What’s New at APL?

We are busy getting ready for ArtWalk 2016 and the Alpine Public Library’s Silent Auction. The Silent Auction is the library’s major fundraiser and this year the auction will be at a new location, Galería Sibley, 103 W Holland Avenue. Bidding opens at 10:00 AM on Friday, November 18. The Buy-It-Now table will be back with something for everyone – all priced below $25 and all cash and carry. We have more than can be displayed at one time so check back frequently for newly added items.

In September, we presented the first in what we hope will be a regular concert series at the library. English singer/songwriter Sarah McQuaid, on a U.S. tour, stopped in Alpine to give a performance that was enjoyed by all in attendance. On November 7, John Lilly was in Alpine. He accompanied himself on acoustic guitar, playing original songs that “sound as old as the hills and old songs like they were made yesterday.”

The next concert is scheduled for February 3, 2017, when Hungrytown will come to Alpine. After more than a decade of world-wide touring and three album releases, Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson - otherwise known as the folk duo Hungrytown - have earned a reputation for the quality and authenticity of their songwriting: “It’s great to hear an act eschew sentimentality in favor of honesty and to prove that you don’t have to go raiding the memory of others to find the stuff that really good songs are made of,” writes Jedd Beaudoin of Popmatters.

The next APL Travel Talk is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, at 7:00 PM in the AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room. Carolyn and Tom Mangrem will show pictures and talk about their trip to Mali. Please note the day change to Thursday for November only.

The last session of basic computer classes for 2016 runs through November 21. We have a new instructor, Jake Garrett, who is getting rave reviews. A new six-week session will start after the first of the year. Check the library calendar for details.

Finally, starting in January we will add new hours to APL’s schedule. On Wednesdays the library will be open until 9:00 PM. So, if you need a book at the last minute or some computer time, come by Wednesday evenings. We may occasionally have some special programs or classes, too.

—Don Wetterauer, PhD, Executive Director

Doctor Who: You want weapons? We’re in a library. Books are the best weapon in the world. This room’s the greatest arsenal we could have. Arm yourself!

—Russell T Davies, Welsh television producer and screenwriter, from Tooth and Claw, in Season 2
Special Donations

In Memory of

Mark Battista
Karen C. Boyd
Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Ashby Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison
Jon & Constance Roe
Allan & Paige Delaney
Eileen & Keith Cryderman
William & Kathy Donnell
Marilyn Terry
Kent & Nissa Harrington
Pat & Jean Frey
Mary Kay Golden
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Alice Stevens
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In Honor of

Pat McCall

From

Rob & Margaret Matthews
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Nissa Harrington
Tristan Boyd
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Albert & Kathy Bork
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Kenneth Durham & Patsy Culver
Gwynne Jamieson
Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Ashby Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison
Jon & Constance Roe
Allan & Paige Delaney
Eileen & Keith Cryderman
William & Kathy Donnell
Marilyn Terry
Bettie Smith
Kent & Nissa Harrington
Pat & Jean Frey

Given By

Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Ashby Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison
Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Ashby Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison
Don & Letitia Wetterauer
Ashby Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison

Alpine Public Library’s inaugural Read-A-Thon fundraiser took place with a Kick-Off party on September 13.

Readers of all ages gathered in the library to sign up for the Read-A-Thon and to enjoy refreshments while sharing their favorite books and authors with each other. Throughout September, 134 books were read by Read-A-Thon participants, amounting to more than 13,700 pages. Participants asked friends, family members, and neighbors to pledge their support for each book (or page) read. By October 7, a total sum of $2,504.30 was raised by Read-A-Thon participants! 100% of these funds will directly support library operations and programs.

Categories for participants included Preschool, K-2, Grades 3-4, Grade 5-6, Grades 7-8, Grades 9-12 and Adult. A winner from each category was awarded a gift card from one of the following: Plaine, Cedar Coffee Supply, or the Rangra Theater.

We thank these generous business sponsors, participant sponsors, and all of our readers for their contribution in making the Read-A-Thon a success!

Quilters – Come See

A full-size Hinterberg Design Easy-Build quilt frame is set up on the library patio for inspection. It adjusts up to queen size and comes with a cruise control attachable machine. Although it was originally priced at approximately $1,200, we’re asking only $200.00. Get in your car, set the cruise control, and drive to the library to see this mechanical marvel! All proceeds benefit library operations.

Christmas Decorating Time Is Here

Shop in Re-Reads before Mountain Country Christmas (December 2 and 3) to find a wide selection of Christmas decorating materials. A generous donation to Re-Reads means that we have materials to use in decorating and items already constructed. Come check it out!

A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it. That includes health information. And mental health information. It’s a community space. It’s a place of safety, a haven from the world.

–Neil Gaiman, English author
Between the Lines

Patron Profile: Meet the Ripleys

The Big Bend region is home to many unique individuals, and Alpine Public Library welcomes them all as members of our community. Among Alpine’s longtime residents and most storied characters are library patrons Charlene and Johnny Ripley.

Charlene moved to Alpine as a child because her dad had a job during the war at the Marfa Air Base. She lived in Big Bend National Park for three years during the 1950s, when it had been a national park for only ten years. Young Johnny Ripley, who had moved with his family to Alpine from Carlsbad, New Mexico in 1948, also worked at the park for a while. He was one of eleven children and graduated from Alpine High School in 1958.

The two met and married in 1960. Countless adventures ensued including camping, hunting for arrowheads, riding motorcycles, and bareback horseback riding. Johnny rescued Charlene, who had fallen 100 feet off Mitre Peak when they had been married only four years. “We’ve done everything except be in jail,” Johnny confided. “We’ve never been in jail.”

They joined with another longtime local, Sam Mather, to create a country-western band, the Alpine Mountaineers. Johnny plays guitar and sings, and Charlene learned to play the electric bass at age seventy. They play “music that tells people about love, divorce, and all that,” quipped Charlene.

Johnny worked at several local businesses including a paint and body shop, the old creamery, Brewster County Motors, and Mountain Zone TV, as well as for the City of Alpine. He even worked for a time at the quicksilver mines in Terlingua. “We lived like river rats down there,” claimed Charlene.

They spend much of their time now caring for their home and yard, playing music with friends, cooking, and watching DVDs that they check out regularly from APL. When asked what they like most about the library, Johnny said, “I like the personality of everyone at the library.” Charlene added, “They all show respect for the elderly and they help us.”

It’s patrons like the Ripleys that make it our pleasure to serve!

-Cheryl Frances, Frances Folk Art

You Know Those Books You Were Supposed to Read in High School?

But didn’t . . . You read the Cliff’s Notes or watched the movie instead?

Alpine High School and Re-Reads are giving you a chance to right the wrong, to become a sparkling conversationalist, to impress your friends, and to confound your teachers. Start a book club and choose all of these books as your selections. Cheap and oh so high-toned.

Donated classroom sets from AHS are for sale as sets or as individual books. Ask in Re-Reads or contact Linda Bryant at bryant_lindaL@hotmail.com.

Titles available:

Emily Brontë, Wuthering Heights
Arthur C. Clarke, Childhood’s End
Robert Cormier, Beyond the Chocolate War
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Hound of the Baskervilles
Stephen Crane, Red Badge of Courage
Margaret Craven, I Heard the Owl Call My Name
Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist, A Tale of Two Cities
George Eliot, Silas Marner

Erich Fromm, The Art of Loving
William Gibson, The Miracle Worker
Bette Greene, The Summer of My German Soldier
John Gunther, Death Be Not Proud
Lorraine Hansberry, A Raisin in the Sun
Bret Harte, The Outcasts of Poker Flat
Nathaniel Hawthorne, The Scarlet Letter
Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man and the Sea
James Herriot, All Creatures Great and Small

Continued on next page.
As I wandered the aisles of our town library, my ‘adult’ library card in my hand for the first time, I felt like I was clutching the precious invitation to every party, every club, every conversation I’d ever wanted to join.

-Alison L. McLennan

Still don’t want to read the whole book but want to fool your friends? We have Cliff Notes too.
Electronic Resource in Focus: Pronunciator

Did you know that beyond our library shelves and stacks there is a universe of online content that is not freely available through the Internet, yet is made available to you through your Alpine Public Library account? Just a few of these electronic resources (e-resources) include databases of magazines in full-text, collections of digital maps, test preparation materials, language tools, and legal research materials.

Visit our website at www.alpinepubliclibrary.org and click on “Resources > Catalog.” Log in using your library account number (on your card) and telephone number to explore our e-resources at your leisure or, next time you are in the library, ask a librarian how to access them.

One particular e-resource that our library users may find of interest is Pronunciator, a language learning program where native speakers of English, Spanish, and a remarkable number of other languages can study any of 80+ languages! There are courses for adults and children of all ages at levels of fluency from beginner to advanced.

Courses are customizable to your need and self-paced. For example, if you are planning a trip abroad, you may consider reviewing the 8-week travel prep course. Additionally, a healthcare course is available for some languages and may be useful for those who work in the healthcare industry.

Pronunciator features flashcards, pronunciation exercises, and specialized audio lessons to round out your instruction. Some languages offer more robust features such as “ProRadio” and “ProLive” virtual classes with live teachers. ProLive classes take place at different times throughout the month, and calendars of class times are available so you can plan ahead. You will need an Internet connection and a phone line to participate in ProLive classes.

Want to use Pronunciator on the road or on a train? Download the mobile app for iPhone, iPad, Kindle Fire, or Android device. Because you create an online account when you sign up for Pronunciator, your progress will sync among any of your devices or computers.

Each language has on average 9,600 instructional phrases, and approximately 4 years of activities included, which means you can immerse yourself in your language study over a lengthy period to gain a deeper understanding. And all free with your library card!

Library staff is currently using Pronunciator on their own to brush up on their Spanish and Irish — be sure to ask front desk staffers Nan or Bianca to show you how you can use Pronunciator next time you visit the library.

★ Upcoming Public Information Presentation on Pronunciator: Tuesday, November 15, 6:00 PM
★ Upcoming Public Information Presentation on Tinkercad and basics of 3D Printing: Tuesday, December 6, 6:00 PM

—Nan Jamieson, Circulation Librarian

Special Mouse (and her drawing)

This year’s special mouse, a cowgirl, is now on display, most of the time in Re-Reads. However, she will make special appearances at the APL circulation desk, the Art Walk Silent Auction, and Mountain Country Christmas. A drawing to send the special mouse home with someone will be held at 3:00, December 3, in the Alpine Civic Center during Mountain Country Christmas. Tickets for the drawing are $1.00 each, or six for $5.00 (you don’t need to be present to win).

Decorating with Mice

The third annual library mouse can now be ordered. It is $15.00 and may be seen and ordered in Re-Reads. All materials and the labor pains involved in the construction have been donated, so 100% of the proceeds go to the library. Mice that need to be mailed must be prepaid. If you have questions, please contact Pat McCall at 837-5002.
Join the Friends of the Alpine Public Library!

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 operations and programs of the library. You may choose to make a 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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