

Obituaries

Waunita Rosella Fritchel

July 10, 1920 - Oct. 26, 2009

Waunita Rosella Fritchel, 89, of Loveland, Colo., died on Oct. 26, 2009.



Fritchel

She was born on July 10, 1920, to Edward and Eva Miller Fritchel, in St. Francis, Kan. She was the middle child of seven.

She grew up on farms in Kansas, working with her family and friends to keep them going. She completed the eighth grade in a one-room schoolhouse in St. Francis. She worked at a little store for the Fishers in Bird City for years before moving to Loveland with her family in 1947.

In Loveland, she joined the Trinity United Methodist Church and was a faithful member. She moved to Denver for a job as a cook and nanny for the prominent Kugler family until 1959; then came home to help with her ailing father.

She lived with her mother for 26 years. During that time, she had several jobs working at the Blue Spruce Egg Ranch, cleaning at the Dream Land Motel and cleaning houses.

She moved to Big Thompson

Manor after her mother died in 1986. With her health failing in 2006, she chose to move to Sierra Vista Nursing Home where she spent her remaining years.

She loved to garden and had a "green" thumb; she could bring back a dead plant with a "touch and a little talking to." She also enjoyed crocheting, embroidering on just about anything and could also "take-and-do the watchies."

She is survived by nieces and nephews, Ava Dee Becker (Don), Glen Schaeffer (Patti), Meriam Degenstein (Tim), Loveland; Roy Schaeffer (Christy), Buena Vista, Colo.; Vicky Hansen (Ron) and Jan Jones, Denver; Virgie Macedo (Albert), Ohio; Larry Fritchel and Wilma Baker (David), Texas; and sister-in-law, Jo Rae Fritchel, Loveland, as well as 18 great- and 26 great-great nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents, brothers, Wilmer, Delbert and Virgil; sisters Irene Focht (Pete), Jeanette Sullivan and Deloris Schaeffer (Wesley); great-nephew, Joshua Schaeffer and great-great-niece, Kaylynn Tremelling.

At her request, there was no service. Cremation has been conducted. Condolences may be sent to Ava Becker, 1308 Butte Rd, Loveland, CO 80537.

Maude Hesselius Larson

Sept. 11, 1911 - Sept. 24, 2009

Maude Hesselius Larson of Boulder, Colo., died on Sept. 24, 2009.

Maude was born to Morley and Frances Mace on Sept. 11, 1911, in St. Francis, Kan.

She married Sven Gosta (Gus) Hesselius on June 23, 1932, in St. Francis. Gus died on April 29, 1951. She married Raymond Olaf Larson on Aug. 19, 1972, in Boulder. Ray died on Nov. 22, 1980.

Maude worked for 25 years as a receptionist at the Boulder Medical Center, retiring in 1976. After retirement, she volunteered and worked for the Boulder West Senior Center until she was 90 years of age.

Maude was a Past Matron of the Eastern Star and a member of First United Methodist Church.

She enjoyed traveling, gardening, knitting, needlework, photography and her family.

Maude was a loving person to her family and to everyone she met. She always had a smile on her face and had a great zest for life.

Survivors include her children: Janice Leibbrandt (Reuben) of The Dalles, Ore., and Sharon Pierson (Ray) of Boulder; step-children,

Joy Jeanette Conway

Feb. 14, 1933 - Oct. 25, 2009

Joy Jeanette "Jan" Conway died Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009, at the Decatur County Hospital in Oberlin, Kan. She was 76 years old.

Jan was born Feb. 14, 1933, to Roy and Mable (Stull) Randall of Wheeler. The youngest of three children, Jan graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1950.

She considered having several of her poems published as one of her greatest accomplishments, as writing poetry was one of her passions.

Soon after graduation, on June 17, 1950, she was married to Duane Harlan "Chuck" Conway of Wray, Colo. The newlywed couple lived on and operated the Conway family farm, where they had their first child, Torre Linn.

During the drought of the early 1950s, they moved to the Denver area for several years. There they had a son, Scott Alan. They returned to the farm from 1957 until 1966, when they sold their farm and moved into town.

While living in Wray, they were successful in their Amway business. They also owned a chain of beauty salons in the Denver area. Chuck and Jan thoroughly enjoyed spending all of their free time at Bonny Reservoir on their boat.

In the early 1980s they moved to Greeley, Colo., so they could be

close to Chuck's doctors although they continued to maintain their home in Wray until Chuck's health would no longer permit them to travel back and forth. They lived in Greeley until Chuck's death on May 18, 2002.

In 2002, Jan moved to Norton, where she lived with Torre until 2004. She made several good friends while living there and enjoyed the Senior Center very much.

Then she moved to the Good Samaritan Home in Oberlin, where she shared her room with her beloved dog, Casey. In 2009 her first great-grandchild was born and the family was fortunate to get a four-generation picture with Jan. She remained in Oberlin until her death.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Mable, her husband, Chuck, her brother, Gordon "Smoke" Randall, and her sister, Eileen Jennings.

Jan is survived by her daughter, Torre and Mark Whitney of St. Francis and Norton, her son, Scott Conway of Denver, three grandchildren and one great-grandson: Teresa and Galen Slough of Manhattan; Chad and Tanya Douthitt and their son Oliver of Basehor; and Megan and Chuck Downey of St. Francis.

Memorials may be given to the Good Samaritan Home in Oberlin.

Weather causes problems for many

By Peggy Horinek

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Weather and the large amounts of rain St. Francis has been receiving have been causing problems to a lot of people.

Sondra Bracelin was at the St. Francis City Council meeting Monday night asking for solutions or ideas for the water problems they are encountering behind the businesses between Quincy and Scott streets on the south side of West Washington. She said that it was going to cost at least \$5,000 to repair the back of her building due to water damage.

Kody Krien and Dorothy and Randy Smestad, who have businesses on that block, were at the meeting and were trying to come up with a solution. Mrs. Smestad said water from the rear ran across the sidewalk in front of her store and when it froze, it was a very icy, slick area. Several ideas and suggestions

were discussed, nothing definite was decided.

Cheyenne County Economic Development

Chuck and Diane Kribs with the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, was at the meeting. Mr. Kribs said that the state of finance in Kansas was pretty broke and next year looked even gloomier. School cuts were really going to hurt at perhaps \$400 per student. There is also going to be cuts to the county.

When a grant is applied for and received, Mr. Kribs suggested that the work be given only to Kansas contractors, etc. This not only helps the jobs situation but also money spent helps our sales tax revenue. To help a recovery mode in the city and county, it takes community involvement besides county commissioners and city council.

A questionnaire with 10 questions was given to local businesses

and they said their biggest problem was lack of employees. There are 46 homes empty in Bird City and these need to be filled. They weren't sure just how many were empty in St. Francis, but it's too many. Mr. Kribs urges everyone to think and suggest things they can do and to stop in their office with suggestions.

Band shell

They are still waiting for an estimate to repair the band shell, said Dorothy Smestad. The deadline to apply for a grant is the first of February. She said that it will be an 80/20 grant with the city's share being 20 percent of the grant or a maximum of \$22,500. The grant would be for \$90,000 to make the full project \$112,500. The city's share of the money would need to be in hand when the grant is approved. It was voted by the council to go ahead and have Greg Kite write up the grant.

In other business

The Parks and Recreation Committee that the overlays for the signs are ready and could be picked up in Goodland. Roger Jensen, councilman, volunteered to pick them up.

Mr. Landenberger sent out final bills for yard cleanups. He said that the city sweeper would be out later Monday night to try to clean up some of the many leaves left from the rain and snow storms. He had ordered more cold mix to fix the potholes but they were out, so he is looking elsewhere. The Christmas lights are going up. The power outage which happened at 2 a.m. was caused by the loss of one feeder. The other blackout around 10 a.m. on Thursday was caused through Sunflower Electric in Atwood.

An executive session was asked for by Shane Guggenmoss, Chief of Police, regarding personnel.

Students win prizes in coloring contest

About 30 kids turned in their colored pumpkin pictures at Sainty Super's just before the judging on Wednesday. There were three age groups and three winners.

In the zero to kindergarten division, Hadleigh Hilt was the winner. Dakota Morris took first in the first through third grade division; and McKinnley Bartels was first in the fourth through sixth grade division. Each of the winners received a pumpkin surprise basket.

"I think the contest really turned out well," said Shawna Jones, produce manager. The kids were excited to have their artwork on display."

Since the jack-o-lantern contest generated so much excitement, the employees are planning contests for both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

When you come into Supers to



McKINNLEY BARTELS' pumpkin is one of the winners in the coloring contest.

shop, Ms. Jones said, ask about picking up the next contest picture for your child to color.

Designer receives award of excellence

Brooke Lucas (KC Southland Graphics) has been notified of her winning entries in GD USA, a design magazine's annual publication contest.

She was one of a select group who received an award of excellence. Her design will be published in the magazine and online at the end of the year.

Brooke is the daughter of Rick and Dawn Lucas of St. Francis. She currently works at Olsson Associates, Overland Park, as a graphic designer.



Lucas

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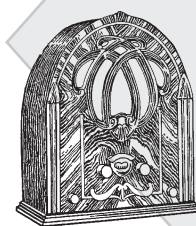
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