

Family

Death

Jereme Parrott

Jereme L. Parrott, 28, of Wichita died Monday, January 16, 2006.



Parrott

Visitation with the family will be held 6-8 p.m. today in the Garden Chapel of Watson Funeral Home, 3201 S. Webb Rd in Wichita. Funeral services are 2 p.m. Friday at Glenn Park Christian Church, 2757 S. Glenn.

He was self-employed as Lawn and Landscape owner and a driver for Watkins Motor Lines P & D. Jereme was a Corporal in the United States Marine Reserves.

He is survived by his wife and son, Crystal Marie and Gavin

James; parents, Michael and Connie Jo Parrott of Wichita; in-laws, Randy and Jan Valencia of Derby; Catherine Valencia of Arkansas City; grandparents, Nancy Parrott of Colby; Marietta Ramsey of Wichita; grandparents-in law, Beatrice Valencia of Waynoka, Okla.; Betty Riggins of Alva, Okla.; brother and sister-in-law, Chad and Christine Parrott, their children Taylor and Aaron of Wichita; sister and brother-in-law, Mandy and Bobby Graham, and their children Mikayla and Emma of Wichita; sister-in-law, Sarah Valencia of Arkansas City; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Donations may be made to the Jereme L. Parrott Memorial Fund, c/o Watson Funeral Home, 3201 S. Webb Rd., Wichita, KS 67210.

Prescription drug meeting to be held Jan. 25

Mary Ramsey, senior health insurance counseling for Kansas, volunteer at the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, will be in Colby at the Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park, on Wednesday. She will talk one-on-one with people who have questions about prescription drug coverage or would like to enroll in a plan. Individual counseling appointments can be scheduled for that day from 1-3:30 p.m. by contacting Mary at the agency at 1-800-432-7422.

Voting results from the Jan. 10 election of officers are Elaine Hurt and Don Seyfert re-elected for a three-year term. Alvin Koenig and Dale Leopold were elected to fill the two vacancies to a three-year term also.

There are plenty of other activities scheduled at the center for the week of Jan. 23-27, including "Measure your feet day" on Monday. Prizes for largest and smallest. Tuesday exercise is at 9:30 a.m., and it's also Tee Hee Day. Say tee hee to all you meet. Opposite Day is on Wednesday. There will be a book review at 11:30 a.m. with Jeff

Friesen of Pioneer Memorial Library. Exercise is at 9:30 a.m. and at 11:30 a.m., Karen Jones will present a Kansas State University nutrition program. Friday exercise is at 9:30 a.m. and it's also Denim Day.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center in Colby wishes to invite those 60 and older and their guests to attend daily luncheons in Colby Monday through Friday. Reservations may be made by calling (785) 460-2901 the day before. Home delivery is also available for those unable to attend due to social or physical disabilities. We also invite those working who would like to pick up a meal. Those meals are available at noon to be picked up. For individuals 60 and over a contribution of \$2.50 per meal is requested. We also invite those under 60 years of age to attend or pick up a meal at a cost of \$4.50 per meal.

The menu for the next week includes: Monday - Barbecue beef, California blend veggies, apricots, bread, peanut butter bars. Tuesday - ham and beans, pea salad, cornbread, cranberry fruit salad.

Senior Progress

Wednesday - taco salad, banana half, chips, cherry cobbler. Thursday - hamburger patty, hashbrown casserole, green beans, bun, orange pineapple salad. Friday - turkey dressing casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, plums.

The building is also available for rental for events. For information or lunch reservations, call 460-2901.

The Thomas County Public Van is owned by the county but is scheduled and dispatched by the Senior Progress Center. The van is not a taxi service. It will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

It must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance of its use and be

ready at least 30 minutes in advance of appointment. Sometimes there are four to six calls per time frame.

Calls for the van need to be made between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday.

Heartland Christian School Benefit Barbecue & Open House

Sunday, Jan. 22
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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Thrivent to hold meeting Sunday

Local Thrivent coordinators Suzi Duncan, Jim Gaede and Ralph Hansen will host an informational meeting beginning with a meal at 6 p.m. Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby.

Regional Thrivent representative Jim Jordan will be in attendance and will explain what Thrivent is all about. He will highlight the various programs and products available through Thrivent as well as the congregation and community care

projects. One of Thrivent's projects last year was donating money toward Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

Everyone is welcome to attend this informational gathering. The local coordinators hope to have Thrivent meetings on quarterly basis. For information, call 460-2443, 460-6694.

Jim Jordan will be in Colby Jan. 21-25. For an appointment, call 1-800-756-2139.

Farm machinery sale attracts a crowd

Saturday evening guests of Kendal and Sharon Wright were Mary and Donnie Wright, Trent and Kasey Wright of Fort Scott, T.J. and Lindsey Wright and Caden of Quinter, Troy and Brandi Wright, Dalton and Tierney of Gordon, Neb. and Jason and Trudi Gager and Brookelyn of Olathe.



Jean Lowe

Winona Correspondent

Bob and Virginia Arnberger's farm machinery sale Wednesday was better than the Super Bowl for the little woman of the house. It not only kept their men occupied but got them out of the house. One husband told his wife, "Don't plan on me for lunch. I don't want to miss out on anything."

Pickups, farm trucks and trailers were lined up from the Township Road to the roadside park.

Parking lots at the Winona Bar and Grill, Winona Feed and Grain and Gfeller's Bumper to Bumper were taken up with vehicles. A more perfect day weather-wise couldn't have been asked for. At 3:30 in the afternoon the thermometer registered 68 degrees and it was so still not even a blade of grass was stirring.

Edis Weeks of Hoxie spent Wednesday with her sister, LaVonne Baxter, while her husband, Bill Weeks, attended the farm machinery sale.

Brianna Hanson and Brookelyn

Gager provided entertainment for their mothers, Jill Hanson and Trudi Wright, and Brookelyn's grandmother, Debbie Mather, Thursday evening when Jill and Brianna visited in the Mather home.

Jason and Trudi Gager and Brookelyn of Olathe came for a family post-Christmas weekend. Other weekend guests of Wes and Debbie Mather were Trent and Kasey Wright, T.J. and Lindsey Wright and Caden and Troy and Brandi Wright, Dalton and Tierney, Jenna and Tori Mackley were Sunday visitors. The family concluded their weekend at the Logan County Manor in Oakley Sunday after church with Helen Gates before returning to their respective homes.

When a bee is stinging, it is not making honey.

Do social characteristics of bees relate to the homo sapiens species?

Thursday dawned cloudy with occasional raindrops throughout the day but the sun came out around 5 p.m. indicating no promise of more moisture.

Committee approves Medicaid inspector bill

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Legislative efforts to get a grip on rising Medicaid costs moved forward Wednesday when the Senate Ways and Means Committee approved a bill creating a position that would identify fraud, abuse and waste in the health care program.

As approved by the committee, the inspector general would be appointed to a four-year term by the attorney general and work in that office. The appointment would be subject to Senate confirmation.

Last year, a special Medicaid committee recommended the inspector general be appointed by the governor and be part of the new Division of Health Policy and Finance.

"The attorney general is the person who's going to have more oversight and interaction with the inspector general," Chairman Dwayne Umberger said. "Any charges would be made by the attorney general, not the governor."

Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt said the inspector general bill will be debated in a week or two with other measures dealing with Medicaid fraud and abuse. He headed the Medicaid committee

that came up with the suggested legislation.

"They're all part of a package of recommendations. It makes no sense to have them straggle across the floor," said Schmidt, R-Independence.

Legislators long have worried about the rising costs of Medicaid and the prospects of fraud and abuse. Schmidt said one estimate indicates the state loses about \$110 million a year in Medicaid payments wrongfully made.

Medicaid spends about \$1.7 billion, mainly on medical care and nursing facilities, up from \$678.1 million a decade ago. Add in-home services for the physically and developmentally disabled and for children with severe emotional disorders, and total spending is \$2.2 billion.

The federal government provides 60 percent of the money and the state pays the rest.

The number of Medicaid recipients averages around 215,000 per month and is expected to be as many as 300,000 over the next year. The greatest increase in numbers are children, but the biggest costs are for the aged and disabled.

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