Elbert County Quilt Trail Project

The Elbert County Stephen Heard Chapter of DAR was awarded a $3,590 grant for their Elbert County Quilt Trail project. Hart County Archway partnered with the group to write a Hart EMC grant so they can add 12 quilt block signs to the Elbert County Quilt Trail, print brochures, and further develop their quilt trail website. The quilt blocks will be installed at Elbert County sites that highlight the area's art, history, and tourism assets. Long term, the Elbert County Quilt Trail will be partnering with the Hart County Quilt Trail and Franklin County Quilt Trail to promote the trail as a regional tourism asset and to develop marketing materials featuring quilt blocks in all three counties.

Agribusiness/Agritourism Development

On November 29, Hart County Cooperative Extension and Hart County Archway co-hosted an agribusiness development lunch and learn with Dr. Kent Wolfe from UGA's Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development. 32 participants from Hart, Franklin, and Elbert Counties attended. Wolfe discussed agribusiness and agritourism trends and opportunities, and answered questions. Follow-up sessions based on participants' expressed interests are currently being planned. Upcoming session topics will provide information on growing vegetables and ideas for developing agri-tourism. Agribusiness and agritourism development were identified as areas of interest within tourism, which is a community-identified priority issue that guides the efforts of the Hart County Archway Partnership.

Enhancements to Historic Teasley-Holland House

The Hart County Historical Society was awarded a $10,000 Hart EMC Foundation grant to complete their enhancements to the historic Teasley-Holland House, which houses the Hart County Museum and Hart County Chamber of Commerce offices. The grant will fund a new 30-year roof, updated signage, and landscaping. The landscaping will complete the implementation of a landscape design developed for the house by Archway Partnership summer intern Claire Dellinger, a landscape architecture student in UGA's College of Environment and Design. This grant-funded roof will complete interior and exterior improvements to the house, which was built in 1883 and was last renovated in the late 1980s. It is the second Hart EMC grant the Historical Society has received to update the home and museum in the past 14 months. The first grant of $9,500 funded paint, new lighting, improved museum displays and signage, and a brick walkway that connected the front door/porch to the sidewalk. Hart County Archway partnered with the Historical Society to write the grant and for Dellinger to develop the landscape designs. Other partners include the Hart County Chamber of Commerce and Hart County Cooperative Extension.