

Study Guide

Weeping Water Republican August 1974 Study Guide

General Overview

This study guide focuses on the content of the August 1974 excerpts from the Weeping Water Republican newspaper. The excerpts cover a variety of topics including local news, community events, agricultural information, advertising, and public notices. Understanding the different sections and their typical content will be helpful.

Key Areas to Focus On

- **Local News and Events:** Note mentions of family visits, anniversaries, birthdays, and community gatherings. Pay attention to the names mentioned and the types of activities described.
- **Birth Announcements:** Identify new births and the details provided, such as names, birth weight, siblings, and grandparents.
- **Community Organizations and Activities:** Recognize mentions of groups like the Cass Cloverettes, Modern Mothers club, Boy Scouts, and various church organizations. Note the types of activities they are involved in (meetings, events, projects).
- **Agriculture and Extension:** Understand the topics discussed by the Extension Agents, particularly concerns related to weather and crop conditions (drouth, winter wheat, herbicide residues).
- **Weather Information:** Observe the weather data provided, including temperatures and rainfall amounts, and how they are described as affecting the local environment.
- **Advertising:** Analyze the types of advertisements present, including grocery specials, work clothes sales, classified ads (vehicles, housing, services, items for sale), and business advertisements (dentists, optometrists, laundromat, etc.). Note pricing and sale details.
- **Public Notices:** Identify the different types of official notices (bids, applications for branch offices, estate notices) and the information they convey (deadlines, locations, purposes).
- **School News:** Understand the information related to the local school district (school staff, bus routes, sports schedules, registration).
- **Commentary and Opinions:** Note sections that express opinions or observations about community life or specific issues.

Quiz

1. What was the name and birth date of the daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Ron Wohlers?

2. According to the article, what are cicada killer wasps and what is their temperament like?
3. What organization held an Achievement Party at St. Mary Catholic church fellowship hall?
4. What was the weight and name of the baby daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Stubbsendeck?
5. What insect was described as being very prevalent around town recently?
6. What was the price advertised for 10 pounds of U.S. No. 1 Northern Red Potatoes at Jerry's Market?
7. Where was the hearing set for the application for a Plattsmouth Savings and Loan Association branch office in Weeping Water?
8. What two qualities did the advertisement for welding services mention about the welder?
9. What was the price for one pound of Ground Beef at Jerry's Market according to the ad for specials on August 29, 30, and 31?
10. According to the classified ad, what item was for sale at the price of 40 cents per dozen?

Answer Key

1. Brenda Lynn, born Thursday, August 1, 1974.
2. Cicada killer wasps are large yellow-spotted black wasps that dig holes in the soil. Fortunately, they are not aggressive and would only sting if slapped or accidentally caught in clothing or hair.
3. The Cass Cloverettes.
4. Angela Dawn, who weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces.
5. Crickets.
6. 79 cents.
7. At the offices of the Department of Banking, Lincoln, Nebraska.
8. Competent and experienced.
9. 79 cents.
10. Fresh Country Eggs.

Essay Format Questions

1. Analyze the types of community interaction and social events documented in the local news sections. What picture do these excerpts paint of life in Weeping Water in August 1974?
2. Discuss the economic indicators present in the newspaper excerpts, focusing on grocery prices, classified ad offerings, and public notices regarding bids. What can be inferred about the local economy from these details?
3. Examine the religious life depicted in the excerpts. What different church denominations are mentioned, and what kinds of activities do they seem to engage in?
4. Evaluate the agricultural information provided by the Extension Agents. What were the key

concerns for farmers in the area during this time based on the content?

5. Discuss the role of the Weeping Water Republican as a community newspaper based on the types of information it chooses to publish (news, events, ads, public notices). What functions does it seem to serve for the residents of Weeping Water?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Drouth:** A prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall; a shortage of water resulting from this.
- **Herbicide Residues:** The lingering presence of chemical substances used to kill unwanted plants in the soil.
- **Phytotoxic:** Toxic to plants.
- **Active Ingredient:** The chemical component in a product (like a herbicide) that is biologically active and responsible for its intended effect.
- **Organic Matter:** Decomposed plant and animal material in the soil, which improves soil structure and fertility.
- **pH:** A measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the soil.
- **Free Lime Concretions:** Lumps of calcium carbonate found in some soils, indicating a high pH.
- **s-triazine compounds:** A class of chemical compounds used as herbicides, including Atrazine.
- **Atrazine Tolerance:** The ability of certain plants, like winter wheat, to withstand or tolerate the effects of the herbicide Atrazine.
- **Cicada Killers:** Large wasps that paralyze cicadas and lay their eggs on them; known for digging holes in the ground.
- **Charivari:** A noisy mock serenade given to a newly married couple, often as a form of folk custom or celebration.
- **Optometrist:** A healthcare professional who examines the eyes for vision problems and prescribes corrective lenses.
- **Legislative District:** A geographical area whose residents are represented by an elected official in a legislature.
- **Incumbent:** The current holder of an office or position.
- **Gasohol:** A blend of gasoline and ethanol (grain alcohol), used as fuel.
- **Distiller's Byproducts:** Materials remaining after the distillation process, often from the production of alcohol, which may have other uses (e.g., animal feed, protein extraction).
- **Re-election:** The act of being elected for another term in office.
- **Pumper Apparatus:** The equipment on a fire engine used to pump water.
- **GPM:** Gallons Per Minute, a measure of the flow rate of water.
- **Class "A" pumper:** A type of fire pumper designed for extinguishing structural fires.

- **Conventional Chassis:** The standard frame and running gear of a vehicle.
- **Savings and Loan Association:** A financial institution that primarily accepts savings deposits and provides mortgage loans.
- **Branch Office:** A subsidiary office or location of a larger business or institution.
- **Heirs of the Kingdom:** A theological term often referring to those who will inherit eternal life in the Christian belief system.
- **Interlochen, Mich.:** Refers to the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, known for its arts programs, including music.
- **NSRS:** Likely refers to the Nebraska School Retirement System.