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Lost CHAINSAW

Lost Jonsered 670 Super Chainsaw on November 11 @ 6:30 pm between North St. and High Rise

REWARD OFFERED

Call James Nelson - 785-531-2478

Lost Bluetooth Speaker

Verizon Bluetooth Speaker, black, 10" x 3"

Lost at December Vesper Craft Show

REWARD OFFERED

Contact Ron Rathbun - 785-531-0737

# Lincoln PTCO hosts Daddy/Daughter dance



The Lincoln PTCO Winter Wonderland Daddy/Daughter dance was enjoyed by over 90 participants. The commons area of Lincoln Jr Sr High School was converted into a winter themed venue that allowed plenty of room to dance the night away. Bottom Left: Josh and Alyse Lyne. Bottom Right: Caleb and Kimberlyn Swisher. (Photos courtesy of Taylor Lebien)



## Winter Wonderland



### Is Winter Over? Groundhog Day 2024



Groundhog Day is a tradition observed in the United States and Canada on Feb. 2 every year. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow and sees its shadow, it will retreat to its den and winter will go on for six more weeks. However, if it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive early. The weather lore was brought from German-speaking areas where the badger is the forecasting animal. It is related to the lore that clear weather on the Christian festival of Candlemas forebodes a prolonged winter. Weather a badger or a groundhog, the rodents need to hone their skills to improve their predictive success.

# The changing of the guard, USD 298 hires new superintendent



NIKKI FLINN



SCOTT CRENSHAW

By Jyll Phillips, Lincoln-Sentinel

In response to the recent retirement announcement of USD #298 Superintendent Scott Crenshaw, the USD 298 board of education has voted unanimously to hire Mrs. Nikki Flinn for the position with a two-year contract at a special board meeting Wednesday, December 27, 2023. She has resigned her current position as LJSHS and LES Principal effective at the end of this contract year.

“The board likes the direction and the continuity that has been displayed in the past few years and would like to continue with 298 on a great path of success,” Board president John Butenhoff said. “We feel Nikki is the right person to continue what has been started and to keep pushing Lincoln to be a great district to live and work in.”

Flinn is a 2002 graduate of Lincoln Jr/Sr High School. An educational professional, she began as a classroom teacher at the high school level, soon moving into the role of principal at the high school. Soon, the role of principal at the elementary school added to her responsibilities. She will begin her district leadership role effective July 1, 2024, as Superintendent of Schools.

Flinn’s official position will be Superintendent and grade school principal. She will work between the two buildings, as she currently operates, but her primary office will be at the board office downtown.

USD 298’s current superintendent, Scott Crenshaw, and his wife, USD 298 counselor Renee Crenshaw, have announced their retirement with the end of the current contract year. Crenshaw has been with the district since the 2020/2021 school year, joining USD 298 just in time to deal with the COVID crisis amid serious financial issues. Upon his hiring, the USD 298 board of education challenged him to “fix” the finances and make the district as strong financially as we are in community spirit. At the time, the district was in a five-year decline in every financial category, requiring difficult and unpopular decisions.

“I am proud to say that USD 298 has turned that decline around and we are better off financially than any time in the past ten years,” said Crenshaw.

Besides the improvements in the district’s financial picture, Crenshaw has added several accomplishments to his resume, not the least of which is the L-Tech program.

For several years it has been possible for high school students to earn college credit before graduation. Because not all careers required a college degree, and because most professions do require some form of continuing education, Crenshaw saw a need within the district to help trade-minded students gain knowledge and experience prior to high

See “USD 298” page 5

# USD 299 to make special presentations

By Jyll Phillips, Lincoln-Sentinel

In an effort to immortalize the leadership, dedication and kindness toward the district, its students and their parents, USD 299 will be renaming the gymnasium at Sylvan-Lucas Unified High School the Jude Stecklein Gymnasium. Stecklein was a teacher, principal, superintendent of schools and coach for any sport that needed one for many years in the USD 299 district.

The court naming will occur between varsity basketball games Friday, February 2.

Sylvan Speech, who as a team ended their 2023 season as Class 1A State Champs, will be presented their state champion banner. Individual state champions will also be honored. These presentations will occur following the varsity basketball contests. Sylvan Speech is coached by Mrs. Linda Haring.

### Cash Grain

Wheat.....	\$5.94
Corn.....	\$4.61
Sorghum.....	\$4.26
Soybeans.....	\$11.35

Cash prices courtesy of bankoftescott.com



Community Calendar

Thursday, February 1

USD 298: HS Regional Scholars Bowl @ LJSHS; JH BB PTL Tournament @ Osborne  
USD 299: JH BB PTL Tourney @ Osborne; Scholars Bowl (Regionals) @ Oberlin

Friday, February 2

USD 298: 4 pm HS BB @ Pike Valley (Courtland)  
USD 299: Little Cheer Performance; Sweet-heart; 4 pm HS BB vs Thunder Ridge

Saturday, February 3

Lincoln: 5:30 pm Conservation Dist. Annual Meeting @ Lincoln Sr/Jr High  
Vesper: BINGO @ the Community Center  
USD 298: JH BB PTL Tournament @ Osborne; KSHSAA Piano Regional Festival  
USD 299: Forensics Meet @ Norton; JH BB PTL Tourney @ Osborne; Regional Piano Festival @ FHSU; 10 am Wrestling Phillipsburg Tournament

Sunday, Febraury 4

Monday, February 5

USD 298: HS NPL League Band @ Rock Hills (1pm - Rehearsal; 6pm - Concert); 5 pm JH PTL Scholars Bowl @ Lakeside (Downs); 4 pm HS BB @ LaCrosse  
USD 299: 1 pm NPL League Band @ Rock Hills; 1 pm League JH Scholar Bowl @ Downs; 6 pm NPL League Band Concert @ Rock Hills

Tuesday, February 6

USD 298: 4 pm HS BB vs Southern Cloud  
USD 299: Academic Recognition; FFA Officer Meeting -Seminar; 4 pm HS BB vs Stockton

Wednesday, February 7

USD 298: 11 am PTL/NPL Monthly Mtg @ Beloit  
USD 299: FFA Poultry @ Riley County; 1 pm NPL Meeting

Commodity Distribution held the third Wednesday every other month at the Lincoln Senior Center. (September, November, January, March, May, July)

Lincoln County Historical Society meets second Monday of each month @ 6 p.m.; Lincoln County Historical Museum is open Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays. Call 202.744.9041.  
LCEDF meets the second Wednesday of each month in the Courthouse basement. Call 524-8954 for meeting time.  
The Lincoln County Commission meets each Monday, and the last working day of the month, at the courthouse.

Lincoln Senior Center

MENU

Monday, February 5

Ham , Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit & Roll

Tuesday, February 6

Sloppy Joe w/Bun, Bussel Sprouts, Roasted Potatoes & Fruited Jello

Wednesday, February 7

BBQ Chicken, Hashbrowns, Creamed Corn, Peaches & Bread

Thursday, February 8

Pigs in a Blanket, Baked Beans, Raw Veggies & Fruit

Friday, February 9

Country Fried Steak, Potatoes & Gravy, Mixed Veggies, Mandarin Oranges & Roll

Menu is subject to change.  
Call 785-524-4738 before 9:30 a.m. to reserve a lunch.  
The suggested donation for people over 60 or with current paperwork \$4.00. For people without paperwork or under 60, meals are \$7.00, mandatory.

Sylvan-Lucas Speech and Drama Squad places first in Tournament

The Sylvan-Lucas Speech and Drama Squad captured 1st place in the Republic County Forensics Tournament on Saturday, January 27th. The team finished with 186 points to edge out Phillipsburg, who had 181, and Wamego, who ended with 177 points. Individual team members who medaled were Sydney Heller (1st in Oration; 2nd in Extemporaneous Speaking), Macie Ortiz (1st in Oration; 3rd in Duet; 3rd in IDA), Jacob Schultz (2nd in Impromptu and 2nd in Humorous Solo), Anna Feldkamp (2nd in Poetry, 2nd in Duet, 5th in Prose), Lexi McCarter (3rd in Humorous Solo and IDA participant), Leah Criswell (3rd in Duet and 3rd in IDA), Harlan Pan-cost (2nd in Duet and 6th in Prose), Railyne Soukup (4th in Humorous Solo and IDA participant), Saydee Goss (5th in Oration), and Lydia Heffel (5th in Serious Solo). Other team members earning points for the team were Isaac Schultz (Prose and Impromptu), Abby Feldkamp (Prose and Poetry), Hallie Thielen (Informative), Delaney McCollum (Prose), Layne Battenhoff (IDA), and Ashton Bennison (IDA). The team will travel to Norton next Saturday.

KDA offers Farmers’ Market and Local Food Producer Workshop Series

The Kansas Department of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension (KSRE) will offer four regional Local Food Producer Workshops to assist farmers’ market vendors and managers, and for those wanting to sell food products directly to consumers. Kansas farmers’ mar-kets not only provide a fresh food source, but also stimulate the local economy. In 2023, more than 100 farmers’ mar-kets were registered with KDA’s Central Registration of Farmers’ Markets. “It’s part of our mission to provide education to Kansas farmers’ markets and agricultural busi-nesses to help them grow,” said Russell Plaschka, KDA marketing direc-tor. “These workshops will support them in their endeavors to provide safe and abundant food to Kansas communities.” Workshop topics will vary slightly by location. High-lighted topics include:

- Marketing
- SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks
- Food Safety
- Regulations on Sell-ing Meat, Eggs and Poultry
- Sales Tax for Ven-dors

KDA’s weights and measures program will also offer free scale cer-tification at the work-shops for attendees. Dates and locations for the Local Food Producer Workshops are as follows:

Friday, Feb. 9 — Olathe: K-State Olathe  
Saturday, Feb. 10 — Hutchinson: Hutchinson Community College  
Friday, Feb. 23 — Parsons: Southeast Re-search-Extension Center  
Friday, March 1 — Hays: K-State Agricultural Re-search Center  
Registration for the work-shops is now open and is \$20 per participant. Regis-tration forms can be found at [FromtheLandofKansas.com/FMworkshop](https://www.kansas.gov/FMworkshop) or at lo-cal extension offices.  
For more information, contact Robin Dolby, KDA’s From the Land of Kansas marketing coor-dinator, at 785-564-6756 or [fromthelandofkansas@ks.gov](mailto:fromthelandofkansas@ks.gov). The workshops are funded by the Kan-

sas Center for Sustain-able Agriculture and Al-ternative Crops, Kansas Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, and sponsored by KSRE and KDA. KDA is committed to providing an environment that enhances and encour-ages economic growth of the agriculture industry and the Kansas economy. The Kansas Ag Growth Strategy has identified training for small com-panies via workshops as a key growth outcome for the specialty crop sector. The Local Food Producer Workshops will provide education through part-nerships to help make Kansas farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses more successful.

K-State Weed Management Schools scheduled for February 12, 13 and 14th

A series of weed management schools will take place in north-west and north central Kansas, during the month of February, and are hosted by local K-State Research & Extension county and district offices. Controlling difficult weeds continue to be a significant challenge for producers. To address the topic of weed control, K-State Research and extension has scheduled six regional weed control programs in February. This program has been designed to help producers and agri-business retailers to improve weed control with challenging species and weather conditions. The schools schedule is as follows:

February 12th Beloit – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. First Christian Church  
February 12th Hays– 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. KSU Ag Research Center  
February 13th Phillipsburg – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Phillips Co. 4-H Bulding  
February 13th Atwood – 6:00 p.m. (CT) to 9:30 p.m. Rawlins Co. Fair Building  
February 14th Sharon Springs – 9:00 a.m. to NOON (MT) or 10 am-1 pm (CT), CAB Building, Wallace Co. Fairgrounds  
February 14th Leoti – 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (CT) Wichita Co. Community Building  
The schools will be presented by speakers from Kansas State Univer-sity, Sarah Lancaster, K-State Ex-tension Weed specialist, along with local Extension Agents. Topics will include a Weed Management Up-date, Do you know your adjuvants and a spray table demonstration along with Know your KSU Weed Chemical Book and a question and answer session. So be sure and bring all your questions with you! 3 credit hours for 1A certification along with CCA credits have been applied for. Meals may be served at the loca-tions. Simply check with the local Extension office in that location. There is no cost for the schools, however, pre-registration is re-quested by Friday, February 9th, for all meetings either online at [https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0on8wwMaXKnbd8q](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0on8wwMaXKnbd8q) or call our Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne, or Smith Center.

Legal Notice

(First Published in Lincoln Sentinel-Republican on Wednesday, January 31, 2024)

ORDER FOR CLOSING OF REGISTRATION BOOKS BEFORE PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 19, 2024

Pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2310, notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of February, 2024, all Registration Books for the Primary Election will close at 4:30 p.m. Registration books will remain closed until the 20th day of March, 2024.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of my office this 1st day of February, 2024.

Dawn M Harlow

Dawn M Harlow  
Lincoln County Clerk/County Election Officer

SEAL OF LINCOLN COUNTY, KANSAS

Vesper Community Center

BINGO

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DOORS OPEN @ 5:30pm  
BINGO @ 7:00pm

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BINGO

Hamburgers sundaes pie, floats & more !

785-524-2466 www.vespercc.org  
1247 N 120th Rd Lincoln KS 67455  
Concessions are sold by volunteers to fundraise solely for community purposes

Kansas Milk Production

Milk production in Kansas during December 2023 to-taled 354 million pounds, up 1% from December 2022, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statis-tics Service. The average number of milk cows was 176,000 head, 1,000 head more than December 2022. Milk production per cow averaged 2,010 pounds. Access the National publication for this release at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/h989r321c> Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Thank You, Readers!







Guest Editorial

Proverbial wisdom: ‘One kind word can warm three winter months.’

Over the last couple of weeks, much of the country has seen frigid temperatures and fierce winter weather. When news begins to spread that Jack Frost is planning a visit, prudence prompts us to prepare. Bread, milk, and tissue become hot commodities. Those who are especially vigilant take it a step further, purchasing cat litter for automobile traction and ice melt for slippery sidewalks. At some point during the latest arctic blast, you probably heard a great piece of advice: “Bring your pets inside.” For most of us, our pets are like family. Thus, ensuring their safety is paramount.

While we rightly have concern about the welfare of pets, something often overlooked in the litany of storm preparedness advice is perhaps the most noble: checking in on your neighbors. Even as the snow is melting and clouds give way to sunnier skies, the advice is still timely. Checking in on your neighbors doesn’t merely mean making sure they have the essentials for surviving a snowstorm.

We’ve arrived at the time of the year that is sometimes referred to as “the bleak midwinter.” These are often the coldest months with the harshest weather. Though the winter solstice has passed and the sunsets are slowly beginning to arrive later, our hearts are growing restless awaiting spring’s awakening. This is the time of year when even the most optimistic people sometimes find themselves weighed down by the cold void of the season.

There’s an old Japanese proverb that says, “One kind word can warm three winter months.” As luck would have it, there are roughly three months of winter remaining.

Lebanese-American writer Kahlil Gibran once noted, “Tenderness and kindness are not signs of weakness and despair, but manifestations of strength and resolution.”

Kindness is not the same as unconditional acceptance. It’s a step above tolerance and a step below love. It has been proven remarkably beneficial for the health and well-being of your body, mind, and soul. Kindness can be exuded by anyone, to anyone. You can demonstrate it to friends and strangers alike. You can even extend kindness to your enemies. Likewise, it can be given to those with whom you don’t agree with politically, who profess different creeds, hail from a different background, and even those who are from a different social status.

In this age of putting forth a tough guise, often for the sake of perceived self-preservation, we tend to regard kindness as weakness. President Franklin Roosevelt echoed Gibran’s wisdom when he said, “Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough.”

Just as there is a broad definition of kindness, it’s similarly worth noting that the term neighbor doesn’t exclusively apply to the people on your block. Perhaps a more fitting word would be community. Neighbors include the people who are often overlooked: the shut-ins, the sick, the single mom, the widow or widower, the homesick college student, the veteran, the first responder. Nobody is immune to the seasonal effects on the heart and mind that tend to accompany winter — especially in particularly polarizing times.

See “Guest” page 6

PRAIRIE DOC - By JOHN BISSON, DDS

Why Routine Dental Visits Matter

Routine visits to the dentist are key to maintaining overall health.

Preventive dental care starts at home. We advise patients to brush twice a day, usually in the morning and before bed, for two minutes followed by flossing. Eating healthy is also crucial to maintaining oral health. Sugary foods and beverages are key factors in tooth decay. Acid is produced when the bacteria in your mouth break down sugar. That acid dissolves the tooth surface leading to tooth decay.

Preventive dental care continues by visiting the dentist regularly, ideally every six months. Those with a high risk of tooth decay, periodontal disease, and bone loss may need to visit more often. This high-risk group includes smokers, diabetics, pregnant women, or individuals with diagnosed periodontal disease. Children should have their first visit to the dentist when the first tooth erupts

or by their first birthday, whichever comes first.

Routine dental cleanings and exams allow dental professionals to catch potential tooth-related problems early before they become major issues. For example, if a tooth has a small amount of decay, that tooth may be easily saved with a filling. If the tooth decay or fracture goes undetected for months or years, that decay can continue to break down the tooth which could lead to even bigger problems. Untreated cavities can also lead to infections under the gums. These infections can result in more serious systemic infections in the body. In rare cases, these infections can be fatal.

Routine dental visits can also be key to detecting certain health issues early on like oral & skin cancer and gum disease. Gum disease has connections to heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and high blood pressure. Dental x-rays can also detect

problems below the surface of the tooth or gums before they become bigger issues.

Oral issues can develop and progress quickly. It is never too late to begin healthy dental habits. Regular, preventive dental checkups help you avoid the pain, time, and expenses that dental problems can bring with them.

John Bisson, DDS is a dentist and owns Bisson Dental in Brookings, SD. Dr. Bisson is originally from Sturgis, SD but moved to Brookings in 2015 and opened Bisson Dental in 2018. For more information about Bisson Dental head here, <https://www.bisson-dental.com/>. Follow The Prairie Doc® at [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show providing health information based on science, built on trust, streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

SPICE UP YOUR LIFE - LINDSAY YOUNG

Take a ‘leek’ at the recipe for some savory potato soup



Leek and potato soup has a velvety mouthfeel from potatoes and heavy cream, along with a deep, delicious onion flavor from freshly sauteed leeks.

An article from “Eat This, Not That” Back when I started this column 10 years ago, I thought people would be coming out of the woodwork to offer up recipes for me to try. I signed off each week with a request for submissions.

In that first year, I think I received about five or six.

I learned quickly that people don’t like to share their favorite recipes—at least not with the general, newspaper-reading public.

I get it. Recipes can certainly be something sacred for a lot of us. They’re often more than food—they’re memories. I try to remember that when someone sends me a family favorite, something that they regularly make in their own kitchen. That person isn’t just sending me a list of ingredients and instructions; they’re sharing a piece of themselves, and that’s something special.

selfes, and that’s something special.

If you haven’t guessed, I don’t have a link from a blog to tell you where to find the original of the recipe I tried this week. Instead, this recipe was shared with me by our dear family friend, Jim Kanady. I added garlic to my version, and I used my blender a bit, too.

Potato Leek Soup

- Ingredients
- 2 sticks butter
  - 2 leeks, sliced
  - salt, pepper, and cayenne pepper to taste
  - 4 to 6 cloves garlic, minced
  - 1 quart chicken broth
  - 1 tablespoon cornstarch
  - 4 cups Yukon gold potatoes, diced
  - 2 cups heavy cream
  - oyster crackers, for serving

Directions

Heat a Dutch oven or stockpot with a lid over medium heat and add the butter. Once the butter is melted, add the leeks, salt, pepper and cayenne, and saute until the leeks are soft (10 to 15 minutes). Add the garlic and saute for about two minutes until it is lightly browned and fragrant.

Stir in the cornstarch until it is completely soaked up in the butter, and then pour in the chicken broth, stirring well.

Add the potatoes and turn the burner to high. Once the soup is boiling,

reduce the heat to medium-low and pour in the cream. Place the lid on the pot and let the soup simmer for about 30 minutes or until the potatoes are fork tender. Stir it occasionally while it simmers.

Taste the soup to see if it is seasoned to your liking. If you want it a bit thicker, use an immersion blender or regular blender to partially blend the soup, making sure to leave some potato chunks.

Serve with oyster crackers and some crusty bread on the side.

This was absolutely delicious. It’s a simple recipe, but the leeks give it a deep, onion-y flavor that isn’t harsh at all, and the addition of the potatoes and cream make it thick and hearty.

It heated up really well as leftovers, too, and when we didn’t quite have enough for another two servings after a couple meals of enjoying it, we ate the last bit alongside grilled cheese sandwiches, which was also a winning combination.

And every time I grabbed a delicious bowl, I thought of Jim and his friendship with our family. The only thing that could have been better would have been eating the meal together.

*Spice Up Your Life is a weekly recipe column by Lindsey Young, who describes herself as an enthusiastic amateur cook and can be reached through her website at [spiceupkitchen.net](http://spiceupkitchen.net).*

Post Rock Extension District - By SANDRA L. WICK

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION-POST ROCK DISTRICT CROP PRODUCTION AGENT

Do you have weed management plans for 2024?

Wow.....what a blessing with the snow that most of the state of Kansas received over this last couple of weeks! This was extremely important that helped insulate the wheat crop when we experienced sub-zero temperatures and for the moisture! Let’s hope we continue to receive more moisture!

You might think it is a bit early to start thinking about those weeds that can magically appear in your crop fields. Weeds compete with your wheat crop for light, water, nutrients, and space. Uncontrolled weeds in wheat decrease yields, lower quality and interfere with harvest. Stay tuned and I will share with you some weed strategies to think about.

It is important to scout fields and properly identify young weed seedlings early in the season to develop an effective weed management strategy. Understanding the life cycle of the weeds will also help with identification and control. Basically, weeds are divided into different categories depending on their emergence and growth pattern. There are winter annuals, summer annuals and perennials. Winter annual weeds generally emerge in the fall of the year, go dormant over winter, resume active growth in the spring, and then flower and set seed before dying in the summer. Winter annual weeds are generally most susceptible to herbicides in the fall or before they have begun to bolt or joint in the spring. These

include grasses and broadleaves such as cheat grasses, jointed goat grass, mustards, field pennycress or henbit. Winter annual weeds are usually the most abundant type of weeds in winter wheat because they have a similar life cycle.

There are several herbicide options for controlling winter annual broadleaf weeds in wheat. Generally, fall applications will provide the best control of winter annual weeds with any herbicide, as long as the weeds have emerged. The majority of winter annual weeds usually will emerge in the fall, although you can still have some emergence in the spring, especially if precipitation after planting is limited in the fall. However, winter annual weeds that emerge in the spring often are not very competitive with the crop, at least in years when there is a good crop stand. Some of the wheat stands are okay or better than last year, so you may want to keep an eye out on how the wheat is competing against the weeds once it warms up.

Some herbicides can work well even when applied during the dormant part of the season, while others perform best if the crop and weeds are actively growing. The key difference relates to the degree of soil activity provided by the herbicide. Herbicides that have good residual activity, such as Glean, Finesse, Amber, and Rave can generally be applied in January and February when plants aren’t ac-

tively growing and still provide good weed control, assuming you have proper conditions for the application. Most other herbicides, which depend more on foliar uptake, will not work nearly as well during the mid-winter months, when the wheat and weeds aren’t actively growing, as compared to a fall or early spring application.

Spring herbicide applications can be effective for winter annual broadleaf weed control as well, but timing and weather conditions are critical to achieve good control. Spring applications generally are most effective on winter annual broadleaf weeds soon after green-up when weeds are still in the rosette stage of growth, and during periods of mild weather. Once weeds begin to bolt and wheat starts to develop more canopy, herbicide performance often decreases dramatically. Please give me a call if you have further questions on weed management.

The Post Rock Extension District will be hosting one of the KSU NC/NW regional Weed Management Update schools on Monday, February 12, in Beloit. The meeting will be held at the First Christian Church, 321 N. Mill Street, and will start at 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. 3 credit hours for CEU 1A certification along with CCA credits have been applied for. Lunch will be served following the program thanks to sponsor CVA. No cost, however, registration is re-

See “POST” page 6



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SHOP KANSAS FARMS

Four Impacts Shop Kansas Farms Made Since the Pandemic

I was asked to serve on a social media panel at American Farm Bureau Federation's Annual Convention recently in Salt Lake City. One question was what the impact of Shop Kansas Farms has been.

I'd like to share my answers with you, and I'd love to hear what you have to add!

There were at least four areas of impact.

1. Tens of thousands of people fell in love with Kansas farmers and ranchers like I have while I was writing about them for Kansas Farm Bureau's membership magazine, Kansas Living. Since I have spent two decades in international hunger relief, I understood the initial explosive growth was driven by fear. Empty shelves at the grocery store stirred fear in people, wondering where they were going to purchase food for their family. Suddenly, through Shop Kansas Farms (SKF), they discovered the farmer down the road from them had the food they needed. Their fears were settled. I wrote an Op-Ed for Sara Wyant at Agri-Pulse titled, "Kansas Farmers Calm Public Fears" There is a principle in the Bible that says love casts out fear. I believe people fell in love with the farmers and ranchers

who calmed their fears and gave them hope. We now have 164,000 members on our Facebook group plus another 10,000 shoppers a month hit our website looking for farmers. That means we have helped tens of thousands of people truly know their farmer and know their food. Farmers and ranchers have a fan club!

2. Kansas farmers and ranchers prospered. Once such farmer had 800 hogs ready to go then at the last minute, the packing house called and canceled the order. Suddenly, he was faced with the dilemma of having to euthanize his herd, but he found a local locker to work with and, by the time the year was over, he had sold those 800 head directly to consumers plus an additional 1,600. He profited that year instead of losing a herd of 800 hogs. I've conducted 50 interviews for my book that will be released in April titled, "Harvesting Hope: The Shop Kansas Farms Story." Every farmer I interviewed said they found new markets and new revenues through Shop Kansas Farms.

3. Real time education happened as farmers and ranchers learned how to talk to consumers and vice versa. For example, a consumer would ask,

"I want to buy a cow." A farmer would come on and say, "Well, umm, you might not want a cow but what you really want is a steer." Or a farmer would state, "I have a beef going in with a live weight at 1,200 pounds and the hanging weight will be about 900 pounds then the final weight of the meat will be determined by what kind of cuts you tell the butcher to make." Consumers would scratch their heads and wonder what planet that language came from. The unique thing is that SKF is NOT a focus group; it's real people with real money wanting real food and real answers.

4. It continues to grow. One thing I've learned from farmers is to be a good steward and plan for long-term growth. We added a website with a searchable map and directory so people can find their local farmers easier. We help existing farms as well as new farms find new customers, and have started the Market of Farms, which is a twist on the farmers' market idea. Farmers markets are usually local vendors and local customers and it's not just food related. However, our Market of Farms events draw vendors from all over the state as well as consumers from all over

the region. Our first one in Lyons had more than 1,400 consumers and more than 40 farmers and ranchers selling their food products. Our next one is in Caldwell on March 8. Furthermore, we have also helped communities start their own Harvest Hubs, first in Rice County and now in Caldwell with the Border Queen Harvest Hub. A Harvest Hub is a community-based approach to create economic opportunities for farms and ranches by establishing a physical system of production, processing and distribution of local food that can be purchased by local, regional and national consumers. We can help you start one in your community, too.

Like any crop a farmer plants, we have tended to Shop Kansas Farms in such a way that it will continue to grow and create even greater impacts. We want to make it easy for consumers to find and purchase food from local farms and ranches, plus we want to help people who grow food find more customers. That's been our goal from day one: To connect you to the wonderful farm and ranch families of Kansas so you can purchase the food they raise.

You can find a farm near you on our website: [www.shopkansasfarms.com](http://www.shopkansasfarms.com)

Insight - Kansas Farm Bureau

Caring is a superpower

Glenn Brunkow  
Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

When I was in grade school there were very few things I enjoyed as much as a good snow day. When school was called off, I got to play outside in the snow making snowmen and having snowball fights. It's funny how things change over the years.

Then, when I was old enough to be useful help, Dad saw a snow day as a chance for extra chore help. This made the day not nearly as much fun, but it still beat the alternative of being in school. Snow days were tolerable and even enjoyable.

Fast forward to the present, snow days are not nearly as much fun. In fact, I really don't like them. Don't get me wrong, I do appreciate the moisture they bring. I just wish there was some way to get moisture without mud.

Snow and the cold associated with it just add another layer of difficulty to everyday chores and come with added stress and worry when it comes to the livestock I care for. I do have to stop and appreciate the beauty of the snow, but that appreciation is short lived when it comes to feeding and bedding livestock.

We know that in agriculture there is no such thing as a snow day. I always get amused when the local news advises everyone to stay inside, rest and relax when the weather turns bad. There is no rest and relaxation for those of us who own livestock.

Am I complaining about this, well, maybe a little, if I am going to be honest. Would I trade taking care of my animals, even in the worst of conditions, for another job? I wouldn't trade this way of life for any other, no matter how demanding or uncomfortable it may be.

Our livestock come first, and winter weather means long days before the storm, preparing for it. Longer days during the storm as we make sure all the animals are cared for as well as we can and more long days after the storm making sure that we are ready for the next round of inclement weather.

Even when we are inside, warm and dry, our thoughts are with our livestock. I think I have spent more nights pacing the floors, hoping and praying everything is OK than I want to admit. We dedicate our lives to the care of our animals, and we should be proud of that.

We take care of what is entrusted to us without giving it a second thought, coming inside just long enough to warm up, change into dry clothes before charging back into the cold, ice and snow. All of this to ensure that our consumers can be assured they will be able to have their bowl of chili or lamb stew.

Caring for livestock may not be as cool as flying as fast as a speeding bullet or driving the Bat Mobile, but make no mistake, it is our superpower.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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school graduation in the same way college-bound students earn credit. It took negotiation and planning, but with the board's support, Crenshaw formed a partnership with Salina Technical College to offer welding, auto, and diesel technology. The program has become popular and inspired further hopes for vocational/technical development.

"I know Nikki has the ability and the vision to take your district to the next level and be a great superintendent," Crenshaw said, in reference to the board's choice for his replacement. "The community is lucky to have her continue to be a part of it. Nikki offers something that someone who did not grow up here cannot offer. She is determined to see this district succeed."

While Flinn familiarizes herself with the district office, the Crenshaws will be traveling. The couple enjoys weekends at the lake and retirement will allow those weekends to stretch in duration and the distance away from home. Retirement will afford the couple more time to visit with family, and for both of them enjoy the great outdoors.

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### Legal Notice

(First Published in Lincoln Sentinel-Republican on Wednesday, January 31, 2024)

City of Lincoln Center, Kansas

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Period from	October 1, 2023	To	December 31, 2023	
Funds	Balance Forward	Receipts	Withdrawals	Balance
General Operating	\$920,879.93	\$273,477.26	\$257,822.75	\$936,534.44
Water Utility	\$612,318.11	\$83,584.93	\$173,257.03	\$522,646.01
Electric Utility	\$3,070,813.94	\$527,380.26	\$587,090.77	\$3,011,103.43
Sewer Utility	\$380,313.34	\$59,696.42	\$56,812.85	\$383,196.91
Special Liability	\$80,883.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,883.46
G.O. Bond & Interest	\$76,547.34	\$292.40	\$31,772.50	\$45,067.24
Library	\$6,189.49	\$940.54	\$7,130.03	\$0.00
Special Street	\$227,183.68	\$7,928.30	\$0.00	\$235,111.98
Equipment Reserve Fund	\$222,166.27	\$46,074.29	\$38,794.00	\$229,446.56
Employee Benefits	\$46,259.03	\$1,074.47	\$7,533.73	\$39,799.77
Payroll Withholding	\$10,695.32	\$3,584.83	\$3,059.15	\$11,221.00
Sp. Park & Recreation	\$18,358.09	\$987.99	\$0.00	\$19,346.08
Solid Waste Service	\$15,460.84	\$25,948.70	\$28,695.09	\$12,714.45
Cemetery Trust	\$81,922.53	\$523.04	\$3,578.80	\$78,866.77
Recreation Fund	\$143,463.44	\$4,938.15	\$23,019.31	\$125,382.28
Water Reserve	\$180,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$210,000.00
Light Reserve	\$400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Sewer Reserve	\$75,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00
Project Fund	\$8,560.00	\$47,575.00	\$39,415.00	\$16,720.00
Covid-19 Fed Funds	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Water Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$6,573,623.41	\$1,229,006.58	\$1,257,981.01	\$6,648,040.38

The Airport, Band, Cemetery, Defense, Swim Pool Operation, and Tennis Court Maintenance Funds are carried as sub-accounts in the General Operating Fund.

Balance on Deposit:	
Citizens State Bank:	\$3,567,247.09
Bank of Tescott:	\$3,198,243.61
Petty Cash:	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$6,765,990.70
Outstanding Warrants:	\$117,950.32
Net Balance on Deposit:	\$6,648,040.38

CITY DEBT	
General Obligation Bond, Series 2017	\$391,000.00
General Obligation Bond, Series 2008	\$35,000.00
Sewer Project	\$23,826.09
TOTAL	\$449,826.09

INVESTMENTS OWNED BY CITY	
Citizens State Bank - NOW	\$19,318.95
Citizens State Bank - Savings & CD	\$3,547,928.14
Bank of Tescott - NOW	\$574,636.00
Bank of Tescott - Savings & CD	\$2,620,397.45

OF THE	
(Included in Net Balance on Deposit)	TOTAL
\$6,648,040.38	\$6,762,280.54

I, Kimberly Meyer, Do Hereby Certify that the Above Statement is Correct

Signed *Kimberly Meyer* Title: Treasurer

Subscribed and Sworn Before Me this 20 day of February 2024

(SEAL) *Kimberly Meyer* City Clerk

My Commission Expires 20 day of February 2024







NOTICE

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that, to the best of our knowledge, all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. Equal Housing Opportunity.

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# SYLVAN-LUCAS SWEEPS NPL BATTLE FROM NATOMA

Girls: Sylvan-Lucas 70, Natoma 11  
Boys: Sylvan-Lucas 48, Natoma 16

Written by Erik Stone, krls.com

Maggie Labertew scored 17 points and Serenity Steineke added 12 points of her own as the Sylvan-Lucas Lady Mustangs were in control from start to finish on their way to a 70-11 win over Natoma Monday evening in Northern Plains League action at Sylvan-Lucas Unified High School.

Labertew and Steineke combined for 13 first quarter points as Sylvan-Lucas raced to a 24-0 lead after the first eight minutes. The lead grew to 43-3 by halftime and 57-9 after three quarters before the Lady Mustangs cruised to their sixth win of the season.

Natoma (3-6, 1-3 NPL), playing its first game in 17 days after the Northern Plains League Tournament was canceled was led by eight points from Caylie Lyle. Meanwhile, Sylvan-Lucas (6-3, 4-0 NPL) had 11 different players score. Sylvan-Lucas' loss to Osborne on Saturday did not count in the league standings since the two teams will play again later this season.

In the Boys game, Connor Charvat scored 12 points and Cade Brokes added 11 points off the bench as the Mustangs cruised to a 48-16 win over their guests from Natoma.

Sylvan-Lucas led 21-2 after the first quarter and increased the lead at intermission to 32-4 then led 43-10 before settling for the 32-point win, their third straight in the series after losing at Natoma on January 12, 2021.

As was the case in the Girls game, 11 different players scored for Sylvan-Lucas (4-5, 4-0 NPL) as the Mustangs bounced back from a 19-point loss on Saturday at Osborne. Leading the way for Natoma (0-9, 0-4 NPL) was Kelden Rubottom who scored eight points including six in the fourth quarter.

Both schools will be in action on Tuesday evening. Sylvan-Lucas travels to Miltonvale for a doubleheader with Southern Cloud while the Natoma Boys will host Chase, which has moved this year from the Northern Plains League to the Central Prairie League. That game will tip off at 6 p.m. Both Natoma teams will be in action on Friday, January 26 at home against Lincoln.

Both schools are continuing efforts to make up games that were lost due to the cancellation of the NPL Tournament.

Natoma Athletics Director Kurt Grafel told KRSI sports on Monday evening that the postponed games against Stockton from January 19 have been rescheduled for February 8 and will be played in Stockton instead of Natoma.

Sylvan-Lucas Athletics Director Tyler Gier confirmed to KRSI sports that the games against Osborne originally scheduled to be played on the road on February 13 will now be played at Sylvan-Lucas.

## Area high school Basketball scores for Friday, January 26th

**GIRLS**  
Lincoln 45, Natoma 30  
Sylvan-Lucas 57, Otis-Bison 42  
Tescott 23, St. John's/Tipton 61

**BOYS**  
Lincoln 80, Natoma 22  
Sylvan-Lucas 36, Otis-Bison 34  
Tescott 38, St. John's/Tipton 63

# LINCOLN DOMINATES AT NATOMA

Girls: Lincoln 45, Natoma 30 • Boys: Lincoln 80, Natoma 22



ALYSSA LOPEZ (3), KYLIE HULL (14), CARISA MCBRIDE (30)



JASMINE FENN (5)



HAZEL METZ (10)



JORDAN MEYER (13)



LEVI BATES (15)



JEREMIAH MILLER (3)



CALEB DOTTERER (10)