

Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

Rexford has been a very busy little town! It is my desire to share some of the happenings in such a way that you will “feel at home here” and even come join us sometimes.

Gary and Mary Withers went to Wichita to visit their daughter, Kristi and David Gray and Derik, for the weekend.

Zula Horinek returned home from her surgery in Hays in less than a week. Her daughter, Linda Lunsway, of California will be staying with her for two weeks. Another daughter, Patty Ann Casey, of Wichita, spent the weekend.

Hazel Richardson has returned to the Logan Nursing Home from the hospital and doing much better. Clela Moeder and Deb Stepper visited her on Friday.

Bridge Club was held at the home of Joy Davis in Colby. Doris Jean Oliver was a guest. Prizes were won by Joy Davis, Deb Stepper, and Berneda Zoberst. Their next gathering will be on Oct. 13, with Val Wark as hostess.

Guests at the home of Deb Stepper were Gwen Pointer Mallory of Golden, Colo., daughter Jill and grandson Damen Perry, and Vesta Roth. Other weekend guests were Kay and Ben Denhan, Denver; and Bert Dible, Colby.

Vesta Roth enjoyed having her cousin, Gwen Mallory, spend several days with her and especially had a good time taking her around to see people that she hadn’t visited in many years. Gwen’s daughter, Jill, from Maine, came and took her to Manhattan to visit a granddaughter.

LeRoy and Norma Johnson surprised Vesta Roth on Labor Day with a visit. They had been in Minnesota visiting relatives and were heading to their home in Texas. They were custom cutters in this area and are now retired.

Cleda Moeder and Buck Harper visited Robert and Marsha Moeder in Hutchinson and took in a day at the State Fair.

Guests of Sondra Barnett on Saturday were Velma Barnett, Gem; and Bryan Barnett, Elijah and Joshua, Tyrone, Okla. Bryan, a pilot, took a man from Liberal to Benkelman, Neb., for a job interview and weekend visit with friends. He landed in Colby and then came to Rexford for lunch. He left his two little ones for a two-day visit with “Grandma B”, as he was to pick up the man in Benkelman on Tuesday.

Betty Nickols went to Colorado Springs to visit her brother, Bob and Opal Lea Keefer, for their 50th wedding anniversary. Debbie Nichols flew in from New Jersey and Tom and Vicki Nickols, Aubrey and Joey also came to meet their mother and grandmother. Betty and her family took part in the special anniversary dinner held at the Air Force Academy. While there, Betty had some more work done to her back.

Attendees at Koffee Klatch last week were Eunice Sanford, Liz Rall, Berneda Zoberst, Doris Jean Oliver, Darla Dible, Delores Dible, Velma Barnett, Grace Cheney, Freda Ketchum, Hulda Wark and Sondra Barnett.

Jean and Francis Rodenbeck were guests of her cousin, Darrell and Marge Leh. They visited the graves of several relatives in the Gem Cemetery. Marge is doing very well with therapy on her arm following surgery.

Golden Plains lost the football game to Northern Valley, but we’re planning to do better on Friday. We will take on Natoma on their turf at 7 p.m.

The high school girls volleyball team won over Tribune last week and were to travel to Healy on Tuesday. The middle school volleyball game will be here with Cheylin at 3

p.m. on Thursday, with the football game following at 4:30 p.m.

The high school cheerleaders have some cozy fleece blankets for sale for \$20. The throw is printed with the words “Golden Plains Bulldogs” and can purchased from any of the cheerleaders: Jami and Kristin Wark, Amanda Rall, Liz Staats, Megan Juenemann, Ashley Albers and Jennifer Eatherly.

Alisha Rall, daughter of Don and Colleen Rall, will be participating in the International Student Exchange Program in France, through K-State, where she is a senior this year. The program puts the students into a school in the country they are visiting similar to the one they attended in the United States.

The exchange program enables participants to live in another culture and still graduate “on time” from their home school. She will be living in an apartment/dorm and will be picking up her French minor this year. This first semester, Alisha will be taking intensive language and culture classes.

The second semester, her classes will mostly be history, with medieval history being her major. She will be graduating from K-State next spring, though the actual ceremony will take place about a month before she returns from France.

“Giving up the opportunity of participating in the actual graduation is a small price to pay for this opportunity of studying in France,” said Alisha. She left from Denver on Tuesday.

Approximately 150 Teens for Christ and their adult sponsors from all over western Kansas spent Saturday evening in Rexford for their monthly regional rally. Currently there are eight or nine adult directors who meet weekly with their own groups in different towns and then come together for the regional rally the second Saturday of

each month. There is no charge (although an offering is taken) and all are invited.

Next month Teens for Christ will host the annual “Punkin’ Chunkin’” in the park at Rexford, which promises to be a very enjoyable evening. I’m encouraging everyone to come to that one! There is always food provided by the Shepherd’s Staff in Rexford, including hamburgers, cheeseburgers, French fries and pop. The regional Teen For Christ office is in Phillipsburg.

MAKIN’ IT HAPPEN: Hats off to Jim Colling for finding the sidewalk on the south side of the barn! He dug off several years of accumulated dirt, grass and stickers. Thanks, Jim, for making our town a little nicer.

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Walk In’s Welcome
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The governing body of SUMMIT TOWNSHIP DECATUR COUNTY							
will meet on the 28th day of September, 2004 at 8 p.m. at the Home of Elaine Marcuson for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.							
Detailed budget information is available at the Marcuson Home as well as the Office of the Decatur County Clerk and will be available at this hearing.							
BUDGET SUMMARY							
Proposed Budget 2005 Expenditures and Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2005 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.							
	2003	2004	Proposed Budget 2005				
Fund	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	675	1.454	8,000	1.573	10,000	542	0.838
Road	16,887	15.188	25,000	16.199	20,000	11,000	17.001
Special Road			3,922				
Spec Mach							
Totals	17,562	16.642	36,922	17.772	30,000	11,542	17.839
Less: Transfers							
Net Expenditure	17,562		36,922		30,000		
Total Tax Levied	11,505		11,519		11,542		
Assessed Valuation:							
Township	691,203		648,169		647,032		
City	0		0		0		
Total	691,203		648,169		647,032		
*Tax rates are expressed in mills							
Elaine Marcuson, Treasurer Township Officer							

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of DECATUR COUNTY							
will meet on the 28th day of September, 2004 at 10 a.m. at the Office of the Decatur County Commission for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.							
Detailed budget information is available at the Office of the Decatur County Clerk and will be available at this hearing.							
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	2003	2004	Proposed Budget 2005				
FUND	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimated Tax Rate*
General	865,908	11.804	1,009,650	12.541	1,046,762	356,601	11.378
Road & Bridge	899,241	8.982	885,000	8.777	1,160,000	265,000	8.456
Spec Bridge	12,264	1.998	175,500	2.000	237,500	62,674	2.000
Home for Aged	5,421	0.567	37,250	0.530	45,500	16,000	0.511
Fair Premiums	733		2,000		3,000	3,000	0.096
Fair Maintenance	15,430	0.448	17,000	0.471	17,000	15,200	0.485
Conservation District	10,000	0.289	10,943	0.332	11,200	10,000	0.319
Hospital Maintenance	196,609	5.995	207,500	6.301	215,000	191,000	6.094
County Health Nurse	121,116	1.135	100,500	1.133	100,500	36,745	1.172
Extension Council	68,000	1.923	64,600	1.908	67,500	60,000	1.914
Mental Health	24,970	0.725	25,000	0.758	25,800	23,000	0.734
Mental Retardation	27,357	0.780	27,300	0.820	28,000	25,000	0.798
Out-District Tuition	16,320	0.788	45,286		43,000	10,000	0.319
Noxious Weed	97,827	2.143	112,000	2.120	119,000	64,000	2.042
Election	14,699	0.315	36,000	0.199	36,500	10,000	0.319
Special Liability	26,107	0.567	27,000	0.597	24,000	18,000	0.574
Employee Benefits	447,737	11.739	607,000	14.458	625,000	440,000	14.039
Senior Citizens Levy	28,964	0.819	34,000	0.795	36,500	24,000	0.766
Bond & Interest	20,000		37,033		59,819		
Museum-Historical	16,000	0.457	17,000	0.497	17,000	15,000	0.479
Economic Development	17,000	0.481	17,250	0.500	17,750	15,500	0.495
Special Parks & Recreation			1,000		2,500	0	
Special Alcohol Drugs	1,600		2,682		2,850	0	
Juvenile Detention	630		924				
Summer Recreation	9,019		354				
Transportation Bus	18,420		2,235				
Landfill	47,208		697				
911 Phone-Usage	10,857		12,429				
Jail Expenses	25,604		11,016				
Deeds Technology Fund			10,750		10,547		
Total	3,045,041	51.017	3,536,899	53.740	3,952,228	1,660,720	52.990
Less Transfers	258,312		295,000		305,000		
Net Expenditure	2,786,729		3,241,899		3,647,228		
Total Tax Levied	1,648,455		1,653,392				
Assessed Valuation	31,728,643		30,193,005		31,340,457		
	2002		2003		2004		
G.O. Bonds	316,000		200,000		0		
Total	316,000		200,000		0		
*Tax rates expressed in mills							

	2003	2004	Proposed Budget 2005				
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimated Tax Rate*
Other District Funds							
Ambulance District	128,757	2.316	128,500	2.312	128,500	70,203	2.239
Decatur Val=	31,701,439		30,570,575		31,351,733		
Rural Fire District #1	42,861	2.758	110,000	2.484	110,000	46,000	1.762
Valuation=	DC 23,713,080		DC 22,684,963		DC 23,475,204		
	NT 2,669,927		NT 2,560,570		NT 2,627,207		
CEMETERIES —:							
#1 Norcatut		0.854	11,650	0.870	13,000	2,644	0.877
Total Val=DC&NT	3,045,889		3,017,052		DC 1,922,607	NT 1,091,269	
#3 Big Timber		2.055	11,500	2.386	11,500	3,413	2.088
Total Val=	1,571,601		1,477,768		1,632,738		
#4 Jennings		1.889	6,800	2.047	6,800	3,897	1.881
Total Val=	2,030,001		1,961,732		2,072,030		
#5 Dresden		1.261	10,000	1.310	10,000	3,183	1.311
Total Val=DC&SD	2,499,472		2,422,376		DC 1,594,070	SD 833,555	
#6 Hawkeye		2.606	9,200	2.612	9,200	3,557	2.637
Total Val=DC,RA,SD	1,350,710		1,267,576		DC 483,667	RA 697,640	SD 167,606
#7 Traer		1.317	3,525	1.331	3,525	1,405	1.339
Total Val=	1,063,960		1,044,095		1,049,272		
#8 Cedar Bluffs		1.607	4,000	1.745	4,000	1,521	1.792
Total Val=	938,883		879,776		848,925		
#10 Sherman		0.086	3,000	0.905	3,500	1,276	0.915
Total Val=	1,447,792		1,048,599		1,393,318		
#11 Kanona		1.713	9,500	1.829	9,500	1,532	2.053
Total Val=	817,922		766,036		745,940		
#12 Lund		1.455	2,000	1.555	2,000	1,020	1.563
Total Val=	696,889		652,697		652,962		
#13 Vallonia		0.530	2,700	0.559	3,250	516	0.579
Total Val=	286,650		327,175		890,992		
Totals	31,873,057	13.739	312,175	14.021	314,775	140,167	12.795
*Tax rates expressed in mills							
Marilyn Hum, Decatur County Clerk							



Home Time

By **Tranda Watts**
Multi-county Extension Agent

Now is the time to deal with tomatoes

If you’re wondering what to do with all those tomatoes you have ready but it just seems to be too hot to can, it is possible to freeze raw tomatoes without blanching them first.

Tomatoes may be frozen without their skins, or frozen whole with their skins. Frozen tomatoes are best used in cooked foods such as soups, sauces and stews, as they become mushy when they’re thawed.

Washing Tomatoes

Tomatoes should be washed before cutting. Wet each tomato with water, rub its surface, rinse with running water, and dry with a paper towel. Cut away the stem scar and surrounding area and discard it, then slice or chop the tomato.

Washing tomatoes in a sink filled with water is not recommended since contaminated water can be absorbed through the stem scar. Use of soap or detergent is neither recommended nor approved for washing fruits and vegetables, because they absorb detergent residue.

Freezing Tomatoes

Tomatoes may be frozen either whole, sliced, chopped or pureed. You can freeze them raw or cooked, as juice or sauce, or prepared in the recipe of your choice. Thawed raw tomatoes may be used in any cooked-tomato recipe.

Do not try to substitute them for fresh tomatoes, however, since freezing causes their texture to become mushy. Tomatoes should be seasoned just before serving rather than before freezing; freezing may either strengthen or weaken seasonings such as garlic, onion and herbs.

Select firm, ripe tomatoes for freezing. Discarding spoiled. Wash as recommended above.


Freezing Tomatoes With Peels

Prepare tomatoes as described above. Cut away the stem scar. Place on cookie sheets and freeze. Tomatoes do not need to be blanched. Once frozen, transfer from the cookie sheets into freezer bags. Seal tightly. To use, remove them from the freezer a few at a time or all at once. To peel, just run a frozen tomato under warm water in the kitchen sink. Its skin will slip off easily

Freezing Peeled Tomatoes

If you prefer to freeze peeled tomatoes, you can wash the tomatoes and then dip them in boiling water for about 1 minute or until the skins split. Peel and then freeze as noted above.

Last but not least, decide if this is a good use of the freezer space you have. If space is limited, freezing whole tomatoes might take up more of your freezer than you like.



The Kansas City Chiefs vs The Carolina Panthers

Sunday - September 19
Pregame - 11 a.m. • Kickoff - Noon