Family

Biographies insightful

Well, we've made it through Easter and it seems as if spring may actually be here! I should be telling you about new gardening books and such, but that will have to wait. Today's items are from the nonfiction section of our new

The first is a nonfiction book entitled "Mrs. Adams In Winter: A Journey in the Last Days of Napoleon," by Michael O'Brien. This book is not about Abigail Adams. but the second Mrs. Adams to become First Lady.

Louisa Catherine Adams is the daughter-in-law of Abigail Adams, married to John Quincy Adams. She grew up in France and had many friends throughout Europe. In 1815, she took her son from St. Petersburg in Russia and begins an arduous trip to France to meet John Quincy. Along the way, her life was threatened and her understandings of the very destructive Napoleon wars is chronicled.

O'Brien fills in the gaps and adds information from historical documents of the times. This book has both notes documenting the materials used writing this manuscript and an extensive index. Lovers of history will enjoy this book.

The second book is a biography, "Abigail Adams: A Life," by Woody Holton. This historical study begins by explaining that Abigail Adams wrote a will for the disposal of her belongings Believing that she would die

soon, she wanted to ensure that her wishes were known despite legal and cultural condition under which married women owned nothing. Their properties, whether theirs prior to marriage or earned during marriage, were wholly their husbands'. And the husband had all legal rights to dispose of such things. Abigail made her thoughts of this legal rule known and decided to buck the system.

This leads Holton to ask whether the will was carried out and the relationship between John and Abigail regarding this issue. He examines over 50 years of their lives together during the Revolutionary War and its aftermath. This book

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Melany Wilks

Library Links

also has end notes and an excellent index. The person who loves to understand women's history and women's rights will definitely enjoy this book.

The third item is called, "A Mountain of Crumbs: A Memoir," by Elena Gorokhova. This nonfiction book is about a young girl who grows up in Russia, with all the cultural correctness that encompasses communism.

As a teenager, she learns English and hopes to work using her language abilities. Her mother, a teacher in a medical school, wants Elena to become a medical student, not study English. Her father vin Volk has been helping those is skin and bones, due to the war.

During her studies, the author makes a discovery in language and culture. In Russian, there is no word for privacy, but in English and have questions, we have a there is. The only words that come close are seclusion and isolation. Elena asks the question, "Does that mean that the English people know something we don't" (p. 87)? Now a young woman, Elena meets an American, falls in love and wishes to immigrate. After marrying and in fact qualifying to emigrate, she is spoken to sternly by Russian officials.

Her eyes are opened to feelings about existence in Russia. She sees that 90 rubles a month, guaranteed safety collectives and health benefits is all that life is valued at. She finds people's lives in Russia have amounted to "a mountain of crumbs" (p. 292). Once living in America, she experiences so much freedom, she hopes others may one day experience this in the new Russia.

If you want to examine two modern-day women who are living through some ugly times in their lives, we have Elizabeth Edwards' book, "Resilience: Reflections on the Burdens and Gifts of

Windows

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Facing Life's Adversities," as well as "Staying True," by Jenny San-

'Staying True" is about the life experiences of ex-wife to exgovernor Mark Sanford of South Carolina. Sanford reflects on their lives and tries to bring the reader into her personal world of introspection and discovery. She expresses gratitude for those who have walked her through this experience, and tells readers that choosing responses, learning to love more fully, forgive and keep her integrity is something she will continue to strive to accomplish.

Next week is National Library Week. Come and enjoy lunch with us each day. We will have special speakers through the week. We begin at noon in the basement. Also, as many of you are aware, next week is the last week that you can get free help on your taxes. From 1:30 to 4 p.m. each Thursday, Alwho are "low-and middle-income persons, with special attention to those age 60 and older.

If you have your census packet census representative who will come to the library from 1 to 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and 1 to 5 p.m. Fridays.

See you in the library!

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas Coun- stolen property – two counts, fail-

• Rashad Domminque Mayo, 20, Colorado Springs, March 15, criminal possession of a firearm, theft, minor in possession/ consumption, Kansas Highway Patrol; aggravated robbery of controlled substance, first degree burglary, second degree assault, menacing, theft, El Paso County, Colo.; released March 26 to transport company.

 Tevin Delane Willis, 19, Colorado Springs, March 15, criminal possession of a firearm, theft, minor in possession, FTC/weapons possession (El Paso County, Colo., Sheriff's Office), Kansas Highway Patrol, released March 26 to transport company.

• Lynell Jonathan Hill, 22, Colby, March 17, driving without a license, driving unregistered vehicle, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to

 Savannah Marie Clapper, 24, Colby, March 18, probation violation, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released same day on \$25,000

• James David Vernon, 31, Stuart, Fla., March 18, driving under the influence (second offense), Kansas Highway Patrol, released March 19 on notice to appear.

Miles Justin Ackerman, 23,

ure to appear, Thomas County 31 on bond.

• Mark Wayne, Sheets, 26, Lonejack, Mo., March 20, failure to appear, Thomas County Sher-

• Chanel Marie Siruta, 23, Colby, March 20, theft, pedestrian under the influence, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Damen Justin Siruta, 21, Colby, March 20, theft - less than \$1,000, driving with license suspended or revoked, possession of stolen property, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released March 31 on recognizance bond. • Grant David Jennings, 20,

Colby, March 21, driving under the influence, open container, minor in possession, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Melanie Isabelle Blevins, 23, Colby, March 22, child abuse, Colby Police Department, released March 24 on bond.

• Trevor Christopher Glavin, 25, Sequim, Wash., March 24, pedestrian on Interstate, Kansas Highway Patrol, released same day on notice to appear.

• Cory David Knowles, 23, Colby, March 24, failure to pay, Logan Colby, March 20, possession of County Sheriff's Office, released Oberlin, last Thursday, driving

March 25 to Logan County.

 Donald Marvin Moore, 53, Sheriff's Office, released March Colby, March 24, criminal deprivation of property, Colby Police Department, released same day

with charges pending. • Alfredo Escobedo, 24, Mciff's Office, released March 24 on Donald, March 26, driving under the influence, transporting open container, no proof of insurance, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Samuel Marquez, 27, Colby, March 26, transporting open container, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to ap-

 Farra Errin McChesney, 19, Colby, March 28, driving under the influence, minor in possession, Kansas Highway Patrol, released same day on notice to appear. • Marshall James Dean, 18,

Colby, March 30, minor in possession, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear. • Travis Michael Geile, 19, Colby, March 30, minor in posses-

sion, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to Jason William Reed, 40, Col-

by, March 31, disorderly conduct, endangering a child, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Everett James Urban, 20, under the influence, minor in possession, transporting open container, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

We want your local news: colby.editor @ nwkansas.com

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel) Corn (bushel) Milo (hundredweight) Soybeans (bushel)

\$4.91

Corrections

In the story "Class of '61 keeps in touch with round-robin letter writing" on Page 1 of the Wednesday, April 7, Colby Free Press, the date of the first Colby High School reunion was listed as 1969. The correct date is 1966.

This was a reporting 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.

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