

# Family

## Deaths

### Lucille Olson

Lucille Olson, 83, died Friday, April 23, 2004 at Presbyterian St.

### Merlyn Lee Stasser

Merlyn Lee Stasser, 52, died from injuries he suffered in an 18-vehicle pile-up Sunday morning, April 17 in a dust storm on I-70 one mile west of the Kansas line.

Mr. Stasser died Tuesday, April 20, 2004 in St. Anthony Central Hospital, Denver.

Mr. Stasser was born Feb. 25, 1952 in Goodland and graduated from Goodland High School in 1970. He married Arlea R. Robertson in 1972 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Goodland.

Mr. Stasser graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1975, and



Stasser

Luke's Medical Center in Denver. Services are pending at Kersbrook Funeral Chapel, Colby.

from the University of Colorado in 1991. He managed a loan production office here in 1998 for a Nebraska bank before joining Western State. Stasser was a member of the Goodland Ambassadors, a board member of the Western Kansas Facilitation Consortium and a graduate of the Kansas Agricultural Rural Leadership (KARL) program. Survivors include his parents, Merle and LaReatha Stasser of Goodland; son, Justin, formerly of Colby; and two brothers, Alvin Stasser of Mesa, Ariz., and Gaylord (Bonnie) Stasser of Goodland; a grandmother, Margaret Stasser of St. Francis; and three grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday at the Goodland United Methodist Church. Memorials may be made to Kansas Agricultural Rural Leadership and left at Koons Funeral Chapel in Goodland.

### Steve G. Ostmeyer

Steve G. Ostmeyer, 52, of Quinter, died of cancer at his home in Quinter Wednesday, April 21, 2004.

Funeral mass was Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Park with Father Mark Berland officiating. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery in Park.

Mr. Ostmeyer is survived by his wife, Sandii; two sons, Carver Ostmeyer of Hays and Kasen Ostmeyer of Quinter; two daughters, Kendra Salyers of Quinter and Kara Lang of McPherson; his mother, Regina Ostmeyer of Grinnell; a brother, Stanley D. Ostmeyer of Quinter; six sisters, Judy Nieman of Sioux Falls, S.D., Colleen Seibel of Stockton, Calif., Audrey Schwarz of Menlo, Mimi Tubbs of Long Island, Ruthmary Muir of Stockton,

### Samuel E. Metzler

Samuel E. Metzler, 79, of Newton, died Thursday, April 22, 2004 at Kidron Bethel Health Care in North Newton.

Services were held today at Petersen Funeral Home Chapel in Newton with Chaplain Amanda Rempel officiating. Burial will be at Kensington Garden Crematory in Wichita.

Mr. Metzler is survived by his wife, Ernestine; two daughters, Anne Louise Brockman of Emporia and Karen Marie Schneweis of Wichita; three sons, Phillip Joseph Metzler of Scottsdale, Ariz., Randy Stephen Metzler of Newton and Thomas Leroy Metzler of Newton; three brothers, Homer Metzler, Leo Metzler of San Diego, Calif. and Merle Metzler of Brewster; a sister, Myrna Griffin of Colby; 17 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Phillip H. Metzler and Lucille Metzler and a son, Michael Wayne Metzler.

Mr. Metzler was born Dec. 23, 1924 in Colby to Phillip H. and Lucille (Cummings) Metzler. He was an auto mechanic, service station owner and ran a wrecker service.

He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. Mr. Metzler served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1945 and in the U.S. Naval Reserves from 1947-1952.

He enjoyed playing pool, fishing, square dancing, jewelry making and silver smithing.

Memorials are suggested to the Newton Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, in care of Petersen Funeral Home, 215 N. Main St., Newton, Kan. 67114.

# Walk Kansas news spreads across state lines

News truly does travel fast. Soon after D'Ette Scholtz, Kansas State University Research and Extension agent in Thomas County delivered a news release about *Walk Kansas*, an Extension health and fitness program, to the *Colby Free Press* people from Denver asked if they, too, could walk the 423 miles across Kansas.

Scholtz said she thought about the out-of-state interest and concluded "Why not?"

"The health and fitness program is easy – and fun. Teams of six people log mileage to cover the distance across the state as they learn to make healthful exercise a habit," she said.

"Weekly mileage reports can be completed electronically," said Scholtz, who also distributes newsletters with nutrition, health and fitness tips electronically.

That's a good thing, as the folks from Denver aren't the only out-of-county and out-of-state participants in the Thomas County program this year.

Clara Schieferecke, an avid, 95-year-old-walker who lives in neighboring Decatur County, encouraged seventeen members of her family – including her nine surviving adult children – to enroll.

Together, they represent Kansas from east to west, California, Colorado and Nevada. Her daughter, Mary Schieferecke, who lives in Denver, is captain for the family

## Baptism

### Carson Joseph Van Eaton

Father Dana Clark baptized Carson Joseph Van Eaton, infant son of Chris and Jennifer (Gorden) Van Eaton, on Sunday, April 18, at Colby Sacred Heart Church. Godparents are Mike and Aimee Zimmerman.

## Show rescheduled

The Thomas County Horse Show scheduled for Wednesday, June 9 has been cancelled. The tentative date for the horse show has been rescheduled for Monday, June 14; however, this has not been finalized.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day  
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat	\$3.53
Corn	\$2.89
Milo	\$4.71
Soybeans	\$9.11

**“ The health and fitness program is easy – and fun. Teams of six people log mileage to cover the distance across the state as they learn to make healthful exercise a habit.”**

D'Ette Scholtz.

Thomas County extension agent

teams.

"Mother walks when she can, weather permitting, and gardens," said Schieferecke, who credits *Walk Kansas*, which she calls "a creative incentive to walk" with encouraging her siblings and others in the family to be more active.

The fitness effort has proved to be one of Extension's most popular

programs and, this year, 94 of Kansas' 105 counties are participating, said Mike Bradshaw, Extension's health and safety specialist and state director for *Walk Kansas*.

To date, more than 16,000 people have signed up for the 2004 program, he said.

That's up substantially from 12,000 last year.

Scholtz said that for many, the program is an introduction to Extension's state and county information and education network.

For those unfamiliar with the program, Scholtz explained that team members can walk together or individually, inside or outside, anytime or anyway that fits their schedule and lifestyle.

"It is approximately 30 minutes a day or 1.75 miles for 5 days a week," she said.

The eight-week program, which started Sunday, March 14, will continue through Saturday, May 8, she said.

To learn more about *Walk Kansas* and other extension programs, visit the local county extension office in the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., or call (785) 462-4582.



*The public is invited to a reception honoring  
Kenton & Sheila  
Krehbiel*

*2004 Honorary Associate  
Degree Recipients*

*Wednesday, April 28  
Colby Community College  
CCC Student Union, Room 108  
Beginning at 3:00 p.m.*

*Join us as we honor Kenton and Sheila for their commitment to Colby, Colby Community College and the citizens of northwest Kansas.*

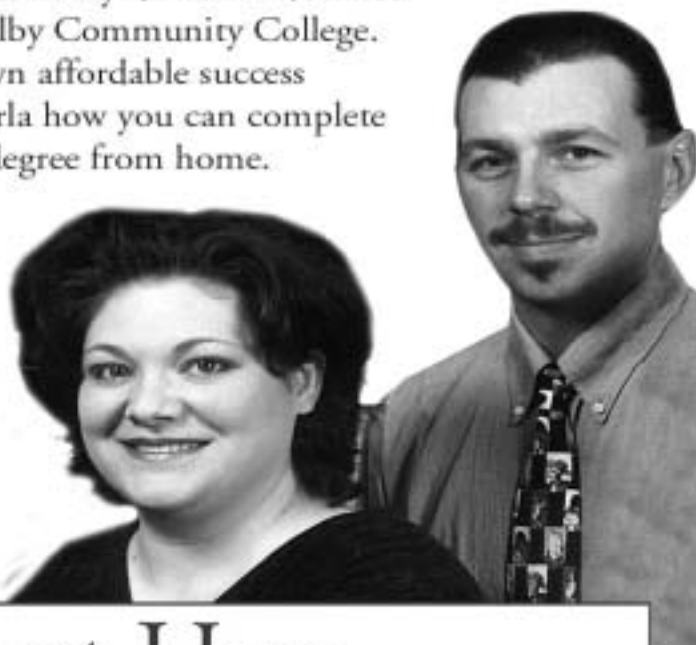
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