The Holidays are Coming!

The library will be closed as follows to allow all employees to enjoy the holidays with their families.

Thanksgiving

The Library will close at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23 and re-open at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 26.

Christmas

The Library will be closed Friday, December 23, through Monday, December 26.

Be sure to “like” us on our Facebook page—https://www.facebook.com/friendsoftheallenpubliclibrary and follow us on Twitter: @AllenFriends.
The Women of Sherlock Holmes

“Vulnerable” aptly describes the women in Sherlock Holmes’s masterpieces, from poor Helen Stoner’s murdered sister in *The Speckled Band* to Miss Rucastle, incarcerated by her own family in *The Copper Beeches*. Irene Adler and Hatty Doran are contrasting examples of independent women.

Listen to Sherlock Holmes’ enthusiasts analyze the women of Sherlock Holmes at 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 7, at the library.

- The Villainesses of Sherlock Holmes—Liese Sherwood-Fabre
- The Female Versions of Sherlock Holmes—Tim Kline
- The Modern Irene Adlers – Do They Live up to the Original?—Cindy Brown
- How did Holmes Really Feel about Women?—Steve Mason
- Mystery Contest: The Hound of Pinchin Lane—Sivley Hutchison

Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD, currently works for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. An award-winning writer, her pieces have appeared in national magazines and include a collection of short stories and a novella.

Cindy Brown became interested in British literature as a young teen and was enthralled with murder mysteries. After joining the Crew of the Barque Lone Star, she discovered that Sherlock Holmes never disappoints.

Steve Mason is the president (“Third Mate”) of the local Sherlock Holmes Society (The Crew of the Barque Lone Star). Steve’s articles and original radio plays have been published in various Sherlock Holmes journals. With fellow Crew Members Joe Fay and Rusty Mason, Steve creates a weekly comic strip “Baker Street Elementary.”

Tim Kline, the author of *The Game of Sherlock Holmes II*:* A Study in Variants*-* A Collector’s Guide* and three other books on collecting Sherlock Holmes games, has been published in Sherlockian publications.

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**Julian Read**

**Governor Connally’s Press Secretary**

Julian Read, former aide to Texas Governor John Connally, will share what it was like to be in Dallas on a day that significantly changed America’s history at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 10, at the library. As national media representative for Texas Governor Connally in 1963, Julian Read is one of the few remaining eyewitnesses to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. His memories of this event were released in his book *JFK’s Final Hours in Texas, an Eyewitness Remembers the Tragedy and Its Aftermath* in 2013.

Read was traveling in the White House press corps bus as part of JFK’s motorcade in downtown Dallas on the fateful day. The presidential limousine, 200 yards ahead, and Dealy Plaza were in full view from where he sat on the bus. So when the mortal shots were fired, he witnessed the President and Governor Connally slumping in their seats and then being rushed to Parkland Hospital.

As Governor Connally’s press secretary, Read was afforded access to Trauma Room 2. As he walked in, Nellie Connally and Jackie Kennedy were there waiting to hear the fate of their husbands. The President was in Trauma Room 1.

White House assistant press secretary Malcolm Kilduff made the first public announcement of the death of President Kennedy, but Julian Read was the first person to deliver his testimony of President Kennedy’s assassination to the media. He was the first person who learned the last words spoken to President Kennedy were Mrs. Connally’s: “Mr. President, you certainly can’t say that Dallas doesn’t love you.”

Residing in Austin, Read serves as senior counsel for Cohn and Wolfe, a global communications and public relations company.

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Veteran’s Day
World War II Pilot and Pearl Harbor Survivor Share Stories

World War II B-24 pilot Lt. Tom Faulkner, Sr. and Pearl Harbor Survivor James Hardwick will share their fascinating stories during World War II at 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 11, at the library. County Judge Keith Self will introduce Lt. Faulkner and Petty Officer Hardwick. In addition, the Allen Community Band will perform a medley of patriotic songs for the event. All veterans are encouraged to attend.

Faulkner began training for bombing missions in Europe when he was 18 years old. By age 19, he was flying daring raids over the treacherous Alps. Flying 28 missions from southern Italy over the Alps to targets in German-occupied territory, his last mission proved to be the most perilous. Lt. Faulkner kept a diary of his combat missions, and 68 years after the end of World War II, he elected to incorporate his story into a book, *Combat Missions from Italy*. His account also tells of school friends who later became pilots in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Army Air Force.

Petty Officer James Hardwick celebrated his 18th birthday on Dec. 5, 1941, and two days later, at 7:55 am, he was startled awake by the sound of thunderous explosions. Assigned to the USS Honolulu, Hardwick rushed to the ship that had been disabled by a 500-pound bomb. Witnessing the horrors of what President Roosevelt described as the day of infamy, Hardwick eventually participated in twelve deadly naval battles. After the USS Honolulu was repaired, Hardwick fought at Guadalcanal, Alaska, and in the decisive Battle of Leyte Gulf in the Philippines, arguably the largest naval battle in world history. This latter battle decimated the Japanese navy, causing that nation’s crucial oil supply from Southeast Asia to be permanently disrupted. James Hardwick was discharged from the Navy in 1947 as a highly decorated First Class Petty Officer Machinist Mate.

Ten Gallon War: The NFL Cowboys, the AFL Texans

Sports writer and historian John Eisenberg will speak at the library at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 16. John is the author of both *Ten Gallon War: The NFL’s Cowboys, the AFL’s Texans and the Feud for Dallas’ Football Future* and *Cotton Bowl Days: Growing Up with Dallas and the Cowboys in the 1960s*.

In *Cotton Bowl Days*, a fan’s memoir, Eisenberg sets the early years of the Cowboys against the backdrop of a fateful decade in Dallas and his own childhood. Pro Football Weekly has rated it as one of the 25 best books ever written about the sport.

The *Ten Gallon War* describes the tense dispute in Dallas during the early 1960s between franchise owners Clint Murchison, Jr., and Lamar Hunt. *Booklist* named it one of the top 10 sports books of the year.

John is a columnist at *baltimoreravens.com*, the official site of the Baltimore Ravens of the National Football League -- winner of Super Bowl XXXVII.


A native Texan, John spent five years with the now defunct Dallas Times Herald, where he covered high school sports and the NBA’s Dallas Mavericks. For most of the past quarter-century, John was a Baltimore Sun columnist, traveling the world to cover the Super Bowl, World Series, Kentucky Derby, Final Four, Masters, Olympics, Wimbledon, and the World Cup.

He has also written for *Sports Illustrated*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *Details*, and taught an upper-level sports journalism class at Towson University.
Eamon Kennedy—Photographer Of JFK Assassination

Eamon Kennedy provided the public a front row seat to watch one of the most tragic chapters in American history—the drama that followed the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Kennedy (no relation to the late President) is a former Dallas Times Herald photographer who took one of the most iconic images captured during that sorrowful weekend. His photo of a 12-year-old student tearfully praying after learning the news of JFK’s death on November 22, 1963, was a global sensation. In the days that followed the assassination, Kennedy’s amazing pictures of Marina Oswald, Jack Ruby, and Ruby’s attorney Melvin Belli became part of the historical record.

Hear the recollections of acclaimed photographer Eamon Kennedy at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 17, at the library.

As the President and Vice President hastily departed in the ill-fated motorcade from Dallas Love Field, Eamon Kennedy stayed behind. While dining with other journalists at a nearby restaurant to wait for their return from the parade and luncheon, a waitress asked, “Are you guys with the newspaper? The president just got shot.”

They made dash to Parkland Hospital, and the famous picture was taken. “I knew it was the biggest story I was ever going to cover, that’s for sure,” Eamon Kennedy recalls.

A couple of weeks after the assassination, Marina Oswald was in seclusion. Then Kennedy got a call from a Russian-speaking woman who connected him with the wife of the president’s assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. Kennedy had an exclusive interview with the reclusive widow.

At Jack Ruby’s trial, the defense attempted to prove that their client was insane. While Ruby was being transferred for psychiatric evaluation, Kennedy snapped a sardonic image of Ruby that was carried in LIFE magazine.

Appalachian Folk Duo
Beverly Smith & John Grimm

Treat yourself to an old-time musical experience with Beverly Smith and John Grimm at 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 18, at the library. Award-winning musicians, this duo travels the world playing the music of the southern Appalachians.

Beverly Smith is a singer, fiddler, and dance caller. Besides her three highly-praised recordings of early country duets with mandolinist Carl Jones, her guitar playing has also been featured on recordings of amazing fiddlers. Beverly has taught guitar, fiddle and dance at music camps including Swannanoa Gathering, Blue Ridge Old-Time Music Week, and Summer Acoustic Music Week, as well as Haapavesi, Finland and La Fuente del Musica in Spain. Featured in Acoustic Guitar Magazine, Beverly was a guest on A Prairie Home Companion, Mountain Stage, and Voice of America. Beverly has toured with Alice Gerrard, the indisputable Queen of Old Time Music.

An award winning fiddler and multi-instrumentalist who has played with old-time bands such as The Georgia Mudcats, The Georgia Potlickers, and Rural Radio Company, John Grimm is a recent recipient of the Dr. Gene Wiggins Award in recognition of significant contributions to traditional music in N. Georgia. Dr. Wiggins was the author of the book Fiddling Georgia Crazy, a biography of fiddler John Carson. Playing the role of John Carson in the PBS film “The People vs. Leo Frank”, John has also appeared in the Atlanta production of "The Cotton Patch Gospel".

John and Beverly have compiled two CDs, The Sound of the Whip-poor-will and For The Sake of Days Gone. Lawrence K. Ho of the Los Angeles Times notes, “Musicians John Grimm and Beverly Smith of Georgia were the last act of the Deep End Sessions concert series. The pair drew a standing ovation with new compositions, vintage tunes and a few Carter Family classics.”

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Dolls Remembered

Remember that precious doll Santa gave you? Recall the treasured miniature fashion icon that little brother used as a ball, causing its head to keep popping off?

Relive the golden age of dolls, 1920s-1960s, with nationally acclaimed doll expert Mary Lee Stallings at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at the library. During December, the library gallery’s Case 1 will be adorned with collectible dolls to help celebrate the holidays. Presented by the Richardson Doll Club, library visitors can view a vintage Shirley Temple, European bisque, Barbie and many more!

At her program, Mary Lee will focus on dolls manufactured from 1920-1965, including Madame Alexander, Effanbee, Ideal, Nancy Ann Storybook and Mattel.

Madame Alexander designed and manufactured iconic dolls such as the Dionne Quintuplets, Scarlett O’Hara, Little Women and Cissy. Ideal introduced the unforgettable Shirley Temple series, Toni, and Patti Play Pal. Effanbee presented the Patsy series, Anne Shirley and Skippy. Nancy Ann Storybook produced 5” Storybook dolls. Artists painted facial features, giving each doll its own special character. Mattel is known for Chatty Cathy, Casper and the ever popular Barbie.

Mary Lee had the honor of meeting Madame Alexander in person and observed, “Madame Alexander was most gracious and radiated charm.” Commenting on her program, she explains that the audience will “hear a brief history of the dolls from our past and enjoy the memories of a time when a cherished plaything was influential in our lives.”

Mary Lee is an esteemed judge for United Federation of Doll Clubs, member of Richardson Doll Club, founding member of the Dallas Barbie Club, and for over 20 years, owner of Dolls Remembered, one of the Metroplex’s premier vintage doll shops before it closed.

Miracle on 34th Street (1947)

Don’t believe in Santa Claus? The holiday classic Miracle on 34th Street will change your mind.

Watch this much revered masterpiece of cinema at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 13, at the library.

When the film was released in 1947, The New York Times declared, “Let’s catch its spirit and heartily proclaim that it is the freshest little picture in a long time, and maybe even the best comedy of this year.”

What would you do if you were a department store executive who hired a man to lure in the kiddies before Christmas and he sent them to a competitor? What if he looked like and claimed he was the big guy? And his name was Kris Kringle?

Oscar-winner Maureen O’Hara portrays the Macy’s Parade event director Doris Walker. Then-child actress Natalie Wood is cast as Doris’s 6-year-old daughter, Susan, who solves the mystery of whether Mr. Kringle really is Santa Claus.

Edmund Gwenn, starring as Kris Kringle, began his stage career under the mentorship of the acclaimed Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw and earned universal admiration as an outstanding actor.

Portraying political advisor Charlie Halloran, William Frawley later gained fame as Fred Mertz in the 1950s sitcom I Love Lucy and the grandfather in My Three Sons.

Garnering three Oscars for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Best Writing/Original Story, and Best Writing/Screenplay, this film became the most popular iconic Hollywood Christmas movie.
**Classic Holiday Harps and Strings**

Enjoy a special holiday concert that combines the mystical sound of two harps, two cellos, and a viola at 7:30 p.m. **Friday, December 16**, at the library. Selections will include a Gregorian chant, traditional, classical and Celtic tunes. Sharon Towndrow, Brian Towndrow, Christine Towndrow and Catherine Oustalet will provide an alternative to traveling to Vienna, Austria, to hear classical holiday music.

An Allen resident, harpist Sharon Towndrow has a private music studio. She has been a hospital harpist, church musician, free-lance player, and member of several symphony orchestras. Formerly on the music faculty at Angelo State University, her music degrees are from Texas Tech University and University of Texas at El Paso, with additional studies at University of North Texas and Abilene Christian University, where she was also on the adjunct faculty. Sharon also plays the oboe with the Allen Community Band.

Cellist Brian Towndrow is an Allen resident. Performing in numerous orchestras throughout Texas and Pennsylvania, he is currently the orchestra director at Ranchview High School in Carrollton Farmers Branch ISD. He holds cello performance degrees from Penn State University and Baylor University, where he additionally served as adjunct cello faculty.

A resident of Allen, Christine Towndrow is a cellist. She has a music education degree from Baylor University, with additional studies at Penn State University. Now serving as the orchestra director at Barbara Bush Middle School in Carrollton Farmers Branch ISD, she has played in various orchestras in the Texas and Pennsylvania areas.

Catherine Oustalet is a graduate of Allen High School, where she was harpist and violist in the Allen High School Full Orchestra. Pursuing a music degree at Collin College, she has also performed for the Allen Civic Ballet.

**Holiday Concert**

The **Allen Community Band** and the ACB Jazz Band join to present a program of musical selections of the Christmas season at **3:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18**, at the library.

Under the direction of Keith Peterson, the Allen Community Jazz Band will kick off the concert with jazz and swing arrangements of well-known big band tunes and conclude with selections of holiday music. Stephanie Nguyen will be the featured vocalist on Santa Baby and the band will offer their arrangement of *O, Holy Night*. The ACB Jazz Band is comprised of members of the Allen Community Band.

Under the leadership of Craig Logan, the Allen Community Band will perform medleys of popular Christmas songs and semi-classical traditional holiday music from around the world. Karl King’s *Trombone King March* will showcase the band’s low brass section, a woodwind ensemble featuring members of the clarinet section will also perform. Additional selections will include Leroy Anderson’s *A Christmas Festival*, and the Wind Band setting of the choral masterpiece *Salvation is Created* by Pavel Chesnokov. The concert will conclude with Leroy Anderson’s *Sleigh Ride*.

All Allen Community band members have experience playing in band and enjoy performing Band music on a regular basis. ACB has an open instrumentation policy and all skill levels are invited to join.

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Tuesday Night at the Movies—Marvelous Heroes
All films begin at 7 pm. Call 214-509-4905 for more information.

November 1: Avengers: Age of Ultron (2015, PG-13). Starring Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, and Chris Hemsworth. When Tony Stark and Bruce Banner try to jump-start a dormant peacekeeping program called Ultron, plans go horribly wrong, and it’s up to Earth’s Mightiest Heroes to stop the villainous Ultron from enacting his terrible plans.

November 8: Ant-Man (2015, PG-13). Starring Oscar winner Michael Douglas, Paul Rudd, and Evangeline Lilly. Armed with a super-suit with the astonishing ability to shrink in scale but increase in strength, cat burglar Scott Lang must embrace his inner hero and help his mentor, Dr. Hank Pym, plan and pull off a heist that will save the world.


November 22: Guardians of the Galaxy (2014, PG-13). Starring Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, and Glenn Close. A group of intergalactic criminals are forced to work together to stop a fanatical warrior from taking control of the universe.

November 29: No movie

Make room for company, the holidays are coming!
Friends of the Allen Public Library would love to have your gently used books, CDs, and DVDs. Donations can be dropped off at the checkout desk during weekly business hours. For larger quantity donations or questions please call 214-509-4900 to make arrangements. A tax donation receipt will be available upon request.

Our ongoing book sales provides funds for many of the programs detailed in our newsletters. Thanks for your donation.

Wishing you peace and joy this holiday season!

New and Returning Members—September/October
Thanks for Being a Friend!

Elizabeth Barraza
Shawna Basaraba
Fatimma Battle
Cheryl Begin
Sapna Bhat
Brittany Bright
Marcy A. Bryant
Nusrat Chawdurry
Angela Clarke
Michelle Davis
Anne DeLaRosa
Osayuwamen Ehiojhae
Alagie Faal
Megan Gapp
Lori Lynn Godfrey
Nolan Godfrey
Kevyn Jordan
Chantelle Kadala
Kara Langford
John Loewen
Abraham Magana
Narayana S. Mamillapalli
Skip & Phyllis Mobley
Kwai Moon
Timothy Mozhnkz
Janis Nasseri
Amy Nenchaca
Sarah Oldfield
Pamela Oneyer
Blanca Palma
Pushpak Patel
Kim Pattie
Marissa Pinder
Angie Potter
Mayra Prado-Lopez
Tom & Judy Ranly
Brandi Reeschneider
Elizabeth Rogatski
Megan Rogers
Christy Rosenberg
Safuratu Salami
Aparna Seshadri
Vidya Srinivasan
Gricela Torres
Nancy Vermeer
Michael Walker
Martin & Karla Warborg
Judy Wharton
Xe Zhang