



# BETWEEN THE PAGES

*A Publication of the Friends of the Allen Public Library*

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www.allenfriends.com

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Allen Public Library  
300 N. Allen Dr.  
Allen, TX 75013  
214-509-4900  
www.allenfriends.com

## Book Drive held by “Kids Pediatric Dentistry”

The Friends offer a big toothy smile to “**Kids Pediatric Dentistry**” and Dr. Lisi for creating and running their own book drive to encourage their small patients to participate in community service. For the months of April and May Dr. Lisi’s patients were asked to bring in gently used books, which they donated to our library! So far, we have received over 100 used books on behalf of the book drive sponsored by Dr. Lisi’s practice, “**Kids Pediatric Dentistry**”!



Rita Alexander, Marketing Director for the practice, came to the Friends with a complete package, all but tied up with a red ribbon, of a plan to sponsor a book drive at the “**Kids Pediatric Dentistry**” office and donate the used books to the Allen Public Library. Rita had already created posters, post cards, and had a decorated book drop ready in their waiting room! Also, a plan to enter the participants’ names in a drawing was prepared and ready to go. How inspirational to see a business owner spend so much time and effort figuring out how to contribute to our community. Rita and Dr. Lisi both said they wanted to come up with a way for their young patients to feel the joy of helping others and giving back to their community.

Thank you, Dr. Lisi and Rita, for your generosity and creativity in your endeavor to give back to our community by initiating a very successful book drive! Many, many thanks from the Friends’ of the Allen Public Library. You have set a wonderful example for your patients and to the rest of the business community here in Allen.

If you’re a business and looking for ways to give back to the community of Allen, please feel free to contact the Friends for suggestions in sponsoring your own used book drives.

*-Ann Livingston, President*

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“In the highest civilization, the book is still the highest delight. He who has once known its satisfactions is provided with a resource against calamity. “

**Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882), Letters and Social Aims: Quotation and Originality, 1876**

## Jazzy Night and Friends Annual Meeting — April 30

Ruth Pringle was awarded the Lifetime Friend award at the Friends' Annual Meeting, followed by a performance by the Collin College Latin Jazz Ensemble. Ruth was surprised with an engraved frame of picture memories, and her name has been engraved on the plaque along with the past winners which is housed in a library case. Past recipients include Mrs. Margaret McDermott, Wilma Smith, and Barbara Buehler.

When Ruth moved to Allen there was no library, but thanks to her efforts the APL is now housed in the fifth official (and beautiful) library building! Ruth was undoubtedly the visionary and go-getter who got us into each library building, every one better than the last. Allen has indeed been blessed with Ruth's commitment to growing our public library to match the population growth. Thank you Ruth, for your tenacity and your commitment to excellence in your pursuit of helping to make information and knowledge available to every citizen in Allen!

At the Annual Meeting, we publicly conducted the vote for the open executive offices, the names of which have been posted online on our website, [www.allenfriends.org](http://www.allenfriends.org). All Friends' members were asked to vote. As no other names were nominated for the open offices, Regina Taylor conducted the vote on the slate as proposed, which gave Lee Schmidt the treasurer position, Julie Smetzer, the secretary position, and Ann Livingston the president position.



*Collin College Latin Jazz Band Ensemble*

Following the Friends' Annual Meeting, APL's auditorium was alive with conga rhythm and salsa tunes thanks to the Collin College Latin Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of long-time jazz band director, Kris Berg. Complete with a blonde bombshell Columbian singer and a swinging horn section, the ensemble belted out some wonderfully energetic Latin music that had the audience keeping the beat with snapping fingers and tapping toes. If you weren't there you missed an awesome and professional performance of some of the most talented jazz musicians in North Texas!

### Ruth Pringle, Lifetime Friend



*Allen Reads Chair Jane Bennett, Friends President Ann Livingston, Ruth Pringle, Wilma Jean Smith, and Library Director Jeff Timbs*

Ruth moved to Allen in the early 1960's and worked at home as a mechanical engineer for her husband's firm, Capital Wire and Cable, while raising her children, Lynne, Mark, & Tamra. She was very active in PTA during the years her children were in school and very committed to the Bob Outman's Literacy Program started during the 1980's.

Ruth was president of the Epsilon Theta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha in 1967, when the group decided to initiate a public library in Allen as a service project. There were no books and no building to start - nothing but ingenuity, hard work and a will to make it happen, with this dynamic woman as the guiding force. She and others went to the Commissioners Court of Collin County and got monies to start the library; the downstairs of a local building was made available; shelves were built; and books were donated from the community. She worked to make sure it would be a part of the city budget in years to come, ensuring its future as a key component of the services offered by the City of Allen.

Ruth's involvement with the Library has been an as advocate for enhancements and to represent its interest through service on the Library Board, Friends of the Library, and as a member of the Northeast Texas Library System (NETLS) Board.

Always an avid community volunteer with a desire to make Allen better, Ruth's vision for the Library has continued to today. In the past few years, she has initiated and helped to build the Friends of the Library Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is now a reality, formed to help ensure the continuation of the high quality of Allen's library.

Thank you, Ruth, for all your years of hard work, dedication, and love for Allen and the library. We are so honored to call you "Friend" and so pleased to have your name permanently inscribed in the Allen Public Library as a Lifetime Friend!

## What's Going on at the Library!

- **E-Newsletter**—You can sign up for biweekly news from your Allen library by going to the library's website ([allenlibrary.org](http://allenlibrary.org)). In the Quicklinks (lower right), click on "Sign up for E-News." After providing your email address it lets you choose which E-news topics you would like to receive, with the library being one of the choices. There's also a link on the city's homepage ([cityofallen.org](http://cityofallen.org)).

- **Two Summer Reading Clubs—**  
**LIBRARIES: DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS – for ages 2— entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade next fall.**

Few summer out-of-town trips planned? Plan a "trip" to the library to explore Texas's marvelous cultural heritage through reading, programs, performers and more. June 8 – August 1.

**TEXAS TEENS READ! TIME TWISTIN' TTR.09! – for those entering 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall.**

Join us for the Texas Summer Reading Club for Teens with weekly programs every Thursday and Saturday at 2:00 pm, June 6 to July 30.

Check at [www.allenlibrary.org](http://www.allenlibrary.org) for more details.

- **VolunTeens**

Sign-up begins May 1.

Must be entering 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall 2009.

Registration forms available at the Information Desk or online.

Jobs assigned on a first-come basis.

Contact Debbie Vavra, 214-509-4913, or [dvavra@cityofallen.org](mailto:dvavra@cityofallen.org).

- **Young Writers Workshops**

Sign-up begins May 1 at the Administrative Offices on the second floor; contact Dale Lackey, 214-509-4902, or

[dlackey@cityofallen.org](mailto:dlackey@cityofallen.org).

Registration fee: \$10.00.

Dates: June 8, 10, 12, 15, 17

Picture Book Workshop: 1:00 – 2:30  
(for those entering grades 7- 8)

Short Story Workshop: 2:30 – 4:00 (for those entering grades 8 – 12)

Dates: Visual Storytelling Workshops: June 19&22, or June 24&26, 2:00 – 4:00

These are just some of the great things going on at our library. Get more info at [www.allenlibrary.org](http://www.allenlibrary.org).

## 21 Leaders for the 21st Century

Jane Bennett, who chairs the ALLEN Reads Committee, was honored last month at a dinner by the "Inside Collin County Business" periodical for being selected as one of the prestigious "21 Leaders for the 21st Century". She was chosen for her volunteer efforts in the Allen community at the library and in education over the years. Additionally, in April Jane attended the Texas Library Association Annual Convention, held in Houston, as an *invited* speaker. Speaking in the



topic of leadership, she presented together with Sally Reed, former president of the FOL of the U.S. Not surprisingly, they have been asked to present together again another library convention later this year.

The Allen community and library have greatly benefited by Jane's vision, leadership, and energy over the years. Thank you, Jane, for being so committed to our town!

## Foundation for Allen School's Eagle Run



The Friends/ALLEN Reads participated in the Foundation for Allen School's Eagle Run. "Flowers" shown include Alexa Spahr, Regina Schneider, Sheri Vasinda, and Donna Laster.

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## THANKS TO OUR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS in March and April!

Nina Bains  
Diane Ballard  
Denise & Jim Balok  
Nina Barrett  
Jane & Ross Bennett  
Susan Bissmeyer  
Bonnie & Seb Borrello  
Chriss Bouquet  
Cindi Brannum  
Barbara Buehler  
Alfredo Cid  
Carol & Richard Clark  
Mary Clark  
Mical Cristales  
Rebecca Crookston  
Brenda Davis  
Anne De La Rosa  
Chase Dowd  
AliceAnne Ebinger  
Joe T. Farmer

Amy Fuqua  
Mark Gardner  
Wendy Garman  
Melissa Gillette  
Juan Gonzalez  
Sherri Gutierrez  
Alison Hefter  
Lisa & Richard Hinegardner  
Julie Dennis Hlad  
Dat-Brandon Huynh  
Patrick Johnson  
Andy Kelley  
Reshma Khan  
Kimberly Knight  
Margaret Leary  
Terry Lovett  
David Malone  
Janet & Mike McChesney  
Minhthao Nguyen  
Kim & Bob Oake

Bonnie & Jay Rawot  
Cheryl Reeves  
Dianne Rodasti  
Cathy Rogers  
Jo & Russ Schenck  
Julie Smetzer  
Peggy Snider  
Karyl Snyder  
Mary Ann Sosebee  
Marie & Charles Stirman  
Michelle Todd  
Eileen & Bill Tollett  
Pam & Bill Tooley  
Cheryl & Peter Vargas  
Debbie & Scott Whitcomb  
Laura Wooten

PSSSST! We Need Gently Used Books for the Ongoing Book Sale!



The Friends are looking into ways to have a contest for book donators. See website ([www.allenfriends.org](http://www.allenfriends.org)) for details.

Please donate your paperbacks. Your donations are tax-deductible; ask for a receipt!

*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.*



and the *Friends of the Allen Public Library*

would like to say

***“Thank You”***

to the people, organizations & businesses that are making this project possible!

**Best in Show**

*Allen Arts Alliance  
Allen Public Library  
Barbara Buehler  
City of Allen  
Foundation for Allen Schools  
Jeannette’s Story  
Montgomery Farm  
Red Pepper Productions, Inc.*



*Texas State Library and Archives Commission*

**People’s Choice**

*Allen ISD  
Allen Kiwanis Club  
Allen Noon Rotary Club  
HumanitiesTexas\**

**Founder’s Cup**

*Allen High Noon Lions Club  
Allen ISD PTAs, Allen Garden Club  
Borders Books, Keep Allen Beautiful  
Hobby Lobby, Jason’s Deli, Puckett’s Nursery*

***And a special “thank you” to Trademark Properties***

for their support with Paul Fleischman’s visit and presentation at Watters Creek at Montgomery Farm

*\*This project was made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas,  
the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.\**

# ALLEN Reads: A Garden of Delights This Year



The 2008-09 ALLEN Reads project has completed its second year, and what began as a seed of an idea has come full bloom. To those of you who participated in a movie, a play, an author visit, a book discussion, or any other activity, we hope you enjoyed it! For those of you who missed this year's programs and events, think about joining in next year: you're missing something special.