

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Debbie and David Banister arrived home Friday for spring break.

Dan and Margie Hubbard were Sunday dinner and afternoon guests of Diane Montgomery.

Marilee Gundlach and children of Flower Mound, Texas, arrived Thursday evening at the Lynn and Rita Officer home. They will be visiting until Tuesday morning.

John and Linda Allacher were Friday evening guests of Lynn and Rita Officer, Marilee Gundlach and children.

Kent and Margaret Voorhies, and Jerry and Betty Knapp and Brenda were Sunday evening guests of Lynn and Rita Officer.

Lynn and Rita Officer, and Marilee Gundlach and children were Sunday dinner guests of Ratha Lee Loker at Parkhill in St. Francis.

Mike Waters and children of Cimmaron came Thursday evening and visited Bethel Goltl. They spent several days

with Doug and Karen helping around the farm. They were Sunday breakfast guests of Bethel before returning home to Cimmaron.

Tuesday dinner guests of Bethel Goltl were Don Bruder, Elvira Neitzel and her children Gary and Glenda. George Whitaker of Colby was a Sunday afternoon guest of Ote and Ellen Dewey.

Myron Dean Jacobs of Lakewood, Calif., has been a house guest of Jerry and Sandy Binning this past week. He returned home Monday.

Sunday dinner and afternoon guests of Bethel Goltl were Carl and Sandra Antholz, Charles and Val Coleman of Bird City, Don Bruder, Elvira Neitzel and her daughter Glenda of Atchison.

Bethel Goltl's niece, Sandra Sherrod of Steamboat Springs was a Thursday and Friday house guest. Friday evening, Bethel and Sandra joined Elaine and Kenny Johnson at Big Ed's in Bird City for supper.



DEE DORSCH helps out at the Bird City Senior Center with 125-year memorabilia and information about the June 12 celebration. Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

McDonald News

By Vera Kacirek

Josh Johnson was a Saturday supper guest of Kenny and Phyllis wilkinson.

Kenny Wilkinson celebrated his 85th birthday on Friday. He and Phyllis brought his birthday cake and shared it with Laddie and Vera Kacirek.

Cheryl Wilkinson and Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson attended a birthday party for Claire Denny's third birthday at the home of her parents, J.J. and Lori Denny in Colby on Sunday.

Donnie Banister was a Thursday visitor of Amelia Banister and Karlyne Atchison.

Art Atchison, Ericka and Emily of Grapevine, Tex. came on Monday and will be guests of Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister until Wednesday.

On Sunday, Tammi Carmichael, Teryn and Ty were visitors of Amelia Banister and Karlyne Atchison. Teryn wanted to show her prom dress to her grandmother, Amelia.

Steve and Debbie Swihart, Melissa and Cristina of Westminster, Colo. were Sunday visitors of Eleanor Swihart

Visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson since his eye surgery

were Annie Antholz, Rita Officer, Brian and Connie Sabatka, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Knapp and Travis, Pastor Mark Adams, Bruce Nickel, Tish Loker, Larry Ketter and daughter of Goodland, Em Threlkel, Elma Lee Erickson, J.B. Loker, Leonard Vyzourek, Lois Morelock, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Howard and family, Carrie Magnani, Penny and Caittin Kline of Colby, Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Johnson.

Dale and Avis Huzaka were Sunday afternoon visitors of Amelia Banister and Karlyne Atchison.

Kasey and Jennifer Sabatka and children were weekend visitors of Jon and Rachel Mallett and children of Manhattan.

R. J. Sabatka was a Saturday afternoon visitor of Laddie and Vera Kacirek.

Joan Tongish was a Tuesday lunch guest of Betty Lewis and Eleanor Swihart to celebrate her birthday.

Attending the funeral of Duane Smith in Burlington, Colo., were Lynn Officer, Ratha Lea Loker and Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson.

Musical comedy planned in Oakley

A new musical comedy, *Church Basement Ladies*, is a large production celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there. They will perform in the Oakley High School Auditorium on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

The comedy features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and solve the problems of a rural Minnesota church about to undergo changes in 1965.

From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, we see them handle a record breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fund Raiser, and, of course, a steaming hot July wedding.

Theystaveoffpotentialdisasters,

share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the pastor on due course while thoroughly enjoying, (and tolerating) each other as the true "steel magnolias" of the church. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they witness the church year unfold from below the house of God.

The script is by Jessica Zuehlke and Jim Stowell and is based on the humorous novel *Growing Up Lutheran* by Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson. Music and lyrics are by composer Drew Jansen, who gave us the music for the popular long-running hit musical, *How To Talk* Minnesotan.

Admission for the evening is by Western Plains Arts Association season ticket, or at the door.

Thursday, March 18, 2010

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Department accepts program comments

Adrian J. Polansky, state executive director of US Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Kansas has announced that the department is accepting comments on the Final Environmental Assessment for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

On Sept. 26, 2006, a legal settlement was signed between the National Wildlife Federation and the Farm Service Agency that limited the frequency of haying on Conservation Reserve Program lands to once every 10 years and grazing to once every five years in Kansas; with a suspension of haying and grazing during the primary nesting season (April 15 to July 15). The settlement stipulated that if a change to the frequency of haying and grazing or the primary nesting season (PNS) dates is desired, then an Environmental Assessment would be prepared that identifies the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of such a change.

The Farm Service Agency proposes to change the allowable frequency of managed haying and grazing to once every three years on certain Conservation Reserve Program lands in Kansas. The Farm Service Agency has determined that the alternative frequency will not have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and therefore will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

The Farm Service Agency is

accepting comments on the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a period of 30 days from March 1. A copy of these documents can be obtained at <http://public.geo-marine.com> or www.fsa.usda.gov/ks.

Comments may be submitted online at <http://public.geo-marine.com>, emailed to kansasmhg@geo-marine.com or written comments sent to Kansas MHG EA, Geo-Marine Inc., 2713 Magruder Boulevard Suite D, Hampton, VA 23666. Further information can be obtained from Matthew Ponish, phone 202-720-6853 or email Matthew.Ponish@wdc.usda.gov

Conservation Reserve Program is a voluntary program that supports the implementation of long-term conservation measures designed to improve the quality of ground and surface waters, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat on environmentally sensitive agricultural land. In return, Commodity Credit Corporation provides participants with rental payments and cost share assistance under contracts extending from 10 to 15 years. Conservation Reserve Program is a Commodity Credit Corporation program administered by the Farm Service Agency with the support of other federal and local agencies. Kansas currently has 2,778,824.9 acres enrolled on 45,464 Conservation Reserve Program contracts.

Club Clip

McDonald Area Development

The McDonald Area Development met on March 3 with 11 members present. All reports were accepted as read. A report was given on the winners of the Valentine drawing.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 3 at 10:30 a.m. at the yard of Ray and Marlene Johnson. The eggs will be filled on Thursday evening at 7 p.m. at the Johnson home and will be hidden at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. They need to purchase 200 more eggs as there is not enough left

from last year. Bill Schaff has made several wooden toys to be given each child hunting eggs.

Lois Morelock reported there is some ACE money. It can be used now if needed, or can be left to draw interest. No decision was made.

Seventy-three old chairs from the McDonald Legion were taken to the Fire Building. They have been replaced with new ones.

Lois Schaff reported that Williams Grocery has a website that can be used for free to report local events. Meeting adjourned.

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