

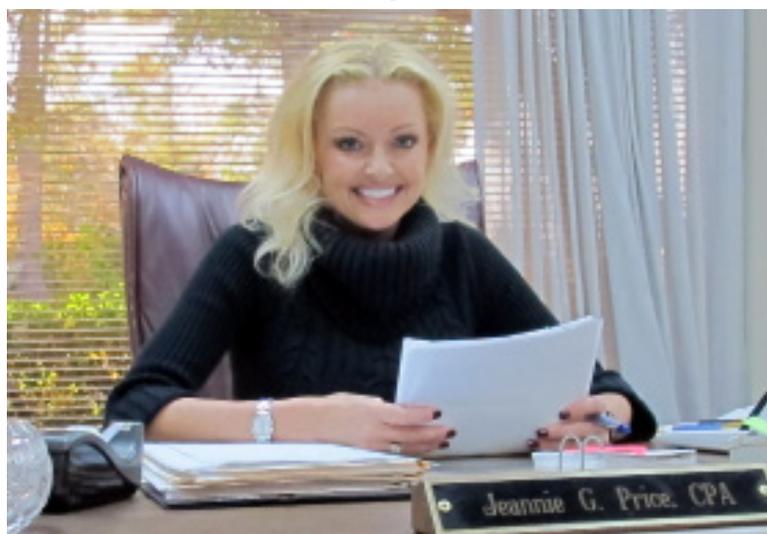
January 2, 2015

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

## Calendar

Summer Reading Kickoff	01/06/15
Administrators' Meeting	01/14/15
APLS Board Meeting	01/15/15

## Welcome, Jeannie!



APLS is excited to welcome Jeannie Price as the agency's new Chief Financial Officer. Jeannie, a Certified Public Accountant, holds a Bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from Auburn University. She most recently worked for the Secretary of State as the Finance Director.

"I am excited to be a part of an organization that provides such a valuable service to the public. I look forward to learning more about APLS and working with an extraordinary team," stated Jeannie. APLS is thrilled to have her on board!

## On AVL

The Alabama Virtual Library (AVL) has a plethora of wonderful resources that can benefit you and your community!

AlabamaMosaic, an online repository of digital materials about Alabama, includes many primary sources including manuscripts, photographs, letters, postcards, and audio recordings. You will also find things like maps, books, slides, and other sources that are great for using for history projects. Check out this database to get a fascinating glimpse at the history of our state.

Don't forget to thank your local legislators for their continued support in providing this resource!

## New Book Club

Alabaster's Albert L. Scott Library's newest book club for young children is a hit with cat lovers. The *Pete the Cat* Book Club kicked off on September 25th. Alabaster boys and girls five years old and up played a game and made a craft based on the series. They also heard two *Pete the Cat* books, had a book discussion, and took part in a cat-related reader's theater.



# WebJunction Courses

In a previous issue of *APLSeeds*, we informed you about WebJunction's free, self-paced library courses. This column will highlight some of those courses that may be helpful to you.

Keep It Simple: Developing a Market Plan for Your Library by Alexis H. Sarkisian lightly touches on four basic topics: preparing and implementing a marketing plan, developing partnerships, communicating with the media, and developing effective print materials. The course uses a fictional library to show learners an example for creating a plan. It takes about an hour to complete and includes quizzes throughout. The course is a great introduction to marketing a library. You can find this course in WebJunction's Course Catalog: <http://learn.webjunction.org/>

# Packing Athens



Athens Limestone Public Library is moving into a new building soon! A Boy Scout planned the packing of the library books as his Eagle Scout project. Library staff anticipated the packing process would take two weeks, but the Scout organized enough volunteers and packing materials to get it done in three days. He also arranged for over 500 volunteer hours in just two days. The only thing the library staff had to do was provide some support and stay out of the way!

# Lawrence Fundraiser

Lawrence County Public Library hosted a fundraiser event at Gillespie Gardens on October 9th called Moulton's Reading in the Garden. Four award-winning authors entertained the attendees and read excerpts from their work. John Hayes Pritchard amused the crowd with anecdotes about his character, Junior Ray, and a workshop chronicling his path to get published. Michael Morris, author of *A Place Called Wiregrass*, spoke on his latest book and taught a workshop called Capturing Your Family Stories Through Oral History. Ted Dunagan, author of *Trouble on the Tombigbee*, discussed some of his fictional characters. Rod Davis, who writes crime thrillers, was also present to greet and mingle with guests. All proceeds from the event will benefit the library.

# Winfield Mule Day

Mule Day is a huge event for Winfield in September. The whole town decorates homes and businesses. Winfield Public Library created a large display this year with a "Fall Into The Library" theme. Each tree leaf represents a library service, and pumpkins represent patrons and the librarian.



# Woodville Grant

Woodville Public Library received a \$3,500 energy grant from the Alabama's Mountains, Rivers and Valleys Resource Conservation and Development Council out of Hartselle. The funds will help replace light fixtures in the library to make them more energy efficient. Three single paned glass windows will be replaced with double paned windows. Congratulations, Woodville!

# Decatur's Crazy 8s

Decatur Public Library hosted a four-week math program for pre-K children called Crazy 8s. The library registered for the program online at [bedtimemath.org](http://bedtimemath.org) and was provided with most of the materials needed.

Fifteen kids aged three to five met once a week to learn introductory math concepts. Pictured below, an attendee builds shapes on the floor with glow sticks. The kids had a wonderful time learning basic math skills that they can build on for years to come.



# Newbern Program

Four Rural Studio students from Auburn University's School of Architecture volunteered to help with a children's program for Newbern Public Library. The kids really enjoyed having the college students read to them and lead the activities.



# New at Pelham

Pelham Public Library is pleased to announce that it now offers the Mango Languages online language-learning system to its patrons. Mango is free for all library patrons and can be accessed anywhere with an Internet connection. Each lesson combines real life situations and audio from native speakers with simple, clear instructions. The courses are presented with an appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application by focusing on the four key elements of language learning: vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and culture.

"We are thrilled to join the growing list of libraries across the country that offer Mango to their patrons," said Librarian Russ Mitchell. "Some people need to learn a second language for business or travel. Others want to for personal or professional development. Either way, learning a language with Mango will be fun."

**2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed** 

**LearningExpress Library &  
HomeworkAlabama**

- Online Tutoring for Grades K-12
- College Placement Resources
- Help for all ages and all skill levels
- Certification Test/GED Preparation
- Career Resources

**Find both on the APLS  
Resources and Research Links Page**

## Author Visits

Dadeville Public Library hosted Carolyn Dingman, author of *Cancel the Wedding*, and Lisa Ditchkoff, author of *The Girl with Caterpillar Eyebrows*, during the month of October. During Ms. Ditchkoff's program, the crowd wore bushy eyebrows to make light of the book title and the name she was once called.



## Fire Safety



Local firefighters visited story time at Orange Beach Public Library on October 21st. Their visit was in observance of National Fire Prevention Week, which occurs every October. The junior firefighters at story time learned to stop, drop, and roll after they received their helmets, badges, and a sticker. When the fire truck arrived, everyone was able to inspect the truck and have his or her picture taken with a firefighter dressed for a real fire. The firefighters answered questions for the group and made it a fun and educational program for the library.

## Montgomery Anniversary

E L Lowder Regional Library, a branch of Montgomery City-County Public Library, celebrated its 20th anniversary on October 21st. On hand to mark the occasion were Mayor Todd Strange, Montgomery County Commission Chairman Elton Dean, Library Board Vice President Jim Earnhardt and other trustees, City Council President Charles Jinright, and many more special guests. The library's namesake, Mr. Jimmy Lowder and the Lowder family were honored at the celebration.



## Freaky Friday

Phenix City-Russell County Public Library found this very 70's book in their collection. We dig the threads! What unusual or fun books do you have lurking in your collection?



# Dealing With Disaster

Chemicals are found everywhere. They purify drinking water, increase crop production, and simplify household chores, but the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) warns that chemicals can also be hazardous if used or released improperly.

Hazards can occur during production, storage, transportation, use, or disposal. People are at risk if a chemical is used unsafely or released in harmful amounts into the environment.

Hazardous materials in various forms can cause death, serious injury, long-lasting health effects and damage to buildings, homes, and other property. Many products containing hazardous chemicals are used and stored in homes routinely. These products are also shipped daily on the nation's highways, railroads, waterways, and pipelines.

During a hazardous materials incident FEMA advises people to listen to local radio or television stations for detailed information and instructions. People should stay away from the hazardous area to minimize the risk of contamination. Remember that some toxic chemicals are odorless.

If you must evacuate, leave at once and follow the routes recommended by the authorities. If you have time, minimize contamination in the house by closing all windows, shutting all vents, and turning off the ventilation system. For more information go to: <http://www.ready.gov/hazardous-materials-incidents>.

# The Book Nook

**Title:** *Tina Cocolina: Queen of Cupcakes*

**Author:** Pablo Cartaya

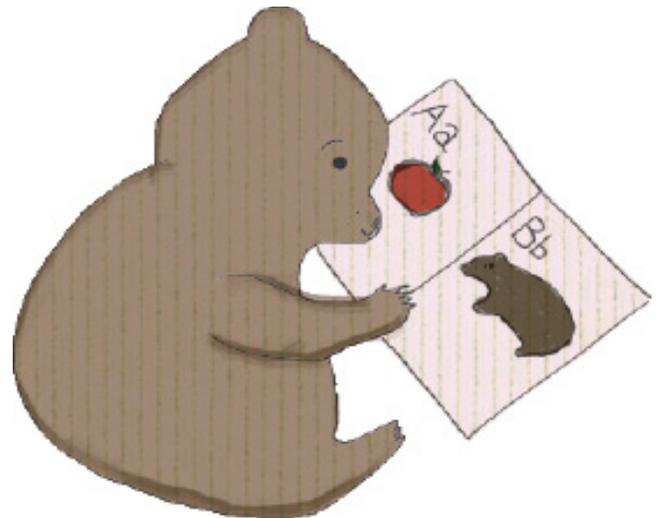
**Reading Level:** PreSchool-Grade 1

**ISBN:** 9780375858918

**Reviewed by:** Kelly Cardenas

**Library:** Pell City Public Library

**Review:** This book is super sweet! Little girls will fall in love with sugary sweet Tina and her cupcake-covered friends! The yummy recipes in the back are an added bonus! Two thumbs up!



**Title:** *The Weaver*

**Author:** Thacher Hurd

**Reading Level:** K-Grade 2

**ISBN:** 9780374382544

**Reviewed by:** Evelyn Schreier

**Library:** Southside Public Library

**Review:** This is a whimsical story of a weaver who uses Mother Nature to weave a cloth of all the feelings and emotions experienced throughout a day in a child's life.

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