



Staff photo by Thinh D. Nguyen

From left, Grainger District Branch Manager Doug Bennett holds an oversized \$10,000 check for construction management scholarships to Southern Polytechnic State University, while Dr. Ron Dempsey, SPSU vice president for advancement, gives remarks alongside Dr. Khalid Siddiqi, chair of the SPSU construction management department, and John Mills, SPSU senior director of facilities, Wednesday at Grainger's open house at its new Marietta location.

Gift giving

Grainger opens Marietta branch, gives SPSU \$10K for scholarship

From staff reports

MARIETTA — Grainger, a distributor of facilities maintenance supplies, presented Southern Polytechnic State University with a \$10,000 check Wednesday at the opening of its Marietta branch.

The money, which was presented to SPSU faculty, will pay for scholarships for students in the university's construction management program.

"We believe that the best way to invest in the future of Marietta and the surrounding areas is to invest in the students who will be the leaders of tomorrow," said Doug Bennett, district branch services manager.

"Grainger has a long-standing tradi-

tion of supporting technical education. We know that in today's workplace there is an ever increasing need for skilled trades people."

Dr. Ron Dempsey, SPSU vice president for advancement, said his university is "thrilled" with the donation.

"These scholarships will not only benefit the individuals who receive them, they also will benefit their communities and the construction industry as a whole," he said.

Grainger also held an open house Wednesday morning to celebrate the opening of its new branch at 631 S. Marietta Parkway at the intersection with Fairground Street.

Marietta Mayor Bill Dunaway was on

hand for a ribbon cutting ceremony, as were other members of Cobb's Chamber of Commerce.

Grainger's new location is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, and serves contractors and facilities maintenance professionals from neighboring construction projects, as well as light manufacturing and commercial businesses.

The new facility features a 2,700-square foot showroom with thousands of products on display.

"Grainger has been serving business customers in the Atlanta market for 73 years and our new location will allow local customers to get more of the products they need, when and where they need them," Bennett said.