### Family

#### Deaths

#### JoAnne Vaughn

JoAnne Vaughn, 78, Colby, former co-owner of the Colby Livestock Auction, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born June 12, 1933, in Rexford, the second child of Albert and Maude (Rhothen) Garrett; she grew up in Rexford. In 1951 she graduated from Rexford High School. During her high school years she participated in sports, cheerleading and riding horses. She also graduated from Clark Business School in Denver.

On Dec. 28, 1951, she married Norris Vaughn. They lived in several places through the years before the settled on a farm south of Selden.

In 1967 they moved to Colby after purchasing the Colby Livestock Auction. After building a successful business they sold the auction in 1983 and worked together in several other agriculturerelated businesses. After his death in 1991 she continued running the family business with her son Steve.

She also owned and managed many years.

Roger Dean Bliss, 69, a retired dren, Catherine Celeste Johnson, Atwood farmer and mechanic, Ellis; Breon Bliss, Los Angeles; died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, at the McPherson Memorial Hospi-

Atwood, the son of Wilber Cyril and Mary Lucille (Makings) Bliss. In 1960 he graduated from Atwood High School, where he was active in sports.

Following high school, he enlisted in the Army Reserve and served for six years in the 113th Field Service Company, achieving the rank of specialist 4.

On Aug. 9, 1975, he married Catherine Marie Neill at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood.

He stayed close to Atwood to help with the family farm and his parents' needs in their final years.

Preceding him in death were his wife in 1987, his parents, and a baby sister, Kimberly Jo Bliss. Survivors include four chil-

An active member of the Colby United Methodist Church, she taught numerous Sunday School classes, along with volunteering at the hospital and several other community organizations. Still an active board member of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, she enjoyed dancing, golf, bowling and bridge.

Preceding her in death were her husband, her parents, and her husband's parents, John and Gladys Vaughn.

Survivors include two sons, Steve (Linda) Vaughn, Colby; and Chuck (Rhonda) Vaughn, Topeka; two daughters, Janet (Joe) Johnson, Bertrand, Neb.; and Judy (Howard) Harger, Colby; two sisters, Sharlene Schrock, Holbrook Neb.; and Carol Jones, Austin Texas; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012, at the church. Visitation was to be from 2 to 7 p.m. today at Baalmann Mortuary (formerly Harrison Chapel) in Colby.

The family suggests memorials the Carousel Beauty Salon with to the church, in care of the mortuher daughter Judy Harger for ary, Box 391, Colby, Kan., 67701.

#### **Roger Dean Bliss**

Maureen (Nick) Sharp, McPherson; and Alec Bliss, Salina; seven siblings, Larry (Sheryl) Bliss, Au-He was born Aug. 12, 1942, in rora, Colo.; Ronald (Janie) Bliss, Wichita; Fred (Joanna) Bliss, California; Bob (Margo) Bliss, California; Mary Jean (Phil) Williams, Tonganoxie; Nancy (Steve) McBride, Albuquerque, N.M.; and Lori (Matt) Forrester, Salina; and four grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012, at the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Atwood, with the Rev. Mike McVay officiating and burial in the Mount Calvary Cemetery in Atwood.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. tonight at the Williams Funeral Home in Atwood.

The family suggests memorials in his name, in care of the funeral home, 109 N. Second St., Atwood, Kan., 67730.

# Epiphany not really 'neat'

Today is Epiphany or Three Kings Day, the day Christians celebrate the Magi's visit to the Christ Child, Mary and Joseph.

In many countries it is the day for gift giving, making it as important, or perhaps even more important that Christmas Day itself. Jan. 6 is also called the Twelfth Day of Christmas or Twelfth Night, the final day of the Christmas season when decorations are finally put away and we move on to whatever was "normal" before the holidays began. All the figures in the manger are wrapped carefully and boxed away. Kings, camels, and the baby are gone.

We could ask a lot of questions about the Three Kings who visited the young Jesus and his family. The Bible gives us very few details. Who were these "kings" and where were they from? Were there really three?

The Bible doesn't ever say how many visitors from the East there were, just the number of gifts – three. Nor are the kings named. We aren't sure how long after Jesus' birth they arrived, and the Bible doesn't say whether they visited in Bethlehem or Nazareth.

But even if I knew all these answers, the story would remain the same. Visitors who followed the meaning of the stars came from an eastern land, led by a special star, to worship the Christ Child. There was, to them, something about this child's birth that was miraculous. This "new born king" deserved special honor and praise.

And often that's where we end the story, with the kings bowing before Mary and her child, laying gifts at their feet, while a star shines brightly on the sky.

But there is more. Matthew tells us the Magi were warned in a dream to return home another way rather than return to Herod to tell him about the new king they were seeking. The Magi had sought out Herod as they came close to their destination, thinking Herod a load of worry or grief we aren't sure we can



would know about the birth of another king. But Herod, fearing any threat to his throne, wanted to find and kill this baby, using the Eastern visitors as his way to discover where the child was. The Magi, trusting the message in the dream took another route home.

And Joseph also had a dream where he was told to take Mary and the child and flee to Egypt. He too trusted the dream, so as the Magi traveled east, Joseph, Mary and Jesus were headed west.

But even these unexpected journeys are not the end. Herod, when he learned that the kings would not be paying a return visit, ordered that all the children in and around Bethlehem who were under two be killed, hoping to remove the child who threatened Herod's reign.

In the first Christmas story there is a lot that is gone as it ends, and not very neatly put away. As the Christmas story comes to a close in the Bible things do not go back to the way they were. Normal for the eastern visitors and for the new family will never be the same. Nor will it be for the families who suffered from Herod's wrath.

It may seem that even for some of us we are facing a New Year that begins, not the magic memories of Christmas, the glitter of lights and the joy of singing Christmas carols, but with decisions we don't want to deal with, with heavy journeys toward places we may not know or where we don't want to go, and with or want to carry with us. We may not be sure what "normal" might be.

But even under such circumstances the Christmas story changes everything, because we are no longer journeying alone. Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, is traveling with us. Jesus, who at birth had no real home, who in life was rejected and suspected of heresy and treason, and who in death endured horrible pain as he was put to death as a traitor against Rome, it is he who is with us. Emmanuel, God with us, the one who knows life's uncertainties, has traveled the hard journeys, and still travels along with us now.

As Christmas ends we are not left behind by God, but God's promise of redemption is alive in us through Jesus. God's love overflows, God's grace reaches deep in each of us, yet for some it can be difficult, for many and diverse reasons, to be aware of the new life we are given as the Christmas gift. God, in Jesus, changes everything. We can accept the gift we have already been given - or not. Jesus can continue to grow and mature in us - or not. We can journey as if alone, or we can realize that Jesus is with us, working powerfully and lovingly to not let Christmas end, but to keep the miracle alive, growing and glowing.

God's Christmas promise is that the best is yet to come. We may not know it, may even not believe it, but that is what Jesus is all about. God's best, with us now, with us wherever we are and in the midst whatever might happen, with us forever. The fullness of hope and love and grace is the real end of the Christmas story. The fullness of the Best. May you recognize and claim this gift. May you know your new year is blessed with the very Best.

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

## Van hits house for second time

first time Doug Edmisten's house in Knoxville, Tenn., was struck by a vehicle, he had come home from Iraq to see his son's birth. A run- ville News Sentinel (http://bit.ly/ away construction truck ran into the house in February 2010.

and the couple's son were visit-

#### 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.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)-The ing her parents on Christmas Eve on Christmas Day." when his neighbor called and said, "Merry Christmas. There's a van in your house," he told the KnoxvUJqyJ).

"I couldn't believe it," Edmis-Edmisten, his wife, Sandy, ten said. "So we did Santa Claus and came home to see the damage

#### Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day **Hi-Plains Co-op** Wheat (bushel) \$6.36 Corn (bushel) \$6.30

The vehicle belonged to a neighbor, who told police he'd been working on the vehicle's brakes. The last time, the Edmisten fam-

ily spent 65 days in a motel while the damage was repaired.

This time, the gas meter was hit and the chimney was knocked loose

Edmisten figures they'll celebrate their son's second birthday at a motel.

"One day we'll tell him, 'The first couple years of your life were a little chaotic," he said.





Wedding

Registry

Kayla Wilson

Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday of dioramas depicting American with 28 members and guests Leroy and Joan Ziegler.

Colby Rotary Club

President Connie Renner called the Bulge and showed pictures the meeting to order. Officers were of still-visible foxholes and the elected for the year beginning July densely-wooded Ardennes moun-1. New officers are Melany Wilks, president; Marilyn Unger, vicepresident; Eric Griggs, secretary; Wayne Horlacher, treasurer; and Tom Peyton, Mike Tubbs, Nick Wells and Connie Renner, board. The monthly collection for Genesis-Thomas County was taken. Jeff Horlacher had the program. During his recent trip to Belgium, Lotto. he toured a national museum in Luxembourg featuring the history of the Allies in World War II. at Colby Community College. He had a powerpoint presentation

soldiers. In addition, he toured the battleground of the Battle of

Milo (hundredweight) \$10.73 Soybeans (bushel) \$10.67 Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



tains where the battle took place. He noted the battle was the single largest and bloodiest battle of the war and a turning point. As a part of the tour, his group laid a wreath in memory of the many American soldiers who gave their lives but whose graves remain unknown.

Steve Ziegelmeier won Roto-

Colby Rotary meets Tuesdays in Room 106 of the Student Union

– Relda Galli

# *vervices* **irectory**



#### Schedule of church services

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.colbyberean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m and Saturday, 5:30 p.m.. Pastor Mark Carlton, Senior Pastor and Pastor Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor. 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.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, meeting at Community Building Sundays at 2 p.m. Pastor Dan Keel. (No service until the first week in January)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, (Affiliated with American BaptistChurchesUSA) Rev. Craig Crossman, 615W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; RC Club 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2 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.

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

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)

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

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.

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., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday worship, 10 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.MTraining Centers (Bible School), 6p.m. Shoponline 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

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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.

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. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.; Services, 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.

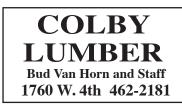
BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

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

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.

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16]H[A]N[]K Y(C for all the calls, cards, and expressions of condolence in the days following our loss. Your kind words of sympathy and your shared memories have given us comfort in our sadness.