

Michael's Message

By Michael Seigler, Director, Smyrna Library



This is an exciting time to be at the Smyrna Library. Great things are happening every week.

As I reported in my last column, we have added six more public Internet computers. There are now eight adult and four children's computers available and they stay busy all the time.

By the time you read this column, the Library will have a new phone system installed. The new system will bring us into the 21st century using Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology. Utilizing the Internet for transmission and storage will substantially reduce our costs of operation and expand the services that will be available. Call forwarding, conference calls, wireless phones and voice messaging will all be available for the first time. It will be much easier for the public to reach staff and get the information they need.

Technology is nice, but programs in the Library have generated even more excitement. The Library has hosted some great programs in the past few months. In January and February the Friends held their third annual Murder Goes

South mystery writers forum. An ice storm forced the Friends to delay the second day of the conference, but it was well worth the wait. Eight nationally recognized authors expounded on the essence of the South as a setting for mysteries. In addition programs were presented on knife making, the police K-9 corps, and forensics.

The Children's Department hosted a program by world-famous children's author, Jane Yolen. Ms. Yolen has written over 200 books and won every major children's book award. It was a rare treat to have an author of her stature present a program in our Library. This program was made possible through the generosity of Kennesaw State University and the support of the Friends of the Library.

Finally, Representative Phil Gingrey made it possible for the United States Treasurer, Anna Cabral, to come and speak in our Library. Ms. Cabral provided the citizens of Smyrna with an overview of the proposed changes to Social Security.

This is just a sampling of things happening in the Library. Check us out today and find out more.

The LINK is a quarterly publication of the Friends of the Smyrna Library.

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