



July 2, 2015

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

Calendar

Administrators' Meeting 7/15/15

APLS Board Meeting 7/16/15

Snapshot Day 08/11/15

Outside the Lines 09/13/15-09/19/15

Last April, Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library hosted AnniCon, a free, one-day spring celebration of Japanese culture including art, music, costuming, anime, food, history, and special guests. The library started hosting AnniCon four years ago to an audience of about 50; this year the popular event drew around 300 people. Artists, cosplay, vendors, a sushi demonstration, Asian artifacts from the Berman Museum of World History, meeting well known voice actors, and a dance party were all a part of the event. For more information, visit the library's AnniCon website: <http://www.annicon.com/>

Anniston AnniCon



Hanrong Wang writing AnniCon attendees' names in Kanji



Attendees in Cosplay - the practice of dressing up as a character from a book, movie, or video game

Lawrence Tea



The Annual Friends of the Lawrence County Library Ladies' Garden Tea was held on May 9th. The fundraiser raised about \$1,000 this year and will go towards supporting library programs and events. Attendees enjoyed beautiful scenery provided by Ocie and Dianne Thrasher's home garden. Library Director Rex Bain served as master of ceremonies and Larry Smith and Rod Wallace provided soothing music.

Guests were treated to three very different hot tea blends, traditional tea sandwiches, scones with lemon curd, mango sorbet, lemon bars, and butter cream chocolate cake. Ginger Grantham, news editor of *The Moulton Advertiser*, talked about the mishaps and near disasters she encountered at weddings during the years when she assisted her photographer husband.



Lost and Found

Libraries are known for their good deeds - helping people find jobs, offering a safe place to read and study, and hosting free programs to name a few - but North Shelby Library recently made one community member very happy through a very unusual good deed!

A library volunteer found a 1940 Gadsden High School diploma tucked into a recently donated book. Library Director Katie Guerin knew that whoever donated the books probably did not mean to give up the diploma, so she put a photo of it on Facebook to try to find its owner. In a mere 25 hours, Kay Smith-Foster heard about the post and recognized her mother's name on the diploma. She thinks her mother, who has since passed away, must have slipped it into the book and forgotten about it. Smith-Foster is thankful to Guerin and the library for returning the diploma to the family.

ASL in Talladega

Armstrong-Osborne Public Library in Talladega recently started an American Sign Language (ASL) story time. Suzanne Mattox, a 2nd grade teacher at The Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, volunteered to teach the class. The library is so proud to offer this program every Wednesday in June and July.



Art Exhibit

The newest art exhibition at the Central location of the Birmingham Public Library (BPL) offers art by local artists Cory Casella, Melissa Shultz-Jones, and Paul Cordes Wilm. The exhibit, *The Amazing Art of Local Curiosities*, was displayed from May 7th to June 26th. An opening reception was held on May 16th. Casella shared his technique of drawing in pen with one continuous line on June 6th. Shultz-Jones, whose art is featured below, led a "Hero Art" session for children and accompanying adult family members on June 16th.



On AVL

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

Students will love *Opposing Viewpoints In Context*, a database from Gale. It is a one-stop source for information on social issues. Users can access viewpoint articles, topic overviews, statistics, primary documents, links to websites, and full-text magazine and newspaper articles. At some point, almost every student will have to write a paper debating an issue, and this is the perfect resource to help him or her! If the student is unsure what subject to research, there is even a section where they can browse issues and topics. The database covers a wide range of issues including business and economics, health and medicine, society and culture, environmentalism, politics, ethics, science, war, and more! It is a valuable resource for students and adults alike to learn more about the different viewpoints on what's being discussed in the world today.

What's your favorite AVL database? Email pr@aps.state.al.us to share how you use it in your library. Don't forget to thank your local legislators for their continued support in providing this resource!



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**

Sorority Donation to Foley

Foley Public Library recently received a donation of several books from the Baldwin County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The books covered a variety of topics in several genres written by African Americans. They will be cataloged and added to the library's collection and available for checkout to patrons.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world.



My Little Pony

Pinson Public Library recently hosted a My Little Pony program: Saturday in Equestria. Attendees were able to visit Twilight Sparkle's Knowledge Center, paint bookmarks and make their own Fluttershy Friendship Bracelet!



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