From the bleachers

Leadership with a standard

By Dr. JACK WELCH

Leadership starts with the person in the mirror. Whether in the classroom, the boardroom, or the community, true leadership doesn't begin with changing others, it begins with leading ourselves.

We often hear that success comes from "getting the right people on the bus," and that's true. Here's another truth: when a leader leads with a consistent standard, the wrong people usually take care of themselves by getting off. A healthy culture grows when the leader stands firm on principle, not popularity. If organization resists change and eventually fails, it won't be because the leader set a standard too high, it will be because the group refused to rise to meet it. Sometimes, a complete overhaul is what it takes to move forward.

"Do right, and right will prevail." Those words may sound simple, but living them out especially when faced with gossip, criticism, or resistance, takes strength, humility, and heart. The heart of the problem, in most cases, is the heart. What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters

When teams aren't uniting or when employees resist new ideas, leaders often ask: should I focus on fixing people, or simply

stay the course? Proverbs 4:23 offers timeless guidance: "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life." Heart work is hard work. It's more than policies, meetings, or motivational slogans. Leading with the heart means caring enough to do the right thing, even when it's unpopular, inconvenient, or unnoticed.

It's easy to fall into the trap of trying to fix others; students, coworkers, even colleagues. The best leaders don't fix; they influence. They model. They lead by principle, not pressure. When we focus on doing right rather than controlling others, we create an environment where truth, respect, and trust can grow.

Jesus said, "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart... for the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." (Luke 6:45) Our words and actions reflect what's inside us. If our hearts are full of bitterness, it will show. If they're full of compassion and integrity, that too will shine through.

Leadership in any arena, school, business, or home, calls us to respond to challenges with love, not retaliation. When unfair criticism or false words come our selves. The better path is to respond with grace, stay faithful to your purpose, and let

Fall a good time to control woody plants in pastures

your actions speak louder than your critics.

The best leaders understand that legacy isn't measured in titles or awards, but in steadiness of heart. The leaders who stand out are those who stay true, choose kindness over anger, and keep doing right no matter

So, as we head into the week ahead, here's a question worth asking: Is my heart, right? When the heart is right, the leader-

Thought for the Week, "Leadership doesn't start with changing others, it starts with guarding your own heart. Set the standard, stay the course, and let your consistency do the convincing. When you do right, right will prevail" Scott Downing, former legendary football coach and currently Vice President for Strategy and Engagement at Sterling College.

Editor's note: Dr. Jack Welch serves as President of Fort Scott Community College. With a career spanning professional sports, public education, and rural community development, he brings a servant-leader mindset and a passion for building trust-driven cultures that empower people to thrive in the classroom, on the field, and in life. He is also the author of Foundations of Coaching: The Total Coaching Manual.

compared to what lies within us. way, the natural instinct is to defend our-

By LONNIE MENGARELLI

Late summer and fall are excellent seasons to tackle unwanted trees and brush in pastures. Cooler weather slows forage growth, but woody plants continue to store energy in their roots, making control efforts more effective. Left unchecked, species like elm, locust, osage orange (hedge), and Russian olive can quickly spread and reduce valuable forage produc-

Two of the most common methods for controlling scattered trees are basal bark and cut-stump treatments.

Basal bark method: For smaller trees (less than 4–6 inches in diameter), spray the lower 12–15 inches of the trunk with a mixture containing triclopyr (sold under trade names such as Remedy Ultra or Pathfinder II) in diesel fuel. The spray should thoroughly wet all sides of the stem down to the ground line. Ready-to-use products such as Pathfinder II are available, and premixes like PastureGard HL are also effec-

Cut-stump method: For larger trees, cut the trunk off at ground level, then immediately treat the freshly cut surface with herbicide. The cambium layer (the light-colored wood just inside the bark) is the most important area to cover. Triclopyr solutions work well, and dicamba products such as Clarity or Sterling Blue are also effective on many species. Treat the cut surface with triclopyr and diesel fuel within 30-60 minutes before the sap seals over the exposed area.Eastern red cedar is an exception—simply cut it below the lowest green branch, and the tree will not resprout.

Keep in mind that many common pasture trees, such as ash, elm, oak, persimmon, locust, and willow, will sprout

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erierecord@hotmail.com

vigorously from stumps or roots if left untreated. Treating them correctly the first time will prevent multi-stemmed clumps from forming.

Producers have several herbicide options, and the right choice depends on species, tree size, and site conditions. Always check the product label for mixing directions, grazing or haying restrictions, and site use approvals. For example, Tordon RTU and Pathway can only be used in non-cropland areas like fence rows or rights-of-way, not

Application can be done with backpack sprayers, mounted sprayers with hand wands, or even paintbrushes for small jobs. For cutting, tools like hydraulic shears or saws equipped with spray nozzles can make the process more efficient.

Tips for success:

- · Always follow the directions on the herbicide label.
- · Before spraying, brush any sawdust or debris off the cut
- · Apply herbicide to freshly cut stump (30-60min after).
- Spray cut surface and stump to ground level.

· Spray exposed roots above

· The cambium layer is the critical area to spray.

the soil surface.

· Apply enough liquid that it pools on the cut surface.

With the right timing and technique, fall treatments can help keep woody plants in check and protect valuable pas-

ture forage for livestock.

Editor's note: Lonnie Mengarelli is a K-State Research and Extension Agriculture agent assigned to Southwind District. He may be reached at mengo57@ksu.edu or 620-223-

Lady Devils bounce back after tourney at Chanute

After struggling in the always-tough Chanute Volleyball Tournament, the Lady Devils returned to their winning ways Tuesday. Erie went 2-1 against both Central Heights and Yates

The Lady Devils went 0-2 in all four matches at Chanute Saturday.

Erie lost the first set against Yates Center 25-13, but bounced back in the next two sets winning 25-22 in each to capture the match. Senior Kylie Hodgden tallied eight of the team's 23 kills. Junior Lila Michael followed with six kills while senior Kaeleigh Daniels and senior Andi Nordt followed with four and three kills, respectively. Senior Madi Cope also recorded a pair of kills.

Cope tallied four ace serves to lead the team in that category while junior Lillee Gawel and Hodgden added three and two, respectively.

Michael led the team in blocks with three while Hodgden recorded one. Daniels and Hodgen finished with 14 and nine assists, respectively. In the match against Central

Heights, the Lady Devils won the first set 25-16, but lost the second set by the same score, forcing the third and deciding set, which Erie won 25-21. Hodgden led the team in kills

with seven followed by Michael with six. Nordt added five kills.

Michael had five ace serves while Gawel, Daniels, Hodgen and Nordt each had two aces. Michael also led the team in blocks with five while Nordt tal-

The Lady Devils return to ac-

tion Saturday at the Neodesha

five.

lied a pair. Daniels led the team in assists

(620) 431-6337 with 14 while Hodgden tallied

Opinion

Kansas should **lead with 'We Support ICE Day'**

sponsibility. We back the men and women who wear the badge, serve the public, and put themselves in harm's way to keep our communities safe. That's why it's time our state took the lead in recognizing another group of public servants who rarely get credit for the hard work they do: the agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Kansas should declare a "We Support ICE" Day. That's of particular importance now, while ICE officers

Kansas has long stood for law, order, and personal re-

attempting to enforce law and order in various spots across the country are subject to counter-culture violence, threats of "doxxing" - publicizing their identities to make personal targets out of them and their families, and out-and-out threats

ICE officers aren't politicians. They don't make the immigration laws or set the border policy—they enforce the laws Congress passed. Their daily work in Kansas and across the nation includes investigating human trafficking rings, stopping the smuggling of fentanyl and meth across state lines, and locating dangerous fugitives who exploit our open system. Many of those cases begin right here in the Midwest, where interstate highways make Kansas a crossroads for both commerce and, unfortunately, the crime that plagues the nation's larger metropolitan areas; where local governments and officials refuse to protect their own citizenry.

These agents face real danger in the field, and they do it without much recognition or thanks. Too often, they've been turned into political scapegoats for enforcing the very laws our representatives enacted. That's not justice—that's hypocrisy - and it's an attack on the precepts of American law and order.

A "We Support ICE" Day wouldn't be about politics or partisanship, although we know who's on the right side of this one. It would be about gratitude—about standing up for the rule of law and an acknowledgement of the Kansans who value it. We already honor our police, firefighters, and soldiers with days of appreciation. ICE deserves no less.

The agency was founded in March 2003 in the wake of the 9/11 attacks - a merger of the investigative and interior enforcement elements of the former U.S. Customs Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. It now has some 20,000 law enforcement officers and support personnel in 400 offices across the U.S., and it has never been more crucial and under attack from some elements of the "enlightened" public than today.

So a date in March seems appropriate to mark a day of tribute for ICE, but it would be a shame to wait that long.

Here in Kansas, we know that safety starts with accountability. Supporting ICE means supporting legal immigration, border security, and the fair enforcement of our nation's laws. It means standing with the men and women who keep drugs, traffickers, and criminal networks out of our communities.

Kansas should take this step as an example for the rest of the country to follow. Declaring a "We Support ICE" Day would send a simple message that Kansas still believes in law, order, and the people who defend it.

Editor's note: Dane Hicks is publisher of The Anderson County Review in Garnett, Ks., and author of novels "The Skinning Tree" and "A Whisper For Help."

LEGAL NOTICES

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NEOSHO COUNTY, **KANSAS**

Melvin Eubanks and Dawn Eubanks, Petitioners

RACK HOUSE BILLIARDS LLC, Defendant.

CASE NO. NOC 2025 CV 31 TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale issued out of the District Court of Neosho County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Neosho County, Kansas, will offer for sale "as is" at public auction and sell free and clear of all liens to the highest bidder for cash in hand at the Neosho County Courthouse lobby, 100 S. Main, Erie, Kansas, on October 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m, the following described real property; known, numbered and commonly referred to as at 3801 S. Santa Fe, Chanute, Kansas, Chanute, Kansas, and is legally described as follows

Lot Nine (9), Morton Subdivision Addition to the City of Chanute, Neosho County, Kansas, more or less to satisfy the judgment in the above entitled case. Provided, that the terms of sale shall be cash or certified check. Successful bidder must pay the total bid price in cash or by certified check within two hours of the end of the sale. The sale is subject to approval of the Court.

Greg Taylor Neosho County Sheriff

Linus A. Thuston Attorney at Law 211 W. Main-P.O. Box 611 Chanute, Kansas 66720 linus.thuston@gmail.com Fax (620) 432-0027



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