

Deaths

Jon Kevin 'Smiley' Axelson

Jon Kevin "Smiley" Axelson, 51, Russell, formerly of Colby, died Monday, March 11, 2013, at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City, Kan.

He was born Dec. 4, 1961, in Hays, the son of John W. and Wendella F. (Matheson) Axelson. He grew up in the Natoma area and graduated from Natoma High School in 1980.

On June 6, 1981, he married Maureen Meyers in Plainville.

After several years working with his father for Axelson Tank Service, in 1987 he went to work for Murnin Drilling. In 1992 the family moved to Oberlin when he was promoted to production foreman. Subsequent transfers moved them to Colby, Garden City and finally to Russell in 2000.

A member of St. Mary Queen of Angels Catholic Church in Russell, he was active in the Knights of Columbus, the church building committee and on the parish council. He enjoyed fishing with

his boys, working with his dad, woodworking, making small oil rigs and pumps and listening to country music.

His father preceded him in death in 2000. Survivors include his wife, of the home; his mother, of Plainville; two sons, Morgan Axelson and Zach Axelson; a daughter, Sarah Walter Lister; two sisters, Pam (Jon) Launchbaugh, Pratt, and Kathy Raney, Rose Hill; and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 15, 2013, at the church in Russell with Father Charles Steier officiating and burial at the Natoma City Cemetery.

Visitation was to be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today at the Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary in Russell, with a vigil at 7 p.m. at the church.

The family suggests memorials to the church's building fund in care of the mortuary, 610 N. Maple, Russell, Kan., 67665.

Doris Kathleen Lewis

Doris Kathleen Lewis, 73, Peoria, Ill., former physical therapy instructor at Colby Community College, died Monday, March 11, 2013, in Peoria.

She was born Nov. 22, 1939, in Mankato, to Marjorie (Kyle) and George Nichols. She grew up in Mankato and Manhattan, graduating from Manhattan High School in 1957. In June 1961 she earned a bachelor's in physical therapy from the University of Minnesota.

In August 1963 she married Daniel Ray Blankenship. She spent her early married years as a mother and helped in the family business before going to graduate school in physical therapy at the University of Southern California, graduating in 1970.

She held several positions, including teaching physical therapy. From 1974 to 1982 she taught at Colby Community College. While a practicing physical therapist and teacher, she also held positions for the state licensing committee and at the national level for the American Physical Therapy Association.

In 1982, she began law school at Washburn University in Topeka, earning her juris doctorate in 1987. She continued her professional career in teaching with an emphasis on law for physical therapists and finished her career

at Wichita State University.

In the academic book "Managerial Supervisory Principles for Physical Therapists," she wrote the chapter "Jurisprudence Essentials" as a contributing author. A well-loved but demanding teacher, she was often voted "best dressed."

She was the family historian and loved good food, shopping, rose gardening and travel.

Just prior to retiring in 2008, she was diagnosed with lung cancer, and during her treatment, lived with her daughter in Peoria. She beat her cancer and moved to her dream retirement location of San Antonio, planted roses and became a Spurs fan. She moved back to Peoria in late 2011.

Survivors include a daughter, Terri Lewis (Daniel Angot) of Peoria; four brothers and two sisters, Burt Nichols, Bud Nichols and Elaine Nichols, all of San Antonio; Barbara Nolf, Tampa, Fla.; Dwayne Nichols, Manhattan; and Frank Nichols, Cedar City, Utah; and two grandsons.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2013, at the Clary Funeral Home in Peoria, with burial in the Springdale Cemetery in Peoria.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society.

Beverly Ann Posson

Beverly Ann (Applegate) Posson, 70, long-time Norton resident, died Monday, March 11, 2013, at her home.

She was born May 6, 1942, in Norton, the daughter of Galen and Emma Applegate, and grew up on a farm northwest of Norton, where her family were members of the Maple Grove Church of the Brethren. After attending country school through eighth grade, she graduated from the Norton Community High School.

She was married to her high school sweetheart David Lawrence Posson for 52 years.

After working several years at Stapleton's Drug Store, she spent over 45 years at L.J. Messers-Big A Auto Parts store, which became Car Quest. She began at the parts store as a part-time bookkeeper and was store manager when she retired.

Her life-long passion, shared with her husband, was rebuilding, restoring and customizing cars, along with socializing with other car enthusiasts, friends and family.

She was actively involved in 4-H through school. As a mother, she was a Cub Scout den leader and a member of the Board of Education. She bowled in a commu-

nity league, was secretary of the Norton Car Club, president of the Norton Pollyanna Club and treasurer of the Norton Eagles Ladies' Auxiliary, as well as being a member of the Norton Prairie Powder Packer Muzzleloaders and an active and interested mother and grandmother.

Preceding her in death were her husband; her parents; and two infant brothers, Verl Lee Applegate and Donald Gene Applegate.

Survivors include three sons, Michael Posson, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Don (Heidi) Posson, Alexandria, Va., and Mark (LuAnne) Posson, Wichita; two sisters, Gloria (Larry) Havens, Superior, Neb., and Naomi (C.L.) Adams, Cuba; a brother, David (Carol) Applegate, Amarillo, Texas; and five grandchildren.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 15, 2013, at the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton, with burial in the Norton Cemetery.

Visitation was to be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to the Pollyanna Club or the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Eagles, in care of the funeral home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Colby grad garners world-class challenge

Colby native Anna Juenemann and two other students from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Mo., will travel to Denmark Friday to participate in the Global Grundfos Challenge Finals, a global business competition.

The team claimed a top spot at a November regional business competition sponsored by Grundfos, a global provider of high-efficiency water technology, earning them the all-expense-paid trip to the company's home country.

The Rockhurst team will compete against a team from Purdue University as well as the winning teams from competitions in Denmark and China. The winning team takes home \$12,000.

"I was incredibly impressed by the caliber of ideas I saw at the regional Grundfos Challenge," said Dennis Wierzbicki, president of Grundfos USA. "In just 22 hours of competition, the students arrived at some of the same conclusions that it's taken the water industry decades to develop. Watching the teams present left me confident about the future of the water industry."

Juenemann said Rockhurst managed to trump the other North American competitors by preparing for more than just the challenge itself.

"We spent a lot of time learning about the water industry," said Juenemann. "This helped us get a feeling for who the big players are and what they are looking for in water technology innovations. To me, this is what helped set us apart and led to a product we were proud to share with the panel of judges."

Similar to the regional challenge, the global challenge requires students to work as a team to solve a new global water issue and turn theoretical knowledge into a practical business strategy. This time, teams will have four days to develop a solution.



A. Juenemann

Castle rules king in new junior fiction

This week we have received a number of junior fiction items.

"Tuesdays at the Castle," by Jessica Day George, is in the fantasy genre and is the first book in the *Castle Glower* series.

The castle is in charge of the kingdom. In fact, Castle Glower as it is called in the book, even picks the king. The current king is the 10th in the succession of his family to rule. King Glower is a wise ruler. He respects and observes the decisions of the castle. When it decides to build new rooms or do certain things, he watches and picks up on the castle's hints.

The castle gave his first son books on the Greek instrument, astrolabe. Thus, he sent him to wizardry school. His second son's room was placed closest to the throne, so of course he would be declared the next king. Protagonist Celie was given a room full of flowers during a sickness. Hence, the king, her father, declared this to be right and true, as did many others in the kingdom. Celie will guide the reader through this magical and enchanting world. I'd sort of like to pick it up and just enjoy its full whimsy for an evening.

The second fantasy junior fiction item is "The Silver Bowl," by Diane Stanley. It is the first in the *Silver Bowl* series.

Molly is the youngest of seven children. Her father was quite the strict manager of their home, while their mother remained locked up in her bedroom because she was thought to be a bit mad. Hence, most of the children had been ignored by their father unless they had some semblance of value.

Molly ran wild until her seventh year when she experienced a strange vision that came true. This made her father decide that he must take quick and drastic action.

The kingdom and castle had experienced a recent plague and would be looking for new servants. He was sure Molly could be sold into indentured servitude. Then he would have one less to worry about and feed.

Just prior to being taken to the castle for consideration, Molly is allowed to visit her mother for the last time. It is there that she learns she has a gift of seeing. Her grandfather had this gift, as well as her mother, which was why she was imprisoned in her bedroom. She explained to Molly that she must learn to wield this gift and be very careful telling anyone about it.

Molly is given a special locket for protection that her grandfather made. She leaves her mother and is taken into the service of the king. Soon her visions come again. She must figure out with others in the castle how to save the prince of the kingdom.



Melany Wilks

•Library Links

The third fantasy book is called, "Dragon Castle," by Joseph Bruchac. Pyrva has been hoisted out of the kingdom walls and dropped to the ground. He then runs to the woods as instructed by his parents. Next, his brother Paulek must anticipate the visit of the Great And the Honorable Baron Temny, Lord of the Twelve Lands, Pyrva has no idea who this is, but he does know that his parents who were king and queen of the kingdom are gone. He and his brother must now determine how to their skills and the skills of working with dragons will enable them to take back the kingdom from this evil baron.

The next book is "Take Me To The River," by Will Hobbs.

Dylan and Rio are preparing for the greatest adventure of their lives, about to embark on a river raft on the infamous river that connects North Carolina and the Rio Grande at the Texas/Mexico border.

Ignoring weather warnings as they near the Rio Grande into Mexico, they happen to meet a man and a young boy. The boy is scared, but he won't let on what problems they will face in the near future. Read to find out what actually happens to Dylan and Rio on this adventure.

Other books we are adding are: "Scrivener's Moon," by Phillip Reeve; "Splendor and Gloom," by Laura Amy Schlitz (a Newberry Honor book); "Kenny and the Dragon," by Tony DiTerlizzi; "The Summer of Hammers and Angels," by Shannon Wiersbitzky; "The Fifth Circle of Heck," by Dale Basye; "Hidden," by Helen Frost (a Printz Honor Book author); "All These Things I've Done," by Gabrielle Zevin; "The One and Only Ivan," by Katherine Applegate (a John Newberry Medal book); and "Because It Is My Blood," by Gabrielle Zevin.

One person asked if we were going to publish the names of those who won the chairs. I think that is the point of a silent auction. We had quite a bit of interest just prior to the end of the auction at 5 p.m. on Monday. Thank you to all who participated in auction, "Art Friendly-Chair-ish Your Library!"

Our normal winter hours are now 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. See you in the library!

Keep medication up to prevent poisoning

It is natural for children to explore their surroundings – unless they're getting under the kitchen sink or into the medicine cabinet where hazardous chemicals and medicines are kept. As National Poison Prevention Week, March 17 to 23, approaches, the Poison Control Center and Safe Kids Kansas remind parents to make sure they store poisonous materials – such as medication – out of their children's reach.

More than 2 million poisonings are reported each year to the Nation's poison centers. In Kansas, the Poison Control Center received over 30,000 calls in 2012. Approximately three out of every four those calls were for a child under the age of 5.

The majority of child poison exposures are from medication.

National Poison Prevention Week highlights the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them. Child-resistant packaging is credited with saving hundreds of children's lives since its introduction in the 1970s. Still, there is no substitute for active supervision and childproofing. "If a product label says 'keep out of reach of children,' there's a reason," said Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas. "Keep it locked up, out of reach, and out of sight."

Safe Kids encourages parents and caregivers to keep the poison center's toll-free hot line number, (800) 222-1222, near each phone in the home and program the number into every cell phone. This number connects you to your local poison control center from anywhere in the United States. "When seconds count, poison

expertise is what you need," said Daling McMoran with the Poison Control Center. "Call the poison control center the moment you suspect there has been an exposure. It could save a life."

If a child is choking, having trouble breathing or having a seizure, call 911 instead. Follow the 911 operator's instructions. Do not induce vomiting or give the child any fluid or medication unless directed.

Safe Kids Kansas and the Poison Control Center offer these additional tips:

- Always store medicines and vitamins up and away in a locked location, and out of sight of children.
- Never give adult medications to children.
- Never call medication candy or tell children it tastes like candy.
- Always use the dosing device packaged with the medications. Never use a household utensil, such as a teaspoon or tablespoon, to measure medication.
- Remind grandparents, babysitters and visitors to keep purses and bags that contain medicine up and away when they visit your home.

Parents and grandparents should be mindful of weekly pill-minders. While convenient for keeping track of dosages of medications, they are also easy for kids to open. If you use these, keep them out of sight and reach of children.

For information about poison prevention, go to www.safekids-kansas.org or www.kumed.com/medical-services/poison-control.

Students take leadership study

Two Kansas State University students from Colby challenged their skills this month with Wildcat Leadership Challenge, a retreat held near Junction City.

Kimberly Gerstner, a junior in hotel and restaurant management, and Austin Scheideman, a sophomore in mechanical engineering, participated in this four-day intensive leadership development experience.

The students met in both large and small groups to discuss issues of personal strengths, diversity

and inclusion and adaptive leadership. They created action plans for exercising leadership through positive social change on campus and in the community. Students also created focus groups around the areas of student engagement, Greek life, academic advising, diversity, sustainability and communications and marketing.

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Corrections

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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.91
Corn (bushel)	\$7.22
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.27
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.57



HOLY COW JIM BROWN IS 80 NOW!

Come & Go Birthday from 3 - 6 p.m. at the Colby 4H Building Friday, March 15th

St. Patrick's Day
S · P · E · C · I · A · L · S

Serving Cornbeef and cabbage
Friday & Saturday

All Day, All You Can Eat for just \$8.95!
Come enjoy a mug of Green Beer!
Live Music - Taylor's Bayou

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ALL YOU CAN EAT

& WAY MORE THAN YOU CAN CATCH
All you can eat Friday Fish Fry

Enjoy all the hand battered, golden fried cod you can eat. Served with seasoned french fries, tangy cole slaw & delicious homemade tartar sauce.

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