

# Happy 110th

## Farm life key to longevity, woman says

By DAVID POULSON  
Times Herald Reporter

**RICHMOND** — When Annie Cawthorne was born in 1875 in a log cabin near Memphis, Ulysses S. Grant had been president for six years.

Fittingly enough, the woman who will celebrate her 110th birthday Friday at Richmond's Medlodge came into the world during a Republican administration. Every year since she could cast a ballot, including the last presidential election, she has given the party her vote.

"My dad was Republican and I guess we followed along after," she said.

Her feelings about the Reagan administration are fairly neutral.

"I guess he's all right, I never heard any complaint," she said.

But the current president does not top her list of favorites or least favorites.

"I've always liked Eisenhower, he was a good man," she said. "But that Nixon, he kicked it all to thunder."

Miss Cawthorne has a little trouble with her eyesight and cannot hear as well as she used to. She has been confined to a wheelchair since she injured her hip in a fall about 10 years ago. But her memory is sharp and her wit quick. It is easy to forget that she was 78 when her favorite president took office.

She enjoys the attention her birthday brings each year from the media because it gives her "a chance to talk a little bit." At 110, she is among the world's oldest people — the oldest living person in the world is 119, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

And she is used to dealing with the attention.

A reporter's scheduled visit cannot make her rush through her apple pie dessert. When told she was about to have her picture taken, she told the photographer to "just snap it off."

"She likes the celebrity status," said En-

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Annie Cawthorne prepares to celebrate her 110th birthday this Friday in the Medlodge in Richmond. She attributes her longevity to rural living. Born in

1875 in a log cabin near Memphis, she spent most of her life on a farm Riley Center where she drove a team of horses to help harvest the crops.

Times Herald — Ralph W. Polov