

ment's own Dede Laugesen, provided the printing services. MSI, Mailing Services Inc. of Colorado Springs, addressed the mailers and provided postage services (their postage permit number is on each card). And the "Right Leadership Matters" group has a PO Box in the Postal Annex, right off Jackson Creek Parkway (also listed on the mailers). The bank handling these funds is the Bank of Colorado, out of

Colorado Springs. Who is making the decisions? Ask any one of these businesses or the responsible agent, Katie Kennedy.

It appears the costs will exceed \$5,000. All this to influence an election for seats that pay \$0.00. Then why do it? Well, Monument is ripe for development. And guess who makes decisions about development? Yes. The Monument mayor and the Board of Trust-

ees.

It is too late for this election. But be aware of decisions that are made by these people. Attend the Board of Trustees meeting. Hold people accountable. And if it looks as though there is some outside influence affecting decisions, take action.

Ann Howe ■

Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

National Poetry Month

By the staff at Covered Treasures

"Genuine poetry can communicate before it is understood."—T.S. Eliot

April is National Poetry Month, inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996. Children and adults are naturally drawn to humor, rhyme, and rhythm, and these are all found in poetry. Poetry can motivate kids to read and be a tool to build fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. Here are some collections for your consideration for both adults and children:

Devotions: The Selected Poems of Mary Oliver

By Mary Oliver (Penguin Press) \$30

Throughout her celebrated career, Mary Oliver has touched countless readers with her brilliantly crafted verse, expounding on her love for the physical world and the powerful bonds between all living things. Identified as "far and away, this country's best-selling poet" by Dwight Garner, she now returns with a stunning and definitive collection of her writing from the last 50 years. These 200 plus poems, arranged by Oliver herself, feature her work from her very first book of poetry published in 1963 at the age of 28, through her most recent collection published in 2015.

The Expanse of All Things

By James Scott Smith (Homebound Publications) \$16.95

Local author James Scott Smith's newest book is a collection of poems that runs the seam between culture and nature with an aching hunger for experience transformed. In the spirit of coyote guidance through the borderland of liminal space, Smith offers one exquisite cairn after another to the soul wandering but not lost. The Expanse of All Things is a testament of the journey from form to faith, and of the love for tradition as long as it serves the evolution of consciousness.

After Rain

By Gary Schroeder (Folded Word Press) \$14

This is local author Gary Schroeder's newest and fifth book of poetry; his second collection of haiku. In translating his observations into sensory-rich poems, Schroeder has granted us access to his private library of the domestic and the wild, the celestial and the terrestrial, the rare and the mundane. To leaf through this subtly elegant collection is to be transported to new microcosms, each with its own sense of time.

The Jubilee

By John Blase (Bright Coppers Press) \$9.99

John Blase is a pastor's son, writer, poet, collaborator, and editor. His writing is intensely personal, filtered through a brass-knuckled optimism, the perspective of a first-born, and the gratefulness of a strange thing

called grace. *The Jubilee* is his newest book and debut book of poetry.

A Mother's Book of Blessings: A Treasury of Wisdom for Life's Greatest Moments

By Natasha Tabori Fried and Lena Tabori (National Geographic Society) \$24.99

Curated especially for mothers, this beautifully illustrated keepsake contains more than 100 blessings from around the world to celebrate life's special moments and encourage reflection for the whole family. Illustrated with exquisite vintage art, it's filled with time-honored proverbs, enriching parables, uplifting quotes, and inspiring poetry that encourage readers to contemplate and celebrate life's milestones.

Runny Babbit Returns: Another Billy Sook

By Shel Silverstein (Harper Collins) \$19.99

This collection of 41 never-before-published poems and drawings features the playful Runny Babbit and many other favorite characters who speak a topsyturvy language all their own. This carefully compiled work from the Silverstein archives is filled with spoonerism poems that



are both playful and poignant.

Animal Ark: Celebrating Our Wild World in Poetry and Pictures

By Kwame Alexander (National Geographic Society) \$15.99

A howling wolf, a stalking tiger, a playful panda, a dancing bird; pairing the stunning photography of National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore with the delicate poetry of Newbery award-winning author Kwame Alexander, this picture book celebrates the beauty, diversity, and fragility of the animal world. Featuring more than 40 unique animal portraits, the pages invite kids to explore each creature's markings, textures, and attributes in stunning detail. These images are part of Sartore's lifelong project to photograph every animal in the world.

April 26 is Poem in Your Pocket Day. People celebrate by selecting a poem, carrying it with them, and sharing it with others throughout the day at schools, bookstores, libraries, parks, workplaces, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. You can find more than 30 ways to celebrate National Poetry Month at the Academy of American Poets website: www.poets.org/national-poetry-month/home.

Until next month, happy reading.

The Covered Treasures staff can be reached at books@ocn.com.

April Library Events

Adult drawing classes continue; kids meet the STEM fairy

By Harriet Halbig

As we welcome spring, there are a number of opportunities for all ages at the library. Children can meet the STEM fairy to learn about botany and tree rings. Teens and tweens can make duct-tape wallets, and the Palmer Lake Art Group will continue its adult drawing classes. See below for details!

Family programs

Coloring for Everyone is offered on the first Friday of each month from 4 to 5:30. All ages are welcome. Colored pencils, markers, and gel pens are provided, and you are welcome to bring your own as well. Drop in and stay as long as you like!

The Family Fun @ Mo program for April is That Science Fairy: STEM and the trees. On Saturday, April 14 from 2:30 to 3:30, come to this presentation with hands-on activities for budding botanists. Learn about tree-ring math, breathing-hole making, twig branching, and leaf classification.

The Lego Build club will meet from 10 to 11:30 on Saturday, April 21. Build to your heart's content with other enthusiasts.

Teen and Tween programs

See above for details about Coloring for Everyone.

Having trouble with math? Come to the library on Mondays from 3:30 to 7 to consult an experienced adult tutor for free. All ages and levels of math are welcome, and no appointment is necessary. This After-Math program follows the D-38 schedule. AfterMath is not held on days when schools are closed.

Interested in giving knitting a try? Every Wednesday from 3 to 4:30, an intergenerational group of knitters meets in the study room from 3 to 4:30. Practice materials are available, but participants are encouraged to bring their own materials and projects. Some instruction is provided for those new to the craft.

The Teen Advisory Board will meet on Saturday, April 7 from 2 to 3. If you're interested in earning volunteer hours, planning teen activities, or decorating the teen area, this group is for you! Come to the study room for this meeting and meet like-minded teens.

Teens and Tweens are welcome to make colorful duct tape wallets on Friday, April 20 from 3:30 to 4:30. All supplies provided. This class is open to ages 9 to 18.

On Wednesday, April 25, teens are invited to design their own T-shirt. We'll be doing simple photo transfers. Bring an image or create one with us, print it onto transfer paper, and iron it onto your shirt. We will provide some shirts, but if you have a cotton shirt of your own that you would rather use, feel free to bring it. Registration is required at 488-2370.

The Monument Library Anime Club will meet from 5 to 6:30. Share anime with others who love it. Enjoy exotic snacks and watch videos. This program is recommended for ages 14 and up.

Adult programs

See above for descriptions of Coloring for Everyone and Intergenerational Knitting.

On Thursdays, April 5 and 19, members of the Palmer Lake Art Group will continue its series of drawing classes for adults. The classes, held from 1 to 3 in the afternoon, are for beginning and intermediate artists. Some materials are provided, but bring paper, pencils, and erasers if you have them. Space is limited and registration is required. Additional sessions are coming in May.

Come to a quick class about smoothie bowls on Saturday April 7 from 11 to noon. You can create pretty much any combination of flavors that you want and top it with your favorite goodies. Experience the easiest and healthiest way to turn a smoothie into a meal.

The library's evening book club, the Monumental Bookworms, will meet from 7 to 8:30 on Tuesday, April 10 to discuss *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. All are welcome to attend and no registration is required.

The Second Thursday Craft for April is Alcohol Inks. This month we will be experimenting with alcohol inks. Registration is required and opens one week before the craft day of April 12. All materials will be provided.





Celebrate National Poetry Month!

Saturday, April 14, 1-3:00

Readings and round-table discussion on the poetic process, with audience participation

James Scott Smith— *The Expanse of All Things*
Gary Schroeder — *After Rain*
 And Poetry West member **Loring Wirbel**

 www.coveredtreasures.com
 105 Second St, Monument 481-2665