

# Family

## Deaths

### Ruth M. Fortier

Ruth M. Fortier, 86, of Colby, died Saturday, Dec. 30, 2006. Services are pending with Harrison Chapel in Colby.

### Robert A. Hooker

Robert A. Hooker, 78, of Hutchinson, died Sunday, Dec. 31, 2006, at Hospice House in Wichita. Mr. Hooker was born Feb. 9, 1928, in Winona to Robert B. and Estella M. (Thouvenell) Hooker.



R. Hooker

Mr. Hooker was a 1946 graduate of Winona High School and a 1951 graduate of Fort Hays State University.

He married Phyllis J. Gales Feb. 9, 1952.

He was a World War II veteran. He was a draftsman and engineer for Boeing Aircraft in Wichita before purchasing the Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership in Oakley in 1962.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Hutchinson and Oakley.

He served on the board of directors for Farmers State Bank of

Oakley for 18 years; Oakley Masonic Lodge #253; Oakley Shriners and served on the Oakley City Council; was a past commander of the Oakley VFW and a charter member of the Oakley Trap Club.

Mr. Hooker is survived by his wife, Phyllis, of Hutchinson; three sons, Robert Hooker and wife Taronda of Hutchinson, Breck Hooker of Hays and Paul Hooker and wife Leanne of Spring Hill; one sister, Mary Carlson and husband Kendall of Assaria and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at First United Methodist Church of Hutchinson with Chaplain Frederick J. Obold officiating. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery in Hutchinson.

Memorials are suggested to Lewy Body Dementia Association, Hospice of Reno County or the First United Methodist Church of Hutchinson or Oakley, and may be sent in care of Elliott Mortuary, 1219 N. Main, Hutchinson, Kan., 67501.

### Rachel Amanda Ratzlaff

Rachel Amanda (Goertz) Ratzlaff, 92, of Goessel, died Thursday, Dec. 28, 2006. Mrs. Ratzlaff was born April 25, 1914, to Henry F. and Martha Schmidt Goertz.

She married Abe Ratzlaff May 4, 1933. In 1949, they bought a farm near Monument. In 1979, her husband retired and they moved to Colby, and later moved to Goessel in 1985.

Mrs. Ratzlaff is survived by her children, Elaine Becker and husband Vernon, Imogene Berg and husband Rodney, Jim Ratzlaff and wife Phyllis and Jeanette Sowers

and husband Dwight; five siblings, Bertha Schroeder, Art Goertz, Alvin Goertz, Ernest Goertz and Richard Goertz; 17 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; two stepgreat-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church in Goessel.

Memorials are suggested to Gideons International, and may be sent in care of Baker Funeral Home, 100 S. Cedar, Box 242, Valley Center, Kan.

## Babies

### Renatta Ann Heintz

Lyle and Shannon Heintz of Abilene announce the birth of their daughter, Renatta Ann Heintz, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2006.

Renatta was born at the Martha K. Hoover Women's Health Center in Junction City. Renatta weighed 7

pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents are Linda and Vernon Wranosky of Colby and Judy and Jack Heintz of Wakefield.

Renatta was welcomed home by brother Grant David, 4.

# Snow keeps Brewster residents inside



### Betty Jo Baird

• Brewster Correspondent

Here's hoping everyone had a Very Merry Christmas, after digging out of the snow. Sounds like more is on the way this week. Do need the moisture, so can't complain. Just be careful in driving in it and walking, was really icy after the last one.

The center has been very quiet this week, a lot of people still out of town, sick or just want to stay off the ice and snow. We canceled the potluck this week and if this storm moves in we'll probably cancel Friday's dinner and Bingo. Even had to cancel our open house for Jack Faber last week. We will be having it in January sometime.

Christmas guests of Warren and Bonnie Reid were Lance Reid of Andale, John, Laurie Mallory and Julie Jones of Kismet; Ryra and Amanda Kisner and Brandon Kisner of Goodwell, Okla., Jordon,

Amanda, and Blayne Reid of Oakley and Nathan, Judy, Jeff, and Jayde Reid of Brewster.

Marion and Coleen Crumrine traveled to Lakin Christmas Eve to be with daughter, Carlina Moore and husband Joe. Their grandchildren Jonathan Moore and wife Angela and children, Seth, Keaton and baby Sara, Matthew Moore and wife Sondra and baby Kaylee. Matthew's family leaves the first of the year for Savannah, Ga., where he will be stationed until June, then he goes back for his second term in Iraq.

Christmas night daughter Carolyn Somers and husband Brian and children were at her folks Marion and Coleen for exchange of gifts and a good visit. Wednesday evening Marion and Coleen went to their son Willard home for supper and exchange of gifts, as grandson couldn't come home until then.

I was sick all week-end with this cold thing going around, so Mike, Autumn and I spent a very quiet Christmas at home. Of course Christmas morning with a four year old isn't very quiet, if you know what I mean.

The Northwest Kansas Heritage Center and Library will have their annual meeting at Hunter Hall Jan. 20 at noon. Roast beef, ham and drinks will be provided. Everyone is to bring a dish to share. Everyone welcome. Meeting will follow the meal. Guest speaker will be Fred

Maglie from St. Francis.

Dearest child, I want to tell you a secret. I want to show you a path of joy. I want to open a door for you that leads to blessing. The key to that door is marked "giving." And not merely "giving," but "giving" without expecting any reward or praise from other people."

When you give secretly to others without expecting them to reward you, I will reward you with a quiet inner joy. When you do your good deeds, expecting no fanfare from people, there will be great fanfare for you in heaven. Trust me, my child. Think today of some need that you can meet in secret. Then go about meeting that need in a quiet and thankful way. I will be with you. And we will rejoice together! Generously, God. Matthew 6: 1-4.

Have a Safe and Happy New Year. See you next year.

# New year resolutions can reap good results

## Plain Sense

At the beginning of a new year, about half of Americans make resolutions to change something for the better in their lives, including losing weight, quitting smoking, and saving money.

Most people say they also need to improve their lives in more specific areas such as family relationships, self-esteem, volunteer work and community involvement, supportive friendships, physical appearance (other than weight), career and education.

Most people are very serious about changing and improving areas of their lives, yet few get really

serious about accomplishing their goals. One of the primary reasons is that they don't have a good plan in place, which then results in procrastinating and a lack of follow-through. Another important component of achieving personal goals is the need for social support. People who have friends, family or a support group and work at this together tend to be more successful. The following are suggestions in regards to accomplishing resolutions:

• Get serious about your own per-

sonal goals; write them down and set yourself a time-line to meet, whether it is one month, one year, or five.

• Have a support system of family, friends and/or co-workers, and get together to set goals and plan how to achieve those.

• Get busy! Use a daily planner or calendar to identify specific dates and times to begin and the task you want to accomplish.

• Celebrate even the small successes. People tend to focus on the negatives that are more obvious, but this can cause discouragement and lack of motivation. Instead, give

yourself credit for any effort and keep the momentum going.

The process of setting goals and sticking to them can become a personal growth experience, whether it is joining a health club, enrolling in a college class, or learning more about your personal home computer. Long-term, positive results are often the reward, along with a great deal of personal self-satisfaction.

*Contributed by Karen Schueler, LCPC, Manager, Consultation and Education Department. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help. Mail questions to: High Plains Mental Health Center PLAIN SENSE, Consultation and Education Department 208 East 7th, Hays, Kan. 67601 (Questions will be formatted and answered in a manner that insures confidentiality.)*

# 4-H Club welcomes new members

By Chelsy Schroeder  
4-H Reporter

Solomon Valley 4-H Club met Dec. 11 for a meeting. Eighteen members were present. Members answered roll call by calling out what they wanted for Christmas. Makayla Hoffmen played "O, Come All Ye Faithful" on the piano. Conner Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Club Leader, Lori Wilson, reported each family was strongly suggested to sell three pizzas or give \$25 to the club. President Brenda

## About Town

Wilson mentioned there are scholarship forms available at the extension office. Three guests were introduced to the club. They were: Taylor and Brianna Thummel, Tori Swafford, and Kelly Sloan. They decided they wanted to join our club and will be installed at the next meeting.

Todd Ziegelmeier gave a talk on "Stress Fractures." He educated us on how his broken leg was fixed and passed around his x-rays. The kids

played the game tag for recreation. Jay Ziegelmeier led the 4-H pledge. The hosts for the night were the Reeds. The Juenemann family was to do the recycling pickup at the extension office for December.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat	\$4.52
Corn	\$3.74
Milo	\$6.17
Soybeans	\$5.91

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