

By Mary Karash

County Executive Director

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As I write my last column as Perkins County FSA County Executive Director, it is with mixed emotions. It seems almost like yesterday when Dennis Morgan, the editor at that time (January 1998) asked me if I would be willing to write a column for the paper.

I had just transferred to Perkins County from the Ainsworth District office. We had a lot to write about at that time with the new farm bill. Things have changed a lot with the farm programs since that time and continues to change as this current farm bill comes to an end.

Since my start with FSA (ASCS) in 1978, I have gone from all manual forms/calculations to almost all of the forms/reports completed on the computer/web.

I have truly enjoyed my tenure here and will continue to reside in the county. I just won't be coming into the office everyday.

I want to thank the current staff and also the personnel who have retired. Also I want to thank the current county committee: Brent Robertson, Ashley Colglazier and Donnie Hajek. I have enjoyed working with all of the past committee members and the minority advisors.

I wish to stress that the office is still here to serve the producers of Perkins County and with the lack of budget the office will not be mailing any newsletters in the near future.

We are striving to get current emails to provide information via the web. For the ones without internet access, please stop in to the office as you pass through town to see if anything is needed from you.

We are still waiting for software to take your wheat plantings, but hopefully that capability will be here shortly.

There will not be a sign up for the DCP/ACRE program until Jan. 14. If in doubt, stop or call the office with your questions.

It is unknown at this time when a replacement for my position will be hired. The office has a very knowledgeable staff and they will continue to provide the service we have been known for. My last day will be Dec. 2 and the office staff is hosting an open house for me on Dec. 1 from 1-4.

Thank you for being some of the best producers to work with. I also thank the newspaper for allowing me to utilize my column to get information out (since we cannot do bulk mailings) and publicizing our news releases.

Again the staff and producers are among the best in the nation and I thank you all for making my time here very enjoyable and rewarding.

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