

APLSeeds

Growing public libraries across Alabama

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

November 18, 2016

Calendar

LSTA Notice of Intent Due 12/02/16

Public Library Survey Due 12/15/16

Statement of Fiscal Responsibility 01/01/17

Fun in Fairhope

Fairhope Public Library recently hosted a story time at the local farmer's market. Kids listened to *Tickle Monster* by Edouard Manceau and used pre-cut shapes to create either a paper tickle monster or a scene from the story.



Mentoring the Gaston Way

It has been 40 years, but author and former City Councilman Roderick Royal vividly remembers visiting Birmingham's A.G. Gaston Boys and Girls Club at age 11, and asking the African American millionaire club founder if he could drive his car. Gaston said yes, and Royal asked how much he would get paid. Gaston informed him that you don't get paid for everything you do and Royal, pictured below, said, "It was the first of many lessons Dr. Gaston taught me..."

At an October presentation at Birmingham Public Library, Royal shared advice he gained over a friendship that lasted from age 11 until Gaston died in 1996. He also signed copies of his new book, *A.G. & Me: Intersection Road and Friendship with A.G. Gaston*.

Gaston, born July 4, 1892, is well known for his phenomenal story of rising from poverty in rural Alabama to building a business empire. Royal's book shows a personal side of the millionaire who was known for his giving spirit.

"Through my book, I show a side of Dr. Gaston that not many people know about," Royal said. "He was a great influence in my life. My hope is that in this lecture other people can help mentor our youth."



Halloween Around the State

Woodville



Woodville Public Library celebrated Halloween by reading *Who Said Boo* at story time. Kids enjoyed getting temporary tattoos, refreshments, and goodie bags.

Birmingham



Kids made Halloween masks out of paper plates on October 27th at Birmingham Public Library's Eastwood Branch.



Ragland



Ragland Public Library passed out candy and played games on Halloween. They ended up with a total of 335 people in three hours. On October 29th, the town had a *Not So Spooky Halloween in the Park*, and the library set up a tent and passed out candy to at least 250 children.



Dutton



Dutton Community Library had a costume party for preschoolers!

Homewood News



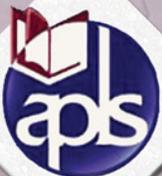
Teens at the Homewood Public Library recently put their culinary skills to the test with a *Teen Smoothie Challenge*. Teams were tasked with creating a smoothie with a randomly selected ingredient, and then each participant created their own personal smoothie.



In celebration of *Teen Read Week*, Homewood Public Library held a contest where teens could enter to win an advanced autographed copy of Marissa Meyer's new book, *Heartless*!



All Services
FREE
to Public Libraries



Information Technology

- ◆IT planning and consulting◆
- ◆IT help desk services, either remotely or in person◆
 - ◆Desktop and Server support for PC or Mac◆
- ◆Network setup, configuration (computers and printers)◆

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

- ◆Web development, hosting, and consulting◆
- ◆Software training courses online and at APLS◆
- ◆Technical consulting and assistance on grant applications◆

◆1-800-723-8459 (ext. 3986)◆

◆helpdesk@apls.state.al.us◆

Montgomery Patron Honored

Mrs. Tess Ware, who has had an active library card with Montgomery City-County Public Library (MCCPL) for 50 years, was recently honored. On September 8th, the library held a small reception in her honor to show appreciation for her longevity as a library patron. Montgomery County Chairman Elton Dean presented her with a certificate of appreciation, Mayor Todd Strange presented her with a symbolic lifetime library card, and Library Board Treasurer Dr. Katie Bell pinned her with a 50th anniversary pin. Those in attendance enjoyed cake and ice cream after the presentations. MCCPL is in the process of searching for other members of the community who have been library users for 50 or more years.



Tess Ware (left) with Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange (right).

Satsuma Book Club

Satsuma Library was fortunate to have had local author Mary S. Palmer speak at the *Prime Time Library Club* again. During her November visit, she answered questions for readers about her book *Quest for Forgiveness*. She also gave insight into this heartbreaking, true story about a lonely boy from Mobile, AL. Palmer teaches English at Faulkner State Community College and Faulkner University and has authored several books. If you would like her to speak at your library, she can be contacted at mlsp0121@gmail.com.



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



The Librarian's Toolkit

Doing Library Data Differently: Part 5, by Sherry Sakovich, Decatur Public Library Director

In the last four parts of the Doing Library Data Differently series, we've talked about why we collect data, measuring outcome and impact, and survey design. For the 5th and final part of this series, I will share some additional resources with you.

Pew Research Center (<http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/09/15/libraries-at-the-crossroads/>) describes the center's latest research on people's library usage, book reading habits, and technology adoption. The Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan fact tank that informs the public about the issues, attitudes, and trends shaping America and the world.

Counting Opinions (<http://countingopinions.com/>) is a subscription based service that provides organizations with innovative, comprehensive, and cost-effective ways to capture, manage, and measure performance data, including open-ended customer feedback, qualitative and quantitative data, trends, benchmarks, outcomes, and peer comparisons.

Gale Cengage's Analytics on Demand (<http://solutions.cengage.com/analytics>) is a subscription-based service that incorporates anonymized address and circulation data from a library's ILS and other electronic platforms that is blended with demographic and consumer lifestyle segmentation data. Librarians can create maps, charts, and reports that illustrate where patrons live and how demographic groups use the library.

Edge Initiative (<http://www.libraryedge.org/>) is a groundbreaking, first-of-its-kind management and leadership tool, helping libraries create a path for the continuous growth and development of their public technology services. Through an easy-to-use suite of tools, Edge supports libraries in making strategic decisions and identifying areas for improvement. The Edge Toolkit provides libraries an overview of current public services and community engagement. From operations to partnerships and programming, the toolkit generates recommendations for implementing best practices to align with future growth and community priorities. It also provides useful resources to demonstrate the library's community service to community leaders.

Impact Survey (<https://impactsurvey.org/>) is a yearly subscription based service based on the library's budget. The Impact Survey empowers you to ask your community directly about the technology services they use and need. Specifically, the Impact Survey asks patrons about how they use library technology services like public computers, wireless networks, online resources, and digital literacy training and helps gather information about how to improve those services to enable better patron outcomes.