

Their brave adventures—their pleasures and their difficulties—are hugely involving and truly resonant, making this the perfect final installment to this beloved writer's enduring contribution to American literature.

Last Train to Paris

By Michele Zackheim (Europa Editions) \$16

This historical novel set in the 1930s centers on Rose Manon, a small-town girl who spent her youth dreaming of a more exciting life. When she learns of an opening for a staff reporter in New York City, she heads east to pursue

her dreams. Rose's ambitions take her to Paris and Berlin where she leads a charmed life until the Third Reich gains momentum and influence. Rose finds herself caught in an inescapable web of terror, and decades later, she must come to terms with the consequences of a heart-wrenching decision that changes the course of her life.

The Children Act

By Ian McEwan (Anchor Books) \$15

Fiona Maye is a leading English High Court judge who presides over cases in the family division and is renowned

for her fierce intelligence, exactitude, and sensitivity. At the same time she is dealing with regrets and a crisis in her personal life, she is called on to try an urgent case: Adam, a beautiful 17-year-old boy, is refusing for religious reasons the medical treatment that could save his life. Time is running out. Should the secular court overrule sincerely expressed faith? Her judgment has momentous consequences for them both.

Some books, like these, beg to be discussed. Enjoy the reading, as well as the ensuing conversation! Until next month, happy reading. ■

October library events

Learn about nocturnal animals

By Harriet Halbig

Family programs

The Family Fun activity for October is Creatures of the Night. Come to the library from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3 to learn about such animals as bats, snakes, insects, and others. Learn how nocturnal animals have different features and behaviors that allow them to be active at night. There will be an owl and a few other creatures to show their adaptations. This program is presented by Nature's Educators of Aurora.

The annual Pumpkin Day program at the library will be Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 10:30. There will be no 11:15 story time on that day so children can listen to Bengetta Chapman explain the life cycle of pumpkins, read pumpkin stories, and decorate pumpkins with stick-on features.

Legos Club will meet from 10 to 11:30 on Saturday, Oct. 17. You bring your imagination and we will provide the Legos. All parts remain the property of the library.

The October Homeschool program will be a presentation about Pikes Peak Library District resources available to students of all ages. Did you know that your children can access a free tutor on any of their subjects? Learn a foreign language without having to purchase books or CDs? The

library offers many sources of help for the home-schooler. Join us on Monday, Oct. 26 from 1 to 2.

The Fourth Friday Kid's Crafts program on Friday, Oct. 23 will be making a giant stuffed paper pumpkin. No registration required.

Teen and tween programs

AfterMath free math tutoring continues on Mondays from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Experienced math tutors assist students of all ages and grade levels. Drop in for help with your math questions. No appointment required.

Join us on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 3:30 to 5 to learn how to make kumihimo bracelets. Learn this braiding craft and make a bracelet for yourself or a gift. There is no charge and all materials are provided, but registration is required. This is an intergenerational program.

Adult programs

Sheriff John Anderson will be at the library on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 1:30 to 3 to offer a presentation on the cultural and historical significance of the Ute Prayer Tree in the Pikes Peak region, followed by a signing of his recently published book on the topic. No registration is necessary.

The Monumental Readers will meet on Friday, Oct. 16 from 10 to noon to discuss *Moloka'i* by Alan Brenne-

rt. All patrons are welcome to attend this monthly book group.

On the walls of the library in October will be watercolors by Steven Schmidt.

Palmer Lake Library events

The Palmer Lake Library book group meets at 9 a.m. on the first Friday of each month. Please call 481-2587 for the latest selection.

The October Family Fun program on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 10:30 a.m., will be Skins and Skulls.

This is a program about mammals found on the eastern plains of Colorado: where they live, what they eat and how to look for them. Skins and skulls from these animals will help identify them and their habitat. You will learn from the skulls and teeth what kinds of things the animals eat and whether they are predator or prey. Presented by Susan Permut, volunteer naturalist at Castlewood Canyon State Park and a resident of Red Rock Ranch.

Celebrate Halloween with Not So Scary Stories on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 4:30 p.m. Come for fun and lots of laughs. Costumes are welcome but not required. This program is best for those 4 years and older.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Historical Society

Hundreds Enjoy Estemere Community Event

Almost 700 people enjoyed a sunny fall day on September 12th as they toured Estemere Mansion, the "pearl of Palmer Lake," enjoyed great food and music, attended programs on local historical subjects, and met with representatives of local history and art groups. Estemere is a Victorian Mansion built in the 1880's by Dr. Findlay Thompson, a founder of Palmer Lake, and lovingly restored by Roger and Kim Ward, the current owners. Periodically, the Ward's open their home to the public and allow the Palmer Lake Historical Society to sponsor tours of the Mansion and surrounding buildings.

Self-guided tours of Estemere were held throughout the day with the assistance of numerous Docents in period costumes who helped create the atmosphere of the 1800s. The Monument Home Makers held a bake sale, while NT Sliders sold authentic Native American tacos and fry bread. The Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts and the Palmer Lake Art Group sponsored art exhibits, and the Palmer Lake Historical Society sponsored an information table and book sale. Music was provided throughout the

day by local musicians Cellist Steve Fuhrmann and Folk Singer Nicholas Davey. The small Chapel building was continuously overflowing as visitors attended programs about the Palmer Lake Star presented by Jack Anthony, owners of Estemere from 1883 to 2015 presented by Dan Edwards, Ute Prayer Trees of the Pikes Peak Region presented by John Anderson, and viewed historic photos from the book, "Communities of the Palmer Divide," presented by Kim Braun.

Our thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the day a success, especially the D-38 Key Club members who provided invaluable support. A special thanks to the Wards for allowing us to use their home for this Community event.

On September 17th, over 40 people skipped the Broncos game to attend an enthusiastic and informative program by local historian John Stansfield about Enos Mills, the resident of Estes Park most responsible for the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park. Stansfield, in the persona of Mills, gave a brief history of Mills' early life and

the events and people who influenced his desire to learn about and ultimately champion the cause of preservation of Colorado's natural beauty, especially the area around Estes Park. Stansfield's portrayal was so convincing it was hard at times to separate the historian from his subject. After tracing the highlights of Mills' transformation into a crusader to "protect the scenery," Stansfield closed with Mills' describing the long and arduous journey and the efforts by notables and ordinary citizens that ultimately resulted in legislation being passed by Congress designating the area surrounding Estes Park as Rocky Mountain National Park.

On October 15th, join the Palmer Lake Historical Society at 7:00 pm at Palmer Lake Town Hall as local historian Dave Wallace describes the highlights of the life of George Washington, the Father of our Country. Wallace assumes the persona of Washington, both in dress and spirit, as he takes us through Washington's exploits and ultimately his selection as the first President of this new Nation. Admission is free. ■

High Altitude Natural Gardening

It's time to prepare gardens for winter

By Janet Sellers

The zukes are now out of the garden beds and most gardeners are putting in their special mix of amendments for overwintering their gardens. I've still got some cardboard and llama beans to put out on a section of garden, and then I'll likely place some romaine seeds and others under straw mulch. From this past April, to my surprise, I had hundreds of romaine sprout and grow from a leftover plant that went to seed last year, and I had so much lettuce in May I could share it with Tri-Lakes Cares food bank. I'll make use of that idea and try out some things that will sprout when the Earth is ready next year even before we are!

Many flower beds can have bulbs and seeds put in the ground and carefully mulched in the fall. The overwintering will set up the tulips and others for their needed four or more months of winter temps so they have great blooms in spring. Long ago, my daughter planted tulips all over the yard and they came up for years. We still have one special pink tulip in the middle of the walkway from over 15 years ago, and every spring, just like clockwork, one pink tulip appears there.

With our great rains, grasses grew better than usual, and so did noxious weeds. Some of our fast, pernicious invaders are bindweed (morning glory looking but strangles everything) and knapweed. We all have them, and just a few of them can send out hundreds, if not thousands, of seeds for new noxious plants, so get them out fast. Updates on events and tips for local gardening online with Facebook for Tri-Lakes Gardening Community and Monument Community Garden: <https://www.facebook.com/MonumentCommunityGarden>.

I admit that I don't like the end of outdoor garden season, so I've got my indoor windowsill veggies started already. Some of the list sounds like a bygone pirate movie: zombie scallions, zombie basil, Swiss chard, cherry tomatoes, romaine, and kale. What's in your sunny window?

Janet Sellers is an avid novice HANG gardener in the Tri Lakes area. Contact her with your tips and questions for local experts at janetsellers@ocn.me.

Right: Palmer Lake volunteers borrowed friends' kayaks to help save the lake from noxious weeds on Sept. 20. The town recently received a state grant that helped to get tools and implements to facilitate the volunteer eradication efforts, and to date these dedicated volunteers have eradicated over 6,000 pounds of noxious weeds in a year's time.

Shown from left are Cathy Green, Dana Carnival, Mike Gay, and Barbara Harback. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

