

Basehor family participates in annual Kaw Valley Farm Tour

Beth Kornegay

Special to the Times

Each year, the Kaw Valley Farm Tour takes place during the first weekend of October. More than 30 family farms raising everything from alpacas to zucchini are part of the self-guided tour which allowed participants to plan their own route over the course of two days. Spread across the Kaw River valley area, this year marked the 18th annual event.

One of the farms that participated in the tour was Jeanette Klamm's U-pick flower maze.

After her sons graduated from Basehor-Linwood High School, she found some unexpected time on her hands and began making plans to build a cut flower maze in her backyard. After doing plenty of research, Klamm constructed raised beds beginning in November 2020 and started growing seedlings under lights in her basement in January 2021. Last year was the first year for the flower maze to



Ashley Wurtenberger, Marion Farnet and Julia Myers recently visited Klamm Flowers as part of the Kaw Valley Farm Tour. Beth Kornegay

be open to the public and she was excited to be part of this year's Kaw Valley Farm Tour.

The maze covers a 60-foot by 80-foot footprint with four-foot beds and four-foot walkways.

"This is my first year to participate and I wanted to help people know that I'm

here with beautiful flowers and a fun maze for them to experience. I'm happy that people are able to come here to enjoy the flowers as my growing season winds down before the first freeze. I enjoy growing unique flowers," Klamm said.

Klamm also said there had been a steady stream of

visitors to her flower maze during the Kaw Valley Farm Tour weekend event, including a group of three friends from the Lawrence area. Those friends had visited various farms in the past

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with their own families and were anxious to venture out on their own this year, visiting around a dozen farms.

The group purchased a 32-ounce cup and filled with a variety of flowers they cut with plans to split the flowers up among themselves once they got home.

"We really enjoyed coming here because it is something different and we liked finding more of an assortment of flowers. They are really beautiful. We also are visiting wineries and just came from Holy-Field Winery in Basehor," said visitor Julia Myers of Lawrence.

Having grown up on a farm, earning an agriculture degree and now living on her husband's fifth

generation farm in southern Leavenworth County, Klamm is anxious to share not only the beauty of her flowers but also the experience of being away from larger metropolitan areas in open spaces with beautiful sunsets just over the trees on the western edge of her property. She has recently hosted family, baby and engagement photo sessions and is looking to plan events including sip and snip and other workshops

next year.

In addition to being part of the Kaw Valley Farm Tour, Klamm is also open on weekends for guests to come pick their own flowers to create bouquets. As available, additional hours during the week are posted on the Klamm Flowers - U-pick Maze and Herbs Facebook page. Klamm's U-pick Flowers is located at 15983 166th St.