Test Your Knowledge

- What is the role of the Center of Adolescent Literacies at UNC Charlotte?
- What is (CNPS)?
- In what year did a group of prominent African American men challenge the segregation of public accommodations of the Charlotte Bonnie Brae Golf Course in Revolution Park?

Answers page 9

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Take Note: A Message from the Dean

Department News

Self-Selected Group Development

Extra! Extra! Send your news! deads@uncc.edu

Life Long Learner of History

“I love the rare collection. For me, it is all about history. The books tell so much. They are artifacts and they all have their own story.”

History, research, exploratory or simply inquisitive are all words that can be associated with Tricia Kent. If she doesn’t know something—she will. It’s just a matter of figuring out how deep she will go to master a clear understanding of what interests her. “Gathering information” is what she has been doing for a long time and she credits this passion to her past. “I’ve always liked history. I like to find out how things were started, where they came from and how things used to be,” says Kent, Processing & Technical Assistant in Special Collections & University Archives. From studying classical archeology and history as an undergraduate at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., Kent planted the seeds for what her role in Special Collections has grown into—an historian, researcher, instructor, and one who knows the contents of the rare and unique items that are located on the 9th and 10th floors of the library. One could say that Kent has come full circle at Atkins Library as she started and ended up in the same place.

“I started working in Special Collections when I was a graduate student here at UNC Charlotte during the 1980s. I was in the History department and Robin Brabham, former Head of Special Collections, hired me,” says Kent. Since then, Kent has moved around in

See Life Long Learner page 6
As the spring semester comes to a close, kudos to all library employees for your outstanding work this year. The Library teems with students and I have heard universally positive comments about our services.

Budget
Elizabeth Moll and I presented our budget request to the Provost, Jay, Lori McMahon, and several representatives from the Faculty Council including the new President Rich Leeman on April 26. Although we will not know the results for a month or more, we received excellent questions and observed significant nodding of heads that indicated understanding of our concerns and needs. They were excited about our proposed highlights for 2017-2018.

Events
April was a very busy, yet productive month. On April 11, we celebrated National Library Workers Day with a cake break for faculty and staff. We also showed our appreciation to all our student workers by providing pizza and snacks during two days of National Library Week. Thanks to the Staff Development & Activities Committee and the Public Services unit for your work on these fun events.

On April 17, we met several of our Non-Student Temp employees at the Non-Student Temp reception. It was nice to see everyone introducing himself or herself and engaging with our temporary staff. This event was a way to show appreciation to all employees and that all staff are welcome and encouraged to participate in the various library activities and programs that we offer. You are part of our library family.

Thanks to Lolita Rowe, Sharon Reichard, Marquita Smith, the Outreach Committee, and the entire Special Collections unit, we had a very successful Thereasea Elder event on April 18. Approximately 50 people attended the event. The tremendous amount of effort that went into the planning and organizing was evident and shown through Mrs. Elder’s beaming countenance. Chartwell’s outdid themselves (under Marquita’s careful oversight) and even provided an immense flower arrangement, which Mrs. Elder donated to her church the following day. The speakers (Lisa Dubois, Lolita Rowe, and Dawn Schmitz) clearly demonstrated Mrs. Elder’s impact in impassioned speeches. This Special Collections and University Archives event was a great way to bring the community to our library to learn about the wonderful accomplishments of Thereasea Elder and to learn about the unique materials that we have in our collection. We look forward to planning other events similar to this one in the future.

Staff
I encourage all staff to take part in the Self-Selected Group Development activities sponsored by the Staff Development & Activities Committee. Jeff McAdams has done a great job in organizing and managing this project. His website makes it easy for staff see what groups are available, what they are doing, and when they are meeting. This is just another way for our organization to build relationships and to promote the “team” concept of working together.

LifeSaver Awards are a great way to recognize someone for going above and beyond in the workplace. Think about co-workers whom you can nominate. We all work hard and sometimes just knowing that someone else appreciates your effort makes it all worthwhile!

Personnel Updates
We welcome Tracie Krumbine to the library. You can learn about Tracie in this issue of the newsletter. She comes to us from the Charlotte School of Law. She will be taking over as our new Patron Services manager. Tracie started on April 17. Welcome Tracie! We look forward to meeting the new Collection Development Specialist, Maggie Hoomes. Maggie will start May 8.
Public Services Welcomes Tracie Krumbine

On April 17th I started as the new Patron Services Manager. I am originally from Baltimore, Maryland. My undergraduate degree is in Philosophy from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. I earned my library degree from the University of Maryland, College Park. Before coming to Charlotte, I lived in Chesapeake, Virginia, San Diego, California and Newport, Rhode Island. My former position was at the Charlotte School of Law where I was the Library User Experience Librarian. Throughout my career, I have also held other positions which include a law firm reference librarian, academic reference librarian and a trainer for a legal research vendor. In my free time, I like to crochet, scrapbook and read (of course). I love dogs and I am the proud mom of two Labrador Retrievers. As I start my new position, I am excited about the opportunity to help provide an excellent customer service experience at Atkins and I am also excited to work for such an innovative library.

Do you want to improve yourself, but find it hard to get off your duff?  
— Join a like-minded group!

The Staff Development & Activities Committee offers staff an opportunity to meet up with people with the same interests or likes.

Join a group today! Or start your own!

Self-Selected Group Development Website

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Club</th>
<th>Book Club</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing/Poetry</td>
<td>Healthy Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crafting</td>
<td>Beauty/Fashion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running</td>
<td>Meditation</td>
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</table>

For more information, contact Jeff McAdams
Lee Jefferson went above and beyond to install the new gallery hanging system in Atkins. This task presented new challenges and required installing the hanging system on a curved wall. This new system will be an incredible help in bringing even more exhibits and art into the library. When I thanked him for his help, he responded by saying that we are all in this together. He is definitely a team player. I was impressed by his dedication and professionalism.

—Nominated by Jenna Rinalducci

Lorrie Foster demonstrates what customer service is all about—a friendly, considerate and helpful attitude. I believe Lorrie went above and beyond a few weeks ago when she switched out my computer. Through the entire process, starting with the time she contacted me to say that I was due for a new computer, Lori made me feel special. She worked around my schedule and made sure all my needs were met. I appreciate her kind gestures, her work ethic, and her excellent customer service. Thank you Lorrie!

—Nominated by Denelle Eads

Dan Fansler has been a lifesaver for our team since day 1; with all of the numerous printer, computer, and fax machine issues we've had, Dan has been there to help us through them all! I can't tell you how many times I've had to put in a ticket for Elizabeth's computer or printer, and even though I'm sure he must be tired of our machines by now, he always has a positive and friendly attitude and fixes whatever problem we were having so quickly! Most recently, Dan has been a lifesaver for me by installing my new best friend, aka the new fax machine; with the amount of travel documents I fax over, I can't tell you how much this has improved my time and experience at work. Thank you for everything that you do, Dan!!

—Nominated by Chesney Klubert
Lolita Rowe has done an outstanding job working with one of our most important manuscript donors, Thereasea Elder. Over the last couple of years or more, Lolita has built a relationship with Mrs. Elder through the Charlotte Mecklenburg Black Heritage committee. She personally approached her about the donation of her papers, successfully organizing the acquisition of them. She also made sure to arrange an introduction with Dawn so she could convey and reiterate to Mrs. Elder the library's sincere appreciation for the gift. Finally, she organized, along with many others in the library, the wonderful community event that honored Mrs. Elder and her donation. She worked closely with Mrs. Elder on the guest list and the program, and she drove all over town to pick up items for the exhibits. She also gave very moving and funny remarks that no doubt made Mrs. Elder feel very appreciated, and she personally shepherded Mrs. Elder to and from the event. Relationships with the community are very important for the Library, and there is no one more esteemed in the community than Mrs. Elder. So for all of the work she has done with Thereasea Elder, Lolita deserves the LifeSaver award!

—Nominated by Dawn Schmitz & Anne Moore

Marquita Smith has established strong relationships with everyone in Chartwell’s, which has resulted in excellent service and those little extras that make all the difference in our enjoyment of our events. She has worked with them to provide the best possible food options and variety for both our staff events and our public events. Her consistent cultivation of all levels of Chartwell’s has made a huge difference in our quality of work life. Marquita has also worked diligently with those who reserve the Halton Room to ensure that they have a successful event. I hear wonderful feedback about her customer service from the administration and others who hold events in the Library.

—Nominated by Anne Moore

Sharon Reichard is a wonderful example of stellar “internal customer” service. So many in the library depend on her skills in so many areas: event planning and execution, communications of all forms (social media, press releases, public relations, communications, etc.) marketing assistance (brochure design and production), website skills...the list goes on and on. What makes Sharon especially deserving of this award is her positive, can-do attitude. Whether it is managing logistics for the Undergraduate Research Conference or rounding up the Therapy Dogs for Exam break - Sharon can be counted on to not only get it done, but get it done right! She is a valued member of every team she joins, and has been a true LifeSaver more times than I can count.

—Nominated by Betty Ladner & Anne Moore
Life Long Learner continued from page 1

the library working in various areas such as Periodicals, Documents, Acquisitions and Technical Services.

Although her role in Special Collections has changed from the first time she worked in the department, how she views the material has remained the same.

“I love the rare book collection. For me, it is all about history. The books tell so much. They are artifacts and they all have their own story. When I work with the rare books, I’m fascinated when I discover how they were made, who owned them and what they were written for. For each book, pamphlet or broadside poster in the collection, it has a purpose or a “why” as to how it became part of the collection and I like exploring those things,” says Kent.

That sense of discovery is what she has fostered while working in Special Collections. What she gets out of working in the department is two-fold: she’s feeding her passion with her love of history and she’s using her knowledge not only to teach our students here at Atkins Library, but she’s also helping her two sons recognize how history plays a role in what they are doing for a living—social media marketing.

“We teach a lot of classes in Special Collections. I’m a part of the team that helps with instruction. I help with doing the research in finding the materials to use for the class sessions and I also help with delivering the information to our students, especially when the class deals with book history, printing, typography or art books. With these classes, I discuss what I like to call “books as artifact” and I talk about why a particular paper or cover was used and how that reflects the purpose/marketing, etc. of the book,” says Kent.

Learning on the job. Kent’s education is everlasting as she is constantly discovering connections that offer historic value to things that are happening today in our everyday lives. “I’ve found that my job and my interest in the collections have really benefited me as I’ve taught my sons the importance of studying artifacts and historic items such as ads, posters and broadsides, and noticing the fonts and colors that are used. All these things convey messages to your audience. My sons, Scotty and Evan, who played a huge part in bringing back the Hornets Basketball name to Charlotte, were only able to pull off such a successful “grass roots” social media campaign because they did their homework—they researched and learned the history of Charlotte’s first NBA team, the Hornets. Their marketing efforts point directly to Charlotte history, something that Special Collections has a lot of. They used social media to get the word out and to achieve a positive result. They were responsible for “Bring Back the Buzz,” says Kent.

And they were responsible for the creation of “Mama Buzz,” the “Bring Back the Buzz” campaign’s number one cheerleader and supporter, their mom. It’s safe to say that this was actually a family affair—as father, Greg, aka “Pappa Buzz,” was equally involved.

Although Kent appreciates the impact that historic value had on the successful “Bring Back the Buzz” campaign, she must have also known how her own personal plea would get the attention of someone very important—Kent used social media to publish a letter to Michael Jordan.

https://bringbackthebuzz.net/2012/04/18/tricia-mama-buzz-kents-letter-to-michael-jordan/

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### Getting to Know Atkins Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
<th>Free Time Activities</th>
<th>Noteworthy Facts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ana Laracuente-Espinal</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
<td>6 months as a full-time employee; 2 years as temporary employee</td>
<td>Queens, NY</td>
<td>Reading, watching TV, making jokes, spending time with friends</td>
<td>Many people don’t know that I'm interested in androgynous/gender neutral fashion as a way to challenge and reject strict gender norms. People should not have to choose between being feminine, masculine, or somewhere in between based on their gender identity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Schmitz</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Special Collections &amp; University Archives</td>
<td>4 years and 7 months</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Reading, walking, spending time with friends</td>
<td>The last book I read was <em>The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano</em> (but not the rare 1793 copy that was our two millionth book, just a paperback!); Many people don’t know that I can do regional accents (i.e., Minnesota, Pittsburgh) because I’ve lived in so many places!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Allman</td>
<td>Interim Architecture Library Supervisor</td>
<td>1 year and 8 months</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>Reading, traveling, biking</td>
<td>The last book I read was <em>Dead Wake</em> by Erik Larson. Many people don’t know that I am a grown adult, despite the fact that my handwriting looks like that of an infant. The last movie I saw was <em>Schindler’s List</em> (1993).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When I was younger, I wanted to become a writer. I’m still actively working on this.

If I had three wishes they would be for telepathy, to be a successful author, and to not be allergic to dogs.
“Mama Buzz” is just a sample of the many roles that Kent has taken on over the years of expressing her love of characters, costumes and embracing history. She has a reputation of transforming herself when called upon to do so.

Although she says her favorite holiday is Christmas, some may question that statement if they see her in action during Halloween—one holiday that she goes all out for.

“My love for Halloween goes back to my childhood. My parents always dressed up and decorated. I don’t just enjoy dressing up and getting into character during that time of year, I also like researching the characters that I portray and feeling confident that I have an understanding of the holiday as well as the history and traditions that are associated with Halloween. I’m just fascinated with the historic aspect of it,” says Kent.

Whether it is for Halloween or for a character she’s portraying for one of her story telling requests, Kent puts her knowledge and research skills into play. She says, “my storytelling activities have come to me by ‘word of mouth.’ Most of my requests are from Catholic schools where my sons have attended or where they have taught as teachers. I also get requests from churches as well as from the Scout troops. The word has gotten out about what I do—I have also had the opportunity to speak a few times on campus to incoming freshmen for the Terre Lucas (Best) Program.

Kent’s involvement with history throughout the community spans over 20 years. Her themes come in a wide variety including Charlotte, American and Irish history. Her talent and expertise was recently solicited for an event sponsored by the Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents, where she served on the committee for the event. “I was a coach for the portrayers of the event and I needed to make sure that all the volunteers actually “stayed” in character. I helped them select their clothes for their costumes, hairstyles and their accessories like glasses, gloves or any other items that they used as props for their character. I had to make sure that their choice of these items really reflected the time-period they were trying to portray. For me, the costume isn’t only about dressing up, a big part of it is also about knowing the history of who you are supposed to be, says Kent.

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Kent, a member of the Dominican Order, is interested in Religious Philosophy and serves as the Staff advisor for the Thomistic Institute, a newly approved student organization at UNC Charlotte that joins 15 other college chapters including Duke, Harvard, Yale and M.I.T.

Test your knowledge Answers:

- The center focuses on developing instruction to make literacy and learning relevant and effective for adolescents and those who work with them.
- Certificate in Native Plant Studies
- 1951 (Special Collections)
From the Dean’s Desk

Outreach

We are making good progress with the formation of our Board of Advisors for the Library who will meet for the first time on May 16. We have a solid list of supporters from the community who are eager to help us engage with the greater Charlotte community and help us raise funds for our collections and projects. A big Thanks Betty Ladner for working so hard to get these commitments.

Summer is almost here!

Please enjoy your summer and do not forget to take some time off to rest and spend time with family and friends. A new crop of students will be here before we know it!

—Anne