



The next stop on our trip was Mitchell, South Dakota. Home to the world’s only corn palace. Some 500,000 tourists come from all around the nation each year to see the murals designed and made out of corn kernels.

The history of the corn palace is interesting. In 1892, when Mitchell, South Dakota was just twelve years old and having a population of just 3,000, the inception of having a palace made out of corn came about. The idea of having such an unusual building would offer a gathering place where city residents and their rural neighbors could enjoy a fall festival. This tradition continues today with the annual Corn Palace Festival. It is held in late August of each year.

It was such a success, that a bigger Corn Palace had to be built in its place in 1905, and then, an even bigger Corn Palace in 1919, which replaced the 1905 version. This one has been the permanent one since that time. The



present one took two years to finish and was completed in 1921, just in time for the corn palace Festivities. That winter, Corn Palace hosted its first boy’s state basketball tournament. The building was considered to have the finest basketball arena in the upper Midwest area.

In the 1930’s, steps were taken to recapture the artistic decorative features of the building and minarets and kiosks of Moorish design were added restoring the appearance of the early day Corn Palace.

Today, the Corn Palace is more than the home of the festival or a point of interest for tourists. It is a practical structure adaptable to many purposes. It is used for industrial exhibits, dances, stage shows, meetings, banquets, proms, graduations, basketball championships and the day we were there,



for an indoor rodeo complete with dirt covering the floor of the building!

The outside of the Palace is redecorated each year with naturally colored corn and other grains and native grasses to make it “the agricultural showplace of the world.” They currently use 12 different colors of shades of corn to decorate the Corn Palace. Red, brown, black, blue, white, orange, calico, yellow and now they have even used green corn to complete the scenery on the outside of the building.

A different theme is chosen each year, and murals are designed to reflect that theme. Ear by ear, the corn is nailed to the Corn Palace to create a scene. The decorating process usually starts in late May with the removal of the rye and dock. The corn murals are stripped at the end of August and the new ones are completed by the first of October.

The Corn Palace is known around the world as a folk-art wonder on the prairie of South Dakota. Mural designs are created by Dakota Wesleyan University students who are enrolled in a Digital Media and Design course.

My husband and I both went there with our parents when we were little. The spires are now modern and made out of steel. We both thought that it seemed so much smaller and less grand than when we were kids. There were some touristy shops across from it but there wasn’t really anything like what we remember. We will not be going back as it has become- on the “been there, done that” list.

Until next week, many blessings and keep on making good memories.

THE RYCKMAN RECAP

From the Statehouse to Your House

March 1, 2025

Dear Friends ...

Week 7 of the Legislature -- especially when contrasted with the week before -- truly epitomized the metaphor “running hot and cold.” That’s because just seven days after we had feverishly worked through 61 bills while the temperature was zero degrees outside we took final action on just three measures while it had warmed up externally to 70 degrees! Ultimately, it’s all about deadlines and timing, I suppose, as this initial period after so-called “Turnaround” is almost like beginning a new Session. It reminded me of a funny anecdote from a guest speaker at the Dole Institute in Lawrence years ago when he was asked how he made the transition from being a political speechwriter in our Nation’s Capital to becoming a producer of the hit TV series “The West Wing” in Hollywood. “Oh, it was very difficult,” he responded, “because in D.C. it was all ‘dog eat dog,’ but in L.A. it was just the opposite!”

“Just the opposite” was, indeed, the result of Senate action on the proposed Convention of States resolution, as after multiple failed attempts over the past 10 years it finally cleared our body by the necessary 2/3 margin. If SCR 1604 is also approved by the House, that would make Kansas

the 20th state to support a so-called “Article 5” assembly for addressing constitutional changes in the specified areas of balanced budgets, term limits, and restrictive government. Lots of folks in our area have weighed-in on this idea -- most all in favor, though some with concerns about a potential “runaway” gathering that could re-write the entire Constitution. In reality, though, established safeguards would still apply and any changes would require approval of ¾ of the state legislatures. Then, too, Congress would undoubtedly “get its act together” quickly -- especially on spending -- if the prospect of a Convention became imminent.

Not quite “on the horizon” just yet, but interesting presentations took place in the House this past week on the potential use of drones that could “revolutionize” the agriculture industry. Supposedly, we’re behind other states in advancing the technology, but can catch up quickly with the help of FAA platforms and safety measures. Another hot topic that has captured a lot of interest is improvements in FLEX accounts for water rights and management purposes. The bill addressing that subject, SB 58, passed the Senate last week 40-0, so should clearly have

smooth sailing. We will undoubtedly be hearing more about the matter next Monday in our Ag Committee when we begin the budget hearing process with the Kansas Water Office. We switch to Wildlife and Parks on Tuesday, but my mind (and appetite!) will surely be on Liberal’s March 4 International Pancake Day!

I truly enjoyed my first “home” Town Hall meeting of the year at the Library in Meade this morning because everyone was so personable and grateful for the chance to hear directly what is going on in Topeka. They seemed to find interesting as well a little two-page handout I distributed to kind of highlight what we have been doing at the Capitol. I took advantage, too, of the opportunity to brag a little bit about the Jetmore, Cimarron, and Ashland Kansas Livestock Association youth members with whom I had gotten to interact at their big steak-fest three days earlier. What impressively bright, respectful, and well-attired future ranchers they are -- and how proud I am to be able to represent them! I thank all of you for that same honor and privilege, mindful that it carries with it a responsibility to make good decisions on your behalf. Welcome to March!



217 S. Sequoyah
Satanta, KS 67870
(620) 649-3364
robsonfuneralhome.com



“Providing unmatched service to Southwest Kansas since 1968”

Serving Satanta, Hugoton, Ulysses and Elkhart



DAVIS AESTHETICS AND PRIMARY CARE PLLC

BIG CITY SERVICES

small town care!

- Direct Primary Care
- Sports & DOT Physicals
- Lab Services
- Food, micronutrient, STD, colon cancer testing
- Genesight testing
- Botox & Fillers
- IV Nutrition
- Injections
- Body & Facial Sculpting
- Cellulite Reduction
- PDO Thread Lifts
- IPL Hair Reduction
- Acne treatments
- Pigmentation Correction
- Microdermabrasion
- Dermalux Flex MD LED Phototherapy
- Chemical Peels
- Skin Care by Jan Marini



Cassandra Davis, MSN, FNP, APRN-C

Schedule Your Consult

Davis Aesthetics and Primary Care PLLC
100 W. Chouteau Ave.
Sublette, KS
620-510-5004
www.davisaestheticspc.com



(620) 675-8787
www.sasnakre.com



Agent: Kandi Hoeflner
620-952-0859



Agent: Kristina Sunderland
620-649-3483



Broker: Janie Welsh
Cell: 620-271-2222
Sasnakjanie@gmail.com

508 N. SHOSHONE CT., SATANTA

It's Been REMODELED! Almost 3,000 sq. ft. up, 1,800 sq. ft. down, 2 FP & 2 FmRm, 6 Bd, 4&1/2 Bth, D/A Gar. & Fence!

806 EDELLE AVE. SUBLETTE

PRICE REDUCED! Come check out this New Home, 3 Bd., 2 Bth, Full Basement, D/A Gar., Sprinkler System & Fence!

209 S. CODY ST., SUBLETTE

LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!

1600 Sq. Ft Rock Home, 3 Bd., 2 Bth, FmRm. & D/D gar. with a BONUS RM. & Bth. Close to School, P.O., Downtown.

205 N. MURPHY ST. SUBLETTE

REMODELED & LANDSCAPED. 1500 sq. ft. 750 sq. ft. down, Spacious LV. Rm. 3 BD/ 2 Bth D/A Gar, Carport & Mancave. Fence Yard, Corner Lot

WHITE BEAR MOTEL SATANTA

GOOD CONDITION! On Hwy.56, 12 theme rooms, Mg. Rm. ample parking, by a restaurant.

GOLDEN PRAIRIE MOTEL

909 LAI AND, SUBLETTE

12 Rms+Mg. Quarters, Move-In Ready

769 HWY. 56, SATANTA

RARE FIND!!! Beautiful Ranch Home

14.8 Acres, on Hwy.56. REMODELED! Over 2,000 sq. ft up & 2,000 sq. ft. down. 6 Bd. 4 bth, 3 FP, Office, FM & D/A Gar

210 SE SEMINOLE AVE., SATANTA

Beautiful Brick Home, 2,700 sq.ft & 2,700 sq. ft down. FmRm, SunRm, DinRm., D/A gar. 5 BR., 2 &1/2 Bth, Sprinkler Fence, Spacious yd.

601 SW WICHITA AVE, SATANTA

STATE OF THE ART HOME, Open Floor Plan, 3,582 sq. ft. up. 5 Br, 4 bths, 2 FP, Chief's Kitchen, Family Rm. 2 FP.. D/A gar. Spacious yard, fence, sprinkler system.

409 S. WOOTEN, SUBLETTE

BIGGER THAN IT LOOKS, 3 br,1 Bth, Handicap access. chair lift, 1500, sq. ft.up w/ full basement. S/A Gar. carport, a man cave. Lots of potential

205 N. MURPHY ST. SUBLETTE

REMODELED & LANDSCAPED. 1500 sq. ft. 750 sq. ft. down, Spacious LV. Rm. 3 BD/ 2 Bth D/A Gar, Carport & Mancave. Fence Yard, Corner Lot