

# Library to close Wednesday; holiday hours planned Tuesday

Let the fireworks begin! But before you do, note the change in library hours Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesday the library will close at 5 p.m. The library will remain closed on Wednesday, July 4th.

If you have library items to return, the book drop west of Pioneer Memorial Library on School Street and the book drop in the library alley are both open 24-7.

Otherwise, drop by the library between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday when we resume our normal operating hours.



## Jeff Friesen, library link

### • Pioneer Memorial Library director

So here we are a mere 231 years after the Declaration of Independence.

What would we read today that a newly christened United States citizen would have read in 1776?

Whatever it was probably would

not have come from a lending library.

In 1776, the idea of a lending library was still a rather "novel" concept. There were however, a few books floating around that were read by those who could read and

had access to a collection of books.

One such book (that we carry in our library today) might have been "Poor Richard's Almanack" by Benjamin Franklin. Full of pithy quotes, this book is still as relevant today as it was more than 200 years ago. Some examples: "Fish and Visitors stink after three days." — "Content makes poor men rich; Discontent makes rich Men poor." — "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise." — and "He that Whines for Glass without G, take away L and that's he."

This book however, while enduring and relevant, probably wouldn't be considered great American literature.

In fact, no great American authors immediately spring to mind when speaking of the late 18th Century.

That can probably be attributed to the fact that, up to the point of our independence from England, almost all of our literature was either written by an English author or heavily influenced by the English. It took almost a full generation of Americans before our "home-grown" authors really hit their stride.

The likes of James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe, Walt Whitman, and Emily Dickinson were just a few of our great formative American authors — but all are considered 19th Century authors.

How amazing it is though, that regardless of how advanced society becomes, good literature will always remain engaging no matter how far removed we are from a certain time period. (Just like Looney Tunes cartoons will always be hilarious no matter the changes in technology)

I encourage you to enjoy an American Classic and celebrate our heritage this week by reading (or rereading) some of the works put out by our greatest and earliest American authors — such as the suspenseful "The Fall of the House of the Usher" by Edgar Allan Poe, the dramatic Great American wilderness novel "The Last of the Mohicans" by James Fenimore Cooper, the creepy "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving, or the great poems written by two of our greatest American poets Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman.

How proud we can be of our country that we continue to recognize and acknowledge the importance of Freedom of Speech. Have a safe and fun July 4.

Pioneer Memorial Library is located at 375 West 4th and open 7 days a week.

Summer hours are as follows: Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For information contact the library at 460-4470 or visit our website at [www.colbylibrary.com](http://www.colbylibrary.com).

As always, we are here to serve

# Parents feel abnormal with kids, vacations

Dear Dr. Brothers: My husband and I are, I thought, typical middle-class Americans who live in the suburbs and want the best for their kids in terms of education. However, now that our brood is out of school on summer vacation, we're beginning to feel like weird oddballs, as far as parenting goes, because we're making no tight schedules of lessons and activities during this break. We're not sending them to language tutors or expensive summer camps. Instead, they're going to have fun playing with the neighborhood children whose parents are, like us, not so ambitious. Is something wrong with this picture? — C.B.

Dear C.B.: No. While I'm all for homework, tutors, bilingual kids and a good, solid education, I also believe that nonscheduled playtime is essential for children's growth. Lying in a field of grass, looking at cloud formations and daydreaming are good. So is playing games that aren't always rigidly structured or highly competitive, but that make room for creativity, make-believe or play that doesn't always have winners and losers, but that's just for fun and the wonder that can blossom when time is free.

Real play should give children an opportunity to explore talents — talents that won't immediately be graded and analyzed — to test ideas, to learn how to share and assert themselves with peers

without offending, and to test what is and isn't socially acceptable when with others like themselves, relative equals. Those who have the opportunity to play regularly with peers are likely to be better adjusted as adults.

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Dear Dr. Brothers: I'm in my late 30s, and I've always loved to travel to what some consider rather exotic places. This year, I'm excited to take a three-week vacation traveling in China. Fortunately, I can get the time off, and a man I've recently met — one I'd like to marry eventually — can also get time off from his work. I'm hesitant to go with him, though, because frankly, in my past I've found that women friends make better travelers, and while I love this guy, he's deeply into therapy he badly needs. What do you think? — K.R.

Dear K.R.: Follow your intuition on this. While it may seem odd to travelers like you, many people find it extremely difficult to be thrust into a different, totally unfamiliar culture. For one thing, people often begin to ponder their own life and where they're going, and question whether they've had the right values and goals. Psychiatrists are familiar with the kind of depression that's set off by loneliness and questions of not belonging and being able to fit in that can result from traveling. Certain types of people are frantic to re-

## For The Record

The following arrests or incidents have been provided by either the Thomas County Sheriff's office or the Colby Police Department. All suspects were booked into the county jail and are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The Thomas County Jail is used by the towns of Colby and Oakley and Logan and Thomas counties.

### Colby Police Department

#### Wednesday, May 30

• **Traffic complaint:** A person advised police at 5:14 p.m. of an elderly woman in a motorized wheelchair in traffic going west on Franklin Avenue.

#### Thursday, May 31

• **Animal complaint:** Police were advised at 10:14 p.m. of cattle on Highway 83.

#### Friday, June 1

• **Suspicious person:** An individual advised police at 6:47 a.m. of a man who had been sitting at Dillons since Tuesday.

• **Theft:** Manager of Golden Plains Garden Center, 1140 Plains, advised police at 11:11 a.m. of theft from yard.

#### Saturday, June 2

• **Juvenile complaint:** A police officer informed police at 3:07 p.m. that he had spoken to three individuals at People's State Bank, 100 South Range, in reference to no skateboarding on private property.

• **Recovered property:** Police received a call at 6:37 p.m. about a woman who had found a wallet in her backyard at the 200 block of East Ash.

#### Sunday, June 3

• **Traffic complaint:** A person advised police at 4:38 a.m. of an older man walking in the 1200 block of South Range and was almost hit.

#### Monday, June 4

• **Suspicious incident:** An individual advised police at 6:30 a.m. of a body laying in the ditch off the ramp at Exit 53. Hi-Plains Mental Health was notified.

• **Suspicious person:** A person advised police at 4:04 p.m. of a very intoxicated man walking around McDonalds.

#### Tuesday, June 5

• **Suspicious incident:** Police were requested at Fike Park in reference to intoxicated persons at 2:48 a.m. Parents were contacted.

• **Animal complaint:** Police were advised at 1:47 p.m. of a dead opossum at the 1100 block of Summer-sun.

• **Lost/mislaidd property:** A person advised police at 2:24 p.m. of

leaving wallet in Colby yesterday.

#### Wednesday, June 6

• **Traffic complaint:** Police were advised at 3:53 p.m. of a construction sign in the road on south Country Club.

#### Thursday, June 7

• **Animal complaint:** A person advised police at 12:33 a.m. of a snapping turtle on Fourth Street by Co-op Office. The turtle was taken to Villa High.

#### Friday, June 8

• **Suspicious incident:** A person advised police at 10:40 a.m. of seeing flashlights in a tree row to the north end of West Side Park at the 1900 block of West Fifth Street.

#### Saturday, June 9

• **Noise complaint:** A caller advised police at 10:56 p.m. of loud music coming from a vehicle parked at the Sunflower Apartments.

• **Criminal damage to property:** A person advised police at 11:23 p.m. of three individuals taking a sledge hammer to a vehicle in the lot north of Fike Park.

#### Sunday, June 10

• **Recovered property:** A person advised police at 6:15 p.m. that he found a homemade pot pipe in the roadway.

• **Animal complaint:** An individual advised police at 8:42 p.m. of a dead cat off the roadway in the 1100 block of South Franklin.

#### Monday, June 11

• **Criminal damage to property:** A person advised police at 9:12 a.m. of a window that was shot out with a paintball at the Colby Ag Center, 1730 West Fourth Street.

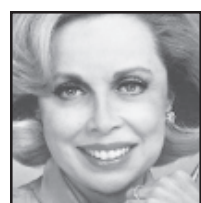
• **Suspicious incident:** A person went to the law enforcement center at 10:28 a.m. in reference to an unknown vehicle that drove across a new lawn at the 500 block of Kings Court.

#### Tuesday, June 12

• **Criminal damage to property:** A person called police at 4:38 p.m. advising them of someone shooting out his windows at the 200 block of West Third Street.

#### Wednesday, June 13

• **Theft:** A call advised police at 9:05 p.m. of a gas skip from Oasis Travel Center at the 700 block of Horton Avenue.



## Dr. Joyce Brothers

### • Ask Dr. Brothers

turn to the familiar and retreat from culture shock.

Probably, some of these reactions are hard-wired and are an aspect of the personality or temperament they're born with. One of the traits that tend not to

change over life is related to reactions to novelty, the new and untried. Some crave the risk and excitement, while it makes others uncomfortable, and they prefer the known and familiar.

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