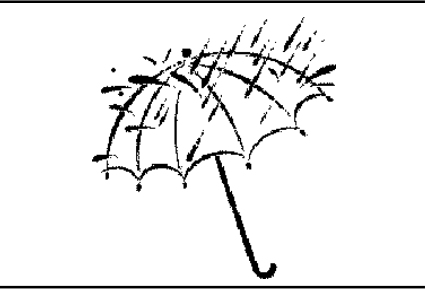
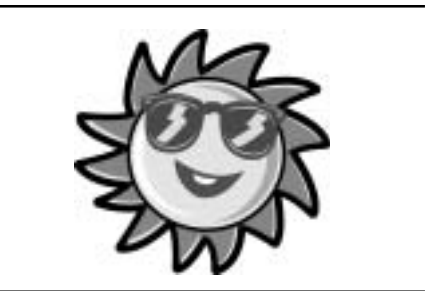


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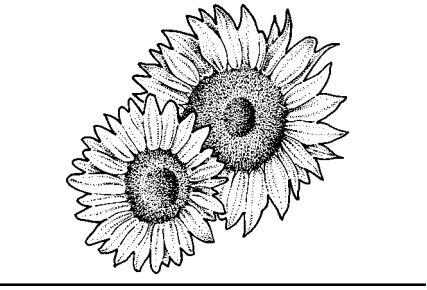
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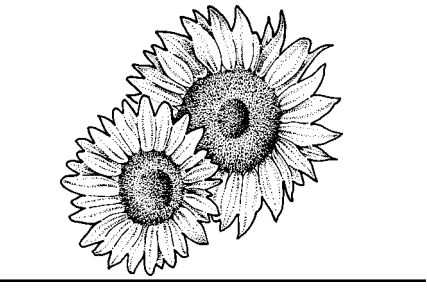
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Wagon trains are a familiar sight in Kansas Day celebrations, since they are associated with the early settlers who braved the unknown to settle the area before it was a state.
Photo from "In Memory of Kansas, a collection of Kansas heritage photos," a web site maintained by the University of Kansas

Saturday marks 144th year of Kansas' statehood

Kansas has been a state for 144 years, but the area's history began long before. In its early years as a state, Kansas was known for cattle drives, agriculture and the need for lawmen.

The Kansas State Historical Society's web site at <http://www.kshs.org/research/topics/> has a timeline of major events in Kansas' history and essays on that history.

The timeline puts early peoples in Kansas between 10,000 B.C. and 1700 A.D. Other events listed are Coronado in 1541; the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880; the Oregon-California Trail in the 1840s; the soon-to-be-state was known as Bleeding Kansas 1854-1861; the Civil War was from 1861-1865; cattle drives were from 1867-1885; World War I was from 1917-1919; the Great Depression from 1929-1941; World War II from 1941-45; the Eisenhower Years from 1946-61; and Brown vs. Board of Education in 1954.

The essays mention the adventurous and romantic portrayal of the Old West in western movies and points out that the reality was that life was hard in towns, on the trail and at the ranch. People had little time or opportunity to live the glamorous, exciting lives portrayed in movies.

Each spring, from 1866-85, Texas longhorns were driven to railheads in Kansas or farther north to stock the open ranges. It took about a dozen cowboys to trail 2,000 head of cattle. Herd sizes ranged from around 1,000 head in the early years to 4,000 later on. Cowboys earned between \$25 and \$40 per month, plus their food.

One 19-century definition of a "cowboy" was "anybody with guts and a horse."

Cattle stampedes, hazardous trail conditions and long hours in the saddle in all types of weather resulted in accidents and illness among cowhands. The common remedy was liquor or a patent medicine, most of which had a very high alcohol content.

During the 1870s, "cowtowns," such as Abilene, Dodge City, Ellsworth and Wichita each needed a marshal and a police force. Names such as Wyatt Earp, "Wild Bill" Hickok William B. "Bat" Masterson and Joseph G. McCoy survived in infamy from the era.

Although the long cattle drives came to an end in the mid-1880s, there was still plenty of work for the cowboy. Ranching activities in Kansas increased. By the 1890s, Kansas was ranked third in the nation in cattle production and would retain that position for decades.

People have been farming in Kansas for thousands of years, an essay on the web site says. Farming has been central to the state's economy, politics, laws, innovations, culture and traditions and earned the state the nickname, the "Wheat State."

Before the Civil War, most farm work was done with hand tools. By the end of World War I, gasoline tractors were begin-

KANSAS DAY QUIZ

Test your knowledge of Kansas with a quiz from the secretary of state's Kansas Kids web site at www.kssos.org/resources/kansas_kids.html-4k.

- What is the state song?
a. "Home on the Range." b. "The Kansas March." c. "Here's Kansas."
- What does the state motto "ad astra per aspera" mean?
a. To the stars and beyond. b. To the stars through difficulties. c. Shoot for the stars.
- Which Kansas woman was the first female to fly her plane solo across the Atlantic Ocean?
a. Nancy Kassebaum Baker. b. Carry Nation. c. Amelia Earhart.
- Which U.S. Senator from Russell ran in the 1996 presidential election?
a. Charles Curtis. b. Alf Landon. c. Bob Dole.
- When did Kansas become a state?
a. Jan. 29, 1761. b. Jan. 29, 1861. c. Jan. 29, 1961.
- Which World War II veteran from Abilene went on to become president?
a. Dwight D. Eisenhower. b. Bob Dole. c. Wyatt Earp.
- Which is the largest city in Kansas?
a. Lawrence. b. Wichita. c. Topeka.
- This man created the game of basketball and was the University of Kansas' first coach.
a. Dr. James Naismith. b. Wilt Chamberlain. c. Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen.
- This psychiatrist co-founded a prominent clinic still running in Topeka.
a. Dr. Karl C. Menninger. b. Dr. James Naismith. c. Alf Landon.
- Which woman was the first female to serve as governor of Kansas?
a. Nancy Kassebaum Baker. b. Kay McFarland. c. Joan Finney.
- What is one of the state's nicknames?
a. Wheat State. b. Dustbowl State. c. Windy State.
- Which Emporia journalist won the Pulitzer Prize?
a. Walter P. Chrysler. b. William Allen White. c. John J. Ingalls.
- Which Kansas native went on to star in "Miami Vice" in the 1980s as well as "Nash Bridges" in the 1990s?
a. Don Johnson. b. Edward Asner. c. Hugh Beaumont.

ning to take over as the primary source of power on farms.

The first farm machines were powered by animals, oxen, horses or mules, and later by steam or gasoline engines. That allowed a single farmer to do the work of several men and operate much larger farms.

In the Kansas wheat fields, farmers advanced from the cradle scythe to the combine within 75 years after the Civil War.

Sometimes people have the attitude that Kansas does not produce much of worth and that Kansans do not succeed in the broad scheme of things. The historical society's list of people in Kansas history on the web site proves this wrong.

The list of famous names includes actors, political figures, Nobel Prize winners, athletes and inventors.

Some notables are Kirstie Alley, 1951, Wichita, television and film actress; Susan B. Anthony, 1820 - 1906, leader in women's suffrage; "Fatty" Arbuckle, 1887 - 1933, Smith Center, silent film actor; Edward Asner, 1929, Kansas City, television actor; Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain, 1936-1999, Lawrence, University of Kansas basketball player 1955-1957; Walter P. Chrysler, 1875-1940, Wamego and Ellis, established the Chrysler Corporation; Lynn Dickey, 1949, Osawatomie, Green Bay Packers quarterback.

Amelia Earhart, 1897 - 1937?, Atchison, the first woman granted a pilot's license by

the National Aeronautics Association and the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean; Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1890 - 1969, Abilene, five-star U.S. Army General, Supreme Allied Commander of European theater, and President of the United States

Jean Harlow, Seneca, film actress; Gary Hart, 1936, Ottawa, served as U.S. Senator for Colorado and was a 1988 presidential candidate; Dennis Hopper, 1936, Dodge City, film actor and director; Don Johnson, 1949, Wichita and Galena, television and film actor; Buster Keaton, 1895 - 1966, Piqua, silent film comedian.

Mike Love, Hutchinson, a member of the Beach Boys; Jim Ryun, 1947, Wichita, World's Outstanding Athlete in 1966-1967, three-time Olympian, set a world track record for the mile in 1966, U.S. Congress.

Marilyn Schreffler, 1945-1988, Topeka, voice of Olive Oyl in the Popeye cartoon series; Vernon L. Smith, Milan, received the Nobel Prize in economics in 2002 for founding the study of experimental economics; Earl Sutherland, 1915-1974, Burlingame, winner of the Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine in 1971.

Clyde Tombaugh, 1906-1997, Burdette, astronomer, discovered the planet Pluto in 1930, Vivian Vance, 1912-1979, Cherryvale, television actress; and Rudolph Wendelin, 1910, Rawlins County, created Smokey the Bear design.

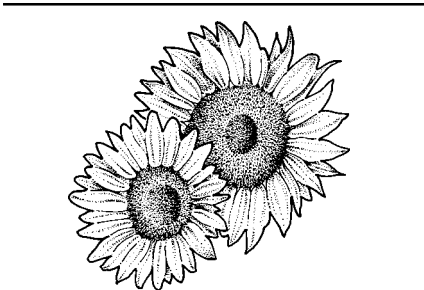
Answers to the Kansas Day quiz: 1-a; 2-b; 3-c; 4-c; 5-b; 6-a; 7-b; 8-a; 9-a; 10-c; 11-a; 12-b; 13-a.



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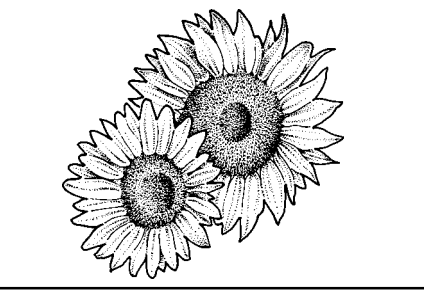
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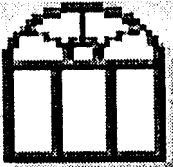
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