



THE DARLIN' BUNCH returned to entertain the crowd at the fair parade. The float is sponsored by Hilltop General Store and Hometown Market.
Herald staff photo by Lezlie McCormick

DOGS

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representatives from the county to serve on the Region I Board.
U.S. 36 study
Steve Haynes, president of the U.S. 36 Highway Association, Elmer Kellner, representative; and Milton Lampe, director, talked to the commissioners about joining with other counties along U.S. 36 to raise money for a study. The study would be done regarding the widening of the highway and each county on the northern tier of the state is asked to give \$2,000.

Mr. Haynes said that the Kansas Department of Transportation is getting ready to make the next 10-year plan and the study would help to show the economic impact before they would consider funding money to the highway.

Missouri already has four lanes up to the Kansas border. Andy Beikman, chairman, asked if people would just turn and go south at Wheeler to I-70 because Colorado doesn't keep up U.S. 36 very well. Mr. Haynes said he and others had met with the Colorado Department of Transportation and officials had promised to keep the highway up.

"This is a long-term deal and we need to start investing in the future," Mr. Haynes said.

He went on to tell that the freight crossing the country is incredible and, by 2020, he expects there to be a huge volume of trucks crossing Kansas on U.S. 36.

If the money can be raised from the counties, Mr. Haynes thought the Docking Institute would match.

Mr. Beikman said the commissioners had just turned in the county's budget for next year. Mr. Haynes said if the commissioners would decide to give, they had until the first of the year.

Land swap

Dick Bursch, fair board president, and Clay Zimbelman, board member, asked for 10 minutes in executive session to discuss land purchase. When returning, Andy Beikman, chairman, made a motion to allow the fair board to make a "land swap" at the fairgrounds.

The swap will include a 16-foot swath of land west of the livestock barn for a portion of land near the baseball diamond. The land swap will allow the road next to the livestock barn to be widened and will be safer.

In other business

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- Amy Griffey, Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, had two requests for Community Development Building Grant funds. One request was for the final payment, \$57,500, to the Bird City Dairy project. The other was a first request of \$23,788, for the Olofson Bridge project north of St. Francis. Both requests were approved.

- Mrs. Griffey asked if the commissioners were still interested in pursuing a grant for an ambulance. They said they were and she will have more information in the near future.

- A wage agreement for Craig Van Allen was signed.

- The commissioners accepted a letter of resignation from Karen Flemming, bookkeeper in the appraiser's office.

- Permission was given for one person from the appraiser's office to attend upcoming workshops. One workshop deals with digital soils and the other with Orion conversion.

- A letter of support for an E-Waste grant was signed. The grant will be submitted by the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization.

- Clerk Terry Miller was given approval to purchase an industrial strength cross-cut paper shredder.

- Road and bridge department supervisor, Dave Flemming, gave his report. He also had a highway permit for Rosewood Resources to bore under a county road. The commissioners signed the permit.

Next meeting
The next commissioners' meeting has been set for 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15, in the courthouse in St. Francis.



TUMBLEWEED ROUNDUP featured singer Vic Anderson on Saturday.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

The family of Anna Brewer gathered over the weekend of July 12-15 for a reunion and to recognize Anna on her 101st birthday. People coming to spend time with her as well as send cards, letters or made phone calls was special to her.

Guests of Dolores Wiley Saturday were Jerry and Donna Scoby of Greeley, Colo., Brian Scoby of Hays, Lori and Chris West of Fargo, N.D., and Robin and Kathy Wiley of Idalia.

Lee and Doris Amsberry visited their son, Kent and family in Fishers, Ind., at the end of July. Fishers is a suburb of Indianapolis so they were able to take in some of the sights in Indy.

They were able to visit the Indianapolis Zoo and to see the butterfly exhibit, the dolphin show and Oceans exhibit. Lee was able to pet a shark for the first time and retained all his fingers.

One evening they had dinner in the Buca di Beppo Italian restaurant and had the coveted table in the kitchen. This spurred some confused looks from new customers to the restaurant but was a lot of fun for

everyone. Doris particularly enjoyed the Chicken Saltimbocca that evening.

Lee also got to golf one afternoon with his son and two grandsons. It certainly wasn't the fastest nine holes but was a lot of fun. Lee managed to shoot his age (but maybe that is supposed to be on 18 holes?).

They also celebrated their grandson, Will's 10th birthday with a pool party and miniature golf.

Lee and Doris taught Kent and Carol how to play pinochle with Bird City Senior Center rules and also enjoyed Parcheesi and dominoes on the visit.

They returned home after a one week visit.

Betty Jean Winston traveled to Ellsworth Friday night after work to visit the Dan Winston family.

On Sunday they enjoyed a dinner after attending church and later in the afternoon a farewell cookout was held for Jean Winston, who left for basic training on Aug. 7.

Betty Jean's granddaughter, Corrine Gugelmeyer and her great-grandson, Dylan Gugelmeyer of Lakin were also visiting in Ellsworth.

Extension Notes

Kansas Farmers Can Call For Help

The weather has been upping the ante on the risks Kansas farmers and ranchers have to face as an on-going part of their job. In the past year alone, those risks have included a drought, blizzards, a too-early spring and too-late freeze, F5 tornadoes, torrential rains, and flooding.

"The growing list of difficulties has been making the year's financial and production decisions more and more complicated. Producers may now have little to no room for any missteps in judgment or cost-price projections. Added to that, the past weather's long-term impacts could continue to emerge for months. And, of course, no one can predict what Kansas weather will do in the future," said Char Henton, coordinator, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services.

The service is a Kansas State University Research and Extension program that

is more than its name implies, she said.

The office does offer mediation services — typically for farmers who want to restructure a loan or

try again to qualify for a government program, she said.

For the most part, however, KAMS is a confidential, no-cost resource. Its purpose is to help producers deal with all kinds of financial and legal questions. It provides immediate workday access to a professional staff that includes attorney Forrest Buhler. It also makes referrals.

The service toll-free hotline number is 1-800-321-FARM (3276).

"Lately we've been getting lots of calls about financial counseling, USDA disaster programs, IRS disaster relief and documenting losses," Ms. Henton said. "We can directly help producers with information about many of those kinds of concerns. When we can't, though, we have agreements with other organizations that allow us to connect people quickly to different kinds of help."

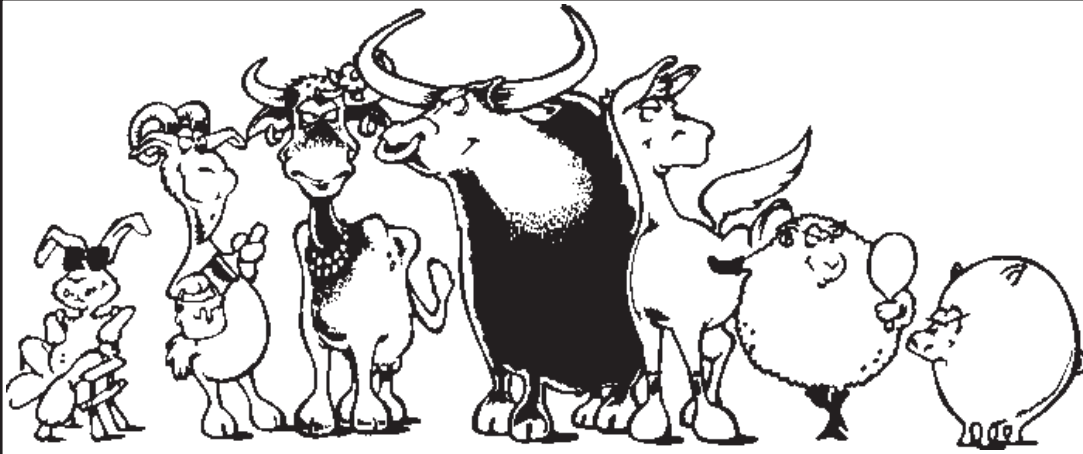
She said the program's oldest and still most-used resource partnerships include the K-State Farm Analyst Program, Kansas Legal Services, and Kansas Rural Family Helpline.

Upcoming Promotions

For more information contact Casey McCormick at:



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