

Brewster school, churches busy with activities of Christmas season

The Christmas season is keeping things busy in Brewster.

A good time was had by all at the Methodist Church caroling party last Sunday. The children at the Community Church put on a great Christmas program Sunday. After the program, everyone enjoyed fellowship and a potluck dinner.

Don't forget the school music program, "Fantasia on a Christmas Theme," at 7 p.m. Tuesday. You won't want to miss it. The student council will be serving soup before the concert from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Chili and chicken noodle soup will be available. Donations accepted.

The Brewster High School scholars bowl team has had a lot of success in their season so far.

On Nov. 5, the varsity placed



Angie Moore

• Brewster Correspondent

second at the Golden Plains meet, receiving a plaque and medals.

The next week on Nov. 15, the varsity placed third with medals at Goodland.

On Nov. 19, both the varsity and junior varsity attended a meet at Wheatland-Grinnell, where the junior varsity made it out of pool play and into championship rounds, placing fourth.

Last Monday, both varsity and junior varsity teams attended the Triplains meet with 10 teams competing. Varsity placed second after a tiebreaker was needed to

decide the overall winner and received a plaque and medals for their efforts. The junior varsity also placed second in this meet and received medals.

Our next scholars bowl competition will be Wednesday, Jan. 16, at Triplains, the Western Kansas Liberty League Scholars Bowl meet. On Monday, Jan. 21, Brewster will hold its home meet followed by regionals on Thursday, Jan. 31. State competition will be Saturday, Feb. 9.

Team members include seniors Will Allen, Ben Baird, Amber Barrie, Dan Brown and Christian Kramer; juniors Ashley Barrie, Justin Culwell and Rook Shaw; sophomore Alicia Barrie and freshman Rachel Friess. They are coached by Kathy Banister.

If you have Brewster news or

upcoming events you would like to share please let me know. E-mail angiem@st-tel.net, call 694-3008, or drop information off at the Prairie Land Insurance office.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars met Wednesday at the post. President Anita Thiel conducted the meeting.

A flag was given to a local resident.

Coats were purchased and given to local school kids.

The membership chairman reported a member still in cancer treatment.

Publicity reported the November meeting item in the *Colby Free Press*.

A book, "Life in the U.S. Military," by Dan Koffman was shown at the meeting. It will be placed in the Pioneer Memorial Library.

Wreaths Across America information was given: the seventh annual ceremony was to be Saturday at WaKeeney. Seven wreaths were to be placed to remember those who gave their lives in ser-

Deaths

'Bert' Withers

Memorial services for Roberta "Bert" Withers, Colby, 52, will be at 11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, 2012, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby.

She died Monday, Nov. 19, 2012, in Salina.

Survivors include her parents, Bob and Louise (Rall) Withers;

a sister, Brenda (Curtis) Counts, Salina; and two nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Tammy Walker Cancer Center instead of flowers.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.ryanmortuary.com.

tion covered during the holidays.

Workers for bingo nights and bingo finances were discussed.

Unpaid member dues were discussed and notices will be sent out.

The kids' Christmas party at the post was to be today.

The January meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. for an audit before the regular meeting at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the post.

— Hazel Duffey

Business means time to visit



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

December's Business after Five gave people a chance to catch up over food and drink Wednesday evening at Colby Ag, including (from left) Rory Dumler, Brandi Emmot and Brad Flipse.

Rudolph signs up postal volunteers

RUDOLPH, Ohio (AP) — The most famous postmark of all has been saved, thanks to volunteers in the northwest Ohio village of Rudolph.

Thousands of letters flood the village post office every December so that they can be stamped with a Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer postmark. But the tradition was in danger of ending when the post office staff was cut down to one, and the work became too much to handle.

"I struggled with it for a little bit, but then I just realized no matter what I wanted, it couldn't be done by me alone," said Charlotte Lamb, who's in charge of the tiny post office.

When word spread, pleadings from local politicians and townsfolk persuaded the U.S. Postal Service to allow volunteers to stamp the special Reindeer Station postmark on the 80,000 letters and cards that come in from across the country.

Close to 75 people, including a few retired postal workers, have signed up to work daily shifts.

"I'm retired, and I always thought this was a great service," said Mace Brumbaugh, who brought her own bag of Christmas cards to mail. "That's why we're here, to help one another."

Some people drive for hours with bundles of mail to get the postmark. But most out-of-town-ers send their cards, letters and packages to Rudolph by mail.

No one seems to remember when the tradition started. The post office got permission in the early 1990s to add a drawing of the famous reindeer to its postal cancellation during the month of December.

Since then, they've tinkered with the design to make each year unique.

The post office doesn't see much traffic in all the other months, and with the postal service facing huge

financial losses, the staff was cut from two to one in October.

Lamb knew giving up the holiday postmark would be tough, especially after telling one customer. "When I told him we're not doing it this year, his mouth about hit the floor," she said. "I thought, 'Man, I'm going to be doing this all month long.'"

Officials in Liberty Township, where the post office is located, asked a local state lawmaker for help.

"That is our trademark," said Rod Lucas, the township's fiscal officer. "People send packages

from all over the country."

The reindeer stamp generates about \$8,000 to \$10,000 in revenue for the post office. Without that money, it might not survive, said state Rep. Randy Gardner, who reached out to the postal service, which allowed the volunteers to take over the work.

"So Rudolph was saved," Gardner said.

To get Rudolph's postmark on your Christmas cards, send them already stamped, in a large envelope or box to: Postmaster, Rudolph, Ohio, 43462.

Margaret Genevieve (Jean) Mallory

Margaret Genevieve "Jean" Mallory died Saturday, December 15, 2012, at Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby, Kansas. Jean was born November 5, 1919, in Rawlins County, Kansas, the oldest child of Everest and Jessie (Montgomery) Curtin. She graduated from Marymount High School in Salina, Kansas, and moved to Manhattan, Kansas, where she worked for the State of Kansas. She married John Raymond Mallory on September 12, 1942. She lived and worked in Manhattan, Kansas, until Raymond finished serving in the Army in 1945. They then moved to Colby, Kansas.

They welcomed their first child, John Richard, in 1946, at which time she became a full-time homemaker. In 1950, they welcomed another son, Patrick Raymond. He was followed by twins, Timothy Lee and Janet Sue in 1955.

Jean enjoyed dancing, playing bridge, growing flowers, cooking, collecting pottery, traveling and socializing with her siblings and family. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby and the Daughters of Isabella. She and Raymond were always happy to assist their children's growing active families.

Jean is survived by her four children: Dick of Grand Junction, Colorado; Pat (Deanna) of Colby, Kansas; Tim of Salina, Kansas; and Sue (Bob) Thompson of Salina, Kansas; four grandchildren: Darcie (Brent) Hills of Fargo, North Dakota; Kerri (Tristan) Ricker of Elizabeth, Colorado; Sara Thompson of Portland, Oregon and Drew Thompson of Lawrence, Kansas; five great-grandchildren: Hanna, Alissa and Carter Hills of Fargo, North Dakota; and Mallory and Madalyn Ricker of Elizabeth, Colorado; brother John Curtin and sister Merle Pierson, both of Denver; Colorado and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband; John Raymond; parents; one brother Richard Curtin, and two sisters, Erma Cox and Marie Kutsuma.

Visitation for Jean will be from 2 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, December 18, 2012, at Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby, Kansas, with rosary service at 7 p.m.

A funeral mass will be at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 19, 2012, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, in Colby, Kansas with burial following at Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Memorials in Jean's name are suggested to Northwest Kansas Foundation for Hope in care of Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$8.02
Corn (bushel)	\$7.20
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.41
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.86

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.

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

Christmas Open House

Wednesday, Dec. 19th • 1 - 3 p.m.

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We will be celebrating
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Strutt Insurance Services, Inc. (S.I.S.)

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