

Family

Celebrating 50 years



Lauritsens 50 years ago

Wayne and Millie Lauritsen will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on Saturday, Dec. 29, at the Colby American Legion, with a reception from 6:30-8 p.m.-midnight.



Lauritsens now

Music will be provided by Off Limits. The event will be hosted by Kevin and Gail Lauritsen. Everyone is welcome. The couple requests no gifts.

Several perform with dance theatre in Colby

The Western Plains Arts Association and the David Taylor Dance Theatre presented Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* in the Colby High School Sunday, Dec. 9. Many citizens of Winona attended it, including me. It was very good with pretty costumes and much talent, some local.

On Dec. 12, it looked Christmasy. Rain arrived on Tuesday night the 11th and turned to snow and wind, so all was white and cold. It was supposed to go through fast.

Verlin and Norma Lee Plummer announce the birth of a new great-grandson. He is Westen Paul Hayes, born to Glen and Chanda Hayes in Quinter on Dec. 4. He weighed 9 lbs., 7 3/4 ozs. Westen has a brother, Ward, who welcomed him home.

Sunday dinner guests of John and Kay Repshire in Russell Springs were Mr. and Mrs. Steve Arthur, Erin and Cole, Hays, Chad and Lester Repshire,



Rosalie Bussen

• Winona Correspondent

Oakley, and Ray and Neet Repshire.

Correction: Dorothy Peitz is Rogers Ausmus' sister, and not aunt.

Rosalie Bussen visited Roger Leiker in Prairie Manor in Sharon Springs Saturday afternoon. Returning home,

Holiday blues common in December

It's not unusual this time of year for many people to feel down-in-the-dumps in spite of the festivity of the holiday season. For some, the coming season brings negative memories, reminding them of a childhood that was abusive or neglectful. For others it is a reminder of the loss of loved ones. People who tend to worry more feel an increase in anxiety over expectations that accompany the holidays, such as attending the annual office party, or joining in uncomfortable family get-togethers. In addition, the stresses of the season such as financial needs, time constraints and family demands, as well as recent national events, can contribute to a depressed mood. Such feelings can be overwhelming, but there are some things to do to help cope:

- Keep in mind that you are not alone, nor a bad person; many people feel the same way this time of year.
- Keep a proper perspective; it is only a short portion of the year.
- Reduce your expectations of the season; no family is perfect; many have conflicts.
- Ignore merchandising and the media implications of how people should feel. Very few of us can live up to the Walton family image.
- Plan ahead; limit the number of events to attend, the holiday decorating and gift giving.
- Tell yourself it's OK, even if things aren't perfect.
- Avoid isolation; being alone con-

she visited Bill and Diane Bauman in Wallace briefly.

Louie and Delmonte Tholen, Baker, Ore., have been houseguests of Joyce, Daylene and Kyle Bartell for several weeks. They all traveled to Salina for Thanksgiving Day with Virgil and Myrna Bartell. Bill Sroufe and friend Angie of McPherson, joined them there.

Jean Lowe and Laura Valdivia motored to Hays on Friday evening, Dec. 7. They were met there by Steve and Cynthia Seidemand of Hutchinson and

all attended the *Christmas Past* at Fort Hays.

Joyce Bartell hosted a pre-Christmas dinner on Saturday, Dec. 8. Present were Louie and Del of Oregon, Virgil and Myrna Bartell, Randy and Beth Bartell and daughter of Salina; Orman and Isabel Finch, Richard and Angela Fannine and son of Garden City; Ray Bartell and Steve Bartell, Denver; Roberts Salmans and fiancé, Virgil, Hoxie; Rhonda Fisher and children, Sharon Springs; Kyle Bartell; Glen Kemp and Daylene Bartell.

Deaths

Anna Barnett

Anna Ellen (Cheney) Barnett of Garden City, 89, died Monday, Dec. 17, 2001, at St. Catherine's Hospital, Garden City. She was a former Rexford area resident, and the mother of Dale Barnett, Rexford.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Hawkeye Cemetery, Decatur County, Pastor Gary Taylor officiating. Burial will be in the Hawkeye Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday at Pauls Funeral Home, Selden. Memorials are suggested to the Rexford or Gem Church.

Ermalina C. Vernon

OAKLEY — Ermalina C. (Rudell) Vernon, 69, died Sunday, Dec. 9, 2001, at Logan County Hospital, Oakley. She was a caregiver in a nursing home.

She was born April 8, 1932, in Wallace County, the daughter of Matthew and Mary (Pfeifer) Rudell. She married Virgil Huffman Sr. in 1956 in Oakley. Later she married James Vernon in Denver.

She lived most of her life in Colorado. In 1981 she moved back to Kansas where she lived in Almena and Goodland until moving to Oakley in 1992.

She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Oakley.

Survivors include her sons Virgil Huffman, Bill Huffman, and Randy Huffman, all of Oakley; brothers Clarence Rudell of Oakley, Joseph Rudell of Colby, and Francis Rudell of Oakley; sisters Henrietta Homm of Goodland and Julianna Bruggeman of Surprise, Ariz.; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents, husbands, son Larry Dean Huffman, brother John Rudell; sister Juanita Quenzer; and granddaughter.

Graveside memorial service was Friday at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Oakley, Fr. Roger K. Meitl officiating. Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, Oakley, was in charge of arrangements.

We welcome your news
mnelson@nwkanas.com

Betty Weeks

Betty Weeks, wife of Donald L. Weeks, formerly of Colby, died Saturday, Dec. 15, 2001 at their home in Onalaska, Texas. Services were Tuesday from Faith Christian Church, Livingston, Texas.

Cards may be sent to Don at PO Box 1930, Onalaska, Texas, 77370-1930.

Victor L. Hurtt

Victor L. Hurtt, 62, died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2001, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby. He was a retired supervisor for the Kansas Department of Transportation and a lifetime Colby resident.

Mr. Hurtt was born October 14, 1939, to Scott B. and Mary Jane Leonard Hurtt. He was the youngest of nine brothers and sisters which meant he "had lots of taking care of" and he said, "teasing too".

Vic married Elaine Marie Lovenstein, Jan. 16, 1962. They had one daughter and one son.

Vic loved his family and had a great admiration for animals, especially horses, a love which he inherited from his father. Vic enjoyed taking his family camping and attending horse events including 35 years of the Butterfield Trail Ride. Vic enjoyed spending time riding with his daughter and family and

fishing with his son and grandsons.

Vic was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Scott B. and James F., two sisters, V. Pauline and W. Maxine and four nephews.

Vic is survived by his wife Elaine of Colby, daughter Korrena Kay Woolard and husband Ed of Wichita; son Kenneth Lee of Las Vegas, Nev.; two grandsons; two brothers, Thomas E. and wife Mary of Colby, Kenneth B. and wife Betty of Turkey, Texas; two sisters, Geraldine Brown of Denver, and Phyllis Graham and husband, Delmar, of Grandview, Wash.; and a stepmother-in-law, Lottie and children of Oakley.

Funeral services were Saturday at Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, Pastor Fran Harwerth officiating.

Pallbearers were Ken Hurtt, Korrena Woolard, Tim Covey, Travis Covey, Joady Hurtt and Tommy Hurtt. Soloist was Leon Woofert. Organist was Pat Ziegelmeier. Burial was in Beulah Cemetery, Colby. Services were conducted by Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel.

Hospital

CITIZENS MEDICAL CENTER
Monday, Dec. 17, 2001
Admissions

Ashlee Haines and infant male, Colby
Maxine Rahle, Atwood
Dismissals
Damian Wennberg, Winona
Kristina Harper, Winona

Markets

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Wheat	\$2.62
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Soybeans	\$3.78

We wish everyone a...
Merry Christmas!

Our office will be **CLOSED**
on Tuesday, December 25th to
celebrate this joyous holiday.

EARLY DEADLINES:
Wed., Dec. 26 Free Press: Friday, Dec. 21 @ 3:00,
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Thurs., Dec. 27 Free Press: Monday, Dec. 24 @ 3:00,
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DISNEY WORLD - Hotel, air, park passes	\$505	3
MEXICO - Air & hotel	\$450	3
CARIBBEAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,050	5
ALASKAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,500	7
HAWAII - Air & hotel	\$740	3
LONDON, ENGLAND - Air & hotel	\$700	3
AMTRAK EXPLORE AMERICA	\$359	Max. 45

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