

Family welcomes fifth generation



Les and Alice Watkins of Goodland got together with five generations of their family. Mrs. Watkins held their great-great-grandson, Logan Gerald West. Behind them are the baby's

great-grandmother, Virginia Braswell of Arizon; mother, Nashell Elliott of Parker, Colo.; and grandfather, John Van Vleet of Littleton, Colo.

Lots of water means lots of mushrooms

Rains in some areas, heavy watering in combination with moist nights and fog sometimes result in the appearance of mushrooms in home lawns and landscape beds.

Although mushrooms may be spectacular in size and color, most are relatively harmless to the plant life.

Some of these mushrooms appear in arc-like or circular patterns in turfgrass called fairy rings. The ring pattern is caused by the outward growth of fungal mycelium, which forms a dense, mat-like structure in the soil that decomposes organic matter.

This decomposition releases nitrate into the soil, which in turn stimulates the growth of the grass at the outer portion of the ring. This results in a dark green appearance of the grass at the margin.

Unfortunately, the thick fungal mat formed interferes with water infiltration. The fungus may also release certain byproducts that are toxic to turf, which can lead to dieback of the turf close to the ring.

Fairy rings are difficult to control. You can sometimes eliminate the ring by digging to a depth of six to 12 inches and 12 inches wide on both sides of the ring, refilling the hole with non-infested soil.

Or you can try to mask the symptoms by fertilizing the rest of the lawn so that it is as dark green as the ring. This often isn't a good idea because it tends to promote other turf problems.

A couple of fungicides called Prostar and Heritage may help alleviate fairy ring symptoms. These

dana belshe

• ag notebook

products should be drenched into the affected areas. Repeat applications may be necessary. Unfortunately, these products are commercial only and not available in retail stores.

Some mushrooms in lawns are not associated with fairy rings. These may be mycorrhizal (symbiotic association with tree roots) or saprophytic (live on dead organic matter such as wood, etc.) in the soil.

Since some of these mushrooms are beneficial, you don't really want to kill them. Besides, a fungicide spray to the mushroom itself does little good. Remember, the mushroom is simply the fruiting structure of the organism; most of the fungus is below ground and inaccessible to the chemical.

If the mushrooms are a nuisance, pick them and dispose of them as soon as they appear and remove any sources of large organic debris from the soil. Also, mushrooms tend to go away as soil dries. Patience may be the best control.

Although we buy mushrooms in the store to eat, never eat one from the wild (some are edible, but others are poisonous) unless you are sure of their identity and are sure they are safe to consume.

Dana Belshe is agricultural agent for Kansas State University Research and Extension and the Sunflower Extension District, covering Sherman and Wallace counties.

Music club enjoys potluck supper, plans coming year's activities

The members of the Goodland Federated Music Club enjoyed a potluck supper at the Sonrise Christian Church at 6 p.m. Sunday. Eva Lou Selby and Birkley Barnes were hostesses for the evening.

Following the delicious meal, President Linda Lucas called the meeting to order. The club members sang the state and local theme songs and repeated the Collect.

Martha Gunderson introduced the Hymn of the Month and led the singing of "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus," by George Duffield Jr. and George J. Webb. The songs were accompanied by Eva Lou Selby.

Linda Koons called the roll. Seven members were present: Birkley, Martha, Linda Koons,

Linda Lucas, Marlyn Mangus, Sammie Mills and Eva Lou.

Eva Lou, yearbook chair, reported on the new yearbooks that were handed out to members. The committee, made up of Eva Lou, Martha and Birkley, met during the summer to plan the year's programs. The music club theme for 2006-07 is a quote by Hans Christian Andersen: "When words fail, music speaks."

The theme for the August program was "Cowboys and Indians," and Martha gave a course of study on "Blackfoot Musical Thought," taking her information from a thesis by Bruno Nettl.

Group singing followed with some favorite western tunes:

"Tumbling Tumbleweeds," words and music by Bob Nolan; "Home on the Range" by Brewster M. Higley and Daniel E. Kelley; and "Wagon Wheels" by Bill Hill and Peter DeRose. The singing was led by Birkley and accompanied by Eva Lou.

The floor was cleared so that the group could do the "Virginia Reel," led by Eva Lou. Out of breath, they were glad to sit down and hear Martha recite "The Hellbound Train," a poem of warning by an anonymous poet.

Birkley, alto, sang a mournful cowboy song, "The Streets of Laredo," also known as "The Cowboy's Lament." She accompanied herself with three chords she

found on a guitar. The program concluded with "Name That Western Tune," as Linda Koons played songs for the members to guess the names.

After the program, Linda Lucas again welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a short orientation talk. Secretary Linda Koons read the minutes of the June meeting. There was no treasurer's report because the treasurer was not present. After a discussion of club matters, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at the Carnegie Arts Center with Sammie Mills and Sharon Palmquist serving as hostesses. The theme for the evening is

"October Stars," and the stars will be shining on Marlyn, Melanie Biel, Martha, Sammie, Sharon Palmquist, Eva Lou, Deanne Spanier and guest performer Shane Spanier as they present a vocal, instrumental and poetic program.

The theme of the November meeting is "American Kaleidoscope" and is "Dedicated to the Parade of American Music." The December meeting program is "A Timeless Story of Love." In the February program, "Especially by Kids," the club will be treated to performances by students of Jessica Kannaday, Linda Lucas and Charlene Avila.

The March theme is "Sounding Pipes." The program will feature

Andrew Salvador, guest performer from Burlington. He will play several organ pieces and also play the marimba.

"Let Us Dance" is the theme for April. All of the music will be dance music — wedding dances, polka, tango, boogie, waltz — and a poem about dancers.

The May theme is the National Music Week theme, "MUSIC...Lifts All of Our Spirits Worldwide." The program will be the Junior/Senior Student Recital. June brings the year to an end with "Everyone's Favorites."

Submitted by Birkley A. Barnes, publicity chairman.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

July 27 — Arthur T. Handel Jr. \$145 for speeding.

Paul R. Jackson \$126 for speeding.

Leonard Keller \$138 for improper parking.

David L. Loughman \$120 for speeding.

Roger D. Myers \$120 for speeding.

Christian A. Rebaza \$138 for speeding.

Matthew T. Tanner \$180 for speeding.

July 28 — Bonnie G. Baker \$138 for speeding.

Elrena L. Blashock \$114 for speeding.

Agnes Vetter \$150 for speeding

and \$126 for following another vehicle too closely.

July 29 — Robert C. Carpenter \$120 for speeding.

Linda L. Cumming \$150 for speeding.

Robert C. Carpenter \$120 for speeding.

Lloyd W. Gittemeier \$126 for speeding.

Antoinette P. Houston \$138 for

improper parking.

Binh V. Nguyen \$156 for speeding.

Hoa V. Nguyen \$156 for speeding.

Sherry L. Reinnitz \$120 for improper parking.

Melchor L. Soto \$138 for speeding.

July 30 — Rashad D. McCants \$144 for speeding and \$60 for unlawful acts with vehicle.

July 31 — John P. Berendzen \$126 for improper parking.

Michael E. Delp Sr. 4192 for improper parking.

Larry R. Elliott \$186 for over weight load.

Aug. 1 — Paul T. Deere \$150 for speeding.

Gary Robert Moffett \$216 for motor carrier regulations on persons and property.

Barry O. Pasko \$144 for speeding.

Salvador Ramirez \$132 for speeding.

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A special thank you to Frontier Equity Exchange for the donation and First National Bank for the use of their tent for the Appreciation BBQ.

Words cannot express our appreciation to the fair board members, superintendents, 4-H Community Leaders and Project Leaders who spend many hours working to make the fair a good educational experience. They are truly dedicated to "Making The Best Better" for the young people in this community.

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