Coastal Georgia News and Notes
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The Big Read at the College of Coastal Georgia

The Gould Memorial Library at the College of Coastal Georgia in Brunswick has helped to celebrate The Big Read in a big way thanks to a grant from the Georgia Humanities Council. Several organizations, including the Golden Isles Arts and Humanities Association, the Glynn County Schools, and the Three Rivers Regional Library System, joined together to bring The Big Read to the area, which encouraged everyone and anyone in coastal Georgia to read F. Scott Fitzgerald’s timely classic *The Great Gatsby*.

The grant funded three programs for the college’s students, faculty and staff, along with the general public. The first program featured Dr. Jim West, author of *The Perfect Hour: the Romance of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ginevra King*; the second program concentrated on the Harlem Renaissance with speaker Dr. Jon Hershey; and the third featured the film of “Bernice Bobs Her Hair” with commentary by Professor Frank Minor. Each speaker presented three programs, two at the main campus in Brunswick and one at the Camden Center in Kingsland. Each presentation was extremely well attended and the Gould Library is planning several more programs that include community participation at the recently turned four year college (the state’s newest!).

Dalton State news and notes

The Bandy Heritage Center for Northwest Georgia presented, as part of the Dicksie Bradley Bandy Memorial Lecture Series “Crafting a Culture: Women, Weaving, and Textiles in Northwest Georgia History,” a lecture titled “Georgia Quilts: Piecing Together a History,” by Anita Zaleski Weinraub, Chairwoman of the Georgia Quilt Project, on Thursday, January 13, 2011. The event was free and open to the public. For more information, contact: Heather S. Shores, Assistant Director, The Bandy Heritage Center for Northwest Georgia, Dalton State College, Phone: 706-272-4452, E-mail: hshores@daltonstate.edu.

Georgia Southwestern State news

The Display Program at the James Earl Carter Library on the campus of Georgia Southwestern State University was fortunate enough to collaborate with other departments on campus to showcase some informative and beautiful displays. GSW’s Psychology/Sociology Club sponsored a display in honor of Mental Illness Awareness Week. DeDe Reyes, Katrisha Lester, and Dr. Glenn Robins of the Department of History and Political Science in collaboration with the National Park Service developed the POW/MIA Exhibit in honor of the National Prisoner of War/MIA Recognition Day. In honor of National Family Caregivers Month, the Rosalyn Carter Institute for Caregiving displayed various booklets and pamphlets on family caregiving. During the Christmas Holidays, Dalzell Town, a collection of needlepoint villages and figurines created by Cataloging Librarian Lee Ann Dalzell was displayed.

Currently there are two displays: one in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., that highlights various quotes and pictures of him as well as a chronology of his life. The other is a Presidents’ display presenting the lives and mountain lore, ancient Welsh and Scottish folktales, and – most importantly – nourishing true-to-life stories of his own neighbors and kin. He invites each listener to come along, to pull deep inside for one’s own stories, to personally share and co-create the common experiences that celebrate the creative spirit. For Donald Davis storytelling “…is not what I do for a living...it is how I do all that I do while I am living.” Mr. Davis facilitated workshops for Early Childhood Education students and the faculty on using storytelling in the classroom. After leaving this area, he will headline at the Azalea Storytelling Festival in LaGrange.

Columbus Tech news and notes

The Columbus Technical College Library sponsored an internationally known storyteller, Donald Davis, on Monday, February 28, 2011 on the Columbus Technical College Campus. Donald Davis was born in a Southern Appalachian mountain world rich in stories. “I didn’t learn stories, I just absorbed them,” he says as he recounts tales and more tales learned from a family of traditional storytellers who have lived on the same Western North Carolina land since 1781. Davis grew up hearing gentle fairy tales, simple and silly Jack tales, scary