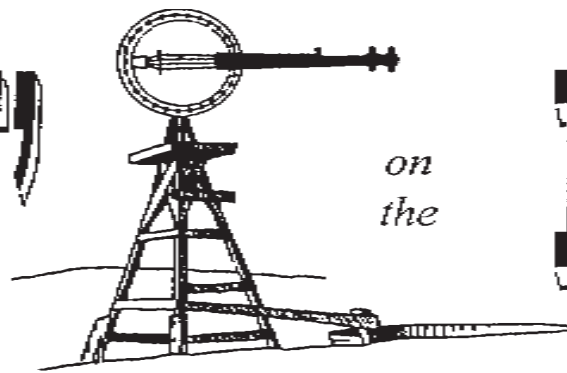


# PICKIN'



# PLAINS

## Schedule

### Thursday, July 15

6:30 p.m. – Free pre-festival potluck and jam kickoff

### Friday, July 16

6-6:30 p.m. – The McLemores

6:35-7 p.m. – Larry Booth

7:15-7:45 p.m. – Sappa Strings

7:55-8:25 – The New Old-Timers

8:35-9:20 – The Millers

9:30-10:25 – Cody Shuler and Pine Mountain Railroad

### Saturday, July 17

9:30-11:40 a.m. – Open Stage

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Workshops

11:45 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. – Larry Booth

12:35-1:15 p.m. – High Atmosphere

1:25-2:15 p.m. – Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper

2:25-3:05 p.m. – The Martins

3:15-3:55 p.m. – The New Old-Timers

4:05-4:55 p.m. – Cody Shuler and Pine Mountain Railroad

5:10-5:50 p.m. – The Millers

5:50-6:10 p.m. – Supper Break

6:10-6:50p.m. – High Atmosphere

7-7:40 p.m. – The Martins

7:50-8:30 p.m. – The Millers

8:40-9:30 p.m. – Cody Shuler and Pine Mountain Railroad

9:40-10:30 p.m. – Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper

10:40-11:15 p.m. – The McLemores

### Sunday, July 18

9:30-11 a.m. – Cowboy Church and Gospel Sing-along

11:10-11:55 a.m. – The Martins

12:05-12:50 p.m. – Sappa Strings

1-1:45 p.m. – High Atmosphere

1:55-2:25 p.m. – McLemore Family

## Colby bluegrass festival brings big names to town

By Vera Sloan

Colby Free Press  
vsloan@nwkansas.com

Not often do musicians the caliber of Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper make appearances in small-town America, but this year, Colby will be an exception.

Cleveland, a five-time winner of the International Bluegrass Music Association's Fiddle Player of the Year award will be one of the headliners at this year's 15th annual Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Festival at the Thomas County Fairgrounds Friday to Sunday, July 16 to 18.

Jo Booth of Colby, a festival committee member, said she found the singers by listening to Sirius radio, a satellite service.

"They were so extremely good," she said. "I suggested our organization try to get in touch with them. We really lucked out, to be able to bring them to Colby."

Cleveland is considered one of the premier bluegrass fiddlers of his generation, she said, and has been at it since age 4. As a teenager in 1993 he was chosen to be part of the Bluegrass Youth All Stars at the International Bluegrass Music Awards.

"Cody Shuler and the Pine Mountain Railroad is another big name we were fortunate to get this year," said Booth, "and these guys are extremely good, too."

The Pine Mountain Railroad group was described in Bluegrass Unlimited magazine as being the kind of band that has everything you could ask for. The magazine described their

vocals as being "something rare."

The group received a Dove nomination for Bluegrass Album of the Year and has a new gospel album coming out soon.

Booth described the Pine Mountain Railroad as having "tremendous five-part harmonies, with amazing vocal talents and some of the most fresh and most creative music in bluegrass today."

Nine bands will be taking the stage here this year, Booth said. They will include Colby's McLemore Family, the New Old-Timers, High Atmosphere, the Martins, the Millers, the Sappa Strings and Larry Booth.

They will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 16, and end at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

Admission for the three-day weekend is: advance, \$30; at the gate, \$35; youth 12-16, \$10; Friday or Sunday only, \$15; Saturday only, \$25; Saturday night only, \$15. Under 12 is free with paying adult.

Booth especially encouraged people to come to listen to the jam sessions before the potluck meal at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at the fairgrounds. There will be workshops after the dinner, she said.

Booth said that on Sunday everyone is invited to the public gospel sing-along and cowboy church service that has become so popular over the years. Performances will begin at 11:10 a.m. and run until around 2:30 p.m.

For ticket information, call (800) 611-8835, or the Colby Visitors and Information Bureau at (785) 460-7643, or e-mail cvb@thomas-county.com.

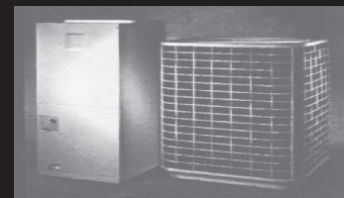
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