

# WHAT'S Line

Alabama Public Library Service

Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

[www.statelibrary.alabama.gov](http://www.statelibrary.alabama.gov)



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## New APLS Director

Alabama Public Library Service (APLS), the state library, is delighted to announce the arrival of our new director, Dr. Nancy Pack. Dr. Pack brings a wealth of library experience and knowledge to the agency. Her experience includes: administration of public and special libraries, providing consultant services, and teaching in library educational programs.

Dr. Pack received her Doctorate in Philosophy and Library and Information Studies at Florida State University and her Masters in Library Science at the University of Tennessee.

“On behalf of the APLS Board of Directors we would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Pack. We

are happy to have her join us,” said APLS Board Chair Virginia Doyle.

Dr. Pack was most recently Branch Chief of the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. We are thrilled to have a state library director who has BPH experience!



## Free Currency Reader

The National Library Service has partnered with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) in support of its U.S. Currency Reader Program. The program will provide currency reader devices, free of charge, to eligible individuals who are blind or physically impaired. The currency reader, called the iBill Talking Banknote Identifier, is a compact device that can be carried in a pocket or purse, clipped to a belt, or attached to a keychain or lanyard. You just insert a banknote into the device and press the button on the side to have the denomination identified by voice, pattern of tones, or pattern of vibrations. BEP expects to begin distributing the readers in January 2015, but BPH patrons may pre-order a currency reader by giving us a call.



## Book Discussion Group

Are you thinking of joining a book discussion group through a church or a civic organization? Do you want to gather friends together and form your own book club? We can send you a copy of the book provided we have the title in our collection, or we can download it from BARD for you. We've had patrons call us with a list of potential book club titles, so we can check their availability before the book group decides what to read. A good website to find discussion guides and help with book discussions is <http://www.readinggroupguides.com>.

## Downloadable Magazine Subscriptions

You can now subscribe to magazines on BARD. Subscribing to a magazine means that the latest issue of that magazine will be added to your wish list automatically as soon as it becomes available.

You can subscribe to as many magazines as you like and can unsubscribe at any time. You can also choose to receive email notifications when magazines are added to your wish list.

## Halo, Dolly!

Dolly Parton deserves a halo for expanding her Imagination Library to provide young children who are blind and visually impaired with accessible books in print/Braille and audio formats. In partnership with the American Printing House for the Blind, participating families receive six free print/Braille books each year until the child reaches his or her sixth birthday. A visually impaired or blind parent or guardian of a child under six years of age also qualifies for the program. A growing collection of audio files of Imagination Library books are available as free downloads for participants. To find out more log in to <http://www.aph.org> or call 1-800-223-1839.

## BPH Consumer Advisory Committee

The BPH Consumer Advisory Committee is looking for additional members to represent the following organizations: Alabama Rehabilitation Association (ARA); Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER); Alumni and Workers Association

of ASB (AWA); Blinded Veterans Association (BVA); and National Federation of the Blind (NFB). In addition, representatives from the following institutions and agencies are eligible: Southwest Alabama Regional School for the Deaf and Blind; Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center; Department of Education, Special Education Services; and a classroom public school teacher of the visually or physically impaired. The committee hopes to have conferencing set up at APLS, so a member doesn't have to be physically present to attend. The committee asks you to contact Ruth Evans if you would like to represent one of the above groups.

## Holiday Closures

The Library will be closed on the following holidays:

11/27-11/28/14 – Thanksgiving

12/25-12/26/14 – Christmas

1/1/15 – New Year's Day

Of course, you can leave a voicemail message or send an email on a holiday.



**Regional Library for the  
Blind and Physically  
Handicapped**  
6030 Monticello Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Free Material  
for the Blind  
and Physically  
Handicapped

Address Service Requested

## WhAT's Line

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