

Obituaries

James Haddon Allen Peck, Jr., MD

May 27, 1920 - April 1, 2006.

Haddon A. Peck, Jr., MD died Saturday, April 1, 2006, at his home in San Diego, Calif., after a brief battle with cancer. Born May 27, 1920, in Chicago, he had lived in San Diego for over 50 years.



Peck

The son of a physician, Dr. Peck grew up in St. Francis, a town in northwestern Kansas with a population of 1700 where he played high school football, was captain of the basketball team, anchored the relay team and was a high jumper.

He was very proud of being an Eagle Scout as well as 10 years of perfect attendance at Sunday School.

He was a Phi Gamma Delta at University of Colorado where he received his bachelor of science degree in 1941. While attending Northwestern University School of Medicine he met Jane Dafoe, an undergraduate. They were married in 1944 in Evanston where Jane grew up. They had two daughters Nancy Stewart (David) of Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Martha Shumaker (Jay) of San Diego.

Dr. Peck completed residencies in: general and orthopaedic surgery at the Veterans Hospital in Columbia, S. C.; Basic Science (Bone & Joint Surgery) at Northwestern University; Orthopaedic Surgery at Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Springfield, Mass. Dr. Peck did a postgraduate fellowship in orthopaedic surgery at University of Michigan where he performed the first anterior cervical spine fusion.

During the brief period he practiced in his home town. He diagnosed a case of skin anthrax, which was very rare and probably caused by the farmers contact with dead animals. During the anthrax scare of 2002, this case was described in several publications. At his 50th high school reunion he met six people he had delivered and six whose appendix he had removed in the late 40s.

He served 17 years in the Navy Reserve and was called to active duty in a MASH unit in the First Medical Battalion, First Marine Division in Korea where he developed a simple method of transporting patients with neck injuries using Crutchfield Tongs (a traction device), a windlass and an airplane harness for counter traction. "We triaged 20-200 casualties an evening and I treated two to six major injuries" he said.

He considered himself an inventor and approached complicated medical dilemmas creatively.

He reopened his private practice in orthopaedic surgery in San Diego after his discharge in 1954. With an office in Hillcrest and later an additional office on Coronado, he was on the staffs of a number of San Diego area hospitals including Mercy, Sharp, Children's, University and Coronado hospitals. He was an associate professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of California, San Diego Medical School and, in 1968 as chief of staff at the then County Hospital of San Diego, initiated the gradual conversion of that facility to what is University of California San Diego Medical Center today.

As a boy in St. Francis - when he wasn't slinging his sister down the street in a wagon propelled by a giant slingshot of inner tubes stretched across the street from tree to tree - he was playing golf which he learned from his father beginning about age 5. He would shoot rattlesnakes under the tee boxes before setting his ball there on miniature sand dunes instead of wooden tees. He played at the game until the last weeks of his life and regaled any who would listen with his

golf swing theories which were influenced by his knowledge of physiology. He was a regular visitor to the La Jolla Country Club which he joined in the early 50s, and where he continued as an accurate putter even though glaucoma rendered him nearly blind. He would walk the line from ball to cup and visualize the path as he hit the ball.

His father, one time president of the Kansas Medical Society who appealed successfully to Deere & Company to enclose the cabs of their tractors to protect the farmers, also taught him to hunt during their trips to outlying farms to make house calls on patients. In college in Colorado he learned to ski. When he came to San Diego he came to love the ocean, fishing and sailing. He and Jane participated in these activities throughout the world including fly fishing in New Zealand, golfing in Algeria, and skiing in Switzerland.

While in medical school, he and his three roommates started a golf tournament for "The Pewter Cup" which was played annually until a couple of years ago. They added friends and family to the group over the years and vied for the Cup in Scotland, Hawaii, California, Florida, Wisconsin, Illinois, Oklahoma, Mexico and other locales.

A lifelong hunter, he loved to be in the field with his friends and family enjoying the companionship and natural surroundings whether on his father's ranch in southeastern Nebraska, the cornfields of the Midwest or in Mexico with his friends from both sides of the border.

He was an accomplished horseman and helped drive cattle from Texas to Kansas as a youth. On a 10-day family pack trip with horses and mules along the John Muir trail in the early 60s, they saw only four other hikers, swam in clear lakes and caught fish for breakfast. The annual Scott Street/San Antonio Place New Year's Day Parade in the neighborhood where they lived offered a showcase for his rope twirling - an art he enjoyed teaching to children.

He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and a member of many other professional organizations as well as a member of the San Diego Rotary Club 33, the La Jolla Country Club and San Diego Yacht Club.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, their husbands and four grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 17, at 11 a.m. at Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church where he had been a member since moving to San Diego. Ashes will be scattered at sea. In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to a scholarship fund for St. Francis Community High School students planning careers in medicine. The Drs. Peck Memorial Scholarship Fund, St. Francis Unified School District 297, Attn.: Carl Werner, 100 College Street, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Leila Charline Torkelson Loker

March 7, 1927 - April 7, 2006

Leila Charline Torkelson Loker, the third daughter of Godfrey Toby Torkelson (1890-1930) and Anne Mae Summers (1905-1979) died April 7, 2006 at Citizens Medical Center, Colby, Kans., at the age of 79 years and 1 month.

Services were held April 11 at St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, with Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler officiating.

Interment was in Grace Cemetery, McDonald. Memorials have been established to McDonald Lions Club and St. Johns Lutheran Church, Bird City, Kan.

A complete obituary was printed in the April 13 issues of *The St. Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*. However, the following poem was not.

What Mom Took

Most often when we think of Mom,

We think of what she's given: The softness of a loving touch, a gentle guide for living,

A nightly tip-toe in a room, and understanding look,

But sometimes when I think of Mom...

I think of what she took.

She took a child and taught it how to live this life with pride.

She took those kindergarten tears, and kept them all inside.

She took the hands that longed to hold her child and not let go,

Used them to push her child along the way,

To thrive and grow.

Took time to do some other things,

Like sew and clean and cook, And never thought to ask for thanks,

For all the things she took.

Thanks, Mom

Melvia Naomi Penn

June 18, 1924 - April 10, 2006

Melvia Naomi (Oakley) Penn was born on June 18, 1924, at 109 N. Seventh Street in Lamar, Colo., to Clarence Leonard and Grace Belle (Nafus) Oakley. The third of six children, she was born at the home of her paternal grandparents, Melvin Edwin and Maude Oakley. She died at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis, Kan., on Monday, April 10, 2006, at the age of 81 years, 9 months and 23 days.

Melvia completed her early school years in Lamar and then moved with her family to Benkelman, Neb., in the fall of 1935. There, her father Clarence, ran a vegetable market, and later, a family grocery store, located on main street in Benkelman. She attended Benkelman schools until her teen years, when she quit to work in the grocery store full-time. She worked at the store until her marriage to Harold Leonard Penn, of rural Dundy County, on March 8 1942. They were married at the Presbyterian Church in Benkelman. In 1963, Naomi was baptized in that same church, along with other family members. Two sons were born to this union - Danny Melvin in 1946 and Eldon Leonard in 1955. During the boys' adolescent years, the young family lived in other nearby towns in Nebraska, wherever Harold's employment took him, while Naomi was a homemaker. At one point, Naomi worked for a time at the Hester Home in Benkelman.

When their sons were grown, Naomi and Harold moved to St. Francis in 1974. Following Harold's death from cancer on June 9, 1976, Naomi, with little experience in the job market, passed the General Education Degree (GED) test and was hired at the port of entry weigh station in St. Francis. During that time, she was confronted with several difficulties, but met these obstacles head-on, and indeed, excelled in her duties. She became the port chief in St. Francis, was required to attend law enforcement training in Topeka, when the Motor Vehicle Inspection division was absorbed by the State Highway patrol, and was given her choice of a couple of ports in which to transfer when the St. Francis port closed down. While attending the academy, she excelled, especially in her target shooting ability, having been taught by her father to shoot a gun when she was a youngster. After completing her 300 hours of training, she received her diploma, was issued a uniform and badge, and carried a fire arm - all as a member of the state highway patrol of Kansas and all of this at the young age of 62!! Upon the closing of the port in St. Francis, Naomi chose to transfer to the port in Kanorado, which required her to move to Goodland for the last few years of her employment. Upon her retirement from the state in 1989, Naomi returned to her home in St. Francis, where she remained until a

few weeks before her death.

Naomi became interested in her family's genealogy and went on research trips with other family members. During her retirement years, she went on three separate occasions with her brother Wayne and his wife Jeanie, in their motor home. They enjoyed weeks-long fall vacations researching family history, traveling to many states where their ancestors had lived, and visiting cousins along the way - many for the first time. When her health prevented her from traveling, she continued her research at home, piecing together much of the information gathered on their trips. She occasionally worked with her cousin, Della Morris, who also enjoyed doing extensive research into the Oakley family tree.

Naomi's ancestry and family history were very important to her. She felt that it is important for following generations to have the opportunity to know their lineage. On her father's side, she has recorded Oakley names of Melvin Edwin in Illinois, Virginia, going back six generations into the 1700s.

Her maternal ancestors with the Nafus name trace back to England into the 1600s and earlier. Besides her mother, Grace Belle, names include Thomas Bent in Missouri, and two generations named Cornelius in Virginia.

Besides her love of genealogy, Naomi bought herself a Nintendo machine along with some games and became quite proficient in playing them. As her grandchildren became able, she would spend hours talking them through the different levels and mazes so that they became successful playing them. Of course, all of this took place while dipping into a candy jar that she kept full at all times - especially for these visits.

Naomi is survived by her sons Danny Penn of St. Francis, and Eldon Penn and wife Frieda of Yukon, Okla.; sister Eulala Steward of Benkelman; brothers Clifford Oakley and wife Zetta Lou of McCook, Neb., and Wayne Oakley and wife Jeanie of Englewood, Colo., sisters-in-law Wilma Hawkinson and husband Loren of Stratton, Neb., and Dorothy Stute and husband Everett of Benkelman; four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Besides her husband, Harold, and her parents, Grace and Clarence, those preceding her in death include her daughter-in-law Sheron Penn, grandson David Penn, great-grandson Michael Penn, sister Gladys Marie Wilson, brother Clarence L. Oakley Jr., and nephews Omer Dale Steward and Allen Dale Oakley.

Funeral services were held at the Forch Funeral Chapel in Benkelman, on Friday, April 14, at

10:30 a.m. with Pastor Tony Christians officiating. Pallbearers were Ron Oakley, Jerry Wonderly, Jim Johnson, Leland Stute, Mike Hanson, and Melvin Duval. Honorary pallbearers were Larry Wilson and Matt Meeks. Interment was in the Benkelman Cemetery under the direction of Knodel Funeral Home of St. Francis.

Harriet Foncannon

Oct 18, 1922 - March 8, 2006

Harriet Foncannon, 83, Leawood, Kan., died on March 8, 2006, at home after a long illness.

A memorial service and celebration of her life was held at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection (Wesley Chapel) on Thursday, March 30.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, Kansas City Hospice or Parkinson Foundation of the Heartland.

Harriet was born on Oct. 18, 1922, in Kansas City, Mo., and grew up in St. Francis, Kan. She graduated from Kansas State University in 1945 with a degree in home economics and art. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority and PEO.

She and her husband, Gene, lived both in Ashland and St. Francis before they and their three children moved to Kansas City in 1959. She was able to spend most of her time at home raising her children - her family was always her first priority. Harriet taught high school in St. Francis for four years and after her children were grown, she worked 10 years as general office manager for Interstate Holdings.

After the death of her husband in 1997, she spent many hours volunteering at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection until her health deteriorated. She loved her church family and the special women in her Bible study classes.

Harriet was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Francis Hancock; her husband, Gene Foncannon; and three siblings, John Hancock, Betty Lou Monahan, and Lyman Hancock.

Survivors include: sons, Tom Foncannon and wife Barb of Littleton, Colo.; Bob Foncannon and wife Karen of Tempe, Ariz.; and daughter, Ann Hays and husband Michael of Leawood; grandchildren, Brett and Kent Foncannon, Denver; Christopher and Shea Foncannon, Tempe; and Natalie Hays, Leawood. She is also survived by her sister, Eda Mae Howard and husband Claude, of Mission, Kan., and many nieces and nephews.

The family appreciated her caregivers from friends of the family and Kansas City Hospice.

"We will all miss her quiet grace, calm demeanor and dry sense of humor," her family wrote.

A service of inurement was held on April 1, at the St. Francis Cemetery.

Club Clip

Tuesday Club

The Tuesday Club met Tuesday, April 11 at the home of Dorothy Carpenter with Pat Confer assisting hostess. Fifteen members and one guest were present. The business meeting was conducted by Wanda Gienger, vice president. A slate of new officers was elected for next year. Minutes and roll call were read by Pat Confer, secretary.

Donna Zimbelman introduced her guest, Evelyn Berry of Goodland who gave a very interesting and enjoyable program on ladies' hats. She spoke about the nice ladies Easter outfits which always included a hat in years past. The first that Mrs. Berry modeled was her mother's sun bonnet and she read a poem her mother had written when she was 90 years old titled "Ode to My Bonnet." Mrs. Berry modeled many hats her mother had worn and others she'd purchased herself for different occasions. One hat was made of all feathers and one a pure

wool hat from Austria. When she and her husband had ran a sale barn in Idaho for 15 years, her family had given her a western cowboy hat which she showed.

Mrs. Berry had been a minister's wife and has given her hat program in many places. Her last hat she showed was an elaborate Victorian hat with scarf attached from old town in San Diego. Mrs. Berry used 17 hats in her delightful program.

The hostesses served a delicious dessert and the club collect was recited to close the meeting.



Jace Ostmeier

Introducing

Matt and Kristy Ostmeier of Ellis are the parents of a son, Jace Randall, born at 5:55 p.m. on March 20, 2006, at Hays Medical Center in Hays. He weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Randy and Judy Ostmeier, and Randy and Sharon Olson, Oberlin. Great-grandparents are Ruben and Darlene Feikert, St. Francis; Dorven and Rosemary Beckman, Grinnell; Toby Ostmeier, Oakley; Eunice and Glenn Martin, Oberlin, and the late Lowell Olson.

Youth need farm training

In 1970, the United States Department of Labor declared agricultural tasks as hazardous for children under the age of 16. With certain exemptions, this law made employment of youth under the age of 16 at these jobs illegal for anyone other than their parents or legal guardian.

The long standing tradition of youth finding summer employment on local farms prompted the development of the Hazardous occupations training (tractor safety) program. Youth can now be trained and certified at ages of 14 and 15 to work in agricultural occupation for someone other than their parents.

Recent interpretations of the law also require youth to have this certification to work for family partnerships, family corporations, even when one partner is the parent, the youth technically works for the corporation, and therefore must have the certification.

This training is also available for youth working on their parent's farms as well as any rural resident or farm worker who desires a refresher course on farm safety.

To meet the requirements of the law, youth should plan to attend a multi-county Hazardous Occupations Training to be held Saturday, May 6, at the Brewster High School, Brewster. The training will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. There is also required reading to do and assignments to complete prior to the class, so early registration is encouraged.

To register, the youth are to give their name, address, social security number, date of birth, and a \$10 check to your local County Extension Office by Monday, May 2.

The registration fee includes your manual, materials, and refreshments for breaks. A pizza lunch is being provided by Farm Bureau of Thomas and Sherman counties.

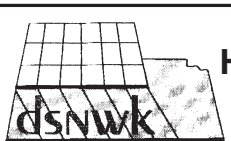
PCAN

Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect

WHERE'S YOUR BLUE RIBBON?

April is child abuse prevention month. During this month and throughout the year, **Cheyenne County Kids Making a Connection Coalition** is dedicated to raising awareness about child abuse and neglect and what each one of us can do to help keep children safe. Throughout the month coalition members will be passing out blue ribbons. The blue ribbon campaign raises awareness of the positive steps that can be taken to prevent child abuse. Please wear a blue ribbon to support a standard that every child should grow up in a loving, safe, nurturing home. For more information on programs and how you can participate in the prevention of child abuse, call Roxy Cabral, NWKS Regional Prevention Center, at 785-460-8177.

Regional Prevention Center
Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect
505 N. Franklin, Suite E
Colby, KS 67701
785-460-8177



Human Services Opportunities

PERSONAL ASSISTANT- several part time positions available for day and evening hours and some week-ends. PA would be providing companionship and support to children, adolescents, or young adults with a developmental disability in their homes and in the community. Hours will vary depending on the person's schedule, but most of the hours are either daytime or afterschool hours. Duties will also vary, depending on the person's routines and needs. Benefit plans are also available. H/S diploma or equivalent required. To apply contact

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Hays, KS 67601
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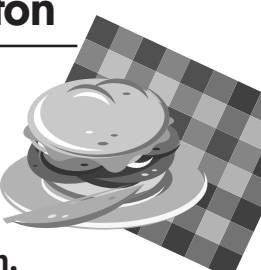
HAMBURGER FEED

Atwood

Wed., April 19 • 11:30 a.m.

Bird City

Thurs., April 20 • 11:30 a.m.



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