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Dedication
Tom Dillard to Retire in January

This issue of The Arkansian is dedicated to Tom Dillard, head of Special Collections for the past seven years. Tom is retiring at the end of January 2012, and he will be greatly missed. He works tirelessly to recruit collections, raise funds for special projects, implement digitization and other projects, and promote the University of Arkansas Libraries and the Special Collections Department—all with the goal of making Arkansas history more accessible to the citizens of the Natural State and to researchers around the world. Please read the interview with Tom on page 8.

John Paul Hammerschmidt Papers Opened

By Erin Robertson

[Editor’s note: Erin Robertson, a senior journalism major and new editorial assistant in Special Collections, reports on the event celebrating the opening of the papers of Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt. A ceremony and reception took place on September 14, 2011 in the Helen Robson Walton reading room of Mullins Library to honor the Arkansas statesman and mark the opening of his papers to the public.]

The podium was jostled by footsteps on the platform as John Paul Hammerschmidt traded places with Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard. A handshake passed between them as Hammerschmidt, a man still regally tall for his 89 years, stepped up to the microphone.

“I’m a little bit at a loss for words,” he said. “It’s overwhelming.”

He was referring to the release of the John Paul Hammerschmidt Papers, made officially available to the public at a reception on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 in the Walton Reading Room at Mullins Library. More than six years after the first boxes were unloaded at the University of Arkansas campus, Special Collections added Hammerschmidt’s manuscript collection to the growing list of prestigious papers held by the department. The occasion celebrated continued on page 12.
Leadership Report
From the Desk of Tom Dillard

This issue of The Arkansian is bringing bittersweet thoughts to my mind. I will be retiring at the end of January 2012, and so this is my last opportunity to visit with the folks around the state who have taken an interest in our work. On page 8 in this issue is an interview with the editor conducted with me, and I used that occasion to briefly remember my career.

When I was a graduate student at the University of Arkansas in 1973-74, I practically lived in Mullins Library and Special Collections in particular. Like most history graduate students at that time, I expected to pursue a career in academia. I actually someday be head of Special Collections. I cannot think of a better place for me to end my career—here in Special Collections where it all started.

One of my accomplishments of which I am proud is the creation of this magazine, The Arkansian. Our goal for this publication was to give Arkansans a peak into the largest academic research facility in the state; to share our enthusiasm for documenting our state; and to acquire more collections as well as financial support. The success of The Arkansian is due in large part to its managing editor, Diane Worrell, who is not only a consummate professional but also a great colleague to work with. Read about her in the staff profiles.

Be sure to read about Josh Youngblood, our new research and outreach services librarian, who comes to us from the Florida Memory Project.

One of the first projects Joshua worked on was in collaboration with our architectural archivist Catherine Wallack in constructing an exhibit for the new concourse at the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport. Each day hundreds of people view the exhibit, and we have received high commendations for it.

The John Paul Hammerschmidt Papers have been opened for research use. The Papers, which cover a congressional career of 26 years, comprise the largest collection in Special Collections—1,200 boxes amounting to over 1,500 linear feet.

The Hammerschmidt Papers remind me of the major contributions made by Timothy G. Nutt, assistant head of Special Collections and the manuscripts and rare books librarian. Tim deserves credit for so much of what we accomplish in this unit.

I hope you will enjoy reading about our new digital project on the famous cartoonist, the late George Fisher of Little Rock. We are posting samples of Fisher cartoons, art, letters, pictures, and sketches, and it is a pleasure to see. We are also reporting in this issue on the completion of a digital project on the career of the late Congressman Brooks Hays from central Arkansas. Digital projects give us an opportunity to share our collections with people around the world. We are indebted to the hard work of Annie Dowling, Janet Parsch, and Joan Watkins in developing these digital resources.

In this issue we continue the tradition of including a quiz on Arkansas. As the primary developer of the quiz, I work hard to get just the right mix of questions—not too esoteric, but not too simple either. I welcome reader comments on the quiz.

Perhaps my favorite part of this magazine is the “centerfold” spread. We use these pages to highlight images from our historic photographs. In this issue, we are having a little fun by taking a look at “Hats and Hairdos” from the past.

As I bid you goodbye, I urge you to continue your interest in UA Libraries and the Special Collections Department. I know my successor will be excited to discover that Special Collections has an interested clientele and a vast number of supporters.

Tom W. Dillard
Head of Special Collections University of Arkansas Libraries
365 N. McIlroy Avenue Fayetteville, AR 72701
Phone: (479) 575-5777
tdillard@uark.edu

Brooks Hays Digital Collection Opened
Arkansan Served in Congress and in Five Presidential Administrations

By Diane F. Worrell

The Special Collections Department launched a new digital collection documenting the life and work of Brooks Hays, coinciding with the 113th anniversary of his birth on August 9, 2011. Hays (1898–1985) was a political, civic, and religious leader from Pope County who was the Democratic Congressman from Arkansas’s Fifth District from 1942 to 1959.

The digital collection, titled “Principles and Politics: Documenting the Career of Congressman Brooks Hays,” includes 150 items, including articles, campaign materials, cartoons and drawings, correspondence, diaries, photographs, poems, prayers, speeches and tributes from his life and career. The collection was recently named “Digital Library of the Week” by the American Library Association’s electronic journal. It is available online through the Libraries’ Web site, along with other digital collections, at: http://scipio.uark.edu/

Brooks Hays attended the University of Arkansas from 1915 to 1919, where he met his wife, Marion Prather Hays, in Old Main during his freshman year. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1942 and served eight consecutive terms. Hays was defeated for re-election in 1958.

Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard noted that Hays worked to mediate the escalating civil rights conflicts during the 1950s. “Congressman Hays, who had always been a racial moderate, refused to join Governor Orval Faubus in his efforts to prevent the integration of Little Rock Central High School in 1957. In retribution, the Faubus political machine organized opposition to Hays in his 1958 campaign for re-election to Congress. Little Rock physician Dale Alford, the Faubus candidate, defeated Hays as a write-in candidate. Hays graciously retired from Congress and devoted his considerable energies to a variety of causes,” Dillard concluded.

After leaving Congress, Hays served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, began a writing career, and was appointed to the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority by President Eisenhower. Hays served as special assistant to presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

Hays held various academic appointments, including that of director of the Ecumenical Institute at Wake Forest University in North Carolina. Hays served in five presidential administrations in various capacities. His sense of humor was legendary; and his personal friends included many political giants of the twentieth century. On the occasion of Hays’s 80th birthday, he received a letter from close associate and historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., who offered this praise of his friend: “Few Americans have done so much to further the cause of tolerance, understanding and fellowship among diverse races and creeds; and no one in our time has done it with such delicious wit and sagacious humor.”

The materials in this digital collection represent only a fraction of the Brooks Hays manuscript materials held by the Department. A description of all the Brooks Hays materials is available on the Department’s Web site at http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/findingsheets/hays/hays.asp.

Additional information on both the digital and manuscript collections is available by contacting the Special Collections Department at specoll@uark.edu or 479-575-5777.
Arkansas and Captivity During World War II

By Joshua C. Youngblood

Special Collections recently opened a digital collection of German Prisoner of War (POW) letters, available on the Special Collections Web site. The collection offers an opportunity to look at the variety of resources available in Special Collections related to a little-understood area of World War II history—captivity on the home front.

From manuscript collections offering firsthand accounts and official documentation from both the U.S. War Relocation Authority (WRA) and the POW camps, to numerous published materials, Special Collections provides access to a wealth of materials to help complete the historical understanding of the incarceration of both U.S. and Japanese POWs, and the war on individual lives.

In addition to the manuscript collections, Special Collections recently opened a digital collection of German POW letters, available on the Special Collections Web site. The collection offers an opportunity to look at the variety of resources available in Special Collections related to a little-understood area of World War II history—captivity on the home front.

The diary of Rosa Heinke (MC 1896) of Pulaski County records her observations of the daily lives of Japanese American internees in Arkansas. Born in Little Rock in 1924, Heinke was an art instructor at the Rohwer internment camp during the summer of 1944. The items documenting her life and work with Japanese American internees, acquired by the library department on December 16, 2010, are preserved in Special Collections as the Rosa A. Heinke Materials.

The Jerome Relocation Center Collection (MC 269) and the War Relocation Papers of Robert Allen Leflar (MC 260), an assistant solicitor for WRA, include legal and other correspondence exchanged between the WRA office in Washington, D.C. and the Authority’s ten regional centers. Materials from the Jerome Center also pertain to the property of Japanese American internees, problems encountered in their resettlement, constitutional principles involved in the relocation program, and the individual hearings of internees. In addition to official correspondence, and a manuscript of a speech about his experiences, the collection of Ulysses S. Grant (MS L941273), a project attorney who served at the American and Jerome Relocation camps, includes 10 photographs of his work with internees on tax-related issues. The images include scenes of the facility interiors and exteriors of the camps, portraits of camp residents in front of their original works, and the final closing of the camps and loading of trucks with internees’ possessions.

The materials of the WRA (MC 452 and MS U46365) housed in Special Collections include numerous photographs depicting a wide range of subjects, from the construction of the camps to young and adult students in classes, interned engaged in agricultural and lumber work, visits by Nisei (American-born, second generation citizens of Japanese descent) soldiers, recreational activities, portraits of artists in front of their original works, and the final closing of the camps and loading of trucks with internees’ possessions.

In addition to the manuscript collections, Special Collections has newsletters and other published materials from the Jerome and Rohwer centers, including the Jerome Relocation Center Denison Island Handbook and J&D, a collection of satirical cartoons published by Rohwer internees in 1943.

Assistant Department Head and Manuscripts and Rare Books Librarian Tim Nott noted, “The materials documenting Japanese American internees give historians insight into the daily activities of those forced from their homes into camps during WWII simply for being of Japanese descent.”

The resources in Special Collections provide the official records necessary for documenting the incarceration of both Japanese Americans and Axis POWs, as well as the personal accounts and stories that illustrate the impact of captivity and war on individual lives.

“These collections document an interesting and tragic episode in our state’s history,” Nott said. “The Italian and German POWs were sent to camps in Arkansas during WWII for their Axis loyalties, while the Japanese were interned for their heritage.”

Donations to Special Collections, January 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011

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By early 1943, the first of nearly 450,000 Axis POWs began arriving in the United States, with 23,000 eventually detached in Arkansas. There were four main camps established in Arkansas for European POWs: Camp Chaffee, Camp Robinson, Camp Dermott for German enlisted men and officers, and Camp Monticello, which mainly housed Italian officers. In addition, there were several work camps established around the state.

The experience of imprisonment in Arkansas often changed the lives of Asian POWs, as demonstrated by a group of men from Bernhard D. Gregory and German POWs who worked on his farm: Helmut Schulz, Fritz Becker, Gerhard Schnaider, Werner Geblau, Gustav Menke, Werner Scholl, Roland Thielemann, and Alfred Tischersch. Gregory was a prominent landowner and farmer in Ashley County, Arkansas.

The Jefferson Forest Mullins Collection (MC 1461) also contains letters written by former German POWs after the war to Mullins of Wilson, Arkansas. Detailed information on the condition of the camps and work of the POWs is available in the World War II Prisoner of War Records Collection (MC 509), including camp descriptions and labor reports for each camp that housed POWs in the state.

In the months after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States government began relocating more than 120,000 Japanese Americans living in the western United States to internment camps. A new civilian agency, the U.S. War Relocation Authority (WRA), was charged with moving and caring for the people designated a group of enemy origin.

Two of the ten centers used for the relocation of Japanese Americans in the United States were in Arkansas. The camps eventually housed over 16,000 individuals, more than 30 percent of whom were under the age of 18. Located on tax-delinquent lands acquired by the Farm Security Administration from the state during the New Deal, the Jerome Relocation Center near Dermott and the Rohwer Relocation Center near McGehee were set up in 1942 on parcels of swampy Delta land in southeast Arkansas, each more than 10,000 acres in size. Internees began arriving from the West Coast in September 1942 and found many of the tar-papered barracks still unfinished, without plumbing, and with wood as the only available fuel source for heating. By early summer 1944, the last Japanese American internees at Jerome had been transferred to Rohwer, and the Jerome camp became a special prison for particularly difficult German officers and enlisted men, named Camp Dermott.

In contrast to the comfortable quarters, ample recreational facilities, and opportunities for work that made European POW experiences in Arkansas relatively favorable, the Japanese Americans held in Arkansas encountered many physical and social hardships. For many, the economic and psychological repercussions of relocation and captivity detailed their entire lives.

Special Collections holds several manuscript collections that document the experiences of Japanese American internment camps in Arkansas. The collections range from official government documents to the letters and personal papers of arkansans and other citizens who worked at the camps, such as the papers of Virginia Tidball (MS T48274), a Jerome high school teacher, and the papers of Nathaniel R. Griswold (MS G882570), superintendent of the community activities section at Rohwer.

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In contrast to the comfortable quarters, ample recreation-
Images of Arkansas
Hats and Hairdos
Selected and Annotated by Todd E. Lewis

Left: A group of men in hats pose while touring Happy Hollow in Hot Springs, Garland County, ca. 1900, from the Mary D. Hudgins Collection, MC 534

Below: Arkansas Republican leaders Harmon Liveright Remmel (far right), Powell Clayton (center right), and Henry M. Cooper (left) and his wife (center), enjoy a day at Happy Hollow in Hot Springs, Garland County, 1907, from the Harmon Liveright Remmel Papers, MS R23

In 1898 Ruth Dickinson, of Fayetteville, a student at the Arkansas Industrial University (later the University of Arkansas), models a fashionable hat, from the Berry, Dickinson, and Peel Family Papers, MC 1372

An unidentified friend of Marion G. Pope, of Fayetteville, smiles for the camera, 1918, from the Marion G. Pope Photograph Album, 1919-1920, MC 1430

Conway (Faulkner County) resident George Washington Donaghey (right), governor of Arkansas in 1909-1913, his wife Louvenia (center), and an unidentified friend (left), ca. 1889, from George Washington Donaghey Miscellaneous Materials, MS D714m

Socialite and former state representative (1959-1960) Willie Oates, of Little Rock, sports one of the flamboyant hats for which she was known, ca. 1990, from the Willie Oates Papers, MC 732

Catherine D Norrell (center), wife of Arkansas Sixth District Congressman William D. Norrell, and later a member of Congress herself (1961-1962), visits with Ethel Merman (left) and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower (right) at a Congressional Club breakfast in honor of Mrs. Eisenhower, ca. 1959-1960, from the William F. and Catherine D. Norrell Papers, MC 1236

In 1898 Ruth Dickinson, of Fayetteville, a student at the Arkansas Industrial University (later the University of Arkansas), models a fashionable hat, from the Berry, Dickinson, and Peel Family Papers, MC 1372

An unidentified friend of Marion G. Pope, of Fayetteville, smiles for the camera, 1918, from the Marion G. Pope Photograph Album, 1919-1920, MC 1430

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Socialite and former state representative (1959-1960) Willie Oates, of Little Rock, sports one of the flamboyant hats for which she was known, ca. 1990, from the Willie Oates Papers, MC 732
Interview with Special Collections Department Head Tom Dillard
Veteran Archivist and Historian to Retire in January 2012

Q: You’ve announced you will retire from the University of Arkansas at the end of January 2012. What are your retirement plans and what most excites you about the prospect of retirement?

TD: My wife, Mary Frost Dillard, and I are both retiring at the end of January, 2012. We look forward to traveling some, visiting family in central Arkansas, and enjoying our little “farmette” in Farmington, near Fayetteville. I hope to spend a good deal of time continuing my research and publishing in the field of Arkansas history. I will continue to write my history column for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, and I plan on doing some feature writing, too. Mary and I are chicken fanciers, and we enjoy our three backyard flocks. We have two dogs, and we look forward to having time to play with them. I am a passionate gardener and excited about having time to garden at my leisure. I hope to have a long, healthy retirement during which I can write, garden, enjoy time with my wife and son Neil, and take walks with our dogs, Andy and Lola.

Q: Describe your career for our readers.

TD: I have been fascinated by Arkansas history since I was in junior high school. As a small child I had a notion that I might study botany or landscape architecture. I majored in history at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway—and I used the occasion to begin the systematic study of Arkansas state and local history. I took a master’s degree in the study of Arkansas state and local history at the University of Arkansas in 2004. I studied the subject. I have become convinced that the greatest challenge facing our state is a sense of low expectation among our own population. It seems to me that our own history is the best means we have for building collective self-esteem among Arkansans. Making Arkansans aware of their heritage is a means of empowering them, of giving them the tools to cast off old stereotypes. Finally, a knowledge of our history will enable Arkansans to vote more intelligently.

Q: What influenced you in choosing Arkansas history as your specialty? Was there a defining moment when you knew this would be your life’s work?

TD: I don’t think I ever had a “road to Damascus” epiphany. I do recall as a seventh grader taking a class in Arkansas history and being assigned to develop a report on Izard County. It was while studying Izard County that I discovered how one can best understand American history by seeing it made manifest at the local level.

Q: Why is educating people about Arkansas history important?

TD: My commitment to Arkansas history grew dramatically the more I studied the subject. I have become convinced that the greatest challenge facing our state is a sense of low expectation among our own population. It seems to me that our own history is the best means we have for building collective self-esteem among Arkansans. Making Arkansans aware of their heritage is a means of empowering them, of giving them the tools to cast off old stereotypes. Finally, a knowledge of our history will enable Arkansans to vote more intelligently.

Q: What do you consider your most important professional accomplishments?

TD: While I am proud of many aspects of my career, I am especially proud of my work to create the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture. The people of Arkansas pitched in to develop a state encyclopedia that is second to none in the nation. There are more than a million searches of the encyclopedia each year. Second, I am proud of the pioneering work I did in researching and writing the history of African Americans in Arkansas. Finally, I am really proud of the work I have done in mentoring young people in the field of Arkansas studies.

Q: What do you hope your legacy will be in the state and in the University?

TD: I hope future generations will benefit from the work I have done to document our state. I hope that Arkansans in the distant future will occasionally see my name and give thanks for the work I did in preserving the heritage of all Arkansans.

Q: What are some of the lasting memories from your work in Special Collections?

TD: My colleagues here are a really impressive lot, and I will remember them always. And, I thank them for all the help they gave me over the years, not to mention the patience they showed! I will also miss working with students, both undergraduate and graduate students. It is a rewarding experience to see how students loading potatoes from horse-drawn wagons to barges on the Arkansas River in Fort Smith. The exhibit’s design highlights some of the unique records available in Special Collections, while also inviting airport travelers to take a closer look at the culture and character of Northen Arkansas.

Q: Describe a few of your professional accomplishments.

TD: I have been the founding editor-in-chief. I became head of Special Collections at the University of Arkansas in 2004. Special Collections has provided leadership in disseminating data on Arkansas. For example, the Encyclopedia of Arkansas is a large electronic database which indexes literature on the state. UA Special Collections, in sum, is a mighty engine that undergirds the collective study of Arkansas and the region.

Q: Do you consider your retirement important?

TD: Yes, I do. The university and the state will lose a lot. I have done in researching and writing the history of African Americans in Arkansas. Finally, I am really proud of the work I have done in mentoring young people in the field of Arkansas studies.

Q: What do you hope your legacy will be in the state and in the University?

TD: I hope future generations will benefit from the work I have done to document our state. I hope that Arkansans in the distant future will occasionally see my name and give thanks for the work I did in preserving the heritage of all Arkansans.

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Q: What influenced you in choosing Arkansas history as your specialty? Was there a defining moment when you knew this would be your life’s work?

TD: I don’t think I ever had a “road to Damascus” epiphany. I do recall as a seventh grader taking a class in Arkansas history and being assigned to develop a report on Izard County. It was while studying Izard County that I discovered how one can best understand American history by seeing it made manifest at the local level.

Q: Why is it vital for the University of Arkansas Libraries to collect materials to support the study of Arkansas?

TD: The University of Arkansas Libraries’ Special Collections Department is the leading academic archival repository in the state. Since 1967 Special Collections has built huge research collections of manuscripts, historic photographs, books, and periodicals on the state, as well as a multitude of other materials. Likewise, Special Collections has provided leadership in disseminating data on Arkansas. For example, the Encyclopedia of Arkansas is a large electronic database which indexes literature on the state. UA Special Collections, in sum, is a mighty engine that undergirds the collective study of Arkansas and the region.

Q: What do you consider your most important professional accomplishments?

TD: While I am proud of many aspects of my career, I am especially proud of my work to create the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture. The people of Arkansas pitched in to develop a state encyclopedia that is second to none in the nation. There are more than a million searches of the encyclopedia each year. Second, I am proud of the pioneering work I did in researching and writing the history of African Americans in Arkansas. Finally, I am really proud of the work I have done in mentoring young people in the field of Arkansas studies.

Q: What do you hope your legacy will be in the state and in the University?

TD: I hope future generations will benefit from the work I have done to document our state. I hope that Arkansans in the distant future will occasionally see my name and give thanks for the work I did in preserving the heritage of all Arkansans.

Q: What are some of the lasting memories from your work in Special Collections?

TD: My colleagues here are a really impressive lot, and I will remember them always. And, I thank them for all the help they gave me over the years, not to mention the patience they showed! I will also miss working with students, both undergraduate and graduate students. It is a rewarding experience to see how students education to get to know students and help them realize their educational goals. Finally, it has been a pleasure to work with a host of people who have donated materials to build our research collections.

New Exhibit Welcomes Travelers With Postcards From the Past

Catherine Wallack (left), stands next to the exhibit she designed for the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport, photographed by Joshua C. Youngblood

Special Collections created and mounted an exhibit at the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport’s new concourse, intended to reflect a sense of place for travelers arriving to Northwest Arkansas. The 11-gate concourse includes three display cases that showcase the collections of local institutions and reinforce a sense of the region’s character. The University of Arkansas Libraries were honored to be among the first institutions selected to create an exhibit.

The Special Collections exhibit incorporates 18 historical postcards from the Northwest Arkansas region in a display case more than 18 feet long and six feet high. The postcards reflect the diverse history of the region in colorful snapshots, including an early 20th century boating party on Sanatorium Lake in Eureka Springs, a bucolic scene in Springdale, and a view of laborers loading potatoes from horse-drawn wagons to barges on the Arkansas River in Fort Smith. The exhibit’s design highlights some of the unique records available in Special Collections, while also inviting airport travelers to take a closer look at the culture and character of Northwest Arkansas.

The exhibit provided the University Libraries and Special Collections with an opportunity to showcase some infrequently viewed images from the archives. Catherine Wallack, archivist/recording archivist, led a Special Collections team in developing the design of the exhibit. Joshua Youngblood, research and outreach services librarian for Special Collections, remarked on the great fit between the airport’s needs and Special Collections’ large accumulation of Arkansas-related materials. “Special Collections strives to preserve and promote the history of Arkansas, and we are very excited by the opportunity to showcase regional heritage through this collaboration with the airport as Northwest Arkansas continues to grow,” he said.

A concourse preview event late August gave attendees a sneak peek at the new exhibit before the official unveiling of the exhibition and opening of the new concourse on September 1, 2011. Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport officials expect the concourse to serve nearly 1,000 patrons a day in the first year of operation, and that number will only grow in the future. The exhibit will be displayed through March 2012.
New Acquisition Focuses on the Immigrant Experience in Arkansas

A 1905 booklet recently acquired by Special Collections describes the agricultural and economic advantages of Arkansas, encouraging immigrants to seize the opportunities available in the state and the region. *The Waiting Wealth of Arkansas and Louisiana* was published by the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company in 1905 as a tool for selling railroad lands. The 72-page booklet features testimonials from immigrants already settled in the state who touted the wonders of the land. One settler, writing from Little Rock, remarked, “The winters are very short and mild, and stock of all kinds is easily sustained. Here in Little Rock roses bloom ten months in the year.” Another writer, from Camden, extolled the healthy climate of the state. In contrast to his time in Texas, where he buried fourteen family members, he said he only had to call a doctor twice in Arkansas. He continued by relating that his elderly neighbor only recently took his first dose of medicine since the Civil War—a good forty years past. Photographs of scenes around Arkansas are found throughout the book, and a street scene in Rector (Clay County) shows a particularly vibrant community. According to WorldCat, a worldwide library catalog, the University of Arkansas is only one of two libraries in the world to own this booklet. The University of California at Davis is the other.

Special Collections seeks to document the immigrant experience and has made a concerted effort to collect materials such as this booklet. *The Waiting Wealth of Arkansas and Louisiana* is cataloged and available for use in the Department’s reading room.

George Fisher Digital Collection
Selected Works of Political Cartoonist Now Available Online

By Erin Robertson

The Special Collections Department recently launched a digital collection documenting the life and career of famed Arkansas cartoonist, George Fisher. Fisher’s legendary work has become an integral part of the history of Arkansas.

Titled “Drawing Distinctions: The Life and Work of American Cartoonist George Fisher,” the collection includes samples of his professional work, memorabilia, photographs, scrapbooks, and correspondence to friends and family with quirky illustrations. The collection begins with his first cartoon strip “Firty Limps” created by an eight-year-old Fisher, to his final cartoons for the *Arkansas Times*. A chronology of Fisher’s life and a bibliography of his published work are also contained in the digital library. The collection is available on the University Libraries’ Web site, along with other digital collections, at: http://scipio.uark.edu/

Fisher had a vast output of work for his more than seven decades as an artist and his cartoons addressed everything from state and national politics to the environmental policies of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He created numerous caricatures of public figures, including Hillary Clinton as Wonder Woman.

The digital collection includes samples of Fisher’s professional work, cartoons drawn during his childhood, and illustrated correspondence to friends and family. Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard said, “George Fisher was a remarkable man, an astute observer of Arkansas, and a cartoonist whose work has had a dramatic impact on the state over a long period of time. His papers are a veritable gold mine of documentation about Arkansas. I expect generations of Arkansans to come to know Fisher and his incredible cartoons through this manuscript collection.”

Fisher’s papers were donated to the University Libraries shortly before his death, and a generous donation from Kathryn and Tommy May and Simmons First National Bank made the digitization project possible.

Special Collections staff members Annie Dowling, Janet Parish, and Joan Watkins developed the digital collection.

Tim Nutt Receives Award

Timothy G. Nutt, manuscripts and rare books librarian and assistant head of the Special Collections Department, received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Arkansas Honors College during a reception held on October 19, 2011. The award recognizes faculty members who go above and beyond their regular duties to mentor Honors College students. Recipients receive a bronze medal, being designed by sculptor Hank Kaminisky, and $1,000 to support undergraduate research.

Nutt has published extensively on the subject of Arkansas history and also writes, directs, and acts in history re-enactments for the Washington County Historical Society. He has shared his passion for Arkansas history with 16 honors student interns who have worked with a variety of original historical materials in Special Collections, from the papers of U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers and architect Fay Jones to cartoonist George Fisher. Nutt works closely with his library students, teaching them the standard archival techniques and procedures. Nutt’s student interns have created exhibits of materials such as this booklet.

According to WorldCat, a worldwide library catalog, the University of Arkansas is only one of two libraries in the world to own this collection. The University of California at Davis is the other.

Special Collections seeks to document the immigrant experience and has made a concerted effort to collect materials such as this booklet. *The Waiting Wealth of Arkansas and Louisiana* is cataloged and available for use in the Department’s reading room.

**Tim Nutt, 2011, Photograph by Russell Colfieri**

**George Fisher, 2011, Photograph by T. Harting, Jr., George Fisher Papers, MC 1455 (Unprocessed)**
Meet Joshua Youngblood!

The Special Collections Department was pleased to welcome Joshua Youngblood to the archivist ranks in July as the research and outreach services librarian. With a background in history and research, Joshua was a natural fit for the archives. Joshua was born in Monroe, Louisiana to a family with roots deep in the culture and society of northern Louisiana and western Mississippi. He spent most of his childhood, however, in Augusta, Georgia, where his mother lives, and considers family to be an important part of his life. “I come from a large family with three sisters and two brothers and fifteen nieces and nephews,” he said.

Joshua attended high school at the Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School in downtown Augusta, where he studied music and visual arts, a path of study that led him to a music scholarship at the University of Louisiana—Monroe and to the city of his birth, where his father resides. While an undergraduate, Joshua was active in music performance, and participated in several ensembles including the university symphony, jazz ensembles, symphonic band and marching band. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history with a minor in music performance in 1999 as a graduate of the university honors program. In 2000 Joshua moved to Tallahassee, Florida to pursue a graduate degree in history at Florida State University. His interest in archives and research services was sparked by his first graduate assistantship at FSU in the Institute on World War II and the Human Experiences Archives.

“In that position I maintained database records for an archive and was able to work directly with donors and patrons,” he said. “From that experience, as well as from an internship I had with the National Park Service, I developed an interest in public history and a commitment to making historical resources publicly accessible.”

While in graduate school, Joshua met his wife, Teresa, who was in the FSU American Studies program. They have been married for nine years and have two sons, Woody and Fox.

Joshua still plays the trumpet, but his other interests include historic preservation, conservation, and organic agriculture. During his time in Tallahassee he served on the board of a large cooperative grocery store and had the opportunity to study cooperative business models and work with many different local food producers and merchants. Joshua has not yet involved himself with similar local groups but is looking forward to learning more about that part of the Fayetteville community.

Joshua Youngblood, photograph by Diane Worrell

Hammerschmidt Papers
continued from page 1

Joshua Paul Hammerschmidt (right) with Special Collections Department Head Tom M. Dillard (center) and Assistant Department Head Timothy G. Nelt (left) at the September 14 event celebrating the Congressman’s career and the opening of his papers at the University of Arkansas Libraries.

both this academic milestone and the career of a lauded public servant. Hammerschmidt smiled at the applauding crowd. “This is truly a great occasion, not because of the contents [of the collection] but because it gives us a chance to recognize the people involved in the process,” Hammerschmidt said. He proceeded to call by name the many Special Collections employees who processed his collection. His humility is one of the many qualities that has made the former Congressman so accessible to his admirers and so beloved by his constituents.

Hammerschmidt spent 26 years in Congress, from 1967 to 1993, taking part in the proceedings of the 90th through the 102nd Congresses and serving under a total of eight different presidents.

Between his birth on May 4, 1922 and his official retirement from Congress in 1993, Hammerschmidt played a variety of roles as student, Army Air Corps officer, WWII combat pilot, decorated veteran, husband and father, Hammerschmidt Lumber Co. manager, community activist, Arkansas Republican Party leader, and supporter of Winthrop Rockefeller’s gubernatorial campaigns.

Hammerschmidt’s official entrance into Arkansas politics was not a planned career move, but he took the opportunity when the Republican Party sought a candidate to oppose 22-year veteran Democrat Jim Trimble in the Third District race for Congress. By a narrow margin, Hammerschmidt won the 1966 election and moved to Washington, D.C. with his family. This began a 26-year political career that bloomed into unexpected proportions.

Hammerschmidt’s official entrance into Arkansas politics was not a planned career move, but he took the opportunity when the Republican Party sought a candidate to oppose 22-year veteran Democrat Jim Trimble in the Third District race for Congress. By a narrow margin, Hammerschmidt won the 1966 election and moved to Washington, D.C. with his family. This began a 26-year political career that bloomed into unexpected proportions.

Hammerschmidt’s papers (MC 1230) contain information and artifacts covering these and other events of Hammerschmidt’s life. The materials were sorted and organized into 21 series—personal materials, campaign materials, Congressional materials, office administration, restricted materials, audio-visual materials, ephemera, oversize materials, photographs, and more. This was no small accomplishment for the Special Collections Department.

Hammerschmidt donated his papers on May 2, 2005. Six years later, at the reception for the opening of the papers, Senator David H. Pryor remarked in a congratulatory speech that, “from a historical perspective, I don’t think there’s anything quite like it.”

The Hammerschmidt collection is one of the most prestigious and largest manuscript collections held by the University of Arkansas Libraries, no small feat in the world of archival records.

“The Fullbright papers were our signature collection for a long time and our first big collection,” Dillard said, “but the Hammerschmidt collection is important because of the scale of it. He spent 26 years in Congress, so it represents a quarter century of Arkansas and American politics. In addition to its general political value, the collection is important because it has a vast amount of information on specific areas Hammerschmidt was interested in, such as veterans’ affairs and aviation.”

Dillard explained how important the papers are to the Special Collections department: “We are very fortunate here to have the papers of not only Congressman Hammerschmidt, but also two former Senators Joe T. Robinson, David Pryor and Dale Bumpers, plus Congressmen Ed Benthue, Ass Hutchinson, and other leaders from both political parties. I think it furnishes our reputation as an Arkansas archive with the largest number of congressional collections,” he said.

The collection is a valuable piece of history that “reflects a life lived in public service and in the public eye,” said University of Arkansas Chancellor G. David Gearhart in his opening remarks at the reception.

Described as one of Arkansas’ “dearest sons” in a letter of congratulations from former President George H.W. Bush, Hammerschmidt spent the remainder of the afternoon shaking hands and talking with the Special Collections staff members—who said they feel like they know him after processing his papers.

Hammerschmidt’s personal side, with pictures of his family and a whole lot of personal stuff, we did get to see a little of Hammerschmidt’s personal side, with pictures of his family members—so much so that I was able to recognize his son even though I’d never met him,” Allen said. Allen indeed recognized John Arthur Hammerschmidt at the reception—he is a striking figure, with his father’s height and kind smile. Now a senior member on the National Transportation Safety Board, John Arthur splits his time between Arkansas and Washington, D.C.

“It’s just a true honor for our whole family to have the University put together this collection in such a superlative way,” John Arthur Hammerschmidt said. “My dad went to the University, and I’ve been coming to Razorback football games since I was about six years old. To have this collection on campus is just an extra-extra special thing for me.”

The Hammerschmidt processing project was comprised of Special Collections staff members Thomas, Amy Allen, Case Miner, Alex Gough, Olivia Meeks, Danielle Hansen, Sarah Santos, and Will Puddephat, all of whom were supervised by Tim Nurt, who coordinated the project.

Coming Soon! Arkansauce: The Journal of Arkansas Foodways Issue 2

If you have not already subscribed, do so by contacting dfworrel@uark.edu or by calling 479-575-5577.
Staff Profiles

Jordan Johnson joined the Special Collections Department as reading room assistant in the summer of 2011 as a way to pass the time between his completion of the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) and his entrance into the teaching field. However, what was first just a temporary job has turned into much more.

“The plan was to work at Mullins during the summer and start teaching in late August,” Johnson said, “but I was unable to find a position. I’m not too concerned about it because I really do enjoy working at Mullins.”

Johnson was born in Little Rock but has spent most of his time in Fayetteville. He attended Leverett Elementary School, where he said he “excelled in soccer during recess.” This began a lifelong love affair with soccer, and Johnson still plays on indoor club teams.

Throughout junior high and high school, Johnson played percussion instruments in the band and keyboards. When he enrolled in the University of Arkansas in the fall of 2006, he declared a piano performance major, although he soon changed course. Instead, Johnson completed his bachelor’s degree in English and journalism in May 2010 and entered the MAT program with the hope of becoming an English teacher.

Concerning his work in Special Collections, Johnson said, “The entire staff has welcomed me and treated me extremely well. Working here full-time is something I’m not at all opposed to, so if the opportunity arose I’d be more than willing to jump aboard.”

Diane Worrell, photograph by Valerie Robertson

Diane Worrell has worked in Special Collections since 2005. As the departmental public relations coordinator, she serves as editor for this publication and managing editor for the *Arkansas: The Journal of Arkansas Folkways*. Diane coordinates planning for programs and writes reports and press releases.

“Most of Diane’s childhood was spent in Jackson, Mississippi and Denton, Texas. She is the daughter of Billie Featherston of Corsicana, Texas and the late Jim Featherston, an award-winning journalist. Diane earned a bachelor’s degree in general studies and two master’s degrees, in social work and library science, from LSU. After working as a reference and instruction librarian at both Texas Woman’s University in Denton, Texas and Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, Diane returned to graduate school and earned a Ph.D. in library and information studies from Texas Woman’s University. She began her archival career at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Of her work in Special Collections, Diane says, “This has been the most rewarding experience of my career. I love Arkansas history and have learned so much working with Tom Dillard and Tim Nutt.”

Diane’s main hobby is reading. She lives in Fayetteville with her husband Dan, professor of management and dean of the University of Arkansas’s Waldo College of Business, their son Casey, a recent graduate of the Fay Jones School of Architecture, and their cat Wally Worrell.

Current Exhibits in Special Collections

Offer a Glimpse of Archival Gems

By Joshua C. Youngblood

The Special Collections Department routinely puts together exhibits in Mullins Library. Material from its manuscript collections. These multi-media displays serve to pique the interest of students and future researchers alike. Not only are these displays educational, but they help spread the word about the diverse holdings of the Special Collections archives.

“Religion in Arkansas” explores the diverse nature of religion in the Natural State and is on display in the hallway cases on the first floor of Mullins Library through summer 2012. The exhibit illuminates the role religion has played in Arkansas history with items illustrating the region’s earliest settler/Protestant groups in the region, including Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians and others, as well as Catholic missions and Jewish settlers from the first half of the nineteenth century.

Exhibit highlights include a glimpse of the development of African American denominations separate from white denominations in a state where the law maintained the color line through the latter half of the twentieth century. Also featured is the historic Dwight Mission, established in 1820 to minister to the Western Cherokee in Arkansas, as well as the many denominational schools and colleges in the state. Selections concerning the adoption of the state’s 1928 law banning the teaching of evolution in public schools and the Civil Rights struggle in the 1950s and 1960s reveal the role religion has played in times of social disruption in Arkansas. A final section is devoted to new directions in religion in Arkansas, including non-traditional interpretations of Christianity and the appearance of non-Western religions in the state.

“Arkansas’s First Miss America: Selections from the Donna Axum Papers” will be on display through January 2012 on the main floor of Mullins Library. This exhibit celebrates one of the Department’s notable recent acquisitions, the Donna Axum Papers. The exhibit presents photographs and artifacts from Donna Axum Whitworth’s time as a student at the University of Arkansas and as Miss Arkansas and Miss America. Items in the exhibit include an album featuring Axum as a member of “The Uarkettes” performing group, the shoes and earrings she wore for the Miss America pageant, and the crown and sash she received when she won the Miss America pageant. Other materials illustrate her duties as Miss America, such as the Pepsi machine-shaped radio she received while serving as a Pepsi spokesperson, along with a silver platter celebrating her status as a “distinguished Arkansan” from the Arkansas Chamber of Commerce.

Donna Axum was born in 1942 in El Dorado, the region, including Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterian, and others, as well as Catholic missions and Jewish settlers from the first half of the nineteenth century.

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Donna Axum was born in 1942 in El Dorado, Arkansas, the daughter of Billie Featherston of Corsicana, Texas, and the late Jim Featherston, an award-winning journalist. She became the most rewarding experience of my career. I love Arkansas his for to me.” Although he doesn’t exactly want to follow his passions, one of which is the great Ozarks outdoors. “Currently my hobbies have consumed a large part of my time, and my main hobby is fly fishing. Being outside in the gorgeous Arkansas scenery is great. It is relaxing and exciting to get that trout on the end of the rod and reel it in. There is no better feeling,” he said.

In his position in Special Collections, Frankenberg has gained a new appreciation for history. In fact, he has even picked up a few history classes to help him learn more about what he encounters in the archives. “I’m honored to have the chance to go to work and archive important Arkansas history for others to study,” Frankenberg said.
Are You Arkansas-Literate?  Arkansas Entrepreneurs and Businesses

1. Which of the following retail stores was founded in post-Civil War Little Rock:
   (A) Dillards  (B) Walmart  (C) Blass  (D) Gingles

2. When it closed in 1991, it was the oldest business in Arkansas:
   (A) Arkansas Gazette  (B) Fones Bros. Hardware  (C) Cohn’s Department Stores  (D) Southern Hardware Company

3. Which of the following businesses did populist state attorney general Jeff Davis attempt to exclude from Arkansas?
   (A) Cotton Gins  (B) Railroads  (C) Insurance Companies  (D) Distilleries

4. Which African American businessman was known as “the Black Rockefeller of Arkansas?”
   (A) Sam Sparks  (B) James Dubisson  (C) Pickens Black  (D) Scott Bond

5. This Arkansas retailer founded his first store in Howard County:
   (A) W.T. Dillard  (B) Dick Huddleston  (C) M.M. Cohn  (D) Edward I. Rephan

6. Located near El Dorado, the first major oil refinery in Arkansas was:
   (A) Magnolia Petroleum Co.  (B) Lion Oil Co.  (C) Monsanto  (D) Murphy Oil Co.

7. John Johnson, a native of Desha County, founded which of the following magazines?
   (A) Ebony  (B) Southern Living  (C) Phylon  (D) Arkansas Times

8. Which Arkansas company is the largest off-Wall Street investment banking firm in America?
   (A) Rainey Investments  (B) Gaines Co.  (C) Garland Holding Co.  (D) Stephens, Inc.

9. Patti Upton of Heber Springs founded this company:
   (A) Ranger Boats  (B) Ozark Soap Co.  (C) Parkin Printing Co.  (D) Aromatique

10. Sam Walton of Walmart fame opened his first store, a Ben Franklin, in:
    (A) Bentonville  (B) Harrison  (C) Newport  (D) Mineral Springs

ANSWERS: 1 (C); 2 (A); 3 (C); 4 (D); 5 (A); 6 (B); 7 (A); 8 (D); 9 (D); 10 (C)