

1-1-2011

Troup-Harris Regional News and Notes

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Recommended Citation

(2011) "Troup-Harris Regional News and Notes," *Georgia Library Quarterly*: Vol. 48 : Iss. 1 , Article 15.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol48/iss1/15>

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fact that we can access the Net so we can get the information quickly.”

While the ELS Language Center staff usually use the university library to introduce the availability of research materials to the students, they were required to look for an alternative this fall.

“It occurred to us that the Cobb Central Library would be a possible means of doing the same thing,” Willis wrote in an e-mail. “The extent of research, resources and the outstanding support we received when we approached the Cobb Central Library came as a wonderful surprise to us.”

Saleh Alqahtani, an ELS student from Saudi Arabia, said the library tour was a helpful experience. “This part of class helps to improve our skills, and it taught me how to research,” Alqahtani said. “The next step for me is college.”

Willis added, “Not only were we able to offer our students an alternative place to do research, but [the tour] showed them how much is available from a county library system. We plan to make regular visits [to the Central Library] to show each new group of our international students what a wonderful resource it is to residents and visitors alike.” ▶▶

DeKalb County news and notes

The DeKalb County Public Library board of trustees has appointed Alison Weissinger as acting director for the system. Weissinger took over from Darro Willey, who retired in October after 15 years as director. Weissinger



Weissinger

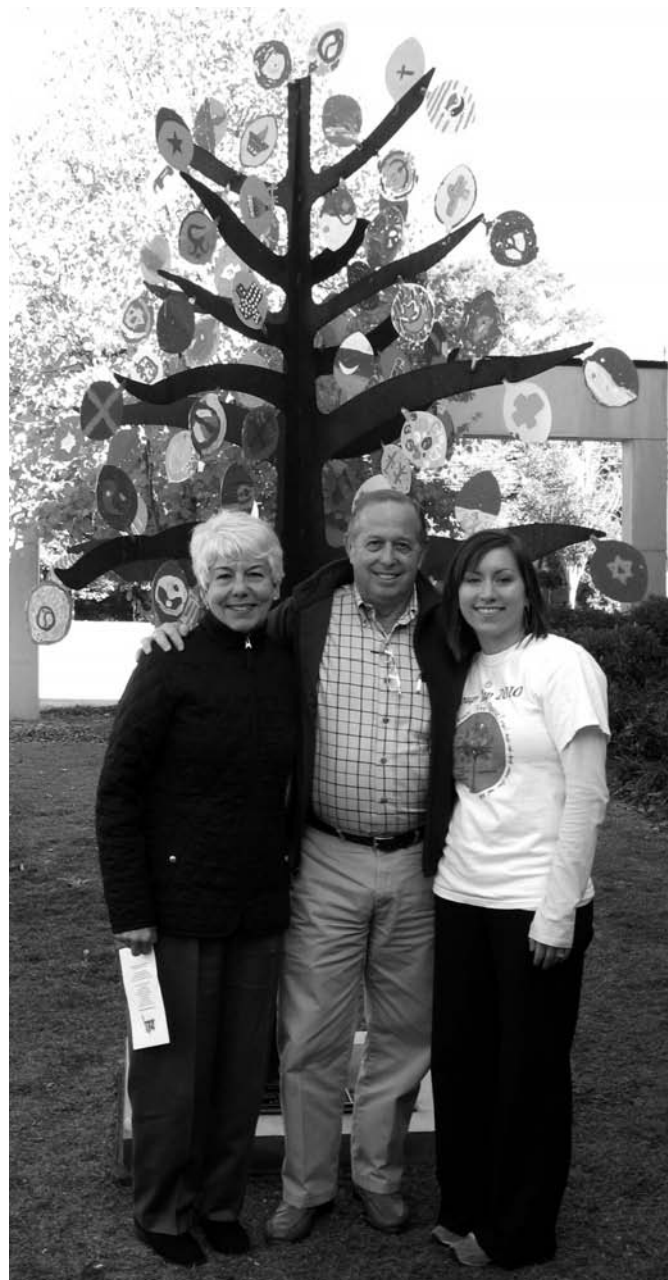
began her career in the DeKalb system in 1997 as a youth services librarian. Since then, she has served as a branch manager at several branches, including the Decatur Library, the main branch. Mostly recently, Weissinger has worked as the system’s adult services coordinator, overseeing adult programming, literacy and outreach services and the library’s website. ▶▶

Troup-Harris Regional news and notes

“The Peace Tree,” a Troup Arts Project (TAP) done by students this past summer, was dedicated on Nov. 6. The tree was placed in the courtyard of the LaGrange Memorial Library, which was chosen as a central location in the community. Each of the leaves on the tree was designed and drawn by students as representations of

peace symbols. Inspiration for the tree is based on the model and award-winning film on the beauty of diversity through unity by Mitra Sen. The program has spread throughout the world.

Award-winning author Ted Dunagan autographed books at the Troup Resource Expo on Oct. 19. Dunagan’s book, *A Yellow Watermelon*, was recently named one of the Georgia Center for the Book’s “25 Books All Young Georgians Should Read.” Dunagan’s appearance was sponsored by the Friends of the LaGrange Memorial Library. ▶▶



From left: board member Kay Durand; her husband, Fred; and TAP Director Rebecca Mitchell in front of the Peace Tree. Kay was the driving force in having the library recognized as the “heart” of LaGrange.