Third-grader Dylan Brown and his parents recently visited Tuscumbia to see the birthplace of Helen Keller. That visit to Ivy Green increased Dylan’s interest in Braille and services for the blind. During fall break for Montgomery Public Schools, Dylan and his grandmother Mary Lew Brown visited the Alabama Regional Library for the Blind (BPH) to get more information about services for persons who are blind or have low vision. Regional Librarian Angela Fisher Hall provided a tour of BPH and shared information on the history of the services provided. Because October is Blind Awareness Month, the visit was a great opportunity to learn more about how persons with visual disabilities read.

BPH Regional Librarian Angela Fisher Hall, left, with student Dylan Brown and his grandmother

Check out this hot banned books display!

Gadsden Public Library Director Craig Scott shared this photo of a banned book display created by Children’s Director Jillian Reeves.

Scott said, “Jillian always lights a passionate fire for reading in the hearts and minds of all her ‘kiddos’ who enjoy visiting the Gadsden Public Library children’s department each and every day.”

If you have photos of great displays in your library, we’d love to share them here. Send ‘em to rgodfrey@apls.state.al.us!
Legislators make community service donations to Albert L. Scott

Community service donations from three state legislators this October add $5,000 towards a new library in Alabaster.

Senator Cam Ward presented Albert L. Scott Library Director Nan Abbott a $3,000 check, following contributions of $1,000 each from Reps. April Weaver and Matt Fridy.

The donations were placed into the Friends of the Albert L. Scott Library Building Fund.

Albert L. Scott celebrates Library Card Sign-up Month winners

Congratulations to the young Albert L. Scott Library patrons who won prize drawings during the library’s National Library Card Sign-up Month celebration in September. All children who got their first library card at Alabaster’s library each received a goody bag with a chance to also win super-sized, fun pillows. The American Library Association (ALA) and other public libraries stress the importance of a library card. Each September, the campaign follows the beginning of the school year. It serves to remind parents and students that a library card is a vital, free ‘school supply’ that leads to educational success and a lifetime of learning.
Library in Red Bay awarded children’s book grant

The Weatherford Public Library was recently awarded the Children’s Book Project grant from the Pilcrow Foundation. The Red Bay Library added nearly 60 children’s books to its collection thanks to the grant.

“Kindergarten students who visited the Weatherford Public Library were excited to have two of the new books read aloud to them,” said Jan McNeill, Northwest Regional Library assistant director. The library, part of the Northwest Regional Library system, is appreciative of their new juvenile collection additions. Match money was generously provided by the City of Red Bay to make this grant possible.

Gadsden library receives award

The Gadsden-Etowah Chamber named the Gadsden Public Library its nonprofit of the year at an awards luncheon honoring excellence in small business throughout Etowah County.

The awards ceremony was held at Gadsden’s Pitman Theatre on Oct. 10.

Congratulations to Gadsden Public Library for receiving this award!

From left, Chamber President Jeff Allen with Gadsden Public Library employees Director Craig Scott, Melissa Melisano, Debbie Walker, LaShunda Williams, and Timothy Madden

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