



50 people meet at feedyard

By Karen Krien

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A month after the Environmental Protection Agency issued compliance orders against Callicrate Feedyard for failing to maintain adequate wastewater storage capacity for an area where hay bales are kept, a meeting was held at the feedyard. Over 50 people attended the meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Mike Callicrate, owner of the feed yard, said the Environmental Protection Agency didn't contact him but he found out by notification from the media. He figured that he is being targeted because of a decision taken several years ago when he defied IBP in court. He said, while they won the case, the judge overturned the verdict and it ended up costing him and other plaintiffs big dollars in fees.

Mr. Callicrate said that an agency inspector was at the feed yard in February. Inspector Trevor Urban talked with A.J. Jones, Callicrate Cattle manager. The report did not mention anything about retaining water runoff from the feed area, he said.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment had authorized the design of the operation runoff 25 years ago.

He said that Karl Brooks, Environmental Protection Agency regional administrator, cited the operation for failure to control harmful runoff, maintain adequate manure storage capacity, keep adequate operation records and meet



MIKE CALLICRATE showed concern at last Tuesday's meeting.

the state and federal requirements of its nutrient management plan. It is confusing, Mr. Callicrate said, as Mr. Brooks refers to waste water, not manure.

Our cattle waste, he said, is spreadable dry manure and precipitation runoff, not liquid manure. **See FEEDYARD on Page 6**



JUST THE RIGHT COLORS were used to color the cow at ABC Preschool Monday morning. Pictured, l to r, are Jenae Moberly and Maggie Hingst. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

Helping children prepare for school

ABC Preschool is celebrating 33 years.

Today, 18 children attend preschool. There are two classes with the pre-kindergarten taught by JaNan Cooper three days a week, and the younger children, taught by Amy Busse, two days a week. Mindy Antholz is a helper every day.

The children, according to their

age, are taught the alphabet, numbers and handwriting. Motor and social skills are also addressed. They play games, put puzzles together and color. Karen Jones comes to teach them about nutrition and Charlene Fiedler teaches them some Spanish.

Learning letters can be fun, Mrs. Cooper said. When they learn the letter "P," they make a trip to the

Pizza Hut; "A" is learning about airplanes at the airport; and "M" is visiting with Jean Ann Confer, grade school music teacher. At the end of the year, they visit Shirley Swihart, kindergarten teacher.

"I love working with the children," said Mrs. Cooper. "There is never a dull moment and they always have something fun to say."

The preschool was established

as a non-profit association in April 1978. It has given children of the community a needed foundation in learning and social development before entering grade school.

Two generations of Cheyenne County families have been able to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the preschool.

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RYAN MURRAY, emergency manager, right, talks to Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, and Jen Padgett, communication director, about upcoming plans.

County emergency manager receives professional award

On Sept. 15, the Kansas Emergency Management Association (KEMA) presented the 2011 association's awards during the annual conference presentation ceremony. Among those receiving awards was Ryan Murray, Rawlins, Sherman and Cheyenne County Emergency management, who received the Outstanding New Emergency Management Professional award.

The award recognizes an emergency management professional who, at the time of the annual conference, served 24 months or less in the position and who, during

that time, has displayed enthusiasm and made specific accomplishments and/or improvements in the local program.

Mr. Murray has had a very "interesting" first year as an emergency manager. Not only having the added responsibilities of taking care of three counties at once with the usual weather related incidents (winter weather that closed down I-70 and severe weather including tornadoes), he had to deal with the fire at the St Francis nursing home.

The fire was bad enough that

the home was closed for several months for repairs. Due to the location of St Francis, the residents were evacuated to several neighboring towns, which included two neighboring states.

At the awards ceremony, it was noted that Ryan has shown unflappable strength and determination in managing those incidents. He actively participates in training and exercises, not just in his three counties, but in the region as well. In receiving the award, he has proven to be a valuable member of the Northwest Regional Council.

Pastor comes from Illinois

By Karen Krien
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Peace Lutheran Church has a new pastor.

Pastor Randy Nelson and his family arrived in St. Francis in August.

The Nelsons had lived in Lisbon, Ill., for the last 11 years and were not looking to move to another church. However, when Mark Keller, chairman of the Peace Lutheran Church Call Committee, called him and asked if he was open to considering that God might be calling him to come to St. Francis, he felt that he should at least consider it. In Lisbon, Pastor Nelson was within an hour of most of his family. But during that time there were two more calls from other churches which also led them to believe that perhaps it was time to consider that God might have other plans.

In July, he and his wife, Brenda, and their family made the trip to St. Francis to visit and see if God was calling them here. He said that when they arrived they were a bit apprehensive, but before they left they had a strong feeling that St. Francis was where God wanted them to go.

"By the end of the weekend we



Pastor Randy Nelson

noticed that our faces hurt from smiling so much! We are thrilled to be here," Pastor Nelson said.

Their daughter, Stephanie, also had a connection to St. Francis that helped bring them here. Two years ago, she had spent the summer serving on a traveling Gospel team that had gone as far west as California helping churches with vacation Bible schools and other ministry programs. During that summer she had come to St. Francis to help Peace Lutheran Church and stayed with the Kellers and that is where the connection was made when the time came to search for a new pastor.

Before they even arrived, Pastor Nelson said that he saw that this church has many gifted and talented people and he feels that a big part of his job is to help them find their place to be "plugged" in. He said that there are three words that describe his philosophy of ministry: worship, discipleship and stewardship. These are the keys to

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Poker run set to raise money

A poker run is set for 1:30 p.m. on Sunday at the city park in downtown St. Francis. Sponsored by the Cheyenne County Cruisers Club, the run is for all types of vehicles and proceeds will go to benefit Linda Elfers who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Participants are asked to arrive by 1 p.m. to get the instructions and draw the first card. There is a \$20 charge which includes the poker hand and meal after the run. Extra meals are an additional charge.

The route is from St. Francis, to Wray, Colo., then on to Haigler, Benkelman, Bird City and back to St. Francis, approximately 125 miles.

Those under the age of 18 will need a parent or guardian signature on the release form.

People who do not want to participate on the run can make a donation to Mrs. Elfers through the Cruisers Club.

A rain date has been set for Oct. 9, same time and place. For more information, contact Kent Kechter, 785-332-0039 or Scott Schultz, 785-332-3960.

Dinner scheduled Sunday to help woman with cancer

People are urged to stop by the St. Francis high school cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday to enjoy a fried chicken dinner and help Linda Elfers. Those who can't attend can also order a home delivery but those reservations need to be made on or before

Friday by calling Dolores Jenik, 332-3471 (home), 332-6129 (cell) or 332-8810 (office).

Linda was recently diagnosed with cancer and has been undergoing chemotherapy treatments. She needs help with medical bills.

The 4-H groups will also be holding a bake sale in the school hallway.

Linda is the extension agent assistant for Cheyenne County and has been involved in 4-H, fair and many other activities in the community and county. The community, along with Thriver

for Lutherans and friends, have banned together to help her.

All proceeds from the dinner and bake sale will go for Linda's medical expenses. Thriver for Lutherans will provide supplemental funds. Donation checks need to be made payable to

Thriver. Those unable to attend may also send checks to Miriam Yonkey, 145 Clinton Ave., Wheeler, KS 67756.

For additional information on this benefit, call Shirley Zwegardt, 332-2286 (home) or 332-2113 (work).