

THE STAPLETON

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ENTERPRISE

LOGAN COUNTY, STAPLETON, NEBRASKA 69163

(USPS 518780)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017

NO. 43

Got a gully, fix it. Don't disc it.

Harvest isn't just about cutting stalks, it's about taking stock.

According to Britt Weiser, state resource conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Lincoln, during harvest farmers should study the areas in their fields where erosion is occurring.

"If you notice rough spots in your cropland where the soil has washed away, take stock. Chances are that area is not only losing soil and productivity, but it could potentially cost you your USDA farm program benefits," Weiser said.

Since the passage of the 1985 Farm Bill, farmers have been required to control erosion on fields that are classified as highly erodible. A non-compliance ruling can impact the benefits farmers receive from USDA agencies, such as access to federal crop insurance premium subsidies and conservation program dollars.

Each spring, NRCS conducts compliance reviews on a random selection of highly erodible fields to determine if erosion has been adequately controlled. The two factors measured for conservation compliance are sheet-and-rill erosion, and ephemeral gully erosion.

Sheet and rill erosion is generally controlled through no-till farming. Ephemeral gullies are small ditches in fields that are often smoothed out with a disc. According to Weiser, discing or smoothing gullies does not fix the problem, and it puts farmers at risk of losing USDA farm program benefits.

"Using a disc to smooth out ditches



in cropland can make the issue worse, causing soil to be more unstable and susceptible to washing away. If it is necessary to smooth out a ditch, farmers should plant a cover crop or grass, or install another practice to prevent erosion from occurring," Weiser said, "We're telling farmers, 'Fix it. Don't Disc it.'"

NRCS is available to help "fix it" by providing both technical and financial assistance to install conservation practices like no-till farming, cover crops, grassed waterways, and terraces to control erosion.

"The conservationists in our field offices are available to help farmers identify ephemeral erosion in their fields or where it may occur in the future, and assist them with applying the conservation practices that best fit their farming operations," Weiser said.

If you discover ephemeral gully erosion this fall, visit your local NRCS office before discing any areas of highly erodible fields. For more information, visit your local USDA Service Center.

Communities change



MARCIA HORA PHOTO

Mrs. Jorgensen, third grade teacher at Stapleton Public Schools, shares information with Ashtin Johns, Dually Schell, Kai Huntington, and Rachel Leetch, as the class looks at the first edition of *The Stapleton Enterprise* published in July of 1912. *The Enterprise's* first issue was published in a tent as the fledgling town sprung up with the coming of the railroad. Third graders are studying how communities change over time. They made a trip downtown to Creative Printers to research the beginning of Stapleton and how it has changed. The class also learned the many changes in the printing industry - from linotype to desktop publishing. Marcia Hora and Kendra Cutler showed students how the newspaper used to be pasted up, negatives shot, and plates burned, before going to a press at Creative Printers. Newspaper pages are now built up on a computer and pdf files sent to the *North Platte Telegraph* for publication. The newspapers are still addressed and mailed at the Stapleton location. There have been many updates in the last 50 years since the newspapers went offset. The linotype and presses have been dismantled.

Saluting our community volunteers



STAPLETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PHOTOS

The Little Bronco preschool class and Kindergartners at Stapleton Public Schools, pose with Stapleton Fire & Rescue. Standing on truck: Ray Webster, Hayden McClain, Paige Morash, Rate Peterson. Seated on truck: Dalton Tatman, Cora Leetch, Lucy Joedeman, Bill Kramer, Joei Stewart, and Stapleton Volunteer Fire Chief, Frank Kramer. Standing, l-r: Trigg Brown, Kolt Myers, Rikie Schaeffer, Evelyn Sheets, Avery Boeser, Dalley Schell, Brandon Frey, Jensen Kulp, KwynLee Kramer, Clara Rice, Cami Jorgensen, Jace Williams, Luke Frey, Brayden Munoz-Ruiz, and Abel Cassell. Firemen standing, l-r: Teejay Myers, Jon Walz, Alan Kramer, Leo Harwager, Larry Myers, and Bob Blevins.

Little Bronco preschoolers and the Kindergarten class at Stapleton Public Schools visited the Stapleton fire hall and the Logan County Sheriff's office, Wednesday, October 18.

Students in these two classes are study "community helpers." They are learning about the businesses in our community and the people who work there. In honor of fire safety week, students were shown the duties of our volunteer firemen and our Logan County Sheriff and deputy. Fire Chief, Frank Kramer, set up

a wonderful visit for students, including the number of local volunteers, a tour of the fire hall, trucks and ambulances. The highlight of the trip was getting to climb in the vehicles and spray water hoses.

Logan County Sheriff Carson, and Deputy Wood, along with Buddy, welcomed the group to the sheriff's office. They spoke about the vests and tools they use in their jobs and how they use Buddy, the "drug dog." Students loved petting Buddy and each received a sticker making them honorary deputies.



Rate Peterson, Trigg Brown, Luke Frey, and Jace Williams, in the overspray from the fire hose.



Cami Jorgensen, Avery Boeser, KwynLee Kramer, and Cora Leetch are pictured inside the Stapleton rescue unit.



"Wind River"
See Page 5
For Show Dates & Times

Senior Lunch Menus

C.J.'s Menu3
Aunt Bea's Menu6

Notices

- Notice Of Trustee's Sale
- Stapleton School Board Proceedings
- McPherson Co. School Board Proceedings
- Village Of Stapleton Seeking Board Member
- Logan County Commissioners' Proceedings

Obituaries

- Ardys Pauline (Logan) Schultis (Page 11)

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month....

Purchase special
stamps at the
Stapleton Post Office!
With every .60 stamp
sold, .11 goes to
breast cancer research.
If our post office sells
1,000 stamps, Postmaster
Judy Mulligan
and Sean, Postal Clerk
will color their hair
pink for a day!

McPherson Co. News



Over The Hills
Graphic Files
Blood Mobile Nov. 10
Page 6

Index

Legal Notices.....	2
Social Side	3
Opinion Page.....	4
Comics	4
Classifieds	5
Business Directory	5
McPherson County News.....	6
McPherson Co. School News	7
Stapleton School News.....	8
Sports	9
Blast From The Past	10
Obituaries	11
Card Of Thanks	12

Inside This Issue

- Junior High Football & Volleyball Highlights
- Lady Bronco & Lady Longhorn Volleyball Pictures & Results
- Senator Fischer's Column
- Blast From The Past
- Are Noxious Weeds A Problem?

Tricked Out Trunks

Tuesday, Oct. 31
4:15 - 6:15 p.m.
Main Street