



Opinion

A fancy name won't get support for farmers

American farmers and ranchers are making a big mistake when they allow themselves to be called "producers."

Once upon a time, perhaps, someone thought it sounded more professional to be a "producer" rather than a simple "farmer." Maybe the world thinks of farmers as hicks and clods, not sophisticated people with university degrees.

But just as lipstick seldom improves the looks of the pig, a fancy name does not do much for the image of a job.

The truth of the matter is, producer just sounds industrial. And in this country, one industry is pretty much the same as the next.

No one much cares about the fate of the faceless producer. No one gives a damn, really.

Now a farmer, he — or she — is someone who works the land, loves his animals and gives his all for his crops.

A rancher is a guy — or a gal — astride a quarter horse, squinting into the sun and watching his herd. She's the one who goes out at 2 a.m. to help a heifer deliver her first calf in 10-degree weather.

Farmers and ranchers are people who work long hours and often have little to show in return except the satisfaction of being close to the land

and to nature. They're people we can relate to.

And there's the key: farmers and ranchers are people. Producers are statistics.

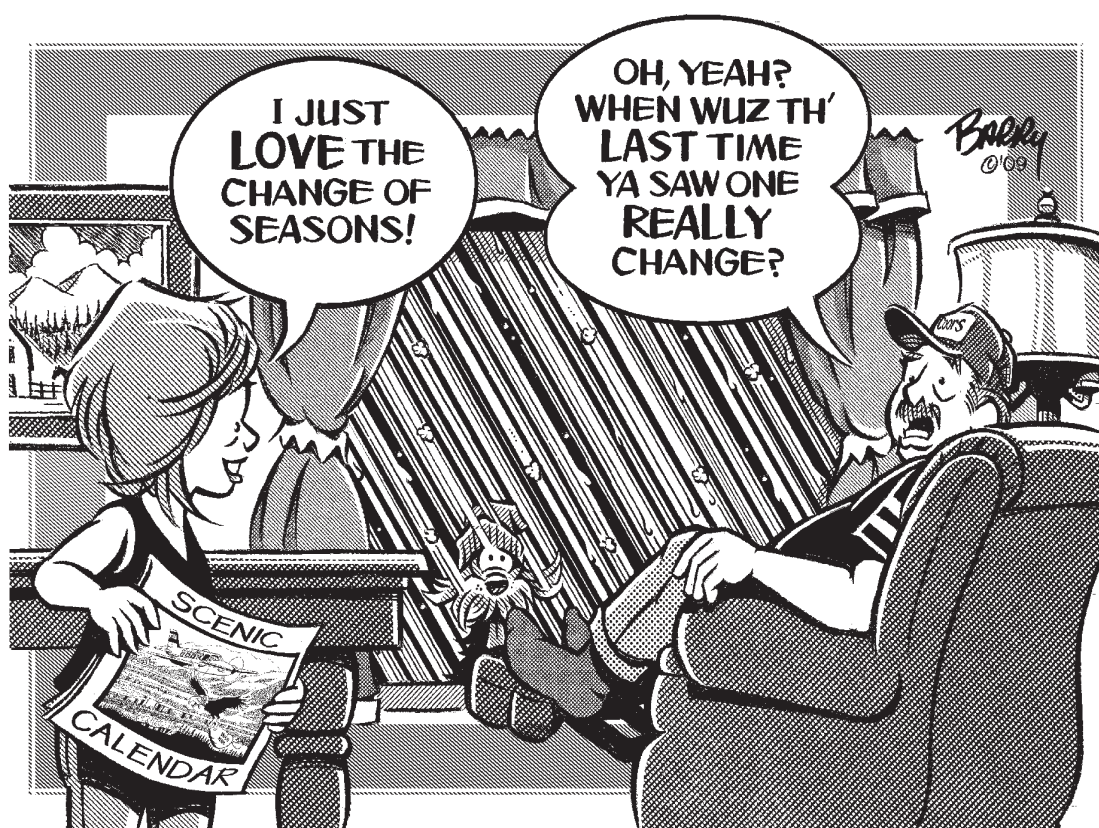
Bureaucrats love to talk about producers when they spout their governmentese. You never hear a federal employee talk or write about farmers. To them, everyone's a producer. Same for the Extension experts.

Maybe they figure that as government employees benefit from fancy titles and programs with initials longer than your arm, so will the farmer, the rancher or that ubiquitous creature of the plains, the farmer-stockman.

But a fancy title won't win anyone a dime more for a bushel of wheat — or another vote in Congress. At a time when the farm vote is less than 2 percent, and the entire ag vote not much more than that, farmers and ranchers need all the support they can get.

We know today's farmer is a professional, handling a six- or seven-figure budget and making decisions that call for real expertise. We know it takes that kind of person to feed the world.

So call yourselves whatever you want, but remember when you need support, it's the human touch that will win people's hearts and minds. Not a fancy title. — Steve Haynes



News From the Past

5 years ago - 2004

Work on the Wiley Road Project, 16 miles southwest of St. Francis, is expected to begin the first full week of April. A new road with a new bridge will be constructed for one mile.

Mikaela Grace, a fifth grader from St. Francis, won the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee.

Two Cheylin High School seniors, Hayley Young, Cheyenne County Junior Miss and Kylie Dixon, Rawlins County Junior Miss, will be heading to Belleville for the Kansas Junior Miss scholarship program March 36.

Pleasant Hill 4-H Club received a regional blue for their model meeting at County 4-H Days. Plum Creek and Lawn Ridge each received a blue.

The Veterans of Cheyenne County book has gone to press. It is a 620-page book with 590 stories of veterans. There are 1770 names in the index including those serving from 1900 to 2004.

25 years ago - 1984

The big bell from the Vickers-Apco gas station was removed last week. Bill Wellman rang the bell many times following the winning of school football games. The bell will be put in Wellman's backyard. The Little Red Schoolhouse, better known as Vickers Apco gas station, closed its doors for good recently.



Superintendent Carl Warner reported that the school board has received over 30 applications for the position of elementary school principal.

The St. Francis speech team gave its best performance of several years by placing in a field of 18 at the Tribune Speech Tournament. Carol Knorr and Eric Yonkey were among the individual winners.

Sainty's Cafe is open under new owners and management, Dorine and Raymond Zimbelman. Ground breaking ceremonies took place for the new business, Quickie Chicken, west of Knorr Repair on the highway access road. Quickie Chicken will be operated by Chris Adanson.

The Lawn Ridge 4-H Club won a blue ribbon for their safety projects to be one of the top 10 clubs in the state.

35 years ago - 1974

Girl Scouts in the sixth grade Junior group entertained at the Girl Scout Banquet with a puppet show "The Ugly Duckling." Participating were Darci Roberson, Gina Floyd, Sue Passell, Brenda Carmichael, Shari Daniels and Lori Kelley. The St. Francis Board of Education meeting was visited by six students and several parents who wanted the golf program reinstated in the school system. The board voted against it 2-4.

Volunteers have been dismantling the former Peace Lutheran Church building in St. Francis. The lumber is being salvaged and is expected to be used in a planned new parsonage for the church.

St. Francis is observing the 60th anniversary of having electricity. In March, 1914, the "white way" lit up for the first time in St. Francis and the era of electricity was

born. The "white way" was the named given to Washington Street which had four poles with five lights to each pole on each street. A separate light was located in the middle of each intersection. Providing the power for these first street lights was a kerosene-burning 50 horse-power International Harvester Engine which ran a Westinghouse generator.

75 years ago - 1934 Dale Duncan of St. Francis became a state wrestling champion by defeating Dale Scrivens of Wellington in the 135 pounds weight class at the state tournament in Manhattan. He is the first St. Francis athlete to win a state championship in any sport.

In a debating tournament in Colby, members from St. Francis high school tied for third place. Members of the team are Ernest Rowand, Edith Ellis, Bernice Nighswonger and Wynona Bowers. James Fesler has participated in five contests this year. The team has been in 18 contests this year, winning six.

Reverend Calahan, the minister who is to have charge of the work at the Methodist church in St. Francis, will be here for Sunday service on April 25.

Harry Rogers of the Rogers Truck Line has taken a lease on the Howell filling station and cottage camp at the southwest corner entrance to St. Francis.

The Deafdoff Grocery and produce house has done considerable re-arranging and changing around of their equipment and stock which adds much to the general appearance of the place and given them more room.

Hangin' With Marge

Building

By Margaret Bucholtz



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I am sure if I would have been a man I would be someone that builds things. I think it is so much fun to get out the power tools and pretend I know how to use them.

The other day I got my Handyman magazine and I found a little project that I just knew would be fun and look good. That is part of my problem; it never looks like I have it pictured in my mine.

I went out and found some lumber and proceeded to cut the pieces just the right size. That is when Kurt walked in. He just

shook his head and told me it wouldn't work because the lumber was to be 1 by 2s instead of 2 by 4s. I told him I was going to cut them down.

I got them all cut and started laying out the pieces. That's when I ran into my next problem! I can't follow directions. Doug was here so every time either he or Kurt would walk into the shop I would ask them the same questions.

Both were very patient at first, and then, finally, they would take the boards, lay them all out

and leave. I would have to undo them and drill the holes, but then I couldn't remember how to put them back together again. I noticed that instead of taking the tool they came in for they began picking up handfuls so they didn't have to help me as many times.

It said it was an hour project, and in about six hours, I finally had it done. Now when the weather gets nice I will have a new flower pot stand, but I don't know where I will put it.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



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Once again, life comes full circle.

Last week, over the kid's Spring Break, Lezlie and I took our oldest son living at home to Wichita to visit the school he

plans to attend next fall.

Trevor, the senior, plans to attend Wichita Area Tech School to become an airplane mechanic. While touring the facility, we saw all the components of plane and jet craft that he will eventually master.

I couldn't help but have a few flash backs of my own youth. After high school, I attended a college in Denver to get my grades up (imagine that). Soon I was able to get accepted at the universities in Norman and Stillwater, Okla., and Tempe, Ariz.

My mother and I scheduled meetings and first flew to Oklahoma City to see the two schools there. I preferred O.S.U. to Oklahoma. I guess the ivy covered, brick buildings made me think I was really going to a place of

higher learning.

Next we took a jet to Phoenix to visit Arizona State. I forgot about learning when I saw all the golf courses and swimming pools.

After I became a Sun Devil, once again my grades dropped as I put fun before studies. However, I did eventually graduate from that same school in Colorado.

My hopes are that Trevor doesn't take the actual route I did. But it's sure that he'll grow a lot when he goes to college far from home.

And the day will come when he too will get a glimpse into his child's future.

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GOD SAYS

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

Romans 12:9, 10

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Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

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2nd & Scott • 332-3921
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Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott
Pastor Morita Truman
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.

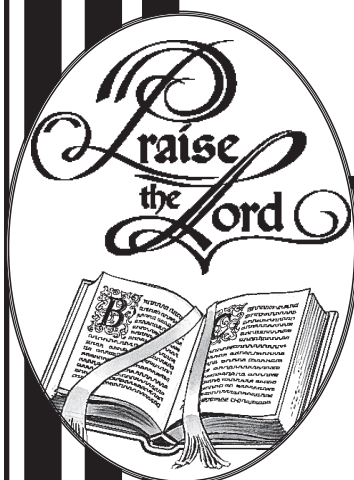
St. Francis Community Church 332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church 785-890-5718 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Jerry Nowack
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

Solid Rock Baptist Church 412 S. Denison
Welcomes You!
Pastor Allen Coon
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30
Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College
Pastor Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m.
Communion 1st Sunday of the month

First Christian Church
Pastor Jeff Landers
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
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Church Service 10:30 a.m.



St. Francis Equity

St. Francis Herald

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