



PHOTO BY RICHARD AKRIDGE

Ribbon cutting

The new gym at Kline Whitis Elementary School was properly presented to the community at a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week. On hand for the special occasion were Dr. Brant Myers, James Briggs, Ron Farr, Julia Phillips, Brodey Myers, Darlene Salazar, Dana Cox, Linda Eckermann, Brenda Collins, Crystal Hamrick, Virginia Hamilton, Jamie Jones, Samantha Jones, Tricia Mumme, Kimberly Jenkins, Glenda Arms, J.W. Hutcherson, Linda Hutcherson, Mitzi Stripling, Jane Hale, Kirk Whitehead, Linda Floerke, June Davis, Jana Boatner, Kristi Terry, Judith Hetherly, Alison and Cade Davis, Michael Stoldt, Lois Benoist, Melissa Witche, J. Williamson, Jessica Martin, Dara Tate, Ida Hagerty, Jackie Lindeman, Evia Ballard, Julie Salvato, Cindy Forsythe, Betty Word, Mary Ann Langley, Kristi Dennis, Jolene Ryan, Amie McDonald, Kelsi Page, Wesley Crow, Joni Perry and Terri Porter.

USDA announces 2009 DCP sign-up deadlines

Enrollment for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program for farms with base acres continues online and at local USDA service centers until June 1, 2009.

USDA will not accept late-filed applications.

USDA computes DCP program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm.

Eligible producers receive direct

payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices.

For 2009, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm.

USDA began issuing advance direct payments in December.

Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statistically set below its target price.

Those eligible for the DCP program also will be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring.

In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced

by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE.

Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

The report from the Jan. 7 sale at Lampasas Cattle Auction is as follows.

Cattle and calves: Estimated receipts 953.

Compared to last sale, calves were \$5 to \$10 higher. Bulls were \$4 to \$5 higher.

Bulk supply medium and large 1-2 300-400 lb. feeder steers and heifers. Slaughter cows made up 15 percent of the offering, slaughter bulls 1 percent, and feeders 83 percent.

Feeder steers: medium and large 1: 300-400 lb., \$101-\$111, few \$115-\$120; 400-500 lb., \$99-\$106, few \$110; 500-600 lb., \$91-\$101; 600-700 lb., \$82-\$91.50; 700-800 lb., \$78-\$82.50.

Medium and large 2: 200-300 lb., \$101-\$110 lb.; 400-500 lb., \$94-\$98; 500-600 lb., \$85-\$91.

Medium and large 3: 300-400 lb., \$81-\$86; 500-600 lb., \$65-\$70; 600-700 lb., \$76-\$79.

Feeder heifers: medium and large 1: 300-400 lb., \$95-\$97; 400-500 lb., \$91-\$99; 500-600 lb., \$84-\$93; 600-700 lb., \$82.50-\$89 700-800 lb., \$76-\$78, few \$84.50.

Medium and large 2: 300-400

lb., \$83-\$88; 400-500 lb., \$84-\$88, few \$93; 500-600 lb., \$80-\$83; 600-700 lb., \$78-\$83; 700-800 lb., \$74-\$76.

Medium and large 3: 500-600 lb., \$76-\$82.

Slaughter cows: boners, 80-85 percent lean, 1,200-1,600 lb., average dressing, \$41.25-\$47, high dressing, \$55, low dressing, \$38-\$39.50; boners, 80-85 percent lean, 1,000-1,200 lb., average dressing, \$41-\$44, high dressing, \$51-\$60; lean, 85-90 percent lean, 1,000-1,200 lb., average dressing, \$33-\$39; lean, 85-90 percent lean, 800-1,000 lb., average dressing, \$32.25-\$39.25, low dressing, \$26.50-\$28; lean, 85-90 percent lean, under 800 lb., \$33-\$36.50, low dressing, \$25-\$27.50.

Slaughter bulls: yield grade 1-2, 1,055-1,165 lb., \$41-\$45; high dressing, 1,100-1,645 lb., \$55-\$65; low dressing, 830 lb., \$30.

Replacement cows: aged 845-1,185 lb. cows, 4-8 months bred, \$513-\$733 per hd.

Cow/calf pairs: medium and large 1-2: aged, 1,435-1,555 lb. cows w/100-150 lb. calves, \$650-\$750 per pair.

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