

Deaths

Theron E. Johnson

Theron E. Johnson, 78, Colby, who retired as dean of student services at Colby Community College, died Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

He was born Dec. 5, 1933, in Sutherland, Utah, to Amon and Laura (Erickson) Johnson.

An educator and administrator, he bred quarter horses and professionally showed quarter horses in the National Reined Cow-Horse Association.

Preceding him in death were his parents, a brother, Amon Deloy, and two sisters, Janeanne Johnson and Bonnie Lou Graham.

Survivors include his wife, Jane Johnson, Colby; five sons, Doug (Melissa) Johnson, Colby; Mitchell Johnson, LaSal, Utah; Russell (Becky) Johnson, Indian Springs, Nev.; Joshua (Angela) Turvy, Flagstaff, Ariz.; and Rob-

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday at Colby Community College with 34 members and guests Rick Billinger, Cherry Chen, Cindi Kriss and Dr. Stephen Vacik attending.

President Melany Wilks thanked the 13 members that helped with the trash pickup service project on July 25.

The schedule for the Plinko game was finalized. Members will run this game each evening of the Thomas County Fair.

Jeff Horlacher was recognized for achieving his eighth multi-level Paul Harris Fellow award.

Vacik, college president, gave the program on the state of the college. The college's district covers more than a sixth of Kansas in 14 counties. Vacik said that while the college covers the largest area, it has the least population to draw from in comparison with other community colleges in Kansas, directly affecting both enrollment and income.

Vacik said the Higher Learning Commission will return to the col-

lege in 2014 to renew the college's accreditation. When the commission was here in 2004 their recommendations were to do a better job of assessment; to develop a strategic plan and to improve the financial health of the college.

He said procedures are now in place to measure assessment and a new strategic plan for the next three to five years has been developed. Vacik encouraged members to review the strategic plan on the college's website and provide feedback.

The recommendation for financial stability is still of concern, and there is still much improvement needed. Colby has started recruiting students from Colorado, Nebraska and Texas to help with enrollment and is offering specialty programs to help improve financial stability.

Joyce Washburn won Roto-Lotto.

Rotary meets weekly on Tuesday in Room 106 of the Student Union.

Several Thomas County and Logan County students have been named to honor rolls at Garden City Community College for the spring semester.

On the President's Honor Roll, for students with perfect grade averages of 4.0, Devinn Ritter of Selden and Bailey Hemmert of Oakley were named.

The Dean's Honor Roll, listing students with averages of 3.2 to 3.999, includes Ryan Murphy and Adam Weber, both of Colby, and Rilee Sprenger of Gem.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day		
Hi-Plains Co-op		
Wheat (bushel)		\$8.00
Corn (bushel)		\$7.99
Milo (hundredweight)		\$13.62
Soybeans (bushel)		\$15.43

Song a reminder: God meets us

The Presbyterian congregations in Colby and Hoxie are singing in Italian.

Most congregations are not amused when their pastor tries to teach a new hymn in English, so you can imagine the reception I received when I introduced one in Italian. But I had my reasons. I had learned this short hymn during my visit to the Taize community last April and it became a favorite for me and my husband. We would leave worship humming the tune, and finally, at my husband's insistence, we began to learn the words.

The words are credited to Ambrose of Milan, a church leader in the fourth century. Translated from the Italian the lyrics are: "The Lord restores you. God does not push you away. The Lord comes to meet you." I tried to put the English words with the Taize tune, but couldn't get it to work. So the Presbyterians are singing in Italian.

We are singing in Italian because the words of this hymn, in whatever language they are sung, are important. They are good theology.

How often have you heard, or perhaps even said, "I wonder what I've done wrong for God to be so far away?" or "I've been such a sinner that God left me long ago." The words of this hymn say that isn't the case; I think Ambrose got it right.

God doesn't push us away. We push away God. We find other things in our lives that take priority over God, so that God's presence becomes less and less important. For some God

Corrections

A photo caption on Page 1 of the Wednesday, Aug. 1, *Colby Free Press*, named retired firefighter Richard Janne as the coordinator for the Zumbathon last Friday. He was a guest speaker. Coordinators were dance instructors Kris Cameron, Nicole Weigel and Sara Betz. The Colby Fire Department was host. Although about 100 people danced at the event, about 400 people attended. This was a reporting error.

☆☆☆☆☆  
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.

College names honor students

Several Thomas County and Logan County students have been named to honor rolls at Garden City Community College for the spring semester.

On the President's Honor Roll, for students with perfect grade averages of 4.0, Devinn Ritter of Selden and Bailey Hemmert of Oakley were named.

The Dean's Honor Roll, listing students with averages of 3.2 to 3.999, includes Ryan Murphy and Adam Weber, both of Colby, and Rilee Sprenger of Gem.

Receiving Honorable Mention with averages ranging from 3.0 to 3.199, are Candy Bryant and Ryan Zweygardt, both of Colby, and Ethan Jirak of Oakley.

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



Carol Rahn

• From the Pulpit

can even become a nuisance as twinges of guilt nag at us, trying to bring God back into our lives. But we don't think we want God, don't need God, or both, so God begins to disappear. We leave God alone.

Then when trouble happens, when it feels like life is getting out of our control, we can find someone to blame. God. God has pushed me away. God has deserted me. God doesn't care. But God has always cared. God never pushes us away, never deserts us, never abandons us. That's what we have done. God's been with us all the time. We were the ones who didn't care.

God did everything in God's power to show the people of Israel divine grace, power, love and forgiveness, but they stubbornly went their own way.

Political and religious leaders made sure they were well taken care of, while leaving the poor and the ill to fend for themselves. They relied on their own power, rather than trusting in God.

Their philosophy became me first, others

last, and no room for Yahweh. Then, when the enemies conquered the lands of Israel and Judah, it was God who had abandoned them, even though the prophets had preached that they were the ones abandoning God.

God's answer was simple and daring. God came to the people as one of them.

"See. I'm here. I'm one of you. I never left you and I'm not going to now." That was the essence of Jesus' message.

But many were still not convinced, and Jesus' message of love for neighbor, and even enemy, his abundant well of compassion and forgiveness and his life-giving sacrifice were not enough to show how faithful God was, is and will always be. It was not enough to show how close God is willing to come to us, to restore us and keep us eternally near to God's heart.

In Jesus, God came to us and through the Holy Spirit comes to us still, to restore us and give us new life, here, now and forever. God will never push us away. The Lord is always ready to come to us, to meet us where we are. Just as I am is just fine with God.

So – here's the Italian lesson. "Il Signore ti ristora. Dio non allontana. Il Signore nore viene ad incontrati. Viene ad incontrati." Amen.

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

Man climbs tree, but gets stuck upside down

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) – An Alaska man had to be rescued after he climbed a tree for exercise but got stuck upside down by one leg.

Fairbanks firefighters had to use a ladder truck to reach the 53-year-old man, who was dangling nearly 30 feet off the ground. He was uninjured.

Assistant Fire Chief Ernie Misewicz told the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* (is.gd/SF28k2) in an e-

mail that the man decided to climb the tree because "it was something he wanted to do."

He said the man had spikes and a belt around his stomach, and that he lost his grip and fell backward. The belt slipped below his waist, flipping him over.

Authorities were alerted by a friend, whom the man called from a cellphone attached to a lanyard around his neck.



Member FDIC

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Colby



"Your Community Bank, Supporting The Community"

The Thomas County Community Foundation (TCCF) recently received a gift of \$5,000 from the Pete Henry Foundation to the Farmers & Merchants Thomas County Amusement Fund. Farmers & Merchants Bank has also recently donated \$5,000 to the Amusement Association.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank of Colby initiated this fund in 2007 to help purchase new kids fair rides for the Thomas County Amusement Association. In 2007 and 2008 there was a total of \$50,000 donated to this fund from Farmers & Merchant's Bank, Pete Henry Foundation and Western Sprinklers, which was then granted to the Amusement Association to help purchase the carousel and the fun slide.

"We are happy to help out the Thomas County Amusement Association in this way. The volunteers on this board work very hard to provide us with great fair rides for our families and we appreciate all that they do. We hope others will donate to this fund, so we can start raising funds to purchase another big ride," stated Brent Wiedeman, Farmers & Merchants Bank President/CEO.

The Thomas County Amusement Association has featured a home-owned carnival since 2003. Currently there are four adult rides and four children rides available for the citizens of Thomas County to enjoy. These rides are operated by various groups of volunteers each night of the fair. Donations are always appreciated to help pay for updates for the fair rides. If you would like to donate to the Farmers & Merchants Thomas County Amusement Fund, please send your tax-deductible check to the Thomas County Community Foundation with "Amusement Fund" in the memo section to 350 S. Range Suite 14, Colby, KS 67701.

Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



Redeeming Love Ministries, Inc.

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**, Pastor Dan Keel. 815W.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, 515W. 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.

155 W. Fifth St.  
785-462-3963

COLBY LUMBER

Bud Van Horn and Staff  
1760 W. 4th 462-2181

CERSOVSKY INSURANCE

"Customer Service is Our Policy"

CINDY L. CERSOVSKY

370 N Franklin • P.O. Box 310 • Colby  
785-462-7544 • Toll Free  
888-462-7544