

Spring 2017

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Robert R. Muntz Library

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### Recommended Citation

Robert R. Muntz Library, "Spring 2017" (2017). *Muntz Library Musings*. Paper 26.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10950/573>

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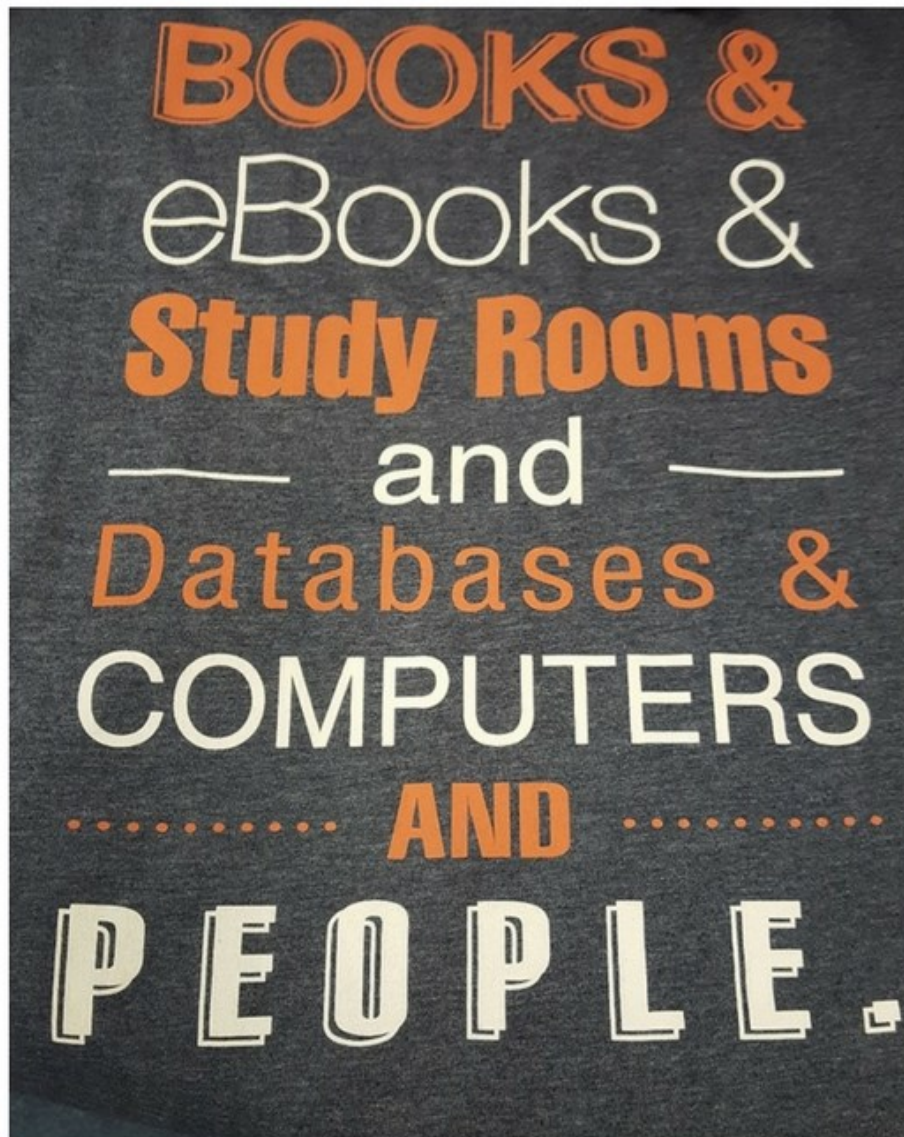
vol. 13 no. 1

# muntz musings

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the newsletter of the robert r. muntz library

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The Director's Cut / Year in Review / What's New / N.A.P.  
Famous Librarians / From the Archives / Hours & Closings

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## director's cut

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jeanne standley, executive director

*Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.*

-Anne Herbert

- Libraries serve as “bridges” across the “digital divide” for those who have little or poor internet access.
- Libraries serve as community and literacy centers, providing a safe and neutral gathering place.
- Libraries provide access to scholarly and vetted information.
- Librarians are the original fake news detectors!
- Many Libraries are partnering with Workforce Solutions to provide employment and resume building training.

*So if anyone asks you "Why do we need libraries?", here's some food for thought!*

People. The picture on the front of this edition of the newsletter is the back of our new library t-shirts, and there's a reason we include people in the list of our resources. It is the people you encounter in our library who make it special.

To those outside the library world, you may not realize that libraries are experiencing an identity crisis these days. "Why do we need libraries?" they say. "Everything is online," they say. "Just Google it," they say. But libraries aren't just about the books inside. They aren't just about the databases, or the study rooms, or the computers. Libraries are about the people.

I'm new here. I moved to East Texas from Houston 7 months ago, and to say that's a big change is an understatement. But the people in the Robert R. Muntz library are the most welcoming, helpful, friendly group you could hope for (and incidentally they're a lot of fun!). I enjoy seeing the comments my coworkers get from students and faculty, praising their help and their knowledge. I enjoy working with people who are so dedicated and passionate about their jobs, and want to share that with others. And I enjoy being allowed to do that as part of my every day life. I hope you all come visit with us to understand what I'm talking about. We'll be glad to see you!

## Things you might not know about libraries and librarians....

- There are many types of libraries- academic, school, public, and special ones such as medical or engineering.
  - Academic librarians and most others have a master's degree in Library/Information Science. School Librarians in Texas schools are also certified teachers.
- Librarians LOVE to make connections to information for people!

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## editor's letter

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christine forisha, librarian

*Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.*

-Neil Gaiman



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## what are the library staff up to?

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**Jeanne Standley**, Executive Director, served on the 2017 TLA Program Committee. TLA is one of the largest state associations and our conference is huge. She attended monthly meetings and created 5 programs that include national speakers. She also continued to serve on the state TexShare Advisory Board for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

**Alma Ravenell**, Head of Public Services, served as Chair for TLA District 5 this year and lead her first Conference. She accepted an invitation to serve on the TLA Program Committee for the 2018 Library Conference. She is co-Chairing the 3rd Marshall-Harrison County Juneteenth Celebration.

**Vicki Betts**, Librarian, appeared as Mary Louise McKellar Herndon in the Spirits of Oakwood Cemetery tour. Herndon, a pre-Civil War graduate of Baylor University in Independence, became a leader in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the women's literary club movement, and was third vice-president of the Texas Equal Rights Association in 1893, the year for which her "spirit" appeared.

**Juan Olivera**, Circulation, was recently selected for the NBCC (National Board for Certified Counselors) Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Juan will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16-25).

**Abigail Balogun**, Circulation, was inducted into Tri Beta, the Biology Honor Society. Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) is an honor society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Go Abigail!

more on the back page

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## from the desk of...

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In an age when technology rules, cell phones are like an appendage, and "reading" a book is sometimes seen as passé, it may seem puzzling as to why people still choose to come to a library. Why come to a library? Books are readily available at home, on the internet, in book stores, almost "everyone" has a computer, notebook, or laptop. Most schools and universities allow for access to databases outside of the library and many libraries are not as quiet as your room at home.

The answer: There's just something about a library. The place itself causes us to want to immerse ourselves in learning. It creates the perfect atmosphere for writing, and there are people there to help you when you hit a bump. For some reason, even the software and databases run smoother in the library. And also even though we have computers and laptops, there is something about being a part of groups of people using them all at once!

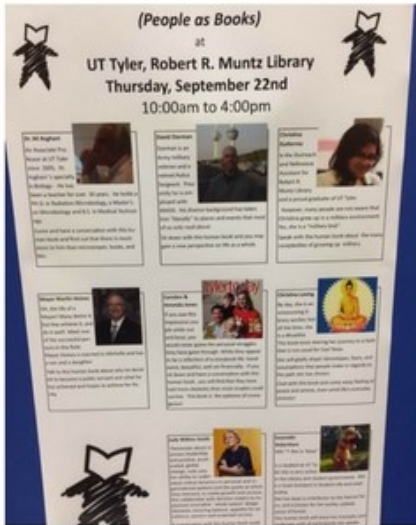
There is nothing like the smell of row after row of books, companionship of scholars, and just being able to say: "Hey, I'm in the Library studying." I get it. Of course I do. That's what first drew me to this awesome profession! Study on guys, study on! Enjoy the Library!



alma ravenell, head of public services

# year in review

Human Library, September 20-22 | Classic Horror Double Feature, October 26 | A Celebration



April 10-14 | #GearUpUTTyler, February 26 | Night Against Procrastination (NAP), November & April

of Scholarship & Creativity, February 28 | Swap Swipe Share, November & April | National Library Week,

*Thank you to all who helped make our year great!*



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## happenings

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*The 2016–2017 Academic Year has  
been a full one at the library!  
A look back at some of our events:*

Along with libraries around the country, Muntz celebrated the freedom to read during **Banned Books Week** in September. The library also hosted a **Human Library** where patrons could check out a person! Held during the *Art of Peace* activities in Tyler, the Human Library allows users to have a conversation with people whose life experiences may be drastically different from their own.

In October the library hosted a Classic Horror Double Feature at the UC Theater, featuring *House on Haunted Hill* and *Carnival of Souls*. Some of the questions at the GATE Trivia Night were based on those movies! At the end of October, we also extended our hours – from midnight to 2am, Sunday through Thursday. You asked, we were able to do it!

In November, we debuted what will likely become a biannual event – the Night Against Procrastination (NAP)! The idea is to have a night with extra support from PASS, SI, and the Writing Center, to encourage getting work done! Thanks to Student Life and Leadership and New Student and Family Programs, we had food, prizes, and give-aways.

The spring semester got started with Squirrel Appreciation Day on January 21, and the debut of our Book of the Month display on the 3rd floor. This new display features a staff pick and supplemental design. If you have an idea for a book and would like to set it up, contact Christine or Christina!



In February, the library hosted its 3rd Annual **Celebration of Scholarship and Creativity**. A collaboration with the Office of the Provost, the *Celebration* honors the scholarly and creative works of our faculty. The deans of the colleges were asked for nominees for the Crystal Talon Award, shown left. This year the recipients were: Alexis Hughes, Joshua Banta, Jim Cater, A. J. Burns, Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, Jennifer Jones, Chung Goh, Mena I. Souliman, Neil Dong, Sandra Petersen, Jonathan Cho, and Simi Gunaseelan.

April was a time for fun! We hosted our second **NAP**, and added hourly door prizes. April 10–14 was National Library Week, when the librarians had fun dressing up as librarian stereotypes. And on April 27, we celebrated **National Bring Your Child to Work Day**. We had fun with Sophia (daughter of Aaron in archives) and Sam (son of Christine in the library) visiting!



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## spotlight on...

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So what do fairy tales and music have to do with a librarian and a camel? Well, this spring, our librarian **Vandy Dubre** once again donned her “Music Librarian” persona to educate local school children during the Fairy Tale production. Every year the School of Performing Arts hosts the Children’s Opera and Musicals Production, or COMP for short. Both music students and others from across the campus spend months rehearsing, learning vocal music, lines, and even dance styles so that East Texas children are introduced to opera and musicals and a little higher education too. This year, Ms. Vandy was granted the pleasure to fulfill her role for the third time, in this wonderful tradition. She brings the educational component, introducing and teaching the audience to different aspects found in the musical. This year included what the distinctions were between folklore and fairy tales, information about the particular fairy tales shown, such as Little Red Riding Hood, two different versions of Cinderella, how the story of Cinderella is found in every country, how it can be told from different points of view, and the background of the story of Aladdin, as well as the geography and animals of India. Oh, and she even brought her own camel!

# joining our team...

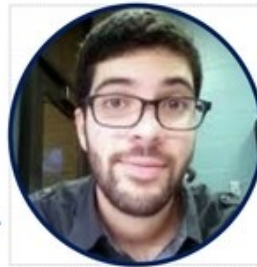
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christine forisha



Christine is our newest librarian! She joined our team in October as Liaison to the STEM departments and Outreach Coordinator.

juan olivera



Juan joined Circulation as a Graduate Assistant in September. Juan also provides coverage for our extended hours. He is a graduate student in psychology

m.e. smith



M.E. has been an undergraduate student worker in the Archives for almost 2 years! She is a History major and Art minor who will graduate in December 2017.

geoff doepker



Geoff joined the Circulation team in November as Library Assistant II. Geoff provides coverage for our extended 2 am schedule.

prasanna suryanarayanan



Prasanna is our new graduate assistant who is majoring in Industrial Management and plans to graduate in December 2017. This is his first semester working in the UASC.

vera hobma



Vera joined the staff in Circulation as our new student assistant. She is a Psychology major with a minor in Human Resource Development.





### famous librarians

**Beverly Cleary** (pictured above) – Before she was a children's author, Mrs. Cleary served as a children's librarian, during which time she struggled to find books her young patrons could identify with! Her beloved characters Ramona Quimby, Henry Huggins, and Ralph S. Mouse, among others, certainly filled that void!

**Jocasta Nu**, Jedi Master and Chief Librarian of the Jedi Archives during the Clone Wars. While she was woefully unhelpful to Obi-Wan when he was searching for information about the planet Kamino, she died at Darth Vader's hand protecting the Jedi Beacon.



**S.R. Ranganathan**, the "Father of Library Science in India". Few non-

librarians have likely heard of him, but all library users have benefited from his "5 laws of library science" – books are for use, every reader his book, every book its reader, save the time of the reader, and the library is a living organism.

## from the archives

terra gullings, university archivist



The University Archives and Special Collections Department has digitized UT Tyler's student newspapers from the 1970s-1990s. Here ([scholarworks.uttyler.edu/studentnewspapers/](http://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/studentnewspapers/)) you can read about the creation of our university—when we were named Tyler State College, then changed to Texas Eastern University, and eventually how we joined UT System and became UT Tyler in 1979. The newspapers showcase how our campus has grown too—from renting space at Roberts Junior High (with only 183 students) to our current campus with over 200 acres (and nearly 10,000 students!). And if you have any questions, please stop by the University Archives and Special Collections Department, in LIB106, to learn more about UT Tyler's rich history!

The Political Life of

## William M. Steger ON EXHIBIT NOW





# the back page

*That's all, folks!*

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Executive Director

Christine Forisha  
Editor

Vandy Dubre  
Associate Editor

Alma Ravenell  
Advising Editor

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## summer Hours

Closures: May 6-7, 13-14 (Sat-Sun);  
May 29 (Mon); July 4 (Tue)

Intrasemester: May 8 - 12 (M-F) 8 am - 5 pm

Beginning May 15:

Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 10 pm

Friday 7:30 am - 5 pm

Saturday 9 am - 6 pm

Sunday 1 pm - 10 pm

### New Carpet!

The second (main) floor of the library is getting new carpet during the week between finals and summer school! Thanks in advance for your patience!

### Summer Hours

We have an abbreviated schedule for the summer - on Sunday - Thursday, we're open until 10pm instead of 2am. Don't worry, extended hours will be back for fall!

### upcoming



more: what are the library staff up to?

**Robyn Perdue**, Circulation, participated in her first 5K in March at the FRESH 15! That's her in the center of the picture, with Jeanne and Alma. **Aaron Ramirez**, Archives, also ran, helping contribute to UT Tyler's 3rd place finish for number of employee participants!

**Christine Forisha**, Librarian, attended the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) biannual conference in Baltimore in March.