

# Family

## Deaths

### Bill Bremenkamp

William P. Bremenkamp, 68, Colby, died Friday, Sept. 18, 2009, in Victoria.  
He was born Sept. 17, 1941, in Colby.  
Survivors include his wife, Janet Bremenkamp, Hays, and two daughters, Darla Buhl, Colby, and Sherri Roe, Hays.  
Graveside memorial services

will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009, at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Colby, with Father Dana Clark officiating.  
No visitation.  
The family suggests memorials in his name, in care of the Harrison Chapel, Box, 634, Colby, Kan., 67701.

## On the Beat

**COLBY POLICE**  
**Saturday**  
9:25 p.m. – Anonymous call about vehicle parked at the American Legion.  
10 p.m. – Dog at large at 1124 Summer Sun taken to Colby Animal Clinic.  
10:15 p.m. – Man running from Colby Implement to Petro Lube.  
**Sunday**  
12:53 a.m. – Noise complaint at 1170 S. Franklin No. 16.  
9:20 a.m. – Wife missing. Made contact, everything OK.  
1:57 p.m. – Disorderly conduct: someone acting oddly in alley at 460 N. Country Club Dr. Told to go back to room.  
4:58 p.m. – Suspicious incident: caller said her daughter in foster care is being sexually abused, and may be suicidal or run away. Not found. No report filed at this time; information given to St. Francis Academy for follow up.  
5:57 p.m. – Subject reported someone tried to take dog on S. Franklin. Spoke to subjects at 1150 S. Franklin No. 31 and 870 S. Grant; mistaken identity.  
8:40 p.m. – Love's reported a man came in, took beer, left money, then walking east on Fourth.  
9:10 p.m. – Dog at large in area of Seventh and French.

**Monday**  
2:42 a.m. – Security check at Walmart.  
6:59 a.m. – Bicycle found in yard at 420 W. Eighth.  
9:47 a.m. – Bicycle stolen from 145 E. Fifth. Returned to owner from call at 6:59 a.m.  
11:21 a.m. – Clerk at Bosselman's called about an employee and his ex-wife arguing; they wanted her to leave.  
**Wednesday**  
1:19 a.m. – Barking dog at 1150 S. Franklin No. 84, taken inside.  
3:21 a.m. – Provided information at Love's.  
8:46 a.m. – Accident at 1100 block of S. Range.  
9 a.m. – 911 and IdentAKid programs at Heartland Christian School.  
12:37 p.m. – Purse stolen out of vehicle.

**THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF**  
**Monday**  
9:01 a.m. – Provided travelers aid.  
**Wednesday**  
3:23 p.m. – Assisted with an irate customer at the treasurer's office.  
6:38 p.m. – Accident at K-25 and Veterans Memorial.

## That sure is a lot of coffee

ST. LOUIS (AP) — St. Louis is perking up with jokes about the \$200,000 cup of coffee. But officials at a college and its insurance company aren't laughing.  
St. Louis Community College at Forest Park must foot the bill after a coffee maker rigged to a faucet and left on in a photo lab led to a ruptured water line in July. About 10,000 gallons of water spilled down four floors, damaging ceilings, walls, computers and files.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports the college's Board of Trustees will be asked to approve cleanup costs this week, including a \$143,494 contract with a disaster-recovery company.  
School officials hope the campus will be out only the \$25,000 insurance deductible plus another \$54,000 for miscellaneous expenses, including overtime costs.

# Massive work goes into giant pumpkin

Just in case you or your gardening friends have thoughts about setting a new world record with that great big pumpkin out there in the backyard, keep in mind that the world record is now is an astounding 1,698 pounds.

That, my friends, is just 302 pounds short of a ton!

The number of gardeners who plant only pumpkins is a growing fraternity. There are literally hundreds of green-thumbs out there who couldn't care less about tomatoes and broccoli.

And believe me — the pumpkin growers are not growing them for pies. They are pulling out all the stops in an effort to grow the BIG ones — the record breakers — the ones that will assure them of bragging rights for another year. As you read these words, there are pumpkins out there right now that are gaining as much as 25 to 30 pounds a day as their owners feed them some kind of magic elixir that will win them the "largest pumpkin" award in special competitions all over the world.

Take last year, for instance. Steve Connolly of Sharon, Mass., seemed well on his way to winning the 2008 crown. With a little more than a week to go before the weigh-in, Connolly's pumpkin appeared to approach 1,900 pounds, a figure arrived at with an educated guess. Neighbors and many competitors had all but conceded victory to Connolly as they dubbed his progeny as "The Beast from the East."

There certainly was some concern by Connolly, as well as others who looked at the Beast. Occasionally, these huge specimens grow so fast during the peak of the season that they actually explode. That's exactly what happened to



### Kay Melia

• The Gardener

the other four pumpkins Connolly was nurturing as possible contenders. So, he did what any red-blooded pumpkin grower would do. He made a serious effort to slow its growth. He severed the roots — he slashed the water intake — he removed any sustenance that he might have been using to grow the thing to it's present size.

On the morning of Oct. 11, 1008, Connolly and his small army of compatriots successfully transported the behemoth to the Topsfield, Mass., fair for the weigh-in and the moment of truth. As the entry was hoisted onto the scales, a murmur could be heard rapidly spreading through the crowd. The audience had detected what Connolly was now seeing for the first time — a small leak in the bottom of the pumpkin. And although his entry weighed 1,568 pounds, the largest in the competition, the rules were clear. The slight imperfection eliminated the entry.

Connolly was not dismayed, albeit a bit disappointed. He loaded up his giant Beast and returned home, where he harvested 584 seeds from the belly of this otherwise flawless pumpkin. Those seeds could fetch as much as \$500 each, mainly from pumpkin growers just like Connolly who are looking for improvement in genetics.

Who knows — one of those seeds might produce this year's winner, and maybe even a new world record.

## Babies

### Alexi Mikaela Almoradie

Alexi Mikaela Almoradie, daughter of Anthony and Armie Almoradie of Goodland, was born Friday, Sept. 11, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 19 inches.



Alexi A.

### Aniston Grace Andrews

Aniston Grace Andrews, daughter of Damon and Jessica Andrews of Colby, was born Thursday, Sept. 3, 2009, at Hays Medical Center. She weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 20 1/4 inches.  
Brother Chance, 9, and sister,

Camden, 7, welcomed the baby home. Grandparents are Sharon and Leon Woofert of Colby, Jeanie and Brad Herndon of Iola, and Guy and Michelle Johnson of Borger, Texas. Beverly Peterson of Colby is a great-grandmother.

### Whitney Eileen Landry



Whitney L.

Whitney Eileen Landry, daughter of Jim and Jamie Landry of Oklahoma City, was born at 10:54 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 30, 2009. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 18 inches.

Brother Wyatt Anthony Landry, 3, welcomed the baby home.

Grandparents are Francis and Geri Landry of Colby and Joe and Kathy Biller of Yukon, Okla. Great-grandmother is Dorothy Landry of Colorado Springs.

### Jamie June Williams

Jamie June Williams, daughter of Elizabeth Williams of Colby, was born Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 18 inches.  
Brother Alex Kade Kuder and

sister Alison Rose Backus welcomed the baby home.

Grandparents are Albert L. Williams Jr. and Elizabeth J. Williams of Colby and Rosella Theye of Colby.

## Balalaika Brothers trio brought in by arts association

A trio of Russian musicians, the Flying Balalaika Brothers, will appear at 3 p.m. Sunday at the St. Francis High School auditorium.

The group, dressed in traditional colorful costumes, will perform folk music as well as music melding with American bluegrass and contemporary international acoustic styles. Originally formed in Los Angeles as a street band, the group is sure to provide fun as

three sizes of Balalaikas perform in a style that has been described as what happens when "Russian caviar meets Texas barbecue."

The group will give a school program next Monday in St. Francis.

Admission is by Western Plains Arts Association season ticket, or at the door, adults \$10 and children \$5.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
<b>Hi-Plains Co-op</b>	
Wheat (bushel)	\$3.67
Corn (bushel)	\$2.72
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.07
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.11

## Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963

*1st Anniversary Sale*  
*Sept. 23 - 26th*  
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*We Welcome...*  
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Marilyn Criger • Grandma's Treasure Chest  
& Bette James • author  
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Is your Thomas County organization planning a project or event related to the arts, literacy, education, or professional development for educators?  
**Would you like financial help?**  
Please contact the **Thomas County Community Foundation** to apply for a grant from the **Betty G. and James Secrest Fund**.  
Application deadline: Oct. 1, 2009  
785-460-9152 tccf@st-tel.net  
www.thomascountycommunityfoundation.com

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The Colby Free Press is looking for a full-time advertising executive to sell advertising for Nor'West Newspapers. The work week would be 40 hours with occasional evening and weekend duties. Computer skills with Excel, Photoshop, InDesign, and Acrobat helpful but not necessary. Must have good communication skills, and excellent customer service skills with attention to detail. Send a letter and resume to Steve Haynes, publisher, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kansas., 67701 or s.haynes@nwkansas.com. This could be the job you've been looking for.

 **COLBY FREE PRESS**

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