

Deaths

Lawrence Allen Brungardt

Lawrence 'Larry' Allen Brungardt, 65, died Monday, Aug. 22, 2011, in his home near Colby. He was born Oct. 1, 1945, to Edward A. and Catherine (Wassinger) Brungardt in St. Peter. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Marvin, Loraine, Virgil and Hubert Brungardt; and two sisters, Jane Ness and Mary Lusk. Survivors include a son James Brungardt, Victoria; a daughter, Kathy Bullock, WaKeeney; brothers Robert Brungardt, Fargo, N.D., Harold Brungardt, York,

Neb., Eddie Brungardt, Deshler, Neb., Tim Brungardt, Hill City, Kenneth Brungardt, Silver Lake; sisters Linda Thorne, Thornton, Carolyn Withington, Norton, Marilyn Craig, Salina; and four grandchildren. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Aug. 29, 2011, at Schmitt Funeral Home in WaKeeney. Memorials may be sent to Schmitt Funeral Home, 336 N. 12th St., WaKeeney, Kan., 67672. Condolences may be sent to Schmittfuneral.com

Essay contest up and running

TOPEKA – Seventh and eighth grade students across Kansas can showcase their creativity in the 10th annual Learning Quest Essay Contest. The Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program is Kansas' state-sponsored 529 plan, designed to help families invest for their child's continued education after high school. "We'd love to see a record num-

ber of entries," said Kansas State Treasurer and Learning Quest Program Administrator Ron Estes. "This year, we're challenging our seventh and eighth grade students to think about their futures by interviewing someone they know about the impact higher education has had on that person's life and then consider their own future career and how higher education might help them reach their goals."

The contest, open to all seventh and eighth grade students in Kansas, begins mid-August and all entries must be postmarked by Oct. 14. To learn more and download participation materials, visit the contest website at learningquest.com/essay.

Prizes include \$1,000 and \$500 Learning Quest accounts for one winner and one runner-up, respectively, from each grade level.

One randomly selected participant will receive a \$529 account. And, to celebrate the contest's 10th anniversary, one randomly selected participating school will win a special prize from Learning Quest – \$1 for each entry submitted statewide, up to \$5,000.

Last year, more than 1,500 essays were received from 72 teachers at 67 schools across the state.

Contest looks for photos of Kansas' rural landscape

Kansas shutterbugs are called to submit their photos for a Rural Kansas Photography Contest, now taking online submissions through Monday, Sept. 19. The contest will award prizes to first and second place winners in four categories:

- Rural Landscape: A photograph depicting an expanse of scenery in rural Kansas.
- Community: A photograph of Kansans participating in shared activities, from casual cookouts to town festivals.
- Health Care: A photograph of anything health care related.
- Recreation: A photograph depicting how rural Kansans spend their free time.

The contest is open to Kansas residents and individuals who work in Kansas, ages 18 or older. Contest entries can be submitted online at rural-

health.kumc.edu/photocontest, via email to cdrake@kumc.edu or to Chris Drake, Rural Health Education and Services, School of Medicine-Wichita, 1010 N. Kansas, Wichita, Kan. 67214.

Winners will receive a University of Kansas tote bag filled with college and other state memorabilia and will have their winning photo published in Kansas Connections and on the Rural Health Education and Services Web Site.

"We started this contest in 2006 for Kansans to show the majestic beauty of our state and wonderful way of living rural Kansans are accustomed to," said Joyce Grayson, director of Rural Health Education and Services.

More information about contest rules and contest entry forms are available online at ruralhealth.kumc.edu/photocontest.

Brand new young adult books at library

Today is the start of school for many of our children. Since we just received a shipment of new books for our junior fiction section, I need to let you know about some of the titles we have received.

Some of you reading this article may think I'm wasting space because kids don't read anymore. Wrong! Did you know that the reading by youth for our junior fiction section was up by 12 percent in 2010? Since 2008 our youth have increased their reading by 22 percent.

There are of course a number of reasons for the increase:

- New authors are writing on exciting subjects.
- Our library has been very deliberate about stocking the very popular new items.
- The Colby High School librarians are referring high school students to the public library if they either do not have the item or their copy is checked out.
- Many best selling authors who write for adults are writing for a younger generation.

The new term "cross-over book" is being bantered around a lot. This means that books are written for older youth and are a cross between youth and adult. Later the youth may "cross-over" to find materials in the adult reading section of the library written by their favorite author. Authors like Cabot, Grisham, Evans, Patterson and others are now writing for youth.

Our junior fiction area is for ages 10 to 18. Some libraries separate books as junior fiction and youth but we do not. We have kept our collection under one area because children and youth read at different levels. Another reason is due to space limitations in the library. A third reason is that some books that are easier to read might be enjoyable for older readers and some younger readers may be reading at advanced levels. Having it all together allows youth to browse the junior fiction shelves and see all the good books for the entire age span, without having to guess how we categorized them.

In this column I want to share with parents, grandparents and those that aid students with their Accelerated Reader requirements, that the library has on its website a link to Renaissance Learning, Inc. who sponsors the Accelerated Reader Book Finder (<http://www.arbookfind.com>). If your teacher gives you a "keycode" for the site, use it so you can get up-to-date information on any new books released in the current year (say 2011). In the quick search mode a person can just type the title or author of a book in and get information. Using the advanced search a person can look up books for a certain grade or reading level.

Now to new books added to our shelves. "Sword in the Stars" is the first book of the series Dark Sea Annals by Wayne Thomas Batson. Protagonist Alastair Cold-



Melany Wilks

Library Links

hollow is depressed and at his wits end. He is waiting for the sign to appear in the sky. He has been told he is the Caller of the Pathwalker, Halfainin. He has been fighting and searching for years and is just about to give up when he looks out into the evening sky. There he sees a huge red moon. This is just one of the signs to be waited for. Alastair races upstairs with sword in hand to find the sign of the sword in the sky! It points to the City where he will find the hero who will save the world. Batson has been a teaching instructor for 13 years and has written his material over time. This book gets 5 stars from Amazon. This is sometimes very hard to come by for a first time author with the first book in the series. His writing held my attention and will probably do so for youth as well.

A second book is "Young Fredle" by award-winning author Cynthia Voigt. This book is for

grades third to fifth, but others may enjoy its theme as well. Fredle the mouse is in his nest with all his brothers and sisters. His appetite gets him into trouble when he hogs some chocolate. He is very curious about everything and soon gets on the nerves of his mother. One moment he is safe and secure in his nest and the next he has been pushed out into the cruel and ever so big real world unknown to him. Fredle struggles to find safety, understand himself and others. During this adventure he grapples with issues of family as well. This book will help the reader to examine their lives and find ways to see things through new eyes.

I'm out of space so let me just list a few titles we have added to the new junior fiction section: "The Search for Truth," (Eric Rex, book 3) by Kaza Kingsley and Tim Jacobus; "The Trouble with May Amelia," by Jennifer L. Holm and Adam Gustavson; "The Elephant's Tale," (Legend of the Animal Healer) by Lauren St. John; "White Sands, Red Menace," by Ellen Klages; "One of the Survivors," by Susan Shaw; "Bloodlines," by Richelle Mead; "The Six Rules of Maybe," by Deb Caletti; "A Season of Gifts," by Richard Peck; "Hell's He-

roes," (The Demonata, book 10) by Darren Shan; "The Bridge to Never Land," (Starcatchers; Peter – book 5) by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson; "Scumble," by Ingrid Law; "Katy's Decision," (Katy Lambright Series, book 4) by Kim Vogel Sawyer; "Peak," by Roland Smith, and many more.

Remember that the library's hours are still on the summer schedule until the Tuesday after Labor Day (Sept. 6). See you in the library!

Babies

Angel Urbano Bermudez

Angel Urbano Bermudez, son of Urbano and Celia Bermudez of Bird City, was born Monday, Aug. 8, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Sister Soledad and brother Pablo welcomed the baby home.



Angel B.

Cana Grace Campbell

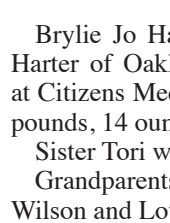


Cana C.

Cana Grace Campbell, daughter of Dylan and Paige Campbell of Oakley, was born Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 18 inches.

Grandparents are John and Cheryl Helget of Ellipsis and Bruce and Deb Campbell of Oakley.

Brylie Jo Harter



Brylie Harter

Brylie Jo Harter, daughter of Nathan and Diane Harter of Oakley, was born Sunday, July 7, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches.

Sister Tori welcomed the baby home. Grandparents of the baby are Leland and Roxy Wilson and Lowell and Sue Harter, all of Colby.

Kenley Brenn Moss



Kenley Moss

Kenley Brenn Moss, daughter of Brent and Nikki Moss of Colby, was born Thursday, July 28, 2011. She weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 21 1/2 inches.

Grandparents are Kent and Kim Moss of Menlo and Daniel and Annette Spreser of Gem.

Great-grandparents are Dick and Alva Horn of Colby, Delores Seeburger and the late Tom Moss of Colby, Don and Bernadine Spreser of Leoville and Mary Ann Juenemann and the late Lawrence Juenemann of Selden.

Sophia Fae Stramel

Sophia Fae Stramel, daughter of Bert and Lisa Stramel of Colby, was born Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Brothers Trey Aaron and Brody Storm welcomed the baby home.

Grandparents of the baby are Ron and Sharon Stramel of Colby and Ron and Bonnie Zwegardt of St. Francis.

Sophia is the great-granddaughter of Dolly Wulf and the late Cecil Wulf.



Sophia S.

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Help us honor those who have served our country.

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God bless all those who answer our nation's call to defend our great country's freedoms!

Vet, SSgt. Matthews USMC 3rd Recon Bn.

Please bring in or mail photos and information to The Colby Free Press 155 W. Fifth St., Colby KS, 67701. Photos and information may also be emailed to khunter@nwks.com