

Dear Neighbors,

As we reflect on this past year, 2019 has certainly been a different kind of year than what we're used to. Lots and lots of rain! Fall one day, summer the next, confused geese flying north?!

Some like to think of a year as a chapter to a book. Stop and think about the wonderful happenings in 2019 that influenced your life. What was your greatest adventure? What surprised you the most in 2019? Who made a major impact in your life this year? Did you accomplish any of your resolutions? Can you even remember any of your resolutions?

As the 2019 chapter is ending, we challenge you to celebrate the holiday season in ways that bring you joy and happiness. Kids grow up, life gets crazy, families get busy, but the memories you make during the holidays will last a lifetime.



-The Farmers State Bank Staff





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Blue Jean Fridays

Blue Jeans! Nothing is more comfortable than blue jeans. So, to add a little spice to our day and to get into the giving spirit, Jim Moore is allowing the staff at Farmers State Bank to wear blue jeans on Fridays from early November to the end of December. In exchange, the staff members pay \$5.00 each week for the privilege to wear jeans. At the end of December, Farmers State Bank will match the amount of money collected from employees. The money will then be given to the Caring Closet at Onaga to Farmers State Bank help fund the unfilled needs of students. So, when you see the staff in jeans on Fridays, we're not just being comfortable, we are helping a good cause!



<u>TIPS FOR 202</u>

A new year and new decade is fast approaching! We have some great suggestions to help you start the New Year on the right *financial* foot! Hopefully, you find these tips as helpful as we do.

- 1. Register your phone on the National Do Not Call Registry. www.donotcall.gov
- 2. Get plenty of sleep; it will make you more productive and happier.
- 3. Establish an emergency fund. A good rule of thumb is to try to save 10% of your monthly salary. We can help you by setting up a monthly automatic transfer or you can have your employer split your direct deposit.
- 4. Check out the unclaimed property site for your state to see if you and your family have property listed. For Kansas it is: www.kansascash.ks.gov
- 5. Review your account(s) activity frequently.
- 6. Sort through and shred unnecessary paper documents that may contain confidential information. Farmers State Bank hosts an annual Free Shred Day every spring.
- 7. Request your annual credit report by visiting <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>.
- 8. Rent a safety deposit box at Farmers State Bank to keep your documents and valuables safe for as little as \$30.00 per year.
- 9. Reduce the amount of debt you owe. Pay off your high-interest credit card balances each month.
- 10. Declutter: Clutter causes stress, so focus on getting rid of excess stuff you already own.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CASH FOR TEACHERS WINNERS!!

This year's Cash for Teachers grants had many great entries! The winners were each presented a \$1,000 check at their respective November School Board meetings at Onaga and Rock Creek. They are:

"Indoor School Garden" bv Catherine Seitz at Westmoreland Elementary

"Virtual Reality Learning" bv Daniel Pray at Westmoreland Elementary

"Online Learning with iPads" by Trish McNally at Onaga Elementary

"Flexible Seating for the Classroom" by Alexa Rezac at Onaga Elementary

"Help Us Write Right!" by Melissa DeWitt at Rock Creek Junior High





WINTER CROSSWORD

This time of year can be stressful! Take some time to yourself and try your hand at our crossword puzzle.



40. Direct a vehicle's

2. Frozen water

6. Neck warmer

9. Used to move snow

13. Strong emotion

course

Down:

3. Small

4. Myself

8. Chilly

5. Small pie

11. A season

14. Ripped

18. Bath

16. Nil

- 4. Hand warmers
- 7. Hanging spike of ice 39. Foot warmer
- 9. Freezing rain
- 10. Show and _____
- 11. Conditions outside
- 12. Flowering plant,
- color
- 15. Achoo
- 17. Not in
- 20. Month of winter
- 22. Carols, etc. 24. Valentine month
- 26. Thaw
- 29. Keeps drinks
- warm
- 30. Small dog
- 31. Winter Olympic sport

- winter
- - 22. Wooden snow vehicles
 - 23. Winter road
- condition
- 25. Be carried on
 - 27. Locomotive
 - 28. Carried along by
- wind
 - 30. Piece of hockey
- equipment
- 33. Make this in the
- snow
 - 34. Winter foot wear
 - 36. Faucets can do
 - this
 - 38. You hear with this

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TRUNK OR TREAT IN ONAGA

The Onaga bank participated in the Halloween Trunk or Treat held on October 31st on Main Street in Onaga. Using a farm theme, employees dressed up as a farmer and animals, and decorated their vehicle as a barn! For treats, they gave out animal-shaped bubbles, hay bales (rice crispy treats), chicken feed (chex mix), and plastic eggs. Their hard work earned them First Place!



Luke Wren and Jayne Jepson discussing which came first—the chicken or the

egg?!







Peanut Butter Sheet Cake

Contributed by: Gloria Falk Customer Service Representative Onaga location

Ingredients:

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1 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
1 cup water
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla

Mix together flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt. Combine butter, water, and peanut butter in a saucepan. Heat until boiling. Add to dry ingredients and mix with mixer. Add buttermilk, eggs, and vanilla; mix well. Bake at 350 degrees in a greased 9x13 pan for 30 minutes.

Icing:

1/2 cup peanut butter1 tsp. vanilla1 stick butter1/3 cup milk1 lb. powdered sugar

Heat in saucepan peanut butter, vanilla, butter and milk, but do not boil. Then stir in powdered sugar. Pour over warm cake.

Praline Crunch

Contributed by: Jennifer Fleming Loan Secretary/Consumer Loan Officer Westmoreland location

Ingredients:

8 cups Crispix cereal 2 cups pecan halves 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed 1/2 cup white corn syrup 1/2 cup butter 1 tsp. vanilla extract 1/2 tsp. baking soda

Preheat oven to 250 degrees. In a large bowl, combine cereal and pecans. In a medium saucepan over medium high heat, combine brown sugar, white corn syrup and butter. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and baking soda. Pour over cereal mixture, tossing to coat evenly. Pour cereal mixture into a 9x13 inch pan. Bake for 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes. Pour onto wax or parchment paper to cool. Break into pieces.

Winter Crossword Answers

Across:	Down:
1. Chill	2. Ice
4. Mittens	3. Little
7. Icicle	4. Me
9. Sleet	5. Tart
• 10. Tell	6. Scarf
11. Weather	8. Cold
12. Violet	9. Shovel
15. Sneeze	11. Winter
17. Out	13. Love
20. December	14. Tore
22. Songs	16. Zero
24. February	18. Tub
26. Melt	19. Fog
29. Thermos	21. March
30. Pup	22. Sleds
31. Luge	23. Slippery
32. Satin	25. Ride
35. Windy	27. Train
37. Hockey	28. Blow
39. Slipper	30. Puck
40. Steer	33. Angel
	34. Boots
I	36. Drip
	38. Ear

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Thank you for all of your submissions. We received several great photos for our first customer photo contest. Keep taking those great pictures and submit them to photos@bankwithfarmers.com for next year's calendar!

WINNING PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY:

DeAnn Presley, Jeff Rosell, Aubrey McCarn, Justin Wren, Dena Schmitz, Mike Clancy, Janel Schempher, and Wyatt Minihan



Farmers State Bank is now on Facebook!

@BankWithFarmers

<u>Stop Scammers From Getting Their</u> <u>Grinch On</u>

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!" ... It's also a favorite time for criminals. Below are some ways scammers are trying to get your account information and money this holiday season.

- 1. **Seasonal Travel Scams** If you are traveling this season, know who you are booking your travel through. Remember, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- 2. **Holiday Charity Scams** A legitimate charity will welcome your donation whenever you choose to make it. A fraudster will 'pressure' you to make the donation right then.
- 3. **Gift Card Scams** Remember, gift cards are for gifts, not payments. If someone is requiring payment in the form of a gift card, it's a scam.
- 4. **Fake Websites** Limit your online purchases to reputable companies you are familiar with. Savvy scammers can make fake websites that promote products with prices that are too good to be true.
- 5. **Delivery Scams** You receive a notice stating a delivery attempt for a package was made, and to call for delivery arrangements. Once you place the call, the person who answers requires personal information in order to confirm the order. This is a scam. No delivery service needs personal information to deliver a package.



state bank **FARMERS**

Fax: (785) 457-3798 PH: (785) 457-3316 Westmoreland, KS 66549 307 Main PO Box 330





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Wednesday, December 25 Thursday, December 26 **Tuesday, December 31 Close at Noon Year End Cut Off at Noon**

Tuesday, December 24

Wednesday, January 1

Thursday, January 2

Christmas Cut Off at Noon CLOSED **Regular Hours**

CLOSED

Regular Hours

Close at Noon

The following hours will be observed by all three Farmers State Bank locations.

Holiday Hours