Hello Friends,

Despite the continued heat, summer has come and gone and we are now well on our way into the back-to-school and Fall season! We are already saying goodbye to summer reading and hello to a whole line-up of wonderful events and activities at the library this fall.

In the next couple of weeks, watch for notices about the Allen Arts Alliance’s participation in the North Texas Giving Day on September 17th! This is a great way for you to support the Friends and all the other arts organizations in Allen as we are all members of the Arts Alliance. Donations given through the Giving Day will help the Alliance fund grants for ALLen Reads and many other fantastic programs in our community. Please consider a donation as we invest in making Allen such a phenomenal place to live and raise families.

One of the things we are doing in September is providing lunch for the staff for their in-service training day on Friday, September 11. Please email our Staff Appreciation Chair if you are able to bring some food to show your appreciation for our wonderful library staff—at vicki.fruda.brown@gmail.com.

Thank you for continuing to support our favorite public library with your Friends membership. And as always, please email me at allentxfriends@gmail.com if you have questions or want more information. I’d love to talk to you!

Yours,
Dana Jean, President
Allen Folk Festival

Two outstanding performances highlight this year’s Allen Folk Festival at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, September 26, at the library. Ryan Galloway will kick off the popular event, followed by Jiggernaut, led by Linda Relph, for a second act.

Ryan Galloway offers intricate music made to sound effortlessly simple and intriguing. Using a folk form fused with jazz, Ryan will lead the audience on a winding adventure through different soundscapes, landscapes and milieus. A songwriter and performer for over 40 years, Ryan has written for Columbia/Screen Gems Music, RCA’s Sunbury/Dunbar Music, and Interworld Music.

In addition to playing at house concerts all over the country, he also performs with his classic rock band The Rafter Rattlers, and vocal trio Promise. His most recent CD releases include Naked Numbers, All Dressed Up, and Rock the Big House Down. In 2009, he was a finalist for Texas State Musician. Dominating Reverbnation’s local singer/songwriter category, Ryan has been #1 for much of 2015, and has also reached Reverbnation’s #59 position worldwide. Folk-style renditions of his original music, interlaced with popular songs from the last four decades, will be delivered with upbeat energy and humor.

Jiggernaut band-leader Linda Relph’s musical style was nurtured in Ireland when her father, who was an English professor, participated in an exchange program. A four-time winner of the California Ladies’ Championships and a top five finalist for the National Oldtime Fiddlers’s Contest in Weiser, Idaho, Linda and her husband Chris are regulars at Trinity Hall in Dallas. When asked about what folk music means to her, Linda stated, “Before there were newspapers, our stories were passed down through song. It is how history is passed from one generation to the next. It is how legends are made.”

Joining Linda for this exciting concert are Deanna Smith Scotland on guitar, vocals and percussion, Mathew Williams on drums, guitar and vocals, Garren Bagley on djembe, guitar, keyboard and vocals, and Rodger Harrison on bass and vocals.

Linda’s CD There and Then—Here and Now was released at the 2014 North Texas Irish Festival.

Bach to Books

Holocaust Survivor Zsuzsanna Ozsvath

Hear an eyewitness account of a horrific chapter of world history when Nazi holocaust survivor Zsuzsanna Ozsvath discusses her gripping memoir, When The Danube Ran Red at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 8, at the library.

As a little girl in Hungary, Zsuzsanna heard stories from friends about Polish and German Jews being tortured and killed. She continuously lived with the real possibility that this could happen to her family for the remainder of the war. Terrified, her parents assured her that Hungary was different, but in the spring of 1944, German officers entered Hungary to implement “The Final Solution”.

The Oszvaths survived the first six months of the occupation mainly because their former nursemaid, “Erzsí” (Erzebet) Fajo, supplied them with food and clothing. In October 1944, the Niylas (Hungarian Nazis) seized control of the city, and through a radio address blamed all of the country’s ills on the Jews. The Osvaths knew that, once again, they were in danger.

As the Russians began to bomb the city, the Niylas wanted no witnesses. Hearing gunfire, Zsuzsi crawled to a window where she was hiding and peeked through broken panes to see “a bunch of children, men, and women...standing on the bank of the Danube, on their chests the palm-sized yellow star. They were bound together by ropes. At least four or five Niylas aimed their guns at them, shooting them into the river, which flowed red like blood. Nobody screamed, nobody cried. ... Nothing ... but the splash of the bodies falling into the red foam.”

Ozsvath is now a professor of literature and the history of ideas, and the chair of Holocaust studies at University of Texas at Dallas. Her harrowing memories of her Jewish childhood bring a child’s-eye view of the world, personalizing the historical record.

All Bach to Books performances are sponsored by the Friends of the Allen Public Library and the City of Allen. 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.
Bach to Books

John Salmon (Rip) Ford

John Salmon (Rip) Ford was a multitalented and illustrious figure in nineteenth century Texas history. Serving the Republic of Texas army and the Republic of Texas Congress, Ford was an avid supporter of the annexation of the Republic of Texas into the United States. Later, Ford was an adjutant of John Coffee Hay’s regiment and in command of a spy company during the Mexican-American war. In 1859, Ford led troops that defeated the forces of Juan Cortina at the Battle of Rio Grande City. Ford’s Confederate unit defeated Union forces at the battle of Palmito Ranch one month after the surrender at Appomattox, the last battle of the Civil War.

Learn more about this prominent nineteenth century Texan from Dr. Richard McCaslin, Chairman of the history department at the University of North Texas at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22 at the library.

Dr. McCaslin will also explore Ford’s role in establishing the relationship between Mexico and Confederate Texas. Ford engaged in border operations that protected the Confederate Texas-Mexican trade.

On November 29, 1876, Porfirio Díaz became President of Mexico and later ordered the arrest and execution of Juan Cortina. Ironically, Cortina’s old nemesis John S. Ford intervened on his behalf and successfully pleaded for his life to be spared. Dr. McCaslin will address their complex relationship.

Because Ford almost lived until the dawn of the twentieth century (1897), his recollections of early Texas, Mexican War and Civil War were documented.

A highly recognized American history scholar, Dr. McCaslin is the author of Tainted Breeze: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas, 1862 (Conflicting Worlds: New Dimensions of the American Civil War) and Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Tennessee in the Civil War.

Tied Up In Knotts

Treat yourself to an evening of laughs and nostalgia when Karen Knotts presents her one-woman show “Tied Up In Knotts” at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16 at the library. The daughter of Don Knotts, one of the most talented character actors in the history of television, Karen’s humorous and poignant recollection is a daughter’s tribute to a comical and terrific Dad.

A must-see for kids of the ’50s, ’60s and ’70s who grew up laughing at Don Knotts as Barney Fife on the Andy Griffith Show, “Tied Up In Knotts” is a father-daughter story about growing up in a celebrity "Diva" world with the love and adoration for Mayberry. Karen has appeared on A&E Biography and the CNN Larry King Live tribute to her legendary father, actor and comedian Don Knotts, who passed away in 2006.

Garnering five Emmys and a star on the Hollywood Hall of Fame, Don Knotts first appeared on film with Andy Griffith in the movie No Time for Sergeants (1958).

Karen Knotts learned her craft at the University of Southern California, where she was directed by the great Emmy award-winning director Alex Siegal (Diary of Ann Frank). After graduating, she did shows in Equity regional theatres across the country with her father. Don and Karen performed in the plays Mind with a Dirty Man, Norman is that You?, and You Can’t Take It With You. Karen’s first break in TV was playing a suicidal hippy hitchhiker in Doctor’s Hospital starring George Peppard. More recently, Karen co-starred in An Occurrence at Black Canyon, in which she had a sword-fighting scene with actor Tim Weske.

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Tuesday Night At the Movies
All movies are free and start at 7:00 PM on Tuesday nights.

September 2015 - Robin Williams

Sept. 8 – Dead Poets Society (1989), Oscar winner for Best Writing, Screenplay written directly for the screen, starring Robin Williams, Norman Lloyd, Robert Sean Leonard, and Ethan Hawke, Williams plays a major dramatic screen role for the first time in this Peter Weir classic, English teacher John Keating inspires his students to discover their love for poetry and seize the day. Lloyd plays the headmaster, who fired Keating and admonishes his students (“Sit down! Sit down I tell you!”) to no avail. Lloyd was a tennis partner of Charlie Chaplin, protégé of Orson Welles and a villain in Alfred Hitchcock’s Saboteur (1942) — and is now 100 years old.

Sept. 15 – Awakenings (1990), starring Robin Williams, Julie Kavner, and Robert De Niro, the victims of an encephalitis epidemic many years ago have been catatonic ever since, but now a new drug offers the prospect of reviving them.


Sept. 29 – Man of the Year (2006) starring Robin Williams, Christopher Walken and Laura Linney, a comedian who hosts a news satire program decides to run for president, and a computerized voting machine malfunction enables his election.

October 2015 - '70's Sci Fi


Oct. 13 – Silent Running (1972) starring Bruce Dern, Cliff Potts and Ron Rifkin. In a future where all flora is extinct on Earth, an astronaut is given orders to destroy the last of Earth’s botany, kept in a greenhouse aboard a spacecraft.


Oct. 27 – Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977). A Steven Spielberg classic that garnered an Oscar for Best Cinematography. Starring Oscar winner Richard Dreyfuss, Teri Garr and François Truffaut, after an encounter with U.F.O.s, a line worker feels undeniably drawn to an isolated area in the wilderness where something spectacular is about to happen.

Volunteer Positions

You are a Friend because you love the library, right? Do you have just a little free time to spend towards the betterment of our much beloved library? See how you can help! Other positions open, also!

Community Liaison
Do you love our library and have passion for our community? Would it make you happy to share your love of the library and our community with others? The Community Liaison is really a “Library Advocate.” The person in this role will promote the Friends and the Library and build relationships in the community, with the end goal being to build our corps of volunteers and members. We are currently redefining this position, so the person taking on the role will be encouraged to help us hone in on how the job is best performed.

Vice President
The Vice President supports the president in the leadership of the board. The position can be as big or small as you prefer, but it is our hope that the VP goes on to take on the role of President after the term as VP ends. The VP also lends support during membership drives. Just contact Dana Jean at allentxfriends@gmail.com to find out more.
At the Library: A Celebration of the 95th Anniversary of Women’s Right to Vote

The League of Women Voters of Collin County invites the public to help celebrate the 95th anniversary of women’s right to vote featuring a presentation of “We Hold These Truths,” a readers theater production tracing the suffrage movement from 1848 to 1920. This free event will be Saturday, September 19, 2015, 2:00-3:00 p.m. at the library.

In “We Hold These Truths,” six members of the League of Women Voters of Collin County portray women leaders of the 72-year suffrage movement, reading about the history and lives of the women who convinced male voters that women should also have the right to elect their representatives, despite expectations that all women were expected from birth to become fulltime wives and mothers, and claims that women were too fragile and delicate to undertake the rigors of voting.

Patty Jantho, a long-time League of Women Voters member and past president of the Collin County League, says she wrote the play because she was unable to find a play that set out the chronology of the suffrage efforts from start to finish, and so decided to write one herself.

The first Woman’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, NY, in 1848 was attended by 300 people. Sixty-eight women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments and resolutions that included the first formal demand made in the United States for women’s right to vote. However, the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution that gained women the right to vote wasn’t passed until 72 years later, in 1920.

The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 by Carrie Chapman Catt because she believed that an organization was needed to help educate women about politics and stimulate their interest in active participation in government. Ninety-five years later, the League of Women Voters is still dedicated to educating all persons about politics and encouraging them to be active in government.

Everyone is invited to stay for LWV-CC’s Fall Membership Kickoff immediately following the play to learn what the League has planned for elections, studies and action programs for 2015-2016. A reception with light refreshments will be held outside the auditorium after the meeting.

For more information, please contact Janice Schieffer, President, at president@lwvcollin.org or check the Collin County League of Women Voters website, www.lwvcollin.org.

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We Love Our Library!

**Summer Reading Club Wrap-Up:**

The library continues to grow by leaps and bounds. This summer we experienced increases in all areas, including program attendance, materials circulation, daily visitors in the building, and reading club participation.

Some interesting stats for June and July 2015:

- 900 people attended the Summer Reading Kickoff Party
- 4,586 children, 727 teens, and 938 adults registered for summer reading – that’s an increase of 11% over last year!
- 2,176 children and teens read at least 8 hours this summer
- 272 adults read at least 1,632 books and 1,980 hours
- 159 volunteers worked a total of 2,289 hours at the library (that’s more than a full-time employee works in a whole year!)
- 86,864 people visited the library
- Over 213,900 items circulated
- 19,881 questions answered

The Friends of the Library supported the summer programs by sponsoring our Adult Summer Reading Club, funded the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party, and provided new Sensory Play Day materials! It’s great to have Friends like you!

**Story Times Resume in September**

Story times resume Monday, September 14. The library has story times for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers each week, in addition to fun events and programs for elementary students and teens. For more information, visit www.allenlibrary.org.
Buying or Selling a House?

Library Endowment Fund and Ebby Halliday, Realtors team up to offer an exciting way to earn money—for both you AND the Endowment Fund!!

When BUYING or SELLING a home, it is common for one to team up with a real estate agent who assists in completing the transaction. As a member of the FOL you now have the opportunity to earn cash incentives when you choose a participating agent at Ebby Halliday, Realtors to assist you with your real estate transaction anywhere in the United States!!

As you are aware, a real estate agent earns a commission on your transaction. Usually this commission is 3.0% of your transaction amount. You can now earn a cash incentive of 20% of that commission earned on the referred side by your agent once the transaction is closed. So, for example, if you sell or buy a home for $150,000 and the Ebby Halliday agent that you are working with earns a 3% referred side commission, this agent will earn $4,500. However, because of your participation in this program, **the agent will then pay YOU 20% ($900) of this $4,500; and, the agent will contribute another 5% ($225 in this example) to the Endowment Fund.** You receive all of the benefits of working with a highly qualified, Ebby Halliday real estate agent plus you earn a cash incentive for yourself and the Endowment Fund!!! It is easy to be eligible for this program.

- First, you must not be working with any third-party relocation company.
- Second, if you are selling a home, you cannot have a listing agreement in effect with another real estate broker.
- And third, if purchasing a home, you must not have viewed any property that you actually intend to purchase or have already signed an agent agreement.

For a full explanation of the requirements and the program itself, visit the Ebby Advantage program website at allen-friends.ebbyadvantage.com or call the Ebby Advantage Coordinator at 972-980-6636. You’ll be assigned a highly qualified agent who is participating in this special program. So please keep this unique program in mind when you are considering buying or selling a home. Earn a cash incentive for yourself and the Endowment Fund!!

The Ongoing Book Sale

We could use your gently loved books! Now that summer reading is winding down you should bring all those books back to the library for re-sale. Adults, teens, and children’s books and media are needed. Donations can be brought right to the front desk and for larger volume donations we ask that you bring them to the dock on the south east side of the Library, during normal library hours.

Don't forget to ask for a tax receipt. And thank you for thinking of Friends—your contributions support the library!

THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS—July/August

Anna Burrow  
Nakikate Campbell  
Paul Cardenas  
Jim Caton  
Angela Clarke  
Tawa Dere  
Lin & Carson Doss  
Amy Drees  
Terri Drury  
Michele Dunlap  
Kathleen Faucher  
Manuel Fernandes  
Doris Ghogomu

Heather Hester  
Lindsey Holzmeister  
Lateric Jackson  
Bonnie Jay  
Toni Jenkins  
Jeenee Jirjees  
Kevyn Jordan  
Genet Kassa  
Mohammed Khan  
Meredith Koonce  
Xiang Li  
Dennise Lopez  
Brenda Lott

Joe Mathew  
Brittney Matthews  
Becca Meffert  
Edgardo Mendoza  
Abida Minhas  
Connie & Richard Mlack  
Kimberly Morgan  
Melody Mozley  
Minh Thao Nguyen  
Van Nguyen  
Tami Olson  
Dan Padgett

Sweta Parekh  
Amber Reedy  
Brandi Reefschnieder  
Sophia Rios  
Cathy Rogers  
Stephanie Rumsey  
Danica Russell  
James Schorr  
Sandra M. Shields  
J. F. & Necia Simkins

Wendy Teel  
Keisaundera Thompson  
Donald Tillian  
Eileen & Bill Tollett  
Rod Towns  
Kristie Tye  
Madhan Vellore  
Sam Veyda  
Melissa Waldon  
Carmen Ware  
Lisa Wells

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.