

Weather delays soybean harvest



Weather conditions were favorable last week enabling farmers to get back into their fields to harvest soybeans. Greg Frey of Stapleton runs his combine on the field near the Village of Stapleton city limits.

Fighting against 10-year low prices and wet weather conditions, area farmers are scrambling to get soybeans to the bin. Another obstacle awaits them as handling facilities are filling fast. Ag Valley's Logan County facility, located south of Stapleton on Highway 83, is now taking in 40,000 bushels a day. Joe Richmond of North Platte, who was manning

the scale house on Thursday, October 18, said the 460,000 capacity bin is about half full. "Depending on the traffic, we could be full in about a week," Richmond said. Ag Valley in North Platte is almost full and that leaves farmers concerned where they will take their beans. Reported yields in the area are very good, and

some fields are breaking previous records with field coming in at nearly 85 bushels per acre. High yields will help offset some of the lower prices, but it is estimated that producers will have to settle for anywhere from \$2 to \$3 a bushel below the cost of production. As of Monday, October 15, USDA NASS report shows 38% of soybeans in



MARCIA HORA - THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

The Ag Valley - Logan facility, located south of Stapleton on U.S. Highway 83, is being utilized to help farmers in this area bring in the soybean crop. Last week's weather conditions boosted harvest and 40,000 bushels a day were being taken in. The 460,000 capacity bin was about half full on Thursday, October 18.

Nebraska have been harvested. U.S. farmers were expected to produce a record-high soybean crop. According to the August 2018 crop production report issued by the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, soybean

production was forecast at 4.59 billion bushels, while corn growers were expected to decrease their production slightly from last year, forecast at 14.6 billion bushels. Soybean yields are expected to average

51.6 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from last year. Record soybean yields are expected in Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

Operation Love the Military



STAPLETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fourth graders at Stapleton Public Schools wrote letters to troops. Letters were sent to Operation: Love the Military, to be placed in a care package for troops for Christmas.

Fourth graders learned proper letter format and wrote very heart-warming messages to soldiers.

"They let them know they appreciated their sacrifices and were thankful for the freedoms we have," said Lacy Kinderknecht, fourth grade teacher.

Fourth graders this year at Stapleton Public Schools, pictured front row, l-r: Kinlee Goodrich, Rachel Leetch, Briley Kramer, Braylon Kuhn, Quinten Jones, and Ashtin Johns. Back Row: Kamryn Kramer, Novalia Wiezorek, Reegan Brown, Coltan Clouse, Dually Schell, and Blake Gustason

Callaway pursues assisted living facility

The dream of an assisted living facility for the Callaway community and surrounding area may be approaching reality. Several individuals and groups in the community, spearheaded by the Economic Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, have been devoting many hours in the last year to make this happen.

The Economic Committee has been working with HUD (Housing and Urban Development). If the marketing study shows need and the financial feasibility study shows that it is feasible, HUD will provide a 40-year, low-interest loan to finance the studies required and construction of the facility. "There are many steps in the process in building an assisted living facility," Ken Pitkin committee member said. "There must be a place to build, a plan to finance the cost of building, a marketing study of the Callaway area and surrounding central Nebraska to determine the need and how many units would be practical. If the marketing study shows a need, then a financial feasibility study will need to be done, and then designs and bids, and then construction. And it all costs money."

Lavonne Hickenbottom has generously donated land south of the Good Life Center for the assisted living facility. The facility could be located on the 2.7 acres and would be an entirely separate building with units, family kitchen, large living room area, dining room and separate entry. A hallway that allows sharing of the commercial kitchen, laundry facilities and staff for cost savings would connect the two buildings.

The cost of the marketing study is \$17,500. The Lane Brabham estate provided \$4,000 toward expenses for an assisted living facility. About \$500 was

used to survey the site and donated by Mrs. Hickenbottom.

Team Physical Therapy held a grand opening and collected and donated \$150 toward assisted living and the Callaway Chamber of Commerce has pledged \$5,000.

The Callaway Hospital Foundation has pledged \$5,000 toward the cost and Callaway Development Corporation (CDC) pledged \$4,000.

These pledges come in the form of a 0% loan that will be repaid to contributors if HUD ultimately funds the project. If the project does not proceed, the loans become a grant.

Eide Bailly has been contracted to do the marketing study. The process has started and will take 6-8 weeks to complete. Representatives from the company will study where residents might come from to live in the facility, the demographics of the Good Life Center, the Callaway District Hospital and the Grand Generation Manor. They will be conducting conference calls and also make on-site visits to Callaway.

Decisions will then be made as to what the next step will be. If the marketing study proves successful, the community will need to raise an additional \$45,000 to \$60,000 for the financial feasibility study. The history of the generosity of the community and the need for such a facility has encouraged the committee to feel confident the funds could be raised in a short amount of time. If the financial feasibility study is successful and HUD commits to the long-term financing, the architectural designs and drawings will proceed and construction will follow.

"These are exciting times for the Callaway community," Pitkin said. "The dream is coming to reality."

-- News Briefs --

Red Ribbon Week At SPS

Stapleton Public Schools is observing "Red Ribbon Week," October 22-26. Wednesday, October 24 is "Shade out drugs" wear your sunglasses. Thursday, October 25 is "Stick it to drugs day" wear your "Life is your journey" stickers. Friday, October 26 is wear red clothing to support Red Ribbon Week. Remember: Life is your journey. Travel drug free.

Medicare Open Enrollment

October 15 through December 7 is the time for all Medicare Part D participants to evaluate their Part D plans for 2019. Medicare and Nebraska SHIP provides free, unbiased counseling. To get one-on-one help, contact the Central Sandhills Area Extension Office at 308-645-2267, and set up an appointment with SHIP Representative, Sue Pearman. More information may be found on page 13 inside this issue.

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Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
9	42	37	.26
10	39	32	.63
11	40	24	T
12	48	22	.10
13	56	34	.02
14	60	26	.26
15	33	25	0

Snowfall was recorded on October 10, .9"; October 11, trace; October 14, 2.1"

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