

Children’s books appeal to all

This week, I’m writing about youth and children’s books, better known in library land as “Junior Fiction.” The novels that I want to highlight are for children and youth reading at a fourth-grade level and upwards, but this doesn’t mean adults might not want to read them.

I often find some of my most enjoyable reading to be from the junior fiction area. I was talking with a patron the other day who declared they had not grown up reading a lot, but loved the story books written for the very young. I told her, then read those!

Reading is not about having to choose a heavy, pithy, and difficult topic or novel that is so large you need to lift weights to carry it. It is about pleasure, enjoyment and filling your soul and life with thoughts and visions that you appreciate and can cherish. A book can be like a good friend, someone you always return to and smile with when you partake.

Another thought I have about reading from the youth area is that sometimes I enjoy taking nonfiction items off the shelf to learn about a concept. If you love to learn about subjects that involve facts, but hate wading through deep encyclopedic articles and books, take time to find the subject in a kids’ book. Why? Because children’s books have great illustrations and pictures, are written by experts who must take a more complicated and sometimes dry subject and make it inviting to kids.

The DK Eyewitness Books series is a classic example. I just picked out three quickly from this series: “Arms & Armor,” “Arctic & Antarctic” and “Building.” Some examples of other books we have on the shelves: “The Declaration of Independence: The Words That Made America,” by Sam Fink; “Women of the Wind: Early Women Aviators,”



Melany Wilks

- Library Links

by Wanda Langley; “Energy,” by Chris Woodford; and “Killer Rocks from Outer Space: Asteroids, Comets, and Meteorites,” by Steven N. Koppes

The experience that really started this whole conversation about enjoying children’s and youth books is the recent book I read, “Thunder from the Sea,” by Joan Hiatt Harlow. This book is about an orphaned boy (Tom Campbell) in Newfoundland. He has been chosen by a couple who fish for their livelihood.

Tom is 13 and hoping for a new beginning in life, parents who will love him and a dog to grow up with. One day Tom finds Thunder, a Newfoundland dog, thrust into his life. He is overjoyed. However, with Thunder come problems. This heartwarming book made me just take a deep breath and say to myself, I needed that type of book — homespun, suspenseful, caring and just plain good.

A new book just out in 2009 is “The Eye of the Forest.” It is the fifth book in the *New York Times* bestselling series, “Children of the Lamp,” John, Philippa, and Uncle Nimrod find themselves whisked away into the heart of the Amazon jungle to recover Incan artifacts. Mystical forces may be unleashed unless they can prevent this from happening. It’s a thrilling adventure that kids can enjoy even without reading the other books of the series.

Another award-winning book is “The Penderwicks on Gardam Street” by Jeanne Birdsall. This National Book Award title is about a widowed father, four daughters,

and the father’s sister, who believes it is time for Martin Penderwick to begin dating and looking for a new love. The girls are terrified about the prospect of getting a step-mother, so they set out to help this process. In the midst of the book, the growing youths deal with issues such as unwanted boyfriends, problems with soccer, creative writing and the next-door neighbor. It’s great fun to read.

Other new books are: A fable, “The Boy in Striped Pajamas,” by John Boyne (soon to be out in the movies); “Science Fair,” by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson; *The New York Times* bestseller, “Peter Pan in Scarlet,” by Geraldine McCaughrean; “Probably the World’s Best Story about a Dog and the Girl Who Loved Me,” by D. James Smith; “Book of a Thousand Days,” by Shannon Hale (a Newberry Honor author); “Tarantula Power!” by Ann Whitehead Nagda; four Princess Diaries books by Meg Cabot, “Princess Mia,” “Perfect Princess,” “Valentine Princess” and “Princess on the Brink,” not to mention books 1, 2, and 3 of the *Land of the Elyon* series; “The Dark Hills Divide,” “The Tenth City” and “Beyond the Valley of Thorns.”

I know I do not have to tell you, but Easter is coming and this means that there are two days the library will be closed. Palm Sunday, April 5, and Easter Sunday, April 12. We are normally open on Sundays, but this allows our staff to celebrate the holidays with their family and friends.

We will be open on Maundy Thursday (April 9), Good Friday (April 10) and on the Saturdays (April 4 and 11) before Palm Sunday and Easter. Remember to come and enjoy your library and the great resources we have. The prices are unbeatable!

On the Beat

- COLBY POLICE**
- Friday**
- 12:50 a.m. – Fire Alarm at college dorms. Advised to disregard.
 - 12:57 a.m. – Walk-through at the B-Hive.
 - 3:58 a.m. – Provided information to subject at Oasis.
 - 1:23 p.m. – Lost cell phone.
 - 2:49 p.m. – Possible phone scam. Provided information.
 - 3:08 p.m. – Two dogs reported locked outside with no shelter. Verbal warning given.
 - 5:07 p.m. – Kids reported riding snowmobile up and down Summer Sun.
- Saturday**
- 11:03 a.m. – Colby Housing Authority employee called with third party report of a hit and run at South Park Apartments.
 - 11:36 a.m. – Mail carrier reported female allowing dog to run loose outside at 1600 block W. Fifth. Dog was on leash; all OK.
 - 2:41 p.m. – Accident in parking lot at Quality Inn.
 - 4:58 p.m. – Accident at French

- and Second.
- 5:53 p.m. – Loud music reported at 210 N. Country Club Dr. Warning given.
- THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF**
- Friday, March 27**
- 3:50 p.m. – Served arrest warrant on Tracy Akins.
 - 10 p.m. – Horse out on K-25 milepost 200. Owners arrived and picked animal up.
- Saturday, March 28**
- 8:24 a.m. – 50-75 head of cattle reported out on wheat near County Rd. 27 and County Rd. H. Contacted owner.
 - 9:34 a.m. – Caller wanting her son taken from a vehicle that she owns; civil matter.
 - 10:14 a.m. – Theft of stock trailer from Brewster; unknown time.

- Papers served.
- 9:01 p.m. – Assistance requested getting information from a police department in Colorado.
 - 10:04 p.m. – Cattle out at County Rd. 15 and County Rd. P. Owner retrieved animals.
- Sunday, March 29**
- 3:56 p.m. – Caller reported he ran out of diesel fuel in his pickup west bound on U.S. 24. Provided assistance.
 - 4:10 p.m. – Caller reported a friend is possibly suicidal; came to talk to him. High Plains Mental Health contacted.
 - 8:07 p.m. – Booked Joshua Joseph Ahrens
 - 10:14 p.m. – Booked Kathy Shirley Brooks.
 - 11:02 p.m. – Released Kathy A. Brooks.

MOVIES

NOW SHOWING
March 27th -April 2nd

TAKEN
PG-13 1 Hour 35 Min.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday -Thursday 7:00

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN
PG 1 Hour 40 Minutes
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday-Thursday 7:00

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LOCAL TV LISTINGS

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SATURDAY												APRIL 4	
	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	Good Morning Kansas Saturday		Good Morning America (N) (CC)		Good Morning Kansas Saturday		That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	Emperor New	Replacements	
KSNK/NBC (8) (8)	Today (N) (CC)				Paid Program	Paid Program	Veggie-Tales	Pen-guins	Turbo Dogs	Babar (El) (CC)	Zula Patrol	Friend Rabbit	
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	The Early Show (N) (CC)				News (N)				Straw-berry	Care Bears	Paid Program	ATP Tennis	
K15CG (2)	Thomas-Friends	Bob the Builder	Market-Market	Lassie's Pet Vet	Big Big World	Bob the Builder	Thomas-Friends	Biz Kids (CC)	Saddle Club	Motor-Week (N)	For Your Home	Victory Garden	
ESPN (28)	SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		College Gameday Scoreboard (Live)		
USA (37)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Psych (CC)			Movie: The Dukes of Hazzard ** (2005, Comedy) Johnny Knoxville. **			Movie: The Scorpion King **		
TBS (38)	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Movie: Son of the Mask *½ (2005, Comedy) Jamie Kennedy. (CC)				Movie: Secondhand Lions *** (2003) A teen hears fantastic tales from his great-uncles. Michael Caine.					
WGN (39)	Paid Program	Adelante Chicago	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Star Trek: The Next Generation Haven		
TNT (40)	Angel Billy (CC)		Law & Order Progeny (CC) (DVS)		Law & Order Black, White and Blue		Law & Order The Collar (CC) (DVS)		The Closer Split Ends (CC)		Movie: The Recruit *½½ (2003) (CC)		
DSC (42)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Ant Wars (CC)			Dirty Jobs Taylor Shellfish Farms.		Wreck. Nation		Wreck. Nation	
A&E (47)	To Be Announced		Sell This House!		Sell This House!		Sell This House!		Sell This House!		Flip This House (CC)		Flip This House East Atlanta. (CC)
HIST (48)	Heavy Metal Apache Helicopter		American Eats The history of chocolate.		Wild West Tech Deadwood Tech		UFO Files Britain's Roswell (CC)		The Universe (CC)		Ancient Discoveries		
NICK (55)	Jimmy Neutron	Jimmy Neutron	OddPar-ents	OddPar-ents	Spon-geBob	Spon-geBob	Pen-guins	Barn-yard	Mighty B	Spon-geBob	Spon-geBob	Spon-geBob	
DISN (56)	Mickey Mouse	Mickey Mouse	Agent Oso	Agent Oso	Mickey Mouse	Mickey Mouse	Agent Oso	Agent Oso	Phineas and Ferb	Phineas and Ferb	Movie: The Incredibles (2004)		
FAM (58)	Step by Step	Step by Step	Sabrina-Witch	Sabrina-Witch	Full House	Full House	My Wife and Kids	My Wife and Kids	Movie: Rookie of the Year *** (1993, Comedy) Thomas Ian Nicholas.				
HALL (60)	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Movie: Love Comes Softly (2003, Drama) Katherine Heigl, Dale Midkiff. (CC)			Movie: Love's Enduring Promise (2004, Drama) Katherine Heigl, Dale Midkiff. (CC)					

SATURDAY												APRIL 4	
	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	Paid Program	American Le Mans Series Racing: Acura Sports Car Challenge of St. Petersburg.				Dick Vitale's All-Americans (N)		Paid Program	Colon Detox	Paid Program	Paid Program	ABC News	
KSNK/NBC (8) (8)	PGA Tour Golf: Shell Houston Open -- Third Round. From Humble, Texas. (Live) (CC)								Horse Racing: Santa Anita Derby.		Paid Program	NBC News	
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	(11:30) ATP Tennis: Sony Ericsson Open -- Women's Final. Miami. (Live) (CC)				All-America	Final Four	The Final Four Show (N) (CC)		Semifinal preview.		College Basketball: NCAA Tourn. Semi.		
K15CG (2)	Yankee Shop	This Old House	Ask This Old House	Home-time (N)	Woodwright	Cook's Country	Girls High School Basketball: Kansas Class 1A Tournament Final -- Teams TBA.			Antiques Roadshow (N) (CC)			
ESPN (28)	College Basketball: College Slam Dunk & 3-Point Championship. Auburn Hills, Mich.				NBA Basketball: Detroit Pistons at Philadelphia 76ers. Wachovia Center. (Live)				SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		Boxing		
USA (37)	(11:00) Movie: The Scorpion King **				Movie: Pitch Black **½ (2000, Science Fiction) <i>Radha Mitchell, Vin Diesel.</i> (CC)		Movie: A Man Apart **½ (2003) A DEA agent searches for his wife's murderer.				Movie: The Pacifier ** (2005) (CC)		
TBS (38)	(11:50) Movie: Cheaper by the Dozen **½ (2003, Comedy) <i>Steve Martin.</i> (CC)				Friends (CC)		Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Raymond	Raymond	King of Queens	King of Queens	
WGN (39)	The Bob & Tom Show (CC)		Movie: Pie in the Sky (1995) An aspiring traffic reporter takes a detour for romance.										
TNT (40)	(11:00) Movie: The Recruit **½ (2003) <i>Al Pacino.</i> (CC)				Movie: Payback **½ (1999, Action) <i>Mel Gibson, Gregg Henry.</i> (CC) (DVS)				Movie: The Patriot **½ (2000, War) A man and his son fight side by side in the Revolutionary War. (CC)				
DSC (42)	Tattoo Hunter Lars Krutak.		Treasure Quest		Survivorman (CC)		Survivorman (CC)		Survivorman (CC)		Survivorman Costa Rica. (CC)		
A&E (47)	Flip This House		Movie: Turner & Hooch **½ (1989, Comedy-Drama) <i>Tom Hanks.</i> (CC)			Psychic Kids: Paranormal		Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal		
HIST (48)	Cities of the Underworld (CC)		Ax Men Ax Men Cometh (CC)		Ax Men Initiation Day (CC)		Ax Men By Air, Land and Sea (CC)		Ax Men Moby Dick Strikes (CC)		Modern Marvels Axes (CC)		
NICK (55)	iCarly (CC)	iCarly (CC)	SpongeBob	Mighty B	Mighty B	Barnyard	Barnyard	Barnyard	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	
DISN (56)	(11:00) Movie: The Incredibles (2004)		Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Suite Life	Suite Life	Hannah Montana	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	
FAM (58)	Movie: Little Big League ** (1994) A boy manages his Minnesota Twins team. <i>Luke Edwards.</i>					Movie: The Sandlot **½ (1993) The new boy in town falls in with neighborhood ballplayers. <i>Tom Guiry.</i>							
HALL (60)	Movie: Love's Long Journey (2005, Drama) <i>Erin Cottrell.</i> (CC)					Movie: Love's Abiding Joy ** (2006) A pioneer family faces numerous challenges.					Movie: Love's Unending Legacy (2007, Drama) <i>Erin Cottrell, Dale Midkiff.</i> (CC)		

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	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (N) (CC)	Kake News	Movie: Yours, Mine & Ours *** (2005, Comedy) Dennis Quaid. (Premiere) (CC)				Cupid Pilot (CC)		News (CC)	Desperate Housewives (CC)		Ent. Tonight
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News (N)	Wheel of Fortune	ER Series Finale Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning. (CC)				Law & Order Lucky Stiff (CC)		News (N)	Saturday Night Live (CC)		
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	College Basketball: NCAA Tournament Semifinal		College Basketball: NCAA Tournament Semifinal -- Teams TBA. From Detroit. (Live) (CC)				News (N) (CC)		M*A*S*H (CC)	Boston Legal The Cancer Man Can		
K15CG (2)	Sun-flower	Perfect Day (CC)	Keeping Up	As Time Goes By	The Lawrence Welk Show		Ro-mance	New Red Green	Austin City Limits The Arcade Fire		Soundstage (Part 2 of 2) (CC)	
ESPN (28)	Boxing	Boxing: 1991 Cooper vs. Holyfield	Sports-Center	Baseball Tonight (CC)		Baseball Tonight (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		Fast-break		
USA (37)	(5:00) Movie: The Pacifier *** (2005)		Movie: 2 Fast 2 Furious ** (2003, Action) Paul Walker, Tyrese. (CC)				2009 WWE Hall of Fame Induction		Movie: The Scorpion King ** (2002, Adventure) The Rock, Steven Brand. (CC)			
TBS (38)	Movie: Madagascar *** (2005) Voices of Ben Stiller.			Movie: Madagascar (2005) Animated. Zoo animals must learn to survive in the wild.			Movie: Shrek ***½ (2001, Comedy) (PA) Voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy. (CC)		Movie: Shrek (2001, Comedy) (PA) Voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy. (CC)			
WGN (39)	Boston Legal Do Tell (CC)		Celebrating 60 Years of WGN-TV and the Chicago Cubs Chicago Cubs baseball.				WGN News		A Cubs Fantasy	Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Honey-mooners: Movie: Bones
TNT (40)	(3:30) Movie: The Patriot *** (2000)		Movie: Braveheart ***½ (1995, Historical Drama) A Scottish rebel rallies his countrymen against England. Mel Gibson, Sophie Marceau. (CC)				Anatomy of Sex (CC)		The Science of Sex Appeal (CC)			
DSC (42)	Survivorman Cook Islands. (CC)		The Science of Sex Appeal The evolution of human sex appeal. (CC)				Anatomy of Sex (CC)		The Science of Sex Appeal The evolution of human sex appeal. (CC)			
A&E (47)	CSI: Miami Blood Brothers (CC)		CSI: Miami Dead Zone (CC)		CSI: Miami Hard Time (CC)		CSI: Miami Death Grip (CC)		CSI: Miami The Best Defense (CC)		CSI: Miami Dead Zone (CC)	
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels The Lumberyard		God vs. Satan (CC)				Angels: Good or Evil Winged messengers from the heavens mesmerize mankind.		Winged messengers from the heavens mesmerize mankind.		God vs. Satan (CC)	
NICK (55)	iCarly (CC)	iCarly (CC)	Movie: Spectacular! (2009, Drama) Nolan Gerard Funk, Tammin Sursok. (CC)				George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Family Matters	Family Matters
DISN (56)	Zack & Cody	Suite Life	Movie: Spy Kids *** (2001, Adventure) Antonio Banderas. (CC)				Zack & Cody	Cory in House	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Life With Derek	Cory in House
FAM (58)	(5:00) Movie: The Sandlot 2 (2005)		Movie: The Sandlot: Heading Home (2007, Comedy) Luke Perry. (CC)				Movie: The Sandlot: Heading Home (2007, Comedy) Luke Perry. (CC)		Movie: The Sandlot: Heading Home (2007, Comedy) Luke Perry. (CC)		Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
HALL (60)	Movie: Love's Unfolding Dream (2007, Drama) Erin Cottrell, Dale Midkiff. (CC)				Movie: Love Takes Wing (2009, Drama) Cloris Leachman. (Premiere) (CC)				Movie: Love's Long Journey (2005, Drama) Erin Cottrell. (CC)			