

Family

Season brings memories of youth

It's December. It is the time of year when my memories of childhood are most vivid, and they begin to replace my life of now with what was the reality of then.

I am 4 years old, blond curls bouncing as I rush through the crowds to make my way to see Santa Claus. I am in third grade and think I am terribly grown up, know just about everything, yet am still excited about the new doll I am sure I'll find under the Christmas tree.

The family makes its Christmas trek into New York. We make our annual pilgrimage to FAO Schwartz, walking along Fifth Avenue, slowly passing all the wondrously decorated store windows, remarking how each one seems more beautiful than the next.

St. Patrick's Cathedral is a welcome refuge where cold faces can get warm and tired feet can rest. We watch those who come, not just to rest, but to pray in the ornate holiness of the place.

Then, finally, on to the mecca of childhood, FAO Schwartz's four floors of all that a child could ever dream of wanting, where I ogle dolls and trains, and toys, and more toys, and still more.

"Santa will bring you just one from here," my mother tells me. I always pick the trains. I usually get a doll, but one year a chemistry set turned up under the tree. Now that is a whole other story.

Then we head to Rockefeller Center to watch the skaters, gaze at the tree and eat some lunch. The afternoon continues as we head south to Macy's for the visit to Santa, then back uptown for the highlight of the day, Radio City Music Hall and its Christmas



Carol Rahn

• From the Pulpit

show. There's always a spectacular movie, and the Rockettes.

As we make our way back to Grand Central Station, I am trying to store everything away, because I don't want the day ever to end.

But the New York trip isn't what I look forward to the most. That is always the church service the Sunday afternoon before Christmas - the Candlelight Service.

Candelabra decorated with real evergreen branches stand by the pews - three candled ones along the center aisle, and single candles along the sides. Candles in every window, and evergreen branches there as well.

And for me, now as then, the best thing about Christmas is the music. The choir singing its glorious anthems, and the congregation joining in for all the carols.

"How great my joy!" The choir jubilates my favorite anthem.

Then "Silent Night." By the time I'm in fourth grade, I can sing the alto part next to my father's bass, as we join with the other modern angels, proclaiming to all who will listen, "Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born."

When we leave, it is dark. It's cold enough to feel like my nostrils might freeze together, but that doesn't stop me from looking up into the blackening heavens. I point to the brightest star.

"Do you think that's the one?" I

ask my father.

"I think it probably is," he answers.

Now mind you, we are 25 miles from New York City, and there aren't a lot of stars to choose from, but there is always one that I know is IT. Never mind that the man at the planetarium said it was probably Jupiter and Venus coming close together; I have picked my star, and I know it is the one.

And surely that star signals that this year, Mary and Joseph will travel down Station Road in Irvington, N.Y., looking for a place for their baby to be born. They will ring our bell and we will welcome them in.

My parents and grandfather have the two larger bedrooms in front, and I have the small one overlooking the back yard, but there is plenty of room in the attic. And my bassinet is still up there, so baby Jesus will even have a bed to sleep in. I know I'll be ready, just in case they might show up.

But back to today's world and

this reality. Some things have not really changed. But now I will be joining the 21st century angels as I sing "Silent Night" in candlelight and pick out the star from the twinkling blanket that lies across the western Kansas sky.

And I will wait for Jesus to come, for I know he will. He will come again this year, as every year, and settle into my home and into my heart - and that will make all the difference. It always has. It always will.

May your Advent season be filled with hope, peace, joy and love, and may your know the fullness of Christ's blessings throughout Christmas and the New Year.

Carol Rahn is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Colby.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.61
Corn (bushel)	\$4.84
Milo (hundredweight)	\$8.23
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.49

Corrections

In a Briefly item, "Lions cooking flapjacks, sausage" on Page 1 of the Thursday, Dec. 2, edition of the *Colby Free Press*, the time of the Gem 4-H bake sale was incorrect. The sale is happening alongside the Gem Lions Club's pancake feed, which is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday. This was a reporting error.

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In same column, an item, "Dr. Regier farewell set for Monday,"

gave the time of the reception incorrectly. The reception will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at the City Limits Convention Center. This was due to an error in information given to the *Free Press*.

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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.

Deaths

David John Franke

David John Franke, 68, a Herndon area farmer, died Sunday, Nov. 28, in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

He was born June 25, 1942, in Oberlin, the son of Claude and Beulah (Tannehill) Franke and grew up on the family farm northeast of Herndon.

He graduated from Herndon High School in 1960 and attended Fort Hays State University and Mid Plains Community College in McCook, Neb. He served in the Nebraska National Guard and was a member of the Immanuel United Church of Christ and its cemetery board and the McCook Elks Lodge. After finishing school, he came back to work on the family farm.

He married Bonnie Needham on Oct. 20, 1968, in McCook.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two siblings, Vernon Franke and Gayle Grafel.

He is survived by his wife, of

the home; two sons, Dean (Carrie) Franke of Jefferson City, Mo., and Brian (Tracy) Franke of Albuquerque, N.M.; a daughter, Brenda (Aaron) Van Horn of Ottawa; three brothers, Roger (JoAnn) Franke of Hutchinson, Dick (Amelia) Franke of Talent, Ore., and Tom (Kay) Franke of Council Grove; two brothers-in-law, Don (Joan) Grafel, Herndon, and Dale (Gwen) Needham of Campbell, Neb.; two sisters-in-law, Joan Franke of Akron, Colo., and Donna (Wayne) Pick of McCook; and five grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, with burial in the church cemetery in Herndon.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday, with the family from 6 to 8 p.m., and from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Monday. The family suggests memorials to the American Heart Association.

Duane R. Krey

Duane R. Krey, 69, Oakley, a retired Kansas Highway Patrol trooper, died Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010, at the Gove County Medical Center in Quinter.

He was born Oct. 29, 1941, in Plainville, the son of Ernest and Nola (Gilbert) Krey.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy Krey, of the home; two sons, Bradley S. Krey of Lawrence and Justin R. Krey of Union, Mo.; a brother, Kurt Krey of Boone S.C.; and four grandchildren.

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963

All I want for Christmas is a New Puppy

Registered puppies for sale during the Christmas Open House at Southwind Plaza in The Rock

Saturday, Dec. 4
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

85th Birthday
•••••Card Shower•

Gerald Tubbs Sr.
Monday, Dec. 6th

Please send cards to:
945 E. 5th St.
Colby, KS 67701

"We Serve"

PANCAKES

EGGS - SAUSAGE - PIE

GEM LIONS CLUB

Gem Community Building
December 8, 2010
11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

"Serving the best since 1955"

Winter Arts & Crafts Fair
Sunday, December 5, 2010
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hoxie 4-H Building

New and Favorite Vendors

Lunch served by White House Chefs featuring Chicken Noodle Soup, Jim's BBQ Sandwich, and other goodies.

Questions call Reba 785-675-1602

Open House
December 4, 2010
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

10% OFF SALE ONE DAY ONLY!

Handmade Christmas Ornaments

Candles, Cards, Jewelry, Soap, Bags, Aprons, Baby Items, Pottery, Books, Home decor and more!

Open Sundays 1 - 5 Through Christmas

Featuring Special Guests
Elsie Rietcheck with Western Decor and Julie Barnes with Christmas Cards & Gifts

Creations Gallery
478 N Franklin • Colby, KS 67701

SERVICES DIRECTORY

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

Schedule of church services

GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP, 2nd and Sunrise, Oakley. Pastor James Bloom, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church 10:15 a.m., Wednesday evening Bible Study and Intercessory Prayer 6:30 p.m. 785-671-4020.

COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee's building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 785-460-0313, Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 785-462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday, Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May.

COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, 245 W. College Dr., Colby. Pastor Steve Todd. Worship Service 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Wednesday Youth at The Rock 3:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday evening services at 6:30 p.m. on all Sundays except the 5th Sunday of every month. 785-462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, www.colbyberan.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. and Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Pastor Mark Carlton, Senior Pastor and Pastor Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor. Middle School Group Wednesday 7 p.m. at the Attic and High School Youth Group Sunday 6 p.m. at the Attic. AWANA Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the church.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Rev. Craig Crossman, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; RC Club 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH (Affiliated with Southern Baptist), 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 785-460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship Services, 10:45 a.m. Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday's.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-890-3375, 3190 Road 70, Edison, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, 501 Bellview Ave. Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Tom Peyton. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Worship Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Evenings 6:30. 3rd Sunday informal fellowship - bring a snack to share! First Sunday of month - carry-in dinner following morning worship.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 785-462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 a.m. and 9:25-9:40 a.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 785-462-6342. Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website colbypres.org.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 785-460-6605, President Andy Rose, 785-460-6807; Erwin Mitchell, 1st counselor, 785-460-1952; Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counselor, 785-953-1043. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays or by appointment. Call 785-462-3571.

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday worship, 10 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M. Training Centers (Bible School), 6 p.m. Shoponline at: www.rlmregionalchurch.com.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 785-460-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. www.colbyumc.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Minister, Jarrod Spencer. 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m. www.colbychurch.com

OASIS WORSHIP CENTER, Colby, Pastor J. Curry, 785-462-0913. Sunday Service at 2 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Lyle Knebel, 385 W. 3rd - 785-460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church at 10:00 a.m.

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Rev. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 205 1st St., Pastor Charles Taff, 785-586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 785-687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

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