

Obituaries

Ruby Lucille Wright Aug. 26, 1918 - Dec. 25, 2012

Ruby Lucille Wright was born Aug. 26, 1918, to Charles LeRoy and Ethel Ruby (Deeds) Query in Stromsburg, Neb. Lucille often said, "That is the year that women got the right to vote." She died at the Cheyenne County Hospital on Dec. 25, 2012.

In 1919, at the age of 6 months, Lucille and her family moved to a farm 14 miles southeast of Bird City. Lucille and her three brothers rode their pony to country grade school at Center School. Twice, the children were caught in blizzards while at school. One time they slept overnight in the school and the other time, they were rescued by the Eggers boys, who tied the children's legs to each other with twine and then followed the fence to the Egger's home. Lucille slept under her first feather tick blanket that night.

Lucille tended to the family's 300 chickens and 50 turkeys as well as helping with the gardening and canning. They frequently made puddings and pies to use up the daily supply of milk from their six milk cows.

Lucille passed the eighth grade graduation test and entered Bird City High School. She stayed at her Grandmother Deeds' home in town during the school year. She had four homemade dresses in her suitcase which was stored under her bed.

In 1936, she graduated high school and went to college summer school so she could teach elementary grades. She taught Mount Pleasant Country School No. 30 for four years. Her starting salary was \$50 per month, and she paid \$13 per month in rent and \$2.50 a month to have water carried to the school building.

Lucille married Maynard Wright on May 14, 1939, in the Methodist parsonage. After a honeymoon at Lake Ogallala, they moved into the first of their two farm homes.

The "Dirty 30s" were hard years to begin farming. They had no electricity or refrigeration for the first year of their marriage. A wind charger and a light plant provided both at their second farm home which was 12 miles south of Bird City. Their social life revolved around their family and farm friends. Radio programs provided a link to the outside world. Rationing was implemented during World War II which made it difficult to get supplies for the farm.

They raised three children on the farm. Their son, Gerald Jay, was born Dec. 29, 1941; daughter, Roberta Eileen, followed on Oct. 7, 1944; and Donald Royce was born April 11, 1947.

Lucille was always engaged in her family's activities. She was a

lifelong member of the Women's Society of Christian Service in the Bird City Methodist Church. Fellowship with other farmers' wives was provided by the Home Circle Club. She was also a sewing leader in her children's Jayhawker 4-H Club.

Lucille lived her life with vision, passion, determination and independence. She was an equal farming partner with Maynard. They made every farm decision based on their shared belief in the bounty of the earth. She and Maynard enjoyed the fruits of their labor and shouldered the disappointments of farming. She trekked to the elevator to check on commodity prices regularly and kept her farm books always at her fingertips.

She remained interested in whatever best supported "home base" and that meant Bird City as a community, the churches there and her family and extended family. She volunteered numerous hours at the steam engine show's Country Kitchen, returned to high school in her 50s to take typing and chemistry so she could better understand the symbols on a bag of fertilizer.

She had an insatiable curiosity about life and was devoted to the understanding of social, politi-

cal, religious, family and moral responsibilities. She earned her place as a member of the "greatest generation."

She is preceded in death by her husband, Maynard; brothers, Elmer, Lowell and Virgil.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her sisters-in-law, Maxine (Childers) Query and Evelyn (Jones) Query, her son, Gerald and wife, Phyllis (Dankenbring) Wright, her daughter, Eileen, and husband, Jim Moon; and her son, Donald Royce and wife, Donna (Geyer); her grandchildren, Anita (Wright) Diltz and husband, Shane; Dale Wright and wife, Erin (Townsend), and Whitney Moon and wife, Jennifer (Bauersfeld), Heather (Moon) and husband, Jim Piper; Rebecca (Moon) and husband, Michael Leibowitz; Duane Wright; Douglas Wright and wife, Shawna (Reynolds); Dennis Wright and wife, Dana (Carpenter); and DeAndrea Wright and husband, Dave Krien; as well as 28 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Dec. 28 at Immanuel United Methodist Church, Bird City, with Bill Duncan officiating. Burial was in the Bird City Cemetery.

Madison Faith Sowers

Dec. 6, 2012

Madison Faith Sowers died Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, after two hours on earth. Madison is survived by her four sisters; Eliana Marie, Adrianna Joy, Kalia Hope, Kenzie Lynn and parents, Joshua and Sara Sowers of Bird City.

Grandparents are Derek and Stacy Crow of Goodland, Rick Baugher of Augusta, Dan and Lori Sowers of Bird City. Great-grandparents are Rod and Diana

Kinkelaar of Wichita, Ronny and Shirley Crow of Wichita, John and Shirley Stewart of Augusta. She is also survived by six aunts, 14 uncles, and five cousins.

Her funeral was held Dec. 10, 2012 at 1 p.m. at Living Water Fellowship, Bird City. Burial followed at Bird City Cemetery.

"There is no footprint too small that it doesn't leave an imprint on this world."



SMALL GIRL - BIG GUN! Kattie Jenik took the opportunity to try out one of the guns at the calling contest. The guns were supplied by Savage Arms Company. Herald photo by Francis O'Leary

CONTEST

Continued from Page 1

tion is very unique, he said. Mr. Rueb noted that there continues to be a mange problem which is a mite infestation on the coyote that causes them to scratch and lose fur. It is down to about 25 percent of the total number of coyotes harvested. As we continue to harvest more mange coyotes, he said, the better the chance for it to correct itself as mange is transferred from one coyote to another coyote through contact.

The final results of the contest include:

Nikon Coyote Special Class

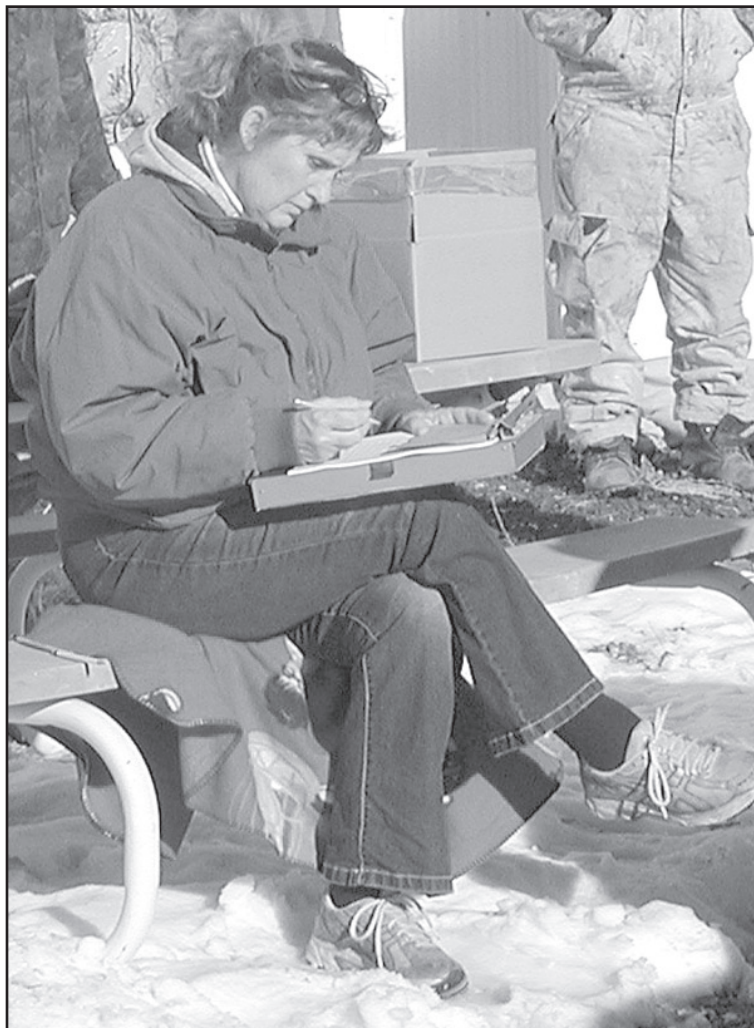
First place in the Nikon Coyote Special Class were Wade Edis and Jay Lovitt of Mullen, Neb., with 18 coyotes; second place: Jared Freund of Coldwater and Cody Hayes, Wilmore, 17 coyotes; third: Brandon Luebbers, Brownell and Luke Kunkel, Wichita, 15 coyotes; fourth: Jason Kravig, Lamar, Colo., and Judd Kravig, Karval, Colo., 14; fifth: Brad Phillips and Luke Seelhoff, Burlington, 13 coyotes; sixth: Trevor Hilt and Trent Raile, St. Francis; and seventh: Stan Cure and Todd Weibel, Goodland, 11.

Hornady Novice Class

Taking first in the Hornady class was the team of Jordan Reid, Brewster, and Matt Hartwell, Colby, with nine coyotes. Second place went to Bart Ginther, Atwood, and Matt Armknecht, Hays, who brought in six (170.3 pounds); third: Matt Brau, Denver, and Dean Herl, Aurora, Colo., six coyotes (158.6 pounds).

Big Dog

First place winner in the Big Dog contest was the team of Josh Mahar and Eric Rice, Gothenburg, Neb., with a coyote weighing 39.7 pounds. Drew Hill, Bucyrus, and Cody Loveall, Olathe, were second with a coyote weighing 38.6 pounds. Former St. Francis residents, Levi Weeden, Elkhart, and Travis Hilt, Overland Park, placed fourth in the Big Dog contest with a coyote weighing 37.4 pounds.



LISA HOLZWARTH was keeping track of the teams and coyotes coming in to the calling contest Sunday afternoon.

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Little Dog

In the Little Dog contest, Gary Beikman and Russell Erbert, Norton, placed first with a coyote weighing 17.1 pounds. Second place went to the team of Brad Rockwell and Greg Collins, Wray, with a coyote weighing 17.4 pounds. Third place winners were Todd Weibel and Stan Cure, Goodland, 18.2 pound coyote; fourth place, Wes Keller and Chad Rockwell, Wray, 18.2 pounds. The local team of Trevor Hilt and Trent Raile, who placed sixth in the Nikon class, also placed fifth in the Little Dog contest with a coyote weighing 18.8 pounds.

Zombie Dog placers

Taking first place in the Zombie Dog contest (where the coyote is predominately white) were Brett Rye, Sterling, Colo., and Travis Stull, Iliiff, Colo., with two dogs. Second place went to Jared Freund, Coldwater, and Cody Hayes, Wilmore, with one dog.

Hornady sponsors the Zombie Dog contest as it promotes their Zombie ammunition.


Next year marks the 17th year for the calling contest. It is held the second weekend in January. The dates are Jan. 11 and 12. For more information, go to www.midwestcoyotecallingevent.com.

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