

Erin Neitzel, former St. Francis resident and four of her classmates organized and held a "Run for Your Life" Boy Scouts of America 5K Challenge at Fort Hays State University.

Erin and her friends were featured in an article, "A run for fun" article, written by Diane Gasper-O'Brien, which appeared in the *Hays Daily News*.

"It was a fun idea," said Erin, a Fort Hays State University senior who helped fellow students organize the race as a class project in the

Leadership Studies department.

She and her classmates decided to put on a race for a fundraiser for area Boy Scouts and they encouraged participants to dress up for Halloween.

About three dozen people showed up on the cool, crisp fall morning on Oct. 21. They competed for costume and racing prizes.

A team called the "Quick-or-Feeters" — It rhymes with Trick-or-Treaters," said one team member, was the double winner.

Three women employed by the

Hays school used Dr. Seuss' book, "The Cat in the Hat" theme and ended up winning one of the prizes for best team costume, as well as the team race champion.

One family, Mike and Mary Martin and children, dressed up as characters from the classical movie, "The Wizard of Oz."

"We were looking for Halloween costumes for this year," Mr. Martin said. "We like the Wizard of Oz, so we picked these. Plus, Erin is one of our students, and we thought this would be fun."

Doug Williams, Hays, was the overall race winner, cruising the course in just less than 20 minutes. Williams, 52, looked more like a 30-something runner as he crossed the finish line in 19 minutes and 53 seconds.

Williams said he didn't run in high school or college but took it up later after he took a physical at age 40 and decided he needed to make some changes.

The Fort Hays Leadership Studies students ran with the 5K race idea. Other Fort Hays students on the race project team were Cody VonLintel, Jenna Johnson, Megan Colson, and James Sun.

Most of the proceeds from the race are going to the Boy Scouts' Colorado Area Council which serves 32 counties in Kansas.

"We're hoping to have this event be sustainable from year to year," Erin said. "We're going to leave some (seed) money for them to get started next year."



Neitzel



ST. FRANCIS CRAFT FAIR - Cynthia Henderson purchased a Mary Kay item at the fair at the grade school from Teri Richard. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Obituaries

### Merle Dwayne Hitchcock

May 9, 1929 - Oct. 16, 2009

Merle Dwayne Hitchcock died on Oct. 16, 2009, at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis, Kan., at the age of 80 years old. He was born on May 9, 1929, in Sherman County. He married Ellen Ione (Gipe) on April 6, 1946.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen; his parents, Birt and Mildred Anna (Spaeth) Hitchcock, and brother, Dallas.

He is survived by his sons, Rodney Lynn Hitchcock and wife, Becky, Lyle Eugene Hitchcock and wife, Jackie; daughter, Janice Kay (Hitchcock) Harris; grandchildren, Paul L. Hitchcock, Brian Hitchcock and wife, Coty, Tami George and husband, Josh, Mindy Ellison and husband, John, Lori Aierta and husband, Joseph, Robin Miller and husband, Jaime and Ben Bentley; great-grandchildren, Zackary and Matt Ellison, Braden, Chase and Danica George, Autumn and Ivy Miller and Dakota Bentley.

Merle lived his childhood in the Bird City area and attended Bird City High School. He

worked as a truck driver and in construction in Kansas.

He moved to California in 1955, to work construction, and started Hitchcock Construction Company in the Los Angeles area. He moved to Rainbow, Calif., in 1968, to start Rainbow Valley Farms and Truck Farming.

Later he moved to Van Buren, Ark., in 1980, to start a cattle ranch and hay farming.

He then moved back to California in 1987 to retire...no luck.

Later he moved back to Bird City to start a hardware store and then into farming.

Funeral services were held on Oct. 22 at the Wesleyan Community Church in Bird City with Pastor Dan Carson officiating.

Pall bearers were Ted Burr, Tim Burr, Ned Smith, Dave Hickert, Randy Reynolds and Tony Vandike.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery, Bird City.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

### Ernest (Ernie) William Caswell

Nov. 4, 1923 - Nov. 3, 2009

Ernest (Ernie) William Caswell, 86, of Laguna Woods, Calif., died Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, at Mission Hospital, Mission Viejo, Calif. Services will be at Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, Oakley, Kan., on Friday, Nov. 13, at 2 p.m. A graveside service will follow immediately at the Oakley Cemetery. Services will be conducted by Rev. Bob Kelly, Minister at the Oakley Disciples of Christ Christian Church.

Ernie was born Nov. 4, 1923, in Logan County (Oakley), Kan.

Ernie married his high school sweetheart, Shirley L. Kinsley, on Aug. 14, 1941, in Goodland, Kan. They lived in Oakley, where he worked on his parent's farm and at the Oakley livestock sale barn. After the birth of a daughter and son, he moved his family to Medford, Ore., and later to Topeka, Kan.

In January of 1952, Ernie began work in the Engineering and Chemical divisions of Phillips Petroleum Company (Phillip's 66) in Bartlesville, Okla. Transferring twice to the Houston area, he and Shirley returned to Bartlesville where they lived for a total of 46 years. Ernie retired after 33 years with Phillips, on Aug. 1, 1985. He continued in the agricultural business throughout his life in the Oakley and St. Francis areas, being one of the first farmers in Logan County to install deep-well irrigation. Ernie was also instrumental in beginning the first Little League Baseball in Oklahoma in 1953 in Bartlesville. Ernie and Shirley relocated to a retirement community in Hemet, Calif., in 1998, and finally to Laguna Woods, Calif., near son, Lynn, in 2007.

Ernie is survived by his wife of 68 years; a daughter and son-in-law, Sandra and Lt. Col. (ret.) Dennis Ward, Lawton/Fort. Sill, Okla.; a son, E. Lynn, Laguna Niguel, Calif.; four grandchildren, Heidi Ramos (and Joel) of Mililani, Hawaii; Bill Caswell, Orlando, Fla.; Brett Ward, Houston, Texas; and Kimberly Miller (and Allan) of Victorville, Calif. Ernie also had four great-grandchildren, Drew Ward, Kelsey and Audrey Miller, and Ava Ramos. He is also survived by brother-in-law, Bob Kinsley, Laguna Woods, Calif., sisters-in-law and husbands, Betty (and Harry) Cooper, Topeka, Kan., Veneta (and Joe) Fusco, Tulsa, Okla., and Kathi Kinsley, of Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. In addition, he is survived by his nephews, and wives, Ed (and Pat) Radiel, of Youngsville, N.C., Bill (and Rosi) Caswell, Bartlesville, Okla., and other beloved nieces,

nephews and cousins, including Ernie's nephew and longtime business partner Mike Rogers (and Jo) and their sons, of St. Francis.

Ernie was preceded in death by his parents, Billy and Frankie of Oakley, sister Nellie Reid, and brother Ed. He was an active member and elder of the First Christian Church of Laguna Woods, Calif., at the time of his death, and he served as a deacon, elder and board member of several Disciples of Christ Christian churches. He was also very active with activities at the Laguna Hills Senior Center.

Viewing for family and friends will be 4 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, at the funeral home. The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday. Memorials have been established at First Christian Church of Laguna Woods and the Mission Hospital Foundation, Mission Viejo, Calif. Gifts in remembrance of Ernie may be sent to Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, 217 Freeman Ave., P.O. Box 221, Oakley, KS 67748

## Club Clip

### Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

Twelve members of the Cheyenne County Hospital Guild met at the office of Dr. Tim Poling. Dr. Poling and his crew gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on the newer equipment that is used in his office.

From there the group reconvened at the Senior Center for their business meeting. Each officer and program chairman gave their reports.

The short meeting was adjourned and Eileen Nolan and Sherry Schultz provided refreshments. Betty Loudon assisted in serving.

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## FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

Saturday, Nov. 28, 2009 @ 10 am CT  
Storm Date: Sat., Dec. 5, 2009 - Listen to KXXX 790 AM for updates

### J.D. & YVONNE EGGERS, SELLERS

Auction Location: From Bird City; go 7 mi. South on Road 28 to Road G, 5 mi. East to Road 33, 1 mi. South to Road F, then ¼ mi. to East. Signs will be posted.

For your loading convenience, there will be a loader available the day of and day after the auction.

**TRACTORS - TRUCKS - IMPLEMENTS**

1976 Chevy Truck C65, tandem axle, dual ram hoist, 9.00-20 tires, 44,037 mi, 5 spd/2 spd trans., 366 gas motor, 20' box & 52" sides w/ rollover tarp; John Deere 2640 Tractor, 3 pnt, 1000 or 540 PTO, 1,372 hrs. w/ 8 spd trans, diesel, w/ 175 JD Loader, 6' bucket; 1952 Minneapolis-Moline GB Tractor Propane, 540 PTO, 18.4-34 tires, 540 PTO, SN 02009082; 1979 White 2-135 Field Boss, cab & air, 3 pnt, 1000 PTO, 18.4-38 axle mount duals, 6,393 hrs., SN 292693-415; 1977 White 2-105 Field Boss, cab, 3 pnt, 540 PTO, 18.4-38 axle mount duals 4,700 hrs., SN 277761-406; 1962 Massey Ferguson Model 90 Tractor, 3 pnt, 540 PTO, 18.4-30 tires, diesel, SN 811998, w/ Dual Loader w/ Grapple Fork; 1988 Chevy 3500 Pickup w/ auto trans., 4x4, 350 engine, high mileage; 1973 Chevy Dually Crew Cab Pickup on Propane; M2 Gleaner Combine w/ 22' header, gear drive, diesel, 18.4-30 tires, SN 18774; 16' Case Chisel on hyd; 14' IHC 150 Hoe Drills, 12" spacing, on hyd.; 12' Krause Chisel, 3 pnt.; 8' JD 105 Tandem Disc, 3 pnt.; 3 pnt. Lift Assist.; Ro-Cut 7' Rotary Mower, 3 pnt.; MJM 12V Drill Fill Auger; Land Pride 3 pnt. Back Blade

**TRAILERS - CATTLE EQUIPMENT - HAY**

Approx. 200 Small Square Bales of Alfalfa. Shedded; 1972 Stockton; 5'x16' Stock Trailer, tandem axle, full top, bumper pull; 6'x16' Aluminum Stock Trailer, homemade, single axle, gooseneck; Donahue Gooseneck 6' x 20' Stock Trailer, tandem axle; 3 pnt. Double Bale Mover; Danuser 3 pnt. Post Hole Digger w/ 6" & 8" augers w/ stand; (8) Hi-Qual Round Bale Feeders; (9) Rolls Barbed Wire, used; EZ Roll Wire Roller w/ 8 hp BS motor on 2-wheel trailer; 5', 8', 9' Stock Tank; Single Bottom Plow Steel Feed Bunks; Cattle Oiler; Cattle Guard; Pony Cart; (40) Wooden Posts, 3"; (75) 5' T-Steel Posts; (2) 16' Gates; (25) 10' W-W Panels; (11) 12' Panels; (20) 12' Panels; 14' & 16' Westguard Gates; (20) 12' Farmmaster Panels; (15) 10' W-W Stall Panels, 7' tall; (13) Framed Wire Mesh; Panels, 12'-16'; Misc. Feed Panels; 5', 7', 12', 16' Gates; 16' Panel w/ 4' Walk Thru Gate; Lots of Used Tack; Holsters, Bits, Spurs

**SHOP TOOLS & MISC.**

250 gal Propane Tank w/ Wetleg front fill on 2 wheeled trailer; Burgmaster Drill Press, from 9/16 to 1", Single Phase, SN 6209; Thermal Dynamics Cutmaster 81 Plasma Cutter w/ 2 wheel cart; Propane Cutting Torch Craftsman 15", 12 spd. ½ hp Drill Press; Large Coop Sign; 4 ton Floor Jack; DeWalt Cut off Saw w/ Stand; Propane Tank & Heater; Impact Sockets; End Wrenches; Cross Body Tool Boxes; Allis-Chalmers Portable Generator, 540 PTO, 62.5 KW Surge, 25KW Continuous, SN A790386307; 40" Portable Shop Fan; (2) Ford Space Heaters; Montgomery Ward 2 spd Rototiller, 8 hp. Craftsman 22" Weed Trimmer, 6.75 hp. Motor; 4 Wheeler Ramps; Carolina Press, Model CP 100; Lots and Lots of Shop Items Many More Items too Numerous to List. Plan to attend.

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