

# Congratulations Judy!



Judy McKnight, mailroom supervisor, job pressman May 1980 to Oct. 2006.

Join us for a reception for Judy McKnight from 2-4 p.m. on Tuesday at *The Goodland Star-News* office, 1205 Main.

Judy McKnight learned to do everything in the back shop of *The Goodland Star-News* over her 26 years, from hand setting type to mailing to running job presses, but that all comes to an end on Tuesday when she retires.

A reception for McKnight, mailroom supervisor and job shop printer, will be held from 2-4 p.m. at the newspaper office, 1205 Main.

McKnight said she went to work at *The Goodland Daily News* in May 1980, helping in the print shop, or job shop, and learning to run the small presses that print letterheads, envelopes, cards and a other print jobs.

She learned to hand-set type for some fancy lettering jobs on the old Heidelberg letterpress, and she learned to run the offset press that runs the larger letterhead and envelope jobs.

When the newspaper switched to computers, McKnight began helping do page paste up for the *Daily News*.

She recalled that she had come in to help her older sister, Marylyn Engel, with a job earlier in 1980, and told owner Raymond McCants that she could come to work if they needed her in May. McKnight's sister worked at the newspaper until 1992

Over the 26 years, McKnight

said, she learned to work in the darkroom and could do about any job in the production and mailing process.

She said she ran the big Harris newspaper press a couple of times when another person was on vacation.

When Randy McCants merged *The Country Advocate* with the *Daily News* in 1992, McKnight became the mailroom supervisor, handling the labeling of all the newspapers and *The Advocate*.

Over the years, McKnight said, she couldn't begin to add up all the inserts and papers she has mailed.

The McCantses sold the newspaper to the Seaton family in 1986, and the Seaton's sold the paper to what became U.S. Media Group in 1989. Nor'West Newspapers, owned by Steve and Cynthia Haynes, purchased the newspaper and the *Colby Free Press* in January 1997.

McKnight said the mailing job expanded when all the inserts and newspapers began printing on the Goodland press.

She said they about 25,000 copies of the company's newspapers and the weekly shopper have to be inserted, labeled and bundled for mailing each week, and over a year, that adds up to about 1.3 million papers with two to 10 parts each,

sometimes more.

At times, McKnight said, she has had to keep track of more than nine inserts to be put in the *Advocate* and the company newspapers. She said it gets confusing sometimes trying to keep track of which ones go in the *Star-News*, the *Colby Free Press*, *The Norton Telegram*, *The Saint Francis Herald*, *The Oberlin Herald* or the *Bird City Times*.

McKnight said she will miss the people at the newspaper, but said her legs and lower back are getting sore and she thinks this is a good time to retire while she can travel with her husband Bob and take care of her grandchildren.

"She has been a hard worker," said Jim Bowker production foreman. "I know I will miss having her handle the mailing. She has been excellent at keeping everything straight and getting them out on time."

Publisher Steve Haynes agreed. "She makes the job of getting all those thousands of pieces into the mail, in the right paper and to the right town, each week look easy," Haynes said. "It isn't. It's a tough job, and she'll be darned tough to replace."

McKnight was born in Russell Springs, one of four children of Francis and Mary (Newacheck) David.

She said her father was working in road construction when she was a girl, and they moved around quite a bit.

She moved with the family to Goodland when she was in third grade and graduated from Goodland High School in 1959.

She married Bob McKnight in 1973. They lived on a farm until 1980, when they moved to Goodland. She said Bob is now semi-retired and helps work the Khurt farm in the summer.

Between the two, they have seven children, including Cheryl Baker (John) and three kids who live in Norton; Larry McKnight, Aurora, Neb.; Tina Gleason (Bruce) and two kids, Goodland; A.R. McKnight (Sunday) and four kids, who live in Midland, Texas; William McKnight, Goodland; Jennifer Phillips (Andy) and two kids, Denver; and Bobbie Jo McKnight and three kids, of Goodland.

McKnight's mother Mary lives in Goodland; her father died in 1990.

Her sister, who first got her work at paper, died at her home in April 1992. She was a typesetter and computer operator. Her sister Sharon David lives in Goodland. A younger brother Richard drowned in the Sherman County State Lake in 1966.

She's hanging up a printer's apron after 26 years. Time to enjoy life and grandkids.



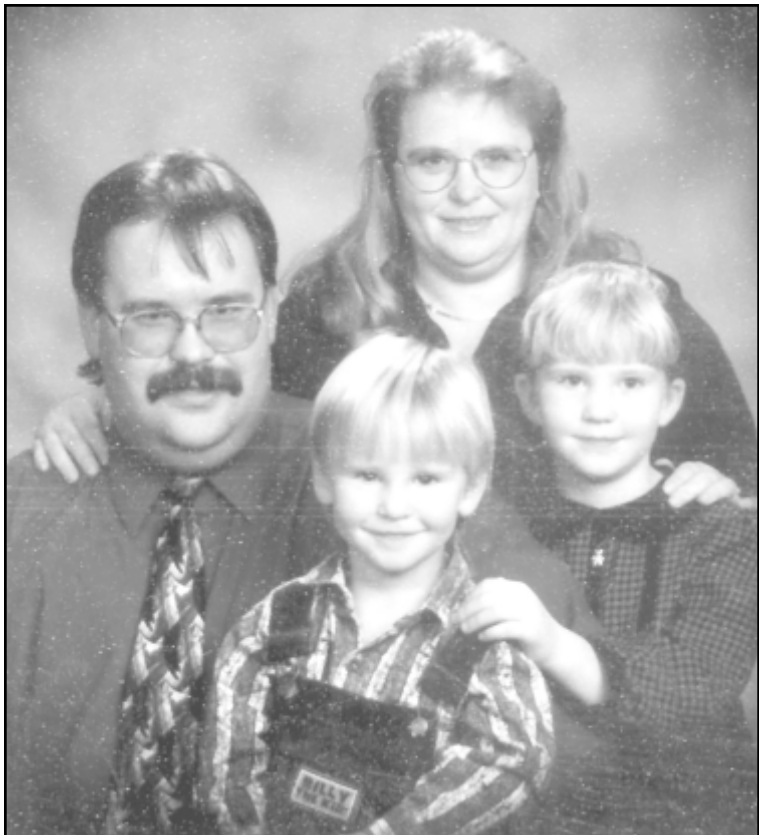
Senior 1959



Judy and husband Bob McKnight



Bob and Judy McKnight (back center) with Judy's mother, Mary (front center) son William McKnight (back left) and daughter Bobbie Jo (second from right) and her three kids Stephanie, Danielle and Aaron and boyfriend Ryan Doyle.



Andy and Jennifer Phillips with Matthew and Jessica.