

## Burr Oak

By Glennys Barnes

Jessica Barnes reports having made several trips to Lincoln, Kansas, during the week to attend the NPL basketball tournament. The Rock Hills High School Lady Grizzlies placed fifth in the tournament. Brynlee Manning, a freshman, daughter of Jessica Barnes and Greg Manning, is a regular participant on the varsity team.

Kelley Bunting celebrated her birthday on Friday at the local cafe by buying the coffee for the two morning coffee crowds.

Bella Volker and Phoenix Chavez, students at McPherson College stayed the weekend in Burr Oak. They attended Hudson Tucker's basketball game in Kensington on Saturday.

Renita Volker reports she and Cody have a new Bassett puppy who they have named Percival Boyd Henry Volker, aka Percy.

The Burr Oak Community Church service began with candlelighters. Parker and Krew Badger, Brynlee Badger gave the welcome and announcements. Megan Badger led the congregation in The Call to Worship and the Congregational Prayer.

Judy Ost gave the children's message. It was about "Keeping Secrets." Secrets don't keep very well. We hide secrets inside ourselves; things we are ashamed of or have done wrong, such as lying, not obeying our parents, or not sharing. You may think they will stay hidden, but they will be revealed in the end. Always try to do the right thing, so secrets don't have to be hidden.

Two specials were presented. One was from Gail Havens. It was the reading of song lyrics titled "Under the Snow." The second was from Judy Ost, and was a story about money found and how many people would still pick it up if it was crumpled and ground into the dirt because it is still worth something. Life treats us much like this money. We are often beaten down (crumpled), ground into the dirt, feeling worthless. We need to remember that no matter what happens, we will never lose our value. We are all special. We should never forget this.

The offering was collected by Parker Badger. Joys and concerns were shared by all, followed by the Pastoral Prayer led by Judy Ost. The scripture reading was from Philimon 1:1-25. This book in the New Testament is the shortest book in the Bible. It has only one chapter and 25 verses. The message was delivered by video from a pastor in Richmond, Virginia. He told of Paul's letter to Philimon. The Lord changes us and wants us to participate as the world changes. He told of Philimon's slave, Onesimus, who escaped and made his way to Paul. Paul sends him back to Philimon, not as a slave, but as a brother in Christ. Paul told Philimon he was to welcome him as he would Paul should he show up. This caused some issues for Philimon. The Lord changes us as He changes the world. We have problems created as well as opportunities.

Benediction was given by Judy Ost, followed by the closing hymn "God Be with You." Dee Reed accompanied the congregation on organ and piano. Hymns were "We Gather Together," "Precious Lord, Take my Hand" and "Hosanna, Lord Hosanna."

The pledges of allegiance to the flag of the United States and the Chris-

tian Church and to the Bible were led by Pastor Richard Cox on Sunday morning at the Burr Oak Christian Church. Pastor Cox gave the opening prayer and then led the congregational singing. Songs sung during the service were "This Is the Day," "O, How I Love Jesus," "O Come, Let Us Adore Him," "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" and "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus." Wanda accompanied the singing on the piano. Prayer requests, praise reports and announcements were mentioned and prayed for. The Responsive Reading was "The Church." Cliff Barnes and Gary Turner served communion. A brief greeting time followed.

Pastor Cox's message for the morning was entitled "God's Word Is His Special Tool for Us." His selected scripture reading was Romans 10:12-17. How fortunate it is that there are people who are able to use special tools to help us out. Consider the people who bring the message of the good news of Jesus Christ as Savior. No one is out of the reach of that good news. Forgiveness of sin is for everyone through Christ Jesus but not without faith to believe it is true. God's Word is a tool that God uses to call people to Him. God intends all of us to take the message to everyone. Not all will take advantage of the message they receive. Lack of belief of those who hear is not a waste of effort. We need to remember how God works. Verse 17 of this scripture says "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word about Christ. The Word points us to Jesus as the one and only way to salvation. Pastor Cox gave the benediction and "We Are One in the Bond of Love" was sung by the congregation.

Following the service, Cliff and Glennys Barnes served refreshments of summer sausage, cheese and crackers, blueberry-pecan-zucchini bread, a cottage cheese-Jello salad, coffee, tea and hot chocolate in observance of Birthday Sunday.

The Nazarene Church service on Sunday was cut short when a message was received of an unexpected death in the family of many of the members.

Vanna Hart reports the Rock Hills youth basketball 5th grade girls have won all their games. Her daughter, Aryonna, is a member of the team.

Carol Garman has been visiting net children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in Lincoln, Springfield, and Omaha for the last few weeks.

Cheryl (Cockroft) Woerner, Mankato, died at her home Sunday morning. Cheryl was a 1959 graduate of Burr Oak High School. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Mitchie Woerner, son, Arnold and family; daughter, Michelle Schoenrock and family; brothers, Daryl and Dwayne; sister, Janice McCutcheon; grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many other relatives. Her funeral will be at 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 3, at the Burr Oak Church of the Nazarene.

The annual Burr Oak Community Club sponsored pancake/sausage supper was held at the Burr Oak Community Center on Sunday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. Kelley Bunting was in charge of cooking the sausages. Jessica Barnes stirred up the pancake batter and she, Glennys Barnes and Kelley Bunting baked the pancakes. Cliff Barnes served up the sausages and pancakes to those attending. Clean up following the supper was done by those mentioned above and with help from Lianne Gutscher.

Though the turnout for the supper wasn't as large as hoped for, still more than \$400 was taken in to be used for other projects by the club.

The Kansas City Chiefs vs the Buffalo Bills football AFC championship game was shown on the Center's TV set. The next event of the Community Club will be the annual soup supper in February, but no date has been selected yet.

Proceeds from the Community Club events are used to fund two \$500 scholarships for graduating seniors at the Rock Hills High School, for fireworks for the annual Independence Day celebration, a yearly donation to Solomon Valley Transportation and Halloween Trunk or Treat.

The Community Club would like to extend an invitation to anyone in the Burr Oak and surrounding area to join in helping with any or all of these events. The club relies on volunteers to help furnish food for some of the fund raising suppers and these would not be possible without those volunteers.

Cliff and Glennys Barnes accompanied Diana Ord to Franklin on Monday afternoon to attend a four-team junior high boys basketball tournament. Participating were Red Cloud Junior High, Franklin Junior High, Wilcox-Hildreth Junior High and Alma Junior High. The first games were between Alma and Franklin with Alma winning, and Red Cloud and Wilcox-Hildreth with Red Cloud winning. Then the two winners played while the two losing teams played each other. Red Cloud won their game against Alma and received a nice plaque for their efforts. Remington and Kooper Ord are both members of the Red Cloud team. Remington scored 13 and 11 points in the two games and Kooper made a basket.

Workers of the company that is putting in the new water lines are back in Burr Oak this week. Work has begun on the water lines on the west side of the bridge. Kudos to these construction workers who spend some cold days working on the water lines.

## Snippets from Ionia

By Kerma Crouse

Congratulations! Elwyn June Leach was born on Jan. 23, 2025. She was 7 pounds 2 ounces and 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Dakota Leach and Samantha Loomis of Merced, California. Grandparents are Matt and Kara Loomis of Ionia, great-grandparents are Bill and Becky Loomis and Carol Divil of Jewell. It is good to have a new baby with some Ionia roots!

Walter Cornelius will now be greeting you at Echo Dell. Walter C. is a lovely looking Basset Hound. I am looking forward to meeting him in person. Walter traveled with Sue Shoemaker-Shea to Boulder, Colorado, to visit Sue's son, Travis, and daughter, Vanessa. Sue had fun times with grandsons, Asher and Raimier. They headed up to Winter Park for the boys' ski lessons. They are "becoming quite the little skiers" according to their unbiased grandmother! Walter and Sue along with Vanessa and her puppy had lunch at a dog friendly restaurant in Boulder. The pups got their own water bowls!

Tuesday evening, Leon and Karen Boden went out for supper, then Karen attended the Jewell County Helping

Hands Ministries board meeting.

Dick and Gloria Schlaefli were among those enjoying the Chiefs' victory!

Historical Snippet: On Jan. 29, 1861, Kansas became the 34th state to join the United States of America. President James Buchanan signed the legislation passed by the U.S. Congress. The state is now 164 years old. A bit of trivia - the State of Kansas has a State Land Fossil. It is the Silvisaurus Condryi. The animal lived about 100,000 years ago and was a dinosaur. A plant-eating dinosaur with spikes and plates to protect it from meat-eating predators. We have had this state symbol since 2023.

## Preparing for the calving season

By Blaire Todd

Post Rock

livestock production agent

Being prepared for calving season is key to improving the success of a weaned calf crop. Here are some management tips to help plan. It's important to balance cow rations for adequate protein and energy for increased third trimester and subsequent lactation requirements. Try to group and feed cows by body condition and age to the degree possible. The target body condition for first calf heifers at calving is 5.5 to 6 and 5 to 5.5 for mature cows. Prior to calving, develop a sound vaccination program to prepare the cow to produce high quality colostrum.

As always, control lice and internal parasites, plan for recording calving data, make sure facilities are clean and in good repair. Keep ear tags on hand and prepare tools for tattoos, banding or castration. Keep OB chains, a calf puller, OB gloves, OB lube (non-detergent soap and water is one option), non-irritant antiseptic (Betadine or Nolvasan), and a flank rope in case needed to lay a cow down if she needs assistance calving. A cooler can also be used to keep warm water in the calving barn if no other source is available and always keep old towels on hand.

Review basic treatment plans with a local veterinarian prior to calving for issues such as a retained placenta, calf seours, colostrum replacers and supplements and ensure necessary treatments and supplies are readily available including a functional thermometer. Make sure to also know the difference between colostrum supplements and replacers. In most instances, it is best to use replacers that contain at least 100 IgG per dose. Try to have at least two clean and functional esophageal tube feeders on hand that are clearly marked. One should be used for healthy calves, and the other for sick calves.

If possible, plan and watch for any opportunity to collect colostrum from within the herd. Be sure to date and freeze any colostrum collected in quart sized plastic bags. Handle healthy calves before sick calves and avoid exposing newborns to contaminants on clothing or materials used on sick calves. If replacement calves are obtained from outside the herd, plan for their isolation and testing before exposing to the entire herd to reduce the risk of disease.

Develop standard operation procedures for calving and for when assistance may be needed. Include a list of

characteristics of calving and how to know when to intervene and provide contact information for individuals who can give expertise or assistance if it's needed. If the cow has been in stage one for more than 8 hours, it is best to intervene. Stage one characteristics include restlessness, pain, lying down and getting up frequently, and seeking isolation (these signs are more apparent in first-calf heifers than mature cows).

Signs for knowing when to intervene during stage two include the water sack is visible for 2 hours and cow is not pushing, the cow has been trying for more than 30 minutes and no progress is being made, the cow has quit trying for more than 15 to 20 minutes after a period of progress, the cow or calf is showing excessive fatigue or stress (swollen tongue or excessive bleeding), and if the observed calf presentation is other than two front feet and head first.

After calving, calves should have colostrum within the first 2 hours of life, if the calf can't get colostrum from the dam, take steps to give colostrum within 4 to 6 hours of birth. Colostrum intake should be 10 percent of calf's body weight or 0.5 to 1 gallon. The first choice is for the calf to nurse a bottle so that the colostrum goes directly to the abomasum. Don't overfeed to encourage the calf to nurse on its own; a 1.5-quart dose is a good starting point.

Work towards developing a notebook that has all the standard operating procedures for the operation. Include things such as yearly vaccination plans, treatment protocols, calving and calving assistance protocols, euthanasia protocols, drought management plans and weather emergency plans. This will be a valuable resource when communicating with employees, new and old, when reviewing what needs to be improved for the next year or if a health emergency forces someone else to take care of the herd.

For further information, contact any Post Rock Extension District office in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

## Out and about in Jewell

By Kerma Crouse

Congratulations! A new baby with Jewell roots! Elwyn June Leach was born on Jan. 23, 2025. She weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Dakota Leach and Samantha Loomis of Merced, California. Grandparents are Matt and Kara Loomis of Ionia, great-grandparents are Carol Divil and Bill and Becky Loomis, all of Jewell.

Sympathy to the family of Betty Gordanier Kibbe who died Jan. 24, 2025. Betty was born to Arville and Cassie Black Gordanier in Randall. She graduated from Randall High School with the Class of 1950. She married Gordon Kibbe in 1951. They had been married 71 years at his death in 2022. The couple had two daughters, Cynthia and Julie. A memorial service will be held in the spring.

Remember coming up on Monday, Feb. 17, the Jewell County Readers will meet at the Jewell Public Library at 2 p.m. to discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt.

Roberta Holden was reported to be "happy as a lark" with a new hairdo! Roberta, a long time Jewell resident, wrote the Jewell Items for several years.

She now lives in Manhattan, Kansas.

If you are a Randall High School graduate, Thelma Bandon Shelton would like your address so she can send you an invitation to the Alumni Banquet which will be held for the Jewell High School and Randall High School Alumni on the Saturday before Memorial Day at the Jewell Community Center. Please get addresses to "Thelma" asap." Her address is Thelma Shelton PO Box 326, Jewell, Kansas 66949.

Frank and Thelma Shelton had guests Friday night for dominos and snacks. Bob and Sally Engel and Rita Rogers attended.

Darrell and Deb Bohnert, Damon and Shelby Bohnert and family, Skylar and Darcia Hagar and family, all traveled to Harrisonville, Missouri, to celebrate a Surprise 40th Birthday for Jason Bohnert!

From History: On Jan. 29, 1861, Kansas became the 34th state to join the United States of America. President James Buchanan signed the legislation passed by the U.S. Congress. The state is now 164 years old. A bit of trivia - the State of Kansas has a State Land Fossil. It is the Silvisaurus Condryi. The animal lived about 100,000 years ago and was a dinosaur. A plant-eating dinosaur with spikes and plates to protect it from meat-eating predators. We have had this state symbol since 2023.

## Kansas Profile: Clint Brauer, Greenfield Robotics

By Ron Wilson

Who is running through my fields and cutting down the weeds? Or maybe I should ask, what is running through my fields and cutting down the weeds?

A real entrepreneur has founded a business producing autonomous robots that use mechanical means to cut weeds close to the ground on broadacre crops across the Midwest.

It sounds like science fiction, but it's happening in rural Kansas.

Clint Brauer is founder of Greenfield Robotics, which produces these AI-powered farming robots. Brauer is a third-generation farmer who grew up farming with his dad on their place near Cheney.

After graduating from K-State, he worked as a technology executive in Los Angeles. During that 14-year career, he was a data systems pioneer at Sony, launched a Sony e-book system in North America, and was vice president of marketing for Fox Interactive Media.

When his father developed Parkinson's disease, Brauer moved back to Kansas.

"When he got sick, I started to run the farm - which is still going strong - and around then was when the initial idea for Greenfield Robotics was germinated," Brauer said.

"When my dad died, I wanted to create a way to reduce reliance on chemicals in farming, and ultimately remove them altogether," Brauer said.

In 2018, he launched Greenfield Robotics. "We aim to create regenerative, no-till, no-herbicide farming solutions through the use of autonomous robots,

which are built right here in Kansas," Brauer said.

These robots look like yellow metal boxes on wheels with a short antenna on the top. The chassis is approximately two feet wide and five feet long.

The robots are autonomous and leverage artificial intelligence in the forms of machine vision and learning. The chassis can attach to various types of attachments, such as blades for cutting weeds, and be programmed to go through a field cutting down weeds, for example.

With other modular attachments, these robots can be used to plant cover crops, add nutrients such as sea kelp to crops and more.

In practice, the robots are deployed by the company, rather than purchased by the farmer. "We deploy the robots, retrieve them when the job is done and handle any potential maintenance," Brauer said.

When used for cutting weeds on broadacre crops, the robots greatly reduce the need for herbicides.

"These robots are capable of navigating between rows of crops like soybeans, cotton and sorghum with less crop damage than a traditional spray rig," Brauer said. "They cut weeds close to the ground, with spinning blades attached to the front of each robot, and are capable of running day and night."

Each robot can weed one-half to one acre in an hour. The robots are deployed as a fleet.

"The primary benefit of our technology is that it allows farmers to greatly reduce their reliance on herbicides, which has positive implications for both human health and the environment," Brauer said. "By reducing reliance on chemicals to kill weeds, farmers can improve soil integrity, reduce their input costs, control herbicide-resistant 'superweeds' and produce cleaner, healthier crops for consumers."

This cutting edge technology has caught the eyes of others. "These wins helped us get financial backing from major players in the industry, including Chipotle, MKC - a major grain co-op with 11,000 farmers as members - and ILS, one of the nation's largest beef producers," Brauer said.

More advances are ahead. Greenfield Robotics is working with Rock River Laboratories to conduct field trials where the sensors on the robots will detect nutrient deficiencies in crops and provide actionable data to the producer.

"We hope this can revolutionize crop nutrient management," Brauer said. "We continue to develop new services to help write a new chapter in agriculture."

Traveling and won't be home to read this newspaper on the normal delivery day, want to have an early peek at the headlines or missed a back article, you will want to check out the Cyber Edition available on the web at [superiore.com](http://superiore.com).

Take rest; a field that has rested gives a bountiful crop. — Ovid

## Market Report - Friday, January 24

Head Sold: 2,054

18 Mix Heifers	458	320.00	27 Blk Steers	660	307.00
25 Mix Heifers	539	316.00	18 Mix Steers	739	306.50
38 Chax Heifers	599	311.00	33 Mix Steers	756	303.00
48 Mix Heifers	715	310.00	21 Mix Steers	710	300.50
27 Chax Heifers	690	290.50	20 Mix Steers	695	298.00
34 Mix Heifers	634	288.50	42 Blk Steers	793	291.50
23 Mix Heifers	646	283.50	60 Blk Steers	825	290.25
20 Blk Heifers	673	276.00	30 Blk Steers	844	290.25
27 Blk Heifers	710	270.50	46 Blk Steers	860	287.50
41 Blk Heifers	758	269.00	44 Blk Steers	790	287.00
28 Blk Heifers	773	260.00	19 Mix Steers	806	287.00
19 Mix Steers	538	363.00	46 Blk Steers	825	281.00
29 Mix Steers	554	355.00	18 Blk Steers	876	279.00
26 Mix Steers	584	346.00	22 Blk Steers	755	278.00
57 Mix Steers	656	323.00	20 Blk Steers	920	268.75
43 Blk Steers	725	312.50	19 Mix Steers	902	267.00

## Consignments for Friday 1-31-2025

40 Blk-Bwl Cows bred Blk, all ages; 125 Blk-Bwl Steers and Heifers, 600-750; 40 Blk Heifers, 700-800; 60 Mix Steers and Heifers, 650-750; 150 Blk Steers, 750-850; 65 Mix Heifer, 600-750; 375 Blk Steers and Heifers, 600-850

## Mankato Livestock, Inc.

BARN PHONE 785-378-3283

Jon Russell, 785-545-6105, Cell 785-819-6115  
Neil Bouray, 402-879-5566 • Scott Greene, 785-545-8612  
Kelly Bouray, Cell 402-879-5567  
Zach Sumpter, 785-545-6175 • Adam Giger, 402-469-2357  
Kody Steinhauer, 402-984-5264

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Leavenworth County resident

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## Invitation for Bids

The Jewell County Commissioners are accepting sealed bids for a 5-year farm lease for agricultural purposes only. The property is located following described real estate situated in Jewell County, Kansas, approximately 37 acres of crop land on the North Half of the Southeast Quarter (N1/2SE1/4), of Section twenty (20), Township (3) South, Range Eight (8) West of the 6th P.M.

Bids will be accepted until February 7th, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Sealed bids should be clearly marked "2025 Farm Lease" and the bid must be signed and include printed name, address, and phone number of bidder.

Bids are to be submitted to the Jewell County Commissioners, 307 N. Commercial St., Mankato Kansas, 66956 or hand delivered to the County Clerk's Office. Bids received after 12:00 p.m. on February 7th 2025, will not be opened or considered.

The bids will be opened at the Jewell County Commissioners' meeting on Monday, February 10th, at 9:00 a.m. Bidders need not be present to be given consideration. The Jewell County Commissioners reserve the right to refuse any or all bids.

05/25

## Bob's BASEBALL Tours

**Sports Lover's Tour**  
See an MLB & AAA game, visit Pro Facilities, Hall of Fame and tour. Includes Travel & Use of MLB games. From April 8-16.  
\$2,800/person based on double hotel occupancy.  
August 11-21, 2025  
Email or call for FREE brochure 507.313.1326 or visit our website [www.bobsbaseballtours.com](http://www.bobsbaseballtours.com)

**Ultimate Baseball Tour**  
See 2 MLB & 17 minor league games. Includes Travel & Use of MLB games. From April 8-16.  
\$4,800/person based on double hotel occupancy.  
August 11-21, 2025  
Email or call for FREE brochure 507.313.1326 or visit our website [www.bobsbaseballtours.com](http://www.bobsbaseballtours.com)

## RehabVisions

### For Immediate Release

January 22, 2025

RehabVisions is honored to partner with Jewell County Hospital to support its rehabilitation therapy department and continue providing outstanding care to our neighbors in this community.

- For over 40 years, RehabVisions has partnered with rural hospitals to strengthen their therapy services while keeping care local.
- We've historically retained the staff at the therapy departments we've supported over the years; we're committed to fostering established local teams that deliver excellent care.
- We believe strong local teams are at the heart of great care, and we're here to help them succeed.

We understand the value of familiar faces and trusted relationships when it comes to healthcare. That's why we're committed to keeping the staff you know, and supporting them with additional resources, tools, and training.

Our goal is not to replace but to enhance what's already here, ensuring that Jewell County residents have access to the best possible therapy services close to home.

Our founder, Jack Mulvane, PT, grew up in a small town himself and believed passionately in ensuring that rural communities have access to high-quality therapy services. His dedication to building strong, local therapy teams has been at the heart of our mission since the beginning.

We look forward to serving the people of Jewell County and working alongside the talented therapy team at the hospital.

For questions or more information, contact:

Adam Munter, PT  
REHABVISIONS  
Director of Operations - Hospitals  
[amunter@rehabvisions.com](mailto:amunter@rehabvisions.com) | 402.334.6017