

At Home

Club Clip

Lawn Ridge 4-H

President Samantha Marin called to order the March 20 meeting of the Lawn Ridge 4-H. The meeting was held in the Extension meeting room. Cody Sherlock led the group in saying the Flag Salute. Sixteen members and three leaders answered roll to "How do you catch a Leprechaun?" Megan Ford, acting secretary, read the minutes of the January and February meetings. Heidi Yonkey, reporter, reported the February minutes were published in the Feb. 20 edition of the St. Francis Herald. Club leader Miriam Yonkey announced that it has been suggested that the 4-H club set up a scholarship to help 4-H'ers who wish to attend 4-H conventions, trips, etc. Deadlines are very important. Regional 4-H Days will be held Friday evening, March 28 in Brewster

and swapping record books with other counties had been discussed. Under old business, the members were thanked for bringing the stuffed animals for the emergency medical technicians and hospital. For new business, the club voted not to have an Easter Egg Hunt for the Cheyenne County Day care centers. They also voted not to help plant trees and care for them at the fairgrounds. The extension office staff was in charge of the program for the evening. Announcement was made reminding members that the next meeting will be held on Monday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the club house. Meeting adjourned with everyone reciting the 4-H Pledge. Heidi Yonkey, reporter

Growers push for quick passage of assistance

The Kansas Corn Growers Association is encouraging quick passage of the Omnibus Appropriations Bill by the House of Representatives to ensure timely disaster assistance for growers. The U.S. Senate passed Thursday the omnibus appropriations bill that included a disaster assistance amendment. The assistance package would provide emergency relief funding to farmers in designated disaster counties or those who had a 35 percent crop loss. All Kansas counties were designated disaster counties in 2002 and would be eligible for the assistance. Payments would be equal to 42 percent of a farmer's fixed payments under the 2002 Farm Bill. Producers could use their historical base and yield for direct payments under either the 1996 or 2002 Farm Bills. "This isn't a perfect solution to our problems, but it does offer relief to growers who were hurt by the drought," Kansas Corn Growers Association President Alan Peter of Tribune said. "One of the best things about this disaster assistance program is that it could be enacted and implemented quickly." The House is expected to consider the appropriations bill next week. If it passes quickly, some leaders have estimated assistance could come in four to six weeks.

The Kansas Corn Growers Association is encouraging producers to contact their Congressmen and encourage them to work toward quick passage of the appropriations bill with the disaster assistance amendment. Peter and Kansas Corn Growers Association Executive Director Jere White were in Washington, D.C., last week, and visited the offices of the Kansas Congressional delegation shortly before the Senate disaster assistance package was unveiled. "We know from our meetings that our Kansas Congressmen are working for disaster assistance for our growers," Peter said. "By passing the appropriations bill quickly, assistance can be in the hands of our Kansas growers who have truly been hurt by the drought. At the same time, we need to look at long-range solutions that would do a better job in addressing these problems in the future." Senator Pat Roberts and Senator Sam Brownback both voted in favor of the disaster assistance amendment and the appropriations bill. "Our Senators' leadership was important in shaping this disaster assistance amendment to make it more focused toward the needs of growers who suffered losses due to drought and other disasters," Peter said.

Protect children from the dangers of poison

Many incidents happen when adults are using a product but are distracted by the phone or the doorbell for only a few moments and that is when parents find out just how fast children act. Royce Cook, Cheyenne County Farm Bureau, asks that parents always be watchful when household chemicals or drugs are being used and is recommending that everyone be even more aware of these chemicals and drugs during National Poison Prevention Week, March 16-22. Many chemicals and drugs act quickly — almost as quickly as the child who has suddenly swallowed it. If a person thinks someone has been poisoned from a medicine or household chemical, they should immediately call 1-800-222-1222

for the Poison Control Center. This new national toll-free number works from any place in the United States, 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a week. There are currently 65 Regional Poison Control Centers in the United States that maintain information for the doctor or the public on recommended treatment for the ingestion of household products and medicines. They are familiar with the toxicity of most substances found in the home or know how to find this information. Mr. Cook recommends that the toll-free number be kept by the phone. Kansas Farm Bureau promoted poison prevention throughout the year by providing educational programs and numerous handouts. Poison Prevention Week is a great time to focus on this ongoing problem.

Bowling News

Ladies Nite Out 1/31
Team standings: Jake's 32-11; First National Bank 26-17; Troy's Alley Cat 25-19; Wright Carpet 23-21; Great Plains Co-op 20-23; Dundy Ag 20-24; Cheyenne Bowl 15-28; Jersey Maids 13-31
High game (scratch): Terry Yost 211; Yost 182; Marsha Kechter 180
High series (scratch): Yost 532; Kechter 499; Jenny Wright 487



Fanny Peacock



Family request card shower for birthday

Fanny Peacock will be 98 years old on March 29. Her family is requesting a card shower with cards being sent to her at Good Samaritan Center, 650 Lake Road, Atwood, KS 67730.

Open house planned for 40th anniversary

Dwight and Leah Brewer will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Their children have planned an open house from 3 to 6 p.m. and visits, cards and letters can be made to 1860 W. Calle Mecedora, Tucson, AZ 85745. Their daughter Brenda tells about how her mother's parents and children always went out to eat on their wedding anniversary. This was a real treat as they lived on a dryland wheat farm 8 miles southeast of Haigler and they seldom ever ate out. As the years went by, the Brewer girls decided that it would be a "treat" to eat out and since their parent's anniversary was right around the corner, Lisa asked "And, what are "we" doing for our anniversary this year." It is not known if they went out and ate to celebrate the story is still fun to tell. They also plan to have a great time on March 30 and hope others can join them.

Occasion

Birthday Club

The Birthday Club held its March meeting at the Park Hill Restaurant on Thursday noon, March 20. Attending were Darlene Merklin, Dolores Kincheloe, DeEtta Knorr, Reva Pownell, RoseMary Beirig, DeEtta Knorr, Lois Leydig, Sharon Penton and Betty Jean Winston.



Association honors McDonald woman

Lois Johnson Morelock of McDonald was honored by the Topeka Regional Office of the Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter, at their annual recognition's banquet on Jan. 30 in Topeka. Mrs. Morelock received a special award for her long service to the cause of Alzheimer's disease, devoting more than 15 years to this service. According to the Association, during her first husband, Tommy Johnson's, illness, Mrs. Morelock spent many hours lobbying the Kansas Legislature to enact a Division of Assets law that would recognize the financial distress of couples trying to cope with this disease and enable them to qualify for Medicaid assistance early in the dis-

ease process. Since Mr. Johnson's death, the Association says, Mrs. Morelock has maintained her interest in helping rural Kansans understand how to cope by organizing support groups in northwest Kansas and utilizing videos and written materials obtained from the Topeka office. She was instrumental in organizing support groups in St. Francis and Atwood and remain active in both groups. The St. Francis Support Group meets the second Monday of each month at the public library, and currently consists of people from Cheyenne, Rawlins and Sherman County. They welcome all who are dealing with various degrees of dementia and associated concerns.

Chiropractor attends seminar in Texas

Dr. Ryan R. Unger from Unger Chiropractic Clinic in St. Francis, attended a seminar on Applied Neurology in Dallas, Texas on March 8 and 9. The hands-on seminar was presented by Dr. Richard Amy, a chiropractic neurologist from California. The seminar taught protocols that

have been proven to decrease pain, increase range of motion and increase muscle strength. Dr. Unger was introduced to the use of cold low-level laser therapy (not to be confused with hot lasers that destroy tissue), which can help regulate and restore neurological function in seconds.

Introducing Kaitlyn Elizabeth Nichols

Marc and Jessica Nichols, Springhill, are proud to announce the arrival of their firstborn, a daughter, Kaitlyn Elizabeth, born at St. Luke's South, Overland Park on March 15, 2003. She weighed 8 pounds, 12 1/2 ounces and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Pat McGoyne of Burlington, Colo.; Gloria Nichols of Oakley, and Loyall Nichols, of Colby. Great-grandpar-

ents are Robert and Laverne Wilburn, of Oakley, Adella Harry of Colby and the late Everett Harry and Frankie Lee Nichols, of St. Francis and the late Virgil Nichols.



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