Holiday season fills calendars with activities for everyone

The holiday season is well underway, with many festivities on the calendar for this month.

Santa City will be open weekends from 1 to 5 p.m. now. It'll be open Monday through Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. from Dec. 13 through Christmas Eve. This winter wonderland, with animated woodland critters performing Christmas tasks, is a perennial favorite for young and old alike.

Before looking at other activities, we do have some old business. The Kansas Leadership Center held a Leadership Summit in Wichita Nov. 8 to 10. Attending from Colby were Cindy Black and Leilani Thomas, Leadership Thomas County facilitators; Denise Stupka, board president; and Sherry McDonald, a board member.

We had 2 1/2 days of sessions in both large and small groups. Agenda items included civic leadership, "four competencies" experience, case studies and community leadership programs as a catalyst for increasing civic engagement.

Applications have been sent to Thomas County schools for sophomores for the 2011Youth Leadership Program. Class dates will be Wednesdays, Jan. 12 and 19 and Feb. 2 and 16. This is a participatory program for the students, who will be required to complete a class project. Deadline for applications is Wednesday, Dec. 8.

Now for the holiday happenings:

The first week of December brings us the Colby Women's League Christmas Brunch from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday at the Meadow Lake Golf Club clubhouse. That evening, the Colby Community College Holiday Band Concert will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, the Farmer's Christmas Market, with food and gifts for sale, will be held at the B.P. Miller Building, 895 S. Country Club. The Fourth Annual Santa's Workshop sponsored by the Thomas County Community Foundation, where children can buy gifts for mom and dad, will be from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Thomas County Office Complex.

Sunday, Dec. 5, will be a busy day, with the Winter Art Display by the High Plains Art Club at the Colby United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be served from 2 to 5 p.m. The United Methodist Women's Christmas Homes Tour also will be from 2 to 5 p.m., with tickets available at the church or at the homes on the tour.

This year, the tour includes the Jayson Woofter, Randy Barton, Libby Curry and Robert Schoenfeld homes.

Santa will be at the college pool from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Enjoy a free swim, Santa and refreshments. The Western Plains Arts Association presents "A Celestial Christmas" by the Starry Night Trio at 3 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. Don't forget the Christmas Light Parade at 5:45 p.m. in downtown Colby. The theme this year is "White Christmas Dreams."

Festivities continue the second week of December with a farewell reception for Dr. LaDonna Regier



Thomas • On the Road Again!

from 4 to 8 p.m. next Monday at the City Limits Convention Center. The Middle School and High School Vocal Concert and High School Band Concert will begin at 7 p.m. at the High School Auditorium. Kappa Upsilon will hold its Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale beginning at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall at the Methodist Church.

Tuesday, Dec. 7, the college vocal concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. A firstgrade musical, "December Around the Clock," will be given at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, in the grade school auditorium.

From 9 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, a craft show is being held at the National Guard Armory and Sacred Heart Gym. The Colby Recreation Department will be sponsoring a candy-cane hunt at 10 a.m. in Fike Park for kids up to age 9.

The fifth-through-eighth-grade band concert will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21, at the grade school auditorium. Sacred Heart students in grades two through five will hold their Christmas program at 7 p.m. at the school. Most churches will have Christmas Eve services on Friday, Dec. 24.

You can see, there will be a lot of music and holiday activities during this month.

One highlight in the sports scene will be the Colby Eagle Wrestling Invitational Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10 and 11, at the high school and community building. This annual event brings us top wrestlers. There also will be basketball and wrestling for both high school and college teams.

The grand finale for December is the Rockin' New Year's Eve Party at City Limits Convention Center. There will be a dinner, dance, entertainment, door prizes and a midnight toast. The party begins at 6:30 p.m. with entertainment by Marshal Allen Bailey and the Silver Bullets and Larry Booth.

The dance begins at 9 with the Mama's Boys Band playing '80s and '90s rock and country. The party is put on by the Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Committee, with proceeds going to the festival. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office or the F&M Bank branch at Dillon's.

Have a festive December, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from the members of the Convention and Tourism Committee. We eagerly look forward to 2011 and all of the activities it promises.

Leilani Thomas is director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, a long-time civic volunteer and a passionate observer of the tourism industry.

Property Transfers

Real Estate recorded Nov. 15 to Nov. 22

The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Thomas County register of deeds:

• Nov. 1, quit claim deed; Big Bend Trust Company to Frances M. Smith; Lot 12, Colby Smith Addition.

• Nov. 1, quit claim deed; Lori Kauk O'Brien Strnot to Doyle Kauk and Bruce A. Kauk; SW/4, two L.P.; N/2 of Sec. 27, T10, R36. tracts in N/2 and tract in SE/4 of Sec. 17, T8, R34; SW/4 of Sec. 9, T8, R34 less tract; parts of blocks 31-32, N/2 Original Colby.

• Nov. 4, Marvin L. Huelsmann Trust to Paul B. and Jamie A. Heskett; two tracts of NE/4 of Sec. 15, T10, R32, parcel 4 site pland and .10 acre.

Nov. 10, Cecilia M. Allen Trust to Cecilia M. Allen; north 50'of Lots 9-12, Block 14, Original Brewster.

• Nov. 12, Bradley K. Rogg to Gaskill Range L.P.; W/2 of SW/4 of Sec. 27, T10, R36.

• Nov. 12, Doran E. Rogg Trust to Gaskill Range R34, tract also known as 1940 Range Ave.

L.P.; SE/4 of E/2 of SW/4 of Sec. 27, T10, R36. • Nov. 12, Helen Rogg Trust to Gaskill Range L.P.; SE/4 of E/2 of SW/4 of Sec. 27, T10, R36.

• Nov. 12, Sandra K. Rogg to Gaskill Range L.P.; W/2 of SW/4 of Sec. 27, T10, R36.

• Nov. 13, Helen E. Rogg Trust to Gaskill Range L.P.; N/2 of Sec. 27, T10, R36.

• Nov. 13, Ronald H. Rogg Trust to Gaskill Range

• Nov. 14, Tab and Lisa Wood to Dane H. and Lori L. Rogers; south 24' of Lot 2 and north 20' of Lot 3, Block 2, Colby South View Addition.

• Nov. 15, Alan R. and Barbara S. Rogg Trust to Gaskill Range L.P.; W/2 of SW/4 of Sec. 27, T10, R36.

• Nov. 17, Susie G. Barkman Marital Trust to Randall L. and Melissa L. Regier; SW/4 of Sec. 29, T9, R33

• Nov. 18, Merry Lee Lewis Estate to Robert W. and Susan McLemore; E/2 of SE/4 of Sec. 25, T7,

Jhange coming to finances, work

Aries (March 21 – April 20) While the week begins with attention on your financial situation, the focus is going to shift to your professional life, both potentially game changing, with a need to take a smart approach, pacing yourself.

Taurus (April 21 – May 21) A big week on the job, relationship and financial fronts is going to see your attention divided, though there are times when one or the other is more urgent. At the start of the week, focus on your job. Set things in motion and let them play out.

Gemini (May 22 – June 21) Personal focus at the start of the week makes it hard to see game and family front. The glue holding changing professional impact. Give your heart direction before pushing your professional star. Open communications before is rare to get the second chances switching to a financial focus.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22) After a chance to reassess priorities you have a new appreciation of what home and family means to you. This is important as you move into the busiest time of year. Things improve on the relationship front, making clear boundaries important.

about to lose two crutches giving your way. There are big changes your heart a voice. To lose both as ahead and luck is once again on things are improving on romantic your side. You're sure of what you only.



• Weekly Horoscope

and relationship fronts, makes it important to take over where they left off. Things are about to get busier at work than you've probably ever known.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 23) Life would be easier if everything happened at different times and stayed in its own compartments, but it doesn't work that way. Defining income expectations is complicated by a busy week on the home everything together is communication from the heart.

Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23) It that are open to you as you. You have a second chance for a change of heart or to refine your expectations for the future. This has the potential to be life changing. This eclipses everything on the home, income, work and romantic fronts, with a need to trust and listen to your heart.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22) Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) You're Life's wheel of fortune turns back

want and have luck on your side when it comes to romance and love. Listen to your heart in income matters and job confidence. Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21)

A surge in job confidence carries some urgency. Get the communication lines open, the ideas flowing and things moving, knowing you can return to the drawing board and tweak things later if need be.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Listen to your heart, cement your professional intentions and desires for the future and let them settle. Wednesday brings you to a very smart, ideas and communication driven time of the year.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) For the first time since 1954, your career sector has given you a chance to consider your options and then come back a lot more sure of what you do and don't want. What you have now that you didn't have then are lucky income forces. This will continue to improve into the New Year.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20) While the focus is on your professional situation, this is not the only game in town, making it important to avoid developing tunnel vision. It's also an important week for money and networking.

For entertainment purposes



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