Valdosta State news and notes

In response to January’s earthquake in Haiti, Valdosta State University librarian Cliff Landis pledged to match up to $10,000 worth of donations to help quake victims. He set up a donations site through the charitable organization Partners in Health, and within three days, the goal was met. As of this writing, $21,475 was donated as a result of Cliff’s efforts.

The initiative was reported on by The Huffington Post, Library Journal and The Valdosta Daily Times, among others. Cliff blogs at clifflandis.net.

Athens Regional news and notes

Laura Carter, an Athens-Clarke County Library librarian, was recently honored by the Georgia Genealogical Society with the Elizabeth Haulbrook Taylor Award.

Carter was presented with the award at the society’s Dec. 5 annual meeting.

The Elizabeth Haulbrook Taylor Award is given annually by the Georgia Genealogical Society (GGS) to the GGS member who has donated the most volunteer time to GGS projects and who is not a current member of the GGS board.

Elizabeth Haulbrook Taylor (1928-2002), for whom the award is named, was a generous genealogist who shared her large collection of research materials with anyone she could help. An Alpharetta resident, she held several offices on the board of the Georgia Genealogical Society.

Carter, who has been with the library since 1997, works in the Athens-Clarke County Library’s Heritage Room. The Heritage Room houses an extensive research collection of local history, Georgia history and genealogical resources. The Athens-Clarke County Library is located at 2025 Baxter Street in Athens.

For more information about the Heritage Room, call 706-613-3650, ext. 350, or log on to http://www.clarke.public.lib.ga.us.

Atlanta-Fulton news and notes

In partnership with Library Journal, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System will host the seventh Design Institute on April 30 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The free event will take place at the AFPL Central Library at One Margaret Mitchell Square in Atlanta.

A one-day think tank on library buildings and design, the educational seminar will bring together leading architects, librarians and vendors to address the challenges and opportunities of building new and renovating or retrofitting existing buildings. The day will provide an abundance of information on green design practices and cost-saving tactics as well as focus on designing specific spaces (technology centers, work/study spaces, teen centers, etc.). The program is limited to 100 attendees. For more information and to register, visit: www.LibraryJournal.com/designinstituteGA.

Gayle Holloman has been named the Central Library administrator for the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System. In that position, she will provide leadership and management of eight departments at the Central Library. Holloman has been with the library system since 1994, beginning her library career as a volunteer docent leading visitors on tours during the opening of the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American History and Culture. Subsequently, she was hired as a paraprofessional for Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System. While working in that capacity, she earned the MLIS, became a children’s librarian, young adult librarian, branch manager, reference department manager, and librarian principal. She helped open both the East Atlanta Branch and the Ocee Branch within the Library System. She has also served on numerous committees during her tenure. Additionally, she served as deputy co-chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee of the ALA Conference held in Atlanta in June 2002. Ms. Holloman is a member of the American Library Association and the Public Library Association. Holloman received her undergraduate degree in journalism with a minor in marketing from Georgia State University and the Master of Library and Information Studies from Clark Atlanta University.