

Family

Family’s story inspires thought

Recently, I have read the very popular book, “Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy’s Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back,” by Todd Burpo and Lynn Vincent. This is a family’s account of their four-year-old son getting sick, being hospitalized, having an operation and experiencing heaven.

The father, Todd Burpo, narrates the story in a captivating manner. One of the fun elements of the book was that the family was living in Imperial, Neb., with relatives in northwest Kansas. This draws the reader consider decisions they make in the circumstances they face.

The next couple of books are by Gilbert Morris. In the past, I had merely glanced past his numerous series – the website Fantastic Fiction shows about 36. He has a doctorate and has taught for years as well.

The newest Morris book is “The Crossing.” This is the first of a new series, *The Last Cavaliers*, set in the Civil War era. Yancy Tremayne has joined the Virginia militia, against his Amish upbringing, but the Amish way is not to speak against his personal decision. Another important person in this historical fiction is Lorena who helps Yancy get back



Melany Wilks
•Library Links

to health.

The book allows understanding of the beliefs of the Amish while staying true to the era of the Civil War. The reader will enjoy the love, struggle and strength of characters.

The second book by Gilbert Morris is “When the Heavens Fall,” second in the *Winslow Breed* series. Protagonist Brandon Winslow has been forced out of military service for less-than-honorable behavior. Mary I of England, also known as “Bloody Mary,” begins to kill Protestants to establish the Catholic church of her new husband, Prince Philip of Spain.

This shakes Winslow to the core. He must act to save his uncle/pastor, as well as another in the kingdom, Princess Elizabeth. Enjoy the intrigue, but don’t get caught up in the differences in religion because it is really about people doing evil things God would not

condone.

Another prolific writer is Francine Rivers. We have her newest book, “Her Daughter’s Dream,” about a young woman who does not get along with her mother. Due to illness her mother leaves Carolyn with her grandmother, with whom she does get along.

About the time Carolyn is ready to attend college she runs off to San Francisco to get away from the turmoil, but creates her own turmoil and returns home after two years with a child.

The new generation, May Flower Dawn also relates to her grandmother better than her mother. As Dawn grows however, she is determined to reconcile the generations.

Jodi Picoult has a new book called “House Rules.” Picoult writes encouraging and uplifting spiritual books, this one about a teenager with Asperger’s syndrome. This autistic-type syndrome usually causes difficulty relating to others combined with gifts in an area.

Jacob Hunt is taken with solving crimes and forensic analysis. He has a police scanner in his bedroom and visits every crime scene. When murder happens in his town the police look at him as

a suspect.

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 24 and 25, the library will have signup for summer reading. This year’s theme is “One World, Many Stories.” Children will be learning about people and countries around the world.

We have programs Tuesdays and Wednesdays for children from 18 months to fifth grade. We will also have special programs each Thursday for middle school students to create a reader’s theater.

On Mondays, first through eighth graders can learn about creating easy snacks from around the world. On the sign-up day we will be debuting our new literacy computers that the Pete Henry Foundation helped the library purchase for use by preschool to primary school students.

Remember to come and get your new patron library card. If you have had a library card for a long time, we need you to come in and get a new one so we can update your information and switch it over to our new catalog system. Once you are added to the new system you will be able to renew items from home, reserve an item, review your history of items previously checked out and more. See you in the library!

Deaths

James Withers

James Withers, 76, Colby, died today, Wednesday, May 5, 2011, at Via Christi Regional Medical Center in Wichita.

Services are pending with Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby, (785) 462-7979.

Officers to be added to Topeka memorial

In honor of National Police Week and National Peace Officers’ Memorial Day, the State of Kansas will have its annual Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony today and Friday.

National Police Week is May 15-21 this year, and National Peace Officers’ Memorial Day is held annually on May 15.

The memorial ceremony will be at noon Friday at the Law Enforcement Monument on the northeast quadrant of the Statehouse grounds. There was to be a candlelight vigil tonight.

Every year, in honor of National Police Week, the Kansas Highway Patrol joins the national non-profit organization Concerns of Police Survivors, for the families of officers lost in the line of duty, to observe National Police Week and National Peace Officers’ Memorial Day. The Patrol will be tying blue ribbons to agency-owned vehicles, and encouraging civilian workers to outfit their vehicles with the ribbons to honor these fallen officers, as well as their families.

Any 18-inch strip of royal blue ribbon will show your support.

“Three officers are being added to the Kansas law enforcement monument this year,” Patrol Superintendent, Colonel Ernest E. Garcia said. “Each made the ultimate sacrifice while they performed their sworn duties....

“By tying a blue ribbon to their vehicles, officers are reminded of the sacrifices their brothers and sisters have made. By members of the public displaying blue ribbons, officers feel the support of

their communities.”

The Highway Patrol will display blue ribbons on their vehicles from Friday, May 6, through Monday, May 30, to honor all officers killed in the line of duty.

In 2010, the U.S. lost 152 law enforcement officers in the line of duty, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. That is up from 122 officers in 2009. Sadly, Kansas lost two officers in the line of duty in 2010.

The three fallen Kansas law enforcement officers’ names to be added to the monument are:

- Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Officer Luke D. Nihart, killed in the early morning hours of June 26, 2010. He was working the annual Country Stampede at Tuttle Creek State Park, when his all-terrain vehicle crashed. He died as a result of injuries. Nihart had served with the Department of Wildlife and Parks for 11 years.

- Franklin County Sheriff’s Deputy Sam Smith was killed on July 23, 2010. Smith was responding to a domestic disturbance call when he lost control of his patrol vehicle, struck a tree and died from the crash. He had served for nine months.

- Santa Fe Railroad Special Officer G.W. Greenstreet was looking for thieves who had been stealing from rail cars in the train yard at Edgerton on the evening of June 17, 1912. During the search, he was struck by a train and killed.

Fort Hays to add new degree program

Fort Hays State University has gained approval from the Kansas Board of Regents for a new Bachelor of Science degree in information systems engineering.

The program is designed to produce engineers capable of designing, maintaining and protecting information systems.

“No Kansas institution of higher education currently offers an information systems engineering degree,” said Fort Hays President Edward H. Hammond. “We will be the first in Kansas and this part of the nation.”

Recruiting will begin soon for the first stu-

dents to begin class work in fall 2012. The goal is to enroll 45 to 50 new freshmen each year and maintain an overall enrollment of about 150 on-campus students in this new program.

The program itself will be a 130-hour program, with a 55-hour general education requirement heavy in computer, math, physics and statistics courses. The final 75 hours of courses are focused on mathematics, physics, computer science, Web, software, informatics and specific information systems engineering courses.

The program will be part of the Department

of Informatics. The department currently offers programs and degrees in computer networking and telecommunications, information networking, Web development, media studies, information assurance and others. It also has programs with an information assurance concentration in the Master of Business Administration and the Master of Liberal Studies.

Very few U.S. institutions offer degrees in information system engineering. One of them, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, offers a Master of Science in information systems engineering.

Flap seeks to save frogs

VIENNA (AP)—Austrian Wildlife authorities are hopping mad that efforts to save the local frog population are being hampered by Italian poachers.

Officials in southern Austrian province Carinthia say that poachers are collecting frogs from the roadside buckets they have been guided into to save them from busy highways, and are then smuggling them home to Italian dinner tables.

Frogs’ legs are a delicacy in some parts of Italy. Officials told Austrian state television that the victims tend to be those with the meatiest thighs.

Frogs attempting to cross some Austrian highways are channeled by a series of fences into roadside buckets. Once a day, volunteers collect the buckets and carry the amphibians to the other side of the

road and set them free.

But “the Italians strike before the frog pickers come,” says Carinthian environmental official Bernhard Gutleb.

The delicacy can be costly. Officials warn that those caught with their hand in the bucket face fines up to €3,600 (\$5,149).

Nearly one third of the world’s 6,485 frog species are on the brink of extinction, according to Save The Frogs – a nonprofit organization dedicated to amphibian conservation.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.62
Corn (bushel)	\$6.61
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.33
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.20

Colby student honored

Washburn University student Curt Fulwider of Colby has been inducted into Sigma Tau Delta international English honor society and is the recipient of the Charlotte M. Leavitt Scholarship awarded by the English department.

Sigma Tau Delta strives to confer distinction upon students of the English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate and professional studies. Membership requirements include a 3.0 average in the English major and overall, a standing in the top 35 percent

of the class, a record of having taken at least two English literature/language courses beyond required courses, and having completed at least three semesters of college work.

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must be an English major and be recommended by the department.

Currently a junior, Fulwider received an International Education Washburn Transformational Experience Scholarship in 2010 and studied at Fukuoka University in Japan.

Tree care booklet offered

The Arbor Day Foundation has a handy booklet designed to help people plant and care for trees. Anyone can receive it for a \$3 donation to the nonprofit tree-planting organization.

“Conservation Trees” is an easy-to-use booklet and features illustrations, colorful photos and easy-to-understand descriptions.

The booklet provides details about the right way to plant and prune trees. Also included are tips on how to use shade trees and windbreaks to save on energy costs, attract songbirds, create

a living snow fence and to learn how to plant the right tree in the right place.

To receive the booklet, send a \$3 check along with your name and address to: Conservation Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb., 68410, or order online at www.arborday.org/conservationtrees.

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

Thank You

Words cannot begin to express my sincere “thanks” to all the people who took the time to organize the Hog Roast to benefit my fight against Leukemia. There are just not enough words out there to express the gratitude I have for all the individuals and families that reside in Brewster and the surrounding communities of Northwest Kansas. I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone who took time out of your busy schedules to donate food, time and money to benefit my cause. **It’s such a wonderful feeling to know you are loved, and that there are people out there who truly care.** You have helped transform my tears and pain into smiles and hope and I couldn’t ask for more! It is wonderful to be reminded that there are so many supportive people who make a difference in the lives of cancer patients like myself.

My family and I wanted everyone to know how grateful we are for all of your kindness you have shown to us during this difficult time. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, generosity and support.

Gloria Ribordy and Family



Back row (left to right): Chad Jones, Tiffany Mader, C.W. Cheney, Jada Tubbs, Luke Tubbs, Eric Griggs & Sacha Sanguinetti. Front row: Alyssa Goodheart, Melinda Cheney, Jason Mader, Amanda Griggs



Back row (left to right): Brent Wiedeman, Mark Winger, Sean Hankin, Holly Whitaker Front row: Sherrie Wiedeman, Audrey Hines, Brette Hankin, Tammi Strutt, Darwin Strutt, Alyssa Goodheart and Mike Wiens.

Farmers & Merchants Bank would like to send a HUGE THANK YOU to the following for making our Celebrity Waiter Dinner a success!

To all those who attended, for your generous tips, and all of our Celebrity Waiter teams, the Thomas County Chamber, McDonald’s, Someplace Special, Colby United Methodist Church, Thomas County Extension Office, Jared Haggard, Donna Henry and the CHS Yearbook Staff, Joey and Jill Nickols and the CHS Music Department, and Virginia Umberger with Sunflower Kitchen Bakery.

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Colby
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Thank You

The family of Bruce Selby would like to thank the nurses and staff of the Prairie Senior Living Complex for the love and care given to Bruce while he was there. Also, thank you to all of the friends and neighbors who brought food and sent cards. Words cannot express our heartfelt thanks, Bless you all.

Marilyn Selby
Bob Selby & Family
Linda Schwarz & Family
Scarlett Hill & Family

UPCOMING EVENTS in Kansas

Brought to you in part by Kansas Department of Commerce Travel & Tourism Division

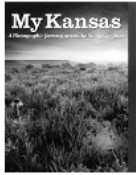
Kansas Sampler Festival
May 7-8, Leavenworth
Sample what there is to see, do, hear, taste, buy and learn in Kansas. A project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation. (913) 417-7575, kansassamplerfestival.com

Riverfest
June 3-11, Wichita
Nine days of food, fun and entertainment! Over 60 events including a parade, concerts, river events, kids’ activities, fireworks and more. (316) 267-2817, wichitariverfest.com

Caldwell 140th Anniversary Celebration & Kansas 150th Anniversary Cattle Drive
September 3-5, Caldwell
You won’t want to miss this event! Caldwell kicks off this historic 3-week cattle drive in style, celebrating Kansas’ 150th anniversary. caldwellkansas.com kansascattledrive2011.com

Kansas 150 Events
Join in one of the many events scheduled throughout the year to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Kansas statehood. Visit the events calendar on KS150.com to view them all.

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