

September 25, 2015

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Summer Reading Wrap Up

Summer may be over, but the fabulous Summer Reading Program photos keep coming in! Here are a few more shots from around the state.

Bessemer



Chef E taught kids some cooking skills at Bessemer Public Library.

Daleville



A local soldier read to adoring kids at Daleville Public Library.

Sardis City



Sardis City Public Library hosted a program about training dogs. Part of a \$1,800 Dollar General Summer Reading grant funded this fun and educational program.

Hayneville



Hayneville/Lowndes County Public Library patrons enjoyed programs, arts and crafts, and story hours all summer!

Baldwin County



Wells Fargo awarded \$5,500 to Baldwin County libraries for their Summer Reading Programs for the fifth consecutive year!

Little Free Libraries

Thanks to Bay Minette Public Library, Little Free Libraries are popping up in some key locations in Bay Minette. While they may look like giant birdhouses, these mini libraries are stocked full of books that are free for the taking.

“Anyone can get a book. You can take one or more of the books. You can keep them forever or share them with friends and neighbors or bring them back when you are finished reading them,” said Joanna Bailey, Library Director.

Mayor Robert A. “Bob” Wills stated, “The Little Free Libraries are a great idea for the community. It will make books more available to folks who otherwise may not be able to make it to the library on a regular basis. There is also a connectivity factor in people taking books to read and providing books for others.”

The entire project ended up being a wonderful community effort. A recent donation from Dr. Wade Faulkner made in memory of his brother James H. Faulkner Jr. provided the funding needed to purchase materials to build the libraries. Library Trustee Alice Crook enlisted the help of Reverend Dwight Boykin to construct the little libraries. Local artists Nancy Dean, Marlee Long, and Jo Vickery painted them with literary inspired designs.

Bailey selected three strategic locations for the little libraries so that they are easily accessible to a large number of people. They hope to add more as funding allows.



Power of Storytelling



Almost every week in libraries throughout the city of Birmingham, families gather in small spaces to enjoy stories led by seasoned library storytellers. The major objective, states Storyteller Eve Parker, “is to catch them in the cradle and hopefully create lifelong library users.” Library storytellers use music, tales passed on by grandparents, and their favorite books to create an imaginary world filled with colorful characters, all designed to teach, inspire, and create enduring memories for listeners.

Parker begins each Tot Time with the song “Bean Bag Rock” because it encourages movement, listening skills, and following directions. For many library visitors, story time is the first opportunity to experience live, theatrical-like performances. Storytellers have unique opportunities to touch lives in memorable ways, which often influences behavior and decisions as well as encourages further exploration.

Orange Beach News

The Orange Beach Public Library is proud to present a brand new Minecraft Guild for the community. Beginning August 18th, Louise Daileigh began offering a free gaming experience using the popular Minecraft game on Xbox One. The Guild meets every Tuesday. The library also now offers Rosetta Stone Language Learning software. Patrons can learn up to 30 languages online with this awesome resource.

Thomasville News

Gina Wilson, Thomasville Public Library Director, purchased a plot in the local community garden. Featured in the August *Cooperative Farming News*, the library garden's theme 'Reading Helps the Mind Bloom' is used to promote reading.



For about the cost of a stamp and letter, the library's summer library partners got a special thank you this year. Staff members bagged chocolate chip cookies and added a custom label designed by Youth Services Librarian Dawn Heartsill that says "Thanks for 'Chippin' In".



Woodville Grant

Woodville Public Library received an energy grant from Alabama Mountains, Rivers, and Valleys Resource Conservation and Development Council in Hartselle for over \$3,000. The grant will go towards replacing lights in the Children's Department with LED Retrofit bulbs and repairing heating and cooling vents in library. Congratulations, Woodville!

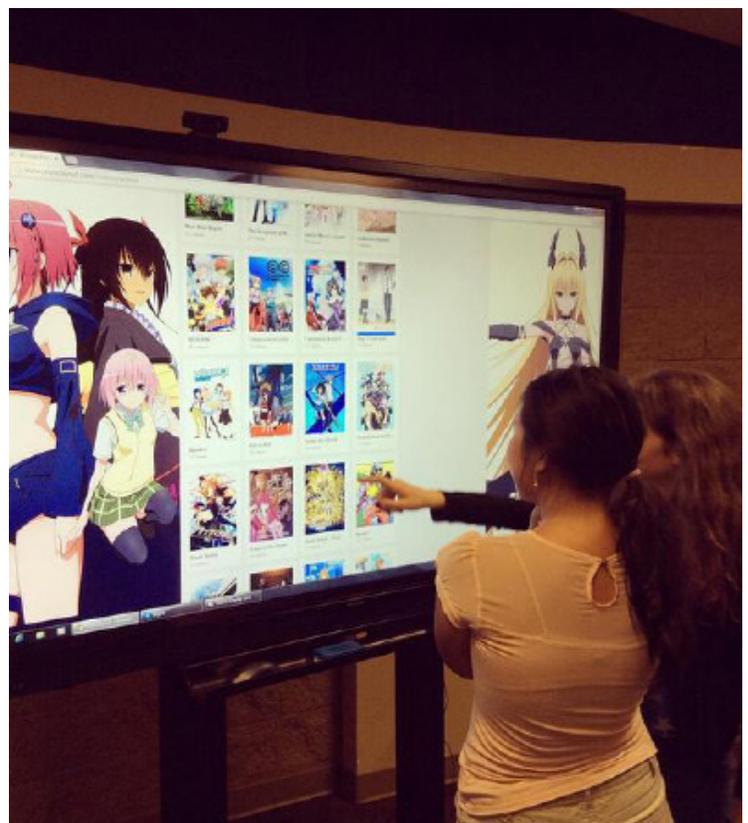
Post-it Art

Southside Public Library's Post-it Note Art Contest was a success. There were thirteen participants of various ages, some with multiple entries. Cynthia Osborne, Southside City Clerk, judged the entries. Winners were awarded gift cards from Hobby Lobby. The art remained on display in the library the entire month of August.



Teen Anime Club

The Teen Anime Club at Homewood Public Library was very excited to use the new 70-inch Sharp Aquos Board as part of their anime experience. With the Aquos Board, purchased with funds from a LSTA grant and a gift premium subscription from Crunchyroll, teens were able to dive into the world of Japanese anime.



Stuffed Animal Sleepover



Autauga-Prattville Public Library hosted their popular Annual Stuffed Animals Sleepover, where children bring their favorite plush animal and check it in for a sleepover. The next day the children follow their animal's activities on Facebook.



Atmore Marketing Services

Atmore Public Library has been doing a wonderful job of promoting library services! On August 8th, staff members gave out handouts and promotional material about AVL, Learning Express Library, Homework Alabama, and library programs to a group of 600 adults and children at a local church.

Daphne History Series

Daphne Public Library is holding a September History Series about World War I presented by Michigan native Dr. James M. Morris. Dr. Morris is an expert in American military history and has authored five books. The series will last for three sessions, each held on a Saturday morning during September.

Collinsville Quilt Walk

The 14th Annual Collinsville Quilt Walk is on September 25th and 26th. The Quilt Walk is Collinsville Public Library's largest annual fundraiser. Admission is \$10 and includes a walking tour with over 300 quilts displayed in homes and local buildings and a bake sale.

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**

Pelham Learning Center

Pelham Public Library is creating a Language Learning Center to better serve the growing Hispanic population in the community. Many Hispanic students take English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at school; however, many adults don't have this opportunity and then have difficulty using city services and going through daily life due to a language barrier. The library will now offer an online language learning software subscription and ESL classes to cardholders as well as many new language materials.

Print and audio materials are currently available for checkout on a range of languages: Spanish, ESL, Italian, and Japanese to name a few. The library's foreign film selection has been greatly increased based on the theory that watching movies makes language learning more enjoyable and provides authentic and varied language. The selection includes foreign classic films, award winning foreign language films, and a wide range of others. Over 60 language courses are available on Mango Languages for Libraries. Mango is free for all library patrons and can be accessed anywhere with an Internet connection via computer, laptop, smartphone, or e-reader. 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.

Finally, ESL courses began on July 7th. A certified ESL instructor, Esther Pencola-Cunill, taught five class sessions. The students created a Mango account and received a copy of *English the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to Language and Culture in the U.S.*

Library Family

Opp Public Library Director Courtney Smart's 3-year-old daughter, Carley, loves visiting her mom at work!



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