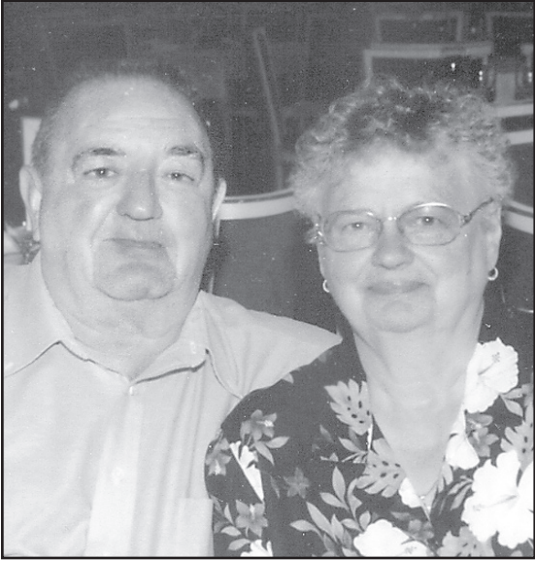


Family



The Wancuras then.



The Wancuras now.

Couple to celebrate anniversary

The children of Stan and Verda Wancura, Colby, invite friends and family to a reception marking their parents 50th wedding anniversary from 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 27, at the Colby Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, 220 N. Lake St.

The Wancuras were high school sweethearts and married Dec. 28, 1958, in McDonald. They operate NAPA Auto Parts in Colby.

Their children are Deanna Krannawitter, Ober-

lin; Debbie Moos, Victoria; Tim Wancura, Pleasant Hill; and Dana (David) Batt, Manhattan. They have have 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

As an early celebration, the couple and their children took a week-long Alaskan cruise in June. They request the presence of friends as the best and only gift.

Consider God’s gift of freedom

The hustle and the bustle are beginning to slow a bit. Christmas preparations are nearly complete.

The cookies and the baked goods so special to this time of year are in readiness, or at our house, partly consumed. The traffic at the stores seems to have reached its peak and is beginning to slow for the long-expected day.



John Schmidt

• In His Name

What long-expected day? Christmas, of course, and you know what that means! Family. Friends. Food. Football. Gifts under the Christmas tree.

But wait a minute. Isn’t something missing?

Is Christmas really about “good times” and “good cheer,” or is there more? Is something missing in our celebration? The answer is that something major might just be missing: the very reason we are called to celebrate this day.

Christmas is the time in the

church year when we celebrate the birth of the Messiah. During Advent, we prepare our hearts to receive this gift of God.

As Christmas approaches, I would invite you to stop for a moment and reconsider the meaning of this day. On the Festival of Christmas, we remember the incredible gift God gave his people, the gift of the one who “set his people free.”

Free from what? Free from the bondage of sin, which so often manifests itself as the handcuffs and leg irons of selfishness.

In Christ, God has sent us release from all that encumbers our

relationship with Him and draws us away from his desire for us. It is a freedom of the highest order!

May this Christmastide be one when you remember what just might be missing in the hustle of the moment: peace with God!

Set aside time this year in your schedule with God to celebrate this day. See you in church.

Deaths

Dale Pearce

Dale Arden Pearce, 76, McDonald, died Friday, Dec. 12, 2008, in Hays.

He was born Aug. 29, 1932.

Mr. Pearce is survived by a son, Larry (Christine) Pearce of Hope, five grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

Memorial services will held later. Ryan Mortuary, Salina, is in charge of arrangements

Babies

Dustin Rhodig II

Dustin Dean Rhodig II, son of Samantha and the late Dustin Rhodig, Colby, was born Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008, at Citizens Medical Center.

He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches.

Grandparents are April Valles, Arnold, Neb.; Scotty Justice, Lubbock, Texas; and Charlotte Walters, Danbury, Neb. Great-grandparents are Cathy and Ron Brown, Colby

Today, Tuesday mark beginning of school vacations

Area schools’ Christmas vacation days:

Colby Public Schools will dismiss class at 1:30 on Tuesday. Teachers will have a flexible staff day on Friday, Jan. 2.

Golden Plains Schools will dismiss at the end of the day Friday.

Brewster Schools will dismiss classes at noon on Tuesday. Grade-school students will have lunch at the school that day.

Heartland Christian School, Colby, will dismiss at noon on Tuesday.

Sacred Heart Catholic School, Colby, will dismiss at 1:15 Tuesday.

Students at all the schools will return to classes on Monday, Jan. 5.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$5.14
Corn (bushel)	\$3.47
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.07
Soybeans (bushel)	\$7.59

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.

**LARRY WASHBURN**  
**O.D.**  
**DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY**  
**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
**December 24th closing at 12:00pm**  
**December 25th and 26th- Closed**  
**December 31st closing at 12:00pm**  
**January 1st and 2nd- Closed**

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy holiday and beautiful new year! Thank you all for your patronage this year! We look forward to another great upcoming year!

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**MEADOW LAKE GOLF COURSE**  
**NEW YEAR’S EVE BASH**

**6:30 - Hors D’oeuvres**  
**8:00 - Casino Night**  
(prizes to be awarded)  
**10:00 - Dance to C&C Energy**  
**12:00 - Champagne Toast & Breakfast**

**All paid participants eligible to win 42” LCD Television.**

**Cost: \$15 per person or \$25 per couple**

Advanced tickets available at Meadow Lake.

First come first served, limited availability!!

**785-460-6443**

**SHARE the FAITH**

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC**, 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.

Schedule of church services

- COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH**, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee’s building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 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-RAIRIE EPISCOPAL**, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 462-8234, 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**, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. -462-8234, Sunday School 9 a.m., Kids Church and Worship Service 10:15 a.m., Sunday evening Prayer Service 6:30 p.m., Wed 3:30 Rock out @ The Rock, Wed. 7 p.m. Youth @ The Rock. E-mail: cdag@st-tel.net. www.collegedriveonline.com
- BEREAN CHURCH**, 1000 S. Franklin, 460-2763, www.colbyborean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Awana Clubs, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Middle & High School, Wednesday, 7 p.m. @ the Heartland Christian School Gym
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Carroll H. Morony, Pastor, 615 W. Webster, 462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.; Wednesday afternoon Bible Study: 3 p.m.; RC Club 2nd & 4th Sunday: 2 p.m.
- COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**, Pastor Tom Huffman, 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m.
- MINGO BIBLE CHURCH**, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Intern Pastor Pat Colley. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Sunday Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Nights: 1st Sunday of the month: potluck following morning service - no evening service; 2nd Sunday: services at 6:30 PM; 3rd Sunday: informal fellowship - bring a snack to share!; 4th and 5th Sunday: services at 6:30 p.m.
- SACRED HEART CATHOLIC**, 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, 462-6342, Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
- WESLEYAN CHURCH**, 320 W. Pine -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 -460-6605, President Gary Slavens, 460-2656; Jordan Barrett, 1st counselor, 460-1101; Tim Wilson, 2nd counselor, 785-846-7796. 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 to public, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays or by appointment. Call 462-3571.
- COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 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
- REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC.**, 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 10a.m., Sunday worship, 11a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 5 p.m. Shop online at: www.rlmregionalchurch.com
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**, Minister, Jarrod Spencer. 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Interpretation for the deaf, Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Lyle Knebel, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:15 a.m. E-mail: fccolby@st-tel.net
- 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. John L. Schmidt, East 5th & Country Club, 462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com
- PLEASANT HOME CHURCH**, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-890-3375, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
- LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 205 1st St., Pastor Jerry Vincent, 586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.
- WINONA METHODIST CHURCH**, Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)
- BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, PO Box 250, Brewster, Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.
- THE SHEPHERD’S STAFF, REXFORD**, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 687-2565
- REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
- BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 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, Thurs. 4:00 p.m. - Women’s Bible Study

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