Greetings, Friends,

The Friends of the Library are well into a busy fall this year! The 11th Annual Chocolate Membership Celebration yielded several new and renewing members, as well as two chocolate baking winners. Pat Ehmer won the Chocolate Champion Prize with her “Super Terrific Chocolate Orange Cake,” judged by none other than Mayor Terrell, Judge Linda Hopper, City Councilwoman Debbie Stouts and Elke Marsh of Elke’s Market and Café. Kai Akostamo won the People’s Choice Award with his recipe called “Chocolate Squeeze.” Thank you so very much to all the bakers who participated this year; we had an outstanding array of entrees and everyone who attended got to eat plenty of chocolate along with snacks from Elke’s Market and Café!

Following the Chocolate Friendzy was the kick off for ALlen Reads—this year’s pick is Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam. Haley Curry from the Women’s Museum spoke on “Women and Flight” for the launch. ALLen Reads has secured a visit by author Homer Hickam early next year.

Coming up, the Friends are participating in FRIGHT BITE with a Twilight Costume Contest on October 30th at 2 p.m. at the library, sponsored by the City of Allen Cable TV channel. ACTV has been given special permission to show the trailers for the new Twilight movie Eclipse, coming out on DVD. FRIGHT BITE will feature Storyteller Ann Marie Newman telling spooky stories and there will be tons of prizes given away. Also, the original red Twilight Truck will return to Allen for a photo op. The Friends will be on hand to coordinate photos with the truck for a suggested donation of five dollars to the Friends of the Library. Spooktacular!

In November we are bringing back the popular International Film Series on Tuesday nights in the auditorium. This year’s films focus on FOOD, so plan to settle in on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. for four foreign language films, and one in English, for these classic award-winning films, all based on the theme of food: cooking, eating, opening restaurants, etc. See page 3 for the movie titles.

Also, on Monday nights at 7 p.m. in November is the Bach to Books on-going Music Buzz program featuring music and talks by students and professors from the outstanding Collin College Jazz Program.

And don’t forget to come hear Dr. Carl Anderson, the Santa of North Park Mall for over twenty years, make an appearance on Thursday, November 11 at 7 p.m. He will speak on “what Santa represents…” and help everyone discover their own internal Santa. If that isn’t enough, please plan on attending a Mariachi Christmas with musical group Los Reyes de Dallas on Saturday, December 18th at 7 p.m. This promises to be a fun, colorful and happy celebration of Feliz Navidad!

So, since the holidays are nearly upon us with Halloween just past, Thanksgiving right behind it, and dare I remind everyone, gulp, only ten weeks to Christmas as I write this ~ I’ll say:

Happy Holidays Friends!!

Ann Livingston, President, Friends of the Allen Public Library
Famous Santa

Dr. Carl Anderson, affectionately known as Santa Claus at NorthPark Mall, will make a rare appearance as himself, 7 p.m. Thursday, November 11, at the Allen Public Library.

In addition to providing a brief overview of the history of Santa Claus, Dr. Anderson will explore the psychological implications of a belief in fantasy and how to respond to children when they discover reality. A licensed clinical psychologist, the title of his dissertation is “On Discovering the Truth: The Reality of the Santa Claus Myth.”

For over 20 years, Dr. Anderson has portrayed Santa Claus in a uniquely warm, sensitive and loving manner. CBS Evening News declared Dr. Anderson “one of the country's premier Santas...” and the Los Angeles Magazine noted "...he is the closest figure to Santa Claus since Edmund Gwen held Natalie Wood on his lap in Miracle on 34th Street." He co-wrote "All I Want For Christmas Is... Letters from Santa's Mailbag," a collection of children's letters to Santa.

Dr. Anderson states that he hopes that his audience discovers “what Santa represents and recall their own memories of the magic of Christmas, or if there are no memories, create new memories that give us a glimpse of the wonder of Santa and a reminder of the message of hope that is embodied with these memories.” He adds, “Santa Claus has helped me discover the Santa Claus within and I hope that everyone can discover their own internal Santa.”

Dr. Anderson will freely discuss thoughts on Santa so small children are discouraged from attending, and this is NOT a photo opportunity with Santa.

Music Buzz at the Library

7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 1 Dr. Aaron West presents “The American Recording Industry: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going?” A professor of music at Collin College, Dr. West has performed with jazz and pop legends such as Arturo Sandoval, Brian Wilson, Norah Jones, and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. In 2007, he released his first solo album Colors and Angles. Aside from his performance career, Dr. West was the first person to complete a Ph.D. in musicology relating to a jazz subject from the University of North Texas. His dissertation, “Caught Between Jazz and Pop: The Contested Origins, Criticism, Performance Practice, and Reception of Smooth Jazz,” has led to an interest in popular forms of jazz as well as social and canonic issues relating to popular music.

7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 8 Professor Jimmy Wallace offers “Collin Recording Ensembles.” Under the direction of Professor Wallace, Collin College Recording Ensemble is comprised of students studying audio engineering and production, commercial music, music business and applied instrument lessons. This ensemble performs diverse music styles, utilizing modern recording techniques. Professor Wallace has been a freelance studio musician, staff writer and producer in Nashville, Tennessee. His professional experience includes recording and television work with artists such as Alan Jackson, Johnny Cash, Tom T. Hall, Jeannie C. Riley and Johnny Rodriguez.

7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15 Collin Commercial Voice and Guitar Students perform under the direction of Professors Susan Hanlon and Juan Moreno. Professor Moreno was once a Collin College student and participated in the Texas State Community College Jazz Band. He now teaches Musical Instrument Digital Interface as well as guitar and bass instruction. Professoor Hanlon teaches Commercial Voice at Collin College and offers private lessons.

7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22 and 29 “Collin Songwriters Sing Out,” under the direction of Associate Professor Barbara McMillen., The founding president of the Dallas Songwriters Association (DSA), Barbara McMillen is a member of the Recording Academy, who voted for the 2009 Grammy Awards. An associate professor of songwriting at Collin College, she also serves on the DSA Board of Directors. Under her leadership, DSA grew from a handful of songwriters to almost 300 members. As a recording artist, Professor McMillen recorded five albums that have been released by WHIT Records. All were co-produced by Don Ashley; and two were co-produced by Grammy-award winner, Richard Theisen.
International Film Festival

Savor a feast of international films at 7 p.m. every Tuesday night in November at the Allen Public Library. Each selected film has a food-related theme and snacks representing that country will be served during the evening. Four of the films will be introduced by nationally-recognized food editors.

November 2, Babette's Feast (Denmark – 1987) Introduced by Sharon Hudgins, the movie is about Babette, a French refugee who arrives at the door of two sisters, implores them to take her in, and commits herself to work for them as maid/housekeeper/cook.

November 9, Tampopo (trans. Dandelion) (Japan - 1985) Introduced by Tom Keener and Ann Livingston, this humorous paean to the joys of food is about trucker Goro who rides into town like a modern Shane to help Tampopo set up the perfect fast-food noodle restaurant.

November 16, Chocolat (France - 2000) Introduced by Sharon Hudgins, this film tells of a woman and her daughter who open a chocolate shop in a small French village. The rigid morality of the community is shaken when her chocolates quickly begin to change the lives of the townspeople.

November 23, Eat Drink Man Woman (China - 1994) Introduced by Teresa Gubbins, this tells the story of a senior chef who lives with his three grown daughters and how the middle daughter finds her future plans affected by unexpected events and life changes of other household members.

November 30, Big Night (U.S. – 1996) Introduced by Teresa Gubbins, in this movie two brothers gamble on one special night in an attempt to save their failing Italian restaurant. The question that arises: Conflict in families is common, but are the bonds eternal?

Sharon Hudgins is an award-winning author and food/travel writer who has also worked as a lecturer on international tours, book editor, and newspaper food columnist, media consultant, university professor, filmmaker, and photographer. As an international lecturer, she has worked on numerous educational tours for National Geographic Expeditions and Lindblad Expeditions. She is an author of four books, including Spain: The Cuisine, the Land, the People—a cookbook of the regional cuisines of Spain (1991)—which received a literary award from the German Academy of Gastronomy.

Teresa Gubbins is dining editor at Pegasus News, an online news site dedicated to Dallas-Fort Worth, where she covers restaurants and food trends. She's also a contributing editor to D Magazine and a restaurant reviewer for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. She was previously a staff writer for the Dallas Morning News, and before that worked as a pastry chef at restaurants such as the Mansion on Turtle Creek and Cafe Society.

This film series was made possible by the generous donation made by Ann and Mark Livingston.

Allen Recycles Day

Pack up all your gently used books and other media and bring them to Allen City Hall on Saturday, November 6, between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. It’s time for the annual recycling day sponsored by the City of Allen Keep Allen Beautiful and Texas Alliance for Recycling. Go to http://www.cityofallen.org/departments/community_svcs/keep_allen_beautiful/annual_programs.htm for more information.

Pictures with Tommy

At the Welcome Back Tommy Reception
Los Reyes of Dallas Present Mariachi Holiday Music

Los Reyes de Dallas celebrate the holidays at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 18, at the library. Sponsored by Bach to Books, admission is free but tickets are issued at 6:30 pm.

In 1984, Univision organized the first Mariachi competition in the DFW Metroplex. Los Reyes De Dallas participated and won first place, acquiring the trophy “El Sombrero de Plata”. In 1995, Los Reyes De Dallas were invited to assist with the Annual Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza workshop in San Antonio, which is hosted by the internationally known Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan.

Los Reyes de Dallas have recorded several CD’s that include music ranging from modern top hits as well as the more traditional mariachi genre. This mariachi band has gained both local and state recognition by taking part in multiple competitions. Los Reyes de Dallas, have often been invited to perform with many international artists in local performances, including, Yolanda del Rio, Ana Barbara, Beatriz Adriana, Pepe Aguilar, Pablo Montero, Leo Dan, and many more.

Here’s What’s Goin’ On

Monday, Nov. 1, 7 PM. *Music Buzz*: “The American Recording Industry: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going?”

Tuesday, Nov. 2, 7 PM. *International Film Festival*: *Babette’s Feast*.

Saturday, November 6, 8 AM—1 PM. “Allen Recycles Day” at Allen City Hall. Bring your gently used books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, records, puzzles and flash cards.

Monday, Nov. 8, 7 PM. *Music Buzz*: “Collin Recording Ensembles”.

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 7 PM. *International Film Festival*: *Tampopo*

Thursday, Nov. 11, 7 PM. Dr. Carl Anderson, NorthPark’s Santa Claus.

Monday, Nov. 15, 7 PM. *Music Buzz*: *Collin Commercial Voice and Guitar Students perform*.

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7 PM. *International Film Festival*: *Chocolat*

Monday, Nov. 22, 7 PM. *Music Buzz*: “Collin Songwriters Sing Out.”

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 7 PM. *International Film Festival*: *Eat Drink Man Woman*

Monday, Nov. 29, 7 PM. *Music Buzz*: “Collin Songwriters Sing Out,” continued.

Tuesday, Nov. 30, 7 PM. *International Film Festival*: *Big Night*.

Saturday, December 18th at 7 PM. Los Reyes de Dallas present mariachi music.

Christmas Book Sale

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked at the ‘Christmas in October” book sale last month. We hope to have another Christmas book sale in November or December – keep an eye on the website and Friends Facebook page for details to come. Hey, maybe you’d like to volunteer to help; we always need help! Please contact allentxfriends@gmail.com if you’d like to help.

Friends Volunteers
- Ann Livingston
- Ruth Pringle
- Vandana Bains
- Brenda Kiser
- Rhonda Hundley-Harper
- Kristen Amen
- Laura Ringrose

VolunTeens
- Aafiya
- Adithi
- Andy
- Brent
- Hanqing
- Katie
- Madeline
- Matthew
- Melissa
- Naina

Staff
- Rebecca Crookston
- Deborah West
- Michelle Vick
- Mary Ahten
- Debbie Vavra
- Beka Tissell
- Brian Houston
**ALLen Reads Blasts Off**

**ALLen Reads** had a great launch on October 7 when its initial program was the finale of the Chocolate Friendzy Membership Celebration. After enjoying great food, good music, and fantastic door prizes, Friends settled in to listen to Women’s Museum Marketing Manager Haley Curry give a history of the museum and detail on the current Exhibit about women in air and space.

If you don’t already know, here is a description of the main book and the two companion books chosen for **ALLen Reads 2010-11**:

The main book for 2010-11 is *Rocket Boys* (aka *October Sky*) by Homer Hickam. You probably remember the movie (which will be one of our selections during ALLen Reads movie month in January). It is a memoir of coming of age in Coalwood, West Virginia, in the late 1950’s, when football was the only ticket out of the mines until the day that some boys had a dream: rockets. Hickam is a powerful storyteller, and his tale is filled with wonderful themes about family, persistence, friendship, and imagination. This autobiographical novel is told with wit & humor and is a delight to read. *Mr. Hickam will be joining us at the library for a talk & book signing on March 12, 2011 – be sure to save that date!*

The “companion book” for our 4th – 8th grade readers (although they can read or be read *Rocket Boys* as well…) is *T-Minus: The Race to the Moon* by Jim Ottaviani, Zander Cannon, & Kevin Cannon. It’s a graphic novel that takes place in the same time period as the main book and chronicles the tensions and excitement of the space race.

For our younger readers, the “companion book” is *If I Built a Car* by Chris Van Dusen. In Dr. Seuss-style rhyme and with eye-popping illustrations, we go on a journey into Jack’s imagination as he designs the car of his dreams. Fun for all ages, right from the author/illustrator’s dedication where he thanks his parents for “changing his crayons every 3,000 miles.”

Start your reading this fall and be ready after the new year for movies each Tuesday night and other programs related to this year’s themes. Find out details as they are planned by checking [www.allenfriends.org/ALLenReads](http://www.allenfriends.org/ALLenReads)

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**Cowboys and Culture**

**Coming to Allen!**

**November 11, 2010, 7 to 11 PM**

**Benefiting the Allen Arts Alliance Member Organizations!**

Join Friends of the Library and the Allen Arts Alliance at the Four Aces Club on **November 11, 2010, 7 to 11 pm, to preview the Tom Thumb Texas Stampede Heritage Festival.** Enjoy a sumptuous buffet, casino style games, compete in a Texas Hold 'em charity tournament, and support the arts and culture of Allen. This fundraiser supports the Friends of the Allen Public Library, the Allen Reads Project, and many other art and cultural organizations in Allen.

Tickets are $50 per person or $90 per couple including complimentary "play money" to enjoy casino games; an additional $25 donation will reserve your seat for the Charity Texas Hold 'em tournament including starter chips. Attire is “Cowboy Chic” and complete information and reservations are available at allenartsalliance.com. This fun evening takes place at the Allen Event Center. For complete information about the premier of the Tom Thumb Texas Stampede, please visit [texasstampede.org](http://texasstampede.org).
THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS - September/October

Jodi Auer
Terri Baines
Dan Blesser
Lori Brooks
Seung-ho Choi
Brenda Cook
Tammy Cook
Christine Courtade
Mandy Danielson
Lynn DeGroote
Robert Doran
Melissa Fasken
Tanya Gould
Cody Gustavson
Sharyl & David Hamlet
Sweta Hari
Annette Head
Solee Im
Jason Jacob
Rezwana Khaleque
Brenda Kiser
Krista Kubinek
Marti Luck
Ginger Luttrell
Glenn Manuel
Emily Mayfield
Danielle McKinney
Holle McSpadden
Tonya Mormon
Ivy Payne
Jan Phelps
Elizabeth Pickett
Dulce Rangel
Laura & David Ringrose
Maria Rininger
Ann Scheurer
Kathleen Schubert
Steve Seale
Rina Shah
Afaf Siddiqui
Sheri Sides
Gwenelle Spann
Louise Tessier
Jocidea Theodoro
Elizabeth Torres
Sara Vogler
Betty Wang
Judy Wharton

To help ALLen Reads blast off this year, Ford Middle School art teacher Shelley Meyers enlisted one of her classes. The students created their interpretation of one of Homer Hickam’s rockets. Thanks to Robin Screen, Ford MS librarian, for initiating this project and to Ms. Meyers and her Art II class for their efforts and creativity! To keep up to date on programs and events for ALLen Reads and more, go to www.allenfriends.org.

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.