

March dates

Wednesday, March 1: McDonald Area Development meeting; Monday, March 6: McDonald Senior Citizens dinner and meeting; Wednesday, March 8: McDonald Garden Club at the home of Joan Tongish.

The McDonald Lions served a delicious dinner on Sunday for the benefit for Barbara Krantz. The dinner was well attended, and it was great to see the way the communities of Bird City and McDonald worked together for a good cause.

Sunday visitors of Joan Tongish were Ray and Marlene Johnson, Sylvia Hubbard and Margie Hubbard.

Joan Tongish was a Monday lunch guest of Diana Tongish to celebrate her birthday.

Ray and Marlene Johnson were Saturday visitors of George and Eula Vandegriffe.

Laddie and Vera Kacirek were

Thursday visitors of Ellsworth and Duane Wilkens in Bird City.

Jerry and Betty Knapp were Saturday visitors of Stan and Becky Purvis and family.

Eleanor Swihart was a Sunday overnight guest of Bruce and Shirley Swihart while visiting with Ben Swihart who was home from Chicago.

Adam and Janelle Schneider and Abigail of Kansas City were Thursday visitors of Tunney and Leila Loker.

LaVina Waters was a Friday visitor of Leila Loker.

Lila Howard brought Sunday dinner to her parents, Tunney and Leila Loker.

R.J. and Susie Sabatka brought Monday night supper and shared with Laddie and Vera Kacirek.

Nancy Pallozzi and son, Alan of Denver, Colo., were guests of Myra Miller and Norman and Iris McIntosh from Tuesday to Friday.

South of McDonald News

Lynn and Rita Officer visited Ratha Lee Loker at the rehab center in Denver Saturday.

Ote and Ellen Dewey attended the rodeo in McCook Saturday evening.

George, Kathy, Debbie and David Banister attended the regional basketball games in Goodland Saturday.

Joe and Charlene Kramer attended the regional basketball games in

Goodland Saturday. They enjoyed supper with Travis and Colleen Gattshall.

Bethel Goltl was among those helping with the Barbara Krantz benefit dinner in McDonald Sunday. Afterward she visited Lavern Goltl and Irene Kehlbeck in the Good Samaritan Home in St. Francis.

This is the Place

What a hoot this could be!!

It's called "The Great US 36 Highway Treasure Hunt," a 400-mile treasure hunt across Kansas on US 36 on Sept. 15, 16 and 17 (Friday - Sunday).

It's a border-to-border garage sale, and this could be so much fun. In the process, this event will increase tourism and make Cheyenne

County a destination.

Who wants to help put this together for Cheyenne County?

Call the Cheyenne County Development Corporation office at 785-332-3508 or Elmer Kellner at 785-332-2590 by March 10 — they will give you the info you need for success.

Re-enrollment available for expiring contracts

Landowners with Conservation Reserve Program contracts expiring on Sept. 30, 2007, should watch their mailboxes this month for an important, time-limited offer from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency. Program participants will be offered contract re-enrollment or extensions designed to keep environmentally sensitive land in the conservation program.

"Between 2007 and 2010, over 400,000 Conservation Reserve Program contracts covering 28 million acres nationally will expire," said Bill Fuller, state executive director for the Kansas Farm Service Agency. "Our goal is to keep as much of that land in the program as possible, so we will be offering 10- or 15-year contract re-enrollments for selected lands and up to five-year extensions for other contracts."

Participants who have Conservation Reserve Program contracts expiring on Sept. 30, 2007, will receive a letter from their Farm Service Agency county office explaining the offer and outlining their options. They will have until April 14 to accept the offer. This affects 1.6 million acres in Kansas.

Whether participants are offered a new Conservation Reserve Program contract or an extension of the current contract depends upon the contracts Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) score when the land was initially enrolled in Conservation Reserve Program. Environmental Benefits Index is a ranking of the lands contribution to improving soil erosion, water quality, air quality, trees and wildlife habitat. Environmental Benefits Index scores have been arrayed into five groups:

- Those contracts ranking in top one-fifth of the Environmental Benefits Index can re-enroll their land in a new 10-year contract; land with restored wetlands can have a 15-year contract.
- Those contracts ranking in the second one-fifth of the Environmental Benefits Index will be offered a five-year extension.
- Those contracts ranking in the third one-fifth of the Environmental Benefits Index will be offered a 4-year extension.
- Those contracts ranking in the fourth one-fifth of the Environmental Benefits Index will be offered a 3-year extension.
- The contracts remaining contracts will be offered a 2-year extension.

Most aspects of the offers made to participants cannot be changed, producers cannot add additional land, increase or decrease the extension time or extend a contract rather than enter into a new contract.

However, producers can elect to re-

enroll or extend all or any portion of the expiring contract.

Producers who accept the offer to re-enroll land or extend their existing contract will be required to have a compliance review of the existing contract. The review is to ensure that the contract is in compliance with the conservation plan and the control of noxious weeds and invasive plants. A flat fee of \$45, plus \$1 per acre, will be charged for the compliance review.

Mr. Fuller encouraged producers to carefully review the options explained in their offer letters and keep in mind the April 14 deadline. Producers should contact the staff at their local Farm Service Agency county office for additional information.



BENEFIT DINNER — Loren White and Margie Antholz were among several people serving dinner at the McDonald Senior Center to help raise money for Barbara Krantz.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Sainty men win guns

By Karen Krien

Both men are hunters but, when they each bought a \$20 ticket, they really didn't think they would win a prize, they were just helping the organization.

Eddie Brunk and Lex Landenberger purchased a ticket from Martin Hilt, owner of Spring Creek and member of the Kansas Sport Hunting Association.

Mr. Landenberger said he never wins anything. In fact, his boss, Dale Weeks, had said on Monday morning (he already knew Lex had won) that, if he won, he was going to be a part owner in the gun as he had loaned him \$4 for the ticket. Mr. Landenberger just laughed and said he didn't have to worry because "I never win."

Looks like his luck has changed. When Mr. Hilt and his wife Charlotte brought the gun to Wheeler Equity where he works, Mr. Landenberger still did not believe them.

"I thought they would pull the rug out and I still wouldn't have won," he said.

"It (winning the gun) was unbelievable," Mr. Brunk said.

Mr. Brunk's gun is a Weatherly 12-gauge, two-barrel



MARTIN HILT assembles the gun that Lex Landenberger won through a fund-raiser for the Kansas Sport Hunting Association.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

shotgun valued at \$3,000. Mr. Landenberger took home a Remington 12-gauge, over and under shotgun.

Mr. Hilt said there were three guns given away as part of a fund-raiser for the organization. He was pleased that two of the guns came back to St. Francis.

Kansas Sport Hunting Association includes hunters and bird operations in the state. The organization has people who lobby both in the state and national legislation for the good of hunting and shooting sports.

Over the weekend, members gathered for a hunt of pheasants. Mr. Hilt and his 13-year-old daughter

Jodi were among a team of six hunters who brought back 50 pheasants.

Jodi, who loves to hunt, was the only young girl in that contest.

Mr. Hilt said the organization is trying to interest young people in the sport.

For more information about the organization, contact Mr. Hilt.



Bar Arrow & Spring Valley

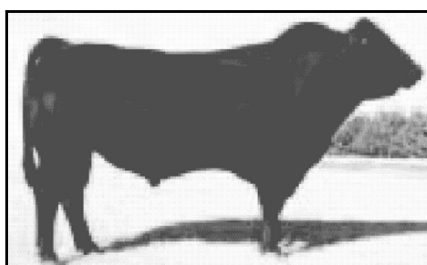


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