

Family

Videos, books celebrate nature

Many people are celebrating Earth Day. While I think that is a significant theme, I do not celebrate it like a real holiday.

It can be used for a day of considering how we enhance and guard the valuable resources we have been given, but not if it overtakes our care for homo sapiens. What the farmers and scientists learned from the Dust Bowl is a huge illustration that how we cultivate the land does affect our lives.

Speaking of the Dust Bowl, at 7 p.m. tonight we are showing the film "Stories from the Dust Bowl," produced by Smoky Hills Public Television. We will then have a Kansas Humanities scholar, Phillip D. Thomas, lead us in a discussion following the film.

There will be bean bags and some comfortable chairs out, along with popcorn, cookies and ice tea.

And in honor of Earth Day, I have selected other items to tell you about. The first is the DVD, "Earth," produced by DisneyNature, a 90-minute video about animals in the wild. Your family will really enjoy it.

Another DVD that we just purchased is "Paving the Way: The National Park-to-Park Highway," directed by Brandon Wade and produced by Depth of Field Productions and others. It was taken from the book by Lee and Jane Whiteley, "The Playground Trail, the National Park-to-Park Highway: To and Through the National



Melany Wilks

Library Links

Parks of the West in 1920's."

The authors spoke last week at the library on the history of the highways such as the Golden Belt - Highway 40 - the Union Pacific Highway that went through Sharon Springs and then onward to Pikes Peak in Colorado.

We also have in the new book, nonfiction section "Guide to the National Parks of the United States (6th edition), published by National Geographic in 2009. There are lots of pictures and maps to help enhance the terrific written information.

An interesting book that you might enjoy reading is the provocative, informative and maybe even controversial book, "Hot, Flat and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution and How It Can Renew America," by Thomas L. Friedman.

This book is not all about how the government is going to solve our energy problem. It is about individuals taking the initiative to experiment on a small scale and come up with the next big invention or solution to help power our economy in the future.

We have had our Einsteins, Edisons Hewletts and Packards, Page

and Brins; who will be next? What inventors will solve some of our major energy problems in the 21st Century? We also have this book in audio format, so you could listen to it on a long trip.

If you are interested in a story about nature and the wild, you may want to peruse the book, "The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon," by David Grann. The author has taken on the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Percy Fawcett, the once-great British explorer.

Fawcett set out with a few trusted companions and hoped that they would find the lost city. During the adventure, Fawcett wrote many letters to his family and friends. Grann has taken these, plus many other original sources, to discover the truth about the expedition and its ending.

He has written this book using extensive sources, and provides information in a notes and a bibliography section. His historical information about the area, the lost city, peoples of the region and time is taken from historical documents. An extensive index is provided so that a reader can quickly find information. You will enjoy the fruits of Grann's carefully crafted story, as well as the excellent research he has done.

I would be remiss without inviting you to come in and view the new photographic books we have on wildlife, flowers and the prairie: "Wildflowers of the American West," by Rose Houk; "Illustrated

Birds of North America (folio edition)," by Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan Alderfer; "Great Plains: America's Lingering Wild," by Michael Forsberg, Ted Kooser, Dan O'Brien and David Wishart.

We can all take responsibility for our neck of the woods - or prairie - and decide we care how our environment is cared for by recycling cans, plastics, paper, cardboard and glass instead of heaping them up in our land fill. Have a great day being blessed with the beauty all around us.

Come in and check out the book "All the King's Men," by Robert P. Warren so you can contribute to the book discussion we will have on Thursday, May 20. It will be led by Kansas Humanities Scholar Steven K. Kite.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for what may be one of the last Chautauquas ever June 2-6 in Colby. The theme is "Bright, Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties." During Chautauqua, there will be programs for the young and for adults.

Sign up for a week-long youth camp at the museum. The library will be hosting 11 programs (two for children and nine adult or general audiences) during the morning and afternoon times. Evening sessions will involve speakers portraying historical characters of the time.

The information is now out in the library for you to read about. See you in the library!

Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday, April 13, at Colby Community College with 32 members and guests, including Nicole Weigel, owner of Nicole's School of Dance, and Gary, Yvonne and Lucas Baumfalk.

Jeff Horlacher reported on the upcoming Polio Plus Radiothon. He has a DVD about polio available for anyone who wanted to see it.

Nick Wells was congratulated on another successful college Endowment Auction.

Mike Tubbs reported on the highway cleanup project. This year's plan is to coordinate the first cleanup with the city's

wide cleanup week.

Lucas Baumfalk was presented the Student of the Month award. He commented on his current high school activities and said he plans to attend Fort Hays State University, majoring in music performance and composition.

Paul Steele presented a program on taxes, tax-base erosion and the challenges of creating a county budget. He presented several "food for thought" items regarding current tax and levy issues.

Mark Winger won Roto-Lotto. The club meets at noon each Tuesday in the Student Union.

- Relda Galli

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$3.97
Corn (bushel)	\$3.04
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.96
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.78

MOVIES

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Closed the 28th & 29th

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PG-13 1 Hour, 50 Minutes
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Sunday - Thursday 7:00

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Sunday - Tuesday 7:00

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LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary met Wednesday, April 14, with President Peggy Ohlroge presiding.

The meeting opened with prayer, patriotic instructions and flag salute. The chaplain offered the prisoner of war-missing in action prayer.

The treasurer's report was given and bills presented. The community service chairman reported 17 projects done and 149 hours of volunteer service, as well as cancer turbans made for the hospital and walker caddies made and given to area residents.

The legislative chairman reported letters sent to state legislators, Rep. Jim Morrison and Sen. Ralph Ostmeier. Publicity reported a news item in the Colby Free Press.

The quarterly audit report was read and accepted. A note was made that 69 pounds of greeting card fronts had collected and sent to St. Jude Hospital.

A donation was allowed for Chataqua in conjunction with the Thomas County 125th Celebration. Monetary allowances were made to the National Home for bus maintenance and to purchase

fish and fishing gear for their fishing rodeo.

The National Home prayer was offered and the meeting closed with the ritual prayer.

The next meeting will be at 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, at the post home.

- Hazel Duffey

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.

Shooting Stars Square Dance

The Shooting Stars Square Dance Club of Hays will have a graduation square dance from 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday, May 2, at Roosevelt Elementary School, 2000 MacArthur.

Peggy Anschutz will call the squares. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served. Call Opal Flinn at (785) 726-4432 for information.

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NOTICE

Colby Implement is pleased to announce a new service for the Atwood area. We will have a parts drop off shed across the street from The Great Outdoors where in stock parts will be delivered by 7:30 AM the following day, Tuesday thru Saturday.

For more information please call Colby Implement at 1-800-532-6529.

Bridal Registry
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A message from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

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Ticket price: \$15
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