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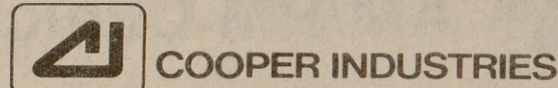
Mar. 6-10 2-4p.m.
Apr. 3-7 5-7p.m.
Apr. 24-28 3-5p.m.

Sterling C. Evans Library
Learning Resources Department
Room 604 845-2316

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Professor studies life, writings of 'Dr. Seuss'

By Andrea Warrenburg
REPORTER

While some professors praise works by Shakespeare and Hemingway, a Purdue University English professor chooses to stress the literary importance of "Green Eggs and Ham" and "The Cat in the Hat."

Ruth K. MacDonald, head of the English and philosophy department at Purdue University-Calumet in Gary, Ind., has spent three years researching the life and writings of Theodor Seuss Geisel—known to children of all ages as Dr. Seuss.

"Children can read his books on their own and thus gain mastery of the written word," MacDonald said. "Dr. Seuss gives kids permission to play with language and enjoy it."

MacDonald recently published the first critical analysis of the works and life of Geisel titled "Dr. Seuss."

Geisel created his pseudonym while attending Dartmouth College and working on the student newspaper. He wrote his first children's book in 1937 and has received three Academy Awards. Geisel won a Pulitzer Prize in 1984 for lifetime achievement for his contribution to children's literature.

Residing in California, Geisel, 84, continues to write and head the Beginner Book Division of Random House Publishers.

Dorothy Van Riper, who teaches children's literature at Texas A&M, said Geisel's works are as important to children's literature as "Pinocchio" and "Alice in Wonderland."

"This man's work is excellent because of his fine use of language and art," Van Riper said.

"Green Eggs and Ham," published in 1960, is the best-selling children's book of all time. The story contains only 53 words rearranged in different order.

MacDonald said, "Seuss proves you don't have to have lots of words or be a great artist to create a story children will love. The language is loud, rowdy and garish, but still tells a great story."

Agencies bicker over use, future of Galveston Bay

By Sharon Maberry
STAFF WRITER

Galveston Bay may not have much of a future if its users don't become more compatible, Texas A&M researchers say.

The bay has no single governing body, but its jurisdiction is split between varied interests of federal, state and local agencies.

A&M political science professors James Anderson and Charles Wiggins have spent about two years determining which agencies have jurisdiction over the bay and how much authority each has.

"Each agency (with jurisdiction over the bay) has its own concerns but, to date, none has considered it (the bay) as a whole," Anderson says. "Sometimes these agencies have overlapping and conflicting interests."

"A concern with the bay in recent years is that pressures on the bay are increasing. It is not possible for each user to go his own way. It has been a viable body of water and has a strong regenerative capacity, but its current uses can't continue."

Some uses of the bay include transportation, recreation, commercial purposes and waste disposal.

A major issue concerning the bay is the proposed enlargement of the Houston Ship Channel by the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

The proposal has been met with resistance by various environmental groups, including the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Water Commission and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Wiggins says research is necessary to determine possible damage by enlarging the ship channel.

"The Corps of Engineers admits it will wipe out a large amount of oyster reefs," Wiggins says. "It proposes to mitigate the problem with artificial oyster reefs. But there's been no research to see if artificial oyster reefs are as good as the natural ones."

Also, chemical companies have used the bay for discharging waste, Wiggins says. It is not known whether dredging the bottom of the bay during enlargement will stir up toxic chemicals.

"Compromise, bargaining and

negotiation will be involved in reaching the most acceptable plan," he says.

Anderson says another problem identified by his and Wiggins' research concerns the wetlands surrounding the bay area. The wetlands, which serve as nurseries for fish and shrimp, are not regulated by any agency.

"It seems necessary for some agency to regulate and protect these wetlands if viability of the bay is to continue," Anderson says.

Galveston Bay was designated a national estuary for study under the Water Quality Act of 1987. Various committees will attempt to develop a plan for the management of the bay during the next five years, Anderson says.

"It's a way of trying to bring these agencies together," he says. "However, it is difficult to say if they will come up with a plan. And even if they do, it might not be approved by the state legislature."

"People tend to view this as a scientific task. They think that all the necessary people will come together and reach a solution. But it probably won't work that way."

Crimestoppers seeks suspects in computer robbery at A&M



Three desktop computers and two monitors were stolen during the early morning hours of Monday, Feb. 6 from the Computing Services Center at Texas A&M.

The suspects pried open the door to the center and loaded the stolen merchandise into two trash cans. They carried these trash cans to the north side of the building where they unloaded the computers and discarded the trash cans.

The items, valued at \$10,000, are listed as two IBM PS/2 Model 50 computers with serial numbers 8263870 and 3264131 and TAMU ID numbers 0531536, one IBM Color VGA Monitor Model B513,

Brazos County

Witnesses reported seeing two white males, approximately 21 years old, each about 5 feet 9 inches tall with thin builds, in the vicinity of the Computer Center at 12:30 a.m.

If you have any information regarding this crime, contact Crime Stoppers at 775-TIPS. When called, Crime Stoppers will assign the caller a special coded number to protect the caller's identity. If the call leads to an arrest and grand jury indictment, Crime Stoppers will pay the caller up to \$1000.

Crime Stoppers also pays cash for any information regarding any felony crime or the whereabouts of a wanted fugitive.

Galveston library holds treasures of past

GALVESTON (AP) — The first man to direct the Rosenberg Library has been misplaced.

Somewhere in the attic, among the boxes of books, tattered battle flags and the dusty relics of Galveston bootleggers, Frank Patton's ashes rest in the institution he helped build.

John Hyatt, the current head of the Rosenberg Library, has puzzled over the missing ashes of his predecessor for years, yet he is reluctant to search for them himself.

"One of my great problems over the years has been to get people to go up into the attic," Hyatt said as he shined a flashlight into the dark corners of the attic.

Hyatt stumbled across an open old wooden chest full of carpenter's tools and a shaving brush coated with a generation of dust.

Fastidiously, Hyatt closed the lid. Under the grime, a name faintly appeared. Hyatt wiped away the dirt to read the name of Frank Patton.

"Would Frank be in there?" Hyatt's visitor asked. "Would you care to look deeper into the chest and see if the ashes are there?"

"No, not right now," Hyatt said.

Hyatt would rather look for less morbid items among the historical trash and treasure Galvestonians have been giving to the Rosenberg.

He shuns the word museum when referring to the Rosenberg Library, but the parallel arises naturally in the attic, where silver tennis trophies from the 1920s, 19th century porcelain dolls, and political memorabilia such as yard signs, posters and buttons can be found.

Librarians have been behind in the slow process of sorting the treasure from the trash since the library, with walls four feet thick to withstand hurricanes, was built in 1905.

Molly McGill Rosenberg's carriage sits in

pieces on the floor of the attic, part of more than 2 million items in the library.

Curator Lise Darst, who is in charge of the institution's attic, says that of all the things under her care, the carriage is one of her favorites.

She looks at the carriage and sighs, "Someday, we hope someone will give us the money to have it fixed."

Besides the treasure of the Rare Book Room, the library holds the world's largest collection of paintings by German artist Julius Stockfleth, larger even than the collection in the Stockfleth Museum in Germany.

But not all of the items in the collection gather dust.

Downstairs in the Rare Book Room are the institution's most prized possessions.

In a glass display case are a Faberge egg, a silver pig that has ruby eyes with diamonds, a bowl and Czar Nicholas II's cuff links and desk clock.

In a cabinet is a collection of 19th-century "horn books," once used in colonial schools.

A pair of Babylonian cuneiform tablets are the oldest items in the library, dating from 2350 B.C. Sitting under lock and key are a first edition of Boswell's "Life of Samuel Johnson" and a 1488 Suma Angelica list of indulgences similar to those Martin Luther pitched into a fire.

Margaret Schlanke, custodian of the room, handles the items with white gloves.

Besides the treasure of the Rare Book Room,

the library holds the world's largest collection of paintings by German artist Julius Stockfleth, larger even than the collection in the Stockfleth Museum in Germany.

For a period around the turn of the century the artist worked in Galveston. Hyatt says that while the Stockfleth collection is the library's most important, other artists' work is there, well.

"We are trying to gradually develop a collection of Texas painters, especially those who worked here," he said.

From time to time the library sends part of its collection of historical oddities downstairs for display, or to museums across the country, including the Smithsonian Institute's Cooper-Hewitt Museum in New York.

Sam Houston's dueling pistols are downstairs on display, as is a lock of hair from the tall, Traveler, Robert E. Lee's horse.

In a cabinet sit Santa Anna's cut-glass decanters. On a shelf is a spittoon from the Galvez Hotel, and a bed-warmer once owned by a Sales woman who was accused of being a witch and who was burned at the stake.

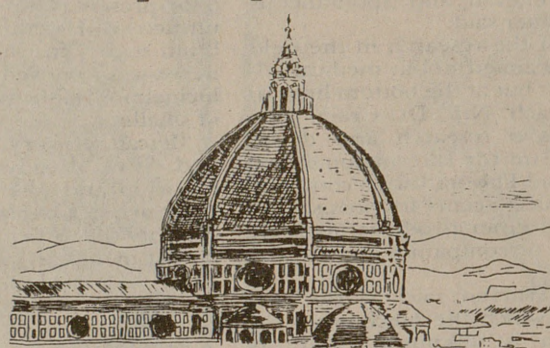
Galveston's first library began as the Galveston Mercantile Library, chartered in 1870 by the state after its creation by the Galveston Chamber of Commerce.

However, the city fathers didn't have a real commitment to the library.

Philanthropist Henry Rosenberg gave an endowment of \$300,000 to build a library that would rival those of much larger metropolitan cities.

Rosenberg's original endowment, along with others given over the years, has grown to \$5 million.

TAMU Italian Semester
Spring 1990

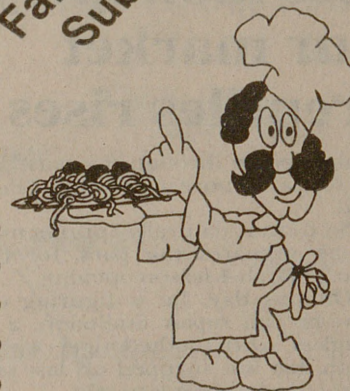


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