

# Legislative News

By  
Ward  
Cassidy



120th District Representative

Before I update you on capitol happenings, I would like to encourage anyone coming to Topeka for a meeting, or just to visit the capitol, to contact me. We are invited to many lobbyist meetings each evening and it is fun to go to the ones with people from back home. Monday, Jan. 24, I went to the electric cooperatives meeting and there were some wonderful people to visit with from Northwest Kansas. Wednesday, Jan. 26, I spent the evening with Mike Braxmeyer from Atwood.

Kansas Wildlife and Parks, Robin Jennison, discuss the merging of his department with tourism. The Governor is promoting initiatives to encourage rural development. One initiative advances the state as a destination spot for outdoor sports and activities, with plans for increased use of Kansas state land and parks. Any ideas from the Northwest should be sent to me or directly to Secretary Jennison.

Committee meetings are going fast and furious. I believe we are approaching 70 new pieces of legislation so far. I had another interesting Corrections Committee meeting. We will introduce a bill making Sudafed a prescription drug. Law enforcement tells us that meth is still a gigantic problem in the state.

Economic development is on everyone's mind and Secretary Pat George has been given the job of leading the Kansas Department of Commerce. I like his goals of encouraging job creation, retaining existing businesses, recruiting out of state companies, and expanding sales to international markets. He has been contacted by seven companies in his first week in office.

After visiting with some friends from Norton, I brought up in our meeting today a discussion on the theft of copper wiring in the state. Our revisors (lawyers that work with our committee) are looking at the current laws and seeing what could be done to slow down this problem.

There are many proposals that have the state stirring. None more so than the proposed cut of 7.5 percent to all state employees pay. There is a senate version and a house version that are quite a bit different. Next week the proposals should be better understood. E-verify, a proposal for requiring identification for

state jobs is really being pushed.

What I found very amazing this week was that I am in committee meetings all day, walking back to my office I received a call from Norton County about the 7.5-percent cut to state employees and I had not yet heard anything about it. News travels fast into today's world.

Personally, I will take my first bill to the floor tomorrow hoping to revise a statute that will help a firm in Phillipsburg. I have talked to the Governor about changes in the State Fire Marshall Department that are really affecting our area. He has promised to look into the problem. I have also been invited to the Governor's home (Cedar Crest) for supper and a meeting.

These are very difficult times and all I hear is cut, cut, cut - just not what their group is involved with. There is a lot of stress in the capitol halls. Please pray that everyone here can work together and make good decisions.

# The Gardener

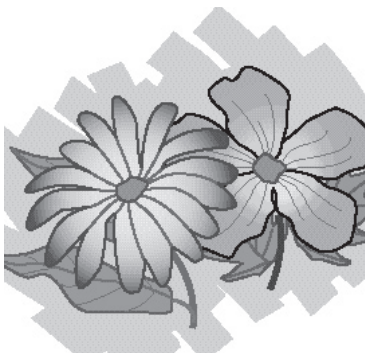
By Kay Melia  
Master Gardener

the day we can plant those first seeds outside. Some of us are looking forward to getting a jump on the outside planting season by starting our own tomato and pepper transplants indoors, one of the truly satisfying projects to kick off the new season.

A quick check of the calendar tells me I have no business taking up your valuable time by tempting you with thoughts of gardening, but what else have I got to do? And really, if you weren't reading this you would probably be reading about Afghanistan or high gas prices or Obama-care. So, just relax for a couple of minutes and we'll get started on another few months of discussions about digging in the dirt and making important decisions on whether or not to plant any zucchini this year.

There are any number of other gardening thoughts that should be running through your head right now. Chances are, we might consider whether or not this will be the year to invest in a rototiller. Or maybe we should do a layout on paper to plan a new drip system in the garden that would enhance our ability to apply water precisely where it is needed. Perhaps you are thinking about your garden layout... where will I plant the cucumbers this year, or should I plant the zinnias over by the fence, or close to the garden shed. Pruning your fruit trees should be Job 1 in the next couple of weeks, unless you have no fruit trees.

Greetings to you all, and I sincerely hope you are wintering well. Soon, it will be the season to play outside again as we do our best to grow a little of our own fresh food, as well as attempting to beautify a bit of the area where we reside. A little planning right now will help us to be ready for



In that case, consider planting a couple of peach trees or an apple tree this spring. So many things to consider and so little time to prepare for those early projects outside.

I'm happy to report that my seed order is on the way. I've thumbed through all those seed catalogs until they have become dog-eared and memorized. Yeah, I order a pack of zucchini seed, but I reserve the right to decide later whether or not to plant any of it.

# Obituaries

**Lelia Jean Busby Miller**

Oct. 19, 1928 - Jan. 15, 2011

Lelia Jean Busby Miller was born Oct. 19, 1928, the second child of Willard (John) and Lelia May Busby in Hale, Colo. She died Jan. 15, 2011.

The family moved to St. Francis, Kan., shortly after she was born. She attended St. Francis schools, graduating with the class of 1946.

She attended St. Luke School of Nursing in Denver, Colo., graduating in 1950 to return to St. Francis to work for Dr. Peck. She practiced nursing until her retirement in 1993.

Jean married Neale D. Miller on March 11, 1951. To this union three daughters, Nancy, Marilyn and Linda were born and raised on the farm north of St. Francis.

Preceding Jean in death were her

husband, Neale in 1988, her parents and brothers and their wives, Don and Ruth Busby and Merlyn and Wilma Blue and sister-in-law, Bonnie Busby.

Survivors include Nancy and Paul Morrison of Aurora, Colo.; Marilyn and John Nance of Trinity, N.C., and Linda and Steve Sullivan of Oklahoma City, Okla.; grandchildren, Melissa and Troy Newbanks of Greeley, Colo., Collin and Angel Morrison of Aurora, Colo., Patrick and Nicole Nance of Wilmington, N.C., Jared Nance of Lawrence, Peter Nancy of Trinity and Stacy Sullivan of Oklahoma City; and her great-grandson, Neale Morrison of Aurora. She is also survived by her brothers; Willard Busby; Dick and Peggy Busby; Sam

and Judi Busby; and Jerry and Carla Busby; sisters, Sandra and Jens Christensen; and Sharon Busby and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Jan. 22 at Knodel Funeral Home in St. Francis with Pastor Jeff Landers officiating.

Escorts were grandchildren Melissa Newbanks, Collin Morrison, Patrick Nance, Jared Nance, Peter Nance and Stacy Sullivan.

Inurnment was in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Cheyenne County Hospital and Amusement Authority-Carousel Project.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

**Doris Mae Radloff**

March 29, 1919 - Jan. 3, 2011

Doris Mae Radloff, 91, died Jan. 4, 2011, at Good Samaritan Village, Fort Collins, Colo. Born March 29, 1919, in Lincoln, Neb., to Arthur F. and Ida (Traudt) Rumbaugh, Doris was the oldest of three children.

Upon graduation from Battle Creek High School, Iowa, in 1936, she taught in a one-room schoolhouse nearby.

She completed the two-year program at Hebron Junior College in Nebraska. While there, she was the accompanist for the college choir.

On Aug. 10, 1938, she married Rev. Ralph R. Radloff, the choir director. They served Lutheran parishes in Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas, including St. John Lutheran Bird City from 1955 to 1962; and at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer in Fort Morgan, Colo.

Doris was an accomplished musician, serving as organist for the

churches where her husband was pastor, including St. John Lutheran in Bird City; she taught piano, organ and Sunday school, and was active in the parish service organizations.

Following her husband's death in 1971, Doris lived in Loveland and earned her master's degree in education at University of Northern Colorado in 1974. She was principal at Foothills-Gateway Center from 1972-1981. Sewing and shopping for her grandchildren were favorite hobbies for Doris.

On retirement, Doris lived near Allenspark, Colo., and enjoyed weaving, RV travel, and trips to Europe and Asia. In 1995, she moved back to Loveland where she was active in church, social and service organizations.

She was a charter member of both King of Glory Lutheran Church, Loveland, and of Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, Estes

Park. Her faith witness touched many.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph; her daughter, Karen Reinhart; her parents; sister, Vida Rumbaugh; grandson, Matthew Tieman; and son-in-law, Dale Osborn.

She is survived by her daughters, Margretha (Donald) Bentz and Susan Osborn of Loveland; Carla Radloff, West Asia, and Ida (Robert) Tieman, Fort Collins; brother, Duane Rumbaugh, New Jersey; seven grandchildren: Katherine Bentz, Kendall (Carrie Green) Bentz, Kimberly Osborn-Linnebur, Kellie (Ryan) Lamon, Kristi Huff, Janna (Stephen) Walker and Jessica (Tim) Blackwood; and four great-grandchildren: Andrew Linnebur, Kyle Reinhart, Aiden Walker and Medeline Blackwood.

**Gordon Leonard**

Sept. 21, 1931 - Jan. 25, 2011

Gordon Leonard of Greeley, Colo., died Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011, in Hospice of Northern Colorado inpatient unit, Greeley. He was born Sept. 21, 1931, at St. Francis, Kan., to Gene and Frieda (Strong) Leonard. He grew up in Kansas and graduated from St. Francis High School in 1949.

He married Marguerite Howell in 1949. She died in 1999. Gordon enlisted in the Army reserve in 1949 and was discharged in 1951. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1951, serving 4 years of active duty during the Korean Conflict and 6 years in the reserve. He moved from Denver to Colby, and was involved in auto sales and



Leonard

management. In 1965, he moved to Greeley, where he worked for Ted Nieters Lincoln-Mercury for 11 years in sales and management. The mountain home in Glen Haven was built and he moved away from Greeley in 1975.

After the Big Thompson Flood in 1976, Gordon helped with the flood reconstruction project. He worked for 20 years in heavy construction operations and management, in Alaska, Wyoming, California, Arizona and Colorado.

In June 2000 he married Audrey Poppe in Estes Park, Colo. In 2001 they moved to Greeley. He was a very active member of Greeley Elks No. 809, BPOE. He was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Greeley.

He is survived by his wife Audrey; a daughter, Kristi Bohn of Watertown, N. Y.; a son, Nick Leonard and wife, Margo of Denver; a step-daughter, Cynthia Poppe of

Washington; two step-sons, Paul Poppe and wife, Lana of Greeley and Brent Poppe and wife, Lisa of Greeley; brother, Ron Leonard and wife Dabney of Fairfax, Va.; six grandchildren, Mike, Cassie, and Mallory Leonard and Jake, Luke and Shaun Bohn; two step-granddaughters, Andrea Poppe and Danyelle Poppe; a step-great-grandson, Colton Schwartz; a niece, Kathryn Friedman of Chicago, Ill., and a nephew, Matt Leonard of Virginia.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a son, Tony Leonard.

A celebration of life was held on Monday, Jan. 31, 2011, at Stoddard Funeral Home, Cremation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Gordon Leonard Memorial Fund in care of Stoddard Funeral Home, 3205 W. 28th St., Greeley, CO 80634.

Please visit [www.stoddardsunset.com](http://www.stoddardsunset.com) to sign online guestbook.

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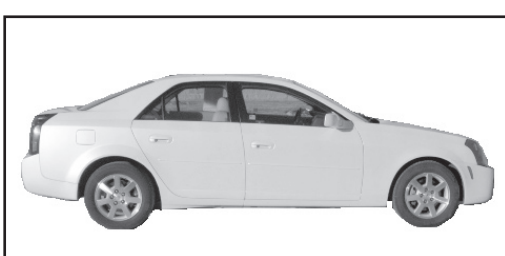
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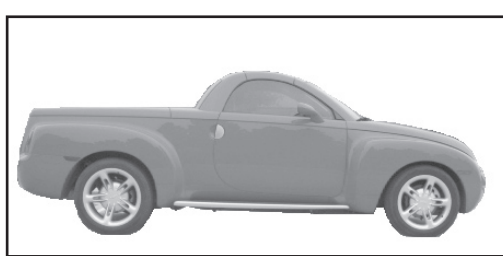


For more details, contact Allen Edgington at the Saint Francis Herald at Bird City Times 785-332-3162 The Saint Francis Herald

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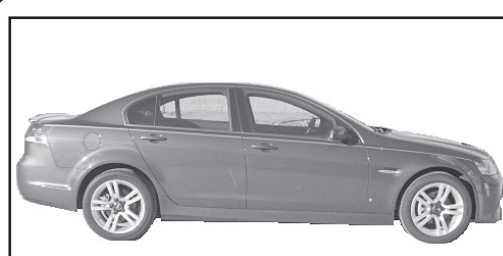
2005 Cadillac CTS, White Diamond, Leather,



2004 Chevy SSR, Red, Leather, Low Miles



2005 Chevy Suburban, White, Leather, 4x4



2008 Pontiac G8, Leather, Sunroof

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