Coweta County News and Notes
Athens-Clarke County news and notes

The Athens-Clarke County Library is one of 35 libraries in the nation to be awarded “The American Dream Begins @ Your Library” grant. Sponsored by the American Library Association and Dollar General Store, the grant focuses on providing literacy services to new immigrants.

The Athens project will be to develop an online training manual to be used by instructors in the Athens community who teach English as a Second Language and who work with the after-school tutorial program at the Pinewoods Branch Library. Miguel Vicente was awarded WebJunction’s Diversity Fair Scholarship to attend the ALA annual conference in Anaheim. The all-expenses-paid scholarship enabled Miguel to conduct a “poster talk” session about the project. WebJunction also featured the Pinewoods project in its monthly webinar series on June 10.

Chestatee Regional news and notes

The Dawsonville-based Chestatee Regional Library System has unveiled its new mascot.

Booker the Dog made his first public appearance at the June 19 meeting of the Dawson County Board of Commissioners. Branch Manager Stacey Leonhardt donned the costume and greeted the board with hugs all around. Youth Services Specialist Tracy Walker told a short story promoting the Vacation Reading Program at Dawson County Library and shared all of the programs for children and teens offered at the library this summer.

Booker now greets the kids after each summer program. “You can see them looking for him as they leave the room, anxiously awaiting their hug,” says Leonhardt. Booker will also make more public appearances outside the library throughout the year as a means to promote library services to the community.

Coweta County news and notes

The Coweta Public Library’s new central facility has introduced “Health-Style,” a consumer initiative to share in the launch of Georgia Health – Go Local, a federally funded initiative to link users of MedlinePlus, the National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) premier consumer health Web site, to health services, health care providers or institutions, support groups, advocacy organizations, etc. in the county or ZIP code of their choice.

“Health-Style’ is a healthy-living initiative presented by the library in partnership with local health care providers, fitness centers, restaurants, pharmacies and supermarkets,” said Barbara Osborne-Harris, system library director. “It is designed to create increased awareness of the partners’ interests in serving the consumer health needs of our community. The program provides a broad range of health and medical information through books, Internet resources, brochures, topical displays, workshops and seminars. Health-Style table talk workshops with professional health care providers provide a neutral forum to highlight and discuss national and local health issues. The goal of this partnership is to impart knowledge and encourage and support consumers in gaining greater control over their own health.”

Georgia Health – Go Local is a collaborative project of Georgia’s four medical school libraries: Emory University, Medical College of Georgia, Mercer University School of Medicine and Morehouse School of Medicine, with funding support from the National Library of Medicine (National Institutes of Health), National Network of Libraries of Medicine-Southeastern/Atlantic Region and the Georgia Public Library Service.

The Coweta County Public Library System, located 35 miles southwest of Atlanta, is a network of four library facilities within Coweta County serving a population of approximately 125,121 residents. The library facilities are geographically placed to offer residents a primary service area within seven miles of their homes. CPL cardholders have access to the total holdings of the library system through an interlibrary loan book reserve and exchange program.

Fayette County news and notes

On July 26, the Fayette County Library will inaugurate “Fayette on the Page” — a “One Book, One Community” program in which everyone in Fayette County is encouraged to read the same book and talk about it. This year’s featured book is Tuesdays With Morrie by Mitch Albom. The spotlight event of the program will be Patrice Dickey’s