

Family

Quilter's holiday celebrates friends

I will start this week's article telling you about a new book that we have on our shelves, "A Quilters Holiday: An Elm Creek Quilts Novel," by Jennifer Chiaverini.

This book starts out with a group of women have been invited to contribute to a quilt that expresses what they are thankful for in the previous year.

The protagonist, Sylvia Bergstrom Compson Cooper, has found an old cornucopia centerpiece that once lay on her family's table during the Thanksgiving and holiday seasons. She plans to preserve this centerpiece by making it the center of this year's quilt. The special factor of this book is that the author weaves the lives of the quilters together as they share their experiences through quilting.

A less holiday-type book is "Knock Out: An FBI Thriller," by Catherine Coulter. Autumn Backman, a young child, is missing. Sheriff Ethan Merriweather has been searching all day and evening. No one in Titusville, Va., has found the child.

The sheriff sends all the volunteers home to get some rest so they can begin the search in the morning. He talks to Autumn's distraught mother and reassures her that he will do everything he can to find her child.

He asks Joanna Backman if there is anything else she needs to tell him so they can be more effective in the hunt. Joanna says no, but the sheriff has this gut feeling she's lying. Sheriff Merriweather goes home and finds Autumn in his kitchen. She tells him she knew she'd be safe in his home.

He asks her why she ran away, but Autumn is too scared to tell him. Sheriff Merriweather calls Autumn's mom, who promptly comes over and declares that they both must leave. Someone is following them and will kill Autumn.

By the time this is out on the table, the undersheriff barges into the kitchen and tries to kill the sheriff, stopping only when Joanna hits him. He has been put under a trance by someone only Joanna and Autumn can identify. They know he's dangerous, but cannot stop him.

Meanwhile, Dillon Savich, an FBI agent, is worrying about the child. He heard from her before all this transpired through telepathy, but he does not know where or who she is. Coulter, the author, has written the first part of the book to suck the reader in and get them so



Melany Wilks

Library Links

involved they won't put the book down until they finish it!

A third book is "Gold of Kings: A Novel," by Davis Bunn. Storm Syrell, the main character has just lost her grandfather, who was an avid antique collector in New York. He is found dead through mysterious circumstances, but it is declared a heart attack.

Storm has just learned that she did not inherit anything from her grandfather. She lives just above the environment she treasures — his wonderful world of antiques and collectibles. Though she does not understand, she sets herself to sell all the items left in the shop and close the business.

During this time, a lawyer for her grandfather comes and gives her a key to a safe deposit box. Inside she finds information about a treasure he had been seeking. Up until this time, Storm did not know that her grandfather hunted such things. Within days, her grandfather's dearest friend, Harry Bennett shows up. He has just been released from prison in Barbados.

He had been jailed for stealing treasure from the ocean near the island. Sean Syrell (Storm's grandfather) had been part of this treasure hunt and had lost money. This, of course, casts a shadow on Bennett's trustworthiness, as danger and intrigue begin to transpire. This marks only the beginning of the book. Along the way, it brings in the politics of the Middle East, biblical and historical facts and stories together with romance and mystery.

As you prepare for the upcoming Thanksgiving holidays, remember we have lots and lots of recipe books, magazines with new ideas and of course access to the Internet, where you can find the latest recipes as well. Prepare for the holidays by checking out extra books, audio books for long drives and fun movies for watching together.

The Pioneer Memorial Library will close early at 5 p.m. Wednesday. We will be closed next Thursday for Thanksgiving and Friday, Nov. 27, but reopen for our regular hours on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 28 and 29. Happy Thanksgiving!

Volunteer recognized as foster grandparent

Anna Rohn of Colby was recognized last month for eight years of service with the Foster Grandparent Program.

Rohn serves as a 'Foster Grandma' with the Head Start center at Colby Grade School through the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center.

Rohn, 88, said she saw the information for the program in the newspaper and immediately wanted to get involved. Rohn said she is at the school most everyday, Monday through Friday, often spending 25 hours a week volunteering.

Foster grandparents serve as mentors, confidants and friends to young people, working one-on-one with them, offering guidance and support. They listen to the kids, read to them, play with them, serve as role models, help with schoolwork and provide friendship and support to those needing a little extra attention and care.

Rohn said she hopes to volunteer for one more year. She said she enjoys seeing the kids

every day.

"I don't like to sit at home," Rohn said. "I'll be at the school most every day unless they don't have school or unless I don't feel well."

Volunteers must be at least 55 and commit to serve 15 hours a week. They help out in schools, libraries, Head Start and day care centers, providing daily attention, helping young people grow, gain confidence and learn. They share stories, wisdom and experience with the kids and instill a sense of respect and appreciation for each other.

Foster grandparents receive a tax-free stipend. They get training, a travel allowance to and from their service site, accident and liability insurance, paid vacation, sick leave and holidays and other benefits.

The program is sponsored by Fort Hays State University with money from the Corporation for National and Community Service. For information, call the university at (785) 628-5809.



Anna Rohn

Renaissance 'museums' to be revealed at Sternberg

HAYS — Natural history museums have their roots in the Renaissance period, but they were not what they are today. Closer to cabinets of wonder than actual museums, they held objects mysterious, grotesque and intriguing.

Dr. Kim Perez, assistant professor of history at Fort Hays State University, attempts to explain the contents of these mysterious collections with her presentation, "Wunderkammer and Cabinets of Curiosity: Natural History Museums in the Renaissance," at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History.

Renaissance museums were typically not research minded, she says. Instead, the nobility used them to demonstrate their power and ability to retrieve foreign artifacts from exotic locations.

These 17th century cabinets were filled with preserved animals, horns, tusks, skeletons and minerals, as well as other types of equally fascinating man-made objects, such as clockwork machines or old, fine or small sculptures.

The presentation is one of a series celebrating the museum's 10th anniversary. It is free and open to the public.

Wreath orders due at cemetery

The fourth annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery at WaKeeney will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12, when seven ceremonial wreaths will be placed in memory of members of the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant marines, prisoners of war and missing in action.

The Civil Air Patrol will sponsor the ceremony, which marks the second year of a national campaign.

The Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs is collecting donations to purchase wreaths to place on each grave, at a cost of \$15 each. To make a donation, call Heidi Godd at (785) 743-5685 or send a donation to the cemetery at Box 185, WaKeeney, Kan., 67672. Make checks payable to Wreaths Across America. Wreaths will be ordered Friday.

Family members and American Legion Riders will place wreaths following the ceremony.

For information, see www.wreathsassamerica.com.

Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday at Colby Community College with 27 members and guests.

Marvin Cloe and David Daniels provided the program on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency that recognizes outstanding employer support, increases

Deaths

Theresa Solko

Theresa Solko, 72, McCook, Neb., died Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009, at McCook Community Hospital.

Services are pending with Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, (785) 475-3127.

Unauthorized phone charges appear on bills

Attorney General Steve Six alerted consumers Monday about unauthorized charges that may appear on monthly telephone bills.

These charges are often listed as "enhanced services," six said, and are billed on behalf of another entity that specializes in voice mail and/or email services. The attorney general's office has received more than 100 complaints in the past 12 months and is conducting an investigation.

If you have received a similar charge, contact the attorney general's Consumer Protection Division at (800) 432-2310, where representatives will offer instructions on how to file an investigative request.

awareness of the law on reservists and resolves conflicts through mediation. Forty-eight percent of the military force today is made up of Reserve and Guard members, they said.

The club meets at noon each Tuesday in the Student Union.

— Relda Galli

Stolen 'gold' rings just brass

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — An Ohio jeweler says thieves who smashed their way into his store and got away with rings are in for a surprise when they try to sell them.

Henry Triplett of Henry's Jewelers in Toledo says what appeared to be thousands of dollars in gold rings in his display cases were

actually rings made of brass and worth barely 25 cents apiece.

They were dealers' samples in the style of genuine gold rings that Triplett had safely locked away, out of view.

He says the real cost of Friday's break-in will come from replacing the front window on his shop and the glass on 13 display cases.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$4.60
Corn (bushel)	\$3.49
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.57
Soybeans (bushel)	\$9.17

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkanas.com

A Card Shower to Honor Betty Walker

The children of Betty (Boeka) Walker are requesting a card shower in honor of her 80th birthday, Friday, November 20, 2009. Her family includes sons Dan of Lincoln, KS and his fiancée Bonnie Mermis of Hays, Dennis and his wife Jo of Clayton, 2 grandchildren, Thad Walker and Danielle Walker, and 2 great-grandchildren, Madison and Meadow all of Wichita. A family dinner is planned at a later date.

Cards will reach Betty at: Box 12D, RR2, Hoxie, KS 67740



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