

# Obituaries

## Robert William Keller June 17, 1922 - Aug. 31, 2011

Robert William Keller was born June 17, 1922, in St. Francis, Kan., to John and Mathilda Wagner Keller. He was baptized at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, June 28, 1922, by Pastor A.L. Hoeman and also confirmed at Emmanuel.

Robert grew up with his sisters, Bertha, Helen and Ella, and his brothers, Albert, Edward and Elton, on the family farm north of St. Francis and attended Hackberry School.

Bob attended St. Francis Community High School where he enjoyed many activities including showing a steer at the National Western Stock Show and, in 1939, placing in the state wrestling finals. He graduated in May 1940.

Following high school, Robert attended Kansas State University where he was a member of Farmhouse fraternity.

With the advent of World War II, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Company C of the 79th Infantry Battalion, stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif. Robert was honorably discharged on Sept. 24, 1943.

He returned to St. Francis and while attending a high school alumni dance, he met the county's most popular school teacher, Dixie Waters. Married on Sept.

7, 1947, Robert and Dixie celebrated 63 years together, and they were blessed with two children, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Settling on the family farm north of St. Francis, Robert and Dixie launched a career in wheat farming and registered Hereford cattle. Robert took particular pride in raising fine Hereford cattle and quarter horses. He exhibited bulls at the Denver Stock Show, the Quality Cut Sale and many other venues throughout the west. He was a 4-H leader and he always extended the hospitality of his home to his siblings, nieces, nephews and friends.

Retiring in 1992, Robert and Dixie moved to St. Francis. Bob enjoyed an active retirement of community involvement, family activities, sports and church work. He and Dixie spent winters in Mesa, Ariz., and they frequently visited family in California.

Robert maintained steadfast faith throughout his lifetime. He was a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church, Trinity Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church. He held many offices and served on numerous boards and committees.

Robert died on Aug. 31, 2011 in St. Francis. He was prede-

ceased by his wife, Dixie, his parents, John and Mathilda, his sisters, Helen and Ella, and his brothers, Albert and Edward.

He is survived by his daughter, Ann Isaac and husband, Stan, of Dinuba, Calif., and his son, Jorn, of Scottsdale, Ariz. Surviving grandchildren and great-grandchildren include Jason Isaac of South Lake Tahoe, Calif., Stephanie Cabrera and husband, Ernie, of Dinuba, and their children, Aneasha, Jazmine, Jacob and Damian. Also surviving are his sister, Bertha Hilt, and his brother, Elton Keller and wife, Ella Mae, all of St. Francis. Additional survivors are brother-in-law Jerry Waters and wife, Janice; brother-in-law, Ernie Heitschmidt, and sister-in-law Cathy Brunswig and husband, Chuck, as well as a host of nieces, nephews and grand nieces and grand nephews.

Services, officiated by Pastor Randy Nelson, were held at Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday. Burial with military honors performed by Fort Riley Honor Guard was in the St. Francis Cemetery. Casket bearers were John Keller, Alfred Hilt, Tom Keller, Perry Keller, Kelly Gienger and Rob Schiltz.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

## Norbert Anthony Kinen June 19, 1933 - Aug. 27, 2011

Gresham, Ore., resident, Norbert Anthony Kinen, died Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011. He was 78.

Norbert was born June 19, 1933, in St. Francis, Kan., to Phillip and Mary Kinen.

At the age of 26, Norbert was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest. He was named headmaster of the Abbey School of the Benedictine Holy Cross Abbey of Canon City, Colo. Seven years later, he was elected Abbot of the monastery, a position he held for several years until making the difficult decision to leave the priesthood.

In 1976, he was married to his first wife, Kathleen and settled in Gresham where he worked for J. Frank Schmidt and Son Co., for 25 years. In 2006, he married Janice Kay Oestereich.

In addition to working for

Schmidt, Norbert was active in the nursery industry in both the American Association of Nurseries and the Oregon Association of Nurseries where he served all the way from Mt. Hood Chapter president in 1984 to president of the Oregon association in 1994 and 1995. His awards are extensive, culminating in being inducted in the Oregon Nurserymen's Hall of Fame in 2002.

He retired in 2002 to start his own niche market growing trees less common in the industry. His son invented the title of Kinen's Big and Phat Special Plants.

Norbert is preceded in death by his first wife, Kathleen; his parents, his brother Gary and sister-in-law, Patricia, and his sister, Sylvia Fisher.

Survivors include his wife, Janice Kay Oestereich; son, Nor-

bert Anthony Kinen; stepdaughter, Caitlin Fagerberg; sister, Catherine Kinen OSB; brothers-in-law, Larry Fisher, Mark Oestereich and James Oestereich; sisters-in-law Susan Gruender and Linda Krellwitz.

A funeral mass was held on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011, at St. Henry Catholic Church, Gresham with celebrant, Father Patrick Walsh. Speakers were Pete Kinen, Jerry Kalapus, Nancy Bu-ley and Frank Schmidt. Pallbearers were Anthony Kinen, Pete Kinen, Mark Oestereich, Frank Schmidt, Lorenzo Antonio Perez and Jose Anthonio Diaz.

Remembrances may be given to the Oregon Association of Nurseries, located in Wilsonville, Ore., to be used for the education trust.

# Sports

## Junior Varsity Volleyball

The Sainty junior varsity ladies met Hoxie and Golden Plains ladies in volleyball action at Hoxie on Tuesday, Aug. 30. The ending scores found the St. Francis ladies losing both games to Hoxie 13-25 and 24-26 but winning both games against Golden Plains, 25-19 and 25-10.

"These were the opening matches for the junior varsity ladies and they played reasonably well in an extremely hot and humid gym," said Coach Jeff Olofson.

"In the Hoxie match," he said, "their first server got off to a good start and we did not pass well. In the second set, our

passing improved and we scored points off of serve."

"This was classic junior varsity ball in that it was not very pretty but the young Lady Indians played hard," Coach Olofson said.

The Golden Plains match was fairly even at the outset but with both teams scoring points off of serve.

"It was hot enough that the ball got slick from sweat and was nearly impossible to set or serve," the coach said. "Several servers made runs of aces and we won the second set.

"We will be working on hitting and defensive coverage as we

were often out of position. This was a good start to the season."

### C-team action

The St. Francis and Hoxie C-team ladies also saw action on Aug. 30 with St. Francis winning both matches, 15-11 and 15-9.

"The scores look like an old side out score," said Coach Olofson, "but to get the match in and allow the head coaches time to talk to their teams, we ran an abbreviated match. If you blinked you missed it as both teams scored off of serve. It was good that they gave the C team a match; it was unfortunate that they treated it as an afterthought."

## Junior High Volleyball

The St. Francis junior high A and B volleyball teams met in a triangular with Oberlin and Goodland on Thursday, Sept. 1.

"This was the first set of matches for the girls and it was scheduled as a triangular playing both teams on our home court," said Tina Elliott, coach.

The A and B teams played at the same time in different gyms for the Oberlin matches so Coach Talley Morrow stepped in and coached the B-team girls.

"Both A and B teams did a good job for the first matches against Oberlin," Coach Elliott said. "The B team also won

against Goodland but the A team struggled with serves and ended up taking the Mustangs into three sets and lost."

### Sainty vs Oberlin

The Sainty A team match against Oberlin found the ladies winning both sets 25-20 and 25-19. McKenzie Taylor had 9 good serves, followed by Journey Lee with 7 and Emily Elfers with 6.

The B-team also took both sets, 25-17 and 25-11. Katie Jenik had 14 good serves, and Katie Schmid, 10.

### Sainty vs Goodland

Sainty's A team won one and lost two to Goodland, 20-25, 25-

20 and 17-19. Taylor and Kayla Reed each had 8 good serves, Lee, 7 and Elfers, 6.

The B-team stepped up, taking both matches against Goodland, 25-22 and 25-21. Hannah Stafford had 10 good serves, followed by Sophie White with 8, and Danielle Frink, 7.

"I was very proud of these girls," Coach Elliott said. "They worked hard and they definitely realize how important serves are.

"Now we have a starting point on things, we need to work on to continue to get better as the year progresses."

## Junior High Football

The St. Francis junior high football team walked away with a win on Thursday when they outscored the Colby Eagles 36 to 0.

"It is always good to get out of the gate with a win," said Coach Jeff Biems. "It boosts the boys confidence, and allows them to get a taste for winning. Even though it was Colby's seventh grade team, they had some good players."

"I thought we were aggressive defensively, and played smart, relatively mistake free on offense," he said. "We have a long way to go

though, before any of us should be satisfied, and the competition will certainly get tougher."

In the first quarter, Travis Rogers ran for a 64-yard kick off return. Justin Pacheco ran in the extra points for 2.

Clay Cassaw had a 37-yard touchdown run in the second quarter, bringing the score to 14. The extra points attempt failed.

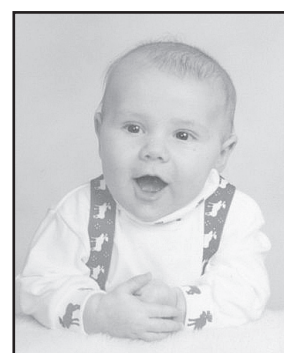
In the third quarter, Pacheco had a 41-yard touchdown run and Garrett Brunk ran in the extra points. The score was 22-0.

St. Francis had two touchdowns in the fourth quarter. The first was made by Brunk on a 39-yard run. Rogers ran in the extra points. Brunk also made the next touchdown with a 62-yard run but the extra point attempt failed. The final score was 36-0.

The young Indian team will take a 1-0 record to the next game with Rawlins County, Atwood, on Thursday. Game time is 5:30 p.m. on Greene Field in St. Francis.

## September 12, 1993

On this day in history  
Someone extraordinary was born!!



We love you  
very much!

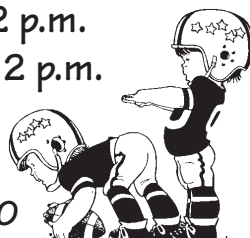
Mom, Dad,  
Matt and Sara

## St. Francis Youth Football

Saturdays: Sept. 10 vs Goodland, 2 p.m.  
Sept. 24 vs Norton, 2 p.m.  
Oct. 8 vs Phillipsburg, 2 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to  
referee and run the clock.

Call Ryan Culwell 785-332-0150



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## High Plains Ag Profit Workshop - Goodland, KS

Thurs. Sept. 29 thru Sat. Oct. 1

Explore the possibilities, benefits and profits of grass-fed  
beef production, the bison advantage, rangeland hair  
sheep, species co-grazing and more.

Farm ground segment will cover no-till, cover-cropping,  
poly-culture, natural fertility strategies and the mixing of  
livestock with farming for greater benefits. See how a  
modern weed-wiper and crop-roller can help.

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Educator Kirk Gadzia will teach basic HM  
principles and hands-on rangeland monitoring.

\$160/person/day (lunch included) or

\$500 for all three days (lunches and dinners included)

Call 855-330-1493 for more info or to sign up! (Book by Sept 21)

## BEECHER ISLAND REUNION

Saturday, Sept. 17th

6:30 a.m. Breakfast with  
Idalia Bicentennial FCE Club  
9 a.m. Black Powder Shoot  
sponsored by Idalia Gun Club  
10 a.m. Peddle Tractor Pull  
Concessions available  
from Wray Lions Club  
All day Quilt show  
1 a.m. Races; horseshoe pitching;  
music; dryland turtle race  
7 p.m. In the historic Beecher Island  
Auditorium Wily Jim The Original  
Swingabilly



Sunday, Sept. 18th

6:30 a.m. Pancake breakfast by the Idalia Lions Club  
9:45 a.m. Boy scout flag raising ceremony  
10 a.m. Sunday Service, Speaker Phil Mitchell, Music  
Willie Sharp and A Few Good Men  
1 a.m. Denver Mandolin Orchestra, Paul Barkey His-  
tory Speaker.  
Raffle drawing Beecher Island Helping Hand Club