

# BETWEEN the LINES

ALPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

September 2024

## What's happening at Alpine Public Library?

As with many things these days, there have been construction delays due to availability, and our expansion completion date has changed a few times. However, every day we are making progress

on the new library spaces. Only a few finishing touches are left. The furniture supplier is still waiting on some milled pieces to be completed. The new furniture will



soon be on the way to Alpine. Once the furniture is here, we'll have a couple of weeks of packing books, shifting shelving, cleaning, and reshelving. There may be some times in September when the library is closed or partially closed due to chaos. As soon as we know about changes in the library schedule, we'll pass along the information.

In addition to visible updates and changes to the library facility, we are updating the technology side. First, we were able to upgrade our internet service from 100 MB to 1 GB, theoretically ten times faster. Second, new and existing spaces will receive additional wireless access points to improve Wi-Fi throughout the building. This also means new switches to connect devices through the routers to the fiber optic cable leaving the building. When everything is complete, there should be significant im-

provements in connectivity throughout.

The adult education program continues. July started a new adult education grant cycle, and that came with a change in our grant

partner from Ysleta ISD to Socorro ISD. The adult education operation at APL will remain basically the same, but the Texas Workforce Commission contracts will include some

additional reporting. Always more paperwork.

The Big Bend Regional Resource Directory, *bigbendhelp.org*, continues to gain users. The directory has 142 active programs, 145 needs categories, and 62 organizations with active programs. In July we recorded 722 site visits; 166 of those participants used Spanish. If you haven't tried the site, check it out. We like to have input from site users, such as suggestions for improvements, new organizations to add, or updates to existing services. San Antonio Community Resource Directory (SACRD), which hosts *bigbendhelp.org*, is regularly adding more Texas locations so you can find information from other parts of the state. Just type in a ZIP code.

—Don Wetterauer, *MLS, PhD*  
*Executive Director*

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## Library Staff

Don Wetterauer, Executive Director  
[don@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:don@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Mary Beth Garrett, Children's Librarian  
[kids@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:kids@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Christine Cavazos, Technical Services Librarian  
[tech@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:tech@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Joseline Cintrón, Circulation Librarian  
[joseline@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:joseline@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Michael Haas, Circulation Librarian  
[michael@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:michael@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Miah Rodriguez, Circulation Librarian  
[miah@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:miah@alpinepubliclibrary.org)  
Bianca Barrera, Adult Education Coordinator  
[biancab@alpinepubliclibrary.org](mailto:biancab@alpinepubliclibrary.org)

## Special Donations

In Memory of:	From:
Mike Perry	Kathy & Albert Bork
	Letitia & Don Wetterauer
	Julius Karash
Tobe Evans	Cynthia Slocumb
Alfred Soza	Rae Pilarski

In Honor of:	From:
Richard Holochwost	Cynthia Slocumb

# Re-Reads

## Gently Used Books

A Project of the Alpine Public Library

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

Amazon Storefront

[aplmembers.org/aplrereads](http://aplmembers.org/aplrereads)

## Travel Talks 2024



**September 27**

Mike Latta on A Year at Sea

**October 25**

Kathy and Albert Bork, Linda Hedges and Rick Reese on Patagonia and the Chilean Fjords

**7 PM in the AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room**

*If you have an adventure you'd like to share, contact Matt Walter at [matt.walter.777@gmail.com](mailto:matt.walter.777@gmail.com).*



Your source for tri-county health care & social services info  
[bigbendhelp.org](http://bigbendhelp.org)



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Re-Reads Monthly Specials!

September—Learning something new  
October—Halloween & other scary stuff  
November—Cooking & holidays  
December—Winter vacations  
January—Resolutions, yea or nay?  
February—Romance & love stories

**BAILEY DOES YOGA**

# YOGA

## AT THE LIBRARY

**NEW** First and Third Wednesday of the Month  
2PM-3PM

Sign up at the Circulation Desk or Online  
<https://bit.ly/APLYoga>

Please bring a yoga mat if you have one

**Thank you, Business Friends!**

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

*Hog Eye Cattle Company  
Out West Feed & Supply  
Salon Americana  
Talley-Reed Insurance  
Twin Peaks Liquors*

*Vast Graphics  
Wassermann Wranch  
WR Ranch*

# Travel the World with APL

I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake. The great affair is to move.

—Robert Louis Stevenson, *Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes*

For much of the past ten years, library patrons and area residents have been traveling vicariously on one Friday evening a month from January to October. Viewing photographs and videos, listening to stories, perusing souvenirs, and sampling food and drink, attendees at Alpine Public Library's Travel Talks have toured every continent, visited several U.S. territories, and trekked through almost every state in the U.S. and most of the counties as well.

Jim Glendinning, the founder and first host of Travel Talks, was a veteran traveler and travel writer. He recognized that he could attract interest by offering a rich and diverse program: "We have a load of folks in this area with a variety of travel experiences, some of them extraordinary." Beginning in January of 2014, Jim scheduled presentations that included Peace Corps service in Belize, mountain climbing in Alaska, and the running of the bulls in Pamplona, Spain. At each presentation, he encouraged audiences to drop donations to the library into "the hungry hat."

In 2018, Alan Wallace took over coordinating duties, continuing to recruit travelers to present and

to attract crowds to share in their adventures. He also continued to encourage patrons to feed the hungry hat to show their appreciation for the presentations and to support library operations. When the library cancelled programs and closed its doors to the public in the spring of 2020, Travel Talks went on hiatus. My husband, Jim Robertson, and I followed Alan and started the talks again when the COVID pandemic eased in January of 2022. In the spring of this year, Jim and I passed the hat to Matt Walter, who is now carrying on the tradition that began with Jim Glendinning.

Jim Glendinning was right in thinking that area residents would have travel stories interesting enough to attract an audience. And there seems to be no end to the adventures, in places as familiar as Alpine or those as remote as the Chilean fjords.

Travel Talks take place in the AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room at 7 PM on the last Friday of the month. It's only a short trip to get there and, oh, the places you'll go.

—Lee Smith



Some of the locations visited by past Travel Talks presenters

**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.**

# Preview: New Spaces at APL

## Children's Wing

- ⇒ A designated area for picture books and board books with age-appropriate interactive games and toys
- ⇒ Junior fiction and nonfiction on mobile shelves that can be moved to make space for programming
- ⇒ Huge craft room with kid-size sink
- ⇒ Observation station for writing, drawing, telling
- ⇒ Terrarium on the observation table where kids draw and write and talk
- ⇒ Maker space
- ⇒ 3D printer
- ⇒ Family restroom
- ⇒ Drinking fountain with bottle filling station
- ⇒ Sound-absorbing panels



The children's wing allows enough space for kids to read, create, sing, dance, and learn, quietly or loudly. It also opens up room in the main part of the library for adult materials and in the community room for more adult programs.

# New Spaces at APL

## Teens' Room

- ⇒ Young adult fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels
- ⇒ Study tables
- ⇒ Comfortable chairs
- ⇒ 72-inch screen
- ⇒ Small snack and beverage area
- ⇒ Ample device charging outlets
- ⇒ Computers
- ⇒ 3D printer
- ⇒ Sound-absorbing panels
- ⇒ Some extended hours



The teen's room is the former adult patio transformed, with carpet tiles made from recycled plastic bottles, doors and windows to the main part of the library, and abundant natural light.



New creations  
from the 3D  
printer

Find out what's happening  
this month at APL at  
[alpinepubliclibrary.org/calendar/](http://alpinepubliclibrary.org/calendar/)

## APL Citizenship Program Update

- Four people are working on the application for citizenship, the first step in the process.
- Two individuals have submitted their applications and are waiting for their interviews to be scheduled.
- Three others have successfully completed the citizenship interview and are waiting for the scheduling of their naturalization ceremony.

# Joseline Cintrón: Professional at Patron Care

Those of you who know Circulation Librarian Joseline Cintrón will not be surprised to learn that the part of her job that she likes best is customer service. She loves treating other people the way she would like to be treated herself, no matter how other people act toward her. Since joining the staff at Alpine Public Library in 2015, she has demonstrated her take on customer service in her quiet professionalism.

Joseline's association with APL goes back to 2013, when she married and moved to Alpine to join her husband, Juan Flores, who was already working in the region. Growing up in Puerto Rico, she learned English, but Spanish is her first language. On the advice of a friend, she enrolled in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program at APL and worked with volunteer teacher Linda Bryant. Linda and Don Wetterauer, then also involved in the ESL program, approached Joseline about teaching Spanish to English speakers. She has been conducting beginner and advanced Spanish classes, in person and online (during the pandemic), since 2014.

Joseline's education and prior work did not include teaching. She has a bachelor's degree in microbiology and a certification, in both the U.S. and Puerto Rico, in medical laboratory sciences. In Puerto Rico, she worked in a clinical lab, administering tests and conducting analyses. Shifting from the laboratory to teaching Spanish as a second language involved intense research and study on her part, followed by curriculum development. By all reports, her students appreciate her efforts and think highly of her. In fact, one of her former students describes her as "patient, encouraging, and always very well prepared."

When Don Wetterauer became APL director in 2015, Joseline was his first hire. In addition to teaching and preparing for her Spanish classes, she works with patrons at the circulation desk. She also has managed the Interlibrary Loan program (ILL) for most of the past five years, processing from fifty to

eighty ILL books a month. Other duties include creating the monthly library calendar, compiling library statistics, and preparing for Senior Coffee on Fridays.

Joseline also works part time at Prescription Shop as a pharmacy technician trainee and is studying to become certified as a pharmacy tech. Because Alpine is a small town, customers at Prescription Shop are also patrons at Alpine Public Library. Consequently, she gets questions about the availability of COVID vaccines while working at the library and about the arrival of an ILL book while working at the pharmacy. Wherever she is, she fields questions with her signature professionalism.

Because of her busy work schedule, Joseline doesn't often engage in one of her favorite diversions, reading, but when she does have time, she enjoys fiction in Spanish and English. In her spare time, she also uses a specialized printer to create designs for decals, mugs, T-shirts, lanyards, and keychains. Those who attended the pre-pandemic Dancing with Alpine's Stars fundraisers might remember the elegant black and silver decorations that she made for the events. One part-time Joseline and her husband do make time for is travel. They especially enjoy going to Puerto Rico, to their hometown in the south-central mountains, where they plan to build a house for their retirement. But their destination of choice is usually somewhere with a beach. They've been to beaches in Mexico, Florida, the Bahamas, and, of course, Puerto Rico.

In the ten years that Joseline has worked at Alpine Public Library, as a volunteer and an employee, she has treated all patrons as she herself would like to be treated. In her hands, customer service becomes patron care. Whether teaching Spanish to beginners or searching for a book for a patron, she always exhibits quiet professionalism.

—Lee Smith



# kids at APL

Coming Soon to APL

Dates and Times TBA

**CUBELETS CLUB**

**OCTOBER, 2024 AGES 6-12**

**TINKERCAD**

**October, 2024 Ages 6-12**

**FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT**

**NOVEMBER, 2024 Ages 6-12**

*Cursive Writing*  
*November, 2024 Ages 8 & Up*

No September programs as  
we transition into the new  
Children's Wing!

Except Toddler  
Time, which will  
continue as usual.



Alpine Public Library  
805 West Avenue E  
Alpine, TX 79830

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

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