

News Column

by Greg McClure, KSU-Riley County Extension Agriculture Agent
110 Courthouse Plaza
Manhattan, KS 66502

For Release 01/30/17
Phone: 785/537-6350
Fax: 785/537-6353

MORE CALENDAR PROBLEMS

Last week I violated my calendar policy. Normally, whatever is on the calendar first is the activity I will attend. Sometimes work functions get on the calendar before the kids' school activities. And, sometimes kid activities get there first and I do my best to schedule work around them.

I learned last week that my system was flawed when we gathered around the corner booth at Taco Bell and I told the girls I would have to miss their concert because Ryan had a basketball game in Silver Lake that evening. Pam and I had already discussed it. She would attend the concert and I could go to the game.

When I told them the plan, the girls both looked at me like I was an idiot. One of them told me that Ryan had lots of basketball games and they were only having one concert, while the other girl continued to give me the "you're an idiot" stare.

It wasn't much of an argument. I usually know when I'm stupid, but I sometimes try to get away with it anyway. This time, I just said, "You know, I love music! I'll be there." Then I turned to Ryan and said, "I guess you're riding the bus home that night, buddy. Call us when you get back."

I resisted the urge to mess with them. I didn't tell them my son is my favorite child, that I like sports better than music, or that I enjoy getting upset with what I perceive to be bad officiating. I held back this time, and did my best to cover up a bad decision.

Now, if they would open the concession stand for the concert so I could munch on a bag of too-salty popcorn while doing my best to pick out one daughter's beautiful voice or the other daughter's perfect notes on the saxophone, then life would be good.

Winter Ranch Management – February 15

This one got on the calendar first, so I'll be there.

We are helping to host one of K-State's Winter Ranch Management seminars that will be held in five locations throughout the state during January and February. The meeting will be held at McCormick Elementary School in Olsburg on February 15. The start time is 5:00 p.m., and adjournment is scheduled for 8:30.

The school in Olsburg is easy to find. It is on the north side of highway 16, on the west side of town. If you get to Olsburg and don't see it within the first five blocks, then you've missed the whole town. Turn around and go back.

The seminar will employ a "town hall" format, with K-State beef specialists fielding questions from the audience.

Specialists scheduled to be at the Olsburg meeting include:

- Bob Weaber – Associate Professor of Beef Genetics and Breeding at KSU
- Jaymelyn Farney – Assistant Professor of Ruminant Nutrition, housed in the Southeast Area Extension Office in Parsons
- Dale Blasi – Professor of Ruminant Nutrition at KSU
- A.J. Tarpoff, DVM – KSU Extension Beef Veterinarian

Producers are encouraged to come to the meeting with questions. Hot topics that Bob Weaber predicts will be discussed are: winter feeding and cow management, bull buying and selection strategies, preparation for calving and breeding season, and vaccination and animal

health issues.

There is a \$10 registration fee, due to the Pottawatomie County Extension Office by February 8. Supper is included in the fee. Register online at www.pottawatomie, or call 785/457-3319.

If you have questions, you can reach me at the Riley County Extension Office at 785/537-6350. Or, you can send e-mail to gmcclure@ksu.edu.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.