

McDonald News

By Vera Kacirek

Love and sympathy is being extended to the family of Bernard Kacirek who died at the Rawlins County Health Center in Atwood on Friday evening. Bernard moved to McDonald from Denver a few years ago, and he had said many times that he really liked living in McDonald.

April calendar of events

Wednesday, April 1 - McDonald Area Development meeting, Legion, noon

Monday, April 6 - McDonald Senior Citizens potluck and meeting

Wednesday, April 8 - McDonald Garden Club Arbor Day tree planting at the highway 36 park at 1 p.m.

Friday, April 10 - Good Friday

Sunday, April 12 - Easter Sunday

Friday visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson were Connie Sabatka, Brandon Sabatka and

Jalen and Jalissa, and Danea Magnani. Clint Bethell of McCook was a Saturday lunch guest and visitor.

Eleanor Swihart went to Denver with Shirley Swihart on Thursday and Friday.

Last Thursday Karlyne Atchison visited Ruth Winkelman in the Rawlins County Health Center in Atwood.

The Ladies Birthday luncheon was held on Wednesday at Two Lee's Cafe. Fourteen ladies enjoyed the lunch and the social time.

Friday was Clean-up Day at the Federated Church. Twenty-five members, men and women, showed up to clean both the inside of the church and the yard.

Last Wednesday A.B. and Judy Fisher took DeAdre and Madeline Osborne to Hays where they met Elroy and Maxine Osborne and they had supper together. The girls returned home with the Osbornes. A.B. and Judy Fisher were visitors of Eilleen Ruda and Tish Anderson in Hays.

Kelsey Miller spent a few days last week with grandparents, Gail and Kay Miller.

Laddie and Vera Kacirek accompanied R.J. and Susie Sabatka to St. John's Hall on Sunday to attend a Catholic Workman dinner. Later they spent the afternoon with the Sabatkas watching basketball games.

Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson were Monday visitors of Jim and Ruby Tracy and had dinner with them at the Goodland Good Samaritan Home.

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Steven Gray of Denver was a Saturday dinner and Sunday dinner guest of the George Banister family.

David Banister returned to college Sunday evening.

Lindon and Diane Montgomery returned home this week after visiting Jeff and Ginger Montgomery and family in Abilene, Texas. Brad and Misty Montgomery and family joined them at Jeff's also. Lindon and Diane went from there to Little Rock, Ark. to visit Lindon's brother, Jim Montgomery and family.

Two of Lindon's nephews joined them there. The Montgomerys then traveled to Kansas City to visit Diane's sisters, and while there also visited with Greg and Susan Moyer.

Sunday dinner guests of Lynn and Rita Officer were Randy and Melissa Regier and family, and Rathia Lea Loker. Pastor Mark Adams joined them Sunday afternoon for cake and ice cream to help Lynn celebrate his birthday.

Mike and Amy Waters, Owen and Brynn spent Tuesday through Saturday visiting with Bethel Goltl and Doug and Karen Flemming on Spring Break.

On Tuesday, Bethel Goltl and the Waters visited in Atwood with Marty Goltl, Jack and Sophie. They met at the bowling alley where the children enjoyed bowling and afterwards toured the museum, then continued their visit at Sara Benda's home.

Don Bruder, Alvera Nietzel, and Carl and Sandra Antholz were Sunday dinner and afternoon guests of Bethel Goltl.

Club Clips

The Red Hat Mamas

The Red Hat Mamas of Bird City/McDonald chose St. Patrick's Day to visit Atwood. The theme was set in place when our queen, Phyllis, adorned each of us with a shamrock. Lunch was at the Atwood Bowl. Phyllis delighted us with three chuckles plus an advice reading for our age set. She also provided our after meal treat of sunflower cookies.

Chalked chicken tracks and the aura of the chicken dance invited us into the home of Agnes Reeh where we witnessed her fabulous chicken collection. We all came to attention when the waffle iron started chirping, signaling it was hot enough to cook a chicken shaped waffle. Included in the assemblage were salt cellers, a 47 pound rooster wine bottle and many pieces of dinner ware. As we watched the lighted chickens and eggs on the Christmas tree, Christmas carols were sung by chickens. Agnes displayed stuffed chickens, most playing the chicken dance and recounted the history

of each. Thanks, Agnes, for the memorable day.

Red hatters attending were: Ana Antholz, Frieda Black, Linda Carroll, Vernetta Haack, Bev Higgins, Diane Kribs, Betty Lewis, Iris McIntosh, Carol Mears, Lois Morelock, Connie Rooney, Edna Roesener, Margaret Voorhies, LaVina Waters and Phyllis Wingfield. The April 21 gathering will be a trip to Goodland.

Go-Getter's 4-H Club

The Go-Getter's 4-H Club held their meeting on March 1. They decided to help with the Cinco de Mayo in Bird City. They have to set up for the 4-H Day in St. Francis on March 27.

They had a safety paper on proper hand signals.

The small animal weigh-in is April 27.

Linda Schneider wants to do a canning demonstration.

Rachel and Elizabeth Keltz led the members in a game of charades.

The Schneider family provided refreshments.

Submitted by Trevor Sturgeon

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Mites a concern for local wheat crop

By Jeanne Falk

K-State Multi-County Agronomist

There has been a lot of buzz in the past week about mites in wheat. They are the brown wheat mite.

This mite is a common pest throughout western Kansas during dry years. The brown wheat mite is usually only a problem in continuous wheat or where volunteer was allowed to grow on summer fallow ground.

This year, it has been found in fields in a wheat-summer fallow-wheat rotation and irrigated continuous wheat (especially wheat that hasn't been irrigated since planting).

The damage is usually first noticed by the wheat having a scorched, withered appearance with the tips of the leaf being dried out. Upon closer inspection, leaves have a stippled appearance – a faint pattern of white pin-pricks. Tips of leaves are dried out because frequently mites concentrate their feeding to leaf tips.

If plants are carefully

approached, wheat will look like it was sprinkled with black pepper. Plants must be approached carefully because mites drop to the soil surface when disturbed. The 'pepper pieces' are actually the brown wheat mite.

If examined under a magnifying glass, mites have dark-colored bodies and light-colored legs. Mites feed during the day, with the highest populations during the mid-afternoon. At night, brown wheat mites crawl into the soil.

Rarely do brown wheat mite populations kill wheat. However, concern is greater when the wheat is already stressed or poorly tillered.

Actual populations are difficult to determine because mites drop off plants when disturbed. In addition, the economic threshold is not well defined, but it is estimated to be at least several hundred mites per foot of row in early spring.

The best treatment for brown wheat mites is a good rain. The mites are knocked into the soil and rain causes the soil surface

to seal over to suppress the mite population.

Control by rain is more of a challenge in fields with high residue because it is harder to seal the soil surface. Cold temperatures do little to control the population because they seek refuge in the warm soil.

There are products that provide some control. They include Lorsban, Cobalt, dimethoate, and methyl parathion. Treatment response often depends on subsequent rainfall and ability of the wheat to out grow mite populations.



Business Directory

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GIVING A HELPING hand. During the Red Cross Blood Drive, held at the American Legion Hall, (l to r) Vivian Seymour, Val Coleman and Doris Amsberry made sure folks got plenty of fluids and a bite to eat after giving blood.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

See you at the

KFNF

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