

Family

Deaths

VaLeda Marguerite Elliott

VaLeda Marguerite Elliott, 84, of Sun City West, Ariz., died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006 in Sun City West. She was the sister of the late Gladys Fulton of Colby.

Mrs. Elliott was born July 12, 1921 in Bucklin to Earl and Rowena Geyer. She grew up in Ulysses and graduated from Grant County High School in 1938.

She married George Conrad in 1938.

In 1958 she married William Elliott and they lived in Beaver, Okla. where she worked for Pan American Petroleum. They moved to Sun City, Ariz., in 2001. She was

a member of Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City.

Mrs. Elliott is survived by her sons, Larry and wife Arlene and Lynn and wife Katie; nephew Marshall Fulton and wife Tammy of Winona; six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by both husbands; a daughter, Judith; and her sister, Gladys Fulton.

Services were today at 2 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City, Ariz. A memorial service will be held in LaJunta, Colo., at a later date.

Prairie Gem 4-H off to running start in 2006

Eighteen members answered roll call on Monday, Jan. 9, 2006. Many members of the Brewster Prairie Gem 4-H Club said shop and P.E. are their favorite subjects in school for the roll call. Avery Schultz and Baylee Westover lead the club in singing the "Oscar Meyer Wiener" theme song.

Dorothy Bear reported on 4-H events. The fun annual countywide fund-raising event of making pizzas is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 4. The Brewster Prairie Gem 4-H Club received the community service award and a purple seal at the annual 4-H achievement banquet.

The officers initiated four new members into the club. They included Rachel Horney, fourth grade; Nichelle Erskine, eighth grade; Ethan Kammer and Chance Cranston, both freshmen.

The program for the meeting began with project talks. Wyatt Werth gave a talk on projects that he will be doing this year. Michael Eicher talked about the model railroads he did last year and the model airplanes that he will do this year. Audrey Hoyt gave a very important talk on hypoglycemia. Tim Knox demonstrated how to make an interesting German spiced fruit cheese snack that he found in a recipe book from his family's foreign exchange student. Amy Carpenter read a silly poem entitled "All I Need to Know About Life I Learned From A Cow."

Audrey and Kasey Hoyt lead a mind-tickling game of memory of what was in the pan. An old reusable bottle cap was included as one of the items (none of the members could even guess what this item might be due to the generation gap). Other items were a necklace, corn on the cob holder and a playing card. Avery and Whitney Schultz won the game by remembering 17 items.

Benjamin Baird lead the group in reciting the 4-H pledge. Hosts for the evening were the Schultz and Horney families. Tim Knox contributed some of his spiced fruit cheese snack for a taste of German flavor.

The Thursday, Dec. 21, 2005 meeting of the Brewster Prairie Gem 4-H Club began with Baylee Westover leading the flag salute and a popular Christmas song, "Jingle Bells." Nine members answered roll call of "What is your favorite holiday?" President Andrew Starns conducted the business. The meeting was rescheduled twice due to school activity conflicts and the

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Art club discusses life of Andy Warhol

High Plains Art Club met at Bourquin's Café for a Christmas salad luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at noon. Nine members were present.

After the meal, they met at the home of Marj Brown, hostess and program chairman for December, for the presentation of a DVD on the life of 20th century pop artist, Andy Warhol.

According to the DVD, Warhol was born Andrew Warhola in Pittsburgh in 1928 to Slovakian immigrant parents. Later, he changed his name to Warhol.

Warhol's older brother, Arthur, said his brother was "a tremendously shy and nervous" child, and when he was eight-years-old he acquired a disease of the nerves known as St. Vitus Dance. As a result of this illness, Warhol spent most of his eighth year in bed filling in coloring books and listening to his mother read to him as best she could, due to the fact that she spoke very little English.

Warhol's father, who worked in a steel mill, died prematurely when Andy was 13. Because Andy had shown promise of being talented in

art, his father left a small trust fund for Andy's art education. Warhol studied commercial art at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh.

In 1949, Warhol and his mother settled in a home in New York's Manhattan area where he worked as a commercial artist for Seventeen Magazine. Most people thought Andy and his mother had a strange relationship, and it was reported that she often sat up all night just watching Andy sleep. His mother was probably the one who instilled in Andy his deep Catholic religious faith. It is said that he attended church every Sunday. Warhol also did work for such prestigious publications as Vogue and Harper's Bazaar. He eventually became the most sought-after illustrator in New York.

Warhol's first studio was in a café called Serendipity, that was operated by three gay men. His artwork was displayed on the walls of the café. Warhol, himself, was openly gay.

In the 1950s he began painting objects such as Campbell's Soup cans, Coke bottles, and Brillo boxes

on canvas. In 1952 Warhol had his first one-man show, and in 1955 he took part in a group show in New York's Museum of Modern Art.

Most people thought of him as strange looking, due to the fact that he had a skin disease that caused large white blotches on his face and he bleached his hair white and, sometimes, blond. When he was older he wore strange white or blond wigs with a black area in the back.

In 1962, Warhol purchased an old building on New York's 57th street, between First and Second Ave. It became known as The Factory. Here, he mass-produced his artwork by silk screening. Some of his most famous works were those of Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor.

Warhol used his fame to attract a variety of outcasts such as gay men, lesbians drug and alcohol addicts and silly socialites who wanted notoriety. He was like a calm in the middle of the partying going on around him as he continued with his work, impervious to his surroundings.

In 1963, Warhol had his first one-

man show on the West Coast. Critics there criticized him for doing comic book imagery and for using primary colors.

Soon, the pop artist, who was now known as the "King of Pop," was making bizarre films in his factory studio. Most of the films were similar to the one he called "Sleep," in which a man was shown sleeping for six long hours. Later, he hired a producer and did make a couple of presentable films.

He had developed into a person who gave the impression being laid back and bored with everything. He never displayed emotion, and when one of his close friends committed suicide by jumping out of a window, his response was, "I wish he would have told me he was going to do that so I could have filmed it." Later, he screen-printed frightening pictures of fatal auto accidents and such scenes as the electric chair.

Warhol died on Feb. 22, 1987 from complications after a gall bladder surgery. More than 2,000 people attended his Funeral Mass.

The Andy Warhol Museum opened in his hometown of Pittsburgh in May, 1994.

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