

Obituaries

Richard L. Patton

Aug. 18, 1918 - April 6, 2006

Richard "Pat" Lawrence Patton of St. Francis Kan., died April 6, 2006. He was born Aug. 18, 1918, in Topeka, the only child of William Donald Patton and Harriet Dorothy Thurber Patton. He attended primary school in Topeka and graduated high school from St. John's Military Academy. After graduation, he attended the College of Emporia studying business management for one year. After leaving college, he worked in Smith Center and later went to Lawrence to work in the grain elevator business for Derby Grain.

At the outbreak of World War II Richard enlisted in the Air Corps at Fort Leavenworth on Sept. 7, 1941. He took basic training at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and Armament School at Lowry Air Field in Denver. On Dec. 7, 1941, he was assigned to the 43rd Bomb Group 64th Squadron at Bangor, Maine. On Feb. 18, 1942, Richard debarked from Boston on the Queen Mary's maiden voyage as a troop ship across the Indian Ocean to Java. He was assigned as an armor gunner to a B-17 in August of 1942. He was based out of Marceba, Australia and Port Mossby, New Guinea and flew 43 missions. He returned to San Francisco on Dec. 28, 1943, and was off to Dyersburg, Tenn., as an aerial gunner instructor. That's where he learned to enjoy grits for breakfast.

In January 1945, he returned to Lowry Field in Denver as a supply sergeant. It is there he met Margie Lewesa Prater and they were later married on Sept. 2, 1945 in Cheyenne Wyo. Shortly afterwards he was discharged from the Army at Fort Leavenworth with the rank of Staff Sergeant. Richard was awarded the following medals: Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Asia Pacific Ribbon with three Battle Stars, American Defense Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. Being wounded three times, he was eligible for a Purple

Heart, but didn't accept it because he didn't want his mother to be notified that he'd been wounded. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign War.

After his discharge, they moved to Colby where Richard managed the elevator for Derby Grain. It was there his son Dale was born. The elevator was totally destroyed by fire and this resulted in the family relocating to St. Francis, where Richard managed the St. Francis Grain and Feed for Ken Crumley. While in St. Francis, Pat pursued his love of sports, being active on the baseball team and enjoying the high school sporting events. Pat and Bob Morris were instrumental in developing the original golf course in St. Francis where the current gun club is located. Many lasting friendships were made then that have survived the years.

In the early 50's during a drought spell in western Kansas, the family moved to Denver. It was there he took a position with Bowman Biscuit Company which later was acquired by Keebler Company. He was a sanitation manager and later became a shipping and traffic manager. It was in the early Denver years that his daughter Marcia Dee was born. He retired from Keebler after 30 years of service.

After returning to St. Francis for a visit with his son and wife, Pat and Margie decided in 2001 to sell their home in Denver and move back to the community he had loved and the friends they had made nearly 50 years before. He was fond of saying it was the best move he'd ever made and only regretted not doing earlier in his retirement. Although his health didn't allow him to continue golfing, he loved talking baseball with some of his old teammates or to sit outside on a warm summer evening and listen to the planes coming into the airport. The Stearman Fly-In was his favorite event and he eagerly waited to drive up and watch all the old planes he remembered so well.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents Don and Dolly Patton. He is survived by his wife,

Margie of St. Francis, son Dale (Deb) of St. Francis, daughter, Marcia Moore of Blackhawk, Colo., four grandchildren: Jason Patton, Carey Patton, Derek Patton, all of Denver and Damian Strausborger of Billings Mont., two step-grandchildren, Jessica (Aaron) Virgo of Littleton, Colo., and Travis (Matisa) Haney of Killeen, Texas, two great-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren.

Services were held April 10 at Salem Lutheran Church, St. Francis, with Pastor Chris Farmer officiating.

Honorary pallbearers were Robert Zimbelman, Carl Hendricks, Gus Zweygardt, Tobe Zweygardt, Rueben Schultz, Calvin Raile.

Casket bearers were Damian Strausborger, Jason Patton, Derek Patton, Brandon Lujan, Ron Zimbelman, Gordon Orth.

Burial was at the Salem Lutheran Cemetery.

Leila Charline Loker

March 7, 1927 - April 7, 2006

Leila Charline Torkelson Loker, the third daughter of Godfrey Toby Torkelson (1890-1930) and Anne Mae Summers (1905-1979) died April 7, 2006, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby, Kan., at the age of 79 years and one month.

Leila was born March 7, 1927, in McFarland. At the age of 3 she moved to her grandparents, Karl Ernst (1870-1943) and Josphine Esabelle Gardner Summers Ernst (1881-1957) farm northeast of McDonald, along with her sisters. Leila graduated eighth grade from county school house District 65, Happy Hollow, in 1941. She continued her education at McDonald Rural High School until she was employed at Dr. Henneberger's hospital in Atwood.

On Aug. 20, 1946, she was united in marriage to Gayle "Tunney" Loker in Oberlin and resided on a farm north of McDonald until 1958. During this time the couple was blessed with five children, Gary Gayle, Lila Mae, J.B., Lester Joel and Bradley Lee.

From there the family moved into McDonald. In 1960, the family moved to a farm south of McDonald. In 1970, the family joined St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City. In 1976, they purchased a farm north of Parks, Neb. In 1988, they moved to their current residence in McDonald.

During her marriage, Leila loved farming with the family and operated the Highway Care and the City Cafe in McDonald until the middle 1960s. Besides the love and caring of her family, she enjoyed reading her Bible, cooking, baking, gardening, canning, growing flowers, sewing, crocheting, embroidering, and painting for her family and friends. She always put others before herself.

She was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, sisters, Iona Torkelson in 1939 and Lavern Travis in 2000.

Those remaining to celebrate

her life are her beloved husband, Tunney; son, Gary and wife, Penny; daughter, Lila and husband, Dennis; sons, J.B. and wife, Brenda, Les and wife, Tish, all of McDonald; and Brad and wife, Tammy of Parks; sister, Darlene Loyd and husband, Ray of Monroe, La.; sister-in-law, Ratha Lea Loker of McDonald; seven grandchildren, Sheila and husband, Todd of Overland Park; Bryan and wife, Traci of McCook Neb.; Christopher and wife, Dana of Bird City; Janelle and husband, Adam of Lawson, Mo.; Debralee and friend, Damien of Bonner Springs; Cynthia and husband, Ryan of Bella Vista, Ariz.; and Zachary of Parks; 12 great-grandchildren, Breanna, Brittany, Allison, Logan, Emily, Mitchell, Abigail, Tucker, Gage, Devon, Avery and Dylan and a host of friends, nieces and nephews.

Services were held April 11 at St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, with Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler officiating.

Pallbearers were grandsons, Bryan Loker, Christopher Howard, Zachary Loker and friends, Royce Graham, Curtis Graham and Alan Graham.

Honorary pallbearers were Betty Lewis, Joan Tongish, Sandra Lee, Jan Curtin, Eleanor Swihart, Laura Brogan, Leonard Vyzourek, Terry Steinbeck, Beverly and Darwin Higgins.

Interment was in Grace Cemetery, McDonald.

Memorials have been established to McDonald Lions Club and St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City.

Lovella Loyd

Feb. 8, 1932 - April 8, 2006

Lovella Louise Loyd, 74, of Russellville, Ark., a St. Francis nurse, died Saturday, April 8, 2006, at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Russellville.

She was born Feb. 8, 1932, in St. Francis, the daughter of George and Josephine (Tagmeyer) Felzien. She worked for over 35 years in the nursery at St. Mary's hospital, where she was affectionately known as "Granny Loyd," and was a member of the St. John's Lutheran Church in Russellville.

Preceding her in death were her husband, James Dale Loyd; her parents; a sister, Loraine Fenner; and a brother, Martin Felzien.

Survivors include a son, James Victor Loyd of Russellville, Ark.; two daughters, Margaret Campbell of London, Ark., and Elizabeth Taylor of Pottsville, Ark.; a sister, Lavina Yoder of Kingman; a brother, Jalmer Felzien of Wichita; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services held Wednesday, April 12, with Pastor Darrell Kobs officiating.

Cremation arrangements were under the direction of Humphrey Funeral Service. Burial will be in McFadden Cemetery at Dover. Internet obituary may be found at Humphreyfuneral.com.

After \$105,000 bid, board plans to repair boilers

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Board of Education decided to not replace the boilers at the junior-senior high school, but fix them, when they found that the total price would be \$105,049. They agreed to reject the bids and the administration will proceed in having the boilers repaired for \$14,527.

The Kansas fire marshal had informed the superintendent that the steam boiler and the hot water boiler at the junior-senior high school were not up to code. Last summer when he made his inspection, he had suggested that the school board consider getting new boilers.

At the last meeting of the board, three different bid packages had been let: 1) to replace the old steam boiler; 2) replace the hot water boiler; and 3) a combined bid for the two boilers. There was also an alternate bid for a "Munchkin" boiler.

Superintendent Carl Werner said a representative from American Boiler and Mechanical, Salina, Kansas City and Missouri, along with Lampe Hardware representatives and their engineers, and Midwest Energy representative, had looked at the boilers. Only American Boiler submitted a bid but the representative, Bradley Moxter, had recommended that the boilers be repaired.

He said that the boilers' gas train controls could be updated and that would bring the boilers up to certification. This cost would be \$14,527.

He noted that the one boiler was made of steel rather than cast iron, which made it easier to repair. He also pointed out there is hardly any control over the heating system. Superintendent Werner said that Rob

Schiltz had installed some thermostat controls which helped some but more were needed.

With the savings of repairing instead of replacing the boilers, the board would be able to consider installing new double-pane windows on the west side of the high school which let in a lot of cold air. The grade school will soon have all new double-pane windows. They also talked about blower units used with the steam heat which is similar to those installed at the grade school.

The board agreed to reject the bids for new boilers and have the old ones repaired. The matter will be discussed at future meetings.

In other business

In other business:
• The board approved a contract for Kandee Raile as an assistant high school track coach. There are 46 students out for track and the coaching staff felt like another coach was needed to replace Chuck Peters who resigned last year.

• The school calendar for next year was approved. The first day of school will be on Aug. 23 and the last day will be May 23. The calendar is very similar to this year's school calendar.

• The board will send out bids on a new 20 to 23 passenger bus to replace Bus 4 which has over 102,000 miles. Bids are due back at the May board meeting.

• The board discussed personnel contracts and end-of-year salary adjustments. See related article.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the school board will be at 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 11.

Wedding is planned

Valisha Castle and Travis Raile of Oberlin plan to be married on July 29.

Parents of the couple are Bob and Deanna Castle of Oberlin, and Pete and Kay Raile of St. Francis.

The bride is a 1997 graduate of Decatur Community High School. She earned a degree in biology with a minor in chemistry from Fort Hays State University in 2002 and is a pharmacy technician at Ward Drug Store. Doris Fringer of Oberlin is her grandmother.

The groom graduated from St. Francis High School in 1997 and earned a degree in biology with a minor in physical education from



Castle - Raile

Bethany College in 2002. He is a backhoe operator for Gore Oil Co. His grandparents are Bob and Gertie Zweygardt, St. Francis, and Ed and Wanda Raile of Strafford, Mo.

Wray Community District Hospital HELP WANTED

Registered Nurse for Operating Room

Registered Nurse (RN) position in progressive Operating Room (OR), FT (36 hours/wk). Work with hometown general surgeon, staff of 3 RN's, 1 OR Tech, and with outside specialty doctors from orthopedics, urology, podiatry, and gynecology. Unique opportunity to circulate, scrub and recover. Daytime work hours with some variations, need to be flexible. Shared day, night, weekend and holiday call required with 15-20 minute response time. Physically able to assist lifting patients, medical equipment, etc. Frequent standing, lifting, stooping, reaching, stretching. Requires good verifiable work history with references and team-player attitude. EOE. Contact Dawn Valko, WCDH, 1017 W. 7th St. Wray, CO 80758, (970)332-2205.

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3- 2005 Case IH 2388 2/30' Platform	\$155,000
2- 2004 8520T, 1,179 hrs.	\$138,000
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JD 2003 4710 Sprayer, Loaded	CALL
1996 JD 8400, 5,000 hrs., Loaded	\$72,000
JD 8310 MFWD, 3,000 hrs.	\$92,000
12 Row 8530 Orthman Cultivator w/Tracker Guidance	\$10,500

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THANK YOU

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to each of you who gave our family your care, love and support during the loss of our dear Opal. Your telephone calls, visits, cards and food delivered to our homes were all so appreciated. Your floral arrangements and plants have brightened our homes in remembrance of our Opal. Your generous memorial contributions shall go towards lasting gifts, in memory of our Opal, to the Haigler United Methodist Church, the Haigler Golden Inn and the Hillcrest Care Center in Wray. Your attendance at Opal's celebration of life services and birthday party on March 28 made the day so special for all of us.

To all the staff at Hillcrest Care Center, we are so very thankful and grateful for the loving attention given to Opal and her family. To the Wray Community Hospital, thank you for trying to keep our Opal with us. To Jim Schmidt and his staff, our warmest thanks for all the special touches that gave our hearts comfort. To Pastors Anne and Harun Gatobu, our gratitude for the meaningful words and special celebration of life services. To Carol Peterson and Audrey Brueggeman, your beautiful music helped ease our sorrow. To the Haigler United Methodist Church Women, our special thanks for the lovely luncheon served to family and friends.

During a time like this, we realize how much our relatives and friends really mean to us - your expression of sympathy will always be remembered. May the music of the well-lived life of our Opal become our legacy. Go bless.

The Family of Opal R. Collicott

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Personal Property AUCTION

For the late Ann Ewing Estate

Saturday, April 15, 2006 • 10:30 a.m. CT

LOCATION: Cheyenne County Fairgrounds Building • St. Francis

FURNITURE

Brown Recliner; Black Vinyl Recliner; Swivel Chair & Ottoman; Couch (gold); Hide a bed sofa (floral); Entertainment Center; Coffee Table; End Tables; Lamp Tables; Dining room table w/4 chairs; Kitchen table w/4 chairs; Full size 4 poster bed w/mattress & box springs; Antique oak wardrobe; Writing desk & chair; Steamer trunk; Refinished Pump Organ; 2-wooden 4 poster twin beds; Oak 3-tier book shelf; Brass mantel clock; 3-oil lamps (converted to electric); Red glass oil lamp; Sewing machine w/cabinet; Console stereo; Card table w/chairs; 4 drawer file cabinet; Cedar chest.

COLLECTIBLES

Large spoon collection w/holder; Hobnail pitcher & 6 glasses; Assorted Hobnail sail & pepper; Assorted salt cellars; Gold leaf salad bowl w/6 sm. bowls; Assorted cut glass; Hand painted dishes, bowls, tea cups; Quilts & afghan; Candy dishes; 8-pc. Knowles china; Silver service (coffee pot, creamer, sugar); Roseville tea pot (mint condition); Roseville sugar & creamer; Relish plates; Large assortment of crystal stem ware; Etched glass & lead glass; 4-piece milk glass fluted lace edge (unmarked); Lots of advertisement pens; Antique dresser set (brush, hand mirror, comb); Towels & linens; Chiming mantel clock.

KITCHEN

Large assortment Tupperware; Flatware - kitchen utensils; Black & white enamel ladles; Hamilton Beach shake maker; Hamilton Beach standup mixer; Punch bowl set; Large assortment of crocks; Canning jars; Lots of baskets & jams; Kitchen cart; Pots & pans; Jello molds; 12-piece set of dishes; Assorted glassware; 2 canister sets; Tall wooden cabinet (4 doors, 1 drawer).

APPLIANCES

Kenmore washer; Maytag dryer; Sanyo television 29" w/remote; Sharp microwave & stand.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: There are many more items, too numerous to mention. Plan to attend this well kept, extremely clean auction.

TERMS: CASH or Good Check day of sale. Not responsible for theft or accident. Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material.

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