

Eagle alum gets award at age 101

VERA SLOAN/Colby Free Press
Museum Director Sue Taylor presented 101-year-old Max Eaton with his High Flying Eagles award at a reception Friday. Eaton was the oldest of 20 alumni inducted into the High Flying Eagles, a group of Colby High grads who were nominated for outstanding achievements or contributions to society.



Overgrown lawn? What to do

Summer vacations and rainy weather both can make sticking to the "One-Third Rule" for mowing tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass lawns a practical impossibility.

"The per-mowing limit on reducing lawn height is important. If you cut off more, the plants will respond as if their food-making ability is under attack. They'll use their stored energy reserves to quickly send up new growth," said Ward Upham, horticulturist with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

The source, rather than the speed of this response is the real problem, Upham said. The plants end up with less stored energy, in case they need it to deal with weather stress, insects or disease.

Unfortunately, mowers can't always be adjusted as high as they

need to be, to remove no more than a third of an overgrown lawn's height.

"In that case, the best thing to do is to set your mower as high as possible and get it going. If the clippings are too long to filter down into the lawn, you'll need to bag or rake them up, too," Upham said. "Then, gradually bring the lawn's height down - cutting more often than usual and progressively lowering your mower as you do - until you reach the turf's target height."

Although Kentucky bluegrass

can be shorter and tall fescue taller, K-State recommends mowing both about 3 inches high. They'll be ready for another mowing at 4.5 inches.

"You can't think of this as something like straightening the house or getting a haircut," Upham said. "How it's mowed has a huge impact on a lawn's density, vigor, root system, water use, weed pressure and resistance to stress."

Information about mowing is available on the Web at www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/hort2/MF1155.pdf.

Singing out for the old school



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

The Eagle Feather Chorus, made up of Colby alumni, favored the crowd at Sunday's reunion assembly with a rendition of "Camptown Races."

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