

Library to host first of Chautauqua series Sunday

Just a quick reminder that this Sunday the library will be hosting the first of the Chautauqua “Bleeding Kansas” film series which will be the 1940 movie *Dark Command*, starring John Wayne, Claire Trevor and Walter Pidgeon.

The free show starts at 2 p.m. in the library meeting room and everyone is invited to attend. The discussion leader will be Tom Goodrich from Topeka. It is sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council. Be sure to mark your calendars now and plan to come.

We have lots of great new books, books on tape, videos and DVDs arriving all the time.

Here are a few of the newer “self-help” books. First *The Glory Walk* by Catherine Smith is an unusual



JoAnne Sunderman

•Library Link

memoir about Alzheimer’s disease that is stealing the author’s father’s life.

It is an uplifting story designed to help the reader understand and cope with his/her own loved ones when faced with this situation. Second, *How to Enjoy Your Retirement* by Tricia Wagner and Barbara Day contains more than 1,000 inspiring and fun ideas for a delightful retirement. Third we have *Sisters and Brothers All These Years* by Lillian

Hawthorne.

This book helps middle-aged and older adults make the most of the sibling connections.

And finally, the book *Are Your Parents Driving You Crazy?* by Joseph Ilardo is a practical guide for people whose parents are still competent and living on their own, but showing signs of aging—for example, they should stop driving but refuse to give up the keys, refuse in-home help even though they really

need it, etc. Each of these books deals with dilemmas that adult children face every day.

You might want to pass these titles on to a friend.

David Baldacci (*Absolute Power*, *Total Control*, etc.) has a new mystery thriller out called *Split Second*.

The story centers around Sean King, former Secret Service agent whose career ended eight years ago when the political candidate he was protecting was assassinated. Now he is a lawyer hoping to forget that chapter of his life when all of a sudden a colleague is murdered in his office building.

Further complicating this is the fact that Agent Michelle Maxwell was covering a political candidate who has just been kidnapped and she feels certain there is a connection between her guy’s kidnapping and King’s assassinated candidate.

They begin to focus on the man who was convicted in King’s case but something is not right. Neither King nor Maxwell can guess who the conspirator’s next target is. You can count on Baldacci to spin a great yarn and *Split Second* is no exception.

High Country, the latest novel by

Nevada Barr, tells the story of four young workers who have gone missing from Yellowstone Park. Park Ranger Anna Pigeon is called upon to go undercover to find them. She ingratiates herself with staff and park visitors alike and picks up on the rumor of some sort of “gold mine.”

She straps on her backpack and heads into the wilderness in search of the missing young people and the truth about this mine and ends up enduring what is certainly the toughest 72 hours of her life, physically as well as emotionally. When all is said and done, she’s still not sure she has solved the mystery. Nevada Barr will keep you guessing right to the end. *High Country* is one of her best entries in a long-running series that seems to get better every outing.

Stop by Pioneer Memorial Library soon.

We are located at 375 W. Fourth and are open 7 days a week as follows: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. For more information contact the library at 462-4470. We look forward to serving you.

Gay marriage opponents unsure of next move in controversial issue

TOPEKA (AP)—Gay marriage opponents were not sure of their next move after the Senate narrowed a proposed amendment to the Kansas Constitution that they championed — and later killed it.

The version that died Thursday would have banned gay marriage but left open the possibility that the state eventually could recognize same-sex civil unions. Senators spent more than six hours in often intense debate.

The House already had adopted the amendment, which would need two-thirds approval in the 40-member Senate to be placed on the Nov. 2 ballot.

As approved by the House, the amendment would have added a section to the constitution saying that Kansas only recognizes marriage between one man and one woman and does not extend the rights that accompany marriage to any other relationship.

Senate Majority Leader Lana Oleen, R-Manhattan, offered a narrower substitute. Her measure would have placed in the constitution an existing state law saying only marriages between one man and one woman are valid and that all others are void.

Oleen noted that civil unions aren’t allowed under current Kansas law, but her proposal contained no language directly denying legal recognition of such contractual unions.

The Senate tentatively approved the Oleen measure on a 21-17 vote, but rejected it 17-16 on final action, with six senators abstaining.

Oleen said she was trying to give Kansans a straightforward proposal

to consider at the polls, answering their demand for a constitutional protection for marriage.

But supporters of the original, House-passed amendment said such protection would be meaningless if the state still could extend benefits associated with marriage to other relationships.

Those gay marriage opponents said they were not sure whether they would try again this year to get the House-passed measure through the Senate.

“We’re going to have to regroup,” said Sen. Robert Tyson, R-Parker.

Sen. David Adkins, R-Leawood,

held the floor for four hours before Oleen offered her measure, arguing against a gay marriage ban. In answer to a fellow senator’s question, Adkins said he supports gay marriage.

“The march of time is on my side,” he said. “Liberty will not be denied.”

Adkins offered a series of proposals intended to rewrite the measure, kill it or return it to committee. One of his proposals — which he said would truly protect the institution of marriage — would have outlawed divorce and legal separation in Kansas. All his proposals failed by wide margins.

A salute to: Women’s History Month

Florella Brown Adair arrived in Kansas with her minister husband in 1854 and settled near present day Osawatimie.

The came as abolitionists to help make sure that Kansas entered the Union free from slavery. Florella wanted to be useful and she thought that she could be useful in Kansas.

Six months later, her half-brother, John Brown, moved in with them. With Brown, the Adairs built an addition to the rear of the cabin that was used as a stop on the “underground railroad.”

They never adopted Brown’s militant philosophy believing

that the fate of Kansas as a free or slave state would be determined at the polls.

However, they often provided refuge for victims of proslavery fighters during the “Bleeding Kansas” period.

Recognition of Florella Adair was brought to you by this newspaper and the local committee for the Kansas Chautauqua which is hosting “Bleeding Kansas: Where the Civil War Began” June 11-15 in Colby.

The preceding column is being sponsored by the Prairie Museum of Art and History in observance of Women’s History Month, celebrated in March.

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Scholarship Benefit Party Auction

Comfort Inn Convention Center in Colby

Saturday, April 3

Doors Open: 4:45 p.m. Buffet Dinner: 5:30 p.m. Live Auction: 7:00 p.m.

LISTED BELOW ARE A FEW OF THE ITEMS DONATED:

- Polished Aluminum Gun Case Colby Canvas
- Women's Lab Package Citizens Medical Center
- Half Hog Processed..... Grinnell Locker
- 1 Gram Gold Ingot Necklace Peoples State Bank
- Colorado Rockies Package First National Bank
- Park Bench Great Western Tire
- 2 Season Passes Thomas County Speedway
- 3 1/2 ft. Blue Spruce Tree Blue Ribbon Tree Farm
- Kodak DX4530 Digital Camera CCC Faculty Alliance
- Craftsman Tote Toolbox Central Detroit Diesel
- Nova Mini Stereo System Gavon's Electronics
- One Year of Oil Changes Taylor Motors

Thank you to all the area individuals and businesses who donated items to help make the auction a success! A Special Thanks to Farm and Ranch Realty and ALL auction staff, cashiers and spotters. Stop by the His Shop, Personal Touch & Colby Photo to see displays of auction items coming this weekend.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!!!

Auction conducted and clerked compliments of Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc. - Don Hazlett, Broker

****Tickets Still Available****

For reservations, call 785-462-4684