

The Hitchin' Post

September 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"

Weed Café

- Evelyn Miller

Dinner and music were enjoyed by a large crowd at the Café on August 6. The chicken fried steak meal was great. Gary, Debbie, Shirley, and an "unknown" long-haired hippie did a wonderful job of entertaining everyone, including door prizes handed out by the hippie. Julie, we're sorry George Strait wasn't there for you, but hopefully the hippie made your day. We hope to see more of our locals next time - every first and third Saturday of the month.

The Breakfast Group gets together on Tuesday and Friday mornings at 8 a.m. It's a good time to visit with friends and neighbors you don't see very often. Join us!

Library

- Evelyn Miller

A well-stocked library is located in the Weed Community Center across the road and up the hill from the Café. It's open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and is available to everyone. Please take advantage of this wonderful resource. We need YOU in order to keep it open.

Book Club

The Weed Community Book Club meets the last Sunday of each month, and new members are always welcome. We are definitely different - unlike any other book club in which you have ever participated! We don't all read the same book and comment. We just talk about the current book we are reading or have read, a good article, movie, something on TV, or nothing at all - just listen, if you wish. We start with a pot luck and go from there. We meet in members' homes if someone volunteers to host it for the month or at the Weed Community Center dining room if we have no volunteer. It's a great way to meet folks and have a great time. If interested, call HB Newell at 687-4388 or Barb Schuessler at 687-2513 for more information.



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

Congratulations to:

...Kara Goss who won a scholarship from the Otero County Electric Co-Op!

...Twyla Lewis who became a first-time grandmother on her birthday!

Happy Anniversary to:

...Jimmy and Frances Goss, September 7

...Jim and Birgit Davidson, September 8

Happy Belated Anniversary to:

...Carl and Deloris Whinery, August 3

...Spike and Brenna Goss, August 3

...Jim and Claudine Walls, August 11 (not August 19 as previously reported)

Happy Birthday to:

...Sharon Moore, September 1

...Will Stevens, September 5

...Cynthia Samilton, September 9

...Jammie Stevens, September 13

...Bonnie Foster, September 15

...Lonnie Joe Schueltz, September 16

...Jimmy Stone, September 20

...Walt Coffman, September 21

...John Braziel, September 23

...Carrie Stanbrough, September 28

Comings and Goings:

...Just heard from Tom Smith. He and Donna are still living in California, but have started building a new place to retire to off Highway 24 south of Weed. Tom had neck surgery recently and is now recovering. Tom is an astronomer and has a website at <http://www.darkridgeobservatory.org>

...It was a pleasure to see Pat Foster's son, Chris Elliot, and his family, Derek, Zachary, and Haley, in for a visit. We hope they come back soon.

...Tom and Patsy Ward and John and Jan Rauch and their two granddaughters just returned from a trip to Alaska. The best part of the trip for Tom, John, and Jan was the fishing expedition in Ketchikan. Pat's favorite excursions were the white water rafting in Juneau and the wildlife expedition/crab feed in Ketchikan. Oh yes, the Red Dog Saloon in Juneau was quite an experience, too!

Get Well Wishes to:

...Pat Foster and Pat Scott who have been feeling "under the weather." Feel better real soon, you two!

...Tom Ward (minor surgery August 24).

Thank You to:

...Everyone who keeps our area beautiful by picking up and disposing of trash left behind by others.

Welcome to:

...Rick and Carol Anaya who have returned to the area after an absence of about 15 years.

...Greg and Teresa Lambert and their daughters Summer and Nicole.

Our Person of the Month

Evelyn Miller
We all know that Debbie Stone is the Weed Post Office. She does an outstanding job in taking care of everyone's mail. But that's not all she



does. She makes sure our neighbors are remembered with cards signed by all of us. Her smiles are infectious and her thoughtfulness is appreciated more than she will ever know. Thank you, Debbie, for being so precious and being a part of our lives. So, for all you do, this bud's for you!

What's Happening in Weed?

...Weed Community Meeting, September 26, 7 p.m., Community Center ("new" school building). Everyone is welcome.

...Weed-Sac Volunteer Fire Department meets the first Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., Fire Station (located by the dumpsters). Everyone is welcome and invited to help our community.

...Line dancing every Thursday, 9:30 a.m., old Weed Gym. Call Barb Schuessler, 687-2513, for more information.

Upcoming Events in Cloudcroft

...September 3, Street dance, 7 p.m., Burro Ave.

...September 3-5, Labor Day Fiesta, Burro Ave. Sidewalk sales, games and piñata bash for kids. entertainment

...September 3-5, Cloudcroft Light Opera Company melodrama, 7 p.m., Open-air Pavilion

...September 4, Beau Rivers concert, Burro Ave.

...September 17, Lumberjack Day (chainsaw and ax competition, Zenith Park

...September 17-18, "Run to the Aspens" Classic Car Show, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Zenith Park

...October 1-2, Oktoberfest, Zenith Park

...October 1-2, Aspencade tours

...October 2, Trinity Site tour

Area Churches

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.

After worship service at 10 a.m. on September 4, the church will adjourn to the parsonage (120 Agua Chiquita Road--the Barrett's) for the quarterly meeting of the Administrative Council. Since it is Labor Day Sunday, everyone is encouraged to wear the clothes, uniform, etc., that they wear to work or to the work they did before retirement. A potluck meal will be enjoyed, with home-made ice-cream provided by the parsonage family, A brief business meeting will follow. Visitors are always welcome to both worship and the potluck.

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.

A Revival meeting will be held September 9-10 at 7 p.m. with Evangelist Herb Gage and Song Leader Brian Tabor. Come join us. There will be something for everyone. A potluck is scheduled for Sunday, September 11, 11 a.m., following the church service.

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.

South Sacramento Mountain Ministerial Association meets in Cloudcroft each month and sponsors several events during the year such as Baccalaureate for high school seniors; Thanksgiving and Holy Week/Easter Sunrise services. Also, a little known ministry of this group of pastors is to provide a weekly devotional at the Mescalero Care Center, Mescalero NM. Pastors Dub Schuessler and Dulaney Barrett participate from the Sacramento/Weed area. Other pastors are welcome. Pastor Barrett is serving this year as the president of the group.

Water News

The last meeting of the Sacramento Mountain Water Group was a good one. Andy Morley from the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) in Roswell gave us a water rights primer and answered lots of good questions. We also learned about a rainfall measurement program that will give you a free rain gauge if you will report rainfall amounts back to the website. Learn more about that at www.cocorahs.org. And we heard from the Forest Service about its thinning and harvesting efforts in the Lincoln National Forest.

We also learned about a new set of proposed State rules and regulations that will soon govern water in our area. This is part of the Active Water Resource Management program of the SEO. The draft rules and regulations have been in preparation for a year or so, with public "stakeholder" input. However, no one from Otero County or the Sacramento Mountains was asked to participate in the process, and none of the scheduled public meetings will be in Otero County or the mountains. As directed by the attendees and representatives at the last Water Group meeting, Jim Hengstenberg has sent a letter to the Project Manager and many other state officials alerting them to this apparent oversight and asking for a public meeting in our area. You can access the fact sheets and the District-Specific Draft Rules and Regulations on the OSE website at <http://www.ose.state.nm.us/doing-business/LowerPecos/LowerPecos-menu.html>.

Among other things, the new rules and regulations will establish a chief water master and sub-district water masters "to administer water uses within the legal limits of administrable water rights, and assure that water is fairly distributed in accordance with available water supply and priority dates." The regulations do NOT address "domestic well permits and permitted diversion amounts, critical management areas where domestic wells are limited in diversion to conserve the water source, and sub-division approval" (regulated by the county or city councils).

Whether or not the state grants us a public meeting in our area, comments on the draft rules are due by September 23, 2005. Other public meetings have been scheduled:

Carlsbad (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

August 30, 2005

Pecos Valley Convention Center Carousel Rm.

Fort Sumner (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

August 31, 2005

Fort Sumner State Monument

Bosque Del Redondo Monument

Hondo (5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)

September 6, 2005

Special Lincoln County Commission Meeting

Hondo School

Roswell (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

September 12, 2005

Roswell Convention Center

Exhibit Hall

There will also be a presentation by someone from the state at the Cattlemen's Association meeting in Weed on September 24; but, unfortunately, that is a day after the public comment deadline.

If you are interested in this and other hot issues concerning your water, come to the next Water Group meeting at Camp Chimney Spring, Thursday, September 8, 6 pm.

Hunters Asked to Help Prevent Spread of

Hunting Season Unit 34

Bow season for deer and elk, September 1-22

Chronic Wasting Disease

- NMDGF

Santa Fe - The discovery of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a mule deer in the Sacramento Mountains in June has prompted the Department of Game and Fish to require deer and elk hunters observe restrictions regarding the handling of animals harvested in some areas of southern New Mexico.

Beginning with the 2005-2006 seasons, hunters will be allowed to remove only boned meat, hides, teeth, and decontaminated skullcaps from Big Game Management Unit 34, an approximately 3,000-square-mile area east of Alamogordo and south of Ruidoso and the Mescalero Apache Reservation. The restrictions were activated as a precaution against spreading CWD which previously had been found only in Unit 19 in or near the Organ Mountains east of

Las Cruces. Similar restrictions may be required in portions of Units 29 and 30, which border Unit 34.

There is currently no evidence of CWD being transmitted to humans or livestock. The disease is fatal to deer and elk, causing the animals to become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and lost control of bodily functions.

Hunters in Unit 34 and its bordering units, Unit 29 to the south and Unit 30 to the southeast, will be asked to assist the Department's CWD surveillance and research by providing the fresh heads of harvested animals for testing.

The Department wants to take tissue samples from every deer and elk killed in Unit 34 for CWD testing.

The agency also wants to increase its testing of deer killed in Units 29 and 30. Approximately 9,000 hunters who were successful in drawings for permits in the three units will receive more instructions with their permits. Deer hunters who hunt on private land can find written instructions when they purchase their licenses.

Department check stations will be located throughout the affected units to assist hunters, collect and test animal heads, and ensure hunters are complying with restrictions on removing animal parts from the field.

Decontamination solutions will be provided at the check stations, and trained personnel will help hunters soak their legally harvested skullcaps so they can be removed from Unit 34. The Department requires fleshed skullcaps to be soaked in a 50-50 solution of bleach and water for 30 minutes to decontaminate the parts.

For more information about CWD and how hunters can assist in research and prevention efforts, visit the Department web site at www.wildlife.state.nm.us. More information about CWD also can be found on the Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance web site at www.cwd-info.org/.

Otero County Electric Co-Op - Evelyn Miller

The annual meeting was held August 6 at the Cloudcroft High School. It was an interesting meeting. All three additions to the By-Laws passed! Thanks to all the women who provided the delicious food. There were lots of door prizes, one of which was won by Gilbert and Penny Evans.



The Real Meaning of Labor Day

Nearly everyone today knows of and celebrates Labor Day. It is celebrated annually on the first Monday in September; and, to most, it signifies the end of summer and beach vacations. This holiday may mean more than you think. What originally brought about Labor Day was actually a result of the momentous labor movement that occurred in the last half of the 19th century.

In the mid-19th century, labor conditions were extremely poor for most workers, especially those employed in the industrial market. During this time, immigrants were flooding into the United States at a massive rate. Housing was limited and expensive. Many times, several families had to crowd into one small apartment. Most families were forced to depend on their children for additional

income. The Industrial Revolution had brought about the mass formation of factories throughout the Northeastern portion of the United States. These factories required the employment of many workers, making factory work one of the most common jobs in the era. Factories were also willing to employ women and children, people who would have a difficult time finding steady employment anywhere else. Factory conditions were very harsh. Most workers were required to be at the job for twelve hours per day, six days out of the week. They were allowed only a small break for lunch. The work was intensely tiring and uncomfortable.

One may think that if the work was so terrible, then why did they stay? With so many immigrants in desperate need of a job, it was difficult to find work. If a person complained, they could be fired and replaced easily. People began to realize that if they wanted working conditions to change, they would have to work together. By the 1870s, workers were rallying together and forming labor unions. Thousands of workers would go on strike at one time and would march through the streets demanding better pay and shorter working hours. As time passed, organized labor movements became more and more popular, spreading throughout the industrialized cities of the United States.

Labor organization leaders began to plan a holiday that would land on the first Monday in September. This would give workers a holiday between Independence Day and Thanksgiving. On September 5, 1882, Labor Day was first celebrated by a giant parade held in New York City. Twenty thousand workers marched in the parade, carrying signs and banners that displayed the ideas for better working conditions. After the march, everyone celebrated with picnics throughout the city; and, then when night fell, a grand display of fireworks was the finale of the first Labor Day. Over the years, the idea of Labor Day spread throughout the United States and became more popular. It was voted to become a federal holiday in 1894, and it has been nationally celebrated ever since.

Did you know?

...President Cleveland used the promise of an official Labor Day to further his presidential campaign in 1894.

...Harsh factory conditions forced Americans to form labor unions.

...Workers demanded better hours and working conditions, as well as a holiday in September.

...Labor Day was first celebrated in New York City in 1882.

Farmer's Almanac September Gardening Tips

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

1-2-3-4-5 A most barren period, best for killing plant pests or doing chores around the farm.

6-7 Excellent for sowing grains, hay and forage crops. Plant flowers.

8-9 Excellent time for planting aboveground crops that can be planted now, including leafy vegetables which will do well. Start seed beds.

10-11 Clear fencerows, woodlots and fields, but do no planting.

12-13 Any aboveground crops that can be planted now will do well.

14-15 Poor planting days. Kill plant pests.

16-17-18 First day favorable for planting aboveground crops. Second and third days good for root crops. All days extra good for vine crops.

19-20 Seeds planted now will grow poorly and yield little.

21-22 Good days for planting root crops.

23-24-25 Seeds planted now tend to rot in ground.

26-27 Fine planting days for fall potatoes, turnips, onions, carrots, beets and other root crops. Also plant seed beds and flower gardens.

28-29-30 A most barren period, best for killing plant pests or doing chores around the farm.

Are You Ready for Some Football?!

Cloudcroft High School Bears September 2005

September 1	Artesia JV	Away	6 p.m.
September 10	Loving	Home	2 p.m.
September 15	Tornillo, TX	Away	6 p.m.
September 23	Ft. Sumner	Away	7 p.m.

Junior High School Bears

September 8	Capitan	Home	4 p.m.
September 15	Carrizozo	Away	4 p.m.
September 22	Mescalero	Away	4 p.m.
September 29	Capitan	Away	4 p.m.

Are You Ready for Some Volleyball?!

Cloudcroft High School Lady Bears September 2005

Sept. 10	Capitan	Away	2/3/4 p.m.	C/JV/V
Sept. 12	Mesilla Valley	Home	4/5 p.m.	JV/V
Sept. 16-17	Mt. Top Tourney	Home	TBA	V
Sept. 22	NMMI	Home	3:30/4:30 pm	JV/V
Sept. 23-24	Capitan Invt. Tour.	Home	TBA	V
Sept. 27	Loving	Home	3:30/4:30 pm	JV/V
Sept. 29	Hatch	Home	4/5/6 pm	C/JV/V

Junior High School Lady Bears

Sept. 1	Chaparral	Away	4/5 pm	7 & 8
Sept. 6	Capitan	Away	4/5 pm	7 & 8
Sept. 18	Tularosa	Away	10/ 11 am	7 & 8
Sept. 20	Chaparral	Home	4:30/5:30 pm	7 & 8
Sept. 24	Tularosa	Home	10/11 am	7 & 8
Sept. 27	Capitan	Home	4/5 pm	7 & 8

First Aid for the Soul

- George Regas

The important things in life cannot be gotten in advance. They must be gathered fresh every day.

Many thanks to Dub and Barb Schuessler and James and Mary Lou Otts for the donation of paper and cartridges for the *Hitchin' Post*.

Get Well Wishes to Judy Wagner who was injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago. She is doing much better and plans to return to us as soon as she can. We've missed you, girl!

The **Weed Community Library** will close October 5, with plans to reopen in May 2006.

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.** Call Joy Garrett, 687-3862; Evelyn Miller, 687-2170; Barb Schuessler, 687-2513; or Elaine Wright, 687-3073 with your news. **What you get out of the newsletter depends upon what you put into it.**

September 22 - First Day of Fall