

Family

Deaths

Rebecca D. Crosby

Rebecca D. Crosby, 66, WaKeeney, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011, at the Trego County Lemke Memorial Hospital in WaKeeney.

She was born April 7, 1944, in Colorado Springs, the daughter of Helen C. Brooks, and was raised by an adoptive father, Alphonse Joseph Freymuth.

After graduating from a Catholic high school in Colorado Springs, she attended the Colorado School of Nursing there and became a license practical nurse.

She move to Colby in the early 1970s to become the first director of nursing at Lantern Park Manor, now Colby Care Center. Later she was director of nursing at homes in Atwood and WaKeeney.

She was preceded in death by

her parents and a daughter, Debra Gillette.

Survivors include a son, Douglas Dunham, Conifer, Colo.; two daughters, Trinity (Monte) McCoy, Oberlin, and Dianne Dunham, Hays; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, at the Schmitt Funeral Home in WaKeeney, with inurnment in the WaKeeney City Cemetery.

No visitation.

The family suggests memorials for masses or to the Rebecca Crosby Memorial Fund, in care of the funeral home, 336 N. 12th, WaKeeney, Kan., 67672.

Condolences may be sent to Schmittfuneral.com.

Lorna Jo Nichols

Lorna Jo Nichols, 62, Colby, died Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011, at Via Christi-St. Francis Medical Center in Wichita.

She was born April 5, 1948, in Colby, the daughter of Virgil Gail and Frankie Lee (Lakey-Schielke) Nichols.

Following graduation from Winona Consolidated High School, she spent two years with the Job Corps in Omaha. She attended Colby Community College and the Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia, where she graduated with a degree in elementary education.

After teaching a year in Brewster, she taught in one-room schools in Nebraska until her youngest sister was hurt in a car accident in Beloit. She went to care for her sister and niece. After that, she was a nanny in Philadelphia and Connecticut.

When she returned to Colby, she managed a video and rent-to-own store.

From her teen years on, she suf-

fered from physical disabilities, leading her to become an advocate for the disabled, and she went to Topeka several times.

She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby.

She was preceded in death by her father and grandparents.

Survivors include her mother, St. Francis; four siblings, Loyall (Barbara) Nichols, Colby; Denise Packard, Grainfield; Dru (Tracey) Nichols, Laramie, Wyo.; and Dawn Nichols, Colby.

Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011, at the church, with pastor Robert Alexander officiating. Inurnment will be later in Elmwood Cemetery, Beloit.

No visitation.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests donations to the church, the Genesis-Thomas County food bank or Thomas County Emergency Services, in care of the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, 745 S. Country Club Drive, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Fort Hays to hold meeting on math, science academy here

An information meeting for the Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science at Fort Hays State University, which offers high school juniors and seniors a head start on a college education, will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24, in Colby.

The meeting is one of several to be held across the state to give students and parents a chance to learn about the program and visit with representatives.

The academy is for students who excel in science and mathematics. Students live in a residence hall,

earn a high school diploma and complete the course with about 68 college credit hours, said Dr. Roger Schieferecke, associate director for student services.

The Colby meeting will be at the Pioneer Memorial Library. To register, go to www.fhsu.edu/kams or call (785) 628-4690.

"If you enjoy math and science," Schieferecke said, "are a high-achieving student, and feel that you are not currently challenged enough, then KAMS is for you."

Corrections

A story on Page 1 of the Wednesday, Jan. 12, *Colby Free Press*, "Arizona Congresswoman has Colby roots," inadvertently omitted some of her cousins from this area. They include Mary Ruth Garrett of Brewster, Lois Ann Frodin of Goodland and Ethel

Jean Woofter, formerly of Colby, and now of Lincoln, Neb.

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The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.



Ben Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver.

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to. Friends don't let friends drive drunk.



Tragedy connects to Colby

What a difference a week can make in the conversation of America.

A tragedy like the one in Arizona always makes me stop and consider my own life and appreciate the fact that we are not owed tomorrow.

While working this week, I received an email telling me that Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords' mother, Gloria Fraser Giffords, graduated from Colby High School in 1956. The sender remind us that we have her book, "Mexican Fold Retablos: Masterpieces on Tin," at the library (her published name was Gloria Kay Giffords).

The book, published through the University of Arizona Press in 1974, came from her master's thesis on Mexican folk art. Having traveled in every state of Mexico, she collected much information on retablos and ex-votos. In 1992, she published a paperback edition of this work (now available from Amazon, for the art enthusiast in the area). Now she has expanded to folk art in general.

In the New Year, someone asked if I'd read any good books lately. Well depends on what you consider good. I was in a reflective mode, so I looked at the "new" section of our nonfiction area and chose a few books that might help inspire us.

The first I found was a large, red cloth-covered book entitled, "Hallmark: A Century of Caring,"



Melany Wilks

Library Links

by Patrick Regan. Inside you will find stories of J.C. Hall's beginning in the greeting card business and how through the years the family has worked and struggled to grow the company into a multimillion-dollar empire. Even if you skim this book, you will find enjoyable stories through the century, along with delightful pictures of cards published in many eras.

The second book I grabbed was "You Can't Predict A Hero: From War to Wall Street, Leading in Times of Crisis," by Joseph Grano Jr. Grano outlines qualities of a born leader (p. 9), and then goes on to tell us that crisis brings born leaders to greatness (p. 10-11).

He tells us that a leader must be an "eternal optimist (p. 51). This is because others are looking to a leader for leadership, reassurance and what can be done. He gives examples in his own life where such circumstances helped him understand this (pp. 52-56).

I liked his story about negotiating with his office manager about sending out mailers. The office manager did not want him and others sending out mailers due to the cost. He went to the manager and

negotiated a deal: He proposed that the company pick up his mailing costs if he was leading in new account openings for that week. When he was not No. 1, then he would pay the bill personally.

Grano also discusses looking at the hard facts, making a strategy that lines up with truth and then moving forward. He shares how aligning market principles, versus pure financial gain, is more important. The later has hurt our financial institutions.

He admonishes us to remember that work, skills and true character are more important than image or keeping up with others. He tells about his leadership after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in business and government, as well as how to face today's challenges in the financial, mortgage and employment areas.

A fourth book is "Not Without Hope," by Nick Schuler. Schuler and three friends, all professional football players, went out boating in the Tampa, Fla., area of the Gulf of Mexico. When they decided it was time to return, they found their anchor was stuck in the mud.

They decided to gun the engine and make the anchor loosen. However, the stern of the boat filled with water instead and they soon found themselves in the water with their boat capsized. They spent 40 hours trying to stay alive. Together they encouraged each other and built an even tighter

friendship and hope for their future.

The fifth book is "Promise Me: How a Sister's Love Launched the Global Movement to End Breast Cancer," by Nancy Brinker, about the making of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure organization.

Brinker writes that she and Susan were the closest of sisters until cancer took Suzy. This book tells the stories of both women's bouts with cancer and their fight for life. Nancy promised her sister that she would never stop looking for a cure. She committed herself to not only raising money, but promoting awareness, research and more humane treatment of patients with breast cancer.

Nancy's husband was a successful entrepreneur and restaurateur. Nancy writes that she learned to run her foundation from his expertise and insight. Together, she said, they found that a stronger and "true marriage of equals" was forged from this work.

Remember that the library is on the winter schedule, opening at 9 a.m. and closing at 8 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 5 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday. Sunday hours are 1 to 4 p.m. We hand out bookmarks with this schedule on them. If you have a question, call us at 460-4470.

We also have free computer and Internet access. If you have your own computer, come in and use our free wireless connection. See you in the library!

Consider preseason irrigation to increase yield

A recent field study shows irrigating corn fields before planting increases yields.

The study, conducted from 2006 to 2009 by the Kansas State University Research and Extension Southwest Center, showed preseason irrigation increased overall yields by an average of 16 bushels per acre. It also found that both crop water use and water use efficiency tended to increase with well capacity and preseason irrigation.

Alan Schlegel, agronomist in charge at the Tribune Unit, where the study was conducted, said optimum plant populations also varied with irrigation levels.

"A plant population of 22,500 plants per acre was adequate with the lowest well capacity and without preseason irrigation," he said. "However, if preseason irrigation was applied, a higher plant population increased yields even at the

lowest well capacity."

The study evaluated three different plant populations at preplant irrigation levels of 0 and 3 inches and at well capacities of 0.1, 0.15 and 0.2 inches per day.

Soil water measurements were

taken throughout the growing season. Crop water use was calculated by adding soil water depletion and in-season irrigation and precipitation, while water use efficiency was figured by dividing yield by water use.

Fortune found in furnace case

WENATCHEE, Wash. (AP) — A Wenatchee man was working on his furnace when he noticed a small box taped in the casing. Inside he found 50 silver ingots and a silver coin.

The *Wenatchee World* reports they were worth almost \$15,000. Rick Acosta told police about the treasure. They tracked down a previous owner of the house, who moved out six years ago. He had ownership papers with serial numbers, so the box of silver was turned over to him.

Acosta was given a "significant" reward.

Bridge Club

Tuesday winners at Meadow Lake Bridge Club were first, Gail Vacca; second, Sarah Jane Barrett; third, Elaine Ptacek; fourth, Barb Ulmer; fifth, Margaret Denneker; sixth, Ken Ptacek.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.17
Corn (bushel)	\$5.65
Milo (hundredweight)	\$9.73
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.90

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WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING?



Society Editor

The Colby Free Press is looking for a part-time society editor to do social notes, weddings, engagements, obituaries, church and club items, features and other news of interest to the town. This is a great way to be in touch with the pulse of your town and get to know a lot of people.

It requires accuracy, speed and attention to detail. Work week would be 10-15 hours. Pay commensurate with experience and ability. Send a letter or e-mail to Kevin Bottrell, editor, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701, kbottrell@nwkansas.com. This could be the job you've been looking for. EOE m/f/h.



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Orin Rush, Sr.

Deer Creek - Orin E. Rush, Sr., 75, of Deer Creek, died at 3:36 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011, at Lutheran Hillside Village in Peoria, where he had been a resident for the last 2-1/2 years.

He was born June 1, 1935, in Oak Hill, Kan., to Francis and Lela (Moses) Rush. He married Loretta Dowling on Nov. 12, 1957, in Hagerstown, Md.

Surviving are his wife, Loretta Rush of Deer Creek; one son, Orin "Gene" (Regina) Rush, Jr. of Sitka, Alaska; two daughters, Tina Parham of Pontiac and Tammy (Vance) Vinson of Morton; six grandchildren, Jeffrey (Darbie) Rush, Jodi (Jon) Wilson, Jennifer Parham, Cassandra Wade, Graham Vinson and Drake Vinson; seven great-grandchildren, Tyler, Trenton, Elijah, Hunter, Leah, Christian and Avalina; and one brother, Rolland Rush of Levant, Kan.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Bertha.

He was an Army veteran, serving from 1954 to 1958.

Orin worked 30 years at DMI in Goodfield, retiring in 1994 as a maintenance technician.

He was a member of Deer Creek Baptist Church and the caretaker at the Stumbaugh Cemetery in rural Deer Creek for 40 years.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011, at Deer Creek Baptist Church, with Rev. Henry, and Rev. Brian Gross Miller officiating. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Fri. Jan. 14 at Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Morton, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church. Burial will be in Stumbaugh Cemetery in rural Deer Creek.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Deer Creek Baptist Church; Lutheran Hillside Village in Peoria or to the Stumbaugh Cemetery Fund, in care of First Security Bank, P.O. Box 290, Mackinaw, IL 61755.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.knappjohnson.com.



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