

Pumpkins! Pumpkins! Pumpkins!



A bountiful crop of pumpkins was harvested from the Perkins County Pumpkin Patch which was planted by the Afterschool Youth under the direction of Perkins County Master Gardeners. Linda Mohagen, Reva, helped teach youth and adults the art of painting and decorating pumpkins. Pumpkins were then displayed in the window of the Mainstreet Bakery. The patch consisted of 50 hills and yielded over 300 pumpkins of various sizes.

Afterschool Youth, under the direction of Carolyn Hendricks, 4-H/ Youth Development Extension Educator and Perkins County Master Gardeners, prepared pumpkins for cooking, removed the pulp and then baked pumpkin bread. They also learned how to remove and clean the pumpkin seeds for roasting. The Afterschool Youth then donated the bread that they baked to the Master Gardeners to sell at the Pumpkin Fest.

Tuesday, October 20th the Pumpkin Fest was held in conjunction with the Bison-Dupree Volleyball game where pumpkin whimpies, pumpkin bars, pumpkin cookies, roasted seasoned pumpkin seeds, pumpkin pies and pumpkin bread were served and sold to Volleyball fans. Pumpkins for making jack-o-lanterns and decorated painted pumpkins were also sold.

Pumpkins were donated to the Lemmon and Bison Senior Nutrition Sites, the Bison Afterschool youth, Bison classroom youth and teachers and Badlands Headstart program.

Plans were formulated for a second annual Pumpkin Fest in 2010 at a meeting of the Perkins County Master Gardeners and Extension Educators on Nov. 4th. The

Perkins County Master Gardeners consists of only five active members, it was a lot of work. However all agreed it was a worthwhile project, well received by the community and worthy of repeating in 2010. The trick will be to find something new and fresh to add to the 2010 Pumpkin Fest.



Submitted by -
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