

The Hitchin' Post

November 2005

Patsy Ward, Editor



A Community Oriented Newsletter for Weed and Surrounding Communities
"If You're Lucky Enough to Live in the Mountains, You're Lucky Enough"

Good News!

The Hitchin' Post is now posted on the Mountain Times website. You can access it by going online at www.mountaintimes.net and clicking on Weed at the top of the home page.

Welcome Fall!

What a beautiful time of the year to enjoy the great outdoors. The air is crisp, the leaves have been painted, and the apples and pumpkins are ripe for picking. Fall is a fabulous time to take a walk, a drive, or just to roll around in the leaves.



November Holidays - Post Office Closed

Veterans' Day - 11th

Thanksgiving - 24th

Thank You to our Postal Service customers for your continued support. The USPS wishes you the happiest of holidays! Remember to check us out at www.usps.com.

Artists Wanted

The Cloudcroft Chamber of Commerce Celebration Poster Contest for "All That Jazz," Mardi Gras in the Clouds. Your picture could become a poster! Entry should be submitted to the Chamber no later than Wednesday, January 12 at 5 p.m. or by mail to P. O. Box 1290, Cloudcroft, NM 88317. Entry size: no larger than 11x14, in full color. Material: canvas or watercolor paper. Medium: oil, watercolor & ink, acrylic, pastels, or color pencils. Ages high school students and up. Cash prize and award ceremony. Winner to be announced February 1, 2006. Picture to become property of the Chamber and will be auctioned during Mardi Gras. For more information call 505-682-2733 or e-mail jason@cloudcroft.net or Glenna at b&z@tularosa.net.

Library Column

Joyce Komraus

With winter fast approaching, I am looking for wonderful things to read during the evening hours, something to stay inside. One of my goals has been to reread some older classic books--stuff that I read 30-40 years ago - to see if they are still as good now as they were back then. Things such as:

Irving Stone books, Lust for Life, etc.
Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follette
History books by Robert Utley
TR, A biography about Teddy Roosevelt
Authors: Mark Twain, Leon Metz

What about you? Any suggestions on what you would like to reread this winter?

Bookmobile

Tuesday, November 1, 1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Weed Post Office.

Weed Treasure Box Christmas sale,
November 14 - December 16, Monday - Friday,
9 a.m. to 12 Noon.

Service Flag

The Service Flag is an official banner authorized by the Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the Armed Forces during any period of hostilities in which the United States may be engaged.



The American Armed Forces Museum will proudly present this flag, free of charge, to all Otero County families who have a family member currently on active duty in the U. S.

Military.

For more information on how to get a Service Flag for your family, contact Marie at 505-437-3705.

Anniversaries, Birthdays, Congratulations, Get Well, Thank You, Welcome, Etc.

Happy Anniversary to:

...Will and Jammie Stevens, November 11

...Don and Norma Sadauskas, November 21

Weed Café

Sunday	Closed
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday	11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Thursday	11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Happy Birthday to:

...Francis Newell, November 2

...Case Edmondson, November 3

...Doug Miller, November 3

...Phyllis Newton, November 4

...Larry Wilde, November 5

...Jenna Livers & Amber Schueltz, November 7

...Frances Goss, November 11

...Billy Weddle, November 12

...Jim Walls, November 19

...Cal Blodgett, November 21

...Noel Akers, November 23

...Craig Foster & Mary Lou Otts, November 25

...Claudine Walls, November 26

...Wendell Jordan, November 28

...Norma Sadauskas, November 29

Get Well to:

...Gene Green who was injured in a horse accident.

Thank You to:

...The VFW of Alamogordo and two of their special people, Roy Winona and Harold Davis, who came up and worked on our cemeteries. They cut the grass, put a Weed Eater to good use, and put out American flags. What an awesome job they did!

...Everyone who does so much in and for our community.

Welcome to:

...Jeff Duncan and Ellen Kazor who live in Alaska during the summers and in the Weed area during the winters. It's good to see them again.

Comings and Goings:

...Evelyn Miller went to Amarillo to visit her granddaughter and Clyde, the father of her soon-to-be great grandson, Christopher, due in January. Then it was on to Carrollton to visit her daughter Debbie and her husband Jeff and her sons, Matt and Ryan. It was wonderful seeing family and getting to spend time with them, but it was also wonderful getting back home to Doug, the dogs, and friends.

...Dub Schuessler went to Mason and Kerville, TX, to visit with family.

...Tom and Patsy Ward went to San Angelo, TX, to visit their daughter and grandchildren.

...Pat Scott had a visit from good friends Carla and Cecil West of Henderson, TX. She met them about 9 years ago when she was in real estate, and they used to visit her every Labor Day holiday to go riding with her. Cecil, who used to be Sheriff of Rusk County, TX, can no longer because of a riding accident.

Goss 2005 Round-up - Evelyn Miller

It was a beautiful day for the Goss and Green families and other friends and family members to do their annual cattle round-up. An excellent lunch was provided to all who worked or were just there to watch. It was an exciting event for those of us who have never witnessed anything like this before. Mike Nivison, County Commissioner, was there to enjoy the event and talk to friends. I am so grateful to the Goss and Green families for allowing me to attend and help in this wonderful get together. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

November 24 - December 31 - Christmas on the Pecos. Each year for the past 14 years, the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce has offered boat tour rides along the Pecos River from November 24 thru December 31; 12 tours nightly. Over 100 homeowners decorate their homes that provide a holiday wonder along the river. Tickets are on sale now. Reservations are recommended. Once purchased, tickets are non-refundable. You may purchase tickets from our on-line secure site, www.christmasonthepecos.com. Truly awesome!

November 26 - Santa Land opens! A celebration of the holidays in Cloudcroft- Bonfire, marshmallow roast, hot chocolate & cider, holiday music, and games. Santa & Mrs. Claus arrive with candy & cookies @ Zenith Park, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. (505) 682-2733.

December 5 - Annual Christmas Cookie Party, at Barb Schuessler's from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please bring 5 dozen homemade cookies or a tray of fresh fruit or a tray of cheese and crackers, or just come and visit. No children please.

The Sweetest Holidays Ever

The USPS is ready for the 2005 Holiday Season! Holiday Cookie Stamps, featuring cookie-shaped gingerbread men, Santa Claus, snowmen, and an angel are now available at your favorite Post Office. "What would the holidays be without

cookies! We're ready to deliver the sweet messages of peace and joy around the world!"

Water News

The South Sacramento Water Group (SSWG) had its monthly meeting on Thursday, October 13. Attendees learned that the public meeting held in Sacramento by the State Engineer had the largest attendance of any of the public meetings held in the Lower Pecos Basin this fall. The Office of the State Engineer (OSE) folks have made it clear that the people in this area had gotten the attention of John D'Antonio and his staff, as well as the Governor. Whether or not any changes will come about because of our citizens' hard work remains to be seen.

The OSE will publish a document addressing the comments received from individuals and groups. It isn't clear when that will come out, as the deadlines have now been pushed back. All those who sent in comments and who attended the public meeting are to be congratulated for making the effort. The SSWG will try to keep the community updated as events unfold.

Also at the last meeting, Pat Scott presented a petition that she and some neighbors had drawn up to be sent to our state legislators. The petition raises many of the issues that were discussed with Mr. D'Antonio at the public meeting, i.e. the need to pressure the USFS to drastically increase forest thinning; making the State Engineer pressure the USFS to restore and maintain the watershed; giving the State Engineer statutory authority to restrict growth of individual wells and possibly restrict subdivision growth as well; amending the NM Statute that gives the State Engineer and Water Masters power to enter onto private land. Pat asked for SSWG support and got it. The SSWG is sending a delegation to Santa Fe to meet with OSE folks and will raise the issues with OSE then and get input on how to best get some of our goals accomplished. Many thanks to Pat Scott for stepping up and taking the initiative. You'll probably be asked to sign the petition in the next month or so. Please look for it, and read and consider it carefully.

SSWG meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at Camp Chimney Springs. At the **November 10 meeting**, we'll get an update on efforts to get more funding from the legislature this year for the hydrogeologic study of the mountains. It should be very interesting.

Area Churches

Cloudcroft Baptist Church - The South Mountain area will have an opportunity to express gratitude together on November 23 when the Sacramento Mountain Ministerial Alliance hosts a community Thanksgiving service at 6 p.m. at the Cloudcroft First Baptist Church. Rick Smith will present the Thanksgiving message. An offering will be received to assist pastors who lost their congregations and church buildings to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. There have been reports of hundreds of church buildings destroyed. Their pastors have lost the source of financial support for themselves and their families.

"The entire community is given a wonderful opportunity to come together and give

thanks to God," noted Dulaney Barrett, president of the Alliance. All are welcome.

Mayhill Baptist Church - Norman Green, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages begins at 10 a.m., with worship services beginning at 11 a.m. Children and youth Bible drill and adult and youth Discipleship training, 5 p.m. Evening worship service begins at 6 p.m. Children and youth Bible study and adult Bible study and prayer meeting, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Men's breakfast and devotional, Thursday, 7 a.m.

Mayhill Church of Christ - Marlon McWilliams, Pastor. Sunday Bible class begins at 9:30 a.m.; worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Evening worship is at 6 p.m., and Wednesday Bible Study is at 7 p.m.

Piñon Baptist Church - J. B. Craft, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages begins at 10 a.m., with worship service beginning at 11 a.m.

Piñon Church of Christ - Ralph Skelton, Pastor. Sunday worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday evening Bible Study begins at 7 p.m.

Sacramento Mountain United Methodist Church - Dulaney Barrett, Pastor. Regular Sunday worship service begins at 10 a.m., with Sunday School beginning at 11 a.m.

Annual Community Advent/Christmas Worship Service is being planned. Watch for posters in early December announcing the details. The service is held at the Sacramento Methodist Assembly Chapel on one of the Sunday evenings in December.

Weed Baptist Church - Tom Dusak, Pastor. Sunday School begins at 10 a.m., with the worship service beginning at 11 a.m. A potluck luncheon is held after church on the third Sunday of the month. Bible Study class is held each Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Thanksgiving Program, November 20, 10:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. Come join us in worship and fellowship. A traditional Thanksgiving meal will be served after the program.

Weed Church of Christ - Ralph Skelton, Pastor. Bible study is taught from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Sunday; worship service begins at 10 a.m. Sunday evening services are from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Weed House of Prayer - Dub Schuessler, Pastor. Services are held every Sunday in the home of Jimmy and Frances Goss. Prayer and singing begin at 10 a.m.; a sermon and children's classes begin at 11 a.m. Wednesday prayer service is held at 10 a.m. A potluck luncheon is held after church on the first Sunday of the month.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving

Hunting Dates for Unit 34

Bear	Through November 30
Elk	November 26-30
Deer	November 12-16

Pumpkins are Good for Your Health!

In addition for making wonderful Halloween jack-o'-lanterns, did you know that pumpkins are healthful? They are full of the health antioxidants, beta-carotene. Some studies reveal that a diet rich in foods containing beta-carotene may reduce the risk of developing certain types of cancer and offer protection against heart disease.

_____ And the crisp, cool days of autumn are a great time to experiment with pumpkin recipes - from breads and soups to pies, cookies, and cakes. While your children carve their jack-o'-lanterns, you can fill the house with the wonderful aroma of baking pumpkins, which pack a lot of flavor and nutrition within their bright orange shells.

Here are two quick pumpkin recipes.

Pumpkin Dip

1 can (29 oz.) pumpkin
2 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
3 cups powdered sugar
2 tsp. vanilla
3 tsp. pumpkin pie spice

Mix all ingredients together. This makes a lot so you may want to cut it in half. Serve with ginger snaps.

Pumpkin Dump Cake

1 29-oz. can pure pumpkin
1 12-oz. Can evaporated milk
3 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. salt
3 tsp. cinnamon
1 box yellow cake mix
1 cup chopped pecans
3/4 cup melted margarine

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix first six ingredients until well blended and pour batter into a 9- x 13-inch greased pan. Sprinkle cake mix on top and cover with pecans. Pour melted margarine over top. Bake 50 minutes.

Farmer's Almanac November Gardening Tips

(This Bulletin is determined by the Almanac's age-old formula and applies generally to regions where the climate is favorable.)

1-2 Start seed beds.

3-6 Poor planting days.

7-9 Kill plant pests on these barren days.

10-11 Favorable days for planting above-ground crops. Extra good for vine crops, where climate allows.

12-13 Neither plant nor sow in these barren days.

14-16 First day fine for planting beans, peppers, cucumbers and other above-ground crops where climate is suitable. Second and third days plant root crops where climate permits.

17-18 Any seed planted now will tend to rot.

19-21 Best planting days for fall potatoes, turnips, onions, carrots, beets and other root crops where climate is suitable. Also plant seed beds, flower gardens.

22-26 Poor period for planting. Kill plant pests, clear fence rows/land.

27-28 Favorable days for planting root crops. Fine for sowing grains, hay and forage crops. Plant flowers.

29-30 Plant carrots, beets, onions, turnips, Irish potatoes and other root crops in the south. Lettuce, cabbage, collards and other leafy vegetables will do well. Start seed beds.

The Borrowed Horse Trailer

- Pat Scott

About in 1989 or '90 there was a forest fire that started up in the vicinity of Pine Springs Christian Youth camp. It wasn't the Spring Burn (that was of

course in '74). My mare had just had a newborn colt. He was just days old, and this forest fire was being fought by the Forest Service and volunteers and I don't know who all. Probably the hot shots and the President, who knows. But I was very concerned that it would get out of control because all it had to do was top one hill and it would be on its way down the Agua Chiquit. And I got in my little pickup (I had no horse trailer) and rode down to the Sacramento gas station (it's still there) and Rodney Henshaw and another fella I don't remember were there getting a Coca Cola and gasoline in their fire truck and they were up fighting the fire. I had met Rodney only once and I said, "Rodney I don't know if you remember me. I live down the Agua Chiquit a little bit and I've got a mare with a newborn colt. I've got no horse trailer. What do you do if the fire is coming down the Agua Chiquit, what would you suggest I do? In case it gets away? And how's it going anyway?" And he said "It's going ok, but if it gets over this hill...well we're trying to keep it from topping that hill and going down into Spring or Hay or Telephone." Anyway, he said (I had met him one time at the Mayhill Baptist church and it had been probably months before that time) "You know where I live?" And I said, "Yes sir, I do." And he said, "Well there's two or three horse trailers over there and you just take your pickup over there and hook up one of those trailers and bring it over to your house and then if you need to get your baby colt out of there you just load up the mama and that colt will go in and you just take him wherever you need to take him." And I said, "You don't even know me." He says, "You need to be able to get your baby colt and your mare out. That's fine with me." I could not thank him enough and I will never ever forget his kindness. He's one of my favorite people. Anyway, the fire didn't get away from them, and I didn't have to all of a sudden teach my newborn colt how to load in 5 minutes, and I did get the trailer and I returned the trailer never having had to use it. So that was a happy ending.

Prayer

For His age, God has surprisingly good hearing. Like any relationship, a bond with God will only grow when the lines of communication are open. For this reason, prayer is the highest expression of one's faith. Prayer. Try it. You'll like it.

From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this month's issue! **YOU** are what makes the Hitchin' Post successful. I couldn't do it without you. News for the Hitchin' Post may be mailed to P.O. Box 565 or sent via e-mail to patrice@cavemen.net anytime during the month; **however, deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month.**

If you have information you want included in the newsletter, call Joy Garrett, 687-3862; Evelyn Miller, 687-2170; Barb Schuessler, 687-2513; or Elaine Wright, 687-3073, with your news. If you prefer not to have personal information included, please let us know that, also.

*Happy
Holidays!*

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