

DEATHS/LINN COUNTY

Rosalie C. Knecht, 75, of 1975 Second Ave. SE, died Thursday, Sept. 30, 1993, in University Hospital, Iowa City, after a brief illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Turner Chapel East. The Rev. Lloyd Brockmeyer of St. Paul's United Methodist Church will officiate.



Survivors include her husband, Verne; two sons, John of Delevan, Wis., and David of Gilbert; two daughters, Elizabeth of Juneau, Alaska, and Barbara Hackett of Ellisville, Mo.; and three sisters, Angela Little, Olga Harris and Margherita Rungust, all of the San Francisco Bay area.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, Bryan Knecht, Jesse Pollard and Lisa and John Hackett.

Rosalie was preceded in death by a brother, Alfredo Capobianco.

Rosalie was born June 10, 1918, in Los Angeles, and married Verne Knecht on Oct. 13, 1942, in San Francisco. She was a very active member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and a volunteer for the American Red Cross.

Instead of flowers, the family has established a memorial fund for the American Cancer Society.

Frank H. Biegger, 49, of 443 Zelda Dr. NW, died Thursday, Sept. 30, 1993, in Dickinson County Hospital, Spirit Lake, following a massive heart attack. Services: 10 a.m. Monday, St. Malachy's Catholic Church, Madrid, Iowa. Burial: Mount Hope Cemetery, near Madrid. Friends may call after noon Sunday at the church, where a Scripture service begins at 7 p.m. Sundberg-Kirkpatrick Funeral Home, Madrid, is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Norma; a son, James F. of Des Moines; two daughters, JoAnn of

Sheldahl and Jeana of Des Moines; his mother, Hazel of Des Moines; four brothers, Tony of Omaha, Neb., Robert and Tom, both of Altoona, and James A. of Maxwell; and a sister, Marge Cozad of Des Moines.

SERVICES

Dorothy E. Kitzmann: 10 a.m. today, Cedar Christian Church. Graveside services: 2 p.m. today, Indianapolis Cemetery, What Cheer. Arrangements by Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home.

ARRANGEMENTS PENDING

Merle D. Kafer, 88, of Mount Vernon, died Friday, Oct. 1, 1993, in Hallmark Care Center, Mount Vernon. Arrangements are pending at Morgan Funeral Home, Mount Vernon.

Christian Larson, 98, of Living Center West, died there Friday, Oct. 1, 1993, after a short illness. Arrangements are pending at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home.

Robert "Bob" Teschke, 68, of Mount Vernon, died of cancer Friday, Oct. 1, 1993, in St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids. Arrangements are pending at Morgan Funeral Home, Mount Vernon.

DEATH NOTICES & OBITUARIES

Death notices and obituaries can be submitted at The Gazette between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday and holidays.

Arrangements pending and death notices, including immediate survivors, and a photo of the deceased are published as a news item on this page.

Other obituary material, including additional survivors, employment, education, military service, civic and social activities, accomplishments, special interests and hobbies, friends, pets, memorials and eulogies will be published for 35 cents per word.

Second-day funeral notices and other deaths (formerly out-of-town) will be published at 35 cents per word.

See your funeral director for help in preparing an obituary. For further information about The Gazette's guidelines call 398-8221.

DEATHS/EASTERN IOWA

BROOKLYN

Opal Lucile Meyer, 85, died Thursday night, Sept. 30, 1993, in her home after a sudden illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, Grace United Methodist Church, Brooklyn. Burial: Ivy Hill Cemetery, Malcom. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Nevenhoven Funeral Home, where the family will greet friends from 5 to 7 p.m.

Survivors include a son, John of Brooklyn; and two daughters, Nancy Ruprecht of Solon and Marilyn Meyer of St. Louis Park, Minn.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, Steven Meeker of Solon, Tony Roth of Grinnell, Tracy Kochuyt of Ladora and Monte Ruprecht of Cedar Rapids; and two great-grandchildren, Zachary Kochuyt and Taryn Meeker.

A memorial fund has been established.

DECORAH

The Rev. Harold O. Ward, 67, died of cancer Thursday, Sept. 30, 1993, in Winneshiek County Memorial Hospital. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Decorah Lutheran Church. Burial: Lutheran Cemetery, Mabel, Minn. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Fjelstul Funeral Home and one hour before service time Monday at the church.

Survivors include his wife, Ellen; two daughters, Pamela of Montevideo, Minn., and Ruth Horns of Hiram, Ga.; a son, David of Pine City, Minn.; a brother, Richard of St. Louis Park, Minn.; and two stepbrothers, Jerry Amdahl of Roseville, Minn., and Loren Amdahl of Rochester, Minn.

DYSART

Wilford "Bill" Lindeman, 60, of Las Vegas, Nev., formerly of Dysart, died Thursday, Sept. 30, 1993, in Allen Memorial Hospital, Waterloo, following a heart attack. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dysart United Methodist Church. Burial: Dysart Cemetery. Friends may call from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday at Overton Funeral Home, Dysart.

Surviving is his mother, Lorraine Lindeman Siemens of Dysart.

ELKADER

Roy C. Lembke, 86, died Friday morning, Oct. 1, 1993, in Central Community Hospital after a lengthy illness. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Peace United Church of Christ. Burial: East Side Cemetery. Friends may call after 3 p.m. Sunday at Leonard-Witt Funeral Home and after 10 a.m. Monday at the church.

Survivors include his wife, Hattie; a son, Roger of Fayette, Mo.; a daughter, Linda Houk of Ames; a brother, Lester, and a sister, Florence Gossman, both of Elkader.

HAZLETON

Elvera M. Harrington, 87, died Wednesday evening, Sept. 29, 1993, in Papillion (Neb.) Manor after a long illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday,

Still blanks to fill in Mather case

Authorities seek new leads in murder probe

By Lynn M. Tefft

Gazette staff writer

People in the West Branch area may have information about the 1991 murder of Tom Mather but aren't reporting it because they feel investigators already know, or at least that's what Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation agent Ken Sandy hopes.

Mather, 32, was found murdered in his Springdale home late at night Sept. 30, 1991. Cedar County sheriff's deputies responded to a call from his wife Dawn, 25, who had fled naked to a nearby farmhouse.

Dawn told authorities that a naked man entered the house while she and Tom were watching television. He forced her to tie up her husband, she said, and then tied her up with her clothes. She said Tom told her to flee after she was able to free herself.

Tom was later found with a shot to the head and his neck and wrists slashed, and money strewn around him. Dawn described the intruder as a 30-year old white male with slender build and bleached blond hair that was darker toward the roots.

Sandy said that two years later, DCI investigators are "trying to fill in the blanks." He remains optimistic that the case can be solved.

"What we're really looking for is people who

know who the Mathers' associates were prior to the murder," Sandy said. "We want to know if they were running around with anyone new."

Dawn also remains a prime suspect in the case, Sandy said. He added that the DCI continues to work with a witness who says he saw people leaving the residence together at the time of the murder. Investigators recently showed him some new physical evidence to identify, but otherwise there are no new developments.

Investigators' primary task now, Sandy said, is to interview people in the area and possibly produce some new leads.

"The people who were involved in the Mathers' lives before Tom's death are of great importance to us," Sandy said. "Anyone who can tell us about their contacts would be really helpful."

Cedar County Sheriff Keith Whitlatch agreed. "We really hope someone will come forward," he said. "We obviously need more of the pieces of the puzzle."

People with information are encouraged to call the DCI in Davenport at 386-6233.



Tom Mather
Killed Sept. 30, 1991



Strike up the band for Czech history

This photo of the orchestra of St. Wenceslaus School from the early 1920s in Cedar Rapids is among materials relating to Czech history that will be displayed at the Cedar Rapids Historical Committee's monthly open house Sunday. The event will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at the city archives center on the second floor of the Cedar Rapids Public Works Building, 1201 Sixth St. SW. The photo was contained in a book, printed in Czech, commemorating the golden jubilee of St. Wenceslaus church and school in 1924.

D.M. rally to focus on homeless

By Rod Boshart

Gazette Des Moines Bureau

DES MOINES — Hundreds of Iowans concerned over homelessness and affordable housing plan to participate in a march and rally today to highlight the issues with the arrival of colder weather.

Gene Jones, executive director of the Des Moines Coalition for the Homeless, said 250 to 500 people from around Iowa are expected to make stops at city, county and federal government buildings before gathering at the Capitol for a rally and speeches.

At each stop, Jones said, a speaker will outline housing and homeless issues related to that level of government.

The event is designed to highlight unmet needs for homeless shelters, the shortage of affordable housing for low-income renters and homebuyers in some parts of Iowa, rural homelessness and problems associated with domestic violence.

Cedar Rapids postmaster suffers fatal heart attack

Gazette staff report

Cedar Rapids Postmaster Frank Biegger died Thursday in Dickinson County Hospital in Spirit Lake following a massive heart attack.

Biegger, 49, of 443 Zelda Dr. NW, was Cedar Rapids' 22nd postmaster and had held the job only since Jan. 21. He was a native of Des Moines and joined the Postal Service in 1963, holding several other high management positions before coming to Cedar Rapids.

"Obviously, the postal family here is deeply saddened by it," John Burianek, Postal Service spokesman in Cedar Rapids, said Friday. "It's very quiet today. We just started to get to know him. It was quite a shock. Our condolences to his family."

Thomas Johnson, the postal district manager, will now have



Frank Biegger
Held job since Jan. 21

to appoint an officer in charge while seeking a permanent replacement for Biegger, Burianek said.

Biegger is survived by his wife and three children. Services will be Monday at St. Malachy's Catholic Church in Madrid, Iowa (see obituary, this page).

5 colleges in Iowa are listed among best education buys

DES MOINES (AP) — The University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, Grinnell, Central and Simpson are included in a list of America's best buys for college.

The list, published by U.S. News & World Report, broke the lists down into two categories. One is what the magazine calls the school's "sticker price" — tuition and room and board. The other is a school's "discounted price" — tuition, room and board, fees, books and estimated personal expenses less the average of its need-based grants-in-aid.

The University of Iowa was included as one of the top 25 best-value national universities based on its sticker price — \$11,006.

It was also included as a best value for Iowans who stay in the state for college. In-state tuition is \$5,618.

THE SURVEY NAMED UNI as one of the most efficient regional colleges — a school that ranked highest in its category relative to how much it spent per student on educational programs.

UNI was ranked second among Midwest states, behind Drury College.

Grinnell was listed among the top 20 best value national liberal arts schools for both its sticker price and its discounted price. Central College in Pella also was recognized for both its sticker and discounted prices as one of the top 10 Midwestern regional universities.

Simpson was one of the top five Midwestern liberal arts schools based on its discounted price.

The magazine is on sale beginning Monday.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

MERCY

Sept. 30 — **Anne and Neal Bohnenkamp**, 3646 Old Orchard Rd. NE, a daughter.

Oct. 1 — **Holly and Jeff Chittick**, 1113 11th St., Marion, a daughter.

ST. LUKE'S

Sept. 30 — **Michelle Wolf**, 906 C Ave. NW, a daughter.

Oct. 1 — **Nancy and Dick Alexander**, 5683 Sanden Rd. NE, a daughter; **Barbara and Donovan Arneson**, 1110 Third St., Marion, a daughter; **Sandra and Scott Harry**, 9231 Deer Ridge Dr. NE, a son; **Deborah and Steven Reid**, 920 20th St. SE, a son.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Stephen J. Schmitz and Margaret R. Dunmore, Ricky L. Seger and Danielle M. Waterbury, David A. Dukes and Julie M. Tague, Justin R. Miller and Melissa M. Simmons, Kevin M. Schaum and Michelle L. Strauss, Morgan G. Karns and Tracy L. Fye, Steven W. Etheredge and Laura M. McBurney, Randy J.

Gustafson and Kay M. Klostermann, Douglas J. Biedenbach and Kelli A. Pauly, Timothy A. Ross and Terri L. Schnedler, Drew C. Tiedtke and April L. Akers, Bryan T. Knox and Christine A. Simmons, Todd J. Squiers and Sarah A. Douglas, Joseph Zitek III and Karol K. Ludvick, James M. Coleman and Krista S. Coleman, Richard A. Monson and Lee A. Reilly, Jeffrey S. Gardemann and Shannon K. Lundgren, all of Cedar Rapids.

Douglas J. Recker, Marion, and Heidi L. Blachley, Cedar Rapids. Jason N. Nolz and Sara A. Voelker, Robins. Clifford A. Friederich and Calette M. Veisley, Marion. Loren E. Jacobson and Erin E. Malloy, Hiawatha. John R. Kramer and Lynette J. Lucas, Central City. Alan L. Lucas and Angela L. Snyder, Shellsburg.

Richard L. Holmquist, Cedar Rapids, and Randa K. Cherry, Troy Mills. William H. Kirby, The Woodlands, Texas, and Judy M. Post, Cedar Rapids. John P. Tschopp and Molly K. Stout, Robert A. Zimmermann and Jill A. Krepcik, all of Coralville. Timothy D. Driscoll and Shannon R. Gouge, Ankeny. Gerald J. Borman II and Alicia A. Arthaud, Eagan, Minn.

Flood-related spending boosts state revenues

By Rod Boshart

Gazette Des Moines Bureau

DES MOINES — State revenues jumped 8 percent last month, but government officials Friday continued to warn that the tax receipts are an artificially high indicator of a post-flood economy.

"They're not indicative of where we'll end the fiscal year," said Gretchen Tegeler, director of the state Department of Management. The state Revenue Estimating Conference has revised its fiscal 1994 projection for revenue growth to 3.7 percent.

The \$303.5 million in September tax collections brought the year-to-date total to \$889.1 million for the first three months of the current fiscal year, a 10.2 percent increase over quarterly receipts one year ago.

Personal income tax receipts grew by 7.4 percent last month, while sales taxes came in 11.8 percent above September 1992 and use tax receipts increased 31.3 percent.

However, Tegeler said, the latter two categories still include effects of last year's sales tax increase from 4 percent to 5 percent. She expected the sales tax hike impact will "wash out" of the figures in December and the economic effects of the flood on Iowa farm income tax won't be felt until next spring.