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East Central Regional News and Notes

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Athens Regional Library news and notes

The Georgia Library Association has named Miguel Vicente, coordinator of the Athens Regional Library System’s Pinewoods Library and Community Learning Center, the winner of this year’s Beard Scholarship. The scholarship is made possible by friends and colleagues of the late Charles Edward Beard, who served libraries and the library profession for almost 40 years. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance toward completing a Master’s degree in library science for candidates who show strong potential to inspire and motivate their peers in the profession. Friends and members of GLA continue to donate to this scholarship fund. In recent years, the annual Scholarship Raffle at the COMO Conference also has supported funding for the $1,000 award.

Athens-Clarke County Library has been awarded two national exhibits. The first, Sea to Shining Sea, is a 24-poster exhibit, sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library. The exhibit helps celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Coast Survey originally charged by Thomas Jefferson to provide a “complete and accurate chart of every part of the coasts’ of the United States. The exhibit will run through July 20 at the Athens Library. Let’s Talk About It! Jewish Literature: Identity and Imagination is presented in partnership with the Congregation Children of Israel and the Learning in Retirement at the University’s Continuing Education Department. The Library will explore five books based on a theme in Jewish Literature, and programs will run from August to November. Program Director for both grant exhibits is Tammy Gerson, reference librarian.

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The Augusta Public Library is one of 23 facilities in the U.S. to be selected to host the traveling exhibition, “Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country.” The traveling exhibition will focus on the encounters of Native Americans with the United States Corps of Discovery between 1804 and 1806, and will trace the impact of those encounters during the subsequent two centuries.

The Watson-Brown Foundation Junior Board awarded the Augusta Public Library a preservation grant of $5,750 toward restoration of the out-building at the Appleby Branch Library. On May 22, representatives of the Board visited the Appleby Library and presented Gary Swint, Augusta Library Director, with a check. The Summerville Neighborhood Association and the Friends of Augusta Library are also providing funds for this project.

Left to right: Spencer Swinson, Bonnie Bounds, Watson-Brown Foundation Junior Board President Molly Newsome and Augusta Library Director Gary Swint.

Hall County news and notes

The Hall County Library System has received the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce’s Business Beautification Award. The award was presented to the library for a landscaping project designed and implemented by the Hall County Master Gardeners. Library Director Adrian Mixson approached the Master Gardeners for their assistance in redesigning and updating the library’s garden areas. Master Gardener Patsy Kilmartin was the project coordinator.