

# Severance High School Boys' Basketball Team of 1930



Sam Prawl, Severance, sent us this picture of the 1930 Severance High School Boys' Basketball Team. Starting from left to right, is Clarence Schriener, Bob Fuller, Sam Prawl, Oscar Courtin, Melzer McIntyre, Pete Gray, Loyd Lancaster and Coach/Superintendent Guy Spangler.



# Barber Shop of Old-Severance around 1900



The place to go to get a shave, a hair cut and the local gossip (who said women were the only ones who gossiped?) in Severance around 1900. The individuals in the photo are unknown. Note the shaving cups at the right hand side of the picture. Something you don't see often these days. (Photo courtesy of Emma Lee Walsh.)



# In Their Easter Bonnets



Mrs. Goldia Huss, 1218 Village Drive, St. Joseph, Mo., submitted the above photo. Mrs. Huss said the photograph was taken at Severance, Kan., District 17 in 1921. The occasion was an Easter program the class was participating in between the teacher, Miss Nellie Swanson (deceased) and her mother. The 17 hats (or bonnets) were owned by the Swanson's.

Mrs. Huss said the picture would make Orville Jones' face red when he sees it again. She said hardly any women wear hats at Easter anymore, let alone men.

Mrs. Huss doesn't know the married names and addresses of all those pictured, but identified as many as she was able.

Back row, left to right: Irene Riffer, Seneca, Kan.; Isabel Kirwan-Swafford, St. Joseph; Merle Dye; Mabel Bahr-Severn, Denton.

Third row: Goldia Cooper-Huss, St. Joseph; Wilma Cowhick; Helena Gray (Pete Gray's sister); Vivian Fuller; Elise Cowhick.

Second row: Leo McIntyre, Troy, (partly hidden by a bow of ribbon); Johnnie Cluck, Denton (completely hidden) deceased; Thomas Edward (Ned) Heeney, California; Ernest Hoover, Arizona; Orville Jones, Troy.

Front row: William Dittmore; Howard Ware, deceased; Velyn Hall, deceased.



## Lloyd F. Foster

TROY, Kan. — Lloyd F. Foster, 72, Troy, died Saturday, July 4, 1992, at a hospital in Atchison, Kan.

Mr. Foster was born in Severance, Kan., and was a lifelong resident of the Severance and Troy areas.

He graduated from Severance High School and was a self-employed farmer.

Mr. Foster was a member of the United Methodist Church in Troy, the church board, and Masonic Lodge No. 440 of Bendena, Kan.

He married Helen Drake in 1939, in St. Joseph. She survives of the home.

Mr. Foster was predeceased in death by a brother, Lawrence.

**Additional survivors:** two sons, Stephen of Pascagoula, Miss., and William of Highland, Kan.; two daughters, Marilee White of Oshkosh, Wis., and Joy Lowe of St. Joseph; his mother, Agnes Foster of Highland; two sisters, Betty Rogers of Effingham, Kan., and Caroline Coons of Kansas City, Mo.; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Service:** 10:30 a.m. Monday, United Methodist Church, Troy. Burial: Oak Hill Cemetery, Severance. Masonic rites under auspices of the Masonic Lodge No. 440, Bendena. Family visitation: 7 to 8:30 tonight, Harman-Rohde Funeral Home, Troy.

## Wayne F. Neal

Wayne F. Neal, 72, Merriam, KS, passed away, Saturday, September 28, 2002 at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

Mr. Neal was born February 12, 1930 in Severance to William B. and Myrtle Hegenderfer Neal. He graduated from Severance High School and attended Highland Jr. College. He has been a resident of the Kansas City area since 1959 and has owned Merriam Material Co. since 1978. Prior to that, he had been a painting contractor, a real estate developer, owner of Midwest Air-O-Cell and Dapper Dan Pizza in Lenexa and St. Joseph, MO. He was an Air Force Veteran of the Korean War. He attended Emmanuel Baptist Church; was a Past President of the Merriam Chamber of Commerce and the Merriam Community Association and had served on the Merriam City Council.

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## Barbara D. Volz

date 1933-2004

Cunningham

WICHITA, Kan. — Barbara D. Volz, 71, Wichita, formerly Horton, Kan., a homemaker, died Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2004.

She was preceded in death by

brother, Wells Cunningham.

**Survivors:** husband, Ferd Volz Jr.; children, Stuart and Cissy Volz, Wichita; Inga and Michael Ball, Brighton, Mass.; Blaine and Laura Volz, Wichita; Christina and Kent Taylor, Flower Mound, Texas; Lise and Mike Bollinger, Halstead, Kan.; Madeline and Paul Clegg, Scottsdale, Ariz.; and Melaina and Tim Phares, Wichita; brother and spouse, Boyd and Londa Cunningham, Easton, Mo.; grandchildren, Lacy Volz, Vanessa Ball, Ashlen, Bryce and Carissa Volz, Madeline and Mallory Taylor, Crystal Bollinger-Wenke, Brian Bollinger, Wells and Jason Leger, Boyd and Jesse Phares, Paul Clegg Jr., Laura and Phil Lapp, and Jeff Clegg; four stepgrandchildren; and a step great-grandchild, Morgan Lapp.

**Mass:** 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Wichita. Rosary: 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6, at the church. Memorials have been established with the Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita, Kan., 67202; or American Cancer Society, 435 S. Broadway, S-100, Wichita, Kan., 67202. Arrangements: Downing & Lahey Mortuary East, Wichita. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.downingand-lahey.com](http://www.downingand-lahey.com)

Please see **DEATHS/Page C4**

## Summer Special Beautiful,



Eldon Kimmi  
Navy

## April 14, 1960:

Officers of the Severance High School Alumni this year are Henry Laverentz, pres; Lee Atkeson, vice-pres; Nadine Pry, sec.; and Patty Olson, treas. They are making plans for the annual banquet to be held in the school auditorium the first part of May.



## Myrtle E. Neal 1902-1999

MERRIAM, Kan. — Myrtle E. (Hegenderfer) Neal, 97, Merriam, formerly of Severance, Kan., died Tuesday, Nov. 30, 1999, at a hospital in Overland Park, Kan.

Born in Highland, Kan., on Oct. 23, 1902, Mrs. Neal, a homemaker, had lived in the Merriam area since the early 1970s.

Mrs. Neal was preceded in death by her husband, William; a son, Harold; an infant daughter; her parents, Frank and Emma Hegenderfer; and a brother, John Hegenderfer.

**Surviving:** six sons, George, Fort Worth, Texas, Warren, Mission, Kan., Willis, Castle Rock, Colo., Wayne, Merriam, William, Garnett, Kan., and James, Osawatomie, Kan.; three daughters, Doris E. White, Lenexa, Kan., Helen Grosfield, Topeka, Kan., and Frances Muller, Cleveland, Mo.; a sister, Hazel Cordill, Topeka; 26 grandchildren; and 46 great-grandchildren.

**Graveside service and burial:** 2 p.m. Friday, Oak Hill Cemetery, Severance. Family visitation: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, at the Amos Family Funeral Home, Shawnee, Kan.

## Geraldine Clark

WINCHESTER, Va. — Geraldine E. Clark, 53, died Thursday, Nov. 27, 1987, at a hospital in Winchester, Va.

She was born in Severance, Kan. She had been a self-employed national craft person and was a member of the First Christian Church in St. Joseph.

Mrs. Clark married James Paul Clark on Nov. 2, 1950. He survives her at the home.

She was preceded in death by her father, John F. Clark.

Additional survivors are her mother, Katherine Jackson Clark, Denton, Kan.; two sons, Christian, Georgetown, W. Va., and Clayton, Woodbridge, Va.; three brothers, Darrell, Rosendale, Mo., Connie E., Bendena, Kan., and John W., Wathena, Kan.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the Omps Funeral Home of Winchester. Graveside services and burial will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the Quantico, Va., National Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 Sunday evening at the funeral home.

## Helen L. Grosfield 1938-2001

TOPEKA, Kan. — Helen Lucille (Neal) Grosfield, 62, Topeka, formerly of Severance, Kan., died Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2001, at her residence after an illness of cancer.

Mrs. Grosfield, a homemaker, also taught at an elementary school in Robinson, Kan.

Born in Severance on July 21, 1938, she attended school in Severance and Denton, Kan. She was a graduate of the Highland (Kan.) Junior College.

Mrs. Grosfield was a member of the Highland Park United Methodist Church in Topeka.

On June 14, 1958, she married Larry Grosfield in Everest, Kan. He survives of the home.

Mrs. Grosfield was preceded in death by her parents, William and Myrtle Neal.

**Additional survivors:** a son, Neal, Topeka; a daughter, Gina K. Wendland, Topeka; six brothers, George Neal, Fort Worth, Texas, Willis Neal, Castle Rock, Colo., Wayne Neal, Merriam, Kan., Warren Neal, Mission, Kan., William Neal, Garnett, Kan., and James Neal, Spring Hill, Kan.; and two sisters, Doris White, Lenexa, Kan., and Frances Muller, Cleveland, Mo.

**Service:** 11 a.m. Saturday, Penwell-Gabel Mid-Town Chapel, Topeka. Burial: Mount Hope Cemetery, Topeka. Visitation: after noon today, at the funeral chapel, where the family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, northern area office, 1315 Southwest Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604.

## Donald J. Boos

Donald J. Boos, 72, of rural Severance, died shortly after arrival at the Atchison Community Hospital in Atchison, Thursday evening, March 29, 2001, as a result of a farm accident at the family farm.

Mr. Boos was born Sept. 27, 1928, at Bendena, to Nick and Elizabeth Goll Boos, and was a lifelong resident of the Severance area. He was a graduate of Severance High School. Mr. Boos served with the US Army during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1953. After discharge from the service, he returned to the Severance area where he farmed and raised livestock.

Mr. Boos was a longtime member of St. Benedict's Catholic Church of Bendena. He was also a member of the VFW and the American Legion, both of Atchison.

He married Pat Derks on July 11, 1953, in St. Joseph, MO. She survives of the home.

Additional survivors include three daughters, Cindy Miles, Shawnee, Debby Harrington, Kansas City, Ks., and Kim Anderson, Kansas City, Mo.; three sons, Donnie Boos, Severance, Jim Boos, Cushing, OK, and Steve Boos, Severance; two brothers, Clarence "Bud" Boos, Denton, Gene Boos, Ft. Morgan, CO; two sisters, Mary Beth Costello and Jay Hamilton, both of Topeka; fourteen grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Mr. Boos was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Richard Boos.

Mass of Christian burial was Monday, April 2, at St. Benedict's Catholic Church at Bendena. Internment followed at St. Benedict's Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to the St. Benedict's Catholic Church which may be sent in care of the funeral home, PO Box 33, Highland 66035.



## Elsie Ramseier

Elsie Ramseier, 91, of Highland, died early Monday morning, November 26, 2001, at the Highland Care Center where she had been a resident for nearly three years.

She was born April 2, 1910, at Troy, to Erving and Amanda Lewis Williams and had lived in the Doniphan County area most of her life. She grew up near Troy where she attended school. She lived in the Severance area until moving to a farm near Highland in 1948. She was the manager for several years of the Highland Locker Plant, prior to working for a time at Hohnbaum Bakery in Hiawatha.

Mrs. Ramseier was a longtime member of the United Methodist-Presbyterian Church of Highland. She was also a member of the Laverentz EHU, the Busy Bee's, and Highland Homemakers, all community clubs near Highland.

She married Allen Ramseier on March 4, 1931 at Hiawatha. They farmed near Highland until retiring and moving to Troy in 1986. He died July 29, 1990. She continued to make her home in Troy until moving to King Court Apartments in Highland.

Mrs. Ramseier was also preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Eva Davies; four brothers, Evert Williams, Earl Williams, Jack Williams, Ernest Williams; and a great-grandson, Nicholas Miller.

Survivors include three daughters, LaQuita Neal, Merriam, Rosalie Dorrell, Bendena, and Linda Miller, Lancaster; 11 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services are planned for 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 29 at the United Methodist-Presbyterian Church of Highland. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Cemetery, Troy. The family will meet with friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, Highland.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Highland United Methodist-Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund or the Highland Ambulance Fund, which may be sent in care of the funeral home, PO Box 33, Highland, KS 66035.

## Henry Huss

Henry Huss, 93, St. Joseph, died Sunday, April 14, 2002, at his home.

Mr. Huss was born in Severance, Ks. on July 30, 1908, he formerly lived in rural Doniphan County, and resided in St. Joseph for the past 44 years.

He worked for several construction companies and had retired from Land Construction Company in 1973 after fifteen years of service.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Adam and Mazie Turner Huss, and by two brothers, Ralph and James Huss.

Mr. Huss was a member of the Masonic Hi-Twelve Club No. 49, St. Joseph, and was a Fifty-Year member of the Belton Masonic Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Emily Brock of the home whom he married Nov. 25, 1959; one son, Jere Huss of Ankeny, IA.; one daughter, Janet Beiner of Denver, Co.; three brothers, Mason Huss of Troy, Paul Huss of Davenport, IA. and Adam Huss of Troy, eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Services were Tuesday, Meierhoffer Family Funeral Service. Masonic services were at the chapel. The family suggests memorial gifts to the Masonic Hi-Twelve Club No. 49, St. Joseph. Mr. Huss was cremated following the services.

## Wayne F. Neal

1930 - 2002

MERRIAM, Kan. — Wayne F. Neal, 72, Merriam, died Saturday, Sept. 28, 2002, at the Shawnee Mission Medical Center in Merriam.

Mr. Neal owned Dapper Dan's Pizza in St. Joseph, Mo. He also was an Air Force veteran of the Korean War.

Born Feb. 12, 1930, in Severance, Kan., he was the son of William B. and Myrtle Hegenderfer Neal.

**Surviving:** his wife of 51 years, LaQuita Ramseier Neal; four children, Roxanna Cashman, Larry Neal, Dee Martin and Pamela VanMeerhaeghe; two sisters, Doris White and Frances Muller; five brothers, George, Warren, Willis, William and James Neal; and seven grandchildren.

**Service:** 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Amos Family Chapel, Shawnee. Burial: Leavenworth, Kan., National Cemetery. Visitation: 6 to 8 tonight, at the funeral chapel.

## Walter D. Kimmi

1930 - 2001

ATCHISON, Kan. — Walter "Dale" Kimmi, 70, Atchison, died Saturday, May 26, 2001, at an Atchison nursing home.

Mr. Kimmi was a salesman for the J.C. Penney store in Atchison for more than 34 years. He served in the Army during the Korean War. He also set stones for the Byrd Memorial Co., for eight years.

Born on June 30, 1930, in Severance, Kan., he lived and attended school there. He graduated from Atchison High School.

Mr. Kimmi was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church. He was a member of Fleming-Jackson-Seever American Legion Post No. 6, Atchison, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No 1175.

On May 24, 1953, he married Ruth Handkein Atchison. She survives of the home.

Mr. Kimmi was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Blanche; and a daughter, Sandra Kimmi.

**Addition Survivors** a daughter, Cheryl Kimmi, Atchison; two brothers, Eldon Kimmie, Atchison, and Warren Kimmie, Holton, Kan.

**Service:** 2 p.m. Tuesday, Trinity Lutheran Church, Atchison. Burial: Sunset Memory Gardens, Atchison.



## Edwin L. Sinclair

Edwin L. Sinclair, 75, Atchison, died Monday, Aug. 26, 2002, at the University of

Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kan., following an apparent heart attack.

Memorial services will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist

Church, with the Rev. Steve Hollingsworth officiating. The family will receive friends following the service until 8:30 p.m. at the church. Mr. Sinclair's body was donated to the University of Kansas Medical Center, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology. Memorial donations may be given to the First Baptist Church or the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1175. The Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Edwin L. Sinclair

Mr. Sinclair was born Nov. 16, 1926, in Leona, the son of Frank and Emma (Reder) Sinclair. He graduated from Highland High School in 1944. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War, where he served aboard the USS *Antietam*.

He worked for 20 years for the Kansas Power & Light Co. He then worked more than 20 years as an electrician-foreman for the Bureau of Prisons, Leavenworth, before retiring in 1988. Following his retirement, he worked part-time for Dave's Auto, Atchison, and the Snow Creek Ski Lodge, Weston, Mo.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church, Atchison, the American Legion Post No. 6, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1175, Atchison, and the Reynolds Morning Coffee Club. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and especially his grandchildren.

He married Ruth Ann Sachs on Nov. 23, 1951, at the First Baptist Church, Atchison. She survives of the home.

Other survivors include two sons, Jeff Sinclair, Basehor, and Scott Sinclair, Topeka; a daughter, Julie Ann Hanf Atchison; a brother, George Sinclair, Shawnee; a sister, Grace Dare, Downey, Calif.; and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother and a sister.

## Wilma M. Winchester

Wilma Marie Winchester, 76, Atchison, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at her home.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home with the Rev. David Livingston, pastor of the Camp Creek United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in the Mount Vernon Cemetery, Atchison. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Camp Creek United Methodist Church.

Wilma M. Frakes was born July 5, 1926, in Severance, the daughter of John W. and Nina (Griffis) Frakes. She graduated from Severance High School, attended Highland Community College and received her bachelor's of arts degree in elementary education from Benedictine College.

She was an elementary school teacher for USD 377 for 42 years before she retired.

She was a member of the Camp Creek United Methodist Church, a member of the Atchison Area Retired Teachers Association, United Methodist Women (Camp Creek), the Shepherd's Center and Retired Railroaders.

She enjoyed embroidery, reading, writing letters and playing the piano and organ.

She married Loren J. Winchester on Jan. 19, 1947, in Leona. He preceded her in death Sept. 1, 1970.

Survivors include a son, David Winchester, Topeka; and a daughter, Elizabeth Schlechty, Adrain, Mo.; a brother, Robert Frakes, Highland; one grandchild; and two great-grandchildren.



## Barbara J. Sterne

1920-2004

HEREFORD, Texas — Barbara Jean Sterne, 84 years old, Hereford, formerly Severance, Kan., died Saturday, April 17, 2004, at Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Barbara Jean was born on Feb. 29, 1920, in Severance, the daughter of Harry and Barbara (Moyer) Ware.

She graduated in 1938 from Severance High School and attended Highland, Kan., Junior College.

On Dec. 30, 1941, Barbara Jean married Jack Bryce Sterne.

She taught school in Lawrence, Kan.; and then went on to work for the State of Kansas until she retired.

Barbara Jean was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Howard A. Ware.

Survivors include two sons, Bryce Ware Sterne, Rio Rancho, N.M.; and Kenneth K. Sterne, Alexandria, Va.; a sister Phyllis Rumsey, Maryville, Mo.; two grandsons, Douglas Detwieler, Rio Rancho; and Dean Sterne, Calhoun, Ga.; and two great-grandchildren, Jared and Kaitlin Detwieler, Rio Rancho.

Barbara Jean will be fondly remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and friend.

A private memorial will be held for immediate family members in Panhandle, Texas. Family members respectfully request donations be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, attention: Direct Marketing, 3300 E. Sunrise Drive, Tucson, Ariz., 85718, in lieu of gifts and flowers.

## Alma F. Neal

1923-2005

MISSION, Kan. — Alma Frances Neal, 81, Mission, died Saturday, April 16, 2005.

**Survivors:** husband, Warren, of the home; son, David, Shawnee, Kan.; daughter, Janet (Rex) Archer, Kansas City, Mo.; grandchildren, Eric and Rebecca Archer; niece, Victoria Foley; nephew, Michael Foley; grandnephew, Michael Foley; grandniece, Michelle Clary.

**Services:** 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Amos Family Chapel, Shawnee. Interment: 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Mount Olive Cemetery, Troy.

## Barbara A. Kimmi

Barbara A. Kimmi, 77, Atchison, died Sunday, May 15, 2005, at the Atchison Hospital.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, at St. Joseph's Church with the Rev. Bertrand LaNoue, OSB, celebrant. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30



Barbara Kimmi

p.m. Wednesday in the chapel of Arensberg-Pruett Funeral Home. Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Joseph's Church or the American Heart Association and may be left in

care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left online at [www-arensbergpruett.com](http://www-arensbergpruett.com).

Mrs. Kimmi had worked in the medical office of Dr. Ira Morrison and later at Domann Drug Store and Litwin's Clothing in Atchison, and as an administrative assistant at Cushing Memorial Hospital, Leavenworth.

She was born July 19, 1927, in Atchison, the daughter of Henry and Mary Magdeline Kluth Lackey. She attended Atchison public schools and Atchison High School.

Mrs. Kimmi was a member of St. Joseph's Church. She enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren and playing cards.

She married Eldon A. Kimmi on May 23, 1948, at St. Joseph's Church in Atchison. He survives of the home. She was preceded in death by a brother, Henry Lackey.

Additional survivors include three daughters and their husbands, Patricia Powers, Olathe, Diane and Mike McDermed, Atchison, and Sheila and Rick Bruce, Rushville, Mo.; two sons, Lawrence Kimmi, Leavenworth, and Bruce Kimmi, Atchison; a brother, Robert Lackey, Atchison; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

## Julia McIntyre

1919-2007

FRESNO, Calif. — Julia (Dittmore) McIntyre, 87, Fresno, formerly Severance, Kan., died Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2007.

Julia was preceded in death by her parents, John and Alma Dittmore; and brother, John Dittmore Jr.

Survivors: husband of 65 years, William; sons, Terry, William and Michael; daughter, Nancy Seaver; sister, Alma Jamvold; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

A Mass was held Aug. 20 at the Sacred Heart Church in Fresno. Burial was in the Clovis, Calif., Cemetery.



# Eldon Kimmi

Eldon Anthony Kimmi, 83, Atchison, died Sunday, Feb. 24, 2008 at the Atchison Hospital.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 29, 2008 in the chapel of Arensberg-Pruett Funeral Home with Rev. Tim Champ officiating. Interment will follow in Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Visitation with the family will be from 7 until 8:30

p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 28, at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions are suggested to St.

Joseph's Church or Rushville Christian Church and

may be left in care of the funeral home.

Eldon was born June 23, 1924, in Severence, the son of Walter D. and Blanche Laverntz Kimmi. He attended Severence schools, graduating from Severence High School where he was active in sports, especially as a basketball player.

He and the former Barbara Lackey were united in marriage on May 23, 1948, in Atchison. Mrs. Kimmi preceded him in death on May 15, 2005.

Eldon served in the United States Navy from April 14, 1944, aboard the USS Maryland. He received the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four stars and the Philippine Liberation Campaign Ribbon with two bronze stars. He received his honorable discharge on February 1, 1946, at the U. S. Naval Personnel Separation Center, Norman, Oklahoma.

Eldon was employed as a packer with Armour



Eldon  
Kimmi

Company in St. Joseph, Mo. for 22 years, retiring in 1974. He had previously worked the former Midwest Solvents Company of Atchison and additionally served as a maintenance person for Craybank Farm and caretaker for the racing horses owned by Mr. Cloud Cray Sr.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and playing pitch in his spare time. An avid sports fan, he enjoyed following the Kansas Jayhawks and the New York Yankees.

Eldon was widely known as "Santa Claus" of the Atchison Downtown Mall, a position he proudly held for numerous years on behalf of the Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce during the annual Christmas season.

Survivors include three daughters, Patricia Powers, Overland Park, Diane (Michael) McDermid, Atchison, Sheila (Rick) Bruce, Rushville, Mo., two sons, Larry Kimmi, Leavenworth, Bruce Kimmi, Atchison, five grandchildren, D. J. and Cody Bruce, Brandon McDermid, Kelsey

Kimmi, Kilee Ross and five great-grandchildren, Madilynne, Boston and Carter Bruce and Jared and Jordan Ross.

Eldon was predeceased by two brothers, Warren Kimmi and Dale Kimmi.





LeDoit and Kathleen Meeks

## *50th Anniversary*

LeDoit Alan and Kathleen Ann Canter Meeks of Effingham Ks., will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 20, 2004. The couple was married at the Wathena United Methodist Church on Nov. 20, 1954.

LeDoit retired in 1993 as an Engineer with the Kansas Department of Transportation and Kathleen retired in 1993 as a Culinary Arts Instructor at the Northeast Kansas Technical College in Atchison.

The couple has two sons— Roger and Denise Meeks of Lincoln, Neb., and Steve and Karen Meeks of Effingham. They have five grandchildren: Morgan and Barret of Lincoln and Wade, Madison and Matie of Effingham.

A reception, hosted by their children, will be held Sunday, Nov. 28, from 1:00-2:00 at the Effingham Union Church Christian Education Building. All family and friends are invited to attend and celebrate this special occasion with the couple. No gifts, please. Cards may be sent to 10972 - 266th Road, Effingham, KS 66023.



**Founded In 1869**

## Severance Named For A Railroad Official

(Editor's note: The following article is one of a series that will appear in The Globe concerning towns and communities in the Atchison area and surrounding Northeast Kansas territory.)

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By CHARLES SPENCER  
(Globe Area Editor)

The town of Severance in Doniphan county like the old gray mare "ain't what it used to be."

It now has five places of business, and some of them are not open full time. During the early 1900s it had more than 50 thriving businesses.

"There just aren't many beer drinkers left," said Henry Singer, who operates the town tavern. "Nothing is like it used to be."

"When I opened for business 17 years ago there was someone around all the time, but now things are pretty quiet."

Mrs. Vivian Roland and Leo Zeltner operate grocery stores. Mike Riffer has the liquor store and Mrs. Mollie Libel is postmaster.

"I close up earlier at night than I used to," Singer said. "The liquor store probably stays open longer than any place in town."

Some 50 years ago the town had a lumber yard, hardware store, blacksmith shops, harness shops, hotel, meat markets, garages and other businesses.

"The VFW post has a picnic each summer which brings many persons into town, but other than this there are not many special activities," Singer said.

"First, second and third grade pupils in the area attend classes at Denton and the fourth, fifth and sixth grade pupils attend the Bendena school center."

"The large attractive school building at Severance is used for kindergartners and for seventh and eighth graders in the unified school district."

Severance has three churches. Singer said he had been a resident since 1936. Before that he lived at Highland and worked on farms.

"I came here to cut cord wood



FIVE BUSINESSES remain on this street in Severance, a thriving town with 50 business places a half century ago. At the right is a building used by the VFW for a hall. The VFW post sponsors the annual Severance picnic.

for the late Charlie Foster, auctioneer," Singer said. "I worked for him awhile and then became a section worker for the railroad."

"I quit the railroad 17 years ago and opened this tavern."

The town was a result of the railroad being built through Doniphan county in 1869. Promoters were mostly connected with the railroad and the town was named after John Severance, an officer of the railroad.

John F. Wilson opened the first merchandise store, Arch Campbell had the first drug store and Severance and Gunn built a hotel in 1869.

A railroad passenger depot was built in 1874, the first school was started about the same time, and the town was incorporated in 1877.

Two years later the Severance Silver Cornet band was

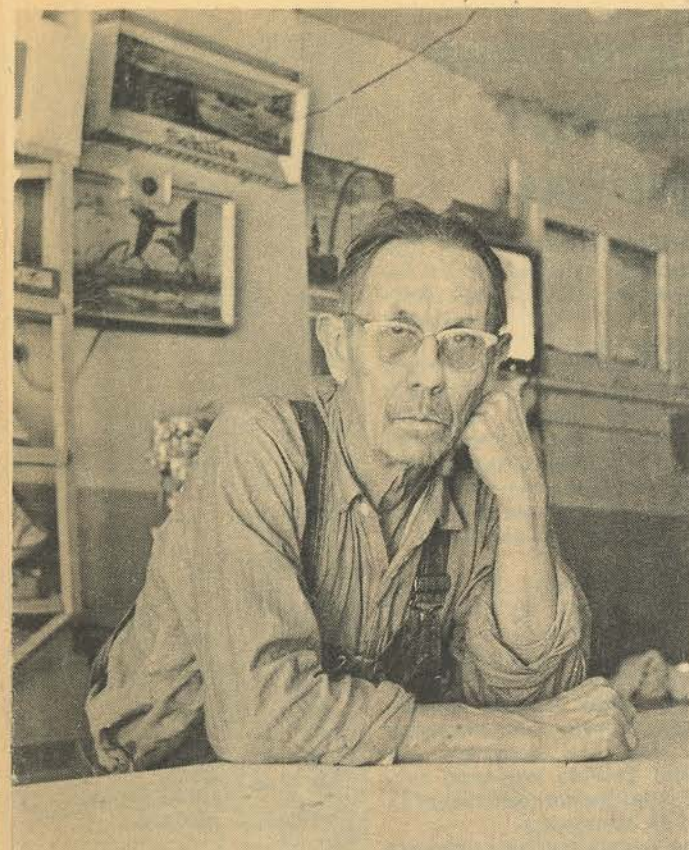
organized.

From then on the town grew and prospered.

In 1915, Pat Gray operated the Severance News, Heeney's hardware was a big business, John L. Morley owned the Bank Co. Severance, Clarence J. Ryan was a physician and surgeon and Dr. J.M. Riley and Dr. L.M. Bennett were dentists.

Severance had a drayman, two blacksmith shops, motor car dealer, barber shop and many other places of business.

During the years that followed transportation became faster, farms became larger, and as a result there are fewer people



HENRY SINGER, 70, tavern operator at Severance, recalls many more business places in the town and more residents when he opened his business 17 years ago. Only five business places are now operating in the town, he said.--Globe photo.



# Severance landmark coming down, bricks to be used on Troy sidewalk

BY MARY WINDER

The Severance Christian Church, once a handsome edifice and a hub of community activity, will soon be no more. Severance residents Bill and JoAnn Frump purchased the badly deteriorated 81-year-old brick building this fall and have begun the arduous task of dismantling it. John Dittmore of rural Severance, the last living trustee on the church's board, arranged for the sale of the property with the proceeds going to the Oak Hill Cemetery Fund.

A bit of the church will be coming to Troy, however, as the Frumps have decided to donate the bricks from the building to the Doniphan County Historical Society. Plans call for the bricks to be used to construct a brick sidewalk on the north side of the square in Troy. A pump organ from the church has also been donated to the Historical Society. It will be cleaned up and then moved to the top floor of the courthouse in Troy.

Dittmore says his decision to sell the church and surrounding grounds, located on a hill in the northeast part of town, was triggered by the death earlier this year of another church trustee, Oscar Pry of Severance.

"Oscar kept the yard mowed and looked after the church best he could," explains Dittmore, a lifelong resident of Severance and longtime member of the church. "He didn't want the church to be torn down, and I sided with him. After he died, I knew we had to face reality. The church had gotten into such bad shape. Even though you don't like to see it happen, tearing it down was the only thing that could be done with it."

"People say it's too bad that it wasn't taken care of better, but there was no money and there were no people to do it," he says simply.

The Severance Christian Church, which was built in 1914 at a cost of \$7,500, was one of three churches that used to stand in the Severance community. All were well-attended at one time, but later closed when the congregations dwindled in size through the years. The other two churches, a Methodist church and a Catholic church, have both already been torn down.

It is not certain exactly when services were last held in the Christian Church at Severance, but Dittmore believes it was during the 1960's.

"I have such happy memories of that church," says Lois Caudle of Bendena. "I was a member there for nearly 30 years. It used to be a very pretty church, with beautiful stained glass windows on the one side. The people there were so friendly, and we had a lovely choir and organist, and Sunday school classes. There were big crowds at the church years ago."

"All three of the churches in town were very active and very important parts of the community," she continues.

But Caudle says she doesn't feel sad about the Christian Church being taken down now.

"It's so badly damaged, it just doesn't seem like the same place to me," she says. "I'll be glad when it's torn down."



Bill Frump, left, new owner of the Severance Christian Church, and John Dittmore, the last trustee on the church's board, take a look at the 81 year old church, which is slated to be torn down.

Bill Frump, who attended the Severance Christian Church as a boy, says he briefly considered trying to repair the church building when he first bought it. But he quickly changed his mind when he took a close look at the poor condition of the structure.

Problems with the building include a badly deteriorating stone and brick foundation, a roof that has been leaking in more than one place for years, broken windows, and damage to the interior. The church bell and top part of the belfry were apparently stolen some time ago, and the baptistery disappeared, as well.

However, Frump did discover that there is a lot of good old lumber in the building, so he has decided to take it down "piece by piece" and salvage the lumber, rather than just burn it or bulldoze it down.

Frump, a supervisor with the railroad division of Herzog Construction, is working on the church project in his spare time. His wife, sons, and grandchildren are assisting. After the building is down and the debris removed, Frump intends to sow the land to grass. He estimates that it may be a year or so before he can have all of that completed.

"My plans for the property after that are not definite yet, but I may build a house or put up a trailer there," he says. "And I will use part of the

lumber I'm salvaging from the church to build onto my house in Severance and to construct a garage."

Frump says he decided to donate the bricks for the sidewalk in Troy when he heard that people were searching for suitable bricks for that project. Troy PRIDE previously organized the volunteer efforts that resulted in the construction of brick sidewalks on the west and south sides of the courthouse.

Dittmore, whose family has lived in Doniphan County since the 1860's, is pleased to know that some of the things from the church, like the bricks and the organ, will be going to good use somewhere in the county. Others are pleased about the donations, as well.

"We very much appreciate the donation of the organ and the bricks," says Corky Smith of Troy, secretary of the Historical Society. "The Frump's donation is a way of helping to preserve a bit of our county's history."

County Commissioner Dana Foley of Wathena is also appreciative and happy about the donation, describing the planned construction of the brick sidewalk on the north side of the square as a "good community project."

As Frump has worked on taking down the church, he has found some interesting items, including boxes of wooden fans advertising area funeral homes, a charcoal drawing of a woman,

a few hymnals, an old gray enamel wash pan, and some weekly church attendance reports. The church's cornerstone had been removed and was found out in the yard.

"I even found my name, my sister's, and my grandfather's in those weekly records," says Frump, noting that he is trying to save whatever church memorabilia he can.

"I even found my name, my sister's, and my grandfather's in those weekly records," says Frump, noting that he is trying to save whatever church memorabilia he can.

Other interesting features of the church are its unique arched windows and the floor, which slopes downward toward where the pulpit used to be, just like the sloping floor of a movie theater. The church also has a balcony, as well as a small dug-out basement with coal room.

The curved wooden pews and roll-up doors from the church have been sold at auction, with the proceeds going to the Oak Hill Cemetery, located just north of Severance. There is a piano in the church, too. It appears to be in decent condition and Frump would give it away to anyone who would like to have it.

Frump, who has lived in Doniphan County all of his life, does not relish the idea of taking down the old church.

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## Church to be torn down

—continued from Page 1

"This is the last church in town, and it makes you feel bad to be tearing it down," he says with a sigh. "I sure hate to see it go, but someone's got to do it. It's just one of those things."

"It has been a landmark in town for a long time, and I know people will miss it when it's gone," he adds. "7 years to come, I bet people will get up on the hill expecting to see the church, and it won't be there."



# Time adds perspective to the seismic actions of the city's voters

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**D**ays pass and, with that, the eyebrow-raising and jaw-dropping cease.

City Hall got a surprise Tuesday. Merry Maids hopped up on steroids could not have furnished a more thorough sweeping.

Think of this: The woman who filled an unexpired term six months ago will soon be the council member of second-longest tenure. Imagine a high school with no Senior Skip Day.

Of the nine members on the current council, voters defeated seven during March's primary and last week's election.

Quicker than you could run a ballot through those fancy counting machines — had such new-fangled devices been in Florida, you wonder if there would have been a President Gore — most of the

officeholders were told, "Here's your hat, what's your hurry?"

Explanations for the council chamber eviction commenced before tears could dry. Some cited incumbent overconfidence. Some pointed to municipal haughtiness.

Maybe it was anger. Maybe indifference. Maybe global warming. (These days, everything seems related to fossil fuels.)

David Jones, the spurned mayor, called the vote "anti-government." Ken Shearin, the incoming mayor, called the vote an outbreak of "common sense."

Those who could not see this coming, a group numbering roughly the population of St. Joseph, mostly accept the result and get on with life.

Some, however, envision doomsday at 1100 Frederick Ave.

and a breakdown of society from there. They see hand-wringing as the natural by-product of seismic events. That and alcohol abuse.

More productively, these folks should look for solace in local history. Tuesday's election barely registers compared to the Richter rattling of the city's election in 1874.

John Severance served as St. Joseph's mayor for some years following the Civil War. Within the community, there grew a discontent with his leadership, particularly regarding what some people felt was his manipulation of the board for the just opened railroad bridge.

The *Gazette* of the day wrote of Mr. Severance's placement of a political crony named Pat Early on the bridge board, a position that paid "\$150 per month for

doing nothing."

A party of uprising put at its vanguard a man named Isaac T. Hosea, who came to the city penniless and rose to be president of St. Joseph Savings Bank.

The editorial voice of the *Gazette* commended Mr. Hosea as a man of "untarnished morals" while discounting Mr. Severance as head of "the clique that has attempted to make itself master of St. Joseph."

When the April election day arrived, voters sided with the "people's ticket," turning out officeholders like closing time at a saloon.

"Every man ... from mayor to councilman, is elected by majorities that will startle their most sanguine friends," the *Gazette* reported the next day. "A more

complete Waterloo never occurred."

And what happened in the aftermath? Aside from an elementary school bearing his name, Isaac Hosea became mostly lost to history. And St. Joseph over the next 132 years saw a Gilded Age and Great Depression, civic scoundrels and beloved leaders, innovation and renaissance.

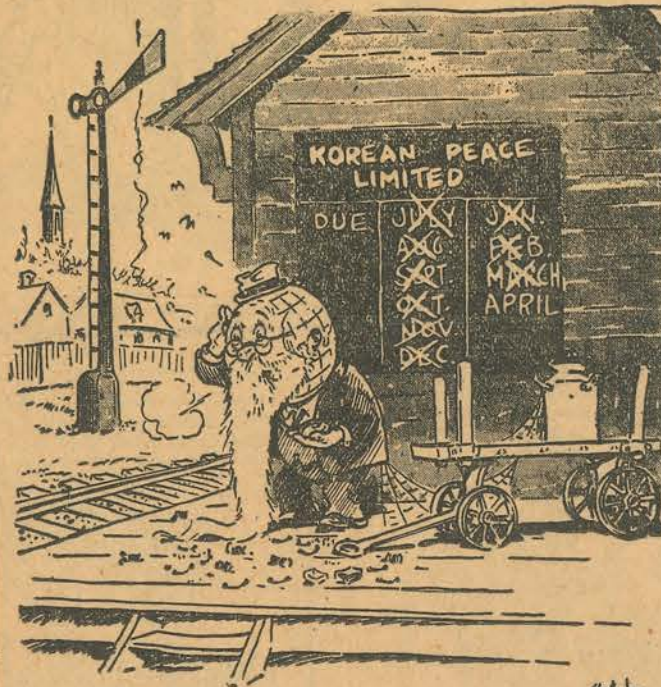
In elections, some people win and others lose. At times, the voting resembles a revolution. Always, the place survives.

We wake up each day choosing either gloom or optimism. It confounds me where all the fretting comes from.

*Ken Newton's column runs on Tuesdays and Sundays.*



## THE VISITING CARTOONIST



—Holland, in the Chicago Tribune

Anybody Hear a Train Whistle?

Thursday, June 23, at 1 p. m.  
at Hyde Park. The club hopes  
to make the picnic an annual af-  
fair.

Invitations will be issued to  
the Federated Republican Clubs  
of the Third congressional dis-  
trict, and the president and vice-  
president of the state federation  
and vice-chairman of the state  
committee are expected to at-  
tend.

Officers of the county club are  
Mrs. J. R. Abercrombie, presi-  
dent; Mrs. Alva Lindsay, vice-  
president; Mrs. G. T. Bloomer,  
secretary; Mrs. Emerald Mitchell,  
treasurer; Mrs. H. E. McPherson,  
corresponding secretary, and  
Mrs. George Kellogg, sergeant  
at arms. Mrs. Mitchell is chair-  
man of the committee on loca-  
tion, and Mrs. R. A. Brown is  
chairman of the refreshment  
committee. Additional informa-  
tion may be obtained from Mrs.  
Abercrombie or from Mrs. Kel-  
logg, publicity chairman.

Iceland has never had a war.  
Iron was introduced into the  
Near East by the ancient Hit-  
tites.

## A Verse for Today

By ANNE CAMPBELL

### THE BOYS ARE GONE

The little town is quiet now  
Though it is Saturday.  
Last year the streets held crowds of boys  
Who filled the air with jokes and noise,  
But now our town is not so gay.

Jimmy joined the signal corps.  
Harry went to Sheridan.  
Neil no longer, with a roar,  
Laughs and drives out care again!  
Jack and Larry went to sea,  
Bill's a pilot, so is Ted.  
George was drafted, as was Lee.  
Many merry boys have fled!

The post office is popular!  
Some girls write letters every day.  
Each time the evening sun goes down,  
We're kind of lonesome in our town;  
So many boys have gone away!

Bob and Phil write from the South.  
Paul sends word from Illinois.  
Joey with the laughing mouth,  
Charley, Rex and your own boy  
Marched away on willing feet,  
Glad to serve! Soon they will come  
(Better for their year's retreat!)  
To the welcome doors of home!

## Atchison Nurse Is Dead at 61 Years

ATCHISON, Kan., Feb. 22—Mrs.  
Betty Hansen Kenner, 61 years  
old, died at her home here today  
after an illness of 12 years.

Born at Severance, Kan., Mrs.  
Kenner had lived in Atchison  
since 1907. She was graduated  
from St. Joseph's hospital school  
of nursing in St. Joseph in 1915.  
Since that time she had been  
employed as a nurse at the Atchi-  
son hospital and as Atchison  
county visiting nurse. She was a  
past president of the Altar So-  
ciety of the Sacred Heart Church.

Mrs. Kenner is survived by her  
husband, Fred Kenner, a mem-  
ber of the editorial staff of the  
Atchison Daily Globe; a daughter,  
Mrs. Lawrence C. Wisely, Atchi-  
son; two sons, Robert Kenner,  
Omaha, Neb., and Fred Kenner  
Jr. of the home; a sister, Miss  
Anna Hansen, Walla Walla,  
Wash.; a brother, W. P. Hansen,  
Kansas City, Mo., and two grand-  
children.

The body is at the Stanton  
mortuary.