

A well-stocked, well-staffed library is like a gardener who plants books, knowledge, and dreams and grows readers, learners, and do-ers.

Between the lines

Libraries aid us on our hero's journey

June 2016

Alpine Public Library

From the Director

This is the time of year the city and county are preparing budgets. Every year the Alpine Public Library requests funding from the Alpine City Council and the Brewster County Commissioners. As you already know, we have a great small library. It isn't hard to show the value Alpine Public Library has for our community. However, you also know the city and the county have long lists of projects to fund and limited dollars. Input from you, community residents, helps your local representatives decide how to spend your tax dollars. So please, if you value the Alpine Public Library for what we offer to the community, put in a good word, let your city council representative and your county commissioner know your views as soon as possible.

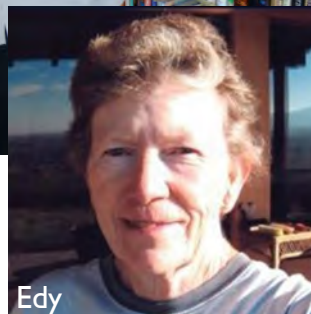
Congratulations and a big thank you to Kathy Donnell, the Friends of the Alpine Public Library volunteer of the year. Kathy has volunteered with Alpine Public Library on many levels for a number of years. She assists with shelving in Re-Reads and the library's collection. She is a tutor in the ESL (English as a Second Language) of the Big Bend program, and is co-chair of the Silent Auction the library holds each year during Art Walk. All this is in addition to serving as president of the Friends of Alpine Public Library and as a member of the APL board of directors.

Congratulations and a big thank you also go to Edy Elfring. Edy was selected as the Alpine Public Library volunteer of the year. Earlier, Christine Cavazos sat down to interview Edy. Read the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

In other news, Alpine Public Library was one of 44 Texas Libraries selected by The Texas Book



Kathy



Edy



Festival and the Texas Library Association as a recipient of a 2016 Texas Book Festival Collections Enhancement Grant. We plan to use the \$2,500 award to purchase youth fiction books, adult audio CD's and nonfiction career development materials.

Texas Rural Communities, Inc. (TRC) has awarded Alpine Public Library \$3,500 for youth program and collection development. TRC, located in Buda, was established as a rural rehabilitation program in 1934 and 1935. TRC is now governed by a nine-member Board of Directors with board members located in Amarillo, Sherman, Oakwood, Cotulla, Clyde, Nacogdoches, Midland, San Marcos, and Mission. TRC's assets total almost \$8 million, including a loan portfolio worth more than \$4.6 million in farm,

ranch and small business loans. TRC awards approximately \$36,000 annually for small projects in rural communities throughout the state. This is the first time TRC has given a grant to our library, and we very much appreciate their support.

Alpine Public Library is sad to say goodbye to Cheryl Frances. Cheryl has been at APL for about 4 years. You've probably seen her at the front desk and her artwork in the form of displays, flyers and announcements around the library. Cheryl and John are leaving Alpine for a 6 month (or more) opportunity in California. We will miss them. But maybe, they'll be back?

As Cheryl leaves we want to welcome Nan Jamieson to the APL staff. Nan has library experience and is also an artist. She will be taking over Cheryl's advertising duties as well as working at the front desk. I think Nan will make a great addition to the APL staff.

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Special Donations

In Memory of:	From:
Roddy Schoenfeldt	Martha Scott
A. D. Neal	Anne Calaway
Gwynne Jamieson-Happy Mother's Day	Eve & Robert Conlin
Becky Terry	Kay & Don Green

In Honor of:	Given By:
Lisa & Guy Fielder	Kathy & Albert Bork
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Kathy Bork	Louis Desipio
Cheryl Frances & her dedication to APL	Kathy & Albert Bork
Anne & Malcolm Calaway	Kathleen Foley

Hump Day Lunch

The Hump Day Lunch in June will be the 22nd. We will have grilled brats and a vegetarian alternative on the menu. We will be using our new grill. We did a small scale test of the grill in May – it worked beautifully. Hump Day Lunch is served from 11:00-1:00 the fourth Wednesday of the month. Lunch for current members of the Friends of Alpine Public Library is only \$5.00 and \$7.00 for those who are not currently a part of the Friends. The lunches are neither expensive nor fancy but they are an opportunity to have a pleasant interlude in the middle of the week and perhaps see and catch up with some acquaintances, friends, and neighbors. Please plan to join us.

Re-Reads

Donations in May have been extremely generous. We have many titles we have not received in the past. For the month of June we are having a 'buy one – get one free' sale of all our self-help and fiction books. Come find some summer reading treasures.

Additionally, we received very generous donations of audio cassettes, and VHS tapes. If you still have the hardware to play these materials (cassette tape players and VHS tape players,) come see what we have available at really good prices.

"I love libraries. I spent many, many pleasant and exciting hours at the Santa Fe Public Library as a child, waiting for my Dad to finish his work at the newspaper office. The library was not only a safe haven, it invited me to learn about things I never knew existed and fed my curiosity in a wonderful way. I put my first library card, pale blue with a little metal plate with my name, in my treasure box."

—Anne Hillerman

Alpine Public Library's New 3-D Printer

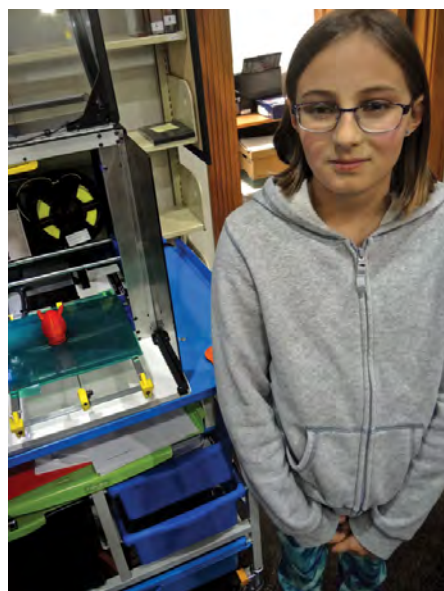
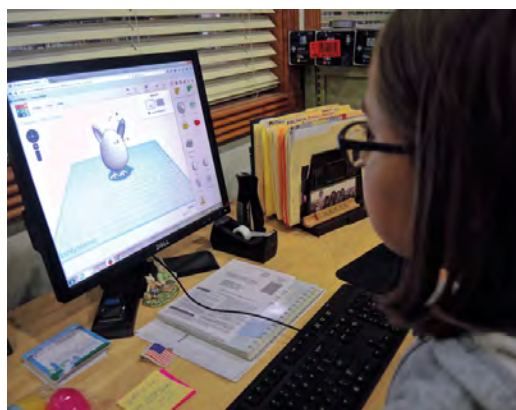
APL's new 3-D printer, provided by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, is now available to the public! Addison Corrick was one of the first patrons to try out APL's new 3-D printer; within a matter of minutes, she had designed a one-of-a-kind Easter creation using 3-D design software from Tinkercad, and, less than an hour later, she held the finished product in her hand.

Anyone can access Tinkercad.com, set up a free account, log in, and start building. Other software available for your use on our public computers includes Inkspace, Meshmixer, Blender, OpenSCAD, and FreeCAD. If you'd rather not design your own object, you may browse the assortment of designs created and shared by others at thingiverse.com. These designs are available for free download. Staff is available on a limited basis to help you get started.

Once you have built your object, the next step is to save it onto a flash drive in .STL format. This will enable us to load the object into our Slicer program to determine

if it is structurally sound for printing. At this point, our Pro-Printer will spring into action! Appointments must be made in order to schedule use of the printer. Cost varies greatly depending on the amount of materials (plastic filament) and time it takes to print. Feel free to ask staff at the circulation desk for more information.

— Cheryl Frances,
Circulation Librarian



Patio Sale

Come to the Alpine Public Library Patio June 25th from 9:00am–1:00pm. As with our past patio sales, all proceeds will benefit the library operations and programs. Donations to the sale are gratefully accepted on Thursday and Friday, June 23 and 24, during library's hours of 9:30am–6:00pm. All donations are welcome and will be available for sale Saturday. Additionally, there will be a few "reading animals" made on the library's 3D printer. Most of these animals sell for \$5.00 each.

Come donate on Thursday or Friday, and then come shop Saturday, the 25th. Who knows what treasure or absolutely perfect item you may find.

Edy Elfring—The Plant Lady of the Alpine Public Library

You may have seen Edy with her watering can in hand as she tends to the plants we have inside our library. She has been caring for the plants as a volunteer for about a year. When asked what motivated her to volunteer, she replied that some of our plants needed “rescuing,” and she wanted to step in and help. With her green thumb, our plants have thrived.

According to Edy, there is no such thing as a “green thumb” although others might disagree. She contends that it is all a matter of attention—checking each plant for its needs and monitoring it closely. The most challenging aspect of caring for the plants inside the library is the limited natural light. To overcome this, she moves the plants every two weeks to allow for adequate sunlight exposure. Edy loves the plants for their uniqueness and beauty, but she is most fond of the large palm tree and also an orange tree which she brought back to health.

Edy is active in the Tierra Grande Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists and the Native Plant Society. She also volunteers by maintaining the plants and landscaping at Kiowa Plaza and the Town Square in Alpine. Her most expansive project is the landscaping at Grand Companions in Fort Davis which she maintains on a regular basis.

Edy is the author of two books which are available for library checkout—*Faraway... the Candle Softly Flickers* and *The Candle Still Flickers . . . in My Heart*. She was motivated to write her memoirs while participating in the West Texas Mountain Trail Writers Club. She advises those who have an interest in writing their life story to “just sit down and get with it.” It is as simple, or as difficult, as that.

While writing her memoirs, she realized that she has lead a very interesting life. She experienced a freedom during her youth that

few others have enjoyed. Her island was her life and has made her who she is today. She spent her first fifteen years on the island of Fehmarn located between Germany and Russia. She credits her

grandmother for being the storyteller in the family, but Edy seems to have inherited this talent in sharing her tales. Reading each chapter of her book is like sitting across from Edy as she tells you a story.

Of course, Edy loves Alpine Public Library. She is impressed with the availability of computers, the collection of books, and the children’s programs. She credits the friendly staff for making the library so inviting. When she visits the library, the lush plants make her feel like she is in a home rather than in a public place. She hopes that others enjoy the atmosphere as much as she does. She enjoys reading a good love story, books about animals and history, and novels with a “gruesome twist.” At present, she is reading *Spirit Horses* by Alan S. Evans.

Edy has lived in Alpine for fifteen years. She retired from her real estate business in Houston and her husband Steve Elfring retired from Conoco. They decided to relocate and purchased land in Double Diamond where they now have

their home, filled with plants growing inside and out. She describes Alpine as a beautiful place to live.

Volunteering has added a richness to Edy’s life. She encourages others to volunteer to meet nice people and to add a little fun to their day. When she is not being the “Plant Lady,” she pursues her passion for animals by serving as an advocate for pet adoptions through the Alpine Humane Society and Grand Companions. Edy’s life lesson for us all is to find something that is fun. Get off the sofa and do something . . . garden or get a dog or cat. Just do it!

—Christine Cavazos, APL Cataloger



Christmas Is Coming – Are You Ready?

Your answer can only be yes if you have preordered your Alpine Public Library 3rd Collectable Mouse. The 2016 Collectable Mouse is a cowboy! What could be more appropriate for Alpine than a cowboy mouse? Be sure to preorder yours soon. Order forms are available in Re-Reads. Or you may contact Pat McCall at 920/579-8619 to place your preorder.

Mice will be available for pickup at Mountain Country Christmas or in Re-Reads after MCC. Mice can be mailed for a small fee. Again, Pat McCall can take this information needed for mailing.

The Special Mouse for 2016 will be unveiled at the July Hump Day Lunch. After the unveiling, the Special

(continued on next page)

“Read more at: I always knew from that moment, from the time I found myself at home in that little segregated library in the South, all the way up until I walked the steps of the New York City library, I always felt, in any town, if I can get to a library, I’ll be OK. It really helped me as a child, and that never left me”

—Maya Angelou

Mouse will be on display in the library or in Re-Reads. Tickets for the Special Mouse drawing will be available between the unveiling and the day before the drawing.

The drawing for this Special Mouse will be in early December. Chances for the Special Mouse are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The actual drawing date will be announced on or before Art Walk comes to Alpine this year. However, the winner of the Special Mouse does NOT need to be present at the drawing to win. All proceeds from the collectible mice sales go to support Alpine Public Library operations and programs—all supplies for mice construction and costuming are donated. Volunteers do all the construction and decorating.

Mice Makers Needed

If you sew and have some time and an interest in helping Alpine Public Library, please volunteer some of your time to make one of our 2016 Collectable Mice. Mice Makers meet several times to make and stuff the mice before they are dressed.

If you are interested, please give your contact information to: secretary@alpinepubliclibrary.org or to: president@alpinepubliclibrary.org



SECOND-EVER ALPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADULT SPELLING BEE

The results are in, and no one is surprised. Alpine can spell!

On Saturday evening, May 21, 14 teams of brave spellers (including one who came from Midland to participate) and over 100 spectators congregated at Big Bend Brewing Company for the Second-Ever APL Adult Spelling Bee. The Spellicans—David Leyva, Chris Müller, and Suzanne Bailey—took home the trophy and \$50 each by outspelling the Royal Family—Don Slocomb, Gwynne Jamieson, Nancy Jamieson, and Jan Moeller. The winning word was “palette.”

Not all of the action was on the stage. Spectators had an opportunity to spell along and submit their best guesses for \$10 gift cards for Re-Reads Used-Book Store. Winners were Judi King, Janis Jobe, and Rosalinda Crase. They also were able to vote for the “audience-choice awards”:

- ★ Best team name: a tie between the Spellicans and the Bee’s Knees (team captain Betse Esparza)
- ★ Most compatible team: the Book Club (team captain Bonnie Bratton)
- ★ Least compatible team (for continual harassing of the emcee): the L-M-N-O-P’s (team captain Janet Stewart)
- ★ Most spellbinding team: the Kween Beez (team captain Susan Chisholm)
- ★ Best guessers (for creative letter sequencing): the Royal Family



Participating teams included the 4 Olpharts (team captain Hugh Garrett), the Bee's Knees, the Beetaculars (captain Sam Krumpe), the Book Club, Lawyers and . . . (captain Jaime Escuder), the Kween Beez, the L-M-N-O-P's, ¿Qué? (captain Jon Roe), the Royal Family, the Spellicans, the Spelling G's (captain Pete Gallego), Sul Ross Librarians! (captain April Aultman Becker), the Worker Bees (captain Christine Cavazos), and the Yellow Jackets (captain Martha Latta).

Judges, returning from the First-Ever Bee, were Sheriff Ronny Dodson, Martin Benevich, Gwin Grimes, and Avinash Rangra.

Sponsors included Big Bend Brewing Company, Porter's on 2nd Street, Morrison's True Value, Village Farms, B&S Services, the Museum of the Big Bend, and the Sul Ross State University Theatre Program.

All proceeds benefit the operations of the Alpine Public Library. Planning is already under way for the Third-Ever Spelling Bee in spring 2017. Start studying.

—Text by Kathy Bork and
Spelling Bee photo credits to
Barbara Richerson



"Librarians have always been among the most thoughtful and helpful people. They are teachers without a classroom."

—Willard Scott



"I must say I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a good book."

—Groucho Marx





The Spellicans—Chris Müller, Suzanne Bailey, and David Leyva—took home the trophy and \$50 each by outspelling the Royal Family with the final word, “palette.”

The Friends of the Alpine Public Library served up delicious tacos at the 2nd annual Spelling Bee.



The Days of Summer— Coming to Alpine Public Library

The summer hours of APL remain Tuesday through Friday from 9:30am until 6:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am until 2:00pm. Those hours are packed with opportunities. Some opportunities are scheduled programming and others are ongoing activities available at any time.

Thursday mornings from 10:30 until 11:30am is Toddler Class Time. Children from under a year up through age five (5) and a parent are encouraged to come enjoy learning centers, songs, stories, projects and musical movement.

Students entering grades 1, 2, and 3 are able to enjoy the Tuesday afternoon activities of Library Lizards. The summer programs include both monster and pirate themes. During the summer this program meets from 3:00 until 4:00pm beginning June 14.

The Science Club for students entering grades 4 through 6 will meet monthly. The topics are not science class but they are really cool science. Put June 23, July 21, and August 11 at 4:00 until 5:30 on your calendar.

Arts and Crafts Class for Ages 10-15 will meet June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 4, and August 25 from 4:15 until 5:30. These fun times will include exploration of both art and architecture.

Reading opportunities include the On Your Mark—Get Set—Read Program for all ages, The Read to Swim Program for ages 6 through 12, and the AR program for students entering grades from 1 to 4. Guidelines, sign-in, record keeping materials and the associated rewards are available at the library circulation desk.

Family members outside the age and grade guidelines of these programs are welcome to enjoy the pleasures of browsing the library's current periodicals, read both the local newspapers and those from beyond the Big Bend. Of course, there are always books available for both circulation and reading in the library!

—Linda Bryant, President APL Board of Directors

Summer Reading Supplies Wish List

The Library is accepting donations of the following items to be used for Library children's program activities.

- Men's neck ties
- Shoe boxes—all sizes, no lids
- Small clear glass jars—no larger than 12 oz with or without lids
- Red and blue bandanas—the cowboy kind.
- 4–6 bags of flour—five lbs. each
- 6 containers of salt
- A couple of boxes of antacid tablets—Alka seltzer tablets
- Vegetable oil 24 oz.
- Food coloring

Information helps you to see that you're not alone. That there's somebody in Mississippi and somebody in Tokyo who all have wept, who've all longed and lost, who've all been happy. So the library helps you to see, not only that you are not alone, but that you're not really any different from everyone else.

—Maya Angelou

Alpine Public Library Children's Summer Reading Programs



Family Fun

Toddler Class

Thursdays, 10:30–11:30 AM

June 9–August 30

Early Literacy for children ages 0–5 with a parent.

Learning centers, songs, stories, projects and musical movement.



Programs During Library Hours

On Your Mark—Get Set—Read!

Fun for All Ages

May 30–August 21

Pick up a reading log from the front desk. Complete at your own pace to collect a prize.

Read to Swim

Children Ages 6–12

May 30–August 19

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

AR Program

Children Entering Grades 1–4

May 30–August 19

Take an AR Test on any of the Children's Computers, and choose a prize from the treasure chest.



Fun for Children Entering Grades 1, 2 & 3

Library Lizards

Tuesdays, 3:00–4:00 PM

June 14: There Was an Old Monster
June 21: Big Blue Beastie
June 28: I Will Fight Monsters for You
July 5: Monster Mash
July 12: Do You Want to Be a Pirate?
July 19: Pirate Gear
July 26: Pirate Ships
August 2: The Pirate's Bed

Fun for Children 6 & Up

Chapter Book Story Time

Tuesday Mornings,
11:00 AM

Reading "Pax" by Sara Pennypacker.



Fun for Children Entering Grades 4–6

Science Club

Thursdays, 4:00–5:30 PM

June 23: Ready, Aim, Fire—a Catapult
July 21: Hover crafts
August 11: Adventures in 3D printing: Thinkercad





Alpine Public Library
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www.alpinepubliclibrary.org

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Your tax-deductible dues may be paid with check or money order (payable to Friends of the Alpine Public Library), credit/debit card or PayPal. Dues directly support the ongoing operations and programs of the library. You may choose to make an ongoing monthly donation to the Friends on the library's web page at www.alpinepubliclibrary.org. Your personal information will not be shared with any other organization.

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☐ Ongoing Monthly Donations \$ _____ /Month beginning _____, ending _____

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Please Select Payment Type: ☐ Check ☐ Credit/Debit Card
Credit/Debit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____
Name of Cardholder (Exactly as it appears on card): _____
Cardholder Billing Address: _____

I agree to pay above total amount according to card issuer agreement and I acknowledge all charges to be final unless duplicate payment is made.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please send this form to:
Membership FAPL
805 W. Ave E
Alpine, Texas 79830

You may also pay with PayPal at www.alpinepubliclibrary.org.

"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. Libraries change lives for the better."

—Sydney Sheldon