

Family

Deaths

Bob K. Rundel

Bob K. Rundel, 53, Colby, self-employed in the construction business, died Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at his home in Colby.

He was born Feb. 21, 1956, in Colby, the son of John and Betty (Christiansen) Rundel, and was a lifelong area resident.

On June 17, 1978, he married Pam Metzler.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents and his father.

Survivors include his wife of the home; his mother, Colby; two sons, Wyatt Rundel, Manhattan; and Brady Rundel, Colby; two daughters, Lenay (Justin) Marteney, Manhattan; and Tatym Rundel, Colby; and three brothers, John Rundel, Trenton, Neb.; J. Chris Rundel, Topeka; and Tom Rundel, Levant.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009, at the Colby United Methodist Church, with Pastor Gene Rothfuss officiating and burial in Beulah Cemetery.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Harrison Chapel.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice Services of Thomas County or the Thomas County Fair, in care of any Colby bank or the funeral chapel, Box 634, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Insurance still covers breast cancer screenings

TOPEKA — Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger says that Kansas law requires insurance company to pay for mammograms for insured women whose doctors have order them.

“According to Kansas statutes, the decision to have a mammogram is still one that an insured woman and her doctor have the right to make, regardless of age,” Commissioner Praeger said. “That continues to be the best way to handle this — with a decision between patient and doctor.”

The announcement that a government-sponsored task force had loosened guidelines for breast-cancer screenings generated fears about possible restrictions during a time when national health-care reform is being debated in Congress. It made unclear to many whether the recommendations would change coverage for such screenings in insurance policies.

The guidelines from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force suggested that women under age 50 didn’t need mammograms and that women 50 and older needed one only every other year.

Commissioner Praeger said the topic has generated discussion during her recent public appearances.

“I get asked about screenings everywhere I go,” she said. “I have also talked to several insurance companies that say they have no intention of changing their policies regarding mammograms.”

The Kansas Legislature would have the final say in any state changes, she said.

All 50 states have some form of mammography coverage for insurance policies, she said.

Pi Gamma Club

The world, Three of Clubs, and Pi Gamma according to Susan Haines:

The weather outside may be frightful, but the Three of Clubs is delightful, and as the year comes to an end, our past programs give thoughts to be remembered:

We had a Pi Gamma breakfast way back on Sept. 28. On Oct. 9, Grey Henry attempted to show us his New York trip video, but ended up performing ad lib. He will end up in politics, we have a feeling.

On Oct. 23, Jennifer Burr gave us the lowdown on the proposed pool, and yeah! It passed! Who said there is no Santa Claus?

On Nov 13, Rob Ross, our middle school principal, brought to light the problems of funding from our state government. Everything these days is according to budget cuts! Let’s have a state sales tax

and give our children the education they deserve. Are you listening, Jim Morrison? What ever happened to the lottery?

On Nov. 20, Pi Gamma Club enjoyed hot wassail while meandering around Emerald Edition. Tenely Glad makes Christmas shopping fun.

Our upcoming candy sale and wrap will be on Dec. 9. Make your candy and don’t forget the gift exchange at 1 p.m. at Fairview Estates. Oh, man, I gotta go to the grocery store. Have a Blessed Christmas!

Oh yeah, Three of Cubs is having its Christmas luncheon at Pioneer Memorial Library at noon Dec. 11, hosted by the Sorosis club with music by Karla Haggard and Monica Bugbee-Miller.

I just love this time of year, don’t you?

— Susan Haines



Mr. and Mrs. Russell Miller

Couple wed in July, living in North Platte

Kelsey Strickler and Russell Miller of North Platte, Neb., married July 18, 2009, at City Limits Convention Center in Colby.

The Rev. James Mardoc of the Colby United Methodist Church officiated.

The bride is a 2003 graduate of Colby High School and a 2007 graduate of Kansas State University with a degree in criminology. She works for the Nebraska Department of Labor in North Platte.

The groom is a 2001 graduate of Prairie Heights High School in Jennings and a 2008 graduate of K-State with a degree in electrical engineering. He works for the Nebraska Public Power District in Sutherland.

Parents of the bride are Doug and Wanda Brown of Colby and Lee and Nori Strickler, Burton.

The groom’s parents are Greg and Marie Miller of Dresden.

Grandparents are Glenna Strickler, Scott City; Christine Bennett, Phillipsburg; Paul and Shirley Brown, Goodland; and Betty Miller, Colby.

The couple plan to live in North Platte.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$4.37
Corn (bushel)	\$3.26
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.14
Soybeans (bushel)	\$9.33

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.

**MOVIE PASSES**

Watch for your name in the **Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.**

*(Passes must be used within 7 days.)*

Pick up your passes at your:

**COLBY FREE PRESS**

**MOVIES**

**NOW SHOWING**  
December 4th - December 10th

**THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON**  
Genre(s): Adventure/Thriller /Romance  
PG-13 2 Hours, 10 Minutes  
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:30  
Sunday -Thursday 7:00

**OLD DOGS**  
Starring: John Travolta & Robin Williams  
PG 1 Hour, 30 Minutes  
Genre(s): Comedy  
Wednesday - Thursday 7:00

**COMING SOON**  
The Blind Side  
2012  
The Men Who Stare at Goats  
Disney's A Christmas Carol

**Colby Cinema**  
1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600  
www.colbycinema.com

Budget cuts to end water rights program

Farmers with unused water rights can protect them by signing up for a state program before it falls to budget cuts at the end of the month.

The state’s Water Rights Conservation Program, begun in 1992, provided water-right owners in “over-appropriated” areas with more demand than water a chance to set their water usage aside for up to 10 years without abandonment issues cropping up.

Today, says Wayne Bossert, manager of Groundwater Management District No. 4 in Colby, just over 970 water rights are enrolled, but more owners have used the program over the past 17 years. Due to budget cuts and staffing reductions, however, the Division of Water Resources plans to eliminate this program on Dec. 31.

If a water right has not been used from 2005 to 2008, then 2009 becomes a critical year in terms of abandonment issues, Bossert said. If no water was used, these owners should contact the division’s Stockton Field Office to discuss the current status of their right, or file a contract under the program before the end of the year.

The Groundwater District Office can help owners with nearly all phases of their water rights, Bossert said, and can help in submitting these contracts. For information, go to the district’s web page at [www.gmd4.org/announce/announce.htm](http://www.gmd4.org/announce/announce.htm), call the office at (785) 462-3915 or stop by 1175 S. Range.

January workshops to help in family farming

Kansas State University and the Kansas Farm Analyst Program will offer workshops on Keeping the Family Farming for families working through the benefits and challenges of incorporating new members into an operation or passing the family business from one generation to the next.

“Farm transition planning is difficult in the best circumstances,” said LaVell Winsor, agricultural economist with the analyst program, part of K-State Research and Extension. “Often it takes a lot of time for families to figure out the best route for their family and operation.”

“With the average age of farmers and ranchers in their upper 50s, it’s critical that agriculture families be making plans now.”

To get the full benefit of the training, Winsor said, participants should attend as a family. They will receive hands-on guidance that will be relevant to their own operation on such topics as:

Where Do You Stand Financially?; Communicating Effectively With Those You Live and Work With; Planning for Retirement; Putting Your Game Plan into Action; Determine Your Current Financial Position; and others.

Each workshop will run two days, Winsor said, with sessions in Beloit and Hiawatha. The Beloit sessions will be Saturdays, Jan. 9 and 23, at Zion Lutheran Church, 621 N. Mill St. The Hiawatha sessions will be alternate Saturdays Jan. 16 and 30, at the Fisher Community Center, 201 E. Iowa St.

The first day will begin with registration at 9 a.m. and the program at 9:30 a.m. Second sessions go from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Early registration is \$250 per Kansas family of four if paid by Tuesday, Dec. 15. Registrations after Dec. 15 will be higher.

Registration and information is available on the website [www.agmanager.info](http://www.agmanager.info) or by contacting Rich Llewellyn at (785) 532-1504.

**“We Serve” Pancakes**

SAUSAGE & EGGS and PIE

**Gem Lions Club**

All **YoU** can **EaT** annual **PaNcAKe** day is: **Wed. Dec. 9, 2009**  
**11:00 AM to 7:00 PM**

**Gem Community Building**

**FREE WILL DONATIONS**

NET PROCEEDS GO TO: COMMUNITY BETTERMENT SIGHT CONSERVATION EDUCATION  
WE RECYCLE USED EYEGLASSES & HEARING AIDS

**Theresa Caroline (Kennedy) Solko**

Theresa Caroline (Kennedy) Solko was born on December 9, 1936 on the family farm northwest of Indianola, NE to Charles B. and Caroline (Kircher) Kennedy. She died on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at Community Hospital in McCook, NE at the age of 72 years.

She attended Red Willow Schools, graduating in 1954.

After high school she worked as a bookkeeper for the Red Willow County Courthouse in McCook, NE.

She was united in the Sacrament of Marriage to Richard Dean Solko on November 24, 1962 at St. Catherine’s Catholic Church in Indianola, NE. To this union four children were born; Rose Marie, Thomas Joseph, Jean Caroline and Patricia Sue.

They lived all their married life on a farm south of Herndon, which is commonly known as the Midway. She was a member at St. Mary’s Assumption Catholic Church in Herndon and St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in McCook. For several years she taught CCD Classes in Herndon.

On June 2, 1998 due to failing health she moved to Willow Ridge Retirement Community in McCook, NE. Returning somewhat to her roots, she renewed many friendships and acquaintances with many people. Although she always dreamed of having better health, she enjoyed getting the opportunity to visit with others and especially people that she had known of or remembered from years ago. She enjoyed the people at Willow Ridge and cared about them and their well being. Her physical body was challenged with many health issues, but her mind remained very clear. Her kids often said that she could remember people and events far better than they ever could.

She enjoyed reading, watching television and visiting with others. She cherished her time spent with her four children and four grandsons. Her Grandsons were Jason Lee and Jesse Gabriel Sis and Grant Richard and Trevor Charles Oberg. She appreciated it when they would visit her and also seeing them grow up and mature through the years. She really enjoyed and looked forward to family gatherings such as her birthday party each year and sharing Christmas with her family who would celebrate this with her at Willow Ridge.

She was a simple person who did not ask for a lot out of life. She was humble and persevered through her suffering and tried to not complain. She was content in her surroundings and was appreciative of others trying to do for her. Her Catholic faith sustained her through her life and she relied on that faith during her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Caroline Kennedy; husband, Richard Solko on January 13, 1994 and her brothers, infant Charles, Wayne F. and Howard J. Kennedy.

Survivors include, Son, Thomas J. of Herndon Daughters, Rose Marie and husband Jarrett Sis of Atwood; Jeannie Solko of Colby and Patty and husband Steve Oberg of McCook. She is also survived by four grandsons; Jason and Jesse Sis of Atwood and Grant and Trevor Oberg of McCook.

Funeral Services were Monday, November 23, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Mary’s Assumption Catholic Church in Herndon, KS where the Reverends Gary Brethour, Stephen Folorunso and Dana Clark celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial. Casket bearers were Jack Gutchewsky, Bob Martin, Kirche Martin, Gayle Kircher, Ken Kircher and Jeremy Sis. Providing the Music was Organist, Theresa Rippe, along with the St. Mary’s Church Choir. Altar Servers were Jason and Jesse Sis and Jaelynn Sis. The Lector was Jeannie Solko. Bringing up the offertory gifts were Grant and Trevor Oberg. Serving as Eucharistic Minister was Richard Rippe. Interment was in the St. Mary’s Church Cemetery. Memorials may be given in her name.

Sell it in the Classifieds! Call (785) 462-3963

**Become a foster parent and help change a child’s life.**

Benefits include:

- 24-hour local support
- Free on-going training
- Knowing you are helping to Give a Child Back Their Childhood

**Youthville**  
www.youthvillestory.com

**Free foster parent training class in the Colby area will begin soon!**  
Contact Janeen Cox at 785.623.4424 or [jcox@youthville.org](mailto:jcox@youthville.org) for details.

WHAT DO PEOPLE **NOTICE** ABOUT YOU?

WITH A **NEARLY INVISIBLE** HEARING AID FROM MIRACLE-EAR® **ONLY YOUR BEST** QUALITIES WILL SHOW.

DON’T PUT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW WHAT YOU CAN GAIN TODAY  
It’s time to take a look at Miracle-Ear®. Our nearly invisible hearing aid solutions are small, lightweight and virtually undetectable, and our expert hearing consultants are here to help simplify the process — but it’s you who must want to take that next step. It’s important that you decide to do something about your hearing loss today, so you can begin reacquainting yourself with all the sounds you’ve been missing out on.\* Only then can you answer the question: **What will your miracle sound like?™**

LIMITED-TIME OFFERS! VISIT US BY December 28, 2009

**December 17, 2009**  
**10 to 4 p.m.**  
**Colby Community Building**  
285 East 5th Street  
Colby, Kansas 67701  
**CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT**

**FREE 30 DAY TRIAL**  
Fitting charge may apply. No other offers or discounts apply. Good only through participating Miracle-Ear representatives. Offer valid on MERVSD products only. Offer expires December 28, 2009.

**Complimentary Services**  
**FREE Hearing Test**  
Receive a FREE, no-obligation hearing test from your Miracle-Ear hearing care consultant. Hearing test always free. Not a medical exam. Audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only.

**Miracle-Ear**  
*What will your miracle sound like?™*

\*Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation, proper fit and ability to adapt to amplification. A Miracle-Ear® representative can determine which models and options may be right for you.

©2008 Miracle-Ear® Inc. 11806ROPA\_OP/BW