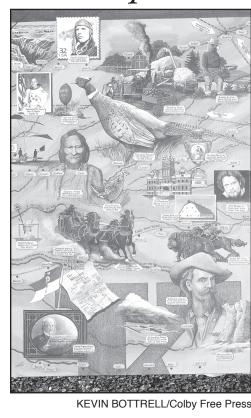
Mural takes shape

Dennis Schiel brought the completed sections of his Kansas mural to the corn husking contest in Oakley this weekend. Schiel recently finished the northwest Kansas section of the mural, which will hang in the Statehouse. He includes landmarks in each section, such as the Buffalo Bill statue in Oakley, the Thomas County Courthouse and the 1909 helicopter in Goodland.



Use care to pick pumpkins to last

Waiting until just before Hal- last a week. loween or Thanksgiving to buy a pumpkin can seem old-fashioned.

Given how early pumpkins go on display, today's varieties appear to have real staying power. The supply implies they might as well be decorations, rather than waiting on a store shelf.

"Plant breeders are, in fact, always working to develop pumpkins with a longer shelf life," said Ward Upham, horticulturist with Kansas State University Research and Extension. "You have to remember, though, that store displays aren't static. Replacement stock keeps coming in until the season is almost over.

"Pumpkins that go bad disappear.'

To help buyers identify pumpkins with the best odds for lasting, Upham developed this list. The best pumpkins will be:

• Whole, which can include pumpkins with a painted face. Carved jack-o-lanterns do well to

• Stemmed. This is most important for outdoor pumpkins. Lost stems leave a depression to collect

water and promote spoilage. "That's why no one should ever carry a pumpkin by its stem," Upham said, "even while they're shopping.'

- Dry-stemmed. Almost all commercial varieties have green stems, so color no longer matters. If a stem is leaking sap, however, that indicates the pumpkin was too young for harvesting.
- Fully mature. Size, rind color and shape aren't usable criteria anymore, either. But, buyers still can try to pierce the rind with a thumbnail. That's easy with immature pumpkins and difficult with those that are ripe.

to keep moisture from escaping. Otherwise, the pumpkin will shrivel," the horticulturist explained.

spots. This characteristic does not include the bumps and hard "pimples" that are natural for some varieties. Instead, it's the results of injuries that have damaged pumpkin tissues and perhaps provided access for bacteria or led to "scarring.'

"We started getting more smooth varieties when pumpkin painting first became popular," Upham said. "A lot of people still like the bumps and 'warts,' though."

• Cured – which can be difficult to assess. Holiday fans who select their pumpkin in a field, however, should cure it for about 10 days, preferably in temperatures of 80-85 F and a relative humidity of 80-85 percent.

"Just doing the best you can "The rind has to be hard enough at creating those conditions will help," the horticulturist said.

• Dry and cool. Cured pumpkins don't like to be wet. And, although

· Blemish-free with no soft they like being cool, harvested pumpkins respond badly to cold weather. They start to degrade when temperatures fall below 50 degrees. They turn into mush overnight when they freeze.

> "That's something to keep in mind when you look over a pumpkin display," Upham said. "Store owners may be having indoor space problems, but they still need to find ways to store their pumpkins well, After all, a century ago, you would have had your own pumpkin harvest. And, you would have put it in the attic, because your basement or root cellar was too damp.

"Keeping pumpkins dry and cool is also something to keep in mind when you're using pumpkins outdoors. To keep them in good shape, you'll need to keep them out of the rain and bring them in whenever the nights are cold."

Money opportunities opening up

Aries (March 21-April **20**) Get ready to shift attention from relationships, but open communication lines first. There are interesting developments on the financial front, with opportunities in both directions to be explored. Taurus (April 21 – May

should have your sole attention.

no play though.

ties though.

nally defuse.



21) The focus is divided between relationships and

your professional situation, with each thinking they

Gemini (May 22 – June 21) Your professional

instincts are heightened at the perfect time. This is a

big week for work matters. Link into lucky profes-

sional forces and to new opportunities and second

chances that are opening up. It won't be all work and

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) You need to find a

workable balance between your home and profes-

sional lives. Life won't be all work and responsibili-

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) This week will keep you

on your toes because of the different directions your

attention is being drawn. There are in second chances

your relationship and financial sectors. At the same

time, get things sorted on the home front, where spe-

cial conditions make this a good week for financial

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 23) This is a defining week

on income and financial fronts. Your professional in-

stincts help you spot and make the most of income

potential. By Sunday the financial intensity will fi-

matters on the home, family or property front.

Shannon O'Brien

 Weekly Horoscope

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) Get excited about your intentions for the coming year. Your intuition will help you to get income and work forces working in tandem.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) A lot of things are coming together across the board. What's missing is progress on the income and work fronts. Don't be put off by what you see.

You're in the process of closing old doors, ensuring that you begin anew, ready for opportunities.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) You're running out of energy and initiative. You've been on quests, fought battles and given your all, to a point where there may now be little left to give. Yet next week, new doors will open from as early as next Thursday.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) You have been through an extraordinary amount of challenges, which may have felt like things were going very wrong, both on the career and the home fronts. The hard part is behind you. With most balance issues sorted out, you enjoy improving income and the social dynamic that is coming into play.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) While there is more professional focus, there is nothing challenging about the opportunities. Lucky forces link income and career. There are second chances, while new opportunities unfold. Adventure will add excitement.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20) Things are poised to take off on the professional front after a lull. Cement a commitment you're making to your financial situation. Keep the bar raised to the end.

For entertainment purposes only.

COnsignment Auction

Saturday, October 30 @ 10 a.m. CT

(doors open at 8:00 am day of sale)

Auction Location: T-N-T & Jones Auction Facility, 200 N. Franklin, Colby, KS Preview sale items between 5-7 p.m. CT Friday, Oct. 29

Misc. America Pink depression glass; Press glass butter dish; Press glass bowls; Marigold carnival glass; Fenton glass; Etched pitcher and glass; Silver cruet stand; Green depression glass; 1880 enamel vases; White apalescent glass; Glass & wood rolling pin; Assorted ruby red depression glass; Bone china Elizabethan cup and saucers; Blue Hobnail glasses; Red and crystal Hobnail glass; Set of 4 w/extra pieces Bavarian China "Summer Pattern"; Set of 6 w/extra pieces Bavarian China "Flowers"; House of Global Bavarian W. German China set "Fruit"; Place setting of 12 Bavarian China "Lilac"; Blue satin Hobnail covered dish Fenton; Box camera; Pieces of Noritake China; Green perfume bottle w/etched stopper; 2 - Austria pitchers; Paper weights; German Global beer steins; Assorted art glass; Cranberry cruet set; Cut lead crystal; White Hobnail pitcher and glasses; Cranberry olive dish w/ fork; Old Moravian pottery made in Austria; Life size collectors doll; Ashton-Drake "Melody" and "Spring Promise", Collectors dolls in cases; Lotz style vases; Assorted silver pieces; Yellow Hobnail pitcher and glasses; Sleepy eye style "Dragon Fly" China vase; Cranberry red "Gone With The Wind" lamp; Camoridge rose point stem ware; Haviland Limoges china; 1950s doll buggy; Silver fancy butter dish; Shaving mug w/brush; Crystal candle holders; 1800s White milk glass dresser dish w/lid; Assorted pieces of brass;

Oak dining room table w/1 leaf and set of 6 roller chairs; 1900s oak hall bench and coat rack; Emerson working table fan w/brass blades; 2 - Antique sewing machines; 3 legged tilt top table; Floor dressing mirror. Set of 4 Duncan Phyfe chairs; 1930s Victrola; Set of 5 oak kitchen chairs; Ride-em Bull rocker; Assorted games; Cooking utensils; Assorted pictures; Oak small table; Pine bathroom cabinet; Bamboo bird cage; Doll sleigh; Pine patio bar table; Walnut sword fish; Covered wagon TV lamp; Toboggan sled; Horse collar and hames; Hall tree w/mirror; 5 drawer metal file cabinet; 2 oak bar stools; Budweiser pool table light; Michelob beer mirror; 2 Western mirrors; 2 Wood chests; Copper wash boiler; Coyote picture; USSR hat; Books; Wood figurines; Paisley sofa; Metal bird statues; Records / sheet music; 1930s church lights; VCR tapes: Assorted 33 records; 2 - Scanners; Fax machine; Printer; Bed / End table / Dresser; Regulation size indoor/ outdoor ping pong table; Electric Window A/C; Large dog kennel; Small dog kennel; 2 - Gaming chairs; Boys bike; 120,000 BTU 90% efficiency furnace; 10 inch table saw; 1 hp air compressor; 14 ton 5th wheel receiver hitch; 10 inch chop saw; 19.2 volt cordless reciprocating saw; 12 volt Makita impact gun; 7 1/4 inch Makita skill saw; Craftsman laser track; 18 volt Makita cordless screw gun; Tool accessory kit; Black and Decker rotary tool; Remington Hilte gun.

Lunch will be served! MUCH MORE DAY OF SALE!

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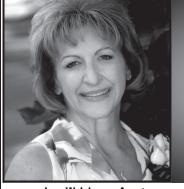
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