While attending a job fair last week where Taylor Newspapers manned a booth I met lots of job seekers. Some brought resumes. Others just moseyed by, picked up the free stuff on our table and asked a few questions.

But one young woman created a memory for me. She was a senior in high school, seeking summer employment before starting to a community college in the fall.

"Are you hiring?" she asked.

We said probably not, but we're always looking for good resources, such as part-time photographers and writers.

"We'd be happy to take your resume" I told her. Then she said something that stuck with me. "I'm afraid my resume wouldn't be too impressive." She said "I've spent all my life working on my parents' farm. I go to school in the daytime and do chores morning and night."

Whoa.

I told her to go home and create a resume, and write down exactly what she had old me.

As a farm girl, one who has driven a tractor since she was twelve, one who has cleaned out barns, scooped grain until her back ached. Fed chickens, pigs, cattle and goats—this girl knows the meaning of work.

She knows about dependability and getting jobs done on time. The morning school bus won't wait until a farm kid finishes those chores. They'll be done on time or the young student will miss that all-important ride.

A young person who has put up hay, helped her dad and mother in the farrowing house or handled eggs has something more than words on a job resume.

Farm kids don't need to take art appreciation classes in school. They witness picturesque landscapes, sunrises and changes in seasons as they grow up.

They ride horses, drive four-wheelers and neatly stack big bales at the edge of meadows.

They fish in their ponds, learn to handle firearms and shoot deer, rabbits and turkeys.

They work as a family in the garden, raising, harvesting and canning their own vegetables.

Farm kids learn to keep good records on their livestock. When they raise and sell a 4-H calf they can calculate the profit gained after deducting feed, vet medicines and other costs.

They typically know how to stand on their own two feet and give project talks, or give oral reasons for judging a class of lambs, or swine.

Many of them earn leadership roles in church, 4-H or FFA, so they can moderate a meeting to perfection using Roberts Rules of Order.

They learn early in life the tactics of conservation—how to keep topsoil from washing into Oklahoma, how to plant wind barriers and how to recognize grass-cheating weeds that need sprayed.

Any farm kid can handle a paint brush, spade a garden, pull worms from a tomato plant, gather hen eggs, mow grass, groom animals and take one grain of wheat, bite down on it and determine if it's time to start the combine.

And this girl thinks her resume might be lackluster?

Oh, I don't think so.

Put her to work in a hardware store, newspaper office, or grocery store, and she will walk in the door looking for things to do.

It's that way with kids who grow up as farm and ranch kids. Their resume is written on their foreheads and in their hearts.

They should never apologize.

Never.
The new Dewberry Arena is ready for ice!!!

Our amazing volunteers have showed up by the dozens to complete so many tasks we couldn’t mention them all here! They have spent thousands of man hours getting our “furniture” moved in, everything placed where it needs to be, seating installed and the arena cleaned and ready for use. We can’t say enough about how the community of Dewberry has stepped up in such big way to get this job done! Each time a notice was sent out with a call for help we had 20-30 people show up to complete the pages long lists of jobs to be done. We had volunteers show up at 8 and 9 o’clock in the morning and stay until 6 or 7 in the evening helping to cross items off the work sheet. The greatest part about this whole story is that our volunteers came in the door smiling and laughing and they went back out the door so many hours later exactly the same way—smiling and laughing! Everyone was so willing to let the little people, that will get the most fun from the arena, join in and help wherever they could—we are building a community of future volunteers!! We even had days where there was no work bee scheduled that saw 8 or 10 people randomly show up on site just because one person stopped to do one small thing. Those days saw some of our most visible big jobs get completed without organizers even knowing work was being done!! We are so proud that the community has chosen to take “ownership” and work so hard to make things as close to perfect as we can get them. Everyone is so proud of the facility that they are treating each and every task as if it were their own home they are working on and the quality of work that all the volunteers have done is phenomenal!!

We truly appreciate the dedicated folks that have been at every work bee and those that have squeezed the days in where you could!! As we approach Thanksgiving there will be no problem for many of us to come up with a VERY long list of people and things we are thankful for this year!!

We have much to be grateful for in this small town – the people are the BEST-- and the executive of the Dewberry Ag Society is humbled by the support shown over the past few weeks!
EVERYONE PLEASE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR, THERE’S A BIG EVENT HAPPENING ON NOVEMBER 24, 2017. DEWBERRY MUSTANGS MINI SKILLS CAMP THE BAND IS BOOKED!! PRIZES! PRIZES! PRIZES! BE PART OF THE FIRST MAJOR EVENT IN THE NEW DEWBERRY ARENA You will have the chance to “pop a balloon” - win a prize!

STAY TUNED FOR THE COMPLETE LIST NEXT MONTH.....

The “Welcome Home and Congratulations” wagon driver event on September 9 in the Dewberry Arena was very well attended with approximately 200 people enjoying the evening. The supper was delicious, speeches entertaining, and the socializing was enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone that came out and to our volunteers for setting up a great evening!!
DID YOU KNOW??

Happy Halloween

- Albert Association of Ag Societies has their own mobile App?
- You can also follow them on Face book
- There are over 100 Fairs & Events in Alberta hosted by Ag Societies
- Agricultural Societies connect Albertans and the agricultural industry

The arena ice plant is due to be fired up the last week of September. We do have some prime time slots available for ice rental. To book ice please contact Jason Elliott at (780) 847-2873.

Thanks to everyone that applied for the position of arena caretaker. The hiring committee has chosen Vern Nolin as the successful candidate.

Doris West will be back again this year as our booth supply coordinator.