

Crown Crier



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Lawrence, a place where people make the difference!

March 8, 2013

Safety at Home



Ah, springtime. That glorious time of year when you suddenly realize the lawn needs mowing, the garden needs weeding and the house could use a fresh coat of paint. But with many families' budgets a little tighter this year, buying new spring-cleaning tools isn't always possible.

Using last season's tools is a good idea, provided they're in good condition and can be used safely. The last thing you want to do is take a trip to the emergency room. Yet that's exactly where more than 350,000 people end up every year, thanks to injuries from improperly used ladders, lawn mowers and power garden tools. So before you get too ambitious, take a few precautions to help keep your family safer.

- If you're reusing last season's lawn and garden power tools, inspect them for frayed power cords and cracked or broken casings. If the item is damaged, have it repaired by a qualified technician or replace it.
- Never carry a power tool by the cord or yank a power cord from a receptacle. When disconnecting the cord, always grasp the plug, not the wire. Keep cords away from heat, oil and sharp edges.
- When pulling out the lawn mower for the first time this year, refresh your memory by reading the owner's manual. Be sure you know how to stop the machine in case of an emergency.
- If you have a gasoline-powered mower, store the gas in a UL Classified safety can.
- Always start your mower outdoors. Never operate it where carbon monoxide can collect, such as in a closed garage, storage shed or basement.
- Don't operate an electric or gas-powered lawn mower on wet grass.
- When you're through with power tools and garden appliances, store them away from water sources to avoid electric shock. Never use them in the rain.
- Whether your ladder is brand new or it has seen a few spring cleanings, read the instructions and warning labels before using it. They'll help you choose the right ladder for the job and describe ladder weight and height limits.
- Remember the 4-to-1 rule. For every four feet of ladder height, the bottom of the ladder should be one foot away from the wall or object it is leaning against.
- Use a fiberglass ladder if you're working near electricity or overhead power lines.
- If you purchase new tools this spring, look for the UL Mark, which means representative samples of the product have been tested against stringent safety standards for fire, electric shock and other safety hazards.

Happy Birthday! Anniversaries



March

- 9 Nial Long, Tim Moppin
- 10 Sara Mercer
- 11 Duane Heston, Cathy Wasson-Lewis
- 12 Joseph Malloy, Shelley Schmale
- 13 Suzanne Burgen, Jim Hawks
- 16 Jeanette Bond, Jessie Chatman, Bill Hansen
- 17 Charles Lee
- 18 Patrick Nowlan, Ron Swaney
- 19 Deana Gierum, Karmen Harris
- 20 Jennifer Campbell
- 22 Yolanda Bucia, Roxanne Dankenbring, Ronn White
- 24 Linda Bishop, Debbie Mooney
- 25 Terry Cobb, Doug Madeira, Debbie Yarnell
- 31 Leslie Price

March

- 2 Stan Butler, Kim Gouge, Loren Kallenbach, Brian Powell
- 3 Rance Neal
- 4 Mike DiMarzio, Scott Smoots
- 6 Darrell Harris
- 7 Andria Broaden, Kyle Christensen
- 8 Thomas Christie, Kevin Kerr
- 9 Wanda Cummings
- 10 Larry Ashton, Jay Paradies, Brandon Smyth
- 12 Yvonne Gillespie, Andrea Schuetz

Employee in the Spotlight

Name: Jacob McAlexander

Department: Packaging

Position: Production Support Splst.

Yrs of Service: 7 years

Q: Best part of your day?

A: When everyone had a good day & I completed my job without errors.

Q: Toughest part of your day?

A: When things do not go right and my line is frustrated.

Q: Favorite Hallmark moment?

A: My department had a baby shower for me 6 years ago. Made me feel like part of a family.

Q: What is your hope for Hallmark Cards?

A: That I get to retire and the company does wonders for others, as it has for me.

Q: What is one thing many people don't know about you?

A: I am one of the biggest video game nerds here.

Q: If you had a super power, what would it be? Why?

A: To read people's minds, so I would know how to make their days better.

Q: What's an improvement you've made to your job or department?

A: Participated in a kaizen that resulted in achieving production goals.

35 Years

Barbara Ball (CBF), 3/13

Debbie Messenhimer (Foil), 3/13

Kevin Pauley (Bronzing), 3/27

15 Years

Susan Rodgers (Fac Mgmt), 3/11



The following employees will retire April 12 2013:

Rick Falley (Whse), **Max Herman**

(Mfg Fin), **Jim Brewer** (LDC),

Jack Campbell (LDC), **Marilyn**

Walter (R Print), **Patty Poff**

(Whse), **Dan Courtney** (LDC),

Mike Fisher (LDC), **Ann Guthrie**

(Foil). Congratulations!

Thank You

I want to thank friends and co-workers for the cards, comfort and kindness during the loss of my dad. A special thanks to Dennis Yarnell, Kim Gouge, Beth Gorman and Erika Mohler.

Also a special thanks to the Hall family for the beautiful plant.

Bill Brynds (Whse)

Did you know . . .

"...Success By 6 Coalition provides families with children under 6 with what they need to successfully parent their young children, thereby fostering positive parent-child relationships and preparing children for success in school and in life? Success By 6 is one of 7 original Smart Start Kansas Community Coalitions. Projects include an interagency Family Resource Team that conducts home visits to families with young children, scholarships and grants and special education and early childhood mental health consulting services to improve the quality, availability and affordability of early learning opportunities.

"...\$1 per week provides 10 bus passes for 10 people?"

Graduation



If you have an immediate family member graduating this spring from high school or college, or if you are an employee

completing graduate requirements, please complete one of the forms in the Crown Room, and place in the box provided in the Crown Room, by **Friday, March 29**. We will publish these graduates in a future issue of the *Crown Crier*.

**Hallmark
Safety
Corner**

• Invest in tomorrow.
**Practice SAFETY
today!**