

# Between the Lines

July 2015

Alpine Public Library and Friends

## Library Happenings

We are well into summer and things are busy at the library. The Chimpanzee Challenge was installed on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. This interactive science maze was developed in collaboration with world-renowned primatologist Jane Goodall and the Jane Goodall Institute by Minotaur Mazes. The exhibit will be at Alpine Public Library through early August.

APL has a variety of summer youth programs that are in full swing. Mary Beth's and Linda's articles provide more detail. The Hump Day Lunch library fundraiser will begin again on August 5 from 11 AM until 1 PM. On the menu is spaghetti, salad, bread, desert, and drink for \$7. APL Travel Talks continue with 'Grand Cayman Islands: Sailors, Turtles and Money' presented by Barney Nelson on July 24. On August 28 hear Ken Durham, Patsy Culver, John Davis and Emily Alexander present 'Cuba: Es Complicado'. Travel Talks begin at 7 PM in the AEP room.

When we talk about library programs we also need to mention our volunteers. Library volunteers are an incredibly important part of library programming, fundraising, and operations. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities at the library that provide a chance to gain community service hours, network with others, and develop new skills. If you don't have time to volunteer, consider making tax deductible monthly donations or becoming a member of the Friends of the Library. We depend on individual donations to make up nearly 40% of our yearly budget. Each donation, no matter the size, is important to help support APL's mission to connect our diverse and geographically remote communities with information resources to encourage literacy and promote lifelong learning.

Thanks for your support of OUR public library.

—Don Wetterauer, Executive Director



Before



Installation in progress

Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries

—Anne Herbert

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# Special Donations

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**Sara Herman's birthday from:**  
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John & Connie Roe

# Thank You!

A child has a big grin as he or she enters the Chimpanzee Challenge. Yet another activity takes place in the AEP Multipurpose Room. A patron enjoys coffee and a magazine on Friday morning. I think it is amazing that we have this wonderful library as a resource in our community and I am grateful for the folks who help make it happen. So... thank you... if you put cash in our donation jar or have become a member of the Friends of the Library or an ongoing monthly contributor.

Thank you... If you have made a donation to honor or remember a friend or donated to a library program that is dear to your heart. Thank you, because these donations from you, both large and small, help provide 38% of the income at the library. Yes, 38%! Your donations help us continue to be one of the best little libraries in America.

Your help is needed and welcome and very much appreciated. **Thank You!**

—Paula Poundstone

—Marilyn Terry

# Summer Time for Students in the Library

Students who read for an hour in the library, and record the reading, are given a pass to the Alpine Municipal swimming pool. Students need to sign-in as they begin the hour of reading and sign-out at the end of the hour. A free swim band is given to the student at sign-out.

Students attending Alpine Elementary School are encouraged to take Accelerated Reader tests during the summer. Participating students will be invited to an AR celebration at the beginning of the school year.

A third opportunity for students to read involves recording the titles read on the back of a map of the United States. Students select a state sticker for each book recorded. Students wishing to receive free books from Re-Reads, may show the map to a library employee, or a Re-Reads volunteer at the end of the summer. Each ten sticker increment will be worth one free book from Re-Reads.

Regardless of whether a student wants to: 1) swim at the Alpine pool, 2) receive free books from Re-Reads, 3) attend a party at the beginning of school, or **all three**,

reading is an activity with many benefits this summer.

Not long ago I was doing some volunteer shelf reading in the picture book collection of the library. As a former school librarian I enjoyed seeing and re-reading many of the books I used and loved with some of my younger students. Even more rewarding was seeing the collection in use.

I needed to halt, or move, several times so that young patrons could find a particular book. At times, I was able to assist the patron in finding a favorite—sometimes theirs and sometimes one of mine! Not only were students and families able to select reading materials to enjoy, but they are reaping the associated rewards mentioned above. My reward was seeing people share the enjoyment of books, reading, and sharing family time in our Alpine Public Library.

—Linda Bryant



## Support the APL with AmazonSmile

Support the Alpine Public Library Association by shopping with AmazonSmile at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-1478092>. A donation will be made to the Library with every purchase. Share this special link with freinds and family.

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# Relaxed Readers and Little Free Libraries

They are starting to pop up around town – miniature libraries that look a lot like fancy bird houses at first glance. But take a closer look and you will see something more beautiful than baby birds: Books!

Three years ago, entrepreneur Todd Bol conceived the idea of a free community book exchange. He built a waterproof box that looked a lot like a school house, filled it with books, and placed it in his front yard. The response from his neighbors was overwhelming. People of all ages starting using the exchange and building their own “little libraries.”

Today there are Little Free Libraries in 28 states and six countries including Afghanistan and Ghana. In Alpine, they can be found at Alpine Elementary School, the Alpine Community Center, Sul Ross Child Care and Family Support Center, the Montessori School, and three private homes, 603 W. Uvalde, 1003 S. Harrison, and 406 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. For more information about Little Free Libraries, including instructions to build one of your own (why not?), visit [www.littlefreelibraries.org](http://www.littlefreelibraries.org).

In keeping with the spirit of a free book exchange, the Alpine Public Library has developed a new collection of books just for kids called Relaxed Readers. Relaxed Readers have no due date, no fees, and no fines. Just relax, read, and return the book when ready. It is kind of like having a “little library” inside a “big library.” Donations for the Relaxed Reader collection can be left at the Front Desk.

Keep your kids happy and engaged in learning and reading all summer long with one or more of our vibrant summer reading programs:

## Science Club

Entering grades 5-7

Thursdays, 4:00-5:30 pm  
(snack included)

July 9 Inside Your Heart  
August 6 What's in a Cell?

## Writing Wranglers

Entering grades 3 and 4  
Mondays, 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Project based writing program

July 13 The Future Me  
July 20 Spark a Story

## Library Lizards

Entering grades 1 and 2  
Tuesdays, 3:00-4:00 pm

Summer Literacy Program  
July 14 Pirate Gear  
July 21 Pirate Ships  
July 28 The Pirate's Bed

## Family Story Time

Ages 0-5 with a parent  
Wednesdays, 4:00-4:45 pm  
(Ends August 12)  
Stories, finger plays, and crafts for little ones

## Read Across America

All ages, all summer

Self-paced reading program. Pick up a map of the US at the Front Desk. For every book read, receive a state flag sticker. Collect all 50 stickers to receive a prize.

## Read To Swim

Ages 6-12  
June 1 - August 23

Sign in at the Front Desk and read for 1 hour to receive a FREE wrist band for the Alpine City Pool.

## AR Program

Children grades K-4  
June 1 - August 21

Take an AR Test on any of the Children's Computers to receive a coupon for a FREE pastry from the Bread and Breakfast Restaurant.

—Mary Beth Garrett,  
Children's Librarian



## Flourishing Plants Inside and Out

“The first year they sleep....the second year they creep....the third year they LEAP!” This is an old saying in the plant-nursery business regarding how planted landscapes grow, and I think the landscaping around the library proved it true! This is the landscape's third year, and the plants are really taking off.

The wildflowers have been spectacular, and have lasted longer than usual thanks to the frequent rains we keep having. The trees are putting on some real growth now, and the flowering trees are just starting a color show. Patience is everything when gardening, and is usually its own reward. I hope you are getting out and enjoying nature's bounty this year, especially the flourishing landscape around the library!

And take time to thank the volunteers who take such good care of the plants both inside and outside of APL, when you see them at work.

—Martha Latta



## Library Receives Union Pacific Foundation Grant

In June APL received a \$5,000 unrestricted grant from the Union Pacific Foundation. The UP Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations that work to enhance the quality of life for communities where UP employees work and live. Union Pacific was a significant contributor helping to complete our new library building. We really appreciate their continued support.



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 Phone: 432-837-2621  
[www.alpinepubliclibrary.org](http://www.alpinepubliclibrary.org)

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Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life.

—Sidney Sheldon

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