

George Penton

Feb. 20, 1929 - April 30, 2002

George W. Penton was the fifth of nine children born to Jim and Faye Penton on Feb. 20, 1929, near Wray, Colo. He died on April 30, 2002, in Commerce City, Colo.

He served in the United States Army during the Korean conflict attaining the rank of private first class.

George worked as a janitor for Mountain Bell telephone company and was active in Boy Scouts. He loved western books, horses and life in general.

On Feb. 20, 1951, he married Esther Bates, and to this union two children were born, Donald Eugene and Kathy Lynea.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ethel; his mother and father, Jim and Faye Penton; also his brother Warren; sister, Emma; and baby sister in 1937.

He leaves to mourn his passing, son Donald and wife, Diana of Thornton, Colo.; daughter Kathy and husband, Michael Grover, Commerce City; six grandchildren, Donald A. and wife, Amy Penton of Fort Lupton, Colo., Dusty Penton, Federal Heights, Colo., Sierra L. Penton, Thornton; Geordan L., Michael A., and Keyra A. Grover, all of Commerce City; and two great-grandchildren, Anthony Marcus and Brandon Andrew Penton of Fort Lupton. He also leaves three brothers, two sisters, and a sister-in-law: Bill Penton of Eckley, Colo., David and Sharon Penton of St. Francis, Loren and Polly Penton of Elko, Neb.; Geraldine and Don Howard of Wray, Dolly Monk of Yuma, Colo.; sister-in-law Twila Smith of Holyoke, Colo.; numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

The service was handled by Aspen Mortuary of Commerce City. Interment was at Fort Logan Cemetery on May 7.

Francis M. Sanders Sr.

March 13, 1916 - June 2, 2002

Francis M. Sanders, 86, died June 2, 2002, at Valley View Professional Care Center in Junction City, Kan. He was born March 13, 1916, to Francis M. and Mary F. (Washburn)

Service News

Petty Officer Brent Like recently received "Silver Dolphins." Silver Dolphins are more formally known as the Enlisted Submarine Service Breast Insignia, and are awarded to those personnel who have successfully completed the rigorous professional requirements for qualification in submarines. Earning one's Dolphins is one of the most significant achievements in a submariner's career. Prior to achieving this coveted honor, Petty officer Like was required to gain a thorough knowledge of submarines construction and operation and demonstrate his reliability under stress.



Like

Petty Officer Like is stationed by Kingsbay Naval Base in Kingsbay, Ga. He is a 1999 graduate of St. Francis Community High School. His parents are Charlotte Hankins of Goodland and Paul Like of Yuma, Colo. His grandparents are Max and Irene Muller of Wray and Cliff and Rulen Like of Idalia, Colo.

Sanders at Milford.

Francis graduated from Milford High School in 1935. He married K. Ruth Simpson on Dec. 25, 1940, at Topeka. She preceded him in death March 1989.

Serving in the United States Army from February 1941 to August 1945, he landed with the 35th Infantry Division (RCN) on Omaha Beach, Normandy in July 1944. After his time in the army, Francis worked civil service on Fort Riley as a small armorer inspector for 37 years.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Junction City Knife and Fork Club, 35th Division Association, American Legion (52 years), life member of the Geary County Historical Society and past president of the Geary County Senior Citizens Association.

Survivors include one son, Francis M. Sanders Jr. of Junction City; two daughters, Janice M. Cyphers of Junction City and Margyre S. Antholz of St. Francis and two grandchildren, Bridgette Antholz of St. Francis and Darren L. Cyphers of Topeka.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Ira Sanders and Willis E. Sanders and one sister, Eunice Taylor.

The funeral service was June 6 at Mass-Hinitt Funeral Chapel in Junction City with Reverend Dr. Bert Buurman officiating. Casket bearers were Fort Riley Honor Guards. Interment at Milford Cemetery in Milford with full military honors.

Memorials may be to Geary County Historical Society, Junction City and/or Geary County Senior Citizen Center, Junction City and/or donor's choice.

Velma G. Goodell

July 28, 1919 - June 1, 2002

Velma G. (Eckenberg) Goodell, daughter of Walter and Delcie Eckenberg, was born in Benkelman, Neb., July 28, 1919. She died June 1, 2002, in McCook, Neb. She attended a rural grade school and graduated from St. Francis High School in 1938. Velma was resident of Cheyenne County, Kan., all her life except for the brief time she spent in Denver, Colo., while attending floral school.



Goodell

Velma was united in marriage to Leslie Goodell in November of 1938. To this union, three children were born, Elaine, Thelma and Harold. While her children were growing and attending the St. Francis schools, she was active with Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Y-Teens, Future Homemakers of America (FHA) and Parent Teachers Association (PTA). She also attended all sporting events that her son participated in and continued through out her life to be an avid sports fan.

Leslie and Velma owned and operated the Goodell Greenhouse for 16 years. Previous to this Velma ran the Floral Shop on Main Street, making a total of 29 years in the floral business. Before becoming involved in the floral business, she served one term as Cheyenne County Treasurer.

Velma was an active member of the First Methodist Church until 1980 at which time she became a member of the First Baptist Church. She served as church hostess for sev-

eral years, was a WMU member and officer and also served on the recent building committee. She seldom missed Wednesday evening prayer meeting. She enjoyed working with the small children of Awana.

Shortly after Velma's husband died she sold the greenhouse and floral shop and entered the retirement phase of her life which she enjoyed to the fullest. She was very active at the Senior Citizen Center as activity director, which meant planning activities within the center and planning and driving the senior bus to out-of-town activities. From the first of her retirement until her death, she enjoyed the senior center because of all the joy it brought to her.

She was an active member of Rebekah Lodge 675, Eastern Star 404, Past Noble Grand Club, WMU of Baptist Church, South Fork Circle, Craft Club, Harmony Club, Business and Professional Womens' Club, Bird City Garden Club, AARP, Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant 20 of Colby and South Fork Extension Unit. Along with her many clubs, she enjoyed playing pinochle and dominoes. She served on the State Board of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas for several years.

Velma loved each of her grandchildren and was especially proud of the fact that all eight graduated from college. Her great-grandchildren brought her great joy and love.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents and sister, Betty Jean, who died in infancy.

She is survived by daughter, Elaine and husband, Robert of St. Francis; daughter, Thelma and husband, Bobby of Oklahoma City, Okla.; and son, Harold and wife, Sandy of Concord, Calif.; eight grandchildren, Patrick Owens, Sue May and Ed Owens; Bryan and Tim Cooper; Charmain Vigfusson and Marc and Michael Goodell; 12 great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. She will be sadly missed as she was a friend of everyone in her community and beloved by her family.

The funeral service was held June 5 at the First Baptist Church with Pastor J.W. Glidewell officiating. The eulogy was given by Bruce Swihart.

Honorary pallbearers were Tim Lambert, Mike Marino, Paul Rainbolt, Keith Schorzman, Ray Lee, Mickey Graves, Jim Walters, Norvin Northrup.

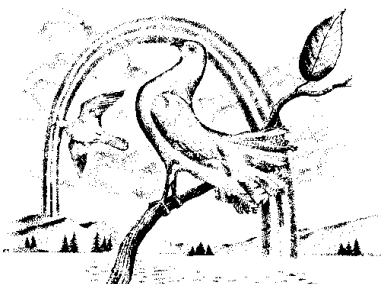
Casket bearers were Bryan Cooper, Tim Cooper, Pat Owens, Ed Owens, Brett May, Craig Goodell, Michael Goodell and Marc Goodell.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery with Rebekah and Eastern Star services.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home.

Obit policy

The St. Francis Herald and The Bird City Times have always been able to put details in obituaries that meet the papers style however the editor has the right to edit obituaries to meet style policies.



BARBARA BARNHARDT was the guest of honor at a party held for her for the fifteen years of service. Mary Ruth Burkett and Brandi Bunjes are helping her celebrate.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Dollars available to help protect Kansas's wildlife habitat

May 13 marked the signing of the 2002 Farm Bill resulting in an 80 percent increase in funding authorization over the next six years for conservation programs and initiatives. The new resources will be a tremendous help to producers who are trying to conserve and protect natural resources on the nation's 1.3 billion acres of private working lands. One of the conservation programs that is expected to receive a boost in current year funding is the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) and applications for enrollment into this program are actively being accepted in your local conservation district office and United States Department of Agriculture service center until June 14.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program is a voluntary program that encourages the creation of high quality habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal and local significance.

"The program is designed to encourage landowners to develop and protect upland wildlife, wetland wildlife, threatened and endangered species, fish and other types of wildlife habitat," says Rod Egbarts, Soil Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service

(NRCS), Salina, who handles Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program in Kansas.

"Kansas landowners who are actively involved or who are interested in wildlife habitat protection have until June 14 to take advantage of FY-2002 funding cost-share assistance through the program to help support their efforts," he said.

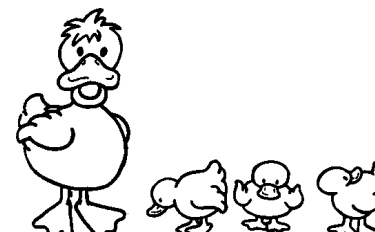
Nationally, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program is authorized for a total increase of some \$360 million through 2007. States receive their allocation based on the applications received. Projects must have wildlife habitat improvement as the primary intent for use of funds, and fully described habitat management practices in a conservation plan which will developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program financial assistance is available to landowners through 5-10 year contracts with the department of agriculture. Natural Resources Conservation Service will cost share up to 75 percent of the total cost of practices that help enhance and develop wildlife habitats.

"Congress has authorized funds to support wildlife habitat, and we encourage landowners to take advan-

tage of it. But, in order to benefit," Conservationist Egbarts said, "they must submit an application by June 14th."

For additional information regarding the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program signup, please contact your local conservation district or your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office located in the Cheyenne County service center on West Highway 36 in St. Francis. Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program information can be downloaded from the following Web site: HYPERLINK <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002/products.html> <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002/products.html>. This site includes program description, fact sheets, Q&As, and key points for Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program as well as other 2002 Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm Bill Programs.



Customer Appreciation Barbecue!

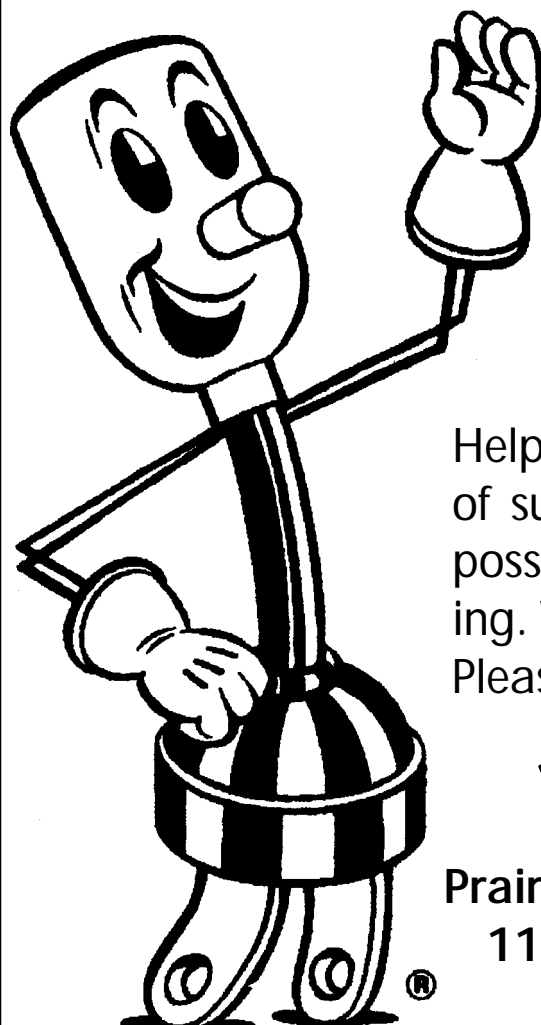
For Members of Prairie Land Electric

Thursday, June 13th
6:30 p.m. at the
4-H Building on the
Cheyenne County
Fairgrounds
In St. Francis, KS

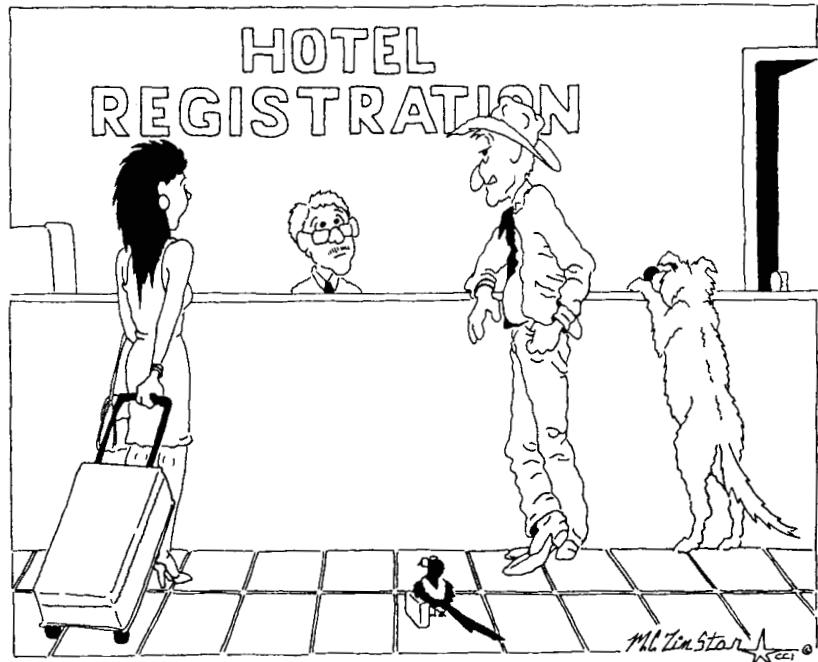
Help us celebrate another great year of success. Please RSVP as soon as possible to let us know you are coming. We don't want to run out of food! Please call us at:

1-800-577-3323

Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.
1101 West Hwy 36, PO Box 360
Norton, Kansas 67654



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