

Family

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's your local library at work!

This last week has been a mixture of weather and events. As such, I am going to give you a column just like our current weather!

One of our newest books is "Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters," by Chesley Sullenberger. Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger is the now-famous pilot who landed a plane full of passengers in the Hudson River. He begins his journey by explaining to us his childhood and his early desire to fly planes. Sully was a licensed pilot by 16 and became intimately aware of how important it was to choose safety over being a hot shot. He saw firsthand how making errors in the sky ended in tragic and messy deaths.

Sully grew up in an era when he could easily learn to fly without all the restrictions that we face today. He credits L.T. Cook Jr. for teaching him to fly and giving him the confidence to make mature decisions even as a teenager. Cook had died a few years before that heroic day when Sullenberger flew his passengers on Flight 1549 to safety. Mrs. Cook sent him an e-mail and said, "L.T. wouldn't be surprised ... but he certainly would be pleased and proud" (p.15).

The book is not all about him, though; it also talks about his wonderful wife, Lorrie. He says she has fought to remain both realistic and optimistic even with adversity (p. 170). I found the last chapter profound. When most plane crashes happen families receive what little was left of their loved ones' belongings. This time each passenger was able to personally sign for their found items and be grateful for life!

He also tells about having to call his local library to explain how he lost the book "Just Culture: Balancing Safety and Accountability," by Sidney Dekker. They



Melany Wilks

Library Links

did not charge him! This book is enjoyable to read, with photos, a map of his flight and an appendix with the excerpts of the flight transcript.

A second new book, all about success and living through difficult circumstances, is "An Eagle Named Freedom," by Jeff Guidry. He tells of his work with endangered species. He saves a female eagle whose wings are broken and cannot even stand. The moment their eyes met, Guidry knew there was a bond.

When she is found, the eagle is so weak and sickly the wildlife center tells Jeff that if she cannot stand in a week they will put her out of her misery. He is distraught and thinks the worst. But Freedom shows them all! She stands and begins to thrive.

After this their lives become intertwined. Jeff is diagnosed with Stage Three non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. He, too, comes to live at death's door. But Freedom helps him survive and recover. The book goes on to tell of lives of others Guidry works with who have cancer and how Freedom and other birds help them through illnesses.

One reason I really liked this book is that I had just visited the Arboretum at Flagstaff, Ariz., and enjoyed watching and participating in their "Daily Raptor Free-Flight Program" (www.thearb.org/visit_birds-of-prey.php). I could picture these wildlife experts interacting and loving the special

birds they worked with each day. I had the joy of being the person the owl would silently swoop past without me hearing its approach. I heard the owls impressive swoosh of air breeze past me while blindfolded. Once the stunt was over, I took off my mask and was face to face with this large beautiful owl's sparkling eyes. Let's just say that made my day!

If you enjoyed the above subjects and want to learn from fun resources, you might check out "Eagles and Birds of Prey," by Gemima Parry-Jones, a book from the series *DK Eyewitness Book*. In doing this article I found a website by Joseph Noordman with professional photographs of raptors and carrion birds at joenordman.smugmug.com/Nature/Song-and-Garden-Birds/Raptors-and-Carrion-birds/7057054_HYMGt/1/693983933_msFb6/Large. If you use that address it will take you to 246 pictures of these wonderful birds. And if after reading the book on Sullenberger, go to the Internet and type in videos for Sully Sullenberger and you will be able to watch YouTube videos on interviews by him, his return to flight and even some video testifying about bird strikes and planes.

Our regular summer hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 9 to 8 Thursday, 9 to 5 Friday, 9 to 4 Saturday, and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. If you are from out of town and need wireless access or a computer with Internet access, please allow us to serve you. If you need to renew an item, please do not hesitate to call us at (785) 460-4470; we'd love to help you.

Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met June 29 with 29 members and guests Janice Frahm, Kevan Trenkle, Dalton Schuette and Tracey Mann, a visiting Rotarian from Salina and candidate for Congress.

Gary Schuette and son Dalton sang the Turtle Song, which Dalton recently learned at Cub Scout Camp.

The club received a thank-you note from the newly founded Sunrise Rotary Club in Hays for the gift of a bell and gavel. Former Colby Rotary member Les Brown is serving as president of the new Hays club.

President Jerry Arensdorf gave an overview of the club's service projects and accomplishments over the past year and recognized members who served on the board or were a part of activities. He stated that he is proud of the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," and believes the projects supported by the club are proof that members live by the motto.

Arensdorf was recognized for his year of leadership as president and presented with a plaque. He was also recognized for achieving a multilevel Paul Harris Fellow award.

Trenkle won Roto-Lotto. The club meets at noon each Tuesday in Room 106 of the Colby Community College Student Union.

- Relda Galli

Babies

Noelle Jewell Burris

Noelle Jewell Burris, daughter of Scott and Beverly Burris of Goodland, was born Monday, June 21, 2010, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Sisters Madison and McKennize welcomed the new baby home.

Grandparents are Brenda and Gary Fisher of Goodland and Christy and Rick Burris of Hoxie.

Ian Joseph Kraemer

Ian Joseph Kraemer, son of A.J. and Jennifer Kraemer of Ogallah, was born Sunday, June 20, 2010, at Hays Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce

and measured 19 1/2 inches. Grandparents are John and Susan McMahan of Brewster and Andy and Judy Kraemer of La-Crosse.

Destiny Ann Wacker

Destiny Ann Wacker, daughter of Rebecca Carman and Chad Wacker of Oakley, was born Saturday, June 26, 2010, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 21 inches.

Brother Bryce Keegan wel-

comed the baby home. Grandparents are Kathleen Carman of Oakley, Darrell Carman of Oakley and Jim and Joyce Wacker of Fort Collins, Colo.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$3.98
Corn (bushel)	\$3.19
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.23
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.77

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.

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A tradition since 1933, week-long Fiesta Mexicana celebration features authentic Mexican foods, crafts and entertainment. (785) 232-5088, olg-parish.org/fiesta
Winfield Country Round-up
July 15-17, Winfield
Three day country music festival featuring well-known artists. WinfieldCountryRoundup.com
Dodge City Days Festival
July 30 - August 8, Dodge City
Western Heritage Comes to Life
10-day festival (620) 227-3119, dodgecitydays.com
National Baseball Congress World Series
July 30 - August 13, Wichita
76th Annual. See the nation's top amateur baseball teams compete. A 2-week tournament with baseball around the clock Aug. 6-8. (316) 264-6887, nbcbaseball.com
The Science of SuperCroc
March 13-August 5, Hays
Sternberg Museum of Natural History hosts this blockbuster exhibit which tells the story of Sarcosuchus, the largest crocodile to walk the earth. (877) 332-1165, Sternberg. fhsu.edu/
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We would also like to recognize these other Kansas companies that were finalists for the award:
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• Walters' Pumpkin Patch
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We would also like to recognize these other Kansas companies that were finalists for the award:
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• Chemidex
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• Research Products Company
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