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Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, the victim of a shooting in Tucson last week, has roots in Colby.

Her mother, Gloria Fraser Giffords, graduated in 1956 from Colby High School. The family owns farmland near Colby and the elder Giffords returns here to attend the high school reunion from time to time.

Delores Depe, wife of Alvin Depe, who rents some of the family's land, said on Tuesday that their family and the Giffords family have been friends for years.

"They had just returned from the swearing in ceremony in Washington," Depe said. "I haven't heard from Gloria yet, but I know her time is taken up with the events of last week, and she doesn't have time right now to sit down and reply to e-mails from friends while Gabby is in her present condition."

"The family is being remembered through prayer chains and we're keeping our fingers crossed for the best."

Gloria Fraser Giffords has enjoyed a career in Mexican Folk Art research, collecting and restoration. Her book, "Mexican Folk Retablos; Masterpieces on Tin," can be checked out from the

## Congresswoman shot

An Arizona congresswoman remains in critical condition after an assassination attempt Saturday.

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was shot in the head before a man with a handgun sprayed bullets into a small crowd gathered to talk with her at a Tucson supermarket. She had been holding her first meeting with constituents of the new year. Giffords, a Democrat, had been sworn in for her third term earlier in the week.

The Associated Press reported that the gunman emptied one 30-round magazine, but was tackled by two men from the crowd as he reloaded. A woman grabbed his spare magazine before he could jam it in his gun.

Jared Loughner, 22, was arrested following the shooting and is being held without bail. He had his first appearance in

federal court Monday.

Six people were killed in the shooting, including 9-year-old Christina Taylor Green and John Roll, Arizona's chief federal judge. Fourteen were wounded. The first memorial services were Tuesday.

Giffords was rushed to University Medical Center, where doctors reported she was responsive. The bullet appeared to have passed through one hemisphere of her brain from front to back, leaving much of her brain intact. As of this morning, she was still in critical condition but breathing on her own and able to move both arms. CT scans showed no further swelling in her brain, and doctors said that was a good sign.

Giffords' husband, astronaut Mark Kelly, was slated to command the space shuttle Endeavour on a mission in April.

Pioneer Memorial Library.

The family's Thomas County roots go back to the John Ackard family, early-day residents of Colby. Ackard was the great uncle of Gloria Fraser Giffords, and great-great uncle of the congress-

woman. He will be remembered as the father of the late McCleta Fryback, and the owner of Ackard Oil Co. in the 1930s. John Schroeder of Brewster is a cousin to Gloria Giffords.

## SHERIFF'S LOG

### November 16

12:32 p.m. Received a call that Road E2 was being temporarily closed from L to J.

1:43 p.m. Received a complaint that a neighbor was shredding corn stalks and now they would blow into caller's yard.

4:36 p.m. Received a call from a woman saying that there was a semi right behind her. She had tried to let him pass but he didn't and she was concerned that the truck was so close to her vehicle.

5:46 p.m. Got a complaint from a man saying he needed an officer because a woman would not leave him alone.

10:10 p.m. Received a call asking to have a skunk removed from caller's yard.

### November 17

3:44 p.m. Received a complaint that a man was burning wood in a tank.

5:02 p.m. Received a 911 call from someone who had come upon two bucks tangled up. One was dead.

7:58 p.m. Got a complaint on a Dodge pickup pulling a stock trailer without tail lights heading south on State Street.

8:51 p.m. Got a call that a herd of cattle was out about one-fourth mile south of Hwy. 383 on W15.

### November 18

2:47 a.m. Received call that an automatic alarm had been activated at a Norton business. Had officers check building and spent several hours trying to find someone to turn off the alarm.

7:02 a.m. Received a 911 call for a woman having trouble breathing.

1:01 p.m. Received a call from Decatur County about a gas skip in Oberlin. Vehicle is a green Dodge pickup with Nebraska commercial tags and is headed east on U.S. 36.

7:28 p.m. Got complaint about two black dogs attacking caller's dog.

### November 19

8:51 a.m. Received a complaint that someone was burning trash in their barrel.

9:43 a.m. Received a call that a bus had hit a deer.

6:31 p.m. Received a call from a woman reporting a blue car parked at the end of her driveway on U.S. 36. She was asking if someone could check it out.

6:46 p.m. Received a call about a dead deer in the middle of U.S. 36 about one-half to three-fourths mile east of mile marker 126.

7:06 p.m. Woman arrived at office saying that she was supposed to exchange children this evening, but the other party had not arrived to do so.

7:21 p.m. Received a call from a woman asking to speak to an officer about protection from abuse and her son.

7:28 p.m. Got a call that a Volkswagen with Oklahoma tags and a missing headlight was north bound toward Norton on Hwy. 283.

9:13 p.m. Received a call from

a woman about a reckless driver. As she was getting ready to leave, other driver parked right in front of her, spun out, got out of her vehicle and acted like she wanted to fight.

### November 20

12:28 a.m. Got a report from Decatur County of an erratic driver headed east on U.S. 36.

1:46 a.m. Got a call from a man, who said that he saw a man lying in a ditch.

8:56 a.m. Got a call about a Texas vehicle off Hwy. 283 blocking Road U. There is a semi arriving soon to move cattle and it will not be able to get onto the road. The Texas vehicle had a blown tire and a person sleeping in the passenger side seat.

3 p.m. Received a call of a grease fire in a kitchen of a residence.

5:02 p.m. Got a call about a gray Suburban with Nebraska tags. The vehicle keeps crossing the state line on W8 and W9. Possibly hunters.

5:14 p.m. Received a call from a residence that had lost all power.

6:51 p.m. Got a call of a Charolais cow out just north of roads J and W7.

7:25 p.m. Received a 911 call of smoke coming out a vent.

11:17 p.m. Got a call of a roll over by the viaduct by Alma. Vehicle is in ditch on its side. Called wrecker and emergency medical services.

### November 21

9:41 a.m. Received a call for a deputy to assist with traffic control, between 11:30 a.m. and noon on Hwy. 283 and roads U and T.

12:59 p.m. Received a call of a semi broken down. A wrecker is on the way.

2:03 p.m. Got a call about a reddish colored cow out on U.S. 36 and W 1200 road on the north side.

3:21 p.m. Received a call about a man wanting to burn a small brush pile.

8:11 p.m. Got a call of a man hitchhiking on K9 between New Almeno and the Norton-Decatur County line.

### November 22

7:44 a.m. Two men arrived to talk to an officer about moving their mother and grandmother. They have a trailer and tractor and needed permission to park on Jones Street.

11:56 a.m. Paged Lenora Fire Department for a possible kitchen fire.

4:41 p.m. Got a call of 25 to 30 cattle out of K9 at mile marker 45 on the north side of the highway.

5:54 p.m. Received a request for an officer to remove a person from property.

### November 23

3:52 a.m. Got a call about a dog that had been barking for more than an hour.

7:13 a.m. Received a fire call that flames were coming out of the back and roof of a house.

8:30 a.m. Received a report of horses out on U.S. 36 at mile marker 103.

9:21 a.m. Got a call about a two-vehicle fender bender.

9 p.m. Received a call saying that there was a vehicle trying to run people off the road.

9:23 p.m. Received a call about a vehicle that was driving on the wrong side of the street and the caller believed there was something wrong with the driver.

11:45 p.m. Had people in wanting to speak to an officer about their missing juvenile daughter.

### November 25

1:44 a.m. Undersheriff arrived at the sheriff's office with juvenile female.

6:46 a.m. Received a call of cattle out on Hwy. 283 about five miles north of Norton.

11:37 a.m. Received a call from a woman saying her silver and maroon 1996 GMS Suburban was broken down on the township road going into Alma but that it was off the roadway.

1:27 p.m. Got a call asking for help with a sick or injured kitty near the east edge of Norton.

2:39 p.m. Got a report from Phillips County that there were several black cows out on Hwy. 9 at mile marker 42.

2:53 p.m. Received a call of a water pipe break in a sprinkler system.

3:23 p.m. Got a call from Phillips County that a vehicle, driven by a person with a suspended license, could be heading for Norton County.

4:48 p.m. Received a call from a person who had illegal hunters on his land. Hunters had told him they thought the area was walk-in but he informed them that it was posted for no hunting.

7:55 p.m. Received a call that there were two cows out on U.S. 36 one-fourth mile west of the Norton-Phillips County line.

10:16 p.m. Got a 911 call saying that a door was locked and someone may want in but they didn't have a key and would an officer please check on it.

### November 26

6:27 a.m. Got a call of a roof on fire. Paged fire department and then emergency medical services for back up.

11:44 a.m. Was told that the southbound yellow light at the stop light was not working.

12:16 p.m. Received a call about a two-vehicle, non-injury accident on U.S. 36.

12:30 p.m. Received a call saying that four grade-school age students were driving around.

12:53 p.m. Received a call of illegal hunters on posted land nine miles west of Norton. Hunters were in a red extended cab pickup with a silver stripe and a white crew-cab Chevy.

7:53 p.m. Got a call from a person saying that they had just hit a coyote on Hwy. 383 between Long Island and Alma and wanted someone to look at the vehicle and take an accident report tomorrow.

9:11 p.m. Received a call about

## Sheriff

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Nex-Tech has bid its system at \$3,200, he said, and that includes installation and hardware.

Sheriff Thomson said that he and his staff checked out the Nex-Tech system and he thinks it would work for the county just as well as the Code Red.

He said that the only problem, he foresees, is getting the data base from Code Red to give to Nex-Tech.

County Attorney Doug Sebelius, who had checked the contract with Nex-Tech and approved of it, said that, since Norton gave Code Red the data base to begin with,

it should deliver that information back to the county without any problems.

The commissioners agreed that if the Total Notify system was acceptable to the sheriff, they would certainly change contracts.

## PUBLIC RECORD

### Municipal Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the Norton Municipal Court. The traffic and criminal cases were given to the paper with the date of the hearings.

### Traffic

Nov. 4 - Michael Dubois, Hastings, Neb., speeding 46 in a 35 mph zone, fine \$36, court cost \$76.

Nov. 4 - Thomas Shepperdson, Bemidji, Minn., illegal tag and failure to have insurance, fine \$1,000 suspended to \$300.

Nov. 4 - Blain Thompson, Elwood, Neb., driving while under the influence of alcohol, failure to report accident and reckless driving. 90 days jail suspended to 48 hours, fine \$700, court cost \$75.

Nov. 4 - Norman Kingham, Norton, defective brake lamps. Dismissed as had fixed.

Nov. 4 - Jennifer Cravens, St. Francis, speeding 55 in a 45 mph zone, fine \$30, court cost \$76.

Nov. 4 - Seth Antrim, Norton, failure to have driver's license in possession and failure to provide verification of insurance. Both dismissed as provided at hearing.

Nov. 4 - Tyler Britt, Cozad, Neb., speeding 28 in a 20 mph school zone, fine \$100, court cost \$76.

Nov. 4 - Kaleb Huxoll, Henderson, Neb., speeding 36 in a 20 mph school zone, fine \$172, court cost \$76.

Nov. 4 - Joe Sweet, Norton, speeding 56 in a 35 mph zone, fine

\$99, court cost \$76.

Nov. 4 - Bonita Slipke, Norton, speeding 32 in a 20 mph zone, fine \$42, court cost \$76.

Dec. 2 - Earl Vaught, Norton, driving under the influence of alcohol, failure to wear seat belt, failure to have driver's license on person and failure to provide verification of insurance. To receive one year Diversion. Diversion fee \$100, ADSAP fee \$150, Assessment fee \$500, no driver's license fee \$50 and no seat belt fee \$5.

Dec. 2 - James Strathman, Seneca, speeding 30 in a 20 mile per hour school zone, fine \$100, court cost \$76.

Dec. 2 - Melina Weir, Minneapolis, Minn., speeding 29 in a 20 mph school zone, fine \$100, court cost \$76.

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