

# Family

## Journey to Rome hazardous as Paul travelled to face trial

This is the eighth and last article on the life of the apostle Paul. The events in this article can be found in the last two chapters of Acts (Acts 27 and 28).

Paul wrote 13 books of the Bible; I and II Thessalonians on his second missionary journey; I and II Corinthians, Galatians and Romans on his third missionary journey; Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon and Philippians during his first Roman imprisonment; and I Timothy and Titus after he was released from this first imprisonment in Rome. During the second imprisonment in Rome, just before he was put to death, Paul wrote II Timothy.

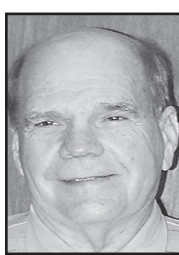
We begin today as Paul is being sent to Rome to stand trial.

Acts 27:1 tells us it was determined that "Paul and certain other prisoners" should be sent to Rome. Luke does not tell us who these other prisoners were, but Luke uses the personal pronoun "we," indicating that he himself was allowed to accompany Paul — possibly as his personal physician. They sailed to Myra, on the coast of Turkey and there changed ships and sailed on; according to Acts 27:37 there were 276 persons on board the ship.

In Acts 27:9-10, we are told that sailing was slow and dangerous because of high winds and storms at that time of year — September or early October. Paul had traveled a great deal by sea on his missionary journeys (he had been shipwrecked three times). Paul warned the seamen that it was dangerous to try to sail to Italy during this time of year, but they sailed on.

Acts 27:14-15 tells how a great storm came up and in verse 27, they fought the storm for 14 days and gave up hope of saving the ship. The sailors wanted to abandon ship. They had no way of knowing where they were or how far the wind had driven the ship off course. In verses 21 through 26, Paul tells the crew, "You should have listened to me." An angel of the Lord appeared to Paul and told him that he and all the crew would be saved if they stayed with the ship. Paul then encouraged the sailors to eat and told them they needed to ground the ship on a nearby island. Every one of them reached land safely.

They went aground on the island of Malta, where the native people welcomed all 276 of them and did their best to make them comfortable. The weather was



**Wes Barnett**

### From the Pulpit

cold, so the natives built a fire. Paul was gathering sticks for the fire, when a poisonous snake bit him on the hand. The natives believed the bite of this snake meant certain death and in their superstition, they jumped to the conclusion that, "no doubt Paul was a murderer." But as they waited and watched, no harm came to Paul.

Paul and the party remained on Malta for three months; they were treated graciously and sent on their way with generous gifts. Luke writes nothing about evangelism on the island, but we know Paul shared the gospel with all who would listen. They sailed to Sicily and then to Italy.

Word had gotten to Rome that Paul was coming; we do not know how. As they traveled overland to Rome, a group of Christians met Paul and he was greatly encouraged. When Paul's party reached Rome, he was turned over to the captain of the Roman guard. He was then permitted to live by himself with a soldier to guard him.

Paul kept "open house" and received anyone who wanted to discuss the things of the kingdom of God. He was chained to a guard who was relieved every six hours, but who was forced to listen as Paul preached and taught and prayed. No wonder some of them became Christians (Philippians 1:12-14; 4:22).

During two years in Rome, Paul wrote Philippians, Ephesians, Colossians and Philemon. At different times, he had Timothy, Mark, Luke and others with him. He also met Philemon's runaway slave, Onesimus, and led him to faith in Christ (see Philemon). Luke ends the book of Acts before Paul comes to trial.

Tradition says Paul was found not guilty, released and resumed his ministry, probably going as far away as Spain (Romans 15:24, 28). Wherever Paul went, he desired to bring all people to faith in Jesus Christ.

### Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day  
**Hi-Plains Co-op**

Wheat (bushel)	\$3.83
Corn (bushel)	\$2.93
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.76
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.29

### Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

He was arrested again, around the year 67; this was during the time of Emperor Nero's persecution of Christians after the fire that destroyed Rome. Nero had the fires started and claimed the Christians were responsible. On this occasion, Paul's situation was drastically changed. He did not live in a house but was chained in a prison and badly treated.

The last book he wrote was II Timothy, just before he was put to death. Paul knew his life was coming to an end. In II Timothy 4:6, he writes, "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering and the time of my departure is at hand."

In my imagination, I can see Paul at his little desk in his jail cell, writing II Timothy 4:7-8: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing."

What a great thing for any Christian to be able to say at the end of his life. One other verse from II Timothy 1:12 and I will close this series. Paul wrote, "For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed [of the gospel], for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day."

Just a few days later after writing these words, tradition says, Paul was beheaded.

Wes Barnett is pastor of Col lege View Baptist Church. He can be reached at (361) 459-9348 or wesb@st-tel.net.

## Golden Plains concert features solos, groups

By Arianna Valdez  
Golden Plains High School

On March 25, the vocal and band classes of Golden Plains Schools gave the audience a treat as they presented the annual Solo/Ensemble Concert.

The high school students performed the pieces they were preparing for competition two days later at Regional Music in Oberlin. The high girls' ensemble performed a piece called "Peaceful Alleluia." The high school boys did "Aura Lee." The mixed ensemble for high school sang "Music Speaks" and "Kyrie."

There were also vocal solos performed by Jackie Fringer, Isaac and Jonathan Broeckelman and Hannah Antholz. For the band class, a few students performed a woodwind ensemble, Camron Spresser performed a baritone solo, Hannah Antholz a xylophone solo and Andrew Luna a trombone solo.

It wasn't just the high school performing, though. The middle school performed pieces they had taken to competition. They started out with the mixed choir performing, followed by the instrumental ensemble. Then it was the girls' turn in a girls' vocal ensemble.

Taylor Todd played a violin solo, and Miguel Ortiz showed how to play an alto saxophone while performing his solo. Mi-



KARINA MUNOZ  
Golden Plains High School

Taylor Todd, a seventh grader at Golden Plains Middle School, performed her violin solo at the spring concert March 25. Taylor is the daughter of Jay and Brandy Todd of Rexford.

kayla Lobato, Josie Franz, Tori Ramsey, Lucas Hapke and Caitlin Spresser let us hear their beautiful voices while singing vocal solos.

Jacob Antholz and Tristan Schwarz showed off their skills with trumpet solos. Kami Miller performed a French horn solo and Leea Juenemann played a piano solo. Cole Ziegelmeier let everyone see how easy it is to play a tuba during his solo.

Marshall Clapp played a bass clarinet solo, and Caitlin Spresser impressed the school with a flute solo. All the students are under the direction of Janell Antholz, music instructor at Golden Plains.

## Text message leads to arrest

PINE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — An errant text message is costing three New York drug-dealing suspects dearly.

Police say the suspects made a mistake when trying to text a potential buyer and instead reached a task force agent in Dutchess

County, about 50 miles north of New York City.

The three were arrested after arranging a meeting with the agent, who pretended to be the buyer.

Police say they recovered 60 bags of heroin.

## Deaths

### Paul E. Layland

Paul E. Layland, 90, Colby, died Thursday, April 8, 2010, at Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital in Denver.

He was born June 15, 1919, in Otego, in Jewell County.

Services are pending with the Harrison Chapel in Colby, 462-2331.

### Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday at Colby Community College with 30 members and guests, including Kayla Hockersmith, Christina Ostmeyer, Shelby Terrell, Jeanette Hockersmith, Mark Scheopner and visiting Rotarians Steve Haynes, Oberlin, and Wayne Pancoast, Salina.

Relda Galli had the program, which featured Hockersmith, Terrell, and Ostmeyer, members of the Colby High forensics team. Ostmeyer read the poem "Self Evident," by Ani diFranco, and Hockersmith and Terrell performed a humorous scene from a play, "The Boy Book." The forensics team, coached by Nancy Rundel, has 41 members, with 21 qualified so far for state competition and four for nationals.

Kris Cameron won Roto-Lotto. The club meets at noon each Tuesday in the Student Union.

## Alleged thief asks directions

OREM, Utah (AP) — Utah police say a man accused of stealing two phones from a convenience store was arrested when he flagged down the investigating officer and asked for directions.

Police say the officer noticed that John White matched the description a store clerk gave of the thief, and the address White wanted turned out to be the one the officer was checking.

The address was on a slip of paper the thief left at a gas station.

# In Loving Memory of Kenneth Frederick Rogers

Kenneth Frederick Rogers was born October 11, 1921 in Kensington, Kansas, the fourth son of Charles and Emma (Wagoner) Rogers. Preceding him in death were brothers Floyd, Donald (Dee), and Merlin (Babe) who were considerably older than Kenny and they considered it their duty to make him grow up "tough." There was no gentle pampering for Kenny. A sister, Lois, followed the birth of Kenny five years later. She lives in Grand Junction, Colorado. Kenny's father Charles, was a miller by trade and worked for Johnson Flour Mill. In 1938, when Kenny was a junior in high school, the flour mill caught fire and burned to the ground leaving Charles without employment. He was offered a job at the Lindsborg Flour Mill and the family decided to relocate. That year, Kenny and his best friend, Jake Knight, drove Jake's Model-T to a dance in Nebraska. On their return they wrecked the car and the right side of Kenneth's face was badly gashed from his cheek-bone to his chin. Kenny stayed with his brother, Merlin, and attended school in Smith Center until his face healed because he feared his mother's reaction.

He was a good athlete and participated in football, basketball and track throughout high school. He graduated from Lindsborg High School the following year. He attended two years at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas and was voted 'Most Popular Boy in College'. At the same time, Wanda Lucille Hannan was enrolling in college to pursue Art Education and this young, handsome man by the name of Kenny Rogers approached her. He was enrolled in education, pursuing a teaching and administration career. Each had met their soul mate for life.

When World War II invaded the peace of the world, Kenny went to Washington D.C. and worked for the F.B.I., but all his friends were being drafted and sent overseas to fight in the war. Kenny felt he wasn't doing his duty, so he enlisted in the U.S. Army in August 1944. He went through boot camp and trained at Camp Howzee, Texas. Kenny kept a detailed journal of his tour of Army duty. Noted in his journal on October 5, 1944—This is it! Received shipping orders and moved out at night. Down to the train,

to the boat and finally into the hold of the Liberty Ship—squeezed in like sardines. October 6—the ship's motors began to hum early in the morning—we all crowded the rail to watch the 'Old Lady' slip by. "

They docked at the much-bombed port of Marseilles on October 20th. Kenny received orders to drive jeep for the commanding officer and take supplies and ammunition to the front line. On August 15, 1945 it was noted in his journal—"THE WAR ENDED TODAY—officially. We celebrated in our tent in the evening and talked of going home. September 14—a most important day in my life. We pulled into good old New York harbor September 18—HOME AT LAST."

Wanda and Kenny were reunited and on September 30, 1945 the happy couple pledged their wedding vows to each other in the Methodist Church in Kensington, Kansas. It was raining but Wanda and Kenneth knew God was 'pouring down blessings' upon them.

Kenneth was honorably discharged at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He was awarded the Bronze Star Distinguished Medal of Honor, and World War II service medal for courageous and outstanding service to our country. After his discharge he returned to college and earned his teaching certificate. Hoping to get the job as coach at Minneapolis Elementary School, he went for an interview only to find the position was filled, but they offered him a job as principal. He accepted and enrolled in Colorado University in Boulder, Colorado to earn his Masters Degree in Administration before the school year started in September of 1946.

Kenneth was the Minneapolis Elementary School principal and their first-born son Tom's sixth grade teacher that first year. The family moved to Colby in the fall of 1960 and Kenneth assumed the duties of principal of the Elementary School where he remained for the next twenty-five years, retiring in 1985. When school recessed for the summer Kenneth worked for several major insurance companies as a crop adjuster, appraising the damage in the wake of a hailstorm.

The Rogers' home was blessed by four chil-

dren. Tom, Jeanie, Alana and Tracy, five grand-children, LeAnna, Luke, Trisha, Garrett and Madison and five great-grandchildren, Liv, Guy, Fia, Libby, and Taylor. Much of Kenny and Wanda's life centered around their children and school activities. Because their father was the principal the children complained they couldn't get into much mischief.

The family loved to go camping all over the country. They would camp with Kenny and Wanda's siblings and their families or other friends. Everyone took their children. They always had fun together and in their later years Kenny and Wanda relished traveling throughout the United States in their 5th wheel camper, taking the least traveled roads. A cruise to Alaska was a highlight of their travels. The only state not visited was Hawaii.

Kenneth's indulgences were watching sports of any kind. He could tell you scores and plays of games twenty years earlier and enthusiastically relive those games. An avid fan and supporter of the Colby Eagles, he attended or did the books for most all of the games. His love for the St. Louis Cardinals took him to many of those games, but often became a note of contention between he and Wanda with her being a Kansas City Royals fan. Gardening was also a pastime of Kenny's and he loved to share the bounties of his yearly garden with neighbors and friends.

Kenny was a real "people person." He loved visiting with anyone, was always interested in what others were doing and would often strike up conversations with complete strangers who soon became endeared as a new friend. Kenny was an honest person and never had a bad word to say about anyone. He was active in the American Legion, Lions Club, served as Elder in the Presbyterian Church, taught Sunday school and took pleasure in family life and traveling.

Kenneth was a well-respected man in the community and loved watching children of all ages learn. He loved his country, was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather and made a difference in many people's lives. He will live in our hearts forever.

## ATTENTION...

**Colby High School, Brewster High School, Golden Plains High School and Heartland Christian School**

# Senior Parents & HOMESCHOOLERS

**Hurry in parents!!  
Deadline is April 26, 2010!!!**

The Colby Free Press is now planning the Senior Graduation Tab and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for a small fee.

We will automatically feature your student's picture and information, but this will be your chance to put in a baby picture to show how much your senior has really changed over the years!

**Call Andrea, Heather or Shaly @ 462-3963 for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. 5th in Colby.**

WHITNEY COLETTE ADAMS

••• Small Sample •••

I plan to attend Colby Community College and play softball

PARENTS:  
Richard & Peggy Adams

It's been a real hoot, Whitney go get em girl, and Godspeed. Love, Mom & Dad