

Buy books and solve a mystery, coming soon at Pioneer Library

It's time to tell you about two events in February and March. The first is the Book Lovers Book Sale next week. It begins at 9 a.m. next Thursday and runs through 7:30 p.m. that day, from 9 to 4:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, and from 9 to 3:45 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.



Melany Wilks
• Library Links

It is also time to purchase your Murder Mystery tickets for dinner and solving the library's annual murder. The Murder Mystery will be at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 3. The title is "Poetic Justice." Tickets are \$25 each, with money going to help sponsor summer reading, story time activities, National Library Week lunch events and *Booked for Lunch* events. It also helps support our gifts to newborn babies, Books for Soldiers, helping to purchase new technology equipment, and so many things.

We have a few new mysteries this week. The first is "Left for Dead," by J.A. Jance, seventh of the Alison Reynolds series. Ali has an old friend who is being accused of murder in Santa Cruz County, Ariz. Jose Reynolds, the victim in this crime scene, is now accused of being part of the drug cartels out of Mexico. While visiting Jose

the past to solve this mystery and menace.

The third book is "Catch Me," by Lisa Gardner. Book six of the D.D. Warren series has Detective D.D. Warren of the Boston Police investigating how the last possible victim of a group of childhood playmates might be murdered. Charlie Grant fears she is going to be murdered on Feb. 21 like all of her previous friends. Detective Warren soon finds out that Charlie is no limp flower waiting to be killed. She is better prepared than most and may actually be able to out gun, out run and out maneuver the killer. Something is troubling Warren. Can he believe this woman? Is there something he's not being told about this whole affair?

A fourth book is "Oath of Office," by Michael Palmer, a thriller and mystery. Dr. Lou Welcome finds himself investigating and explaining why Dr. John Merriman kills his business partner, staff members and two patients all in one day. It is Dr. Welcome who knows Merriman the best and is left to try to uncover just what drove him to do something so heinous. Welcome is not prepared for what he finds; a larger-than-life

plot to infiltrate the White House is discovered. Now he must expose it without himself becoming a victim.

A fifth item about the struggles of a married couple's relationship while an unexpected deployment for military service complicates their lives is "Home Front," by Kristin Hannah.

In the nonfiction area we have "Nixon's Darkest Secrets: The Inside Story of America's Most Troubled President," by Don Fulsom. We are also adding four audiobooks: "Mockingjay," by Suzanne Collins (*The Hunger Games, Book 3*); "The Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire that Saved America," by Timothy Egan; "The President's House: 1800 to the Present: The Secrets and History of the World's Most Famous Home," by Margaret Truman; and "Speaking My Mind: Selected Speeches with Personal Reflections," by Ronald Reagan.

Remember that library winter hours are 9 a.m. Monday through Saturday, closing at 8 p.m. week-nights, at 5 p.m. Friday, and at 4 p.m. Saturday. Sunday hours are 1 to 4 p.m.

See you in the library!

Colby Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday at Colby Community College with 35 members and guests Sheila Frahm, Mary Kersenbrock, Kathy Kersenbrock - Ostmeyer, Christina Ostmeyer and Joy Rothfuss.

Christina Ostmeyer was recognized as the Rotary Student of the Month for February, following the opening song, prayer and pledge of allegiance. President Connie Renner presented her with a certificate and a 2011-2012 theme pin. Marilyn Unger had the program. Her guest, Ostmeyer, spoke about attending the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation Event in July 2011 in Washington, D.C.

Ostmeyer said she was selected to attend Girls Nation at the Kansas Girls State event along with Lucy Liu from Manhattan. The object of Girls Nation is to model the United States' government process and ultimately elect a president and vice-president along with promoting community.

As part of the week-long process, the girls were required to

create a bill or resolution for the Girls Nation "senators" to vote on. Ostmeyer thanked Sheila Frahm for her assistance as the resolution submitted by her and her partner, Liu, was passed. It was to maintain and extend Pell grants along with making the grants more available to ensure the continuity of post-secondary education.

In addition to the government work, Ostmeyer noted highlights of the week which included visiting Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed Hospital, laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, attending a daily flag ceremony, meeting President Obama and Kansas legislators, observing the House and Senate voting on bills and touring monuments and the Library of Congress. She said Girls Nation was the single most positive learning experience of her life.

Nick Wells won Roto-Lotto. Colby Rotary meets on Tuesdays at the college student union, in room 106.

— Relda Galli

Bargain-priced winter squashes big on health benefits

Shoppers who bypass winter squashes because they don't know how to cook them are missing bargain-priced health benefits.

Preparing winter squash need not be complicated, said Karen Blakeslee, K-State Research and Extension food scientist.

Peeling and dicing a winter squash before adding it to a soup or stew takes just a few minutes; to bake, wash squash skin, pat dry, and slice the squash into halves (or sections) before placing it (cut side down) on a baking sheet.

Bake at 350 degrees F until a fork can be inserted through the skin with ease. Cooking time will vary with size; squash cut into

rings will bake more quickly than squash cut in half.

Though not eaten, the skin on winter squash need not be peeled before baking. Some people prefer to remove seeds before baking, while others claim they enhance flavor and remove seeds after baking.

Either way, winter squashes are low-calorie, low-sodium, fat-free and excellent sources of health-promoting vitamins and minerals:

- Acorn squash, usually deep green or golden orange and similar in shape to a small football, has 60 calories per half-cup serving and 20 percent of the daily Vitamin C recommended on a 2,000-calorie diet.

• Butternut squash, typically buff color with a narrow neck and bulb-like bottom, has 40 calories per half-cup serving; is high in Vitamin A (230 percent of the daily recommendation), and offers 25 percent of the recommendation for Vitamin C (both on a 2,000-calorie diet).

Winter squashes are harvested at maturity and can be stored in a cool, dry place for three months. Buy winter squash with firm skins and free of cracks, dents and soft spots.

Information on choosing and using winter squashes is available at K-State Research and Extension offices and at www.rrc.ksu.edu.

Camo designer a surprise finalist

By Jeff Richardson

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — When the U.S. Army announced the finalists to develop its new series of camouflage patterns last month, almost nobody saw the results coming.

Among the four companies and an Army research team in the running to develop the new patterns, there are \$3 billion corporations and little Kryptek Inc., a Fairbanks-based company with a total of four employees. The Kryptek headquarters, if there even is one, is located in a back room of CEO Butch Whiting's log home near Steele Creek Road.

The patterns by the companies and the Army team will begin a four-month series of field trials in May to determine which one performs best.

The winners — with separate designs for woodland, arid and transitional terrain — will be used on everything from everyday uniforms to tactical equipment.

So how does Kryptek feel about being in a multi-million dollar competition against the biggest players in the tactical design industry? Pretty good, actually.

"I like our odds," Whiting said with a small smile.

Whiting said he's confident in the designs because he's been through their quirky evolution.

The decision to develop a better camouflage pattern was born about three years ago during a moose hunting trip in the Brooks Range.

Whiting was part of a group of "trigger pullers" who were grumbling about how poorly most camo fared in the state's varied backcountry terrain.

"We just got to talking about camouflage patterns, and how patterns in Alaska are all crap," he said.

That led Kryptek, which specializes in high-end hunting gear, to look into developing its own design.

The science behind a good camouflage pattern is surprisingly complex, Whiting said.

Almost anyone can make a unique design using a computer program, but not all of them transfer well to cloth or prove to be functional during a field test.

Kryptek hired a designer to help develop patterns, while collecting

advice from everyone from experienced hunters to friends in the military special forces.

In the end, Whiting said, hunters who used the new patterns couldn't believe how much it helped them vanish into the wilderness.

"It just so happens the stuff we created for Alaska seems to be very effective in environments worldwide," he said.

So when the Army asked for camouflage proposals, Whiting said Kryptek wasn't intimidated by the thought that its patterns could also be useful in military roles.

A former soldier who spent nearly 11 years in the Army, Whiting also felt the existing military camo patterns left plenty of room for improvement.

From a group of more than 20 submissions, researchers whittled it down to five through a combination of scientific analysis and soldier input, according to the Army.

In addition to Kryptek and the Army development team, the finalists include ADS, Brookwood Companies and Crye Precision.

Now that it's among the finalists, Kryptek is researching ways to add layers of complexity to its designs, allowing them to stand up better to infrared and other types of detection. Whiting said Kryptek is scrambling to deliver by March enough printed fabric for 50 uniforms in each style.

After a summer of field testing, the Army expects to make a final decision on the winning patterns by the end of 2012.

But even before the selection is made, Kryptek's new profile as a finalist in the design competition has sparked new business possibilities.

The company currently has an exclusive contract with Cabela's to sell Kryptek products, but Whiting said he expects new deals will be negotiated this year to work with other retailers, including stores in Alaska.

Recent trade shows, including one last month in Las Vegas, left Whiting almost overwhelmed with the possibilities.

The desire for a better camouflage pattern, which began in a hunting camp three years ago, could end up propelling Kryptek into another realm.

"It's becoming a very big animal to wrestle with," Whiting said.

USE THE CLASSIFIEDS! 785-462-3963

SKADAF, a community-based rehabilitation agency serving the 26th Judicial District in SW Kansas, is seeking an addiction counselor. The successful candidate will work in the Outpatient Counseling Program. This position can lead to an administrative job. Applicants must have the State of Kansas, Behavior Sciences Regulatory Board, Addiction Counselor License. A clinical level licenser is preferred.

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Babies

Ella Michelle Mariman



Ella Mariman

Ella Michelle Mariman, daughter of Brett Mariman and Tania Muller of Colby, was born Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 inches.

She is the granddaughter of Curt and Sherri Wilder of Bucklin, Mike Mills and Mary Meriete of Moline, Bill and Debbie Mariman of Colby and Nick and Brenda Talarico of Goodland.

Axel James Mayfield



Axel Mayfield

Axel James Mayfield, son of James and Kim Mayfield of Jennings, was born Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 20 1/2 inches.

Brother Jaden Mayfield welcomed the baby home.

Grandparents are Matthew Coiner of Rexford, Sarah Coiner of Colby and Trish and Jerry Langley of Grainfield.

Kinzleigh Grace-Helen Donelan

Kinzleigh Grace-Helen Donelan, daughter of Chris Donelan and Chrissy Olsen of Colby, was born Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Brother Kaizen Olsen wel-

comed the baby home.

Grandparents are Monty and Nancy Fix of Thornton, Colo., Mike Donelan of Tucson, Ariz., and Peggy Donelan of Decatur, Texas.

Leland and Sally Jones of Colby are her great-aunt and uncle.

Humanities group needs new directors

The Kansas Humanities Council is seeking nominations of Kansans for service on its 22-member board by Friday, April 6.

"If you or someone you know is passionate about community events, documentaries, museum exhibitions, and talks on a wide range of relevant topics, consider a nomination to the KHC Board of Directors," said Jay Price, chair of the membership committee.

The board is volunteer. Members serve for a three-year term, with the possibility of renewal for a second term. Meetings of the full board are held three times a year in locations across the state. Members have financial oversight of the organization, take an active

and participatory role in fundraising, set policy, are knowledgeable about the humanities, and promote awareness of the council. In addition to board meetings, members also serve on a standing committee that meets as needed.

The Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to participate in their communities.

People may nominate themselves or others for board service. For information, visit www.kansashumanities.org or call (785) 357-0359.

Grads get scholarships

Several northwest Kansas students at Emporia State University have received scholarships.

- They include:
- Jessica Leiker of Colby, Emporia State Hornet Scholarship and College of Emporia Memorial Scholarship.

Scholarship.

- Cory Sager of Colby, Clark and Bessie Gilbert Scholarship.
- Haley Kistler of Monument, General Scholarship Fund and Frank A. and Bertha R. Beach Memorial Scholarship.

Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Tuesday were Sarah Jane Barrett, first; Mary Kersenbrock, second; Dave Ulmer, third; Katie Melvin, fourth; Ken Ptacek, fifth; and Bob Renner, sixth.

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

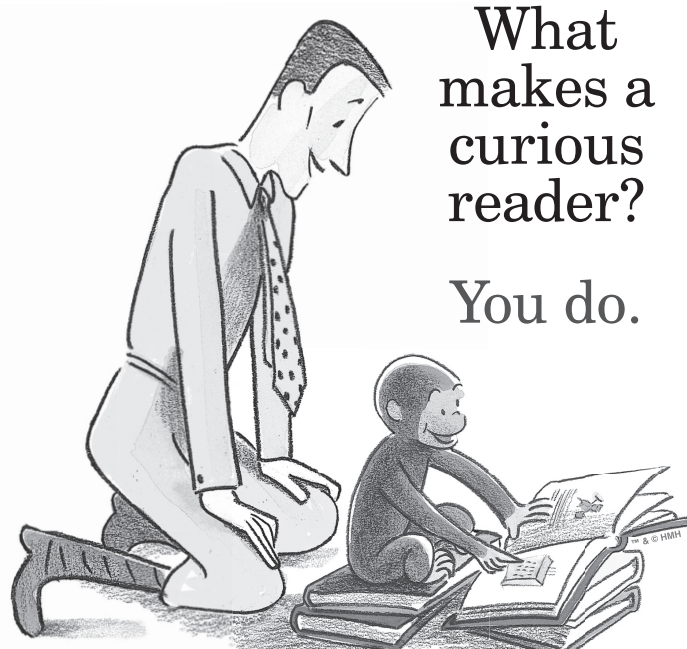
Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$6.25
Corn (bushel)	\$6.11
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.45
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.18



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