

Former resident gives talk on Kansas gas production

Alan DeGood, former St. Francis resident and the president of American Energies Corporation, Wichita, talked about Kansas' oil and gas production in the January issue of *The American Oil & Gas Reporter*.

He said the Kansas oil and gas industry is booming. Operators are taking their profits and exploring for new reserves, or stimulating old wells for improved production.

Production of oil in Kansas has remained flat, or increased during the past five years.

The plays range from coal bed gas in eastern Kansas to biogenic gas in northwestern Kansas, and of course, the traditional oil and gas exploration and exploitation. The seismic companies are busy shooting three-dimensional seismic in the old mature areas, as



DeGood

well as the new exploration areas. Some of the drilling contractors are booked through 2005, with

operators requesting drilling slots in 2006.

Mr. DeGood went on to say that the Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association continues to work with operators and legislators to improve operating conditions in Kansas. Ed Cross, the company's executive vice president, is working hard with the Kansas Commerce Department to set up a work force training program to train new oil field personnel. He also is working with the Commerce Department on investment projects for oil and gas operators in Kansas.

Mr. DeGood is the son of the late Paul and Mardell DeGood. He was raised in Cheyenne County and graduated from St. Francis Community High School. He and his wife DiAnne live in Goddard.

Resident receives Scouting award

By Casey McCormick

During the Kansas Day ceremonies a special presentation was made to Norman Dorsch at the American Legion Hall. He was given the American Legion Scouting Square Knot Award from the American Boy Scouts.

The honor was handed to Mr. Dorsch by Glen Glasco, adjutant of American Legion Post 352 and the Sixth District Chairman of the Boy Scouts.

"As far as I know it's the first one of these awards to be given in this area," said Mr. Glasco.

The award was sent from the National Commander of the Boy Scouts and is given to individuals who have given extraordinary time and effort to scouting.

Mr. Dorsch was nominated for the Square Knot Award by his son, Dr. John Dorsch of Derby.



NORMAN DORSCH checks out the American Legion Scouting Square Knot Award he received from the Boy Scouts. It was presented to him by Glen Glasco.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick



KC KRIEN was busy playing with toys during Story Hour at the St. Francis Public Library. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New requirement for drivers with hazardous materials

Dolores Jenik, Cheyenne County Treasurer, reported a new law which will require all drivers who transport hazardous materials to undergo a security threat assessment.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA), which is part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, administers the threat assessment. The U.S. Patriot rule does not apply to applicants or holders of a commercial driver's license (CDL) who do not wish to hold a Hazardous Materials Endorsement.

The Hazmat Threat Assessment Program involves a criminal history records check, an immigration check and an intelligence-related check on any individuals who wish to apply for, renew or transfer a Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME) on their commercial driver's license.

At present, Transportation Security Administration is conducting the immigration and intelligence-related checks on all drivers who currently hold a Hazardous Materials Endorsement. This involves a name-based check to determine whether any driver presents a security threat to the national transportation system.

For more information on the federal regulations, including a list of disqualifying offenses, visit the Transportation Security Administration web site.

Effective Jan. 31, all drivers who want to add a hazardous materials endorsement to a commercial driver's license must provide fingerprints so that the Transportation Security Administration can conduct the threat assessment.

Fingerprints will be collected at eight commercial driver's license offices in Kansas. Those offices are Chanute, Colby, Garden City, Hays, Mission, Salina, Topeka and Wichita. Fingerprints will be collected in these offices during normal office hours, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. If circumstances warrant, Kansas may go to an appointment method of collecting the fingerprints.

Effective May 31, drivers who transfer or renew an existing commercial driver's license with a Hazardous Materials Endorsement must also be fingerprinted. Drivers will be notified at least 60 days before renewal and must be fingerprinted at least 30 days before the expiration of the current commercial driver's license.

The state of Kansas will not be allowed to issue a commercial driver's license with a Hazardous Materials Endorsement until Transportation Security Administration completes the threat assessment and informs Kansas that the driver is qualified to receive the endorsement.

Please Note: Any current Hazmat driver who has a disqualifying offense prohibiting the holding of a hazardous materials endorsement *must immediately surrender* the hazardous materials endorsement to the state. A driver may then reapply for a hazardous materials endorsement, or submit a request for a waiver to the Transportation Security Administration.

For more information on the federal regulations, including a list of disqualifying offenses, visit the Transportation Security Administration web site.

Lamb checkoff news

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service recently announced the final procedures for a continuance referendum under the Lamb Promotion, Research and Information order, more commonly known as the Lamb Checkoff Program, and also announced that the referendum will be conducted Jan. 31 through Feb. 28.

The referendum will be conducted at the County Farm Service Agency offices. To be eligible to participate, persons must certify and provide documentation, such as a sales receipt or remittance form, that shows they have been engaged in the production, feeding or slaughtering of lambs during the period of Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

Beginning Jan. 31, and continuing through Feb. 28, persons may obtain form LS-86 to vote in the referendums from County Farm Service Agency Offices either in person, by mail, or facsimile. Forms may also be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mpb/rp-lamb.htm>.

Persons will vote in the referendum at the county office where their administrative farm records are maintained. For persons not participating in Farm Service Agency programs, the opportunity to vote will be provided at the county office where the person owns or rents land. Form LS-86 and supporting documentation may be returned in person, by mail, or facsimile to the appropriate county office. Form LS-86, and accompany-

ing documentation returned by mail must be postmarked no later than midnight 9 of Feb. 28, and received in the County Farm Service Agency Office by March 7.

For the program to continue, it must be approved by a majority of voters who also represent a majority of the volume represented in the referendum.

The Lamb Checkoff Program is authorized by the Commodity Promotion, Research and Information Act of 1996. This program provides for assessments on the sale of lamb and lamb products and for an industry board to carry out promotion, research and information programs designed to increase the demand for lamb and lamb products.

The referendum is mandated by the Act and requires that the Secretary of Agriculture conduct a referendum either before its going into effect or within three years after assessments first begin. Assessments began July 1, 2002. Agricultural Marketing Service oversees the activities of the program.

The procedures and notice for the referendum will be published in Dec. 27, 2005. Federal Register. For more information contact Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service Livestock and Seed Program, United States Department of Agriculture at Stop 0251, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0251 or by telephone at (202) 720-2225.

CHECK IT OUT ... this issue —



WINTER SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

This section features St. Francis and Bird City Jr. High and High School Basketball players Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!



"Don't Gamble With Love" Promotion ... Check out page 12A and see how you can be one of two lucky winners to win a \$55 bouquet of flowers from Goodell's Greenhouse!

COMING SOON —

Working Women's Section



This Section is packed with ads featuring women.

Conservation Section

This section features the Conservation Award Winners in Cheyenne County.

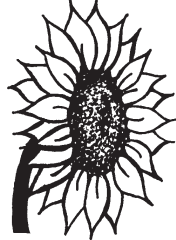


BOOSTER PAGES

- FFA Week
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A complete page filled with the area Tigers, Bears, Wolves, Webelos and Boy Scout of the area.

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