



Family, Faith, Love and Fun



COURTESY PHOTO

All 13 of the Robert and Luella Joedeman children and their spouses were home for Thanksgiving 2023. Front row, l-r: Peter and Jan Tighe, Broomfield, CO; Shane and Debi Sunderman, Lincoln; Robert and Luella Joedeman, Stapleton; Kari Joedeman, Gandy; and Penni and Tim Shaw, Bassett. Back row, l-r: Darryl and Lori Busenitz, Burns, KS; Lamar and Nikki Jackson, Ramsey, MN; Jerri and Dave Loewer, Burden, KS; Julie and Kinley Udd, Mills; Sue and Bryan Joedeman, Litchfield, MN; Kristi and Robb Joedeman, Gurley; Kris and Jenni Joedeman, Stapleton; Carol and Kenny Joedeman, Stapleton; and Linda and Joel Wentworth, Burwell.

MARCIA HORA

If you ask Robert and Luella Joedeman how they did it they'll quickly respond they just did what they had to do every day. That meant keeping busy and always having something to do. When the couple married August 4, 1960, they knew they wanted a large family, but didn't have a number in mind.

Now 62 years later, they will tell you raising 13 children has been a blessing and wonderful experi-

ence.

One of the highlights of this year was having all their children and spouses home together for the first time in many years for Thanksgiving at the Joedeman home south of Stapleton.

"We alternate between Thanksgiving and Christmas and we've had a lot of them together at one time, but there was always someone absent. This year they were all here," Luella said.

The Joedemans have little difficulty naming all

their children, their spouses, and where they live. They can tell you dates without hesitation and what is remarkable is that Bob, 86-years-young, is still farming and probably always will. It has been his lifelong occupation and Luella, who had a stint at teaching for four years, has been by his side raising their children together.

The Joedemans credit their faith in God, farm work, and eating home-cooked meals as to how they made it through

with no major tragedies and little illness. Oh, there were three broken bones along the way, but that's nothing for a family who works together in one of the most dangerous occupations and all 13 played sports throughout high school.

The couple moved to Luella's grandparents place south of Stapleton in 1961, the year Linda was born, and they have lived there ever since. They raised their nine girls and four boys with one and a half bathrooms

and a very small kitchen. There has been some remodeling since those early years including an enlarged kitchen and a couple of bedrooms on the main floor. The revamp has made the home more functional and life easier.

People always have lots of questions. How did you raise nine girls with one bathroom? What did you feed them all? In today's world it would make a great reality show.

"We just lived every day and we did it together,"

Bob said. "It seemed at times we were always working at trying to find more work."

Luella credits their good health to her home-grown food and home-cooked meals.

She raised a huge garden and chickens, they had their own beef and they milked cows. Their kids all helped with the chores and anything that needed to be done on the farm.

"Our daughter Kari still

*See Joedeman
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Scott retiring after 41+ years

MARCIA HORA

A retirement celebration is being planned for Peg Scott after 41 plus years of service to area ag producers. Everyone is invited to the party Thursday, December 15 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Arnold Agronomy. Refreshments will be provided.

Scott said she has seen many changes in the last 41 years. She began working part-time at Arnold Feed and Seed in 1980. Ken Snyder was manager. She went fulltime in 1981 and Bellamy Grain purchased Arnold Feed & Seed, but kept the name. Scott began driving a truck, tending to the sprayers, running the mixer, and then became

manager.

The business has been Cenex Land O'Lakes, Agrilience, All Points Cooperative, and now Country Partners, where she has served as the manager of the Arnold, Stapleton and Callaway locations.

"The years have given me gray hair, that's what it did," Scott said. "Seriously, it taught me a lot and I have met many people and developed good working relations with area producers."

Scott said she felt like the lone ranger in the agronomy sector when she started out.

"I was the only woman at meetings, but it did have perks. I didn't have to wait in line to use the



COURTESY PHOTO

restroom. I was definitely the only woman manager. That has changed in the last 10 years or so and there are women in various sectors."

Scott said along the way

there have been many changes in agronomy and more on the horizon.

"It is coming at an accelerated rate like we have never seen before."

Learning by trial and error on being a manager has been trying at times and there have been hard lessons along the way.

"It has been good for me. It really has. It seems like those years went by very quickly."

Donnell DeLosh of Arnold will take over the management position of the Stapleton, Arnold, and Callaway locations.

Working in the Stapleton location are Colton Craig, day-to-day operations and sales; Janet Barnum, office manager for agronomy and energy;

Ken Joedeman, truck driver and operations; Josh Allen, energy manager; Tyrus Allen, mixer, operations, and trucking; and Chris Neal, energy, along with parttime employees.

Scott said she is going to be selfish with her time and has things she wants to get accomplished at home. She is also considering becoming a part-time mail carrier and willing to make parts runs for farmers.

"I'm going to figure it out as I go and there will be some traveling in there too," Scott said.

Country Partners Cooperative has also announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Chris Wagner as its next

President and Chief Executive Officer. Wagner will begin his tenure on January 2 and will succeed Tod Clark, current President and CEO, upon his retirement.

Tim Rowe, Chairperson of the CPC Board said, "The Board of Directors is looking forward to having Chris join the organization and lead the team to achieve continued growth at Country Partners Coop. His experience as a CEO within the cooperative sector, along with his leadership style and his understanding of balancing the best interests of members with the best interests of the coop, will enable him to be successful in our organization."

Fair & Rodeo dates discussed

The Logan County Ag Society met for a special meeting Friday, December 9, to discuss possible dates for the 2023 edition of "The Biggest Little Rodeo" and Logan County Fair.

The board is trying to coordinate fair and rodeo activities in one week as had been possible prior to the Nebraska State Fair moving up dates and school beginning in the middle of August.

It was previously announced the possibility of having the rodeo on July 29. This interfered with Lincoln County Fair and the Burwell Rodeo.

The board is now looking at the week of July 31 through August 5 if a stock contractor can be secured for Friday, August 4 or Saturday, August 5.

The board is also looking at different ideas for the fair and rodeo and additional board members and help is needed.

Current officers and directors are Kris Norem, president; Chelsey Myers, secretary-treasurer; Scott Salisbury, Erin Frey, Sean Carson, Ellen Salisbury, and Toby Kinderknecht. If you would like to serve as a director contact Chelsey Myers. The next meeting is January 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Weather

DATE	HI	LOW	MT.
3	46	3	0
4	45	7	0
5	52	17	0
6	32	22	T
7	51	17	0
8	35	11	0
9	29	12	.08
10	42	7	0
Observations: Trace of snow on December 6 and 0.7" on December 9. Wind chill was -7 degrees at 5:23 a.m. on December 3; 25 mph wind at 5:18 a.m. on December 6; and wind chill 7 degrees at 1:11 a.m. on December 8.			

Event Calendar

December 16: Poker, 7:00 p.m., Vet's Club
December 19: Poker, 7:00 p.m., Vet's Club; Stapleton Public Schools board meetings.
December 21: Logan County Commissioners, 9 a.m.

McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- Words Of Wisdom Poem
- Grazing Through Ice & Snow Cover

Notices



- School District R-1 Regular Board Meeting Public Notice
- School District R-1 Special Board Meeting Public Notice
- Logan County Commissioners & Board Of Equalization Public Notice

*Read The Notices
Be Informed On
What's Going On In
Your Community.*

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