

Between the Lines

Friends of the Alpine Public Library



Spring Cleaning

I am so thankful the sun is back! Despite the minor setback caused by Daylight Saving Time, I'm starting to feel rejuvenated and motivated to roll up my sleeves and start thinking about The Move. With such major progress visible at our building site, it is starting to occupy much of my brainpower. Certainly we are still many months off -- the interior of the building is far from completion. Electrical wiring, heat and air conditioning ductwork, drywall, and finish work still remain. But construction happens fast once the money is available, and before we know it, we will be packing boxes and moving down the road. We plan to be ready.

I knew one year ago the task that lay ahead of me, but only now is the reality of The Move coming into focus. Before the logistics can fall into place, we need to prepare ourselves and our library. Friends executive officers Don Wetterauer and Connie Roe will work with me on the library Move Committee to make sure these things happen. Marfa librarian Gloria Applegate and Presidio librarian Carmen Elguezebal are providing valuable advice about the dos and don'ts of moving a library.

Since Re-Reads will be moving with us, the Friends are

planning several book sale events designed to reduce our back stock and to generate additional funds for the new library. We are also planning a yard sale to sell unneeded furniture and equipment that will not come with us to the new library. I anticipate that we will find some real surprises in our storage room!

I've been putting together furniture lists and will attempt to find the most economical dealer. Before doing so, we must make sure that we have shelves for all our books and that our furniture will be installed in an ADA-compliant layout. Our furniture estimate is about \$125,000, and we will apply for grants to pay for our new furnishings, as this is not included in the cost of our new building. We received a donation from the Kiwanis Club recently to put toward children's furniture.

Since our new library is larger than our current space, we will need additional books to fill it. Our opening day collection is being planned now, and we have already received several generous pledges and donations from library patrons and the Lion's Club to help offset that extraordinary cost. We will need approximately \$67,000 for these new books. Since receiving a J. Frank Dobie grant this month,

we now have about 40% of what we need.

We have only scratched the surface at anticipating what new technology needs we will have at the new library. This requires thoughtful and early planning of network systems and staff work patterns. We will definitely need to seek funding for additional computers for both patrons and staff use.

Moving a library requires special attention to detail, to assure that all books find their proper place on the shelves, and that nothing gets out of order. Connie Roe, our former library director, has experience in this area and, with Don and me, will help plan the volunteer and staff effort of packing and unpacking books.

We have our work cut out for us. As much as we hate to leave our quaint library behind, we look forward to a new facility with efficient heating and air conditioning systems, which is ADA-compliant, and in which we can offer enhanced programs and services to our patrons. We will likely be calling upon Friends and other volunteers to help. Please think about the above projects, and let us know where you'd like to help. Your donations make our progress faster! We'll keep you posted.

—Paige Delaney



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Jodye Stone Retires

As some of you may already know, the library's assistant director, Jodye Stone, will be retiring this month after eight years of loyal service. For this article, she summed up her years at the library for us, and offered some insights. We wish her the best, and look forward to seeing her at Friends functions and as a patron and volunteer.

Jodye started working at the library as a volunteer sorting books donated by the Bechtel estate. She eventually expanded her duties to include book cataloging, running the circulation desk, and bookkeeping, among other not-so-glamorous tasks. Jodye has done a stellar job while facing the challenge of accounting for operations and capital campaign funds -- not an easy undertaking. She has brought us through three audits required for grant applications to major foundations.

Jodye's accounting duties will be delegated to our new bookkeeper, Nora Franco. Cataloging will be done by Valerie Richard, our Technical Services Librarian, and myself, for the time being. We plan to begin ordering books pre-cataloged by our vendor, who will label and cover the books prior to shipping, and from whom we can import catalog data directly.

Jodye has never hesitated to volunteer at the library beyond her paid duties. We are grateful that she worked so hard for so long, while many other activities tugged at her time. Jodye is also a board member for the Alpine Humane Society, a board member for the Chihuahuan Desert Research and Conservation District, and a regular member and volunteer for the American Legion. Jodye has given much of her time to delivering Meals on Wheels, and is a member of the Republican Women's Association.

On a personal note, my days at the library will now be vastly different. Jodye has been my right hand, my confidant, and has introduced me to so many of our wonderful patrons and donors. Luckily she will be nearby, and is willing to help out and answer questions if needed!

Me: What was your first volunteer job at the library?

J: working with the George Bechtel books

Me: How did it feel to become assistant director?

J: Nice

Me: Did you want to be director?

J: NO! I don't have the ability to keep my mouth shut! and the director has to work too hard.

Me: What is your craziest memory of working at the library?

J: There have been several, but how about the time the old gym burned down, or when the new library blew down, or maybe the time I saw an elderly gentleman crawling on the floor to look at the books on the bottom shelf? Maybe the day I kept hearing a little voice calling out. I couldn't understand what was being said so I went to look and there was a little lady on the floor. She had fallen, but was not hurt or mad. Or how about the "gentleman" who ask me in a quiet, respectful voice where the X-rated material was. Every day had its excitement.

Me: What will you do now?

J: Genealogy, work in the yard, go see my mom, go fishing with Cookie, pester my kids.

Me: What volunteer jobs at the library would you be willing to do?

J: What do you need?

Me: Will we still get to see you?

J: Of course!



Jodye Stone, Assistant Library Director

Me: What do you think will be the greatest improvement at the new library?

J: Turning it from a nice little hometown library that was loved by all into a library that will be used by more people and still loved by all.

Me: Please give us a few words of wisdom for the future.

J: Oh goodness--- Do the things you enjoy and that make you happy. All work and no play is not a good thing and working at the library has been a very good thing for me. I met many people that I would not have met and I have had the pleasure of working with and for some very wonderful people. Enough said!

Thanks for everything,
Jodye. You will be missed!

—Paige Delaney



FAPL 2010 Volunteer of the Year Ken Durham

Ken Durham's arrival in Brewster County couldn't have been at a more opportune time for the Alpine Public Library.

His first involvement in the library's operation was to join the Homebound Program team where he not only assisted in the collecting and delivering of library materials, but also made suggestions that greatly improved and expanded the program. It is mainly due to Ken's efforts and ingenuity that the Homebound Program now includes the jail's library as well as the weekly replacement of magazines in the hospital's waiting room.

Ken organized the materials and the workers for the library's table at the 3rd annual Living With Nature Con-

ference that was held in Marathon.

At the present time Ken is serving as Secretary of the Alpine Public Library's Board of Directors. He also serves on the Capital Campaign, Finance, and Construction Committees.

Ken has been the volunteer coordinator of the Library's Art Walk Silent Auction Committee for the last two years where his amazing organizational skills made a daunting task appear simple. The two years combined brought in over \$20,000 for the construction of our new library.

We are fortunate to have Ken Durham on our team.

—Gayle Lewis



FAPL Volunteer of the Year Ken Durham



Once a Friend, Always a Friend

Bright and early every Wednesday morning, for as far back as I know, Gayle Lewis would arrive at the Alpine Public Library, pulling her wire cart brimming with books to be returned to the library. After cheerfully acknowledging the staff she would settle in at a library table amidst the fiction, mysteries, and large print to spend the next few hours poring over a bulging black three-ring binder, bustling from binder to shelves and back, collecting individual stacks of books, audiobooks, and videos.

To me Gayle appeared to be the most



Gayle Lewis

voracious reader I had ever encountered. Eventually I learned that, while she may be an avid reader, she was also the

quietly committed volunteer who provided library services for the homebound patrons of Brewster County. That big black binder is where she recorded her patrons' reactions to previously offered selections and where she pondered what she might offer each individual reader next. *Jane Eyre* for one patron, Evanovich for another, large print for a third. *What shall we do when Mrs. Magillicutty gets to the end of Sue Grafton's alphabet?* *Can we order some classics through interlibrary loan. Shall we add video to the mix?* Gayle knew how to keep her patrons reading, listening, and viewing appetites sated.

By lunchtime Gayle's cart would be brimming again and off she'd go to spend the afternoon making her deliveries, sharing her good cheer, and tending to random library-related requests. In a pinch she could even nudge an errant VCR into working.

Recently Gayle moved on to spend valued

time with her family. While Cindy Sotello is now enjoying serving the homebound, Gayle continues to work with Ken Durham to develop a popular library resource for inmates in the Brewster County Jail.

Gayle's commitment to the Alpine Public Library is enduring. The Friends of the Library know that we can rely upon Gayle to help whenever asked, to share her creative ideas and energy, and to spread her good cheer wherever she goes. That is why we awarded her a Lifetime Membership in the Friends of the Alpine Public Library at our February meeting.

If you enjoy books, media, information, and most of all people and if you too would like to assist in providing library services to the citizens of Brewster County, call Don Wetterauer, President of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library, or call our Executive Director, Paige Delaney, and ask what you can do to help.

—Connie Roe, former director

From the President

Sticks and Stones

Our bones were broken by strong West Texas winds in October but we've recovered, as you know if you've driven by the site of the new library lately.

The library is being built in four phases: Phase I (complete)—*Foundation*: site prep, pad, foundation with plumbing and electrical conduit; Phase II (complete)—*Shell*: completed enclosed structure; Phase III—*Rough Interior*: interior walls, doors, electrical and plumbing; Phase IV—*Finish*: flooring, fixtures, paint. Two of these phases are complete, and Phase III has begun.

We recently completed the rough electrical, and, with a \$300,000 appropriation secured by Cong. Ciro Rodríguez, we will be able to purchase the most energy-efficient HVAC system we can find. Our architect, Tom Hatch of hatch + ulland owen architects, made a very generous personal donation to allow us to purchase enough stone facing to reach the top of the windows.

The new library will be approximately three times the size of the current facility. That means new furniture and many more collection materials. Paige Delaney, our executive director, has won a \$10,000 J. Frank Dobie Award to help purchase an Opening Day Collection. Paige has a poster on the library's front door de-

tailing how much is needed for each category of books.

So . . . we lack about 45% of the total needed to finish the building. We lack about 60% of the amount needed to fill the new building with materials. We lack 100% of the funds needed to put furniture in the new building.

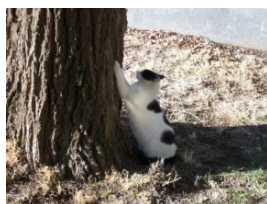
Don't be fooled by our beautiful new structure on the corner of Avenue E and 13th Street. We have the sticks and stones but we still need the flesh and blood.

—Kathy Bork, president,
Board of Directors



Jane Austin — Library Cat

Meet our library mascot and faithful companion of Sylvia Richards—Jane Austin! Unofficially adopted by Jodye Stone, she spends her time chasing butterflies and occasionally dusts our bottom bookshelves. She has a sweet personality, and is a dedicated outdoor enthusiast. Jane will be looking for a new home when we move the new library! Are you her next companion?



RE-READS BOOKSTORE

A project of the Alpine Public Library

*Support your library
by enjoying quality
used books at great prices!*

Ave. E at 7th St.
Now open 6 days a week!
Mon-Tues 10-4 / Wed-Sat 10-5



New Year Brings Staff Changes at APL and MPL

We are happy to welcome several new employees to the libraries this spring! While we hated to see Sylvia Richards, our APL groundskeeper, Vicki Arkell, our APL circulation assistant, and Nathan Terry, our SRSU work study, leave, we were lucky to snag some terrific new employees.

Paubla Hernandez is our new circulation assistant at the Marathon branch. Paubla is funded through the Experience Works program, and joins Carol Townsend and Shirley Rooney in serving our patrons in Marathon. Paubla is a longtime Marathon resident and computer whiz, and has quickly learned the ins and outs of our catalog software, Apollo. We look forward to having her additional help with children's programs and everything else that goes on at MPL!

We are happy to report that Shirley has made a speedy recovery from her illness during the holidays, and has been steadfast in her desire to return to the library.

At Alpine, we were lucky to hire our friend and loyal patron Janie Ferrell as morning circulation assistant. Janie brings with her a wealth of administrative experience from the UT Medical Branch in Galveston and much-needed bilingual expertise to our staff. We look forward to many years of working with Janie.



Janie Ferrell, APL circulation assistant.



Debra Burks, APL circulation assistant.



Paubla Hernandez, circulation assistant at MPL.



Our Marathon staff: Shirley, Carol, and Paubla

Nora Franco, an Alpine native and previous library volunteer, was the logical choice for our new bookkeeper. (See related story in this issue—Jodye Stone Retires.) Nora has a bachelor's degree from Sul Ross with a certificate in office administration. She has been brave to jump into the challenge of tracking our Capital Campaign funds and spending, and also continues to help out at the circulation desk. Thanks, Nora!

We welcome Debra Burks as our afternoon circulation assistant. Debra has years of experience around books as manager of the Sul Ross Bookstore, and administrative expertise from the Industrial Technology and Criminal Justice departments at SRU. She has been an Alpine resident for over 30 years.

Finally, our long-time Friend of the library Karen Boyd became a part of our staff as an Experience Works employee. Karen works at Re-Reads five days per week, and continues to schedule volunteer hours there. Her dedication has resulted in a measurable increase in used book income.



Nora Franco, book keeper



Karen Boyd, bookseller

Special Donations

In Memory Of

Florence Fleming from:

Margaret Bumpas
Sue Fangmeir
Jim & Sandy Fangmeir
Doug & Jim Fangmeir
Diann & Tom Fangmeir

Billy Meriwether from:

Michael Stone
Joe Richardson
Sally Farrer
Jan Morrow Skaggs
Jack, Mildred, & Dan Roach
John R & L Anne Weisman
Bonnie D. Bratton
James L. & Roxana C. Hayne
Ben and Betty Tanksley
Mr. & Mrs. William C Donnell
Toni Pate Brookover
Fort Davis State Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Olsen
Herb and Joan Kelleher
Mary V. Stringfellow
Jane and Jim White
Teeby Forchheimer
Albert & Kathy Bork
Anne and Malcolm Calaway
Georgie Kahl
Charles Tuck
Mary T. Lane
King and Becky Terry
Charlotte & Richard Allen
George & Sally Johnson

Sully Morgan from:
Albert & Kathy Bork

Bud Powers from:
Greg and Juliette Schwab

Dr. James Scudday from:
Rob and Margaret Matthews

Missy Elois Smith from:
Greg and Juliette Schwab

Katherine Stone from:
Sandra F. Stone
Betty Devries
Alan M. & Sylvia Winner
Scott and Karen Williams
Erie O. & Deborah A. Stone

Pete Gallego, Jr. from:
Katherine Shely
John Hardaway
Ben & Betty Tanksley
Judge Kenneth D. DeHart

Evelyn Ritter from:
Teeby Forchheimer
Yee Haw Girls

Pansy Evans Espy from:
Billito & Kathy Donnell

Ascension Garcia, Jr. from:
Juliette Schwab

Catherine Peterson from:
Alpine Public Library Board of Directors
Allan & Paige Delaney

Kathryn Shely from:
Jack, Sara, & Jacque Bow
Lope & Guss Lines
Georgie Wilson
Kat DeHart & children
Alpine Ladies Golf Assoc.
Ronny & Barbara Stooksberry

In Honor Of

Albert & Kathy Bork from:
Becky Hart

William Donnell from:
Margie Alford

David Forchheimer from:
Greg and Juliette Schwab

Mary V. Stringfellow from:
Teeby Forchheimer
Mary Jane Morgan
Greg and Juliette Schwab

Tim Wright from:
Amanda Myers
Martha Myers

Belly Dancers from:
Mary V. Stringfellow



Children's Programs—Photo Ops



Toddler Time at the Marathon Public Library



Pajama Story Time at the Alpine Public Library

What's New at the Library?

Over 400 items have been added to the collection in the past two months.

As I've had a hand in the collection development of the Alpine Public Library in the past year or so, I've come to be proud of the gems that grace our shelves. Our stacks contain local rarities, local authors, groundbreaking nonfiction, *New York Times Best-sellers*, the newest thrillers, as well as important books of literature and culture. Our large-print selections have been completely updated and entire new collections have been started including adult Spanish language materials, young adult, and a sustainability collection provided by the Alpine Sustainability Project. The quality of materials that the Alpine Public Library offers its patrons is astounding for a small non-profit organization!

Here's a look at some of the library's newest books of note:

The Lost Symbol by Dan Brown is new in Fiction. This thriller is the fastest-selling adult novel in history and remained number one on *New York Times Bestseller* list for six weeks. It's the third in the series featuring our hero symbolist Robert Langford. If you're new to the series and need to catch up with Brown's earlier books, the Alpine



Public Library has those as well.

The Dream of Perpetual Motion is Dexter Palmer's debut novel and is now featured on our science fiction shelves.

Both fantastical and literary, Palmer creates a steampunk metropolis that is a “heartfelt meditation on the place of love in a world dominated by technology” (NYT).

In large-print mystery fiction, check out Joanne Fluke's *Apple Turnover Murder*. This is the latest installment of the Hannah Swensen series and contains several delicious recipes as well as murderous suspense. If you like books by Diane Mott Davidson you'll eat this series up.

We have so many great books in non-fiction that I had trouble deciding which to feature, so here are several more of interest: In cooking, try *The Lady & Sons Just Desserts: More Than 120 Sweet Temptations from Savannah's Favorite Restaurant* by culinary star Paula Deen; *Stones Into Schools: Promoting Peace With Books, Not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan* by Greg Mortenson, author of *Three Cups of Tea*; and finally *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America* by Douglas Brinkley, which was chosen as *New York Times Editors' Choice*.

If you would like to see more of what's new at the library, just go to our online catalog and click “See What's Hot.” We've made the newest additions easy to spot as you're browsing the shelves too. Each spine is labeled with a color dot denoting the year and month it was added to the collection. 2010 additions are blue while 2009 are hot orange. If something you want is checked out, let us know at the circulation desk and we can place a hold on the item for you, or you can reserve them yourself with online access to your library account. We receive an array of new books daily so visit the library often!

—Valerie Howard
alpine.bibliionix.com

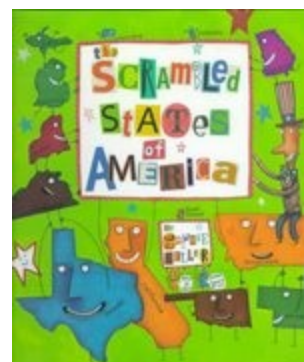
Easy Readers



Over 50 new Easy Reader titles have been added to our children's collection thanks to a grant from Dollar General.

Easy Readers are simple picture books that stress both phonetic learning and sight words. Youngsters enjoy the catchy stories, and learn the joys of reading “all by myself.”

If you know a child who is learning to read, tell them about our new Easy Readers!

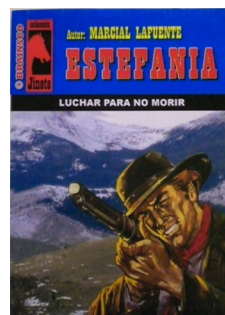


—Mary Beth Garrett

Spanish Collection Update

Our growing Spanish-language collection is seeing some good circulation. Our newest additions include *Libro Sentimental* and *Estefania*,

two fotonovela serials. We receive both issues every month. These have been popular at nearby libraries and we hope this addition will encourage reading in Spanish and attract more patrons to the library. As always, you can make your suggestions at our Wish Boxes, on the circulation desk at both libraries.





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- 100% cotton proudly printed by BullShirtz
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the library

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Or Americana Salon