



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DERRAN BROYLES

Scott County Detention Center inmates work on one of three plots at the Scott County Community Garden as a project to provide healthier and fresh food to the jail. Inmates grow all of the vegetables and fruit themselves.

Jail involves inmates in gardening

By Kayla Pickrell
Georgetown News-Graphic

Orange jumpsuits dotted the Scott County Community Garden as inmates worked on a garden to provide fresh and healthy fruits and vegetables to the jail.

"I am really excited about it," said Scott County Jailer Derran Broyles.

So far, there are three plots set out for the inmates and tomato plants in the ground, but Broyles hopes to include cabbage, lettuce, carrots and beans this year.

Broyles ran with the idea during elections, and with the help of the commu-

nity, he was able to start it.

He said there is a mutual benefit for the garden, starting with the fact that it saves taxpayers money.

With the vegetables grown, the food provider for the jail agreed to give a rebate, which Broyles said would offset costs.

"It also provides fresh vegetables and food, a healthier diet, work opportunity and a positive work ethic for the inmates," he said.

Broyles also said he hopes the inmates develop job skills that might help them get jobs, or maybe just a hobby to keep them occupied.

Road Supervisor J.R. Brandenburg helped with facilitating, former magistrate Chuck Tackett donated hundreds of tomato plants and County Extension Agent Sharon Flynt provided the community garden plots, as well as will be providing a horticulture class at the jail for the inmates.

Broyles thinks he will be able to talk to the Department of Corrections to give credit to the inmates participating.

"Who knows what you might touch with these inmates?" Broyles said.

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