

Farm co-op equities hit new highs

With rising incomes, Kansas grain, oilseed and farm supply cooperatives have boosted their total equity levels – or levels of net worth – to historical highs. Equity generation and composition are important topics for any cooperative, said Brian Briggeman, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center at Kansas State University. Generating equity capital is critical because it can be used to finance growth through capital investments, absorb business losses and help secure a loan, as well as be used for other business purposes. Equity represents the members' ownership interest in the total assets of the coop-

erative. Cooperative equity comes in two forms, allocated and unallocated, Briggeman explained. Allocated equity is the amount assigned, on a proportional basis, to each member. Unallocated equity is not designated to specific member accounts. The Cooperative Center dives into this subject in a new fact sheet titled, "Equity Composition of Kansas Grain, Oilseed and Farm Supply Cooperatives," that is available online at www.accc.ksu.edu/. While equity levels and composition vary from cooperative to cooperative, some general trends have developed throughout the industry, and Kansas is not that dif-

ferent, Briggeman said. The first trend is higher equity levels for co-ops. Since 2003, Kansas co-ops' total equity, along with total savings or total net income, has risen significantly. Another trend is the rise in the percentage of total equity designated as unallocated equity or permanent equity capital on Kansas co-ops' balance sheets. One question that often arises is, what is the appropriate amount of unallocated equity within a cooperative? Answering this question is difficult because there is no one correct answer that fits all cooperatives, Briggeman said. However, the new fact sheet provides

discussion points for a cooperative's board of directors and management team to consider on this topic. Information is available by contacting Briggeman at Brian.Briggeman@agecon.ksu.edu or (785) 532-2573.

Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Jan. 29 were: first, Elaine Ptacek; second, Gail Vacca; third, Sarah Jane Barrett; fourth, Billie Keck; fifth, Katie Melvin; and sixth, Barb Ulmer. Winners Tuesday were: first, Ken Ptacek; second, Dave Ulmer; third, Lyle Worthy; fourth, Sarah Jane Barrett; fifth, Margaret Denneler; sixth, Katie Melvin.

When the Weather Outside is Frightful... Colby Free Press Classified Shopping is Delightful!!
155 W. 5th • 462-3963

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory call Kathryn or Janene today at (785)462-3963

A-1 CHIMNEY SWEEP & Dryer Vent Cleaning 620.397.2854 Dighton, KS
CSIA Certified Professional (Chimney Safety Institute of America) No Mileage within 85 Miles

Licensed Sweep • Inspector • Dryer Exhaust Technician



HOXIE STATE INSURANCE, INC.
824 Main, PO Box 378 Hoxie, KS 67740
115 S. State St. Winona, KS 67764
(785) 675.3263 - Fax (785) 675.3721



Auto | Home | Life

Call today to see how I make insurance simple and can help you protect what matters most.

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Insurance • Investments

David Browne III
550 N. Franklin Colby, KS 67701
785-462-3388
www.agentdavidbrowne.com

Securities & services offered through FBI Marketing Services, LLC, 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA. Affiliates Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services PC026-ML BC (2-12)

THOMAS COUNTY INSURANCE AGENCY

Serving NW Kansas for over 100 years.

Representing many companies to provide all your insurance needs: * For great coverage and customer service contact me!

- Home, Auto, Boat, Motorcycle, RV
- Farm and Crop Insurance
- Commercial Property, Automobiles
- General Liability, Workers Compensation
- Inland Marine, Builders Risk
- Auto Service Shops
- Body Shop and Collision Repair
- Contractors
- Restaurants
- Salons and Day Spas
- Strip Malls, Condominiums
- Churches, Schools, Day Care Centers



Dennis R. Tubbs/Agent

P.O. Box 506 • 490 N. Franklin
Ph: 785-462-3939 • Fax: 785-462-3752
dtubbs@thomascountyins.com • www.thomascountyins.com

BEE THRIFTY
BUSINESS HOURS
TUE-FRI 2-6 PM
SAT 12-5 PM
ACCEPTING CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS
1145 Taylor Ave., Colby (170 EXIT 53)
785-269-7751
[facebook.com/beethrifty](https://www.facebook.com/beethrifty)

Kinkade's Used Appliances
Leonard Kinkade
785-694-8013

Mobile Home Lots for Rent
\$175 Month (includes water, sewer & storage shed)
FREE Month with approved application
Friendly Acres Mobile Home Park
1150 S. Franklin, Colby
Call 785-462-6445

Dr. Tom Barlow DENTIST
785-460-7538
Appointments Readily Available
505 H N. Franklin, Colby

TRIPLE J TRUCKING, LLC
James E. Meyers
Liquid & Dry Bulk Tankers
Specialized OD & Heavy Hauling
Temperature Controlled
785.675.2196 or 785.675.1737
Frwhlnjm@ruraltel.net

NOW OPEN New 2U Thrift Store
165 E. 4th • Colby
Mon. Tues.11 - 6
Wed.11 - 5
Thurs.12 - 6
Fri. Sat.11 - 6
Accepting Donations 785-443-2588
Save 25% • Bring in Ad

All Creatures Great and Small
We provide daycare & grooming services
785-462-6388

Next door to Doggone Critters
Featuring pet apparel, sizes T-cup to Xtra Large, and Toys.
Collars, Leashes & Treats
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
495 N. Franklin Ave., Colby;

Nancy LePell Bookkeeping
165 East 3rd - Colby, KS 67701
785-462-7428

Income Tax Preparation - Individual, Business and Estates
Accounting and Bookkeeping
Business and Financial consultation

Christy Griffith, RTRP Nancy LePell, EA, ChFC, CB
Working to bring you the best possible solutions

ROOFMASTERS

Serving Colby for over 30 YEARS!
425 East Hill, Colby, KS
785-462-6642

RESIDENTIAL Heritage Shingles Wood Shingles IR Shingles Stone Coated Steel Metal Panels	COMMERCIAL EPDM Rubber White TPO Single Ply Modified Systems Built up Systems Elastomeric Coating
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Licensed Bonded Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

James DesRoches | High Plains Plumbing
785-672-5032 Available 7 days a week



We offer a large range of quality service, repair & new construction in the residential & commercial market.

Gas Certified • Water Treatment & Filtration • Water Heaters
Solar • Service & Repair • Home Addition • New Construction

High Plains Plumbing | 462 US Highway 83, Oakley, KS 67748
www.highplainsplumbingks.com | Email: highplainsplumbingks@gmail.com

RAWLINS COUNTY Dental Clinic

NORTHWEST KANSAS OUTREACH

Our mission is to enhance oral healthcare and to make access available to everyone. We provide a sliding fee scale for lower income and we accept most types of insurance.

Hours: M-F, 8-5 | 515 State Street, Atwood KS • 785-626-8290
Emergency on Call | www.rcdentalclinic.com (for more details)

NEW SYSTEM PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING

(800) 611-6735

www.MyWindowCleaner.net
Serving Colby since 1992!

Commercial • Residential • Free Estimates

High Plains RV Resort



Live at the resort in your RV Oakley/Colby!

Live in your RV at the #1 rated RV resort in Kansas.
\$495 monthly rent - includes water, sewer, electric & cable TV!

Swimming pool, hot tubs, clean restrooms, Propane available, clubhouse and laundry room, and store!

We only have a few sites available for monthly guests, so call us now.
High Plains RV Resort • (785)672-3538 • www.HighPlainsCamping.com

We sell PROPANE PROPANE PROPANE!

Meadow Lake Restaurant & Lounge

Monday Nights \$1 Draws

Saturday Nights Prime Rib

MEADOW LAKE
GOLF COURSE & RESTAURANT
785-460-6443

1085 E Golf Club Rd. • Colby, KS



C.W. Beamgard Co. Inc.



SALES & SERVICES SINCE 1919

- New Vehicle Sales
- Used Vehicle Sales
- Parts
- Accessories
- Service
- Windshield Pit Repair
- Tires
- Towing Service

Monday - Friday 8-6, Saturday 8-Noon

785.626.3286

Fax 785.626.3717

210 State St. • Atwood, KS 67730

JM TREE & LAWN SERVICE

TREE REMOVAL/TRIMMING

Tree Work:

- Removal
- Trimming
- Shaping
- Bucket Truck
- Boom Truck
- Chipper



Fully Insured, Bonded, Licensed and Covered by workman's Comp.

Call today to get your FREE estimate

ASK ABOUT OUR DAILY RATE

Office: 785-462-6908
Office Manager: 785-443-5708
Owner: 785-443-1339

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.MurrayEnterprises.org