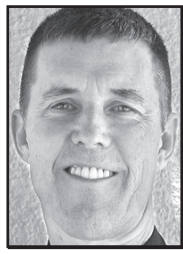


# God as Matchmaker provides church for support in grief and joy

*The Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him" (Genesis 2:18).*



**Robert Alexander**

• **From the Pulpit**

It's not a sin to be single. Like any station in life, it's what you think, say and do within that station – judged by God and his word – that determines whether it's a sin or not. It is, however, a sin to single yourself out from other believers: "I don't need them," or, "they don't need me." God made us to be in relation with other humans, especially within the context of family and church where we find "helpmates."

The Matchmaker gives us helpmates aplenty, since we are all baptized "by one Spirit into one body" (1 Corinthians 12:13). That body is the Body of Christ, the church with Jesus as the head. The church is localized, what we call a congregation (like Trinity), and is marked by the preaching and teaching of God's Word in its truth and purity.

So can I consider myself so on top of things that I don't need other believers to make a go of it in this world? In other words, do I really need to go to church? Am I capable of handling life and being a Christian without anyone's help?

If I have that attitude, then I'm the "eye"

that says to the rest of the body – of believers and Christ – "I don't need you" (1 Corinthians 12:21).

But you do; but they do. It's not good, it's a sin for you to single yourself out from other believers and be a "Lone Ranger" Christian. How can you "rejoice with those who rejoice" or "weep with those who weep" (Romans 12:15) if you're out on your own?

The joy you will experience as a Christian, such as the joy of knowing that in Christ you have been reconciled with the heavenly Father, is more joyous when it's shared with others. The pain you will have is better endured when it's shared with others who can remind you of the promises of God, such as the promise that all things, even the troubles, will work together for your good (Romans 8:28), and the promise that God will never leave you or for-

sake you (Hebrews 13:5).

When you are burdened with the guilt of sin it's good to hear it verbalized often that God forgives you through Christ (Galatians 6:2). The world is a better place for having Christians who are fired up by the good work of Christ to love others and to do good works. Your "helpmates" can help keep you fired up and focused on Christ who died for you. Your life is better for having the encouragement of other Christians (Hebrews 10:24-25), your God-given "helpmates," are they are better off for having you do the same.

*Prayer:* Thank you, father, for matching me up with you, creating faith in me and making me a part of your family. Thank you for matching me up with other believers in Christ. Help me to put my pride or lack of pride to the side, so I can seek to help other Christians, and to seek help from them so that together, with the Spirit's help through your word, I can be part of fulfilling "the Law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Help me, Lord, to be a matchmaker, to bring others into a personal relationship with you and with my fellow believers. Amen.

*The Rev. Bob Alexander is pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church at Fifth and Country Club in Colby. He may be reached at 462-3497.*

## Deaths

### Maytha Louise Starns

Maytha Louise Starns, 82, sister of William C. Selby of Brewster, died Tuesday, July 10, 2012, at the Woodhaven Care Center in Ellinwood.

She was born Oct. 20, 1929, in Alfalfa County, Okla., the daughter of William O. and Stella Scarlett Selby.

On June 12, 1954, she married Thomas W. Starns at Brewster. They lived in Hill City, where they taught school, and moved to Ellinwood in 1984.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church in Ellinwood and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Preceding her in death were a sister, Nadine Struckhoff, and a

brother, Bruce Selby.

She is also survived by her husband, of the home; two daughters, Sheryl Starns, Little Rock, Ark., and Connie S. (Frank) Cortez, Ellinwood; another brother, James O. Selby, Council Grove; and three grandchildren.

Graveside inurnment and services will be at 1 p.m. (Central Time) Tuesday, July 17, 2012, at the Brewster Cemetery, with Mike Baughn officiating.

There will be no visitation.

The family suggests memorials in her name to be designated later, in care of the Kershenbrock Funeral Chapel, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, Kan., 67701.

## Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met at Colby Community College Tuesday with 31 members and guests Brittany Brielle, Paul and Tawnia Bange and Kinley Ziegelmeier.

Vice-President Marilyn Unger read a thank you note from the Thomas County Community Foundation for the club's donation to the Community Walking Trail.

Marla Crumrine introduced Brittany Bange for the program. The 2011 Rotary scholarship winner, she gave an overview of her freshmen year at Fort Hays State University where she is pursuing an art degree.

She participated in the Fort Hays Leadership Class, which traveled to Ireland for two weeks earlier this summer. The focus of

the program is to teach students how to work successfully in a diverse world.

While in Ireland the class spent time in Belfast, Dublin, County Kerry, Shannon and Killery. Bange enjoyed touring the St. Patrick's Cathedral and Blarney Castle. She noted that she kissed the Blarney Stone and had the picture to prove it.

Mike Tubbs won Roto-Loto.

Rotary meets weekly in Room 106 of the Student Union.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.80
Corn (bushel)	\$7.46
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.70
Soybeans (bushel)	\$14.42

*We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com*

# Remember safety on beach and in boats

Pools, lakes and ponds across the country are full of swimmers looking for some cool relief. According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 10 people die every day from unintentional drowning. If you're planning to spend time on or in the water, keep these water safety tips in mind.

**Teach swimmers.** Lack of swimming ability is a primary factor leading to drowning, but research shows that participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk, even for children as young as 1 year old. If you are swimming in a lake where boaters are present, teach children to stay in designated swimming areas as swimmers can be difficult for boaters to see.

**Supervise even good swimmers.** Drowning is not the waving, splashing, yelling event that is often portrayed on television. Rather, it happens quickly and quietly as a struggling swimmer often cannot make noise. Swimming in areas where lifeguards are present is always a safer option, but lifeguards should not be considered an alternative to supervising members of your party.

**Wear a life jacket.** Invest in properly fitted life jackets, regardless of the swimming ability of boaters. The Coast Guard reports more than two-thirds of victims in boating accidents were not wearing life jackets.

**Designate a driver: boating and alcohol don't mix.** Never al-

low a person who has been drinking alcohol to operate a boat. According to the Coast Guard, alcohol use is involved in up to 70 percent of incidents associated with water recreation. Alcohol impairs coordination and judgment, and its effects are heightened by heat exposure.

**Proper gear.** Ponds and lakes may hide jagged rocks, cans, broken glass and trash. Wear foot protection – aqua socks or sandals – in the water to prevent injuries.

**Don't forget the sunscreen.** Never underestimate the power of the sun, especially when it's reflected off water. Use an appro-

priate sunscreen and reapply more frequently if you or your kids are getting wet. Sunglasses, hats and protective clothing also help provide protection.

**Drink plenty of fluids.** Even when surrounded by water, it's easy to get dehydrated in the heat. Dizziness, lightheadedness and nausea are all signs of overheating or heat stroke. Drink plenty of water to prevent heat illness.

Share these water safety tips with your family and friends before hitting the beach or heading to the pool. It will keep the focus on fun while ensuring a safe holiday celebration.

## Footloose tortoise rescued

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) – A 50-pound tortoise that was moseying down a Grand Junction street has been rescued by police.

The *Grand Junction Sentinel* reports (tinyurl.com/775rep9) someone called 911 to report the tortoise was creeping along the curb and sometimes weaving into

traffic.

A police officer moved the tortoise away from the road and a state Parks and Wildlife volunteer took it to a veterinary hospital.

Authorities say the tortoise had a registration tag attached to its shell that helped identify its owners. The owners' names weren't released.

### Bonita Mae Geist-Palmer

Bonita Mae Geist-Palmer was born in Oberlin, KS on March 2, 1951 to Al and Doris Geist and went home to be with the Lord on July 3, 2012 at the age of 61.

Bonita, or "Bo" as close friends and family members called her, attended Hoxie High School, graduating in 1969 and going on to obtain her Nursing Degree at Newman Hospital School of Nursing, Emporia, KS. Bonita married Tony Palmer and later divorced. She worked throughout Texas at many hospitals and home health agencies. She went on to obtain her Master's Degree in Nursing at the University of Texas. Bonita made her home in Lago Vista, TX for many years.

She was a caring and giving person, who cared for animals and enjoyed deep friendships. She loved her family dearly and having no children of her own, lavished her love and care on her Nieces and Nephews. Bonita was a self-taught painter who enjoyed painting Texas Landscapes, especially deer and bluebonnets.

Bonita was preceded in death by her sister Pat Keller and her father Alfred Geist. Remaining relatives include her mother, Doris Geist of Hoxie, KS; sister, Donna and Les german of Elk City, OK; sister, Barbara Cooper of Omaha, NE; brother, Joe and Sheila Geist of Tyrone, GA; brother, Dave and Deb Geist of Shawnee, KS; sister, Jan and Tom Juenemann of Selden, KS; as well as a host of Nieces and Nephews and their children.

Memorial services were held Saturday, July 7th at Beck Funeral Home in Cedar Park, TX. Memorials may be mailed to Central Texas SPCS, Post Office Box 98, Cedar Park, Texas, 78613.

### Siruta's

**Kid's Pedal Power Tractor Pull**

**Sunday, July 15**  
**4 to 6 p.m.**  
**Before the Races**

*Come out and practice before the Thomas County Fair Pull on August 1st.*

### Stop and Take a Moment

## Murphy's Law

Of course you have heard about Murphy's Law. "If anything can go wrong it will go wrong". I have experienced these words of law many times, especially in my real estate career. The process of selling a home has many steps to it and in those steps a slip up can occur.

Ok, a home is listed, marketed, offer made, contract signed...it is all done...finished...right? Wrong...! I have experienced so many things that can go wrong and thought it might be interesting to share a few: \*The home does not appraise for contract purchase price \*Buyer goes out and buys a new vehicle during the home loan process and woops there goes the debt to income ratio \*Inspections...though certainly a great tool. An inspection can be the fatal end...So the roof does leak...and I forgot to mention the exposed wiring in the attic. \*All of a sudden the married bliss of two is missing and a divorce is pending. \*Plain Buyer's remorse sets in and the buyer comes up missing (yes it happened). \*Can't get clear title...Seller forgot to mention various liens. \*Perhaps the best one is...my wife kept shopping and has found a home she likes better... guess what that buyer almost purchased two homes.

Yep, "Murphy's Law" can be a reality...one that can best be eliminated with good ole communication. "See you at the closing table...!"

**"an agent outselling"**  
**Stock Realty & Auction Co.** mollyo@stockrealtyandauction.com (785)462-5203

# Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,** Pastor Dan Keel. 815 W. 3rd. Sundays at 2 p.m. 337-401-7207 (temp)

**CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH,** 1890 S. Franklin Ave. - Colby Community Building. Pastor Dave Funk. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. www.celebratejesus.org

**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, Youth Pastor Ben Phillips. 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.

**To become a sponsor call Sharon or Kathryn today at 462-3963.**

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,** (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Rev. James Bridges, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study: 6:30 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)

**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.

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

**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.,** 345N. 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. Shop online 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

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

*This feature is sponsored by these business firms as a contribution to the religious life of the community.*

### Our Saviors Lutheran Church

**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.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,** Rev. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497. Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Beginning June 3 - Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m., Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 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.

**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.

**155 W. Fifth St. 785-462-3963**

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