

Obituaries

Novello Williams Evinger Feb. 20, 1908 - Feb. 9, 2006

Novello Evinger was born Feb. 20, 1908, in a sod house in the Lawn Ridge Community in Cheyenne County, Kan. She was the third of five children born to Jesse Lee and Bertha Williams.

In her early years she worked as a cook at Dr. Peck's hospital. Later she helped her sister-in-law at the Empire Motel. After her husband's death, she worked part time at the St. Francis County Club until her retirement.

On Nov. 28, 1936, she married Cecil E. Evinger, who died April 7, 1968. To this union one son, George, was born.

Novello moved to Independence Mo., in 1995, to be closer to her son George and wife, Jill. She lived there until her death. St. Francis was always "home" to her.

Her family was the most important thing to her after her God. She was a life-long member of the Lawn Ridge Church and later the St. Francis Methodist Church.

She is survived by her son, George, and wife, Jill, Independence; granddaughters, Leann (Jeff) Armstrong, El Dorado and Laina (Justin) Hamilton, Sedgwick; great-grandchildren, Garret, Gage and Madison Armstrong, Caitlynn, Ethan and Cassie Hamilton; brother, Lyle Williams and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held Feb. 11 at Knodel Funeral Home with Reverend Morita Truman officiating. Music was provided by Tema Trumbo.

Casket bearers were Carl Williams, Lyle Williams, Edd Williams, Ron Williams, Harold Stefan and Jeff Armstrong.

Honorary pallbearers were her special great-grandchildren, Garret Armstrong, Gage Armstrong, Madison Armstrong, Caitlynn Hamilton, Ethan Hamilton and Cassie Hamilton.

Thelma Eleanor Hendricks

June 14, 1912 - Feb. 28, 2006

Thelma Eleanor Tippie was born June 14, 1912, in Cheyenne County, Kan., on the farm northwest of Bird City which her parents homesteaded in 1904. She was the fifth and youngest child of James B. Tippie and Jennie Merritt Tippie. Fourteen-year-old Lucille, 12-year-old Hazel and 4-year-old twins, Vera and Veta were her four older sisters.

She received her education in the Cheyenne County country schools until fifth grade when she attended school in town until high school graduation with the class of 1930. She received her Normal Training at Kansas State Teachers College in Hays, then taught school for three years, two at Porter and one at Greenridge.

In the summer of 1931, she met Sigfred Everett Hendricks, who was a farmer 14 miles southwest of Bird City. At Easter time 1933, Sig and Thelma announced their engagement and they were married a few months later on June 14, her 21st birthday.

The new bride's introduction to the life of a farm wife that first year included cooking for a crew of nine cornhuskers including her husband and brother-in-law, Alfred, raising chickens, milking cows and growing and preserving all the produce from a huge vegetable garden.

Sig and his older brother, Alfred, had been farming the "Hendricks Brothers Farm" in partnership since 1926k, when Sig had first moved to Kansas from Nebraska. Alfred continued to live on the family farm.

Sig and Thelma's daughter, Jeanelle Florene, was born Oct. 4, 1936, and their son, John Terry, on Jan. 16, 1946.

In spite of the demand of farming during hard times, Thelma made sure there were good times too. Holiday celebrations and family dinners were frequent occasions with Thelma's folks and sisters, Lucille Anderson, Hazel Leach, Vera Magley and Veta Johnson and their families, and with the Emil Hendricks family, a cousin to Sig and Alfred. Thelma's culinary skills always produced wonderful tasting foods to serve to her guests. Gatherings with the Swedish relatives in Nebraska occurred four times a year with trips to Holdrege for "quarterly birthday celebrations" and a family picnic in Kearney every summer.

Thelma was actively involved in community organizations such as Farm Bureau, Kanred Extension Homemakers Unit, Glendale School and Bird City School activities, and serving in leadership roles for the Jayhawker's 4-H club. After joining the Immanuel United Methodist Church in 1948, she was an extremely hard worker in the Women's Society of Christian Service/United Methodist Women's circle, quilting group and unit activities. Her hands were never idle.

When the work was done, she crocheted and quilted, creating many beautiful gifts for her family and friends.

Always family oriented, Thelma was delighted as her family expanded with the marriages of Jeanelle to John Ervin Alden on Aug. 25, 1957, and of John to Sharon Eileen Purvis on June 14, 1975, which was Thelma's 63rd birthday. The grandchildren who followed provided special joys to her life; one granddaughter, Joyce Denise Alden 1960, and four grandsons, John Scott Alden 1962, John David Hendricks 1977, Chad Allen Hendricks 1979, and Nathan Paul Hendricks 1982. Her granddaughter, Joyce married Scott Rusto Schuyler in 1983. Their children, J. R. Cody Schuyler 1990, and Jennie Wren Schuyler 1995, were her first great-grandchildren. J. David married Amy Janelle Umberger in 2000 and their children, Kaylynn Grace, born 2002 and Matthew David, Jan. 25, 2006, were her third and fourth great-grandchildren.

Thelma lived to the age of 93 years, eight months and 16 days, and died on Feb. 28, 2006. Sig preceded her in death Jan. 12, 1974. She will be sadly missed by her daughter and son and their spouses, five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Even though waning health had presented its challenges to her life in the last few years, she continued to be focused on the family and was always concerned with their well-being.

A Celebration of Life was held at the Immanuel Methodist Church Bird City at 3 p.m. on March 5 with Pastor Glenn Krebs officiating.

Casket bearers were J. David Hendricks, Chad Hendricks, Nathan Hendricks, Rusty Schuyler, John Scotty Alden and Gary Leach.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery.



PERFECT WEATHER for fishing — Jakob Church along with his dad, Marty, even though they didn't win the contest, seem to be intent on catching their share of fish.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Bird City team wins fishing contest held at Keller Pond

By Karen Krien

There were 168 pounds of fish caught at the annual fishing contest held by the Cheyenne County Wildlife organization on Feb. 26. The contest was held at Keller Pond, northwest of St. Francis.

Winning the contest was the Bird City team of Scott Smith and Jason Smith who caught 10 fish for a total of 15.25 pounds. Jason also hauled in the only tag fish of the four placed in the pond.

Taking second place were Harold Tygart and Tim Stimbart. Their 10 pounds of fish weighed 13.50 pounds. Matt Smull and Tyler

Lauer had 12.50 pounds of fish, taking third place. Chris Bracelin and Cade Bracelin had 12.50 pounds for fourth place.

Hal Sager, coordinator of the contest, said there were 27 two-person teams entered and six of the teams caught their limit of 10 fish. In all, there were 115 fish caught.

"We had a tremendous day and a good turnout," Mr. Sager said. "The weather was great fishing weather."

While the contest is for all ages, Mr. Sager said the kids who turned out to fish had a lot of fun.

"There were 500 pounds of fish



Scott



Jason

put in the pond and there are still plenty of fish out there," Mr. Sager said.

People are encouraged to go fish the trout out of the pond while the weather is cool as trout do not survive in warmer temperatures.

PAST REFLECTIONS



Egan Building Fire
Sept. 30, 1911

Photo courtesy
of Tobe Zwegardt

St. Francis
785-332-2113
Haigler
308-297-3223

St. Francis EQUITY

THANKS TO OUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

On behalf of our hospital and community, I want to thank the many agencies in the region that responded to our fire emergency last week. The overwhelming response, and effort, will last in our minds forever. We cannot say enough about the effort that they extended to defend our community against a potential catastrophe. We sometimes forget the sacrifices that they make in going in harm's way to protect us. God Bless all of you.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS: Amherst, Armel, Benkelman, Burlington, Cheyenne Wells, Eckley, Haigler, Haxtun, Holyoke, Idalia, Joes, Kirk, Otis, Sandhills, Vernon, Wages, Wauneta, Wray, Yuma.

EMS UNITS: Benkelman, Haigler, Idalia, St. Francis, Wray, Yuma.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Colorado Highway Patrol, Wray Police Department, Yuma Co. Sheriff's Department.

Ed Finley, Wray Hospital



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