



**IRONDALE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

For Immediate Release

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Jefferson County Public Library Association Presents Awards to Local Library Champions

IRONDALE, AL – The Jefferson County Public Library Association recently honored eight Library Champions during its annual holiday luncheon at Iron City in Birmingham, Alabama including three residents of Irondale. Ann Steves and Sue Sweatt were nominated by Irondale Public Library for their outstanding service with the Friends of Irondale Library. Dolores Hydock was nominated by the Public Libraries in Jefferson County (PLJC) for her many years of support to local libraries and literacy. The purpose of the luncheon was to recognize the outstanding achievements of volunteers and community partners. The Library Champion Award is presented annually by the Jefferson County Public Library Association. The award recognizes an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution(s) to libraries and/or librarianship in Jefferson County, Alabama.

Irondale Honorees:

Ann Steves & Sue Sweatt: Since 2011, as members of the Friends of Irondale Public Library Executive Committee, Ann & Sue have been instrumental in re-organizing a Friends group for Irondale. They have enlisted members through mailing campaigns and represented the library at community events. The Friends have raised funds to provide bicycles and other prizes for 3 consecutive years of Summer Reading and sponsored library programs. The Friends now have 55 members and 6 commercial members. Many of the Friends have volunteered over the past 3 years to work in the Friends Booth at the annual Whistle Stop Festival and at library programs. Without Ann and Sue, the Irondale Public Library would not have a Friends group.

Dolores Hydock: Dolores Hydock is a writer, actress, and storyteller. This nomination is for her excellent presentations at libraries throughout our county over the past two decades. Her original programs bring in large audiences whenever and wherever presented. In many cases the programs are standing room only. Dolores is not only a great promoter of libraries, but promotes all types of literacy. Whatever the topic, Dolores' programs bring her subjects to life and frequently include Alabama history. Library programming countywide has been enhanced as a result of Dolores' programs.

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