

Family

Brush up on skills in DVDs, photos

Well, I think the heat of summer is finally here. If you are preparing to go on vacation and want to make a DVD home movie, then you might want to checkout the new DVD, "DVD Home Movie-making: A Beginner's Guide," by Richard Diercks.

This program gives you the basic how's and why's of DVD making, tips and secrets, a checklist and tools you might need, information on encoding and transcoding, and how to author a DVD. It also includes such things as a glossary, web links, menu templates and backgrounds.

Let your creative juices flow and create a special disc for a family reunion, a recent vacation, wedding or just a special event!

Two DVDs related to photography are "American Photography: A Century of Images," produced by KTCATV St. Paul/Minneapolis with Middle March Films Inc. This PBS presentation runs 160 minutes and shows the progression of photography through the 20th century. It will include highlights of the space walk, war, ordinary people and how pictures change the way we view life. It is a good portrayal of how concepts and artistic expression grow.

The other DVD is "The Adventure of Photography: 150 Years of Photographic Images," by Kultur. This two-disc set covers such topics as the precursors, surrealists, portraitists, fashion photography, photography and science, war photography, and amateur photography. It includes over 1,700 photos and discussions about or with 300 famous artists, including Ansel Adams, Brassai, Lewis Carrol, George Eastman, Roger Fenton, Andy Warhol and many more.

What I love about this and the other disks is you learn so much about the art of photography just by imbibing information of how some of the greats did their work.

A new nonfiction book that we have is "The Hornet's Sting: The Amazing Untold Story of World War II Spy Thomas Sneum," by Mark Ryan. This is not a tall tale, but a true-life story of a man from Denmark who helped save the world from the Nazi forces.

Espionage was his life's trade, and he was considered a legend for his efforts. Sneum shares his many experiences of spying for the Allies, and then being jailed because he was thought to be a counter-spy. Ryan, researcher and author of this book, spent hours interviewing the man and getting his thoughts, feelings and the facts.

The book documents the history by using notes from materials that prove some of the details of his life. Some of these were translated from Danish to English. This may be one nonfiction book that could be made into a movie. This out-cast and shamed spy really saved the world, and was awarded the King's Medal for Courage by the British government.

If you like intrigue, you will like this book.



Melany Wilks

•Library Links

If you love the books on Sherlock Holmes, then you may enjoy reading the nonfiction bibliography about the author of the detective series, Arthur Conan Doyle. Miller Russell was given unlimited access to Doyle's private correspondence and other materials which give insights into his life.

This 2008 book explains how Doyle struggled as a poor doctor and aspiring writer until he became famous for the Sherlock Holmes mysteries. The story of his life may help you appreciate his writing more. It also illustrates the author's tragedy and triumphs through war, illness, and other events that shaped his life.

A new Sherlock Holmes novel, "A Slight Trick of the Mind," by Mitch Cullin has received excellent reviews. It can be found in the new-book area of the library.

Cullin has done a great job bringing in many of the old faces and settings of the original mysteries. In this book, Sherlock Holmes is 93 and finds himself solving three mysteries using information from his journals and events that happened earlier in his life.

This time he finds himself having to deal with emotional entanglements while trying to keep his cool, intellect and direct manner in place. This poses a challenge and adds a new facet to his life as a detective. You will enjoy the writing about the three events, as they are tied together so skillfully.

Come participate in "Cool Off From Summer" at 7 p.m. tonight in the basement. Pastor Gene and Joy Rothfuss will talk about their adventures in Ecuador.

The Pioneer Memorial Library summer schedule is 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Remember we have free Wi-Fi Internet for you 24/7, as well computers with Internet access available when we are open. See you at the library!

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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$4.74
Corn (bushel)	\$2.83
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.23
Soybeans (bushel)	\$9.75



Caleb Mattix and Shanda Draper

Couple to wed in September rite

Shanda Draper of Colby and Caleb Mattix of Independence plan to marry Saturday, Sept. 5, 2009, at the First Presbyterian Church in Colby.

The bride is the daughter of Sue Draper and the late Bill Draper of Colby. She is a granddaughter of Willard Morgan and the late Mary Morgan of Hoxie and the late Charles and Harriette Draper of St. Francis. Shanda is a 2002 graduate of Colby High School, with degrees from Colby Community College and

Kansas State University in social work and equine science.

The groom is the son of Lee and Jayne Mattix of Independence. He is a grandson of Wayne and Betty Jane VanDyne of Independence and the late Charles and Ila Mattix. Caleb is a 2002 graduate of Cherryvale High School in Kansas and graduated from K-State with a degree in agriculture.

The couple plans to live in Colby.

Deaths

Carlos José Valdez-Castell

Carlos José Valdez-Castell, 16-day-old son of Karlee Shenise Wilson and Jose Valdez-Castell of Colby, died Saturday, July 11, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

He was born June 25, 2009, in Hays.

Preceding him in death were a brother, Maliki Izaeis Xavier Wilson, great-grandmother Barbara Parker, great-great-grandmother Betty Cornelius, and great-great-great-grandmother Goldie Grisom.

He is survived by his parents, of the home; grandmothers Becky Friechs and Liscia Lawrence, and a grandfather, José Valdez-Castell, all of Colby; a great-grandfather Donald T. Parker, Lyons; and great-grandparents Juan and Maria Valdez-Castell.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 18, 2009, at the Birzer Funeral Home, 214 West Ave. South, Lyons, with the Rev. Oscar Gomez officiating, and burial in the Lyons Municipal Cemetery.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

Thank You
Paul Layland and his family would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts he received on his birthday. It really perked him up! Thank you all!
Paul Layland, Sandy Kriss, and Cogie Heigele

Agency seeks gifts from community

After losing about 12 percent of their budget to state cuts, the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council is looking to the community to help out.

Director Wendi Wacker said the council's board members would be going to area businesses and asking for money to continue their programs. Wacker said the council is primarily a state-funded agency, and while they have seen budget cuts before, this year's cut has been the most drastic.

Wacker said the council serves a nine-county area, and business and individual donations would allow them to continue offering their services in the other towns. Anyone who wants to donate should

contact the council at 460-6111 or send donations to Box 100, Colby, Kan., 67701, she said.

The council offers outpatient drug and alcohol addiction treatment and counseling. Recently, Wacker said, it increased services to include anger management and relapse prevention sessions. The council can also serve as a collection site for test samples from drug-free businesses.

The council has some upcoming events, Wacker said. September is Recovery Month, and the council plans a barbecue and a visit from comedian Mark Lundholm, who often works with alcohol and drug abuse organizations.

Artist signing prints at Wilson Czech Festival

WILSON — Stan Herd will be the featured artist for a "Meet the Kansas Artists" event from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at the Kansas Originals Market and Gallery, just off of I-70 near Wilson, in conjunction with the annual Wilson Czech Festival.

Herd will be signing prints of recent paintings commissioned by the Kansas Lottery promoting the nine Kansas scenic byways.

An area byway featured in this series is Post Rock, an 18-mile route along K-232 in Ellsworth and Russell counties. This byway is named for the native limestone used for fence posts in the area. Another byway included in Herd's series is Smoky Valley, a 60-mile route through west-central Kansas named for its hazy sunsets.

Other paintings in this series include the Flint Hills, Glacial Hills, Gypsum Hills, Native Stone, Prairie Trail, Wetlands and Wildlife. The purpose of these paintings, which will be featured on Kansas scratch lottery tickets, is to guide travelers through the history and beauty of the state's various regions.

Born in Protection, Herd is a well-known oil and watercolor painter, but he is recognized as a pioneer of crop art — a technique that manipulates plants, soil and rock to create masterpieces on a grand scale. One of Herd's recent projects was using a wheat field to create a pepperoni pizza for those flying in to the 2008 Democratic Convention. He has teamed with musicians and actors, including his work with Garth Brooks on his "Fresh Horse" album and with Mel Gibson in the 2002 film "Signs."

Other art — and artists — on hand at the event will be paintings by Mary Moore McKown, paintings and ink drawings by Fred and Carol Coward, wood by Sheldon VanAmburg and Wanda Squib, jewelry by Billie Harr, author and note cards by Mark Feiden, and authors Delbert Harvey, Bette James, Carolyn Hall and Marcene Grimes.

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