

obituaries

David Biggs

David Hugh Biggs, 53, St. Francis, a salesman and machinist, died Saturday, April 16, 2005, in St. Francis.

He was born April 27, 1951, the son of Hugh and Marian (Holter) Biggs in Kansas City, Kan.

Biggs developed a love of animals, bringing home every stray in the neighborhood. While in school, he excelled in spelling and math and was the spelling bee champion in the sixth grade.

When he was 17, he followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Marine Corps. He served in Vietnam from August 1970 to May 1971, earning many awards and medals.

In 1970, he married his first wife, Linda Ray Martin. They had a daughter, Jennifer Christine.

Biggs tried different trades before he settled in as a salesman at A and Reds Transmission Parts in Kansas City, Mo.

He met Kathy Ross in 1990, while they both worked at A and Reds. They remained in the Kansas City area until 1996, when they moved to St. Francis.

Biggs became the shop foreman at Ross Manufacturing, working with his father-in-law, Gordon Ross.

On Nov. 19, 1999, he and Kathy married in Golden, Colo.

The couple enjoyed camping, fishing and spending time together. They were avid NASCAR fans. Biggs also enjoyed gardening, cooking, collecting rocks and making and collecting knives, and he enjoyed cruising in his 1953 Ford pickup with his dog Cindy in the passenger seat.

Preceding him in death was his father.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Jennifer (Russell) Stokes of Hartman, Ark.; his mother and a sister, Helen Biggs of Edwardsville; a brother, George (Debbie) Biggs of Kansas City, Kan.; his mother-and-father-in-law, Gordon and Carol Ross of St. Francis; a sister-and-brother-in-law, Kristi (John) Guthmiller of St. Francis; and two granddaughters.

Services were Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at the St. Francis United Methodist Church with Pastor Morita Truman officiating.

Casket bearers were Kirby Elliott, Bill Samler, Scott Houtman, Scott Schultz, Dan Siegfried and John Guthmiller.

Burial was in the St. Francis Cemetery with military honors presented by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. Arrangements were made by Knodel Funeral Home in St. Francis.

Terry Steier

Terry Lee Steier, 31, Cheyenne, Wyo., grandson of Verna Eby of



Steier

Goodland, died Sunday, April 17, 2005, at United Medical Center Hospital in Cheyenne, after being hit in the head by a softball.

He was born June 26, 1973, in Oberlin, the son of Curtis L. and Deborah K. (Eby) Steier. He graduated from Herndon High School in 1992.

In June 1996, he married Gina Frazier in Kearney, Neb. They had two children, Dalton and Tyla.

He was a truck driver for S and S Builders, general contractors, and was on the security staff for Scooters Bar.

He loved sports, including basketball, softball, bowling and rodeo. He was a rodeo clown and also rode bulls.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Herbert and Florence Steier, and George Eby, and an uncle, Stan Eby.

Other survivors include his parents; two sons, Dalton Seybold of Wilcox, Neb., and Corbin Steier of Kearney; a daughter, Tyla Steier of

Wilcox; and two sisters, Teena and Tabitha Steier, both of North Platte, Neb.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Mountain Time Saturday, April 23, 2005, at the Indianola, Neb., Christian Church with Scott Mustion officiating. Burial will be in the Indianola Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. today at Carpenter Breland Funeral Home, 305 W. C St., McCook, Neb. 69001. Condolences can be sent on-line at www.carpenterbreland.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his name in care of the funeral home.

Virginia Mathews

Virginia Lee Mathews, 64, Tribune, a contributing writer for several western Kansas publications, died Monday, April 18, 2005, at St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City.

She was born Sept. 29, 1940, at Syracuse, the daughter of Edith Myra (Pierce) and George Baird Mathews Sr.

She was a teacher, a journalist, a published poet and a contributing writer to several publications, including *The Greeley County Republican* in Tribune, *The Scott City Chronicle* before it went out of business and several magazines.

Mathews was a member of the Garden City Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, a lifelong church member and a member of literary societies.

Preceding her in death were her parents and three brothers, John B., James D. and George B. Mathews Jr.

Survivors include a sister, Edith Schmidt of Tribune, two nieces and two nephews.

Services were Thursday, April 21, 2005, at the First Presbyterian Church in Tribune with the Rev. Gary Gooding officiating. Burial followed in the Greeley County Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Greeley County Library in care of Price and Sons Funeral Home, 322 Second, Tribune, Kan. 67879. Condolences may be sent to pricefh@wbsnet.org.

Tony C. Garza

Tony C. Garza, 51, Excelsior Springs, Mo., a former Goodland carpenter, died Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at the hospital in Liberty, Mo.

He was born April 25, 1953, in Paris, Texas, the son of Maximo and Maria (Castillo) Garza. The family moved to Goodland in 1967, where Tony attended Goodland schools and the Northwest Kansas Technical College carpentry department,

graduating in 1981.

In 1971, he married Emma Encinas in Goodland. He was a carpenter for many years. He moved to Excelsior Springs in 2003. He enjoyed fishing, walking and spending time with family and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a sister, Aurora Barrera; a brother, Benny Garza; a niece, Diane Yearout; and two nephews, Austin and Steven Garza.

Survivors include two sons, Anthony of Goodland and Michael of Excelsior Springs; two daughters, Myra Garza of Fort Collins, Colo., and Olivia Garza of Excelsior Springs; four brothers, Jessie of Tulsa, Okla., Roy of Tulsa, Texas, Joe of Loraine, Texas, and Manuel of Kansas City, Kan.; two sisters, Mary Lou Luna and Janie Villareal, both of Tulsa; and nine grandchildren.

Services will be at noon Saturday, April 23, 2005, at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with Father Norbert Dlabal officiating. Burial will follow in the Goodland Cemetery.

A prayer vigil will be at 7 p.m. tonight at Bateman Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th, with visitation from 1-7 p.m. and before the services Saturday.

Memorials may be made in care of the funeral home at Box 278, Goodland, Kan. 67735.

Softball kills Wyoming man

A Goodland woman's grandson died Sunday in Cheyenne, Wyo., after being hit in the head by a softball earlier that day.

Terry Steier, 31, Cheyenne, grandson of Verna Eby of Goodland, was playing softball at the Converse Softball Complex in Cheyenne, when he was hit, Dan Porter, Steier's boss at Scooters Scoreboard Bar, told *The Wyoming Tribune-Eagle*.

Steier died of head injuries at 11:56 p.m. Sunday at United Medical Center-West. Laramie County Coroner Bill Ryan told *The Eagle* he believes the family removed Steier from life support at that time.

Steier was at the complex trying out for a team sponsored by Scooters, Porter said; once tryouts

were finished, Steier stuck around to fill in for a player on another team.

During a scrimmage, Porter said, Steier grounded to the shortstop, who tried to get him out at first base. Instead, Steier was hit in the head and dropped to the ground.

"From the minute he went down," Porter said, "he never regained consciousness. He will be greatly missed from this place."

Ryan said Steier was hit on the left side of his face, just behind the eye, around 4:30 p.m.

"You don't realize the bones are so thin in that part of the face," he told *The Eagle*, adding that he did not know if Steier was wearing a helmet at the time.

Hospital volunteers to meet in Goodland

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News Goodland, which will be the host city for the District V Hospital Auxiliaries meeting Monday, has one of the eight administrators certified for volunteer services at hospitals in Kansas.

Brenda McCants, director of patient relations at Goodland Regional Medical Center, took an exam in Kansas City earlier this year for certification as an administrator of volunteer services from the American Hospital Association.

Volunteer administrators from Kansas and Missouri took the test together, McCants said, and there are now eight certified administrators in Kansas.

It was a tough test, she said, with 110 questions that took three hours. There are six sections, with questions on planning and program development, management of human resources, finance, organization

and management of services, outreach advocacy and public relations and professional development.

The test covered everything from legal issues to strategic planning to motivation and retention strategies, McCants said. It was a learning experience, she said, designed to add professionalism to field.

To take the test, she said, a person has to have worked a minimum of two years directing a program and be a member of state and national groups.

McCants has worked with the volunteer program at the hospital 11 years and works with the junior volunteer program for high school students. She also teaches a volunteer course for junior high students. She is the vice president of the Kansas Association of Directors of Volunteer Services.

At the district meeting, McCants said, someone from Congressman Jerry Moran's office will give a leg-

islative update on health care issues. Dr. Rhonda Williams, the keynote speaker, will give a talk on, "Volunteerism — why do it?"

There will be a roll call of reports from the volunteers, she said, and the members will work on auxiliary scrapbooks and talk about the history of volunteer organizations.

Hospitals in the district are Goodland, Gove County at Quinter, Trego County at WaKeeney, Graham County at Hill City, Russell Regional Hospital, Phillips County at Phillipsburg and Citizens Medical Center in Colby. All except Colby will be represented at the meeting.

They have a wonderful group of volunteers in Goodland, McCants said; they believe in rural health care.

The Goodland volunteers were recognized, she said, when they met Wednesday morning for coffee to celebrate National Volunteers Week.

4-H winners compete in Brewster

County 4-H winners from seven northwest Kansas counties participated in the annual Regional 4-H Club Days competition on Friday, April 1, in Brewster.

Members competed in project talks, demonstrations, instrumental solos, vocal solos, dance, skits and model meetings.

Country Clovers 4-H Club was the regional representative of Sherman County this year, and they received a blue ribbon.

Other members placing were: In junior demonstrations, Saige Vandiver and Cody Hooker, blue. Intermediate demonstrations, Brennen Clouse, and Christie Studer, blue.

Junior project talks, John Hendrich and Austin Rains, blue. Intermediate project talks, Mikail Freeman, Red. Senior demonstrations and illustrated talks, Devin Mangus and Alicia Studer, blue.

Junior vocal, Hope Cochran, blue. Intermediate vocal, Brennen Clouse, blue. Senior vocal, Devin Mangus, blue. Vocal duet, Devin and Dani Mangus, blue. Senior instrumental, Bryan Gray, blue. Jun-

ior piano, Ellie House, blue. Intermediate piano, Parker Sieck, blue. Dance, Sydney Winston, blue. Skit, Glendale Livewires, blue.

Members could also participate in Life Skills judging and Photography judging. Sherman County had two youths who placed overall in the judging, Brianna Quenzer, second in Junior Life Skills, and T.J. Freeman, second in photography senior judging.

Other members participating were:

Life skills: Parker Sieck, Austin Burkett, Matt Murray, Tyler Fisher, T.J. Freeman, Christy Studer,

Sydney Winston, Jace Cowan, Megan Sheldon Emily Burkett, Sami Philbrick, BreAnna Nemechek, Hannah Burkett, Rory Kling, Stephanie Sheldon and Alicia Studer.

Photography judging: Sabre Yarbrough, Jarod Lake, Milan Brannick, Miranda Loya, Ryder Kling, Cienna Brannick, Hope Cochran, David Murray, Matt Murray, Miranda Loya, Garrett Nemechek, Saige Vandiver, Danielle Lee, Mikail Freeman, Stephanie Lee, Tyler Fisher, Parker Sieck, Austin Burkett, Emily Burkett and Rory Kling

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