

Obituaries

Steven Charles Merklin Nov. 27, 1972 - April 12, 2014

Steven Charles Merklin was born in St. Francis, Kan., on Nov. 27, 1972, to Charles and Barbara Merklin. He died at the Dundy County Hospital in Benkelman, Neb., on April 12, 2014.

Steven attended Cheylin schools in Bird City and obtained his General Education Development degree (GED) in 1992.

He enjoyed working cattle and being a ranch hand. He worked as a driller and moved up to a rig manager for many years with JW Oil. He was also a self-employed truck driver for a brief period of time.

Steven's real passion was his family. He was a wonderful son, brother, uncle and father.

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

Charles Merklin.

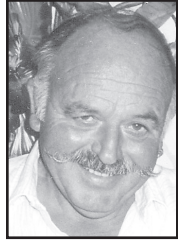
He is survived by his beloved Genie Cole and children Kimberlee, Austin and unborn child of Haigler, Neb; daughter Bailey Merklin of St. Francis; daughter Lacey Merklin of Moriarty, N.M.; mother Barbara Merklin of Bird City; sisters Belinda Serano and husband Frank of Bird City; Sonya Turner and husband Jody of Douglass; Stacey Hazuka and husband Dale of McDonald; and five nephews and two nieces.

A memorial service was held on Saturday April 19, at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City. A private burial to follow at a later date.

Memorials can be given to Barbara Merklin for expenses.

Kenneth Duane Leibbrandt June 4, 1933 - April 15, 2014

Ken Leibbrandt, oldest son of Reuben Leibbrandt Sr. and Mabel Borden, died peacefully April 15, 2014, in Pinamungajan, Cebu Philippines at the age of 80.



Leibbrandt

Ken grew up south of St. Francis, where he attended Sunny Ridge grade school. He served in the Army Reserves, and then spent the majority of his early life in Oregon farm country, southeast of The Dalles.

He and his wife, Maurine, raised six children while he worked at the Harvey Aluminum Plant. In the mid-1970s, Ken relocated to Seymour, Mo., where he farmed and ran a small residential construction company.

For the past 13 years, he has

lived with his current wife, Alice, in the Philippines, where they built a home and raised a vibrant young daughter. Eventually, his life was taken naturally by health complications associated with severe arthritis.

Ken is survived by his wife Alice, his two sisters, Donna Zimbleman and husband Marvin of St. Francis, Judy White and husband Virgil of Springfield, Mo., his brother Reuben and wife Jan of The Dalles, Ore., four daughters: Terrell Pierson and husband Jerry of Appleton, Wash., Cherie Leibbrandt of Hurricane, Utah, Cindy Williams and husband Ross of Cedar City, Utah and Rita Leibbrandt of Pinamungajan, three sons: David and wife Joyce of Portland, Ore., Monte and wife Diane of Parkdale, Ore., and Michael and wife Kimberli of Tillamook, Ore., six grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Dianna Joy (Neitzel) Carpenter Dec. 7 1957 - Feb. 13, 2014



Carpenter

Dianna Joy (Neitzel) Carpenter was born on Dec. 7, 1957, in St. Francis. She died on Feb. 13, 2014, in Hays, at the age of 56.

Dianna was born to Melvin and Margola Neitzel. She married Edgar Carpenter on July 3, 1987, in Colby. They had one son, Eddie Lee.

She graduated from Cheylin High School in 1976. She attended Colby Community College and received her degree in Early Childhood Development.

Dianna worked for many years in daycare, and then became a stay-at-home mom. When her family moved back to Bird City in 1996, she then worked with her nephew, Weston, with respice care and as his personal care assistant until 2008, when her health started failing.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Margola, and father Melvin Neitzel; her father-in-law, Ed Carpenter; step-mother-in-law, Gail Holbrook; and brother-in-law, Richard Carpenter.

Dianna is survived by her husband, Edgar, and son Eddie Carpenter; sisters Gerri Comstock and Jack, Brenda Hunt and Ray Lumpkin, Betty Williams and Ron; sisters-in-law, Kathy David, Veronica Dominguez and James, Emiliana Carpenter; brothers-in-law Roy Carpenter, Lewis Carpenter and Bonnie; and mother-in-law, Eileen Carpenter.

She was known as Aunt "Niner" by her nieces and nephews; Jessica, Trevor, April, Kody, Jason, Cole, Weston, Christopher, Dani, Larry, Ray, Rose, Steven, Candace, Helen, Cammie, Abbie, Destiny, and Cheyenne Gail, and many great nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles, and friends.

Services were held at the St. John Lutheran Church on Feb. 22.

Lola Ellen Marrs July 1, 1926 - April 17, 2014

Lola Ellen Marrs, 87, of Brewster, died Thursday, April 17, 2014. She was born July 1, 1926, to John and Faye (Everett) Oard on a farm near Longford, Kan. She married Eugene H. Marrs on July 11, 1944 in Colby.

Lola was a member of the Brewster United Methodist Church. She enjoyed gardening, bowling, sewing, board games and puzzles, and especially loved her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; infant brother Duane Oard and grandson Aaron Hudson.

She is survived by her husband, children Dwight (Mona) Marrs, Goodland, Sonia (Tim) Dahl, Algonia, Iowa, Linda Hudson White, Brewster and Marvin Marrs, Winslow, AZ; grandchildren Justin

(Genevieve) Marrs, Megan (Russ Mikessell) Marrs, Jacob (Cheryl) Dahl, Jasmine Marrs, Billy Joe (Sonia) Hudson, Caleb (Amy) Hudson; great grandchildren, Sidney Marrs, Sarah and Kaylee Marrs, Peyton and Kolt Hudson, Piper, Paige and Talya Dahl, Luke, Eli and Noah Lohmeyer, Rhianna and Patience Mikessell.

The funeral service was held Saturday, April 19, at Baalman Mortuary, Colby with a burial following in the Brewster Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Brewster United Methodist Church or the Wounded Warrior Project in care of Baalman Mortuary, PO Box 391, Colby, KS 67701. Online condolences: www.baalmanmortuary.com

Bowling News

Wednesday Night Mens 4/16/14

Team standing: Haigler 1, Cheyenne Bowl, The Drunks, Wright & Wrong, Gillywood, Lampe Motor Sports.

High game (scratch): Haigler 686, Gillywood 671, Wright & Wrong 641; (handicap): Gillywood 899, Lampe Motor Sports 890, Haigler 1 883.

High series (scratch) Haigler 1 1857, Wright & Wrong 1829, Gillywood 1780; (handicap): Lampe Motor Sports 2509, Gillywood 2464, Haigler 1 2448.

High game men (scratch): Rex Weishapl 242, Dave Wright 219, Jim Wheaton 211; (handicap): Rex Weishapl 299, Dave Wright 269, Jim Wheaton 266.

High series men (scratch):

Dave Wright 551, Jim Wheaton 532, Rex Weishapl 515; (handicap): Dave Wright 701, Jim Wheaton 697, Rex Weishapl 686.

Most over average game: Rex Weishapl 106

Most over average series: Dave Wright 119

Ladies Night Out 4/17/14

Team standing: The Lodge, Kathy's Krafts, Strikers, Dundy Ag, Bier, Wray Meat.

High game (scratch): Strikers 599, Bier 577, Dundy Ag 545; (handicap): Bier 798, Kathy's Krafts 792, Strikers 765.

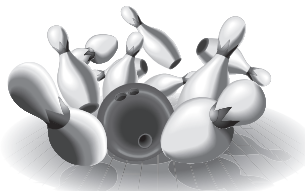
High series (scratch): Strikers 1770, Bier 1711, Dundy Ag 1567; (handicap): Bier 2374, Kathy's Krafts 2284, Strikers 2268.

High game women (scratch): Terry Yost 187, Pat Rose 168, Tammy Drummond 167; (handicap): Sarah Yardley 223, Pat Rose 217, Terry Yost 216

High series women (scratch): Terry Yost 530, Kathy Blecha 444, Pat Rose 438; (handicap): Terry Yost 617, Sarah Yardley 612, Ilene O'Leary 605.

Most over average game: Sarah Yardley 44.

Most over average series: Sarah Yardley 75.



Israel "Izzy" Nipps Jan. 20, 1975 - April 18, 2014

Israel "Izzy" Nipps died at the age of 39 in the comfort of his grandparent's home in St. Francis on Friday, April 18. Izzy was the first child to Charlie Nipps and Susie Walz, born on Jan. 20, 1975, followed closely by his sister, Crystal and later on, Amanda.

Izzy and Crystal had many adventures growing up together and it was never certain what the pair would be up to next. Then, when Amanda came along several years later, it was obvious that despite the years between them, the two instantly had a very special connection.

Izzy graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1993. He then attended Northwest Kansas Technical College where he graduated in 1996 with degrees in engineering and telecommunications. He had a passion for learning, and he continued to educate himself as much as possible on just about anything and everything. Those that knew Izzy well would often refer to him as the alternative to Google.

As with learning, Izzy never settled with what he had or where he was at, putting his whole heart and soul into everything that he did. He believed whole heartedly that you had to continually work hard to better yourself, and that you must live each day to your fullest ability. He led by example for those he loved.

As a youngster, Izzy fell in love with shooting and all things related. Izzy was in junior high when he won the very first National Rifle Association Whittington Center BPC long-range silhouette championship and only continued to improve over time. His twin nephews, Blair and Dalton, will forever have memories of shooting a wide variety of guns and even having the local police show up when they

started to shoot exploding targets.

He loved to spoil his special niece, Dakota Rae, from the moment she was born, as he was wrapped around her finger. Izzy always had a special place in his heart for children. Whenever the family was together, it was guaranteed that he would have some crazy thing planned for all of his nieces and nephews. Izzy also had passions for music, preferably at live shows, and being on the open road while riding his Harley's with family and friends.

Israel is survived by his loyal buddies Sid and Shiloh, loving parents Charlie Nipps, Susie and Greg Walz, sister, Crystal and Dustin Hoffman, niece Dakota and nephews Blair and Dalton, sister Amanda Nipps, step-brothers Shane Walz and wife Connie, nephews Brayden, Kaleb and Colton, Dallas Walz and wife Heather, Gabe Walz and wife Danielle and niece Marleigh, step-sister Desirae Walz and godson Andrew Selby. Izzy is also survived by many close friends that were like family to him. He had many brothers.

Israel is preceded in death by grandparents, Roy "Hooky" and Deloris "Dee" Nipps, Harry and Tillie Schleppe, great grandparents Roy and Alma Nipps, and Fred and Bertha Krien, Godmother Aunt Pam Gerver and Godfather H.T. Krummel, aka Uncle Tom.

There will be a service held at the First Christian Church at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, April 25 in St. Francis, with interment in Goodland cemetery.

Izzy made countless friends through his life and will be missed by many. We will all remember him as one of a kind and honor him through celebrating life. "Let's ride!..."

Student Poem



Tressa LaBarge
Eighth Grade
Mrs. Holzwarth

Best Pal

Friends
beautiful, pleasing

playing, chilling, laughing
affection, tenderness, adoration,
friendliness
enchancing, adoring, cherishing
delightful, sweet
Love

We are best friends, so she loves me.

SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS CROPLAND

PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, May 7, 2014 @ 10:30 am CT

Auction Site: Western Auction & Real Estate Auction Pavilion, West HWY 36, St. Francis, KS

Legal	Deeded Acres +/-	FSA Acres +/-	Wheat Base/Yld.	Soybean Base/Yld.	2013 Taxes
NE/4 9-6-40, Sherman Co., Ks	160	156.06	86.0/42	5.7/27	\$288.68

MANNER OF SALE: The real estate will be offered at auction as an individual tract, to the highest bidder. Auction procedure and increments of bidding are at the discretion of the Auctioneer.

TERMS: 10% down day of sale with the balance to be due on or before June 11, 2014, or upon such terms as may be acceptable to the Seller. Personal and corporate checks are acceptable for the down payment with the final payment to be due in certified funds at closing. All funds will be held by the Closing Agent in their trust account. Bidding is not contingent upon financing. Financing, if necessary, must be arranged and approved prior to the auction. ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE DAY OF SALE SHALL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER PRINTED MATERIAL AND PREVIOUSLY MADE ORAL STATEMENTS.

FSA CROP INFORMATION: Buyer is responsible to enter into the FSA program, if desired. The land is currently registered with the Sherman County, Kansas FSA office.

CROPS: Approx 78.8 acres of wheat are planted at time of auction. Seller's 30% share of wheat crop shall go to Buyer per Cash Flex Lease Agreement. Approx. 77.26 acres are in stalks, spraying expenses due to Tenant shall be reimbursed by the Buyer, if any.

REAL ESTATE TAXES: Seller is responsible for 2013 taxes and prior years.

MINERAL RIGHTS: All mineral rights owned by the Seller shall be transferred to the Buyer(s) at closing. The Seller's own 50% of mineral interests.

CLOSING & POSSESSION: The date of closing shall be on or before June 11, 2014. Possession shall transfer at closing on corn stalks, possession on wheat acres transfer to the Buyer following 2014 Wheat Harvest, no later than August 1, 2014.

EVIDENCE OF TITLE: Seller will provide title insurance to the Buyer in the amount of the purchase price with the premium to be paid one-half by Buyer and one-half by Seller. Title evidence will be provided on sale day.

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS: The successful bidder will be required to enter into a real estate purchase contract immediately following the auction. Copies of the contract & expenses for spray applications will be available from the Auctioneer prior to the sale.

ACREAGES: Acreage figures are considered to be approximate and are from reliable sources, based on FSA figures. All FSA information is subject to change. FSA acres may not be the same as deeded acres.

EASEMENTS: This sale is subject to all right-of-way and easements, whether recorded or not.

SURVEY: The Seller is not offering a survey. All property sells as it is, where it is, and in its present condition.

INSPECTIONS: Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting their own independent inspections & due diligence concerning pertinent facts about the property. Neither the Seller, or Western Auction & Real Estate, LLC, its agents or representatives, are making any warranties about the property, either expressed or implied.

AGENCY: Western Auction & Real Estate, LLC, its agents and representatives, are Exclusive Agents of the Seller. No compensation for other agents is available for this transaction. Announcements made day of sale shall take precedence over any printed material or prior representations. All information herein is believed to be correct. Western Auction & Real Estate, LLC makes no warranties or guarantees either expressed or implied.

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Map obtained from Sherman Co. FSA. All information is believed to be correct

Coming Soon:

SENIOR PARENTS!!!

Bird City •• St. Francis •• Idalia, CO

Congratulate Your Graduate ...

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times are now planning the Senior Graduation Supplement and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for \$20 extra. This feature is optional. Senior pictures will be sponsored by parents, grandparents, individuals and/or businesses for \$40 each or three for \$100. Deadline for baby picture and message is Tuesday, May 7.

Clarice Neitzel

I'm attending the University of Kansas and majoring in pre-pharmacy.

Clarice, your ability to stand strong in your convictions and walk your own path is an admirable trait. You keep walking your path and look forward to what life brings you. Your strength is amazing. We love you. Mom, Dad, Benjamin, Jeremiah and Amanda

Parents:
Ron and Roxie Neitzel

For more details, contact **Tim Burr** at the **Saint Francis Herald** at 785-332-3162

Bird City Times

The Saint Francis Herald

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