I’m trying very hard to come up with something eloquent to say about leaving this old library. But what can be said that fully expresses the relief, excitement, fear, anticipation, regret, and joy that the board and staff are all feeling? We are all working so diligently, (as are the tireless county and contractor employees in the new building), that sometimes there isn’t even enough time to sort out the strange mix of impressions swirling about. I had a dream that an elephant was charging at me. Hmm, not too difficult to interpret! Luckily I have a diligent and patient staff that continues to amaze.

Never fear, we are holding it together and being buoyed by the rush of activity! Re-Reads Used Book Store will be the first to move, testing the waters and the volunteer pool. Be expecting to hear from us soon about helping out.

By the time the next newsletter comes out, the move will be over. When the dust settles I’ll be able to relay all the anecdotes and stories of the wonderful and generous things that people did to help us get into our new library, even after they helped us to raise adequate funds to start and complete construction. We are all very grateful and overjoyed that the community places the same importance on their library that we do.

We appreciate your book donations! However, due to our move, please keep large book donations until after we are settled in the new library and bookstore. We are cleaning out now and need room to organize and pack. Last week the staff completed a complete book inventory of both branches, which will help us to more efficiently pack and unpack each part of the library collection.

Magazine donations are still accepted for our hospital outreach programs. See ya at the new library!

APL Receives Programming Grants

APL recently received grants to help pay for all-ages programming from the Yarborough Foundation. Specific programs include ESL for the Big Bend (our English tutoring program), a new citizenship study program for those preparing to take the US citizenship test, computer classes, and children’s programs. We are very appreciative to the Foundation for its continued support of our construction project and ongoing operations.

We also recently applied for a programming grant from the Union Pacific Foundation, which generously donated to the library during 2011 and 2010.

The Potts and Sibley Foundation recently donated an unrestricted amount to the library that will be used to help us get up and running in the new building.

A Texas Humanities grant will allow us to begin recording local oral histories. This project will be in cooperation with the Archives of the Big Bend.

The Friends of the Alpine Public Library meet on the Tuesday before the second Thursday of each month at noon at APL. Everyone is welcome!
I hope you enjoy this issue of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library newsletter. Paige Delaney, our newsletter coordinator, does an excellent job of putting this publication together. We really appreciate her efforts!

This is an exciting time as we prepare to open our new library facility. The Alpine Public Library Board of Directors and particularly Mary Jane Morgan and the Capital Campaign committee, have done a great job raising funds to make our new library a reality. As the Capital Campaign winds down, the work of the Friends of the Library increases with greater responsibilities. We like to say our job is to help keep the doors open and the lights on. Your membership contribution to the Friends goes a long way to support daily operations at the library. In addition to memberships, we raise revenue through sales of used books at Re-Reads and other special events. If you are already a member of the Friends, thank you for your support. If you are not a member please consider joining today. Not only do you receive special benefits you also enjoy the satisfaction of supporting our new library’s operations.

Volunteer opportunities are also available. For example, volunteers keep Re-Reads open and help at outside sales events. We have a great group of volunteers from all walks of life. So, if you have some spare time, a little or a lot, check us out. Karen Boyd, our volunteer coordinator will be happy to answer any questions.

Volunteer Update

Recycling is in full swing at APL! At right, Nancy Davila recycles bottles, newspapers, and plastics from the bin outside the library. She and Randy Ersch have faithfully executed this duty for over a year, and we appreciate their dedication! Jim Glendinning, loyal library user, has volunteered to recycle newspapers, periodicals, and scrap paper from inside the library.

Rotary officer Lou Pauls has volunteered to be our new teen programming assistant. We have been attempting to fill this position for several months, and are very happy to have her. Many new fun opportunities for teens are coming our way!

We still need volunteers to help at the circulation desk on weekday afternoons. If you are interested, please call or drop by the library.

ESL for the Big Bend Program Coordinator Lee Smith travelled to Austin in August to attend the Literacy Texas Conference. She brought back many new ideas, resources, and programming information for our local learners and tutors. New English Language volunteer tutors include Anne Calaway and Sally Schaefer. Both are already paired up with learners and well on their way to help them meet their goals. Tutor training sessions are planned for late September and October...don’t miss this opportunity to join the team. We still have a waiting list of learners, so please consider volunteering for this important library program. Childcare volunteers are also desperately needed. We now have eight learners waiting for tutors in South County. Give us a call to sign up or for more information.

Did you know...

- that Re-Reads Bookstore is going to be inside the new Alpine Public Library?
- that the store is a project of the Friends of the Library?
- that the store first opened its doors in the summer of 2004?
- that the books we sell are all donated?
- that donations have varied in size from 1 book to 84 cartons of books?
- that we started by being open three partial days a week?
- that we are now open six days a week from 10 am to 5 pm?
- that many regular travelers to Alpine call us a “destination”?
- that sales from the store provide 10.6% of the library income?
- that the Friends of the Library also hold special book sales that provide additional funds for library needs?
- that we succeed because of your donations and your purchases?

Thank You for making this such a successful project!

We’ll see you at the new location!

-Marilyn Terry

Don Wetterauer, President
Friends of the Alpine Public Library

From the Friends President

ESL for the Big Bend Program Coordinator Lee Smith travelled to Austin in August to attend the Literacy Texas Conference. She brought back many new ideas, resources, and programming information for our local learners and tutors. New English Language volunteer tutors include Anne Calaway and Sally Schaefer. Both are already paired up with learners and well on their way to help them meet their goals. Tutor training sessions are planned for late September and October...don’t miss this opportunity to join the team. We still have a waiting list of learners, so please consider volunteering for this important library program. Childcare volunteers are also desperately needed. We now have eight learners waiting for tutors in South County. Give us a call to sign up or for more information.

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Summer Reading Fun

The Marathon Volunteer Fire Department provided swimming pools for the kids to enjoy at the Marathon Public Library’s summer reading final party. The water was later reused. Below, MPL Friends volunteer Jackie Boyd cools off with the kids.

Above: Teens enjoying free internet games at the Alpine Public Library. Below: Captain Silversword reads a twisted tale of treachery and treason to APL kids at summer reading.

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DID YOU KNOW WE OFFER FREE LIBRARY SERVICES TO ALL SOUTH BREWSTER COUNTY AND BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK RESIDENTS?

Here’s how to take advantage:
1. Pick up your free APL library card at the Big Bend Library or the San Vicente School.
2. Call or visit the Alpine Public Library to activate your card.
3. Sign on to your account at www.alpinepubliclibrary.org to reserve books, DVDs, or other materials.
4. Our volunteers will deliver to your local library within one week!

Free English language tutoring is available in Terlingua. Watch our blog for upcoming South County program announcements!

Call us about children’s programs planned in South County for the 2011-2012 school year, too!

We welcome your suggestions!

APL Director Paige Delaney, a former geologist, gave a mining presentation at the Summer Enrichment Program at San Vicente School in South Brewster County. The program included kids from Terlingua CSD schools as well. Above, kids practice panning for “gold.”
We all want to feel good, emotionally healthy, and balanced. For many of us this is a great goal, but a rare reality. The question is why do we not feel balanced emotionally? Why do we tend to feel tense, rushed, stressed, or ill inside? One pathway to explore is “control.”

We humans need to feel control, control over our self, our stuff, and our future. Life creates situations and circumstances that remove control from us and unfortunately, we can make decisions that ultimately remove control as well. Our ability to live with reduced control, to give up control, and to not “have to” control most things around us can relate directly to our sense of emotional health.

How would you rate your need to control things or others around you in your daily life? How well do you do when you are not in control? More importantly, are you at peace when things occur without your control, do you recognize things are okay without your control?

Most things in life are not life and death. Certainly we need to exert control and influence when such circumstances occur. However, I am writing about the hours of little stuff, not life threatening stuff, that we deal with everyday. These are the things that we react to and lead to a healthy or unhealthy existence. Simply put, how do you feel inside?

Make a list of the things that you feel a need to control. The list might contain the behavior of others, the appearance of self, others, or space around you. It might be something relating to time, how things have to get done, or how events have to occur. The things on the list are nearly endless. Once you have made your own list of “Control Items,” begin to explore more deeply whether you have the ability to let go.

You will need to work consciously on letting go of control with these life items and events. It will not be easy. Try to let go a few times and let life carry on without your control. Then, pay attention to how you feel, particularly inside. Are you okay? Better yet, do you feel a sense of relief enjoying your observation of life events with or without blemish?

Is your need for control in balance? It probably relates directly to your sense of emotional health. The great news is that you have control over letting go of your control!

Dr. Paul Nussbaum 11/7/11
Joanna Cowell
In Memoriam
November 19, 1937—July 19, 2011

Joanna Cowell was passionate about animals, books, and the arts. She came by those passions honestly.

Joanna's mother, Bonnie Newell, was a "card-carrying member" of the first SPCA chapter in Brewster County, according to Lee Cowell, Joanna's husband of nearly 54 years, and she played the piano. Joanna's maternal grandmother played the piano professionally throughout Europe. And most important for the Alpine Public Library, Bonnie Newell was a founder of the library and its first director.

Joanna's passion for the arts manifested itself in both music and theater. She was a charter member of the Alpine Community Band, playing the clarinet and the bass clarinet. Near the end of her life she sometimes left for rehearsal in tears because of the pain caused by severe arthritis, but husband Lee said she would not miss rehearsal for any reason. Perhaps her strength and courage came from her family's relationship to the famous Daniel Boone family. It's an intriguing thought, isn't it?

Joanna was also the first female Kiwanian in Alpine and held various offices in the service club. She continued to play in the community band and was an active member of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library. In fact, I first met her at a Friends meeting, where she tried to convince me to join the Big Bend Players. I resisted, but I think now that that was a mistake. I could have learned a great deal from her.

The Cowell family's connection to the Alpine Public Library spans 2 generations. Bonnie Newell, Joanna's mother, volunteered as library director after she and other members of the El Progreso Club got the library started. Her vision was one of a library for everyone. Although Alpine was segregated during Bonnie's tenure as director, the library was not. She started the equivalent of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the library, which must have had quite an impact because Joanna's daughter Shanna was approached by a Latina in Alpine who noted that it was those classes that got her started on the road to becoming a lawyer. The library is again offering ESL classes, and who knows who'll stop one of us on the street one day to say how instrumental those classes were in that person's life.

Lee Cowell served on the library's board of directors for many years, including as president. The Cowell family has always supported the library, and the community demonstrated its love and respect for Joanna after her death with many, many memorial contributions. Carol Wallace, Joanna's longtime collaborator in the arts, is planning a fund-raiser for the library's Capital Campaign that will bring together many of the singers, musicians, and actors who were touched by Joanna Cowell's talent, enthusiasm, and dedication to her community. Watch for the announcement of the date.

Joanna Cowell was not a person you'd easily forget. She was strong, passionate, and in love with her community. All of us at the library will miss her.

—Kathy Bork

How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

~William Shakspeare, Merchant of Venice

... much later adapted to

"So shines a good deed in a weary world"

by David Seltzer for the 1971 film Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
While the end of the year is the perfect time to review your financial situation and consider contributing to your favorite causes, “planned giving” is part of on-going estate planning. As such, it is something to consider as you reach each of life’s significant milestones.

Did you know that planned giving isn’t only for the rich? In the United States the average charitable bequest comes from estates of less than $500,000 net value, and many below $100,000. Furthermore, there are many ways of establishing legacy support today without impacting today’s current income.

The key word here is “planned,” in that the planned gift you make today signals your best intentions. There are ways you can make gifts that pay you back or gifts that don’t require you to reach for your checkbook today. Also, while we will always be extremely thankful to receive monetary gifts, there are other financially prudent options for donating assets other than cash.

Today, there are three popular methods for “planned giving”: bequests, charitable gift annuities, and charitable remainder trusts. And expiring this year is the charitable IRA rollover legislation, which allows you to transfer lifetime gifts up to $100,000 using funds from your individual retirement account (IRA) without undesirable tax effects. This opportunity is only available through December 31, 2011.

The most popular (and easiest) planned gift is the straightforward bequest. A bequest is a simple designation in your will and costs nothing during your lifetime. Nine out of ten planned gifts in the US are bequests. They are easy to do (as long as you have a will) and revocable if situation changes.

The second most popular method of planned giving is establishing a charitable gift annuity (CGA). Working with a financial institution and your charity, you would purchase an annuity that pays you a guaranteed income for life. The charity benefits from the initial payment that funds the annuity. CGAs can be set up for as little as $5,000. There are beneficial tax advantages to CGAs that you should discuss with your tax advisor.

Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs) make up the bulk of the rest of planned giving. These are very sophisticated investments that provide specified amounts for specified number of years and are irrevocable. At the end of the CRT term the remaining funds are distributed to the charity.

There are other modes of planned giving, including setting up a living trust, which won’t pass through probate, or naming your favorite charity as one of your insurance beneficiaries, or donating a portion of your IRA balances as mentioned above.

After your family is taken care of, if planned giving is still something that appeals to you, you should talk to us and ask how we would use your planned gift. This will give you a better idea of what vehicle would be best for your own legacy of support. Meanwhile, as nothing here is meant to be financial advice, you should particularly seek guidance from your own trusted financial planner. Ask them the questions you need to understand to decide which planned giving opportunity fits you the best.

- Ken Durham and Patsy Culver

Ken Durham is Secretary of the Alpine Public Library Board of Directors.

**Staff News**

We are sad to report that Valerie Howard (above), one of our librarians at APL, moved to Denton in August to pursue her MLIS degree. We miss her already! Candace Yaquinto (right), a highly qualified former library volunteer, joined our staff in July. She is highly motivated and an extremely knowledgeable bibliophile! We are very lucky to have her on our team. Welcome, Candace!
Kids’ Page

October is National Popcorn Poppin’ Month!

Corny Facts

- Americans consume some 16 billion quarts of this whole grain, good-for-you treat. That’s 52 quarts per man, woman, and child.
- If you made a trail of popcorn from New York City to Los Angeles, you would need more than 352,028,160 popped kernels!
- Popcorn needs between 13.5-14% moisture to pop.
- Popcorn differs from other types of maize/corn in that it has a thicker pericarp/hull. The hull allows pressure from the heated water to build and eventually bursts open. The inside starch becomes gelatinous while being heated; when the hull bursts, the gelatinized starch spills out and cools, giving it its familiar popcorn shape.
- Most popcorn comes in two basic shapes when it’s popped: snowflake and mushroom. Snowflake is used in movie theaters and ballarks because it looks and pops big-

ger. Mushroom is used for candy confections because it doesn’t crumble.
- “Popability” is popcorn lingo that refers to the percentage of kernels that pop.
- How high popcorn kernels can pop? Up to 3 feet in the air.
- The world’s largest popcorn ball was created by volunteers in Sac City, Iowa in February, 2009. It weighed 5,000 lbs., stood over 8 ft. tall, and measured 28.8 ft. in circumference.

The Popcorn Board
401 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
www.popcorn.org

Color me Poppy!
Our program calendar is posted monthly on our facebook page and on our blog. We submit announcements to local newspapers and radio stations. Let us know if you have an email list and would like to receive our news!

The Speed Book Club now meets every two months on the last Monday of the month, at 5pm in the Alpine library. This program is at risk of failing for lack of participation, so please call to sign up, or just show up to join! The book selection for fall is “Cutting for Stone” by Abraham Verghese. Keep and eye and ear open for details on all our media outlets.

There will be a hiatus on programming during the month of October due to our impending move. Look for children’s programs and all other events to resume in the fall. In November, our public interest lecturer will be Jenny Grisham of Americana, who will speak on career opportunities in the beauty and barbering industries. We look forward to our first presentation in the AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room!

Basic Computer Education classes will begin with Session I in November. Call or visit the library now to sign up! The class will be limited to nine students, plus more if you have your own wireless-enabled laptop.

If you or anyone you know needs help studying for the citizenship test, please have them contact Nora at 432-837-2621. We still need volunteer childcare providers ASAP to help with our ESL program.

ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS ARE FREE.
If you would like to volunteer to help with programming, contact Paige at 432-837-2621.

Visit Us Online!
alpinepubliclibrary.org

APL IS STILL SEEKING LIBRARY BUSINESS SPONSORS! CALL US TO LEARN ABOUT THE ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY BENEFITS.