

# Colby woman enters novitiate of Sisters of the Immaculate Heart

A Colby woman is among three beginning their religious life with the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart in Wichita.

Sister Mary Monica Augustine, daughter of Luther and Donna Augustine and identical twin of Megan, hails from Colby. She graduated from Colby High School in 2002.

Her interests after college were in school psychology and youth ministry. After earning a master's degree in school psychology, she was a school psychologist and counselor for a few years while volunteering with Megan in her home parish as a youth minister.

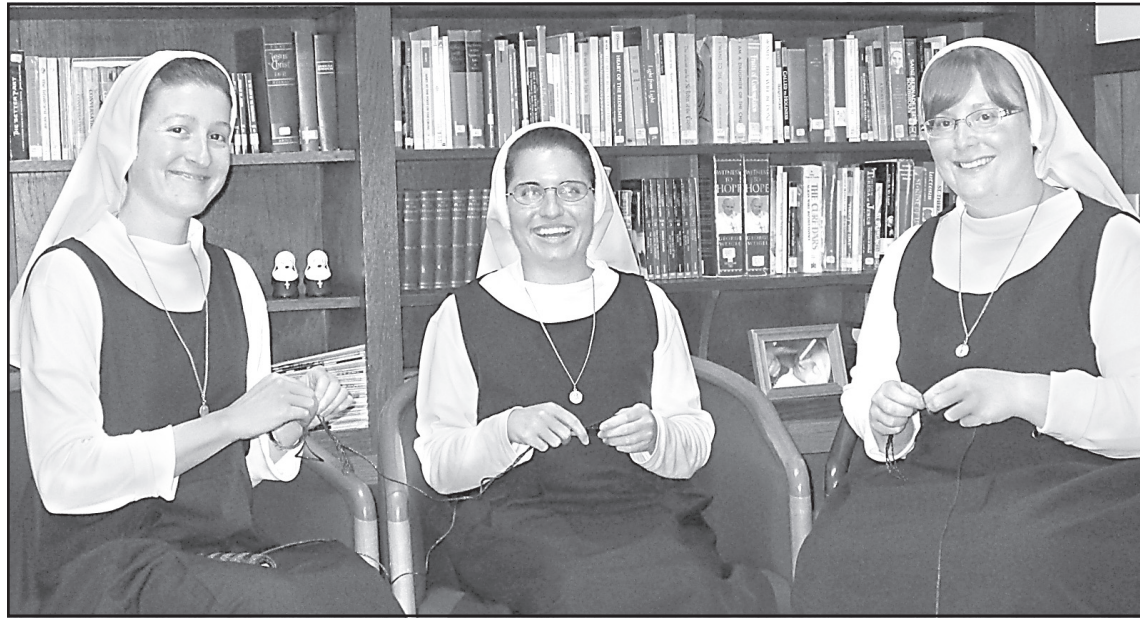
She said she began to feel called to something more. Taking the opportunity to visit the Sisters in Wichita with a group from Fort Hays State University only strengthened the inclination.

During her next visit, she solidified her decision, but her education loans stood in the way of entrance. In August 2012, she moved in with the sisters as a candidate and worked as a substitute teacher in the Wichita public schools, all the while seeking ways to pay the loans. In March, the Mater Ecclesiae Fund for Vocations awarded her a grant for those loans so that she could pursue her religious vocation.

On May 11, she entered the community as a postulant and on Nov. 1, she entered the novitiate.

Sister Maria Josephina Barrow, a native of Plymouth, Mass., ended her military career in Army intelligence to enter religious life. Her parents, who live in the Tampa Bay area of Florida, are David and MaryLu Barrow. Sister Maria Josephina is the oldest of their three children.

Deciding at an early age that she wanted to be in the military, she joined the Reserve Officers Training Corps in high school and then went on to graduate from the U.S.



SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, Wichita Novices with the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Wichita are (from left) Sister Mary Lucia Stuhlsatz, Sister Maria Josephina Barrow and Sister Mary Monica Augustine, a native of Colby.

Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. Eventually earning the rank of captain, she served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While in the Army she met and became friends with a Catholic chaplain, Father Thomas Leland, a priest of the Diocese of Wichita, who introduced her to the idea of being called to religious life.

While stationed at Fort Riley, she spent many of her weekends with the sisters in Wichita. In the summer of 2012, she decided to enter. On the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she formally began her religious life when she was received into the community as a novice.

Sister Mary Lucia is from St. Mary's Church, Aleppo, the daughter of Perry and Janet Stuhlsatz, the third oldest of their 10 children. She attended the Garden Plain public schools and Parish School of Religion at St. Mary's. It was during a class that she first met the sisters, however she did

not really get acquainted with them until she was a student at Pittsburg State University, where Sister Marie Therese, vocation directress for the order, would frequently visit the campus.

Sister Mary Lucia graduated with a degree in secondary education and biology and taught for one year at Wichita Heights High School before entering the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in August 2011. At present, she is in her second year of the novitiate and is preparing to make her profession of vows in February.

These three young women are continuing their discernment. As they seek to know God's call, they spend their days praying, living community life, working and studying.

Defying many of the trends in religious life today, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are consistently receiving young women into their religious community. With a current average

age in the 30s, the sisters are looking forward to serving the church for generations to come.

The growth does, however, pose a difficulty for the order, the sisters are running out of space. They are preparing to meet the needs of the present and the future by building a Novitiate/House of Formation as the first phase of their motherhouse. The property, between St. Mark and Colwich, will provide the right atmosphere for religious formation and discernment.

If you would like to follow their progress or to contact the sisters for any reason, go to [www.SistersIHofWichita.org](http://www.SistersIHofWichita.org).

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.71
Corn (bushel)	\$4.25
Milo (hundredweight)	\$7.25
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.26

## Deaths

### Cordelia Ida Jespersen

Cordelia Ida Jespersen, 86, Colby, died Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013, at the Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby.

She was born July 21, 1927, in Zurich, to Phillip and Melvina (Thyfault) Bedore. She married Louis Jespersen.

The owner of Cordie's Crafts, she was a member of Green Thumb of Kansas, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Colby.

Preceding her in death were her husband; her parents; two sisters, Marie Zoborst and Louise Harper, and a brother, Paul Bedore.

Survivors include five children, Nolan (Becky) Jones, Blackwell, Okla.; Mike (Sheila) Jones, Madison; Leland (Sally) Jones; two daughters, Melvina (Wayne) Lin-

derer, Arvada, Colo., and Cynthia (Jay) Black of Colby; two sisters, Phyllis Kriss, Colby, and Christiana Vassilakos, Aurora, Colo.; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, at the church, with burial in Beulah Cemetery.

Visitation was to be from 5 to 7 p.m. tonight at the Baalman Mortuary in Colby with a vigil at 6:30 p.m.

The family suggests memorials to the Colby Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, the Thomas County Historical Society or the church, in care of the mortuary, Box 391, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Condolences for the family may be left at [www.baalmanmortuary.com](http://www.baalmanmortuary.com).

# Colby native named health fund officer

With the number of initiatives the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund has underway and in the planning stages, a native of Colby, Katie Ross, has been selected to join the Hutchinson-based fund as a program officer.

"In evaluating our capabilities for serving current grantees, as well as anticipating our staffing needs ... we decided it was time to add this position," said Kim Moore, president of the fund. "We feel very fortunate to have found someone with Katie's experience and enthusiasm."

Ross, a native of Colby, had been with the Reno County Health Department since 2008 - initially as a health educator, then as health

education and promotion coordinator. She is a 2003 graduate of Sterling College with degrees in health and physical education and in athletic training. Prior to moving to Hutchinson, she was an athletic trainer in Oklahoma City.

"There are many things I look forward to in this new job," Ross said. "I certainly welcome working with rural Kansas, being involved with health care ... and hopefully being able to effect change on a wider scale."

Since its founding in 1986, the fund has invested over \$60 million in health, healing and wholeness for Kansans. Information about grants and initiatives is available at [www.healthfund.org](http://www.healthfund.org).

## Corrections

A photo caption, "Studio explores pastels," on Page 1 of the Wednesday, Dec. 11, *Colby Free Press*, misspelled Shela Reilly's name. This was a transcribing 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.

**friends don't let friends drive drunk.**

U.S. Department of Transportation

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## Christmas Open House

December 19th & 20th  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

2014 Calendars  
Cookies, Hot Cider & More  
Register for various drawings

**Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus will be at our Dillons location from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM both days.**

**The Women of K-State thanks the following groups and individuals who participated in our "Community Can" Food Challenge. Thanks to you, we collected over \$8900 and 2680 lbs of food for Genesis Thomas County, and the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program.**

- American Implement Employees\*
- Anonymous Donors\*
- Larry and Cheryl Brenn
- Chief LP Gas, Inc.
- Colby Middle School
- Colby United Methodist Church\*
- College View Baptist Church
- Gem Lions Club\*
- Fred & Susan Haines\*
- Kenton & Sheila Krehbiel
- Diana Luhman
- Maxine Nelson
- Northwest Research-Extension Center Employees
- Kelly Richmond
- Drew & Anna Starbuck
- Tuffy & Linda Taylor\*
- Thomas Co. Courthouse Employees\*

\*Denotes category winners

Special thanks to everyone who helped make the challenge possible: Lynette Ball, Colby, Free Press, Colby Public Schools, Genesis Board Members, KRZ/KXXX, Dana Leija of Dana's Desserts & More, Shirley Malcolm, Molly Oliver, Lori Onstad, Kyle Shively, Thomas County Extension Office, and Virginia Umberger of Sunflower Kitchen Bakery.

**The finale for next year's "Community Can" Food Challenge will be Tuesday, December 2nd.**

# Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**, Pastor Dan Keel, 815 W. 3rd. Sundays at 2 p.m. 785-462-0512.

**CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1890 S. Franklin Ave. - Colby Community Building. Kirby Benisch, Campus Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. [www.celebratejesus.org](http://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.

**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](mailto:cdag@st-tel.net).

**BEREAN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, [www.colbyborean.com](http://www.colbyborean.com); Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.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.

**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) Pastor Paul Brigham, 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. 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**, Reverend Andrew Sonneborn, 515 W. 4th, 785-462-6342, Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website [colbypres.org](http://colbypres.org).

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

**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. 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.M Training Centers (Bible School), 6 p.m. Shop online at: [www.rlmregionalchurch.com](http://www.rlmregionalchurch.com).

**COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, Rev. James Markdock, 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](http://www.colbyumc.org)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 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](http://www.colbychurch.com)

**OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 217 Main St., Brewster, 785-694-2751. Sunday worship 10:00 a.m.

**Wesleyan Church**

**155 W. Fifth St.**  
**785-462-3963**

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