Henderson Library will remain a construction site until next fall. The library is now housed in the addition to the original building, which is now undergoing renovation inside and out. Stacks of construction material and detritus surround the area, and heavy vehicles such as cranes and steam shovels circle throughout the day. Recently, a project was completed in which all pre-1970 periodicals were placed in bins of the automated retrieval system. This was necessary because the temporary building in which they had been kept was set for demolition.

Lori Lester, who has recently earned her MLIS degree, became our government documents librarian in July, while Jonathan Harwell has come to us from the University of Alabama at Birmingham to fill the newly created position of collection development librarian. Katie Lamothe has joined the Serials unit of the Collection and Resource Services Department.

**Swails receives Hubbard Scholarship**

Mark Swails, a 2007 graduate of Emory University, will receive the Georgia Library Association Hubbard Scholarship. Swails received a joint B.A./M.A. in American history from Emory and plans to pursue an MLS at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. As a student at Emory University, Swails served as a student assistant and later as the first undergraduate student to serve as the graduate desk supervisor at the Heilbrun Music and Media Library. He said he looks forward to playing a role in protecting the accessibility of information as increasing digitization raises difficult questions about methods and costs of distribution.

This past year, 350 volunteers contributed more than 14,200 hours to the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System (CVRLS). Based on the 2006 Independent Sector’s Value of a Volunteer Hour being worth $17.60, this service equates to more than $249,920! Volunteers are active at all nine CVRLS locations.

In August, CVRLS honored volunteers at two volunteer celebration events sponsored by the Muscogee County Friends of Libraries. Individuals were honored for both their number of volunteer hours and exceptional service. Charles Batastini was awarded the 2007 Volunteer of the Year Award for his work with the Columbus Library of Accessible Services. Volunteer of the Year nominees were Angela Covington, Carol Jameson, Cheryl Butler, David Ramirez, Margaret Carney and Vernice King. The 2007 Youth Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Brianna Lawrence. Brianna volunteers in the Columbus Public Library Children’s Department. Youth Volunteer of the Year nominees were Ian Blake-Knox, Jordan Harris, Sarah Lewallen and Sarah Wilhite. For more information on the CVRLS Volunteer Program, contact Brooke Mann, volunteer coordinator, at bmann@cvrls.net.

In other CVRLS news, teens and their families were treated to a Salsa Showdown taste-off July 1 in the Teen Department of the Columbus Public Library. The showdown was part of the Aflac Teen Summer Reading Program. Teens and parents voted for the best of five homemade salsas made by library staff. Erica Rodela, Teen Department Library Assistant, entered the winning salsa. Two salsas created by Brijin Boddy, Teen Department Librarian, tied for second and third place.

What is “lifelong learning”? It is the idea that learning can and does occur beyond the formal structure of an educational institution and occurs throughout one’s lifetime. It is also the mission of Chestatee Regional Library System to support lifelong learning in our community. In addition to offering resources on various topics for all age and skill levels, CRLS is now offering workshops and classes for the community. Students of all ages can take advantage of these programs, including computer skills classes, craft workshops and genealogy classes. For more information, visit www.chestateelibrary.org.