



BETWEEN THE PAGES

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www.allenfriends.com

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www.allenfriends.com

Welcome, Ann Livingston, New President of the Friends

Due to conflict with a new job (and congrats on that!), the Friends Board lost Kathleen Vaught as President. We are so pleased to be able to announce that Ann Livingston has been appointed by the Board to finish Kathleen's term.

Ann is a relative new-comer to the Allen community. She and her husband Mark had lived in Dallas and then were transferred through his work to Brazil for 2 years. Upon their return, they looked in Dallas and the surrounding area and fell in love with Allen – lucky us.

Ann is originally from Hawaii. She knew Mark in school, but they were just friends. Both went on to marry, have children and careers, get divorced, and then they re-connected at a Wheeler AFB - Hawaii reunion and married.

Mark is in the information technology business and runs the Global Consulting practice for Cognizant Technology. He'll be traveling a lot, but when he's here, works out of his home office. His hobbies include surfing, skateboarding, and about anything outdoors.

Mark and Ann have three children: Kim, 21, who attends the University of Hawaii; Gavin, 18, a senior in high school in Kansas City MO; and Connor, 15, a freshman at the same school.

Ann returned to college at UTD in 2001 in order to complete her final two semesters for her BA but stayed until she earned a graduate degree in Arts and Humanities - Literary Studies in 2005. While attending UTD she taught both Developmental English and ESL classes at Richland Community College. She has worked as an account executive for Elizabeth Arden; been a PTA volunteer; and headed up the Community Action Committee for the American Society while she was in Brazil to raise money for orphanages there. She is looking forward to taking on the leadership of the Friends: "I'm really excited to be part of such a successful and dedicated group of community activists. I'm impressed with the level of volunteer activity in Allen and how open minded and welcoming everyone is."

Welcome, Ann – to Allen and to the Friends!

Endowment Fund

The Friends of the Allen Library Endowment Fund had a productive first year, and 2009 should provide even more promise. The Fund is continuing its mission to increase the library's long-term financial strength, providing a vehicle for Allen residents and other local stakeholders to support the library by leaving a legacy. The City of Allen served a good example in 2008 by transferring an initial infusion of cash to the fund.

Next year, the Fund's board and advisors plan to ramp up community outreach to a broad spectrum of stakeholders--long-time Allen residents, new residents who have also fallen in love with our premier facility, corporate citizens, and others. Through special events, presentations, and service opportunities, we hope the endowment fund will be an important part of our city's growth in the coming year.

Bach to Books Presents Country and Bluegrass

The sounds of country and bluegrass music will vibrate Allen Public Library's Civic Auditorium at 7:00 p.m., Friday, January 16. This program is free to the public.

Randy Hopper and the Big Texas Boys open the evening with selections from their three CDs- *Nothing to Hide*, *Texas Through and Through*, and *Satisfied*. Big Texas Boys has played at Love and War in Texas, Billy Bob's, Grapevine Main Street Days, Cowboys, and the City of Allen's Park and Recreation Department's Summer Sound Series. Big Texas Boys is composed of Randy Hopper on guitar, Stan Ragsdale on bass, Tony Taylor on drums and Mark Lafon on guitar. Randy is married to Judge Linda Hopper and they live in Allen. They have four children - Lori, Jeremy, Daniel and Austin.



Nickelville Road

After a brief intermission, Nickelville Road of Lavon, Texas, reverberates with sounds of bluegrass. Band members have played bluegrass for over 20 years and formed Nickelville Road in the summer of 2008, with Bobby Brite on mandolin, Cecil Patterson on banjo, Jeff Smith on bass and dobro and Johnny Tarver on guitar. Nickelville Road provides an exciting mix of original material, bluegrass standards and gospel music. The band has played at the Bonham Hoe-Down, Open Stage in Grapeland and the Bluegrass Heritage Festival in Arlington. Banjo player Cecil Patterson states, "Bluegrass is a participation genre. Anybody with an instrument can find a jam and play. We play for the love of the music. Nickelville Road plans to release their first CD this summer.

For more information, call 214-509-4911.



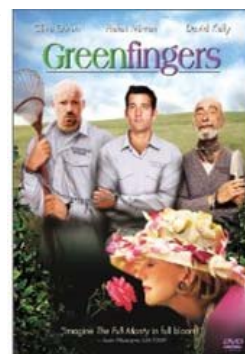
Seedfolks Beginning to Sprout in Allen

By Josh Sabik

If you've been waiting to read Paul Fleischman's *Seedfolks*, your wait has ended. ALLEN Reads has a special shelf by the circulation desk with paperback copies of *Seedfolks* to borrow and pass along to family and friends (no formal checkout needed). Each has dedicated space inside to write a short comment about the book. For those who would prefer to purchase their own copy, BORDERS at Watters Creek has a lovely display of *Seedfolks*, along with *The Gardener* and *Wanda's Roses*, at the front entrance. BORDERS has pledged to contribute 20% of the sales of these books to ALLEN Reads.

The first activity for ALLEN Reads occurs on **Thursday, January 22, at 7 PM** in the Allen Library Civic Auditorium. You'll want to come see "**Greenfingers**," starring Clive Owen, Helen Mirren and David Kelly. Never widely released in the U.S., this movie is based on a true story about a group of British convicts who become prize-winning gardeners. The inmates, incarcerated in an experimental facility in England, take on gardening as part of their rehabilitation. Through humor and tragedy, they grow and change, just as their gardens do. Come see this delightfully warm and poignant movie and have a chance to win one of the garden-related door prizes donated by the Allen Garden Club and the Friends of the Allen Public Library.

This movie is for teenagers and adults (R-rated for language and one brief nude scene). It is free and no reservations are required.. For more information on this and other upcoming ALLEN Reads programs, call 214-509-4911 or go to www.allenfriends.com.



If you belong to a group that reads together or a regular book club, and you want to designate *Seedfolks* as your choice for one month this winter/spring, contact Debbie Vavra, 214-509-4913 or dvavra@cityofallen.org, to receive a special gift for your group with reading guides and other fun items. You may also request a trained leader to come and facilitate the discussion with your group.

ALLEN Reads Community Anthology

The Allen Anthology committee is collecting submissions for our second community anthology entitled *Planting Seeds...In Your Garden and Your Community*. Communities of today are more diverse than ever, like a cottage garden. Like neighbors of old might share their cuttings, seeds and bulbs, we can share our stories of friendship, acceptance, change, heart-touching moments and even gardening. Our goal is to capture the spirit of Allen in its diversity, uniqueness and commonalities. In discovering our diversity, we hope to discover how much we have in common. Please submit your stories electronically to allenreadseditors@gmail.com by February 15, 2009. For details and guidelines log onto <http://allenfriends.com/ALLENReads.htm>.

Entry Guidelines:

- In the spirit of *Seedfolks*, *The Gardener*, and *Wanda's Roses*, all entries must portray themes of Friendship, Acceptance, Change, Heart-touching Moments or Gardening.
- Submissions may be made by residents of Allen, Lucas and Fairview and those who work in those communities as well.
- Each entry must be submitted electronically as an attachment with the following font and margin requirements:
 - Cover sheet with a title of the submission, author's name, address and contact information (Please include work place if not a resident)
 - Single space; 14 font Times New Roman with Left Margin of 1.5". All other margins will be 1".
 - Please limit entries to 2000 words or less.
- Parents and teachers may assist children with editing and typing.
- The ALLEN Anthology committee reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, style, or format to enhance clarity.
- The ALLEN Anthology is not a paying market. No monetary compensation is given for any submissions.
- Every attempt will be made to include as many stories as possible. In the event that there are an overwhelming number of submissions, a committee will select the best stories to be included in the anthology.
- Title suggestions for the entire anthology may also be submitted.
- Please submit all entries to allenreadseditors@gmail.com by February 15th.

There will be a **cover art contest** as well. Winning artist will be presented with a special award by illustrator David Small during his visit in April. All cover art entries will need to be submitted as follows:

- Entries must be related to the story themes for the *Planting Seeds* Anthology.
- Drawings must be black-line (black and white line drawings) only.
- Art work must be original.
- Entries must be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper in portrait (vertical) layout.
- Please submit all cover art entries to the Allen Public Library Information Desk by February 15th, 2009.

Friends of The Allen Public Library Recognizes Outstanding Volunteers

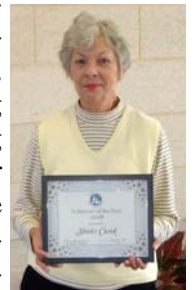
At the December meeting, the Friends of The Allen Public Library Board recognized Tom Keener as Outstanding Friend of 2008 and Shirley Cusick as Volunteer of the Year for 2008. They received a plaque, a lei and a complimentary lunch. As Outstanding Friend, Tom will also have a book donated to the library in his honor.



Tom schedules the Friends' programs in conjunction with the Bach to Books chairperson, is the Friends liaison to the Allen Arts Alliance, and coordinates all the Friends' publicity. He goes above and beyond his job – sometimes it seems like he lives at the library! Tom's interests

and depth of knowledge help to develop the creative programming that you see. He generously shares that knowledge with many other groups in town, too, like the Heritage Guild and Leadership Allen.

Shirley has been a wonderful volunteer for ALLEN Reads: evaluating ideas for our book choice; designing publicity; organizing the photography exhibit; helping to plan the children's activities for this spring; and attending all the meetings to give input and feedback. She is also a weekly volunteer for the CHAT group, an English As A Second Language Group that meets at the library.



Congratulations, Ruth Pringle!

And Thanks for All You've Done!



Ruth Pringle received the Mayor's Award for all her work for the library over the past 40 years at the city volunteer recognition dinner held December 12.

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THANKS TO OUR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Dee Adams | Joyce Foy | Jonathan Match | Victoria Selznick |
| Sandy Alderson | Mallory Fruia | Jean Matlock | Candy Simchik |
| Tami Alexander | Mary Fruia | Nathan Matlock | Teresa Smith |
| Kristen Amen | Megan Fruia | Chyrel McDaniel | Frances Sparks |
| Robyn & Lee Battle | Colleen Gaccione | Justine Miller | Christina Stenger |
| Joanne Bauer | Julie Gaines | Janelle Monico | Angela Stewman |
| Steve Benson | Susan & Noel Gouldin | Joan Mortensen | D. G. Stults |
| Melissa Blank | Carina Green | Maria Nordberg | Debbie Stout |
| Mollie Brand | Marina Green | Camille O'Neill | Jill Stroud |
| Vicki & Gary Brown | Sandra Green | Jane Perry | Indriati Tan |
| Kathy & Mark Carpenter | Sherry Grimes | Mike Perry | Laurie Tanas |
| Ann & Tim Carroll | Sharyl & David Hamlet | Luan Pham | Wendy Teel |
| Maureen & Casey Caswell | Zahid Hasan | Nancy Popiolek | Kristin & David Tolmen |
| Pennylee Chapman | Laurie Hosack | Josie Price | Donna & Brad Van Eerden |
| Dianne Chen | Dolly Hoss | Ruth Pringle | Donna & Kevin Vanous |
| Shirley & Mike Cusick | Dale Howard | Tony Pritchard | Barb Van De Voorde |
| Susan Day | Kathy Huisinga | Ann Reidmiller | Kelli Walston |
| Pam Dimoulakis | Trudy Israel | Jackie & Gene Rife | Betty Wang |
| Susan Dorsey | Jabeen & Chaand Lakhani | Susan Romans | Valerie & Scott White |
| Sandra Duncan | Dorothy & Vern Lankenau | Julie Rosentel | Carrol Wilson |
| Caran Eldridge | Betty & Jerry Lawson | Paula Ross | Donald Wing |
| Angela Engel | Jo Long | Olga Salas | Sandy Wittsche |
| Laura & Mark Feld | Jean Lyssy | Regina Schneider | Kathleen & Peter Young |
| Lana Fort | Mackinnon Family | Laurie Self | |

The Friends of the Allen Public Library is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting the Allen Public Library by providing funds and programs that would not otherwise be possible.