

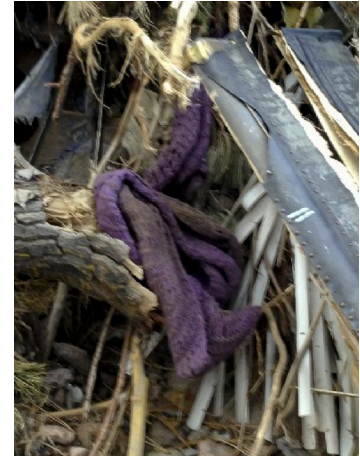
# Resident's prayer shawl survives the thousand-year flood to keep comforting

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After her father's cancer-related death in 2010, Laurie Kennedy took to her rocking chair and burrito-wrapped herself in a prayer shawl.

Though ancient Jewish men first wore them to show reverence during synagogue services, Christians now make and give them as reminders of God's unconditionally loving embrace -- especially during troubled times.



After washing away from a Lyons home during the September floods, Laurie Kennedy's prayer shawl was found caught in the roots of a tree downstream. ( Courtesy Laurie Kennedy )

"It didn't matter if it was in the middle of the summer. I always put it on to feel faith and comfort," Kennedy, 51, said.

But in her rush to help her mother through an illness in Georgia, she forgot it on the rocking chair at her boyfriend's cabin in Lyons last September.

Two days later, the thousand-year flood that began on Sept. 12 swept both chair and shawl downstream along with the cabin's front porch, the front wall and everything in the den and kitchen. The North St. Vrain River now flows in front of the cabin's foundation.

So, when Kennedy got back into town in mid-October, she considered it something of a miracle that her now former boyfriend and his two sons spotted the shawl pinned by one arm of the rocking chair to an upturned tree's root ball some 500 feet down river from the cabin... to read more of the story visit:

[http://www.timescall.com/community-features/ci\\_24990869/residents-prayer-shawl-survives-thousand-year-flood-keep#](http://www.timescall.com/community-features/ci_24990869/residents-prayer-shawl-survives-thousand-year-flood-keep#)