### **Across the County**

**Take Steps to Reduce Heat Stress in Cattle** 

from reduced rates of gain to

"Cattle will adapt to heat if it happens gradually, but that's often not the case," said Larry Hollis, veterinarian, Kansas State University, citing the quick wide temperature and humidity swings that can happen in the central High Plains.

it expects the heat to cause problems," said Hollis, who is a beef cattle veterinarian.

See the maps at http://1.usa. gov/14KSLg2. The website takes into account weather parameters wind speed, humidity and solar and cool water.

With plenty of summer left radiation. The site also includes to go, soaring temperatures a breathing equation that and humidity can take a toll on producers, feedlot managers and cattle, resulting in everything others can use to evaluate their animals.

> "Cattle don't have the ability to sweat like we do," Hollis said. "Instead they'll start panting."

help producers gauge cattle heat pasture with more trees or stress by how many breaths an stretching a screen over pens. animal will take per minute. If an animal is taking less than impedes airflow. Do not pen 90 breaths per minute, the rate cattle near windbreaks. Mow "United States Department is considered "normal." A rate weeds if they are tall enough to of Agriculture has information of 90-110 breaths per minute function as a windbreak. If there including forecast maps that indicates "alert," 110-130 are mounds, cattle will use them show geographically, where indicates "danger," and above to try to catch a breeze. 130 breaths per minute indicates "emergency."

"United States Department and they're already over 100 of Agricutture has information breaths/minute, you know it so controlling flies helps with including forecast maps that will likely get worse as the day controlling heat stress. show geographically, where goes on," Hollis said. "We it expects the heat to cause can't control the temperature in the day. Have all work done or humidity, but we can control by 10 a.m. some things.

He outlined several steps.

that influence livestock comfort There is a difference between to stress. Instead, use a system or stress, including temperature, water heated by the sun all day



County Extension Agent

- Make sure there is ample space around the drinking source, so cattle don't bunch up as they are accessing the water.
- Provide shade whether it The site has information to is moving animals to a different
  - Remove anything that
- Control flies. Cattle will come together to help each other "If you see them in the morning deflect flies but air circulation is impeded when they bunch up,
  - If handling cattle, do it early
- Where possible, use sprinklers, but do not use mist. • Provide cool drinking water. Mist raises humidity, which adds that dispenses large droplets.

"At the end of the day, cattle that are not alive don't do us much good. When we have performance losses, that's one thing, but when your animals don't survive, that's not a good situation at all," Hollis said.

Contact the Cheyenne County Extension office at 332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu with questions or comments. Till next week - Marty



GAS METER hit in the alley. Travis Jensen from Midwest Energy, left, gets the gas shut off. Fire chief George Harper and fireman Clay Zimbelman were on hand in case of an emergency. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

**ANNOUNCING-**

# The Winners of the 2013 Harvest Countdown

**Carol Redding - First Place \$50 Ted Busse - Second Place \$35 Tom Williams - Third Place \$15** 

The official first load of wheat was brought in on June 27 at 10:51 a.m. by the Bracelin Brothers.

## 1st Loads of 2013 Wheat at area elevators



**BARTLETT COMPANY**  Zach Patterson, manager and Kyle Buffington go over the scale ticket on the first load of wheat.

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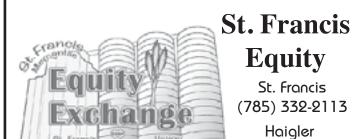
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