

We've had some more wonderful rain! Everything looks beautiful, even the weeds when they are mowed!

Koffee Klatch attendees were Hulda Wark, Deborah Gamboa, Deb Stepper, Eunice Sanford, Berneda Zoberst, Grace Cheney, Delores Dible, Fran Leach, Velma Barnett, Doris Jean Oliver, and Liz Rall.

Five-year-old Peyton Moeder spent several days with her grandmother, Cleda Moeder.

Congratulations to Donald and Colleen Rall on celebrating their 30th anniversary!

Sondra Barnett spent some time with her daughter, Shalom and Kevin Kruse, Gabriel and Kaleb, near Pretty Prairie, after chairing a meeting with the Area Aglow board in Great Bend.

There was a City Council meeting on Wednesday. Some concerned citizens attended to discuss the future of the fitness center.

Tony Bice surprised his family by coming home again for the weekend from Fort Riley near Junction City.

Doris Jean Oliver organized a hamburger fry for 56 relatives of the late Rex Shaw who got together at Selden on Sunday, June 5. Later all attended the Antique Car and Tractor Show parade. This year, the tractor show was in memory of Rex, who was one of the main organizers of the Antique Car and Tractor Show 12 years ago.

Family members of Liz Rall who came last weekend to help her celebrate a special birthday were her children, Maxine Ross, and Donald and Colleen Rall, Rexford; Connie and David Moos, Byers, Colo.; Jerry and Chrys Rall, and Lori and Lad Truetken, Selden. The grandchildren present were Scott and Julie Ross, Jordan and Tyler, Strasburg, Colo.; Bradley and Connor Moos, Darren Moos, Fort Collins, Colo.; Russell Moos, Byers, Colo.; Bryan Rall, Jason Rall, Manhattan; Amanda Rall, Rexford; Nicholas Rall, Selden; and Amy Truetken, Manhattan.

Betty Carswell was hostess for Royal Neighbors, with a patriotic decoration theme. Others present were Darlene Robben, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, and Jean Hawkins.

Come on Down players were Dick Sanford, Fran Leach, and Rex Carswell. They were joined by the members of the Royal Neighbors following their meeting.

Marjorie Leh is spending time with her sons, George Hiatt, and Gerald and Dianna Hiatt, near Wann, Okla. Gerald has been ill, but tests are showing improvement.

There were nine garage sales in Rexford on Saturday. So many people ate lunch at the Community Building that they ran out of food! The Community PRIDE was pleased with the local response.

Sondra Barnett attended the memorial service at Oberlin for Lennie (Peterson) Hatch, a former resident of Rexford.

Another former rural Rexford resident, Louie Rico, also died. We extend our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of both of these men.

Richard Buck from Kansas Legal Services in Hays was at the Barn to speak about estate planning, living wills and durable power of attorney for health care. Those present were Lawrence Horinek, Jean Hawkins, Vesta Roth, Freda Ketchum, Fran Leach, Rex and Betty Carswell, Bill and Margaret AraSmith, Deb Stepper, and Ruth Luna, all from Rexford, and Lee and Lila Gotchall of Goodland.

Tina and Kenneth Johnston attended the wedding of children of their friends, Barb Bremerkamp and Travis Barrett, in Colby at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Members of three area churches held a joint service at the Shepherd Staff on Sunday morning and had a fellowship dinner afterwards. They were the Courts of Praise in Atwood, Living Word Fellowship in Norton and Redeeming Love, Colby.

Makin' it Happen: Hats off to all who participated in the garage sales here in town over the weekend!

McGraw News

By Quincy Scott

On Friday, June 10, Gayle and Wes Bainter traveled to Abilene.

Make safe mowing a priority

Gasoline-powered lawn mowers may be the most dangerous tool regularly used around the home.

They create hot exhaust fumes, and their blades spin 2,000 to 4,000 times per minute, which can turn small toys and garden debris into deadly missiles.

U.S. safety experts estimate lawn mower accidents injure 75,000 people every year.

Mechanical failure accounts for a very small percentage of those injuries. That suggests none of us ever becomes too old or too experienced to brush up on safe mowing.

The American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends that youths be allowed to use a ride-on lawn mower only after they are 16 and children be allowed to operate a walk-behind mower only after they are 12.

Other basics homeowners should keep in mind include:

- Before mowing, search the yard — every time. Look for small objects that may be hidden from view. Most lawn mower blades run at 100 to 200 mph, so if one hits a rock, wire, acorn or stick, that object can become deadly, airborne and fast as the wink of an eye.

- When mowing a slope with a riding mower, go down the grade. When using a push mower, mow across the slope.

- If you need two people to mow an incline, such as one to push the mower and the other to hold a rope to keep it from tipping over, then the slope is too steep for safe mowing.



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

Give thought to spraying the hill with herbicide and replanting with ground cover.

- Do not use a mower unless it is in sound operating condition. Check for loose or missing safety guards, as well as loose or missing bolts.

Make sure the brake and/or operator presence control system is always in good working order. The operator presence control system ensures the blade on a walk-behind mower will come to a complete stop within 3 seconds after the control is released. Without it, a simple slip on wet grass can be disastrous.

All this assumes you have already read your owner's manual and you actually know how this piece of machinery is supposed to operate. You should know how to start and stop it safely.

Always turn the mower off and disconnect the spark plug before doing any service work. These steps are essential.

- Do not mow after you hear thunder. When a storm is close enough to hear, it's close enough for lightning to strike you, even though the

dark clouds may appear to be miles away.

- Do not mow when anyone else is in the vicinity of the mower itself or in range of any projectiles it may create.

- Protect yourself. Sturdy shoes are much safer than sandals or even tennis shoes. Jeans or work pants are much better than shorts. Safety glasses or shatter-resistant sunglasses can protect eyesight.

And don't forget your ears. Most mowers operate at 95 decibels or more, loud enough to cause hearing loss.

Personal hearing protection can reduce that risk. Don't fool yourself that a CD player or radio with earphones is another way to drown out the mower's noise.

Many times the music they produce is even louder than the mower.

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Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Norman Wendelin and Rory entered the 11th annual Decatur Co-op Fishing Tournament at Norton Lake on June 5. Congratulations to Rory who caught a 3-pound wiper and received second place in the Wiper species division!

John Bremer returned home Tuesday after attending a two-day State of Kansas Judicial conference in Wichita. Monday he enjoyed dinner and visiting with David and Linda Bremer.

Ralph and Norma Unger left June 5 and returned home on Thursday from Milwaukee, where Ralph attended a Public Risk Insurance Management Association seminar for the Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties. One of the spouses' activities that Norma enjoyed was a tour of the Pabst Mansion and a tour and reception at the Museum of Art.

Jennifer Shaw, Danica May, Lora Marietta, Anne Marie Wasson and Nikki Lincoln, sponsored by the Oberlin American Legion Auxiliary, returned home Friday evening from Lawrence where they spent the week attending Girls State at the Kansas University campus.

Anna Shaw and family friend, Blaine Urbanek, took Jennifer Shaw to Girls State in Lawrence on June 5 and were overnight guests of Anna's brother, Ron Seeber, Topeka. Monday they drove to

Wichita and took Isaac Shaw to lunch, then traveled on to El Dorado where they were overnight guests of her sister and family, Dr. Amy Seeber and Dr. Kyle Tipton, Anna, Andrew, Erica, and A.J., returning home on Tuesday.

Anna Shaw was a Thursday overnight guest of Ron Seeber, Topeka, then drove on to Lawrence on Friday and picked up Jennifer Shaw and Lora Marietta from Girls State. Rhonda May and Dan Nedland and family hosted a party Saturday for members of the St. John's Lutheran Church choir, celebrating every one's hard work and dedication since they are taking time off for the summer. Members attending were Roland and Pam May, Walter and Betty May, Denise Abbey, Dorothy Moore, Melvin Waterman, Norman and Joanne Wendelin and Rory, Pastor Rick and Kim Langness and Chenaniah, Ralph and Norma Unger, and John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica. Rhonda is the choir leader.

Ralph and Violet Shaw were Sunday evening hosts for their Methodist Church "Dinner for Eight" group. Members and guests enjoying the cook-out at the Shaw home were John and Pat Wright, Jim and Linda Hollowell, Ken and Janice Shobe, Bob and Deanna Castle, Beth Sebaugh, Mary Ann Amack, and Robert and Robyn Rouse.

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