

THE BROWNFIELD NEWS

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2013

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Local Weather

Sun 1/13 39/20

Sunny. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 20s.

Mon 1/14 36/20

Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the low 20s.

Tue 1/15 42/23

Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the low 20s.

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Animals strut stuff

Hundreds of people crowded the Terry County Show Barn Friday and Saturday for one of the most highly-anticipated weekends of the year -- Stock Show.

More than 90 exhibitors representing scores of local families have spent months raising and grooming a variety of animals -- steers, swine, lambs, goats and rabbits -- in preparation for the event.

The 2013 Terry County Junior Livestock Show kicked off with weigh-in Thursday afternoon.

Showing began Friday morning with the gilt show, which saw Risa McQueen take the Grand Champion banner.

Cassidy Cooper's gilt was Reserve Grand Champion.

After lunch, the barrow show concluded with the Grand Champion banner awarded to Hunter Cudd.

Reese Rowden's barrow was Reserve Grand Champion.

Joe Bonny Lacompte judged both swine shows.

The Rabbit show wrapped up Friday's activities with 10 animals on display.

Grand Champion honors went to Madison White with Reserve Grand going to Darrienne Dorris.

Raquel Underbrink evaluated the rabbits.

On the roster for the show were more than 200 animals, including 177 swine, 36 sheep, 14 goats, 21 steers and 10 rabbits.

Lambs, goats and steers remained to be shown Saturday, but results were not available by press time.

Full results of those shows and breakdowns by classes for all animals will be included in the next issue.

The shows were followed by a barbecue, awards ceremony and the highlight of the event -- the Premium Sale.

Last year's premium sale raised a record high \$280,000 after add-ons, which was more than \$40,000 over the 2011 total.

A live auction of a John Deere Gator also was scheduled Saturday evening at the beginning of the Premium Sale, with proceeds to benefit the Debra Graham family.

Get Along Little Piggy

Brownfield 4H member Risa McQueen showed the Grand Champion Gilt Friday in the opening round of the 2013 Terry County Junior Livestock Show. Hundreds of supporters filled the Terry County Show Barn Friday and Saturday to watch more than 90 local youth exhibit more than 200 animals in the annual show.



Terry earns disaster declaration

WASHINGTON -- US Dept. of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, on Wednesday, designated 597 counties in 14 states as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and heat, making all qualified farm operators in the areas eligible for low-interest emergency loans.

Terry County, once again, was listed among the nearly 600 counties, located primarily in the nation's southern and mid-western states.

Terry County joined 156 of Texas 254 counties which were included in the disaster designation.

Terry County received 10.5 inches of rain in 2012 and only 4.15 inches in 2011, making it the driest period in the county's recorded history.

The City of Brownfield's total in the first two weeks of 2013 is 1.02 inches.

These are the first disaster designations made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2013.

The 597 primary counties designated as disaster areas today correspond to the following states: Alabama, 14; Arkansas, 47; Arizona, 4; Colorado, 30; Georgia, 92; Hawaii, 2; Kansas, 88; Oklahoma, 76; Missouri, 31; New Mexico, 19; Nevada, 9; South Carolina, 11; Texas, 157; and Utah, 17.

As drought persists, USDA will continue to partner with producers to see them through longer-term recovery, while taking the swift actions needed to help farmers and ranchers prepare their land and operations for the upcoming planting season," said Vilsack.

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Area sees some rain

As the US Dept. of Agriculture declared Terry County and more than 150 other Texas counties as primary natural disaster areas on Wednesday, steady rainfall was observed for a major portion of the Lone Star State and southeastern New Mexico.

Another powerful northern Mexico storm system, paired with tropical moisture helped bring .95 inches of rainfall to Brownfield throughout the day on Wednesday, according to weather tabulations from Texas Tech University's Mesonet Weather Monitoring System.

Rainfall totals in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle ranged from 3.01 inches in Cayonosa to .21 inches in Canadian.

Snow accumulations were also seen in the higher elevations of the West Texas mountain and Big Bend regions, where up to 4 inches was observed in portions of Big Bend National Park.

Around the immediate area, the northern Permian Basin and southern South Plains, Hobbs, N.M. reported 1.42 inches of precipitation from Wednesday's passing system.

TTU's weather monitoring station in Seagraves reported

.89 inches of rainfall, while Denver City recorded .95 inches.

Seminole, according to similar totals, received .84 inches of rainfall, while the Lamesa and Andrews communities received 1.18 and 1.32 inches of rainfall respectively.

The State's heaviest rainfall totals were observed in Waco, where 4.45 inches of rain fell. The southeastern community of Beaumont received over 3.6 inches of rainfall, while the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex saw precipitation ranges over 2.5 inches.

As Wednesday's system moved out of the Lone Star State, the National Weather Service, on Thursday, said the dry spell will be short-lived, as a front is expected to bring showers and thunderstorms as it approaches from the north over the weekend.

A high wind warning was issued for much of the area Friday as gusts reached between 50 and 60 mph in portions of the South Plains.

The NWS received scattered reports of street and road flooding across Texas from Wednesday's system, but no severe damage or injuries.

Airport renovations scheduled for Spring

A large-scale renovations project to the Terry County Airport is scheduled to begin this spring, with supporters enthusiastic about its impact not only on the facility but the entire community.

Representatives of the county and the airport's board of directors selected on Wednesday afternoon the Lubbock-based construction

company West Texas Paving, Inc., for the project after they offered a total bid of \$1,191,011.

They rejected other offers from Houston-based Blue Bay Construction at approximately \$1.3 million and Colleyville-based Lone Wolf Construction at approximately \$1.56 million.

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brownfieldonline.com OPINION POLL RESULTS

What is the cause of the recent slowdown in health care spending?

Illusion (16% / 4 votes)
Gov't Control (32% / 8 votes)
Poor Economy (52% / 13 votes)

TOTAL VOTERS: 25

Published 1-8-13 thru 1-11-13

Commissioners to prepare County for '13

A new year and a host of new elected officials means an extra-busy administration for Terry County.

County commissioners have a host of first-of-the-year agenda items for Monday morning, including

- Formally reappoint County Auditor Jan Hudson and Court Reporter Jamie Jackson
- Set salaries for officials and employees
- Make appointments to various committees
- Set grievance and appeal committee
- Approve first-of-the-year orders
- Approve deputation of sheriff's office staff and County Investigator Michael Hobson
- Approve annual Routine Airport Maintenance Program grant from the Texas Department of Transportation
- Set county holidays for 2013

Other agenda items include approving an audit they first heard last month, approving \$1,144 travel expenses for Assistant County Attorney Elias Garcia to attend a conference, discussing with the county attorney payment to the crime victims coordinator trainer and discussing cleaning the rodeo barn and Enoch Stewart Party House.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. in City Hall.

