Happy Holidays!

Growing public libraries across Alabama

APL Seeds

December 2018

www.statelibrary.alabama.gov
The Birmingham Public Library (BPL) is offering nearly 100 different programs at its 19 different locations throughout the holidays.

Among those programs is “A Christmas Memory,” a one-woman performance led by Birmingham storyteller Dolores Hydock at the Linn-Henley Research Library on Dec. 2. Hydock’s performance is adapted from Truman Capote’s poignant short story of his boyhood in rural Alabama.

BPL is also hosting five different Christmas concerts to help patrons get into the holiday spirit, including Baroque Sounds of the Season with area quartet Birmingham Baroque. The concert will be held at Central Library’s Arrington Auditorium at 6 p.m. on Dec. 11.

Members of the Albert L. Scott Library’s Board of Trustees enjoyed a festive buffet provided by library staff at their Nov. 27 meeting. Those attending the final meeting of 2018 included: (left to right) Bob Fitzgerald, chairperson Nancy Hicks, Judy Mosely, library director Nan Abbott, Myles Owens, and Mark Harwood.

Trustees feasted on Italian style meatballs, various sandwiches, fruit, vegetables, deviled eggs, biscuits, and desserts in the library’s meeting room which was decorated in red, green, white and gold. Staff provided the dinner to thank board members for their service.
McEntee entertains Alabaster ‘Wonder Kids’

Musical storyteller Phillip McEntee — affectionately known as “Mr. Mac” — served as a special guest during the Nov. 13 session of the Wonder Kids’ Book Club at Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster.

McEntee mesmerized children with his music-filled stories before reading excerpts from *Roots & Blues* by Arnold Adoff. Book club members also joined in on the music fun by making their own tambourines.

Montgomery’s Morgan Library hosts legal services seminar, singles mixer for area patrons

by Tim Berry and Khalilah Hayes

Jaffe Pickett — deputy director of Legal Services Alabama — recently presented a program to provide non-criminal legal assistance for low income individuals.

Pickett discussed issues including family law, public benefits, elder law, tax assistance, housing, education, and consumer benefits.

Low income individuals and families are frequently at a disadvantage in dealing with courts and legal institutions. They cannot afford commercial representation and fines and fees disproportionately affect them compared to other citizens. Legal Services Alabama aims to bridge the gap and insure low income individuals are treated fairly and justly.

The organization provided a benefit of more than $19.9 million to their clients in 2017 by closing nearly 11,000 cases.

In addition to hosting the legal assistance seminar for low income individuals, the Morgan Library also recently hosted a singles mixer providing an opportunity for patrons with like interests to connect on a personal level.

The event featured several interactive activities including icebreakers, music, refreshments, a book display, and connection bags. Each attendee’s name was written on a bag displayed outside the meeting space, and attendees were given opportunities to discreetly place their name and contact information in the bag of their choice. Attendees also followed a code when passing along their contact information indicating if they were interested in spark, friendship, or networking. The connection bags proved to be a big hit with the group.

Due to the popularity of the mixer, similar events are currently being planned for the future. Library staff are also gleeful in their role of spreading some holiday cheer a little early.

Have story ideas or suggestions for upcoming issues?

Contact Ryan Godfrey at rgodfrey@apls.state.al.us or 334-213-3909.
Local artist Claire Henning recently led a program that proved to be a hit at the Ragland Public Library.

Books and Brushes begins with Henning reading a story to children about a particular artist. Afterwards, children get to create their own art masterpiece.

Right, Henning reads young patrons a story about Monet before creating art of their own.

**HALLOWEEN TREATS**

Various fall festivals proved really popular at several libraries throughout the state this year. Here’s a collection of several photos from these events from late October and early November.

- Albert L. Scott Library (Alabaster)
- Ragland Public Library
- Autauga-Prattville Public Library
- Dutton Community Library
- Lawrence County Public Library
- Tupper Lightfoot Memorial Library (Brundidge)