

## Associations deadline for study is approaching

The U.S. Highway 36 Association is coming down to the wire on its plan to have a corridor study done on the economic impact of widening and improving the road from St. Joseph to St. Francis.

The group hopes to raise \$50,000 to finance the study, similar to one done a couple of years ago by a group pushing improvements on U.S. 50. They expect to show a positive return to Kansas and to the 13 counties along the route.

The association has asked counties along the highway, from Doniphan to Cheyenne, to ante up \$2,000 each for the study and hopes to get a grant for the rest.

So far, though, only Decatur County and a couple others have actually put up any money. Directors plan to revisit the rest this month as commissioners draw up their new budgets.

It is critical to get the study moving for several reasons.

One, the state already has begun studying a new transportation plan to replace the one that expires in 2010. While the Department of Transportation expects a gap between programs, as happened last time, it won't be long. The plan will be in place within a couple of years.

And any improvements to U.S. 36 need to be in the plan.

Besides, costs are rising and there's no certainty that, if the study doesn't begin next year, the counties or the association can afford it.

The U.S. 50 study showed the benefits of improving that route with four lanes west of Hutchinson. It concluded that economic growth would cease without a better highway.

Along the northern tier of Kansas, most counties have no idea what "economic growth" is.

Populations and economies are stagnant or declining. Schools have to merge or close as enrollment dwindles.

Backers see a great opportunity along the road, though. Illinois has improved about half its mileage to a freeway, known as Interstate 72. Across Missouri, the road now is a four-lane expressway with only a 52-mile gap at the east end.

And four counties there voted to tax themselves to help the state widen the road, with all the work now under contract. Missouri officials expect to have the four-lane road done by 2009, a year ahead of schedule.

Projections show significant truck traffic on the four-lane road within 10 years as drivers seek to bypass the hopelessly snarled highways around St. Louis. Much of that traffic will have to go south through Kansas City, though, unless Kansas takes up the standard and starts building a better road on U.S. 36.

A wider highway could serve as a bypass for both I-70 through Kansas City and I-80 through Omaha, backers believe, drawing traffic and business to a part of rural Kansas that could use both.

If the study is done, and if taxpayers and public officials all across the 13 counties get behind the effort.

It's a big job, one that requires the support of everyone along the road, but no other economic development initiative offers as much potential return to northern Kansas.

We hope the rest of the counties get on board, and soon.

— Steve Haynes

**Editor's Note:** Steve Haynes, publisher of *The Oberlin Herald*, also is president of the U.S. Highway 36 Association.

## Ag Talk with Jeanne

By Jeanne Falk



Will low-test-weight wheat be suitable to use for seed this fall?

According to Jim Shroyer, K-State wheat specialist, there's no simple answer to this question. Producers who want to plant back some of the wheat they harvested from this year's crop should have it cleaned out to a test weight of at least 56 pounds per bushel if possible.

Wheat with a lower test weight may have a good germination test, and may even emerge just fine (just look at all the volunteer wheat that emerges from small or shriveled seed that is blown out the back of the combine!), but will often have lower vigor and yield potential than wheat with a higher test weight.

The effect of test weight on emergence, vigor, and yield potential will vary from year to year. When there is stress on the seedlings or young plants in the fall from freeze or drought or some other factor, the effect of higher test weight seed is often greatest.

A study conducted at K-State's Agronomy North Farm in 1950 by H.H. Laude, professor of agronomy looked at seed test weight. The results showed that: test weight had no effect on germination, higher test weight seed had 20-40 percent improved field emergence, higher test weight seed emerged 4-6 days sooner, higher test weight seed resulted in about a 5-bushel yield increase, and test weight of the seed had no effect on the final test weight of the subsequent crop.

In addition, in 1990, a study was conducted by K-State extension agronomists, Jim Shroyer, Stu Duncan, and Dale Fjell, on seed of Arkan wheat from 25 demonstration plots around the state. Yields

averaged 2.4 bushels per acre higher with the high-test-weight seed (61 vs. 54 pounds/bushel).

Field observations have shown that higher-test-weight seed results in improved vigor and fall tiller development. A note from K-State's Department of Agronomy in 1935 substantiates this, and summarizes the situation regarding low-test-weight seed. These comments still apply to today's varieties:

Shriveled seed, even when it has a fairly high germination percentage, is likely to produce weak sprouts and plants that do not have enough vigor to survive unfavorable conditions. Professor J.W. Zahnley, Director of the State Seed Laboratory, states that the germinated seed of several samples of shriveled wheat with test weights ranging from 46 to 55 pounds, was characterized by weakness of the first or temporary roots.

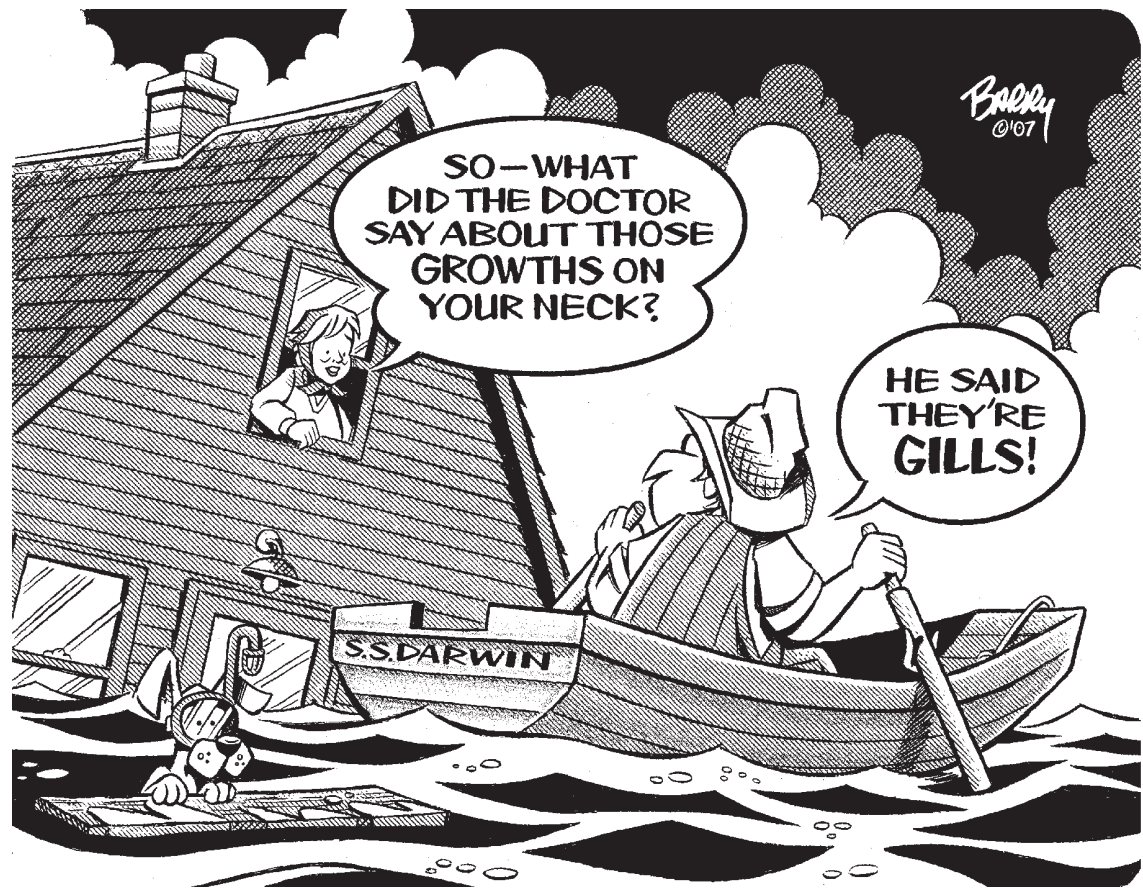
Normal wheat seedlings should have three strong roots at the end of the germination period of seven days. Many of the badly shriveled seeds produced only a single, weak primary root, or one fairly strong root and one or two very

weak ones. Such seed will not produce a normal plant under average field condition. And in case of adverse circumstances, these weak plants will perish more quickly than normal seedlings.

If producers are planning to save their grain as seed and have it cleaned to raise the test weight, what should the minimum test weight be? How low is too low? In truth, there is no absolute minimum for farmer-saved seed, but yields and vigor are more likely to be affected at test weights below 54-56 pounds/bushel. Below 54-56, the plants are likely to have more problems in the fall and in surviving the winter. Producers planting low-test-weight seed will also have to be extra cautious not to plant the seed too deeply, since seedling vigor will be below average.

The effect of seed test weight on emergence, vigor, and yield potential will vary from year to year. When there is stress on the seedlings or young plants in the fall from freeze or drought or some other factor, the effect of higher test weight seed is often greatest.

**GOD SAYS**  
**He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.**  
**Proverbs 13:20**



## News From the Past

### 100 years ago - 1907

Present indications are that the season of 1907 will witness more building at St. Francis than any former four years in the history of the town.

Remember the Fowler Lumber Company when you want any kind of a screen door.

Talley & Stine purchased the old Hotchkiss building and have taken possession.

Four more block of cement sidewalk were ordered by the city council on Wednesday evening.

A new law which went into effect the first of June prohibits the sale of gasoline in any other than a red can and prohibits the sale of kerosene in a red can.

The Burlington Railroad people are building a substantial little engine house over their gasoline engine down at the round house.

A.E. Smull erected an elegant and substantial iron fence around his home last week.

Several new crossings have been laid around town this week. J. F. Quistorf is the architect.

William Stephenson, who recently purchased the Creighton farm west of town, has moved the house down to

his home in the bottom.

### 50 years ago - 1957

The Riddell Furniture Store is observing its 50th anniversary with an appreciation sale. The business was established in May 1907 in the building located directly across the street. In 1910, a new building, at the present location, was constructed. In 1926, the establishment became licensed as a funeral parlor.

A covered dish dinner dance will be held May 25 at the high school. The purpose of the dinner and dance is to organize an alumni group.

The new swimming pool in St. Francis is tentatively scheduled to open on June 14. Francis Seybold, a grade school instructor, has been named manager with a high school instructor, Roger Lewis as assistant manager.

Cochran's Hi-Way Market will observe its grand opening June 7 and 8. Since purchasing the business from R.H. Howell in March, Mr. Cochran has conducted an extensive remodeling and enlarging program.

Jolene Linin, Karen Jackson and Sue Hendricks were the Cheyenne County 4-H delegates to the 1957 Round-up held at Kansas State College at Manhattan.

A grasshopper problem is develop-

ing in the county. The county agent advises farmers to commence control measures as soon as possible.

There will be a grand opening of the new Ben Franklin Store in St. Francis early in July. Mr. and Mrs. Owen Watkins are the new owners. The Watkins with their two sons Mike, 4 and Gary 2 1/2 have moved to St. Francis.

Miss Delta Mae Sawyer was crowned Queen for Bird City Day. Another highlight of the day was a parade during the morning.

### 45 years ago - 1962

Thad Douthit Jr., of the Pleasant Hill 4-H Club won the individual championship in the 4-H Judging contest held in Goodland.

Sainty's Cafe has opened its doors in downtown St. Francis. Mrs. Ena Zimelman is the proprietor of the cafe. The building is owned by Orval Benjamin.

Frederick's Jewelry is open for business in their new location. Fred has been in business in St. Francis for 15 years and he said that this new store is a fulfillment of a dream that has lasted that long.

Miss Loretta Raile was named Cheyenne County Dairy Princess.

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



Happy Independence Day!

It has been 231 years since Thomas Jefferson words, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness," were first heard by the people of America.

What amazing times, both then and now.

The foresight of the founding

fathers is only matched by their fearless desire for freedom and liberty. There were no guarantees that the 13 colonies would defeat King George and his armies.

But after George Washington, and the other revolutionaries, gained victory, he did something that had never been done before. Rather than seizing power, Washington gave it to the people.

Today it is easy to complain about the way our country is being

run. It is not perfect, but wouldn't the men who got the United States going be amazed?

Opportunities await us all and our individual freedoms are unmatched anywhere else. Take a moment to look around and realize the freedoms and liberties we have. We do have a lot to celebrate!

**Church of Christ**  
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424  
502 W. Spencer  
Norman Morrow - Minister  
Bible Class 11 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

**United Methodist**  
Church Office 332-2292,  
Church 332-2254,  
512 S. Scott  
Pastor Morita Truman  
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
332-3002  
Pastor Chris Farmer  
No Summer Sunday School  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**  
625 S. River • 332-2680  
Fr. Roger Meitl  
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.  
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.  
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

**First Christian Church**  
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster  
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.  
Church Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Grace Assembly of God**  
332-2925, Pars. 332-2899  
208 E. 2nd  
Rev. Rob Meyer  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30  
Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

**St. Francis Community Church**  
332-3150  
204 N. Quincy Street  
www.sfccfamily.com  
Pastor: David Butler  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Potluck & Communion -  
Every 2nd Sunday  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams  
Pastor Mike Larson  
Sabbath School 9:30  
Morning Worship 10:45

**First Baptist Church**  
2nd & Scott • 332-3921  
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,  
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
202 N. College  
Pastor Ken Hart  
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312  
No Summer Sunday School  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
with fellowship to following

**Clough Valley Church of Hope**  
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF  
Pastor Jason Howard  
332-3152  
Saturdays 8 p.m. CT or 7 p.m. MT

**St. Francis Equity**

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