

Death

Kenneth Hemmert

Kenneth Hemmert, 74, died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 at Logan County Hospital in Oakley. He was born on Aug. 16, 1930 in Logan County to Peter Theodore Hemmert and Mary Elizabeth Moos Hemmert and was a lifetime area resident.



K. Hemmert

Mr. Hemmert was a rancher, farmer and stockman who owned and operated Oakley Livestock Commission Co. for more than 30 years. He married Margaret Mae Schulte in July of 1954 in Angelus. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Oakley; the St. Joseph's Parish Council, 3rd Degree Knights of Columbus, U.S. Marine Corp. veteran, Oakley VFW 2981, Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Cattlemen's Association, and a past member of Oakley City Council and Logan

County Fair board. Survivors include his wife, Margaret; sons, Kyle, and Eric of Oakley, Kirk of WaKeeney and Mark of Rio Rico, Ariz.; daughters, Mari Hopper of Oakley and Lori Salmon, Fayetteville, Ark.; sisters, Verlene Scott, Oakley and Marilyn Headings, Amarillo, Texas; and 15 grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents and a brother, Alfred Hemmert.

Services are Tuesday at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Oakley with Father Roger Meitl and Father James Grennan officiating.

Visitation continues today until 9 p.m. at Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home in Oakley with a rosary service at 7:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Oakley with military graveside rites by the U.S. Army, Ft. Riley. Memorials may be made to either St. Joseph's School in Oakley or the Logan County Hospital and sent in care of Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, 217 Freeman, P.O. Box 221, Oakley, Kan. 67748.

Tips offered for online auction sites

Dear Attorney General Phill Kline: I do a lot of my shopping online and have always tried to guard my credit card account numbers and shop at secure websites. I've recently considered looking for bargains at online auction sites but I'm concerned. What should I be most aware of when shopping in this fashion?



Phill Kline
•Consumer Corner

Dear Kansas Consumer: Millions of people do at least some of their shopping online and it sounds like you are doing a good job of protecting yourself. But you are also correct in that shopping at online auction sites such as eBay require some additional thought and precaution.

Some of the best advice I can offer is for you to know the seller. Most auction sites and many online malls have a forum where buyers can comment on their experiences with sellers.

Be cautious of sellers with little or no feedback, and take negative comments very seriously. Also, try and compare listings whenever possible to see if your item's price is

fair-trade. Be suspicious of hard to find items offered at a very low price. Another good piece of advice is try to avoid being an impulse buyer. Take time to research the item offered and get to know the seller before agreeing to buy.

Certain high-demand items are also associated with higher purchasing risks. Take the time to do some additional checking, especially with computers, jewelry, electronics, and items that are sold out in retail

stores. If a seller claims to suddenly have a large quantity of an item that's nearly impossible to find, you'd be wise to question the validity of the claim.

Ask to speak with the seller's supplier and verify that the supplier is a legitimate business. And be wary of multiple listings with the same picture, especially if the picture is from the manufacturer's website. If the photo looks like it was taken at a home or office, chances are better that the seller does have that item.

Keep in mind if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Ask yourself if the information in the item description sounds believable. And when you do agree to make a purchase from an online auction site, use secure payment methods such as PayPal or your credit card.

Editor's note: Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help people avoid becoming victims of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions. For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

Student News

Area student graduates Magna Cum Laude from Washburn
Commencement exercises were held Friday, Dec. 10 for the fall graduates of Washburn University in Topeka.

Ashleigh Renae Green graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice with an emphasis in corrections, a

minor in psychology and associate of arts in legal studies.

Ashleigh is the daughter of David and Dana Green, formerly of Gem, the granddaughter of Merlin and Dixie Green of rural Rawlins County and Judy Castle of Aurora, Colo. formerly of Colby.

She is a 2000 graduate of Atwood High School and a 2001 graduate of Colby Community College.

Markets

Quotes as of close Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat	\$3.22
Corn	\$1.92
Milo	\$2.98
Soybeans	No bid



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Celebrating Hometown Life
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See American Profile Magazine in today's issue of the

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COLBY CINEMA & ARCADE

DEC. 22nd - DEC. 30th

MEET THE FOCKERS
Tues. & Thurs: 7:00 (PG)
Saturday: 7:00 & 9:15 1:55
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:00 & 9:15

LEMONY SNICKETS (PG) 1:50
A Series of Unfortunate Events
Saturday: 7:15 & 9:15
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:15 & 9:15

COLBY THEATRE

DEC. 25th - DEC. 30th

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) 2:10
Saturday: 7:00 & 9:30
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:00 & 9:30

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) 1:55
Saturday: 9:00
Sunday thru Thursday: 9:00

FAT ALBERT (PG) 1:55
Saturday: 7:15
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:15

Fat Albert starts Christmas Day. We will be closed on Christmas Eve.

Happy New Year!

Our office will be **CLOSED** on Friday December 31st to celebrate this joyous holiday.

EARLY DEADLINES:
Monday, Jan. 3 Free Press: Wednesday Dec. 29 @ 3:00, display ads; Thursday, Dec. 30 @ noon, word ads.
Wednesday, Jan. 5 Country Advocate: Thursday, Dec. 30 @ noon, display ads and word.

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ARRIVE ALIVE IN 2005 DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

Hang up your keys BEFORE you start celebrating this New Years Eve. Then no matter how you arrive, you'll be around to enjoy the year 2005.

Thomas County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Council **ADAC**

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BERINGER HARDWARE

Additional taxes & fees may apply, including federal- & state-mandated Universal Service Fund fees & a 911 fee of up to \$1.94. A 56¢ regulatory Cost Recovery Fee & a 59¢ Telecom Connectivity fee, which are not taxes or government-required charges, year may also apply. \$9.99 Add a Line: 1 line must be a primary line of service on a rate plan \$59.99 and higher, with no more than 4 secondary lines at \$9.99/mo. Service agreement required for each line. 1-year service agreement required for each new line; 2-year service agreement required in conjunction with a phone promotion. Upgrade fee may apply. Plan Details: Mobile-to-Home requires 2 or more lines of wireless service on the same bill. 1 line must be a primary line on a qualifying rate plan. Customer's wireless number & designated home number must be in the same geographic area. Mobile-to-Home minutes are deducted from your mobile-to-mobile package. Mobile-to-Home/Mobile-to-Mobile calls must begin & end in your plan's calling area. Mobile-to-Mobile minutes apply to calls between ALLTEL wireless customers. Call forwarding, 411 & voice mail calls excluded. Nights are Mon-Thurs 9:00pm-5:59am. Weekends are Fri 9:00pm-Mon 5:59am. Free activation requires 2-year service agreement on a qualifying rate plan. Additional Information: Limited-time offer at participating locations. Credit approval & approved handset required. Rate plan changes for existing customers may require a new contract. \$200 early termination fee applies. Offers are subject to the ALLTEL Terms & Conditions for Communications Services available at any ALLTEL store or www.alltel.com. All other products & service marks referenced are the names, trade names, trademarks & logos of their respective owners. © 2004 Alltel Communications, Inc.