Cobb County News and Notes

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The Cobb County Public Library System hosted free job-search workshops in March at the Powder Springs Library. The event, led by the Georgia Department of Labor, was a three-part series designed to work as a ‘toolbox’ to empower the search of both employees and employers. Workshops were held at 11 a.m. on the following days:

**March 1:** Job hunters gained tips on how to write résumés and cover letters, information on how to turn a job interview into a job offer, how to negotiate a higher salary, and tips on stretching your income while you are searching for that job.

**March 15:** Information on and referral to federal training programs, as well as the Georgia Career Information System – an interactive PC application for gathering information about occupations, education and training programs, schools, and financial aid.

**March 29:** In “Recruiting Assistance for Employers,” people learned how to use local, state, and national applicant-tools or conduct a specialized recruitments with assistance from the Georgia Department of Labor’s marketing team.

The Powder Springs Library is located at 4181 Atlanta Street, Bldg. 1 in Powder Springs. For information on these programs call 770-439-3600.

The Cobb Library Foundation sponsored “A Day of Service” as part of Nathan Deal’s Inaugural activities on Saturday, January 8th. Volunteers coordinated a day of children’s activities at The Mountain View Regional Library including movies, music, and story times. Special guests for reading include newly elected District 3 Commissioner, JoAnn Birrell.

Free, drop-in style, activities will be held in the Central Library’s children’s department in Marietta each day of ‘TV Turn-off’ week. Monday-Thursday events run from 6-8 p.m., Friday the event is held all day, and Saturday, the event starts at 11 a.m. Game Week will be held at the East Cobb Library, April 18-21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. “These are all drop-in activities,” says Jennifer Wells, head of youth and media services, “so … that families can get a few fun hours away from the distraction of their TV and computer screens.”

The Cobb County Public Library System teamed up with Reading Education Assistance Dogs (READ) for another exciting season of READing Paws programs with several newly-trained dogs joining the team. READing Paws programs are available throughout the Cobb County libraries. The free children’s program is a one-on-one storytime and is used to enhance children’s love of reading and to encourage literacy through the use of therapy animals.

Children who participate read to a trained dog for 15-minute sessions that are monitored by a dog handler. Through the process, handlers help develop reading pronunciation and comprehension. The dog helps children be less anxious about their reading abilities and more likely to explore reading as a fun learning experience.

Dogs are registered, tested and insured therapy animals. They have been screened for skills and temperament, health and cleanliness, good manners and attitude.

Children can read to Maya at the Central Library on 266 Roswell Road in Marietta, every other Tuesday at 4 p.m. For information call (770)-528-2331. (Registration for READing Paws is required). Visit library.cobbcat.org for schedules and updates.

The Central Library will host a scavenger hunt in the library Monday. Family members can team up to answer library-related questions and discover the library. Visitors can create and take home a craft together on Tuesday, when the library will have craft supplies available for whatever can be dreamed up. Challenge someone to a
board-game duel on Wednesday night with one of several board games available at the library. Thursday, enjoy hearing stories from Cobb County local celebrities. These heroes will get to read their family’s favorite story and share it with other families.

Enjoy TV Turn-off Week all day Friday when Central will host a paper airplane obstacle course. The Central Library tradition of Saturday Storytime at 11 a.m. will wrap up TV Turn-off Week.

At East Cobb Library, enjoy the ‘classics’ with a variety of board games for families to play in the East Cobb Teen Zone and program room. Patrons are welcome to enjoy games set out by the library staff or bring their own games. Families with children of all ages will find so much to do at the Central Library during TV Turn-off Week. For information call 770-528-2331.

The Cobb County Public Library System has changed its downloadable audio books service from ‘NetLibrary’ to ‘OverDrive’ digital service company. NetLibrary and OverDrive are companies that provide and manage online content for libraries like the Cobb County Public Library System. While the library still offers e-books through NetLibrary, its audio book service has been discontinued. Since October 2010, audio books in OverDrive are used more than NetLibrary in the system.

“As a result of the change, we will be adding more audio book titles. Additionally, by March 1, we plan on offering downloadable e-books that will be compatible with most e-readers such as the NOOK and Sony Readers,” Jonathan McKeown, Associate Director of Central and Outreach Services said. “With the money we are saving, we’ll also be able to add more best-sellers to our print collection as well.”

According to the OverDrive web page, the system hosts more than 500,000 digital titles from more than 1,000 publishers. McKeown said the Cobb County Public Library System wanted to deliver when customers ask for a more extensive and popular selection.

Patrons can access both audio and downloadable books with their library card through the library’s web page. Fiction and non-fiction selections are available.

Classes on downloading e-audio books are provided at the East Cobb Library and will be expanded to the other
Cobb County Public libraries by National Library Week in April.

For information visit the Cobb County Public Library System web page at www.cobbcat.org or call 770-528-2320.

Elizabeth Galpin, a seven-year old Powder Springs resident, and Harper Scott, a 10-year old Marietta resident, performed at the Central Library in Marietta, as part of the, "Celebrate African American History Month — Celebrate Your Heritage" program. Galpin and Scott played several songs along with other ‘Unity Drummer’ members from the Al Burruss Marietta City School. To learn about other upcoming African American History Month programs at the Cobb County Public Library System, log on to the library web page at www.cobbcat.org/EventsPage.html. [Photo by Erika Ruthman/CCPLS]

Auburn Avenue Research Library unveils Andrew Young papers

Andrew J. Young, Jr. Collection at Home at the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History.

The Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History, a part of Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, hosted the official opening of the Andrew J. Young Papers on Sunday, March 6, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The program will feature a conversation between Ambassador Andrew Young and the Honorable Kasim Reed, Mayor of the City of Atlanta. The two will discuss Ambassador Young's life and mission as a minister, elected official, change agent, business leader and mentor.

The Andrew J. Young Papers document Young's career and family life spanning more than 50 years, including his work as a minister, civil rights activist, author, Congressman, Ambassador to the United Nations, Mayor of Atlanta, Co-Chair of the 1996 Atlanta Committee of the Olympic Games, as well as his involvement with Law Companies Group, Inc., GoodWorks International, and the Andrew Young Foundation. The collection contains correspondence, speeches, press releases, calendars, books, minutes, reports, publications, articles, photographs, scrapbooks, artifacts, textiles, trophies and awards, artwork, posters, programs, campaign memorabilia, manuscripts, travel documents, notes, sermons, ephemera and audiovisual material.

Rare and unique items from the collection will be on display during the opening. The program will be followed by a reception and opportunity to view items from the Collection.

For additional information about the program, call 404-730-4001, ext. 199 or 404-730-1865.