

## Property Transfers

### Real Estate recorded Oct. 31 to Nov. 7

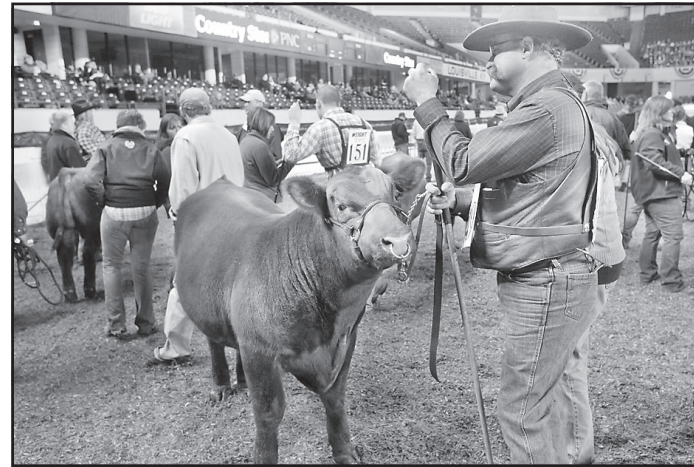
The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Thomas County register of deeds:

- March 24, 2008, quit claim deed; Alonzo J. Jr. and Shannon Ketchum to David E. Ketchum; Lots 10-12, Block 15, Original Rexford; Lot 1, Block 1, Havice Second Addition Rexford.
- June 7, 2010, Helen M. Horinek and Helen M. Horinek Trust to Helen M. Horinek; SE/4 of Sec. 30, T6, R33.
- Sept. 24, Steven B. and Shawana R. Townsend to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Sept. 25, Sheryl L. and David D. Grammer to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Sept. 26, Jeffery P. Townsend to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Sept. 30, Alvin D. Dellere to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Sept. 30, James Eugene and Sue Dellere to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Sept. 30, Daniel K. Townsend to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Oct. 4, David J. and Lena Townsend to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Oct. 5, Gerald James and Deolores Dellere to Theresa Fagan, formerly known as Theresa Kennicutt; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Oct. 21, Branson W. Gilley

Present Interest Trust to Branson W. Gilley; NE/4 of SW/4 of Sec. 7, T9, R36.

- Oct. 21, quit claim deed, Chrystal Chanatell Westgag to Robert L. Westgag II; Lot 5, Block 6, Colby Pioneer Subdivision.
- Oct. 26, Michael Jo Benson to Stuart Michael Schieck; SW/4 of Sec. 36, T7, R31.
- Oct. 28, quit claim deed, Branson W. Gilley to Rodney B. and Susan L. Gilley; NE/4 of SW/4 of Sec. 7, T9, R36.
- Oct. 28, Margurette H. Edmondson to Richard D. and Michelle D. Snider; Lots 1-3, Block 16, Colby South Park Addition.
- Oct. 28, Michael and Kimberly Schriener to Aaron C. and Ashley M. Schriener; north 80' of Lot 5, Block 2, Colby Pioneer Subdivision.
- Oct. 28, Richard D. and Michelle D. Snider to Jaymes Michael and Kelly Stewart; Lots 4-5, Block 65, Colby West Addition.
- Nov. 1, Cathy J. Harrison Trust to Versatile Properties LLC; south 1'3" of Lot 15, Lots 18-19 and 8' vacated strip south of and adjacent to Lot 18, Block 26, Original Colby.
- Nov. 1, Donald L. Harrison Trust to Versatile Properties LLC; south 1'3" of Lot 15, Lots 18-19 and 8' vacated strip south of and adjacent to Lot 18, Block 26, Original Colby.
- Nov. 1, Sandra K. and Kenneth R. McMillen to Sandra K. and Kenneth R. McMillen; west 50' of Lots 8-10, Block 68, Colby West Addition.
- Nov. 2, Theresa and Aaron Fagan to Ashlee R. Haines; Lot 13-14 and east 7/10 of Lot 15, Block 89, Colby North Addition.
- Nov. 3, Gerald R. and Margie M. Schoenfeld to Todd M. and Lori J. Zurcher; Lot 8, Block 6, Colby Eastern Heights Addition.
- Nov. 4, Andrew W. and Kenna J. Dible to Jordan Burris; Lot 13, Block 2, Oakley Schwaller Subdivision.
- Nov. 4, Max Earl Pickerill Trust to Christopher L. Koerperich; E/2 of Lots 11-14, Block 23, Colby South Park Addition.

## Mooove on over, there



JILLIAN BAKER and DANNY BOLIN/North American Livestock Exposition  
Nolland Ward of Russell Springs prepared to enter the showing ring to compete at the North American Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., on Saturday. Ward, one of thousands of exhibitors, has been in the cattle business for 25 years.

## Farm Bureau meets in Manhattan today

Family farmers and ranchers from across the state are holding the annual meeting of the Kansas Farm Bureau today and Saturday in Manhattan.

In his opening general session message, Ottawa County farmer Steve Baccus, president, will share his thoughts about the increasing distance between decisions made daily by family farmers and the perceptions left with the rest of society. And he'll suggest new ways to address those perceptions.

"As farmers and ranchers, this distance hits home directly, in our families, on our farms and in our rural communities," Baccus says.

"We're losing the battle for hearts and minds. And it's not because what we're doing is inherently bad, wrong or negative. But the way we talk about it is sending all the wrong signals."

Members have a lineup of workshop topics and presenters from which to select, featuring national, state and local experts who will address policy issues such as water and taxes, as well as new trends in agricultural advocacy and education.

Established in 1919, this nonprofit advocacy organization supports farm families who earn their living in a changing industry.

## Biomass from conservation land could fuel cars

Kansas State University researchers are studying the feasibility of using land that had been enrolled in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program to grow plants for the biomass market.

"CRP is a program that began in 1985, that takes land out of crop production and puts it into perennial grassland in order to conserve soil and reduce surface water runoff," said K-State range scientist Keith Harmoney. "When this project started in 2008, Kansas had about 3 million acres in CRP land, but by the end of 2011, about 50 percent of those CRP contracts will expire."

Harmoney, who is based at K-State's Agricultural Research Center in Hays, is studying different ways to manage former conservation Reserve land that could produce biomass while retaining water quality, wildlife habitat and soil conservation benefits.

"We're looking to see if there are other ways that producers can utilize the CRP lands without putting them back into row crops," he said of the five-year study that began in 2008 and is scheduled to end with the harvest in 2012.

Kansas is one of six states involved in the study. Other states in the study are Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Missouri and Georgia.

The research, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and Sun Grant Initiative, examines different management strategies, including using no nitrogen fertilizer, applying 50 pounds of N per acre and applying 100 pounds of N per acre.

The dominant grasses on the acreage are sideoats grama, indiangrass, little bluestem, switchgrass and big bluestem. A significant amount of yellow sweetclover

is also present.

"The harvest management we're studying is close to peak standing crop, shortly after the mid-point of summer, after July 15, and the other is at the end of the season after the first frost," Harmoney said. The July 15 date is important because it marks the end of the Kansas grassland bird-nesting season, so harvesting after that date, in late July or early August, avoids disturbing any nesting birds.

"This research project is a little bit different than your typical plot research experiments," the range scientist said. "It's much larger scale. Each of the plots is one acre in size, which means we've been able to use typical field scale equipment to harvest the plots - just like the swathers and balers that producers would use."

The stand was cut to a height of 6 inches, leaving a 6-inch stubble to maintain soil and water erosion.

The research so far shows that

while fertilizing with 50 or 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre statistically increased yield over the non-fertilized treatment, the overall increase was not as efficient as expected, Harmoney said.

"Nitrogen fertilization has increased productivity," he said. "We've been able to increase production by about 600 pounds per acre from having 50 pounds of nitrogen fertilizer, and just a little over 1,000 pounds an acre from utilizing 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre," but noted that with current rates of production and returns, harvesting biomass from Conservation Reserve land without adding N fertilizer is more profitable.

As part of the study, the researchers are tracking plant populations and plant composition to see how they've changed over time due to harvest management and nitrogen treatments.

"We've also collected soil samples so we'll be able to track how

soil nutrient status has changed over time, as well as some of the other soil properties," Harmoney said.

After the 10 year contract expires on program acres, producers have often had the option to re-enroll or to plant back to row crops, he said. Since the study began, thousands of Kansas Conservation Reserve acres have been planted back to grain crops, but thousands of program acres have also been re-enrolled with new contracts.

"This project is important because Kansas currently has about 2.5 million acres of CRP lands, much of which will soon be coming out of the program, so any research that involves CRP has the potential to have a big impact and affect a large acreage of Kansas lands," the researcher said.

A video about the research is available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=kplzXsmXv4c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kplzXsmXv4c). More information is available at [www.wkarc.org/p.aspx?tabid=35](http://www.wkarc.org/p.aspx?tabid=35).

## Refrigerate pumpkin pies

Grocers display pumpkin pies on store shelves without refrigeration, yet cooks who make pumpkin pies at home are instructed to refrigerate the perennial fall favorites.

"The difference in recommendations is due to the formulation of the pie recipes," said Karen Blakeslee, K-State Research and Extension food scientist.

A traditional, homemade pumpkin pie, which typically is prepared with eggs and milk, has a high moisture content that, if stored at room temperature, will attract bacterial growth, Blakeslee said.

Recipes for commercial pumpkin pies are formulated with shelf-stable ingredients, including preservatives and antimicrobials that discourage bacterial growth, she

said.

If buying a commercial pumpkin pie displayed at room temperature, the food scientist advises shoppers to check the product label for "RT," which indicates the pie meets the requirements for display at room temperature.

She also advises shoppers to check "sell by" or "use by" dates, and after purchasing and cutting, to cover and store leftover pie in the refrigerator and use within two to three days.

Information about food and food safety is available at K-State Research and Extension offices throughout the state and online: [www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu) and [www.rrc.ksu.edu](http://www.rrc.ksu.edu).

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