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Vol. 71, No. 35

Friday, October 3, 2025

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ICGA Farm Economy Temperature Survey shows farmers concerned

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
 Illinois Correspondent

BLOOMINGTON, ILL. – Farmers who visited the Illinois Corn Growers Association (ICGA) tent during the late-August Farm Progress Show in Decatur may have received a questionnaire from an ICGA representative that sought to gauge their feelings around the farm economy. Recently, ICGA announced the results of their Farm Economy Temperature Survey, which showed that most Illinois farmers are concerned about the future of their farms and the need for changes in production costs.

Farmers are also worried about their export markets and the ramifications of the “Make America Healthy Again” (MAHA) movement.

“We always want to engage with farmers when we are at the FPS, and this year with the current economic situation we thought we would ask a few questions as a way to engage people who approached our display in our shared tent with Illinois Soybean Association,” said Rod Weinzierl, ICGA executive director. “We had almost 400 overall responses, of which 259 were responses from Illinois farmers, landlords and retired farmers, which we thought was a good showing.”

The survey results, which can be viewed on the ICGA website (www.illinoiscorn.com), revealed that 68 percent of respondents feel that corn and meat product exports are inhibited by the current trade climate. “Obviously, trade and tariffs are big issues in the countryside. A little over two-thirds said they were concerned about the current trade climate, with the remainder equally saying they have no opinion or saying ‘no,’” Weinzierl said.

In addition, 83 percent feel there is a long-term growth potential for domestic ethanol use. This comes at a time when ICGA and its parent, the National Corn Growers Association, are, along with renewable fuels groups, lobbying Congress to enact legislation enabling year-round E-15.

Top areas of concern around the MAHA movement include food regulation, pesticide regulation and human health. While many (around 15 percent) respondents were not aware of the MAHA recommendations and their potential effect on agriculture and food production, most thought the MAHA movement would have an impact on their farm.

“We need to continue to increase awareness about the MAHA movement,” Weinzierl said. “However, the majority of respondents thought the three areas of larger concern around MAHA – food regulation, pesticide regulation and human health, in that order, would be a problem for agriculture. I am assuming the human health aspect is around vaccines. There is definitely a lot of concern around the MAHA movement in those three particular areas.”

The ICGA executive director added that other states, such as Iowa, Texas and Louisiana, are already moving to shift their food production policies through legislation to align MAHA recommendations. “It’s becoming more active at the state level,” he said.

FPS visitors were also asked what should be done to address low corn prices. More exports, increased ethanol use and lower input costs topped the wish list. “You can somewhat expect more exports to be the most popular answer in the state of Illinois, but with all of the tariffs out there, exports poll really high amongst our membership,” said Weinzierl. “Every farmer is feeling the effects of input costs, and we’re really not seeing much relief on that, if any. If we’re really going to get ourselves out of this oversupply situation, we have to have more demand for the volumes of corn we’re producing. We need to focus on demand and also figure out why these input prices aren’t coming down like they have in past farm economic downturns.”

Weinzierl added that the least popular response from farmers on how to best address low corn prices was “government payments,” with most preferring free markets over ad-hoc rescues. “What we heard farmers saying

(See Survey on page 4)



Above: The Keeneland September Yearling Sale was held September 8-20 in Lexington, Ky. It is one of the largest thoroughbred auction in the world. This year a record 56 horses sold for over \$1 million each. A colt by Gun Runner sold for \$3.3 million on Day 1. A group of Dodge Power Wagon owners was able to tour the grounds with Steve Cauthen (middle of group with arms crossed wearing hat and blue shirt). As a jockey he won the Triple Crown on Affirmed in 1978. At 18 years old, he became the youngest jockey in history to achieve this feat. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Ohio drought conditions putting farmers in a bind

By **DOUG GRAVES**
 Ohio Correspondent

LONDON, Ohio – At this year’s Farm Science Review, more than 100,000 people took to the Trotter Field demonstrations where farmers learned about new ag innovations like drones, automation, sprayers and other technology, as well as picked up tips on tillage, corn harvest and soybean harvest.

It is estimated that half of those in attendance paid a visit to the Firebaugh Building each day to listen to Ohio State Ag Weather and Climate Field Specialist Aaron Wilson, along with OSU Extension Field Specialist Bruce Clevenger and other field experts from OSU’s College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). These experts were on hand to answer questions about weather and climate. And with good reason. Central Ohio saw just 0.61 inches in August. At the time of Farm Science Review, the Columbus area had received 0.23 inches of rain since Sept. 1.

While not yet reaching the severity of last year’s growing season, Wilson said drought conditions are once again taking hold across the Buckeye State, adding that parts of northwest, east central and south central Ohio are experiencing rapid moisture loss, declining soil moisture and stream flows following weeks of below-average rainfall.

“We went from the eighth wettest

April through July on record to the driest on record for Ohio,” Wilson said. “Ohio’s farmers must examine their farming practices in order to survive these converse weather extremes. We have to think about what crops we can grow, maybe double crop, maybe not. These are questions that are active in the research.

“We’re not currently near the severity of 2024, when parts of the state were experiencing exceptional drought. However, recent flash drought-like conditions, particularly in areas like Henry, Wood, Hancock, Coshocton, Carroll and Scioto counties, are a growing concern.

“Many counties have only received 25 to 50 percent of their normal precipitation over the last 60 days,” he said. “With limited rainfall in the forecast, stream and river levels are already falling below historical median flows.”

According to the Sept. 19 U.S. Drought Monitor, more than half of Ohio was experiencing moderate to extreme dry conditions.

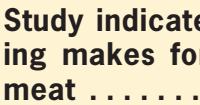
Ohio’s staple row crops are already showing signs of stress. In northwest Ohio, corn is prematurely senescing, or aging, as a result of drought stress during the critical pollination and grain-fill stages.

“I’ve observed tip dieback in corn, with missing kernels at the ends of the ears,” said Stephanie Karhoff, field specialist in agronomic systems

(See Drought on page 2)



In this Farm World:



Study indicates rotating grazing makes for nutrient dense meat Page 1B



Interest high for people wanting to start a new farm..... Page 7

Drought

FROM PAGE 1

with CFAES. “Soybeans are also senescing early, which will likely reduce pod fill and ultimately lower yields.”

Specialty crop producers are also experiencing challenges.

Logan Minter, CFAES field specialist for specialty crops, said the season’s early excess moisture followed by extreme heat has resulted in shallow root systems in many vegetable crops, leaving them vulnerable to the current dry conditions.

“Tomatoes, cucurbits, peppers and apples in northwest and southern Ohio are showing signs of nutrient deficiency and drought stress during peak fruit production,” Minter said. “It’s a double-edged sword. Dry conditions reduce disease pressure from many plant pathogens, but they also limit plant growth and fruit quality.”

Water availability is also tightening for livestock producers across the state. Surface water sources such as creeks and ponds are beginning to dry up, prompting some producers to haul water to fields or rely on rural water systems.

“I think in general for all of us, regardless of what our profession, water conservation is always a good idea,” Wilson said. “When things start to get low like this, we start to think really seriously and perhaps we should more often think about preserving water. It’s sort of that first line of defense.”

Meanwhile, forage yields are expected to decline.

“We’re already seeing lower silage moisture than expected,” said Jason Hartschuh, CFAES field specialist in dairy management. “Plant material

is drier than it looks based on grain development, so it’s critical for producers to test whole-plant moisture before harvest.”

Hartschuh added that future cuts of alfalfa or grass silage could also be limited, depending on how long the dry conditions persist.

The impacts of drought are also visible in Ohio’s forests. In southeast and east central Ohio, trees are shedding leaves prematurely, and yellow popular dieback has been observed, said Jim Downs, forestry program coordinator with CFAES.

“While one year of early leaf drop may not be significant, repeated years of drought weaken trees, making them more vulnerable to pests and disease,” Downs said. “Right now, wildfire risk is low, but in future years, fallen dead trees could create high fuel loads and increase the risk of intense fires, especially in unmanaged areas.”

On the minds of many attendees was a four-month forecast.

“Our latest guidance from the Climate Prediction Center certainly doesn’t lean too strongly either way in terms of precipitation,” Wilson said. “It’s looking like temperatures will be warmer than average throughout much of the fall and the harvest season. In precipitation, I would have to lean a little bit drier, but we really don’t have a strong signal either way. And then as we head into this upcoming winter, all eyes are back on the tropical Pacific Ocean. It looks like cooler sea surface temperatures are resuming there, what we call La Nina. And oftentimes in Ohio, winters become wetter than average during those conditions. So, you know, it could be a winter where we again start to kind of replenish some of the soil moisture loss that we’re feeling here in early fall.”



Above: Aaron Wilson, along with other experts from OSU’s College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences answered weather and climate questions at this year’s Farm Science Review. (photo submitted)

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TOLL-FREE NUMBER 1-800-876-5133
INSIDE AREA 765-345-5133
FAX NUMBER 765-345-3398 (24 hours)
www.farmworldonline.com

Farm World is published weekly, except for Christmas week, by MidCountry Media, Inc., 27 N. Jefferson St., Knightstown, IN 46148. Periodicals postage paid at Knightstown, IN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Farm World, P.O. Box 90, Knightstown, IN 46148.

www.farmworldonline.com

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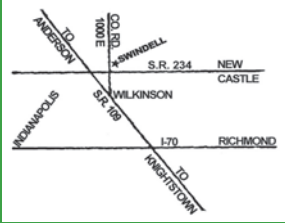
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China is looking to buy soybeans but not from the US

One of the greatest concerns in the market right now remains the lack of Chinese new crop demand on soybeans. The United States has 7.2 million metric tons of new crop soybeans sold, but none to China. China has been actively booking soybeans though, with total bookings currently at 16.3 mmt, a year-to-year increase of 7 mmt. Of this, a reported 10 mmt is for 2025/26 delivery. China has been actively booking soybeans from Argentina and Uruguay instead, along with canola from Australia rather than soybeans from the U.S. While this is negative in the near term, the more soybeans China buys from South America the fewer soybeans that will be available for other importers, favoring the U.S.

Changes in China’s feed rations are starting to impact their overall demand. China’s feed production in July of this year was up 5.5 percent from last year at 28.3 mmt. China’s feed rations are currently 33 percent corn based, down from the 47 percent at the start of the year, according to the research group Sitonia. Meal content has risen to 14 percent of feed rations, the highest level since May 2024. China has tried to curb meal usage in feed rations, but the current blend is at a 2 ½ year high.

While Chinese commodity demand is uncertain, one region of the globe that will likely need more corn imports is the European Union. Analysts from the EU are projecting a 2025/26 corn crop of 57.6 mmt, down from the 60.1 mmt that was projected back in July. This is also a 3.4 percent decline from the previous corn crop as drought has impacted much of the region’s production. EU officials have upped their corn import by 500,000 mt to a total of 18.8 mmt. This number is likely understated however, as last year the EU imported 20 mmt of corn with a larger domestic crop.

These changes in Chinese soybean demand and its impact on the U.S. market may be over exaggerated. The July Census crush report showed us that from last September through the end of June, U.S. soybean processors have consumed 2.25 billion bu of soybeans, a year to year increase of 6.09 percent. This increase in crush is the result of growing biofuel production that is elevating soy oil demand. U.S. soy oil stocks at the end of July totaled 1.87 billion pounds, the lowest volume in the past seven months.

What trade is overlooking is that U.S. soy meal reserves at the end of July

were 353,131 short tons, a nine-month low. For several months trade has been showing concern with a soy meal oversupply from elevated crush, and just the opposite has happened. This is creating a shift in the entire soy complex outlook.

Data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows a considerable drop in U.S. biodiesel and renewable diesel imports from a year ago. U.S. biodiesel imports for the first half of 2025 averaged 2,000 barrels per day compared to 35,000 barrels per day over the same period in 2024. Renewable diesel imports averaged 5,000 barrels per day through the end of June, down from the 33,000 barrel a day in 2024. These are the lowest volume of imports since 2012 when the U.S. renewable fuel industry was just starting to expand.

The primary reason for the drop in imports is the removal of the \$1 per gallon blender tax credit that was being paid on both domestic and imported fuels. The 45Z Clean Fuel Credit removed this payment for imported bio fuels.

The spread between retail costs of beef, pork and chicken are starting to become more noticeable. The average retail cost of beef in the United States

is up 13 percent from a year ago at \$9 per pound. This compares to \$5 per pound for pork and \$2.50 a pound for chicken. The main reason for the increase in beef is tariffs on Brazilian imports that have cut off a major supply of U.S. ground beef.

Consumer demand for beef and pork remains high, but retailers warn high-priced beef is just starting to make its way into the supply line. Many retailers and packers both have been absorbing a portion of elevated beef costs but are now having to pass more of these along to consumers. This will likely impact beef demand, especially as the grilling season comes to an end.

The trade dispute between the European Union and China has escalated with China now accusing the EU of dumping cheap pork into their market. This decision comes from an investigation that ended in June 2024 and covered the years from 2020 to 2023. This covered the time span when the Chinese hog herd was devastated by African swine fever and China needed to expand pork imports. China has now placed import duties from 16 percent to 32 percent on pork imports from EU members.



MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

The United States has seen choppy soybean demand for the past several weeks, and now the same is taking place in Brazil. Brazil is reporting August soybean exports of 9.34 mmt, well above last year’s 8.04 mmt at this time. For the marketing year Brazil has exported 66 mmt of soybeans, a year to year increase of 7.9 percent. Much of this increase has been to China in an absence of any U.S. business. Brazil has seen its soybean demand drop though, with just 12 vessels traded to China in the past two weeks.

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Survey

FROM PAGE 1

about government payments is they help you get to the next year, but as input suppliers, as absentee landlords see government payments going out that probably makes input prices more sticky and less likely to go down. It doesn’t solve the problem,” he said.

The findings come as farmers face the largest three-year decline in net cash receipts in history because of declining crop farm profitability associated with lower prices and elevated input costs, Illinois Corn stated in a news release. “Policy action is becoming urgent to expand ethanol blends, improve market access, and address high input costs. On top of that, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is projecting record crops this year. Despite demand forecast at a record level, it still trails production, and any reduction could further drive down corn prices,” ICGA stated.

Illinois Corn used the poll findings to inform lawmakers how Illinois farmers are feeling about the farm economy.



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Pope opens Vatican’s ambitious model of sustainable farming and education

ROME (AP) — Pope Leo XIV fed fish, petted horses and visited organic vineyards Sept. 5 as he inaugurated the Vatican’s ambitious project to turn Pope Francis’ preaching about caring for the environment into practice.

Leo formally opened Borgo Laudato Si, a 55-acre utopian experiment in sustainable farming, vocational training and environmental education located on the grounds of the papal summer retreat in Castel Gandolfo. The Vatican hopes the center, open to student groups, CEOs and others, will be a model of ecological stewardship, education and spirituality

for the Catholic Church and beyond.

Leo travelled by helicopter to Castel Gandolfo and then zoomed around the estate’s cypress-lined gardens in an electric golf cart to reach the center, which is named for Francis’ landmark 2015 encyclical “Laudato Si,” or Praised Be. The document, which inspired an entire church movement, cast care for the planet as an urgent and existential moral concern that was inherently tied to questions of human dignity and justice, especially for the poor.

Leo has strongly reaffirmed Francis’ focus on the need to care for God’s cre-

ation, and celebrated the first “green” Mass in the estate’s gardens earlier this summer, using a new set of prayers inspired by the encyclical that specifically invoke prayers for creation. Some 10 years after Laudato Si was published, Leo presided over a liturgy to bless the new center after touring its gardens, fishpond, farm and classrooms.

Leo recalled that according to the Bible, human beings have a special place in the act of creation, created in the “image and likeness of God.”

“But this privilege comes with a great responsibility: that of caring for all other

creatures, in accordance with the creator’s plan,” he said. “Care for creation, therefore, represents a true vocation for every human being, a commitment to be carried out within creation itself, without ever forgetting that we are creatures among creatures, and not creators.”

Leo spoke from the heart of the project: a huge greenhouse in the same curved, embracing shape as the colonnade of St. Peter’s Square that faces a 10-room educational facility and dining hall. Once it’s up and running, visiting groups can come for an afternoon school trip to learn about organic farming, or a weeklong course on regenerative agriculture.

The center aims to accomplish many of the goals of the environmental cause. Solar panels provide all the power the facility needs, plastics are banned and recycling and composting systems used to reach zero-waste. Officials say water will be conserved and maximized via “smart irrigation” systems that use artificial intelligence to determine plants’ needs, along with rainwater harvesting and the installation of wastewater treatment and reuse systems.

There is a social component as well. The Vatican’s first-ever vocational school on the grounds will aim to provide on-site training in sustainable gardening, organic winemaking and olive harvesting to offer new job opportunities for particularly vulnerable groups: victims of domestic violence, refugees, recovering addicts and rehabilitated prisoners.

The products made will be sold on-site, with profits re-invested in the educational center: Laudato Si wine, organic olive oil, herbal teas from the farm’s aromatic garden and cheese made from its 60 dairy cows, continuing a tradition of agricultural production that for centuries have subsidized monasteries and convents.

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Interest high among those wanting to start a new farm

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

LONDON, Ohio – Farming is a tough occupation. Farmers face a variety of challenges, including unpredictable weather, fluctuating market prices and rising operational costs. The profession requires continuous learning and creative solutions to problems. Demands of farming can be overwhelming, and many find that the mental and physical strain can be particularly challenging.

Trevor Corboy, agriculture and natural resources educator from Brown County, specializes in agribusiness. Corboy's Ask the Expert presentation at this year's Farm Science Review (FSR), Getting Started in a Farm Business, was well-attended as many in the listening audience were aiming to farm for the very first time.

"We see a wide range of people wanting to start a small farm, and with a variety of reasons," Corboy said. "Some people just want a few acres and don't want to do anything with the land. They just want to get out in country. Others



Above: OSU Extension Agent Trevor Corboy, of Brown County, offered tips for farmers on starting a small farm at this year's Farm Science Review. (Doug Graves photo)

just want to live on the land and make a little money off the farm, such as having a cut flower business or raising some chickens for the eggs. Maybe it's a part of their retirement plan, while others want to raise a particular animal."

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, 42 percent of all farms are smaller than 50 acres.

"We see some people who are a generation removed the farm and they've decided to come back," Corboy said.

"We see a lot of people who are retired from some other career and are looking to start a small farm. Maybe they might get a couple sheep, a few cows or maybe they're thinking of selling freezer meat and want to get established that way. We see a wide array of people with a variety of intentions why they want to be a beginning farmer."

Dave Garrison, of Morrow, Ohio, attended Corboy's discussion. Garrison has ideas of ending his employment as

a truck driver, purchasing some farmland in or around Warren County and start farming from scratch. Garrison's concern is that the cost of rural acreage might be out of his reach.

"My aim is to bring an end to my career as an on-the-road truck driver, find some rural property and make my dream come true," Garrison said. "I have two young children and my wife is an elementary school teacher. I'm sure I'll still work off the farm, but having that piece of land sounds good right now. I know it won't come easy, and the price of farmland worries me."

The average price for farm real estate (land and buildings) in Ohio was \$8,760 per acre in 2024, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

"I see first-timers buy just a few acres, then others purchase 200 acres," Corboy said. "The first thing one needs to do is take a look at your goals and passions and ask yourself why are you getting into farming? What is the gist of what you're trying to do? If you decide to raise some type of meat animal, is there a market for that meat? So, we tell first-timers to sit down and write all your goals on a piece of paper before anything else."

"Then, one may ask what resources are already available, such as does the farm already have a building and fencing. If you have animals, you might have to invest in feeders. If your intention is to grow some crops you'll need a tractor. Perhaps you'll need to hire somebody to cultivate the land or bale your hay."

Corboy said there are grants, bank loans and other resources to help the small farmer get started. He also pointed to the upcoming 2025 Southern Ohio Small Farm College in Piketon, Ohio, as a good resource for new and established farmers. The event begins Oct. 15. Corboy helped run and operate the Ohio New and Small Farm College in Wilmington, Ohio, this past spring.

The New and Small Farm Colleges are an eight-week program that introduces new and seasoned farmers to a wide variety of topics. The program teaches participants how to set goals, plan, budget and where to find resources available for them as they venture into their small farm operation.

The courses lay out how to manage financial and farm records. Extension educators illustrate many different enterprises that can be profitable on land as small as 1 acre. To round out the experience, a bus tour takes participants to area farms to see firsthand how small farm life works.

"Since 2005, past New and Small Farm Colleges have helped over 900 individuals representing more than 600 farms from 60 Ohio counties improve the economic development of their small family-owned farms," Corboy said.

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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 9/22/2025 - Final AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 9/15/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	1,538	1,767	1,048
Feeder Cattle:	1,327(86.3%)	1,679(95.0%)	830(79.2%)
Slaughter Cattle:	196(12.7%)	86(4.9%)	194(18.5%)
Replacement Cattle:	15(1.0%)	2(0.1%)	24(2.3%)

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was mixed with a mixed quality offering. Lighter weight feeder steers 500 lbs and under were 3.00 to 5.00 lower, while the 550-700 lbs steers were steady to 3.00 higher with a good supply and good demand for weaned packages and groups. Yearling steers were 3.00 to 6.00 higher with a good supply and strong demand for yearling cattle. Feeder heifers followed a similar path with the lighter weight heifers 600 lbs and under 2.00 to 5.00 lower or greater in spots with moderate demand, while yearling heifers appeared higher but with limited head to head comparisons. Buyers were active but selective today and were willing to pay premiums for quality feeders and yearling cattle, while at the same time increasing the discounts on plainer, off colored or fat bawling calves and increasing the price spread across the weight classes. Slaughter cows and bulls were 1.00 to 3.00 higher with a good supply and good demand. Additionally an increased interest was seen and noted in young and middle aged cows to return to the farm. Supply included: 86% Feeder Cattle (43% Steers, 40% Heifers, 17% Bulls); 13% Slaughter Cattle (2% Steers, 86% Cows, 12% Bulls); 1% Replacement Cattle (38% Stock Cows, 38% Bred Cows, 23% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 42%.

Groups of 20 Head or More					
STEERS			HEIFERS		
31 Hd Black/1RED	647 lbs	380.00	24 Hd Black/1CHR	342 lbs	442.50
31 Hd Black/BWF	749 lbs	370.00	42 Hd Black/BWF	591 lbs	381.00
20 Hd Black/1CHR	752 lbs	365.00			
54 Hd Black/BWF	885 lbs	354.75			
55 Hd 80% Black	892 lbs	346.85			
57 Hd Black/BWF	902 lbs	347.85			

FEEDER CATTLE

STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
6	216	216	525.00	525.00	
5	282	282	515.00	515.00	
1	300	300	470.00	470.00	
7	310-322	320	495.00-510.00	497.07 Fancy	
2	370	370	447.50-460.00	453.75	
1	370	370	487.50	487.50 Fancy	
21	410-440	432	418.00-433.00	430.46	
6	408	408	477.50	477.50 Fancy	
6	450-481	471	415.00-435.00	421.37	
3	450-455	453	465.00-467.50	466.67 Fancy	
2	500-535	518	347.50-350.00	348.71	
17	510-542	530	381.00-395.00	388.75 Value Added	
28	552-589	576	352.00-379.00	373.88	
28	555-581	563	387.00-389.00	388.09 Value Added	
10	610-642	633	341.00-351.00	347.76	
39	647-649	647	376.00-380.00	379.18 Value Added	
2	690	690	345.00	345.00	
19	657	657	384.00	384.00 Value Added	
13	701-743	716	321.00-349.00	337.15	
37	748-749	749	367.00-370.00	369.51 Value Added	
11	755-787	771	339.00-343.00	340.79	
20	752	752	365.00	365.00 Value Added	
3	805-840	828	335.00-341.00	338.38	
109	885-892	889	346.85-354.75	350.75 Value Added	
1	945	945	299.00	299.00	
57	902	902	347.85	347.85 Value Added	
2	987	987	294.00	294.00	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	255	255	427.50	427.50	
1	435	435	390.00	390.00	
18	462-490	481	391.00-404.00	401.62	
1	545	545	340.00	340.00	
8	584-590	586	337.00-348.00	343.85	
1	605	605	301.00	301.00	
1	675	675	312.50	312.50	
1	735	735	294.00	294.00	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	360	360	330.00	330.00	
3	485	485	367.50	367.50	
1	680	680	285.00	285.00	

STEERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	578	578	300.00	300.00	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	265	265	405.00	405.00	
1	325	325	380.00	380.00	
13	325-345	342	415.00-432.50	420.97 Fancy	
36	308-342	331	442.50	442.50 Value Added	
8	370-386	381	380.00-383.00	380.74	
15	383-385	384	407.50-422.50	416.01 Fancy	
1	350	350	432.50	432.50 Value Added	
21	408-445	418	370.00-392.50	383.71	
3	406	406	407.50	407.50 Fancy	
51	450-497	475	358.00-383.00	372.91	
18	482-488	485	384.00-385.00	384.44 Fancy	
30	505-547	528	347.50-367.00	355.36	
25	502-506	505	370.00-380.00	375.80 Guaranteed Open	
37	550-596	577	341.00-363.00	349.30	
42	591	591	381.00	381.00 Value Added	
16	605-642	615	327.00-349.00	337.12	
8	610	610	369.00	369.00 Guaranteed Open	
8	650-691	677	311.00-330.00	320.47	
19	655	655	370.00	370.00 Guaranteed Open	
5	700-735	715	302.50-314.00	310.05	
9	703-715	707	336.00-342.00	339.98 Guaranteed Open	
1	750	750	301.00	301.00	
3	783	783	329.00	329.00 Guaranteed Open	
4	805-825	814	270.00-293.00	282.01	
2	875-890	883	257.50-267.50	262.46	
2	957	957	260.00	260.00 Guaranteed Open	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	245	245	365.00	365.00	
4	310-313	312	350.00-360.00	357.52	
1	390	390	372.50	372.50	
3	405-412	410	345.00-360.00	349.94	
16	465-497	488	330.00-353.00	337.64	
16	505-548	531	325.00-340.00	333.69	
9	562-587	581	332.00-339.00	337.50	
6	635-646	642	300.00-312.50	307.12	
3	668	668	300.00	300.00	
4	730-737	734	253.00-285.00	269.08	
7	750-787	771	265.00-272.00	267.64	

3	810-840	820	253.00-259.00	256.95
HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	220	220	320.00	320.00
2	270-280	275	315.00-322.50	318.68
1	375	375	312.50	312.50
1	430	430	325.00	325.00
2	462	462	323.00	323.00
1	505	505	295.00	295.00
2	575	575	305.00	305.00
2	607	607	287.50	287.50

HEIFERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	645	645	240.00	240.00	

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	245	245	450.00	450.00	
5	332-335	333	435.00-447.50	437.52	
4	360-370	368	460.00-472.50	468.10	
6	420-441	435	415.00-432.50	426.30	
5	417	417	490.00	490.00 Fancy	
12	450-478	473	381.00-405.00	396.77	
10	505-535	530	352.00-370.00	360.25	
29	500-532	523	375.00-390.00	386.49 Fancy	
4	550-570	560	350.00-362.00	356.11	
14	563-575	569	367.00-370.00	369.78 Fancy	
14	602-635	619	313.00-332.50	324.66	
16	655-690	669	301.00-317.50	310.34	
2	657	657	329.00	329.00 Fancy	
3	700-705	703	285.00-297.00	293.02	
10	797	797	279.00	279.00	
1	855	855	264.00	264.00	
2	1075	1075	231.00	231.00 Fancy	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	257-270	261	402.50-435.00	413.69	
1	325	325	423.00	423.00	
6	410-442	431	377.50-400.00	385.99	
5	451-465	454	350.00-362.50	352.56	
8	500-540	528	335.00-345.00	338.33	
5	552-590	568	299.00-320.00	309.88	
3	630-645	640	277.50-305.00	286.52	
4	651-665	655	280.00-305.00	286.35	
5	710-717	713	260.00-264.00	261.61	
1	955	955	190.00	190.00	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	235	235	387.50	387.50	
2	252	252	350.00	350.00	
1	330	330	300.00	300.00	
1	360	360	332.50	332.50	
4	428-440	431	290.00-302.50	293.19	
1	590	590	242.00	242.00	
1	675	675	260.00	260.00	

BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	477	477	340.00	340.00
2	610	610	289.00	289.00

Small Animals	9/23/2025	Sheep		Cows	
Chickens	\$2-\$9	Ewes	\$0.90-\$1.45	Cull Cows	\$1.17-\$1.70
Bantys	\$2.50-\$11	40-60# Lambs	\$1.50-\$2.70	Bulls	\$1.75-\$2.15
Ducks		61-80# Lambs	\$1.50-\$2.70		25
Pigeons	\$3-\$5	81-100# Lambs	\$1.75-\$2.40	Fat Cattle	
Eggs	\$1-\$4		186	Holstein	\$1.95-\$2.06
Rooster	\$2-\$12	Goats		Colored	
Turkey	\$30	Billys	\$55-\$450		17
Peacock		Nannies	\$45-185	Pigs	
Rabbits	\$3-\$15	Kids	\$20-40	Fat Hogs	\$50-\$87.50
	958		115	Sows	\$.65-\$.80
				Boars	\$0.13-\$0.35
					69
Veal Calves		Feeder Cattle Dairy and Beef		Feeder Pigs	
Holstein (80# and UP)	\$950-\$1260	200-500#	\$1.55-\$4	20-45#	\$25-\$45
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	457		130		104

Northern Indiana man breaks world record for tallest sunflower again

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

FORT WAYNE, Ind. – An Indiana man now holds the world record again for growing a sunflower more than three times the standard height of a basketball rim.

The sunflower raised by Alex Babich measured 35 feet, 9 inches, shattering the previous Guinness Book of World Records mark from 2016 by more than 5 feet.

He told ABC's Good Morning America being a world record holder for raising the tallest sunflower is "as good as it comes for an extreme grower."

Stephen Goodwin, a professor in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Purdue University, said, "That's quite an achievement. Pretty amazing."

The 47-year-old Babich, of Fort Wayne, was previously the U.S. record holder for growing a sunflower that reached just over 26 feet tall in 2023, breaking his previous U.S. record by 11 inches.

He credits things like seed genetics for achieving such heights.

Goodwin said he did not know how much taller a sunflower could grow through genetics and other factors, but feels a ceiling will be reached at some point.

"What that limit would be, I have no idea. He's definitely pushing it," he said.

Last year, Babich had 10 sunflowers reach slightly more than 20 feet tall, but none of them were close to his previous heights.

Disappointed, "I went back to the drawing board and drew up a plan for this season," said Babich, when quoted in a recently published Guinness Book of World Records article on his achievement.

His strategy included the use of a seed from a sunflower topping 28 feet in height last year in Germany.

His sunflower, named "Clover," was planted in late April and for a while grew up to 10 inches a day.

He grows his sunflowers inside a wooden scaffolding type structure he built in his backyard to support the heads and promote extension of the plants as they're growing. The sunflowers are fastened to metal rods within the structure that he climbs to take care of the plants once they're beyond his reach from the ground.

This year, his world record-breaking sunflower grew so fast that Babich added an extension to make his structure taller to prevent the possibility of the head from drooping and the top of the plant getting blown over by strong winds.

Babich wasn't into gardening much until just over a decade ago when he planted three tomato plants and three butternut squash plants to simply show his daughter how to grow produce.

Five years later, he planted his first sunflower after learning it was the national flower of his native Ukraine, where he and his family lived until migrating to Fort Wayne when he was 14.

The height of his sunflowers rose each year from 13 feet to 15 feet and 19 feet before setting the U.S. record for the first time the following year.

Babich also credited a mulch he developed from a compost of leaves, grass and other materials such as mushrooms for the height of his sunflowers, along with giving them daily attention.

Now that he's broken the world record, seeds of doubt have been sewn on his future of raising gigantic sunflowers given the amount of work and

more of a balance he prefers to have with his job schedule.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records article, his wife, Nannette, prayed for him to break the record this year so he could take a year off from competitive growing so they could go camping more during the summer.

He promised to do just that but now seems to be having second thoughts.

"I'm usually a man of my word but the kids have been asking me a lot lately will I grow next season? I told them they'd have to talk to mom, but I would love one more solid growing season with Clover's seeds before I take a break," he said.

On average, sunflowers reach anywhere from 2 to 12 feet in height but some variations can exceed 15 feet.

Eventually, Goodwin said he believes Babich and others trying to break the mark could run out of the type of genes needed in their seeds for sunflowers to grow even taller.

"You can get to a point where you got all of the best gene combinations in there. There's just no more variations to select from depending on how many genes are involved and all of that," he said.



Above: World record breaker Alex Babich and his tallest sunflower when the official measurement was taken in early September.



Above: Alex Babich with the tallest sunflower certificate from Guinness Book of World Records.

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Above: Walter Runyan (4th generation) cultivates corn with his horses Maude and Polly, in June 1925. (photo provided)

Runyan family still farm land purchased by ancestor in 1825

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS – Members of the Runyan family and their ancestors have called Montgomery County, Ind., home for two centuries. Over that time, family members helped to start a church in the area, and today, the seventh and eighth generations farm the land their ancestor purchased in 1825.

William Rusk, a great uncle of the Runyan family, was from Ohio and purchased the original 80 acres of the

farm from the General Land Office of the United States on April 25, 1825, Carrie Runyan said.

“William’s brothers, John and David, followed suit and purchased land nearby,” she explained. “William sold his original parcel to David – great grandfather of the Runyan family – in 1830. It’s assumed this particular parcel was purchased because of the access to water. Coal Creek runs through the original 80 acres.”

The Runyans were one of 95 families

(Runyan continued on page 17)

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Above: John Brown has put on Plow Days for about 10 years – nobody is exactly sure how many they've had. He is shown here with his International T4, made in Canada. There were only 1,100 or 1,200 made.

Ohio Plow Days brings old and young together to talk tractors

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

HAMILTON, Ohio – At John Brown's annual Plow Days, they just plow up a little ground, eat, and talk tractors.

Brown plants a field of short-crop soybeans. After they're harvested, on the designated Sunday (this year it was Sept. 14), farmers come from near and far to plow up the field. These are mostly old tractors, so there are break-downs. But there is a lot of help to get them going. This was about the 10th annual Plow Day. Nobody was sure. But Brown provided a field, a lavish feast, and some just-for-fun trophies for each one.

"We have a lot of friends and neighbors here with old antique tractors," Brown said. "It's a little hard and dry out there today, and it's making a lot of dust, but it's OK. The fun, the camaraderie, is the main point: getting people together. I put out the food, they bring drinks, and we just have a good time reminiscing about old tractors."

Dale Weber, owner of Weber's Farm Market in Harrison, agreed. Weber has what he called an IH or red tractor problem; he wasn't sure just how many he had. He farms with most of them, but some are just "garage queens." Today, he had just come to watch.

"Mostly it's just a social thing," Weber said. "We just enjoy coming and talking tractors. It doesn't matter if there's paint or rust. We just enjoy coming."

Dave and Gail Lierer were having fun watching their grandsons, ages 16, 15 and 8, plow.

"Today is to get the younger generation to understand what we went through when we were farming this way," Dave Lierer said. "Anymore, you're minimum-till and no-till. You're just planting and trying to conserve the moisture and the soil. You're not really plowing the ground like you used to. This is how it was done years ago. It's fun to see the younger generation have an interest."

One grandson, Aaron Lierer, 15, was plowing with his own tractor, a 1952 Farmall Super A.

"I'm just having fun," he said. "This is my first tractor. I got it when I was 6 years old. I farm with my family right outside of Reily Township. I plan on farming eventually, keeping my family's farm going."

Then, on the other hand, there was Scott Bittner. A self-proclaimed city slicker.

"I am a city slicker, and I come here to see things that I have never seen before," Bittner said. "I have been coming for three years. I want to remain a city

slicker, but I enjoy seeing their way of life."

Paul Reinhardt, definitely not a city slicker, was there with his 1964 Farmall 806.

(Plow Days continued on page 13)

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Righ Doug Kiefer, his two sons, Luke and Cody, and his brother, Tony Kiefer, were there with Luke's John Deere A. They had one of the few green tractors in a sea of red. They like Deere because they hold their value.



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Above: Paul Reinhardt, who has attended all the Plow Days, was there with his 1964 Farmall 806. His was one of the first ones made. And it had a story behind it.



Left: Lance Lierer and Brett Reinhardt were there with their families. Following tradition, they were both playing with toy red tractors.

Plow Days

FROM PAGE 12

mall 806. His was one of the first ones made. And it had a story behind it.

"That tractor had a lot of history behind it," Reinhardt said. "In 2019, we had a barn fire. And we had a tractor in there, it was a Farmall 856. Well, it had sentimental value. It belonged to me and my brother, Richard. It was the first tractor we bought together. The tractor was burnt, but the motor and everything seemed to be good. It was a gas tractor. We bought it cheap. We took the motor out of the 856, and a few other things, and kind of pieced it together to make that tractor. The 806 is a little older version of the 856. A lot of the parts are interchangeable, and we made them match. My brother passed away. It's kind of a remembrance tractor; it's a special tractor."

The Kiefer family, brothers Tony and Doug, were there with sons, Luke and Cody. They were a kind of standout in the crowd, having some of the only green tractors in a sea of red.

"We have a John Deere A here today with an electric start," Tony said. "We have just always been John Deere – it's what we grew up with. We like the resale value. We have like 17. The one we have today belongs to my nephew, Luke Kiefer."

Added Luke, "It's 1052 John Deere A. I came here to have fun and do a little plowing. I farm with these two older folk here," he said with a grin, pointing to his dad and uncle.

One of Brown's tractors working the field that day was an International T4, made in Canada.

"We found it at an auction last year," he said. "It is a rare tractor; there were only like 1,100 or 1,200 made. It has some unique features on it. The tracks are wide and stretched out, for whatever reason. It's got hydraulics on it, power takeoff, and torque on it."



Above: Aaron Lierer, age 15, was plowing with his own tractor, a 1952 Farmall Super A. He got it when he was 6 years old. He plans on farming with his family and keeping the family farm going.

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“Applying Udder Comfort in the pens as they're getting ready to calve is a game changer. We spend way less money and time on treatments, have far fewer issues, and are not needing as much spray in the parlor now,” she says.

Doug lives on the farm, operating the 160-cow dairy with good employees. Sarah manages the business side, navigating the future with consumer-facing diversification.

“Udder Comfort's worth its weight in gold! In today's world of product ads, this one lives up. Using it proactively before calving makes a noticeable difference, especially for first-calvers. Everything is new to them. Now they are less anxious, loosened up, ready to go,” she says.

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Forestry nursery accepting tree seedling orders

NASHVILLE – The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry's (TDF) East Tennessee Nursery is accepting tree seedling orders until March 15, 2026, or while supplies last. More than two dozen tree and shrub seedlings are currently available for reforestation and conservation projects.

“Native species seedlings grown at our East Tennessee Nursery play an important role in the expansion and regrowth of our forests,” State Forester Heather Slayton said. “Grown from seed gathered no more than 50 miles from Tennessee's borders, these seedlings are uniquely positioned to thrive in our state. Planting native species helps ensure the resilience and health of urban and rural southern forests.”

The East Tennessee Nursery cultivates millions of native trees and shrubs each year and sells seedlings in bulk to public, nonprofit, and private organizations, as well as individuals.

Several cost share and financial assistance programs are available to qualified landowners to provide financial assistance for seedling purchases. Sponsored programs include:

- The Beam Suntory program promotes the purchase of oak and hickory seedlings.
- The Promark (formerly D'Addario) program supports the sustainability of hickory and oak in Tennessee.
- The Huber Engineered Woods, LLC. Program funds purchasing loblolly pine 2.0 seedlings.
- The Tree City USA program supports cities and towns seeking to grow urban and community forests.

Each program has its own eligibility requirements, and some require a forest management plan. Contact your local area forester at www.tn.gov/agriculture/forests/staff to learn more about these programs and their eligibility requirements, including forest management plans.

Landowners may also qualify for cost share opportunities for hardwood and softwood seedling purchases through the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP). For information, visit www.tn.gov/agriculture/forests/landowner-assistance/financial-assistance.html.

Please visit www.plantntrees.org to purchase seedlings online.

The Division of Forestry protects and promotes the responsible use of forest resources in Tennessee. Focus areas include assisting landowners with a variety of services, providing quality tree seedlings, supporting forest health programs, collecting forest inventory data, assisting forest industries, and fighting wildland fires. Visit www.tn.gov/agriculture/forests for more information.

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John Deere approves B30 biodiesel use for all its Tier 4 John Deere engines

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

MOLINE, Ill. – John Deere & Co. announced Aug. 26 the approval of B30 biodiesel use for all its Tier 4 John Deere engines, increasing the previously approved limit of B20, according to company officials.

The announcement was highlighted at the 2025 Farm Progress Show, Aug. 26-28, in Decatur, Ill., where all John Deere equipment operated in the company's Ride and Drive area, running on B30 biodiesel, company officials said. B30 is a fuel blend composed of 30 percent biodiesel and 70 percent petroleum diesel. B20 is a blend of biodiesel that consists of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent petroleum diesel.

"At John Deere, we're committed to supporting and growing the use of renewable fuels in our equipment," said Pierre Guyot, John Deere Power Systems senior vice president, in a media statement. "We believe strongly in the role that renewable fuels plays in supporting the agriculture economy, and are excited to offer our customers – including those who grow the very crops used to make renewable fuels – the opportunity to leverage higher blends of fuels like biodiesel in their own equipment."

Miles Chiotti, public and industry relations manager for John Deere's Agriculture and Turf Division in the U.S. and Canada, told Farm World, "This is a crucial step forward as it significantly expands the ability of our customers to utilize higher blends of biodiesel in their equipment, directly contributing to increased demand for these domestically produced renewable fuels."

He added that this decision under-

scores how John Deere is committed to providing innovative power solutions that align with the changing needs of the agricultural and industrial sectors.

"It also supports the company's ongoing efforts to advance and expand the use of renewable fuels – such as biodiesel and ethanol – across all modes of transportation, and helps drive demand for the crop feedstocks grown by our customers that are used to produce them," he said.

Prior to the announcement, all Tier 4 John Deere engines were approved for B20 biodiesel and RD100 renewable diesel (a branded name for a 100-percent renewable diesel fuel, chemically identical to petroleum diesel, but made from renewable sources like waste fats, residues and vegetable oils), with all Tier 3/Stage III A, and lower tier engines approved for biodiesel blends up to B100 (a pure, 100-percent biodiesel, a clean-burning fuel made from renewable resources like vegetable oils and animal fats, with no petroleum content).

Company officials said all John Deere spark ignition turf and utility equipment are approved for the E10 ethanol blend (fuel that consists of 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline). Company officials added John Deere is exploring the use of higher ethanol blends in future engine solutions, including the development of a concept 9.0L ethanol engine (a research and development project by John Deere to create a heavy-duty internal combustion engine designed to run on near-pure ethanol, known as E98).

Hanna Campbell, Michigan Advanced Biofuels Coalition (MiABC) managing director and Michigan Soybean Committee market development director, said, "Allowing use of B30 biodiesel fuel in

(John Deere continued on page 18)

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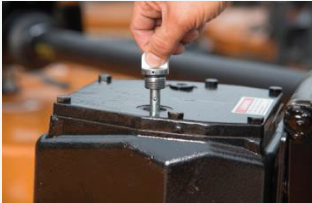
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Above: Elihu Runyan (5th generation) plows with his father’s horses named Maude and Deck, accompanied by Cap the dog, in 1922. (photo provided)

Runyan

FROM PAGE 11

to receive a Hoosier Homestead Award from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture in August at the Indiana State Fair. The family received a Bicentennial (200 years) Award for the 1825 property, along with Sesquicentennial (150 years) and Centennial (100 years) awards for continuous ownership of the same parcel. In addition, they were given Centennial and Sesquicentenni-

al awards for other land they own in the county.

“I think our ancestors would be proud that we have not only been able to keep the majority of the original parcel in our family’s hands, but we have also farmed the ground ourselves,” Runyan noted. “While William Rusk moved to Illinois after selling his farm to David, David spent the rest of his days as a pioneer of Waynetown, being buried in the Old Pioneer Cemetery just outside of town. Members of our family still make Waynetown our home; our family has been residents for over 200 years.”

Approximately 20 acres of the original property had been sold by the late 1800s to make way for town expansion. Businesses including a grain mill, lumber mill and eventually a railroad were nestled along the creek, she said.

After the family cleared the property, the crops have been soybeans, corn and small grains. The land the Runyans own is in an LLC called Runyan Family Land Company; Carrie’s husband Craig is a member. Carrie and Craig, along with the part time help of their two sons and nephew, run the actual farm operation, Runyan Farms LLC.

The family has always been interested in family history and knew the farm had been in the family for more than 100 years, Carrie said.

“But when there had been public interest in potentially developing our farm, we began to look further into just how long the farm had been family owned.

“Our family has absolutely no interest in developing our farmland,” she added. “Our goal is to continue our family’s heritage of farming for generations to come.”

The search for documentation for the awards uncovered something Runyan called thrilling – a copy of the certificate from the General Land Grant Office, with the name of President John Quincy Adams listed on it, when the land was originally deeded to William Rusk.

“Because county records have not been fully digitized, I had to look through record books and plat maps to trace the transfer of land from family member to family member,” she said. “I went through beautiful cursive hand-written records back to the first record book of our county.

The original name of Waynetown was Middletown, but because there were two towns named Middletown in Indiana, the name was changed to Waynetown about 1846, Runyan said.

Some family members were involved in the 1840 founding of Middletown Baptist Church, the “pioneer church of Montgomery County,” she noted. In 1874, the church was renamed the First Baptist Church of Waynetown.

The Runyans have a commercial cow/calf operation and Carrie raises registered Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats. She and Craig work full time on the farm.



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Above: John Deere & Co. has approved the use of B30 biodiesel for all its Tier 4 John Deere engines. (courtesy of the Michigan Soybean Committee)

John Deere

FROM PAGE 16

John Deere equipment is good news for Michigan farmers and Michigan’s rural communities, especially as we head into the fall harvest season.”

Mark Senk, Michigan Soybean Committee president and Owosso, Mich., farmer, said, “Biodiesel is an ideal fuel choice for farm equipment because it is made from crops grown right here on our farms. We at the Michigan Soybean Committee are excited to see higher blends, like B30, approved for agricul-

tural equipment, and look forward to utilizing these blends during harvest this fall.”

Caleb Ragland, American Soybean Association president and ninth-generation Magnolia, Ky., soybean farmer, said, “This is a win-win situation for U.S. soybean farmers and rural communities. Higher blends of biodiesel mean greater demand for the soybeans we grow and cleaner-burning fuel for equipment in the field. John Deere’s leadership in approving the utilization of B30 in their machinery helps move renewable fuels forward, while directly supporting the farmers who help produce them.”

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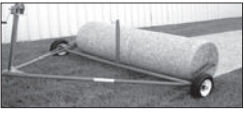
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Augers	390	Grain Bins & Drying Equip.	480	Ratites	400
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Building Materials	200	Harvest Equipment	310	Real Estate Wanted	150
Bush Hogs	101	Hay & Straw	340	Recreational Vehicles	70
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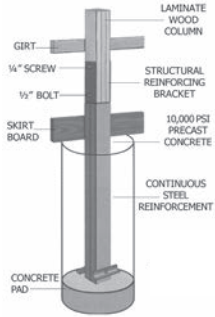
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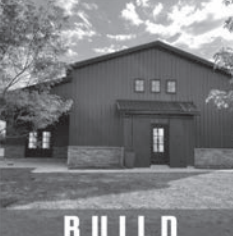




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GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	Centrifugal Fan, 25 HP, 480, 3 PH		On Sale \$4,950
	USED AUGERS		
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	2022 Westfield MKX 13x84 with remote power rotate, very good shape		\$29,900
	2021 Hutchison 13x84 Saw, Great Shape		\$24,500
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	FFI CF/SA 600, 3ph 480v NG, 36" legs, Dri-tech/vision control, great shape ready to go		\$79,500
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	Farm King Transfer Auger (Elect. NO MOTOR) 10"		\$2,400
	Burchland HYD 13" Auger Drive		\$12,500
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	Utility Auger (Auger Tube Stand incl.) 8"x11", less than a yr. old		\$1,400
	2.66" Bin Door, MTS		\$200
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	50 HP 3PH Double Inlet GSI Centrifugal Fan		\$3,000
	Transition for 50 HP Centrifugal Fan		\$400
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	Downwind LP Heater for 50 HP Fan		\$800
	LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT		
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	#4880 Trioliet 2-1600L		\$61,669
	Artex S350 Spreader, 400 cu. ft., New		\$46,335
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	6' One Ring Bulk Tank 3 Ton	 Not Built \$2,266	Built \$2,516
	6' Two Ring Bulk Tank 4.5 Ton	 Not Built \$2,627	Built \$2,927
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI	Artex Spreader SB600 DEMO 600 cu ft		\$59,325
	Bazooka FarmStar 150 bu. Feeder		\$4,950
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490 COMBINES & PICKERS - HEADS

(3) 2R Avco New idea corn pickers, wide row. 419-212-0643 Montpelier, OH.

1973 JD 6600, 329 diesel, gear drive, 23.1 tires, 215 flex head, near Richmond, IN, \$2500. 765-993-1417

1987 Gleaner F3, green strip, al-ways kept inside, used last year on corn and beans, gd. little combine, 15' GH, 4R CH, both good, \$17,000. 937-218-2997 New Vienna, OH.

1992 JD 920F platform, steel dividers, gd. poly, DAM, works great, near Richmond, IN, \$4750 with cart, \$4000 without cart. 765-993-1417.

2000 JD 9550. 4WD, 4081 engine hours, 2721 separator hours, A/C works great, has chopper & fan spreader, recently inspected & inspected yearly by JD, service records avail. upon request, very great cond. 513-309-5304 or 812-623-3170 Sunman, IN.

2006 JD 630F hydra flex head, SCH knife, gd. poly, shedded, \$9000. 419-277-1259 Woodville, OH.

2006 JD 693 6-30" CH, hyd. deck plates, gd. chains, sprockets, rolls, housed, field ready \$12,900. 989-213-7165 Free-land, MI.

2007 JD 625F Hydraflex head w/ AWS wind system, very clean w/ 2016 Horst cart \$12,900. 989-213-7165 Freeland, MI.

2012 S670 3800 eng./2300 sep. hrs., 4WD, pro drive, 5 speed feeder house, 26' auger, side hill kit, new rubber, already been inspected by JD and ready for harvest, \$90,000 obo. 502-639-0341 Shelbyville, KY.

6130 Case combine package, 3511 eng. hrs., 2505 sep. hrs., 2208 CH, 2020 25' dose head cart, \$150,000. Calls only! 414-581-2756 Caledonia, WI.

6620 Turbo JD, oversized drive tires, mud hog, gd. cond., 6-row 30" CH, 24' grain table. \$20,000 for all. 937-477-6911 Hillsboro, OH.

7240 Case, duals, 4WD, 2600 hrs., folding bin extension, exc. cond., field ready, \$140,000. 937-875-0773 Troy, OH.

843 8R JD CH, w/carrier, 10,000 ac., exc. cond., \$9995. 765-748-9433, 765-282-0957 Muncie, IN.

853A JD row crop header, new sprocket, 8R-30. 254-582-3000.

925F JD GH, needs right side auger shaft; Unverferth header transport, both \$3200. 937-371-4755 Dayton, OH.

490 COMBINES & PICKERS-HEADS

JD 9500 combine w/Ag Leader yield monitor, 9510 update, well kept; JD 925 GH w/cart; JD 643 CH, oil bath, w/cart. 419-934-2221 New Riegel, OH.

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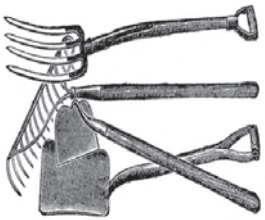
Brent grain train, 450 bu., center dump wagon w/flotation tires w/spare. 260-609-3306 Columbia City, IN.

J&M 500 bushel grain cart, green with tarp, has scales, \$8000 OBO. 765-265-1046 Connersville, IN.

Killbros 350 gravity wagon, w/ 12' hyd. auger, \$1000 obo. 765-969-1918 Hagerstown, IN.

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Killbros model 1200 grain cart, \$12,500. 765-748-9433, 765-282-0957 Muncie, IN.

Kuhn Knight VSL150 TMR mixer w/scale, \$20,500; JD 1500 power till seeder \$1050; Bale Buster 256 round bale processor, \$2750; Top Air 500g sprayer, 45' boom, \$2050. 765-220-1070 Richmond, IN.

M&M 1210 corn sheller for parts, \$475. 765-675-4318 Tipton, IN.

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New BUSH HOG 3 pt. mowers: #216 6' w/frt chains \$3950, #315 5' w/frt & rear chains \$2950, #217 w/frt chain #4995. 765-825-1439 Connersville, IN.

New Idea 30" row corn sheller, works, \$1800 obo. 765-886-1262 Greens Fork, IN.

New IRONCRAFT mowers: #1205 5' 3 pt. \$1475, #305 5' 3 pt. \$1750, #1206 6' 3 pt. \$1850, # 2512 12' Batwing \$13,500. 765-825-1439 Connersville, IN.

Parker grain buggy grain cart 400 bushel, Papec feed grinder, 18' Bush Hog disc hydraulic fold, 1210 Case David Brown diesel tractor, 863 International corn head 6 row, 5100 International soybean special grain drill w/ cultivator on front. 765-623-3072 Alexandria, IN.

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Retiring. 1995 9500 combine, 3378 sep. hrs., yield monitor, always shedded, exc. cond., \$20,000; 925F JD platform w/ cart, 643 JD high tin CH w/poly, w/cart; 3600 Kinze 12R bean splitter, always shedded, exc. cond., \$65,000; J&M 750 grain cart w/tarp, always shedded, exc. cond. Other equipment available. 765-760-2584 Muncie, IN.

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'10 Bush Hog 12715 1000 RPM, 6 Airplane Tires, Chains.....	\$ 10,800	'11 J&M 1326-22 w/ Tarp, J&M Tracks.....	
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Study indicates rotating grazing makes for nutrient dense meat

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

GREENFIELD, Ind. – A recent study of migrating bison at Yellowstone National Park seems to confirm what livestock ranchers who allow their animals to graze in different locations have long believed.

Meat contains a lot more nutrients from animals in pastures eating grasses and other plants that are healthier from occasional grazing.

“Not only is it better for the animals, better for the soil but all of that translates into more nutrient-dense food,” said Chris Baggott, owner and founder of Tyner Pond Farm near Greenfield, Ind.

The University of Wyoming-based study reveals plants consuming nitro-

gen from the waste of bison along a 50-mile migration route are 150 percent more nutritious.

“That’s a lot of nutrition,” Baggott said.

In addition, the findings show microbes in the soil recycle the nitrogen from decaying vegetation and animals into forms of ammonium and nitrate also favored by the nutrient-loving plants.

Plants eaten by the bison also grow as much as they would if they weren’t grazed.

Baggott said he was not surprised but welcomed the findings to substantiate what he and other regenerative farmers with chemical-free pastures have long suspected.

“You’re going to have more nutritious plants,” he said.

Baggott said his vaccine and antibiotic free beef cattle and chickens are moved to different locations for grazing up to four times a day.

The plants at each location recover from being nibbled on and thrive on the nutrients in the soil from the waste of the livestock before the next grazing, he said.

Over time, the pastures, instead of bare spots from overgrazing, have a moist blanket of various plant species covering the soil.

“It recovers stronger and thicker,” he said.

Baggott said his animals are also healthier from the movement involved in the grazing and the added nutrients they’re consuming in the plants.

“By keeping them constantly moving, you’re walking away from parasites, disease. We don’t have sick animals,” he said.

Most importantly, Baggott said

(Grazing continued on page 2B)



Above: Cows rotate where they graze at an Indiana farm to keep grass and other vegetation healthy and nutritious.

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McDonald's to invest in regenerative ag practices on cattle ranches

McDonald's said Sept. 15 it plans to invest \$200 million over the next seven years to promote regenerative agriculture practices on cattle ranches.

The Chicago burger giant said the investment was its largest to date in support of regenerative agriculture in the U.S. The company has also funded regenerative projects on potato farms in Canada and Europe.

"As a brand that serves more than 90 percent of Americans every year, we recognize the responsibility we have to help safeguard our food systems for long-term vitality," Cesar Piña, McDonald's chief supply chain officer for North America, said in a statement.

Regenerative techniques aim to conserve water, enhance soil health and reduce the need for synthetic chemicals and fertilizers. Other big companies, including General Mills, Nestle, Walmart and PepsiCo, have also been investing in regenerative farming projects in recent years.

On cattle ranches, ranchers practicing regenerative agriculture move

cattle frequently and let the land recover for weeks or months. That helps produce more grass with deeper roots, which take more carbon from the air to help improve soil.

McDonald's said its investment will help accelerate regenerative grazing and water and wildlife conservation on ranches spanning 4 million acres in up to 38 states.

McDonald's is working with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, which will independently award competitive grants to organizations that will assist participating ranchers. The company said some of its suppliers, including Cargill, Golden State Foods and Coca-Cola, are also providing funding to the foundation.

Jeff Trandahl, the executive director and CEO of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, said regenerative practices can ultimately improve the productivity of grasslands and increase ranches' profitability. The foundation expects the first round of awards will be announced in January.



Above: Chris Baggott with some of his cattle in a regenerative pasture at Tyner Pond Farm in central Indiana.

Grazing

FROM PAGE 1B

there are health benefits for humans consuming the more nutritious meat.

He said people have to consume more of the meat containing fewer nutrients to completely give the body what it's demanding, but the result sometimes is obesity, heart disease and other conditions like diabetes from overeating.

"Your body is calling for these nutrients and it's telling you to eat, eat, eat all of the time because you're not getting the nutrition," he said.

Despite the higher cost of his meat and poultry, Baggott said some of his customers pay less, overall, for groceries now because they're not eating as much to receive the same amount of nutrition.

"If you're spending 20 percent more and getting 150 percent more nutri-

tion that's a pretty good deal," he said.

Baggott was in the software business 15 years ago when he decided to buy a farm on 75 acres formerly used for corn and soybeans.

He planted seeds from various grasses to create his pasture but it took a few years to restore full natural life back to the soil once dependent on fertilizers and other chemicals.

He now has farms at five other locations totaling about 900 acres.

Baggott said he and a few employees deliver meat from his processed animals to customers strictly in the central part of the state after they've placed their orders online.

He said his customer base, now over 3,000, continues to grow from more people of various beliefs understanding the value of nutrition in their food.

"There are way more customers for what we sell than what we are able to produce," he said.

New World Screwworm found closer to U.S. border in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico activated emergency controls recently after detecting a new case of New World screwworm in cattle in the northern border state of Nuevo Leon state, the closest case to the U.S. border since the outbreak began last year.

The animal, found in the town of Sabinas Hidalgo, came from the Gulf state of Veracruz, Mexico's National Health for Food Safety and Food Quality Service said. The last case was reported July 9 in Veracruz, prompting Washington to suspend imports of live Mexican cattle.

The parasite, a larva of the *Cochliomyia hominivorax* fly, attacks warm-blooded animals, including humans. Mexico has reported more than 500 active cases in cattle across southern states.

The block on cattle imports has spelled trouble for Mexico's govern-

ment, which has already been busy trying to offset the brunt of U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats this year.

The government and ranchers have sought to get the ban lifted. If it stays in place through the year, Mexico's ranching federation estimates losses up to \$400 million.

Mexico's Agriculture Secretary Julio Berdegué said in a post on X that Mexico is "controlling the isolated case of screwworm in Nuevo Leon," under measures to fight the pest agreed with the U.S. in August.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said Washington will take "decisive measures to protect our borders, even in the absence of cooperation" and said imports on Mexican cattle, bison and horses will remain suspended.



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Farmers test drove electric tractors at Michigan State University

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — In the soft dirt of an indoor horseback riding ring in August, a group of farmers got ready to test drive a new piece of equipment: an electric tractor.

As they took turns climbing in — some surprised by its quick acceleration — they gave real-time feedback to the Michigan State University researchers who have been developing it for over two years.

The farmers remarked on the motor's quiet whir. Most were intrigued, or at least open to the idea. Some were concerned that the battery on the underside of the carriage would mean a lower clearance over the field, while others worried that it would simply be too expensive.

"What we hope to do when we retire is we want to get everything electric on the farm. The tractor is the last electric

implement to get," said Don Dunklee, one of the farmers to provide feedback. He runs a small organic vegetable farm that's relied on wind and solar for decades.

The market is fairly new, but some researchers and entrepreneurs think electric tractors will be ideal for small farmers who care about sustainability and want to market their products that way. The small cherry-red, open-cab machine is well-suited for tasks like weeding fields of specialty crops like carrots or asparagus, or squeezing between the tight rows of orchard trees. Farmers with solar panels can avoid the cost of diesel.

"There's reduced emissions, but before you get there, you have to be solving for other problems," including noise, ease of use and cost, said Derek Muller, business manager for battery electric

systems at John Deere.

There are downsides — electric tractors are aimed at filling a niche, not overturning the status quo. And while battery technology has come a long way, they can't last all day or match the massive horsepower of a diesel engine that sets giant tractors cruising through the sprawling grain and soybean operations of the Midwest.

In addition to battery limitations, there are other structural obstacles. Most farmers do not have fast electric chargers, nor do they have solar panels to supply those chargers with free electricity — diesel would need to be much more expensive for the economics to turn sharply in favor of electric. But companies are starting to see an opportunity.

"For John Deere, it is not the only solution," Muller said. "It's not going to be where we lead our efforts. It's going to be one of many options."

The company has built a small utility electric tractor prototype. It joins a limited set of offerings from other companies like Monarch Tractor, which started in 2019 with the aim to help farmers, who have traditionally struggled with razor-thin profits, save money, work sustainably and more efficiently.

Ajit Srivastava, an agricultural engineer and Michigan State professor who hosted the farmer feedback session, wants to help smallholder farmers across the world. Such farmers grow about a third of the world's food but many do it with only hand tools.

"If we were to mechanize all the smallholder farmers in the world, there isn't enough diesel out there to power them. So we have to find some other source," Srivastava said.

It's still a work in progress. Rain had postponed the feedback session, originally planned for the spring, because

the tractor hadn't been waterproofed yet. It also doesn't have enough power for some jobs like tilling. But farmers generally like what Srivastava had developed. He hopes it could eventually be sold for roughly \$30,000, substantially cheaper than some of the competition.

"The steering is really responsive. It just seems to run really smooth," said Dunklee, adding, however, that it might not do everything he needs on a farm yet. "Probably the biggest thing would be it's relatively quiet."

One possible customer is the smaller farming operation of specialty crops or vegetables and farms for fun, not necessarily to make a living.

"They want to be self-sustaining," said Patrick Woolcock, an associate engineering professor and agriculture expert at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Plus, without diesel emissions, they can work in greenhouses and, with fewer parts, there's hope repairs won't be as complicated, at least once a readily available supply is established.

Still, some aren't so sure electric has such a big advantage when it comes to automation. Tim Bucher, CEO of Agtonomy, a company focused on bringing autonomy software to farm vehicles, was all-in on electric a few years ago. But the technology has gotten so good that now his customers can pick and choose the energy source for their tractor and see similar results, he said. And with government electric vehicle subsidies disappearing, there's less incentive for most farmers to go that route.

On his own farm, though, he opts for electric, and he says he's seen economic returns.

And from an environmental perspective, "it also just makes me feel better," he said.

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Dairy farmer among those inducted into Michigan Farmers' Hall of Fame

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

HASTINGS, Mich. — A husband and wife known for the genetics of their large dairy herd and providing college scholarships for future milk producers are among the new members of the Michigan Farmers' Hall of Fame.

Ken and Jane Gasper along with four other farm families were inducted Sept. 20.

"I feel honored," Mr. Gasper said. Gasper, 76, tended to as many as 650 cows while his wife kept track of the finances at the farm now run mostly by his son, Aaron, and their grandsons, Quinn and Grant.

The herd has since grown to more than 1,000 since their son expanded the operation by purchasing another dairy farm.

Gasper hasn't completely retired, though.

He's in charge of handling the finances now and going out to get replacement parts whenever there's a mechanical break down at the farm.

Every other day, he also checks on the crops raised to feed their animals on his all-terrain vehicle.

"It keeps my mind going. I enjoy it," he said.

The Gasper's live in the same home that was on the property when his great grandfather started the farm with 80 acres in 1894.

His grandfather and father were born in the residence that has since been remodeled a few times.

Gasper said the farm has always had dairy cows and once featured pigs and sheep along with about 1,500 chickens his father raised to provide eggs to grocery stores in the area.

His grandfather had a herd of Guernsey cows but later replaced them with



Above: Ken and Jane Gasper were among the new inductees at the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame.

Holsteins.

"We've been breeding the genetics in the Holsteins ever since," he said.

Gasper is also a former longtime board president of the CentralStar Cooperative and once represented the cooperative for more than 20 years on the North Star Select Sires board of directors.

He's also been actively involved with the Ionia County Cooperative Extension Advisory Committee, Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan Milk Producers Association and the Michigan State University Animal Science Advisory Committee.

In 1992, he was named the MSU Dairy Farmer of the Year.

Today, he's active strictly with the Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship Foundation the Gasper's started recently to generate scholarship money for MSU dairy students.

"Giving back is what we're doing," he said.

Other inductees in the Michigan Farmers' Hall of Fame include Carl and Anne Pease, who raise about 35 registered Shorthorn and Hereford cows along with 25 sheep mostly as feeders on about 250 acres outside Bellevue.

They're also longtime members of the Farm Bureau branch in Eaton County.



Above: Carl and Anne Pease, who raise beef cattle and sheep, have joined about 250 other Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame inductees.

Currently, Mrs. Pease serves on the local Farm Bureau board and is secretary of the Michigan Shorthorn Association.

Mr. Pease, a former local Farm Bureau board member, seemed very surprised to enter such hallowed ground.

"We're not a big operation at all so I don't know if I'm really even deserving of it," he said.

Mr. Pease, 69, also worked full-time for over 40 years as an artificial insemination technician for cattle.

He still provides the service but on a more limited basis.

The couple is also known for providing easy to handle animals to beginners at showing in the 4-H youth program by getting his livestock used to human contact.

"If they're not tame, they're not going to be staying on the farm," he said.

The other new inductees were Tom Durand, Jon and Gloria Haindl and the DeGrandchamp family.

Durand raises corn, soybeans, wheat, black beans and sugarbeets in St. Clair County and has served on both the

Michigan Corn Growers Association and the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan.

The Haindl's have a beef cow-calf operation in Schoolcraft County and also grow potatoes, oats, barley, rye, snap beans, buckwheat and hay.

The DeGrandchamps are growers of fruit, primarily blueberries and cranberries, in the western part of the state and also run a farm store and ice cream shop.

The Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame was started in 1982 by Bill Aukerman, a farmer in Barry County who felt farm couples deserved to be honored for their hard work and dedication to agriculture, much like professional athletes are for their contributions to the game.

A barn and silo were built on three acres of land he donated in Barry County to house the hall of fame, which nearly folded in 2010.

It was resurrected and moved several years later to the Belcher Building at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds.

There are now over 250 inductees.

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Izaak Walton League weighs in on USDA reorganization

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

GAITHERSBURG, Md. – In late July, the USDA shared a memorandum saying that it intended to do a major reorganization. In that process, the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA), a conservation organization, is concerned with ensuring that conservation continues to be put out on the ground and that programs are running effectively.

“Of course, as a conservation organization, that is our North Star. We also know that these changes will have implications across wider issues of the agriculture community,” said Kate Hansen, IWLA agriculture program director.

On Aug. 29, the IWLA sent a letter to USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins with five recommendations regarding the proposed restructuring of the department:

1. Program enrollments, reimbursements, and technical assistance for conservation programs should not be interrupted or delayed due to reorganization.

“We want to ensure that those flagship conservation programs that farmers are enrolling in are not disrupted by this,” Hansen said. “We know that there is a lot of stress on farmers and

the farm economy right now.”

These programs can also be a diverse revenue stream, she explained. In some examples, it is a way to get cost share or financial assistance for conservation. Those programs should continue to run and continue to put good, beneficial practices on the ground across the country.

2. With additional resources Congress authorized for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, staff capacity in local USDA offices should match the upcoming increased workload to ensure successful implementation.

“That was an excellent decision on Congress’s part to invest additional money into these programs,” Hansen said. “The rate that farmers were applying to them was much higher than the amount that they could actually accept. We are excited to see additional resources go to those programs. In the context of USDA wanting to reduce its staff, we need to ensure that there will be the people power to get those programs turned into practices and in farmers’ pockets.”

3. Organize listening sessions or other opportunities for farmers and ranchers to share feedback on their experiences with USDA and the reorganization plan.

“We know that they are a very important stakeholder and these changes will

eventually impact them on some level, and we want to just ensure that that is done,” Hansen explained.

4. Consider how restructuring the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) may impact the department’s effectiveness in collecting Census of Agriculture data in 2027.

This is a very large data effort that USDA takes on about every five years, not just related to conservation, but information on a whole host of things, Hansen said.

“Because they do intend to make some changes at the NASS, we wanted to again try to provide some feedback,” Hansen said. “We would like to see the census of agriculture come out strong the next time. It is important data for a lot of reasons.”

5. Because department staff are hardworking and often highly specialized in their expertise, provide them

with flexibility and resources throughout any transition.

“This is more of a comment than anything, but the folks who are most immediately going to be impacted by this are staff,” Hansen said. “One of the things that they cite in the memorandum is that they are going to more than halve the headquarters staff down to 2,000. We know some folks will be lost in that process.”

“I think again we are looking at this through a conservation lens because that is who we are at our core,” she said. “But we have a much wider impact and we are just trying to keep a close eye that any assistance to farmers is not negatively impacted.”

For the full text of the letter, contact: Kate Hansen, agriculture program director, Izaak Walton League at khan-sen@iwl.org

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8 185± ACRES IN 3 TRACTS. Montgomery County, IN. 170.68± Tillable Acres • Productive Montgomery County Farmland • Blacktop Road Frontage. Contact Todd Freeman 765-414-1863 or Jerry Ehle 260-410-1996.

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4 FARM EQUIPMENT - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. LaGrange County, IN. Contact Robert Mishler 260-336-9750.

5 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Steuben County, IN. Contact Daniel Days 260-233-1401 or Dean Rummel 260-343-8511.

5 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Noble County, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191.

5 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Steuben County, IN. Contact Jensen Jeffrey 260-273-5931.

6 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Allen County, IN. Contact Jared Sipe 260-750-1553 or Mike Roy 260-437-5428.

9 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Allen County, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191.

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TRACTORS: Ford TW-15, 3,036 hrs, 131 HP, FWA, diesel, manual, cab, hyd., PTO, runs. 2020 John Deere 1025R, 101hrs. 1 OWNER! 120R loader, 260B backhoe, 60" deck, 24.2 HP, HST, 18 HP PTO, Cat-1 hitch. **DOZER:** 2020 CATERPILLAR D6N LGP CRAWLER DOZER 7297 hours, Grade Control ready, EROPS, 6 way blade, 13ft wide blade, sweeps, 33 inch wide tracks, drawbar, light package, rear aux hydraulics; 2019 Cat D5K2 LGP, 4,936 hrs, 6-way blade, drawbar, 26" pads, sweeps, lights, Grade Control Ready, enclosed cab, ~21,258; runs. **EXCAVATORS – CRAWLER:** 2015 Cat 328D LCR, 13,944 hrs, EROPS, steel tracks, aux hyd. 2010 Cat 312DL, 9,234 hrs, EROPS, steel tracks, aux hyd. 2018 Deere 210 LC, 3,352 hrs, EROPS, 32" tracks, JRB QC, 24" bucket, heat/AC; runs. 2023 Komatsu PC360LC-11, 11,703 hrs, EROPS, 60" bucket, 34" tracks, heat/AC, camera; runs. 2007 Volvo EC160CL, 12,069 hrs, EROPS, Geith QC & hyd. thumb, 52" bucket; runs. 2021 Kubota U48-5, 2,302 hrs, EROPS, hyd. thumb, angle blade (hyd. swivel), heat/AC/radio, rubber tracks; runs. 2018 Takeuchi TB290, ~3,400 hrs, EROPS, rubber, 36" bucket, aux hyd., blade; runs. 2019 Link-Belt 160LX, 9,871 hrs, EROPS, rubber, blade, pin-on bucket; runs. **EXCAVATORS – MINI:** 2013 Cat 305.5, 7,002 hrs, EROPS, rubber tracks, aux hyd., boom swing. Multiple NEW/UNUSED minis (AGT / Future / TPM / Landhero / CFG) — rubber tracks, OROPS/cab, grading blade, manual or hyd. thumb, aux hyd.; gas & diesel options. Typical specs: 13–20 HP, 1,600–3,500, ~5–7 ft dig depth. **WHEEL LOADERS:** 2015 Cat 982M, 21,741 hrs, EROPS, bucket. 2014 Cat 982M, 23,081 hrs, EROPS, bucket. 2016 Case 621F, 4,116 hrs, cab heat/AC, ~3 yd pin-on bucket, 3rd valve, new A/C, good tires, front seal leak; runs. Deere 544J, 2,038 hrs, OROPS heat/AC, hyd. coupler, 98" bucket; runs. **HAUL TRUCKS:** 2013 Cat 740B, 15,077 hrs, EROPS, articulating. 2012 Cat 740B, 15,466 hrs, EROPS, articulating. **SKID STEERS – TRACK:** 2019 Bobcat T770, 1,626 hrs, OROPS, hand/foot, manual QA; runs. 2020 Cat 299D3, 1,109 hrs, 98 HP, ROC 4,800, EROPS heat/AC, High-Flow, QA, 78" bucket. 2020 Cat 299D3, 2,335 hrs, 2-spd, High-Flow, EROPS heat/AC, tooth bucket. 2020 Gehl RT105, 980 hrs, ROC 1,050, enclosed, bucket; runs. Toro 22318 CTL, 1,920 hrs, aux hyd., rubber, no bucket; runs. TPM-180 mini track, Landhero mini track (2), AGT mini dumper 5.5 HP/1,100. **SKID STEERS – WHEEL:** 2020 Kubota SSV65, 411 hrs, EROPS heat/AC, pilot, QA, smooth bucket; runs. 2017 Kubota SSV65, 1,062 hrs, EROPS, hyd. QA, 2-spd, aux, solid tires; runs. 2017 Kubota SSV65, 1,597 hrs, EROPS heat/AC, QA, 68" bucket, aux, 64 HP, ROC 1,950; runs. 2017 Bobcat S570, 1,734 hrs, enclosed, aux, hyd. quick-tach. 2016 Takeuchi TS80V2, 1,119 hrs, EROPS heat/AC, QA, aux, 76" smooth bucket, 74 HP; runs. 2018 Case SV280, 3,324 hrs, QA, aux, 2-spd, bucket. 2019 Cat 242D3, 4,253 hrs, EROPS heat/AC/radio, pilot, rear camera, hyd. QA, smooth bucket. 2020 Cat 272D3 XE, 3,057 hrs, 98 HP, EROPS heat/AC/radio, aux, QA. **TELEHANDLERS / LIFTS:** 2018 Genie GTH-636, 10,865 hrs, 6k @ 36', cab, AWS, Deutz, powershift. JCB 510-56, 4,809 hrs, OROPS, 10k @ 56', forks. JLG E300AJ, 894 hrs, 30'/36' WH, 20' horiz., 500 lb, electric. 2010 JLG 450AJ, 727 hrs, 51' WH, diesel. 2014 Genie S-60 TRAX, 6,529 hrs, 60'/66' WH. 2006 JLG 600AJ, 2,741 hrs, 60' plat. 2006 JLG 660SJ w/jib, 4,103 hrs, 66' plat./72' WH, 57' outreach, 750 lb; recon 2018. JLG LiftPod, 14' plat., 330 lb. Skyjack SJIII4632, 38' WH, 700 lb, ext. deck. **MOTORHOME:** 2006 Mandalay 40E Class A diesel, 157k mi, 39', generator, hyd. leveling, loaded interior, manuals; **TRUCKS & VANS:** 2003 Freightliner Columbia 120 day cab, 839k mi, Detroit 60, 10-spd, Jake; runs. 1999 Mack Vision day cab, 327k mi, manual, tri-axle. 2013 Int'l Durastar 4400 flatbed, 171k mi, 24' bed, 10-spd, MaxxForce, air brakes; runs. 2003 Int'l 300IC bus, 327k mi, 24-pass., diesel; runs. 2012 IC CE bus, 176k mi, diesel, power door inop; runs. 1999 Freightliner FL60 dump, 195k mi, 12' steel bed, auto; runs. 2016 Chevy 1500 crew 5.3, 348k mi, 4WD. 2009 Chevy 1500, 258k mi, 4x4. 2012 Chevy (reg cab), 235k mi, 8' bed. 2013 Chevy, 234k mi, 4WD, 4-dr. 2018 Ford F-150, 174k mi, ext cab. 2002 GMC 2500HD, 293k mi, 4x4. 2014 Ford E-350 bus, 157k mi, 10-pass. 2019 Chevy Express, 113k mi, 12-pass. **TRAILERS / STORAGE / CONTAINERS:** 1990 Fruehauf 48' dry van (storage). 1992 Ti-Brook end dump (alum sides, barn door, coal chute). Ferree 48' log trailer. 20' flatbed utility (tandem, ramps, spare, toolbox). Portable loading ramp 30k, steel/wood, adj. height. X-Star ramp 30k (NEW/UNUSED). 20' 22G1 containers (~67,197 MGW, ~5,071 tare, ~62,126 payload). 40' containers, rear double doors + multiple side doors, wood floors, several units. **AG / HAY / TILLAGE / GRAIN:** Unverferth 325 (~325 bu), J&M 350 bu, 250 bu wagon w/Shur-Lok tarp. Arts-Way Dion forage wagon, PTO, front unload. NH H7230 discbine, rubber rolls, PTO. Woods 20' batwing cutter. J&M TF212 rolling basket, 3-sec hyd. fold. Landoll 2325 disk ripper, 4 shanks @ 30", ~14'. Field cultivator, 9 shanks, ~12'. Unverferth 6"x16" belt conveyor. Buckeye Auger-Mate power unit, 8 HP/6.5 GPM. **ASPHALT / PAVERS / CONCRETE:** 2016 Volvo PF2181 paver, 5,939 hrs, dual stations, Carlson electric screed 15'7"-8'7". Somero Mini Screed C, 7.5' head, laser, Honda 8.5 HP. Slimline walk-behind saw, gas, demo. **LIGHT TOWERS / LIGHTING:** 2022 Generac MLTS LED, 6,320 hrs, manual mast, towable; runs. Magnum, 11,387 hrs, non-LED, diesel. 2013 Atlas Copco V3, 2,911 hrs, Kubota, non-LED. Magnum MLT3060K, 2,727 hrs, diesel, Kubota 6 kW, 4 lamps; runs. Gas station canopy lights, pole-mounted. **OUTDOOR POWER / TURF:** JD E180 lawn tractor, 486 hrs, 54" deck, hydro. JD 652R stand-on mower, 1,720 hrs, 52", 23 HP, hyd. leak. Forest King PRO 30-ton splitter, gas, towable, like new. DR OPC533 chipper, gas, 6.5 HP. JD 47" Quick-Hitch snowblower, PTO. Agri-Fab Mow-N-Vac, Briggs CR750 163cc, ~32 cu ft, like new. **GOLF CARTS / UTV:** IR IRGC80 carts (2), electric, 4-seat, roof, AT tires, custom wheels, rear seat/cargo, one w/front basket. 2016 Bobcat 3400 UTV, 742 hrs / 4,045 mi, 4x4, 32 HP gas, CVT, 2-seat, bed. **SPECIALTY & MISC:** 2024 KTM RC390, 9,302 mi, electric start; runs. International bucket trucks w/Altec ~50', outriggers, fiberglass bed/storage; one GMC C7500 INOP, sells as-is. 1997 GMC TopKick C7500 water truck, 120k mi, CAT, tank needs repair. **SKID STEER ATTACHMENTS – FORKS & FRAMES** (6) CFG SA1100/SAI100 pallet forks 48" ~4,000 cap; (6) Wolverine MPF-11-2500G mini pallet forks ~2,500 cap; (2) Clamp-on forks ~4,000 cap; (3) Fork extensions 72" & 8'; (4) Pallet fork frames incl. Wolverine PFF-13-55W. **BUCKETS / GRAPPLES / BLADES** (6) Wolverine TDB/TDP buckets 66–86"; (6) Wolverine MCB combo buckets 48"; Wolverine GB-11-72W grapple bucket 72"; (7) Wolverine MSG-11-44W stump grapples 44"; Wolverine SWDB-11-84W dozer blade 84"; Wolverine DB-15-84V snow plow 84". **MOWERS / BRUSH / BROOMS / RAKE / TILLERS** (2) Topcat HDRC rotary mowers 78"; (5) Brush cutters 72"; AGT SS-72 angle broom 72"; Wolverine DUM-36-72W power rake 72"; (4) Tillers 72". **BREAKERS / DRIVERS / TRENCHERS / RIPPERS** CFG SSH680 hammer; CFG SSH15860 hammer; (2) Wolverine PD-12-080/800 post drivers; (2) Wolverine ZW-750/CB-1T-750F breakers; Wolverine TCR-12-48H trencher 48"; Wolverine RPR-12-72W ripper; Wolverine LL2-78W leveling bucket 80". **AUGERS** (2) Wolverine MAD-12-12D mini augers 6–18"; MAD-12-120 mini auger set; Industry HDDH07 skid auger w/ 3 bits; Mower King BSECAG-Y auger w/ 3 bits; AGT ECAG/EGG planetary augers;



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Late night canoe trip proves not all tall tales are false

Years ago, my good friend, the late Steve Owen, and I were taking a three-day trip by canoe from Moscow to Columbus, Ind.

Wanting to cover some distance our first day out, we had paddled until the sun had gone down and the river was gently lit by only the moon and stars. Running late, we were looking for an island suitable as a good campsite, so... we slowly paddled on.

It was a beautiful night. Only the sound of a distant owl, the croak of frogs along the river bank and the slow rhythmic strokes of our canoe paddles.

As our paddles were lifted from the water on each stroke, it would leave a slight swirl in the water.

I mentioned to Steve... years back when rowing a boat when the water was dark and muddy from heavy rains, I would occasionally have a smallmouth bass strike at the swirl from the oar and jump in the boat.

Let's just say my attempt at light conversation was not well received.

Steve blurted out, "Who are you trying to bamboozle with that tall tale?"

"Do you think I rolled into town on a turnip truck?"

"I was born on a Tuesday but it wasn't last Tuesday!"

"As long as we have been friends and you're trying to unload this kind of hogwash on me?"

"I swear! What a truth stretchin'!"

Not having a reply to Steve's good-natured verbal onslaught condemning my honesty, I simply continued paddling in the dark.

A few minutes went by...stroke...swirl...stroke...swirl!

Then there was the sound of a large splash alongside the canoe followed by a heavy thump as something hit the aluminum floor of the canoe. The sounds were followed by

a rapid slapping of a tail fin on the floor of the canoe.

Placing my paddle across the gunnels of the canoe, I carefully lipped and lifted a pound and a half smallmouth bass from the floor of the canoe.

Having Steve's full attention, I asked, "Now what Tuesday did you say you were born?"

8 Indiana Conservation Officers certified as dive rescue specialists

Eight Indiana Conservation Officers have joined the ranks of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Law Enforcement's team of certified dive rescue specialists who serve the entire state. They participated in a graduation ceremony Sept. 16 at the Indiana Statehouse.

To become certified dive rescue specialists, the officers graduated from the six-week Public Safety Dive Rescue Specialist School. The new divers, with the county in which each is based, are Kenton Crews (Spencer), Nina Freund (Marshall), Caden Graber (Davies), Nicholas Hartman (Putnam), Claire Jenkins (Scott), Charles Martin (Vigo), Dylan Mast (Noble) and Michael Montgomery (Parke).

During the school, students were trained to meet Dive Rescue International requirements, which include being able to do fully encapsulated diving with full face mask, dry suits, redundant air supply and underwater hard-line communications.

The students were drilled on basic scuba skills, physical fitness, black-water diving, boat-based and shore-based operations/search patterns, drowning victim/body recovery, evidence recovery, light salvage operations, lift bag operations, vehi-

cle recovery, deep diving and swift water diving.

The school was based in Terre Haute. Training took place at the Vigo County Aquatics Center and in various bodies of water throughout Vigo County and the surrounding area.

Indiana Conservation Officers respond to and investigate drowning incidents and all other types of water-related investigations, including evidence recovery, vehicle recovery, swift-water rescues and boat accidents.

Friends Full Moon Hike

Join members of the Clifty Falls Friends Group on a Full Moon Hike on Oct. 6 at 9 p.m. The 1 ½ hour moderate hike begins at the pool and is limited to 40 participants. The cost is \$5 per person, cash only. Please call 812-273-0609 to register. Good hiking shoes and a red lens flashlight are recommended, as we will be venturing off trail. No pets please.

Learn more about the Friends of Clifty Falls State Park by visiting friendsofclifty.org/home.

2025-2026 Arbor Day Poster Contest

The 5th Grade Arbor Day Poster Contest is returning for the 2025-26 school year. Thanks to the Indiana 529 program, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prize winners will receive an Indiana 529 scholarship plus a tree planting at the school of the 1st place prize winner.

All 5th grade students and teachers across the state are invited to submit original artwork for this year's contest. The theme for the 2025-2026 school year is Trees and Pollinators Make

Perfect Partners.

Students participating in this year's contest can learn about how trees interact with pollinators, including but not limited to:

- How tree species have distinct flowers designed to attract specific pollinators, including bees, moths, butterflies, hummingbirds, bats, flies and gnats.

- How trees support pollinators throughout the seasons by providing habitat and food in the winter months and nectar in flowers throughout the growing season.

- How orchards can support wild bee populations.

Participating teachers are encouraged to engage with the contest theme in their classrooms to help inspire their students' artwork. Teaching resources and standard alignments are provided on the contest webpage, along with full submission instructions and contest rules can be found at: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/programs/community-and-urban-forestry/arbor-day-poster-contest/>.

Submissions are due April 1, 2026.

'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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White 2-70 Wide Front Diesel Tractor with White Model 1730 QA Loader and Stand, 3594 Hours, SN 293884-412 with 9.5x42 Narrow Rear Tires, Used For Veggies; Set of 15.5-38 tires and Rims Separate; Fully Restored Oliver English 600 Wide Front Diesel Tractor Complete with New Gauges, Hours Unknown, 3 pt. Front Grill Guard, Very Nice, SN 99900A453536; Oliver 500 David Brown Wide Front Gas Tractor Good Rubber Throughout, Completely Restored, SN 100436G, Been Restored But Lady Drove Into the Front at a Show - Grill Damaged, New Gauges, Draw Bar Hitch, Runs; Oliver 500 Original Diesel Tractor, Runs, New Rear Rubber, 3 pt, Hours Unknown, SN 1009210; Oliver 500 Diesel 3 pt Tractor Unrestored, 1965 Hours, SN 100-182D, Runs; Oliver 600 Original David Brown Wide Front Diesel 3 pt Tractor, 1963, Shows 2215 Hours, SN 460303, Runs; Oliver David Brown Wide Front 500 Gas Tractor Primarily for Parts; Oliver David Brown 600 Diesel Wide Front 3 pt Tractor Appears To All Be There But Not Running; Approximate (6) Oliver 500 ND 600 Diesel Parts Tractors, Many with 3 Pt and Not Running; Oliver Super 55 Wide Front Gas Tractor 3 pt., Runs, Make a Great Restorable Tractor, 2824 Hours, SN 16098-518, Runs; Oliver David Brown 500 Wide Front Diesel Tractor, Runs; Oliver 77 Narrow Front Row Crop Gas Tractor Original and Good Rubber SN 324896 with Side Panels, Runs; Oliver David Brown 500 Wide Front Diesel Tractor 3 pt, Unrestored, SN 100679D, Runs; Oliver 2-Bottom 14" Rooster Comb Pull-Type Plow; Allis-Chalmers G Rear Engine Veggie Tractor with Set of New Rear Tires, Presently Not Running; 2012 Dodge Ram 3500 Cummins Turbo Diesel Pickup Truck, Heavy Duty, High Mileage, Newer Rebuilt Transmission with 5th Wheel, Very Nice Truck for the Age; Bobcat 753 Diesel Skid Loader, 67" Materials Bucket, 3682 Hrs., Runs Well, SN 512719842; Original Hiawatha Doodle Bug 1940s Scooter, Been Restored and Runs; Oliver Semi-Mount 5-Bottom 16" Model 546 Plow with Gauge Wheel and Waffle Coulters; Nice Oliver 565 3 pt Semi-Mount Plow 4-Bottoms by 16" Spring Waffle Coulters; Original David Brown 950, 880 and 850 Tractor Parts Catalog; Ferguson 2-Bottom 3 pt. Plow; Little Rhino 3 pt. 8" Grader Blade; Set of Forks to Fit White Loader to be Sold Separately; 3 pt. David Brown Spring Trip Back 2-Bottom 16" Plow with Gauge Wheel; 3 pt. Oliver 2-Bottom 16" Mounted Plow; Oliver Hydraulic Cylinder; Husqvarna

Model Y2H180 Hydrostatic Riding Lawn Tractor; Large Amount of Oliver New, Used and Reproduction 500 and 600 Parts - Grills, Shields, Battery Boxes, Gauges, Seat Covers, Etc.; Set of British Standard Wrenches and Sockets; Varied 3 Pt. Parts including Oliver 55 Detachable Drawbar; Small Railroad Shop Cart; Hay Rack Wagon with 6-Ton Gear; 100 Flat Fuel Tank for Back of Pickup Truck; Tandem Schwinn Bike, Needs Restored; Other Tires, Rear Front and Rims; Other 500/600 Hoods; Schwinn Hollywood 24" Girls Bike with Banana Seat; Small Single Axle Utility Trailer; Stainless Commercial Restaurant Deep Triple Sink with Double Side Wings; Cast Iron Butcher Kettle with Stand; Misc. Rough-Sawn Lumber; Misc. Steel Gates; Original Chest-Type Ice Cold Drink Coca-Cola Ice Chest with Lids; Planet Junior Type Original Walk-Behind Wooden Handles Cultivator, Still in Original Hardware Wrapping, Never Assembled; Like New Haul Master 2.5-Ton Pallet Jack; Misc. New In Box Oliver Toys - 600, 77 Gas, 1755, Toy Farmer, 26, 55, 70, FFA 70 and Other Misc. Toy Tractors including David Brown 990; Oliver Hart Parr Penants at the Time of Merger; Oliver Diesel Power Decal and Others; Chain with Oliver Corp. On It; Super Nice In Original Box Mamod Steam Engine with All Parts; Ertl IH Loader Backhoe In Original Box, Never Played With; Nylint Jumbo Street Roller with Plastic Drum; Nylint Jumbo Big Haul Dump Truck, Never Played With; Oliver Super 99 Diesel by Franklin Mint Tractor, Never Played With; Nylint Bulldozer, New In Box; Nylint Jumbo Scraper, New In Box; Nylint New In Box Jumbo Michigan Shovel Truck Crane; Oliver Hart Parr Collectors Association Approximate 5' x 3' Flag; Oliver Jackets; Boxes of Oliver Keystone Emblem Mailing Envelopes; (6) Old Oliver Printer Blocks; Numerous Manuals from Varied Manufacturers; Framed and Matted Union Pacific Big Boy Locomotive Number 417 Approximate 4'; (4) Framed Locomotive Pictures; Numerous Tractor and Train Books and DVDs; (50) Varied Hats, Many Oliver; Varied Paper Materials - Oliver Dealer Sales Books, 500 Wheel Tractor Book, Etc.; Varied Implement and Tractor Magazines from '48, '49 and '50; Oliver Suspenders; AND A LOT MORE!

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FARM TOY AUCTION

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WED, OCTOBER 8, 2025

Auction begins at 4:00 PM • Online Bidding Available

6 PEDAL TRACTORS: Custom John Deere 4020 with duals; Eska John Deere; (2) Case; John Deere 8530 pulling tractor; John Deere 4440; **JOHN DEERE:** all kinds of Ertl's; Precision Series; 12A Combine; WA 14 & WA 17 Prestige Selects; 4440 "Gold"; custom 55EB Corn Special Combine; #72 Forage Harvester; S780 Prestige Combine; **CASE:** all kinds of Ertl Special Editions; Yoder Models; SpecCast; Precision Series; Prestige Collection; SP12 Combine by GP; Pioneer; scale model steam engines; 1660 Combine by GP; Black Knights; customs by Warner, Doug Rogers, Dingman, Johan, Siegel, Freiheit & more! **1/8 SCALE:** John Deere A; John Deere flare wagon; Parker gravity wagon; Oliver gravity wagon; John Deere 70; Farmall M Demonstrator; Oliver 1850; orange flared wagon; Farmall M; **OTHER FARM TOYS:** Oliver; IH; Minneapolis Moline; White; trucks with boxes; Twin City steam engine; Case steam roller; EZ Trail gravity wagons; Fox 3000 Forage Harvester; 1/32 scale tractors; Ertl CA325 Steiger; White American 4-pc Patio Set; plus more!

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EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE

THE WENDT GROUP

AUCTION OPENS: TUES, OCT. 7TH, 2025 AT 12 NOON

Begins to Close: Wed, Oct. 8th at 12 Noon

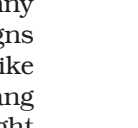
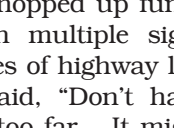
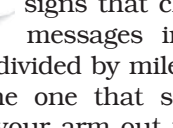
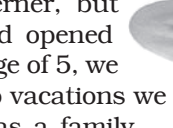
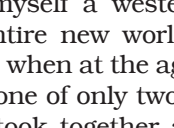
with staggered closing

FOUND on the FARM

AUCTION OPENS: WED, OCT 8TH, 2025 AT 12 NOON

Begins to Close: Thurs, Oct. 9th at 12 Noon

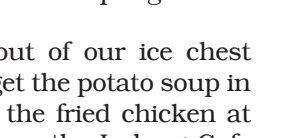
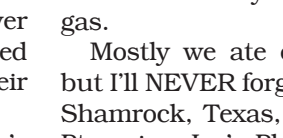
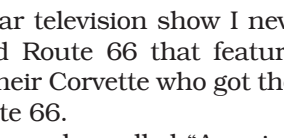
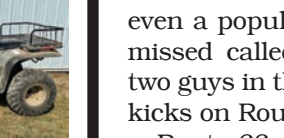
with staggered closing



- New Holland 575 Square Baler w/ NH 77 Kicker
- Case IH 5100 Soybean Special End Wheel Drill
- 45' 500-Gal Hardi Sprayer
- Killbros 400 Center Dump Gravity Bed Wagon
- Killbros 450 Center Dump Gravity Bed Wagon
- Mitsubishi FG25 Forklift
- 10' x 71' Hutchinson Top Drive Auger
- Gehl 800 Forage Harvester w/ Corn Head
- 20' Artsway 240B Flail Chopper
- Kuhn Knight 5135 TMR Mixer
- John Deere 2840 Tractor (One Owner-Needs Transmission Work)
- 14' International 45 Field Cultivator
- John Deere 825 6R30" Row Crop Cultivator
- Great Dane 48' Van Trailer
- Spra-Coupe 220 w/60' Booms

- Bobcat 753 Skid Steer w/ Material Bucket
- Westendorf Front End Loader
- 2003 Ford F-250 6.0 Power Stroke Truck
- 2006 Case MX215 MFWF Tractor
- Brent 472 Grain Cart
- 30' Unverferth Header Cart
- Allis-Chalmers D17 Tractor
- 36' Wheeler Hopper Bottom Trailer
- 90' Hardi 1000-Gal Pull Type Sprayer
- Polaris Magnum 325 4x4 ATV
- 15' Patz 262 Conveyor
- Set of Progressive Markers
- Yargus 8-Ton SS Verical Blender w/ Conveyor
- Kraus SS Belt Conveyor
- (8) 11R24.5 Tires & Rims
- 1100-Gal SS John Deere Spray Tank
- 75' SS Spray Boom Lines
- 20' Steel Truck Bed

- 16' Steel Truck Bed w/ Winch
- 21' Steel Truck Bed
- 120' Carbon Fiber Spray Booms
- Crippen Seed Cleaner
- TW 20XT Semen Tank w/ Bull Semen & Insemination Kit
- 7' Frontier RB2284 3-Pt Grader Blade
- (2) Combine Wheel Weights
- 15' Loftness Flail Chopper
- 480/80R46 Duals w/JD Rims
- John Deere Z920A Zero Turn Mower
- (2) 2025 Steinbauer Tractor Engine Fuel Power Module
- (1) John Deere Ballasts Box
- John Deere 48 Loader
- 1600-Gal Poly Tank
- 1100-Gal Poly Tank
- 3-Pt Finish Mower
- 250-Gal Shuttles
- Skid Steer Tires



ALL EQUIPMENT REMAINS AT SELLERS LOCATION. ADDRESSES CAN BE FOUND WITH EACH LOT ON THE WEBSITE.

UPCOMING 2025 ONLINE AUCTIONS

EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE			FOUND ON THE FARM		
2025	Auction Date	Equipment Due	2025	Auction Date	Equipment Due
Nov.	11/12	10/22	Nov.	11/13	10/22
Dec.	12/10	11/19	Dec.	12/11	11/19

CONTACT AN AGENT TODAY TO ADD YOUR EQUIPMENT

Tyler Wilt at 740-572-1249 or tyler@thewendtgroup.com

Dale Evans at 260-894-0458 or dale@thewendtgroup.com

Kasey Smith at 740-505-8845 or kasey@thewendtgroup.com

Kevin Wendt at 614-626-7653 or kevin@thewendtgroup.com

Keagan Nicol 937-594-8146 or keagan@thewendtgroup.com

WJ Fannin at 614-395-9802 or wj@thewendtgroup.com

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Love of the West started with family trips on Route 66

I know exactly when I fell in love with the West. I've always been proud to call myself a westerner, but an entire new world opened to me when at the age of 5, we took one of only two vacations we ever took together as a family (both of them to Missouri) to visit my grandparents on my father's side. (It was the only two times I ever saw them.) I guess you could have called us "reverse Okies" because

It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

my father's family came out to California during the dust bowl days and here we were, headed back on the same road, a road called Route 66.

That's when my infatuation with the West began, when we took what was also called The Migrant Road and the Road of Flight. It was a two-lane mostly asphalt highway that stretched from LA to Chicago. Route 66 introduced me to parts of the West I'd never seen, and I loved every minute of it. The Mother Road became so famous there was even a popular television show I never missed called Route 66 that featured two guys in their Corvette who got their kicks on Route 66.

Route 66 was also called "America's Main Street" because the empty intervals were broken by trading posts, gas stations, motels and restaurants selling everything from "genuine" Indian moccasins made in Japan, to petrified wood salt and pepper shakers. At Arizona and New Mexico Indian trading posts you could buy Kachina dolls, cowboy hats and belts, long horns from real Longhorns and in Texas and Oklahoma it was tiny vials of black crude.

Route 66 was littered with huge and unique billboards that advertised gila monsters and mountain lions just 30 miles down the road and real rattlesnakes in Santa Rosa, N.M. The Jack-rabbit Trading Post billboards featured huge jackrabbits telling the kids in the backseat that they should nag their parents to pull in so they could buy "authentic" feathered headdresses and cap guns. Further down the road in Post, Texas, you could stop to see a real jackalope, a cross between a jackrabbit and an antelope. I still have a postcard

of a cowboy mounted on one. And who could forget the Burma Shave signs that chopped up funny messages in multiple signs divided by miles of highway like the one that said, "Don't hang your arm out too far... It might go home in another car.... Buy Burma Shave."

Gas stations were an oasis on Route 66 and even before the car stopped rolling the car doors would fly open and everyone would head for the restrooms. I'd never heard of Whiting Brothers gas stations before that were advertised on long yellow signs. Nor had I seen a Mohawk, DX, Horn Brothers, Skelly, Hedges or Phillips 66 station where they not only washed your windows, they checked your oil and the pressure in your tires, offered free ice for your ice chest and they'd fill your water bag hanging off your front bumper that most cars carried in case the radiator blew. All for only 29 cents per gallon of gas.

Mostly we ate out of our ice chest but I'll NEVER forget the potato soup in Shamrock, Texas, the fried chicken at Ptomaine Joe's Place, the Iceberg Cafe in Albuquerque in the shape of an iceberg, the Mexican restaurant formed like a sombrero, a cafe cobbled together to look like a shoe, and the orange juice sold from a roadside stand in the shape of an orange. A huge cowboy advertised The Big Texas Steak Ranch in Amarillo and it's still there today only in a different location. And you can still get a 72-ounce steak for free if you eat it and all the fixins.

Many of the cars we met on Route 66 had a bumper sticker advertising the Meramec Caverns in Missouri or the Meteor Crater in Arizona. My biggest regret was we didn't stop to spend one night in a Wigwam Village teepee so I could see the inside of one. I also never got to put any change in a Magic Finger's Mattress featured in multiple "motor courts." Funny, in two roundtrips to Missouri, I never did get to see a single jackalope. Come to think of it, nor have I ever seen one.

But I'm still looking.

Farm Machinery & Tools Auction

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PREVIEW DATES:
Sat. September 20th | 10am-2pm
Mon. September 22nd | 2pm-4pm

PICKUP: Tues. October 7th &
Wed. October 8th | 12-4pm CST

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Years 2000 to 2007 Fair to Good Condition

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Years 2002 to 2012 Good Condition
1 – 2007 Reithaur Aluminum Flatbed Trailer

48' Van Trailers Approx. 16 Total
1997 Fruehauf
1999 Strick
2000 Strick
3 – 2000 Trailmobiles
4 – 2000 Stroughtons
2003 Trailmobile
2 – 2006 Utilities
2005 Great Dane
2007 Great Dane

2000 Strick (Broken)

45' Van Trailers Approx. 8 Total
1991 Strick
1995 Strick
5 – Strick
1998 Fruehauf

Semi Trucks Approx. 5
2012 Volvo
2006 International
2 – 2014 International
2002 International

Truck Parts
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4-H Mobile Classroom a technology marvel

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

LONDON, Ohio – Farm Science Review, held each September in London, is host mostly to visitors ages 16 and up. There is little entertainment for pre-teens who do accompany their parents to this large, three-day agricultural gathering. However, many did find their way to a 34-foot bus that offers hands-on learning, from digital art to app design to robotics and coding. Parents watched as their children discovered possibilities many had never imagined.

That bus is called the 4-H Mobile Classroom, and it's more than just a vehicle for education. It's a catalyst for lifelong curiosity and creativity.

Led by Christy Millhouse, a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) educator with Ohio 4-H, the 4-H Mobile Classroom offers a variety of technology activities that can connect youth with more than 200 projects that Ohio 4-H offers. Inside, students use iPads and coding software, explore app development, compose music with GarageBand, and free draw with digital sketching tools.

"I travel all across the state each summer to camps, fairs, festivals and other activities and events," Millhouse said. "I've already been to one school district this summer and have a few others already scheduled on my calendar. For example, we'll schedule all fourth graders in one district pay a visit to the Mobile Classroom. At many of these gatherings we'll discuss coding and other technical matters, but the bigger picture is sparking their interest in technology or other interests."

The mobile classroom is part of Ohio 4-H. Through Ohio 4-H, more than 84,000 young people across all 88 Ohio counties engage in programs that inspire curiosity, build lifelong skills, fuel adventure and grow leaders.

"Agriculture is the heart at where 4-H started, but we've grown over the years," Millhouse said. "Nowadays, it's about growing leaders and life skills. We've evolved so much that the kids can find their fit and they don't have to be involved in showing animals at the fair or even living on a farm."

The 4-H Mobile Classroom takes this mission on the road, delivering STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) experiences directly to schools and communities that might not otherwise have access. It is an educational approach that integrates these subjects to promote hands-on, interdisciplinary learning. Young children and even their parents find the long bus interesting.

"My two girls got off that bus and you could see their minds were engaged with all the tablets, smart boards and digital media in there," said Sharon Banks, of Wilmington, Ohio. "The two of them were so thrilled to have gone in there."

Donna Rayburn's 7-year-old daughter designed a digital drawing inside the bus. Rayburn, of nearby Springfield, Ohio, said, "It was awesome to see a child her age have that ability to make things work. She was able to put an idea on a tablet, then watched the pen draw it."

Supported by funding and training support from Apple, Inc., the 4-H Mobile Classroom provides these experiences at no cost to schools or communities. That accessibility, Millhouse said, is crucial to reaching even underserved areas.

"The idea is to help kids get excited about using technology that they may have never been able to access before," Millhouse said. "We want kids to see that they can do more than they thought possible. We're opening their minds to what they can achieve through technology."

For some, this is their first time engaging with advanced digital tools. Millhouse recalled one high school student who said, "I do not do technology." After some encouragement, he soon fully engaged.

"It's really empowering for them," she said. "We want students to leave this classroom with more than just a cool project. We want them to leave knowing that they can pursue a future in STEAM if they want it."

Each year the 4-H Mobile Classroom makes more than 30 stops across Ohio, serving as a traveling bridge between youth and technology. Thousands of families witnessed the Mobile Classroom in action at Farm Science Review.

"We don't just want to be considered a technology bus," Millhouse said. "We're calling it the 4-H Mobile Classroom now because we want it to be something that offers a variety of learning opportunities. We're giving these students an opportunity to see themselves in spaces they might not have thought were accessible to them. And that's what this is all about – opening doors and inspiring a

(4-H Mobile continued on page 15B)



Above: The 4-H Mobile Classroom is led by Christy Millhouse, a STEM educator with Ohio 4-H. Millhouse and the bus make stops at 30 counties in Ohio each year. (Doug Graves photo)

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ONLINE AUCTION ENDS OCTOBER 13

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LOCATION: JUST 3 MILES S OF CORYDON OR 12 MILES N OF BRANDENBURG KY!
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INSPECTION: Mon. Oct. 20, 3-5 PM (call for private appointment/showing)

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WHEEL LOADER/FORKLIFTS/SKID STEER: JD 544GTC ARTICULATED WHEEL LOADER, 120HP, CAB/HEAT, 98" BUCKET/JRB 98" PALLET FORKS; CASE 586E 4X4 ROUGH-TERRAIN FORKLIFT, HRS: 3822 (ACTUAL), ROPS, NEW TIRES (NICE); CASE 1845C SKID STEER, OPEN, NO FLAT RUBBER, AUX HYD; CLARK C30 LP FORKLIFT; KOMATSU 18 LP FORKLIFT **NEW A&I TRACTOR PARTS (\$100K+ COST):** MASSIVE AMOUNT OF NEW TRACTOR PARTS (IH, JD, MF, AC, FORD, NEW HOLLAND, ETC); (75) IT MANUALS; TRACTOR TUBES; SEATS; 3-PT HITCH PARTS; FRONT END PARTS; WATER PUMPS; ELECTRICAL; FILTERS; STARTERS; ALTERNATORS; TIE RODS; BEARING/SEAL KITS; BRAKE PARTS; RING GEARS; IMPLEMENT PARTS; PTO SHAFTS; EMBLEMS; BELTS; CARBS; GOVERNORS; ETC.....ROWS & ROWS ALL SORTED & LABELED! **PARTS SHELVEING & OFFICE ITEMS:** 185' OF DOUBLE SIDED 8'H PARTS SHELVEING WITH END DISPLAYS; QUALITY METAL SHELVES; PALLET RACK SHELVEING; GASKET CABINET; (5) HEAVY MOBILE SHELVEING UNITS; SHIPPING RELATED ITEMS; WORKTABLES; OFFICE FURNITURE **USED TRACTOR PARTS:** 50+ ENGINE HEADS; SEVERAL PALLETS OF ENGINE BLOCKS & RELATED ITEMS **SHOP EQUIPMENT:** QUINCY 5HP 80GAL 2-STAGE AIR COMPRESSOR; NA ROTARY 5HP PHASE CONVERTER; DAKE 50-TON SHOP PRESS; HUNTER TCX535 TIRE CHANGER; HUNTER DSP9600 WHEEL BALANCER; OTC ENGINE STAND; INDEX 860 VERTICAL MILL, PH-1; SOUND BEND CL145C METAL LATHE, PH-1; SKAT-BLAST BLAST CABINET; INFRA-RED SHOP HEATER; LAWSON HARDWARE BOLT BINS; STEEL WORK BENCHES; ADJ HEIGHT WORKTABLES; DIGITAL SHOP SCALES; METAL SCRAP **SHOP TOOLS:** PETER WRIGHT 157 LB ANVIL; REED MFG 406P 6" VISE; EARLY PRENTISS VISE; BRIDGE ANVIL; (3) LEG-STYLE VISES; SOCKET SETS; WRENCHES; HAND TOOLS; POWER TOOLS; MAGNAFLUX TESTER; GEAR PULLERS; PIPE WRENCHES; BOLT CUTTERS; LADDERS; BATTERY CHARGERS; LONG-HANDLED TOOLS; PRY BARS; TOOL BOXES; LOG CHAINS/BINDERS; TORCH KITS; FLOOR JACKS; HUSQVARNA 130BT BACKPACK BLOWER; TROY-BILT HORSE TILLER

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Internships applications available through American Angus Association

The American Angus Association is accepting internship applications. Internships are offered in several departments and provide opportunities for growth in a student's chosen field during the 10-week summer program. Students will be immersed in a fast-paced, professional environment and work side-by-side with experts at the forefront of the cattle industry

"This internship has been so impactful to my career journey," reflected Cassidy Strommen, 2025 Angus Media Digital Marketing Intern. "I was able to sharpen a variety of practical marketing skills and help Angus producers promote their operations while learning from a supportive and encouraging team."

Interns will be based out of St. Joseph, Missouri; some positions offer opportunities to travel. Students who are interested in growth and networking opportunities, have a good attitude and are willing to jump into new and challenging situations for hands-on experience should apply at angus.org/careers by Nov. 12 to be considered.

The following internships are available.

Angus MediaSM – Digital Marketing: This position will provide valuable experience in email marketing, graphic design, digital advertising, social media content creation and data analytics. The intern will work alongside an experienced team to develop skills and contribute to real cattle producers' marketing campaigns and success. Applicants should demonstrate an excitement and passion for Association work and the cattle industry. Previous management or oversight of business social media accounts is preferred.

Angus MediaSM – Publications: This writing-intensive opportunity offers the chance to join a multi-media effort, which includes the Angus Journal print publication and the AJ Daily electronic newsletter, as well as the Angus Journal's website and social media presence. The internship can be tailored to the intern's strengths, but many duties can be anticipated, including traveling to industry events. Experience in news and feature writing, editing and photography are strongly suggested.

Communications: From print writing to graphic design, photography, and video, the communications intern will gain multi-faceted agricul-

tural communications experience to enhance their marketability as a young professional. The communications intern will help with the promotion and coverage of one of the Association's biggest events, the National Junior Angus Show, and will travel with the team to the event. Applicants should have strong writing and design skills and have completed coursework in news and feature writing, editing and design. Experience in photography, video and social media are preferred.

Events & Junior Activities: The intern will assist in planning and executing youth events hosted by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), including preparation, correspondence and coordination for shows and events. Applicants should be self-starters, detail-oriented and outgoing with the ability to work well with others. Livestock and event planning experience is preferred, but not required. Travel to the 2026 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference and other events is expected.

Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI®): Students pursuing their master's degree or Ph.D. in animal breeding and genetics are encouraged to apply for the AGI summer internship. The intern will have the opportunity to work with the world's largest single beef breed genomic databases, conducting research on economically relevant traits in beef cattle. The internship will focus on research that involves data analysis. Candidates should have experience in analyzing animal breeding data sets and genomic data.

If students prefer to spend their summer on the ranch, the Angus Foundation is accepting applications for the Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program internship. The Talon internship program provides college-aged students the unique opportunity to spend their summer on an Angus operation. Interns gain extensive ranching knowledge while enhancing their skills as advocates for the beef industry. Students interested in participating in the program can learn more at <https://www.angus.org/foundation/our-mission/youth/talon-youth>. Deadline is also Nov. 12 through angus.org/careers.

LAND AUCTION

AUCTION CAST

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52 ACRES +/-

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AUCTION LOCATION: ONLINE AT LANDPROZ.COM OR IN-PERSON AT THE JOHN H. MILLER COMMUNITY CENTER 2900 NORTH PARK ROAD, CONNERSVILLE, IN



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Pick up a brochure and walk the land at your leisure. Private showings are available through Andy White, 419-651-2152.

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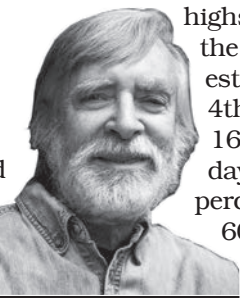
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Less precipitation falls in the lower Midwest in October than any other time

'Tis the noon of autumn's glow,
When a soft and purple mist,
Like a vaporous amethyst,
Or an air-dissolved star,
Mingling light and fragrance, far
From the curved horizon's bound
To the point of heaven's pro-
found,
Fills the overflowing sky. – Percy Bysshe Shelley



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK
By Bill Felker

The Moon in October

The Moon is full Oct. 7
The Moon enters its final quarter Oct. 14
The Moon is new Oct. 22
The Moon enters its second quarter Oct. 29

The Morning and Evening Stars of October

Venus in Virgo and Mars in Libra are the morning stars. They remain in the daytime sky until evening when they can be seen as the evening stars. Jupiter in Gemini follows Orion across the sky, appearing in the east before dawn.

Meteors in October

The Orionid Meteor Shower will occur in and around Orion in the early morning of Oct. 20-21.

The Weather in the Week Ahead

Light frost strikes 10 to 20 percent of all the nights this week, with Oct. 3 most likely to bring a damaging freeze in the 20s (a 5 percent chance of that). Highs in the 80s occur approximately 10 percent of the days, and 70s can be expected 30 percent of the time. Moderate 60s dominate 50 percent of the afternoons, while colder 40s and 50s come 15 to 20 percent of the time.

The October Outlook

The average number of major cold waves increases to seven this month in the Lower Midwest. There are typically only four to five in September, just three or four in August. These fronts bring an occasional day when the thermometer reads only in the 30s; three or four days stay in the 40s; at least a week of afternoons are in the 50s, another seven in the 60s, another seven in the 70s, and two to four in the 80s. Normal highs drop 14 to 15 degrees, slipping from the lower 70s into the upper 50s. Average lows move from about 50 all the way down to the upper 30s. The warmest October days, those with at least a 30 percent chance of

highs above 70 degrees, are the 1st (typically the warmest day in October), 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th and 31st. The coldest days, those with at least a 50 percent chance of highs below 60 degrees, are the 20th, 22nd, 25th, 27th, 28th and 29th.

Frost occurs at least twice in a southern Ohio in October; and it usually strikes six nights in the next 30 (and it occurs one night out of every two in the coldest years). The early mornings on which frost is most likely to occur are those of the 13th, 16th, 19th, 20th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 29th.

October is the peak of the dry season in the Lower Midwest. Less precipitation falls at this time of year than at any other, and the skies offer more sun than clouds. There are typically 11 completely clear days in October, eight partly cloudy, and 12 mostly cloudy or fully overcast.

The driest October days, those with only a 15 percent chance of rain, are the 26th, 28th and 29th. The sunniest October days, those with at least a 75 percent chance of sun, are the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th. October's sunniest day of all is the 15th.

The rainiest October days, those with at least a 35 percent chance of precipitation, are the 1st, 4th, 10th, 12th (the wettest day of the month), 13th, 16th, 17th, 22nd and 23rd. Light snow falls between the 12th and the 31st two years in 10.

Approximate Sequence of Leaf Turn and Leaf Drop in Early, Middle and Late Autumn:

Aug. 10: Black walnut trees have started to shed, and black walnuts begin to fall in large numbers. Leaves often begin to yellow on cottonwoods, locusts, box elders, spicebush and crabapples.

Aug. 20: Orange patches have appeared on a few Judas maples. Many locusts are brown from leaf miners. Buckeyes can be half yellow. The earliest ash trees blush.

Aug. 30: Some catalpa and black walnut trees have lost most of their leaves.

Sept. 5: Cottonwoods fade more dramatically as goldenrod and the soybean fields turn gold.

Sept. 10: Silver olive foliage has

(Poor continued on page 19B)

IMPORTANT LAND AUCTION

Thursday, October 23 • 6pm



343[±] acres

Offered in 6 Tracts, Combinations & as a Whole

- Quality Tillable Bottomland • Numerous Fenced Fields & Good Pasture • Mature Timber • Multiple Outbuildings • Existing Trail System

AUCTION LOCATION: Pike County Senior Center, 402 Clough St, Waverly, OH 45690
PROPERTY LOCATION: Near 2262 SR 220, Piketon, OH, 45661

INSPECTION DATES: Thu, Sep. 25 from 3-5pm & Thu, Oct. 9 from 3-5pm
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SELLER: James A. Teeters Et Al & Larry Allen Teeters Et Al
AUCTION MANAGERS: Travis B. Kelley • 740.572.1525 #SAL.2008003813
Thomas G. Brewster • 740.357.0325, Brewster Real Estate & Auction Co. LLC
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MOORELAND, IN
HENRY CO.

Eastern
Indiana
Land

115[±] acres
Offered in 4 Tracts

Thursday, October 23rd • 6 pm

PROPERTY LOCATION:
6352 E. County Rd. 600 North,
MOORELAND, IN 47360

AUCTION LOCATION:
W.G. Smith Auditorium,
Henry Co. Memorial Park.
2221 N. Memorial Drive,
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INSPECTION DATES:
Thursday, October 2nd
9 AM - 11 AM
Wednesday, October 8th
5 PM - 7 PM
Thursday, October 16th
9 AM - 11 AM

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OWNER: Jones Locust Grove Farm, LLC • SALE MANAGER: Andy Walther: 765-969-0401

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126
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RETREAT

THURSDAY, OCT. 30 • 6 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Held at the offices of Wilson National LLC, 8845 State Route 124, Hillsboro, OH.
FARM LOCATION: 9677 Grabill Road, New Vienna, OH. 6.5 miles N. of Hillsboro, OH, 5.5 miles S. of New Vienna, OH off Rt. 73 to Roundhead Road to Grabill Road. (Watch for signs)

RECREATIONAL PARADISE

Abundant wildlife on gently rolling terrain with 45 acres tillable and 81 acres wooded. Lots of trails and camping sites. Plenty of cover and water supplied by creek. All secluded back lane off a township road.

PREVIEW: SATURDAYS, OCTOBER 11 & 25
FROM 10 A.M. TO 12 NOON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 FROM 4 TO 6 P.M.
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AUCTION

Personal Property

LOCATION: 2707 Hursh Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46845
• Catalogs & Absentee Bid Forms Available •

Lots Start Closing at 6 PM Thursday, October 9th

- ANTIQUES • HOUSEHOLD • COLLECTIBLES • LONG RIFLES
- HUNTING RELATED • INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT • SHOP/LAWN & GARDEN • SUZUKI MINI TRUCK • TRAILER • ELECTRIC BIKE



Preview:
Wednesday,
October 8th
4:30-6pm

SELLER(S): Kenneth Aikins Estate • AUCTION MANAGER: Phil Wolfe, 260-248-1191

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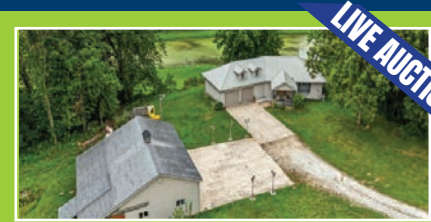
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Metzger

Featured

Auction Calendar

www.BidMetzger.com



Country Home, Barn & Pond
Saturday, October 4, 2025
Rochester, IN



Tools. RC Planes, Antiques
Saturday, October 4, 2025
Rochester, IN



Oil & Gas Bulk Plant
Wednesday, October 8, 2025
1431 Kocher St., Huntington, IN



Weekly Overstock Auctions!
Warsaw, Sidney, Huntington
Churubusco & More!



Manager: John Burnau 574.376.5340
7 Ac. Riverfront & Home
Wednesday, October 8, 2025
10113 W. US 12, White Pigeon, MI



Pro Wake Inventory Reduction
Wednesday, October 8, 2025
4780 N. State Road 13, Leesburg, IN



Manager: John Burnau 574.376.5340
40 Acres of Recreational Land
Thursday, October 9, 2025
S. 525 E., Pierceton, IN



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



Uranium Glass Collection
Monday, October 13, 2025
1582 SR 114, N. Manchester, IN



Ranch Home, Garage, Sunroom
Tuesday, October 14, 2025
1307 Oriole Dr., Warsaw, IN



Manager: Tiff Reimer 260-571-7910
Man. Home & Garage
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
105 Timothy Ave., Peru, IN



Antiques, Primitives, Advertising
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Walkerton, IN



Manager: John Burnau 574.376.5340
Executive Home on 9 Ac.
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
1501 Fisher Ave., Warsaw, IN



18 Acres with Off-Grid Cabin
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
1595 N. 600 E., Lagro, IN



Manager: Dodie Hart - 260-463-1717
Absolute Home & Pole Barn
Wednesday, October 22, 2025
939 Adolph Rd, Union City, MI



Manager: Dodie Hart - 260-463-1717
Solar Panels, Tools, Antiques
Wednesday, October 22, 2025
Union City, MI



4100 SF Commercial Building
Thursday, October 23, 2025
3437 Broadway, Fort Wayne, IN



Fleet Vehicle, Contract & Equip.
Tuesday, October 28th, 2025
1582 W. SR 114, N. Manchester, IN

ONLINE ONLY ANTIQUE

AUCTION

Oct. 16 6:30 pm
Walkerton, IN

AC31300015

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Online Uranium Glass Collection

AUCTION

Oct. 13

N. Manchester, IN

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Bells - Marbles - Fenton, Carnival,
Depression, Westmoreland,
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Justin Nicodemus, Churubusco, IN 260-246-3778
- Brent Ruckman, Larwill, IN 260-609-2155

Dustin Dillon, Warsaw, I N574-265-9215

Dodie Lambright Hart, Howe 260-463-1717

The U.S. dairy herd is now the largest since 1993 report says

U.S. bulk tanks are bulging thanks to added cows and increased output per cow, as the industry met in Madison for World Dairy Expo Sept. 30-Oct. 3.

The USDA's latest data pegged August output at 19.52 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from August 2024, the eighth consecutive month of gain. The 24 state total, at 18.77 billion, was up 3.3 percent.

July production in the 50 states was revised up a whopping 140 million pounds to 19.7 billion, up 4.2 percent, instead of the 3.4 percent originally reported. The 24 state total was revised up 139 million pounds to 18.95 billion, up 4.3 percent, instead of 3.5 percent.

Cow numbers totaled 9.520 million, up 10,000 head from July, and 176,000 or 1.9 percent more than a year ago. The July count was revised up 25,000 head. The 24 state head count, at 9.075 million, was up 7,000 from July, and 172,000 or 1.9 percent above a year ago. The July count was revised, up 28,000 head. The U.S. dairy herd is the largest since 1993, according to the Daily Dairy Report.

Output per cow averaged 2,050 pounds, up 27 pounds or 1.3 percent from a year ago in the 50 states and averaged 2068 pounds in the top 24, up 28 pounds or 1.4 percent. Revisions added 10 pounds to July's national average and 9 pounds in the 24 states.

StoneX points out that August fat and protein content was also up from last year, meaning component adjusted growth was up 4.8 percent. It adds that the July revisions means component-adjusted milk production was up 5.5 percent. That's a lot of milk just in the U.S., plus global production has grown 2.5-3 percent over the last four months.

Western United Dairies weekly newsletter reported that, while Northern California remains free of detections of bird flu, 75 dairies statewide are currently under quarantine, with 31 facing their first-ever cases. Researchers now consider the virus endemic and calls are for the USDA to fast-track a dairy cow vaccine.

Meanwhile, dairy cow culling remains about 6 percent behind year ago levels. The USDA's weekly slaughter report showed 47,500 head were sent to slaughter in the week ending Sept. 6, down 4,700 from the previous week, and 200 head or 0.4 percent below a year ago. Year to date, 1,785,100 cows had been culled,

down 109,000 head or 5.8 percent from a year ago.

Increasing milk production increases the importance of exports. China could be a bigger player but unfortunately, it's not. Part of the problem is trade issues and dairy is not the only one affected. Reuters reports that China has bypassed U.S. soybeans for product from Argentina. That's due in large part to tariffs.

China's latest dairy import data shows that, on a 30-day adjusted basis, August skim milk powder imports printed the smallest volume since October 2016, according to HighGround Dairy, down 38.7 percent from a year ago, while whole milk powder imports were up 55.2 percent. Australia had the biggest market share, followed by Poland and Italy. Very little skim milk powder comes from the U.S. these days.

HighGround says Chinese skim milk powder ending stocks in July sat at 54,100 metric tons, nearly double the level recorded in July 2024. "Domestic SMP production ramped up quickly since the start of 2025, peaking in June at 4,500MT. With more internal production and improved inventory levels it is not surprising imports in August languished," says HGD.

On a brighter note: China's whey imports hit 145.3 million pounds, up 4.8 percent, a 30-month high, according to the Sept. 23 Daily Dairy Report. The DDR stated: "Amid a pause in the trade war, the United States accounted for slightly more than half of China's dry whey imports in August, with U.S. shipments up 31.1 percent year over year. The United States and China remain on polite terms, for now, after President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping reached an agreement to place a version of TikTok under US owners."

August cheese imports totaled 27.2 million pounds, down 12.2 percent, largest year-on-year decline since November 2024, according to HGD.

Butter imports amounted to 9.3 million pounds, down 26.8 percent, lowest monthly volume on a 30-day adjusted basis since September 2020, says HGD. "Although U.S. butter prices have maintained a significant discount to European and New Zealand product since the start of the year, trade tensions with the U.S. deter Chinese buyers who opted instead to

pick up more product from Belgium and the Netherlands."

As I reported last week, the Fed lowered interest rates by .25 points citing an uptick in unemployment. However, StoneX stated in its Sept. 23 Early Morning Update: "If inflation is not under control (it has not gotten down to their 2 percent mandated target since April 2019) then that could become the greater issue in their dual-mandate." That comes, even as the country faces a possible government shutdown after Sept. 30.

Checking prices: cash 40-pound block Cheddar fell to \$1.61 per pound Monday, lowest CME price since June 24. It climbed to \$1.64 Wednesday but was trading Thursday morning at \$1.6375, following its Friday finish at \$1.65, as traders anticipated Friday afternoon's August Cold Storage report.

The 500-pound barrels dipped to \$1.61 per pound Wednesday, lowest since March 21, but they managed to climb back to \$1.6450 Wednesday and stayed there Thursday, after closing Friday at \$1.64.

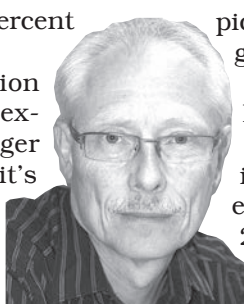
Milk production is steady to higher in the Central region, according to Dairy Market News. Contacts in the Southwest say warm weather is keeping output steady, while others in the Midwest report cooler temperatures are having a positive impact on production. Spot Class III milk is becoming more available, though some cheesemakers say they are already running full schedules and are not purchasing any extra. Prices

mid-week were down from last week, ranging from \$1-under to flat Class. Cheese production is steady in the Central region. Domestic cheese demand is steady while international sales remain strong.

Cheese manufacturers in the West report that milk is available despite seasonal bottling demands. Cheese production is steady to stronger. Domestic cheese demand is steady while export demand is steady to strong. Some say that export demand is helping to keep somewhat of a floor on domestic prices despite more competitiveness among international sellers. CME cheese prices topped Wednesday's butter price for the first time since 2021.

Butter's meltdown continued this week but paused Thursday after dipping to \$1.62 per pound Wednesday, lowest CME price since Aug. 4, 2021. It regained 2 cents Thursday, hitting \$1.64, after finishing Friday at \$1.75. Global buyers are reportedly backing off, waiting to see how low this price will go.

Milk output is steady to higher in the Central region, says DMN, and contacts say production and components are up from a year ago, leaving plenty of cream available. Cream demand is steady to lighter. Butter makers are running busy production, but some are exclusively using internal cream and are not in the market for more. Domestic butter demand is steady to lighter while export interest remains strong. Inventories of 82 percent butterfat butter for export are tight, but domestic 80 percent butterfat inventories are available, according to DMN.



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke



AUCTIONS

PREBLE COUNTY, OH: OCTOBER 14 (LIVE) 262.82+/- Acres
5 Tracts • Tillable Farmland • Woods • Building Lots

Contact: H. John Kramer: 937.533.1101 or Craig Springmier: 937.533.7126

RANDOLPH COUNTY, IN: OCTOBER 16 (ONLINE)
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Profitable • Well-Maintained • Recreation • Event Space

Contact: Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359

CASS COUNTY, IN: OCTOBER 20 (ONLINE) 31.8+/- Acres
2 Tracts • Productive Tillable Farmland Contact: Larry Jordan:
765.473.5849, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Emma Barr: 260.494.0992 or
Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170

CLINTON CO, OH: OCTOBER 22 (ONLINE) 72.983+/- Acres
High % Tillable Farmland • Productive Soils

Contact: Robert McNamara: 614.309.6551

NEW! PREBLE COUNTY, OH: OCTOBER 28 (LIVE)
278.9+/- Acres • 3 Tracts • Productive Farmland • CRP
Contact: Craig Springmier: 937.533.7126 or H. John Kramer: 937.533.1101

NEW! CARROLL COUNTY, IN: OCTOBER 29 (ONLINE)
54+/- Acres • High Quality Tillable Farmland
Contact: AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849,
Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170 or Emma Barr: 260.494.0992

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AUCTION

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Breeding cattle for 109 years. Absolute auction, all sells to the highest bidder on location: 45555 SR 303, Wellington, OH 44090. Directions: Take SR 58 north of Wellington, OH or south of Amherst to SR 303 and just east to the farm. Watch for KIKO signs.

Saturday, October 11, 2025, 10:00 AM

Note: Jaloda Farms has been breeding cattle for 109 years, classify since 1966, PBR herd for 9 years; PGHA for 34 years and have bred 3 gold medal dams and 28 dams of merit. Some sires include Hulu, Figaro, Hinge, Tropic, Dropbox, Pazzle, Parfert and others. They breed for type, components, and good udders. One of the nicest families in the registered business. Make plans to attend. Lunch available. Go to kikoauctions.com or Dairy Agenda Today for cow catalog.

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Auctioneer/Realtor: Randall L. Kiko, 330.831.0174, randallkiko@kikocompany.com

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Information believed accurate but not warranted.



Above: Family members wait to board the 4-H Mobile Classroom during a recent visit to Jackson, Ohio. (Corey Wilson photo)

4-H Mobile

FROM PAGE 10B

love of learning.”

At this year’s Farm Science Review, the 4-H Mobile Classroom was also set up to teach the students about stop-motion videos. Students were able to produce their own video using small inanimate characters and putting them into action by making a stop-motion video. The bus was filled with tablets, smart boards and plenty of digital media to help them with this project.

Just outside the mobile classroom, students were challenged to use a CAD-designed project to navigate four-inch spheres through a maze using tablets that were programmed these spheres.

“The activity was to show students how farmers do some of their planting using GPS,” Millhouse said.

For more information about the 4-H Mobile Classroom, contact Millhouse at millhouse.10@osu.edu.



Above: The 4-H Mobile Classroom is equipped with such tools as iPads and coding software. (Doug Graves photo)

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Auction for Beaver Brook Nursery

Online Auction

Starts: Mon Oct 13 2025 9:00 AM

Ends: Thu Oct 16 2025 6:00 PM



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• All selling options at the discretion of the auctioneer.
• All announcements made auction day supersede prior advertising
Any purchases in the ground or on the premises of the owner, after removal dates, revert back to the seller or owner.

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Productive Irrigated Land

October 30th 6 PM CT

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Or Bid Online at: Bid.KraftAuctions.com

Located approx: 81 E 1050 S Kouts, IN

VIEW/BID

Open House October 16th 1:00–3:00 PM

Jonathan Kraft (219) 973-9240 Kelsey Koehler (219) 608-4341

Tract 1

Tract 2

Tract 3

PUBLIC AUCTION

William & Barb Clark are selling their home and downsizing. They will offer for sale the following items:

3319 S County Road 825 E,
FILLMORE, IN 46128
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Antiques & Collectables: Coleman lantern, Hand crank drill press, Marbles, Ammo box, Clocks, Decanter, Approx. 75 Knives: Kershaw, Buck, Gerber, Marbles, Vallor, Western, Camillus, Smith & Wesson, **Household & Misc:** Dining table & chairs, Window table, End tables, Foosball table, Patio table & chairs, Porch swing, 4 Pc Patio set, Gun rack, Smoker, **Tools:** Ext. ladder, Roll around tool box, Socket sets, Power tools, Log chains, Alum. ramps, Sump pump, Hose reel, 12 Ton press, Organizer, Band meat saw, Kennedy tool box, Metal shelves, Miter saw, 6' Step ladder, Vise, Drill press, Electric hoist, Work bench, Dewalt (Shop vac 20v, Leaf blower 20v, Chain saw 20v), Long & short handled tools, Sporting, **Hunting & Fishing:** Walther LG 45 cal. US mod .55, Gun cases, Golf clubs & bags, Antlers, Rifle stands, Hunting stools, Ice fishing poles, Blinds, Tackle boxes, Turkey calls, Bass mounts, Fishing lures, Arrows, Scopes & optics, (Fire Field, Real tree, Barnett), Fishing reels, Buck mounts, **Tractor, UTV, Zero turn, Boat & Lawn & Garden:** JD 950 tractor w/loader, 220 Kawasaki XC 4X4 mule 128hrs, Dixie chopper 74" cut zero turn mower, 5' 3Ph bush hog, Game fisher 16' V-bottom alum. boat & trailer, Riding mower, Single axle 8' trailer, Trailer w/sprayer, Paddle boat, Snow blower, JD yard cart, Weed eaters, Chain saws, JD roller, 3 Ph 6' grader blade, 3ph 6' finish mower, Leaf blower, Generator, Pressure washers,

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Kentucky father-son duo receives conservation top honors

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

FRANKFORT, Ky. – It's called the Leopold Conservation Award and this annual honor goes to farmers, ranchers and forestland owners who go above and beyond in the management of soil health, water quality and wildlife habitat on working land.

This year's award went to Randy and John Seymour, a father-son team who own Riders Mill Farms and Roundstone Native Seed (RNS) LLC in Upton, Ky. The Hart County farmers were presented with the \$10,000 award at the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts' Annual Convention on Aug. 5.

"Some of the world's best conservationists are farmers," Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell said in a release. "This award is given to those who show the great stewardship for our agricultural lands. Randy and John not only showed an enthusiasm for conservation and restoration, but a passion for restoring our lands with native seeds. It is this dedication and forethought that will inspire and help generations of farmers to come."

Their land was once home to tobacco fields, overgrown forests and limestone outcroppings. The ravaged land was gullied and stripped of soil nutrients. Quality timber had been selectively stripped. Neglect had left the area ecologically damaged.

The father-son duo had first intentions of raising beef cattle, growing tobacco, perhaps some row crops, and pursuing timber production on land where others had struggled to make a living in remote northwest Hart County. Their goal was to work the land, give it new life, and create something positive on what was once ignored property.

Mission accomplished, as the Seymours spent 40 years piecing together 28 parcels contoured with rolling hills, narrow valleys and sandstone capped ridge tops into a 2,150-acre tract called Riders Mill Farms.

"Pre-settlement, this land was pretty savanna, with wildflowers and an abundance of native plants," Randy said. "We simply saw this land as an opportunity to restore it."

Native plants and the seeds they produce caught their attention immediately.

Abundant remnants of native grass, legumes and wildflowers indicated the site would be ideal for their production. A survey of the farm's flora found over 900 species. Each was collected, mounted, labeled and included in an on-site herbarium for public study.

But first, the Seymours dug 16 ponds to water cattle and protect the water quality of Roundstone Creek. Fences were built to protect the forest from cattle, and soil conditions were improved. They invested resources to control invasive species and repair severe erosion, and manage woodlands for timber production with the assistance of the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

The Seymours were intrigued by pro-

tecting rare and threatened plant species and creating habitat for diverse and abundant wildlife populations. By prioritizing their farm's diverse flora and fauna they saw an opportunity to diversify their income stream. And that was fine with Randy, who has a strong background in botany.

Out of all this, RNS was established to specialize in growing seeds native to an economically distinct region. With more than 340 species in their seed catalog, the business helps other landowners establish native plants that reduce erosion, build soil health, and improve water quality.

"Remember, our original goal in coming here in the first place was to raise cattle and tobacco," Randy said. "It wasn't an easy transition and many even laughed at us."

Now, seeds are at the forefront of their income. A large demand comes from agencies and organizations that collect seeds from their own properties and send them to RNS to be cleaned and conditioned. RNS coordinates with other area landowners to grow seed under contract. In addition to native seeds, Randy and John grow an average of 500 acres of soybeans and oats each year.

Riders Mill Farms contains a cave that serves as a maternity site for 36,000 gray bats, a federally listed endangered species. The Seymours vigorously protect the cave, allowing only biologists from April through October.

The Seymours have an agreement with Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife to provide public fishing access along a half mile of Roundstone Creek, which the agency stocks with trout. They also host long-term studies of reptiles and amphibians in collaboration with conservation organizations and universities.

More than 100 acres have been restored as oak savanna at the farm, which has served as a release site with habitat for Ruffed Grouse. The Seymours also partnered with neighbors to provide a 5,000-acre protection zone for turkey.

In 2024, they hosted an event with the University of Kentucky that attracted more than 100 forestland owners interested in conservation.

Sand County Foundation and national sponsor American Farmland Trust present Leopold Conservation Awards in 28 states. An independent panel of agriculture and conservation leaders evaluates applications for the award. The award is given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold.

Right: Leopold Winners – Randy Seymour (left) and his son, John, were recipients of the Leopold Conservation Award, presented to the farmer, rancher or forestland owner who excels in the management of soil, water quality and wildlife habitat. They reside in Upton, Ky. (Photo submitted)



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Above: Members of Northern Illinois Vintage Tractor Equipment Association (NIVTA) line up for an August tractor ride.

Questions show public has a lot to learn about farming

The Rockford, Ill., YMCA Retired Men’s Club asked me to speak about agriculture. This is a highly educated, active, and healthy group with no connections to agriculture – just curiosity.

None had an understanding of precision farming or any of the modern developments. As consumers, they wondered about rising food costs. As taxpayers, they wondered about farm support programs.

Their questions were sincere, not skeptical. Their misunderstanding of corporate farms indicates that the national public media doesn’t understand it either. Press coverage of modern farming leaves much to be desired.

I urge you to take any opportunity to speak to non-farm groups. They too have a lot at stake as consumers and taxpayers. They will support you better if they understand your problems.

ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM

row, you must turn on the GPS.”

Trator rides – a rainbow of colors

Some recent tractor models are autonomous, but not if they are on a tractor ride. These events are usually organized by tractor clubs, and members bring their favorite older tractor. Many have owned them for a long time. Some date back to grandparents. Seldom are there cabs or air conditioners. The goal is social, with a planned schedule.

Northern Illinois Vintage Tractor Equipment Association (NIVTEA) stages three rides annually. Every ride is different, with specific locations in mind. This August, the starting place was the Boone County Fairgrounds. Twenty tractors traveled to Todd Aves dairy farm, then on to the Travis dairy operation to watch the new robotic system milking 115 cows. The ride ended at Wild Cherries for lunch.

It’s probably safe to predict that older open-station tractors will continue to be the choice for tractor rides for years to come.

Case IH history timeline (courtesy Harvester Highlights):

1985 - Legacies of J.I. Case and Cyrus McCormick unite to become one brand: Case IH, becoming the second-largest farm equipment manufacturer.

1986 - Steiger Tractor becomes part of Case IH. In 1988, the first red Case IH Steiger was produced. Green Steigers continued to be produced until 1989. Case now labels its largest, most powerful tractor models as “Steigers.”

1996 - Case IH introduces Steiger Quadtrac.

2014 - The Case IH Steiger tractor is voted “Machine of the Year XXL 2014” at Agritechnica in Hanover, Germany.

2017 - Case IH, through its family of brands, celebrates 175 years in the agriculture equipment business.

Questions about CNH from readers

CNH Industrial N.V. is an Italian-American multinational corporation with global headquarters in Basildon, United Kingdom. The four separate entities are Case IH, New Holland Agricultural, New Holland Construction and Case Construction. In 2024, employment was 35,850. Steyr is an Austrian manufacturer of tractors and is also part of CNH.

The new world of digital agriculture

Former U.S. Farm Bureau Chief Charles Schulman was quoted as saying, “To plow a straight furrow, you must look ahead.” Retired University of Illinois President Bob Easter suggests a newer version: “To plow a straight fur-

Today’s advice

You do not need a parachute to go skydiving. You do need a parachute to go skydiving twice.

Paul Wallem was raised on an Illinois dairy farm. He spent 13 years with corporate IH in domestic and foreign assignments. He resigned 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 at paulwallem.com. Send comments to pwallem@aol.com

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TRACT 4: 9.13[±] ACRES
TRACT 5: 12.4[±] ACRES

INFB hires Katie Nelson as executive director of public policy

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS – As the Indiana Farm Bureau’s (INFB) new executive director of public policy, Katie Nelson said it’s her job to manage the public policy team that organizes and implements the policy priorities of the organization’s members.

Nelson said the organization is in the process of determining those policy priorities for next year. INFB creates its public policies beginning at the grassroots level in the state’s 92 counties.

“I think our 2025 priorities of taxes and water will continue being priorities moving into the next year, but following our delegate session that just wrapped up in August, our team has been crafting the policy priorities that were most prominent in the discussions our members had to then present to our board of directors for approval,” she said. “After that, we’ll finalize our strategy to advocate for agriculture in 2026.”

While her team’s lobbyists push through state legislation, on-the-ground teams assist individual farmers with local concerns, noted Nelson, who started her role at INFB in August. Staff, leadership and volunteer members also advocate in Washington, D.C., to make sure federal policy favors farmers and agriculture, she said.

“The respect that INFB grassroots



Katie Nelson

have at the Statehouse is so essential to getting anything done in legislation,” Nelson explained. “We know that when there are questions or issues that impact agriculture, our elected officials will come to INFB for advice on how to move forward. We don’t take that responsibility lightly and we’re grateful to have a pretty ag-friendly legislature here in Indiana.”

She replaced Andy Tauer, who left for a vice president position with the

National Pork Board.

Nelson most recently served as deputy director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA). She was previously program manager for policy and regulatory affairs, and legislative affairs director. Nelson joined ISDA in 2017.

A lot of what she was responsible for at ISDA is similar to what she’ll be doing at INFB, Nelson pointed out. The priorities of both organizations go hand in hand, Nelson said, adding she’s excited to have a more focused role in managing the public policy initiatives for the largest general agriculture organization in the state.

“Through my role at ISDA, I had always maintained great relationships with INFB staff since we worked together on a lot of issues impacting Hoosier farmers throughout the year, so joining the organization in this role has felt very natural,” she said.

Nelson grew up on a fifth-generation corn, soybean and beef cattle farm in Missouri. She said she also always had an interest in politics and government.

While in college, she interned with the Missouri House of Representatives, where she had “a front row seat to legislators setting policy that would ultimately affect farmers like

my dad and grandpa. It was sort of a light bulb moment when I realized I could pair an industry I’m passionate about with my interest in government.”

Nelson has a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Missouri.

She said her experience on the farm helps her relate to INFB members and provide valuable context to lawmakers as they make policy decisions. Her grandfather and great grandfather were county farm bureau presidents in Montgomery County, Mo.

“Farmers face more and more challenges to their livelihoods every day that it’s hard to even keep up,” Nelson said. “Indiana Farm Bureau members know that the priorities we focus on at the local, state and national levels are voted on by all 92 of our counties, so they can rest assured we’re advocating for the issues that are most important to them.

“As the average person gets farther and farther away from the farm, it becomes increasingly important that our members have a voice in the policies that impact them. We truly are a member-led organization, and I’m proud to be a part of the future of farm bureau.”

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Poor Will

FROM PAGE 12B

streaks of ocher.
Sept. 20: Ashes start their autumn transformation, some becoming maroon, others gold. (After the die-off of the early 21st century, ash-turn is no longer a marker for autumn in many locations.)

Sept. 25: Black walnut trees are completely bare. Crab apples and hackberries are thinning. Color spreads across the red maples. Blush appears on the sweet gums. Box elders are shedding.

Oct. 1: Enough leaves have fallen from the canopy to reveal the deep red of the Virginia creeper on branches and fences. Amber hickories blend with the ashes. White birch leaves show gilded edges.

Oct. 5: Orange maples, yellow sumacs, hickories, redbuds and red oaks have now joined the ashes and cottonwoods to give a full sense of autumn to the landscape. The burning bush is deep scarlet. Beeches are flushed for their November change. The late fields of goldenrod, the dry corn, and the rusting soybeans complete the fall scenario.

Oct. 10: Peak leafturn is starting to occur in woodlots where maples, ashes, buckeyes, wild cherry and locusts predominate. Most Osage are yellow now, a few ginkgoes starting. Cottonwoods and the rest of the box elders lose their leaves, and more holes open in the tree line. Fencerows are shedding their Virginia creeper. Grape vines hold on yellow-green.

Oct. 15: Witch hazel, the last of the flowering shrubs, opens. Rains often take down the ashes and redbuds by this date, ending Early Fall. Full Middle Fall begins, bringing in the remaining maples for approximately a week.

Oct. 20: White oaks are crimson,

and the end of soybean harvest and the browning of goldenrod finally subdue the glowing September fields.

Oct. 25: Silver maples are champagne gold, and the sugar and red maples are down or are shedding quickly. Tulip trees are almost gone. Some ginkgoes are green, others fully gold and losing foliage. Light frosts accelerate the passage of Middle Fall.

Oct. 30: Osage, sweet gum, ginkgo, and white mulberry continue to keep their leaves. Beeches are half turned. Maples collapse in storms. Some sycamores are totally undone; others are only thinning as the mottled land enters Late Fall.

Nov. 5: The pear trees are red brown. Sweet gums are coming down. Ginkgoes and white mulberries reach their brightest, and then disintegrate.

Nov. 10: Rose of Sharon shrubs are half bare. Honeysuckles weaken, berries becoming more prominent. Across the countryside, the woodlot canopies are dark and empty.

Autumncount

Between the first threat of frost and the first breath of winter, approximately 18 major weather systems cross the United States. Four of those systems arrived in September; October brings at least seven more.

Oct. 2: This front is typically a strong and consistent one, and it usually brings freezing nights to the North. The two mornings following this front often bring a damaging freeze along the Canadian border.

Oct. 4: A secondary front often comes through around the 4th of October, signaling further progress in the advent of autumn. Planting, harvest and hiking are favored for a day or two after the passage of this system.

Oct. 7: This front, the final one of the subseason of “Early Fall,” is often weaker than the weather systems of Oct. 2nd and 4th, but frost is still to be

expected in the Northeast, upper Midwest, the Plains and the Rockies. The weather following this front is typically dry and stable, but the advance of the Oct. 13th high increases the chances of precipitation on the 10th through the 12th. Snow is not uncommon at higher elevations on those dates, and the 12th brings the first chance of flurries to the Ohio Valley. In 2015, this front pushed Hurricane Joaquin to the northeast, sparing the northern coast from wind, but drenching South Carolina with once-in-a-millennium rainfall.

Oct. 13: This cold front almost always accompanies a chillier and more dramatic subseason of autumn known as “Middle Fall.” This high-pressure system can be expected to bring rain or snow and nights in the upper 20s in the North, upper 30s in the South.

From “A Native Hill” by Wendell Berry

A friend of mine got me started, sending me the quotation above. And I sit on the back porch this evening, watching birds, images and feelings moving across me in waves. I am the “voyager standing still.”

The day before, a neighbor had told me about a poem in which a meditator sits with Jesus until his ego disappears and only Jesus is left. Wrapped in sensation, I become the hill. I become the Jesus of the poem, losing myself in the autumnal measures of time:

All day long, the peak of maple color spread across the town and countryside. South of the village, great flocks of blackbirds in the cut-over soybean fields. I would actually like to sit with Jesus (Jeanie?), but she’s gone, leaving me behind with my stream of consciousness. Sweet and painful memories, suppressed, shelved, superimposed on sensations of autumn passage. At my feeders. sparrows alternate with black-capped chickadees, with aromas of plants and fruits I can’t name or recall, layers of other autumns, the flickering

of years that have no names.

In the garden in front of me, three small, orange Mexican sunflowers stand bright against the neighbor’s dark woods. Two pink canna lilies remain from the summer. Earlier in the day, I had seen that almost all the leaves of TK’s maple tree were down, that the Danielsons’ maple had turned overnight, that Lil’s tree, the latest maple on my High Street block, was suddenly ochre. It seems that keeping track of one tree or another over the years keeps the collapse of summer more manageable. It is enough that these particular trees come down, parts for the whole, short-circuiting the awareness that everything is falling apart; only these trees are dissolving.

I write down what I see over and over again, unable to catch the anniversaries that seem to land on me and crawl across my body, gathering up the spent seasons, cementing and then letting go of the mottled shrubs to my right that are matted with yellowing hops and false buckwheat and knotweed. In all my notes: the frustrating absence of enough or the right words that would allow meaning to emerge, the absence of sharing that would allow my true emotions to reveal themselves.

My ego pursues meaning, existential explanations about role and persona and value: these, too, are late flowers brought in from the coming cold, seeds saved and set aside in old envelopes, leaves salvaged to press. Now the sunset though the backyard trees matches the dusky, sweet-peach breasts of my October chickadees, measures the time against Berry’s hill, and at dusk I prove to myself once again that I exist, and that I look for God, wondering if the geese fly will over again in the early dark like they did yesterday, so many things still unnamed, unworded for winter.



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025
13587 East Manito Rd. • 9:00 a.m. (Central)



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IL Auctioneer's No.: Taylor & Martin, LLC Auctioneers 444.000291, Tyler Runge 441.002113, Benjamin J. Reynolds 441.002148, Justin P. Schultis 441.002435, Mark E. Sporcic 441.002943

LARGE PUBLIC AUCTION

John Deere and Deutz Tractors • Farm Equipment • Tools



John Deere Dozer
Caterpillar Excavator
Unused Sawmill • Vehicles
Boats • Guns



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 1240 NOELS LANE, **New Liberty, KY 40359**

DIRECTIONS: From Owenton, take 127 north to Highway 36 to Noels Lane. From 1-71 at Sparta, take 35 south to 127, to 36 to Noels Lane. Signs posted.

Tractors: John Deere 6615 w/673 loader, 5682 hours, John Deere 950, John Deere 2020 w/8019 hrs, Deutz D6806 w/4063 hrs, Deutz D5506

Excavator: Caterpillar 215B, 5586 hrs.

Trucks: Ford F350 2010 Year, Honda Odyssey Van 2012 Year, International Dump Truck 1996, GMC Bucket Boom Truck, Chevy C-70 Dump Truck 1988 Year

Boats: Star Craft Holiday 1978 22ft Johnson 115 Motor, Sun Tracker 21ft Party Barge pontoon, Small Bass Boat

Sawmill: Norwood LumberMax HD38 Sawmill, Never Used.

Farm Equipment: Big Joe 1518 Pallet Truck, New Holland 745 Disc Mower like new, Cub Cadet Challenger 750 ATV crew cab, New Idea Corn Head, Box Grader, Finish Mowers, Discs, Plows, Tub Seeders, Multiple Semi-Truck Cargo Trailers, Hydraulic Log Splitter, Elite 18ft Gooseneck Trailer, Several Other Trailers, Hay Wagons, Wood Trusses, Lumber, Fuel Tanks, Hobart Welder, Hand and Power Tools some new in the box, mobile grill/smoker, Irrigation Piping and Pump, Air compressors, and so much more.

Guns and Fishing Equipment: Hundreds of Lures, Fishing Pole, Fishing Gear, Rossi 22 pump, Browning Lite 12-12 ga. Semi Auto, 8mm Mauser Chileno Modelo 1895 Rifle, Remington 380 Semi Auto, Smith & Wesson 32 hand ejector, CZ 52 7.62 cal, Kel-Tec PMR30, Smith & Wesson Shield 45, Harrington & Richard’s 32, Smith & Wesson 32 top break.

Public Preview Friday, October 10th - 11am-3pm Eastern

Terms: A 10% BUYERS’ PREMIUM WILL BE ADDED TO THE FINAL BID PRICE TO DETERMINE THE FINAL SALES PRICE OF THE ITEMS. ALL ITEMS TO BE PAID IN FULL THE DAY OF THE AUCTION BY CASH, PERSONAL CHECK, OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD (3% CONVENIENCE FEE FOR CC USE). ALL ITEMS SOLD AS IS.

Note: Bring a friend, there will be 2 rings of auctioneers going most of the day.

Willard Auctions

H. Barry Smith, Realtors and Auctioneers
88 Brunerstown Road, Shelbyville, KY
502-633-2746 • 888-631-2746

Auctioneers: H. Barry Smith (CAI), Jimmy Willard (CAI), Shawn Willard (CAI), Jeff Riggle (CAI), Patrick Hargadon, Todd Barlow, Rob Winlock, Dean Burk, Courtney Roberts.

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