OPINION

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kcnonline.com

Out to Pasture

By Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

The middle of May was usually the the house. quietest time on the ranch when I was growing up. With the cattle just turned out to pasture and hay season still weeks away, the tasks didn't seem to carry much urgency. There's never a shortage of things to be done, but priorities change when cows aren't calving or waiting for their breakfast to be delivered.

It was a season defined by upkeep rather than urgency. We'd spend time fixing fence, patching weak spots in the corral or painting. We'd make a dent in the backlog of maintenance items, but I'm convinced fencing wears out faster than it can be fixed and paint seems to start fading while it's still in the can.

Occasional and odd chores also occupied our time during this quiet season, and a couple stand out most notably because they were worse than fixing fence. One year we brushed on several five-gallon buckets worth of sealer for the asphalt driveway. Another year we spent two days hoisting buckets of silt out of the spring that delivered water to

Maintenance tasks during this clam period also extended to pastures. We'd haul rock to create crossings in ditches, clean debris around outflow pipes in ponds and hunt for things that didn't belong like cedar trees and musk thistles, which are considered nuisances or invasive plants because cattle won't eat them and they grow faster than the native grasses, disrupting the natural habitat.

Small cedars are difficult to spot this time of year as the blend in with the tender shoots of prairie grasses, but they're not impossible. Whenever I took the four-wheeler out through a pasture, I always carried a pair of long-handled clippers. They made easy work of the small

The thistles were far easier to spot as the stems bolted several feet above the short spring growth. They also helpfully announced their presence with a bright purple bloom, which was easy on the eves and full of risk. Each flower could produce hundreds of seeds capable of surviving a decade or longer in the soil.

Thinning thistles was considerably more work than chopping cedars. The first order of business was donning leather gloves to guard against the spiny leaves, then with hand shears I'd clip the blossoms off into an empty feed sack. Then out came the spade, which was used to slice through the taproot. The goal was to get at least two inches below ground level, but the rocky terrain where the weeds readily sprouted didn't always allow for that.

One benefit of being out in the pasture alongside the cattle, aside from preserving the prairie, was stumbling on a patch of wild strawberries just as they were ripening. Finding a cluster of the plants bearing small red orbs made the work more worthwhile.

It's been a long time since I've gone hunting for a wild strawberry patch, but I can still taste the sweetness of those berries and appreciate the slower pace that came when the cattle were out to pasture. The slower, quitter place allowed everything room to breath just a little easier.

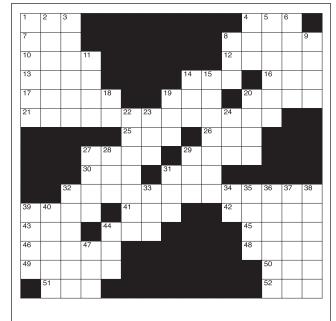
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Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Yearly tonnage (abbr.) 4. British thermal unit
- 7. Afflict
- 8. Refrain from harming 10. Galls
- 12. Leg bone
- 13. Rhine distributary
- 14. Recipe measurement 16. Chap
- 17. Useful book
- 19. Mountain Time
- 20. Snakelike fishes 21. Places where people live
- 25. US, Latin America, Canada
- belong to 26. Periodical
- 27. A type of sense
- 29. A way to get possession of
- 30. Everyone has one
- 31. Body art 32. Mr. October
- 39. Abba ___, Israeli politician 41. Head movement
- 42. Jeweled headdress
- 43. VCR button 44. A way to change color
- 45. Basketball move 46. Upright stone slab
- 48. Forest-dwelling monkey
- 49. Pulsate steadily 50. Negative
- 51. Sino-Soviet bloc (abbr.) 52. Unit of work

24. Type of tree

Mahal

28. Popular breakfast food

31. BoSox legend Williams 32. Professional drivers

33. Atom or molecule type

34. The Constitution State

27. Witnessed

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Island
- 2. Pittsburgh ballplayer 3. Chemical compound
- 4. Indicates density of data (abbr.) 29. 5. Mesas
- 6. Wild, long-legged sheep
- 8. Engine additive
- 9. "CSI" actor George
- 11. Stony waste matter 14. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
- 15. Pores in a leaf's epidermis
- 18. Digraph
- 19. Married woman
- 20. Peripheral

23. Klutz

- 22. Northern Italy city
- 36. Type of solution 37. Speaker

 - 39. Formerly (archaic)

35. Chest to store clothes (Scottish)

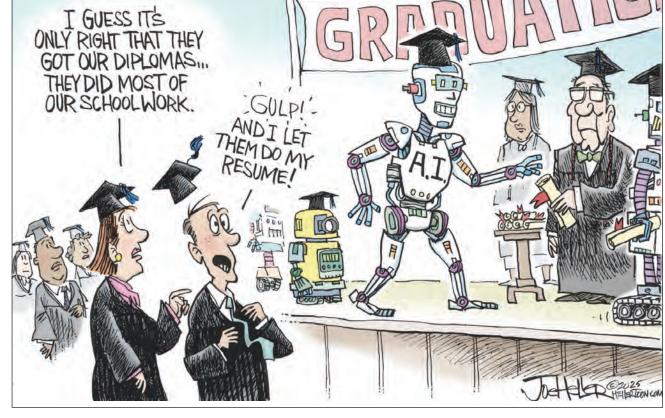
- 38. Specifying
- 40. Wiseman and Krom are two
- 44. The bill in a restaurant
- 47. Tennis shot

9 4 6 4 3 5 6 4 1 8 5 2 9 5 4 3 5 2

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PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, May 15, 2025) 1t

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION

BEREXCO LLC - Application to authorize enhanced oil recovery injection into the Aldrich BB #4, located in Kingman County, Kansas.

TO: All Oil & Gas Producers, Unleased Mineral Interest Owners, Landowners, and all persons whomever concer-

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that BEREXCO LLC has filed an application for enhanced oil recovery injection into the Mississippi formation at the Aldrich BB #4, located 2970 feet from south section line and 990 feet from east section line, SW SE NE of Section 19-T30S-R7W, Kingman County, Kansas, with a maximum operating pres-

sure of 1200 psig and a maximum injection rate of 1000 bbls

Any persons who object to or protest this application shall be required to file their objections or protest with the Conservation Division of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. These protests shall be filed pursuant to Commission regulations and must state specific reasons why the granting of the application may cause waste, violate correlative rights or pollute the natural resources of the State of

All parties interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing notice and shall govern themselves accordingly. BEREXCO LLC

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