

Obituaries

Stanley Allan Willt

April 12, 1943 - March 5, 2009

Stanley Allan Willt, 65, of Idaho Falls, Idaho, died of natural causes at his home on March 5, 2009.

He was born April 12, 1943, in St. Francis, Kan., to Jacob Willt and Bertha Esther Crew. He attended elementary school in St. Francis and then moved with his family to Shelley, Idaho. In 1961 he graduated from Shelley High School.

He served in the Marine Corp. from 1961 to 1965. He was stationed in Vietnam, Okinawa, Japan, and various bases in California. Cpl. Stanley A. Willt led the Bravo Two squad consisting of 22 men. The squads were sent into Vietnam on an "as-needed" basis to recover allied bodies and extinguish hot situations American forces became involved in.

Their activities were classified and were not to be revealed or discussed with anyone outside the platoon. Cpl. Willt was presented four Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star (endangering his life to save

another), four Silver Stars (heroic action) and one Silver Star with Cluster (repeated heroic action).

In June of 1963 he married Barbara Ann Hill in Manhattan.

He worked as a computer operator for United Utilities (Sprint). He then worked as a computer operator at Fleming Companies in Topeka for 15 years until his retirement.

He became a professional dog handler and showed dogs in the midwest for 10 years. He coached his son's soccer and basketball teams and was active in the Young Mens Christian Association (YMCA) Indian Guilds. He enjoyed camping, gardening, and yard work.

Stanley is survived by his wife, Barbara Willt of Idaho Falls; son, Bradley Willt of Idaho Falls; and sister, Betty Uplinger of Shelley.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Ronald.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 10, at Nalder Funeral Home in Shelley. Burial was at the Shelley Hillcrest Cemetery with military rites by David B. Bleak Post 93.

Condolences can be sent to the family at www.nalderfuneralhome.com.

Robert Anthony Runyan

Sept. 14, 1943 - March 5, 2009

Robert Anthony Runyan was born on Sept. 14, 1943, in San Diego, Calif., to Albert and Dorothy Runyan.

Robert attended school in San Diego, Calif., and entered into the United States Army in 1963. Robert served as a computer expert with the rank of Specialist Six. His tour in the Army led him to serve in Korea, Vietnam and Germany.

In 1984, Robert retired from the Army in Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, N.C. He continued to work with computers and as a civilian, was a computer expert as a logistical specialist with the Federal Civil Service.

Robert had many friends from every walk of life. He was very generous and liked all sports, especially golf.

Robert was married with two

children; Carol Jones and Anthony Runyan. Robert lived in Bird City from July 1998, to September 1999, with his cousin, Roy Troutt.

Robert died on March 5, 2009, in Lacey, Wash.

Leaving to mourn him are his children, Carol and Anthony; grandson, Patrick Kunick and granddaughter, Hannah Jones; his aunt, Arlene Mazon, cousins, Roy Troutt and Leo Mazon.

Funeral services were held on March 14 at St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, with Pastor David Rossbach officiating.

Casket bearers were Larry Henry, Dean Smith, Norman Dorsch, Lee Amsberry, John DaProne and Charles Coleman.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery. There was a military graveside service by a Fort Riley Honor Guard.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Paulette Gotfrey

March 14, 2009 - May 24, 1947

Paulette Gotfrey died on March 14, 2009. She was born on May 24, 1947.

She is survived by one brother, Larry Grubb of Kiowa, Colo., her mother, Elizabeth J. Best in Sanford, Fla., and husband, Kenneth Gotfrey of St. Francis.

She was preceded in death by

her son and a brother.

She loved her Red Hat Club, Ramblers Club and going to the coffee shop to see her many friends.

She was very close to her husband's sister, Joann Krugovich of Canon City, Colo.

She was a homemaker who loved painting, crafts, collecting antiques and the Solid Baptist Church of St. Francis where Pastor Allen officiated.

She was cremated. There were no services at her request. Knodel's Funeral Home was in charge.

Cancer Fact

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Although it is the third most common cause of cancer death in both men and women in American, it is preventable, treatable and beatable.

So what can you do to prevent colon cancer?

If a person is 50 or older, the

answer is simple: Get screened!

People may need to get tested earlier than age 50 if they have a family history of colon cancer — so these people are urged to talk to their doctor about getting tested.

For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345.



Mikaela Grace, Kaycee Williams and Dale Northrup, 4-H Junior Leaders, brought cookies to the Herald as a thank you. Betty Winston accepted them. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Sheriff's department to get new car

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansan.com

A great deal of discussion was held when the sheriff told the county commissioners, at their Friday meeting, about the need for a new vehicle. The end result was the commissioners agreed to purchase the vehicle from the federal government General Service Administration program.

Sheriff Craig Van Allen had prices for three Ford Expeditions: Yost Ford-Mercury, St. Francis, \$28,366; Brenner Ford, Goodland, \$25,687; and from a federal government program, \$23,872. The federal government program buys vehicles in bulk and can offer vehicles at a lesser price to law departments involved in drug control.

After the vehicle is shipped directly to the county at a cost of \$150, it will need to be "prepped" by a dealer. Sheriff Van Allen had bids from Yost, \$1,500 and from Brenner, \$550.

It will be between 90 and 120 days before the new vehicle arrives. The sheriff said it would cost approximately \$1,500 for lights and controls; decals will cost around \$400. The cage used for protection of the officer driving, located between the front and back seat, will be one that can be removed.

The commissioners agreed that they always try to shop locally but, when the difference is around \$4,500, it's hard to justify spending taxpayers' money that way. They went with the government program vehicle and the prepping by Brenner Ford.

Digital service contract

Appraiser, Bruce Webb, along with bringing in his monthly budget report, encouraged the

commissioners to sign the R and S Digital Services mapping contract. The mapping will cover the county but not the cities. Allied, the company which the county dealt with in the 911 installation, has been updating information in the appraiser's office. The technology is available and there is enough money in the appraiser's budget so the commissioners agreed to sign the contract which will cost no more than \$22,000.

Since the mapping will be available to other departments, the commissioners said these departments could also help with the expense. When it comes time to map the cities, the commissioners will be talking to city councils to see what they can give toward the mapping.

Mr. Webb said that, at this time, he felt the printer for the maps could wait until there is more money available.

Emergency medical service department

The commissioners approved Mike Hanson, technician, as a county representative at the Region I emergency medical service meetings. He replaces Cynthia Poling who is no longer an officer.

Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, talked about the shortage of emergency medical technicians in the Bird City area. She noted that, now that the farming season has begun, there will often not be technicians available in Bird City and St. Francis will need to come. I know, she said, it will be a little longer wait but, until we have more technicians in that area, it may just have to be that way.

She said she has had to order two portable suction units for the

ambulances at a cost of \$500 each. Also, the ambulances will go into Yost Ford-Mercury for inspection. The cost will be \$260 for all of the ambulances.

The commissioners approved \$3,766 in insurance adjustments for the ambulance service.

Mrs. Bowers asked for 10 minutes executive session to discuss financial matters of a third party.

Road and bridge report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, said he needs to purchase a fuel gauge to keep up with regulations. The gauge will cost over \$500.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, said he had a complaint about the Lawn Ridge road needing grading. Mr. Flemming said he would look into it.

In other business:

• Gary Rogers, emergency manager, needed commissioners' signatures for a proclamation. He said the county hospital will be doing an exercise in the near future. He, Jen Padgett and Scott Houtman will be attending a Graphic Information Systems training in Hoxie.

• Carol Rogers, president of High Plains Mental Health, and Ilene O'Leary, county representative, thank the commissioners for appointing them to the board. It was noted that one out of 10 will have a mental health situation. Mrs. Rogers pointed out that there are lots of new medicines out to help with mental health. Mr. Miller noted that Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. O'Leary are always in attendance at the meetings held in Hays.

• Mr. Patton had attended a meeting on wind farms. He said the farms have been put on hold until officials know more about

President Obama's stimulus funds plans. He said wind farms will come — it is just a matter of when.

• Joe Hoffman, St. Francis, was approved by the commissioners as a new member of the fair board.

• Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, said he had been asked about the Sunflower Extension District which Cheyenne County is a member. Terry Miller, clerk, told him that the District is funded by a mill levy which the extension district sets. Sunflower District, Mr. Miller said, tells us how much the county owes. The question was asked if the county is paying a fair share? There was no answer to the question.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting has been set for 8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse. The bids for the sale of the old emergency medical service building located on U.S. 36 will be opened.

—Odd Facts—

• The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle, G.P.

• The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.

• The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports games (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL), are the day before and the day after the Major League All-Star Game.

• Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.

• The mask used by Michael Myers in the original "Halloween" was actually a Captain Kirk mask painted white.

• If you put a raisin in a glass of champagne, it will keep floating to the top and sinking to the bottom.

• Snails can sleep for 3 years without eating.

Farm extrication program

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansan.com

A farm extrication program is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, at the Cheyenne County Fairgrounds.

Candi Douthit, coordinator, said the goal is provide first aid training for family members, co-workers and first response teams including emergency medical technicians, fire fighters, law enforcement officials and others who may be the first individuals

to respond to a call involving an accidental farm injury.

Areas covered will be: power takeoff disentanglement, extrication from large machinery, equipment rollovers, immediate first aid tricks, safely providing care and assistance, and auger incident recovery.

Re-certification hours are available for emergency medical technicians.

The program is free and lunch will be provided. Those planning



to attend need to contact Mrs. Douthit by April 1 by calling 332-2104.

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- Gourmet Cheese, new in the dairy case.
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