Coming Up at the Library

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 8, Mafia and James Henry Dolan
7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 9, JFK Reporter High Aynesworth
7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 16, Secret Service Agent J. Walter Coughlin
7:30 p.m. Monday, November 20, Lee Harvey Oswald’s Girlfriend
7:30 p.m. Friday, November 10, Roy Rogers’ daughter presents Trail of Robin Hood movie
7:30 pm, Saturday, November 11, Pearl Harbor memories with Bill Hughes and Allen Community Band
7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 19, White Christmas screening

Click on any item above and it will link you directly to the article.

Always forgetting events you want to see? Print this page and stick it on your fridge!

For updates, go to AllenFriends.org or to the library’s calendar at AllenLibrary.org, then “Calendar.”

Endowment Fund Board News

The Friends of the Library Endowment Fund’s Board of Managers would like to announce its new name and logo! It will now be called the Allen Library Endowment Fund (ALEF).

ALEF hosted its second annual Fall Fundraiser in September at Bedside Manor in Montgomery Farms. CocoaVina presented a special wine and chocolate pairing event for the evening’s guests. All proceeds from the event support ALEF’s mission to increase the financial strength of the library and enrich its services and programs.

ALEF is very excited to announce its newest program, the Allen Library Robotics Program. With executive sponsorship by ALEF Board of Managers member Vatsa Ramanathan, the program will offer robotics activities at no cost to Allen’s young residents. Please stay tuned for more details to come!

Want more information about the Endowment Fund? Go to http://allenfriends.org/endowment-fund/ or send an email to ContactOLEF@gmail.com.
Mafia and James Henry Dolan

James Henry Dolan was associated with the top Mafia bosses during the time of the John F. Kennedy assassination. His son Jim Dolan will share his perspective on his father and those times at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 8, at the library.

Until the mid-1960s, the Dallas underworld enjoyed a tacit agreement with law enforcement. For a price, some officers looked the other way at drugs, alcohol, gambling and prostitution violations. When the reigning Dallas underworld boss Benny Binion departed Dallas for Las Vegas, Mafia interest in Dallas surged.

While in Dallas, James Henry Dolan worked for the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA), a union for jugglers, strippers, and comics, and, more importantly, a front for the mob. Jim suspects his father’s assignment was to turn over the Dallas underworld to Carlos Marcello in New Orleans.

Dolan’s aliases have included Jim de Lare, James Harry Dolan, Jim Dolan, Jimmy Dolan, and James Bradley.

During the days immediately before and after the JFK assassination, James Henry Dolan was not living with his wife and children at their home in Oak Cliff. After JFK was murdered, the FBI descended upon the Dolan house and searched it, but James Henry Dolan had vanished.

Jim Dolan notes, “I will present my memories of this period and we will walk through some of the material gathered by the government and other researchers into the period 1958-1963. Even after his death in 1984, details have emerged from my father’s life which point to the dense cloud of coincidence that have caused many to conclude a conspiracy in the assassination.” Jim is interested in talking to anyone who knew his father and has stories to share.

JFK Reporter Hugh Aynsworth

Hugh Aynsworth, author of November 22, 1963: Witness to History, was the only journalist to witness the assassination of President Kennedy and both the arrest and murder of Lee Harvey Oswald. He covered the assassination and its aftermath as a Dallas Morning News reporter.

A four-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, Aynsworth will speak at the library at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 9.

With the sleuthing skills of a twentieth century Sherlock Holmes, Aynsworth was the first reporter to establish Oswald’s escape route and uncover his Russian diary. Reporting how Oswald paid a threatening visit to the FBI office in Dallas only days before the assassination, he impressed the American public with his tenacity. CBS News’ Face the Nation moderator/anchor Bob Schieffer declared, “Hugh Aynsworth knows more about this tragic story and the reporters who reported it than anyone I know. A splendid piece of work.”


Copies of November 22, 1963: Witness to History will be available for purchase and signing at the event.
Lee Harvey Oswald’s Girlfriend

In her memoir Lee and Me: How I Came To Know, Love, And Lose Lee Harvey Oswald, Judyth Baker insists that Oswald did not murder President Kennedy in November of 1963.

Come hear Judyth recount her story at 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 20, at the library. For security reasons, Baker lives overseas and rarely makes live American appearances, so take this rare opportunity to hear her speak.

Baker met Oswald in 1963 while working for Dr. Alton Ochsner, the former president of the American Cancer Society, and they became romantically involved. Baker explains that Oswald was also part of the Ochsner project. According to her book, the cancer research helmed by Ochsner was connected to efforts in bringing down Cuba’s then-president Fidel Castro through biological means. The goal of the project was to inject the guerrilla leader with a fast-spreading cancer.

Baker argues that Oswald was not the confused psychopath depicted in history books but was an undercover double agent. “The Lee Oswald I knew admired the President and risked his life to save the President,” Baker said. She notes that he told her of the Kennedy assassination plot in conversations they had up to two days before November 23, 1963.

Two days after Kennedy’s murder, Oswald was shot to death by Jack Ruby, denying Americans the opportunity to see a criminal trial that would have explored the evidence against Oswald.

Copies of her book will be available for purchase and signing.

Secret Service Agent
J. Walter Coughlin

J. Walter Coughlin, former Secret Service agent to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Vice President Humphrey, and other dignitaries, shares his memories of those harrowing times at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 16, at the library. Coughlin was a U.S. Secret Service agent from 1961 to 1977.

Coughlin was a member of the advance team for Kennedy’s famous trip to Berlin. It was here where the President delivered one of the more famous speeches in American history, declaring “Ich bin ein Berliner” (I am a Berliner) to an enthusiastic crowd. This was before the unification of Germany, when West Berlin was surrounded by communist East Germany. Protecting the President here was a daunting task. Walter accompanied the President as the motorcade drove by the Berlin wall.

Walter describes the President and First Lady John and Jackie Kennedy as most respectful and affable.

In November 1963, Walter was assigned to the Secret Service detail during President Kennedy’s stop in San Antonio. As the Kennedys flew to Ft. Worth for the next part of the Texas tour, Walter departed for Washington, D.C., where he heard the devastating news of the President’s death.

Later, Walter protected President Johnson and Vice-President Humphrey. He accompanied Humphrey to Viet Nam and his visit to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968.

In 1973, Walter was assigned the agent in charge of the Dallas office. After retiring from the Secret Service, he served as a security consultant.
Pearl Harbor Survivor and Allen Community Band

William “Bill” Hughes was asleep in the radio operator bunk room of the USS Utah when a thunderous explosion almost threw him from his cot. Today, the 95-year-old veteran still has vivid memories of that day, Dec. 7, 1941, when a wall of Japanese warplanes appeared, dropping bombs on Pearl Harbor.

Hughes’ battleship was in port that day, and in the first minutes of the assault it was struck by torpedoes and sank. Dozens of men were killed; more than 450 survived. “At 7:55 a.m. [Hawaii time], we were hit by two torpedoes, 20 seconds apart,” Hughes recalls. Now he honors the heroism of those around him, including some who operated boats to ferry personnel from the doomed ship.

Listen to the harrowing tales of Pearl Harbor survivor Bill Hughes and patriotic music performed by the Allen Community Band at 7:30 pm, Saturday, November 11, at the library.

The concert will begin with the National Anthem, led by Chris Xeros, Korean War veteran and founding conductor of the Richardson Symphony and Allen Philharmonic.

The band’s first selection will be “America Triumphant March”, by Keith Latey. Serving as an Army Bandsman in both World Wars and the Korean War, Latey retired from military service in 1956. The second song, “Armed Forces – The Pride of America”, honors all branches of the armed services. During this piece, members of the audience are invited to stand as the musical theme of their respective branch of service is played and the flag is presented on stage. Henry Fillmore’s “America Exultant” follows. Fillmore is the most well-known composer of military marches other than Sousa. In this selection, the melody of America can be heard throughout the trio section.

The concert will conclude with the Texas premier of “The Greatest Generation”. Scored by Robert W. Smith for the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor, this stirring piece was premiered in Honolulu under the direction of Mr. Smith. Leaning on the patriotic melodies and accompanying narration, it salutes those who served in World War II and have been referred to as “The Greatest Generation.”

Sponsored by the Library, VFW 2195 and the Allen Community Band.

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.
Roy Rogers’ Daughter Rides Back to Allen

Cheryl Rogers, daughter of film, television and rodeo icons Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, returns to the library 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 10. She will present The Trail of Robin Hood, a 1950 film starring Roy Rogers, Trigger, Penny Edwards, Jack Holt, Allan Lane and a host of famed B-western film stars, along with an uncredited appearance of Cheryl. The music soundtrack is performed by Roy Rogers and The Riders of the Purple Sage.

Filmed in California’s San Bernardino Mountains and Big Bear Lake, the Trucolor photography offers stunning scenery. Cheryl reminisces, “I had a crush on Allan Lane’s horse Black Jack.” Allan Lane was later the voice for the second most famous horse in television history—Mr. Ed.

Cheryl serves on the advisory board of the Western Music Association and appeared in the History Channel’s When Cowboys Were King. She is also the co-author of All-American Cowboy Grill, featuring recipes from “reel and real” cowboys. Her autobiography, Cowboy Princess: Life with My Parents Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, tells the story of America’s most famous cowboy and cowgirl.

Accompanying Cheryl will be Brown Jug Reynolds to discuss his colorful career as a child actor and his role as Trigger’s rider. As an adult, he trained Shadowfax for the Lord of the Ring film series. Brown Jug appeared with Roy Rogers and Dale in The Yellow Rose of Texas (1944) and Song of Arizona (1946). His most memorable role was as Little Beaver in the Red Ryder film series. Brown Jug will bring his original Red Ryder BB Gun, which is the basis of the plot in A Christmas Story (1983).

White Christmas (1954)

Irving Berlin’s holiday classic White Christmas will be featured at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 19, at the library.

Garnering an Oscar for the legendary World War II era film Casa Blanca, the film’s director Michael Curtiz is known for superb artistic lighting, high crane shots, and unusual camera angles. White Christmas is no exception.

Starring Oscar winner Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen, sisters Betty and Judy Haynes misunderstand the motives of Bob Wallace and Phil Davis when they arrange a special variety show at the struggling Vermont ski lodge of their revered old wartime commander, General Waverly.

Irving Berlin surmised that from the moment that White Christmas was completed, an enduring standard had been composed.

Our Library is Growing by Leaps and Bounds

For the year ending September 2017:

- 1,147,102 checkouts – most ever, third consecutive year over one million
- 396,421 visitors – most ever, first year over 380,000
- 84,095 attended programs – most ever, second consecutive year over 80,000
What a Birthday Celebration!

Allen Public Library turned 50 last month, and had a big celebration. If you missed the celebration on Saturday, October 14, click the link below for the video of the fun, shot by the staff at ACTV.

50th Birthday Bash and Carnival

Pssst … did you hear?

Good Morning Texas is doing a story about Allen being voted as one of the best places to live in the U.S. on Friday, Dec. 1. They will have a live shot at Allen Event Center that morning from 9 – 10 a.m. There will be a rally-type event to be held in the outdoor plaza area of the arena, unless weather becomes an issue, then it will be moved inside. If you can’t come, be sure to watch the show! Friends of the Library and ALLen Reads will be there to participate!

Holiday Greetings
ALLen Reads has generated a lot of excitement within the Allen community by establishing a One Book program over 10 years ago. Offering a variety of books/author events to adults and children alike allows ALLen Reads to:

- Stimulate the interest in the pleasure and importance of reading (at a time when people are reading less books and are using their computers more often);
- Encourage reading at all ages;
- Help bring the community together through a shared reading experience;
- Encourage the citizens of the community to come together — in schools, at home, in book clubs, in civic organizations, and more — to discuss the book and the issues it raises.

The ALLen Reads program incorporates companion books as we search for the next great book each year. This allows the entire community to get involved by reading books with an age-appropriate-related theme. ALLen Reads hopes to continue to build bridges across cultures and generations. By unifying the Allen community through thought and discussions, we can share our hopes and aspirations and get to know each other better, much like the characters in the selected books.

ALLen Reads selected the following books over the past 10 years: Marley and Me, Seedfolks, Cellist of Sarajevo, Rocket Boys, The Hound of the Baskervilles, A Nest for Celeste, Big Fish, Orphan Train, Texas Eats and brown girl dreaming. Look out for our next book in 2018!

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**Happy Holidays!**

**Library Holiday Closures**

- **Friday, November 3**  —  Staff development
- **Wednesday, November 22**  —  Open 9-6, close at 6 p.m.
- **Thursday, November 23**  —  Thanksgiving
- **Friday, November 24**  —  Thanksgiving
- **Sunday, December 24**  —  Christmas Eve
- **Monday, December 25**  —  Christmas
- **Tuesday, December 26**  —  Christmas
- **Sunday, December 31**  —  New Year’s Eve
- **Monday, January 1, 2018**  —  New Year’s Day

For more information on ALLen Reads, please go to [www.allenfriends.org](http://www.allenfriends.org).

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**New and Returning Members—September/October**

**Thanks for Being a Friend!**

- Sharmeen Abedi
- Ngozi Ajoku
- Molly Baron
- Mike & Donna Bell
- Ross & Jane Bennett
- Mesrak Beshah
- Erica D. Bourne
- Jeannette Brady
- Barbara Buehler
- Czarina Cando
- Nusrat Chawdry
- Carmen Christiansen
- Erin Daniels
- Anne DeLaRosa
- Raj Devasagamani
- Ashten Dorris
- Pamela Dreyer
- Michelle Dunlap
- Alice Anne Ebinger
- Shanta Evans
- Elizabeth Gaciri
- Julie Gains
- Tara Gallagher
- Brichet Gomez
- Lawrence Goudy
- Brenda Harrier
- Ndaa Hassan
- Kay Hawkins
- Lisa Howard
- Jerod Hunt
- Bhargavaram Jayanti
- Anup Joshi
- Asghar Khan
- Rihab Kheir
- Joshua Kinney
- Diane Knaack
- SarahLanders
- Geri Anne Larimer
- James Lawrence
- Tim & Kathy Litinas
- Karim Lotfy
- Julia Macauley
- Teresa Marion
- Luisa C. Martinez
- Shannon McEvany
- Anshul Mohan
- Kae L. Morales
- Noma Nabi
- Heather Overton
- Lidia Palacios
- Trese Pearson
- Ivetta Petukh
- Elizabeth Pickett
- Ines Powell
- Irum Rahman
- Anna Leisel Rand
- Walker J. & Della M. Ray
- Julie Rembold
- Elizabeth Rogatski
- Julie Rodgers
- Kathleen Rogers
- Eric Smith
- Holly Snow
- Kala Stovall
- Kimberly Suldon
- Virginia Trevino
- Chantell Walters
- Martin & Karla Warborg
- Gabriell Williams
- Amy Woodruff
- Henok Woubshet
- Sailaga Yeka