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Georgia State News and Notes

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Georgia Southern news and notes

Zach S. Henderson Library teamed with Statesboro Regional Library to celebrate National Library Week in April. Events included a free showing of “The Hollywood Librarian” in the regional library's Isabel Sorrier Room on April 15 and a lecture on the history of libraries in Bulloch County by local historian Roger Allen on April 17.

The library has acquired the research papers and recordings compiled by English author Michael Gray during the writing of his book on Georgia blues legend Blind Willie McTell, one of the earliest blues performers to record. McTell lived for many of his formative years in Statesboro, home of Georgia Southern University, and he is famous for his distinctive guitar playing and such classic songs as “Statesboro Blues” and “Broke Down Engine.” Mr. Gray published Hand Me My Travelin’ Shoes: In Search of Blind Willie McTell in England in 2007, and an American edition was released in 2009.

Middle Georgia Tech news and notes

The library staff at Middle Georgia Technical College (MGTC) in Warner Robins hosted its first-ever Poetry Day celebration April 28. The celebration involved poetry readings by members of the Georgia Poets Society and a collegewide poetry contest. Members of the Georgia Poets Society participating in the Poetry Day celebration at MGTC were Ron Self of Columbus and J.C. Reilly of Atlanta. Each poet read several selections of their own work to the crowd of students, faculty and staff.

After the readings, Dr. Dumont Bunn, MGTC Library director, named the winners of the poetry contest, which was open to faculty, staff and students during the month of April, which is National Poetry Month. Entrants were asked to submit free verse and haiku poems. Winners were picked for each poetry type and may be viewed from www.middlegatech.edu/students/library.

University of Georgia news and notes

Frances Mayes, author of the best-selling memoirs Under the Tuscan Sun and Bella Tuscany, has announced the donation of her personal papers to the University of Georgia Libraries. The gift was announced March 30 when Mayes was on campus to give a talk, “Living Under the Tuscan Sun,” sponsored by the UGA Libraries to celebrate Mayes’ donation.

“Many, many people have enjoyed reading of Frances