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Our Mission:

To be your business of choice, meeting customer needs, and growing a viable, progressive company.



**"In Business
For Your
Business"**

SAFETY DIRECTOR

By Jeff Eubanks



Distracted driving

is a growing problem, with technology being the worst culprit. "Just stop it" may not be that easy. You may benefit from learning the art of "detachment." Detachment does not mean indifference or laziness. Detachment is refusal to respond to an external stimulus (ringing phone or text buzz) and "letting go" in favor of remaining calm, in control, and safe. Proclaim your independence from the "Oh my, I must take this call!" experience. Learn to detach.

AMPRIDE

By Savannah Barry



The Ampride Station invites you to stop by and meet our enjoyable and welcoming staff. We have extended our weekend hours to better serve your needs. Our hours of service are:

Monday-Friday: 6:30 am - 8:00 pm,
Saturday: 7:00 am - 8:00 pm and
Sunday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

**New Propane fill hours are
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am-7:00 pm,
Saturdays: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm, and
Sundays: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm.**

With the weather that we have had this year don't forget to stop by and see us for your ice melt needs. We have also expanded our selection of snacks and drinks to curve your cravings or thirst. We are now carrying a plentiful supply of our new feed products, Purina items such as Rabbit Chow, Noble Goat, Layena Poultry, Start & Grow Poultry, Flock Raiser Poultry, along with your pet foods, Exclusive,

Country Acre, and Red Flannel dog and cat food.

Also make us your one stop shop for all your Super Bowl party needs.

Energy Department News

Jared (Jerry) Fenske

We have fuel contracts available for 2010. Many of you have already contacted me and if anyone else is interested please give me a call. I will be getting patron contracts finalized and be contacting everyone within a few weeks. The contracts are quarterly and must be used within the time periods set forth on the contracts. There are three different periods you can contract for. The first contract runs the months of March, April, and May. The second contract runs the months of June, July, and August. And the last contract runs the months of September, October, and November. Each contract must be used in full and within the contracted months to avoid any kind of penalty. Credit will no longer be given for unused fuel on expired contracts. I will work with each of you to set up these contracts and explain any questions there might be.

Now is also a good time to start getting your oil and lubricants purchased for the upcoming planting season. In the past couple of weeks I have received several emails reporting that many of the major oil companies are announcing price increases effective soon. Cenex has not officially contacted me or announced an increase, but I will probably be hearing from them soon. Now would be a good time to buy oil before the prices go up. Thank you for supporting your local Farmers Cooperative Association.



**PRESIDENTS'
DAY**



Presidents' Day is celebrated in February to honor two of our greatest presidents, Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. The holiday is celebrated in the United States on the third Monday in February.

Grain Comments by Doug Biswell

The United States Department of Agriculture released their crop production and supply and demand numbers in January and what a market changer that turned out to be. Just when we all were getting comfortable with the fact that all the late corn and terrible fall weather was going to continue to support grain prices we got a report that increased yields and carry-outs significantly. The market has responded in a very negative way, and probably will continue to be weak for some weeks to come. Big south American crops, china trying hard to slow there economy, the strengthen of the U.S. dollar and lower energy prices will all be factors that weigh on the grain market, above and beyond the large United States grain stocks. For those of you that have grain in storage - sell rallies, for those of you that are trying to price some bushels for new crop - sell rallies. We will have bounces; the unfortunate fact about bounces in a bearish or down trending market is that we may go down 50 cents only to get a 20 cent bounce. As always if you have any questions or comments please give me a call.

**Super Bowl
Sunday** 

February 7, 2010

Views from the Field - by Mike Thompson
Agronomy Production Specialist / Certified Crop Advisor

As I write this article the sun is out, and most of the snow has left the fields, until the next round of winter returns. If you are a believer in the fog/90 days later equals rain theory, it looks like April may be a wet month for the area. This could present a challenge for getting field work finished, fertilizer and herbicide applications done timely, planting issues going into the growing season, as well as stress and grumpy attitudes that seem to affect everyone in one way or the other. While I don't have an answer to solve all of these problems, taking some preventative measures now may help to alleviate some of these problems before they happen.

If you have not already figured your fertility plans out, there is still time to take soil samples and develop a good fertility program for your operation's goals. I did not see a great deal of anhydrous put on this Fall in the area, and I am not sure if Mother Nature will allow for conditions to get much on in the Spring. If this is you, there is the option to either apply dry or liquid nitrogen for your crop needs.

Now is a good time to get your brome and alfalfa pastures fertilized as well, with adequate soil moisture, these crops are likely to get off to a good start. A good fertilizer program will not only help with

harvestable tonnage, but with protein and feed value as well.

If you are one of the few that have all of your fertilizer needs taken care of, taking some time to plan on a good herbicide program will help control winter annual weed pressures to avoid potential planting delays. Utilizing a residual herbicide product, followed by an in-crop post emerge herbicide program is the best way to control weeds and capitalize on yield potential. Whether you are using Roundup or Liberty herbicide tolerant crops, we can develop a herbicide program that will work for your fields and your goals.

There are several new herbicides that have been recently released; some products that work very well, and others that may leave you disappointed in there performance. Feel free to stop by your branch office, or give me a call, and I will do my best to answer your agronomy questions.

Don't forget that the comment period on Roundup Ready alfalfa ends on Feb 16, 2010. If you have not yet submitted your comments, please go to the website: www.roundupreadyalfalfa.com to find more information to educate yourself on this issue and to write a letter to send to the USDA to let your voice be heard!

If you have any questions or concerns in your fields, or you just want a second opinion; please feel free to give me at call: 785/313-0518. I would be happy to meet with you to discuss your crop production issues and develop a plan to solve them.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

<u>Yrs of Serv:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
25 YEARS -	JAMES BARRY	MAN	TRUCK DRIVER
10 YEARS -	JESSE FLOWERS	ONA	FEED
9 YEARS -	KEN DIEHL	MAN	AGRONOMIST
4 YEARS -	TIM UBEL	MAN	AGRONOMY
1 YEAR -	PAUL FOWLER	WES	TIRE SERVICE

Effective Immediately - Federal Ban on Texting for CMV Drivers

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a "Notice of regulatory guidance" on January 27, 2010, concerning texting while driving a commercial motor vehicle (CMV). The guidance is applicable to all interstate drivers of CMVs subject to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). The regulatory guidance is effective immediately.

Regulatory Guidance: The Notice provides regulatory guidance concerning the applicability of 49 CFR 390.17, "Additional equipment and accessories," to CMV operators engaged in "texting" on an electronic device while driving a CMV in interstate commerce.

Texting ban while driving CMVs officially appears in Federal Register The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a "Notice of regulatory guidance" on January 27, 2010, concerning texting while driving a commercial motor vehicle (CMV).

"The February sunshine steeps your boughs and tints the buds and swells the leaves within."

- William C. Bryant