BETWEEN THE PAGES
A Publication of the Friends of the Allen Public Library

January/February 2014

www.allenfriends.org

Upcoming Events at the Library (all free, of course)

7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 7 - Follow That Dream, Elvis movie
7:00 PM Tuesday, January 14 - Kid Galahad, Elvis movie
7:30 PM Thursday, January 16, “Laughter at the Library”, Darryl Little
7:30 PM., Friday, January 17, Dollars Taxes Bluegrass
2-4 PM, Monday, January 20, "Bon Temps" on the Bayou children’s fun activities
7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 21 - It Happened at the World’s Fair, Elvis movie
7:30 PM, Friday, January 24, The Special Edition Band
10:30 AM, Saturday, January 25, Tynia Thomassie, author of Feliciana Feydra LeRoux
7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 28 - Roustabout, Elvis movie
2 PM, Thursday, February 15, “Exploring Our Ponds” with Jungle Jim
7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 4 The Princess Bride Interactive! See page 2 for details, trailers begin at 6:45 PM.
7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 11 Secondhand Lions, trailers begin at 6:45 PM.
7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 18 Blazing Saddles introduced by Burton Gilliam, trailers begin at 6:45 PM.
7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 25 Big Fish, trailers begin at 6:45 PM.

Stay tuned for updates at http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=7506&thisMonth=12&thisYear=2013

Hello Friends Members,

Happy New Year! As I look forward to the New Year, I, like many of you have a list of resolutions. Many are personal or family related, but I wanted to share with you my “library” resolutions:

♦ Read more books this year than last year.
♦ Attend at least one program, movie or event at the library each month.
♦ Take part in the Adult Summer Reading Program.
♦ Clean my shelves and donate all unwanted books, magazines, music and movies to the Friends on-going book sale.

I hope you have some of the same goals for 2014!

Please take a few minutes to read through the newsletter, there are so many fun things going on in the upcoming months, I do not want you to miss anything. Also, check out our website, it is updated weekly and a great way to stay up to date on all things Friends related! And be sure to check out all the ALLen Reads programs in January and February—there’s a lot of programs to choose from!

As always, I hope to see you at the Library!

Susan Jackson

Be sure to “like” us on our Facebook page—https://www.facebook.com/friendsoftheallenpubliclibrary
January and February, 2014

The next months are FILLED with great programs - hope you can come to them all at the library!

2-4 PM, Monday, January 20, "Bon Temps" on the Bayou at the library
A fun time for children 4-10, sponsored by ALLen Reads and the APL Children's Department
Gather 'round y'all and join Feliciana Feydra LaRoux for a great time learning acting with Allen's Community Theatre; singing along through a gator story time and puppet show; joining in activities throughout the children's area; and learning Zydeco dancing in the meeting room...and maybe down the halls!

10:30 AM, Saturday, January 25, come listen to and talk with Tynia Thomassie, author of Feliciana Feydra LaRoux, and have her sign your book! (We will have books available for purchase at the library that morning.)

2 PM Thursday, February 15, Exploring Our Ponds with Jungle Jim!
Neighborhood ponds are full of fascinating creatures we almost never see. Jungle Jim (aka Jim Klinger) will show and tell us what lurks in our ponds and reveal their cycle of life. Jungle Jim has presented extraordinary and exciting science programs for over 10 years. This event is for wildlife lovers of all ages!

And, all through February, ALLen Reads' Tuesday Movies - “Telling Stories”:
All films are free and begin on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; view the trailers at 6:45 p.m. See Page 5 for details.

For instance, February 4 The Princess Bride (1987) : Interactive! starring Peter Falk, Cary Elwes, Christopher Guest and Robin Wright, a classic fairy tale, with swordplay, giants, an evil prince, a beautiful princess, and yes, some kissing (as read by a kindly grandfather).

Inconceivable? Not at all! Celebrate this beloved family film by joining us for our audience-participation version!! It will be a Quote-Along as you declare your murderous intentions along with Indigo, show your love for Buttercup and your hatred for Prince Humperdinck, rhyme with Andre the Giant and more. You're encouraged to dress as the character you love -- or love to hate. And bring props to help with audience participation such as glow sticks, inflatable swords and noise makers.

2013-14 ALLen Reads Books
**Bach to Books**

**Laughter at Library**

Comedian and author Darryl Littleton speaks at the Allen Public Library **7:30 PM Thursday, January 16**.

The author of *Black Comedians on Black Comedy: How African Americans Taught Us to Laugh* and co-author of *Comediennes: Laugh Be a Lady*, Littleton will discuss the black comedians who paved the way for icons like Bill Cosby, Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Pryor and Eddie Murphy.

Beginning his comedy career writing sketches for “The Tom Joyner Morning Show” on CBS Radio, Littleton soon became a regular at the world famous “Comedy Store” and adopted the stage name “D’Militant” for his slicing and incisive social and political commentary. In addition to guest-starring on Robert Townsend’s WB sitcom “The Parent Hood,” Littleton has also appeared on “The Apollo Comedy Hour,” “Uptown Comedy Club,” HBO’s “Def Comedy Jam,” Comedy Central’s “Make Me Laugh,” Byron Allen’s “Comic’s Unleashed,” and ABC’s “America’s Funniest People.”

In 2007, Darryl appeared on National Public Radio following the release of his first book, *Black Comedians on Black Comedy*, chronicling the history of African-American comedy. This account features interviews with 125 of the industry’s biggest stars. It was also the basis for the documentary *Why We Laugh*, by award-winning director Robert Townsend that made its premiere at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and on Showtime in February 2010. In addition to tracing the roots of black comedy from slavery to contemporary times in this book, Littleton also explored the theme that getting people to laugh, even under the worst of circumstances, is the essence of a true comedian.

Littleton is the first African-American on the advisory board of the Comedy Hall of Fame and served as script supervisor, touring host and personal writer for actor/comedian Katt Williams.

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**Bluegrass at Library**

Lighten up the dark winter nights and treat yourself to an evening of foot-stomping bluegrass and heartfelt ballads from Appalachia. Dollars Taxes performs at the Allen Public Library’s auditorium **7:30 PM., Friday, January 17**.

Describing themselves as “hillbilly chamber music,” this Dallas-based bluegrass band features mandolin, guitar, fiddle, bass, banjo vocals, dobro, kazoo and even spoons.

A Dallas native, bandleader Bill Johnston plays mandolin, guitar, bird whistle and vocals. A former history teacher, boat builder and self-described “carny,” he now performs full time.

On guitar and vocals, Mississippi native George Cloy specializes in bluegrass, old time blues and Irish music.

Classically trained in violin, Linda Ray pursued careers in real estate and as a stock broker on Wall Street. After retirement, she played with the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving. Linda discovered the joy of old time string band music and other fiddle styles. She also sings and will occasionally lead on the kazoo.

Formerly with Freakwater, Wilco, Uncle Tupelo and The Gourds, professionally trained musician Max Johnston plays fiddle, banjo, dobro and guitar. From Dallas, Texas to Lexington, Kentucky, Max has travelled extensively, entertaining audiences at multiple venues.

An internist and teacher at Southwestern Medical School, bassist James Wagner (Dr. Jim) shares the art of healing with music when he plays with Dollars Taxes.

Specializing in American roots music, Dollars Taxes has played at numerous local venues, including Poor David’s, Uncle Calvin’s, All Good Café, The Arboretum, art galleries, weddings, churches and more.
The Special Edition Band

The Special Edition Band combines talent with an extensive repertoire to offer an unforgettable music experience. Performing a unique blend of jazz, pop-dance, hip hop, funk and rock, and featuring amazing vocalists, a full rhythm section, and a spectacular horn-section, this group performs at 7:30 PM Friday, January 24, at the library.

A former professor of Jazz at the University of North Texas, lead bassist/jazz artist/producer John Adams has backed and/or recorded for a wide array of artists including vocalists Mel Torme, Rosemary Clooney, Phil Driscoll and Wayne Watson, to jazz artists such as Woody Herman, Randy Brecker, Joe McBride, Bobby Lyle, Carl Fontana, Chet Baker, Dave Liebman and others. Adams is also active as a producer, arranger, composer, music contractor, and workshop clinician.

Adams’ jazz CD projects have received airplay on over 160 radio stations nationwide. The “Thumbs Up” CD (‘09) is a state-of-the-art studio production with a fresh contemporary sound, exciting originals, and unique arrangements of some surprising classics. The “Trios” (‘06) and sequel “Trios Two” (‘13) projects feature five different trio instrumentations/combinations.

The Special Edition Band has performed at multiple venues, including for Jerry Jones and the Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Arboretum, City Place, The Mansion on Turtle Creek, Hotel St. Germain, The Park City Club of Dallas, festivals, concert series and special events, and most recently, Tailgaters in Addison to celebrate the New Year.

The Special Edition Band delivers the highest quality and most stylistic versatility with an extreme attention to original performance.

Bach to Books

Tynia Thomassie

Take an exciting journey through the Cajun bayous with Tynia Thomassie, author of Feliciana Feydra LeRoux, at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, January 25, Allen Public Library.

The daughter of a Mexican mother and Irish father, this children’s author was raised on the West Bank of the city of New Orleans. This environment provided Tynia a rich Cajun culture and contributed to the breadth and colorful language of her writings. Her other books include: Feliciana Meets d’Loup Garou, Cajun Through and Through, and Mimi’s Tutu.

Majoring in theater, she is currently a teacher at West Orange High School, NJ, where she was named 2011 Teacher of the Year in Essex County. Tynia notes, “I steer my students towards the complexity of literature – not ‘the answer’ or a flat black and white reduction like ‘man versus society,’ ‘man versus man.’ What good are generalizations such as these?”

An empowering book for children, Feliciana Feydra LeRoux tells of a girl denied the privilege of accompanying the men on an expedition to hunt alligators because she is female. Undeterred, Feliciana sneaks away and follows the men but first encounters an alligator. Before the men arrive, Feliciana successfully conquers the alligator without help.

When the author was asked to explain her careful coordination of suspense with humor, Tynia observes, “I think that humor is great release from suspense. Suspense is like a pivot point between extreme uncertainty and heightened awareness -- and when you’re in this acute state of tension, then laughter is the big ‘Phew!’ It's relief, and it's a confirmation that you made it -- you got through the trial. I don’t know why I always couple laughter with trouble. It’s just the way I see the world. It’s the paradox of being a human being. You cry, you laugh. You worry, you laugh. You suffer, you laugh. I enjoy writing right at that seam.”

Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

All Bach to Books performances are sponsored by the Friends of the Allen Public Library and the City of Allen. Sometimes others participate in sponsoring, and are noted accordingly. All Bach to Books presentations are free and open to the public, and most are available on Channel 16 and on youtube. For more information about any Bach to Books performances, please call 214-509-4911.
January Movies—Elvis in the Sixties

All films are free and begin on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

January 7 - Follow That Dream (1962), starring The King, Arthur O’Connell and Anne Helm, when the Kwimper family car runs out of gas on a new Florida highway and an officious state supervisor tries to run them off, Pop Kwimper digs in his heels and decides to do a little homesteading.

January 14 - Kid Galahad (1962), starring The King, Charles Bronson and Lola Albright, when he completes his military service Walter Gulick returns to his birthplace, Cream Valley, NY. Orphaned as an infant and raised elsewhere, he always wanted to return to his birthplace.

January 21 - It Happened at the World’s Fair (1963), starring The King, Joan O’Brien and Gary Lockwood, Mike and Danny fly a crop duster, but because of Danny’s gambling debts, a local sheriff seizes it. Trying to earn money, they hitch-hike to the World’s Fair in Seattle.

January 28 - Roustabout (1964), Elvis Presley tribute artist Charlie Whitworth will introduce Roustabout with a musical tribute. Charlie is a huge Elvis fan and knows there will never be another Elvis. He enjoys paying tribute to the greatest artist there ever was and keeping his memory alive for future generations. A native of Whitewright, TX, Charlie’s nostalgic and energizing performance has been a popular attraction at numerous venues throughout the region.

February Movies—Telling Stories

All films are free and begin on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; view the trailers at 6:45 p.m.

February 4 The Princess Bride (1987) Interactive! Starring Peter Falk, Cary Elwes, Christopher Guest and Robin Wright. A classic fairy tale, with swordplay, giants, an evil prince, a beautiful princess, and yes, some kissing (as read by a kindly grandfather). This will be an interactive showing; see Allen Reads article on page 2 for details.

February 11 Secondhand Lions (2003), will be introduced by Tom Keener, Cultural Arts and Marketing Coordinator, Allen Public Library. Starring Michael Caine, Robert Duvall, and Kyra Sedgwick. A coming-of-age story about a shy, young boy sent by his irresponsible mother to spend the summer with his wealthy, eccentric uncles in Texas.

February 18 Blazing Saddles (1974), veteran actor Burton Gilliam will introduce this film. Starring Gene Wilder, Burton Gilliam, Slim Pickens, and Harvey Korman. To ruin a western town, a corrupt political boss appoints a black sheriff, who promptly becomes his most formidable adversary.

February 25 Big Fish (2003), introduced by Jeff Timbs, Director of the Allen Public Library. Starring Ewan McGregor, Albert Finney and Jessica Lange. A son tries to learn more about his dying father by reliving stories and myths he told about his life.
Ponder Your Pond

There is the old pond!
Lo, into it jumps a frog:
hark, water’s music.
-Matsuo Basho (1644 – 1694)

Ponds occur naturally in shallow or low lying areas, but they can also be artificially created. Discover the wonder of a pond’s ecology and learn techniques for building your own pond with naturalist Jim Klinger of Jungle Jim’s Wild Encounters at 2 PM, Saturday, February 15, at the library.

Jungle Jim will discuss the typical wildlife found in ponds and feature live animals that could be found in Collin County, such as frogs, salamanders, water turtles and water snakes. The wildlife found in ponds varies considerably depending on conditions. Certain species of invertebrates such as the water beetle survive only in shady woodland ponds, while dragonflies thrive in more open ones. Some species need shallow muddy water while others prefer deeper water.

Strategies for ensuring a pond’s health will also be discussed. Protecting the biodiversity of a pond begins at home. Fertilizers, cleaning agents and pesticides are the first culprits to consider eliminating from your home. Why use poison when soap and water will rid your tomatoes of pests?

Allen has a marvelous pond at Suncreek Park, located east of Alma Dr. along the south side of Rowlett Creek. This pond is one of the older man-made ponds in Allen. Native Allenite Jerry Carpenter recalls excavating the original one in the 1950’s as a “farm tank” for livestock.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Brian Bristow notes, “Decades later the pond has been repurposed as an aesthetic amenity and detention area for storm water runoff and aquatic habitat.”

The Junior Friends of the Friends of the Allen Public Library Presents:

A JR. BOOK CLUB

Join us Wednesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m.
Children’s Library Program Room

We will be spending time reading and discussing the book Wonder by RJ Palacio.

Book will be provided.

The Junior Friends is for children ages 10-12, (4th-6th grade). Cost for Junior Friends membership is $5 per year.

Endowment Fund Board

The Friends of the Library Endowment Fund has two new Board Managers: Linda Kaposci and Jason Wright. Linda is a professor at Collin College and Jason is an attorney in Dallas. Both will serve a three-year term on the Board. Amanda Boyd has been elected to an additional three-year term. George Chrisman has been named Manager Emeritus. Officers for 2014 are: Joe Farmer, President; Worley Stein, Vice President; Eileen Tollett, Secretary/Treasurer.

THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Baines, Tomeda
Bonney, Amy
Brown, Vicki
Carter, William
Chaisupakosol, Sonthida
Clements, Theresa
Cusick, Shirley & Michael
Duke, Kaitlyn
Dukes, Corey
Durnin, Betsy
Hadgu, Almaz
Head, Renee
Heath, Lisa
Hobbs, Tammy
Inman, Sharon
Jackson, Amavilia
Jimenez, Aleidea
Jones, Jennifer
Keith, Lori
Khang, Huejung
Kittleson, Gunan
Lemonel, Angela
Lindsey, Shanna
Malik, Qurrat
Marquis, Solina
Martinez, Elizabeth
Martinez, Petra
McGraw, Tamekia
Mckinney, Mike
Montano, Jessica
Mullen, Thomas
Muralidharon, Srinivasan
Neal, Bonnie
Nguyen, Tuyet
Nguyen, Minh
Pietruszka, Jason
Pitka, Edward
Russell, Jonathan
Taguirndjru, Malhurin
Thomas, Bernice
Vorderbruggen, Jason
Vorderbruggen, Christine
Waltz, Hazen

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** say
“**Thank You**”
to the people, organizations & businesses that made this project possible for 2012-13!

**Raconteurs**
Allen Arts Alliance  
Allen Public Library  
City of Allen  
Foundation for Allen Schools  
HumanitiesTexas*  
Jeannette’s Story

**Anecdotists**
Allen ISD  
Allen ISD Fine Arts Department  
Allen Kiwanis Club  
Allen Noon & Sunrise Rotary Clubs  
Barbara Buehler  
Hampton Inn & Suites, Dallas/Allen  
Homewood Suites by Hilton, Dallas/Allen  
La Quinta Inn & Suites, Allen  
Red Pepper Productions, Inc.

**Story-tellers**
Allen High Noon Lions Club  
Allen’s Community Theatre  
Barnes & Noble

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