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THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW 2014-2015



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.



I AM OFTEN ASKED

if there is anything left of the physical library. Many have the impression that we deal completely, or nearly completely, in electronic books and

databases. It is true that the greater part of our collections budget is used to purchase materials in digital form. And, certainly, technology is central to everything we do. But—as we who work in the library know—more people visit us in person than ever before.

And our physical spaces are, more than ever, integral to the research, teaching, and service missions of the university. Our Commons is a magnet for students and the envy of other academic support centers on campus.

Not so very long ago, the renovation or construction of library spaces was undertaken only once every decade or so. Now such projects are perpetual. On any given day last year, visitors to our libraries could see numerous renovations commencing, in progress, or nearing completion. We replaced carpeting and updated signage throughout John C. Hodges Library. Installation of a new HVAC system displaced Pendergrass Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine Library services and collections for the entire summer.

The single most expensive renovation project was probably also the one that went least noticed—the resurfacing of Hodges Library’s thirty-plus roofs. But even small changes can have a big impact. One very small but very important project was the opening of a new study room near the George F. DeVine Music Library. The School of Music agreed that repurposing an existing meeting room to create a reservable study space was an excellent investment in student success. A room booking system also was implemented for study rooms on the first and second floors of Hodges Library. Students now can reserve library study rooms online, up to a month in advance.

More exciting projects will unfold in the coming year, including creation of a lovely new gallery in Hodges Library that will feature interpretive exhibits of our special collections.

Those tangible collections, which we will spotlight in the new gallery, are of increasing—not diminishing—importance. Special Collections aggressively collects literary and cultural artifacts to support current research at the university and open up new avenues for future scholarship. You can read in this magazine about some of our recently acquired collections, such as the personal archive of writer David Madden and the papers of journalist, commentator, and all-around raconteur Sam Venable. And, yes, you can also read herein about how we’re digitizing some of our unique collections to make them available to the world.

So when people ask about the future of the physical library or the printed book, I say their futures are brighter than ever. The physical library is stronger because of the great abundance of digital resources, and digital resources are richer because we have print publications and brick-and-mortar buildings. We are lucky to live in a time when we have both, and more. And nothing demonstrates this point better than all the wonderful services, spaces, and collections you will read about in this issue of the *Library Development Review*. Enjoy.

Steven Escar Smith
Dean of Libraries

ON THE COVER:

The University of Tennessee Libraries holds a sizable collection of rare bibles, including a Hebrew Bible of great historical value. *Read about this recent acquisition on page 9.*

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THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW 2014-2015



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SEE THE BACK COVER FOR A **SPECIAL PULL-OUT POSTER!**

From Medieval Alchemy to Tennessee Moonshine *by Jennifer Benedetto Beals*

Quite a Year!

by Erin Horeni-Ogle

The 2014–2015 fiscal year has been tremendously successful for the development program at the University of Tennessee Libraries. We finished FY15 having raised more than \$1 million for the third straight year, with gifts sup-

At the end of October, the Library Society celebrated the acquisition of the Dr. William M. Bass III Collection with a wonderful reception, an exhibit, and an engaging lecture from our honoree, the world-renowned forensic anthropolo-

mons. We entertained our performer and our friends at Club LeConte, then Flemons entertained and informed us with a lecture and performance at the Bijou Theatre. An audience of more than 500 enjoyed the evening, which featured old-time string music and engaging stories of old-time musicians.

In April, we celebrated the acquisition of the David Madden Collection with a reception and lecture at the McClung Museum. The Library Society's combined gifts helped to support the acquisition of this collection, which includes manuscripts, articles, correspondence, and research from writer David Madden, a 1957 UT alum. Madden spoke about his creative process

in a lecture titled "The World's One Breathing." Before the lecture, Dean Smith presented Madden with the Accomplished Alumni Award, a prestigious honor bestowed by the Office of Alumni Affairs.

We have received remarkable support from alumni and friends throughout this past academic year. With the help of

our donors, we are confident in the libraries' ability to support research, learning, and discovery on our campus for years to come.



Above: At the pre-concert reception: Steve Smith, Dom Flemons, Brian Farrow, Sandy Leach, Martha Gill (secretary, Friends of the Knox County Public Library), Jeff Johnson (chair, Library Society of UT Knoxville). (Photo courtesy of Jonathan Young)
Right: At the event honoring writer David Madden: Madden poses for a fan.



porting many areas including Special Collections and University Archives, student services, excellence funds, and collections. Many of our donors made commitments of planned gifts that will help sustain the libraries for years to come. For the first time in several years our total number of donors is on the rise, and our donor retention rate is higher than the campus average. We're honored that so many donors have entrusted us with their gifts, and we are grateful for the opportunity to use these gifts to benefit students and scholarship at the University of Tennessee.

Our friends showed true Volunteer spirit during the Big Orange Give, UT's online fundraising campaign that takes place in the week leading up to Homecoming. With the help of our champion William M. Bass, who pledged an additional \$10,000 when we reached our goal of \$5,000, the University Libraries raised nearly \$20,000 in five days.

gist. With wit and energy, Bass told us of exploits from his early work excavating Indian burial sites. A packed house learned and laughed and thoroughly enjoyed the event.

In FY15, the university launched Vol- Starter, a crowdfunding website akin to Kickstarter, and aimed to fund projects quickly on "Be A Hero Day" in February. The libraries' De-Stress for Success program, which provides stress-relieving activities for students during final exams, was the first project to be fully funded that day, raising just over \$1,000 to support student well-being.

In March, we partnered for the second year with the Friends of the Knox County Public Library. Together we hosted the American Songster, Dom Fle-



A Relief Map of Tennessee by Martha Rudolph

Unique among the thousands of maps held by the University Libraries is a ten-foot-long plaster relief map of the state of Tennessee. Lettered on the map is its provenance: A Relief Map of Tennessee Colored to Show the Typical Soils . . . Compiled by the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station . . . Modeled by Edwin E. Howell . . . 1897.

This year the libraries decided that the hundred-year-old map was due for conservation treatment. Over the course of several months a conservator repaired cracks in the plaster, removed a yellowing varnish (apparently applied in an earlier, misguided attempt at preservation), and restored colors to an approximation of the original tones.

When the UT Agricultural Experiment Station commissioned the plaster relief map in 1897 to illustrate the results of their six-year study of Tennessee soils, they turned to a well-known commercial map and model maker of the day, geologist Edwin Eugene Howell (1845–1911).

The Microcosm, Howell's successful Washington, DC business, sold relief maps (also called relief models or terrain models) to museums and schools throughout the country. In the late nineteenth century, such relief maps were popular teaching tools. Your great-grandparents may have learned about physical geography by tracing the ridges, valleys, plains, and mountains on one of Howell's relief maps.

Howell was, in fact, a pioneer of terrain modeling in the United States. It is said that his 1870 model of the island of San Domingo was the first relief map ever made in America. And his terrain model of the Grand Canyon, revealing to the American public the astonishing depth of the Arizona chasm, made a sensation at the US Centennial Exposition in 1876.

Howell took part in one of the epic scientific ventures of his generation, the Great Surveys of the American West. These government-sponsored expeditions to explore and map the vast Western territories were the predecessors of the United States Geological Survey.

In 1865, Howell had joined Ward's Natural Science Establishment in Rochester, New York, where he studied natural history and learned to prepare specimens for museums. Through his friendship at Ward's with geologist Grove Karl Gilbert, Howell enlisted in George M. Wheeler's survey west of the 100th meridian, serving as a geologist on Wheeler's expedition in 1872 and 1873. In 1874 he joined the survey of the Rocky Mountain region under John Wesley Powell, the larger-than-life one-armed former Civil War major whose crew had made the celebrated 1869 traverse of the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.

A few years after leaving his position on Powell's survey, Howell moved to Washington, established the Microcosm, and began specializing in the modeling of relief maps.

Our beautifully restored relief map of

Tennessee now hangs in the Paul M. and Marion T. Miles Reading Room in the John C. Hodges Library. It is dedicated to the Mallicote family in celebration of their many contributions to the University of Tennessee and the UT Libraries.

Our Tennessee relief map was at one time used in UT geology classes.



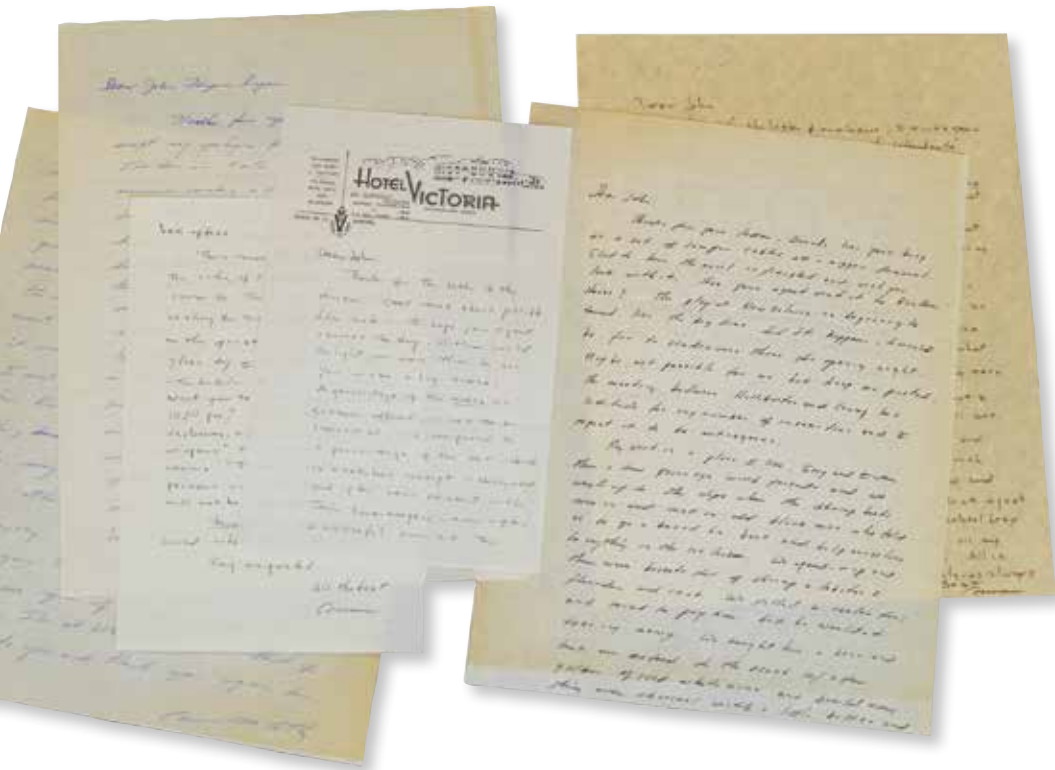
Watch our video on conservation of the Tennessee relief map at [youtube.com/utklibraries](https://www.youtube.com/utklibraries)



A LITERARY CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters Between Cormac McCarthy and John Fergus Ryan

by Steven Escar Smith



Perhaps librarians are all writer-wannabes. Nothing gives us a thrill so much as rubbing shoulders (even metaphorically) with novelists, poets, playwrights, and such. Nothing is more sought after for our archives than the novelist's typescript, the poet's draft, or literary correspondence. Recently, the University Libraries was fortunate to acquire a cache of letters exchanged between two authors with Tennessee roots.

For about a decade, writers Cormac McCarthy and John Fergus Ryan engaged in an occasional correspondence that ranged over family, friends, books, and authors, among other topics. The UT Libraries' Special Collections secured the entirety of their correspondence at auction.

Cormac McCarthy needs no introduction. Arkansas-born, Memphis-based writer John Fergus Ryan (1931–2003), a journalist, humorist, playwright, and

novelist, is less well known. Ryan published short stories and nonfiction pieces in magazines such as *Esquire* and *Atlantic Monthly*. His novels include *The Redneck Bride* (1990) and *The Little Brothers of St. Mortimer* (1991). The *New York Times*' Notable Books of 1992 lauded both *The Little Brothers of St. Mortimer* and McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*.

The correspondence between the authors begins in 1976, with Ryan writing to McCarthy to introduce himself and to congratulate McCarthy on his Guggenheim award. The two struck up a friendship that continued throughout the course of the correspondence. Over the years they visited occasionally, and Ryan came to know some of McCarthy's East Tennessee friends. At the beginning of the correspondence McCarthy is living in Louisville, Tennessee, just outside Knoxville. Later McCarthy writes from Knoxville;

Lexington, Kentucky; El Paso; Santa Fe; New Orleans; and Chihuahua, Mexico.

The letters preserve the authors' thoughts on a wide range of topics, from making a living as a writer to observations on the various places they each lived or visited to their mutual appreciation of classical music. They discuss authors (Henry Miller, William S. Burroughs, and James Agee, among others) and the contemporary state of publishing. In one letter McCarthy laments, "I think the country is running out of outlets for writers. If the magazines stop publishing fiction, as they just about have, can the book publishers be far behind? . . . There is no reason to assume that literature—and almost any definition will do here—will continue to exist."

Often only one letter writer preserves a correspondence, and half the conversation is lost forever. Because Ryan saved not only the letters received from McCarthy but also carbon copies of his own letters, UT holds their complete correspondence. The twenty-six letters that make up Ryan's side of the correspondence are typewritten. McCarthy writes mostly in longhand (eleven letters), with six more in typescript.

The letters provide candid insights into the lives of two Tennessee writers—one who would go on to global acclaim and the other who would continue to practice his craft with distinction but never broad recognition. We are pleased to preserve the letters for posterity and to make them available to literary biographers and other researchers.

The Ryan-McCarthy correspondence complements our substantial holdings of writers of national and international prominence with connections to Knoxville, East Tennessee, and the Appalachian South. The Special Collections Reading Room welcomes scholars interested in Cormac McCarthy, John Fergus Ryan, James Agee, Wilma Dykeman, Thomas Wolfe, David Madden, and many others.



WWII Oral History Digitization Project: Preserving the Voice of the American Veteran

by Alesha Shumar

Over the past twenty-five years, the Center for the Study of War and Society (CSWS) at the University of Tennessee has conducted hundreds of oral history interviews with World War II veterans. The libraries' World War II Oral History Digitization project now has made those recordings freely available online.

The founding of the CSWS, more than thirty years ago, was motivated by two urgent concerns. First, it was imperative to

document veterans' experiences of the war before their generation passed. Second, the historians who founded the center wanted to move beyond traditional military history to embrace a wider focus that includes social and cultural history. The founders' early focus on the relationship between war and society proved to be prescient; it is now a recognized area of historical inquiry.

The digitization project grew from a long-standing partnership between the CSWS and the UT Libraries' Special Collections. Together they are making the university a national center for the study of America's experience of international conflict by collecting, preserving, and making accessible the letters, diaries, photos, memoirs, and oral histories of American veterans.

The oral histories uniquely capture what is described as the whole-life approach, which encompasses the veteran's entire life story within a social context. Veterans were asked to speak about their childhood, family, upbringing, and memories of life before service, as well as their experiences in the war. Their descriptions of life following the war yield valuable information about readjustment to civilian life and processing traumatic memories of combat. The interviews powerfully capture the memories of a diverse group of American veterans—from all regions of the country, from Medal of Honor recipients to Navajo code talkers, intelligence officers to Army engineers, nurses to Marines—each offering a unique perspective on conflict.

The histories were first captured on audiocassette tapes. While original tapes were duplicated for researchers, the aging cassette tapes were vulnerable to deterioration. Migrating the fragile audio recordings to a more stable format became an urgent priority. The goal of the project was to convert 375 audiocassette tapes, holding interviews with 167 individual veterans, into a digital format that would make them more accessible and ensure their long-term preservation. Over the past year and a half, the World War II oral histories have gone from audiocassette tapes available only within the Special Collections Reading Room to streaming audio available online for the world to hear and experience.

The online oral histories can be searched by interviewee, theater, and keyword. Listeners can hear interviews with several veterans of German-Jewish descent who immigrated to America as teenagers and learn how their experiences of Nazi Germany motivated their military service. Other narratives recall life during the Great Depression, the creation of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the development of the "secret city" in Oak Ridge. Explore this exceptional digital collection at digital.lib.utk.edu/wwiioralhistories.

The World War II Oral History Digitization project was made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Securing funding and making the histories accessible online was a cherished project of Manuscripts Archivist Rabia Gibbs. Sadly, Gibbs passed away in June 2014 before seeing the completion of the project.



Top: *African American Photograph Albums, 1941-1969. MS.2881.* Above left: This tent was home to Army Air Corps troops in the South Pacific. *George C. Crout Papers. CSWS.WWII.1.0002.* Above right: Member, Officers' Club, Pearl Harbor. Major Lawrence S. Barker Papers. *CSWS.WWII.3.0010. Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries.*



IN FOCUS:

East Tennesseans

When scholars and journalists want to know more about East Tennesseans who have influenced national policy or international affairs over the past century, they turn to UT's Modern Political Archives (MPA). The MPA—a branch of the University Libraries, but housed, appropriately, in the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy—comprises roughly 150 collections of materials chronicling some of the most influential public servants from East Tennessee. These materials, from Senate correspondence to campaign materials, were donated to the university to be preserved for posterity.

As archivists, our goal at the MPA isn't only to preserve materials but also to ensure that researchers can find and use the materials in our care. Researchers who want to truly delve into the roles of Tennesseans in affairs of state must visit the MPA in person.

Yet our political treasures have broader appeal. To share those treasures with a wider audience, we are digitizing images from some of the more popular collections and making them available online.

This year, we are pleased to announce new digital image collections documenting the lives and careers of two influential US senators from East Tennessee: Howard Baker and Estes Kefauver.



Photographs from the Life and Career of Howard Baker

Howard Henry Baker Jr. (1925–2014) was the son of a US representative from East Tennessee. Born and raised in Huntsville, Tennessee, he attended the McCallie School in Chattanooga and, after a stint in the Navy, graduated from UT Law School in 1949. In the year following his father's death, Baker followed him into politics, running in a 1964 special election to fill the US Senate seat vacated by the death of Estes Kefauver. Baker lost, but in 1966 he became Tennessee's first popularly elected Republican senator.

In the Senate, Baker developed a reputation as a consensus builder who put progress above party politics. He was considered an ally by both conservative and liberal factions and was included on short lists for positions from vice president to Supreme Court justice.

Baker first rose to national prominence as the senior Republican on the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, popularly known as the Watergate Committee. The committee's nationally televised hearings unearthed the "dirty tricks" of President Richard Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign and culminated in Nixon's resignation. The

Opposite page, top left: The Baker Special made whistle-stops across the state during Baker's 1972 and 1978 Senate campaigns. Opposite page, below left: Senators Howard Baker and Sam Ervin at the Watergate hearings. Below: Baker photographs the 1981 return of Americans held hostage by Iran.



on the National Stage

by Kris Bronstad

hearings changed how we speak about scandal. *Watergate* and even the suffix *-gate* are common descriptors for conspiracy and cover-up. Baker's famous question, "What did the president know and when did he know it?" is still invoked when people discuss investigations of corruption.

Baker's performance during Watergate strengthened his reputation in the Senate. He served as Senate minority leader from 1977 to 1981 and majority leader from 1981 to 1985. He helped craft landmark legislation concerning the environment, domestic energy policy, and peace in the Middle East.

In 1978, Baker backed President Jimmy Carter's Panama Canal treaties. Public disapproval of his pro-treaty stance was thought to be part of the reason Baker, once considered a shoo-in for the presidency, ultimately withdrew from the 1980 presidential race.

After Baker retired from the Senate in 1985 he served as President Ronald Reagan's White House chief of staff (1987–1988), helping to steer the administration around controversies such as the Iran-Contra arms deal. He served as ambassador to Japan from 2001 to 2005.

Baker's hobby and passion was photography. Few of the photographs in our digi-

tal collection, however, are Baker's own. Instead, we see Baker through the lens of media, government, and family—meeting with political colleagues, small-town constituents, and foreign dignitaries. Sometimes we even see Baker himself behind the camera.

Explore Photographs from the Life and Career of Howard Baker at digital.lib.utk.edu/baker.

The Estes Kefauver Image Collection

The Estes Kefauver Papers is the largest collection at the MPA and draws researchers from across the country. While

current generations may be unfamiliar with Kefauver, he was once a prominent figure in national politics.

Kefauver (1903–1963) was a Madisonville, Tennessee, native and a graduate of the University of Tennessee and Yale Law School. He practiced law in Chattanooga before representing Tennessee in the US House of Representatives (1939–1949).

He served in the US Senate from 1949 to 1963 and twice ran for president.



Like Baker, Kefauver gained national attention through televised Senate hearings. The Special Committee to Investigate Crime in Interstate Commerce, known as the Kefauver Committee, in 1950 and 1951 exposed the intrusion of organized crime into local governments. Americans were riveted by the committee's grilling of mobsters on prime-time TV. The hearings inspired a wave of crime exposé films, including Robert Wise's *Captive City* (1952), in which Kefauver appears as himself.

Kefauver's popularity propelled him to a victory in the New Hampshire primary during the 1952 presidential campaign, prompting sitting president Harry S. Truman to withdraw from the race. In 1956, Kefauver bested John F. Kennedy to become the vice presidential candidate alongside Democratic presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson.

For a southern Democrat of the time, Kefauver was liberal in his views. He almost lost re-election in 1954 for refusing to denounce the Supreme Court's landmark desegregation decision, *Brown v. Board of Education*. He and Tennessee's other senator, Albert Gore Sr., were the only southern senators who refused to sign the pro-segregation Southern Manifesto.

Defining issues of Kefauver's career include consumer protection and exposing unfair practice in US industries. His Senate Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee took on the pharmaceutical industry over profiteering and deceptive advertising. Kefauver's



most famous legislative achievement, the Kefauver-Harris Drug Act, led to improved drug safety.

Kefauver is remembered as a master campaigner with a larger-than-life personality. That charm can perhaps be glimpsed in the Estes Kefauver Image Collection in the signature grin he showed while greeting constituents on the campaign trail.

Browse the Estes Kefauver Image Collection at digital.lib.utk.edu/kefauver.

We hope that both digital collections show not only twentieth-century American politicians in their daily habitat, but also illustrate and honor how these East Tennesseans changed the world in their own ways. The larger stories of how they accomplished what they did, and what happened along the way, can be found in the archives.

Above: Estes Kefauver accepts his party's nomination for vice president, 1956 Democratic National Convention. Left: A winning smile: Kefauver campaigning. Above left: Kefauver sporting his trademark coonskin cap. Because of his progressive stances, Kefauver ran afoul of Tennessee's Democratic Party boss, E. H. Crump, who accused Kefauver of being "raccoon-like" and a Communist puppet. Kefauver donned a coonskin cap during a speech and rejoined, "I may be a pet coon, but I'm not Boss Crump's pet coon." The coonskin cap thereafter became a symbol of Kefauver's campaign.



The *Biblia Hebraica* of Menasseh ben Israel: IMPARTING THE TEXT

by Gregory B. Kaplan

This year the University Libraries was able to purchase an especially rare treasure, a historically important Hebrew Bible printed in Amsterdam in the 1630s, the Biblia Hebraica, eleganti caractere impressa. Editio Nova ex accuratissima recensione doctissimi ac celeberrimi Hebraei Menasseh Ben Israel. (Hebrew Bible, printed in elegant type. New Edition from the thorough and learned revision by the renowned Hebraist Menasseh ben Israel.)

Rabbi Menasseh ben Israel



Above: Rembrandt's portrait of Menasseh ben Israel, 1636. Previous page and bottom right: The *Biblia Hebraica* of Menasseh ben Israel. *Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries*. Far right: Genesis 2:16. The *Biblia Hebraica* of Menasseh ben Israel. *Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries*.

Rabbi Menasseh ben Israel (1604–57), who produced this “New Edition” from his “thorough and learned revision” of the Hebrew Bible, descended from *conversos*, Jews who converted to Catholicism in order to avoid expulsion from Spain (1492) and Portugal (1496). Although they were Catholics in public, Menasseh’s *converso* ancestors were crypto-Jews, who performed Jewish rituals in secret.

Crypto-Judaism was by necessity a minimal form of religion and was practiced at tremendous risk of being denounced to the Inquisition, which presumed that all accused were guilty. Menasseh was born on the Portuguese island of Madeira to parents who

had fled inquisitorial persecution in Lisbon. Like other crypto-Jews—including the family of Baruch Spinoza (1632–77)—Menasseh’s family immigrated to Amsterdam, where the doctrine of freedom of conscience upon which the Union of Utrecht was founded in 1579 favored an atmosphere of religious tolerance. However, the threat of the Inquisition was never far off in a Dutch nation engaged in a lengthy war of independence (1568–1648) from Spain.

The first *conversos* arrived in Amsterdam in the 1590s. Over the following decades the community of around 2,000 individuals founded a congregation, which in 1675 moved into the Portuguese Synagogue that stands today, and a yeshiva, where Menasseh received his religious training. In the early 1600s, Amsterdam was not yet a cen-

ter of rabbinic learning and, like other Sephardic (Spanish/Portuguese) and Ashkenazic (German/Polish) Jewish communities, it fell under the authority of the (Ashkenazi) Venetian Rabbinate. During Menasseh’s years as a student the community hired Saul Levi Morteira (c. 1595–1660), an Ashkenazi chief rabbi trained in Venice. Menasseh would serve on the Amsterdam rabbinate with Morteira for several decades while engaged in the important task of rejudaizing *converso* émigrés, who continued to arrive into the late 1600s. Rejudaization was paramount for establishing spiritual legitimacy within the larger network of European and Mediterranean Jewish communities, whose commercial ties produced significant economic benefits.

One of the main obstacles to rejudaization was the fact that many *conversos* did not have a firsthand knowledge of the Hebrew Bible (the Pentateuch, eight Books of the Prophets, and eleven Books of the Writings), which in Spain and Portugal was permitted only in Latin editions. The church’s prohibition against reading vernacular translations of the Bible is found in the first inquisitorial index of forbidden books, which was published in 1551. The inquisitorial ban was aimed at suppressing *Biblias romanceadas*, Spanish versions of the Hebrew Bible commissioned to Jewish translators, which had existed in Spain since the thirteenth century (a Portuguese version of the Hebrew Bible did not exist until the 1700s). The eleven extant *Biblias romanceadas*, five of which are housed at the Escorial Library in Spain, appear to be based on a common source, a literal trans-



lation from the Hebrew that was the Spanish text used in the preparation of the 1553 Ferrara Bible by exiled *conversos*. During the following two centuries, the Ferrara Bible became the standard biblical text for *conversos* and descendants of Iberian Jews expelled in the 1490s, who continued to speak and read Spanish in exile.

However, because the Spanish text follows Hebrew syntax and many Hebrew terms remain ambiguous in the Spanish rendition, the Ferrara Bible, as those who prepared it acknowledge in their introduction, is difficult to comprehend. One of the goals of rejudaization was to replace the Ferrara Bible with a Hebrew Bible. Of course, arriving *conversos* first needed to learn Hebrew, and Menasseh created his “New Edition” to facilitate this process. As such, Menasseh’s rendition of the biblical text includes vowels as well as consonants, with the diacritical marks for vowel sounds (above, below, or inside the consonants) helping learners to articulate Hebrew words and then recognize the three-consonant root word by sight. Menasseh’s inclusion of vowels, which required him to make semantic choices insofar as the meanings of three-consonant Hebrew root words vary according to the vowel sounds with which those words are articulated, results in a clearer Hebrew text—and also reflects his acumen as a biblical scholar (see sidebar).

Menasseh modified his “New Edition” of the Hebrew Bible on several occasions and published multiple editions during the 1630s, and it is interesting to speculate that the one UT possesses, which contains a title page in Italian (with some Latin), may have been intended for the many *conversos* who fled to Venice and Rome. If so, Menasseh’s “New Edition” of the Hebrew Bible, possession of which could have resulted in execution by the Inquisition in Spain and Portugal, should also be considered within the larger context of rejudaization. The return of *conversos* to Judaism was seen by Menasseh, as well as by other rabbis working throughout Europe and the Mediterranean, as an essential step toward establishing a permanent Jewish homeland. Menasseh’s dedication compelled him to meet Oliver Cromwell in 1655 in the hope of initiating the process by uniting the Jews in England. While that effort failed, as biblical scholar Harold Fisch writes, “Menasseh’s real goal was

Zion, its redemption and the ingathering of its exiles. . . . In a deep sense Menasseh prepared the way for Zionists of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.”*

Although it would not be until after Menasseh’s death that the Hebrew text completely replaced the Ferrara Bible, his “New Edition” is symbolic of the successful rejudaization of Amsterdam’s *conversos*, who ultimately embraced the traditions shared by descendants of exiled Jews of the 1490s and initiated a new chapter of Sephardic history.



Amsterdam’s *conversos* would have been familiar with the Hebrew Bible only through the word-for-word—and often problematic—Spanish translation in the Ferrara Bible. Menasseh’s objective was to provide a clearer Hebrew text that would encourage *conversos* to learn Hebrew in order to follow the reading of the Torah and the rest of the Jewish liturgy.

Since Hebrew is traditionally written without vowels, the unambiguous reading of a text can be difficult. Consider Genesis 2:16: “And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you are free to eat.’” The phrase “free to eat” corresponds to the traditional Hebrew אכל תאכל, which repeats the three-consonant root (אכל) for the Hebrew verb meaning eat. The Ferrara Bible renders this text with the confusing phrase “*comer comerás*” (literally, “to eat, you will eat”).

Menasseh’s Hebrew text, אָכַל תֹּאכַל, using a variant spelling system that includes diacritical marks to indicate vowel sounds, disambiguates the problematic phrase in Genesis 2:16. In modern translations such as *The Jewish Study Bible*, that phrase is interpreted as comprising a modifier (אָכַל) to convey the meaning of free to and a verb (תֹּאכַל) meaning eat. Menasseh’s use of vowel points introduced a convention that is followed in modern bilingual editions, including the one used in many synagogues in the United States, *The Pentateuch and Haftoras*.

Gregory B. Kaplan is a professor of Spanish at UT. He is preparing a book, *Spinoza’s Rabbi*, to be published by Amsterdam University Press.

*Fisch, Harold. “The Messianic Politics of Menasseh ben Israel.” *Menasseh ben Israel and His World*. Ed. Yosef Kaplan et al. Leiden: Brill, 1989. 228–39.

DAVID MADDEN:

INTRODUCTION TO A 'PERSON-OF-LETTERS'

by Christopher Hebert

Below: The Maddens, David and Robbie. Far right: Madden's papers include his correspondence with dozens of important American authors, including Stephen King and Tom Wolfe. *David Madden Collection. Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries.*

This year the University Libraries was fortunate to acquire a treasured archive: the work of acclaimed novelist, screenwriter, playwright, critic, poet, and short story writer David Madden. As one might expect of a figure whose reach and influence have extended into so many different literary and cultural domains, David Madden's archive contains not only the records and drafts of his own immense body of work but also correspondence that charts out something like a literary family tree of the last half century: Norman Mailer, Anaïs Nin, Walker Percy, Eudora Welty, Gore Vidal, Katherine Anne Porter, Wallace Stegner. Madden called them friends, colleagues, and peers.

But this archive is not merely an investment made with an eye on posterity. Madden's work is also a matter of local pride, and it is only fitting that it should find a permanent home in Knoxville at the University of Tennessee, where so many of his roots—both biographical and literary—are to be found.

In a 1974 interview Madden described his prolific achievements in so many areas of artistry and scholarship as the direct result of sensibilities he developed early on in his childhood. "When I was a kid," Madden explained, "I took the attitude that anything I would do in life would be done in a creative manner, that any situation in life should be fraught with all kinds of possibilities for creative responses, and I have to be alert to them and when I sense them, then I respond with as much creativity as possible."

Through this creative vision, Madden has become, over the course of a long, distinguished career, what George Garrett has described as an increasingly endangered species in our "age of rigorous specialization." Madden is, as Garrett says, a true "person-of-letters," placing him squarely in the same tradition of multitalented southern writers as Poe, Faulkner, and Robert Penn Warren.

Madden's extensive oeuvre ranges from novels, short stories, poems, plays, screenplays, literary studies, and textbooks to libretti. In the case of so active a writer, a full bibliography can at best be considered only provisional. Indeed, when Madden spoke to the Library Society this past April, he mentioned eight works now in various stages of completion, including



several novels, a musical set in Montmartre Cemetery, and a treatise on the mind's creative capabilities.

David Madden was born in Knoxville in 1933. He reports having first learned about storytelling from his grandmother, who lived in the mountains of East Tennessee. "She was a master of the oral tradition," Madden has said. "She'd tell the same stories over and over and I'd never get tired of them."

Not surprisingly, his own experiments with storytelling began when he was still young.

"Among his proudest boasts," wrote an early observer of Madden's work, "is that he was expelled from public school some ten or eleven times for writing stories." This punishment, if that's what it was, seems not to have stuck. At sixteen, Madden wrote his prize-winning first play, *Call Herman in to Supper*, which went on to be produced and staged at UT's Ayres Hall. Madden then went on to write his first novel, set in the slums of Knoxville, when he was only nineteen.

In 1951 Madden returned to UT, the site of his theatrical debut. It's hard to believe, given his already intimidating CV, that he was enrolling as a mere freshman. His initial stay on campus, however, was brief: two years later he departed to serve in the Merchant Marines. But in 1955, he returned to UT. After graduating two years later, he went on to earn his MA in creative writing from San Francisco State University. In 1959 he was awarded a John Golden fellowship to Yale Drama School.

Madden's literary path would eventually lead to illustrious academic posts, publications, and awards that would send the author around the world, from Venice to Istanbul to Yugoslavia. But Madden's biography also includes a few less glamorous—though nonetheless formative—experiences along the way: stints as a mail clerk, a gas-station attendant, an elevator operator. And when he was thirteen years old, as fate would have it, Madden became an usher at the Bijou Theatre in downtown Knoxville, a job that ultimately laid the groundwork for his autobiographical 1974 novel, *Bijou*.

This wasn't the last time Knoxville would claim its rightful place in David Madden's imagination. He would return to Knoxville in later books, too, such as *Pleasure-Dome*, *The Shadow Knows*, and his celebrated Civil War novel, *Sharpshooter*.

But Knoxville has not been Madden's only muse. His first novel, *The Beautiful Greed*, inspired by his experiences as a merchant marine, takes place largely in Chile. His most recent novel, *London Bridge in Plague and Fire*, transports readers back to seventeenth-century England.

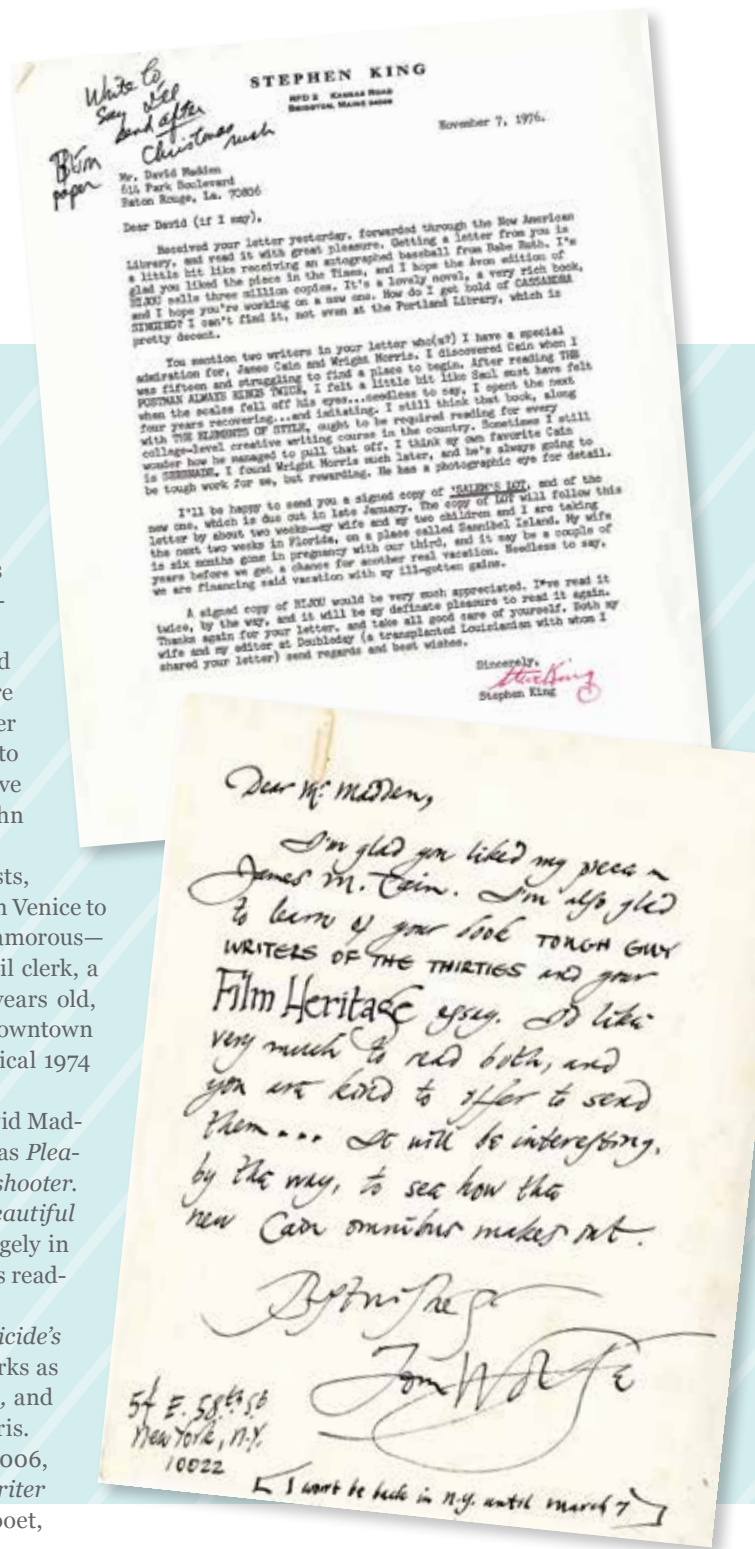
Madden's other books include the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *The Suicide's Wife* (which was made into a CBS movie of the week) and such critical works as *The Poetic Image in Six Genres*, *Touching the Web of Southern Novelists*, and book-length studies of American novelists James M. Cain and Wright Morris.

Madden himself deservedly became the subject of a similar project in 2006, when the University of Tennessee Press published *David Madden: A Writer for All Genres*, which honors and examines Madden's contributions as a poet, critic, and writer.

Fittingly, the collection also includes an examination of Madden's relationship to Knoxville. As Jeffrey Folks writes in an essay on Madden, James Agee, and their mutual birthplace, "For Madden [Knoxville] seems controlled not by mystery but by wonder and awe at what life has afforded, especially the complex social relationships that he finds in his local place."

"My infatuation with my hometown," Madden himself has said, "is similar to Thomas Wolfe's with Asheville, and like Wolfe I look homeward but live elsewhere." Some of those adopted homes have included Kentucky, Ohio, Louisiana, and currently Black Mountain, North Carolina.

But in securing David Madden's archives, Knoxville has come to possess the fruits of more than sixty years of creative inspiration, a body of work we can now proudly say we have given a permanent home.



Christopher Hebert is the Jack E. Reese Writer in Residence at the UT Libraries.

SAM VENABLE

'ONE OF UT'S *Least-Promising* GRADUATES'

Longtime *Knoxville News Sentinel* humor columnist Sam Venable has donated his papers to the UT Libraries.

by Susan Barnes

When I heard that retired *Knoxville News Sentinel* columnist and humorist Sam Venable ('69) had donated his papers to the University of Tennessee Libraries, my first thought was "What papers? His collection of Walmart receipts for shotgun shells? Or the ones he used to 'roll his own' back in the day when all journalists smoked?"

And then it dawned on me. Sam's long-suffering wife Mary Ann (née Hill, '68) must have taken one look at the boxes and boxes of memorabilia Sam cleaned out of his office after a forty-five-year career and said, "Get that junk out of here."

"If Mary Ann were curator of the Smithsonian," Sam said, "it could fit in a suitcase. Mary Ann suffers from a chronic case of 'throwawayitis.'"

Mary Ann is a mathematician and computer guru. Sam, like all old-school journalists, is a notorious pack rat. Even in this age of digitization and cloud storage, most still prefer to keep stacks of clippings, piles of magazines, albums of

old photos, scraps of note paper, old audiotapes, book manuscripts (both published and un-). And printed newspapers. Lots of them.

Legend has it that at a major southern university, a journalism professor piled newspapers so high in his office that one night, the stack collapsed from its own weight and fell across the entrance. The custodian, unable to push her way inside, thought the professor had surely died and his body was blocking the doorway. Emergency responders found only several decades of the *New York Times*.

"My mother was the original family pack rat," Sam said. When Mary Elizabeth Spencer Venable died in 2003, she still had unopened boxes in her South Knoxville attic from her home in Texas where her husband, the late Sam Senior (legendary UT physical education professor known as Big Sam), was stationed in World War II.

"I'm the kind of guy historians love," Sam wrote in a 2012 *News Sentinel* column about the UT Libraries' quest for his "papers," which actually spanned a period of several years while Sam hemmed and hawed about going through "the vocational detritus from one of [UT's] least-promising graduates."

"Lordy! I had no idea how much had accumulated since Jan. 3, 1968, the day I reported for my first newspaper job at the old *Knoxville Journal*," Sam wrote.

Among those papers carted away by the UT Libraries truck in 2012 was a clipping of Sam's first bylined article for the *Journal*, about a petty crime, along with a clip from the next day's paper with an almost line-by-line correction of the original story. About the only thing Sam got right was the date.



"My editor told me I was really never gonna do much in journalism because I never took things seriously and I was a smart [posterior body part]." Sam took that as a compliment but not an omen that he would become a beloved humorist, both on the printed page and in his stand-up comedy routines sought after by almost every civic organization in the Southeast with no budget for payment.

He almost didn't become a journalist at all. A forestry and wildlife management major on the agriculture campus, he ran up against chemistry as a junior and was facing the "Uncle Sam" option of heading off to Vietnam. A fraternity brother told him to try journalism.

As Sam wrote in his farewell *News Sentinel* column, the frat brother said, "Venable, you're so full of [bovine scatology] you'd make a great journalist." I took one course and fell head-over-heels in love. Go figure."

Typing—not keyboarding, but typing—was a requirement for UT journalism majors of the sixties.

"I had to go to old Knox High Evening School to take typing—and of course, I cheated," Sam told *Alumnus* magazine in 1991. "I still don't know how to touch type."

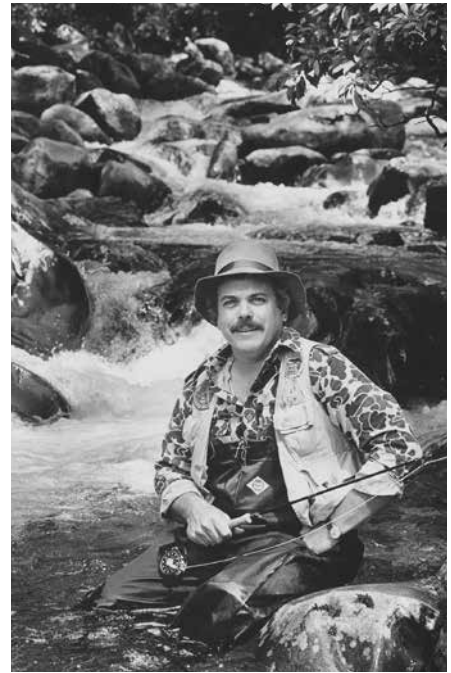
Sam sold his first of many feature-length articles to *Sports Afield* as a senior at UT and has since written more than 150 stories for state, regional, and national publications, finding a way to combine his love of writing and the outdoors. And to pay a few bills when the kids—son Clay and daughter Megan, both UT graduates—were sick.

Besides writing, hunting, and fishing, Sam's other great love is his family. Grandkids Max and Lucy, who belong to Clay and his wife, Kim, call him "Dipsey" after the "Dipsy Doodle" episode of the old *Andy Griffith Show*.

He's been called a lot worse since becoming a four-times-a-week columnist for the *News Sentinel* in 1985, after a fifteen-year stint as outdoors editor for the newspaper. The letters, both the hate mail and the attaboys, make up quite a bit of the libraries' collection.

That's a lot of words, cranked out 450 at a time to fit his preordained space down the left-hand side of the front page of the local section. But perhaps his crowning achievement was not one of his regular columns but a seven-part series he wrote in 2014, shortly before his retirement. It told the story of Charles Moulden, a black man who was wounded in an ambush in Monroe County, a 1968 crime for which no one ever went to jail which was largely ignored by the local press.

Forty-four years later, Sam tracked down the victim and finally told his story of hate and forgiveness. And it won Sam the most prestigious honor of the more than three dozen he's earned in his career, the national Sigma Delta Chi award for feature writing from the Society of Professional Journalists. He accepted the award in June 2015 from the National Press Club in Washington, DC.



He was inducted in 2014 into the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame and is in the East Tennessee Writers Hall of Fame. He's written twelve books with titles like *I'd Rather Be Ugly Than Stupid [sic] . . . and Other Deep Thoughts*, all of which are part of the libraries' collection as well.

All of which almost put his papers on par with the libraries' holdings of missives penned by the Founding Fathers.

"My only hope is that way off in the distant future," Sam wrote, "some desperate graduate student will leaf through this collection and think, 'Damn! That Venable goof sure had a fun job, although it's hard to believe he actually got paid to write this [excrement deleted].'"

Except that the libraries weeded out most of the excrement and sent it back—fifteen boxes of it, which now reside in the Venable garage. Mary Ann will be going through it shortly.



Left: Original drawing by Bob Rich for *Knoxville News Sentinel* cartoon. Sam Venable Papers, 1941-2012. MS.3692. Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries. Top: "I hunt and I fish, and I get paid for it." Sam Venable was outdoors editor for the *Knoxville News Sentinel* for fifteen years before becoming humor columnist in 1985.

THE GREAT WAR IN THE NEWS

by Louisa Trott

Primary source materials play a vital role in the study and understanding of historic events. Over the next few years, Tennesseans commemorating the centenary of World War I—then known as the Great War—will have an additional primary source to draw on: digitized newspapers. Historical newspapers offer students and other researchers a unique perspective on wartime, contrasting reports of the horrific conflict with a record of everyday life on the home front. Newspapers illustrate how the war permeated all aspects of home life, from advertising to cinema and even weather reports.

Now in its third phase, the Tennessee

**Honor Day
Welcome Home**

**Your Boy and My Boy and All Of The Boys Out There
You Who Fought and You Who Were Ready To Do Your Duty**

TO YOU, brave boys, who unselfishly left your homes and your business for the Cantonment and Barracks, for the Billet and Trench; who willingly put aside the garb of peace and donned the Khaki and the Blue to carry on the work here at home and to carry across the seas America's message to Autocracy and Oppression—fearlessly, cheerfully facing Privation and Death for us—to you we offer this small measure of our thanks—this tribute of our appreciation.

You have manfully done your part. In camp and city, aboard ship, and on the blood-soaked fields of France you have shown the World a New Ideal of Democracy and of Conduct—the Ideal of Pure Americanism.

YOURS is the Victory. We who have fought for Liberty here at home SALUTE YOU?

In this Season of Homecoming we cannot forget those who were called upon to make the Supreme Sacrifice. Our hearts ache with yours for your brothers who will not share the fruits of Victory, nor hear our "Welcome Home." May their sacrifice and high devotion to duty inspire us with the True Reverent Spirit of Love for Home and Country.

To This Tribute of Appreciation We The Undersigned Will Not Pass Up An Opportunity To Extend The Glad Hand To You Boys Who Have Already Returned To Civilian Life As Well As To Those Of You Who Are Just Arriving Or Will Be Coming Home In The Weeks To Come

Chattanooga Sewer Pipe Co. Milne Chair Co. Ernest Holmes Co.	Dr. E. T. Newell Chattanooga Glass House A Patriot	Thatcher Medicine Co. Clover Leaf Dairy Grand Billiard Parlor	Atlantic Ice and Coal Corporation A Patriot
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Newspaper Digitization Project has contributed more than 200,000 pages of historical Tennessee newspapers to the Library of Congress's Chronicling America website. In 2014, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded \$345,000 to UT to continue its partnership with the Tennessee State Library and Archives on this popular project. The current phase of the project focuses on the period from 1915 to 1922, so the Great War pervades much of the newspapers' column space.

When the United States joined the war in 1917, the front pages of local papers carried rosters of men being drafted, and throughout the war many papers published rolls of honor—lists of soldiers killed, wounded, and missing. As the region's young men went off to the front, wartime newspapers encouraged civilians at home to do their bit for the war effort and show support for the "sammies" fighting overseas. Much column space was dedicated to advice on what food to eat and which crops to grow, as well as public service announcements for War Savings Stamps, Liberty Loans, and rationing.

Editorial cartoons, often from nationally published cartoonists such as Gaar Williams and Robert W. "Bob" Satterfield, provided satirical and poignant takes on the latest news. Letters—and sometimes poetry—from local "boys" at the front were printed in newspapers to boost morale. These were usually upbeat in tone, even telling how the

Opposite page, left: Welcome Home. *Chattanooga News*, April 3, 1919. Below: Her daddy is "somewhere in France." From a series in the *Memphis News Scimitar*, November 5, 1918.

Babies Who Will Have to Be "Introduced" to Their Daddies

NO. 5



NANCY BUSBY DONELSON. —Photo by Poland.

Tuesday morning little Nancy Busby Donelson reached out and grabbed Father Time by his beard, figuratively speaking, and reminded the old gentleman that the sands in the hour glass sift through mighty quickly these days. The hour glass Tuesday marked the passing of six months of happy, healthy babyhood for her, and there was just one thing missing to make her world complete—her daddy, now "somewhere in France."

And Capt. Andrew Donelson doesn't like the idea of his baby daughter

growing up before he has even had a chance to "get acquainted" with her. Maybe he's afraid that other young men will be striving for that honor at the same time, if he doesn't come home while she isn't anyone's girl but daddy's for he writes that if the Germans don't hurry and admit they are beaten, he will take the good old 116th field artillery and finish them up himself, so that he can be here to help eat his daughter's first birthday cake.

Mr. Donelson and her little daughter are with her mother, Mrs. J. J. Busby, 1123 Poplar avenue.

soldiers were enjoying themselves and rarely hinting at the horrors and atrocities. The *Memphis News Scimitar* ran a particularly intriguing series toward the end of 1918 and into 1919. Each day the paper featured a photograph of an infant under the heading "Babies Who Will Have to Be 'Introduced' to Their Daddies." A few pithy paragraphs told a heartwarming tale of the family's anticipation of the moment the father would return from the front to meet his child for the first time.

When soldiers began arriving home in 1919, newspapers reveled in the glory of their local heroes. Thanks to technological advances, many papers printed

Above: Businesses combined advertising with patriotic messages and pleas to buy war bonds. They also exploited the popular regard for war heroes. *Chattanooga News*, October 2, 1918. Right: This ad for Thedford's Black-Draught features an endorsement from Tennessee Sergeant Alvin York, one of the most decorated American soldiers of the war. *Chattanooga News*, February 27, 1920.

Send Siege Guns



To Storm Berlin!

IT'S a long way to Berlin—but our boys will get there. Send them a siege gun to help them on their way.

It takes four hundred and forty (440) \$50.00 Bonds of the Fourth Liberty Loan to buy one of these guns. We will need hundreds of them to batter our way into Germany.

You can help to send them a siege gun, if you will

Buy Liberty Bonds!



IN A BOTTLE THRU A STRAW

THE WAR has shown that healthy, active bodies possess a natural craving for sweets.

Solid shipments of sweets have been shipped to our boys "over there" to supply them with carbohydrates, or bodily fuel.

Sweets are of tremendous food-value. How we take them is a matter of individual taste. Some prefer their sweets in tea or coffee and others in

Chero-Cola

721

Alvin York of Tennessee

Sergeant
328th Infantry
A. E. F.

Colonel
Governor's Staff
Tennessee



On October 8, 1918, Sergeant Alvin York and seven privates, advancing on a German position in the Argonne, faced an entire machine gun battalion. Official records show that York killed 20 Germans with his automatic pistol and rifle, captured 132 prisoners, and put 35 machine guns out of action. York received the highest American military decoration—the Congressional Medal of Honor. Upon his return from France, the Tennessee Legislature commissioned him a Colonel, for life, on the Governor's staff.

A Black-Draught Family

To a reporter, who visited the York home, Colonel York authorized the publication of the following statement:

"My mother has used in our family for years, Thedford's Black-Draught for torpid liver, stomach trouble, headache and other troubles. We certainly can recommend it and gladly do so.

"We use it constantly and call it our family medicine. My mother doesn't think she could get along without it, and we, when children, dared not complain unless we wanted to be dosed with

Thedford's Black-Draught

BLACK-DRAUGHT IS MADE IN CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

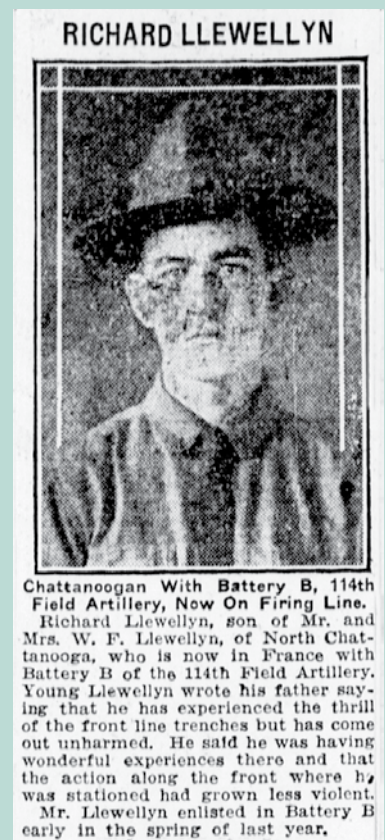
Below: Wartime newspapers encouraged civilians at home to do their bit for the war effort—for instance, by rationing meat and sugar. Gaar Williams cartoon, *Camden Chronicle*, April 12, 1918.



Camden Chronicle,
August 2, 1918.

photographs of the homecomings. Local businesses did not miss this opportunity to tie themselves in with the celebrations, and placed ads that both promoted their products or services and welcomed the boys home.

Phase III of the digitization project provides news coverage of international, national, and local significance—from global events such as the war to national historic turning points such as passage of the Nineteenth Amendment (and Tennessee’s pivotal role in its ratification) to the minutiae of everyday life in Tennessee towns and cities. Digitized newspapers include the *Carthage Courier*, *Crossville Chronicle*, *Fayette Falcon*, *Jackson County Sentinel*, *Morgan County Press*, *Mrs Grundy*, *Parisian*, *Putnam County Herald*, and *Union City Commercial*. In addition to newspapers from the World War I era, Phase III features two other titles of special interest: the *Tennessee Staatszeitung*, a German-language newspaper published in Nashville (dates digitized: 1866–1869), and the *Chilhowee Echo*, a Knoxville newspaper published by women (dates digitized: 1899–1900).



Chattanooga With Battery B, 114th Field Artillery, Now On Firing Line.
Richard Llewellyn, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Llewellyn, of North Chattanooga, who is now in France with Battery B of the 114th Field Artillery. Young Llewellyn wrote his father saying that he has experienced the thrill of the front line trenches but has come out unharmed. He said he was having wonderful experiences there and that the action along the front where he was stationed had grown less violent. Mr. Llewellyn enlisted in Battery B early in the spring of last year.

The *Chattanooga News* excerpted this letter home: “Young Llewellyn wrote his father saying that he has experienced the thrill of the front line trenches but has come out unharmed. He said he was having wonderful experiences there [. . .].”
October 3, 1918.

Explore the newspapers at chroniclingamerica.loc.gov and visit lib.utk.edu/tndp/news for project news, updates, and information about historical Tennessee newspapers.

Student Success in the UT Libraries

by Ingrid Ruffin and Anna Sandelli



The University of Tennessee has embraced the challenge of becoming one of the nation's top public universities. Excellence in undergraduate education—a top priority—requires both enriching the undergraduate experience and helping students succeed. This year the University Libraries created and filled two new positions that will advance those goals. Ingrid Ruffin is student success librarian for first-year programs, and Anna Sandelli is student success librarian for undergraduate user experience. The main focus of these newly created positions is connecting students to the tools of scholarship while aiding in their adjustment to campus life.

In their first year, Ruffin and Sandelli have developed relationships with offices and organizations across campus that are similarly focused on enhancing and supporting the undergraduate student experience. Since embarking on the journey to the Top 25, the university has invested in numerous programs that engage students in academic, social, and cultural experi-



ences; help students meet the academic and personal challenges of campus life; and assure that students progress to graduation. UT's student success initiatives offer our librarians many opportunities to address the unique needs of specific student populations.

Ingrid Ruffin is the libraries' first-ever representative on the UT Veterans' Resource Team, and through her the University Libraries is reaching out to student veterans. This year Ruffin, herself a veteran, emceed the SALUTE National Honor Society induction ceremony and helped organize and emcee an event at the National Medal of Honor celebration in Knoxville.

Through her service on the campus Transfer Committee, Anna Sandelli is forging connections with nearby community colleges whose students are often transfers to our four-year institution. The university campus can seem overwhelming to new students. Librarians can make early encounters with our research university less intimidating by hosting an experience that is fun and social, even as it teaches students the intricacies of using an academic library. When Roane State Community College students visited campus this spring, the student success librarians created just such an experience. They sent students on a scavenger hunt that had them explore Hodges Library, interview reference librarians, and snap cell phone photos of rare books in Special Collections.

Student success librarians also take such events right into the residence halls, in a program we have dubbed Library Take Out. Our Four-Hour Film Festival, presented with the help of the Division of Student Life and resident assistants, was the highlight of last spring's Library Take Out. Students were given the necessary equipment, a short instruction session, and space to edit a brief film. In the span

of a mere four hours, teams of students created and screened films. Students interacted with librarians in a convivial setting and learned how resources from the libraries' Studio can enhance their class projects and presentations.

Beginning in fall 2015, Library Take Out is offering activities in partnership with UT's living and learning communities, residence hall neighborhoods composed of students who share a common interest or field of study.

Fall 2015 also marks the debut of the university's new quality enhancement plan, Experience Learning. As part of that initiative, the university is expanding service-learning opportunities that take students out of the classroom and into the community to conduct real-world problem solving. Student success librarians look forward to providing research support and skill building for service-learners.



Through dynamic and engaging programming, the libraries have an impact on not only students' academic success but also the entirety of their campus experience. We hope that students will view the libraries as a resource for—and a companion during—their undergraduate journeys.

Want to know how student success librarians keep abreast of student needs and concerns? Read about our whiteboard assessment project on page 23.



What Do Librarians Do? You'll Be Surprised.

by Robin A. Bedenbaugh

The chief obligations of our profession have endured since the Great Library of Alexandria: to advance scholarship and to preserve the cultural record. But today's academic librarians engage with the scholarly community in new and perhaps surprising ways.

Literacy has long been a focus of library work. But myriad layers of literacy challenge the student who comes to a research university such as UT. The university must prepare students to read, write, and interact across a range of platforms, tools, and media. It falls largely to librarians to instill the competencies students need to become information literate.

This year two librarians took a novel approach to introducing students to the resources available to them in the Studio, our media lab in Hodges Library. Media Literacy Librarian Michelle Brannen and Student Success Librarian Ingrid Ruffin, in concert with resident assistants and the Division of Student Life, hosted a Four-Hour Film Festival. The contest took place at one of the residence halls. Student participants were given a brief instruction session and all the equipment they needed to create and edit a brief film over the course of four hours. As noted by one resident assistant, students "had the most fun that they have had all year participating in a program." (See photos on page 19.)

Often, university students are technologically astute yet decidedly challenged by basic life skills. Recognizing that students need to learn more about how to manage their personal finances, business librarian Judy Li secured funding from the UT Alliance of Women Philanthropists to hold a Financial Literacy Boot Camp, open to all UT students. Three half-day workshops during the 2014–2015 academic year brought together business leaders and experts from the UT community to coach students on



Our multi-talented librarians, from left: Michelle Brannen, Ingrid Ruffin, Judy Li, Thura Mack, Ashley Maynor, and Chris Durman.

topics such as credit scores, insurance, savings accounts, scholarships and fellowships, and how to start planning for retirement.

We even reach out to prospective students. Led by Thura Mack, our coordinator of community learning services and diversity programs, the libraries hold an annual Big Orange STEM Symposium for middle and high school students who are considering careers in science, technology, engineering, or math. This free event brings students and their parents to campus to meet current students and researchers in STEM fields and to learn about unique programs available to them at UT, such as the RISER (Research and Instructional Strategies for Engineering Retention) living and learning community. This year, current students from UT's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources acted as peer mentors during a hands-on keynote activity on extracting plant DNA. Meanwhile, parents attended their own session to learn how to stay involved with their kids as they go off to college.

Ashley Maynor is the libraries' first faculty member to hold the leading-edge position of digital humanities librarian. Her own scholarly work is similarly avant-garde. Ashley was in Blacksburg, Virginia, when the mass shooting took place on the Virginia Tech campus and thousands of sympathy cards, teddy bears, and other objects flowed in from around the world through mail and a spontaneous memorial on campus. Ashley is a filmmaker as well as a librarian, and her own response to the tragedy was to explore this modern ritual of mourning in an interactive web documentary called *The Story of the Stuff*. You can experience the project yourself at thestoryofthestuff.com.

In addition to being an outstanding librarian, Chris Durman is also a talented musician. When the libraries digitized some old home movies featuring the people and scenery of the Great Smoky Mountains, Chris and a couple of other local musicians

recorded a soundtrack of traditional Southern Appalachian folk songs to accompany the originally silent film clips. The film clips are now part of the William Derris Collection, an online digital collection of photos and home movies taken in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s by the owner of the Derris Motel in Townsend, Tennessee. The photos and film clips are available online at digital.lib.utk.edu/derris. That's Chris on guitar, banjo, and harmonica, accompanied by Steve White on mandolin and Leslie Gengozian on violin.

These are just a few of the interesting projects to which UT librarians are lending their unique talents and expertise.



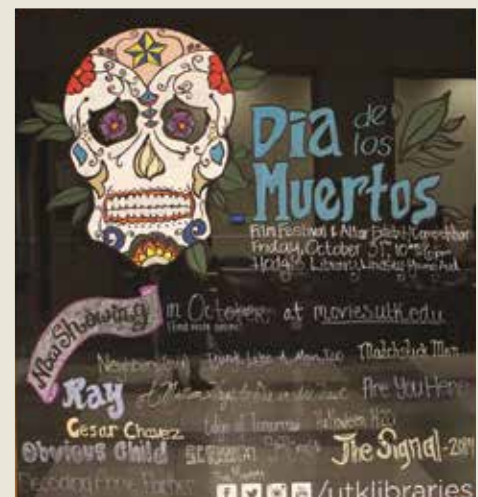
WALL OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Social media. Videos. Digital signs. Workshops. Street fairs. We use every possible channel to communicate with students. We added a new medium this year: we're using a large window outside the Starbucks at the Hodges Library entrance to welcome and inform students.

A couple of artistically talented staff members decorate the façade. Created with chalkboard inks on the darkened glass, the displays resemble hand-drawn menus at trendy restaurants. Very eye-catching!

We use the window to celebrate holidays, advertise events, and call attention to library resources. During final exams the window serves as a "Wall of Encouragement" as passers-by post inspirational notes to their fellow students.

The libraries' graphic artist, Cathy Jenkins, is responsible for the concept and installation of the chalkboard window. Librarian Ingrid Ruffin (pictured) is the primary illustrator.



In Their Own Words: An Open-Ended Conversation with Students

by Anna Sandelli



A dry-erase board can be a space to plan a project, calculate equations, or outline a paper. It can also be a tool for learning about students' experiences of campus life so the University Libraries can help them meet their academic and personal goals.

In spring 2015, librarians placed erasable whiteboards at three locations in John C. Hodges Library. With input from the libraries' Assessment Planning Group, they developed a list of open-ended questions designed to elicit information about students' personal and academic habits, interests, and preferences.

Questions fell into four categories: student success ("When I study, I need _____"); demographics ("In three words or less, why did you choose your major?"); habits and preferences ("If there were a song about your life, what would it be called? Or, what song defines you?"); and dialogue and community opportunities ("Every day I feel inspired to _____"). Librarians updated the questions daily.

The project generated curiosity and enthusiasm. In one instance, a group of students who had gathered beside a white-

board even asked the librarian who was beginning the daily update to stop erasing so they could continue reading the previous day's responses! The whiteboard format also inspired creativity not seen in more traditional assessment tools such as online surveys. In addition to written replies, students added hashtags, emoticons, doodles, and stylized two-color drawings.

Student responses illustrated the importance of what in the medical field is often described as "treating the whole patient." Students do not leave their lives at the doorstep when they enter the library. Therefore, promoting student success involves understanding what students experience in the classroom, across campus, and beyond.

In their whiteboard responses, students often referenced current events or daily stresses they encountered. Such responses illustrate the importance of current library initiatives that contribute not only to academic programs but to personal information literacy and wellness (programs such as Library Take Out and DeStress for Success), as well as the value of investigating additional extracurricular offerings.

For librarians, this "In Their Own Words" project provides valuable in-

sights into student usage of library spaces and opportunities to improve students' university experiences. Students interacted with responses on the whiteboard as much as, if not more than, with the original question. The student-created dialogue points to ways in which our users develop informal learning communities and conversational spaces within the libraries. Cultivating such communities through programming, repurposed library spaces, and the libraries' online presence could help students feel more engaged in campus life. At the same time, such initiatives could help them see that the libraries are an integral part of their campus community.

Just as each day's whiteboard prompt was a starting point for dialogue, this project is intended to be the foundation for an ongoing conversation with students. Librarians will discuss and implement the most viable suggestions. Some, like repeated requests for additional whiteboards, are already under way. (Others, like an aquarium or a beer volcano . . . not so much.)



Above: We reaffirmed students' need and desire for programs that offer stress relief, such as visits from therapy dogs during final exam week. Left: "Today I feel: victorious . . . blessed . . . sleep deprived and anxious."

Selected Scholarly Work from Our Faculty

PUBLICATIONS

Robin A. Bedenbaugh. "Librarian, Interrupted: A Plea for Scholarly Publishing Reform." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 43, no. 5 (September 2014): 615-618.

Chris Eaker et al. "#DitchTheSurvey: Expanding Methodological Diversity in LIS Research." *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*, March 11, 2015.

Rachel Fleming-May, **Regina Mays**, and **Rachel Radom.** "I Never Had to Use the Library in High School: A Library Instruction Program for At-Risk Students." *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 15, no. 3 (2015): 433-456.

Thura Mack, Ingrid Ruffin, and **Nicole Barajas.** "Beyond BOSS: A Blueprint for STEM Engagement, Student Recruitment, and Outreach." *Tennessee Libraries* 64, no. 4 (2014).

Ingrid J. Ruffin, Michelle H. Brannen, and **Megan Venable.** "Library as Campus Main Street: Building Community via Engaging Programming and Spaces." In *Innovative Solutions for Building Community in Academic Libraries*, 269-291. Hershey, PA: IGI Global, 2015.

Jeanine Williamson, Peter Fernandez, and **Lana Dixon.** "Factors in Science Journal Cancellation Projects: The Roles of Faculty Consultations and Data." *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* no. 78 (Fall 2014).

Ken Wise, Anne Bridges, and **Mark Baggett.** "Reimagining the Bibliography: Database of the Smokies." *Journal of Web Librarianship* 9, no. 1 (2015): 42-55.

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

Melanie Allen. "Respecting Choices Overview." Presentation at the East Tennessee Quality Alliance (ETQA) Conversation Ready Meeting, Knoxville Academy of Medicine, Knoxville, TN, May 12, 2015.

Robin A. Bedenbaugh, Peter Fernandez, and **Brian Rosenblum.** "Making Scholarly Communication Sustainable." Presentation at the Advancing Research Communication and Scholarship conference, Philadelphia, PA, April 26-28, 2015.

Michelle Brannen. "Into the Wild Green Yonder: New Use for a Small Space." Lightning presentation at the annual conference of the American Library Association, San Francisco, CA, June 25-30, 2015.

Michelle Brannen, Thura Mack, and **Steven Milewski.** "Sharing Recipes from Our Table: Disability Awareness at Two University Libraries." Presentation to the annual conference of the Tennessee Library Association, Memphis, TN, April 22-24, 2015.

Anne Bridges and **Ken Wise.** "Putting Your Library on the Map: Database of the Smokies." TechConnect presentation to the biennial conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Portland, OR, March 25-28, 2015.

Kris Bronstad and **Chris Caldwell.** "Scribbles on the Side: Revealing Marginalia for Research and Discovery." Poster presented at the biannual conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Portland, OR, March 25-28, 2015.

Sojourna Cunningham and **Anna Sandelli.** "In Their Own Words: Using Whiteboards to Create Community and Assess Library Spaces." Poster presented at the biannual conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Portland, OR, March 25-28, 2015.

Chris Durman and **Grover Baker.** "Music Reference." Pre-conference workshop presented at the annual meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association, Baton Rouge, LA, October 2-4, 2014.

Chris Durman et al. "Howard Armstrong: The Legendary African-American String Band Musician and the Appalachian Community that Celebrates Him." Presentation at the annual conference of the Appalachian Studies Association, Johnson City, TN, March 27-29, 2015.

Christopher Eaker, Peter Fernandez, et al. "Data Sharing Practices of Agricultural Researchers and Their Implications for the Land-Grant University Mission." Webinar for the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division of the Special Libraries Association, May 13, 2015.

Christopher Eaker and **Ashley Maynor.** "Points of Access: Integrating Digital Scholarship Services Across the Research Life Cycle." Poster presentation at the Digital Library Federation Forum, Atlanta, GA, October 27-29, 2014.

Joe Ferguson, Monica Ihli, Mike Rogers, and **Maribeth Manoff.** "Keep Calm and Alma On: Implementing Alma in Six Months." Presented at the annual meeting of the Ex Libris Users of North America, Minneapolis, MN, May 5-8, 2015.

Corey Halaychik. "Streamlined Licensing Through Institutional Master Agreements: A Success Story." Paper presented at Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC, November 3-8, 2014.

Corey Halaychik. "Finding A Way: Negotiation Tips and Tactics." Presented at The Collective conference, Knoxville, TN, February 18-20, 2015.

Ashley Maynor. "Faculty Features: Opportunities and Challenges of Producing Long-Form Work." Panel presentation at the annual conference of the University Film and Video Association, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT, August 5-9, 2014.

Gail McMillan and **Holly Mercer.** "Library Publishing Costs Study: A First Look." Presentation to the 2015 Library Publishing Forum, Portland, OR, March 29-30, 2015.

Steven Milewski et al. "You've Licensed It. Now What?" Panel presentation at the annual Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC, November 3-8, 2014.

Steven Milewski and **Christine Fischer.** "Watch This: Promoting Streaming Video on Campus." LYRASIS webinar, March 10, 2015.

Mike Rogers. "Sharing Insight and Experience from an Alma Implementation." Keynote address presented to the ExLibris Bluegrass Users Group Meeting, Lexington, KY, June 12, 2015.

Ingrid Ruffin et al. "Within Our Reach: Outreach and Engagement Strategies for Underserved Patrons." Poster presentation to the biennial conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Portland, OR, March 25-28, 2015.

Ingrid Ruffin and **Anna Sandelli.** "Campus Crawl: Collaborations Taking Information Literacy Instruction Beyond Subject Matter and Into Student Life." Presentation to the annual LOEX conference, Denver, CO, April 30-May 2, 2015.

Rita Smith and **Teresa Walker.** "Did Coffee Fuel the Big Bang?: Libraries as the Epicenter of the Self-generating Partnership Model." Poster presentation to the biennial conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Portland, OR, March 25-28, 2015.

Steven Smith, John Larson, and **Maribeth Manoff.** "Best Practices in Library Management System Implementation." Presented at an Ex Libris Exhibitor Session, annual conference of the American Library Association, San Francisco, CA, June 25-30, 2015.

Steven Smith and **Teresa Walker.** "Why the Shine Don't Sell: Student Success and the New Landscape of Resource Acquisition and Budget-Building in Academic Libraries." Presentation to the annual Ex Libris Research Library Symposium, Coronado, CA, October 27-28, 2014.

Teresa Walker and **Regina Mays.** "How Library Learning Spaces Contribute to Student Success: A LibValue Project." Presentation to the 2014 Library Assessment Conference, Seattle, WA, August 4-6, 2014.

GRANTS, AWARDS, & SERVICE

Anne Bridges, **Russ Clement**, and **Ken Wise** were honored with the East Tennessee Historical Society's Award of Distinction for their book *Terra Incognita: An Annotated Bibliography of the Great Smoky Mountains, 1544-1934*.

The Tennessee Digital Newspaper Project, directed by **JoAnne Deeken**, received an additional \$345,000 from NEH to digitize historical Tennessee newspapers.

Chris Durman was elected vice-chair/chair-elect of the Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association.

Corey Halaychik and **Ashley Maynor** co-founded and co-chaired The Collective, a new national conference for library professionals, February 2015.

Music librarian **Nathalie Hristov** and UT Violin Professor **Miroslav Hristov** received a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission to bring the renowned Cuarteto Latinoamericano to campus for a public performance, lectures, and master classes.

Judy Li's paper "Serving as an Educator: A Southern Case in Embedded Librarianship" (*Journal of Business and Finance Librarianship*, 2012) was awarded an Emerald Citation of Excellence.

Project GRAD awarded **Thura Mack** the 2015 Vivian Haun Excellence in Service Award for her work with local inner-city high school students.

Librarian and film producer **Ashley Maynor** was named by *The Independent* as one of "10 to Watch" among filmmakers and multimedia producers. *Something, Anything* (produced by Ashley Maynor) was a *New York Times* Critics' Pick. *Some Beasts* (Ashley Maynor, co-producer) was awarded a Special Jury Prize for Best Cinematography at the Dallas International Film Festival.

Holly Mercer was program co-chair for OR2015, the 10th International Conference on Open Repositories, Indianapolis, IN, June 8-11, 2015.

David Ratledge was appointed to the Outreach Committee of the MetaArchive Cooperative, the international digital preservation network.

Steve Smith was appointed to the executive board of Tenn-Share, the statewide library consortium.

The UT Institute of Agriculture awarded **Ann Viera** the 2015 J. E. Moss Award for her service to the UT College of Veterinary Medicine.

Endowments & Gifts

More than any other single entity, the library is the heart of a university. The quality of the library's collection is a measure of the quality of campus-wide intellectual inquiry and the quality of education we give our students, the leaders of our future. You can help guarantee that our future leaders will receive the best possible education by making an investment in the University Libraries.

To make a gift, please make your check payable to the UT Foundation and write *UTK Libraries* in the memo line. You may send your gift to the libraries' director of development at the address shown.

The University Libraries development team has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this report. Please let us know if you see any errors or omissions. Every gift is important to our mission.

For more information, contact:

Erin Horeni-Ogle
Director of Development
654 Hodges Library
Knoxville, TN 37996-1000
865-974-0055

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Annual income from endowments allows the University Libraries to continue providing key resources for students and faculty. Endowments begin at \$25,000. Donors may make a single gift or build an endowed fund over five years.

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The James D. Hoskins Legacy Circle honors our friends who have included the University Libraries in their estate plans or other deferred gift arrangement. These gifts help to sustain the library by establishing collection, service, and scholarship endowments to continue a legacy of support for the University Libraries. We would like to thank the following friends who made gifts before June 30, 2015. If you have included the University Libraries in your estate plans or would like information on how to do so, please contact Erin Horeni-Ogle at 865-974-0055.

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Michael Mullen	Dwayne Turner	Margaret Cross	Nancy Lurana Lindsey	Gary Taylor	
Janet Murray	Kay Tyler	Charlie & Patsy Daniel	Lawrence Madaras & Margaret Cullen	William & Angela Thacker	
Melinda Murtaugh	Anthony & Janet Venditti	Harry Davis	Maribeth Manoff	Ruth & Gilbert Van Over Jr.	
Catherine & William Neal Jr.	Laura Voekel	Vicki Davis	Gregory March	Luis & Loida Velazquez	
Bradley Nitzberg	Sheila Von Mayer	Susan Deaver	Haylee Marshall	John & Gail Way	
Karen Ousley	Jeffrey Wadlington	Perrin Diatkar	Jon & Nicole Martin	Lynne Wester	
Samuel Overstreet	Blake Wahler	Ed Dickerhoof	Regina Mays	Lillian Williams	
Penny Parker	Celia Walker	Lana & David Dixon	John & Colene McCord	David Wilson & Ann Viera	
Margaret Partee	Robert Walker Jr.	John & Anne Dowis	Edward McQuail III	Jason Wood	
Trena Paulus & David Atkins	Alan Wallace & Leah Cox	Judith Duvall	Thomas Melnichok	Susan Wood	
Cameron Perry	Rasheeda Washington	Samuel Edwards	Earle Millican III	Amy Yancey	
Jane & James Phillips	Patricia & Jack Watson	Sam Elliott	Stephanie Miranda	Xiang Ye	
Purnima Pinnaduwege	William Watson	Sam Ervin	Steven Monteith	Debbie Youngman	
Frank Pittenger	Sarah Weeks	Judith & Stephen Eubank	Alexander Moran		
Joseph Prestia	James Whiteaker	Dorothy & John Fonville	Annie & Oscar Moser Jr.	IN HONOR OF	
Carol Price	Arthur & Maureen Wiesemann	John & Christy Foreman	Joan Nichols	Theresa Lee	
Fennelly Quigley	Elizabeth Wilson	Mark Francis	Danuta Nitecki	Jack Love	
Rachel Radom	Hal Wilson	Jessica Gadd	Chris Obear	Thomas & Rosemary Mariner Jr.	
Shirley & Delane Randolph	Mary Witherspoon	Helen Galloway	Robert & Nancy Ordman	Matt Shafer Powell	
David Ratledge	Eric Wood	Brian Gard	Jonathan & Lisa Overly	Martha Rudolph	
Ann Marie Ricardi		Delores Ann Gibson	Linda Palmer	Joseph & Nancy Stiefel	
Nancy & Gordon Ridenour	\$1-\$99	Dane & Laura Gillaspie	Sneha Patel	Nikki Tyndall	
Sharon & Leonard Ritt	Jerrold Adkisson	Heidi & Robert Gillis	Joan Patton		
Maggie Robinson	Nellie Al-Saigh	Stephen & Renee Gould	Margaret Paydar	IN MEMORY OF	
Thomas Rogero	Amy Atchison	Thomas Gray	Patricia Pennington	Betty Bell	
Jane & David Schumann	Caroline Barnett	Sara Green	Teresa Perry	Edward Boling	
Barbara Schwartz	Zane Bell	Daniel Greene	Sandra Putnam	Frances Crawford	
Donald & Eleanor Sellstrom	Christopher & Janet Benefield	Sara & Matthew Gregory	Jo Railsback	Finos Eley	
Susan Shaw	Dale Bentz	Jonathan Guilford	Daniel Ream & Lucretia McCulley	John Fisher	
Stephen Smalling	Priscilla Bevins	Corey Halaychik	Mae Reeves	Jane Hazlewood	
Margaret Elaine Smith	Julie Blair	Deborah Hamilton	James & Patsy Ring-Boulie	Lorayne Lester	
Anthony Soza	Sharon Boring	Sue Hayes	Rhee Robinson	Janet Lundy	
Carolyn Spillane	Wilma Boy	Samuel Helton	Rebecca Roller-Barton	Patrick McKenry	
RePaul Sprecher	Judith Boyd	Donna Hicks	Kathryn Roskow	Frank Murtaugh Jr.	
Larry Stanifer	Michelle Brannen	Christine Holloway	Ingrid Ruffin	Jean Springer	
Chris Stephens	Benjamin Brewer	Deanna Howard	John Seay	Friedemann Stallmann	
Scott Stewart	Kris Bronstad	Lawrence Hribar	Louise Senatore	Irene Stewart	
Nancy & Marzel Stiefel	Julie Brown	Bonnie Hufford	Kelly Sheppard	Holly Watts	
Beth & Stephen Strickler	Susan Bryant	Darren & Joanna Hughes	Susan & Alan Shields	Thomas Wheeler	
	Nancy Butkovich	Elizabeth Jackson	Harriet & Frederick Simmons	Astra Williams	
	Regina Calabro	Sindhu Jagadamma	Edward Smith		
		Charles Jones Jr.			

FROM
MEDIEVAL
ALCHEMY
TO

Tennessee Moonshine

by Jennifer
Benedetto Beals

Special Collections continually seeks new areas on which to focus acquisitions. We look for topics with regional significance that have potential for broad impact. One such area is the ancient art of moonshining.

Bootlegging has long been the subject of storytelling in the Appalachian Mountains. The illegal distillation of spirits was a popular trade in Tennessee well before Prohibition, and when legal distilleries were forced to shut down in 1920 the demand for illegal spirits dramatically increased. Although moonshine could be a toxic combination of many ingredients—which might include paint thinner, antifreeze, and even embalming fluid—thirsty locals were eager to imbibe. After Prohibition ended and legal distilleries opened their doors, the moonshine tradition carried on in Tennessee. Perhaps the most famous moonshiner was Marvin “Popcorn” Sutton, who continued to practice his craft until 2009, when he was arrested by federal authorities. He even self-published guides and taped videos documenting his process.



Left page and below: *Coelum philosophorum seu de secretis naturae liber*. Special Collections, University of Tennessee Libraries.



but the craft of distilling spirits began long before prohibition or popcorn sutton; it can be traced all the way back to ancient greece and egypt.



Special Collections recently purchased an extremely rare first edition of one of the earliest texts documenting the practical process of distillation. It is the work of Philipp Ulstad, a sixteenth-century physician and professor of medicine in Switzerland. Ulstad was closely connected with the German alchemist Hieronymus Brunschwig, who in 1500 published *Liber de arte destillandi* (*The Book of the Art of Distillation*). In 1525, Ulstad published his seminal work, *Coelum philosophorum seu de secretis naturae liber* (*The Heaven of the Philosophers, or the Book of the Secrets of Nature*). The manual served as the standard authority on the preparation and use of distillates for nearly a century. This first edition is very rare, with the only other copy in the United States held by the University of Wisconsin–Madison. It went through more than twenty editions and was translated into German and French. Ulstad’s ideas reappear in the later writings of other prominent scientists including Konrad Gesner and Andreas Libavius.

Ulstad’s work was influential largely due to his clear and concise technical descriptions of the processes of distillation and the apparatus used. Other alchemy guides of the time were intentionally written obscurely or even in code to keep the information hidden from those who might abuse it. His was the first accurate and accessible summary of distilling methods. In addition, he discussed the practical use of the remedies for physicians and apothecaries and listed recipes for spiced wines and clarets. His detailed directions were accompanied by the same type of woodblock illustrations used by Brunschwig. Many of the illustrations depict the apparatus used in the distillation process. During the Middle Ages, astrology and alchemy were considered genuine sciences and seriously pursued by physicians. Ulstad’s practical text helped define boundaries between the practices of astrology and chemistry, paving the way for the establishment of medicine and chemistry as partner disciplines.

With the assistance of the B. H. Breslauer Foundation, Special Collections was able to secure the purchase of this unique volume. The foundation was established and endowed by the late Bernard H. Breslauer with the main purpose of giving grants to libraries that collect rare books and manuscripts in the United States. Now this influential rare piece can serve as the cornerstone for Special Collections’ growing holdings of materials documenting the history of moonshine and distillation, from its earliest practitioners to bootleggers in the communities of Appalachia.



Thanks to the Sugarlands Distillery for allowing us to photograph their moonshine still.

Special Collections will preserve this rare sixteenth-century treatise on distilling spirits. It will be the cornerstone of our unique research collection on making moonshine.

in review

our year



OCTOBER 13, 2014

The University Libraries awards prizes in the fall Student Art in the Library juried competition.

OCTOBER 23, 2014

The University Libraries celebrates the fifth anniversary of Trace.

AUGUST 14, 2014

One Search unified search box goes live.

In fall 2014 we upgraded our discovery tool, Primo from Ex Libris, and gave it a new name. A single search in the libraries' One Search box now returns not only our own local holdings but links to the full text of journal articles, e-books, and hundreds of millions of other e-resources available on the web.

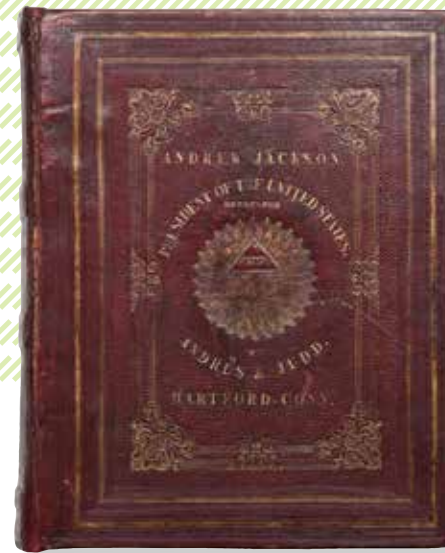
In December 2014 we went live with Alma, our vendor's cloud-hosted library services platform. This system, which replaced our previous integrated library system, is helping us to streamline management of daily library operations such as acquisitions, cataloging, and circulation.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

Launch of The Dr. William M. Bass III Collection, an online digital archive of field notes from the collection of UT's famous forensic anthropologist.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

The Library Society of the University of Tennessee celebrates the acquisition of the Andrew Jackson Family Bible.



OCTOBER 30, 2014

The Library Society of the University of Tennessee celebrates The Dr. William M. Bass III Collection with a lecture by the world-renowned forensic anthropologist.



NOVEMBER 10, 2014

Newfound Press publishes *From Joseph Bensen: Essays on Modern Society*, edited by Robert Jackall and Duffy Graham.

Newfound Press, a digital imprint of the University of Tennessee Libraries, publishes peer-reviewed books and multimedia works. Newfound Press titles can be downloaded or read online, and selected titles are available for print-on-demand through UT Press.

NOVEMBER 18, 2014

Launch of The William Derris Collection: Phase 1, an online digital collection of photographs of the Great Smoky Mountains taken from the 1940s through the 1960s.



DECEMBER 18, 2014

Switchover to Alma cloud-hosted library services platform.

FEBRUARY 2, 2015

Launch of Photographs from the Life and Career of Howard Baker, an online digital collection selected from images in the libraries' Modern Political Archives.

FEBRUARY 18, 2015

Launch of The William Derris Collection: Phase 2, an online digital collection of film clips of the Great Smoky Mountains taken from the 1940s through the 1960s. The libraries added folk songs performed by local musicians.

FEBRUARY 18-20, 2015

The Collective national library conference, Knoxville.

The Collective, founded by two UT librarians, is a hybrid conference/"unconference" for academic librarians. All sessions are participatory, skills-based, or takeaway-driven. Session topics are selected through an open and transparent public vote and peer review process. A total of 170 librarians from more than 100 institutions attended this inaugural conference on the theme "Libraries as Curators and Creators."

FEBRUARY 21, 2015

During the Four-Hour Film Festival sponsored by University Libraries and the Division of Student Life, student teams filmed, edited, and screened their creations in a mere four hours.



Launch of The Estes Kefauver Image Collection, an online digital archive of photographs from the collection of the late US senator from Tennessee.

APRIL 24, 2015

Newfound Press publishes *Recovery, Renewal, Reclaiming: Anthropological Research toward Healing*, edited by Lindsey King (Southern Anthropological Society Proceedings, No. 43).



APRIL 2, 2015

University Libraries awards prizes in the spring Student Art in the Library juried competition.

APRIL 6, 2015

The UT Libraries publishes an online facsimile of the 1857 edition of *The Harp of Columbia*, a shape-note hymnal that was first published in Knoxville in 1848 by W. H. & M. L. Swan.

APRIL 7, 2015

The Library Society of the University of Tennessee celebrates The David Madden Collection with a lecture by the renowned novelist, poet, playwright, essayist, and critic.

APRIL 19, 2015

Launch of The WWII Oral Histories Collection, an online digital collection of interviews with veterans of World War II, collected over twenty-five years by the Center for the Study of War and Society.

APRIL 20, 2015

Launch of The Estes Kefauver Image Collection, an online digital archive of photographs from the collection of the late US senator from Tennessee.



Photo by Tim Duffy

MARCH 12, 2015

The Library Society of the University of Tennessee and the Friends of the Knox County Public Library host an evening with folk musician Dom Flemons.

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STATS

A Statistical Snapshot of 2014-2015

Students borrowed laptops from the Commons 26,220 times. Cameras, videorecorders, and accessories were borrowed from the Studio 36,170 times.



640 LIBRARY INSTRUCTION CLASSES REACHED 20,165 PARTICIPANTS



librarians sport customized orange Converse for Big Orange Friday.

WE OWN 3.5+ MILLION VOLUMES AND PROVIDE ACCESS TO 666,000+ ELECTRONIC BOOKS AND 79,000+ ELECTRONIC JOURNALS AND SERIALS.



We reach students in the classroom; at the research desk; by phone, e-mail, text, and chat; and by appointment with one of 28 subject librarians with expertise in a wide range of disciplines.



BOOKS, PERIODICALS, AND MEDIA BORROWED FROM THE UT LIBRARIES' COLLECTIONS: 159,500



Our nearly 49 miles of bookshelves would run the length of about 860 football fields