

# Family

## Deaths

**Leatha M. Davis Kindler**  
Leatha M. Davis Kindler, 88, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

There will be a memorial service on Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church at Grant and Webster in Colby.

Mrs. Kindler is survived by her husband, Leland Kindler of Colby; daughter, Barbara Brown, Overland Park; two sons, Jerry Davis,

Belle Plaine and John Davis, Wichita; step-son, Roger Kindler, Washington, D.C.; along with 11 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Claude L. Davis and a brother, Harold Bay.

The family is requesting donations to the charity of their choice in her memory.

**Lois Rose (Duden) Myers**  
Lois Rose Myers, 74, of Colby, died Saturday, March 15, 2003 at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She was born on March 4, 1929 in Colby and was a homemaker.

Mrs. Myers was preceded in death by her parents, Andrew and Louis Duden, and her husband, Robert Dale Myers in November of 1985.

She is survived by two sons, Gary D. Myers, Houston, Texas and Dennis L. Myers, Temple, Ariz.; three daughters, Bette Green, Peyton, Colo., Colleen Sloan, Amarillo, Texas, and Jennifer Case, Reynoldsburg, Ohio; two brothers, Ben Duden of Colby and Lloyd Duden of Ukyon, Okla.; along with 10 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

She graduated from Colby Community High School in 1947 and volunteered at the chapels and American Youth Activities while living in England.

She was a Red Cross Dental assistant, Meals on Wheels volunteer, member Retired Enlisted Association, and was active at the Peterson Air Force Base Chapel as choir, social chairman, and co-chairman of the Protestant Women of the Chapel's outreach program.

She also won ribbons for canning, preserving and crafts, and

wrote poetry that was published by the National Library of Poetry while living in Colorado Springs.

After moving back to Colby in 1994, Mrs. Myers became a member of Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary, working at the information desk, gift shop, secretary and chairperson of hours and awards.

She also was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary (chaplain), charter member of VFW Auxiliary (treasurer), was active at First Christian Church as vice-president, CWF Mary Group and church historian, along with filling in as pianist.

She was a member of RSVP, Thomas County Historical Society, wrote for the *Colby Free Press* (About Town, Kountry Kitchen and Senior Savvy), and played keyboard for Lantern Park Manor and Senior Progress Center.

Other hobbies included cooking, fishing, and Bible studies.

Services are planned for 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, at Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby.

Visitation is today from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., also at Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, Kan. 67701. Burial will be at Beulah Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the First Christian Church in Colby and left at any Colby bank or the chapel.

# Rexford newspaper highlighted war events

## Maxine Nelson

### •A Peek at the Past



Life was proceeding as usual in Colby at the beginning of 1941. The country was slowly emerging from a devastating drought in the 'dirty thirties,' and from the Depression. War clouds were gathering in Europe but the United States had not yet officially taken a position. Japan had not yet bombed Pearl Harbor, which was to happen on Dec. 7, 1941.

Unemployment was high, and wages were low. CCC stood for the Civilian Conservation Corps, not Colby Community.

College which was not yet started, in 1941. The Corps was a work program for unemployed young men who did such things as build bridges, roads, outdoor toilets, and other useful public service activities. Thomas County's quota for Jan. 8 was two men. In addition to the Civilian Conservation Corps, an army was being built up to provide employment for young men, as well as providing for national defense.

According to factmonster.com, the country had established conscription for the Civil War, but the United States first adopted peacetime conscription with the Selective Service Training and Service Act of 1940.

The act provided that not more than 900,000 men were to be in training at any one time, and it limited service to 12 months - later (1941) extended to 18 months. After the United States entered World War II, a new selective service act made men between 18 and 45 liable for military service and required all men between 18 and 65 to register. The terminal point of service was extended to six months after the war. From 1940 until 1947 - when the wartime selective service act expired after extension by Congress - over 10 million men were inducted.

Richard Edmond Markham, Floyd Alvin Donn and Garland Clair Schrock were the first Thomas County men called in the draft. They were ordered to report to the local draft board on Jan. 14, "whereupon they shall be sent to an induction station of the United States at North Platte, Neb."

They were to receive a year's training in the army and then become part of the US army reserve. The call was expected to take approximately 234 men in Kansas and "in northwest Kansas, three will go from Sherman county, three from Rawlins, two from Cheyenne, three from Decatur, three from Scott and four from Norton."

A total of 711 men in Thomas County were registered under the provisions of the draft act. Of those, 15 were in Class 1-A and had taken physical examinations as of Jan. 1, and 21 were also in class 1-A but had not taken physical examinations.

The estimated quota for Thomas County was placed at 96, to be furnished by the middle of 1941. About half were expected to enlist. Selective service classifications were: 1-A available, fit for military service; 1-A-0, conscientious objector, non-combatant service only, available; 1-B, available, fit for limited military service; 1-B-C, conscientious objector, non-combatant service, available, limited service; 1-C, member of land or naval forces, coast guard; 1-H, 28 years of age prior to July 1, 1941, and not inducted by that date; 2-A, necessary man in his civilian category; 2-B necessary man in national defense; 3-A, man with dependents; 4-A, man who has completed service; 4-B official deferred by law; 4-D, minister or divinity student; 4-E, conscientious objector, fit for service, available for work of national importance; 4-E-LS, conscientious objector, fit for limited service; 4-H, conscientious objector, over 28 years old July 1, 1941; 4-F mentally, morally or physically unfit.

A representative of the US Naval Recruiting Station was in Colby Thursday Jan. 2, at noon, to interview young men interested in volunteering in the Navy.

Colby Mayor M.A. Taylor endorsed the American Legion's nationwide plan to register all Legionnaires and World War veterans on a volunteer basis for any possible future national defense. The local registration was conducted by the Colby Post of the American Legion.

Fifteen Thomas County young men were ordered to report to the local Selective Service Board early in February. They were: George W. Clinkenbeard, Thomas Sandford Spriggs, Robert Proctor Gilbert, Wallace Allen Hurlbut, Lloyd Chester Rector, William Allen Garrett, Orville Earl Miller, William Alexander Engelhardt, Normal Frank Rall, Robert Leroy Neil, Orval Eugene Spaeth, David Orelle

Breault, Lloyd Gail Bear, Fred Anton Wallsmith and Norris Glenn Mallory. A considerable crowd was expected to see them off.

Alternates were Marvin Logan Thompson, John Wesley McBride, John Raymond Mallory, Nolan L. Hopper and Herbert James Thomas. Vernon Charles McGinley, Maynard Claudail Agnew, Marion Eugene Warner and Paul Harold Visser had enlisted.

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The Mingo correspondent reported on Jan. 1, 1941, the Sunday School had a Christmas party at the school house Sunday evening.

Mrs. George Herbel and Sammy spent Christmas with her mother at Lucas. Three of Thomas County's soldiers, Francis Rodenbeck, Harold White and Lynn Barnett, were home on furlough.

Mrs. Howard Biggs, Margaret Misner and Rebecca Keller were in Colby shopping Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rasmussen and Floyd were Colby callers Monday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lunsway and baby took Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. S.A. Lunsway. They also called on grandpa and grandma in the afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rasmussen took dinner with Maurice and Myrtle Rasmussen of Oakley. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Channel, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Channell and family and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hamilton were afternoon callers.

The TOB club was entertained at the home of Mrs. May Rasmussen on Thursday, Dec. 19. The afternoon was spent playing games. Christmas gifts were exchanged after which luncheon was served by the hostess.

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*Editor's note: This is part of a series of articles taken from the Colby Free Press Tribune which was published in 1941. Microfilms of the paper are available at the Thomas County Historical Society.*

## Community Calendar

**WEDNESDAY, March 19**

Genesis Thomas County pickup, 350 S. Range, 10 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m.

TeleFriend Information meeting, 5:30 p.m. (call 462-6996)

Caregiver Support Group, Colby College Student Union, 7 to 9 p.m. (1st Wednesday of each month) - Jennifer Anderson, coordinator, (800) 432-7422.

Gem Lions, Gem Community Building, 7 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

Solid Rock Junior High Youth Group, Armory, 7-8:30 p.m.

Pinochle, American Legion, 7:30 p.m.

Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous & AAAnon (non-smoking), 1275 West 6th, 8:30 p.m.

## Happenings

### Kurt L. Kaiser

Kurt L. Kaiser, a 1995 graduate of Quinter High School and 1999 graduate of Pittsburgh State University, was commissioned recently as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, military officials in San Antonio, Texas said.

He graduated from Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. after completing a 12-week course in classroom work, lectures, leadership development, team building and officer skills.

Cadets also receive instruction in military training and application,

professional knowledge, human behavior, defense studies, leadership studies, communication skills, physical fitness and field training exercises.

Kaiser is the son of Ronald L. and Bernadine Kaiser of Quinter.

## Markets

**Quotes as of close of previous business day  
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