

# Library benefits everyone in town

It's National Library Week. This is always a special time around here. We as staff really love to put together speakers and authors each year, have fun lunches with those who attend and generally just enjoy the week together.



**Melany Wilks**  
• Library Links

However, do you know why libraries are good for the country? Let me tell you what an article delineated: 1) libraries sustain democracy; 2) libraries break down boundaries; 3) libraries level the playing field; 4) libraries value the individual; 5) libraries nourish creativity; 6) libraries open young minds; 7) libraries return high dividends; 8) libraries build communities; 9) libraries support families; 10) libraries build technology skills; 11) libraries offer sanctuary; 12) libraries preserve the past. These twelve come from an article written by Leonard Kniffel, (12 Ways Libraries Are Good for the Country, 2010, americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/12212010/12-ways-libraries-are-good-country).

We at the Pioneer Memorial Library believe we are here to serve the community. We provide resources in this area that many could not afford. As our motto states, we "Bring Words To Life!" This could be through print, audio or visual media. This could be found in a newspaper, magazine, book, CD (music or recorded story), a movie, computer, e-books, and more.

This year's theme for National Library Week is "Libraries: the Heart of the Community." As each one comes to the library, we share and exchange ideas. We learn and grow together. We support and encourage each other. We share our very lives together. Thank you for celebrating and using your library daily.

Now, let me tell you about a few books we have added this week. The first one is "Love Saves the Day," by Gwen Cooper. The cover with a cat on it drew me to this book. Prudence, protagonist and tabby cat, is owned by Sarah. They live in New York.

Prudence, a typical cat with opinions, tells us that Sarah, like most humans, is not as precise as cats are. She also explains that she knows the veterinary clinic is the "bad place." I know this author understands cats just by the way she has Prudence tell her thoughts; she could be describing my cat.

The book takes the air out of us when Sarah does not return home, the neighbor feeds Prudence, and then Laura the daughter moves Prudence into her apartment. This is when the author really shares with us how love between humans and animals can be so healing and enjoyable. If you love cats and their antics, you will really enjoy this book.

Another fun book is "Out of Warranty," by Haywood Smith.

Cassie Jones has just been diagnosed with a rare form of arthritis, a year after she lost her husband. He was the love of her life, so Cassie finds herself, a widow, with two grown children living in other cities, a newly discovered disease, too young to qualify for Medicare but not employable because of her stay-at-home work experience. With recent medical expenses she has breezed through the life insurance from her husband, used up the line of credit on her home and now faces additional costs.

This is where the book turns to a more humorous tone. Cassie is out to find a man who is well off enough to provide health insurance for her and a reasonable standard of living. The author takes us down some fun roads as she explores this endeavor. Cassie really is a person who cares about people and the author relates this in a comfortable conversational style.

Two nonfiction items I have not told you about yet, include "The Outpost: An Untold Story of American Valor," by Jake Tapper, an ABC war correspondent telling about the military's stories in Afghanistan. He writes with a rich descriptive voice.

The second item is written by the infamous host of "Red Eye," and "The Five," which airs on the Fox News Channel. The book is "The Joy of Hate: How to Triumph Over Whiners In the Age of Phony Outrage," by Greg Gutfield. As I have perused this book, I find that Gutfield is as creative in writing as when he shares his wit on TV.

In the first chapter he describes when and how he came to believe that phony outrage was actually rewarded. He says it and "repressive tolerance" were honed to a "t" at the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied. This also tells me that Gutfield is no dullard. Like any campus, Berkeley has a whole mix of individuals, some being outrageous and some downright normal. I have a feeling that Gutfield comes by the humor and mental gymnastics on TV, you will enjoy his book.

Please go and experience the Art Walk Friday. Stop by the library, we will have three artists displaying their wares.

Remember, our normal hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. See you in the library!



The Diamond W Wranglers will be on stage Sunday in the Colby High School Auditorium.

# Final Arts Association show Sunday

The Western Plains Arts Association will end its 43rd season with a performance by the Diamond W Wranglers at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Colby High School Auditorium.

The Diamond W Wranglers, formerly the Prairie Rose Wranglers, are a Kansas-based singing group that performs worldwide. Members are Stu Stuart, Jim Farrell, Steve Crawford and Chip Worthington. Most of the year, they perform at the Old Cowtown

Museum in Wichita.

Their music is a combination of traditional Western music that pays homage to Western greats like the Sons of the Pioneers with their own Western originals.

Winners of the Will Rogers Award for 2008 Western Album of the Year from the Academy of Western Artists, the Wranglers have also been honored for their original music. "Trail Dust," written by Farrell, the group's arranger,

topped the Western Music charts.

The Wranglers were the first musicians from the western hemisphere to perform cowboy music in China, as well as the first to have a concert on the Great Wall.

Admittance is by Western Plains season ticket or \$20 for adults, \$10 for students, at the door.

## Rexford student wins

By Shania Finlay  
Golden Plains High School

Each year, Midwest Energy chooses one student from each of the Midwest Energy service areas to represent them in a Government in Action Youth Tour. This year, 17-year-old Kylie Jones, Golden Plains student, has been selected to represent northwest Kansas in a one week, all-expense paid trip June 13 to 20 to tour Washington, meet politicians and sit in on meetings.

The students chosen must be high school juniors whose parents receive electric or natural gas service from Midwest. To apply, students write a personal essay and submit it along with the application form.

Kylie is the daughter of Alan

Jones of Rexford and Sally Graham of Hays. She is involved in her school life, taking part in both athletic and nonathletic activities. In addition to volleyball, basketball, track and cheerleading, Kylie participates in scholars bowl and is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"I'm excited to expand my horizons and visit the place where big decisions affecting our communities are made," said Jones.



Kylie Jones

## 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.

## 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Please join us in celebrating our parents' 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
**Saturday, April 20, 2013**  
Come & Go Open House 2 - 4 p.m.  
8 Ford Drive, Colby, Kansas

No gifts please, your presence is a gift of itself.



Al & Kit Gerstner

## Judge fines self for smartphone violation

IONIA, Mich. (AP) — A Michigan judge whose smartphone disrupted a hearing in his own courtroom has held himself in contempt and paid \$25 for the infraction.

Judge Raymond Voet has a posted policy at Ionia County 64A District Court stating that electronic devices causing a disturbance during court sessions will result in the owner being cited with contempt, the *Sentinel-Standard* of Ionia and MLive.com reported.

On Friday afternoon, during a prosecutor's closing argument as part of a jury trial, Voet's new smartphone began to emit sounds requesting phone voice commands. Voet said he thinks he bumped the phone, and the embarrassment likely left his face red.

"I'm guessing I bumped it. It started talking really loud, saying 'I can't understand you. Say something like Mom,'" he said.

Voet has used a Blackberry mobile phone for years, and said he wasn't as familiar with the operation of the new touchscreen, Windows-based phone.

"That's an excuse, but I don't take those excuses from anyone else. I set the bar high, because cellphones are a distraction and there is very serious business going on," he said. "The courtroom is a special place in the community, and it needs more respect than that."

Over the years, the judge whose court is about 110 miles northwest of Detroit has taken phones away from police officers, attorneys,

witnesses, spectators and friends. During a break in the trial, Voet held himself in contempt, fined himself and paid the fine.

"Judges are humans," Voet said. "They're not above the rules. I

## Markets

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

Wheat (bushel)	\$7.02
Corn (bushel)	\$6.65
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.34
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.32

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Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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