

Members needed on soy board On the Beat

The Kansas Soybean Commission will conduct a regular meeting at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 23, at the Kansas Soybean office in Topeka.

During that meeting, the commissioners will review the applications for commissioners-at-large. They will fill both at-large positions on the commission, and the appointees will begin three-year terms this fall. Eligible farmers should call (877) KS-SOY-BEAN, (877) 577-6923, or go to www.KansasSoybeans.org on the Web for more details or to express their interest by Saturday, June 30.

The commission also will discuss current and future research projects, market-development activities, educational programs and administrative items.

Pinch back mums for more blooms

Colorful garden mums are a perennial fall favorite. For a big, bushy display, however, gardeners must remember months earlier to do some maintenance.

“Unless you’ve pinched or cut the plants back two or three times before July 4, the stems will be tall, leggy and few in number when they bloom,” said Dennis Patton, K-State horticulturist. “So, if you haven’t started yet or you’re just now transplanting mums into your garden, you need to pinch them back as soon as possible.”

The idea with mums is to cut back the new growth by half, preferably starting when the plant has four to six leaflets below each stem’s top growth, Patton said. That will force the leaf axils below every top cut to send out side shoots. The plant will be shorter, but end up with about six new stems ev-

erywhere it used to have one.

“You repeat the process each time the new stems have about put up about 4 inches of growth,” he said. “If you only cut them back by about half, your plant will be about 2 inches taller after every trimming.”

“You quit around the Fourth of July, so the shoots will have time to put on new growth and set buds. They’ll be ready to bloom next fall.”

Gardeners with a few mums may pinch them by hand or cut off the tops with scissors about one-quarter of an inch above a leaf.

“That’s a little time-consuming and tedious, though,” Patton said. “If you’re a weekend warrior-type gardener, you’ll find it’s a lot easier and faster to get out there with your hedge shears and chop them back. So long as you more or less

keep the one-half rule in mind, that also will allow new shoots to break out and grow.

“If your plant’s healthy, each shoot should produce a fistful of flowers. So, by multiplying each stem several times, you’ll have that gorgeous bushy effect for the end of the season.”

Renegade rooster locked up after attack in cemetery

GENEVA TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — A rooster was quarantined after attacking an 83-year-old woman who was visiting a loved one’s grave at a southwestern Michigan cemetery.

The rooster was one of two bothering the Spring Lake woman and her daughter at Chambers Cemetery in Geneva Township,

MLive.com reported (bit.ly/IYiV-VA). The women retreated to their vehicle and called 911.

Sheriff’s Sgt. David Walker said the rooster “drew blood” from the older woman’s lower leg, and she refused treatment at the scene.

Authorities later found the roosters’ owner next door to the cemetery, which is in Van Buren

Noon — Subject came to station in reference to criminal threat. Report filed.

3:53 p.m. — Accident at Garfield and Summit.

11:38 p.m. — Caller wanted a welfare check on a subject that made comments of harming himself. Spoke with subject, everything OK.

11:59 p.m. — Caller reported a subject walking in the lane of traffic. Spoke with subject, told to use the sidewalk.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Monday

8:10 a.m. — Released Hannah Elizabeth Pyle.

9:42 a.m. — Gove County Sheriff’s Office sent notification subject was left behind by Greyhound Bus at westbound I-70 rest area at Grainfield. Unable to locate bus; gave ride to subject from Mitten’s to Colby.

12:51 p.m. — Caller reported transient walking northbound on K-25 approximately two miles

south of Colby. Unable to locate.

8:31 p.m. — Booked Eldon T. Mead.

8:51 p.m. — Released Mead.

10:09 p.m. — Report filed for criminal damage and child endangerment.

Tuesday

10:03 a.m. — Caller reported possible intoxicated or sleepy or elderly driver southbound in the 1800 block of County Rd. 22. Unable to locate.

10:27 a.m. — 911 caller rolled his pickup at County Rds. 27 and Q. Report filed.

10:47 a.m. — Provided traveler’s aid.

1:20 p.m. — Arrest warrant served for Sheridan County Sheriff’s Office.

1:30 p.m. — Booked Eldon Thomas Mead.

2:30 p.m. — Released Tammy Lynn Woodman.

2:44 p.m. — Released Mead.

Wednesday

5:09 p.m. — Released William Vasbinder.

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