

* Kids learn about agriculture

(Continued from Page 1A) should check the label first and see what farmers contributed to the product by growing it in their fields. Before splitting up into their classes to go to hear the other speakers, students walked in a line to the parking lot on the west of the school. Mr. Bryan walked up to his trailer and opened the latch to show the students what he brought in from the farm. A little scared calf got out of the trailer. Mr. Bryan carried him to the

parking lot, as Dewey hadn't been in a trailer before or around that many people and didn't want to cooperate. As the calf, only a few months old, sucked on Mr. Bryan's fingers, the kids oohed and ahed. Mr. Bryan said he found the calf almost frozen to death and took it on as a bucket calf, which he fed instead of putting it on the cow. He showed the students how he mixed powdered milk with warm water to feed the calf. Each student

got the chance to pet the calf before returning inside. Mrs. Bremer said the Farm Bureau holds Agriculture in the Classroom because they feel a need to educate the children about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives and the importance of farmers and ranchers in the nation. There are fewer farms now so fewer kids live on farms. "No one is going to teach them about agriculture," she said, "if we don't."

* Woman teaches students

(Continued from Page 1A) her husband would go out with nippers and cut it by hand. Then they would put it in big bundles and hang it upside down to dry. After it's dried, she said, the wheat has to be cleaned, meaning the sheath has to be taken off. Mrs. Carlson showed the kids how to remove the sheath, which they helped her with, each doing several pieces. Then before someone weaves with the wheat it has to be soaked in

warm water for 30 minutes, otherwise it's too dry and snaps. Mrs. Carlson said she already

soaked the wheat that morning as she picked up two pieces and showed the kids how to weave it.



SIXTH GRADERS Dannay Rhein (left) and Nicole and Michelle Russ help clean wheat for Lois Carlson for Ag in the Classroom day.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

* Group looks at options

(Continued from Page 1A) Gary Shike. "That would be my vote," said Dr. May. Or put in organic farming which wouldn't use chemical sprays, said Councilwoman Rhonda May. Dr. May said the group also discussed planting alfalfa, but the crop is really sensitive to flooding. Councilman Joe Stanley asked if the dog trial thing is just one time a year. Dr. May said he didn't know for sure.

Councilman Jay Anderson said he wants to encourage Pheasants Forever to keep up their work with the park. When it boils down, said Dr. May, Pheasants Forever is currently paying about \$3,000 to the city a year, taking a loss on crops and the food plots die because of agriculture spraying. So the group would like help on the lease, said Mr. Stanley. The lease probably needs to be looked at anyway because the city wants to put in a wetlands.

Dr. May said if the contract changes or the plan for the park changes then the group needs to let the farmer who they sublease part of the lake bottom to know before he sprays again. So the council needs to let Pheasants Forever know by July, said Mr. Stanley. Actually, probably sooner because the group can still order trees and get them planted now when the ground actually has some moisture in it.

Councilman Ray Ward said if he remembers correctly the city didn't make much from the farm ground even years ago. Although the city received more profitable offers than the one from Pheasants Forever, the council agreed to go that way to turn the park back into a recreational place. Mr. Ward said he doesn't see a problem taking the acres out of production.

The park, said Ms. May, is a recreational asset for the area. How does the park benefit the city; it doesn't make the streets smoother or the electrical system better, said Councilman Rob McFee.

It's a recreational area, said Ms. May. It's pretty and people like to go to the park and enjoy being outside. If the ground is taken out of production, said Mr. McFee, someone will have to take care of it. Who's going to do that, because the city can't.

Volunteers built trails at the park and have maintained them for two years now, said Dr. May. Some of the acres would be in ponds and some in grass.

The real issue is that someone has to take care of the land if it comes out of production, said Ms. May. Obviously there isn't a plan yet and that's OK, so come up with a plan.

The council asked Dr. May or Pheasants Forever to come back with a plan.

Mr. Stanley thanked the organization for their hard work at the park and for inspiring others to volunteer, too.

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