

WHAT's Line

Alabama Public Library Service
Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

www.statelibrary.alabama.gov



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Spring 2015

Volunteer Appreciation

In February, six AUM employees from the Department of Financial Affairs volunteered in the BPH warehouse, shifting the Braille collection and pulling cassette discards. Many thanks to all of our volunteers for everything they do!



VIP Low Vision Day

BPH Reader Advisor Tim Emmons, Debra Tazewell (coordinator at Visual Impairment Services Program at the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System), and some visually impaired veterans from the Tuskegee VA attended VIP Low Vision Day in Selma on April 7th.



Summer Reading is Fun!

Summertime is a fun time for readers of all ages! The themes for the 2015 Summer Reading Program are Every Hero Has a Story (children), Unmask! (teen), and Escape the Ordinary (adult).

The program will run from June 1st through July 31st. All participants will receive a reading log, a reading certificate, stickers, a bookmark, and the possibility of a cash prize. To register or for more information, call 1-800-392-5671 and ask for Tim Emmons or Mike Coleman.

NLS Extends Magazine Loan Period

The National Library Service has increased the loan period of magazines circulated on cartridge to allow subscribers more time to enjoy their publications. Patrons who receive cartridges containing weekly magazines only will now have a total of five weeks from delivery to return, increasing their reading time from one week to three weeks. Patrons receiving monthly magazine cartridges (including those containing bundled monthly and weekly magazines) will now have a total of nine weeks from delivery to

return, increasing their reading time from four weeks to seven weeks. NLS factors in “travel time” for magazines as one week to get from the producer to the patron and one week to get from the patron back to the producer. Patrons should continue to read and return their magazines as soon as possible or they will be blocked if more than two are overdue.

Netflix Begins Audio Description for the Visually Impaired

Netflix issued a press release on April 14th announcing the addition of audio description on select titles beginning with their new critically acclaimed series, Marvel’s Daredevil.

Audio description is a narration track that describes what is happening on-screen, including physical actions, facial expressions, costumes, settings, and scene changes. Customers can choose audio narration just like choosing the soundtrack in a different language.

In the coming weeks, Netflix will add more titles, including House of Cards, Orange is the New Black, Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt, and Marco Polo.

NLS Transition to Unified English Braille

On January 4, 2016, the 207th birthday of Louis Braille, the National Library Service will implement the Unified English Braille (UEB) code. “This is the first extensive change to the English braille code since the 1930s,” said NLS director Karen Keninger. “The new code will be especially beneficial to students and other users of technology because it resolves persistent translation errors that occur when, for example, a student’s work is translated to print for a teacher to read or when print material is translated to braille.”

Those who use computers, smart phones, e-books, and texting features will also find UEB useful, as it uses the same six-dot cell pattern as the present code but drops some contractions, uses different spacing rules, and allows for translating a wider array of symbols. There are approximately ten books on BARD (the NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download website) that are in the UEB code, if patrons want to try it out and see how easy it is to read.

Using Autoselect

Our circulation system has a feature called Autoselect, which allows the system to choose books for you based on the subjects, authors, and series that you prefer. If you are tired of calling in your orders or mailing us the order forms from the TBT catalog, you might want to give Autoselect a try! Just give us a call and we can work with you to set up a profile that matches your needs. You can always switch back to just sending in orders if you find you do not like what the system is sending you.



Holiday Closures



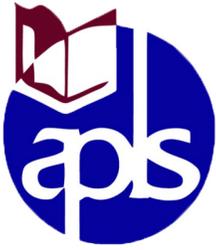
The Library will be closed on the following holidays:

5/25/15 – National Memorial Day

6/1/15 - Jefferson Davis' Birthday

7/3/15 - Independence 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

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