

Coke County farmers pleased by stay for EPA rule

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has put a temporary halt to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) implementation of its Waters of the U.S., or WOTUS, rule.

The decision was greeted by farm groups and landowners across the nation with cautious optimism.

"WOTUS affects everyone. It affects what we do and how we do it," said John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president. "We all want clean water. But this is about control. The EPA is reaching for more power and stepping on Texas landowners to get it."

The temporary stay puts the EPA's and Corps of Engineers' enforcement of WOTUS on hold until the legal system determines jurisdiction in the lawsuits filed against WOTUS in District and Appellate courts.

Texas Farm Bureau, Matagorda County Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation are among the entities who have filed suits challenging the rule.

Under the proposed rule, the EPA gains control over bodies of water and areas that only sometimes hold water. With that control, they can require permits for everyday work that is done in these areas.

"It allows EPA to decide, essentially, who farms and how they do it," John Ross said.

It is unclear how long the court's temporary stay will remain in effect.

The final rule became effective Aug. 28, expanding the scope of the federal government's jurisdiction over waters under the Clean Water Act.

Sterling County Hunters' Appreciation Dinner

The annual Sterling County Hunters' Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2015, beginning at 6:30 pm. The event will be held at the Sterling County Community Center. A fajita supper with all the trimmings will be served. The public is encouraged to attend.

One dollar raffle tickets will be sold for the chance to win a minimum of 25 plus guns. Guns will be raffled that evening, but you do not have to be present to win.

Local and area businesses will also have booths available. For more information contact the Sterling County Extension Office at (325) 378-3181.

... CCRTA

(Continued from page 4) date on state and district meetings and concerns. The impressive figures for the number of volunteer hours,

Salt and Light Style Show deemed a success! The 4th annual Salt and Light Ministry Style Show was a huge success. The annual show was held this year on Sunday, October 4, in the fellowship hall of First United Methodist Church in Bronte. The event raised over \$1,350 which will be used to help provide food to the thirty families in Bronte the organization assists. The ministry is able to turn the money into three times as much food as the money would normally purchase.

The event began with a lunch provided by Lanette Fletcher, Denise Galloway, Janet Wommack and Donna Hall. The table decorating contest was won by Lanette Fletcher.

Following the meal, the style show featured models from Bronte, Blackwell, Winters and Abilene. Next year's show is already on the drawing board. Event organizers appreciate everyone who participated and attended this year's show and helped increase the donation to Salt and Light Ministry.

books donated, and steps taken by districts across the state was given.

Everyone is urged to sign up for the on-line Texas Retired Teachers Association's newsletter at trs.org.

The next meeting is Monday, November 16, at First Baptist Church in Bronte for the pot luck meeting. All retired school personnel are invited to attend and join.

... Cancer Response
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support IARC's claim that meat causes colorectal cancer."

In the past, IARC has studied sunlight, odd sleeping hours due to shift work and eating pickled vegetables as other possible causes for cancer.

IARC is set to meet in 2016 to study the effects of coffee.

"I urge our community to do its research and look past all the 'shock and wow' reports," John Ross said. "IARC's classification system is antiquated and clouds the facts."

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