



# BETWEEN THE PAGES

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

September/October 2012

www.allenfriends.org

Volume IX, Issue V

## FOL Board

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open

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*Volunteer Coordinator*

Jenny Remakel

*ALLEN Reads*

Jane Bennett

*Junior Friends Leader*

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*Newsletter* - Bonnie Jay

*Bach to Books*—open

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*Library Director*

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Allen Public Library

300 N. Allen Dr.

Allen, TX 75013

214-509-4900

## Upcoming Events at the Library

(all free, of course)

**Sunday & Monday, Sept 2 & 3**

Library Closed

**Tuesday, September 4 at 6:30 p.m.**

Jr. Friends Kickoff meeting

**Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

*Yo Solo* (Bernardo de Gálvez)

**Saturday, September 15 at 7:30 p.m.**

Second Annual Allen Folk Festival

**Saturday, October 13 at 2:00 p.m.**

ALLEN Reads Kickoff: Author/Illustrator  
Henry Cole

**Sunday, October 14 at 3:00 p.m.**

Flute Quartet

**Every Tuesday in September, 7:00 p.m.**

Stephen King Film Festival

**Every Tuesday in October, 7:00 p.m.**

Swords and Swashbucklers Film Festival

## *Hello, Friends,*

It is hard to believe that summer is over and the school year has begun. The summer was very busy at the Library with story times; reading programs for children, teens and adults; and many wonderful programs and activities for everyone. See some of the library stats on how many people were served this summer on the last page. Now that Fall has arrived, please look at our pages for details on all of our upcoming programs and opportunities.

Tom Keener has been busy planning some exciting events for the upcoming months, including the Second Annual Allen Folk Festival on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Jane Bennett and her ALLEN Reads committee have some exciting things planned for this year, including author visits and a great kick-off for the year.

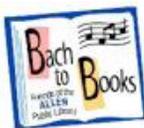
I am happy to report that we have filled several of our open board positions. Nina Baines is returning to our board after a break to lead our Jr. Friends group. See the article on page 5 for more information. Jenny Remakel is new to our board and will be in charge of volunteers; if you have not filled out a volunteer form, please do so and return to the Library. I know Jenny will be happy to contact you with our upcoming opportunities. Mike Jackson has agreed to be our new website coordinator. As part of the website transition, keep an eye out for the volunteer form on the website in the weeks to come.

We are still in need of a Membership Chairperson. This is an important position for us. Once you get transitioned into this position, it should only require a couple of hours each month, and can be done whenever you like. If you would like more information on what this position requires, please contact me at [susanmjackson@yahoo.com](mailto:susanmjackson@yahoo.com). I will be happy to discuss this with you and answer any questions you may have.

As always, I hope you have a fantastic fall and I hope to see you at the library often!

*Susan Jackson*

President



## The Second Annual Allen Folk Festival

*You have to open your mind. I like the ability to express myself in a deep way. It's the closest music to our humanity; it's like a folk music that rises up out of a culture.* —iconic American blues musician Sonny Terry

This year's Allen Folk Festival is being hosted **Saturday, September 15 at 7:30 p.m.**, at the Allen Public Library and features the incredible performances of Joy Luther and Fox & the Bird. Joy Luther of Austin presents her special blend of Celtic and Texian folk. Fox and the Bird will captivate the audience with their layered harmonies and broad range of instrumentation.

A popular performer at coffee houses in Austin, Texas, Joy Luther sings straight from the heart. Born in Northern Ireland into a family of bagpipers and poets with whom oral tradition and music are valued. "Music told stories, words had meaning, and emotion and belief systems were communicated with passion," explains Joy. "Songwriting allows us potential to understand ourselves as well as inspire creative change. I see songs as short, short, short stories!"

Inspired by the 1960's folk revival music of Peter, Paul, Mary, Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, Joy began playing guitar when she was 16. A pivotal moment in her career occurred when she sang her own composition about a Yaqui Indian who worked on a Texas Ranch. While singing, she noticed a man listening intently. Afterwards, the man identified himself as a Yaqui Indian and stated that he had never heard a song about his tribe and his heart was filled with emotion. Joy notes, "Song writing and stories come through me and I share them so my music can be extended into the hearts of others. Happiness occurs when my music touches someone's heart, which is expressed by tears, healing, and inspiration. Something takes place inside me which is extended to others."



The beauty of folk music is its limitless ability to evolve. Fox & the Bird is no exception with its eclectic style that offers unique sounds with a variety of instruments and vocal styles. Classifying their manner of folk is impossible. Expressive stories are told with descriptive images and their songs speak to the soul. Combining mellow voices and a variety of instruments, Fox & the Bird delivers mesmerizing performances that possess a mystique and style that defy musical formula.

This multi-instrumentalist in a duckbilled cap, bandleader and Allen native Dan Bowman plays the guitar, trumpet and accordion during the same song. Other band members include Dan's wife Kelsi, Jacob Metcalf and Justin Ballard.

Linked by a desire to make music, Fox & the Bird began performing in the living rooms of various friends. Their concert at the popular Dallas venue The Annex House garnered high praise, encouraging the group to continue performing. Following this, they played locally at the Granada and House of Blues and then went on a Colorado tour. Rave reviews here were reported in the *Denver Post*.

Dan notes, "We play authentic folk music that our fans can connect to because it's honest and appeals to the soul. What we lack in flashy guitar and drums solos, we make up in the heart."

We expect a big crowd and seating is limited, so get there early!



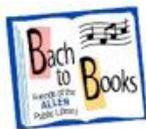
## Bach to Books

### Flute Quartet at Library



Enjoy the sounds of a flute quartet at **3 pm, Sunday, October 14**. They bring a combination of classical and fast moving contemporary music. All band members have masters degrees in flute performance and are teachers and as well as performers. Most recently, they performed at the Mid-Atlantic Flute Fair in Washington DC and at the Flute Festival of Chicago.

Happiness occurs when my music touches someone's heart, which is expressed by tears, healing, and inspiration. Something takes place inside me which is extended to others."



## Bernardo de Gálvez American Revolution's Forgotten Hero

Bernardo de Gálvez, Count de Gálvez of Spain, appears at the Allen Public Library **7:30 p.m. Thursday, September 13**. The City of Galveston and Allen's local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are named for this often forgotten hero.

Chaz Mena will reenact the life of Gálvez and highlight Spain's enormous contribution in helping the United States achieve liberty. *Yo Solo* is a one-man show about the Spanish general and viceroy who besieged British Pensacola in 1781 and ultimately changed the course of the American Revolution. Last January, *Yo Solo (I Alone)*, a solo piece on the life of Gálvez, was commissioned by University of West Florida, and videotaped at Pensacola's PBS station WSRE with a live studio audience. *Yo Solo* was nationally distributed on PBS stations but a live performance will be featured at the Allen Public Library. An accomplished actor with an impressive resume of dramatic accomplishments, Chaz has performed in regional theaters, film, and television and is a regular on Nickelodeon's Spanish language series, "Grachi."



Photo by  
Jimmy Hayward

"Over the objections of his naval captains and fearless of the heavy guns guarding the mouth of Pensacola Bay, Bernardo de Gálvez took his personal schooner and ran the gauntlet entering the Bay and thus exposing the port," explains Dr. Thomas Chávez in his book [Spain and the Independence of the United States](#). "His action resulted in a major British defeat that impacted the path of the War for United States Independence. As a result of this action, the King of Spain decreed that henceforth the Gálvez family shield have the words "Yo Solo," or "I Alone." This was just one event of many for Bernardo de Gálvez who, as a high ranking officer in the Spanish military, is a personal example of the role that Spain played in helping to secure the birth of a new nation."

Dr. Chávez will help introduce Count de Gálvez by telephone conference call.

*This program is sponsored by Bach to Books, DAR Bernardo de Gálvez chapter, and Allen High School's LULAC Youth Council 300.*

## The Board's New Vice President

Hi all! I'm Dana Jean, the new Vice President and Community Liaison for the Friends Board. My family and I moved here to Allen from the Phoenix area in 2011 and we have really enjoyed getting involved here in Allen. A long-time lover of libraries, one of the first things I did when we moved here was to join the Friends, and I have enjoyed every moment. I have been genuinely impressed with the quality and variety of the programs offered at Allen Library and am proud to be part of an organization that exists solely to support the library.

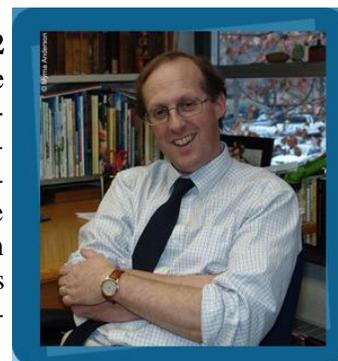
Mother to three children (and two small dogs!), I have a junior at Allen High, an eighth grader at Ereckson Middle School, and a sixth grader at Kerr Elementary. When I'm not running them from activity to activity, I work from home for a nonprofit organization my husband and I founded that brings libraries to Haiti, my husband's native home. I also enjoy volunteering for the PTA and our church.

Part of my role at the Friends is to organize staff appreciation events. We welcome new faces and hope you'll consider providing a dish at our next luncheon (see p. 6). It's particularly rewarding—the staff shows enormous gratitude for everything we do.

Another responsibility of mine is to build relationships between community groups and the Friends. If your group would like the Friends to come speak to you about the programs we sponsor at the library, recycling used books, or how your group can be involved, please email me at [dana.jean@universallearningcentre.org](mailto:dana.jean@universallearningcentre.org) or call me at (480) 273-0404. I am happy to come speak with you anytime!

## Author/Illustrator Henry Cole

Help us kick off this year's ALLEN Reads by meeting author and illustrator Henry Cole at **2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 13**. *A Nest for Celeste* is one of this year's ALLEN Reads selections (see page 4 to learn more about this year's ALLEN Reads events). Cole combines fantasy and natural history by using animal characters and a pristine physical environment to provide an enticing story. Released in 2010, *A Nest for Celeste* is Cole's latest foray into writing, and was received with critical acclaim. A story about a mouse who looks for a place to call home, the book illuminates the life and works of John James Audubon. Celeste makes friends with Audubon's young apprentice as the story proceeds. Amazon.com featured *A Nest for Celeste* as a Best Book of the Month and the *Publisher's Weekly* stated "Evocative illustrations, compelling characters, and thoughtful reflections on the nature of home combine to powerful effect."



A Real Bookstore will be at the library with books available for purchase.

## ALLEN READS 2012-2013

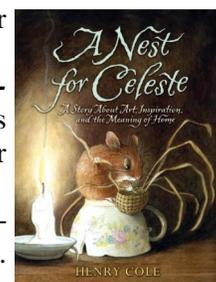
**ALLEN Reads** is beginning its sixth year! Over the past five years, over 75,000 people have participated in reading the books, discussing them, and participating in the myriad of related programs and activities. We look forward to this year being our best ever.

**ALLEN Reads'** main book choice for 2012-13 is *Okay for Now*, by Gary Schmidt, for grade 7 - adult. The story features a young troubled boy, abused by his father, neglected by his mother, emotionally separated from his brother, and illiterate. He becomes captivated by James J. Audubon's paintings, is befriended by a girl his age and an older man, and finds a purpose to support. Through all these he begins to believe in himself. The main theme of this book is the power to inspire and to heal that both art and friendship have. We are excited to share that author Gary Schmidt is scheduled to come to Allen in March, 2013.

Interestingly, an article appeared in AARP's March, 2012 magazine called "60 Going on 16," subtitled "Why the best new fiction for adults is written for teens." It pointed out the generational crossover of the Harry Potter books, the Twilight series, and recently Hunger Games, as the best known, though there are many more. *Okay for Now* is the second Young Adult book chosen by ALLEN Reads as the main selection. In 2008-09 *Seedfolks*, another Young Adult novel, was chosen. It was hugely popular and generated lots of animated discussions, as well as wonderful projects we had not even anticipated. The author of the above-mentioned article concludes: "If you worry this genre is too juvenile, don't... A good book is a good book, whatever the category."

The "companion book" for our 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade readers is *A Nest for Celeste*, written and illustrated by Henry Cole. It is "a story about art, inspiration, and the meaning of home." It also highlights the art of James J. Audubon! We are so lucky to have been able to schedule a visit to Allen for Henry Cole on October 14. See the article on page 3 for more details.

The book for our youngest readers is *My Dog Thinks I'm a Genius*, by Harriet Ziefert. Children will fall in love with Louie the dog, just as his young owner has, and will love his painting, too. They will also get a little lesson in art history, as illustrator Barroux and Louis the dog both draw on Paul Cezanne for inspiration. The companion books tie in with the main theme of *Okay for Now*. Multiple copies of



### Endowment Fund

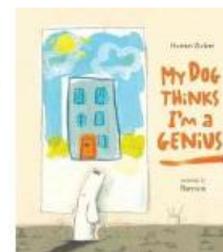
The Allen Public Library serves as a cultural and educational asset for the community through its countless programs and events. Leaders of Allen recognized that through an endowment fund, the library's value to the community can be sustained and expanded over time.

With circulations rates increasing among patrons and library program attendance growing, the need for a strong library has never been greater. With cuts to state and federal funding, the Endowment Fund, as well as the Friends of the Library, are of critical importance to the longevity and quality of the Library. Support long-term library excellence through a gift today. If you'd like to contribute, please go to the Endowment Fund website at <http://www.allenlibraryendowmentfund.org/> to learn more. Thanks for your help!

all these books are being purchased for Allen's school libraries and the public library by **ALLEN Reads**, thanks to grants from The Foundation for Allen Schools and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The author visits are funded by Humanities Texas, the Allen Arts Alliance, Target, and Allen's key civic groups: Rotary, Kiwanis, & the Lions.

The kick-off for ALLEN Reads will be on Saturday, October 13, in the library auditorium with author/illustrator Henry Cole!! Check the library and Friends websites for all the details. You won't want to miss it. (See article on page 3). A Real Bookstore will be at the library that day and supply books for you to purchase, to read and to have for when the authors come, so you can get them personalized and autographed. They also carry all the **ALLEN Reads** books in stock and give back 10% of their profits to the Friends of the Library at the end of our year.

**ALLEN Reads** starts in October and follows through till March, with numerous related activities, including book discussions at the library and in individual book clubs. If your book club is not yet signed up, contact Judy Wharton, [judy@whartonfamily.com](mailto:judy@whartonfamily.com), to get your group on the list. You will receive a special ALLEN Reads bag with discussion guides, bookmarks, and more. You can also request a discussion leader to come to your meeting. Just let us know.



To join in the planning or to help host programs for **ALLEN Reads**, contact Jane Bennett, [jane@jrbennett.net](mailto:jane@jrbennett.net). For information on the programs at the library, contact Tom Keener, [tkeener@cityoffallen.org](mailto:tkeener@cityoffallen.org).

## September Stephen King Film Festival

*Carrie* (1976), **September 4**, starring Sissy Spacek, Piper Laurie and Amy Irving, a mousy and abused girl with telekinetic powers gets pushed too far on one special night.



*The Shining* (1980), **September 11**, starring Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall and Danny Lloyd, a family heads to an isolated hotel for the winter where an evil and spiritual presence influences the father into violence, while his psychic son sees horrific forebodings from the past and of the future.

*Christine* (1983), **September 18**, starring Keith Gordon, John Stockwell and Alexandra Paul, a nerdy boy buys a strange car with an evil mind of its own and his nature starts to change to reflect it.



*The Dead Zone* (1983), **September 25**, starring Christopher Walken, Brooke Adams and Tom Skerritt, a man awakens from a coma to discover he has a psychic detective ability.

## October Swords and Swashbucklers Film Festival

Hie thee hither to the Allen Public Library for lots of swashes and buckles!

*The Prisoner of Zenda* (1937), **October 2**, starring Ronald Colman, Madeleine Carroll and Douglas Fairbanks Jr., an Englishman on a Ruritanian holiday must impersonate the king when the rightful monarch, a distant cousin, is drugged and kidnapped.



*The Sea Hawk* (1940), **October 9**, directed Michael Curtiz, starring Errol Flynn, Brenda Marshall and Claude Rains. Geoffrey Thorpe is an adventurous and dashing pirate, who feels that he should pirate the Spanish ships for the good of England.

*Prince of Foxes* (1949), **October 16**, starring Tyrone Power, Orson Welles. An unscrupulous agent for the Borgias suffers a



change of heart when asked to betray a noble count and his much younger, very beautiful wife.

*Against All Flags* (1952) **October 23**, starring Errol Flynn, Anthony Quinn, and Yvonne DeCarlo, Brian Hawke of the Royal Navy versus the pirates of Madagascar.

*All films begin at 7 pm on Tuesdays and are free.*

## Junior Friends of the Allen Library

Calling all 4th-6th graders who have a creative mind and love being friends of the Allen Public Library! Come to the Jr. Friends' first meeting at the library on Tuesday, September 4 at 6:30 p.m. We will meet once a month for an hour to have fun and decide what you want to do with your hour. At our first meeting (parents will love this) we will decide what day and time to meet. Parents pick up at the end of the meeting.

At the end of the year we traditionally perform a play written by Jr. Friends themselves and we get professional support to stage it in the awesome auditorium at the library.

Contact Nina Bains at [arzesha03@gmail.com](mailto:arzesha03@gmail.com) for further information. A small membership fee of \$5 applies.

*"Your ideas. Your words. Your show."*

## A Hot Summer At The Library

This summer, registration for the Library's Summer Reading Programs increased 6.4% to 3698 participants, including 3003 children, 432 teens, and 263 adults.

In June and July, 194,508 total items were checked out, a 15% increase over the same period last year.

Library cards were issued to 1808 new patrons, a 17.5% increase over June-July 2011, and staff answered 17,184 questions from patrons, 15.3% more than last year.

The Library hosted 71,139 visitors in the two month period, representing a slight increase over 2011. Among those patrons, 13,037 attended 170 programs, a 13.7% increase in attendance and a 7.6% increase in programs from last year.

One happy patron wrote to Allen NeighborsGo, commenting, "The Allen Public Library is a community center on steroids. If you're not using it, you're missing out. It not only gives us the use of books and DVDs and CDs and computers but fills its auditorium with weekly movies and live entertainment and provocative guest speakers. I grew up assuming libraries were dull and corny, but the Allen Public Library shows me I was clueless."

## THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS—July/August

Lostika Alfrid  
Sharon Allen  
Vandana Bains  
Daniel Bekele  
Ruth Brazeal  
Sheri & Montie Brown  
Marge & Ed Bryan  
Ken Budz  
Tami & Steve Burich  
Mardalee Burwitz  
Gwen Campbell  
Paul Cardenas  
Audra Claypoole  
Shirley & Michael Cusick  
Sue Davis  
Rajeev Dwivedi  
Susan & Kenneth Fulk  
Heather Fuller  
Katie Fuqua

Trisha & Chris Greenwalt  
Laurie Gregg  
Mary Jane Hamilton  
Kylene Hayes  
Debra James  
Patty & Robert Lee  
Shella Lee  
Solina & Mike Marquis  
Alison McCullough  
Kathleen McHugh  
Kelly McHugh  
Noha Moussa  
Khanh Nguyen  
Lynda Olson  
Blanca Paema  
David Paul  
Elizabeth Pickett  
Melvin Ptacek  
Jenny Remakel



## We Love our Librarians!

On Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, the Friends organized a luncheon for approximately 40-45 library staff members during their in-service day. Starting with a loaded baked potato bar

with a huge variety of toppings sponsored by the Friends, the entrée was followed by a great selection of really delectable salads and desserts provided by our fantastic volunteers. The staff seemed to truly enjoy the break in their day for some good eats and a chance to socialize.

Thanks to the following volunteers for their mouth-watering contributions to the meal:

Tami Alexander	Jenny Remakel
Nina Bains	Wilma Smith
Jane Bennett	Christina Stenger
Jennifer Hodges	Regina Taylor
Susan Jackson	Sara Vogler
Marti Luck	Sandy Wittsche

With such help from these volunteers, the Friends were able to limit spending to just \$146 for the event. With a total annual budget of \$350, we will certainly be able to host at least one additional luncheon, scheduled for February 15, 2013. Between luncheons, however, we will also be surprising the staff with periodic treats like cookies, chips and salsa, or other finger foods. Dates for these surprises will be determined soon.

To help show the staff how much we appreciate them, we are always on the look-out for additional volunteers, so if you'd be willing to contribute a dish at some point, please contact Dana Jean at (480) 273-0404 or [dana.jean@universallearningcentre.org](mailto:dana.jean@universallearningcentre.org). Thanks for joining us in pampering our great library team!

**Here's a fun idea for your book club.** Have everyone bring two (or more) books they've already read, everyone takes one home and the host takes the rest to the Allen Public Library for the Ongoing Book Sale. Everybody gets a new book to read AND you are helping the library! Remember, that's the primary money-raiser for the Friends.

*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.*