

FEEDYARD

Continued from Page 1

nure requiring storage capacity. Mr. Brooks had been invited to attend the meeting but Mr. Callicrate was told that he was unable to attend. He said he asked about Region 7's offer to meet with Kansas cattle producers. Mr. Callicrate was told that the Environmental Protection Agency had already met with the Kansas Livestock Association instead of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association which represents independent cattlemen.

After the news was published, Mr. Callicrate said, he received a call from a water engineer offering assistance. The engineer said that if he had been a member of the Kansas Livestock Association, the feed yard would probably not have seen an Environmental Protection Agency inspector.

Mr. Callicrate admitted to some failures in record keeping and nutrient analysis but noted that would quickly be corrected.

We have one of the cleanest feed yards around, Jones said. I'm proud of what we have.

Mr. Brooks issued a letter (see on this page) concerning the matter, noting that the protection agency had never said hay was a pollutant.



DALE PATTON, Cheyenne County Commissioner, was one of the speakers at the meeting held at Callicrate Feedyard on Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Protection agency denies claim

By Karl Brooks, EPA Region 7 Administrator

A Kansas feedlot operator is trying to make hay by falsely claiming that the Environmental Protection Agency defined hay as a water pollutant.

The owner of the Callicrate Feeding Company has been spinning a "hay-as-pollutant" myth through the blogosphere for a couple of weeks now. While the company is certainly entitled to its own opinions about the Environmental Protection Agency, the company is not entitled to its own set of facts.

Here are the facts. On Aug. 15, Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7, which includes Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and nine tribal nations, took action to correct several serious environmental violations at the Callicrate Feeding Company in St. Francis. The agency found water permit violations at Callicrate's operation that needed to be addressed. The compliance order was not based on hay. Nor would the agency have issued such an action based on hay.

To be clear: The order had nothing to do with hay. At no place in the 11-page order is the word "hay" mentioned. Nor is there mention of alfalfa or grass.

The agency cited the Callicrate operation for failure to control harmful runoff, maintain adequate manure storage capacity, keep adequate operation records, and meet the state and federal requirements of its nutrient management plan.

Environmental Protection Agency inspectors observed silage, and dried distillers grains within the uncontrolled feedstock storage area.

When stored inappropriately, the silage and grains can turn into a liquid material that contains contaminants detrimental to water quality. Agency inspectors also observed slaughter wastes being stored outside in an uncontrolled area. The agency order was based on those contaminants and the other violations mentioned above.

The Callicrate facility is permitted by the state for a capacity of 12,000 head of beef cattle and had 3,200 head at the time of the inspection. Under Environmental Protection Agency definitions, 1,000 head of beef is considered a large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). This is not a small operation. The permitted capacity puts the company in the top five percent of the largest animal feeding operations in Region 7.

This action by Environmental Protection Agency was issued to correct problems. Less than two weeks after the order was issued, Callicrate's attorney informed us that the company had already taken action to address the problems identified in the agency's order.

We have some indication of how other producers have perceived this fracas in a feedlot. Region 7's offer to meet with Kansas cattle producers to discuss concentrated animal feeding operations enforce-

ment was warmly received and we will be meeting within days. Drovers/Cattle Network published an article debunking the "hay-as-pollutant" myth.

As that article concludes: "But as the industry confronts and negotiates these genuine regulatory issues, R-CALF's claim that 'Environmental Protection Agency declares hay a pollutant to antagonize small and mid-sized U.S. cattle feeders' is unnecessary, inflammatory hyperbole."

Club Clip Tuesday Club

Tuesday Club met on Sept. 13 at the home of Rose Mary Bierig. A picnic supper was served by hostess Rose Mary and Valjean Schultz.

Members came hungry and enjoyed the picnic.

Meeting was called to order by the president Virginia Cooper. Roll call was "What you did this summer" - trips, family get-togethers, loafing and yard mowing.

Rose Mary Presented the year books on the theme, "The Wonders of Cheyenne County, Our Heritage, Our Safety, Our Hobbies and fun." Programs were planned for the coming years by the hostess.

Meeting was adjourned with repeating of the the club collect.

Continued from Page 1

spiritual growth and maturity.

He went on to explain that the church then should be a place where we have inclusive, participatory worship; where each person should have a place where they feel comfortable to grow and learn to become more like Christ; and a place where each one has the opportunity to use their unique spiritual gifts.

The support is tremendous here, he said. And he looks forward to helping to build up and strengthen the church's varied ministries as well as help them to consider where else God might have us join Him in ministry.

Pastor Nelson didn't always want to be a pastor. His dad began several businesses including selling campers and owning a campground. "I grew up around campers," he said.

In high school, he knew that he was being called into the ministry but, he said, he didn't want to be in the ministry. "I 'wrestled' the idea (of going into the ministry)," he said. "A calling is not always easy."

Over time though, God changed his heart and he's glad that he heeded God's call.

"It has been a good life - I wouldn't change a thing!"

Randy graduated from Trinity University in 1991 and then went on to the Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary. During his seminary training he served his internship in Fairbury and Deshler, Neb. His experience in this area was good and that was one reason why the Nelsons considered coming to this area of the country.

In 1984, he met Brenda on a traveling summer Gospel team after she graduated from the Association Free Lutheran Bible School (AFLBS), a two-year college level school that focuses on equipping students to have a solid biblical foundation for their life. Brenda had grown up in Southwest Minnesota.

Before coming to St. Francis, the Nelsons served congregations in Illinois, Texas, Nebraska and Minnesota. They have six children, Matthew, who is currently in Minnesota attending Bible School (AFLBS); Stephanie, who is also a Bible School graduate, moved with the family to St. Francis and is working at Krien Pharmacy while completing her Bachelor's Degree online. Also living at home are Paul, who is a senior; Steven, a junior; Erik, a freshman, and Ben, who is in second grade. Brenda is loving being a stay-at-home mom.

In his spare time, Pastor Nelson served as a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician (EMT) in Lisbon as well as part-time firefighter and emergency medical technician at a large neighboring community. He said

PASTOR

that at this time he doesn't plan to continue these activities in St. Francis as he feels that his responsibilities with the church and congregation will require more of his time. However, he hopes

to perhaps develop a Chaplaincy program with our local fire, emergency medical service, and police services, something that he had experience doing in Lisbon.

CHILDREN

Continued from Page 1

Plans are that the school will give third generations the same opportunity.

The resource building and office of the Methodist Church at 104 W. Webster Street has been the home of the preschool since its inception. The board of the Methodist Church has allowed the preschool to operate in a couple of the rooms with little to no financial cost.

The preschool's financial support comes from the tuition collected and from community donations as well as the contributions of the parents, teachers and staff. With the declining population of the community, the budget continues to be the major concern of the ABC Preschool Board as it continues to maintain teachers and a welcome learning environment for the children.

Each year, the ABC preschool teachers, parents and board members work on money-making proj-

ects in order to meet and fulfill the preschool's basic financial needs.

Last year, during the craft show sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the preschool served the lunch and offered baked goods for sale. It is anticipated that the preschool will again provide the lunch for the craft show on Nov. 5.

Additionally, a preschool auction is typically held every other year, normally the middle of November, right before Thanksgiving. Parents, grandparents and the businesses in the community donate various items to be auctioned with many businesses offering cash donations as well.

The auction is scheduled to be held the evening of Nov. 18, with a meal to also be served.

Anyone wishing to make a cash donation to the preschool or to donate an auction item may contact the teachers, JaNan Cooper or Amy Busse, or mail to P.O. Box 433, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Club Clip

Red Hat Mamas

The waning of summer was culminated with a pizza picnic looking out onto the park at the Bird City Shelter House on Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Bonnie Burr kept the group entertained by reading a series of poems and stories, which included "Top 20 Things We Are Looking For" and "Blue Roses." Other Red Hat suggested word games, from Connie Rooney's Red Hat Society book, proved to be challenging. Our humorous reading chairwoman, Phyllis Wingfield, read the

story "Old Age Romance."

Queen, Margaret Voorhies, read a thank you note from Vernetta Haack for the red hat framed music box presented to her in August.

Attending were: Bonnie Burr, Vernetta Haack, Bev Higgins, Betty Lewis, Iris McIntosh, Carol Mears, Lois Morelock, Connie Rooney, Joan Tongish, Margaret Voorhies, Phyllis Wingfield and Marlene Young.

Phyllis, Edna and Vernetta will plan the October event.

Scholarship is awarded

The Craig Clark Memorial Scholarship for 2011 has been awarded to Trevor Reed, St. Francis. These scholarships are privately funded by the Clark family and are given to students who plan to go to school in the automotive, welding or diesel mechanics fields of study.



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PTA FALL FESTIVAL
Mon., Oct. 3
6 — 7:30 p.m.
St. Francis Grade School Playground
Senior Class will be selling Sloppy Joes Plates \$5.50
25¢ Tickets
Games Food Prizes Fun!
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Sponsored by PTA

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Happy 85th Birthday!!

Love, Your Family

VICTOR ZWEYGARDT will be celebrating his 85th Birthday on September 29th.

Please send Best Wishes to Victor at 520 E. 2nd Street, St. Francis, KS 67756

Cheyenne Bowl
Celebrating 50 years of Bowling
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