

Julesburg library to host book signing with Wood

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Steven L. Wood, author of "Blizzard of '77," will be at the Julesburg Public Library, 320 Cedar in Julesburg, for a book signing Saturday, June 1, from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Wood was born on a farm south of Holyoke in 1942 and was raised there. All his relatives in the area were impacted by the blizzard, inspiring him to put into a book the devastation a blizzard causes, but it was not until Wood and his wife, Jan, started their research that the magnitude of the 1977 blizzard was realized.

The stories from those impacted are the essence of this book, along with the archival accounts from local newspapers. Personal stories from the five-state area are included.

Three years of research revealing the 24 deaths from the storm, 48 actual accounts never printed as told by those who encountered this blizzard and excerpts from another 200 personal interviews are included.

Power was out for six weeks caused by total decimation of thousands of power poles; communications were all but nonexistent; livestock losses were estimated over 100,000. Included are stories of rescued people who spent up to three days buried in their vehicles.

Wood's book will give readers a historical view of a devastating Great Plains Blizzard.

Wood is also making a picture DVD of the '77 blizzard. If anyone has pictures, or knows of anyone who has pictures of the blizzard, Wood would like to put them on the DVD. The pictures can be taken to the book signing and he will copy them, or they can be emailed to stephenwood1977@yahoo.com. All pictures used will be credited on the picture as they are shown, so he needs to know where they were taken and who took them.

A short orientation before the signing covers survival techniques and a range of editorials from the book pertaining to the area.

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