



WHAT ELSE NEEDS to be said?

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Watermelon

Other things are worked out like planting one patch facing southeast so it will be the first to grow and the melons won't all ripen on the same day. This was a good year, with about 300 melons per acre.

"We plant 10-12 seeds per hill and thin them down to the two best," Larry said. "We rotate the crop every year to keep out disease. We've probably had watermelons growing on every acre of the 100 acres here at some time or another."

Even with all the factors involved, tender loving care is the secret to sweetness. "We put shades on them so they won't get sunburned," Stephanie said. "It's kind of sad because we don't have enough for all of them, so we have to choose which ones will live and which ones might die."

So if you're driving down Fort Dobbs Road and see watermelons with "melonbrellas" you know they are the chosen ones.

Dad is master melon supervisor and kids do all the work. Hoeing in the rain, turning the vines and selling on Saturdays are all part of watermelon season. And although they keep the profits, they put a part in savings and give some to the church before spending.

Since seeds are used from the year before, there is little overhead and profits can grow, too. Of course, some melons go to charity and oth-

ers go for trade.

"One year we wanted a kitten and traded three melons for her. We named her Melon and she was the best cat we ever had," Sarah said.

Not only is "growing and selling" a family tradition but the seeds are too. Holsclaw is the name of a man who grew the melons near the Catawba River in the 1900s. You won't find these Holsclaw melons anywhere else because they are too delicate to ship.

That means you have to come to the source, which is on Fort Dobbs Road just down from the historical

site. If you need a melon to thump, come by, look for the signs and you'll be spittin' seeds in no time.

Choose a 50-pounder or one that will last all day; they're all \$5 and certified to the source.

Meeting Set

The Iredell County Health Department's monthly board of health meeting will be 7 p.m. Aug. 12.

Included on the agenda, among other items, will be a request to apply for grant to reduce obesity, proposed kindergarten physical code and flat fee, and other items, a discussion of bio-terrorism plan revisions.

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Interactive Seminar Planned

CHARLOTTE - An interactive seminar on professional imaging technology for office, IT and marketing managers and owners, presidents and CEO's is set for Thursday, Aug. 19, at Prestige Insurance in Charlotte.

Topics covered during the interactive demonstration modules include: Copiers configured as network printers, desktop faxing, simple office color copiers, high-end graphics intensive color copiers, wide-format printers for poster creation, database document management systems and moving towards the paperless office.

The free seminar will include a non-PowerPoint presentation of how Canon's latest technology enables greater productivity in the workplace. Attendees will hear the latest information from top professionals in the imaging field, enhanced by 50-inch flat-screen plasma television with six channel surround sound to creatively demonstrate real world problems and solutions.

Prestige Insurance is located in Crown Point Executive Park at 2201 Coronation Drive. Registration and business networking will be 10-11:30 a.m. and a catered lunch will be served with the seminar following. For more information or to register call 704-523-3333.



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