

The Jasper Evans Family

Jasper Evans was a Civil War veteran who decided to bring his family West to seek a better life. When they first came to the Northwest from Missouri, they settled down near Tacoma. However, when a doctor advised Mrs. Evans to move to a drier climate, the family packed up and headed to the Yakima Valley, eventually homesteading on 160 acres in Selah in 1896. A noted descendant of this family, Della Mae Evans-Woods was only 11 months old when she came to the Yakima Valley with her



Belle Evans on hop farm

parents, Jasper and Belle Evans. She married John Woods whose family came to the Yakima Valley in 1903. Della and John were charter members of the

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where Della was the church organist for 25 years. They had two sons Henry and Duke. Son Henry "Hank" Woods was one of the first and probably the most accomplished boxers to come out of the Yakima Valley, achieving national titles for many years. Son Duke lives in Los Angeles, California and Hank still resides in the original Evans-Woods home on North Second Street which the family moved into in 1920.



John Woods with Yakima Colored Citizens Republican Club Members