What’s happening at Alpine Public Library?

What a busy summer at Alpine Public Library! It was wonderful to see so many kids in the library reading during the summer. Benefits from summer reading programs include encouragement to make reading a lifelong habit, drawing reluctant readers in with reading-related activities, helping children keep up their skills over the summer, generating interest in the library and books, and just having fun. We did the Read-to-Swim program again this summer. Kids ages 6 to 12 came to the library, selected a book, and read for an hour. For their efforts they received a day pass to the Alpine City Pool. A total of 168 kids received a pass. We owe a big thank you to the City of Alpine for providing the first 70 passes. Our other summer reading program, Libraries Rock, was made possible with a grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. The program started June 1 and ran through August 7. We had about 60 participants and added 33 titles to the children’s-junior collection. A grant from the Texas Book Festival allowed us to add 35 young adult titles.

A first for us this summer, the Summer Science Camp, started July 9 and ended August 8. It was a collaboration between Mary Beth Garrett from APL and Ashlee Castro, science educator and lead S.T.E.M. teacher at the middle school. Kids in grades 4 to 6 came to the library 3 days each week from 10 a.m. until noon. Each week they explored different kinds of machines: pulleys, levers, gears, planes, and wheels. The sessions were full, and we had a waiting list. Planning is under way for the 2019 Summer Science Camp.

Some upcoming plans for kids include the Teddy Bear Sleepover, a children’s art workshop using recycled materials, and the monthly family S.T.E.A.M. night. Call the library for more information.

The third APL Read-A-Thon began August 27 and runs to September 17. Sign-up packets are available at the library’s front desk or on the library’s website (see the article elsewhere in this newsletter). Also, the Artwalk Silent Auction is coming up fast. The Silent Auction is our biggest fund-raiser of the year. Donate items and help us raise operating funds.

Thanks for supporting Alpine Public Library and helping make it a valuable resource for our community.

—Don Wetterauer, PhD, Executive Director
A fair question, no doubt about it. What gives is the Alpine Public Library—to our community via a variety of free art and educational programs for children, teens, and adults, such as summer science programs, after-school programs for private and public school children and teens; a technology-oriented family night; ESL, GED, and citizenship classes; and Spanish conversation classes. We have over 9,000 registered users who paid 49,905 visits to the library in 2017.

That’s a lot of people in a relatively small space, 8,832 square feet, to be exact. The popularity of our programs and collection is squeezing us almost to the point of suffocation. We need more room so we can serve you even better, thus the Campaign for Kids library expansion, which kicked off in January of this year.

So, who gives? I’m afraid it has to be you and me and local government and local businesses. Foundations give us money, too, but according to the Giving USA Foundation, 70% of contributions come from individuals. And that’s hard in a community of 6,000. We aren’t Dallas or Austin or Houston. We don’t have their resources, but we provide big-city service because we need that kind of service in our remote community. To continue to do that, however, we need more space.

So, what gives? APL. Who gives? You and I and local government and local businesses, whenever and in whatever amount we can.

We’ll keep asking. We hope you’ll keep giving.

—Kathy Bork, president, Alpine Public Library Board of Directors

Hump Day Lunch—Now Pre–Hump Day!

After a year’s absence, lunch is returning to Alpine Public Library. Mark your calendars for September 18. Yes, that is a Tuesday! The AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room calendar is so full that lunches are tentatively scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month. The September lunch will be hotdogs, slaw, chips, dessert, and drink. Lunch is $7 per person, $5 for Friends of the Alpine Public Library. Join Friends or renew at the door, and lunch is free that day. Make your plans to meet friends at the library in September. Monthly menus and dates will be found on the library website and posters around town.

All proceeds benefit operations.

—Linda Bryant

You’re Always Asking Me for Money. What Gives?

Libraries are a safe place to stop wherever I am to use the Internet to connect with others, to satisfy curiosity, and explore the world.

—Brian Kokernot, Alpine
You might see her at the circulation desk answering patrons’ questions. You might buy a book from her in Re-Reads. You might glimpse her conducting an English conversation class or tutoring English-language learners. You might spot her working the library booth at Mountain Country Christmas or arranging rummage sale items on the library patio. She’s Linda Bryant, and Alpine Public Library couldn’t do without her.

In fact, you might say that Linda couldn’t do without Alpine Public Library. Libraries have been integral to her life since she was four years old and became a card-carrying library patron. At thirteen, she started working in a Dallas Public Library even though she wasn’t old enough. She got the job because she passed the training class, and no one thought to ask her age. She continued to work in libraries through high school and college, going on to earn a Master of Library Science degree. After graduation, she took a job as a public school librarian in Charleston, South Carolina, where she lived for almost 40 years, working in school libraries at all levels. Linda has never held a job that wasn’t in a library.

Almost all of Linda’s volunteering has also involved libraries. She volunteered in a medical library and a church library. She taught English as a Second Language and citizenship classes in a public library in Charleston. When she and her husband, David Kowal, retired and moved to Alpine, she offered her time to APL where she’s said yes to almost every request. She said yes to a friend who asked her to volunteer in Re-Reads and to schedule the other volunteers. She said yes to a friend who suggested that she tutor English-language learners. She said yes to being president of Friends of the Alpine Public Library and yes to being president of the APL Board of Directors.

Linda says yes because that’s how she was raised. As a minister’s child, she learned to “give and to do what you can.” If her father’s health had been up to it, she pointed out, she would have been a missionary’s child.

Instead, she and her family followed her father’s calling to several Texas towns starting with Alice, where Linda was born. When she was in high school, they moved to Indiana to be closer to her mother’s parents. Linda graduated from Indiana University and then returned to her home state to study library science at the University of North Texas. She met David, an art history professor, when she moved to Charleston. Knowing that they wanted to retire to the Southwest, Linda and David spent a couple of years looking for a place and chose Alpine. They bought a house here in 2008 and made it their official residence in 2012, when Linda retired.

Linda does spend some of her time away from the library. Once a week, she drives a regular route delivering Meals on Wheels. For many years, she has trained dogs in obedience, more recently at Wasserman Wranch. She has also provided specialized training for therapy dogs and has two therapy dogs, now retired, of her own.

But fortunately for APL, Linda most often says yes to the library. So you might observe her knitting with the other members of Yarn Arts at APL. You might notice her accompanying new citizens to their naturalization ceremony in El Paso. You might watch her displaying art in preparation for the Silent Auction. If you’re at the library or at a library fund-raiser, you’ll probably see Linda.

—Lee Smith
The library's major annual fund-raiser, the Silent Auction, is held during Artwalk each year. We are currently preparing for this year’s auction the weekend of November 16–17. It can’t happen without support from the library’s patrons and the community. Do you have treasures that you would like to donate for the auction? If so, please bring them to the library during Artwalk. We appreciate your support.

—Kathy Donnell

The 2018 Alpine Public Library Read-a-Thon is under way, and patrons engaged in books can be seen all over town. They are listening to audio books and reading silently or to each other. And they’re doing it for a good cause: all their sponsors’ donations go to the library to support its day-to-day operations.

These patrons solicited pledges from relatives and friends who agreed to contribute a certain amount of money per book or page or to donate a lump sum. The reading began on August 27 and ends on September 17, when readers tally up the number of books and pages read and collect their sponsors’ donations.

In addition to the satisfaction they get from supporting their library, some of the readers—the top fund-raisers—will earn prizes. Kids from kindergarten through grade 6 will get ice cream from Plaine; those in grades 7 through 12 will get movie passes to Rangra Theaters. One adult will receive a pound of Big Bend Coffee Roasters Bookworm blend.

New this year is Clark’s involvement. Clark, the library fish, is sponsoring kids who are reading to Bare Bear and Mariposa, Linda Bryant’s therapy dogs. Being a fish, Clark doesn’t have any money of his own, so he is soliciting contributions to support his pledge.

If you haven’t registered to read, there’s still time. You can pick up registration information at the library or on the APL website. Any books you read or listen to from August 27 to September 17 will count. Don’t have time to read? You can still get in on the fun:

- Sponsor a Read-a-Thon reader. If you don’t know a registered reader, ask at the circulation desk about sponsoring one. The librarians will match you with a reader.
- Donate to Clark’s pledge fund. The librarians will be happy to take your check or cash.
- Bring your kids to the library to read to Bare Bear and Mariposa. The dogs will be listening on September 4, 8 and 15 from 10:30 to 1:30 and on September 4 and 15 from 10:30 to 12:30.

Reading and earning money for your library—the perfect pastime.

—Lee Smith

Come read to the therapy dogs, Mariposa and Bare Bear, during Read-a-thon!

—Linda Bryant

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—Linda Bryant

I don’t live in Alpine, but my god! This library was beyond the best I’ve ever seen.

—Anyssa Phillips, 12th Grader, El Paso

Re-Reads, housed in the APL library building, is now the only organized used-book store in town. Front Street Books, under new ownership and with a new focus, is no longer selling used books. Used books are sometimes found at the local thrift stores and may be borrowed from the Sunshine House, but Re-Reads is the place to go when you want to browse a large, ever-changing collection of materials for sale. The store is receiving donations from more sources that ever before. Expanded sources of donations means we are able to offer authors and titles not previously found in the store.
It’s Read-a-Thon Time!

The 2018 Alpine Public Library Read-a-Thon is underway, and patrons engaged in books can be seen all over town. They are listening to audio books and reading silently or to each other. And they’re doing it for a good cause: all their sponsors’ donations go to the library to support its day-to-day operations.

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Reading and earning money for your library—the perfect pastime. —Lee Smith

Come read to the therapy dogs, Mariposa and Bare Bear, during Read-a-thon!

Re-Reads Used-Book Store

Re-Reads, housed in the APL library building, is now the only organized used-book store in town. Front Street Books, under new ownership and with a new focus, is no longer selling used books. Used books are sometimes found at the local thrift stores and may be borrowed from the Sunshine House, but Re-Reads is the place to go when you want to browse a large, ever-changing collection of materials for sale. The store is receiving donations from more sources than ever before. Expanded sources of donations means we are able to offer authors and titles not previously found in the store.

In the store customers will find donated books, videos, and CDs for sale. Would you rather browse electronically? Use the bookstore’s inventory link, found on alpinepubliclibrary.org, to locate titles of interest. If you find something you’re looking for, please call Re-Reads (432/877-7123) and have the material pulled and held for you.

Recently, the store has received library logo T-shirts in a variety of sizes in both red and yellow. Even better, the price has dropped to $15.00. Of course, the library’s own coffee blend—Big Bend Roasters’ Bookworm Blend—is also available in Re-Reads. Pecans will be returning when the fall crop is picked in November.

Amazon and eBay

Re-Reads is expanding its market with plans to sell on Amazon and eBay. We are receiving some donated materials that sell on Amazon or at auction on eBay well above our standard prices of $1.00 or $2.00. Currently, the plan is to offer items on Amazon in the $15.00 to $25.00 range. Additionally, items of greater value will be available through Amazon or possibly eBay for significantly less than the item is available from other sellers.

—Linda Bryant

Shop Re-Reads!

Fantastic prices Great new selection

Store Hours:
Monday–Friday: 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Tuesday–Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Search our books online at:
aplMembers.org/aplReReads/

So important to me! I spend a large amount of time driving for work and the audio selection is awesome.

—Leigh Kirby, Alpine

I love the books and I love to read.

—Matilda, 1st Grader, Alpine

Silent Auction

The library’s major annual fundraiser, the Silent Auction, is held during Artwalk each year. We are currently preparing for this year’s auction the weekend of November 16–17. It can’t happen without support from the library’s patrons and the community. Do you have treasures that you are ready to let be rehomed, bringing pleasure and pride to another, while you retain the memories of the pride and joy the item gave you? Please consider donating the items to the library. Items can be brought to the library and left with the completed donation slip for the co-chairs of the event, Kathy Donnell and Linda Bryant. If you have questions, please leave a message at the library for Kathy or Linda.

—Linda Bryant

Come read to the therapy dogs, Mariposa and Bare Bear, during Read-a-thon!
Born in Madrid (to a Spanish father and an American mother), raised in Chicago and now living in rural England, Sarah McQuaid was taught piano and guitar by her folk-singing mother. Recently she was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ards International Guitar Festival in Northern Ireland. Sarah's also drawn critical praise for her voice, which has been variously likened to malt whiskey and melted chocolate, and her engaging rapport with audiences.

Sarah McQuaid Live in Concert September 26 @ 7PM

Library Introduces New Children’s Search Catalog

It's as user-friendly as they come! Children and their parents can use the library’s new picture catalog to narrow down their book searching by subjects they’re most interested in. Some of those categories include dinosaurs, mythology, horses, ballerinas, and even Newbery Medal winners! You can search by subject, author, or title, just like in our adult catalogs. Kids will also be able to narrow down their search to Stories (fiction books) and Facts (nonfiction books)! Check out our fun new catalog at home or in the library today.
Mark your calendars! We at the Alpine Public Library are excited to announce the upcoming screening of *Blanche*, which will benefit the Alpine Public Library as well as The Sunshine House.

This special screening will take place on Saturday, September 15 at 6:15 p.m. in the Rangra Theater in Alpine TX. Tickets are $15.

**Teddy Bear Sleep-Over, September 21 & 22**
For ages 0-7

All kids ages seven and under are welcome to participate in our 2nd annual Teddy Bear Sleep-Over! Read your teddy bear “to sleep” at the library on Friday, Sept. 21 between 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm. Pick-up your teddy bear at Story Time on Saturday, Sept. 22 at 10:00 am. Receive a free, hand-crafted teddy bear blanket beautifully knitted by our Yarn Arts Group.

**Art Workshop with Recycled Materials, September 22**
For ages 6-12, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

FREE. Children will have an opportunity to create their own 3D art or simple machines by using recycled materials.

For ages under 7, please bring a parent.

**Did You Know?**

The Library offers:
- Toddler Classes
- Children’s Story Time
- Karate Classes
- Tai Chi Classes
- Summer Reading programs
- Spanish Classes
- Art Classes
- The Yarn Arts Group
- ESL Tutoring
- GED Tutoring
- Citizenship Classes
- 3-D Printing
- Sewing Machine Checkout

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**Blanche Screening to Benefit the Alpine Public Library and the Sunshine House**

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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 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.

Business Name: ____________________________________________________________
Last Name: ______________________________ First Name: _______________________
Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________
City: __________________ State: ________ Zip: ________
Phone: (______) ________-_______________ E-Mail (saves postage):_____________________________________

Membership Type (One Calendar Year)
☐ Individual/Family $30  ☐ Best Friend $100+
☐ Business $100
☐ Ongoing Monthly Donations $ _______/Month beginning__________, ending__________

Payment Options
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.