

Assistance program opens Oct. 22

Farm Service Agency Administrator Juan Garcia announced recently the sign-up period for the 2011 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program will open Oct. 22. The program is part of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill). Under the 2008 Farm Bill, the program authorizes assistance to farmers and ranchers who suffered crop losses caused by natural disasters occurring through Sept. 30, 2011.

As of Sept. 30, 2011, the Department's authority to operate the program expired along with four other important disaster assistance programs: the Livestock Indemnity Program; the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish; the Livestock Forage Disaster Program; and the Tree Assistance Program. Production losses due to disasters occurring after Sept. 30, 2011, are not eligible for disaster program coverage.

To be eligible for the program, a farm or ranch must have:

At least a 10-percent production loss on a crop of economic significance; A policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or

the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for all economically significant crops; Been physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Secretary of Agriculture under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Without a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may be eligible if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. A "farm" for program purposes means the entirety of all crop acreage in all counties that a producer planted or intended to be planted for harvest for normal commercial sale or on-farm livestock feeding, including native and improved grassland intended for haying.

Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for the program without a policy or plan of insurance or coverage.

Farmers and ranchers interested in signing up must do so before the June 7, 2013 deadline.

For more information on the program, visit any Farm Services Agency county office or www.fsa.usda.gov/sure.

Potatoes, the ultimate comfort food

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No other food is so simply comforting as a potato. Boiled, baked, with a pat of butter, a grind of pepper and a shake of salt, the only thing better than a freshly dug potato is another one! What's more, a homegrown potato doesn't just come in a plain brown wrapper, or even a red one anymore. Most of us have sampled the buttery yellows, and maybe even blushing shades of pink, unabashed blues, or unshrinking violets. They all have great potato flavor. Like the common burlap-skinned standbys, colorful homegrown potatoes are an ideal food, standing alone, or as a starchy flavor companion to onion, garlic, chilies, herbs, spices, or different kinds of cheeses.

So, you might ask, why is the old guy discussing potatoes when he's usually sitting around criticizing fill-in NFL referees, like everybody else? Of course, he doesn't have to do that anymore. There are several reasons for talking about homegrown potatoes this fall, and most of those reasons serve as reminders

for planting time next spring.

Reason No. 1...This reminder for right now...get out there and dig THIS year's crop so that they won't have to lie around in that dry soil any longer. If not dug now, they will soon be showing serious signs of shrink, and other bad things. Dig 'em now, unless you are having some kind of misgiving about the over-paid regular referees. In that case, wait until tomorrow. As soon as they are safely stored in a cool, dark place, preferably where temperatures are between 50 and 65 degrees, you can expect delightful eating all winter.

Reason No.2...More gardeners need to seriously consider a few of their own potatoes. And please don't give me the excuse that you don't have enough room in your small garden for potatoes. I'm just asking you to plant one row...maybe a double row, next spring. While you won't feed the family very long with just a row or two, you are sure to experience a taste sensation that you really never expected from a common everyday potato.

Reason No. 3...I am fearful there are actually people out there who have never tasted a NEW potato. For the uninitiated, new potatoes are immature specimens of the tuber that begin to form in the plant's root system about the time the plant is blooming. At that time, you dig in under the vine with your hand and steal 2 or 3 walnut size potatoes. Take them to the kitchen, boil them in their thin skins until just barely tender, perhaps make a tasty white sauce for them, or just add butter, salt and pepper, and you have one of your garden's ultimate treats!

Reason No. 4...Now is the time to think about which potato variety you might choose for next spring. Kennebec, Red Pontiac, Yukon Gold, Norcotah Russet, Swedish Fingerling, Purple Majesty, Dakota Crisp... doesn't matter much. Potatoes of any variety grow exceptionally well in the High Plains area, and will provide you with an exceptional garden treat next spring. By then, you can begin to worry about the possibility that Major League Baseball umpires might go on strike!

Help available for livestock producers

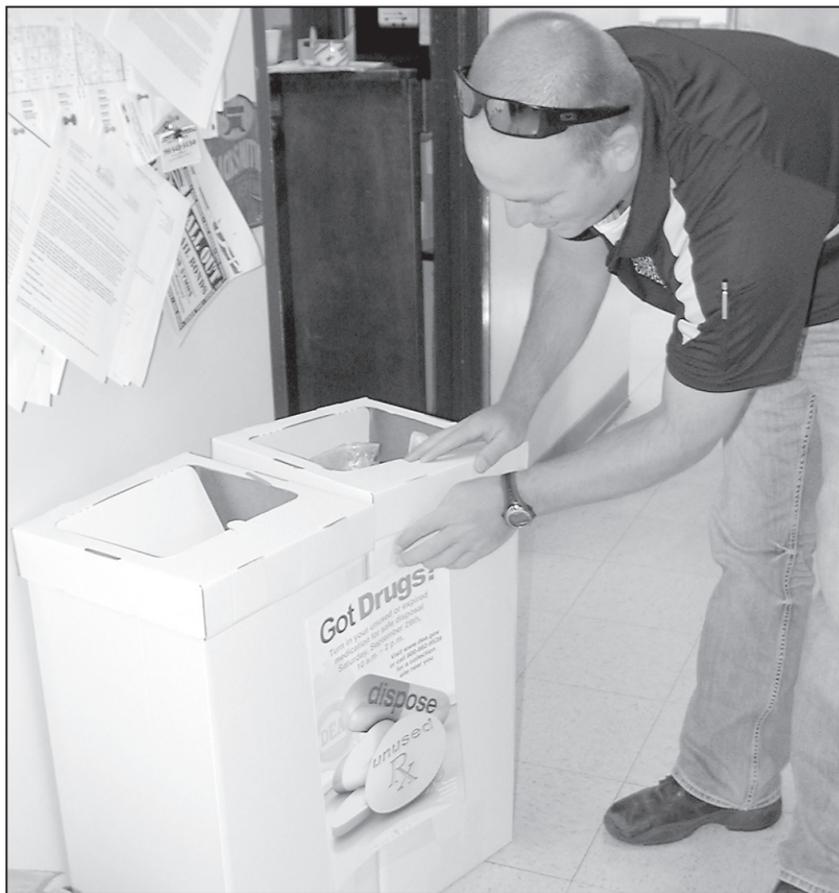
Adrian J. Polansky, State Executive Director of United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Kansas announced recently that drought assistance is available for livestock producers affected by drought in all Kansas Counties except Republic. Eligibility to request to implement the program is based on the County Committee providing evidence that the County is designated as level D3, Drought Extreme according to the U.S. Drought Monitor or providing evidence of a 40 percent or greater loss of normal precipitation for the four most recent months.

Producers may request assistance in approved Counties by filing an application for cost-share

assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program from Oct. 15 through Nov. 15, at their local Farm Service Agency. The program is being implemented to assist in providing access to water because of extended period of severe drought. The damage must be of such magnitude that it would be too costly for the producer to rehabilitate without Federal assistance.

Participants can receive cost-share assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost for temporary measures and 50 percent of the cost for permanent measures for approved emergency conservation practices.

Preventing drug abuse



To help prevent prescription drug abuse, the Norton County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Agency, held a drug take-back initiative Saturday. According to Norton County Sheriff Troy Thompson, the department collected about 40 pounds of unwanted and unused medication where citizens could drop it off to be disposed of. The Drug Enforcement Agency will incinerate the drugs collected. Pictured, Norton County Sheriff's officer Adam Wahlmeier tapes a drop-off point poster to the collection box at the Sheriff's Department.

—Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

Grief class to be held on Oct. 25

Life is made of good and bad experiences, which include many losses. There are commonalities in the ways people grieve, no matter what the loss. These grief theories will be explored and some realistic strategies for dealing with any kind of loss will be discussed.

The instructor for this class will be Dawn Phelps, BSN, BS, LMSW from Miltonvale.

This eight hour class will meet from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 25, at the Geary County Campus, 631 Caroline Ave, Junction City.

For further information or to pre-register, please call 1-800-729-5101, ext. 370 or 785-243-1435, ext. 370 at Cloud County Community College.

We're proud to welcome Brett Lindau, D.O.

Dr. Brett Lindau is now seeing patients at McCook Clinic as Community Hospital's newest physician

Dr. Lindau earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney (2003), and his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Chicago College

of Osteopathic Medicine in Downers Grove, Illinois (2009). He completed his Family Medicine Residency at the North Colorado Family Medicine Residency Program in Greeley, Colorado (2012). Dr. Lindau is certified with the American Board of Family Medicine.

To make an appointment with Dr. Lindau, call 308-344-4110.



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PUBLIC RECORD

District Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the District Court clerk at the Norton County Courthouse.

Traffic and Wildlife and Parks cases are given to the paper when the fines are paid.

Sept. 14

Aug. 18-Clayton B. Bryant, York, Neb.; Charge: Speeding 78 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$161.

May 16-Jarrold S. Davis, Norton; Charge: Reckless driving; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$215.60.

July 27-Robert J. Marx, Clayton; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$167.

Aug. 28-Hector Alonso Mendoza-Ortiz, Gruver, Texas; Charge: Over weight limits on wheels and axles; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$581.

Sept. 20

Aug. 28-Jorge A. Arreola, Garden City; Charge: Over weight limits on wheels and axles; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$208.

Sept. 13-Chase M. Braun, Norton; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$149.

Sept. 13-Chase M. Braun, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Aug. 20-Charles A. Johnson, New Almelo; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Aug. 29-Marietta N. Koelzer, Oberlin; Charge: Speeding 75 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$143.

Sept. 8-Daniel Lee Lentz, Alma; Charge: Speeding 93 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$275.

Aug. 28-Hector Loza, Scott City; Charge: Over weight limits on wheels and axles; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$595.

Aug. 30-John J. Sako, Denver, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$167.

Sept. 28

Sept. 9-Brent A. Jennings, Topeka; Charge: Speeding 78 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$161.

Sept. 16-Chase R. Miller, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Sept. 6-Bert D. Petersen, Curtis, Neb.; Charge: Width of vehicles and loads thereon; move over size at night; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$268.

Aug. 31-Harely Dawn Rupp, Long Island; Charge: Speeding 96 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$308.

Aug. 28-Jose L. Sanchez, Garden City; Charge: Over weight limits on wheels and axles; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$298.

Aug. 30-Steven Scheetz, Clayton; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$167.

Aug. 26-Gerald R. Wescott, Norcat; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty;

Fine: \$0.

Aug. 26-Gerald R. Wescott, Norcat; Charge: Transporting an open container; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$408.

Aug. 26-Gerald R. Wescott, Norcat; Charge: Littering from vehicle; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$0.

May 11-Bradley D. Anderson, Norton; Charge: Failure to totally extinguish a fire prior to leaving site of fire; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$198.

Long Island Community Building Fundraiser
Come out for a "Grilling Good Time" on Wed., Oct. 10
6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
at the Long Island Community Building for Hamburgers and All the Fixings!!
Brownies and Ice Cream to Top it Off!!
FREE WILL DONATION

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361
email: dpaxton@nwkansas.com

Norton Sheet Metal Inc. has changed hands but still has all the same faces!
Come celebrate while enjoying the Homecoming Festivities

NSM
NORTON SHEET METAL, INC.
109 N. State, Norton - (785) 877-3211

Ribbon Cutting and Refreshments
Friday, October 5
1:30-3:30 p.m.