

# OBITUARIES

## Amanda Jane ‘Jane’ Kelling July 31, 1925 - Jan. 13, 2009

Amanda Jane “Jane” Garrett Kelling, daughter of John and Ethel (Ayers) Garrett, was born July 31, 1925, in Kirwin, and died at the Norton County Hospital in Norton on Jan. 13, 2009, at the age of 83.

Jane attended school in Kirwin, graduating with the class of 1943. She was a teacher at school #60 Prairie View just south of Kirwin. On Aug. 27, 1944, Jane and Milford Lee “Bud” Kelling were united in marriage in Kirwin, where they opened their first grocery store in Cedar, soon after their marriage. In 1948, the family moved into Kirwin, and in 1955, they moved to Norton where they owned and operated Kelling’s Fine Foods for many years. Jane’s husband, Bud, passed away July 6, 2000.

Jane was a member of the First United Methodist Church in

Norton and the V.F.W. Women’s Auxiliary. She made many contributions to the community and was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Survivors include three daughters, Janet and husband, Jerry McElroy, Topeka; Ruth and husband, Jack Donovan, Rossville; Paula Steinmetz and J.D. Sanderson, Norton; eight grandchildren, Paula and husband, Dan Beal; Janell and husband, Denny Rogers; Claudia and husband, Jason Pottorf; Garrett and wife, Kelly Donovan; Joan Donovan and fiancée, James Thomas; Amanda and husband, Greg Grafel; Carrie and husband, Manuel Otero; William “Bud” and Monique Steinmetz; 10 great-grandchildren, Braden and Parker Beal; Coury and Ella Rogers; Brinley Pottorf; Jack Donovan; Kelling and Reece Grafel; Blair Otero;

Jaymie and Blake Steinmetz; special friend, Del Austen, Phillipsburg; life-long friend, Richard Hofer, rural Cedar; trusted and loyal colleague, Linda Carter, Norton; many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, three brothers, James, Vaughn, and Donald, and one daughter, Claudia.

Funeral services will be Monday, Jan. 19 at 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Norton. Interment will take place at the Norton Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Norton County Hospital and Hospice Services of Norton County.

Friends may call Enfield Funeral home on Sunday from 3 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Enfield Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Ralph W. Strayer Feb. 20, 1919 - Jan. 12, 2009

Ralph W. Strayer, 89, of Atwood, died on Jan. 12, 2009 at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood. He was born on Feb. 20, 1919 in Norcatur.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, Atwood, three daughters, Janice Strayer of Denver, Carla Chvatal and husband Larry of San Diego, and Joyce

Hicks of Denver; and a grandson, Mark and wife Stephanie, of Denver.

Funeral services were held this morning at the United Methodist Church in Atwood with Rev. Gary Davison officiating. Interment was at 2:30 this afternoon at the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials may be addressed in his name to the Rawlins County Health Center, American Legion, Sam Hubbard Post #46, Atwood, or to the charity of the donor’s choice and may be left at the funeral home.

Williams Funeral Home, Atwood, was in charge of the arrangements.

## Merl Edward Railsback Jan. 29, 1924 - Jan. 6, 2009

Merl Edward Railsback, a 50-year resident of Torrance, Calif., died on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009 in Torrance. Born on a farm in rural Norton County, he was 84 when he died. He had served in the Air Force during World War II and was a member of South Bay Christian Church. He was born on Jan. 29, 1924.

He attended High School in Joes, Colo., and came to Los Angeles at age 17 where he worked at Lockheed until he was old enough to enlist in the Army-Air Corps in 1943. He was stationed in Guam and flew over Tokyo on VJ Day. Upon returning to the states he attended Colorado State College of Education (now the University of Northern Colorado) in Greeley, where he earned a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Mathematics. He was a math teacher and principal in Kirk, Colo. from 1950 to 1952; Superintendent of Schools in Grover, Colo., from 1952 to 1956, and Fla-

gler, Colo., from 1956 to 1958. In 1958 he was hired by Torrance schools to teach Math at North High School and retired from there in 1986.

His greatest loves were his family, cars, and attending the Los Angeles Auto Show each year.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 61 years, Roxie Railsback of Torrance, Calif.; daughter, Donna Braly of Torrance.; son, Gary Railsback of San Diego; grandchildren are Lyle Railsback, Portland, Ore.; Eric Railsback, Los Angeles; Emily Railsback, Hillsboro; Leah Braly, Long Beach, Calif.; Elisa Braly, Torrance.; and three great grandchildren, Jesse, Kian and Wynter.



Merl Railsback

Surviving siblings are Dorothy Coler, Lincoln, Neb.; Mavis Ohlson, Cambridge; Maxine Brown, Ogallala, Neb.; Imogene Davison, Ogallala, Neb.; Kate Brunner, Tucson, Ariz.; and Loren Railsback, Phoenix. He was preceded in death by his father, John Railsback and his mother, Leona Railsback.

Gathering of family and friends will be held at South Bay Christian Church in Redondo Beach, Calif.

The Memorial Service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday. A private family burial service was held at Pacific Crest Cemetery, Redondo Beach. Please go to the mortuary’s website, [www.LAfuneral.com](http://www.LAfuneral.com) or [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) to send the family messages, share memories, or to obtain directions to the services. Please sign the guest book at [www.dailybreeze.com/obits](http://www.dailybreeze.com/obits).

The family asks that donations toward Merl’s granddaughter Elisa myoelectric arm be sent to [lendah-andinc.org](http://lendah-andinc.org).

## School reminders

**NORTHERN VALLEY SCHOOLS**  
Monday, Jan. 19 — NOSCHOOL, Teacher In-Service; HS Dance Team practice.  
Tuesday, Jan. 20 — 5th and 6th grades to Eagle Day at Kirwin, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; HS Basketball vs. Thunder Ridge at Kensington, 4 p.m.  
Wednesday, Jan. 21 — Reading Cadre in Hays, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 22 — Yearbook ad sales in Norton, 9 a.m.; Junior High Basketball vs. Thunder Ridge at Agra, 4 p.m.; HS Dance Team practice.  
Friday, Jan. 23 — HS Basketball at Logan, 4 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 24 — KSU Ag Ed Speech contest at Manhattan, 8 a.m.

**NORTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Monday, Jan. 19 — NOSCHOOL, Teacher In-Service; Boys’ Basketball MCL Quarter Final Game at Phillipsburg, 7 p.m..  
Tuesday, Jan. 20 — Girls’ Basketball MCL Quarter Final Game, 7 p.m. here vs. Stockton; Cheerleaders, A.P.; Jay Singers, A.P.  
Wednesday, Jan. 21 — SAC meeting, A.P.; Site Council, 5 p.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 22 — SIT meeting, 7:45 a.m.; FCCLA meeting, A.P.; FFA meeting, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 23 — Pep rally, 3:10 p.m. (no A.P.); Basketball MCL Semi-Finals at FHSU.  
Saturday, Jan. 24 — FFA Speech Contest at KSU, Manhattan, 9 a.m.; MCL Basketball Finals at FHSU

**NORTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
Monday, Jan. 19 — NO SCHOOL, Teacher In-Service  
Wednesday, Jan. 21 — Site Council, 5:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 22 — STUCO Dance at junior high gym, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY**  
Monday, Jan. 19 — NOSCHOOL, Teacher In-Service; Site Council,

5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 20 — Kindergarten CBMs  
Wednesday, Jan. 21 — SIT meeting, 7:30 a.m.; 5th grade KMO; 1st grade CBMs.  
Thursday, Jan. 22 — 5th and 6th GLM, 3:40 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 24 — Kids Wrestling Tournament, Stull Gym

**ALL NORTON SCHOOLS**  
Monday, Jan. 19 — NO SCHOOL, Teacher In-Service

Jan. 15- Jan. 20

Showing at the

**NORTON THEATRE**

**BRIDE WARS**

(PG) Premiere, 1 Hour, 47 Minutes

Friday and Saturday: 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.  
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 p.m.

**AUSTRALIA**

(PG-13) 2 Hours, 45 Minutes  
(Presented in Digital Surround Sound)

BRIDE WARS IS THE PREMIERE PRICE OF \$7.00-\$6.00  
AUSTRALIA IS GENERAL ADMISSION PRICE OF \$6.00-\$5.00

Marley and Me (PG) • Gran Torino (R)

website: [nortontheatre.com](http://nortontheatre.com)

No Sunday Discount for Bride Wars  
\$3.00 Ticket Sunday for Australia

POPcorn

COMING SOON

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

Let's Go to the Movie

All passes accepted for Australia; Only premiere passes accepted for Bride Wars

# Walk Kansas to begin on March 8

For many in Kansas, participating in Walk Kansas — a Kansas State University Research and Extension health challenge — signals spring. The 2009 program will begin March 8 and continue to May 2.

Over the eight-year history of the program, it has grown to more than 20,000 participants. Each year, the participants form teams of six to log 423 miles, the equivalent of walking across Kansas.

This year, some adjustments and additions to the program are expected to keep it fresh and in line with changes in recommendations for health.

The goal in the past has been 30 minutes of aerobic activity each day.

But, updated recommendations now call for a total of 2-1/2 hours (150 minutes) of

Home ed  
Tranda  
Watts,  
Extension  
specialist



heart-healthy aerobic exercise per week.

The change in the recommendations offers flexibility in scheduling activities. This includes your taking time off for strength training to build and tone muscles twice a week — which we’ll be encouraging this year.

Participants also are encouraged to tally health-promoting fruits, vegetables and whole grains on their menu each week.

The focus of this eight-week program continues to be fitness and health. Incorporating healthy habits can be helpful in managing weight, hypertension and diabetes, as well as in preventing some cancers and reducing stress.

The cost to enroll is \$7 to cover registration and program materials, which include a weekly newsletter with nutrition and health tips and recipes.

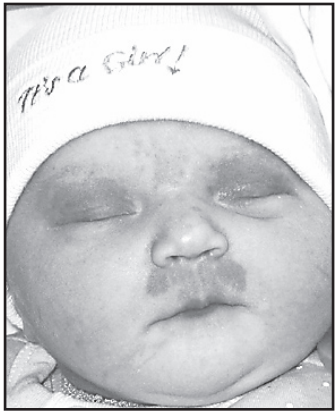
More information about Walk Kansas is available at your county K-State Research and Extension offices.

More information will be available as registration time nears, but participants are encouraged to start recruiting team members now.

Please feel free to e-mail [twwatts@ksu.edu](mailto:twwatts@ksu.edu) for further help.

## BIRTHS

It’s a girl!

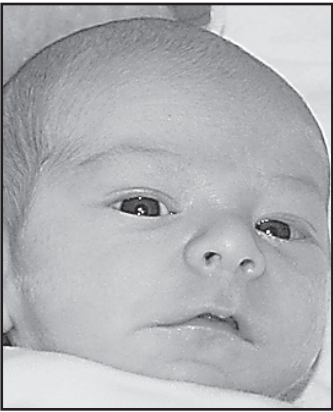


Jordyn Brinley Cox

Corinne and Clint Cox, Long Island, welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Jordyn Brinley. She was born on Dec. 31 at 3:36 p.m. at the Norton County Hospital, and weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 inches long. Her older sister, Austyn, 2 1/2, also welcomed her home.

Grandparents are Jerry and Connie Cox, Long Island and Arlen and Barb Ruhnke, Troy. Great-grandparents are Doris Kirgis, Beloit, Doug and Florence Ruhnke, Troy, and Jerry Acord, Wathena.

It’s a boy!



Phillip Michael Wells

Andy and Devaney Wells, Almena, welcomed the birth of their son, Phillip Michael Wells, born on Jan. 8, 2009 at 6:20 a.m. at the Norton County Hospital.

He weighed 7 pounds, 3 1/2 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents are Gary and Carol Flanigan, Norton, and Sherri Wells, Norton.

Great-grandparents are Marie Flanigan, Phillipsburg, and Caroline Nowak, Colby.

The Norton Telegram...  
News you need!

PREPARE TO BE ENTERTAINED!

**FOURSTAR**

Performing the Music of the  
Statler Brothers, John Denver, Alabama and Others

**Sunday, January 18**

3:00 P.M. • EAST CAMPUS AUDITORIUM  
HWY. 283 AND WOODSFIELD, NORTON

ADULTS: \$5; STUDENTS: \$2; 12 & UNDER: \$1  
RECIPROCITY: \$3; MEMBERS FREE

SPONSORED BY:

The Norton County Arts Council, Inc.

## FYI

There were three tables at Duplicate Bridge this week. First place was Myron Veh and Jerry Moritz. Second place was Bob Jones and Carla Latimer.

(E-mail items to FYI to [nortontelegram@nwkanas.com](mailto:nortontelegram@nwkanas.com), fax to 877-3732, call 877-3361 or bring to the office at 215 S. Kansas Ave.)

Come to Our  
Inaugural Open House  
Honoring Senator  
John S. McCain

by adding his portrait into our collection  
**Tuesday, January 20 ~ 10:30 a.m.**  
LIVE COVERAGE OF OBAMA’S INAUGURATION AT 11:00 A.M.  
**“THEY ALSO RAN” GALLERY**  
**First State Bank, Norton - 105 W. Main**  
— REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED FROM 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. —