

Burbank girl reinstated as stamp contest winner

By Travis Gulbrandson

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One week after her title was revoked, an area 6-year-old was again named winner of the 2013 Federal Junior Duck Stamp Competition.

On April 19, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that a painting of a canvasback duck by Madison Grimm of Burbank had won the national contest, and would appear on the 2013-14 Federal Junior Duck Stamp.

The next week, it was announced Grimm had been disqualified because

she copied her painting from a photograph.

Then, on Thursday, May 2, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service restored Grimm's win.

"The Service's decision to reinstate Grimm's work was made in recognition of the fact that it was judged the winner during a fair and open public contest," the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said in a statement. "The Service respects the decision of the contest judges, and apologizes for any distress this process may have caused the top-placing artists and their families, teachers and friends."

As a result, Grimm's painting will again be featured on a stamp and she will receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Brent Lawrence, public affairs specialist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, spoke briefly to the Plain Talk regarding the issue.

However, he would not elaborate as to the reasoning behind Grimm's initial disqualification and eventual reinstatement.

"(The statement is) our final word on it as far as that goes. ... I wish I could get into more details, but it's just one of those things," Lawrence said.

At the time of the controversy,

Grimm's father, artist Adam Grimm was quoted as saying graphite transfer is a common technique.

The rulebook for the federal contest goes into some detail on the subject.

On page 17, rule three says, "Do not copy or trace a copyrighted photo. Copied or plagiarized paintings will be disqualified."

Adam Grimm was quoted as saying the photo in question was not copyrighted.

The next rule on page 17 says, "If using a photo as reference, extensively change the 'attitude' of the duck for your creation. For

example, if the duck's head is upright, draw it facing down as if it is drinking water, or turn the angle of the duck's head."

The rule also encourages to young artists to change the angle of the duck's body, and the color of its surroundings.

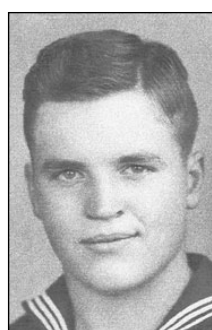
"The idea that each student artist is creating his or her own depiction of waterfowl and submitting that original creation as a Junior Duck Stamp Contest entry is an important aspect of this contest," the rulebook says.

— The Associated Press contributed to this report.

OBITUARIES

Dr. Francis Armstrong

Dr. Francis Marion Armstrong, 88, was born May 14, 1924, in Knox County, Nebraska, on a farm near Santee. He died April 17, 2013, in the Prairie Estates Care Center in Elk Point, Union County, South Dakota. He was the first of six children born to John Randolph Armstrong and Helen Marie McGregor Armstrong.



ARMSTRONG

A visitation was held from 6 to 7 p.m., with a prayer service beginning at 7 p.m., on Sunday, April 21, 2013, at Kober Funeral Home in Vermillion.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 22, 2013, at United Church of Christ - Congregational, in Vermillion, with Rev. Steve Miller officiating.

Burial followed immediately following the service in BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion. Military honors were provided by Clay County V.E.W. Post 3061.

Francis grew up in Vermillion, during the Great Depression and his family experienced severe poverty. From a young age he dreamed of owning and farming his own land. He graduated from Vermillion High School in the spring of 1942 and had at that time already begun acquiring credits in pre-veterinary courses at the University of South Dakota. That fall he was accepted for the freshman veterinary class at Iowa State College, Ames, IA.

His class of 50 men was sworn into the Army Specialized Training Program. When that program ended he volunteered for duty in the United States Navy where he served aboard Destroyer Escort 162, the U. S. S. Levy in the Pacific until being discharged at the end of World War II.

On January 4, 1947, Francis married June Willard Adams in Mitchell. Upon achieving his veterinary degree in 1949, he became the first in his family line to achieve a college degree. He moved his family to Vermillion and started his practice of mainly large animal medicine. As soon as he could, he purchased land and involved his growing family in the business of farming, including the raising of specific-pathogen-free hogs, and later, also cattle. After more than 20 years of being "Doc" Armstrong to Clay County farmers, a wrist injury caused him to turn to two years of owning and managing a John Deere implement business. He continued to accumulate land and was gradually able to focus exclusively on farming. Francis drove to the farm every day until advancing Alzheimer's Disease ended his long and active career. He remained proud of those years

of meaningful work which had enabled him to assume more than usual responsibilities in helping his parents and younger brothers, in addition to raising his own large family.

Francis was a member of the United Church of Christ-Congregational, the Clay County Historical Society, the Missouri Riverbank Stabilization Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Clay County Irrigators and the Democratic Party. He served as Clay County Democratic Party Chairman and was appointed by Gov. Ralph Herseth to the South Dakota State Health Advisory Board on which he served two terms.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, June Armstrong; his brothers, Robert Earl (Mary Jo) Armstrong of Louisville, KY, and Clare Alexander (Vernelle) Armstrong of Spearfish; his sisters-in-law, Mary Ruth Armstrong of Meckling, and Martha Coucoules of Desert Hot Springs, CA; his brother-in-law, Franklin Carrier of San Jose, CA; his children, Kathleen Joy (Robert) Marmet of Marshall, VA, Francis Michael (Patty) Armstrong of Meckling, Deidre Ann (Raleigh) Whetsel of Parker, CO, Patricia Joan (Robert) Reinders of Kronberg, Germany, David Brian Armstrong of Vermillion, Riley Thomas Armstrong of Vermillion, Robin Elizabeth (Brad) Thorson of Mound, MN, and Sheila Jean Armstrong of Houston, TX; his grandchildren, Sarah Ellen Marmet, Robert Francis Marmet, Barbara June Marmet, Eliot Michael (Lorraine) Armstrong, Charles Brenden (Cheryl) Whetsel, Patrick Dustin Whetsel, Robert William Reinders, Crosby Michael Reinders, Glenn David Melcher, Daniel Joel Thorson, Elizabeth Grace Thorson, and Le Roy Michael Clemetson; and his great-grandchildren, Dustin Thomas Stone and Darren Peter Fleegle.

Francis was preceded in death by his parents, John and Helen (McGregor) Armstrong; his sister, Helynn Marie Carrier; his brothers, John William Armstrong, and Donald Malcom Armstrong; and his children, Linda Carol Anderson, and Doyle Glen Armstrong.

Services were entrusted to Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion, South Dakota. Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to local food pantries or Second Harvest.

Reidella Engman

Reidella Madonna Engman, of Vermillion, died Friday, May 3, 2013, at Prairie Estates Care Center in Elk Point. Funeral mass will be held on



ENGMAN

Saturday, May 11, at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion at 11 a.m. with the family being present the hour prior.

Reidella was born to Lawrence and Ruth (Ryan) Rubida on May 10, 1918, on their farm in Union County, South Dakota. After graduating from high school in Elk Point, she attended Mid-West College of Commerce in Sioux City, IA. She moved to Vermillion in 1938 where she met the love of her life, Sidney Engman. They were married on Aug. 8, 1939, in Ponca, NE.

During World War II, she went to Detroit, MI, and was employed at the Detroit Ordinance plant. She came back to Vermillion after the war and held several administrative positions, the last being 17 years as the Deputy Clerk of Courts at the Clay County Courthouse.

Reidella was a long time member of St. Agnes Catholic Church, VFW Auxiliary, Disabled Veterans Auxiliary, POW Auxiliary, Senior Citizens Club, Clay County and State Historical Societies, and social member of the local golf course.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her family. She loved being a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Many happy memories were created spending joyous moments together. She loved cooking, entertaining and playing bridge with her many friends.

Those left to honor her memory are daughter, Julie (John) Springer of West Des Moines, IA; grandson, John III (Lori) Springer of Erie, PA; granddaughter, Juliann (Peter) Cline of West Des Moines, IA; and five great-granddaughters, Sydney, Emma, Molly, Ela and Annie; sisters, Lee Saporito and Udyene Christopherson; brothers, Alvin Rubida and Lawrence Rubida; and many other loved ones. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 72 years, Sidney; great-granddaughter, Lily; brother, Arvin Rubida; and dear friend, Marge Lennox, whom she considered a sister.

You were a beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who will be cherished forever and always!

A heartfelt thank you to the Beringers and Banks for their many kindnesses throughout the years. The family also wishes to thank Dr. Tom Olson, Wel Life Assisted Living and Prairie Estates Care Center for their love and compassionate care giving.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Agnes Catholic Church, 416 Walker St, Vermillion, SD 57069 or Senior Citizens Center, 320

West Main St, Vermillion, SD 57069.

Margaret Fuchs

Margaret Ann McMunigal Fuchs passed away April 16, 2013 in St. Louis, MO, following heart surgery.

Margaret Fuchs was born Feb. 1, 1925, at Wakonda, the fifth of nine children born to John and Mary McMunigal. She spent her life teaching. She met Fred Fuchs of St. Louis while both were teaching in private schools in Switzerland. They were married in St. Louis in 1970. They continued to teach in the St. Louis area until their retirement.

Margaret is survived by her husband, Fred; a brother, Jack (Jean) McMunigal of Sioux Falls; a sister, Mary (Wayne) Merrigan of Vermillion; three sisters-in-law, Dorothy McMunigal, Fran McMunigal and Nancy McMunigal; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion on May 18, 2013, at 11 a.m.

Lloyd Helseth

Lloyd Raymond Helseth, 90, of Vermillion, passed away Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at the Prairie Estates Care Center in Elk Point.

Lloyd was born March 21, 1923, in Elk Point to Lewis and Carrie (Anderson) Helseth. He grew up in the Spink area and spent most of his life in and around Vermillion. He married Maxcena Kendrick on April 1, 1946, in Elk Point. Lloyd worked for 25 years as drilling supervisor for the South Dakota State Geological Survey, retiring in 1988.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Dennis; and his wife, Maxcena.

He is survived by his brother, Arnold Helseth of Akron, IA; two sons, David (Rosetta) Helseth of Brandon, and Gregory (Lynn) Helseth of Tucson, AZ; and daughter, Karla Tawzer of Vermillion; eight grandchildren, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Angela, Hannah, Olivia, Cora, and Eleanor, and two great-grandchildren: Hunter and Ariah.

Visitation was Thursday, May 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7 p.m. The funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday, May 10. Both services will be at Trinity Lutheran Church, Vermillion. Burial is in the Bluffview Cemetery.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the sound system at Trinity Lutheran Church. hansenfuneralhome.com.

Mary Ellen Burns Rasmussen

Mary Ellen Burns Rasmussen, 91, a long-time Yankton resident, passed away on May 4, 2013, surrounded by family in her Florida home.

Mary Ellen was a graduate of Yankton College where she met her husband of 69 years, Donald W. Rasmussen (Ras). In April 2008 Yankton College bestowed upon Mary Ellen and Don the titles of Mr. and Mrs. Yankton College. Both were extremely active while students and their zeal and commitment never lessened as they demonstrated their loyalty and friendship in uncountable ways.

In 1966 Mary Ellen and her family moved from Vermillion to Yankton and she began working for the State of South Dakota Department of Rehabilitation Services, a position she held for 30 years until her retirement in 1990. In this position the goal was to teach disabled clients from South Dakota the skills needed for future employment. Mary Ellen enjoyed working with these clients and felt each day was different as there was never a dull moment.

Throughout her life, Mary Ellen was active in her community. She was a loyal member of the Order of Eastern Star holding an office or station during most of her life. She was Worthy Matron for three non-consecutive years and held appointive or elective stations for all other years. She was also appointed as Grand Ada in 1992 for the Grand Chapter of South Dakota. She held memberships in The

American Association of University Women, League of Women Voters, Interchange, Inc. and nine years on the board of Yankton County Historical Society. She was active during her State Employment with the South Dakota Rehabilitation Association serving as president of each. Mary Ellen was dedicated to Christ Episcopal Church serving in several areas over the years, and was recognized as a "Valiant Woman" in 2010. Both Mary Ellen and Don were politically active throughout their lives and a highlight was attending the JFK Inaugural.

Mary Ellen was an avid nature lover and enjoyed all kinds of yard work from trimming the hedge to pruning bushes to growing flowers. She enjoyed reading horticulture and landscaping magazines and loved watching an SDSU program called Garden Line.

Growing up on a farm in Redfield, she had many pets and grew up being a passionate animal lover ~ kitties winning as her favorites. She also enjoyed bird watching and wanted to be sure their feeders and baths were always properly cared for.

Mary Ellen was close to her loving family and, at all times, deeply appreciated their generous and loving support. She is survived by "Ras" who just celebrated his 94th birthday; two children, Dean Rasmussen (Amy) of West Chester, PA and Patricia Ernst (Will) of Boynton Beach, FL; and four grandchildren, Teresa Miller, Tanya Welsch, Kristin Francis and Tod Francis; and one great grandchild, Victoria Francis Durazo.

She will be remembered for her bright smile, generous spirit and volunteer involvement.

Donations in her memory may be made to Christ Episcopal Church, 517 Douglas Ave. Yankton, SD 57078.

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