

Coincidences, Chaos, and All That Math Jazz featured reading

If you were in a room with 44 other people, what are the chances that two people in the room have the same birthday?

The answer is surprising — but the catch is that you have to read the rest of this article to find the answer. Or, the alternative is to check-out the book *Coincidences, Chaos, and All That Math Jazz: Making Light of Weighty Ideas* by Edward B. Burger and Michael Starbird for the answer.

Be careful though, you may never look at the world the same again after this book!

If you don't like math (even with a humorous slant), *4th of July* by James Patterson is a book that you think you will have a 92 percent chance of enjoying.

Well, perhaps the math behind that percentage is a little sketchy —



Jeff Friesen

• Library Link

but *4th of July* was, as of September 2005, the most borrowed book of 2005 in U.S. libraries.

This book is the fourth installment in the Women's Murder Club Series by James Patterson.

The other books in the Women's Murder Club Series are *1st to Die*, *Second Chance*, and *3rd Degree*.

4th of July begins with Lieutenant Lindsay Boxer of the San Francisco Police Department being charged with police brutality after a shoot-out with a clan of murder-

ers. The shoot-out left a 15-year-old girl dead and a 13-year-old boy paralyzed.

However, Boxer's arrangement to lay low while the trial against her is taking place doesn't pan out as planned.

Ironically, her attempt to get away puts her right back in the thick of things.

Someone is murdering couples in the neighborhood where she is living and the murders appear to resemble a pattern set by an un-

solved case earlier in her career.

With little assistance from the Women's Murder Club, Lindsay is left to work most of the case alone in *4th of July*.

If non-fiction books are your preference then there is a 93 percent chance that you will like the book *1776* by David McCullough. (Once again, a sketchy percentage, but take into consideration that 43.7 percent of statistics are made up on the spot — and things come into perspective)

1776 is currently the best-seller on the New York Times Best Seller list of non-fiction books.

The year 1776 as most of us know was the year of the Revolutionary War and America's Declaration of Independence from British rule.

Some of the details of the Revolutionary War are well known such

as the unusually cold winter that took place in 1776 and George Washington's heroic efforts in fighting (and escaping) the British. In this book, McCullough a renowned historian and two-time Pulitzer prize winner, offers a fresh perspective and new insight into the war that changed the course of history.

His narrative reveals the wartime conditions of both the British and Americans troops during the war and the heroics, luck (especially luck), and perseverance that ultimately led to American independence.

And here is the statistic, as promised. Amazingly, a group of 45

people have a 95 percent chance of finding two people in the group that have the same birthday!

Or, put another way only have a 5 percent chance of not finding two people in the room with the same birthday. Wow!

Pioneer Memorial Library is located at 375 West 4th and open seven days a week.

Winter hours will be as follows: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For questions or general information about the library, call 460-4470. As always, we are here to serve you.

Law Enforcement News

Thomas County Sheriff's Office
The following complaints, activities or incidents have been reported to the Thomas County Sheriff's Office:

Monday, Sept. 19
• Served nine civil process orders.

Tuesday, Sept. 20
• Sheriff's deputy responded to complaint of a cow out just east of the Nine-Mile corner on U.S. Highway 24.

• Gary Lee Stewart, 33, was arrested on a criminal summons for giving worthless check to and from Thomas County Jail.

• Deputy assisted fire department regarding ditch on fire in the 1100 block of K-25.

• A call was received from an individual about a case of battery by a woman in the 300 block of Main in Levant.

• Served three civil process orders

Wednesday, Sept. 21
• The sheriff's office assisted Colby Fire Department personnel with vehicle fire one mile east of Nine-Mile corner on U.S. Highway 24.

• A Resident came in to the law enforcement center about a lost vehicle and tag caused by the floods in Louisiana. The sheriff's office took the statement and forwarded the information to Thomas County Treasurer's office.

• The sheriff's office arrested Clinton J. Wesley, 19, for driving under the influence on Interstate 70, five miles west in the eastbound lane.

• Matson Z. Hatfield, 18, was arrested by the Thomas County Sheriff's office on a probation violation for possession of narcotics.

• The sheriff's office responded to a traffic complaint involving a driver going eastbound on County Road F from K25.

• Pieces of tire on Highway 83 prompted a call to the sheriff's office. The person said the tire pieces were located east of Rexford just inside of the Sheridan County line. The items were removed.

Colby Police Department
The following complaints, activities or incidents have been reported to the Colby Police Department:

Monday, Sept. 19
• An individual told a police officer that a wallet was lost at the Colby football game on Friday. No formal report was filed.

• Police checked out a call of a suspicious person at Starbucks, located in the Oasis Travel Center. Later the person was transported to Larned State Hospital by the Thomas County Sheriff's office.

• Officers were alerted to a dog-at-large report in the 200 block of South Lincoln.

• Social Rehabilitation Services requested assistance from police in the 1100 block of South Franklin.

• Officers received a 911 call from a driver on his cellular phone complaining that a semi ran him off the road on Kansas Highway 25 and County Road F. There was no damage.

• Officers rendered service in separate instances to include: escort for a business; offering directions at a local convenience store; providing funeral block; and giving information to someone over the telephone.

• Police were advised of a suspicious black Chevy Blazer making sharp circles in the parking lot at Sacred Heart School. Officers said they spoke to the reporting party and suspects both.

• Officers were advised of a scooter theft from the 1100 block of S. Franklin.

• A traffic complaint was reported to police of a vehicle cutting off a motorist on Range Avenue by the National Guard Armory.

Tuesday, Sept. 20
• Officers assisted the Thomas County Emergency Medical Service in the 200 block of South Lincoln.

• Police were advised of theft involving a motor being taken off of a lift mount on a truck in the 1000 block of E. 9th St.

• Police were advised of criminal damage to property regarding many tires being slashed in a particular section of Friendly Acres Mobile Home Park.

• A person alerted police that her purse was missing and is being treated as either a lost or mislaid property.

• Officers were advised of a male adult chasing a juvenile on his bi-

cycle in the School and Webster area. It was later determined that the adult was attempting to speak with the juvenile regarding possible criminal damage.

• Police investigated a suspicious incident after an individual advised that they had heard four .22 rifle shots south of 6th St. and Martin.

• Officers assisted in an attic fire at 1275 W. 2nd by assisting with traffic control. Prior to that, a call was received about a carbon monoxide alarm going off.

• A complaint sent police to investigate loud noises coming from the Westside Park. The situation was handled after an officer spoke to the individuals involved.

Wednesday, Sept. 21
• An individual went to the law enforcement center on a suspicious incident involving items being thrown at a vehicle in the 600 block of W. 8th St.

• Police were advised of loud noise coming from outside a residence at 665 W. 8th St.

• Officers arranged for a vehicle to be towed away, which was abandoned at T.O. Haas.

• A theft of services in the 400 block of S. Cleveland was reported.

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460-8000

• Police were alerted to a victim of identity theft that happened in Colorado.

• A Colby College student's identification was stolen.

• Officers were made aware of a criminal damage to property involving slashed tires in the 400 block of West Summit.

• A parking complaint was received regarding a semi parked in the Colby Cinema's parking lot. The truck was moved.

• An animal complaint of a dog-at-large was reported at Webster and Lincoln and a second complaint was received in the 700 block of S. Franklin.

• An abandoned vehicle parked in the 1000 block of W. 2nd was reported. Officer left a 48-hour notice on the car.

• Officers were advised of a suspicious person hitchhiking at Sherman and 4th St.

• Person advised police of a harassing phone call message left on her cellular telephone.

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| 2002 Lincoln Navigator - Red w/Gray Leather, Climate Control Seats, 6 Disc CD, Rear Air, 43K Miles. Was \$23,995. Now \$22,995 | 2003 Chevy H.D. Crew Cab - Cloth Seats, V-8, Auto., 1 Owner, 35K Miles. Was \$27,500. Now \$26,500 | 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Red w/Tan Leather, 1 Owner, Loaded. Was \$19,995. Now \$18,850 |
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| 2004 Ford Expedition XLT - 4x4, Blue w/Gray Cloth, 3rd Foldaway Seat, CD, P Seat 15K miles. Was \$25,995. Now \$24,995 | 2002 Ford Supercrew - 4x4 Lariat, Red w/Tan Leather, V-8, Local 1 Owner Trade, 78K Miles. Was \$20,850. Now \$18,850. | 2004 Ford Supercrew - 4x4 Lariat, Bucket Seats, Green, 50K Miles, Sprayed Bedliner, Aluminum Wheels. Was \$27,500. Now \$26,500. |
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| 2002 Ford Explorer Limited - Black w/Black Leather, V-6, 4x4, Sharp! Was \$17,995. Now \$17,500. | 1994 Continental - 4 Door, White w/Gray Leather, 6 Cyl. \$2,495 | 2004 Taurus SES - 4 Door, Beige w/Tan Cloth, P Seats, CD, 22K Miles. \$12,995 |
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| 2001 Ranger Supercab XLT - Flareside, 4 Door, Red w/Gray Cloth, 3.0L V-6, 23K Miles, 1 Owner. \$12,500 | 2001 Ranger Supercab XLT - Black w/Gray Cloth, 6 Cyl., 42K Miles. \$10,850 | 2002 C1500 Reg Cab - 4x2, Red w/Cloth, 6 Cyl. 62K Miles, Bed Cover. \$12,500 |
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| 1996 Town Car Signature - Green w/Tan Leather, V-8. \$3,995 | 2001 F150 Supercab XLT - 4x4, Red & Tan w/Tan Cloth, 5.4L, 75K Miles, 1 Owner. JUST ARRIVED | 2003 Quadcab SLT - 4x4, Maroon & Silver w/Gray Cloth, Hemi, 32K Miles, 1 Owner. \$21,850. |
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| 2002 Corolla - White w/Gray Cloth, 4 Cyl., 52K Miles. \$8,995 | 2002 1500 Reg Cab - 4x4, Brown w/Tan Cloth, V-6, 94K Miles. \$11,995 | 1999 Explorer XLT- 4x4, Red w/Gray Cloth, 6 Cyl., 56K Miles. \$9,575 |
| | | |
| 2000 F150 Supercab - 4x4, Red w/Gray Cloth, 5.4L, 35K Miles, 1 Owner, Nice. \$16,850 | 1997 G Voyager SE - Plum w/Gray Cloth, 6 Cyl., 1 Owner. Nice! \$4,995 | 1988 F150 R/C - 4x4, Good Shape. \$1,995 |

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