



By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

The snow and frost didn't ruin the pumpkins! That was Arlys Cupp's happy reaction during the annual Cox's Pond pumpkin patch last weekend. The annual event continues to draw crowds from southwest Nebraska.

Cupp had thought that the many pumpkins she and her family grows for the event were ruined by recent frost. Six flats of pumpkins were purchased to replace at least a few of those.

However, as Saturday morning warmed up, Cupp said it appeared many of those homegrown pumpkins were not going to dissolve into mush.

She said there was a better crowd on Sunday than Saturday, but overall, attendance was "great."

"Our family had a great time," she said. Cupp and husband Ed, daughter Kelsey, and mother Jeannine Cox host the annual weekend, which features many exhibits, crafts, face painting, pony rides, a petting zoo, a corn maze, hay rack ride and more.

Cupp said the maze was the favorite activity for school children visiting, although some Imperial Manor residents who attended also thought it was great.

Groups from area towns visited the maze over a two week period.

A contest to guess the weight of a giant pumpkin grown by the Raasch family was won by Kyle Hendrix of Wray, Colo. He won \$25 for guessing 410 pounds, which was right on the dot.

Winners of the scarecrow dressing contest were as follows:

Adult division: Becky Berry 1st, \$75; Jeri Markee 2nd, \$50; Wes Holmes 3rd, \$25;

Children's division: Remington Yaw, Delaney Krutsinger, Ryan Bernhardt, Cayden White 1st, \$75; Ashton and Addison Robinson 2nd, \$50; Chloe Dillan, Juan Ruiz, Joshua Wright, Isabella Torres 3rd, \$25;

Family favorites: Cody and Hoyte Holmes, \$25 and Dream Chaser 4-H Club, \$25.

Troy Brandt and CJ Steggs each received a jar of candy for guessing the amount of candy most accurately.

Persons still looking for that perfect pumpkin may call Cupp at (308) 882-6361 or Cox at (308) 882-5731.

