



books

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	FICTION BEST-SELLERS
1	1	The Appeal , John Grisham
2	—	Remember Me? , Sophie Kinsella
3	3	7th Heaven , James Patterson
4	2	Strangers in Death , J.D. Robb
5	—	The Outlaw Demon Wails , Kim Harrison
6	—	Honor Thyself , Danielle Steel
7	4	Lady Killer , Lisa Scottoline
8	5	Duma Key , Stephen King
9	—	Betrayal , John Lescroart
10	6	A Thousand Splendid Suns , Khaled Hosseini

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	NONFICTION BEST-SELLERS
1	—	Losing It , Valerie Bertinelli
2	1	The Secret , Rhonda Byrne
3	—	Beautiful Boy , David Sheff
4	—	The Age of Miracles , Marianne Williamson
5	8	Liberal Fascism , Jonah Goldberg
6	2	Women & Money , Suze Orman
7	3	In Defense of Food , Michael Pollan
8	5	Become a Better You , Joel Osteen
9	10	The Third Jesus , Deepak Chopra
10	4	You: Staying Young , Michael Roizen, Mehmet Oz

• Source: Publisher's Weekly/Week of Feb. 27-March 4.

NEW BOOKS AT SALINA LIBRARY

Hope's Boy, Andrew Bridge
Charm, Kendall Hart
Nameless Night, G.M. Ford
Where the Heart Leads, Stephanie Laurens
Losing It, Valerie Bertinelli

BOOKS OF REGIONAL INTEREST

These recently published books are by Kansas authors. The books can be obtained through bookstores, online book-sellers and the books' publishers.

■ **Animals Galore and Love Unconditional: Essays Sad, Mad and Glad about Creatures Who Share the Earth** (PublishAmerica, 2008) by Lora K. Reiter is a collection of essays about animals the author has encountered. Reiter, Ottawa, has also written a novel and a collection of poetry.

■ **Seasons of the Heart** (Parson Place Press, 2008) by Lori Stratton is set in the 1880s and follows a young Swedish immigrant on the Kansas frontier. Stratton, Wamego, is a first time novelist.



music

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TOP POP SINGLES
1	—	Love in this Club , Usher
2	1	Low , Flo Rida
3	2	With You , Chris Brown
4	3	Don't Stop the Music , Rihanna
5	4	Love Song , Sara Bareilles
6	—	No Air , Jordin Sparks and Chris Brown
7	6	Apologize , Timbaland
8	5	No One , Alicia Keys
9	9	Independent , Webbie, Lil' Phat and Lil' Boosie
10	7	Sensual Seduction , Snoop Dogg

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TOP POP ALBUMS
1	—	Discipline , Janet
2	—	New Amerykah: Part One , Erykah Badu
3	1	Sleep Through the Static , Jack Johnson
4	—	Savage Life 2 , Webbie
5	2	As I Am , Alicia Keys
6	—	Hannah Montana 2 , Miley Cyrus
7	—	Once , Soundtrack
8	—	Junjo , Soundtrack
9	7	Little Voice , Sara Bareilles
10	3	Back to Black , Amy Winehouse

• Source: Billboard magazine/Week of Feb. 27-March 4.

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TOP COUNTRY SINGLES
1	5	All-American Girl , Carrie Underwood
2	1	Cleaning This Gun , Rodney Atkins
3	4	Small Town Southern Man , Alan Jackson
4	2	Shiftwork , Kenny Chesney
5	7	Stealing Cinderella , Chuck Wicks
6	10	You're Gonna Miss This , Trace Adkins
7	6	Watching Airplanes , Gary Allan
8	—	I Saw God Today , George Strait
9	9	What Kinda Gone , Chris Cagle
10	3	Laughed Until We Cried , Jason Aldean

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS
1	2	Taylor Swift , Taylor Swift
2	—	Backwoods Barbie , Dolly Parton
3	3	The Ultimate Hits , Garth Brooks
4	4	Raising Sand , Robert Plant and Alison Krauss
5	7	Carnival Ride , Carrie Underwood
6	6	Enjoy the Ride , Sugarland
7	5	Long Road Out of Eden , Eagles
8	8	Still Feels Good , Rascal Flatts
9	1	My Life's Been a Country Song , Chris Cagle
10	9	Some Hearts , Carrie Underwood

• Source: Billboard magazine/Week of Feb. 27-March 4.

“... This is not the first and last showing. I'm hoping I can take it other places.”

PRITI COX, artist

Portrait / A long-term project for Cox

FROM PAGE D1

A two-year project

Cox has been working on the project for two years. She knew she needed a good-sized space she could paint black to represent the Iraqi dead. She had an acquaintance with retired surgeon and art patron, Dr. Charles Livingston, one of the partners in the investment group that is rehabilitating the former Lee Mercantile and Lee Hardware buildings in the 200 block of North Santa Fe.

The result was the decision by the partners to let Cox use a room in the complex for her project.

When finished, plans call for the complex to have retail space and offices on the first floor, and apartments above.

“We have had an inquiry, at least once, about having an art gallery in the retail space, but there are no specific plans,” Livingston said. “We will have what we call a community room ... for parties and receptions, and there could be art in there. I think it's a great idea to do that.”

Art elements are also likely to be incorporated in the outdoor plaza area between the two buildings, said another partner in the project, Mike Forristal.

Cox, raised in Hyderabad, India, has lived in Salina since 2000 with her husband, Stan. She turned to painting after working five years in advertising. Her last major exhibit at the Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, in 2004, was a collection of 19 paintings depicting scenes from

the Indian village of Kokur, situated in the heart of one of the poorest regions of south-central India.

The fifth anniversary of the Iraqi invasion is coming up March 20. The approach of the anniversary was yet another reason why she chose to open her installation now. Friends and family have been supportive of the project, Cox said.

“This is the first time I've done an installation. This is not the first and last showing. I'm hoping I can take it other places,” she said.

■ Reporter David Clouston can be reached at 822-1403 or by e-mail at dclouston@salina.com.

History influences singers

African a cappella group inspired by Shaka Zulu

By CELEAN JACOBSON
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Joseph Shabalala's strong deep voice rings out clear and haunting. A choir of voices join him, rising into a harmony of sound. “This is the way we do,” sings legendary South African a cappella group Ladysmith Black Mambazo. “This is the way we do.”

For the Grammy award-winning group, their way has been the way to stardom.

The uplifting tune is from the group's latest album, “Iphel' Emansini,” (“A Cockroach in the Milk”), which is dedicated to one of their deepest sources of inspiration. Shaka Zulu was the great African king and warrior chief who used his military and diplomatic cunning to unite the Zulu people into a mighty nation.

Nearly two centuries later, his vision of unity and national pride resonates through this latest offering by Ladysmith Black Mambazo, currently touring the United States to support the CD.

The rich melodies of “Kuyafundw' Osizini (Ilembe),” which translates as “Learning from the Obstacles (The Greatest Warrior)” are about



The Associated Press
Ladysmith Black Mambazo performs Jan. 20 at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia.

perseverance and overcoming opposition; while the uplifting “Iphel' Emansini,” (“A Cockroach in the Milk”), recounts an old Zulu proverb about the dangers of concentrating on the negative and losing sight of the beauty of life.

For Albert Mazibuko, one of the oldest members of the group, the album is an attempt to encourage a greater understanding of Shaka Zulu and his legacy.

“Some people say the poor can't do great things. Shaka learnt from suffering,” he said in a telephone interview ahead of their departure for America.

It is a lesson the group, who shot to fame in 1986 with their collaboration on Paul Simon's

Grammy-winning “Grace-land” album, knows well.

Started in the early 1960s by Shabalala — then a young farm boy turned factory worker — the group has taken the traditional music of black mine workers from the rural hills of South Africa to the international stage.

With more than 40 recordings, they have worked with artists ranging from Stevie Wonder to Michael Jackson and have performed for presidents, royalty and even the pope.

“From the beginning, we were struggling to develop our music,” said Mazibuko. “Now, we are just cruising the freeways.”

A relative of Shabalala's,

on review

books

Picoult's latest follows formula

There's a certain amount of made-for-TV-movie dramatics in Jodi Picoult's novels. Some are compelling and lovely, such as “My Sister's Keeper.” Others devolve too quickly into schmaltzy, somewhat ridiculous story lines that always include last-minute plot twists meant to turn the book upside down.

Picoult's latest, “Change of Heart,” starts strong with the story of June Nealon, whose first husband is killed in a drunk driving wreck. Then her second husband and oldest daughter are murdered, and a handyman, Shay Bourne, is sentenced to die by lethal injection for the slayings. (It's New Hampshire first execution in almost 70 years.)

And here comes the Picoult touch: Shay Bourne's life on death row is marked by mysterious happenings that may or

may not be miraculous. All the while, Shay decides his true path to salvation is by donating his heart (post-execution) to Claire Nealon, the young sister and daughter of his victims. Claire suffers from a heart ailment and has been on a waiting list for a new heart.

So “Change of Heart” becomes a novel about the death penalty, forgiveness and the power of belief.

Picoult's loyal fans will find “Change of Heart” true to form, an emotion-laden read with characters who are honest and complicated. New readers may find it a bit preposterous, though the question of what we believe and why never gets old.

— Jill Zeman,
The Associated Press

music

Waifs prove a little thin on self-identity

The Australian trio the Waifs have assimilated Amer-

ican roots music almost too well.

Band members have moved to the United States — sisters Donna Simpson and Vikki Thorn are raising families in Minnesota and Utah, respectively — and the trio that also includes the siblings' fellow Aussie Josh Cunningham recorded their new “SunDirtWater” in Nashville using a number of the city's session musicians.

Since launching their act in the 1990s, the Waifs always had an American flavor in their folkie music. But with the new release — featuring Cunningham's swampy blues guitar, Hammond B3 organ by Reese Wynans and steel guitar by Dan Dugmore — they sound so much like a product of this country that only the occasional hint of an accent in the trio's vocals betrays the

their nationality.

The problem is The Waifs sound so studiously authentic, they sometimes seem more like an idealized version of American music than a free-flowing, from-the-heart bunch of Yanks.

Still, The Waifs sound good overall, their style has matured and mellowed over the years and they aim for more diversity in the arrangements than in the past. Plus the harmonies of the sisters have never sounded sweeter than they do here on the raw “Pony” and “Sad Sailor Song.”

Derivative or original, the Waifs consistently sound good on “SunDirtWater.” However, they only conjure magic when they're following their own spells.

— Chuck Campbell,
Scripps Howard News Service

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