

Business Histories

Submitted or updated in 2010

A & B Recycling

In an effort to fulfill the recycling needs of the Randolph community, A & B Recycling was opened in 2000. The drop-off center is located behind Tri County Feed and Grain at 223 E. Broadway Street. It is open Monday through Saturday.

Recyclables collected at this site, are newsprint, magazines, office paper, chip board and cardboard. Operating the recycling site are Allen and Barb Burbach

Authier, Miller, Pape Eyecare

Authier, Miller, Pape Eyecare was opened in Randolph in 1998 as a satellite clinic to their main office in Norfolk. The idea to open a satellite clinic in Randolph came when a Randolph area organization approached Authier, Miller, Pape Eyecare and asked if they would be interested in opening a clinic here. An available building, located on the corner of Main and Wayne Streets, became the office of Authier, Miller, Pape's first satellite clinic. Dr's Steve Miller and Jeff Pape served as primary optometrists that traveled to Randolph every other week. A few years later, Authier, Miller, Pape opened up a second satellite clinic in Pierce. In 2006, Dr. Jenny Furstenau joined the practice and became the primary optometrist at the Randolph clinic. The clinic is now open every Wednesday thanks to the support of the local community bringing better healthcare to their area.

Authier, Miller, Pape Eyecare provides complete eye health examinations, as well as offers a full scope of glasses and contact lenses in the Randolph office.



B & B Storage

B & B Storage opened for business January 1, 2010. Scott and Gina Backhaus and Doug and Sherri Backhaus purchased the land from Melvin and Shirley Poppe and spent two years cleaning up the two and one-half acre area which is located west of Randolph Farm Supply on the Pierce County Line. Two buildings were erected in the fall of 2009. One building has four large bays to house

bigger items such as motor homes. The other building contains sixteen medium size bay areas and six smaller bays areas.

Bermel Repair

Bermel Repair was started in 1975 by Richard (Dick) and Ellen Bermel. When they moved on the property where Bermel Repair is currently located on Jackson Street, they started with a small garage. They then built a bigger garage to use as a repair shop.

Over time, Bermel Repair grew and in 1984 they built a Morton Building as a bigger and better shop, to accommodate the various types of farming equipment that Dick worked on.

In 1996, Dick and Ellen's oldest son Jeff, graduated from Wyoming Tech as a diesel repair technician. Jeff joined the operation and started working with his parents as a tractor specialist.

Today, Bermel Repair is still doing what they did back in 1975, helping local farmers keep their machinery in good working condition.

Henry J. Billerbeck, M.D.

Henry J. Billerbeck, M.D. opened an office for the practice of medicine in Randolph, Nebraska on August 1, 1952. He came here from Denison, Iowa, where he had been practicing with Dr. Merlin U. Broers.

Dr. Billerbeck took his pre-med schooling at Creighton University in Omaha and then spent four years in the Medical Administrative Branch of the U. S. Army during World War II, advancing to the rank of First Lieutenant. His overseas duty was served in Italy. He graduated from the University of Nebraska, College of Medicine in 1950, and served his internship at St. Joseph's Hospital in Sioux City, Iowa.

Dr. Billerbeck opened his office in Randolph in the former Dr. B.F. Gleason building, just south of the auditorium. In 1958 he built and moved into his office at 106 E. Wayne Street.

Dr. Billerbeck was a member of the Nebraska State Medical Association, American Academy of Family Practice, N.E. Nebraska Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He served as Chief of Staff of the Osmond General Hospital for several terms.

Dr. Billerbeck retired from his practice in the summer of 1988. In 1992, Randolph found itself without a doctor and Dr. Billerbeck came out of retirement for one year, 1992-1993.

Billerbeck Construction

Billerbeck Construction is owned and operated by Jim Billerbeck. Jim graduated from the University of South Dakota at Springfield in May of 1978 with a degree in Building Construction and Business Administration as a minor. Jim returned to his home town of Randolph and started up his construction business. Through the years he has employed several different people. Since 2003, his

son Brent has worked with him full time. They do all types of general construction including new dwelling, remodeling jobs, cement work, roofing, etc. *Jim & Cindy Billerbeck*

Bradley Cabinets



Bradley Cabinets was founded in 1993 by George and Sherry Bradley. George originally started building cabinets and shelving in his basement and garage but soon needed more space. In 1994 he purchased the former high school agricultural and woodshop from

the local school district and had it moved to its current location at 210 West Kemp Street, just north of his house.



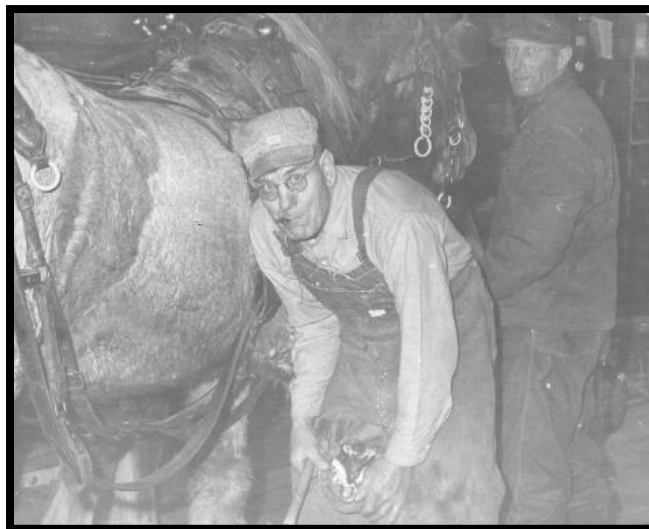
Circulation desk at the Lied Randolph Public Library

George originally started out building kitchen and bathroom cabinetry and shelving but then later added various lines of Shaker and mission-style furniture, such as end tables, china hutches and entertainment centers in oak, cherry, birch, walnut, hickory, maple and ash. In addition to constructing new cabinets and furniture, George has also done repair work for people within a 40 mile radius, fixing such items as chairs and rockers and refinishing table tops. Besides his residential customers, George has also done commercial work, such as the main circulation desk for the Lied Randolph Public Library, the nurses' station at the Colonial Manor care facility, and the teller stations at both the Citizens National Bank in Belden and Laurel.

George does most of the constructing and installing himself; however, his wife Sherry helps out from time to time. He hopes to be able to work well into retirement.

Broer Blacksmith

Ludwig Broer, owner of Broer Blacksmith Shop in Randolph for over fifty years, was born in Germany, November 21, 1905. He learned the blacksmith trade from his father. At the age of 18, he came to America as there was not much of a future to look forward to in Germany. He went to work for his older brother, Richard, in the shop. His brother Richard had the blacksmith shop at that time. Louie's brothers, Richard and Hans, had come to America about two years earlier. Louie (as he was called) bought the blacksmith shop from his Uncle Herman Broer in 1928. Uncle Herman Broer owned and operated the planning mill next door to the shop.



Louie Broer Shoeing a horse

The main work in those days was wagon wheels, plow sharpening, and horse shoeing. All the grain was hauled to town by team and wagon and in the winter, teams of horses were lined up back of the shop waiting to be shoed. Glen F. Clark was employed by Louie for some time. Louie's brother, Hans, worked for him for a number of years also, as did Louie's wife Frieda who assisted him with bookwork.

Louie made many ornamental railings. Later he started making knives. He celebrated 40 years in business and ten years later celebrated 50 years in the same business with an open house held in the Blacksmith Shop. At his 50-year open house he was presented a life membership to the Randolph Community Club to which he had been a member for many years. In 1982, he was awarded the hall of Fame Award and named "Blacksmith of the Year" by the Nebraska Welders and Machinists Association.

Louie sold his black-smith shop to Paul Loberg in 1979. Louie helped Paul out with plow lays and other things for some time and until his death Louie enjoyed stopping at the shop to see what was going on.

Carlson Law Office



Carlson Law Office- 120 W Broadway

On August 1, 1995 Craig W. Monson and Mark J. Behm, attorneys from Laurel and Wausa respectively, purchased the former Rogers Law Office from Patrick Rogers after Mr. Rogers was appointed to serve as a county judge. The building at 120 West Broadway which had served as a law office since its purchase by Joseph Rogers in 1943 would now serve as the home of “Monson and Behm, Attorneys-at-law”. Because of the time constraints of their own practices, Monson and Behm soon sought to hire a third attorney who would practice full time in the Randolph office and reside in the community. Lance C. Carlson graduated with his Jurist Doctorate from the University of Nebraska College of Law in May of 1995 and passed the Nebraska State Bar Exam in July of that year. In September, Mr. Carlson was hired to work full time in the Law Office. On October 1, 1995 Carlson and his wife Melanie moved to Randolph and soon thereafter Carlson was admitted to the Nebraska Bar Association and licensed to practice law.

Shortly after Carlson joined the firm as an associate, the three attorneys formed a partnership known as “Monson, Behm & Carlson” and practiced law together for the next eight years. On April 1, 2004, Carlson purchased the law office from his partners and renamed it “Carlson Law Office”. Sadly, later that month Mark Behm passed away after an eighteen month battle with cancer. Craig Monson has stayed on in an advisory position since selling his interest in the office to Carlson and continues to be a valuable asset to the practice.

Carlson has served as City Attorney for the City of Randolph since January of 1996 and also serves as Village Attorney for the Villages of Belden and Magnet. Practicing in a small town, means having a broad, general practice touching on many different areas of the law. This presents a challenge but also proves interesting and rewarding. Carlson also continues to maintain the income tax practice that was established by Joseph and Patrick Rogers which makes the first three months of each year an

extremely busy time.

Mr. Carlson is proud to have been able to serve the Randolph community for these past several years and looks forward to being part of Randolph’s future.

Cedar Motel



Cedar Motel on Highway 20

The Cedar Motel was first opened by Al Kuhl in 1951. The motel had thirteen units and an office; Mr. Kuhl lived in the home behind the motel. He had built this house along with the motel. It is now the residence of the Gene Kaiser family. After Mr. Kuhl’s wife passed away, he sold the motel to Mr. Al Sorenson, who added to the motel, the current living quarters and five new units. As two of the old units were used in the construction of the living quarters, this brought the unit count to sixteen rooms.

Mr. Sorenson sold the motel to Marvin and Alice Closter, who operated the establishment for a number of years. Alice turned the office with its north lighted window into an art studio. The office wall mural and her paintings, still remain on the walls of the motel. The Closters sold the motel to Otis and Janet Gartner, who in turn operated the motel for three years. Gartner then sold the motel to Dorman and Bonnie Kuykendall, who also operated the motel for three years.

The Kuykendalls then sold the motel to George and Elizabeth Fresien in February of 1974. The Fresiens’ daughter Myra and her husband John Heegle, and their family manage the motel. The Heegles now hold the record for residency at the motel, having operated it for 36 years.

The Cedar Motel has been open for service to the public for 58 years.

Colonial Manor

Colonial Manor of Randolph stands on a gentle hill at the south end of Main Street in Randolph. The Manor’s story begins in 1965, when a group of Randolph citizens, after assessing the need for and the likely success of a locally-owned nursing home, formed a corporation called

Colonial Manors, Inc. This corporation was set up with 24 charter members and shareholders.

At the organizational meeting, held December 21, 1965, board members elected Harrison Huwaldt as president; Dr. G.E. Peters, vice-president; Joseph G. Rogers, secretary; and Henry Strathman, treasurer. Other directors were: Gordon Dennis, Henry Claussen, and Vernon Viergutz. Other stockholders included: H.J. Billerbeck, MD; Vincent Hartz; Glen Gubbels; Henry Hilkemann; Norbert Olberding; Vincent Havorka, Jr.; M.C. Rosenbach; C.M. Corporation; John Schnoor; Ed Kessler; Dr. L.T. Peebles; Dr. L.J. Peebles; Harold Sherwood; Al Sauser; Vance Viergutz; Desmond Korth; Roy Gibson and William Munter.

On April 2, 1967 a public meeting was held to explain and answer questions about the project. At that time the projected costs totaled \$376,457.

In August 1967, ground-breaking ceremonies were held with Dr. G.E. Peters turning the first spade of sod. Construction was to begin with A.C. Dohrman Construction Company of Sioux City, Iowa contracted to do the building. The Manor, built mostly of brick and steel, had three wings with a 64 bed capacity.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held March 16, 1968 with Marie Lienemann (mother of Frieda Broer) being honored as the first resident. Approximately 3,000 people attended and enjoyed the entertainment of Joe Feeney of the Lawrence Welk Band.

Other firsts at Colonial Manor include: Roger Johnson, administrator; Virginia Weber, PTA (physical therapist aide); Sue Kollars, head nurse; Irene Wurdinger, food supervisor; Rosella Smith, CSM; Sister Pachomia Bart, activity director; John Heegle, social service director; Mrs. Gaillard Martindale, head cook and Warren Kint, maintenance.

The Colonial Manor Ladies' Auxiliary, a volunteer organization, was founded April 30, 1968 with Margaret Billerbeck as president.

In 1985, Julia Boughn began as editor of The Colonial Manor Times, a small publication featuring life stories of the residents at the Manor.

It was April 4, 1995, when ground breaking ceremonies were again held at Colonial Manor. A new 4,072 foot addition was planned along with approximately 4,000 sq. ft. of remodeling to be done inside the existing building. Board members at this time were: Ed Kessler; Jim Billerbeck; Dr. H.J. Billerbeck; Norbert Olberding; Roger Johnson; Sue Kollars; Vernon Viergutz; Vera Peebles and Sue Arens.

Colonial Manor achieved the status of Skilled Medicare Facility in April 1996. This was achieved by the addition of services for special nursing cases such as Alzheimer's



2010 Colonial Manor Employees

disease patients, oxygen needs, IVs, tube feeding, special diets, and in and out patient day care.

An open house was held in April 1997, inviting the public to tour the new renovations at the Manor, which included a new front to the building. "It's large and spacious with wide-open spaces," said then administrator Roger Johnson. "We've moved our health care view into the 21st century".

Later that same year, Roger Johnson announced that he would be retiring as administrator of Colonial Manor. He and his wife, Marian, were honored at an open house on August 24, 1997. Marian worked at the Manor in payroll and accounting starting in 1977 and in 1980 she was appointed as assistant administrator.

Janet Petersen of Cambridge temporarily filled the position of administrator following Roger Johnson's retirement. Petersen is associated with RHD, a rural health care management and consulting firm. Jim Billerbeck, president of the Board of Colonial Manor announced that RHD has accepted a contract with the Manor.

In January 1999, Kristina "Kristi" Kerst was welcomed to the community as the new administrator at Colonial Manor. Kerst, employed by RHD, hailed from Yuma, Colorado. During her time at the Manor the printing of the newsletter was re-established, with it taking on a new name – Colonial Journal.

Later that year, Steve Freeze replaced Kerst as administrator. Freeze moved to Randolph from Sioux City but grew up in South Dakota.

As 2000 arrived more changes were in the works for Colonial Manor. Construction started on conversion of one of the buildings wings into an assisted living unit. Billerbeck Construction was hired as general contractor for the project.

In late January 2000, Dan Myers of Sioux City, Iowa made the announcement that his firm would be taking over ownership of Colonial Manor in the near future. He

stated that no staffing changes would occur and that Steve Freese would continue in his role as administrator. "We are elated to be associated with this facility," Myers said. The firm, Careage Management, is based in Sioux City, Iowa.

Colonial Estates Assisted Living opened its doors for a public open house on November 18, 2000. Approximately 100 people attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. Helping cut the ribbon were Mary Gubbels and Angela Gubbels, who will be the first residents to move into the new wing. The project converted approximately 20 rooms into nine apartment sized rooms, and a kitchen and dining area were added. Services provided at the facility include round-the-clock nursing supervision, laundry, housekeeping, meals, activities, security and thanks to the purchase of a new van, transportation.

In December 2004, the Manor welcomed a facility pet – Clyde. Clyde, a two year old German Short Hair and Pointer cross dog, was acquired by the facility through the combined efforts of the facility and the Nebraska Humane Society.

Also that year, the Manor began efforts to "create a more home-like environment by sprucing up the walls in the hallways, redecorating the resident's rooms in colors of the residents' choice, and by serving meals buffet style."

Steve Freese resigned his position as administrator in December, 2004, and was replaced by Sherilyn Allen in January, 2005. Allen served as administrator at the Manor for approximately ten months and then on October 13, 2005, Brian Vakoc took over the administrative duties. Previously Vakoc, originally from Veridgre, was serving as administrator of the Beverly Health Care nursing home in Hartington.

In June 2006, the facility instrumented a Junior Volunteer Program. Initial junior volunteers were: Kelsey Backhaus, Emily and Haley Schnoor, Malerie Hixson and Michaela Strathman. They assisted, then activity director Julie Loberg, in many of the facility activities.

Later in 2006, the facility added a Community Council, comprised of ten members of the Randolph community. The charter members of the council were: Rosalee Nordhues, Jo Kilburn, Barb Burbach, Jean Kuhl, Sandy Burbach, Marianne Olberding, Marcia Gubbels, Mag Borst, Lois Rasmussen and Father Ron Battiato. The council was formed to bring awareness to the facility of what the community needs are in health care and to form a tighter bond between the residents of the Manor and the Randolph Community.

A sad day for some arrived when Clyde (the facility dog), was found a new home due to unforeseen complications. In his place arrived Shiloh, a lovable, terrier mix dog, who lives at the facility still.

In September 2007, the Manor welcomed yet another administrator as Amie Clausen arrived in Randolph

following the resignation of Brian Vakoc earlier in the year. Clausen, who has worked in nursing homes for approximately 17 years, moved to Randolph with her family: husband Clint, son Jordan and daughter Jolee, from Blair, Nebraska.

Colonial Manor prides itself on resident choices. They have replaced buffet dining with restaurant style dining and they offer a variety of daily activities as well as promoting resident outings. Colonial Manor remains a place where friends and family are always welcome!

Cory's Body & Paint

Cory and Kristy Bermel's business - Cory's Body and Paint started in July 2000 in the building that was previously Marley's Standard Service on Highway 20. At the time of this writing the business has been open for almost ten years.

The main purpose of the business is to do collision repair and windshield replacement and repair. They have also done restoration of cars, tractors, motorcycles, house doors - if it was able to be fixed and painted Cory has attempted it.

In 2000, the business started out part-time, working nights and weekends, and since 2006 has grown to fulltime. *Submitted by Cory & Kristy Bermel*

Diversified Insurance



Back row Frances Denison, Marla Gubbels, Nikki Tunink, Daniel Tunink, Lorraine Pinkleman. Front row Marcia Gubbels, Phyllis Tunink, Brian Tunink

Daniel Tunink began selling real estate in 1978, and the following year he launched into the insurance business by selling life, health, and disability insurance exclusively for the Bill Norvell agency in Laurel, Nebraska.

Discovering his passion for the business, Daniel had the opportunity in 1980 to purchase Marvin and Evelyn Van Slyke's property and casualty business and purchase the former Bell Telephone building at 111 South Douglas, thus establishing Diversified Insurance Services.

Diversified Insurance has developed from that modest one man office in 1980 to present day, employing a staff

of five and offering insurance products from over 30 companies. Dan sells Property/Casualty along with Crop-hail, Federal Crop, Annuities, Life, Health, Disability, Long-term Care, and Medicare supplements. Diversified Insurance is open Monday through Saturday with two to three licensed agents available during business hours to assist customers.

Daniel is currently offering loans and CDs through Madison County Bank, and sells real estate as a licensed agent under the Bill Blank Agency in Madison, Nebraska. He is licensed in all areas and assists clients with life, annuities, and disability insurance.

Daniel is privileged to have many competent agents and employees on staff. They conduct a service oriented insurance office, and strive to create a friendly workplace environment for all Diversified Insurance clients. As products get more complex, it has been necessary to have each agent specialize and concentrate on specific insurance products.

Marcia Gubbels was the first employee of Diversified Insurance, joining in 1982 as a full-time employee. She continues today as office manager, payroll clerk, and works as an agent overseeing Major Medical and Medicare Part D coverages.

Phyllis Tunink, who retired in May of 2006, was an essential employee at Diversified Insurance for many years, assisting in many office management details. Phyllis worked at the original Bell Telephone building in the 1950's and returned many years later to work in the same building, only this time it was an insurance office – her son's insurance office!

Lorraine Pinkelman, employed since 1990, and Marla Gubbels, since 2003, center on sales and service of Federal Crop and Hail Insurance. Lorraine also helps with farm and auto coverages, and Marla works with compliance and licensing. Both ladies work part-time at Diversified Insurance and are also involved in their respective family farms, which prompts their natural interest in government programs and insurance products that are available for agriculture operations.

A new employee in 2009, Frances Denison works part-time at Diversified Insurance performing receptionist duties and working on various projects. There are times when additional errands arise, and that's when Brian Tunink faithfully comes to the aid of the staff, doing whatever tasks are at hand.

In the 30-plus years that Diversified Insurance has been in operation, there have been vast changes in the insurance industry. Paperwork has increased tremendously, which would be overwhelming if not for computers, enabling the staff to apply, service, and make changes to policies online. Many continuing education requirements are completed over the internet as well as sales meetings conducted by companies through "webinars" instead of traveling to seminars.

Technology has also changed the workplace over a short period of time. The first computer at Diversified

Insurance had extremely limited capabilities and cost four times the computer systems of today. Today, the business has four networked computers, a high tech copier/scanner/fax machine, and digital cameras to help keep the workload manageable.

As an independent agent, Diversified Insurance represents many companies, which is an added benefit to clients – it enables the office to search for the best products available to cover the clients' insurance needs.

Edward Huwaldt Auction Service

In 1983, Ed Huwaldt of Randolph attended Missouri Auction School in Kansas City, Missouri. Since then Ed and his wife, Marsha, have operated Edward Huwaldt Auction Service.

In the beginning, a shoulder strap battery operated PA system was used. Auctioneering and clerking was done standing atop flatbeds. Clerking was done with individual tickets hand-written for each item and cashing was manually totaled.

In the early 1990's an auction topper was purchased which enabled the auctioneer and clerk to see the auction crowd more clearly and included an improved speaker system for outdoor auctions.



Ed Huwaldt working an Auction

In 2002 a wireless sound system was purchased, which included an amplifier, speakers on tripods and wireless microphone. This greatly improved the sound system for indoor auctions.

In 2003, Ed Huwaldt Auction Service started using the internet to expand their advertising opportunities. A website was created, www.edhuwaldt.com, to post upcoming auction sale bills and pictures of items up for auction.

In 2006, an updated auction topper was purchased. In 2008, a wireless computerized auction clerking system was added. This enables the clerk to automatically transmit selling information to the cashier with laptop computers and a wireless modem. The successful bidders at the auction now receive a computerized printout of their purchases instead of a pile of individual tickets.

We have strived through the years to update our auction business as needs arise. We would like to thank our

customers for their past patronage and look forward to serving them in their auction needs for many years!

Ed & Marsha Huwaldt

First State Bank

The Randolph State Bank was established in 1887 by C.S. Whitman. It was acquired by the Farmers Loan and Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa with James F. Toy having controlling interest. The brick and stone building was built in 1890 on the corner of Broadway and Douglas Streets and it was the office of the bank until 1967 when the present bank was built.

Early officers and directors were: James F. Toy, F.G. Hoffman, Fritz Fritzson, William Milchrist, Edward DeLand, and G.N. Sweetzer. In 1904, the charter was changed to a National Bank, and it became the First National Bank. Shareholders were: James F. Toy, W.H. Stageman, Mrs. A. Mackie, C.B. Willey, John Oliver, J.W. Stageman, J. W. Black, T. M. Taylor, Chas. H. Howell, Tilton Weber, Hans H. Poggensee, H.J. Smith and Math Thies.

F.S. Stegge joined the bank in 1905 and became cashier and managing officer. Under the management of Mr. Stegge, the bank survived the financial crisis of 1929, the great depression of the 1930's and the Bank Holiday declared by President Roosevelt in 1933. It was one of the few banks in the nation that did not require capital to fortify its strength. It had inspired confidence, even in those dire times of depression. It is on such foundation, one that has withstood all the financial depression in the past 124 years that the bank has grown.



First State Bank Lobby. Customers Fred Weber and Zachariah Bouhgn. Behind the counter: Earl Hoffman, F.S. Stegge, the next two are unidentified.

The bank was robbed in 1910, at 2:00 A.M., by three robbers who apprehended Town Marshall, Jim Carroll. He was relieved of his gun, gagged, bound, taken to the rear of the bank, and guarded by one of the robbers. The

other two broke into the blacksmith shop to obtain a sledgehammer, drill and tools to break into the bank. They locked Marshall Carroll in a closet in the bank. It required seven explosions of dynamite to open the vault and wreck the safe, \$10,000.00 in gold and currency were taken. The townspeople who heard the explosions mistook it for thunder. It is believed the robbers escaped by a team and carriage stolen earlier in the night 12 miles south of town. A posse gave chase at 5:00 a.m., when the crime was made known by the Marshall. Three men, answering the description of the robbers, were reported to have been seen in the Pierce area. They were never captured. The outlaws were believed to have been among some "umbrella fixers and chair wirers" who had been in town a few days earlier.

In 1935, the bank charter was again changed to a State Bank and it became the First State Bank. The controlling interest of James F. Toy was purchased by F.S. Stegge and the following progressive local stockholders: E.H. Sutherland, H.L. Peck, J.M. Liewer, M.P. Buol, Ralph Bacon, W. Minden McLean, Herman Broer, Ludwig Schomberg, Dr. G.E. Peters, T.J. Mahoney, P.H. Korth, Otilia Korth, S.J. Lageschulte, E.G. Walz, John Schrad, Eliz Schrad Peasinger, Tena Kruger, H.E. Korth, Catherine Strathman, L.J. Dendinger and Harold H. Sherwood.

F.S. Stegge was elected president, E.H. Sutherland, vice-president and Ralph Bacon, cashier. Other employees were Harold Moes and Frances (Stegge) Viergutz.

Vernon Viergutz, began employment in the bank in 1953. He was elected vice-president in 1958, and became president in 1960, after the death of F.S. Stegge, who had served the community of Randolph for 55 years in the banking business.

The white, brick building that the bank now occupies, was built in 1966. It is located on the exact site where Randolph's first bank was located in 1887. The first bank occupied offices in the basement of the Hotel Boughn which was designed and built by Zachariah Boughn, one of Randolph's earliest residents. Tom Boughn, great-grandson of Zachariah Boughn, was the architect who designed the new bank building.

In 2001 the bank purchased the VFW Hall, formerly Dr. Peter's office, and expanded the existing bank building to include the acquired VFW Hall. The building expansion was necessary to accommodate the substantial growth the bank realized over the past twenty-five years.

First State Bank has grown capital from \$32,500.00 and assets of \$512,330.00 in 1935 to present capital in excess of \$6,000,000.00 and assets nearing \$38,000,000.00.



2010 First State Bank- 102 E Broadway

Long time President Vernon Viergutz passed away on December 17, 1998 which lead to the promotion of Thomas Riedmiller to President until his retirement January 8, 2002. Mark Linville succeeded Thomas Riedmiller as President. In July of 2009, Executive Vice-President Neil Lackas retired from the bank after 48 years of service.

The present Board of Directors includes Susan (Viergutz) Kollars, Patricia (Viergutz) Verzani, Neil Lackas, Tom Riedmiller, Lance Carlson and Mark Linville.

Employees include Mark Linville, President; Donald Backer, Vice-President/Cashier; Sandra Owens, Vice-President; Sandra Burbach, Assistant Cashier/Compliance Officer; Marty Nordhues, Loan Officer; Theresa Lange and Marsha Huwaldt, Tellers; Vicki Bermel, Bookkeeper; Jeri Schmit, Executive Assistant and Jean Gerkins, Custodian. The present bank officers bring over 110 years of banking experience to the community.

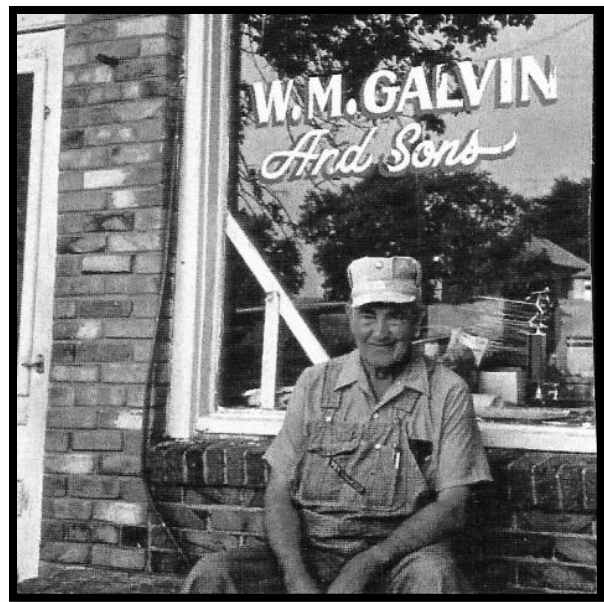
Galvin Implement



Cliff, Wm. Galvin, Scott Van Slyke, Nick Galvin

Galvin Implement was started by W.M. (Pat) Galvin in McLean, Nebraska, in 1911, at which time he had both John Deere and the International Harvester Agencies. He gave up the John Deer line later and decided to stay with the International Harvester Company.

In April of 1940, Pat Galvin purchased the dealership in Randolph from Mr. Phillips, who had purchased the line from Mr. Mathews. Prior to Mathews, Bill Dominisse



Cliff Galvin

was the dealer. Pat was active in the business until his death in January 1961.

The business was carried on by his two sons, Cliff and Don, until 1965 when Don moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado leaving Cliff to manage the firm.

Cliff purchased the firm after the death of his mother, from his brother Don and sister Ruth (Mrs. Paul Smith). He continued in business for 48 years.

In 1987, Cliff decided it was time for him to retire, so he placed an ad in the Randolph Times that the store was for sale. Ten days later, 90 farmers had purchased shares to form a corporation of which Vincent Schmit was elected chairman of the board of directors. Alan Ekberg was hired as manager of the shop. When Mr. Schmit's term was over, Keith Huwaldt became chairman of the board of directors and Don Andrew was hired as manager. When Mr. Huwaldt's term of office ended the business was sold to Les Lorenz. He ran it for a short while and as of now the store is closed.

Former employees were: Ernest Cissney, Al Curtis, Scott Van Slyke, Nick Galvin, Joe McDonald, John Volk, Phil Monhan, Tod Voss, Donald Andrew and Floyd Wichman.



Generations Photography



Generations Photography- 107 W Broadway

Unlike many of the businesses here in Randolph, Generations Photography By Crystal is fairly new to the town and community. Associate of Arts Degree with an emphasis in journalism, Crystal enjoyed photography the most and decided to put it to use when Sara Buntrock was selling her business in Yankton, South Dakota.

The establishment of Generations Photography by Crystal in Randolph actually relocated from Yankton, South Dakota. Crystal drove to Yankton from Randolph everyday from August 1999 until January 2003. The birth of Mark and Crystal's son, Tyson, caused the relocation of Generations Photography.

Generations Photography moved to Randolph as a storefront in February 2003. Crystal moved into the building owned by Bob and Sandra Kint located directly west of Jim's Food Center. The business boomed with clients from Randolph and many surrounding communities. As a growing business, however, Generations Photography found itself looking for a larger location than its rental space. In October 2005, Crystal purchased the building which was previously occupied by In Bloom, a floral shop.

Prior to In Bloom Floral, a dance studio and Cornerstone Accents occupied the building. However, the most commonly known business located in the establishment was The Randolph Pharmacy, and previous to that Hartz Pharmacy.

A major move from a town 40 miles away was pretty much a new start for Crystal. She has never hired any employees in Yankton or Randolph, with the exception of Dot Thelen and Kristy Bermel assisting her with weddings. While in Yankton, her mom, Linda Wuebben, also assisted her with weddings.

The professional photography industry has seen many changes through the years. Of which, Crystal has undertaken many. One major change was the transition from film to digital photography. Not only have cameras changed to adjust to the industry, but also the ordering process for proofs and portrait orders.

Previously a roll of film was sent to the professional lab and returned as proofs and negatives. Proofs are those pictures that clients choose from to order. To make an order, the negative was cut and placed on a card to be printed and then sent back to the professional lab by UPS or USPS. The order was then sent back to the studio by the same transportation.

Using digital photography, images are edited on a computer and the ones chosen by the photographer are cropped and printed using programs on the computer and with a couple clicks of the mouse, an order is sent to the professional lab and received by the lab within minutes. This eliminated the physical transportation to the lab, which used to take two days.

Generations Photography is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday and evenings by appointment. Crystal photographs families, high school seniors, children, individuals, couples, pets and weddings. She enjoys working with Randolph as well as the other communities who support her business.

The photography world has changed and professional photographers have adjusted or are adjusting to the many changes. As with all industries, change is necessary to survive. Generations Photography hopes to survive for many years!

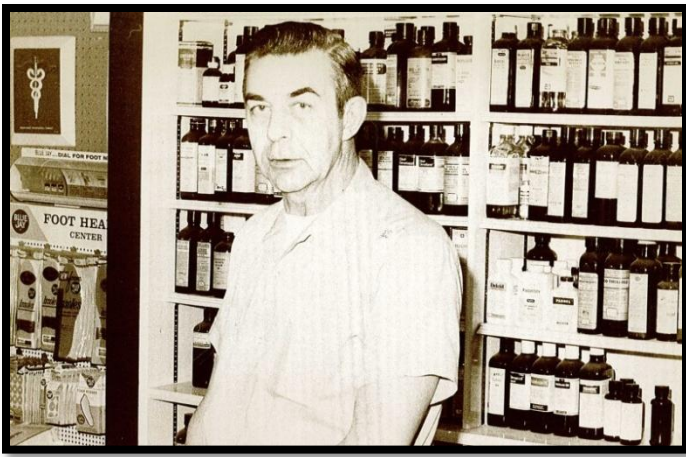
Hartz Pharmacy

In the early 1920's John Bowles operated a confectionery store at the location on the southeast corner of Main and Broadway in Randolph, Nebraska. All the goodies of candy, ice cream, sundaes, sodas, banana splits and malted milks and shakes could be purchased there. They also carried popcorn and fresh roasted peanuts.

Marvin M. Bowles, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Boles, completed his pharmacy course at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Bowles Drug Store was then added to the confectionery store. In 1928, the Bowles family purchased the building located at 107 West Broadway in Randolph and moved their business to that location.

In July of 1949, the Bowles Drug Store was sold to Vincent Hartz, who had also graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy. The name was then changed to Hartz Pharmacy.

At the time, Vincent purchased the business, it did not include the building. Mr. Bowles retained possession of the building because his mother had an apartment upstairs. She passed away in 1954 and the building was sold to Vincent. He began to remodel the pharmacy to make it more modern. Some of the major projects accomplished were to paint walls and ceiling, refinish the



Vincent Hartz

wooden wall cases and later to install and lower the ceiling. Also he changed the lights from a few drop cord ceiling lights to long fluorescent lights. An asphalt tile floor was laid over the old wooden floor. The final and big change was to install a new pharmacy department and self-service units for the sundries. Several years later, Vincent had a new front put in, including windows, door and carpeting of the front entrance and gift areas.

When Vincent bought the store, it had a fountain, booths and a bar. It also had an ice cream freezer. A double dip ice cream cone sold for a nickel. He also inherited a popcorn popper and on Saturday nights the popcorn was a popular item.

Saturday night in a small town was a big event for many years. Hartz's store would be so crowded with shoppers that one could hardly move around. The stores never closed until midnight or later. However, when television became a must in most homes, the people stayed home to watch it and Saturday nights were no longer busy. Vincent had the fountain and freezer removed so there would be more room for magazines, candy, men's toiletries and a photo department.

One of the most exciting and nerve wracking experiences was on Sunday, May 3, 1959 when the grocery store next door to the pharmacy and the theater started on fire. The fire wall between the drug store and the building next door saved the drug store. The wall was so hot it scorched rolls of wallpaper that were stored against it. The smoke was so heavy inside, you could not see. The store had to be cleaned and repainted. The other buildings were destroyed inside and heavily damaged on the outside.

At the time Vincent purchased the store, Mr. Bowles did not have any use for the old bottles and boxes. He left them for the new owners. When Vincent retired in 1990, he still had all the bottles, boxes and other articles.

Rich Hartz, son of Vincent, approached the members of Camp Creek Threshers at Waverly, Nebraska and said if a building was built, Rich would like to display the contents of his Dad's store. Through a joint effort of the club and family a building was erected. It houses the country store

and a drug store. This display uses the furnishings and drug supplies from the original Hartz Drug Store. *Claudia Hartz*

Huwaldts Herfords

Huwaldts Herefords is a family operation which started over 125 years ago raising purebred Hereford cattle. The farm now managed by Ed and Marsha Huwaldt, together with their daughters, is located one mile from the original homestead in the year 1879.

Ed's great-grandfather, August, brought Hereford cattle with him as he made his way to Northeast Nebraska from Germany in 1870. His son, Fern, continued raising and selling Hereford Breeding Stock until his death in 1966. In the mid 1960's, the third generation, Keith and his wife, Virginia, purchased their first polled bull. By the early 1970's the herd was totally polled. Keith and Virginia remain very active in the operation of the farm, although they are "retired". Keith and Virginia have both been on the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Polled Hereford Association and Nebraska Pollettes.

The cow herd currently consists of 125 head. Each year about 15 replacement heifers are kept. The balance of the heifer calves are sold to commercial breeders. Fifteen bull calves are kept to sell as yearlings at private treaty.



Ed Huwaldt Family with Keith and Virginia Huwaldt on left

Ed and Marsha, who make up the fourth generation, are both currently serving as vice-president on the Nebraska Hereford Association and Nebraska Pollette Board of Directors, respectively. They started using AI sires to expand the breeding of bloodlines. Cattle registrations and herd reporting of calving dates, weights, and transfers are done via the internet with the National Hereford Association in Kansas City, MO.

The Huwaldt girls, Mandy, Tracy and Angie, the fifth generation, have grown up showing Polled Hereford cattle across the state at many 4-H and Junior shows. Mandy and Angie have been on the Nebraska Hereford Junior Board of Directors, with Angie currently serving as

secretary. Tracy was a State Princess and Angie was the State Hereford Queen. They have won many awards through the years. Most recently, Angie exhibited the 2009 Nebraska State Fair FFA Hereford Champion Female.

In September 2008, they hosted a tour stop during the Nebraska Hereford Association Tour in Northeast Nebraska. The picture accompanying this article was taken of the family during the tour. Guests are welcome to stop by the farm anytime, and they would be happy to show you their cattle! *Ed & Marsha Huwaldt*

Huwaldt Trucking Inc.



1947 Truck

Keith Huwaldt purchased his first truck, a used 1940 Chevrolet, 14 foot box straight truck in May, 1946. The fall of 1947 he bought a new 1947 Chevrolet two-ton straight truck, which was used for hauling livestock and grain. A gravel box was put on the 1940 Chevrolet to haul gravel for farm yards, driveways and cement work.



First Trailer

Keith bought his first semi-trailer in 1949. This was a 26 foot open top trailer; the next trailer was a 28 foot with a roof. In 1950, he purchased Bud Dunn's truck operating authority for hauling manufactured commodities, machinery, household goods, etc. This started a trend of trailer purchases that each time became a little longer in length.

Keith purchased his first triple axle tractor, a gas burner with sleeper bunk, in 1967, which made trips to

California, Oregon, Chicago stockyards, Chaska, Minnesota, and many other places. At this time his wife, Virginia, drove as a relief driver. The six children at one time or another were taken along on these trips, thus grew up seeing much of the United States through a windshield and drove the rigs once they were of age.

Keith added to the fleet, the first diesel cab over tractor with sleeper bunk and air-conditioning in 1971 for a price of \$24,000. Through the years he had several makes of diesels.

In 1967, M. A. Gedney Company came to Nebraska to contract with local growers of cucumbers. Huwaldt Trucking was hired to haul their fresh cucumbers to Chaska, Minnesota, a job they had for over 20 years.

In 1975, the truck business was incorporated as a family corporation, known as Huwaldt Trucking Inc.

In 1986, the corporation consisted of four pots, four tractors, three grain trailers (two convertible to flat trailers), a 40 foot floor trailer and two 20 foot straight trucks.

After a serious truck accident in 1986, it was decided by the family to downsize the business. Being semi-retired, Keith now operates the single tractor-trailer rig and hauls grain from local farmers and elevators to various grain dealers.

Keith's son, Don, operates a livestock hauling business known as Don Huwaldt Trucking out of Osmond. Three of Keith's grandsons, Brad Huwaldt of Osmond, Mark Huwaldt of Pierce and Dean Wattier of Wausa, also own and operate truck businesses. Trucking is a family affair with the Huwaldt Family.



Huwaldt Trucking, Inc

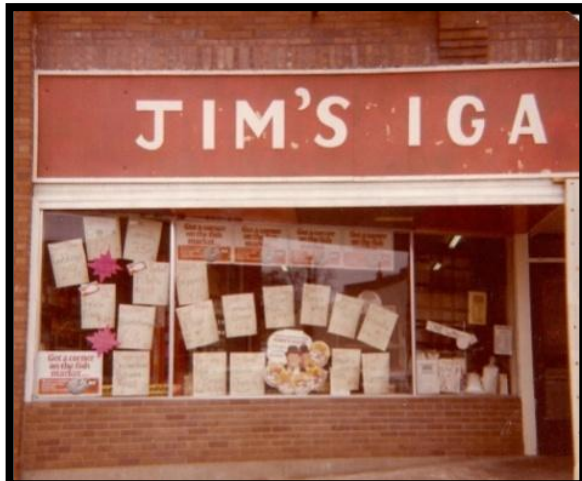
Janssen Construction

In the fall of 1992, Larry and Jane Janssen bought into a partnership with Roger Frahm in a construction business, located in Carroll, Nebraska. In the fall of 2000, the Janssens dissolved the partnership and started their own business under the name of Janssen Construction, Inc. The business consists of land sight clearing, terraces, building dams, livestock lagoons, landscaping, basement excavation and land leveling of many different types. The Randolph community has been supportive to the business, as have the surrounding communities. Larry

and Jane have enjoyed the people they have met while doing business with them.

Jim's Food Center

In writing the history of Jim's Food Center, 105 E Broadway, one goes back to December of 1938 when Herbert T. Sauser began working for the grocery business of Council Oak. This business was located at 108 S Main at the time and was open every day but Sunday, and was also open on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Alvin Bruce of Tekamah, Nebraska, was manager and L.A. Becker and Herb worked there in addition to two carry-out boys, Dale Hughs and Tilton Weber.



1970's Jim's IGA- 109 W Broadway

Sometimes, Saturday's work wasn't done until 4 a.m. or later on Sunday. Customers would buy their groceries; let them sit; go to the bars and pick their groceries up when they got ready to go home.

As the years went by, Herb was transferred to other stores, but returned to Randolph in 1943. The Council Oak business had moved to 105 E Broadway, formerly McLean's Cash Department Store. The name was changed through the years to: National Foods, Inc.; R-Way; Piggly Wiggly; and upon the purchase of the business by Jim and Sharon Riedel in 1977, it was given its present name, "Jim's Food Center." Jim and Sharon Riedel, having done business at 109 W Broadway as Jim's IGA for four years, saw an opportunity to expand. So they purchased the Piggly Wiggly Store and became an Affiliated Foods Cooperative member.

Bill and Jami (Riedel) Fye II purchased the business in 1998, when it was the only grocery store left in Randolph. Bill had gained experience in the grocery business in Iowa when he was 16 years old. He worked in a grocery store as a stocker, carry-out, and learned the business. Later he transferred to Norfolk. Jami had worked with her parents in the business while growing up in Randolph. In 1993, Bill and Jami purchased a grocery store in Battle Creek, Nebraska. In 1998, they moved to Randolph to make it their home. In this Q125 year of 2011, they still own and operate the business as Jim's Food Center and continue as an Affiliated Foods Midwest member.



2010 Jim's Food Center- 105 E Broadway

Johnson Funeral Home

December, 1965, Roger E. Johnson was the new owner of O'Neill Funeral Home & Clothing, Randolph, Nebraska. The new venture was called the Johnson Funeral Home & Clothing Company. Roger Johnson is a native of Tilden, Nebraska and was associated with the Ericson's-Hult Funeral Home of Wahoo, Nebraska for five and one-half years. Mr. Johnson, a graduate of Tilden High School, attended Midland College, Fremont, Nebraska, Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska and Worsham College of Mortuary Science, Chicago, Illinois. He qualified for a Nebraska Funeral Director's and Embalmer's License after serving a one year apprenticeship at the Higby Mortuary, Aurora, Nebraska.

The funeral business in Randolph began with the Brenner family who for 42 years operated the business after its founding by Lee Brenner. Mr. Brenner was the first licensed embalmer and opened for business in Randolph in 1906. In 1914, M.P. Buol and Mr. Brenner entered partnership and operated the business until 1917,



Roger Johnson in the 1986 Centennial Parade

when Mr. Brenner and Alfred Nelson entered partnership, continuing until 1929. During this partnership, the new brick funeral home building was planned and built on a lot purchased from Henry Peck, the editor of the Randolph Times. Mr. Brenner continued in business until he sold

the firm to Robert and Phyllis Secord, his daughter and son-in-law, in 1938. The Secords had been associated with the firm since 1936 when they returned from the Hohenschuh-Carpenter School of Embalming, St. Louis, Missouri. Bert Berge, a licensed funeral director and embalmer, and his wife, Hazel, moved to Randolph in 1945 as an associate of an insurance company. In 1946, they became associated with the Secord Funeral Home.

In 1948, William Steckelberg of Omaha, Nebraska, formerly of Stanton, Nebraska, took possession of the mortuary, operating it along with a furniture business until ill health forced him to hire a manager, Mr. Bert Berge, February, 1956. Bert operated the Funeral Home for Mr. Steckelberg until March, 1958, when he purchased it, calling the business Berge Funeral Home.

In 1955, Ray C. O'Neill purchased the old newspaper building next to the Steckelberg Funeral Home from N. Moran and remodeled it, opening for business October, 1955 as O'Neill Funeral Home. Randolph now had two funeral businesses.

January 3, 1961, Bert and Hazel Berge sold their funeral business to Ray and Gloria O'Neill, the new business to be housed in the Berge Funeral Home building. During the years from 1961 until 1971, funeral homes from Norfolk opened branch chapels in the Kelch residence. Being unsuccessful ventures, they eventually closed. The present funeral chapel was planned and built and the original brick funeral home remodeled and incorporated on the site of the newspaper building where Ray O'Neill originally started in business. The lot was purchased from F. C. Meyer and the new building was built by Don Bach Construction, Randolph, Nebraska.

The Johnson Funeral Home has served Randolph, Belden, Magnet and McLean communities for the past 45 years, with Norfolk being added in 1973, when the Johnson-Stonacek Funeral Chapel opened for business. Kathleen Johnson is now associated with the Johnson Funeral Home, Randolph and her facility, the Spear-Johnson Funeral Home, Scribner, Nebraska, as a licensed funeral director and embalmer.

Bradly T. Johnson completed his education in Portland, Oregon and his apprenticeship at Superior, Nebraska. He began his licensed employment at Johnson-Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk, Nebraska and Johnson Funeral Home in Randolph, Nebraska.

Roger retired Oct 1, 1997 after 32 years in business. Brad operated the Funeral Home until 2000, when he purchased the business from his parents. Brad now operates the Johnson Funeral Home of Randolph and the Schultz-Vogel-Johnson Funeral Home, Stanton, Nebraska serving Northeast Nebraska.

Karla's Kurls

Karla's Kurls was first started in August of 1986, after Karla Korth had been working with Deb Casey at "Hair Designs" on the west side of the Randolph Ballroom. Karla was at that location for two years.

In October of 1988, Karla opened up a new place of business and is still at this location: 113 N. Main. Karla has enjoyed the years of business with many friends, customers and family. *Karla Korth*

K-W Grain Company



1980's K-W Grain Elevator- 223 E Broadway

K-W Grain Company served area farmers for 29 years after David Winkelbauer, along with his business partner, Ed Kessler, took ownership in 1963. The elevator itself was a landmark of the Randolph skyline for over 80 years.

The Peavey Elevator Company was built by Frank H. Peavey near the turn of the century. Where railroad tracks once carried cars right up to the doors of the elevator, grain bins now stand along Broadway Street in Randolph. The original elevator Mr. Peavey built in the early 1900's was torn down in 1988 after at least 80 years of use and nine different owners.

After a time, Mr. Peavey sold the elevator to Sherman Saunders and John Westrand, who were believed to be relatives of his. Ownership next passed to Henry Peterson. No record of a change in the name of the elevator is recorded.

In 1920, J.L. Dennis bought the elevator from Mr. Peterson and it became the Dennis Elevator, which it remained for over forty years. In 1943, J.L. sold the elevator to his brother J.N., who in turn sold it to his son, Gordon, in 1951. Gordon owned it for 12 years. It was then, in 1963 that David Winkelbauer, along with Ed Kessler, bought the elevator and renamed it K-W Grain Company, with David later buying out Ed's half of the ownership.

David took the elevator through a number of improvements in the 1970's and 1980's. In 1971, the old scale was replaced and a dryer was purchased which was replaced in 1976 by a newer and bigger one. In 1974, the old office was remodeled and a feed shed was built near the quonset.

Between 1976 and 1980 five bins were erected west of the elevator, with one more being added in 1982. The busiest year was 1976 when three bins were put up in one

summer. A grinder was later added after the elevator was torn down in 1988.

David annually held an open house, in conjunction with Supersweet Feeds, for all his customers. Through the years, he also sponsored baseball and fishing trips to Minnesota for his customers.

Long-time employees at the elevator were - David's son Jerry, Marley Kruse (1964-1971) and Marty Nordhues (1986-1992). David retired in 1986 when his son Jerry took over operation of the company. Jerry ran the elevator until 1992 when it was sold to Allen Burbach and renamed Tri County Grain. This brought to a close the history of K-W Grain Company.

Learn and Play Pre-School

Learn and Play Pre-School had its first class in the fall of 2005. It held classes at Tina Nordhues' Daycare and was taught by Joyce Fink. In 2006, it moved to Joyce Fink's home where she is the director and teacher. She teaches a 3-year old class once a week and a Pre-Kindergarten class twice a week. *Joyce Fink*

Leiting Auto Supply



Leiting Auto Supply- 109 W Broadway

Leiting Auto Supply, formerly known as Kessler Auto Supply was established in 1979 by Edwin Kessler. In 1986, Paul and Peggy Leiting purchased this business from him and named it Leiting Auto Supply. The business is located at 109 W. Broadway, which was the location of several grocery stores prior to the auto supply.

At the time the Leiting's purchased the business, they were not affiliated with any franchise. Their first affiliation was with Auto Value in the early nineties. In 1996, the Auto Value warehouse sold to Carquest Auto Parts. It was at this time that they became associated with this auto parts chain.

Over the years with the growth of the business, the Leiting's found that they needed more space. In 2002 they purchased the building west of Leiting Auto Supply, located at 111 W. Broadway. This building once housed

the movie theater, and was converted to be used as a seed warehouse and mechanic business. They spent the next couple of years remodeling the building for its current use as an office, warehouse and shop. They held an open house in 2005.

Over the years, technology they used has changed dramatically. The first inventory tracking device was a card catalog, which consisted of a card for every part number that they had. In 1994, a fax machine was given to Leiting Auto Supply by their warehouse. They no longer had to hire someone to come in early to take orders by phone. Their first computer was purchased in 1997 to take the place of the fax machine and the card file. This computer was used for invoicing. The newest computer system that was purchased in 2007 gives them the ability to order from multiple warehouses and manufacturers. This system has given staff the ability to email invoices and statements.

Throughout the last 25 years, automotive technology has changed dramatically. It has gone from the deletion of point ignition systems, to electronic ignition, to computerized ignition and fuel injection and now to the hybrid car. What will the next 25 years bring? *Paul & Peggy Leiting*

Leon's Body Shop



Leon's Body Shop- 602 N Bridge

Leon Kuhlman graduated from Creighton High School in 1961, after serving his duty in the United States Army. Leon graduated from Universal Trade School in Omaha for auto body in September of 1967. He then came to Randolph and worked for Gordon Taylor in his body shop. In the spring of 1968, Leon started his own body shop on the east edge of Randolph.

In 1970, Leon bought the acreage where the body shop currently stands. In the fall of 1979, Leon built his new shop and has been established at this place and continues to keep working.

Lewon's Taxidermy Studio

I began taxidermy as a hobby in 1973, while I was still in high school. After high school, I started doing taxidermy for some of my friends. Before long, it turned into a part-time business. At this time, I was doing the work in the basement of my home where I presently live. It got to a point where there was too much work to be done as a part-time job so in 1986, I took a big step and

began a full-time business. In 1987, I outgrew the basement of my house. Therefore, I purchased Mary Bierschenk's home (one house to the south of where I live) and turned it into a studio. My wife, Val, came on board with the business at this time, working part-time.

I entered some of my work into various competitions which gave my business more notoriety. This is what really kicked the business into high gear. Some of the competitions I competed in were in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Kansas and Pennsylvania. The competitions varied from state, national, world and international shows. I placed 3rd at the world show and won the Award of Excellence at the national level. At the various state shows, I won Best of Show and several 1st and 2nd place ribbons.



Lewon's Taxidermy- 108 W Kemp

The business continued to grow so Val began working full time in 1991. It wasn't long and we outgrew the little house. In 1992, we built the main part of the present studio. Once it was built, the old shop (the little house) was torn down. We added the store-room and garage on to the new studio in 1993. We thought we had so much room we didn't think we would use up all the space. It wasn't long and we had several mounts on display to fill it up.

Our son, Kevin, began working for us part-time in 1999, while in high school. After college in 2003, he started full time.

We have clients from all over and many of them hunt in several other countries. Therefore, we get to work on a lot of interesting animals and hear many interesting hunting and fishing stories. Our business has continued to grow more every year, keeping us very busy. We have been truly blessed.

Main Street Flowers

Main Street Flowers resides on the corner of Broadway and Main in downtown Randolph, in a beautiful old red brick building that is known as the Buol-Hill Block. This site has been a flower shop since 1989, when Jackie Backer rented the site and purchased the Petal Plus

business from Barb Hanna. She remained in business until 1991, when she sold the business to Deb Mickelson.

In 1996, Darlene Dowling purchased the business and changed the name to Main Street Flowers. Throughout these years, the building itself had shared ownership between the Randolph Senior Center and Roger Buchanan. After 10 years of successful business, Darlene sold the Main Street Flower business to Carmen and Rod Patent in 2006.

The sale of the business was timely in that the building site was also available for purchase from the Roger Buchanan Estate. The building has a wonderful history in the community and in time, the goal is to have it designated as a National Historical site. Restoration of the second story would provide many new opportunities in the community for entrepreneurs and other small businesses, much as it has throughout its history.



Main Street Flowers- 102 W Broadway

Main Street Flowers continues to serve the community and the surrounding area with beautiful fresh flowers. Carmen has expanded the flower shop in both the permanent botanicals (silks and drieds) as well as specialty and home décor gifts to provide more opportunities for customers to "shop at home".

Miller's Grocery

When Howard Dominisse and his father, William Dominisse, Sr. closed down their grocery store, the Clover Farm Store, during World War II, the building remained empty for only a short time. One of their employees, Joseph Miller, who was a brother-in-law of William Dominisse, started to feature a few bushel baskets of apples and some other items, gradually increasing his inventory until he had a full-scale grocery store and produce station in operation.

When Art Bermel started to work for Joe on Saturday afternoons during his junior and senior years in high school, his first job was as a "flunky", carrying in the cream and eggs when customers drove up in front of the store. Later, when they were ready to go home, Art would carry their groceries out to their cars.

At that time, there were four grocery stores in Randolph: Council Oak (National Foods), Herb Sauser was the manager; Wattier's Grocery, first owned by Carl Wattier and then later by his brother, Paul; Barker's Grocery; and Miller's Grocery. Work days began at or before 8 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m.; except on Saturdays! Saturdays were the big shopping day of the week, when stores remained open until midnight or even later.

Customers would come in with their grocery lists and the clerk would help them fill their order then a

On Sunday mornings, Joe would open his store and sell families items they had forgotten or needed for their Sunday meals. The store was heated with a rather large coal fired stove and on hot summer days it was somewhat cooled by a large oscillating fan. There was a bench near the front of the store, where ladies could rest on Saturday nights waiting for their husbands to get out of Yunker's Bar or Kelsch's Bar. There was always a rush of business when the second movie closed at about 10:30 p.m. on Saturday nights.



Eileen Bermel, Art Bermel, Rose Edna Olberding

handwritten receipt listing the items purchased and their costs were presented to the customer. Joe's business was mostly cash and carry, although he did deliver groceries throughout Randolph twice a day and extended some credit. Mostly people were honest and reliable about paying their bills, but there were some abuses. Art can recall one prominent family who had over \$800 on the books. They would pay a little every month and then charge more than what was paid the next month, always slipping a little bit farther and farther in arrears.

During the four years Art worked at Miller's Grocery, wages started at \$30 per week and when he left to go to the Army, he was getting \$45 per week. Delicious and Jonathon apples were 11 cents a pound to 15 cents per pound; bananas were 9 cents to 11 cents per pound; candy bars were 5 cents each or three for 10 cents; ten pounds of Irish Cobbler or Red Pontiac potatoes were from 29 cents to 39 cents per bag and a carton of cigarettes were \$1.97.

Joe was not a harsh taskmaster and mostly left the clerks free to keep themselves occupied. Art was aware of several instances when Joe helped down-and-out families with their groceries. Joe worked hard and when the grocery business slacked off in mid-day, he would work on clocks. Joe was also the "go to" man when somebody needed their safe opened.

When Art started working for Joe, sugar was still rationed. Art remembers one family needed sugar but had "forgotten" their sugar coupons and promised to turn them in next week. Joe reminded them repeatedly, as Joe had to have those coupons in order to get sugar from his wholesaler. Finally the family stopped trading at Miller's.

During the terrible winter of 1948 and 1949, Joe would open up his store on Sunday afternoons or late in the evening, whenever a farmer was able to break through the drifts and get to town. Farmers would stock up on flour and sugar, chicken feed, coffee, sugar and canned goods, not knowing when they would get back to town again.

When Art returned from the Army in 1953, it was readily apparent that Joe's business had fallen off drastically. Customers demanded new innovations like frozen foods, prepackaged meals and more modern technologies like UPC code checkout. Things that Joe's limited space and old-time upbringing couldn't or wouldn't accommodate. Finally, the terrible fire on May 3, 1959 completely wiped out the store. It is unknown how Joe fared with his charge accounts as they too, all went up in smoke.

Some employees that worked at Miller's Grocery, in addition to Art Bermel were: Charlie Craven, Arlene Dittman, Lillian Johnson Haisch, Joan Bermel Kenny, Eileen Bermel Leise, Rose Edna Olberding Rohde and Janet Prawit.

The location that once was Miller's Grocery is now occupied by Leiting Auto Supply. Joseph Miller died September 30, 1979 and rests in St. Frances Cemetery, Randolph. He was a gentleman who was a "gentle man".

Art Bermel

Nancy's Beauty Salon

Nancy's Beauty Salon opened in March of 1964 by Nancy (Pehrson) Reineke. The salon was located in the building south of the auditorium in Randolph. The business offered perms, colors, highlights, shampoo/sets and haircuts.

In 1967, Sam and Nancy built a home at 208 S Main Street and the salon was relocated to that address. During

the years, other beauty operators have also worked in the salon with Nancy. The Salon celebrated 45 years in business in March 2009. *Nancy Reineke*

Paul's Welding



Louie and Frieda Broer handing the hammer over to Paul Loberg

On September 1, 1979 the "hammer was passed" from Louie Broer to Paul Loberg. Paul's Welding has been the name of the business for the last 30 years. Paul provides Randolph and the surrounding communities with welding and repair work of all kinds, especially farm equipment. He also sells hunting supplies at the shop, including archery and gun equipment.

Many changes over the years have caused Paul to work mostly on planting, spraying, and harvesting equipment. Technology has made work faster and more efficient. Paul maintains a one man business, along with a part time secretary.

Paul worked at the Broer location for 12 years and then had a new building erected on Hughson Street where it still remains. This larger building makes it easier to drive equipment inside to be worked on. Paul also enjoys all types of hunting, motorcycle riding and his family.

He is a past school board member and church council member at St. John's Lutheran Church, teaches Hunter Ed classes, is a fireman, a First Responder and belongs to many hunting and welding organizations.

He and his wife, Julie, were married in September of 1980 and have two children. Emily teaches in Wayne and is married to Nate Sims. Ben works at a bank in Sioux City, Iowa after having graduated from Morningside College.



Randolph Creamery

On December 20, 1939 the Randolph Creamery came into being. Harold Sherwood was the owner and Everett "Bud" Burley was the manager. In the first year of operation they manufactured 60,000 pounds of Randolph butter. Bud Burley bought into the creamery the following year and became half owner. The creamery was located in the alley. The office, along with room for candling eggs, was on the north side of the alley, the building Bob Winkelbauer uses as storage in 2010. Along with making butter, they were cash buyers of cream and eggs and sold pasteurized milk and ice cream.

Evelyn Landberg was one of the employees. Her job was to pasteurize the milk but because of health reasons she had to quit. Vivian Rohde was the secretary and Bud Rohde and Barney Olberding were the butter makers. They were only a few of the employees at the Creamery.

In the mid 1950's the old ice house, was bought and with extensive re-modeling housed the new Randolph Creamery. With the office and plant all in one building, it made it more convenient. Bud Burley drove a truck to Chicago, Illinois to get a new butter churn. It was huge, but according to production, they needed a bigger churn. In 1951, they produced 950,000 pounds of butter. Cream was picked up in parts of South Dakota and Minnesota as well as Nebraska.

In 1957, Dwayne Van Auker returned to work for the creamery. He had worked there as a young man in the early 1940's before going into the service. His job was churning the butter. Around the late 1950's they started selling dried buttermilk to farmers to feed their hogs. Did that ever give the town a 'good' smell! The Burley girls used to get teased about that.



Vivian and Bud Rohde, Don DeBord, Barney Olberding, Bud Burley

In 1960, John Rohloff started working for the creamery. His job was testing the cream to see how much butterfat was in it. This was how the cream stations were paid for their cream.

In the mid 1960's the production of butter had climbed to nearly two million pounds of butter and they repeated that again in 1970.

In 1968, Bud Burley sold his half interest to Harold Sherwood and moved to West Point, Nebraska to join the creamery there.

Gladys Van Auker was the secretary for the creamery. In 1972, Harold sold the creamery to Orville "Bud" Carlson. In 1975, John Rohloff was buying into the creamery but on September 9, 1975, John died. Bud Carlson bought out John's wife's (Sherry) share and became the sole owner again.

In 1976 Bud Carlson sold the business to the creamery in West Point. They cleaned out the building and the building was sold to Pete Dittman and Merlin Toelle. They sold the building to Figgs and Tom Hanna who used the building as a warehouse for their honey business. Steve Shaffer later bought the building and currently uses it for storage. For 37 years the creamery employed several people from Randolph.

Because information is limited their names cannot be listed. *Sandra (Burley) Kuhlman*

Randolph Family Practice Medical Clinic

106 E. Wayne Street in Randolph is the location of the Randolph Family Practice Medical Clinic. The building was erected in 1958 by Dr. Henry J. Billerbeck who served the Randolph community as the sole physician from 1950 – 1988.

Physicians who have served the Randolph community and surrounding area since Dr. Billerbeck were: Doctors Glenn Ridder, 1988-1992, Neil Sheppard, 1994-1995 and Almuhammad Alfrhan, 1996- 2006. Nurse Practitioner, Mary Tuttle, 2006-2008.



Randolph Family Practice- 106 E Wayne

Dr. David Mwebe of Uganda is the present physician in Randolph. He came to Randolph in 2006 and is also the Chief of Staff at Osmond Hospital.

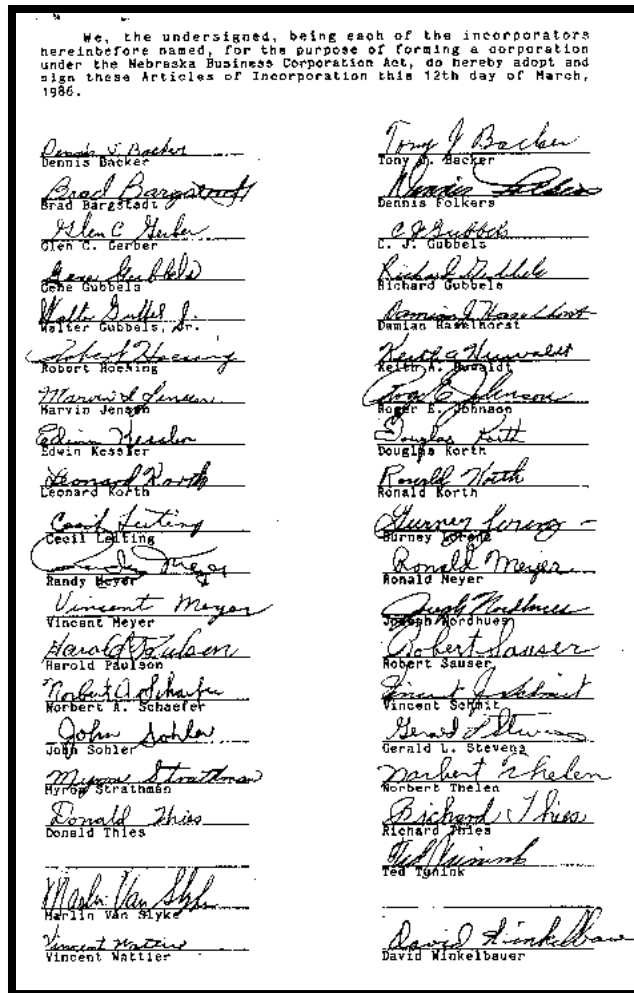
The clinic has been owned and operated by Osmond General Hospital since 1992. The clinic serves the medical needs of Randolph and the surrounding communities. The clinic works in conjunction with Osmond General Hospital to provide the best in medical care in a caring and professional manner.

Randolph Farm Supply Inc.

Thanks to the vision of several local growers and business men a new corporation was formed on March 12, 1986. This business was named Randolph Farm Supply

Inc. and basically replaced the Randolph Branch of the Tri-County Coop. It began with 38 original shareholders and the belief that a strong local business can survive. The original Board of Directors consisted of Cecil Leiting, C. J. Gubbels, Gurney Lorenz, Wally Gubbels, Marvin Jensen, Randy Meyer, and Roger Johnson. One of their first duties was to hire Brad Bargstadt as manger and Larry Heese as assistant manager. Brad is still with the company as it General Manager. Many more of the shareholders have served as directors over the years and have performed admirably.

The responsibility of Randolph Farm Supply was to provide sales and service of feed, seed, fertilizer, agriculture chemicals, LP Gas and refined fuels to their customer base.



First Shareholders of Randolph Farm Supply Inc

Several expansions and additions have been made over the years to greatly enhance the services Randolph Farm Supply can provide. In 1994, a new environmentally safe chemical and liquid fertilizer storage and load out facility was erected. In December of 2002, the purchase of the former Westside Service Station was finalized and named West Randolph Farm Supply. Several updates have been made at the station including the addition of credit card pumps, available 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

A new office area and feed storage facility was built in the summer of 2004. In 2009, a new 525,000 gallon liquid fertilizer storage tank was erected. Each and every year we serve over 500 people at our annual appreciation supper.

With some shares being retired and several being split and handed down to the next generation there are currently a total of 48 shareholders. Employees include 10 full time and as many as 7 part time employees, during certain times of the year. Current employees are Brad Bargstadt, Jeff Rohde, Arlyn Loberg, Brian Junck, Randy Graf, Danielle Graf, Paula Fuchs, Gene Pfanstiel Jr., Andy Thelen, Clint Clausen, Monty Granfield, Theon Merchant, and David Oelrich. From a first year sales volume of \$933,000.00 to a current sales volume of over 12.1 million dollars ,Randolph Farm Supply continues to grow and serve the local grower and feeder with plans to do so for many years to come.

Randolph Hatchery/Farm & Home Center



Farm and Home Center- 119 E Broadway

In 1952, Hank and Dorothy Walz came to Randolph and purchased the Randolph Hatchery from Hank's uncle, Frank Walz. Frank had started a hatchery in Battle Creek in partnership with Hank's dad, later moving to Randolph in 1929 to open his own business. The first hatchery was started in a tile building in the south part of town. Later, this was to be remodeled into three apartments, one of which was their first home here. In 1936, the hatchery was moved to a site on the corner of Broadway and Douglas, across from the old bank building. When they bought the business; it also included an egg and cream station and feed store. Saturday nights were busy with the farmers bringing in their cream and eggs and many Saturdays the store remained open until midnight.

In 1960, Dr. Bob Rodgers, a veterinarian, became a partner and the business was known as Randolph Hatchery Farm Service. In 1961, they started a pig hatchery west of town, with the sows confined in individual farrowing huts. Later, this was sold to Ray Buell. In 1965, the business moved to the building where Wattier's True Value is now located, which had been

occupied by the Kansas-Nebraska Gas Co., and the old hatchery building was torn down.

With the decline of the poultry business, Randolph Hatchery Farm Service became a True Value Hardware Store in 1968. In 1973, Dr. Rodgers left the partnership to move to Lincoln and work for the State of Nebraska. In 1981, they did a complete remodeling of the building, inside and out. With the addition completed, a line of variety goods was added along with the basic hardware. When Hank died in 1986, Dorothy managed the store until she sold it to Scott and Kim Wattier in 1991.

Dorothy Walz

Randolph Times

It didn't take long for the newly platted community of Randolph to get its first newspaper. The earliest printed reports indicate Randolph's first newspaper was first published on November 12, 1886, shortly after the sale of lots that officially established this southern Cedar County town and three years before Randolph was incorporated as a community on May 7, 1889.

The local newspaper and politics were closely tied to each other in those early days. At least four different publications were established here offering readers some diverse political leanings.

The first publisher of the Randolph Times, as far as can be determined, was E.F. Bennett, who held ownership until 1895 when James H. Riggs bought the newspaper.

The first 28 years of the Randolph Times was a tedious task for printers involved in preparing the weekly issue as cases of hand-set type were used in composing each issue. Printers hand-set each line of type manually with individual letters assembled into desired lines. In 1916 an automatic line-casting machine was installed that used hot metal for individual lines that were needed. The lines of metal were assembled into the pages that were placed on hand fed presses which printed each page of that week's publication. Once the paper was off the press the lead was smelted down so new lines of type could be cast.



Marvin Taylor, Publisher and Editor 1970-1987

From 1916 until October 20, 1971, the hot metal method was used by a variety of publishers of the Randolph Times. On October 20, 1971, a fire in the rear of the Randolph Times building caused considerable damage to both the building and equipment. Following the fire the Times was converted to the modern present-day method of off-set publication. The Randolph Times has only been printed in four locations over the years. The newspaper was shipped out and printed in Wayne from 1971-1987, when the newspaper began to be printed in Osmond. In 2009 the newspaper printing moved from Hartington to a new six-unit Goss Community web press at the Cedar County News print shop in Hartington.

In the period of time from its establishment until 1900 the Randolph Times had 10 publishers. Following James A. Riggs a partnership of W.S. Swenson and D.L. Crellin published the Times for about a year until 1897 when Albert Swenson took Mr. Crellin's position. Following the Swenson and Swenson partnership, L.N. LeValley, Cecil Boughn, and C.H. Harris were publishers until 1899 when Nellor and Crellin were involved in the publication for about a year-and-a-half.

The person who published the Times longer than any other arrived in Randolph on October 20, 1900, when H.L. Peck assumed ownership. Mr. Peck published the Times for nearly 39 years. On November 5, 1914, H.H. McCoy assumed ownership for about six months before Mr. Peck returned to be the publisher until November 2, 1939, when he fell into ill health and N.B. Moran purchased the Times. Moran, a Hartington native, had been employed at the Times for about five and one-half years before buying the newspaper. Stanly Norris purchased the Times from the Morans on October 5, 1950.



The Randolph Times- 121 W Broadway

Vance and Dolores Viergutz published the Times following the Norris', when they moved to Randolph, from Coleridge on January 7, 1960, until December of 1970.

Marvin and Gaylene Taylor took over publishing the Times at that time. The Taylors sold the newspaper to Duane and Mary Jane Weber of Osmond in 1987. The

Webers then sold the newspaper to Cedar County News publishers, Rob Dump and Peggy Year on October 1, 1996.

The Times has been the only newspaper published in Randolph since Mr. Peck purchased the Enterprise and consolidated it with the Times on December 1, 1914. Over the years the Times has been a winner of several awards in state-wide competition with other newspapers. Probably the most prestigious award bestowed on the Times occurred in 1964 when an Ak-Sar-Ben Community Service Award was earned by the newspaper when Vance and Dolores Viergutz were the publishers.

The Times has also had three publishers be elected by their peers to lead the state-wide association of Nebraska newspapers, the Nebraska Press Association. Vance Viergutz was elected as President of the Nebraska Press Association Advertising Service in 1969. Marvin Taylor followed in his footsteps in 1986 and Rob Dump guided the organization in 2006.

The building that presently houses the Times was constructed in 1953 when the newspaper was moved from a building that is now occupied by Johnson Funeral Home.

Rogers Law Office

The Rogers Law Office was founded by Joseph G. Rogers in the fall of 1930 after he had passed the Nebraska bar exam. He had graduated from the Iowa Law School that spring and was admitted to practice in Iowa as well. His first office was above the old Cornhusker Cafe in the back with Dr. Peter's office in the front.

In 1943 Joe bought the old Dr. Kerley office which had been occupied as "Kelsch's Bar". It is located on the North side of Broadway Street. The building was remodeled and the offices were moved there in 1944. This location also served as offices for Eugene Stewart and Leo O'Brian.

Joe was City Attorney for Randolph for over forty years and served in that capacity until his death in December of 1976.

Patrick G. Rogers joined his father in the practice of law in 1969 forming a partnership. Pat had graduated from the University of Nebraska that spring.

In 1970 the partners moved to the "Craven" building next door and completely gutted the office building. It was remodeled and a storage room and library were added to the back.

In the fall of 1970, Pat was elected Cedar County Attorney and he served in that capacity until January of 1977. At that time he resigned to devote full time to private practice. He was also appointed City Attorney for Randolph that month and continued in that position until he left the practice in 1995. He was admitted to practice before the U.S. Tax Court in 1981.

Both attorneys were members of the American Bar Association, the Nebraska Bar Association, the Eighth

Judicial Bar Association, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity and lifetime Fellows of the Nebraska Bar Foundation.

In August of 1995 Pat was sworn as county judge for the Sixth Judicial District and left the private practice of law. The Rogers Law Office was then taken over by Craig Monson, attorney from Laurel, Nebraska.

Rokahr Implement Company and Predecessors

Rokahr Implement Company has sold the Long Green Line and served this community for over 26 years.

However, the sale of John Deere equipment dates back much farther than that. The first authenticated knowledge of its sale in Randolph was by Theo. H. Lux. Lux and Coburn were in the implement business as far back as 1910, but the partnership was dissolved with Lux becoming sole owner.

In September of 1915, A. J. Langston purchased the store and stock from Theo. H. Lux and the business became known as A.J. Langston Implement Store, but that venture did not last long. In December, 1915, Mr. Lux bought back his business and it was in April of 1916, that he advertised the sale of John Deere equipment. It was also in 1916, that he advertised the DeLaval cream separator. During this particular year it seemed as though all the implement dealers were having a tough time financially. In September, 1916, Mr. Lux decided to retire, closing out his entire inventory. The other two implement dealers of Randolph, J.J. Vinckel and Taylor & Bruner purchased a large part of his stock.



On right is a 1959 730 diesel tractor that was sold to Ivan Gubbels.

On the left is a 1985 4450 MFWD.

Mitchell & Griesel began selling farm machinery in the Randolph community in February, 1917. In April, they advertised the John Deere products. In July, 1917, they dissolved their partnership, with G.M. Griesel taking over the business. Shortly, thereafter, he announced that he had engaged a good assistant. He continued living in Belden but had stores in both towns. In Randolph the business was known as the G.M. Griesel Implement Store.

Mr. T.J. Mahoney was an aggressive manager for Griesel from 1918 to 1924. In March, 1924, it was announced that Mahoney had purchased the implement

stock and business from his employer. From 1924 until the time of Mr. Mahoney's death in 1939, the firm was known as Mahoney Implement Company. After T.J.'s death, Mrs. Mahoney operated the business until January, 1940.

At that time, Robert J. Miller purchased the business and began his operation on January 17, 1940, in the same building as the two previous owners, the building now vacant on the northeast corner of Broadway and Douglas Streets. Mr. Miller made the announcement that Joe Schmit, the mechanic, would remain with the firm.

For six years the ownership remained the same, but on June 1, 1946, Tony Backer became the new owner. He made some changes by moving the business to the building now occupied by Ultimate Communications.

Mr. Backer operated the business until February of 1948, when he sold his stock and building to a Hartington farmer, Edward J. Burbach. Mr. Burbach took possession February 5, 1948, and made the announcement he and his family would soon be moving to the Randolph community.

After a crippling farm accident in 1954, Frederick and Beulah Rokahr of rural Orchard began looking for a suitable business and in late 1958, and early 1959, they seriously looked at different John Deere dealerships. After receiving John Deere Company's approval, it didn't take long. They had their farm sale on February 27, and immediately acquired the ownership of the building and business from Mr. Burbach. Fred took residence in the Cedar Motel and became the authorized and franchised dealer of the DeLaval and John Deere lines on March 1, 1959, Beulah, a teacher, and children, Everett and Linda did not leave the family farm to join Mr. Rokahr until the end of May, after their school terms ended.

Joe Schmitt, mechanic, and Harold Bartlett, parts man, remained with the firm. Bob Miller, bookkeeper, decided to retire.

In 1962, Mr. Rokahr sold the DeLaval dairy equipment line to Bill Armstrong of Norfolk. With times changing and equipment getting bigger, a larger facility was necessary; so in 1967, Fred purchased a tract of land from the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad Company. He had a larger more modern steel building constructed and moved his business in January, 1968, to where the City Office is now.

However, 1968, was not all good. Because of unfavorable weather conditions the agricultural economy became very depressed. As a result, Fred had to lay off three of his employees.

The business survived those trying days and then came those fabulous seventies. Farm economy spiraled and inflation seemed never ending. Self propelled machines, electronically controlled planting and harvesting and tractors with the comforts of home became common place. It seemed as though good times were here to stay. But, they were not. In 1980, there began an unnoticed gradual decline. The Rokahr's son-in-law, Mike Wells,

and daughter, Linda were looking at the optimistic side and hoping the agricultural prosperity would continue. They left their jobs as news director and dietician in Lincoln and joined the work force of Rokahr Implement on March 1, 1981. In spite of all the optimism, the decline was not stopped. The 80's proved to be just as depressing as the 70's were encouraging.

There had been many changes since 1959 – two cylinder “put-puts” to four, six and eight cylinder diesel tractors; planting equipment had grown from two to sixteen rows; harvesting had moved from two-row corn pickers and pull-type combines to self propelled machines with 20 ft. grain platforms and eight row heads for beans and corn; single row forage harvesters to three and four row self propelled; hay cutting had gone from mowers to self propelled windrowers; manual stack making and small bales to machine stacking and big round bales. Along with this had come larger farms and fewer farmers.

Through both good and bad years this business could not have survived if it were not for the faithful and hard working employees, many of whom were seasonal workers only. Harold Bartlett, a veteran of the parts department, guided Rokahr Implement through those first thirteen years. There were many local teenagers who joined the staff during the summer months but only one, Paul Reineke, found the work fascinating enough to stay. Paul, at age 16, began with janitorial and errand duties in 1963. After many John Deere service schools and unnumbered technical manuals, he remained at the helm as an accomplished mechanic until February 23, 1986. On that Sunday morning he was cutting off a tree limb at his home, when the limb broke, striking him in the back. The accident left him paralyzed from the waist down.

Fred and Beulah were devastated – not knowing what to do because of the great loss. Paul was one of their most capable and dedicated employees, having been with Rokahr Implement for 23 years. However, they did cope, in spite of the pitfalls. An instructor of mechanics at Northeast Community College came to help on a part time basis as well as two young farmers that had completed mechanic training.

With Fred's retirement time drawing near, many decisions were to be made. Rokahr planned his retirement knowing that it would be mandatory that he close the John Deere portion of his business. John Deere Company had advised the Rokahrs that they would not attempt to continue a franchise in Randolph following Fred's retirement. That meant the John Deere business in Randolph could not be sold.

Deere cited the reduced number of farmers remaining active in the area as the reason for their action.

It was not all serious thoughts in the year of 1986. Much time was spent by all to make Randolph's Centennial a big success. Each one in the business did their part and every family member contributed. As an end result Rokahr Implement Company was both honored and proud to have their float chosen the Grand Prize

winner of the parade which contained about 300 entries. Efforts were well rewarded and fun was had by all!!

Then it was back to work and after much deliberation, it was on December 7, 1987 that the Rokahrs sent a letter to John Deere Company informing them of their future retirement plans. They also requested permission to return parts, attachments and whole goods as per the Nebraska buy-back law and John Deere dealer agreement. Permission was granted.

1988 was a very busy year, trying to sell and give service to customers – plus the task of tagging and packing in pallets the thousands of parts. It was not only the John Deere merchandise but also the many allied and short-line parts. It was decided to have an auction on December 3, 1988, selling everything that could not be returned, including used goods. That was an all day event, using two lines. The remainder of the year was used for short line items that still had to be returned. Much credit must be given to the employees that remained faithful throughout those last three difficult years. All in all, it was a very challenging, yet rewarding business.

And so ended – the era of John Deere sales in Randolph – 1910 through 1988.

Sam's Hardware Hank

George Reed started the first Gamble Skogmo Store in Randolph in 1933. It was located at what is now Mrs. Bubbas' Bar and sold only hardware. His family operated it until 1938, when Glen Stingley came to Randolph and worked for George. Glen left Randolph in 1941 and sometime between 1941 and 1949 a complete dry goods and ready to wear line was added to the inventory. The store was moved to the location where Sam's Hardware Hank Store is now.

In the fall of 1948, Glen Stingley went into partnership with George, but before Glen moved to Randolph in the spring of 1949, George passed away. Then Glen and George's wife, Elsa, were in partnership until about 1955 when Glen bought Elsa out and became sole owner. At this time the ready to wear and dry goods department closed out changing entirely to hardware. After selling her share of the store, Elsa Reed moved to Lincoln and lived there until her death in 1982 at the age of 92.

In January 1965, Kenneth (Sam) Reineke came to work for Glen in the hardware store. Glen decided to sell the Gamble store in December 1970 to Sam. The store had the same continuous ownership with the Gamble Company until January 1985 when the franchise was changed to Hardware Hank. The whole Reineke family was involved in running the store and helped with the grand opening in August 1985. The store has had many renovations such as changes in interior shelving and exterior siding. The family celebrated 40 years in business in July 2010. *Submitted by Sam (Kenneth) and Nancy Reineke*

Scott's Barber Shop

A Randolph business that has been in our community since 1914, and at its present location as of 1927 is Scott's Barber Shop. A three-chair shop operated by partners, O.H. Scott and Myron Bloomer for 40 years, offered haircuts, shaves, shampoos, tonics, and baths. In the early years, when hot water heaters were few and far between, a customer could get a Saturday night bath at the shop. Hours of operation were 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and 7:00 a.m. on Saturday until possibly 3:00 to 4:00 on Sunday mornings. Over the years the shop hired many barbers to run the third chair.

In 1955, Lamont Scott took over the third chair and became the operator of the shop in 1959. He barbered until March of 1962. He then left the barbering to take a position as agent for MFA Insurance in North Platte, Nebraska.

In May of 1962, Lavern Scott (present owner) came to work for his father O. H. Scott and Myron Bloomer and after serving his apprenticeship, became owner by purchase in 1965. In the past 45 years of barbering, Scotty had a total of four different barbers working the second chair. The staff included Dallas Schmitt, Don Clyde, Loren (Scraper) Jenkins and Ray Hayes. Along with offering the barber services, the shop has been an agent for dry cleaning pick-up service. Scotty also has been an insurance agent for MFA and Shelter Insurance Companies since 1971.

Scotty is active in several clubs and organizations in Randolph. *Lavern F. Scott*

Sellon's Machine Shop

In January 1920, Harry Sellon bought a building 30' x 50' which was used to store feed for a stockyard located on the south end of the same block as its present location. He renovated the building and established Sellon's Machine Shop.

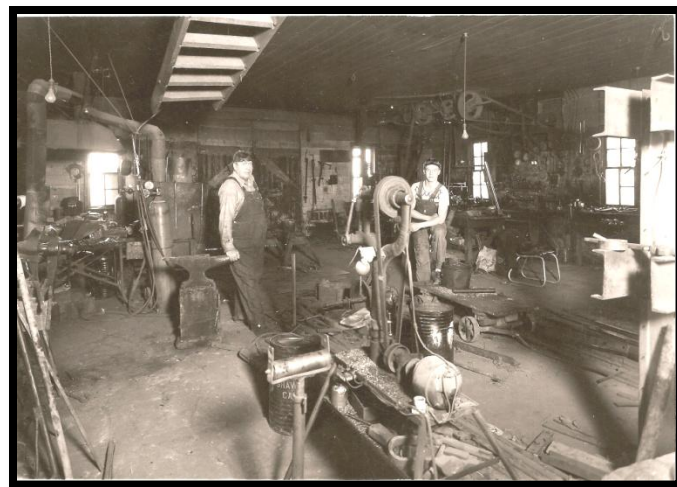
Harry, being raised south of town on a farm and being trained as an automotive mechanic was fascinated by the relatively new process of joining metals, a process called "welding".

In 1920, wood was beginning to give way to iron and steel. The industrial age was taking place. As the years passed, more and more iron began replacing the wooden machinery. When the iron would fail, replacement was difficult and many things required repairing in order to place the machine back into service. Soon after the building was remodeled, many of the tools needed were made by Harry to fit the need.

The first electric welder for Sellon's Machine Shop was purchased in 1923 from the Chicago Boiler Works, and manufactured by the Lincoln Electric Company. The machine was two years old when purchased and was replaced in 1976 with a newer, more compact and more powerful welder.

In 1923, a new turning lathe was purchased for \$1500 and was used until 1976. As the years passed, parts

became difficult to obtain for the lathe, so Harry would make the necessary parts to replace the worn parts. Soon after he purchased the lathe, he also made a large screw press. It took three days to machine a 2 1/2" by 36" long screw and a six inch long nut to fit the screw.



Sellon Machine Shop—Harry and Bob Sellon

Surviving the depression and the years of the thirties was difficult in the shop as well as most businesses. Things were picking up by 1940 and Harry usually had one employee working for him. When World War II began, repair parts were nearly impossible to get so the days were long repairing the broken farm machinery. Harry conducted several night schools to train men to be welders as the demand for welding in the defense industry was badly needed. Repair shops were issued priority numbers in order to get the needed steel for repairing agricultural equipment.

As the years passed, Harry's son, Bob, began working at the shop part-time until he graduated from Randolph High School in 1949. At this time, he began working full time at the shop learning the business from Harry. In 1955, Bob purchased the shop from his father.

Harry still spent much of his time at the shop and in 1962, died at the age of 72. At the time of this writing, Bob continues to operate the business, and through the years has replaced most of the equipment with new. One of the handiest machines, an ironworker, cuts iron and punches different sized holes in iron up to one-half inch thick. The original building was remodeled inside and out in 1966. This renovation included an office, new floor, and lighting throughout. In 1953, natural gas came to Randolph and the coal stove went out.

Ninety years has seen many changes take place in the business community and in the type and method of repair work. With each job being different, automation will probably never come to the small shop. However, many tools and much equipment are available to make the job easier and faster, but like most everything else, it takes lots of money.

Sellon's Machine Shop has been an important part of the Randolph community. The shop's handiwork and iron

work here and there will be around for many years to come. *Bob Sellon*

Shear Image

Shear Image was founded in July 1995 by owner Kimberly Nordhues. Shear Image was first located at 123 E Broadway Street for 3 years. Kim then closed her business for four years while she and Marvin were raising their children. Kim reopened Shear Image in October of 2002 at a new location of 207 North Main Street which was the office in the old Schwan's building. In February of 2007, Kim purchased the old State Farm Insurance building at 124 South Main Street, where they remodeled the inside for the business. Shear Image is a Paul Mitchell Focus Salon, the services offered are Hair Care, Natural and Full set, Nail Care, Pedicures, Waxing, Spray tanning, ear piercing, ear candling, and Paul Mitchell Take Home. Kim is also a John Paul Mitchell Systems Educator since 2008, teaching classes in salons, colleges and hair shows. *Kim Nordhues*

State Farm Insurance

State Farm Insurance has had a presence in Randolph since 1967 when Paul Tunink was appointed as an agent. He first operated his office out of his home and then in 1975 purchased the Sinclair Filling Station and remodeled it. In 1978, he purchased an office building in Laurel and had an office there as well. Paul's wife, Helen worked part time in the office as did several others over the years. In 1989, Paul passed away suddenly. Annette Pritchard was appointed as a State Farm agent in 1990. She lived in Laurel and kept both the office in Laurel and Randolph until March of 2004 when the decision was made to consolidate the two and the Randolph office was closed leaving the main office in Laurel. Diane Loberg of Randolph has worked for State Farm as a licensed staff associate. She started in 1984 working for Paul and continues to work in the Laurel office. *Annette Pritchard*

Thieman Electric



Kelly Joseph Thieman was born and raised in rural Randolph, son of Theodore and Arlene Thieman. Kelly graduated from Randolph Public High School in 1985. He then received his Associate of Applied Science Degree

in Electrician - Residential & Commercial from Northeast Technical Community College in Norfolk.

Kelly worked for various employers for his internship, apprenticeship, and with his Journeyman license which included employment with Model Electric, Heritage Homes, Wattier's True Value and Wayne State College.

With 20 years of work experience, Kelly and his wife Ann made the decision to begin their own electrical business. Therefore, Kelly received his Electrical Contractors license from the State of Nebraska in 2004, and began Thieman Electric, doing farm, residential and commercial wiring.

Supplies, materials, and fixtures are available through Thieman Electric and Kelly also provides bucket truck service. The business is located on their farm in rural Randolph.

Kelly takes pride in providing quality installation and customer satisfaction.

Thank you from Thieman Electric for your past support and we look forward to serving the Randolph area for many years to come.

Tri County Feed & Grain, Inc.



Tri County Feed and Grain- 223 E Broadway

Tri County Feed & Grain, Inc. is located at 223 East Broadway Street in Randolph. The business began in 1992 in the former K-W Grain location. There have been many changes and updates to the business since its origin.

In 1995, Tri County Feed and Grain purchased the former Schomberg Elevator in McLean.

In 1998, the former office building at the Randolph site was demolished and an office/feed storage area was built in an existing quonset. A 70 foot scale was also added at that time. Additional storage facilities have been added over the years.

In 2009, an updated grain conveyance system and a grain drying system were added to accommodate the harvesting demands. On-the-farm pick up of grain is also offered.

In addition to the grain business, Tri County sells feed, vet supplies, pet foods, water softener salt and livestock

supplies. It also has a grinding and mixing operation for farm feed delivery needs.

Tri County Feed and Grain, Inc. is operated by Allen Burbach of Randolph.

Tunink's State Farm

Paul Tunink was appointed agent for the State Farm Mutual Insurance Company to serve the Laurel and Randolph, Nebraska, areas on October 1, 1967. He was a trainee agent for two years, trained by his manager, Duane Mauch, from Norfolk, Nebraska. Paul shared an office in Laurel, Nebraska, with David Curtis, lawyer, and later with Craig Monson, when Mr. Curtis became District Judge. Paul commuted to Laurel every day.



Paul and Helen Tunink

Paul's office in Randolph was in the basement of his home. Mrs. Virgil (Donna) Buss and her daughter, Beverly, were Paul's first secretaries. Mrs. Glen (Nadine) Anderson began working for him in 1969 and remained his secretary in Laurel. Paul bought the First National Bank building in Laurel and remodeled it for his office. He had the Grand Opening on April 20, 1978.

In the fall of 1975, Paul purchased the old Sinclair Filling Station from Roy Gibson. Most of the remodeling was done by Paul and his son, Steven, with the exception of the overhead door and windows that were remodeled by Paul Borst. The Grand Opening of Tunink's State Farm office, in Randolph, was on November 14, 1975. Featured in the full page ad were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Berner for Homeowner's Insurance, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gerber for Ranch Owner's Insurance, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Johnson for Life Insurance. The first life policy Paul sold, as an agent, was to George and Norma Thelen. Paul's wife, Helen, worked part-time as his secretary in Randolph. He hired Mrs. John (Janet) Lee, the Methodist minister's wife, in March of 1979. She had worked for a State Farm Agency before moving to Randolph. They moved away, and he hired Mrs. Joe (Janet) Groen in June of 1980. Janet took a full time job at the St. Frances Rectory, so Mrs. Don (Marie) Lenhoff and Helen handled the work in the office.

Paul acquired the Micro-Fisch which contained all of his policy holders for both Laurel and Randolph. In December of 1984, Paul leased an IBM Echo Computer for his Randolph office, and he hired Mrs. Keith (Diane) Loberg as his new secretary to operate it.

Paul has qualified for the National and Regional Convention every year in the 22 years of service with State Farm, and he was recognized for Legion of Honor Awards.

Paul and Helen joined the leaders of the State Farm Millionaires on a trip to Maui, Hawaii, May 11, 1989. In August of 1989 they attended a State Farm Convention in Dallas, Texas.

Paul died suddenly on November 6, 1989. Annette Pritchard from Laurel was appointed to be a State Farm Agent in Randolph and Laurel. Diane Loberg remained secretary. Annette closed the Randolph office in March, 2004.

Helen sold the Randolph office building on February 2, 2007 to Kim Nordhues. Kim remodeled the building and opened a beauty salon – Shear Image.

United States Postal Service

The following is information that was gleaned from records located in the National Archives, Washington, D.C., and National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri.

Application was made for a post office in Randolph, Nebraska, on the first day of January, 1887, by Thomas F. Ziegler. T.F. Ziegler became the first postmaster of Randolph with his appointment on January 12, 1887.

Since then the Randolph Post Office has had the following Postmasters: James L. Stewart appointed October 17, 1889; William R. Boughn appointed December 12, 1893; James L. Stewart appointed



Post Office- 120 N Main

November 19, 1897; Frank P. Stewart appointed February 11, 1903; H.L. Peck appointed December 9, 1911; Anton B. Helms appointed January 5, 1916; Arthur E. Leclair appointed June 15, 1936; Melvin D. Boughn (acting) appointed March 7, 1952; Marvin R. Weber appointed May 27, 1954; Charles L. Keizer appointed April 13,

1985; Lisa Gillotti appointed November 24, 2003 and LaDonna Leiting appointed July 23, 2005.

When Randolph was applying for a post office, the records state, the village had a population of 110. The office would serve at least 250 people. The closest post office was Coleridge, Nebraska, and by the most direct road, Coleridge was 12 miles to the northeast. The mail would come out on the Chicago, St. Paul, Milwaukee & Omaha Railroad from Covington (now South Sioux City, Nebraska) on the track to Norfolk, Nebraska. The mail would be brought on a spur from Wayne to Randolph.

At the present the Post Office is located on Main Street in a blond brick building that was constructed in 1962. From 1939-1962, the Post Office was located in a tile/brick building that stood where the First State Bank presently stands. From about 1912 until 1939, the Post Office was located on the south end of the building that has Bob Kints Country Estate Fencing located at 109 S Main Street. From 1902 until 1912, the Post Office was located in the present Generations Photography building located at 107 W Broadway. Prior to that, the Post Office was in a white wood structured building located east of Carlson Law Office, approximately where Ray Patent's Appliance Store is located.



Postal Employee- Dale Boughn

Randolph has had at least three other Post Offices absorbed into its mail delivery. Sholes, Nebraska was closed and absorbed in December 1965; Wareham, Nebraska was closed and absorbed in January, 1913; and Weber, Nebraska was closed and absorbed in June, 1903.

Records indicate that the application for Sholes post office was made February, 1902 by John Beaton. Mail was to be delivered by the Chicago, St. Paul, Milwaukee & Omaha Railroad on the line from Wayne to Bloomfield. The nearest post office to the west was five and one-fourth miles at Weber, Nebraska. Sholes was a new railroad station and the population expected to be served by the post office was 125. The Postmasters of Sholes, Nebraska were: John L. Beaton appointed April 30, 1902; George D. Kneeland appointed January 16, 1903; Harry Painter appointed April 10, 1905; Elmer W. Closson

appointed September 7, 1906; John L. Beaton appointed August 18, 1908; Mathias Fritzson appointed January 20, 1909; Emeline A. Fritzson appointed March 23, 1931; Bessis A. Burnham appointed April 22, 1931; James P. Timlin appointed March 19, 1934; James H. Friend appointed July 8, 1946; Francis J. Broderick appointed February 7, 1948; Ludwig Kuhl appointed July 21, 1950; and Ova Kuhl appointed July 31, 1965.

The post office was discontinued November 18, 1965 and was absorbed by the Randolph post office.

Wareham, Nebraska applied for a post office January, 1907. Mail was delivered by the Great Northern Railroad. The population of Wareham was 18 with the service area to include 250 people. The nearest post office to the east was Belden, four miles away and the nearest post office to the west was Randolph, six miles away.

The Postmasters of Wareham, Nebraska were: Thomas C. Fleming appointed March 19, 1907; Willis B. Dornel appointed January 2, 1908; Carol Anderson appointed March 19, 1910; and Everett Roberts appointed August 14, 1911.

The post office was discontinued January 31, 1913 and was absorbed by the post office at Randolph.

Weber, Nebraska was located just east of where John Sohler presently resides. It consisted of a store and a post office. The store was run by Frederick Weber who was appointed Postmaster September 11, 1899. Mail was discontinued and absorbed by the Randolph, Nebraska delivery system on June 22, 1903.

What closed Weber, Nebraska was the introduction of Rural Free Delivery. RFD started in July, 1903

Randolph started with four rural routes on July 15, 1903. In 1904, on June 1, a fifth rural route was added to Randolph. The fifth rural route was discontinued on November 15, 1926. Rural route four was discontinued July 31, 1932 and rural route three was discontinued on October 2, 1959. At present we still have two rural routes originating from Randolph.

The rural carriers by route number were: RR1 – Charles F. Clark, 1903; Roy Stewart, 1909; Frank C. Ballard, 1909; David P. Monford, 1920; Clarence Schager, 1920; David F. Allison, 1932; Harrison K. Huwaldt, 1943; Glen Hyatt, 1943; Dallas V. Phillips, 1944; Kenneth Q. Rosenbach, 1949; M. Dean McGrew, 1959; C. Michael Peterson, 1980; Arthur J. Bermel, 1980; and James Dickes 1983.

RR2 -- William E. Casteel, 1903; David F. Allison, 1932; Clarence M. Schager, 1932; Andrew E. Heintz, 1937; M. Dean McGrew, 1950; Kenneth Q. Rosenbach, 1959; M. Dean McGrew, 1979; Charles Michael Peterson, 1980; and Michael Dowling 2005.

RR3 -- Peter Van Buskirt, 1903; Earl Hadley, 1903; Charles W. Casteel, 1912; David P. Monfort, 1912; David F. Allison, 1912; Albert Larsen, 1926; Morris D. McGrew, 1947; and Lamont W. Scott, 1959.

RR 4 – Henry Howe, 1903; David P. Monfort, 1917; Guy Briscoe, 1920; Robert Haideen, 1920; Carl B.

Farnum, 1920; Albert Larsen, 1922; and David F. Allison, 1926.

RR 5 -- John Everist, 1904; John D. Jones, 1920; Ivor Morris, 1921; Henry Hawe, 1921; Leroy Allison, 1926; Arleigh Hawe, 1926 and Ida Hawe, 1926.

Known clerks were Besse Boughn, Dale Boughn, Art Bermel, Mick Peterson, Virgil Podany, Charles Keiser, Debra Claussen, Clayeon Reeves, Marlin VanSlyke, Kevin Tunink, Kay Slocum, LaDonna Leiting and Frances Dennison.

There are many stories that have developed out of the early morning hours of sorting mail. Everything from loose day-old chicks walking on the magazines which had occurred as late as 1985; to, in the early 1900's when a dog scratched his way through the wooden door of one of the first post offices in the wintertime seeking warmth and food. He proceeded to chew up a sack of mail, one which contained jewelry being dispatched from the local jeweler. Needless to say, the dog was "watched" from all angles for several days.

There are stories of the first rural carriers who sorted mail on a bed, to the best read rural carrier in the county with his well-trained horses who knew the stops which allowed their master to read or sleep most of the route. And new stories develop every time a mail pouch is opened. *LaDonna Leiting Postmaster*

Vision Point L.L.C



Vision Point L.L.C. was organized on February 11, 2008 to enhance Randolph by developing a new housing addition. The need for this addition was apparent as a large percentage of Randolph is located in the flood plain which restrict or limits where new houses may be built

Land in southwest Randolph was purchased by the organization and developed into a new subdivision, Country Club Drive. Country Club Drive consists of 11 lots with five of them being sold within the first year

Founding members of the organization include; Larry and Jane Janssen, Marty and Pam Thies, Loren and Terri Haselhorst, Paul and Peggy Leiting, Jim and Cindy Billerbeck, Scott and Kim Wattier, Jim and Janet Kuchta, Kelly and Luella Hodson, Walter and Michelle Aschoff and Dean and Becky Hanna. *Peggy Leiting*

Wattier's Grocery

Randolph's oldest grocery store acquired its final owner on August 8, 1948 when Paul Wattier purchased the business from his brother, Carl, who moved to Oregon.

Over the years, many young people from the area and the Wattier children were after school and Saturday employees, some remaining to work after graduation. Ada Jensen, Evelyn Lee and Wayne Wattier were employees for most years.



Wattier's Grocery Employees

Paul began work at the grocery store in the early 1930's when the store was owned by Roy and Tom Hill, then by Adolph Wreidt and Frank Larson. Previously, the location of the store had housed Gishpert's and then Leiting's Hardware Store. When Carl Wattier had the business, he was one of the original founders of the grocery cooperative which became General Wholesale, then Affiliated Foods Cooperative, one of Norfolk's largest businesses.



Paul Wattier standing in front of his store at 109 S Main

Paul retired on December 31, 1985, selling his remaining stock to Jim's Food Center. The building was sold to Harold Sherwood and is presently owned by Bob and Sandra Kint.

Wattier's True Value and Service Center

In 1968, True Value started in Randolph with Hank and Dorothy Walz. The store was then called the Farm and

Home Center. After Hank passed away in 1986, Dorothy put the Farm and Home Center up for sale.

After Scott and Kim Wattier graduated from college, they decided to move back to Randolph and purchased the Farm and Home Center from Dorothy Walz, in May of 1992.



Wattiers True Value- 119 E Broadway

With an Associate's Degree in air conditioning and refrigeration, Scott added the service department to the store. He currently services and installs furnaces, air conditioners, plumbing and major appliances. Over time in the service department they have employed: Kelly Thieman, Larry Kuchta, Mark Gubbels, Levi Borst and Jeff Kollars.

A year after they purchased the business, they brought in major appliances. Currently they sell and service: Maytag, Whirlpool, Amana and KitchenAid appliances. The garden center was the next addition to the back of the store, selling garden plants, perennials, shrubs and trees.

In 2001, they started a second store in Laurel and added rental equipment. When Carhart Lumber closed, Art Rohde started installing screen and glass for windows and doors. Art proceeded to train Dan Petersen and Tom Guenther after he retired. In 2004, they purchased the Carhart building and added a large shop for the service department, brought in rental equipment into Randolph and moved the major appliances to that building.

The current store employees are: Donna Andrew for 40 years, Kathi Meyer for 18 years, Jolene Wurdinger for 13 years and Diane Erickson for eight years. Past employees include Cathy Huetig, Debbie Brunssen, Jack Sauser, Rosalee Nordhues, Doyle Timmerman, Betty Wattier, Vicki Bermel and many high school students. *Kim and Scott Wattier*

West Randolph Bowling Alley and Ballroom

Alvin and Kathryn Young and Paul and Virginia Young purchased the business West Randolph Bowling Alley and Ballroom from Albert Borst, June 11, 1959. When people bowled, the pins at this time were set by young kids. They would get paid \$2.50 a night for setting one

alley, \$5.00 a night for two alleys, working two leagues early and late.



In 1960, the Young's put in eight Brunswick automatic pin setters and new alleys.



September 15, 1966, major improvements were made when new alleys were installed at the 8-lane bowling establishment. The alleys were obtained from Tennessee where they had been used only briefly in the ABC tournament.

In 1971, the complete bowling alley, pin setters, shoes, balls, etc were sold. The Young's continued running the Ballroom until 1977, when the entire establishment was sold to Leo Casey of Laurel, Nebraska.

Windharvesters, LLC

On April 22, 2009, a Landowner's Wind Association (LWA) was formed in the local area bordering Randolph. The area subject included approximately 25,000 acres and 100 landowners. The Board members included: Chris Pfanstiel, Art Kuhl, John Arens, Larry Janssen, Gail Hansen, Marvin Rosburg and Mike Nissen. Since Art Kuhl's passing Barb Korth has replaced him. Windharvester's was the name given to the new association.

The goal of Windharvesters was to educate its association members of wind energy and how to benefit its members and the local economy through the use of wind turbines. Its mission is to secure a favorable land lease agreement with a viable wind energy developer. As of this writing, there is no signed lease agreement, but the Board of Directors is hopeful of a possible wind farm. Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) has expressed

real interest of putting up a met tower, (wind measuring device) in the area proposed. After six months of study, a determination will be made if this area warrants wind development. *John Arens, Secretary*



Bruce Tunink and Roger Winkelbauer

Winkelbauer & Tunink Construction

Winkelbauer and Tunink Construction established in June 1983, after Great Plains Lumber Company closed and left Roger Winkelbauer and Bruce Tunink without a job. Supplied with some of their previously owned tools, they set out to start their own business.

For 27 years, Roger and Bruce have been very successful in the Randolph area doing everything from small house jobs, to remodeling jobs, pole buildings, cement work and building new homes. Roger and Bruce have added many new tools and equipment since they started. They have been fortunate to be busy enough during the summer that they often hire a high school helper.

Winkelbauer Repair Inc.



Winkelbauer Repair- 113 W Main

Chad and Brandy Winkelbauer opened the business in June 2001 naming the business Winkelbauer Repair Inc. They had purchased the former Randolph Feed and Ag building from Helen Tunink in May 2001. Chad and Brandy did some reconstructive work on the inside to make it useable for their repair shop. The business does many tasks including, general car services, computer diagnostics, and wheel alignments.

W.P. Hill Pharmacy- Buol Hardware

The Buol-Hill Block is located in the heart of Randolph's downtown at the intersection of the two primary streets, Main Street and Broadway Street. Built in two parcels, the brick building has been the mainstay in the commercial district of Randolph since its early days.

The northern parcel faces Main Street and is hypothesized to have been built prior to 1894. The southern parcel faces Broadway Street and was added in 1894 by Wendell P. Hill and Paul Buol and included substantial remodeling of the second floor at this time.

While not high style, the Buol-Hill block exhibits modern design for a commercial building at this time in the Midwest, especially in a small, rural community. Wendell P. Hill's obituary calls the building "the first pretentious brick building in Randolph." While an architect has not been identified, the building displays evidence of modern design for commercial vernacular buildings at the time, smooth brick accented with Richardsonian Romanesque features around the many windows. It is likely that the building was built of Randolph Brick as W. P. Hill had substantial interest in a local brick yard at the time the building was erected. This was a relatively short-lived industry, as at about 1905 residents realized the new hollow Sioux City Brick was superior to Randolph Brick. It is surmised that the retail fronts, two on the south and one on the east are cast iron. The east façade is still visible and the style was popular with the builders in other structures. The south façade went through a modernization in the late 1950's, lowering the awning and modernizing the lower front.

The two-story building features two retail spaces on the first floor with one in the southeast corner and the other making an "L" with both south and east entrances. Both spaces retain remnants of their original furnishings and décor including pressed tin ceilings, hard pine floors and retail fixtures. The Pharmacy also retains a loft over the workroom once used as an office for W.P. Hill and others. The second story includes a large hall measuring 36 feet by 48 feet illuminated by six arched windows. From the south, a grand staircase provides street access to the hall's vestibule. Also in the vestibule are three spacious closets for coats and storage of organization relics and paraphernalia. On the south are three suites used for offices in the early years for professionals such as an attorney, tailor, etc. These rooms were later combined into one apartment in the 1920's. The north side of the building includes three apartments carved out of storage space in the 1920's.

The lower level is divided into three sections. All have brick foundations in varying degrees of condition. The largest space is divided into two rooms, one of which has street access and housed a wallpaper printing and sale room. An early coal-fired furnace remains in the basement. All of the basement spaces have dirt floors except for the wallpaper room which has a tongue and groove wood floor.

First glance would raise some questions about the current condition of much of the building, particularly the upper and lower floors as both have been abandoned since the early 1980's. However, the historical integrity is actually rather intact as a series of relatively few conscientious owners have performed few structural changes and in some cases, few aesthetic changes. What changes have been made are primarily on top of previous layers of history...original floors remain below 1960's linoleum tiles and 1970's carpet. Window trims and door hardware have remained primarily unchanged. Rehabilitation of this building is not a small task, but pieces are there to match. Because this building has been and continues to be used as retail/commercial, modifications for another hundred years of use seem feasible.

The Buol-Hill Block is significant and eligible to be listed on the National Register of historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the development of retail in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries and Criterion B for the role played in the development of Randolph, Nebraska by its builders, Wendell P. Hill and Paul Buol.

Founded in late 1886, Randolph is located in the southwest corner of Cedar County, Nebraska with a westernmost block of the current town extending into Pierce County. The boundary between Cedar and Wayne counties is only a few miles south of town. Randolph was sited by the Northwestern Nebraska Railroad Company and named for Lord Randolph Churchill of England. The Northern Nebraska Land and Improvement Company filed a town plat and dedicated on October 6, 1886. The following day, a lot sale was held. One of the lot purchasers was Paul Buol who began his first Randolph structure in the block south of the subject of this nomination. The wood frame structure housed the first hardware store in Randolph. This structure is no longer standing. Wendell P. Hill arrived in Randolph in 1890 immediately building the structure just west of the Buol-Hill Block.

In 1892, Hill purchased one-third of Lots 21 and 22 of Block 6, presumably to build the current structure. The remaining two-thirds were purchased by the Randolph Real Estate and Investment Company. Total purchase price was \$800.00. Paul Buol bought an land interest in 1894. As building permits were not required in Randolph for quite some time after this, no record of construction exists. Besides the land transactions, the only know record indicating when the building opened is the historical record of the Golden Sheaf Lodge No. 202 A.F. & A.M. "In 1894, after the lodge had been moved from one hall to another for quarters to hold meetings, it was fortunate to procure a hall built for Masonic purposes in what was known as the Buol-Hill Block." The lodge was housed here until 1967 when the former Presbyterian church was purchased and remodeled.

Hill's Pharmacy and Buol Brothers Hardware were landmark stores as the community developed over the next decades. In addition to the street level stores, a wallpaper printing enterprise operated out of the basement and three office suites were on the second floor housing an attorney, medical and other professional offices. Both businesses were weekly advertisers in the Randolph Times and Randolph Times-Enterprise newspapers, usually with prominent placement on the front page under the masthead. When telephone service came to Randolph, the first line was strung from the train depot to Hill's Pharmacy. Until a renovation in the late 1950's, the Pharmacy was also home to a soda fountain popular with young patrons.

As the builders of the Buol-Hill Block retired from full-time retail enterprises, their businesses continued. Buol Brothers Hardware was sold to L. A. Peters and again to L. V. Devore and George Deines. In early 1929, after just a few years in business together, George Deines bought out his brother-in-law to become a sole proprietorship. Two more proprietors succeeded Deines in the hardware business in this location before it was remodeled into a café in the mid-1970's. In 1984 the Randolph Senior Citizen Center became the current occupants of the space.

Hill's Pharmacy was sold and became Obert and Walz Pharmacy and later Obert Pharmacy. In February of 1935, current pharmacy owner, A. J. Obert, committed the biggest crime of the century in Randolph by attempting to build a series of bombs in the Buol-Hill Block. The local night watchman traced smoke to Obert's store and activated the fire alarm. The fire squad was able to extinguish the fire quickly. Shortly after the fire ceased, Chief Harry F. Sellon noticed suspicious containers connected by fuse wire throughout the building. The deputy fire marshal arrived from Lincoln a few hours later and along with the county attorney, seized 20 containers of flammable substances. The following week, Obert was charged with an attempt to burn insured property. A jury found Obert guilty on March 23, 1935.

The pharmacy business was then sold to Roger Buchanan, a Randolph native who had been a staff pharmacist at the competitor across the street, Bowels pharmacy. Buchanan operated the pharmacy until 1977 when he retired selling the Pharmacy to Jerry Lagerstrom, the last pharmacist to operate in the space in the Buol-Hill Block. In 1989, this space became a floral shop and remains so today.

In addition to being an important commercial resource to the community, the builders of the Buol-Hill Block were builders of the community. Each was involved in a variety of entrepreneurial and service activities in the community and left their mark forever on Randolph.

Wendell P. Hill was born on March 31, 1862 in the same Milan, Ohio home as Thomas Alva Edison. His family then moved to Missouri and eventually Bow Valley, Nebraska (also in Cedar County). After interning and training to be a pharmacist and working as a

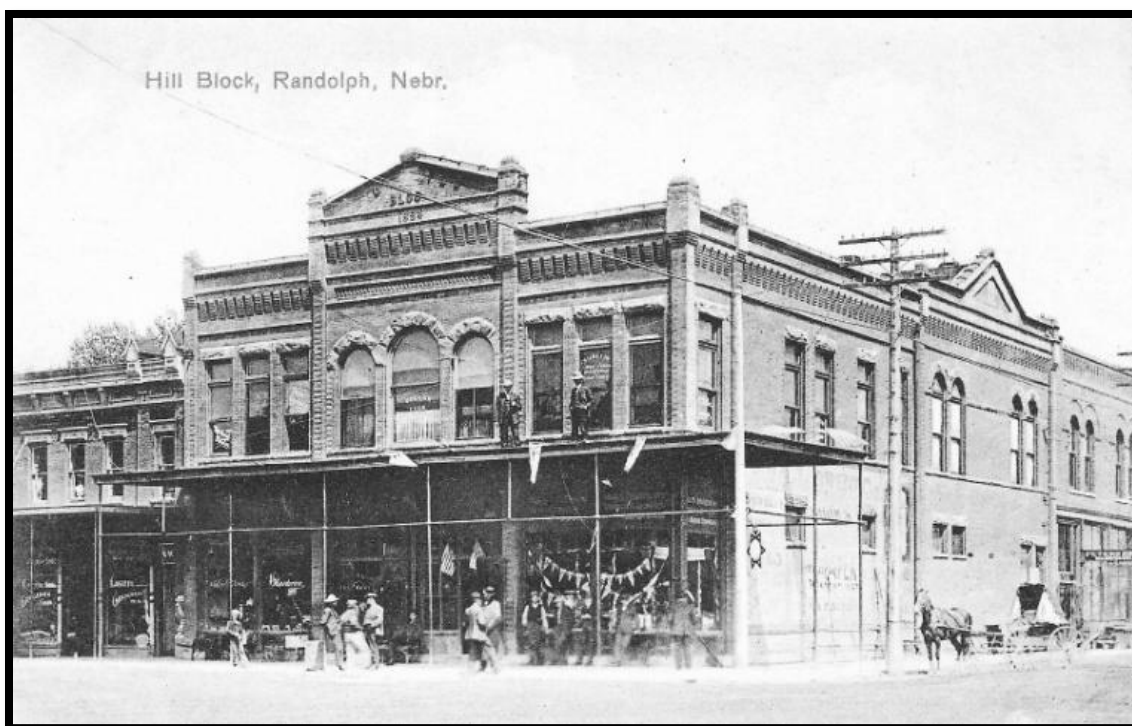
pharmacist for some years, Hill moved to Randolph in 1890. His first building venture in town was a brick pharmacy building immediately west of the Buol-Hill Block. This building is also finely built and was recognized in the Cedar County Historic Buildings Survey conducted in 1988 by the Nebraska State Historical Society. After building the Buol-Hill Block, Hill was able to expand his business to, not only serve the pharmaceutical needs of the local community, but also the region as a wholesale pharmacist. In addition to his real career as a pharmacist, Hill was active in the real estate trade in the area, backing the construction of many homes in the community and amassing over 1,000 acres of area farmland throughout his lifetime. He was also an active partner in the Security National Bank and the Randolph Brick Company.

Hill was a recognized leader in the community serving on the board of trustees and later, city council for over fifteen years. During this time he served as mayor from 1918-1921. Many early city elections and town meetings were hosted in "Hill's Hall". Hill was also active in many civic organizations including serving as the president of the board of trustees of the United Presbyterian Church for over a decade and being a 32nd Degree Mason. Wendell P. Hill passed away after a short illness at the age of 67 on Thanksgiving morning of 1929.

Building partner, Paul Buol had a similarly substantial impact on the town of Randolph. He arrived in town on October 7, 1886 for the lot auction where he purchased a lot and began building a barn and later a wood-frame hardware with supplies hauled in a wagon. The Buols came to Randolph from Monticello, Iowa, via Coleridge, Nebraska. Paul joined with Wendell P. Hill to build the Buol-Hill Block, their first collaboration in 1894. In

1900, Paul's brother Martin officially joined the hardware business forming Buol Brothers hardware following his graduation from Randolph High School in 1900, the first person to graduate from the twelfth grade. The Buols operated the hardware store until 1919 when Paul retired from that particular business venture. Upon Paul's retirement, Martin opened an auto dealership and oil company until his retirement in 1940 at which time he moved to Long Beach, California.

Like Hill, Paul Buol was an active businessman serving as the first president of Security national Bank. Buol, Hill and others built the structure that housed the bank across Broadway Street from the Buol-Hill Block. This building also housed professional offices on upper and lower floors including Paul Buol's office; dental practices; a chiropractor; an insurance agency; a veterinary clinic; apartments and a meat market. Buol was also a common member of the town's board of trustees and city council serving over ten years. He was also a member of the school board for over twenty years. On March 30, 1888 Paul Buol; J.F. Farley; Zachary Boughn; C.H. Phelps; Thomas Zeigler and C.S. Whitham formed the Randolph Cemetery Association purchasing ten acres of land for \$10 per acre. The cemetery is still in use today and overlooks the town from a hill to the north. Buol was also an active Mason. He and his wife, Tilla retired to Norfolk, Nebraska in 1919. *Researched by Megan (Patent) Nygren*



W.P. Hill Pharmacy and Buol Hardware Building on 102 and 104 W Broadway