes lunch.

The program will be the same at both locations and will cover important beef industry topics for different age divisions. Participants ages 8-12 will learn about biosecurity, nutrition, genetics, carcass evaluation, and cut IDs. Participants 13 and up will learn about biosecurity, nutrition, genetics, carcass evaluation, cut IDs, reproduction and utilization of the calving simulator.

There will be hands-on sessions where participants will be able to engage and elevate their knowledge and skills in the beef industry.

Registration is now open and will remain open until May 1. Learn more about Ohio Beef Youth days and register at www.ohiocattle.org.

The Best of Spaulding Outdoors is the best of Jack Spaulding's columns over 30+ years. Enjoy his humorous trials in the outdoors, and colorful stories of his rural Indiana childhood. Available through Amazon.com in paperback for \$14.95, and for Kindle at \$3.99.

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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 4/7/2025 - Final			
AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 4/7/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	373	1,240	1,365
Feeder Cattle:	291(78.0%)	1,082(87.3%)	1,141(83.6%)
Slaughter Cattle:	78(20.9%)	150(12.1%)	220(16.1%)
Replacement Cattle:	4(1.1%)	8(0.6%)	4(0.3%)

Compared to last Monday market not fully established due to lite receipts. Good quality weaned calf packages suitable for grass well received; however softer undertone for single lots and average quality calves on offer today compared to last week. Very good demand for yearling heifer packages. Slaughter cows sold 3.00 to 4.00 lower with moderate demand. Slaughter bulls sold steady with good demand. Heavy rain over the weekend caused extensive flooding and very muddy field conditions restricting cattle movement today. Supply included: 78% Feeder Cattle (17% Steers, 0% Dairy Steers, 65% Heifers, 18% Bulls); 21% Slaughter Cattle (87% Cows, 13% Bulls); 1% Replacement Cattle (100% Stock Cows). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 56%.

Group of 20 head or more:

Heifers
63 head 650 lbs 294.00 Bbwf-Few Rwf Value-Added
34 head 752 lbs 276.75 Bbwf-Few Rwf Value-Added

FEEDER CATTLE

STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	440	440	367.50	367.50
5	420-430	427	385.00-387.50	387.01 Value Added
4	470-488	484	361.00-367.50	362.58
4	455-471	467	370.00-380.00	377.56 Value Added
3	543	543	325.00	325.00
3	543	543	365.00	365.00 Value Added
1	575	575	327.50	327.50
3	605-625	617	280.00-303.00	295.06
6	625-628	628	327.50-338.00	336.26 Value Added
1	685	685	310.00	310.00
3	735-745	742	269.00-274.00	270.65
3	730	730	284.00	284.00 Value Added
3	758	758	269.00	269.00 Value Added
1	1065	1065	195.00	195.00

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	395	395	340.00	340.00
2	465-485	475	320.50-322.50	321.48
2	650-685	668	260.00-268.00	264.10

STEERS - Small and Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	555	555	270.00	270.00

DAIRY STEERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	425	425	192.50	192.50

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	320	320	277.50	277.50
5	365-395	388	290.00-317.50	300.43
6	357-370	364	350.00-377.50	366.45 Value Added
6	415-440	425	317.50-340.00	332.13 Value Added
1	490	490	297.50	297.50
8	450-488	481	312.50-332.50	324.36 Value Added
4	510-535	522	287.50-295.00	289.97 Value Added
1	570	570	280.00	280.00
7	555-560	558	285.00-310.00	291.40 Value Added
7	601-630	614	272.50-278.00	275.89
4	650-665	661	255.00-258.00	255.74
63	650	650	294.00	294.00 Value Added
4	715-746	738	240.00-243.00	240.73
2	732	732	277.00	277.00 Value Added
8	751	751	245.50	245.50
34	752	752	276.75	276.75 Value Added
1	960	960	190.00	190.00

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	295	295	275.00	275.00
3	360	360	252.50-260.00	255.00

2	432	432	280.00	280.00
4	470-495	483	242.50-282.50	270.41
1	500	500	270.00	270.00
2	550-560	555	250.00-260.00	255.05
3	750-795	775	200.00-220.00	213.55

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	230	230	300.00	300.00
1	285	285	350.00	350.00
1	340	340	350.00	350.00
4	325-336	333	375.00-395.00	379.88 Value Added
2	375-385	380	390.00-397.50	393.80 Value Added
2	410-415	413	380.00-385.00	382.48 Value Added
1	485	485	337.50	337.50
2	465	465	380.00	380.00 Value Added
4	520-540	535	295.00-315.00	301.12
5	505-540	518	325.00-345.00	339.86 Value Added
4	565-580	573	286.00-299.00	292.41
4	550-568	564	322.50-325.00	324.39 Value Added
1	640	640	280.00	280.00
1	675	675	268.00	268.00
1	715	715	295.00	295.00 Value Added
1	765	765	252.50	252.50
1	800	800	231.00	231.00
1	1020	1020	186.00	186.00

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	275-285	280	330.00-340.00	334.91
3	320-345	337	297.50-320.00	304.63
3	405-440	417	317.50-327.50	321.02
1	455	455	305.00	305.00
1	740	740	249.00	249.00

BULLS - Small and Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	270	270	295.00	295.00

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
5	1250-1550	1379	135.00-139.00	137.25	Average
16	1220-1725	1454	140.00-148.00	143.22	High
1	1855	1855	126.00	126.00	Low

COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
8	980-1350	1236	134.00-138.00	136.56	Average
20	1070-1445	1263	141.00-155.00	146.72	High
3	1140-1330	1218	123.00-133.00	127.80	Low

COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
5	1015-1270	1158	131.00-143.00	135.66	High
1	795	795	110.00	110.00	Low
2	745-790	768	87.00-91.00	89.06	Very Low

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
4	1130-2020	1471	162.00-169.00	165.82	Average
5	1590-2225	1813	170.00-184.00	178.59	High

REPLACEMENT CATTLE

STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	5	735-1280	1007	137.00-151.00	144.05

Please Note: The above USDA LPGMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted.

Explanatory Notes:

Stage (Cattle) - Represents pregnancy stage (O = open; T1 = 1st Trimester, 1 to 3 months; T1-2 = 1st/2nd trimester, 1 to 6 months; T2 = 2nd Trimester, 4 to 6 months; T2-3 = 2nd/3rd Trimester, 4 to 9 months; T3 = 3rd Trimester, 7 to 9 months; T1-3 = all trimesters, 1 to 9 months)

Age - Numerical representation of age in years.

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News
KY Dept of Ag Market News Matt VonGruenigen
Frankfort, KY | (502) 782-4138 |
www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2127

Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, April 4, 2025

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week slaughter lambs mostly steady to 35.00 lower. Slaughter ewes mostly steady to 10.00 lower. Feeder lambs not well tested. At San Angelo, TX 9,565 head sold in a two day sale. Equity Cooperative Auction sold 700 feeder lambs in California and 425 feeder lambs in Montana. 4,310 lamb carcasses sold with no comparison due to confidentiality. All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs:Choice and Prime 2-3
San Angelo: Woolled and shorn 105-175 lbs 166.00-190.00.

New Holland: Woolled and shorn 120-170 lbs 185.00-225.00.

Ft. Collins: Woolled and shorn 110-135 lbs 202.50-245.00.

South Dakota: Woolled and shorn 110-130 lbs 215.00-250.00; 130-150 lbs 193.00-206.00; 150-160 lbs 187.00-198.00.

Kalona: Woolled and shorn 115-135 lbs 215.00-275.00.

Billings: Woolled and shorn 120-130 lbs no test.

Missouri: Woolled and shorn 110-115 lbs 230.00-245.00.

Arkansas: Woolled and shorn no test.

Equity Coop: No sales.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-2:

San Angelo: Hair 40-60 lbs 290.00-315.00, few 318.00-320.00; 60-70 lbs 280.00-308.00, few 312.00; 70-80 lbs 279.00-300.00, few 302.00-304.00; 80-90 lbs 248.00-290.00, few 292.00-296.00; 90-100 lbs 230.00-276.00, few 283.00-296.00. Woolled and shorn 60-70 lbs 280.00-300.00.

New Holland: Woolled and shorn 40-50 lbs 325.00; 50-60 lbs 320.00-342.00, few 375.00; 60-70 lbs 320.00-347.00; 70-80 lbs 327.00-340.00; 80-90 lbs 325.00-345.00; 90-100 lbs 320.00-340.00, few 350.00; 100-120 lbs 292.00-305.00, few 320.00-345.00. Hair 40-50 lbs 310.00-335.00; 50-60 lbs 320.00-345.00; 60-70 lbs 315.00-335.00; 70-80 lbs 320.00-335.00; 80-90 lbs 300.00-325.00; 90-100 lbs 300.00-325.00.

Ft. Collins: Woolled and shorn 50-60 lbs 300.00-315.00; 60-70 lbs 290.00-300.00; 85 lbs 305.00. hair 50-60 lbs 302.50-320.00; 61 lbs 307.50; 70-80 lbs 295.00; 103 lbs 250.00.

South Dakota: Woolled and shorn 50-60 lbs 300.00-320.00; 60-70 lbs 285.00-295.00; 70-80 lbs 270.00-300.00; 80-90 lbs 265.00-290.00; 90-100 lbs 265.00-275.00. Hair 53 lbs 310.00; 60-70 lbs 270.00-300.00; 80-95 lbs 245.00-280.00.

Kalona: Woolled and shorn 40-50 lbs 315.00-345.00; 50-60 lbs 275.00-310.00, few 315.00-350.00; 60-70 lbs 275.00-295.00; 70-80 lbs 280.00-300.00, few 310.00-330.00; 80-90 lbs 285.00-310.00, few 315.00; 90-100 lbs 280.00-290.00. Hair 40-50 lbs 260.00-295.00; 50-80 lbs 275.00-285.00; 80-90 lbs 272.50-285.00; 98 lbs 235.00.

Billings: No test.
Missouri: Hair 50-60 lbs 285.00-325.00; 60-70 lbs 275.00-310.00; 70-80 lbs 265.00-305.00; 80-90 lbs 280.00-300.00; 100-110 lbs 220.00-257.50.

Arkansas: Hair 50-60 lbs 260.00-287.50; 60-70 lbs 252.50-300.00.

Slaughter Ewes: San Angelo: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) hair 131.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 97.00-118.00, hair 100.00-120.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) hair 109.00-134.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) hair 98.00-118.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 92.00, hair 86.00; Cull 1 40.00-78.00.

New Holland: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 100.00-127.00, hair 110.00-140.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 100.00; Cull 1 no test.

Ft. Collins: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 80.00-125.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 80.00-127.50.

South Dakota: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 75.00-100.00, hair 85.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 85.00-100.00, hair 120.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) hair 82.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 95.00-105.00; Cull 1 30.00-45.00.

Kalona: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 85.00-125.00, hair 80.00-120.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 87.50-90.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 80.00-85.00.

Billings: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test; Cull 1 no test.

Missouri: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) hair 115.00-120.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 105.00-115.00, hair 105.00-115.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) no test.

Arkansas: Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: Hair 36 lbs 320.00; 50-60 lbs 314.00-320.00.

Ft. Collins: 34 lbs 265.00; 40-50 lbs 255.00-290.00.

South Dakota: 31 lbs 335.00; 40-50 lbs 320.00-330.00.

Kalona: No test.

Billings: No test.

Missouri: Hair 22 lbs 386.00; 30-40 lbs 240.00-314.00; 40-50 lbs 255.00-305.00.

Arkansas: Hair 30-40 lbs 285.00-295.00; 40-50 lbs 280.00-285.00.

Equity Coop: CA: 700: Shorn old crop 137 lbs 171.00-175.00.

MT: 425: Shorn old crop 115 lbs 195.00.

Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: Yearling hair 95-135 lbs 170.00-198.00/cwt; young hair 100-145 lbs 140.00-165.00/cwt; hair ewes and lambs 140.00/head.

Ft. Collins: No test.

South Dakota: Bred yearlings 245.00/head; bred young 245.00-270.00/head.

Kalona: No test.

Billings: No test.

Missouri: Young hair 95-120 lbs 135.00-155.00/cwt; hair ewes with lambs 180.00-375.00/family.

Arkansas: Yearling hair 100.00-235.00/head; young hair 130.00-210.00/head; hair ewes and lambs 105.00/head.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 42,000 compared to 41,000 last week and 38,000 last year.

Source: USDA LPGMN, San Angelo, TX
Rebecca Sauder 325-450-4265
www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn

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Farm World strives to provide customers with the best delivery possible. Recently, many of our delivery areas have been experiencing late delivery of the paper. Farm World's late delivery staff has been working closely with USPS to ensure you receive your paper on time, every time. If your paper is not delivered by the issue date, please let us know.

MARKETS

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids									
Grain Report for Thursday, April 10, 2025 - Final									
FUTURE SETTLEMENTS									
Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 4/10/2025							
CBOT	Corn	483.00 (May 25)	488.75 (Jul 25)	446.50 (Sep 25)	454.25 (Dec 25)	465.50 (Mar 26)	472.75 (May 26)	476.75 (Jul 26)	
CBOT	Soybeans	1029.00 (May 25)	1036.75 (Jul 25)	1027.25 (Aug 25)	1004.50 (Sep 25)	1004.75 (Nov 25)	1017.25 (Jan 26)	1020.75 (Mar 26)	
CBOT	Wheat	538.00 (May 25)	553.50 (Jul 25)	568.00 (Sep 25)	590.50 (Dec 25)	609.50 (Mar 26)	620.25 (May 26)	623.25 (Jul 26)	
CBOT	White Oats	339.50 (May 25)	335.50 (Jul 25)	337.50 (Sep 25)	337.00 (Dec 25)	340.50 (Mar 26)	346.50 (May 26)	322.75 (Jul 26)	
KCBT	Wheat	558.00 (May 25)	573.00 (Jul 25)	588.00 (Sep 25)	610.25 (Dec 25)	628.50 (Mar 26)	637.25 (May 26)	637.25 (Jul 26)	
MGE	Wheat	602.00 (May 25)	616.50 (Jul 25)	628.75 (Sep 25)	646.75 (Dec 25)	663.00 (Mar 26)	674.00 (May 26)	678.00 (Jul 26)	

US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	20.00K to 100.00K	UNCH	5.0300-5.8300	UP 0.0900	5.4300
Pennyrile	40.00Z	UNCH	4.9425	UP 0.0350	4.9425

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	100.00K	UNCH	5.8300	UP 0.0900	5.8300
Ohio River - Lower KY	35.00Z	UNCH	4.8925	UP 0.0350	4.8925
Purchase	85.00K	UNCH	5.6800	UP 0.0900	5.6800
Purchase	50.00Z	UNCH	5.0425	UP 0.0350	5.0425

US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	20.00K	UNCH	5.0300	UP 0.0900	5.0300
Purchase	-25.00Z	UNCH	4.2925	UP 0.0350	4.2925
Green River	10.00K	UNCH	4.9300	UP 0.0900	4.9300
Green River	-25.00Z	UNCH	4.2925	UP 0.0350	4.2925
Pennyrile	-15.00K to 21.00K	DN 5.00-UNCH	4.6800-5.0400	UP 0.0400-UP 0.0900	4.7983
Pennyrile	-30.00Z to -10.00Z	UNCH	4.2425-4.4425	UP 0.0350	4.3108
Louisville	-9.00K to 10.00K	UNCH	4.7400-4.9300	UP 0.0900	4.8350
Louisville	-9.00K	UNCH	4.7400	UP 0.0900	4.7400
Bluegrass	10.00K	UNCH	4.9300	UP 0.0900	4.9300
Bluegrass	-40.00Z	UNCH	4.1425	UP 0.0350	4.1425

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	6.00K to 11.00K	UNCH-DN 1.00	4.8900-4.9400	UP 0.0900-UP 0.0800	4.9150
Ohio River - Upper KY	37.00Z to -30.00Z	UP 7.00-UNCH	4.1725-4.2425	UP 0.1050-UP 0.0350	4.2075
Ohio River - Lower KY	14.00K to 20.00K	UP 1.00-DN 1.00	4.9700-5.0300	UP 0.1000-UP 0.0800	4.9900
Ohio River - Lower KY	20.00U to -20.00Z	4.2650-4.3425	UP 0.0775-UP 0.0350	4.3013	
Purchase	15.00K to 20.00K	UNCH-UP 5.00	4.9800-5.0300	UP 0.0900-UP 0.1400	4.9925
Purchase	-25.00Z to -15.00U	UNCH	4.2925-4.3150	UP 0.0350-UP 0.0400	4.3013

US #2 SORGHUM (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	0.00Z	UNCH	4.5425	UP 0.0350	4.5425

US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	5.00K	UNCH	10.3400	UP 0.1625	10.3400
Purchase	-30.00X	UNCH	9.7475	UP 0.0775	9.7475
Green River	-15.00K	UNCH	10.1400	UP 0.1625	10.1400
Green River	-50.00X	UNCH	9.5475	UP 0.0775	9.5475
Pennyrile	-45.00K to 20.00K	UNCH-UP 2.00	9.8400-10.4900	UP 0.1625-UP 0.1825	9.9757
Pennyrile	-80.00X to -28.00X	UNCH-UP 13.00	9.2475-9.7675	UP 0.0775-UP 0.2075	9.3675
Louisville	-49.00K	UNCH	9.8000	UP 0.1625	9.8000
Louisville	-49.00K	UNCH	9.8000	UP 0.1625	9.8000
Bluegrass	-70.00K	UNCH	9.5900	UP 0.1625	9.5900
Bluegrass	-95.00X	UNCH	9.0975	UP 0.0775	9.0975

Region/Location	Basis (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price(\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	6.00K to 14.00K	DN 18.00-UP 2.00	10.2300-10.4300	DN 0.0175-UP 0.1825	10.3300
Ohio River - Upper KY	43.00X to -41.00X	UP 9.00-UP 2.00	9.6175-9.6375	UP 0.1675-UP 0.0975	9.6275
Ohio River - Lower KY	8.00K to 25.00K	UP 4.00-UNCH	10.3700-10.5400	UP 0.2025-UP 0.1625	10.4583
Ohio River - Lower KY	33.00X to -17.00X	UP 10.00-UNCH	9.7175-9.8775	UP 0.1775-UP 0.0775	9.7855
Purchase	8.00K to 14.00K	UP 3.00-UNCH	10.3700-10.4300	UP 0.1925-UP 0.1625	10.4100
Purchase	-40.00X to -30.00X	UNCH	9.6475-9.7475	UP 0.0775	9.7100

US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	-5.00K	UNCH	5.3300	DN 0.0425	5.3300
Pennyrile	-5.00N	UNCH	5.4850	DN 0.0225	5.4850

US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	-25.00N	UNCH	5.2850	DN 0.0225	5.2850
Green River	-90.00N	UNCH	4.6350	DN 0.0225	4.6350
Pennyrile	-85.00K to -55.00K	UNCH	4.5300-4.8300	DN 0.0425	4.6133
Pennyrile	-75.00N to -11.00N	UNCH-UP 3.00	4.7850-5.4250	DN 0.0225-UP 0.0075	4.9621
Louisville	-26.00K	UNCH	5.1200	DN 0.0425	5.1200
Louisville	-78.00N to -35.00N	UNCH	4.7550-5.1850	DN 0.0225	4.9700
Bluegrass	-65.00N	UNCH	4.8850	DN 0.0225	4.8850

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	-10.00K	UNCH	5.2800	DN 0.0425	5.2800
Ohio River - Upper KY	-30.00N	UNCH	5.2350	DN 0.0225	5.2350
Ohio River - Lower KY	20.00N to -8.00N	UNCH	5.3350-5.4550	DN 0.0225	5.3890
Purchase	-65.00K to -20.00K	UNCH	4.7300-5.1800	DN 0.0425	4.9550
Purchase	-20.00N to -10.00N	UNCH-DN 1.00	5.3350-5.4350	DN 0.0225-DN 0.0325	5.3850

Explanatory Notes: Price & Basis Values quoted are for Current Delivery, unless otherwise noted.
CBOT/KCBT/MGETrade month symbols: F January; G February; H March; J April; K May; M June; N July; Q August; U September; V October; X November; Z December. FOB: Freight On Board. CIF: Cost, Insurance, and Freight. T: Truck; R: Rail; B: Barge, T/R: Truck/Rail, R/B: Rail/Barge, T/R/B: Truck/Rail/Barge, OV: Ocean Vessel

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Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection

Report for Thursday, April 10, 2025 - Final									
Daily Slaughter									
Thu., Apr. 10, 2025	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	Prev Week	Last Year	2025	2024	YTD	
				WTD	WTD	YTD	YTD		% Change
Calves	1,000	1,000	388	4,000	4,000	2,978	42,330	66,097	-36.0%
Cattle	114,000	121,000	123,585	463,000	472,000	479,641	8,334,349	8,799,929	-5.3%
Hogs	488,000	479,000	483,018	1,951,000	1,917,000	1,911,699	35,906,072	36,980,236	-2.9%
Sheep	8,000	8,000	7,017	35,000	35,000	32,319	541,997	549,343	-1.3%
Previous Daily Slaughter									
Wed. Apr. 9, 2025	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	Prev Week	Last Year	2025	2024	YTD	
				WTD	WTD	YTD	YTD		% Change
Calves	1,000	1,000	992	3,000	3,000	2,590	41,330	65,709	-37.1%
Cattle	123,000	124,000	112,246	349,000	351,000	356,056	8,220,349	8,676,344	-5.3%
Hogs	487,000	485,000	488,831	1,463,000	1,438,000	1,428,681	35,418,072	36,497,218	-3.0%
Sheep	8,000	8,000	5,612	27,000	27,000	25,302	533,997	542,326	-1.5%
Previous Day Breakdown									
Wed., Apr. 9, 2025									
Cattle		Steers/Heifers ...101,000			Cows/Bulls ...22,000				
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Veal Calves Holstein Beef Cross 398	\$600-\$1125 \$850-\$1220 104	\$0.70-\$1.30 \$2.60-\$3.10 \$1.75-\$3 \$1.20-\$2.90 410	\$1.85-\$1.80 \$1.55-\$1.70 66 \$1.68-\$2.13 31 \$50-\$75 \$30-\$59 \$11-\$20 74 \$35-\$75 \$65-\$95 51

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Missouri Direct Hay Report

Direct Hay Weighted Average Report

for week ending 4/11/2025

Many producers that were in the direct line of last week's storms once again spent a fair amount of time this week cleaning up, fixing fences and water gaps. Those in areas that didn't receive extreme amounts are slowing finding some spots that they can get over and returning to field work along with spreading fertilizer on pastures and hay fields if they hadn't gotten it done earlier. Hay demand is light as feeding season draws to an end and the supply of hay is moderate. Hay prices are steady to weak. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory at <https://apps.mda.mo.gov/haydirectory> or visit the University of Missouri Extension feed stuff finder at <https://feedstufffinder.org>

HAY (Conventional)	
Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Ton)	
Medium Square 3x3	250.00-300.00
Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	10.00-14.00
Alfalfa - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	
Medium Square 3x3	175.00-225.00
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	150.00-175.00
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	6.00-10.00
Alfalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	125.00-150.00
Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	125.00-200.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	80.00-125.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	3.50-8.00
Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale)	
Large Round	25.00-50.00
STRAW (Conventional)	
Corn Stalk - (Ask/Per Bale)	
Round	10.00-25.00
Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	4.00-7.00

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News
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Ohio Farm Bureau presidents' visit Washington, discuss farm bill

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF) recently returned from its annual county presidents' trip to Washington, D.C., where they discussed federal and international policy with legislators. Prime topic? The farm bill.

"We want to make sure that the farm bill passes and more importantly that it passes for the complete five years or more rather than extending it for a year at a time as has been done the last few years," said Barbie Casey-Booth, Butler County president. "The feedback was that there are bi-partisan efforts to be sure that we do get that accomplished and that the farm bill will be more agriculture-focused than it has in the past."

The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) was also up for discussion, said Brady Bales, OFBF senior director of state and national policy. Many provisions in that act are set to expire at the end of 2025. One of those provisions is 199A passed-through entities.

"About 98 percent of farming operations are set up like that across the country," Bales said. "A passed-through entity would be like a small business and a family's income source comes from that small business. A person or couple would claim that as their personal income even though that is business income. State and local taxes give them benefits to enjoy some exemptions and that is set to expire at the end of this year."

The estate tax exemption would also be affected if that act expires, Bales said. Currently, an individual can exempt up to \$13.1 million of property, or \$26.2 million a couple if they were to transfer that over to somebody for estate planning purposes. If that exemption were to sunset or not be made permanent that would go down to \$5 million and \$10 million respectively.

"We would like to see at minimum a renewal but there is a conversation about maybe making these provisions in the 2017 TCJA permanent," Bales explained. "Just for those two provisions, if you were to combine them, if Congress does not renew that or make it permanent, those two aspects alone would result in a \$9 billion tax increase for

farmers across the country."

Meanwhile, Casey-Booth and her group met with legislators and others discussing, among other things, the hot-button issue of trade and tariffs.

"We have found that it has been expressed to President Trump by both legislators, American Farm Bureau, and the legislators on the agriculture committees, that farmers cannot withstand the trade wars long-term, meaning 12 to 18 months," she explained. "It is my understanding that there have been promises made that that will not happen."

Casey-Booth's biggest takeaway was that there are bi-partisan efforts to protect and support agriculture, something she had not seen in the past two years when she visited Washington advocating for agriculture. Agriculture seems to be a priority one thing now, she said.

"We found out from American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall that out of a meeting between him and the Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke Rollins, President Trump now has a weekly one-page report on everything on agriculture on his desk," she said. "That has

not ever happened in history. President Trump is listening to the agriculture folks."

Other events on the trip included U.S. Rep. Troy Balderson (R-Ohio 12th district), hosting his Farm Forum at the Capitol Visitors Center, Bales said. The group heard from Rep. GT Thompson (R-Pennsylvania 15th district), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. He told them "We want to put the farm back in the farm bill."

Representatives from the Embassies of Spain and Mexico visited with the presidents and shared

some fun trivia facts, Bales said. For instance, on average, Mexicans consume about a billion tortillas daily. Also, 6,500 truckloads of avocados were shipped to the United States in the weeks before the Super Bowl.

Finally, Casey-Booth summed up the trip this way: "I came back with a very positive attitude toward everything we discussed. Everyone there seems to be on the same page and working toward the same goals. That is something that I have not seen in a long while."



Above: Hamilton County Farm Bureau President, Dr. Mike Frederick, Barbie Casey-Booth, Rep. Warren Davidson (R-Ohio 8th district), and Chris Patelle, Preble County President. Davidson told the presidents that, concerning tariffs, President Donald Trump knows it will disrupt agriculture, but he will take care of farmers.

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Above: Barbie Casey-Booth, Butler County Farm Bureau president, joined other Ohio Farm Bureau presidents on the annual trip to Washington, D.C. The farm bill was a prime topic of discussion. The presidents want a new farm bill for the complete five years and no more yearly extensions.





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Michigan dairy farmers partner with professional sports teams

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Some professional baseball players looking for an edge in their bids to make the major leagues could start drinking more milk.

The United Dairy Industry of Michigan (UDIM) has partnered with a minor league affiliate of the Detroit Tigers on a new training center featuring things like a weight room and batting cages.

The facility, named after the UDIM, was part of a more than \$30 million renovation to Lake Michigan Credit Union ballpark, home of the West Michigan Whitecaps, just outside Grand Rapids.

Melissa Gerharter, CEO of UDIM, said the naming rights to an area of the stadium where athletes work out plays into the purpose of her organization, which is to promote and educate about the nutritional benefits of dairy products.

“It really fits into our mission,” she said.

UDIM, with over 800 dairy farmer members, also has nutritional placards on the inside walls of the 4,500 square foot performance center with messages about the positive benefits of consuming milk and other dairy products.

One of the messages is how eating yogurt and cheese can boost muscle growth and recovery from work outs.

Such exposure to dairy products will go beyond the athletes using the facility because the plan is to make it available to the public in a limited capacity during the off season.

Dan Morrison, vice president of sales and marketing for the Class A minor league team, said the intent is to allow other people to use it like athletes and trainers in the region, along with guests at corporate events and trade shows held in the conference spaces of



Above: Promoting milk inside a new work out room for minor league baseball players is another way the United Dairy Industry of Michigan is working for dairy farmers. Messages about the nutritional benefits of milk are posted throughout a new work out room for professional athletes named after the United Dairy Industry of Michigan.

the ballpark.

The UDIM Performance Center also includes a HitTrax, technology allowing batters in the cages to see where the ball was struck and how far it traveled on a virtual reality screen of a baseball stadium.

“They can certainly also use it if they just want to go in there and have a little fun and hit some balls,” he said.

Morrison said UDIM and its message about nutrition will gain additional exposure from its name on the facility being included in pictures on social media posts and other advertising about the team and ballpark.

Gerharter said UDIM obtained the naming rights for a three-year period with an option to extend.

The opportunity resulted from an ongoing working relationship between the organizations for about the past decade under an existing agreement. The partnership has allowed UDIM to do things like post signs related to health benefits of dairy products inside the stadium and physically engage with fans about dairy products while they’re going to and from their seats.

UDIM has similar partnerships with the Detroit Lions, Detroit Pistons and the Grand Rapids Rise, a professional indoor women’s volleyball team.

Gerharter said those ventures have involved dairy product and team exposure in training rooms and refueling stations at high schools in those cities and UDIM signs in the stadiums of those respective professional teams.

“This has served as really a pillar of how we engage and want to continue to engage within communities,” she said.

So far, Gerharter said she believes reaching out to more of a grass roots level is paying dividends to members, whose check-offs fees based on dairy production are used to fund her organization.

“We try to look and think a little bit more out of the box of how can we make a larger impact,” she said.

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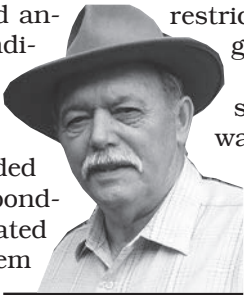
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Conservations officers: Be aware of flood water dangers

With the recent rainfall and anticipation of more to come, Indiana Conservation Officers are reminding the public of the dangers of flood water and to avoid driving through flooded roads. Officers recently responded to more than 40 water-related calls for service, many of them involving motorists who attempted to drive through flood waters.



SPAULDING OUTDOORS
By Jack Spaulding

Conservation Officers, like all authorities, emphasize it is never safe to drive into floodwaters and the following safety precautions should be followed:

- *Do not drive around barricades at water crossings.
- *Do not cross or enter flowing water.
- *Driving through standing water may affect your brakes. Test your brakes at low speeds as soon as you exit the water.
- *If you choose to abandon your vehicle, respect the force of the water flow; you may be swept off your feet. After you exit the vehicle, seek higher ground.
- *Be aware road erosion may occur where there is running or standing water.
- *Remember six inches of water will reach the bottom of most car doors. One foot of water will float many vehicles, and two feet of moving water can carry away most vehicles.
- *If you find yourself stranded in floodwaters, remain calm and call 911. If you can do so safely, move to higher ground.

Body of Mooresville man recovered
Indiana Conservation Officers recovered the body of a missing Mooresville man after he was sucked into a culvert April 5 while attempting to clear debris from a pond.

Around 8:30 a.m., emergency personnel were dispatched to the area near the 12000 block of Lambert Court in Mooresville for a water rescue.

Once on the scene, it was determined Bradley Justus, 59, was attempting to clear debris near a culvert from a neighborhood pond overflow when he was sucked into the culvert by the force of the flood waters. Rescue efforts were hindered by the hazardous water levels.

On the next day around noon, rescue personnel recovered the body of Justus by accessing the culvert pipe from above. The incident is still under investigation.

Boating restricted on West Lakes Chain, Indian Lakes Chain and Sylvan Lake

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has placed boating restrictions on watercraft on the West Lakes Chain, the Indian Lakes Chain and on Sylvan Lake.

The emergency order restricts the operation of motorized watercraft on the Indian Lakes Chain in LaGrange County, which consists of Dallas, Witmer, Hackenberg, Westler and Messick lakes, as well as on the West Lakes Chain, which consists of Waldron, Steinbarger, Tamarack, and Jones lakes in Noble County. The

restrictions are due to concern regarding high-water levels.

The DNR also placed an idle speed restriction on motorized watercraft on Sylvan Lake.

A boating restriction is put into effect when surface water conditions are likely to enter dwelling structures as a result of a wake from a motorized boat.

Indiana State Parks hiring lifeguards

Indiana State Parks public pools will be opening Memorial Day weekend, as will the beach at Indiana Dunes State Park. Recruitment is now underway to hire and certify lifeguards to support a safe environment at state-operated locations for swimmers this summer.

“Lifeguarding is a great way to spend a summer and find out what working at an Indiana State Park is like,” said Brandt Baughman, deputy director for operations for the division, who began his DNR career as a lifeguard at Spring Mill State Park.

Lifeguards are being recruited for the beach at Indiana Dunes State Park and for pools at: Brown County State Park, Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber State Recreation Area), Clifty Falls State Park, McCormick’s Creek State

Park, O’Bannon Woods State Park (aquatic center), Prophetstown State Park (aquatic center), Shakamak State Park, Spring Mill State Park, Turkey Run State Park and Versailles State Park.

All pools listed will be open on Saturday through Monday, May 24-26; Saturday and Sunday, May 31-June 1; and then will be open daily June 7 through Aug. 1. The beach at Indiana Dunes State Park will be open for swimming with lifeguards following the same schedule.

Lifeguard positions are open to applicants 15 and older. If you are interested in becoming a lifeguard, contact the closest property to you as listed above to see if a certification course is available. Property phone numbers are listed at on.IN.gov/stateparks under “Find a park.” More information is at on.IN.gov/dnr-lifeguard.

All other beaches will also open for swimming on Memorial Day weekend and remain open for swimming through Labor Day weekend. This will include Brookville Lake/Whitewater Memorial State Park, Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber SRA), Cecil M. Harden (Raccoon SRA), Chain O’Lakes State Park, Deam Lake SRA, Ferdinand State Forest, Hardy Lake, Mississinewa

wa Lake, Monroe Lake, Ouabache State Park, Patoka Lake, Pokagon State Park, Potato Creek State Park, Salamonie Lake, Starve Hollow SRA and Summit Lake State Park.

The beach at Lincoln State Park will close after the July 4 weekend as the lake level will be dropped for scheduled maintenance on the dam.

The aquatic center at Abe Martin Lodge at Brown County State Park and the pools at Clifty Inn (Clifty Falls State Park), Potawatomi Inn (Pokagon State Park), and Turkey Run Inn (Turkey Run State Park) will continue to welcome inn guests.

Beginning Aug. 1, the pools and the beach at Indiana Dunes State Park will likely return to operating on weekends only, as lifeguards return to school.

‘till next time,
Jack
Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication or e-mail Jack at jackspaulding1971@outlook.com

Spaulding’s books, “The Best Of Spaulding Outdoors” and “The Coon Hunter And The Kid,” are available from Amazon.com as a paperback or Kindle download.

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is the perfect springtime read. You'll dream – and you'll love how those dreams will taste next fall.

But OK, let's say that, though it's very tempting and you can't wait, it's a little too early to think about gardening. Good news: it's never too late to think about plants and in “Mythic Plants: Potions and Poisons from the Gardens of the Gods” by Ellen Zachos, you can mix your love of mythology with your love of all things green.

For the gardener who loves to read about ancient Greek history, beliefs and practices, this book is a delight. It's full of quick-to-read, browseable chapters that explain the origins and cultures associated with various plants, and the ways that ancient folks used everyday plants and weeds in their lives. Zachos tells readers how modern science, laws, and knowledge compare to what the Greeks knew and thought, and how it's relevant to your garden today.

Best of all, this book presents the tales of plants that aren't just food – and plants that aren't safe to have around, either...

So, these two books aren't exactly what you want? You're in luck as your favorite librarian or bookseller can steer you in the direction of rows and mounds of books on gardening that will fit your unique space and match your geographical area for best results. Grab these two books or any good gardening book, find a comfortable chair, plant yourself in it, and read.

In a way, it's kind of a little miracle.

You place tiny little seeds in dirt – DIRT! – and you keep it damp. Wait a week or so, and something grows. Wait a bit longer and that something becomes food or flowers to make you smile. It's pretty miraculous, when you think about it, so think about reading these books about gardening and plants...

Nobody ever said you had to have serious acreage to garden. In fact, you can grow your own food on a balcony or in a basic back yard. You'll want to know how to do it right, though, and in “Black Girls Gardening: Empowering Stories and Garden Wisdom for Healing and Flourishing in Nature” by Amber Grossman, you'll get a good overview of what starts underground.

Want inspiration? That's here, in personal essays about gardening and growing food to nourish oneself, the family, and your community, written by women who have learned and are willing to share their expertise. You'll also find chapters on keeping your plants happy and flourishing, how to compost, what tools you'll want for your garden, how to map out what you're going to grow, and how to take advantage of “companion planting.” Once you've got the hang of things, there are chapters on teaching your kids to grow their own food, and how to spread the love in a community or neighborhood garden.

Full of photos that will make you hungry and that'll make you want to get outside now and put your hands in the dirt, “Black Girls Gardening”



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Study indicates extreme heat affects dairy herds in quantity, quality

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

WINNEBAGO COUNTY, Ill. — A March 30 paper published by the University of Illinois (U of I) College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) seems to confirm that extreme heat affects milk production quantity and, in some cases, quality.

Drawing from data from 22 different climate models, U of I researchers projected potential U.S. milk volume losses forward to 2050. Most weather models indicated that extreme heat days will occur much more frequently, causing milk yield losses to increase as much as 30 percent by midcentury.

“If there’s interest in continuing to have a healthy and robust small dairy production presence in the U.S., that probably will require financial incentives to help farmers implement mitigation strategies, as well as investments in further research on how to manage the highest levels of heat stress,” according to U of I professor and study co-author Marin Skidmore, whose study concluded that smaller producers suffer from heat-related milk loss more than larger producers.

Winnebago County dairy farmer Brent Pollard has experienced milk loss volume from his cows as a result of heat stress. The northern Illinois farmer takes precautions to control the amount of time his cows spend in stressful environments.

“As a dairy farmer we see milk loss every year from heat stress. We do things like provide sprinklers over the feed lines and fans throughout our barn, but it still isn’t enough to offset the environmental effects on our cows. Having those heat maintenance procedures helps, but if you look at a dairy cow...it is just a big furnace,” said Pollard, who is an Illinois Farm Bureau board member and also serves on the board of the

Illinois Milk Producers Association.

While reduced milk quality can be associated with heat stress it tends to be more of an issue for southeastern U.S. dairy producers, Pollard noted, though there is likely some slight deterioration in the Midwest during summer months. “The one thing that we do see is that the amounts of protein and fat (in milk) will go down in the summer, and that is the first thing that we as dairy farmers get paid on,” he said. “It’s more of a quantity (issue) than a quality one with us.”

Taking heed of global warming forecasts, Pollard is being proactive in preparing for the coming years of milk production on his farm. He’s especially concerned about the trend of warmer evenings in Illinois and the Midwest.

“Here in Illinois we have been experiencing some very warm summer evenings with temperatures in the barn staying in the 80s overnight. This can be very stressful to the cows when they don’t have adequate time to cool down at night, and can affect milk output. Our cows start feeling heat stress at about 65 degrees,” he said.

Pollard intends to install larger fans in his barn before the end of April, an upgrade he’s been planning for around two years. He believes it’s the little things — like increasing air circulation in the summer — that can help restrict milk volume loss to heat stress. Pollard consults with researchers at the U of I and University of Wisconsin-Madison to stay up to date on animal welfare and cow comfort.

Pollard believes that dairy cattle in the southwest and warmer regions of the U.S. possess a greater innate ability to adjust and stay adjusted to seasonal weather patterns, while Midwest cattle often face a roller coaster of temperature and weather fluctuations. “They know what the weather is going to be, where our

weather tends to see-saw up and down. That recent 80-degree day had our cows freaking out; they don’t know if it’s time to adjust to being hot or if it’s going to be cold. It kind of tricks them,” he said.

For the study, Skidmore and her colleagues analyzed milk production data from nine U.S. Midwest states, including over 56 million cow-level production records from 18,000 dairy farms from 2012 to 2016. The researchers adjusted the milk data for protein and fat content to more accurately estimate milk quality, which determines price.

“Previous studies have focused on fluid milk yield. But in our dairy marketing system, milk is sold on components. When you calculate revenue, it’s not just about how many gallons of milk, but whether it’s high-quality milk with high protein and fat content,” Skidmore said.

The U of I study found that, on av-

erage, 1 percent of annual milk yield is lost to heat stress. This amounts to about 1.4 billion pounds of milk (adjusted for energy content) over five years for the 18,000 herds included in the study. Based on average milk prices, this is equivalent to about \$245 million in lost revenue, the researchers concluded.

Looking further, the study determined that heat stress disproportionately affects smaller farms. Herds of fewer than 100 cows lost an average of 1.6 percent of annual yield. While supplying less than 20 percent of total volume output in the sample, smaller producers represented 27 percent of total heat loss damages.

The study, “Vulnerability of US dairy farms to extreme heat,” is published in Food Policy [DOI:10.1016/j.foodpol.2025.102821]. Funding was provided by a Center for the Economics of Sustainability Seed Grant.

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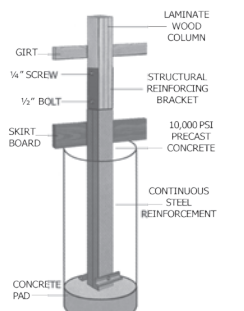
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1995 JD 8200, 6326 hrs., 3 remotes, duals, Raven guidance, quick hitch, FWD, 1000 PTO, \$69,000. Retired farmer. 765-914-7640 Williamsburg, IN.

1996 Case IH Steiger 9350, Cummins L10, 150 hrs. on re-man, 12 speed power shift w/skip shift, 3 pt. hitch with quick hitch included, 4 remotes, K&M air ride seat, 620/70R-42 inner Firestone Radials at 90%, bolt on duals 520/85R-42, 6076 hours. 765-620-5970 Summitville, IN.

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2014 JD 1770 NT corn planter, 16R-30", 1.6 bushel boxes, Star Fire 6000 receiver, 20/20 Gen 3 monitor, markers, Sure Point in furrow fert. w/300 gal. tank; Johnson Blue ground drive pump w/2x2 JD coultter, 600 gal. tank, Precision planting E-set meters w/ row shut offs, Delta Force & fur-row force, Martin air adjust row cleaners, low acres, gd. cond., \$125,5000 obo. 814-322-8090 Westover, PA.

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Ohio Farm Bureau names Trevor Kirkpatrick director of health services

By Mike Tanchevski
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Trevor Kirkpatrick, of Dellroy, has been named director of health services for Ohio Farm Bureau. Before he takes over, Kirkpatrick will have the opportunity to learn the nuances of the position from the man he replaces.

“Dan Rapp, the senior director of health services, has been in that role for quite some time,” Kirkpatrick said. “So, they’re pulling me in to learn the ropes and kind of work alongside him – learning the things he’s learned over the past several years.”

Kirkpatrick is not new to Ohio Farm Bureau as he spent the past four years as an organization director serving Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson and Tuscarawas counties. That experience provided valuable insight into the programs he would manage and gave him the chance to seek new opportunities.

“I’m very familiar with the organization, all the products, resources and programs that I’m going to be implementing,” he said. “I really liked doing that for the past four years.”

As Kirkpatrick got more involved with the organization, he became aware of the potential health services position being available. It caught his attention. “That kind of excited me,” he said.

Kirkpatrick reached out to Mike Bailey, senior vice president, operations and partnerships, at Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. “We really had a lot of good conversations about what this position could look like and how much value it could bring to the entire state membership – so I took that opportunity,” Kirkpatrick said. “I’m pretty excited about it.”

In his new role, Kirkpatrick will help design, coordinate and implement member-focused health benefits programs, support the Ohio Farm Bureau Health Benefits Plan, and manage the workers’ compensation programs offered through the organization. In addition, he will also try to raise awareness of health and safety programs with farm bureau members through

presentations and shared digital content.

While the responsibilities of the position may seem daunting, Kirkpatrick sees a common thread running through his duties that he hopes will allow for overall implementation rather than a piecemeal focus.

“My job’s responsibilities are all interwoven,” Kirkpatrick said. “I wouldn’t necessarily say there’s one area we’re going to focus on right away. What’s nice is because we’re such a large network it allows us to implement all those at the same time.”

As the weather warms up and farmers get ready for the spring, Kirkpatrick is aware of safety programs that are already in place. “Right now, it’s exciting to see a lot of our county farm bureaus serving the members and creating a safer environment on the farms and in the workplace,” he said. As a past organization director, he knows how important those programs are to farmers.

Kirkpatrick graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in animal sciences, specializing in animal industries, and a minor in meat science. He was involved in animal agriculture growing up.

“My whole interest in agriculture was showing pigs – I did that with my sister,” he said. “We showed all across the country.”

He now operates Kirkpatrick Livestock with his wife, Emily, and their son, Owen. They have a small show pig herd, selling to kids across the country.

“We’re passionate about developing youth and providing a safe, high-quality product,” he said. “It’s exciting to see the kids that we helped get started now graduating and pursuing their agriculture careers.”

Kirkpatrick also judges livestock shows when he can. “That’s another way I get to interact with youth all across the country,” he said. “I was on livestock judging teams throughout college, and it’s just something I enjoy. And having our little guy (Owen) around and seeing him take an interest in it makes it all the more enjoyable.”

Kirkpatrick’s involvement with

Above: Trevor Kirkpatrick, the new director of health services for Ohio Farm Bureau.

farm bureau is recent. “I wasn’t a farm bureau member when I took the position four years ago,” he said. As to why that was, “The quick and easy answer is, I was never asked.”

During the interview for the organization director position, when Kirkpatrick was asked why he wasn’t a farm bureau member, he replied, “I’m going to ask myself every day as I grow the membership. Because there’s a lot of other people out there who have never been a farm bureau member but have been in agriculture their whole life like myself.”

As Kirkpatrick continues to learn more about his role, he intends to visit county farm bureau events and meetings to strengthen current relationships and build new ones. “I plan to hit the road and learn what else is out there,” he said.

For now, Kirkpatrick is taking a conservative approach as he looks to the future.

“I think for the first year or maybe even several years I’m going to be a sponge and absorb everything that was already happening,” he said. “Then from there, I’m excited to grow it and maybe push it a little harder.”

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Henderson County, Ky., FFA among top chapters in country

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

HENDERSON, Ky. – Henderson County High School (HCHS) FFA in Kentucky is a National 3-Star Chapter, the highest rating a chapter can receive. There are 9,235 chapters in the National FFA Organization, and only four 4 percent are awarded this high honor each year.

Members of this chapter were recognized at the 97th National FFA

Convention last fall. This marks the fourth time that HCHS has received the award since being chartered in 1952.

Judges looked at each event an agriculture program hosts or attends from contests to community service through the evaluation of a state rating form. Kentucky “Gold” chapters qualify to submit a national chapter application that takes an in-depth look at the most innovative 15 activities a chapter hosts in the areas of leadership, community service and agriculture. The top 15 percent of Kentucky chapters are sent to the National FFA Organization to receive their final rating and recognized at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in the fall.

Heading up this award-winning chapter are Michaela Wilson and Alyssa Vandiver, both recent graduates of HCHS. Vandiver graduated in 2016, while Wilson graduated in 2019.

“We had the opportunity to return to our high school and make an impact with others with FFA, and a lot of people don’t get to say that,” Vandiver said.

Community involvement over the past year was what put this chapter in the national spotlight.

“Our kids’ calendars run from April to April, we’re non-stop,” Wilson said.

On site at this high school campus is a large animal barn.

“We have a lot of animals here for local children to get hands-on experience,” Vandiver said.



Above: Henderson High School in Kentucky has earned the FFA 3-Star honor in 2014, 2015, 2023 and 2024. (photo submitted)



Above: Henderson High School FFA students are already preparing their two large, raised garden beds for the upcoming spring planting season. (photo submitted)

“The local children get to show our rabbits at the country fair. We make sure everyone gets a chance to become involved. We also take some of the animals into the elementary schools for kids to see.”

“Not everyone at this school is from a farm and a lot of kids can’t have animals at their house. Having animals here gives the students an opportunity to get first-hand experience

about the livestock industry.”

Community involvement is a main thrust with the chapter. Just recently, the FFA students at HCHS performed community service by tending to all the potted plants along the streets throughout downtown Henderson, preparing them for spring planting.

(Henderson continued on page 2B)

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Corn varieties vary in water-seeking ability

By Hayley Laichand
Ohio Correspondent

STANFORD, Calif. – Plants depend on water for survival, so it's no surprise that some plants can direct and grow their roots toward water. Researchers call this mechanism "hydropatterning," or how plant roots branch toward sources of water in the soil and avoid dry spaces.

José Dinnyeny, a professor of biology at Stanford University's School of Humanities and Sciences, and his team are interested in understanding root systems and how roots contribute to a plant's ability to tolerate stresses such as drought. While investigating root systems, the group observed that roots could perceive differences in contact with water or air. When plants were grown along a wet surface, they branched toward that surface and did not branch in areas where roots were exposed to air.

While roots can't "see" per se, they do produce hormones that help them perceive differences in their environment. Dinnyeny and his team conducted genetic analyses that found two plant hormones, auxin and ethylene, contribute to hydropatterning. Auxin, a plant hormone that controls cell growth, division, and differentiation, helps to signal root branches toward water. Ethylene, a plant hormone that regulates growth and senescence, suppresses root branching when the root is exposed to air.

Beyond understanding the how of hydropatterning, Dinnyeny and his team were also interested in understanding whether these responses would be important for crop plants.

"We investigated whether there was diversity in this hydropatterning response in modern inbreds that are used for maize breeding. What we saw is that there is actually a significant amount (of diversity), and it wasn't uniformly distributed across these breeding populations," Dinnyeny said. "There seems to have been differential selective pressures that breeders have placed on these different populations."

The results of the research indicated that corn varieties grown in tropical or subtropical areas displayed strong hydropatterning behaviors. Other breeding lines, like those present in North America, display weaker hydropatterning behaviors.

"One hypothesis that I think is worth exploring is that the high input, high fertility fields that breeders were using to generate these inbreds may have led to lower selective pressure on these inbreds as a whole and may have led to the degradation of this environmental response that helps plants find water," Dinnyeny said of the diversity of responses in corn

varieties.

Additionally, the team found that plants that are better at sensing where water is also make deeper root systems. Dinnyeny said a hypothesis for this mechanism could be that if the plant doesn't waste energy growing root branches into places where it doesn't find any water and nutrients, then it has more energy to grow deeper down where water is more likely.

More research is needed to understand the variations in hydropatterning between plants. Dinnyeny and his team are interested in exploring the exact location where the different inbreds are utilized in breeding programs to see if inbreds with weaker hydropatterning are grown in areas that are either less susceptible to drought or in which the inbreds are being primarily used as a male in crossbreeding.

"As we try to move agriculture to more sustainable practices, developing breeding lines that are better able to take advantage of the limited resources that they have in the environment may be useful. What these data indicate to us is that through modern breeding of maize inbreds, there may have been a lack of selective pressure for sustainability traits, such as hydropatterning," Dinnyeny said. "I think phenotyping or characterizing hydropatterning, especially in the modern elite varieties that companies are using to generate their maize material, would be very exciting. I think there could be even greater impact outside of the U.S. in agricultural situations where limited resources have a bigger impact on agricultural productivity, such as in Africa."

Dinnyeny added that hydropatterning has been identified in other plants besides maize. The trait was originally discovered in rice and the trait exists in members of the Brassicaceae family, which includes mustards and cabbages.

"I think it's likely that most flowering plants have hydropatterning in their root systems, and the next step in any crop of interest would be to see if there's variation for hydropatterning and whether there might be an advantage to select for stronger hydropatterning material," he said.

Moving forward, the team is interested in understanding the genes and molecular pathways by which plants can perceive moisture in the environment. Characterizing the genes responsible for hydropatterning would allow researchers to create biotechnological solutions to manipulate the activity of the genes in crops of interest, tuning the plants to have stronger or weaker hydropatterning depending on the agricultural situation.

Henderson

FROM PAGE 1B

Throughout the past year, the chapter reaches out to elementary school students on a regular basis, teaching them all topics related to agriculture.

"We oftentimes teach the elementary students about ag safety," Vandiver said. "We even held a luncheon with folks in the community, raising awareness about mental health. Our chapter hosts various activities throughout the year, including contests, community service projects and events focuses on agriculture, leadership and community building."

The chapter recently held a "Muffins with Mom" event, where students worked with local Extension specialists to discuss sanitation and knife safety in the kitchen.

The FFA students have plenty of activities and plenty of facilities to tend to. For starters, there are two large, raised garden beds. The school boasts one of the largest high school greenhouses in the state of Kentucky.

There are 2,000 students at Henderson High, and 11 percent of those are involved in FFA.

"Our chapter includes 225 students. That's a big number for a lot of chapters," Wilson said, "but we'd like to see that number grow just because we are a large high school."

According to Wilson, Henderson High School FFA offers many Pathways, including Animal Pathway, Horticulture Pathway and Agribusiness Pathway.

"Our officers, members and advisers have worked diligently and put their all into this award," said HCHS FFA president Anna Bennett. "We had an amazing year full of strong and engaging events with our chap-



Above: Community involvement is the trademark of the Henderson High School FFA Chapter in Henderson, Ky. Whether tending the school grounds or the many parks and trails around Henderson, the chapter is always at work. (photo submitted)

ter which helped strengthen our relationships and grow our love for FFA. Receiving this 3-Star rating is a tremendous honor for our chapter and reflects our successful year."

The National Chapter Awards program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters from throughout the county that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. Chapters highlighted are those that emphasize growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. HCHS also earned the 3-Star honor in 2014, 2015 and 2023.

Though seventh and eighth graders in Henderson don't have access to FFA, plans for FFA at this level are on the drawing board.

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Analyst forecasts no significant pork supply growth this summer

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

DES MOINES, Iowa – The fact that U.S. hog producers shouldn't count on any significant supply growth this summer is actually good news for producers, said an agricultural economist analyzing the March 1 USDA Quarterly Hogs & Pigs Report.

Altin Kalo, Steiner Consulting Group chief economist, added that any supply growth that may come in the fall is going to be very modest at best.

"The last thing you want is to have headwinds in terms of exports, along with a slowdown in sales to key markets like Mexico, while at the same time, you've got a lot of hogs on the ground you're going to have to push through," he said in a March 27 webinar with reporters.

"You can look at the report itself and construe it as bullish," he added. "I think it is because we're basically looking at supplies for the summer roughly what they were last year. In terms of slaughter, they might be even a little bit lower. If you add the normal increase you have in weights, you're looking at a modest increase versus what the USDA had in their latest estimates in March that had production up 2 percent to 3 percent year over year."

According to the report, as of March 1, there were 74.5 million hogs and pigs on U.S. farms, down slightly from March 2024, and down 1 percent from Dec. 1, 2024.

The report said U.S. breeding inventory, at 5.98 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 68.5 million head, was down slightly from last year, and down 1 percent from last quarter.

The December 2024-February 2025

pig crop, at 33.7 million head, was down slightly from last year. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, down 1 percent from previous year, the report said. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd.

The report said, however, average pigs saved per litter was 11.65 for the December 2024-February 2025 period, compared to 11.53 last year.

Lee Schulz, Ever.ag chief economist, told reporters three Midwest states had large year-over-year growth in pigs per litter: "We've seen grow large growth in Illinois at 5.5 percent, Kansas at 3 percent over, Missouri at 5.3 percent growth."

The report said Iowa hog producers accounted for the nation's largest inventory, at 24.3 million head, up slightly from the previous quarter, but down 4 percent from the previous year. Minnesota had the second largest inventory at 9.2 million head; and North Carolina was third, with 8.1 million head.

In Illinois, total hog and pig inventory was 5.55 million head, up 1 percent from Dec. 1, 2024, but down 1 percent from last year.

In Indiana, total hog and pig inventory was estimated at 4.35 million head, down 50,000 head from a year ago.

In Michigan, total hog and pig inventory was estimated at 1.15 million head, down 40,000 head from a year ago.

In Ohio, total hog and pig inventory was estimated at 2.6 million head, up 100,000 head from a year ago.

Kentucky and Tennessee numbers were not included in the report.

The report said United States hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2025 quarter, down slightly from the actual farrowings during the same period one year earlier, and down 1 percent from the same period two years earlier.

"Pork producers are very savvy," Kalo said. "They're not going to go out there and make the investments, given all the uncertainty that exists. They also aren't going to do it simply because the corn price is a little bit lower, or they ended up with a few months of good profits after sustaining significant losses in 2023, and early 2024. Decision making now is very different than it was 10 to 20 years ago, when you had more smaller producers out there making independent decisions."

The report said intended farrowings

for June-August 2025, at 2.96 million sows, are down 1 percent from the same period one year earlier, and down 2 percent from the same period two years earlier.

"The decline in the breeding herd suggests producers are far from retaining any hogs," Kalo said. "Trade remains a major factor going forward, however, and futures will continue to focus on the potential for retaliatory tariffs in Mexico, Canada and other countries, should the (Trump) administration decide to go ahead with planned tariffs."

Southwest Indiana Homesteading Conference helps local producers improve, diversify farm operations

Purdue Extension will offer the Southwest Indiana Homesteading Conference to help current, beginning, and prospective small farmers in the Tri-State area improve and diversify their farm operations.

Pre-conference sessions on May 16th explore food preservation, focusing on pressure canning subjects with hands-on demonstrations in the conference center kitchen.

Morning sessions on May 17th involve an array of small farm presentations, with topics including beginning poultry production, mushroom cultivation, soil health and nutrient management, foraging and edible landscaping, seed saving, proper pesticide use, sheep and goat production and pruning fruit trees. Afternoon sessions will center on straw-bale gardening, open fire cooking, hydroponics, small engines, poultry processing, and beekeeping.

Conference participants will receive information on production methods and processes from a variety of experts to

plan for new ventures, improve current production and profitability, and diversify current operations. The event will also feature vendor booths with products, information, and services geared toward small farm operations.

The conference will be May 16 and 17, 2025, at the Daughters of Charity St. Vincent Conference Center, 9200 New Harmony Road, Evansville, Ind. Sign-in begins at 11 a.m. CDT on the 16th, with sessions from noon-4 p.m. CDT. Check-in on the 17th begins at 7 a.m. CDT, with presentations from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. CDT.

Fees for this event are \$35 per person for the pre-conference food preservation classes and \$40 per person for The homesteading conference, with registration available on-line at <https://bit.ly/SWINHC2025>. Registrations are due by May 9.

For additional information or needed accommodations contact the Purdue Extension - Warrick County office at bailley1@purdue.edu.

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Ag companies need to focus on customers to succeed

Open any publication we receive as farmers and ranchers, and each is full of advertisements of the next best “mousetrap.” You know what I mean, whether it’s a vaccine for livestock, equipment for the farm, seed, herbicide, and insecticide, all come with the promise of amazing results.

I was recently talking with a man I’ve known about for many years and have talked with a few times over the past three-four years, John Thacker. John, of the small town of Freedom, Ind., has been involved with marketing fertilizer, seed and herbicide/insecticide for

around 40 years. Whether working for a local cooperative or in later years for himself, he has been involved in agriculture one way or another throughout.

Recently, when I called to talk to John about what’s happening in the world of agriculture, and how we plan to produce the best corn, beans, and wheat possible in the future. John and I have known a lot of the same people, so our talk involved people that worked in the area and were successful and well liked. Each of these people had a common denominator, they recommended what was best for the customer. Re-

55 YEARS AND
COUNTING FROM THE
TRACTOR SEAT
BY BILL WHITMAN

gardless of what companies they were representing, they chose to serve the customer first. When I talked to John about how he approaches sales, his reply said it all, one field at a time, one farm at a time. When I asked if he could use more business, he said no, to give the service he wants to provide, he has no more time during planting season.

If you do business the right way, the way John Thacker does, the way Dean Ford does, and Dayne Jessup, people want to do business with you. We need suppliers that treat each customer with respect and individual attention with the focus on what’s best for our situation. In the days when people looked at their job with pride and professionalism you could tell quickly whether you could believe what the salesman was showing you because they had a passion for their product. Unfortunately, that is a rare commodity these days when it’s often likely that we know more about their product than they do.

When we look at a planter, we’re

looking at it based on the thousands of acres we have planted. Our young, inexperienced salesperson has the benefit of a two-week-long (if that) manufacturer-provided class. If the salesperson stays with the company, they might have the benefit of two or more years of new improvements to the same machine. The point is, a good salesperson connects with the customer and learns; he/she learns from the customers’ experience as they communicate, he/she learns from the experience itself and begins to treat each customer as an individual. If they last, they learn what the manufacturers have forgotten: to succeed, they need the customers’ confidence.

What I’m proposing here is that until the manufacturers do a reset and recognize that no matter what their stockholders want, the companies need to focus all their attention on the customer, we must utilize Ronald Reagan’s famous adage, “trust but verify.” If you don’t have a John, Dean or Dayne, you need to educate yourself to your individual farm and its unique needs. At the same time, we need to put pressure on the manufacturers to do the reset that secures our futures, and theirs as well.

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Trade war is set to impact global dairy market, strategist says

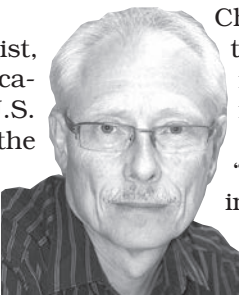
Tariffs remained the No. 1 subject on a lot of people’s minds this week, particularly those in the dairy industry as the Trump Tariff Tit for Tat was changing almost by the hour. Tariffs were increased on all trading partners of the U.S. and response was almost immediate, with some countries reciprocating, while others asked for further negotiation, prompting Trump to drop them back to the 10 percent level and to postpone the bigger increases for three months for about 75 countries. The bellwether Standard and Poor’s 500 gained over 8 percent in minutes. Crude oil went from \$4 lower on the day to \$2 higher. Things reversed direction Thursday.

In the ongoing game of chicken with China, which increased its tariffs, Trump responded by raising China’s tariffs to 125 percent.

In the April 14 Dairy Radio Now broadcast, StoneX broker Dave Kurzawski spoke of the resulting uncertainty in all the markets, something they do not like. Food commodities fared better, he said, and remained rather stable.

The bellwether spot cheese market made its most recent low on March 21, two weeks before “Liberation Day,” he said, and the futures market made its low two days after April 2 Liberation Day. “U.S. cheese and butter prices remain attractive on the world stage, tariffs or no tariffs,” he concluded, and

are “stable to higher.”
Rabobank Global Strategist, Mary Ledman, warned: “The escalating trade war between the U.S. and China is set to impact the global dairy market, particularly lactose and dry whey. With China imposing a 34 percent reciprocal tariff on U.S. imports, the U.S. dairy sector, which exports over 50 percent of its dry whey and lactose production to China, faces potential disruptions. This could lead to shifts in trade dynamics, with the EU and UK possibly stepping in to fill the gap. The intensifying trade war could result in lower prices for U.S. dairy producers, slimmer margins for traders, and higher prices for Chinese end users and consumers.”
The April 9 Daily Dairy Report pointed out: “Milk production in China fell for the seventh straight month in February. CN Agri data showed that milk collections were 6.1 billion pounds in both January and February, with year-to-date output down 9.2 percent compared to January and February 2024. Milk prices in China fell 15 percent in February relative to February 2024, according to RaboResearch. And skim milk powder production in January and February plummeted more than 30 percent compared to the same months in 2024.”
Per capita dairy consumption in



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke

China is far below the rest of the world, says the DDR, and not keeping pace with gains in milk output there.
One of the reasons is “Many Chinese are lactose intolerant, which is why milk historically has not been a staple of the Chinese diet and why adoption is slow,” according to the DDR.
Back home, you’ll recall February milk production was up 1.0 percent from a year ago, after factoring the Leap Day. Adjusting for fat and protein components, it was up 3.5 percent. The February Dairy Products report shows where the milk was used, keeping in mind, February 2024 had 29 days and

February 2025 had 28, a phenomenon which occurs about every four years, so the totals are skewed.
Cheese output totaled 1.155 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from February 2024, adjusted for leap year. Revisions added 10.3 million pounds to January’s total. Output for the two months stood at 2.3 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent from 2024.
Mozzarella production totaled 373.3 million pounds, up 3.4 percent from a year ago, with YTD output hitting 785.3 million pounds, up 1.7 percent.
Cheddar production hit 318 million pounds, up 1.0 percent, from a year ago. Revisions added 3 million pounds to the January total. Cheddar YTD hit

(Mielke continued on page 7B)

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- Metavic 1150 Grapple Trailer, hydraulic winch, Honda gas engine, S: 051 - 017
- 1999 International 4900 Dump Truck, DT466E, Automatic Trans., Diesel eng, 135,081 mi., 16ft Steel dump bed, wood sides
- 2004 Ford Ranger Truck, 134,000 mi., Swiss bed cover, bed rack, gas engine,
- 2007 Ford F550XLT Super Duty, 62,321 miles, V8 power stroke diesel engine, manual trans., 14 ft steel flatbed,
- 2000 Ford F-350 XL Super Duty Truck, 153,360 mi., Power Stroke V8 Diesel engine, 11ft steel dump bed w/fold down sides,
- 2005 International 4300 Flat Bed, 14ft steel bed, goose neck attach, 224,915 mi., log standards, exhaust break system, air ride suspension, Diesel,
- 2002 Ford F-550 Truck, 9ft steel flatbed bed, gooseneck attach, 208,326 mi.
- 2007 International 4300, DT 466, 316,427 mi., 14 ft steel dump bed, side lift gate, air breaks, diesel,

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- 2018 Vermeer BC1000XI wood chipper, 958 hours, gas engine;

FORESTRY

- 2016 Wood-mizer LT28 Sawmill, 19hp Kohler gas engine, power feed, log turner, like new;
- Anderson M140 Log Grapple Loader on 14ft dump trailer, gas, wood sided;
- Timber Wolfe TW5 Wood Processor, Honda GX340 11 hp engine, hydraulic log lift;
- Timber Wolfe 25ft. conveyor;

MISCELLANEOUS

- Gregson Clark Tree & Lawn Sprayer, steel 350 gal tank, Honda GX 200 Motor;
- Exmark S Ultra Cut 60, zero turn, 60 in cut, propane gas, Kohler command pro 747 efi propane engine, front weights;
- Kioti Mechchron 2200 4x4 RTV, hydraulic dump bed, canvas cab enclosure, 217 hrs, diesel;
- Karcher HDS 6000 Pressure Washer, steam, Diesel;
- 300 Gallon Diesel fuel tank with Fill-Rite 20 GPM pump;
- 300 Gallon Diesel tank with Fill-Rite pump;
- 300 gal fuel tank, gravity fed;
- 200 gal Fuel tank, hand pump;
- Meyer Snow Deflector Snow Blade 8.5 ft.;
- Concrete Barriers, various sizes;
- Lots of chain saws, many new; pole saws; large inventory of ropes, pulleys, safety equipment; tools of all kinds; lots of ladders; cutting torch set; boxes of new saw chains & saw bars; professional road signs; climbing & rigging gear; Log Rite log cart; job site tools; support equipment, multiple backpack sprayers, & many other items.

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Mielke

FROM PAGE 6B

635.6 million pounds, down 1.5 percent from a year ago.

Butter production totaled 210 million pounds, up 12.4 million or 6.3 percent from a year ago, after increasing just 0.5 percent in January. YTD butter totaled 421.1 million pounds, up 1.5 percent from a year ago.

Weaker cheese, ice cream and sour cream production freed up some fat for butter, says StoneX.

Nonfat and skim milk powder production was up 0.2 percent from a year ago, which StoneX says is only the second time in 20 months that powder production has been up year over year.

HighGround Dairy warns: "Balloon-ing nonfat dry milk stocks will make it

hard for this market to stage a rally."

Ditto on whey stocks, according to HighGround. "Dry whey output tanked in February to the lowest volume for the month since the start of the century, yet stocks continued to build. Ultimately, trade wars will dictate the direction of this market."

The USDA raised its milk production forecast from last month, in its latest World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, citing larger cow inventories and slightly higher milk per cow.

2025 production and marketings were projected at 226.9 and 225.9 billion pounds respectively, up 700 million on both. If realized, both would be up 1 billion pounds or 0.4 percent from 2024.

Imports are lower on both a fat and skim-solids basis, primarily due to additional duties placed on imported dairy products, in particular imports

of butter fats and milk protein products. Exports on a skim-solid basis were reduced, primarily on lower shipments of dried skim milk products and whey products. Exports on a fat basis were raised on higher expected shipments of butter.

Prices for butter, cheese, nonfat dry milk (NDM), and whey were all lowered, based on recent prices and higher expected milk supplies.

The Class III milk price was lowered on lower cheese and whey prices. The 2025 average was projected at \$17.60 per hundredweight, down 35 cents from last month's estimate, and compares to \$18.89 in 2024 and \$17.02 in 2023.

The Class IV price was lowered on lower butter and NDM prices, and is expected to average \$18.20, down 60 cents from a month ago, and compares to \$20.75 in 2024 and \$19.12 in 2023.

CME 40-pound block Cheddar cheese climbed to \$1.74 per pound Thursday morning, highest since March 13, and follows a Friday close at \$1.64.

The 500-pound barrels hit \$1.78 Thursday, highest since March 3, after

closing Friday at \$1.66.

StoneX says "The level of skepticism on any market strength, be it spot or futures, is rather staggering these days. And for good reason, as worries over demand and liquidity continue to plague outside energy and equity markets."

"Indecisive" might be a good description for the dairy complex yet cheese and butter remain attractively priced, both for U.S. and international buyers.

Midwest contacts told Dairy Market News that cheese demand ranges from post-holiday order quiet to steady. Most said orders were steady after holiday deliveries had been prepared and/or out the door. Some cheesemakers were taking advantage of widely available and affordable spot milk and adding to production ahead of the upcoming seasonal demand. Milk prices are falling, with some as low as \$5-under Class early in the week, while some were still around \$1- under.

Seasonally stronger milk production is keeping a more than ample supply for western cheese manufacturers, says DMN.

75th Semi-Annual
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SATURDAY, APRIL 26th – 9:00 AM
At Milroy Amish School, 2101 W. 900 S., Milroy, IN 46156
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No guns after 4:00 PM, Friday, August 30th
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The names may be different, but the food is the same

When I was a traveling man, whenever I got the chance, I ate at the counter of a diner or a truck stop. I liked the counter because you could talk to interesting people and have fun with the waitress. And yes, they were always female SO I'M NOT BEING SEXIST! My favorite counter was at Little America in Cheyenne be-

cause their counters were in the shape of a "U" so you could eavesdrop on all sorts of people at one time. The main thing I learned sittin' at the counter was, whether it was truckers or carpenters, they all have their own specialized lingo. I think the occupations with the most colorful lingo are cow-

boys and waitresses. And surprisingly, a lot of times the waitress and the cowboy's lingo intersect. Both groups call eggs cackleberries, beans bullets, biscuits sinkers, butter axle grease or cow paste, onions skunk eggs and shredded wheat baled hay. So, after the waitress takes your order she might yell to the cook, "Two cackleberries, a sinker with cow paste and some baled hay." And that was your breakfast in secret code.

Often, food has several names. A sinker or a brick (biscuit) to a waitress might be a doughnod or a hot rock to a cowboy. Both groups also have Son of a Bitch Stew or SOB stew in their vocabulary, although it has different ingredients. For the cowboy, it contains everything but 'the hair, horns and holler' consisting of the brains, sweetbreads, etc. from a freshly killed calf. But to the waitress it might just mean bossy in a bowl. (For some reason the cowboy also referred to SOB stew as district attorney.) Cowboys refer to pancakes as splatterdabs while a waitress calls them blowout patches. If it's a real tall stack of pancakes a waitress calls it a Jayne Mansfield, a curvy actress from my parents' generation who was really "stacked."

By sittin' at the counter for nearly 50 years and having friends in the food business, I picked up on a lot of food slang that was specific to a region. Southwestern cowboys also referred to beans as musical fruit, rib stickers or Mexican strawberries. While cowboys call doughnuts bear sign, to a waitress they are life preservers. Both waitresses and cowboys call coffee belly warmer and in addition cowboys also called it scared water or Arbuckles. If a waitress

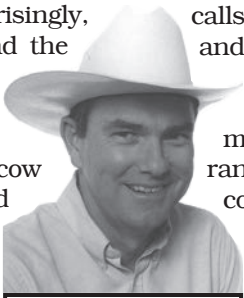
calls for a shingle with a shimmy and a shake she means buttered toast with jam.

Here are some more euphemisms that I like in the restaurant world: if a waitress tells the cook to "burn the British" what she really wants is a toasted English muffin. Bow-wow refers to a hotdog whereas a frankfurter is called bark, as in woof-woof, and a bloodhound in the hay is a hot dog with sauerkraut. A poached egg is a dead eye while two eggs either poached or scrambled on a piece of toast are called Adam and Eve on a raft. To a waitress ketchup is called hemorrhage, mustard is yellow paint, on the side is in the alley, a well-done burger is a hockey puck and prunes are called looseners.

If a waitress yells at the cook to let it swim, she means add extra sauce and make it cry means to add extra onion. If it's a to-go order, she says put wheels on it. If a customer wants their eggs scrambled the waitress tells the cook to wreck 'em. If a patron wants American cheese on their burger the cook is instructed to wax it. And here's one I really like... if the waitress says to burn one, take it through the garden and pin a rose on it the diner wants a BLT. So much for waitress lingo being used to save time by shortening up an order!

Heart attack on a rack is biscuits and gravy, French fries are frog sticks, spareribs are called First Lady, a cup of Joe is mud, but if you want that with cream and sugar it's blond with sand. Water is dog soup, moo juice is milk, Noah's boy is ham, on the hoof is rare, and turn out the lights and cry is liver and onions.

I think a better term would be "YUCK!"



It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

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Eta Aquarids active starts now; visible until late May

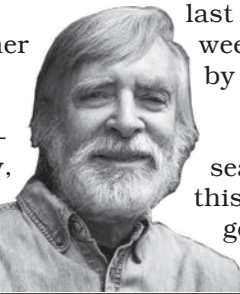
Can trouble live with days
Or sadness with the summer
moons? – Tennyson

The Stars: Orion has disappeared from the night sky, a sign that Middle Spring is turning to Late Spring. Without Orion, one way to follow the warmer months of the year is to keep track of the boxy formation of Li-bra in the southwest, fol-lowed by the scorpion-like constella-tion of Scorpius. Watch them move across the southern sky all summer.

The Shooting Stars: The Eta Aquarids are active from April 18 through May 28, with the most me-teors expected on May 7 and 8. The moon will not interfere with meteor watching.

Weather Trends: A number of landmarks in the progress of spring occur this week: The 26th and the 30th produce freezing temperatures less than five percent of the time – the first time that has happened since late September. Chances for a cold day in the 30s or 40s fall to only 10 percent on the 22nd, then plum-met another eight percent on the 26th. Beginning on April 27th, highs in the 90s become possible, and the chances for a high in the 80s pass the 20 percent mark. The chances for a high above 70 degrees are now 50/50 or better for the first time this year. On the other hand, full moon on April 29 increases the chances for storms and a late frost.

The cold fronts of Late Spring usu-ally cross the Mississippi on or about May 2, 7, 12, 15, 21, 24 and 29. The



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK
By Bill Felker

last days of May and the first week of June are often soaked by the Strawberry Rains.

The Natural Calendar: The season of Late Spring begins this week and usually has five gentle cool fronts that occur from the end of April until the end of May. Most spring woodland flowers complete their bloom during this time, and almost all the trees leaf out. Frost season ends, and gardeners sow tender garden flowers and vegetables. Farmers put in all the corn and soybeans and pre-pare for the first cut of hay. The day's length grows until it surpasses 14 hours throughout the Miami Valley.

In Late Spring, the time of flow-ering fruit trees slowly ends, and the great dandelion bloom of Mid-dle Spring turns to gray and fragile seeds just as dogwoods open. Local bamboo stalks have reached at least three feet tall, and peony buds are as big around as pennies.

All the gold has disappeared from Middle Spring's forsythia and daisies bud and ferns unravel. The six-pet-alled white star of Bethlehem says it's May in the city, and the four-pet-aled pink and purple sweet rockets tell the time of year throughout the pastures.

Lilies of the valley have their bells, and the first bright yellow cressleaf groundsel is opening in wetlands. Rhubarb pies are growing every-where as the first strawberry flowers, as Virginia creepers get their new shiny leaves, as azaleas brighten and as honeysuckle leaves turn the un-dergrowth deep May green.

Fish, Game, Livestock and Birds: Baltimore Orioles begin to appear when Osage trees come into bloom and lily-of-the-valley flowers. Scar-let tanagers arrive in the woods when meadow parsnip, wood beto-ny, honeysuckle, buckeye and red horse-chestnut flower. The garlic mustard of May blooms when the first indigo bunting arrives and ear-ly season iris plants blossom. Late spring arrives as admiral butter-flies hatch and field grasses are long enough to ripple in the wind. This is

the time the antlers of white-tailed deer begin to grow and all major gar-den weeds are sprouting. Ducklings and goslings are born, and warblers swarm north.

In the Field and Garden: The first cool front of May coincides with the darkening moon, and it is a good marker for spring worming, wean-ing lambs and kids, clipping feet and dipping for external parasites. In the

(Poor Will continued on page 11B)

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Ends: Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 6:00 PM

Preview: Monday, April 21, 2025, 4:00-7:00 PM

Pickup: Saturday, April 26, 2025, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

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Poor Will

FROM PAGE 10B

fields, fight army worms and corn borers. Attack carpenter bees around the barn. The dark moon also favors traditional worm control methods such as liming the pasture, planting garlic and plowing in mustard.

The high leaf canopy is beginning to fill in, casting shade on the flower and vegetable garden. Average high temperatures reach 70 degrees along the Ohio River while cutworms and sod webworms work the cornfields. Aphids spread through the field and garden; ladybugs are hunting them.

Marketing Notes: Plan to make pastries and pies to fatten up fathers on Father's Day. Then plan to tap the July 4th market as people shop for sweet corn and meat for cookouts.

The Almanac Horoscope: Now is the time to start your most serious diet. Studies show that the body is most likely to lose weight between May and September. Other research, which may or may not be related to weight loss, has shown that miraculous appearances peak between May and July. If you can't actually lose weight, you might look in the mirror one fine summer day and find, miraculously, that you appear thin!

Almanac Classics
Dozens of Cats
By Becky Corwin-Adams
Englewood, Ohio
When I was growing up in Defiance, Ohio, in the 1960s, we had a variety of pets: a Cocker Spaniel, chickens, fish, a guinea pig, hamster, white mouse and gerbil. Our favorite family pets were cats – doz-

ens of cats. I don't think we ever had fewer than half a dozen cats when I was growing up.

At one time, we had two pregnant cats. One had five kittens in the neighbor's barn. The other had five kittens under another neighbor's front porch the following day. Mom was not going to bring the kittens home, but she changed her mind a few hours later. So, we had 14 cats! Every time mom went outside to take the trash out, all 14 cats followed her. We found homes for most of the kittens.

We did end up keeping a couple of the kittens. Some of our cats were the third generation of Corwin cats. We used to dress our cats up in doll clothes and play house with them. The cats were more fun than our dolls.

We had our own pet cemetery in the back yard. It was getting quite crowded by the time we were grown up. One cold winter, mom buried a black and white cat that had been hit by a car. She was sure it was our cat, so she dug a hole in the frozen ground and buried it. A few days later, we looked out the window and there sat our cat! We never found out who owned the cat mom had buried. Since we had recently visited Washington D.C., we always called it "The Tomb of the Unknown Cat."

Almanac Literature
The Surprised Chick
A True Story
By Henry E. Weaver (age 10, Grade 5), Greenwich, Ohio
Last summer, our banty hen hatched an egg. I liked to watch the chick and its mother wander around the barnyard.

Then one day, the hen and chick went into an old shack at the edge of the barnyard, and I was watching them. All at once, the chick flew up on a little pail. Then as he flew down again, the pail flipped and the chick was pinned underneath the pail, and the old hen got really mad and started running around the pail.

Finally, I got near enough to turn the pail over, and then the peeping chick ran to his mother!

Do you think he learned a lesson?



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Handling tough questions? How Jesus' wisdom guides us today

Matthew 22:15, 18 “Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Him in His words. . . But Jesus knowing their evil intent, said, ‘You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?’”

Wouldn't it be great if you always had a well-developed answer to every question? Yet even the most skilled speakers can be caught off guard, especially if the questioner is trying to trap them. In the gospels, we find a specific moment when Jesus was confronted with a difficult question – one that seemed impossible to answer without serious consequences.

The Pharisees, jealous over Jesus' rising popularity, sought to trap Him in His words. Finally, they agreed on a plan and sent their best interrogators to challenge Him. Rather than immediately attack, the wily men approached Jesus with false reverence and then launched into their crafty and well-thought-out question.

“What is your opinion? “Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

This question was a political landmine.

If Jesus opposed paying taxes, He could be accused of treason against Rome. But if He endorsed the tax, He risked alienating many Jews who saw it as an act of betrayal to God. It seemed like a lose-lose scenario.

But Jesus knew the intent behind the query and refused to fall prey to their schemes. Turning the tables on the hypocrites, He unveiled their intent and posed His own question.

Asking them to produce a coin, Jesus asked, “Whose portrait is this? And

whose inscription?” When they replied with the obvious answer of Caesar, He then replied, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.”

With this one statement, Jesus not only silenced His adversaries but also conveyed a profound truth: While earthly governments deserve their due respect, ultimate allegiance belongs to God.

The religious leaders, slack-jawed, slunk away to lick their wounds and develop another plan for Jesus' demise.

In today's world, believers face countless tough questions – some asked in genuine curiosity, others meant to provoke or entrap. Topics like faith, morality, and cultural issues can be landmines in conversations.

So how can we be prepared to answer wisely?

1. Seek God's Wisdom – God promises to give wisdom to those who ask.
2. Know Scripture – Immerse ourselves in Scripture so we can respond with truth and grace.
3. Remain Kind and Respectful – Even when confronted with hostility, our words should reflect Christ's love.
4. Remember Our Ultimate Allegiance – While we are called to respect earthly authorities, our highest devotion belongs to God.

One day, we may find ourselves facing a difficult question. When that moment comes, we can trust that God's Spirit Who lives in us will empower us and give us the wisdom we need. With God's guidance, we, too, can answer with both truth and grace.



VERSES FROM MAMA
By Sandra Sheridan

Covering ground this Spring?
Do your bidding from the Tractor!

95TH IBEP
PERFORMANCE TESTED
Bull Sale

Save the Date
SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025
1PM EST | View and Bid Live @CCi.Live

Springville Feeder Auction
4426 State Rd 54 W., Springville, IN 47462

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY

AGNEW AUCTION & REALTY INC.
LIVE PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025 @ 10 AM

LOCATED AT 9513 S 100 W, WESTPORT, IN 47283

Merchandise to Include:

Heavy Equipment: Construction King 580 Backhoe w/CK Case Loader Serial # 4141616 Model 33, Caterpillar Forklift 8099, Polaris Ranger 4x4, John Deere 350 Bulldozer in Parts, **Tractors:** Ford 4000 tractor, Farmall Tractor, Ford Tractor in Parts, Grader/Leveler, Bush Hogs, **Trailers:** 14 ft Car Trailer, 18 ft Car Trailer w/winch, 23 ft Heavy Equipment Trailer, 53 ft Semi Trailer, John Deere 245 Riding Lawn Mower. **Vehicles:** 2016 Polaris 4x4 Side By Side, Multiple Engines & Transmissions, 2015 Buick Encore, 2015 Chevy Trax LS 177k, 2012 Chevy Cruz 206k, 2008 Ford Ranger 282k, 1998 Ford Ranger XLT 188k, 1992 Ford Taurus, Approximately 20 Scrap Vehicles Including A School Bus & Backhoe, Leer Full Size Camper

Shell, Chevy Bed Liner. **Motorcycle:** 1990 Golden Wing SE 6 Cylinder 67K Miles. 40 Ft Wide Airplane Glider, **Tools:** Fuel Tanks, Acetylene Tanks, Lumber, Chainsaws, I Beams, Air Compressors, Tow Ropes/Straps, Many sets Of Tires & Rims, Copper, Brass & PVC Fittings, Large Assortment Of Furnace Pipe Fittings Filters & Supplies New Still In The Box, Miller Dialarc AC/DC 250 Welder, Yard Roller, Work Table w/Bench Grinder & Vise, Kalamazoo Bandsaw, Floor Jacks, Jack Stands, Refrigerant Management Center Machine, Wood Pulleys, Multiple Hand tools, LH Tools, Shelving, File Cabinets, Craftsman Tool Boxes, Battery Charger, Assortment of Hitches, Scrap.

Large Auction We Will Be Running 2 Auction Rings All Day.
Great Assortment Of Merchandise. Majority Of Merchandise To Be Sold Inside.
Auction To Be Conducted By: Agnew Auction & Realty, Inc.
KELLY AGNEW | (812) 390-7103 | AU08601006 | AUCTIONEER/REALTOR
CAMERON AGNEW | (812) 603-6005 | AU12200060 | AUCTIONEER
TERMS: Cash or Ck w/Proper ID 4% Surcharge on all Debit & Credit Cards. Not Responsible For Accidents.
OWNER: THE ESTATE OF JIM FUEL.

These items located in
Chemung, NY

ONLINE TRUCK & TRAILER AUCTION

Bid NOW through April 23rd

www.BidUnitedEdge.com

Kenworth T880 sleeper caps (6), Kenworth T900L sleeper cab, Volvo day cabs (5), International day cab, International refrig. box truck(2), refrig. trailers, dump trailers, belt trailers, fuel tanker trailers

Items located in
NW Ohio & NE IN

UNITED EDGE
REAL ESTATE AND AUCTION CO., LLC

419-298-1100

153 N. Michigan Ave., Edgerton, OH 43517

Auctioneer:
Darren Bok & Ryan Ruble

NO BUYER'S PREMIUM



AC31500023

MAY 8TH

5:30 PM

PUBLIC AUCTION

HOME WITH LAKE VIEWS,

VACANT BUILDING LOT,

PERSONAL PROPERTY

8187 Garr Hill Rd, Brookville, IN 47012

Estate of Mike Stivers - Owner

Also featuring Honda dirt bike, Ford trator, and household items

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AUCTION TO BE HELD AT

PROPERTY LOCATION:

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5 SOUTH MAIN STREET

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In Conjunction with Craney Auctions

100-acre Kentucky cattle farm hits \$524,435 at recent auction

Illinois – Coles County – Farmers National Company auctioned three tracts totaling 237.98 +/- acres on March 12. The soils had a Productivity Index of 138-141. Five-year average yields included 232 bushels for corn and 75.23 bushels for soybeans. Tenancy was open for 2025. Tract 1 included 80 acres, with 78.17 acres of cropland and 1.83 acres of non-cropland. Of this, 39.4 acres were in corn (170 bushels/acre) and 37.3 acres in soybeans (55 bushels/acre). Tract 2 was 79 +/- acres of nearly all cropland, with two grain bins. Tract 3 had 78.98 +/- acres, including 71.86 acres of cropland and 7.12 acres of non-cropland. Combined, tracts 2 and 3 had 74.6 acres of corn (170 bushels/acre) and 70.4 acres of soybeans (55 bushels/acre). Tract 1 sold for \$1,240,000 (\$15,500/acre), Tract 2 for \$1,208,000 (\$15,300/acre), and Tract 3 for \$1,089,924 (\$13,800/acre).

Owaneco – On March 17, Corey Craig Auctions hosted a no-buyer's-premium online auction of 80+ acres, known as the Buerk farmland. The tract included 71.53 acres of quality farmland with a Productivity Index of 124.1, primarily in Harrison, Coatsburg and Radford soils. Of this, 55.96 acres were in corn (PLC yield of 160) and 14.80 acres in soybeans (PLC yield of 54). Tenancy was open for 2025, and the buyer would reimburse the seller \$10,238 for fall 2024 fertilizer. The land sold for \$730,000, or \$9,125/acre.

Indiana – Topeka – On March 20, Bright Star Real Estate Services auctioned 12.59 acres of vacant land as two separate or combinable tracts, less than a mile east of IN-5. Tract 1, with 4 acres, had an opening bid of \$60,000, and Tract 2, containing 8.59 acres, started at \$120,000. The two tracts sold combined for \$435,000.

Utica – Beckort Auctions offered a unique riverfront property on Upper River Road on March 27. The wooded parcel, sitting atop a bluff, held 17.6 acres with panoramic views and 130 feet of Ohio River frontage. It offered great potential for a home site or development. It sold for \$880,000.

REAL ESTATE

AUCTION ROUNDUP

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

Kentucky – Paducah – On March 6, Harris Real Estate and Auction auctioned four properties in a single sale. Parcel 1, with 37.25 acres in West Paducah, sold for \$390,000 (\$10,461/acre). Parcel 2, containing 32.3 acres, went for \$90,000 (\$2,786/acre). Parcel 3, a commercial property near Exit 11 with two buildings totaling 6,180 square feet, suitable for automotive, manufacturing or similar operations, sold for \$150,000. Parcel 4, containing 1.42 acres with a 1,428-square-foot, 3-bedroom/2-bath home built in 1959, sold for \$63,000.

Utica – On March 18, Kurtz Auction & Realty sold a 100.85-acre cattle farm with multiple buildings. Owned by McDaniel Enterprises, LLC and JRM Portfolio, LLC, and originally seven tracts, the property was sold as one parcel. The fenced and cross-fenced operation included a 30-by-105-foot machine shed, a 35-by-75-foot storage shed with concrete floor, a 25-by-35-foot storage shed with concrete floor, a tobacco barn with working facilities, and covered feed troughs. Additional features included working and weaning pens, multiple water hydrants, a 3.5-acre lake, two smaller ponds, and 931 feet of frontage on Greenbriar Road. It sold for \$524,435, subject to a 20-foot ingress/egress easement for neighbors.

Michigan – Big Rapids – Miedema's LastBid Real Estate offered a high-traffic commercial lot near Ferris State University on March 18. Two parcels totaling 0.608 acres on State and Mill Streets were sold as one tract. The location boasted one of the highest traffic counts in Mecosta County. The paved property included a 200-square-foot office building, currently used for car sales but suitable for other businesses. It sold for \$193,000.

Burlington – On March 6, Bright Star Real Estate Services held an online/phone auction for a 2.2-acre buildable parcel with outbuildings. The property included a 40-by-21-foot pole barn with concrete floor, new metal roofing, siding, and new doors. Adjacent was a 40-by-24-foot partially-finished block building on slab. The property sold for \$53,500.

Ohio – Dalton – Kaufman Realty & Auctions presented 54.82 tillable/wooded acres, known as the Horst Family property, as 4 parcels on March 29. The flat, rolling land, with options for mini farms or building sites, ranged from open fields to an open/wooded mix. Tract 1 had 24.744 acres with 304 feet of frontage and prime building sites. Tract 2 contained 6.872 acres, half-wooded, with 415 feet of frontage and a good building site. Tract 3 offered 7.537 acres of open, tillable land with 278 feet of frontage and a nice building site. Tract 4 had 15.64 acres of mostly tillable land with 60 feet of frontage and a solid building site. The parcels sold for \$1,387,381 or \$25,307/acre.

Dorset – On March 6, Kiko Auctions offered 5 acres of mostly-wooded land with an older manufactured home on the property. The parcel was approximately 2/3 wooded and 1/3 open, with the West Branch of the Ashtabula River running along the rear of the property. On the property was a handyman 1991 Woodbridge double-wide. The selling price was \$47,850.

LAND AUCTION

 **AUCTION CAST** **LIVE WITH ONLINE BIDDING**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **LANDPROZ**

28 ACRES +/-

DECATUR COUNTY, IN

AUCTION LOCATION: ONLINE AT LANDPROZ.COM OR IN-PERSON AT THE HAMPTON INN & SUITES, 2075 N MICHIGAN AVE, GREENSBURG, IN

OPEN HOUSE
04/12/25 11AM-1PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

APRIL 24
LIVE STREAM BEGINS @ 6:30 PM



JARED BAIRD
IN BROKER
812-620-7745

CHAD CARDER
IN AUCTIONEER
812-662-1098

AUCTIONEER: BRIAN OWENS

684 W COUNTY ROAD 400 S, GREENSBURG IN

LANDPROZ

ONLINE BIDDING AT LANDPROZ.COM

Annual CES show in Vegas gets bigger every year

The annual CES show grows larger each year, as does its agricultural presence. Held in Las Vegas, this year's show featured a lot of new ag technology.

During the earlier years of Precision Farming, most middle-aged and older farmers avoided the new technology equipment, feeling it was too difficult to understand. Now, over 20 years later, the majority of producers have used some or a lot of new equipment, realizing that labor shortages and the need for better yields require the change.

USDA reports that 52 percent of midsize farms and 70 percent of large operations use precision-guided autosteering. The interesting story here is that agriculture is well ahead of public awareness.

Two big ag shows – 62 miles apart Half Century of Progress and the Farm Progress Show occur every other year in Illinois. This year's Half Century Show will be Aug. 21-24 in Rantoul, Ill. It will be at the old Chanute Air Force Base, presenting a vivid display of past agriculture, including pre-WWII equipment. A huge display of tractors came from all over the country, as did earlier combines, shellers, and implements. Planning involves planting corn and soybeans to be harvested during the show. Combines and corn pickers operate in the field, followed by tillage tools. Ear corn goes to shell-

ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM



ers for their demonstration. Golf carts can be reserved in advance, and food and merchandise tents are all over the grounds.

One week later and 62 miles away, the Farm Progress Show is entirely different. On Aug. 26-28, this event is entirely about modern agriculture. The latest tractors, combines, and other machines will be on display, and factory reps will be available to answer questions. Over 600 exhibitors will present the newest technology in agriculture, including robot and drone demonstrations.

At least a day at each of these two shows will provide a picture of agriculture from pre-WWII to the future. I try to attend both, and it is time well spent. I think you will, too. There are numerous other outdoor farm shows during 2025, including Husker Harvest Days at Grand Island, Neb., on Sept. 10-12 and Ohio Farm Science Review on Sept. 17-19.

FFA Alumni Toy Show

(Tractors continued on page 15B)

The Greg Schrader Estate ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

Bidding ENDS SUNDAY, April 27, 2025 @ 7:00 PM Eastern

Items located @ 8931 N. Ann Arbor Rd., Dundee, MI 48131

See www.bradneuhart.com for all info

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Greg Schrader owned and ran a very successful lawn, landscaping, concrete and excavating business in SE Michigan. Due to his passing the family has commissioned Brad Neuhart Auctioneers to sell skid steers, excavators, trucks, trailers, skid steer equipment, tools, parts and MUCH MORE via online only public auction. This sale is LOADED with great owner operated equipment. Bidding opens mid April and will run until SUNDAY April 27, 2025 when items begin closing at 7pm eastern. Payment and pickup will be on-site at 8931 N. Ann Arbor Rd. Dundee, MI on Monday April 28, 2025 and Tuesday, April 29, 2025 from 9am-5pm each day. We will have a loader on-site to assist with pickup. We will host an in-person preview on Thursday April 24, 2025 from 10am-4pm. **THIS IS THE ONLY TIME FOR VIEWING. PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE ONTO THE PROPERTY AT ANY OTHER TIME!!!**

TRUCKS/TRAILERS: 2024 Chevrolet 3500 - ONLY 5277 MILES - Diesel, 4x4, C&M Stainless Bed; 1999 Western Star Quad Axle Dump w/ Pup - ONLY 262k Orig. Miles; 2004 Chevrolet 2500; 2021 RC 16' Enclosed Trailer; 20' 14k Equipment Trailer; CZ Tandem Equipment Trailer; Royal 16' Enclosed Trailer; Custom Toro Dingo Trailer; Landscape Trailer; 53' Stoughton Van Trailer.

SKID STEERS & EQUIPMENT: 2020 Bobcat T770 - ONLY 1100 Hrs. - Cab, Heat, AC - NICE; Bobcat S250; Toro 322 Dingo Mini Skid Steer; LOTS OF Skid Steer and Mini Skid Steer Attachments incl. - Snow Pushers, Blades, Forks, Augers, Boring Tool, Power Rakes and MORE.

EXCAVATORS & WHEEL LOADER: Komatsu PC130 Excavator - ONLY 4136 Hrs. - SUPER CLEAN, Track Pads, Hyd. Thumb; Bobcat 331 Mini Excavator - Thumb; Komatsu WB250-5L - 2.25yd. Bucket, Aux. Hyd. - Good Machine.

ZERO TURN & ATV: 2022 Exmark Laser Z 60" - ONLY 50 HOURS; 2015 Polaris Sportsman 1000 - 1190mi. - NICE.

SNOW EQUIPMENT: Boss Snow Rator - ONLY 23.5 Hrs; Bucket Snow Pusher; Boss V Plows; Spreaders; Snow Blowers.



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST: (2) 40' Shipping Containers; 1000 Gal. Water Trailer w/ Pump; Stone Cement Mixer; TONS OF CEMENT TOOLS incl. Power Trowel, Compactor, Floats, Forms, Pins, Hand Tools, Vibrator, Stihl TS420 Cement Saw; Edco Gas Walk Behind Concrete Saw and MORE; Bluebird Sod Cutter; Bed Enger; OVER 50 IBC TOTES OF SEASONED FIREWOOD!!; 37 Ton Gas Log Splitter; Walk Behind Mowers; Sprinkler Supplies; Landscaping Supplies; LUMBER; and MUCH MORE.

TOOLS: Hotsy Hot Pressure Washer; Jonsered/Stihl Chainsaws; Redmax Tools; SHOP TOOLS - Press, Drill Press, Welding Table; Lincoln 256 Power Mig Welder; Jacks; Hand Tools; Parts Washers; Battery Chargers; Oil and Supplies; Filters; Bolt Bins; Torch Set; Fisher TW -82 Line Tracer; Bench Vises and MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

Register & BID at www.bradneuhart.com



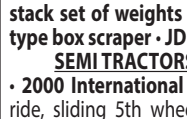
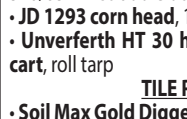
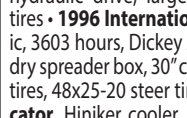
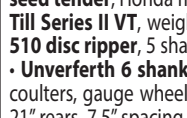
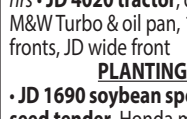
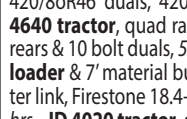
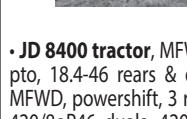
Terms: Cash, wire or acceptable check with proper ID. Any out of state check or check over \$3k must have a bank letter or be certified funds. Titles will not be released until funds clear. Property settled for BEFORE removal. NOT RESPONSIBLE for accidents. Auctioneers assume NO liabilities or guarantees. Loader avail. Checkout days ONLY. 10% BP in effect w/\$2500 cap/item. See website for any other terms of sale.

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www.bradneuhart.com

The FRANK ROCHOWIAK Pre-Estate TOYS, LITERATURE & MEMORABILIA ONLINE ONLY AUCTION #5

Bidding Ends: MONDAY, April 28, 2025 @ 7pm est

Items Located at Our Auction Facility - 12544 Carpenter Rd., Milan, MI 48160
See pics, info, register & BID at: www.bradneuhart.com

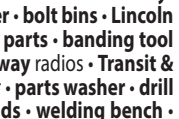
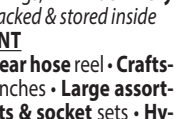
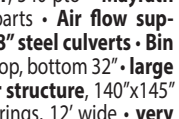
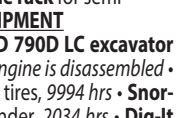
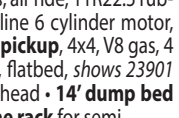
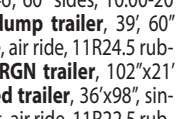
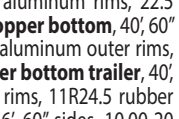


AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Brad Neuhart Auctioneers are proud to have been selected by Frank Rochowiak to begin the process of passing along his amazing collection at ONLINE ONLY public auction. Frank is a pillar in the agricultural collecting community and has collected OVER 60 YEARS. DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADD SOME FANTASTIC TOYS, LITERATURE OR MEMORABILIA FROM ALL COLORS TO YOUR COLLECTION. Bidding will open mid April 2025 and go through MONDAY April 28, 2025 with items beginning to close at 7pm eastern time. We offer in-house shipping on most items or you may pick-up your items and pay in-person on Wednesday 4/30/25 from 10am-5pm. Items can be viewed in person on Wednesday 4/23/25 from 10am - 3pm at 12544 Carpenter Rd. Milan, MI 48160. See www.bradneuhart.com for pics, info, registration and bidding.

SEE PICS AND INFO AT:
www.bradneuhart.com

Terms: 6% Sales Tax. Cash or acceptable check.

10% Buyer's Premium. See website for terms.



Lannan Farm Equipment AUCTION

• Loogootee, IN • Daviess County •

AUCTION LOCATION: 1715 S 1225 E, Loogootee, IN 47553

SATURDAY, MAY 3rd • 9:00am



TRACTORS
• JD 8400 tractor, MFWD, powershift, 4 remotes, big 1000 pto, 18.4-46 rears & duals, 9600 hrs • JD 4760 tractor, MFWD, powershift, 3 remotes, quick hitch, hammer strap, 420/80R46 duals, 420/85R28 fronts, EZ Steer knob • JD 4640 tractor, quad range, 2 remotes, quick hitch, 20.8-38 rears & 10 bolt duals, 5580 hrs • JD 4320 tractor, w/ JD 158 loader & 7' material bucket, 2 remotes, 540/1000 pto, center link, Firestone 18.4-38 rears, 10.00-16 fronts, shows 4081 hrs • JD 4020 tractor, diesel, 2 remotes, 3 pt, 540/1000 pto, M&W Turbo & oil pan, 18.4-38 rears & 9 bolt duals, 10.00-16 fronts, JD wide front

PLANTING & TILLAGE EQUIPMENT
• JD 1690 soybean special, 15" spacing • Friesen 220 bulk seed tender, Honda motor • 28' Great Plains 3000 Turbo Till Series II VT, weight kit, w/ cover crop air seeder • JD 510 disc ripper, 5 shank, 21" fronts, 21" rears, dual wheels • Unverferth 6 shank Zone Builder ripper, spring reset, coulters, gauge wheels • 28' Case IH 496 disc, 19" fronts, 21" rears, 7.5" spacing, tandem wheels • 27' JD field cultivator, JD knock on shovels • 32' JD 200 crumbler • 12 row JD 845 Danish tine 3pt cultivator • 15' JD 3pt rotary hoe

LITTER SPREADER - FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT
• 22' BBI litter spreader, 28" pans, 33" chain, 2 vibrators, hydraulic drive, large 1000 pto, 21.50-16.1SL floatation tires • 1996 International 2554 spreader truck, automatic, 3603 hours, Dickey John monitor, w/ Ag Chem stainless dry spreader box, 30" chain, double spinner, 66x43-25 drive tires, 48x25-20 steer tires • 17 knife DMI 4200 HN3 applicator, Hiniker cooler, coulters • 8'x17' upright Stainless fertilizer tank • 1000 gallon nurse trailer, spring axles, cast iron pump, needs work

COMBINE - HEADS - GRAIN CART
• JD 9760 STS combine, 4x4, Bullet Rotor, lateral tilt, 520/85R42 straddle duals, 28L-26 steers, needs engine work • JD 1293 corn head, 12 row, 30" • 35' JD 635F grain table • Unverferth HT 30 head cart • Unverferth 8000 grain cart, roll tarp

TILE PLOW - FARM MISC
• Soil Max Gold Digger tile plow • Agri Drain tile stringer cart • JD 1518 batwing mower, stump jumpers, chains, 1000 pto • 6' 3pt rotary mower • Farmhand 817 feed grinder/mixer, w/ long auger • M&W Little Red wagon #200 gravity wagon, 10.00-15 tires • Firestone 28L-26 tires on 8 bolt rim for combine or grain cart • JD double stack set of weights • JD LA135 lawn tractor • 10' pull type box scraper • JD 9' 3pt grader blade, 6 way blade

SEMI TRACTORS - TRAILERS - GRAIN TRUCK
• 2000 International 9200 semi, Cummins, 9 speed, air ride, sliding 5th wheel, 22.5 super singles • 1991 Ken-

worth daycab semi, Cummins, 10 speed, air ride, 11R24.5 rubber, aluminum rims, 799236 miles • 1978 International Transtar II Eagle COE semi, Cummins, Road Ranger 9 speed, Jake Brake, 11R24.5 rubber, 733010 miles • Semi Chassis, M11 Cummins, 10 speed, aluminum rims, 22.5 rubber • 2011 Wilson Pace Setter hopper bottom, 40', 60" sides, AG hoppers, air ride, roll tarp, aluminum outer rims, 11R24.5 rubber • 1995 Timpette hopper bottom trailer, 40', 60" sides, roll tarp, aluminum outer rims, 11R24.5 rubber • Wilson aluminum grain trailer, 46', 60" sides, 10.00-20 tires • 1991 Trail Star frameless dump trailer, 39', 60" sides, roll tarp, grain gate, 3 way gate, air ride, 11R24.5 rubber • 1988 Rogers self-contained RGN trailer, 102'x21' well, 11R17.5 tires • Fruehauf flatbed trailer, 36'x98", single axle, w/ (2) 1500 gallon poly tanks, air ride, 11R22.5 rubber • Chevrolet C60 grain truck, inline 6 cylinder motor, 15" steel grain bed • Chevrolet 3500 pickup, 4x4, V8 gas, 4 speed manual, dual 235/85R16 tires, flatbed, shows 23901 miles • 8'x20' truck flatbed w/ bulk head • 14' dump bed w/ lift cylinder • Aluminum headache rack for semi

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT
• Case 1150 G long track dozer • JD 790D LC excavator • Massey Ferguson wheel loader, engine is disassembled • JD 480-A fork lift, 40" forks, 16.9-24 tires, 9994 hrs • Snorkel ATB50 man lift, 4x4, Ford 4 cylinder, 2034 hrs • Dig-It 148 self-contained backhoe, Kohler 2 cylinder engine, tow behind • Grove mobile all terrain crane, CAT 225 V⁸ diesel, 16.00-24 TG tires

GRAIN AUGERS - GRAIN BINS - STRUCTURES - LUMBER
• Brandt 10'x70' swing away auger, 540 pto • Mayrath 10'x61' center drive auger, for parts • Air flow supports • Grain distributors • 24" & 48" steel culverts • Bin sheets (115) 1/2 x 34", (175) 1/2 x 7" top, bottom 32" • large amount of 7" aerated floor • Super structure, 140"x145" w/ legs • Cone bottom wet bin, 7 rings, 12' wide • very large amount of used 2"x6"x12" stacked & stored inside

SHOP EQUIPMENT
• Portacool cooling system • Goodyear hose reel • Craftsman combination & ratcheting wrenches • Large assortment of hitch pins • 3/4" air impacts & socket sets • Hydraulic jacks • portable pipe bender • bolt bins • Lincoln welder • tow straps • semi & trailer parts • banding tool • Ravens monitor • Several FM & 2 way radios • Transit & sticks • aluminum extension ladder • parts washer • drill press • chain binders • welding leads • welding bench • tubing wrenches • Evolution Magnetic boring machine • 10" bench grinder • chains & clevis' • table saw • metal chop saw • High lift jack • Lock Down electric tarp motor

ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

SELLER: DENISE LANNAN | AUCTION MANAGERS: ROBERT MISHLER, 260-336-9750 & ERIC OTT, 260-413-0787

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Tractor

FROM PAGE 14B

Those of you who attend farm toy shows have noticed that tractors make up most of the items for sale. Old ones in need of restoration, older models

still in the box, and new models are all for sale.

The annual FFA Alumni Toy Sale at Serena, Ill., High School has similar offerings, but more. Many craft items are offered and made by FFA alumni. Embroidered pillowcases, dish towels, hand-crafted jewelry, and a lot more. Home-made bakery items and on-site

lunches are items not usually seen at the bigger toy sales, but the FFA families do it here.

As always, toy tractors are available, and this show had many of them for sale. One vendor had all-aluminum riders representing various tractor models, including Ford New Holland riders I had not seen before.

A beautiful custom-painted Case IH rider will be offered to a winning raffle ticket. International Harvester Collectors Club Chapter 2 had these tickets for sale. Another booth sold raffle tickets for a John Deere rider with a trailer.

The most expensive rider's price tag was \$650 for a battered Farmall 560 badly in need of restoration.

If you haven't attended a farm toy

show, I recommend it. Lots of memories!

Today's BURMA-SHAVE memory: The One who drives - When he's been drinking, Depends on you - To Do His Thinking.

Please email me with topics you would like to know more about. If you are a collector, tell me about your tractors.

Paul Wallem was raised on an Illinois dairy farm. He spent 13 years with corporate IH in domestic and foreign assignments before retiring to own and operate two IH dealerships. He is the author of THE BREAKUP of IH and SUCCESSES & INDUSTRY FIRSTS of IH. See all his books on www.PaulWallem.com.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE OUTBID ON A FARM AND FELT GOOD ABOUT IT THE NEXT DAY? HERE IS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY.

ABSOLUTE FARM
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May 6, 2025 @ 8AM – May 6, 2025 @ 11AM

All Times EST

Bid Today, Plant Corn Tomorrow

55.4 Acres +/- offered in one tract

Located one half mile south on highway 110 on CR-500 W in Northern Fulton County

For a free bidders packet, contact Brad Neihouser:

Brad Neihouser, #AU19900091

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COMMERCIAL
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Above: High-end horsepower 4WD tractors like this Versatile 620 will be on display at the Farm Progress Show.

KIKO

AUCTION

25+ Acre Hobby Farm With Good Remodeled Home, 48x72 Pole Building With Addition, Machinery Shed, 30 X 60 Quonset Barn, 24x64 Insulated 4-H Building, Open & Wooded Land With Stream, Free Gas, Palmyra Twp., Portage Co.

Also Selling: Quality Well-Maintained Low Hour Farm Equipment, (6) New Holland & Ford Tractors, Skid Loader, Case IH Combine, Planting & Tillage & Hay Equipment, Hay, Ford F-250, 1967 Pontiac, Harley, Priefert Chute, Guns, Farm Related Items

Live Onsite With Online Bidding Available On Real Estate & Large Items

Owner is retiring from farming after several successful years. Absolute auction, all sells to the highest bidder on location:

3024 ST. RT. 225, DIAMOND, OH 44412

Directions: From I-76 east of Akron or west of Youngstown, take Rt. 225 exit and south or take Rt. 225 north of Deerfield, OH to address. Watch for KIKO signs.

Saturday, April 19, 2025, 9:30 AM

Real Estate Sells At 10:30 AM

Preview: Friday, April 18, 2005, 1:00-5:00 PM



Tractors, Combine & Heads, Skid Loader. New Holland 2012 T6070 C/H/A MFWD, 472 act. hrs; New Holland 2012 T6070 C/H/A 689 act. hrs; New Holland T7.260 C/H/A MFWD 1227 hrs; one-owner New Holland 2014 T5.115 C/H/A MFWD with New Holland 835TL loader 765 hrs; 1994 Ford 4630 1695 org. hrs; Ford 1974 5000 diesel; 2011 Case IH 5088 AFS axial flow combine, 2200 eng hrs, 1595 sep. hrs; 2011 Case IH Terra flex 3020 25' grain head; Unferth header cart; Case IH 3406 30 6 RNCH HT25 Unferth header cart; New Holland LS 150 diesel skid loader.

Kinze & Great Plains Planters, Tillage Tools, Grain Cart, Gravity Box. One-owner 2024 Kinze 3505 planter 8/16 splitter 172 total acres used 1 season; Great Plains 1200 12' drill with CPH-12 no-till cart; one-owner Great Plains used 2 seasons, HT1100 20' Terra Max vert. tillage tool; Glenco 9-shank disc chisel; one-owner E-Z Trail 550 grain cart; E-Z Trail 3400 300 bu. gravity box.

New Holland Hay Equipment, Brush Hog, New Holland Spreaders. 2019 New Holland Roll-Belt 450 round baler silage special 2060 bales; New Holland 2019 210 discbine; Tararup 7420 pull-type bale wrapper; 2017 procart 1022 hyd fold wheel rake; rollabar rake; New Holland 185 tandem spreader; J&M Mighty bale hauler.

Ford F-250, 1967 Pontiac, Harley, Honda Bike, Honda Trail Bike & Economy Mowers, Four-Wheeler, Priefert Chute, Gates, Post, T-III Siding, Farm Items, Wrapped & Dry Hay, Straw.

Sale Order. 9:30 AM small items, real estate sells 10:30 AM, large equipment at 11:15 AM.

TERMS ON CHATELS: Driver's license or State ID required to register for bidder number. Cash, Check, Debit Card, Visa, or Master Card accepted. 4% buyer's premium on all sales; 4% waived for cash or check when paid sale day. Information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Multi Par auction process may be used.

ONLINE TERMS: Wire Transfer or Certified Check. 5% buyer's premium on all sales. Information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Multi par auction process may be used.

Auction By Order Of: Stephen M. Miner Trust

Auctioneer/Realtor: Randall L. Kiko, 330.831.0174, randallkiko@kikocompany.com, Russell T. (Rusty) Kiko, Jr., C.A.I., 330.495.0923, rustykiko@kikocompany.com, Douglas L. Milano, 330.205.2196, dmilano@kikocompany.com

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FARM EQUIPMENT &
TOOL AUCTION

SAT., APRIL 19TH, 2025 @ 10AM

ADDRESS: 5747 Jenkins Rd., Okeana, Ohio 45053

TRACTORS:

- 1953 John Deere 60, Narrow Front, Fenders, Live Hyds., Live PTO, Cracked Block
- 1955 John Deere 70, Dsl., Pony Motor, 1 SCV, Pwr Steer, Live Hyds, Live PTO, Cracked Head
- 1955 John Deere 80, Pwr Steer, Pony Motor, Live PTO, Dual Hyds.
- 1956 John Deere 420 Row Crop, Gas, Wide Front, 1 SCV, 540 PTO
- 1964 John Deere 2010, Gas Engine, 1 SCV, 540 PTO, 2 Point, 6213 Hours

TILLAGE AND PLANTING

- John Deere AW Disk, 12', Bar Drag
- John Deere 8300 Drill, New Tires, 15', 24 Hole, Single Box, Dual Lids, Press Wheels, True V, Spring Tooth Closers,
- John Deere FB Drill, Fertilizer, Small Seed Box
- (2) John Deere 3 Btm. Plows, 14", Pull-Type and Mtd.
- International 46 Disk, 10'
- 3 Pt. Blade, 8'
- Field Sprayer, 400 Gal. Tank, 40' Booms, 540 PTO Pump, New Seals, TeeJet Control Box,

COMBINE, WAGON AND ENGINE

- John Deere 55 Combine, Dsl., 303 Direct Inject., Chopper, Grain Ext., 2 Row 40" Corn Head, 12' Platform
- Killbros Gravity Wagon, 230bu., Extendable Tongue, Roll Tarp
- John Deere 2010 Engine, Motor will fit John Deere 1010, 2010 or 45 Combine, Runs

MOWERS, BOAT AND FARM MAINTENANCE

- John Deere 318 Lawn Mower, Gas engine, 46" Deck, Front Hyds, Bar tires, Hydrostatic Trans., 1764 hours, SN: M00318X485970
- Country Clipper Z-Turn Mower, 183 Hours, 60" Deck, Joystick Control, Kawasaki FS730V Eng.
- Nashville Stratos 189V Boat, 18', Venture XP200 Motor, Stratos Trail Trailer, Open Bow, Bass Boat, Evinrude Trolling Motor, Fish Wells, Rod Boxes, Ladder, Has Title
- Bush Hog Freeman 3000 Loader, 2 stick control valve, Came off JD 2010

LIVESTOCK, HAY, TRAILERS AND TOOLS

- Single Axle Trailer
- Steel Livestock Trailer, 12'
- John Deere No. 3 Elevator, 30', Corn Chute
- New Holland Pipe Hay Elevator, 17', Elec. Motor
- Farmhand FeedMaster 810 Mixer, 2 Ton, Screens, 540 PTO, New Bearings/Seals in Gearbox
- New Idea Manure Spreader, Single Beater, 540 PTO, Slop Gate, Apron Chain, Wood Floor
- New Holland 479 Haybine, Rubber Rolls, 9' Cut, 540 PTO, Metal Tooth
- New Holland 256 Bar Rake, Tandem Front, Ground Drive
- John Deere 953 Hay Wagon, 14' Long, Stander, Deere 953 Gear
- Davey Air Compressor, Detroit Dsl. Engine, Air Hammer, 5947 Hrs.
- Craftsman Lathe • Bridgeport Milling Machine • Shop Tools • Hand Tools

CONSIGNED FROM NEIGHBORS

- 2009 JOHN DEERE 1770NT PLANTER, 16R-30" Spacing, MaxEmerge XP Units, 3 BU. Boxes, 2x2, 2 Blowers, Mechanical Drives, Spike Closing Wheels, Drag Chains, Rear Hitch, Rear Fill Valves, Air Down Force, Markers, Half Width Disconnect, 2 Pt. Hitch, Keaton Seed Firmers, 15" No-Till Coulter Avg., 15" Fertilizer Opener Avg., SN: A01770Y730257
- John Deere 559 Round Baler, Silage Special, MegaWide Pick-Up, HarvesTec Acid Applicator, Net & Twine Wrap, 540 PTO, Gauge Wheels, 9,000 Bales, New Belts Less Than 500 Bales Ago, SN: 1E00559SVFF410010
- Meyers Silage Wagon, 16' Box, Rebuilt Front End, Triple Beater, New Unloading Conveyor Pan
- Badger Silage Wagon, 18' Box, Tandem Gear, Triple Beater, High Gear Out, Ext. Tongue
- Valmetal V59 Silage Blower, 540 PTO, Like New, Small Bend in Chute,
- Hanson 20' Silo Unloader
- 1999 Ford F450, 7.3 Dsl., 4x4, 6 Spd., Flat-bed, 267k mi., New Brakes/U-Joints, New Trans 15k mi. ago

SELLERS: Schoultheis Trust, Tim Schoultheis & Others

ANDY KORB

WALTON

Andy Korb, Auctioneer, Cell: (513) 312-0648

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Auction Calendar

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AUCTION

Discount Warehouse
Auctions Every Saturday & Sunday
Pierceton and Warsaw, IN



AUCTION

Country Home & Pole Barn
Friday, April 18, 2025
5670 N. SR 15, Wabash, IN



AUCTION

Vehicles, Antiques, Tools
Friday, April 18, 2025
5670 N. SR 15, Wabash, IN



AUCTION

Quality Jewelry Auction
Sunday, April 20, 2025
1582 W. SR 114, N. Manchester, IN



AUCTION

4 Friends Liquidation Co.
Tuesday, April 22, 2025
122 Hale Dr, Wabash, IN



AUCTION

Vehicles, RV Parts, Tools
Wednesday, April 23, 2025
Milford, IN



AUCTION

Ranch Home on 2 Acres
Friday, April 25, 2025
6399 S 100 W, Claypool, IN
Manager: Dustin Dillon 574.265.9215



AUCTION

Market Monday Consignment
Auction Ending Every Monday!
1582 SR 114, N. Manchester, IN



AUCTION

Larue Estate Collection
Friday, April 25, 2025
6399 S 100 W, Claypool, IN
Manager: Dustin Dillon 574.265.9215



AUCTION

Absolute - No Reserve Auction
Tuesday, April 29, 2025
105 N. McKee St., Macy, IN



AUCTION

Country Home on 12+ Acres
Friday, May 2, 2025
19750 Osborne Rd., Lakeville, IN



AUCTION

John & Twila Veger Estate
Friday, May 2, 2025
19750 Osborne Rd., Lakeville, IN



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