

Nichols
Worth



Is there life without plastic trash sacks?

Back in the early 1980s I recall writing a column about the vanishing paper bag, "browsackus commonaris". I pointed out that they were useful for lots of things, from Halloween costumes to garbage sacks. Well, I've discovered that they aren't nearly as useful as our common, everyday plastic garbage sack!

I ran out of these priceless gems recently.

Obviously the first problem arises from not wanting to put garbage into the garbage can. And those few-and-far-between brown paper bags don't fit my garbage can, and they get wet on the bottom...and they fall apart...well you know the drill.

Aside from the obvious use though, are all the times we use garbage sacks for things other than garbage.

Taking down my outside Christmas wreaths and bows, I used drawstring garbage sacks. I bag from one end, then the other, so that the dirt daubers cannot get in to my things.

I packed away an old comforter the other day, and guess what I used to compress it, protect it and store it in? Yep, drawstring garbage sacks.

Temporary floor mats in a vehicle? Get a trash bag.

Wrapping a tender plant in paper for insulation? Top it with trash sack to keep things dry and "together".

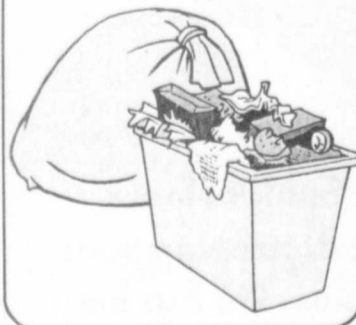
They can be patched together into temporary roofing, taped

with duct tape to mend a broken vehicle or home window (temporary, of course), used at deer stands and hunting camps, and even turned into Halloween costumes. Rains, spiders and chocolate chip cookies are a few of the creative uses I've seen personally!

Yes, the plastic garbage bag, even if it's of the small, white variety, has use after use after use.

Of course, every now and again I buy the kind with the little plastic coated wire "twist ties" instead of the drawstring kind. I tie the bags in a knot, and then I use those twist ties for many, many things. They hang small pictures, hold things in place, and I especially like them as hangers for my Christmas ornaments, because they can be fastened on well enough that even my cats can't swat the ornament from the branch! So, you see, there is an entire subculture that results from the plastic trash sack!

While the paper sack is truly on the endangered species list, the plastic sack seems here to stay for a while. I've no doubt something better will come along, but for now it's truly one of the handiest, if humble, items of our contemporary culture!



Serving Local Businesses and Local People

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50¢

"How can I help?" was a question answered for Jerry Conway

Many lives were touched by the terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington D.C. September 11.

However, the possibility that these events could make a difference in the Red River County Sheriff's Department seemed unthinkable, but they did.

Jerry Conway, a Red River County native retired from the Department of Public Safety after twenty-five years on the "front lines" was enjoying his retirement.

After the September 11th attacks, though, Conway, like most folks across the nation, stayed close to TV, radio and newspapers, trying to keep up with the latest reports coming out of New York and Washington.

A patriotic Conway started searching his soul for an answer

to his prayers of "How can I help?"

Daily, while working on fences around his farm, checking on his cattle, Conway kept asking himself, "What can I do to help?"

Conway didn't have to wait too long for an answer. Bob Storey, who had just started serving his term as Red River County Sheriff, resigned due to health problems.

This unexpected turn of events opened the door for a new sheriff to be appointed by Red River County Commissioner's Court.

Be it a coincidence, or an answer to Conway's prayers, he got the call from County Judge P.J. Peek asking him if he would accept the appointment of Sheriff if the court appointed him.

Conway asked Judge Peek to give him a day to consider the proposal, and discuss it with his wife and family. By next morning

the decision was made and Conway agreed to accept the appointment.

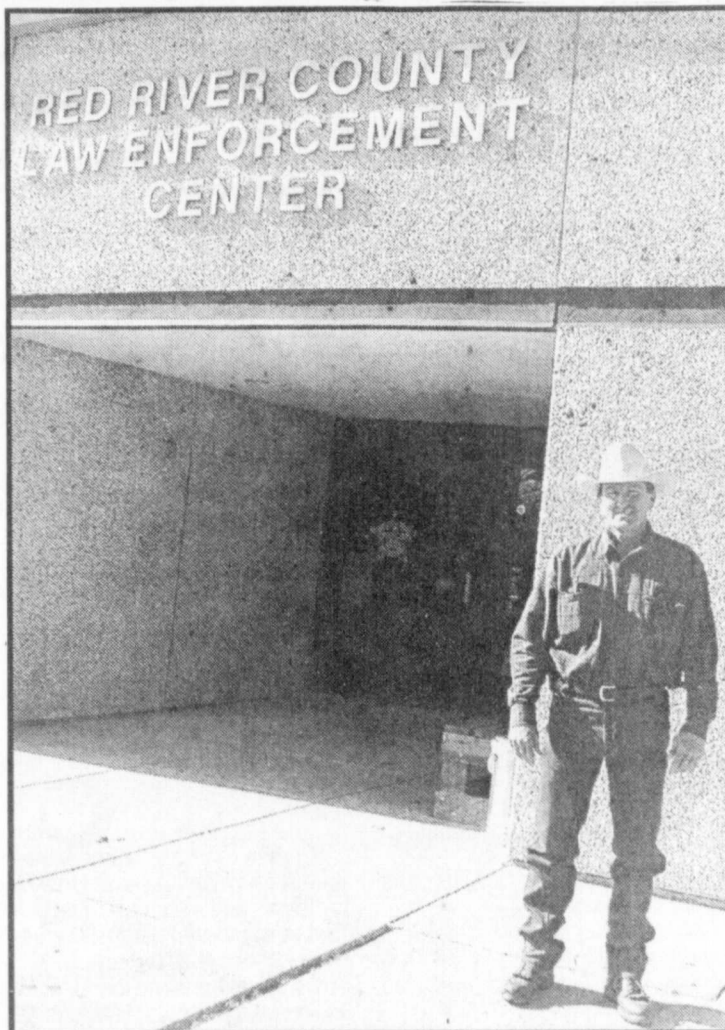
Conway said that by accepting the appointment he felt like he could do his part to make Red River County better.

"I want to unite us all. The Police Department, the Sheriff's department, the Constables and other law enforcement officials as a whole", Conway states.

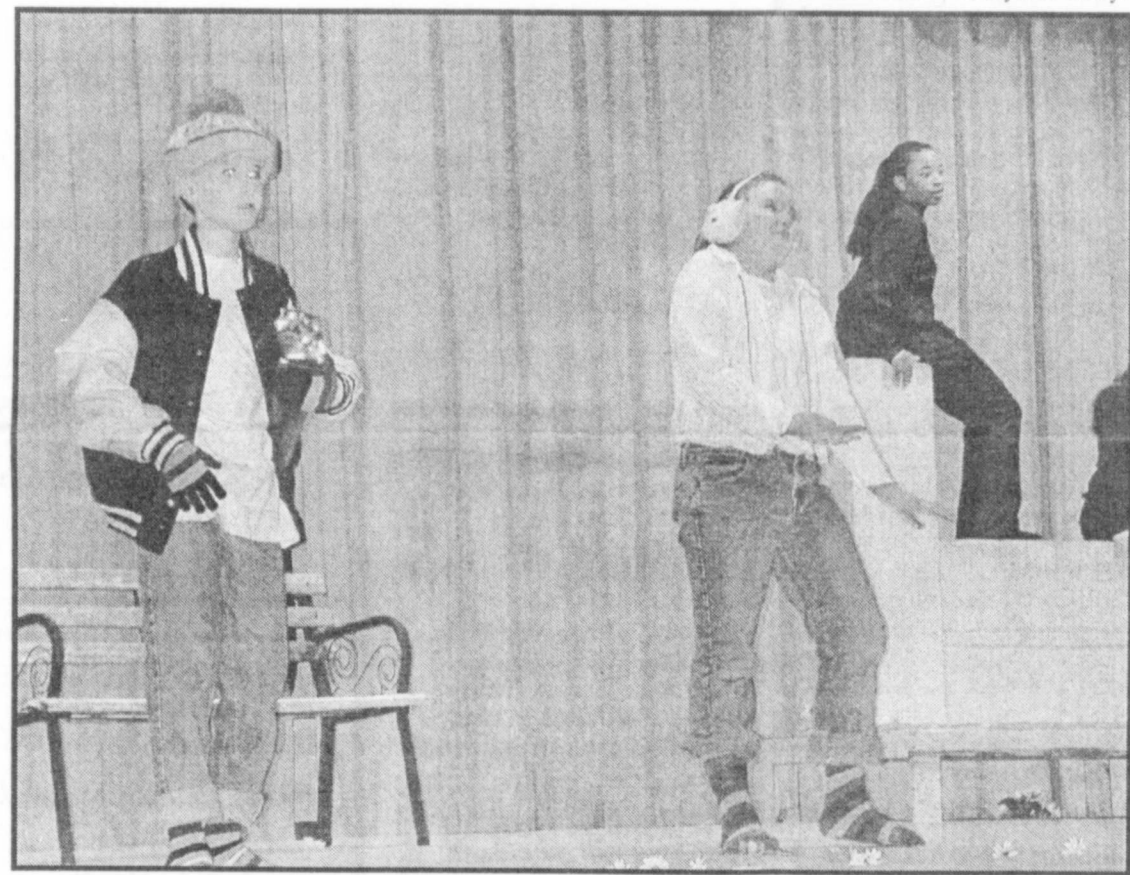
"The appointment of Sheriff of Red River County has been overwhelming and I consider the appointment to be an honor" Conway smiles.

Since more than two years are left on Storey's unexpired term, Conway has to register and plans to seek the office on his own merits when the time comes.

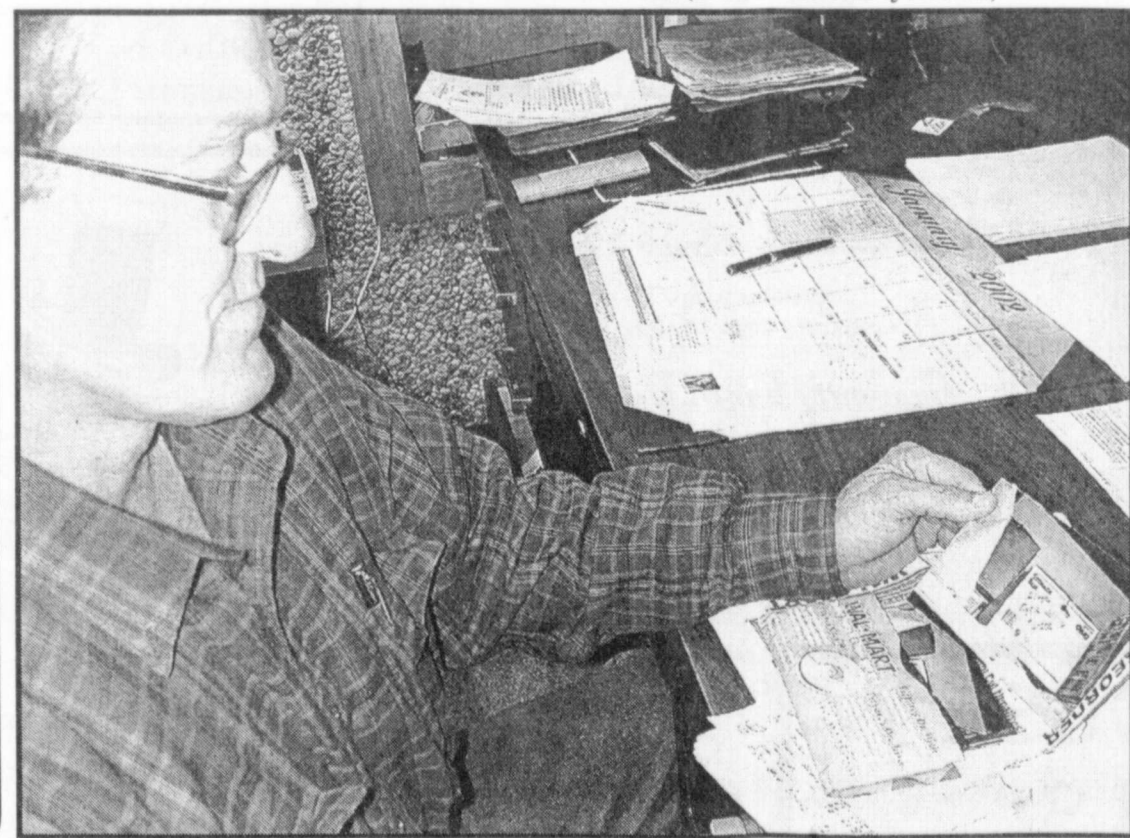
Conway says he will work to achieve cooperation and will do his best to serve everyone fairly.



SHERIFF OF RED RIVER COUNTY-Retired Department of Public Safety veteran Jerry Conway is right at home serving the residents of Red River County as their sheriff. After being appointed to fill that position following the resignation of Bob Storey Conway is seeking the top vote for the office in this year's upcoming election. (Photo by Thomas Nichols).



RIVERCREST JUNIOR HIGH-students performed the play they have been working on, "Of Poems Youth and Spring" by John Logan, for the student body Tuesday in the Rivercrest auditorium. The lead parts are held by Ashley Shew and Bradley Rolan. The group will perform at UIL competition in Mt. Vernon soon. The students are under the direction of Becky Carlisle and Mona Pitts. Good Luck students!!! (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



JERRY CONWAY, Red River County Sheriff looks over the supposed "missing files" that the previous administration had reported being gone from the Sheriff's Department in Clarksville. The files, in fact, were never missing. (Staff Photo by Thomas Nichols)

Files "were never missing" new Red River Co. Sheriff explains

The accusations of missing files from the Red River County Sheriff's Department is "simply false" states the new Red River County Sheriff Jerry Conway.

Conway states he feels there has been a lot of misinformation about the destruction of case files.

"I want everyone to know that every time a new sheriff takes office an inventory of the entire

Sheriff's Office, equipment and jail is taken." Conway explains, "I have seen the previous inventory taken when Edrington's administration changed to Storey's. The files in question were there at that time, well documented, and are still there now on my current inventory."

"I feel that the people who have lived this past year under these

false accusations of destroying these files deserve to have this information known."

According to Sheriff Conway, the files are kept in the main building and were never outside in a storage shed. Also, three copies of the files exist, one at the Sheriff's Department, one with the Texas Rangers and the D.A.s office.

"So it wouldn't have done any good to have destroyed one set of the files," Conway points out.

Bogata Council hears audit report

The City of Bogata Council heard a report from Bob Arnold of Arnold, Walker & Arnold gave an audit report for the year ending Sept. 30, 2001. He reported that the cash is good, positive revenues in the General Fund, bills are being paid in timely manner and overall a good standing.

Barney Bray of B&B Equipment, Paris, told Council he would like to renew the City's contract for trash pickup for another five years, although the contract is not up for renewal until Feb. 2003. Council voted to table this item until next meeting, when Mr. Bray will bring actual figures for yearly increases.

Council heard from David Rozell, President of the Lions Club, who told of all the work the Lions Club has done in the past to help the City, such as remodeling the Community Center and helping build Thomas Park. Mayor Kennedy thanked Mr. Rozell for all their work and explained that tighter security on the Community Center was needed, and that is why the lock was changed and fewer keys are now available.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved, as well as bills and final waterbill accounts.

Police Chief Clegg gave his report and presented Lonnie Hider, Peace Officer, hired January 4th. Chief Clegg thanked Texas New Mexico Power Co. for the donation of 4200 which will be used for an antenna for the squad car. He told the council that the ordinance for number of officers will need to be amended next month, to show three full-time and two reserve officers. No action was taken on the County Review Board for Law Enforcement Officers. Chief Clegg showed a picture and plaque given to him by Danny Efaw, Postmaster, and publicly thanked the Post Office for recognizing the Police Department for their help in our area following the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center.

Fire Marshal Wayne Martin reported twenty-one calls in December.

He announced new officers of the fire department are: Fire Chief, Charles D. Lewis; Assistant Fire Chief, Kevin Binion; Captain, Jerry House; President Rick Holeman; Vice President, Shaun Tully; Lieutenant, Jason Giles; Secretary, Angie Burgess and Medical Coordinator, Leslie Allen.

Water Supt. Wendell Davis was unable to attend due to conflicting schedules, but left a written report

including a total of sixty-six work orders completed. The new sewer pump has been installed at the sewer plant, final inspection on the grant project for sewer lines on FM 909 and Circle Drive has been completed and final payment is recommended. Some ditches have been cleaned and community service workers have picked up over one hundred bags of trash and have helped patch streets.

Mr. Davis is getting information on Hepatitis B shots for water/sewer employees.

More information is needed before a report on employee health insurance can be given. No action was taken on that item.

Council voted to table action on an ordinance concerning unattended big trucks parked in the city limits, pending more information to be obtained by Chief Clegg.

Council voted to appoint Mayor Randy Kennedy to Red River Appraisal Board of Directors for a two-year term ending Dec. 31, 2003. They also approved the names of Mike Garretson and Charles Skaggs as submitted by the Crime Control Board to be appointed to the Board.

Council went into executive session at 8:05 P.M. to discuss acquiring the old Bogata School. At 8:35 P.M. They reconvened in regular session and voted to allow the Mayor to submit a sealed bid at his discretion.

City Secretary is to notify Occupational Medicine Clinic that the City has a Controlled Substance and Alcohol Abuse Policy in effect and is ready to begin random testing of employees. Assistant Secretary will continue her research on old water bills to be collected by AMSC.

There will be a meeting of the Disaster Team on January 17th, at 6:00 P.M. At the Fire Station.

Adult coats are available

During the recent "Coats for Kids" drive sponsored by the Bogata Lions Club, many coats were donated and many children received a new coat cleaned by Webster Cleaners in Clarksville.

All coats donated were greatly appreciated, however, there is an abundance of adult size coats left and ready for distribution. The sizes available would fit high school age through all size adults and anyone in need of a coat may stop by the Rivercrest Elementary School and receive one.

Again the Bogata Lions Club would like to express their appreciation to all who helped this project be a success.

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