

Jerrod Citizen

"Where cotton is king"

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2019 Holden Co. Cotton: WOW!

Ag Texas County Agent Marv Latimer doesn't usually exaggerate, but he's downright pumped about yields of this year's cotton crop

"Wow! It's going to be a perfect year all across this part of the cotton belt, especially in Holden County" Latimer told the *Citizen* earlier this week.

He said nearly all the cotton bolls have opened and will be ready for defoliation Thanksgiving weekend. "I fully expect record crops on all the farms I know about. Prices being what they are, this will probably be a record yield year for cotton-growers, which means substantial money being available for all sorts of needs: mortgages, new machinery, even a new car . . ." Latimer was reluctant to estimate a cash value for the crop, but said "It'll be the biggest in years."

It's a nervous time for the cotton farmer. He's got to count on an early freeze not causing bolls to drop before he can arrange for defoliation.

Kilborn Aviation, will have two planes working as fast as possible over the next two weeks. "We're gonna be flying defoliant on early mornings and early evenings, hoping it doesn't rain or do something else to keep us from finishing up. We've got over 3000 acres to fly. Big job," Zeke Kilborn said.

He admitted to being "kinda antsy" during the defoliation season. Two years ago, he turned his spraying business over to his son Drake, who's been operating the business since 2016.



Kilborn Aviation spray plane on the job in 2018. (file photo)

Med examiner rules Medder's death suspicious

The Taylor County Coroner ruled Friday that Jerrod resident Archie Medder's death was due to "suspicious circumstances." That finding might result in the creation of a coroner's inquest, according to Holden County Judge Jimmy Akers.

Medders was being transferred to Hedrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene after being found unconscious in his pickup on the Baker cotton farm southeast of Jerrod. He apparently died on route to Abilene. Ac-

cording to anonymous sources, the condition of Medders' body led to the medical examiner conducting an autopsy.

Akers was vague about how the inquest would be handled, but promised details soon. At press time Tuesday, he hadn't announced the schedule.

Medders, 21, is survived by his wife Mazie, his mother-in-law Alice Ferris and his infant son Harold Dean.

Medders was a lifetime resident of Jerrod, born at Jerrod Memorial. He attended Jerrod schools, including high school in 2014.

Lions Club Is No More


Dan Baker, "Boss Lion" of the Jerrod Lions Club, has announced the end of the club's Jerrod chapter.

"I'm really sad about this," he told the *Citizen*, "but we've gotten so small that we really don't have the members for a meeting, much less support the charities we've always helped."

Baker said only five men were at their last session, just before the Cotton Carnival Parade. "Our club was chartered eighty-five years ago. It's first community service was creation of the carnival. It's been a strain on the club over the years, but we hung in there, because the carnival was so important. But, there are no new members on the horizon. When a young man gets old enough to be part of a civic club, he doesn't stay in Jerrod. He goes somewhere else to make a living."

Baker said there's a lot of regret over being last Boss Lion. "My grandpa was one of the founding members, my dad was very active. Both of them headed the club at least twice in their time. This is my third time. I guess it all stops with me."

Arrangements are being made through the Logan Funeral Home with burial at the Jerrod Cemetery.



MONDAY MORNING, I SAW **Alice Garrin** being driven to the post office by her nephew Marsh Hatcher . . . **Dan Baker** leaving the post office with his usual armload of mail, catalogs "and other stuff" . . . **Arnie Thrasher** on the way to fire up his barbecue pits for the lunch rush . . . **Zeke Kilborn** talking to County Agent **Marv Lattimer**, probably about the cotton harvest . . . Jerrod High music teacher **Lucy Carricker** playing march music on the radio of her snazzy new convertible . . . **Judge Jimmy Akers**, always in a hurry . . . **County Attorney Russ Jennings** . . . chasing him down. . . **Father Weyman Costley** . . . claiming Daylight Savings Time is "against the laws of God and nature."