

David W. Thornburg

June 30, 1925 - Feb. 28, 2005

David W. Thornburg, of Williamsburg, Va., husband of Manette Rueb, formerly of St. Francis, died Monday, Feb. 28, 2005, at Riverside Hospital, Newport News, Va. He was born on June 30, 1925, in Charlestown, W.V., the son of Robert Seibert Thornburg and Clara N. (Hill).

He was a 1943 graduate of Martinsburg High School, Martinsburg, W.V. He entered the U.S. Navy immediately upon graduation, attending Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., in the Navy V-12 Program, followed by Midshipman School at Fort Schuyler, N.Y., before being commissioned an ensign in the Naval Reserve in 1945. After finishing active duty in the Pacific, the final year as commanding officer of the minesweeper USS PGM 22, he earned a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Colorado (Boulder) School of Engineering. He retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve as a lieutenant in 1965.

He was a chemical engineer at Phillips Petroleum Company, primarily in Bartlesville, Okla., and retired in 1985 after 34 years. A lifelong Boy Scout, he served as Webelos pack leader and troop leader in Texas and Oklahoma, for almost 20 years as scoutmaster of Troop 20 in Bartlesville. He was a vigil member of Washita Lodge, Order of the Arrow, and received the Osage Hills District Award of Merit and the Cherokee Area Council Silver Bear Award. For 10 years, he was district commissioner of the First Colony District of the Colonial Virginia Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

He was also active in the Jaycees and the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce. Active in the Lions Club since 1970, he was president of the Bartlesville Lions Club in 1979-80 and a member of the board of directors for several years thereafter. He received three International President's Certificates of Appreciation and was named Melvin Jones Fellow (Bartlesville) on June 1, 1990.

He was an active member of the Williamsburg-Yorktown Council of the Navy League of the United States.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Manette, also of Williamsburg, and three sons: D. Michael of San Jose, Calif.; Douglas R. of St. Louis, Mo., and Greg W. of Osprey, Fla. He is also survived by a brother, R. Franklin of Summerfield, Fla., and a sister, Ida Lee Flick of Youngstown, Ohio.

A memorial service was held on March 5 and services were also held at Rosedale Cemetery, Martinsburg on March 6, followed by a private burial.

Lod Emil Polivka

Feb. 21, 1921 - Aug. 15, 2005

Lod Emil Polivka was born Feb. 21, 1921, at Brainard, Neb., to John and Frances (Kubicek) Polivka. He died on Aug. 15, 2005, at Hays Medical Center, Hays, Kan., at the age of 84 years, five months and 24 days.

His grade school years were spent at Brainard.

He was united in marriage to Marie Agnes Spicka, Feb. 27, 1944, in Lincoln, Neb. To this union five children were born: Donald Leroy, Billy Dean, Bonnie K., and two who died in infancy, Bobby in 1947 and Gail in 1950.

Lod owned a tavern in Rule, Neb., where he resided for 10 years, before moving to Lakewood, Colo., where he lived for 40 years. During this time, along with raising his family, he owned a service station and a catering business. He and his wife moved to McDonald in September of 1996.

Lod was a faithful member of the St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Lakewood and also attended Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood. He was a former member of St. John Catholic Church in Weston and Rula, Neb.

He was an excellent mechanic, he loved raising small animals, such as birds and rabbits, and enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Preceding him in death were numerous siblings and his loving wife, Marie Agnes (Spicka) Polivka on March 12, 1997.

Surviving members include: two sons, Donald Leroy and wife, Rhonda, of San Diego, Calif., and Billy Dean and wife, Carolyn, of Lakewood; a daughter, Bonnie K. Wyly and husband, Bill, of McDonald; five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

A funeral liturgy service was conducted on Aug. 19 at Williams Funeral Home Chapel with Father Damian Richards as officiant. A.J. Horinek was the lector.

Graveside services and interment followed at St. John Cemetery in rural Atwood.

Casket bearers included Don Polivka, Billy Dean Polivka, Robert Ream, A.J. Horinek, Ron Williams, and Bill Wyly. The family has suggested memorials be addressed in his name to the McDonald Senior Center.

Williams Funeral Home in Atwood was in charge of the arrangements.



PHIL CRAWFORD details how he sets his poetry to music when interviewed by foreign journalist.

St. Francis musician on international news

Phil Crawford, St. Francis musician, reported Tuesday that he had made international news when his picture and a short writeup on Reuters.com. He said he wondered what was going to happen when he was interviewed by Adam Tanner with Reuters after an appearance in Montana.

Mr. Crawford, sets his poetry to music and then plays them on the guitar, was at the cowboy poetry festival in Lewiston, Mont., on Aug. 21. Mr. Tanner noted that cowboy poetry festivals have grown in popularity in recent years. He wrote that cowboy poetry and song dates to the end of the 19th century when settlers pushed into the west after the Civil War.

Mr. Crawford also won a blue ribbon in the writer's section of the

35th annual National Cowboys Music Association at Ainsworth, Neb., on Aug. 12. He had performed "Montana Slim" and "Outlaws On The Run."

He has been writing music for around 15 years, saying that he "writes on inspiration and cannot write on assignment."

"I always have things (poetry/songs) on the back burner," he said.

In October, he will be performing at Old West Days in Valentine, Neb. That is the last such performance he will make this year. He noted that he had made nine engagements in seven weeks.

Throughout the year, Mr. Crawford volunteers his time and music to residents of nursing homes in St. Francis, Benkelman and Wray.

Club Clips

Pleasant Hill 4-H Club

The Pleasant Hill 4-H Club held the June 5 meeting at the Wray Community Pool in Wray, Colo. The meeting was very short and bills were paid. The 4-H'ers enjoyed swimming afterward.

Pleasant Hill 4-H Club

The Pleasant Hill 4-H Club Tour was held on July 17. Each member had the opportunity to show the club their home, 4-H projects and share information.

The tour ended at the Orth farm

with a hamburger fry and swimming activities.

Pleasant Hill 4-H Club

The Pleasant Hill 4-H Club members participated in the Cheyenne County Fair as their August meeting.

All members had projects entered and they worked very hard either in the food stand, barns or cleaning the grounds.

Many projects will be eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair.

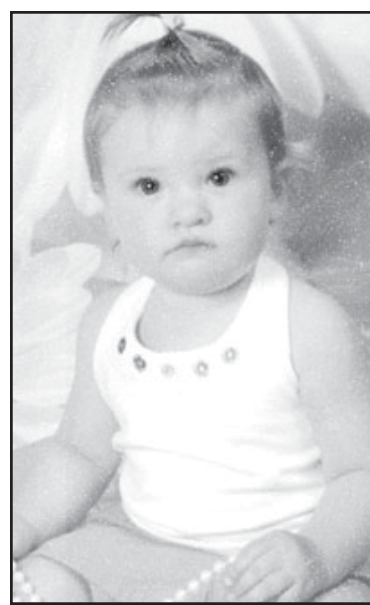
Jandy Dunn, reporter

First birthday celebrated in July

July 16, Sydney Hope Friedli celebrated her first birthday at a cook out hosted by her parents, Larry and Dallas Friedli of Hope.

Helping her celebrate were great-grandparents, Ervin and Edith Rogers, grandparents, Rick and Linda Rogers, all from St. Francis; grandparents, Harold Friedli from Hope and Doris McDiffett from Alta Vista.

Other relatives in attendance were Sandra Pershall, Yukon, Okla., Sara Craig, Cailyn and Payton from Wichita; Janet Combs, Sara Honeycutt, Rodney and Kim Friedli, and Dennis and Cory Friedli from Hope.



Friedli

Racing weekend enjoyed

By Casey McCormick

The Janicke racing team has been hit this year with their share of injuries. However, Clayton was back riding in Norton last weekend.

He ended with a sixth place finish in the Vet B, over 30 class.

Lori Janicke was along to cheer on her guys.

"I think that is pretty good considering how long he has been out with the shoulder injury," Mrs. Janicke said.

Devon had the best outing, finishing third in his class again.

"He just can't seem to catch those two guys up front, but he sure is trying," Mrs. Janicke said.

Jordan was charging much harder than usual, despite an eighth place finish. He also went down in the mud once.

Walker was sidelined with a broken arm, but the injury did not come from motorcycling.

"He fell over a fence at the races at the Sidney (Neb.) Fair three weeks ago," Mrs. Janicke said, "Hopefully, the cast will be off at the end of this week and he will be racing again soon."

A half inch of rain fell on the track Friday night, making it good for racing, although the humidity was high.

"We drank lots of water," Mrs. Janicke said.



Neitzel

Family celebrates birthday

Amanda Ranae Neitzel, daughter of Ron and Roxie Neitzel, turned one on July 31. Helping her celebrate were her brothers, Benjamin and Jeremiah and her sister, Clarice.

Grandparents are Elaine Kehlbeck and Dale and Alma Neitzel. Her great-grandmother is Irene Kehlbeck.



Church has programs

Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City will be offering special programs and worship services each Sunday in September, oriented around the United Methodist theme of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors: the People of the United Methodist Church."

Sept. 4 will be Labor of Love Sunday. At 3:30 that afternoon volunteers from the Immanuel United Methodist Church and the community will engage in a "labor of love" that will benefit a family or two in Bird City. At about 5:30 a fellowship/housewarming potluck supper will be held.

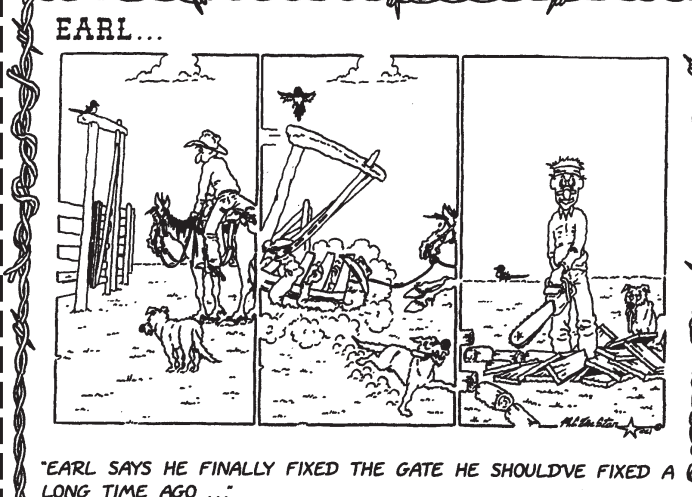
Sept. 11 will be Education Sunday. The Sunday school students will be recognized and promoted and the Sunday school teachers will

also be honored.

Sept. 18 the 10:55 a.m. worship service will feature The Bridge, the premiere Christian rock band in northwest Kansas (featuring Pastor Glenn Krebs of the Immanuel United Methodist Church on electric bass and vocals) to lead in experiencing the joy of God's love through music. A potluck dinner will follow.

Sept. 25 will feature Immanuel United Methodist church's annual "Worship in the Park." Everyone is welcome to come to the Bird City Park for a good ol' camp-meeting service beginning at 11 a.m. followed by a community potluck dinner. The afternoon will see some exciting softball games involving everyone who is interested.

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