



Alpine Public Library
805 West Avenue E
Alpine, TX 79830

Phone: 432-837-2621
www.alpinepubliclibrary.org

We invite you to be a Friend of the Alpine Public Library!

Your tax-deductible donation may be paid with

- Cash
- Check (payable to Alpine Public Library)
- Money order (payable to Alpine Public Library)
- Credit or debit card (by phone or in person)
- PayPal: www.alpinepubliclibrary.org (use the Donate button)
- Ongoing monthly donation

You can mail your donation or deliver this form to

Alpine Public Library
805 W. Avenue E
Alpine, TX 79830

Friendship levels (12 months from date of donation)

- Individual/family – \$35/year
- Business – \$100/year
- Best Friend – \$100+/year
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Between the Lines

What's Happening at Alpine Public Library?

Alpine Public Library is on the list of Texas libraries recommended to receive a Family Place library grant. A Family Place Library is a program to help public libraries address early learning with the goal of ensuring that all children enter school ready and able to learn. The grant provides funds for two library staff members to attend the training institute to learn about the core elements of Family Place Libraries and how to develop and maintain the program. The Texas State Library and Archives commissioners will meet early in 2026 to finalize program participants.

Bianca Gutiérrez-Barrera, APL's Adult Education Coordinator, has been very busy this fall teaching GED students, running the Pearson Vue testing center, and entering copious amounts of data as part of our Texas Workforce Commission grant through the Far West Texas Adult Education Consortium. We are preparing to begin an Integrated Education and Training program (IET) starting at the end of January 2026.

The Big Bend Regional Hospital District has approved our grant proposal to fund the Big Bend Regional Resource Directory for another year. This project grew out of a community conversation on health care hosted by the library and spearheaded by Lee Smith that identified a lack of information on health care resources as a primary concern for local residents. The website, bigbendhelp.org, was accessed over 11,000 times during the last two years. Currently, the site lists 318 organizations, 674 programs, and 11 hotlines. Listings are available in English and Spanish.



A large crowd of gardeners and garden lovers gathered at the Alpine Public Library on Saturday, December 6, for the opening of Alpine's newest garden—the Patty Manning Pollinator Garden. The garden is dedicated to the late Patty Manning, a botanist known statewide for her botanical talents. Manning was particularly dedicated to the plants of the Trans-Pecos, and the garden reflects this. Its native plants, flowers, and trees are enclosed by gravel paths that create an intimacy with each of the garden beds. Stop by when you have a chance and check it out.

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Library Staff

Don Wetterauer
 Executive Director
don@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Christine Cavazos
 Technical Services Librarian
tech@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Casey Costa
 Youth Services Librarian
casey@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Elena Caballero
 Circulation Librarian
elena@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Joseline Cintrón
 Circulation Librarian
joseline@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Nan Hatty Edwards
 Circulation Librarian
nanhatty@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Sabrina Maloney
 Circulation Librarian
sabrina@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Sherri Gilbert
 Circulation Librarian
sherri@alpinepubliclibrary.org
 Bianca Barrera
 Adult Education Coordinator
biancab@alpinepubliclibrary.org

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As many of you know, the library participated in the City Bank Community Rewards program again this year. The competition was significant but APL still came in fifth among the top five vote getters. That will get us a check for \$500.

We are forever grateful for our very supportive community of library lovers. Our goal is to provide the best library services to our community. Your help makes Alpine Public Library a great resource to the Big Bend area of far West Texas. Thank you!

—Don Wetterauer, MLS, PHD
Executive Director

Special Donations

In Memory of From

Ted Hollen	Kathy & Billito Donnell
William Walter Mitchell	Karen Williams
Silvia Alicia Velz	Elizabeth Velz

In Honor of From

Kathy Donnell	Julie Balovich
Kathy Bork	Sheryl Horton
Nancy Hayter	Kathy & Billito Donnell
Chachi Hawkins	
Anne Calaway	
Cristina Mendez	
Janna Stubbs	
Julie Balovich	Kathy Donnell
Paula Wilson	
Val Beard	
Anne Powell	
Hester Anne White	
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2026



January 30

Valerie Naylor on America's National Parks: The Quest to Experience Them All

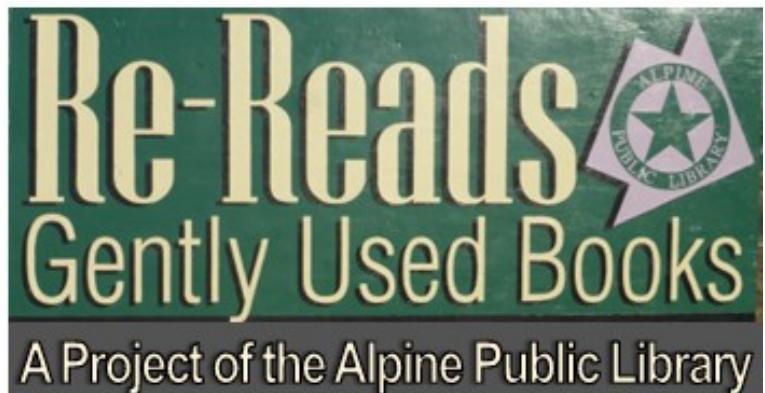
February 27

Linda Hedges, Rick Reese, and Kathy and Albert Bork on New Zealand

7 PM in the AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room

If you have an adventure you'd like to share in 2024, contact Matt Walter at matt.walter.777@gmail.com.

Find out what's happening this month at APL at alpinepubliclibrary.org/calendar/



Monday–Friday 10 AM–4 PM
Saturday 10 AM–1 PM

Amazon Storefront

aplmembers.org/aplrereads

Alpine Public Library
Established June 1947

**Thank You
Business,
Friends!**

**Alpine Radio
Big Bend Coffee Roasters
Cheshire Cat Antiques
Desert Heart Jewelry
Front Street Books**

**Hog Eye Cattle Company
Salon Americana
Talley-Reed Insurance
Twin Peaks Liquors
Vast Graphics**

**Wassermann Wranch
WR Ranch
WTX Real Estate Photography**

APL Outreach

Outreach efforts are expanding continually. At present, we are serving our community through the following avenues:

- Multiple social media outlets
- Quarterly newsletters
- Digital literacy classes
- ESL/HSE/Adult education/Citizenship/English & Spanish Conversation classes
- Multiple toddler, infant, and kids' programs
- Family Science Nights, Family Mathematics Night, Computer Skills, other science-based events
- Workshops
- Homebound Program
- Senior coffee and tea (with Woman's Club)
- Monthly Travel Talks on various topics
- Occasional lectures and community classes
- Used-book sharing via Re-Reads: train station, elementary school via Food Pantry, Visitors' Center, Brewster County Jail, Turning Point Detox Center (Odessa), Family Crisis Center, Jeff Davis County Library, Presidio County Jail.
- Half-price religion, inspirational, Christian fiction to area pastors
- Casa Hogar (Ojinaga), Cuentos en Español
- Yarn Arts
- Yoga with Bailey
- Zumba
- Free meeting space for area nonprofits

All events, classes, and services are free.

—Kathy Bork

APL's Mission: The Alpine Public Library works to build community, encourage literacy, and promote lifelong learning. We endeavor to create and maintain a welcoming facility with relevant and enriching resources that connect our diverse and geographically remote area to the world.

kids at APL

Alpine Public Library

Biblioteca Pública de Alpine

Toddler Time



Thursdays at 10:00 am
for ages 0 to 5 years



Actividades infantiles en inglés



Jueves a las 10:00 am
edades de 0 a 5 años



Silent Auction

APL's Silent Auction was held this year in the former Morrison's Lawn and Garden Center, now owned by Sul Ross State University and donated for this year's auction. This was the perfect location as Artwalk Alpine 2025's headquarters and SRSU's student art venue were right next door! Tourists and residents alike visited the venue in a steady flow, and around 300 people elected to get a bidder number for the auction.

Lucky for us, the building was available early, and the Lions Club lent us all the tables we needed to change an empty space into an organized display of donated items. After hanging all the art, getting the bid sheets organized, and setting up our Buy It Now area, we were open for business.

During the auction itself, volunteers spent two days maintaining displays, answering questions, packing purchases, and so much more. We had beautiful weather, and in our patio area, we were lucky enough to have the SRSU band Bandos Lobos play on Saturday afternoon.

Donations for the auction were varied and interesting. Bidders vied for items as unusual as tele-

scopes and bikes, beautiful and useful home décor, and fabulous original wall art, jewelry, and hand-built and wheel-thrown pottery.

This year we did something new to help involve local kids and adults more directly in the auction. APL provided free papier-mâché masks, asked kids and adults to decorate them in any theme or material, and offered them for sale. Heather Yadon of the Alpine Visitors Center held a pop-up event to decorate masks, and the eighth-grade art classes from Alpine Middle School and the Montessori School created great masks as well.

For two days after the auction, volunteers called winning bidders, packed unsold items or items that weren't picked up, returned the 45 borrowed tables and display materials, and emptied and cleaned the building.

All of this very hard work was worth it because we earned in the neighborhood of \$26,000 for the library. But it could not have happened without our dozens of wonderful volunteers and enthusiastic library supporters. Thank you each and every one!

—Kay Tscheyka
Board President and Event Coordinator



A Huge Success



APL Helps “Float” the Alpine Holiday Parade



In the spirit of the holidays and to remind the community about Alpine Public Library and all that we offer, we had a “float” in this year’s holiday parade. Kay and Allen Tscheyka decorated and drove the side-by-side “mule,” and many library supporters helped with graphics and donated candy.

Adult Education and Literacy

We are approaching the halfway mark of our academic school year, and there is plenty of excitement to share. Our GED students have been rapidly moving through our program. This academic year, three students graduated, and another three students passed at least one of the GED tests. The remainder of our students have passed at least one practice test and will take the official test in the coming weeks. We hope to celebrate our graduates this spring.

We are also excited to announce new classes in 2026. A key component of adult education and literacy is to provide classes that help students gain a better understanding of English or English as a second language or obtain their high school equivalency, for example, the GED. Another key component is to offer classes that provide skills that will benefit students in the workplace. These classes are called Integrated Education and Training, or IET. To kick off IET training, in January we will begin a Microsoft Certification Class. This class will give students a thorough understanding of PowerPoint and Excel and prepare them for the Microsoft certification test. Certificates in Microsoft applications can improve a person's position in the workplace or help those seeking to reenter the workforce. Please complete our online survey if interested.

Registration for our adult education classes is ongoing. We also have vouchers available for both the GED practice test and the official test. If you are interested, please contact the library.

—Bianca Gutiérrez-Barrera
Adult Education Coordinator

ESL and Citizenship Classes

English conversation groups meet Tuesdays at 6:30 pm for basic conversation, focusing on extending vocabulary and typical American/West Texas pronunciation. It is a combination in-person and Zoom meeting. Thursdays at 6:30 pm there is an advanced conversation group meeting, also a combination of in-person and Zoom. One-on-one individual learner opportunities are also available. Call the library (432-837-2621) for more information.

Guidelines, interview instructions, and naturalization requirements are changing. The library offers guided citizenship instruction on Thursdays at 5:30 pm. Call the library for more information.

—Linda Bryant



Thinking about a new job in 2026? Want a better position at your current job? Microsoft Certifications can help you stand out to employers. We will be starting Microsoft Certification classes in January. Don't miss out on this opportunity to improve your workplace skills. Please complete our survey and someone from the library will reach out to you.

IET
GED ESL
@ APL

An advertisement for ESL and Citizenship Classes at Alpine Public Library. It features a green border. At the top, there is an illustration of two people talking with speech bubbles. To the right of the illustration is the text 'Alpine Public Library'. Below that is a green box containing the text 'ESL & Citizenship Classes' and 'Clases de inglés y ciudadanía'. To the right of this box are three green asterisks. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'English Conversation' with 'Conversación en inglés' and 'Citizenship Ciudadanía'.

APL's Seed Library

We are happy to announce a new service at Alpine Public Library, Seed Swap! We now have a variety of seeds available to take home free of charge, including vegetables, herbs and flowers. This service is available to all members of the public, whether they are library card holders or not. A big thank you to Tractor Supply for donating this initial seed collection to help us get our seed library started! If you or someone you know has collected seeds from plants that you or they have grown and enjoyed, we would dearly love to have them!



You may ask "What is a seed library?" A seed library is a community resource where people can borrow, grow, and return seeds for free, promoting local food security, biodiversity, and gardening skills by sharing open-pollinated and heirloom varieties adapted to the local climate, creating a resilient, shared seed bank.

As the warm summer and fall days fade in the rear-view mirror, many of our cherished plants have finished their growing season, bloomed, or bolted, and their flowers are drying or dried at this point. Take a look inside the dry flower or stalk and you'll find seeds! If you've hit on a faithful variety that you love, take some time to gather the seeds and spread the love! (A white plate works well for the task of sorting them.)

Alpine Public Library will be accepting seeds portioned into small batches, labeled, and dated in clean envelopes to add to our collection. We and the entire community thank you.

For more information, please e-mail Nan Natty at nanhatty@alpinepubliclibrary.org, or inquire at the circulation desk.

—Nan Hatty Edwards
Circulation Librarian

A Re-Reads branch in Portugal? Well, no. But this used-book store in Lisbon does have a similar name and a great motto:

*"Better than Read—
Re-read"*

**Re-Read in
Lisbon, Portugal**

