

Stores spreading cheer and Valentine balloons

As part of a new "Heart 2 Heart" campaign, Dillons stores across Kansas, including the one in Colby, will be spreading a little cheer this Valentine's Day by delivering assorted balloons to area children's organizations, hospices, family centers and community homes.

For every paper heart balloon purchased at any Dillons through Sunday, Feb. 12, a plastic Valentine's Day balloon will be delivered to local organizations.

Tom Chain, manager of the Colby store, said he is excited about the program and people's response to it. As of Thursday, he said, four days into the campaign, they have sold about 200 of the \$3.99 paper hearts. The store's goal is 240, which would Colby second among the stores in western Kansas overall.

"It really shows the heart of the people here," Chain said.

Balloons from the Colby store will go to the St. Francis Academy, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Colby Care Center, the Prairie Senior Living Complex, Fairview Estates and Oakley Manor.

All balloons will be delivered just in time for Valentine's Day. Given the extent of the program, Chain said, none can be sent to individual homes. However, with the big response, the store is taking suggestions to add organizations to the list.

In 2011, Heart 2 Heart was introduced in Omaha stores of Baker's, which like Dillons is a subsidiary of the Kroger Co.

"We had such a heart-warming experience in delivering all the balloons and spreading smiles from our customers," said Sheila Lowrie, a company spokeswoman, "that we couldn't wait to share the same experience in Kansas."

It's a 'Super' mistake to drink and then drive

It's an annual event for many. Friends and family will gather around the flat screen across the state Sunday in a midwinter tradition, Super Bowl Sunday.

While sharing the latest cheese dip or hearty bowls of chili, many also may be more inclined to drink and drive. This is why the Kansas Department of Transportation is urging Kansans to plan ahead to avoid driving impaired. Acting Secretary of Transportation, Barbara Rankin, is encouraging everyone to be proactive.

"We all play a part in eliminating drunk driving," Rankin said. "Make the right play and pass your keys to a sober designated driver so you can get home safely."

Col. Ernest E. Garcia, superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, added that Kansans can set the right example.

"Watching the Super Bowl together is a great tradition ..." Garcia said. "We owe it to each other to keep the day fun and safe. Don't ruin your Super Sunday with a DUI arrest or a crash and possibly a trip to the hospital."

In addition to encouraging partygoers to designate a driver or to make other game-day travel plans, Rankin said party hosts should take steps to make sure their guests don't remember the party

for all the wrong reasons.

- Show all your guests that you care for their safety by offering their designated drivers the best seat to watch the game, front-of-the-line buffet privileges or a special party gift.

- Before kickoff, arrange ride-sharing for guests without a designated driver.

- Have plenty of nonalcoholic beverages on hand, and serve plenty of food.

- Only serve alcohol to guests over 21 years of age.

- Signal "last call" and stop serving alcoholic beverages at a predetermined time, such as the beginning of the third quarter.

- Be prepared to invite guests to spend the night if an alternative way home is not available.

- Always buckle up. It's the best defense on the road.

"A sober designated driver is just smart thinking and a smart move for all football fans who want to enjoy the big game together," Rankin said.

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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.72
Corn (bushel)	\$6.27
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.73
Soybeans (bushel)	\$10.74

Confession's hard; frees us to move on

Many churches include a time of confession in their worship services.

In the Presbyterian tradition the time of confession comes immediately after our first hymn of praise. After praising God's greatness and glory we realize how far short we fall of God's expectations and are then led to confess those ways we have not lived up to how God would want us to live. We ask for God's forgiveness and then in an Assurance of Grace hear the good news of God's forgiving love in Jesus Christ.

But I have heard many people complain that this "confession thing" can be such a downer. "Don't I go to church to feel good?" they ask. "I'm not in church to be made to feel guilty and bad about myself. Leave the confession stuff out of it."

Admittedly, confession and forgiveness are not easy. They do involve looking deeply and truthfully at how we live and where we have done things we shouldn't have or not done things we ought to have done and then admitting it, which is probably the most difficult part of all. Confession means acknowledging to ourselves and to God that we are not as perfect as we'd like to think we are and then true, honest from the heart confession means saying that we are sorry. We are humbled into facing our own fallibility and imperfect humanity. And that can be painful to our pride and our ego. Confession can hurt.

Confession is saying that we blew it, are deeply sorry that we messed up and we want to be free to start over again with a clean slate. And God's grace in Jesus liberates us so we can begin again. We have a fresh start; we are, in Paul's words, new creations.

As hard as it is to confess our wrongdoings to God it is often even more difficult to admit a mistake to a person who has been hurt or harmed by our words or actions. Not only is it hard to admit we are wrong, but also to say in so many words, "Without your forgiveness I am still bound to whatever hap-

pened between us. I want, I need your forgiveness to be free of the breach between us." Not only must we admit we are wrong, we must also humble ourselves enough to acknowledge our dependency on others. But only when we are willing to receive forgiveness can we truly give it.

To forgive another person is an act of liberation. We are setting both the other person and ourselves free from whatever hurt and pain has come between us. We are saying, "I no longer hold your offense against you." But in saying that we are also freeing ourselves from the burden of being the "offended one," of thinking of ourselves as "the hurt party," of making our pain the focal point of the relationship. As long as we don't forgive those who have wounded us, they are always with us, we carry them around as a heavy burden. It seems so much easier to cling to the anger we have and define ourselves as being offended or wounded by them. And so often the one we blame for hurting us is totally unaware of our feelings, and we are the only ones suffering from whatever offense has chilled the relationship.

Forgiveness is freedom. We liberate not only the one who has hurt us, but also ourselves. All concerned are released to know the true freedom of being God's children. But we have to do something about it. We just can't want things to be better.

If we want to heal our broken relationships with others or with God, we must let pride go and in humility, and let God's grace and mercy in. We need to forgive one another for not being God.

Carol Rahn is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Colby. She may be reached at 462-6342.



Carol Rahn

• From the Pulpit

Babies

Aiden Tommy Dillon



Aiden Dillon

Aiden Tommy Dillon, son of Jason Dillon and Rebekka Canto of Oberlin, was born Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Aiden was welcomed home by brother Jason. Grandparents are Tommy and Mayda Canto of Oberlin.

Stephanie Louise Keim



Stephanie K.

Stephanie Louise Keim, daughter of Bradley and Christine Keim of Goodland, was born Monday, Jan. 23, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches.

Stephanie was welcomed home by her brothers, Curtis and Austin, and sister Brooke.

Grandparents of the baby are Larry and Anita Witte of Murrieta, Calif.

Ruth Nicole Leebrick

Ruth Nicole Leebrick, daughter of Daniel and Shannon Leebrick of Atwood, was born Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and measured

20 1/4 inches.

Grandparents are Lance and Brenda Leebrick of Atwood and Keith and Diana Portenier of Jamestown.

Beau Francis Ortner

Beau Francis Ortner, son of Ryan and Kate Ortner of Colby, was born Thursday, Jan. 12, 2012, at the Hays Regional Medical Center. He weighed 8 pounds and measured 20 1/2 inches.

He was welcomed home by

siblings Jonathan, 10, Tommy, 8, Lauren, 7, Miah, 5, and Jacob, 2.

Grandparents are Jim and Joani Arens and Bob and Carol Ortner, all of Ainsworth, Neb. Great-grandparents are Melvin and Dorothy Ortner of Mapleton, Iowa.

Academic honors earned

Several students from Thomas County earned semester honors from Kansas State University for their academic performance in the fall 2011 semester. The university awards semester honors to students who earned a 3.75 grade average or higher for the semester. Local students honored are listed below.

Colby: Ashley Taylor Standage, Gerald Joseph Huffles, Jacob Andrew Rose, Janelle Grace Rice, Jeremy John Harter, Joseph Frank Heier, Justin David Shields, Matthew David Oesterreich, Mitchell Gregory Gatz and Taylor Nicole McLemore.

Gem: Todd Matthew Ziegelmeier.

Benedictine names dean's list

Luke Blair of Oakley and Kathleen Friess of Hoxie have been names to the dean's list at Benedictine College in Atchison for the fall term.

To achieve the Dean's List, students must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours and have a 3.5-to-3.9 grade average.

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



Services Directory

Schedule of church services



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Colby American Legion Post 363 Game Day Bowl Party

**Doors open at 2 p.m.
Chili & Sloppy Joes • \$5 donation**

Bring your favorite finger foods to add to the buffet.
Full bar service available.

Come watch the game on our 55" HDTV

(Members & Guests Welcome) 1850 W. 4th St., Colby



Saint Francis Community Services
www.st-francis.org
800-898-4896

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• Wal-Mart, Inc. #1214

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. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Worship 10:15 a.m. Kid's Church for Kindergarten-5th grade during Worship Service. Nursery available for kids birth - 5 yrs old. Wednesday night: Family night September - May. Meal served 6 - 6:30 p.m. CD Kidz for kids birth - 5th grade, Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders and Adult Bible Study at 7 p.m. 785-462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, www.colbyborean.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. Contemporary Evening Service at 4 p.m. through the semester.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-728-7380, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (MST)

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, 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. 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 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

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 Mike Baughn, 785-694-2278, 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.