Special Collections is pleased to announce the opening of the Ray Thornton Papers (Manuscript Collection 1964). As a native Arkansan, longtime congressman, and former University of Arkansas president, Thornton’s papers offer a significant contribution to the extensive holdings of archival materials relating to twentieth-century political history, University history, and the history of Arkansas.

Totaling over 215 linear feet, the Thornton papers will provide scholars and researchers access to rich primary sources documenting an important and expansive period in both national and state history. Professional materials documenting Congressman Thornton’s numerous accomplishments are included in the collection, as are a wealth of biographical materials, a rich source of visual materials including paintings and sketches of Thornton, a series of scrapbooks, more than 1,600 photographs, 58 audio cassettes, and more than 100 video cassettes with recordings of Thornton’s speeches and political events.

Raymond Hoyt “Ray” Thornton, Jr, was born in Conway in 1928 and grew up in Sheridan. He graduated
Leadership Report
From the Desk of Tim Nutt

Special Collections has benefitted from national attention in recent months. A digital exhibit exploring the relationship between Fay Jones and Frank Lloyd Wright—both pioneers in the organic architecture movement—was featured in a number of news sources, including ArchDaily, a widely read, national architecture news source, and Hyperallergic, an online arts blog and magazine.

Jones, well known for Thorn crown Chapel in Eureka Springs, was a student of Wright’s, and Wright’s Bachman-Wilson House is currently being relocated to Northwest Arkansas on the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art campus. In fact, our exhibit is a collaboration between Special Collections and Crystal Bridges. Catherine Wallack, Architectural Records Archivist, worked with others in Special Collections, the Cataloging Department, and the Fay Jones School of Architecture, to create the exhibit. The images and documents, many of which come from Jones’s collection in Special Collections, are curated to lead viewers through a narrative in the architects’ lives.

This is the second collaborative project between Special Collections and Crystal Bridges—the first, titled “Fruit-Full Arkansas: Apples,” focused on the apple industry that once thrived in Northwest Arkansas. Both projects, as well as many other digital exhibits, can be viewed at the digital collections website (digitalcollections.uark.edu). And read more about the Jones-Wright project on page 8.

We have another digital exhibit in progress, too—this one will highlight letters written by Ariel Idella Hottell Gist during her tenure as governess to the children of Major W.F. Moore, United States Consul in St. Croix, Virgin Islands during the early 1890s. “Della” came to Phillips County, Arkansas after her marriage to Bogan Gist in 1900. Her letters are being transcribed and will be fully-searchable when the project is completed. The digitization process not only preserves the letters, but makes them more accessible. The correspondence will provide researchers a unique glimpse into the life of an American governess in the Caribbean during the late Victorian era. The full collection (MC51) also contains journal entries, photographs, and clippings.

This issue’s photographic center spread highlights various festivals and celebrations held around the state. Special Collections has a tradition of outreach at a variety of present-day festivals. Joshua Youngblood, Outreach and Research Services Librarian, has created an educational exhibit that regularly appears at the NWA Juneteenth Celebration each summer, and last year he worked with the Fayetteville Roots Festival on an exhibit featuring the Ozark Folklore Collection. Special Collections remains interested in collecting materials documenting the festivals in and around Arkansas, so your help picking up flyers, posters, or programs is always appreciated.

Speaking of our outreach efforts, earlier this year, Special Collections started a new collaborative venture—The Homestead Series—with Tusk & Trotter restaurant in Bentonville. Every other month during 2015, Chef Rob Nelson crafts a menu around a theme related to Arkansas foodways to benefit Arkansauce. Read more about these events on page 11.

Amy Allen has recently been tasked to help establish an Institutional Repository (IR) for the University. The U of A faculty produces extraordinary scholarship and an IR will manage the data and research created by the University and its faculty. The goal is to provide more open access to this information. 

continued on next page
Leadership Report continued...

and raise the visibility of the world-class scholarship that is being conducted here. Archivists around the country have been instrumental in establishing institutional repositories at their respective institutions, and Amy brings her years of experience working with the University Archives and electronic records to the IR project. Special Collections is pleased to be involved in this worthwhile project.

As many of you know, Special Collections is housed within Mullins Library at the University of Arkansas. Our Reading Room, offices, and archives can be found on the first level of the building. Our entryway recently received a makeover thanks to the efforts of the department’s Exhibits Committee. Two exhibits, one exploring the landscapes of Arkansas in honor of Arkansas Heritage Month and one showcasing our intriguing collection of “books” by artists, are now on view through summer, and provide a wonderful excuse to stop for a visit.

In addition to these eye-catching exhibits, Special Collections has also installed numerous exhibits around Mullins Library, focusing on the state’s folk singers, life in Arkansas during WWII, and the contributions of Sen. J.W. Fulbright. The exhibits usually rotate on a regular basis and are always well-received. If you don’t already, you might consider following the University Libraries on Facebook, where we post teasers and information on all of our exhibits and events.

As I close out this column, I want to send congratulations to Mark Christ, Tom DeBlack, and William Shea, all recipients of the Arkansas Historical Association Lifetime Achievement Award. All three have made significant contributions to the study of the state’s history and are strong supporters of Special Collections. Congratulations to you all!

--Tim Nutt

From the University Archives...

Students grease a pig to chase as part of the entertainment during the homecoming football game, circa 1962. Chasing a greased pig was part of the initiation for members of the Arkansas Boosters Club during this time period. The greased pig chase was first performed by freshmen during the 1920s. The photo was recently donated to Special Collections by Andy Lucas, former executive director of the Arkansas Alumni Association.
high school at 16 and attended the University of Arkansas. After two years, he was awarded the Navy Holloway Program Scholarship to attend Yale University. He graduated from Yale with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations in 1950. Thornton attended the University of Texas Law School for a time before serving three years in the United States Navy with the Pacific Fleet.

Following his service, Thornton returned to Arkansas and enrolled in the University of Arkansas School of Law, where he served as president of student government. He married Betty Jo Mann of Sheridan in 1956. Thornton completed his degree and was admitted to the Arkansas Bar Association later that year. He practiced corporate law for 14 years, and was elected attorney general of Arkansas in 1970 where he served one term. During the 1960s, Thornton, along with Ed Handy, designed a lightweight vehicle to be used by Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company (Arkla). Although there was interest in mass producing the car, production costs sidelined the project.

After serving in Washington, DC as a Democratic representative in Arkansas’s Fourth Congressional District from 1973 to 1979, Thornton returned to Arkansas to serve as executive director of the Joint Educational Consortium of Ouachita Baptist University and Henderson State University. He then served as president of Arkansas State University from 1980 to 1984 and served as president of the University of Arkansas System beginning in 1984.

A quote from the Arkansas Gazette upon his hiring read: “Whether it be for governor, senator, or the presidency of the University of Arkansas System, Ray Thornton’s name always is high on everyone’s list of qualified candidates.”

His accomplishments as president of the University of Arkansas System included raising $50 million for various building projects, most notably the historic renovation of Old Main, along with then-Chancellor Dan Ferritor, and the construction of the engineering building on the Fayetteville campus.

While at U of A, Thornton orchestrated removal of the president’s office from the Fayetteville campus to a separate administrative unit in Little Rock. In addition to his duties as president, he served as a distinguished professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.

Thornton left the higher ed in 1989 to return to politics. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the 2nd Congressional District in 1990, serving three terms until his successful race for the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1996. He served as a justice for eight years, retiring in 2004. Thornton also served as the first Public Service Fellow at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. In 2009, he was appointed the first chairman of the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery and held that position for a year. Thornton and his wife live in Little Rock.

Ray Thornton’s career spans over 40 years of public service, and his papers document his distinguished political career. Historical materials detail Thornton’s time as a member of the House Judiciary Committee, when Thornton served on a special six-person committee investigating Watergate. In July 1974, members of the special committee drafted articles of impeachment against President Richard M. Nixon. Thornton proposed articles charging the president with obstruction of justice, abuse of power, and contempt of Congress, which were subsequently incorporated into the full Judiciary Committee’s articles of impeachment, ultimately leading to Nixon’s resignation that August.

Other Watergate materials include opinion correspondence from Arkansas constituents and out-of-state correspondents, published records of the Committee on the Judiciary’s impeachment inquiry, President...
Nixon’s reelection campaign activities in 1972, transcripts of Watergate-related presidential tapes, and investigative background materials.

Political materials also include items related to Thornton’s tenure as chairman of the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (1980-1984), and as chairman of the National Institutes of Health Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee (1980-1983).

With the donation of Congressman Thornton’s papers, more of the rich legacy of Arkansas’s Congressional delegation is preserved in Special Collections, the largest academic archives in the state. The collection of Congressman Thornton complements the papers of his contemporaries, including Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt, and senators Dale Bumpers and David Pryor.

The Ray Thornton Papers project was completed by Todd Lewis and Vera Ekechukwu with assistance from Christopher Galindo, Cali Rios, Abigail Siedschlag, and Brandon Beasley. Researchers interested in accessing this collection are encouraged to view the finding aid on the Special Collections website.

Researchers may also contact the department at 479-575-8444, or email specoll@uark.edu to make arrangements to view the materials, or with questions about any of the materials housed in Special Collections. Special Collections is open to the public 8:00am-5pm, Monday-Friday and 10am-2pm, on Saturdays during the fall and spring school semesters.

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**Donate your Historical Materials!**

Special Collections is looking for materials that document the history of Arkansas, such as:

- Family papers
- Records of Arkansas clubs and organizations
- Photographs
- Videos and films
- Letters
- Books about Arkansas
- Books written by Arkansans
- Scrapbooks
- Menus from Arkansas restaurants
- Menus and recipes from family meals

If you are interested in donating materials, please contact

**Angela Fritz**

Assistant Head of Special Collections

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University of Arkansas Libraries

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Images of Arkansas: Summer Traditions, Celebrations, and Festivals
Selected and Annotated by Joshua Cobbs Youngblood

June Allyson in the Sweetheart Rose car during the Second Annual Rose Festival, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1950 (MC 899).

June Allyson and Dick Powell dancing with guests during the Second Annual Rose Festival, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1950 (MC 899).

Students from Langston High School participating in a parade, Hot Springs, Arkansas, ca. 1955. Mary D. Hudgins Collection (MC 534).

Southland College students raising American flag on Flag Day during Southland Spring Fair and Exhibit, 1924 (MC 577).

For more information, and photos, please visit Special Collection’s flickr photo albums at https://www.flickr.com/photos/arkansasspecoll/sets
Parade for Ulysses S. Grant, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1880 (MC 1587).

Return of Spring float in Apple Blossom Festival Parade, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1923 (MC 1427).

Participants in a bed race during Springfest, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1989 (MC 1935).

Winslow Dancers at the Ozark Folk Festival, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, 1949. PC2377, Photographic Collection.
The remarkable buildings of Frank Lloyd Wright and Fay Jones are known to many. The relationship between them that fostered Jones as an architect is a lesser-known story. A recently opened digital exhibit titled "Fay Jones and Frank Lloyd Wright: Organic Architecture Comes to Arkansas" reveals the development of this affiliation, the architecture it spawned, the complex social network of Taliesin, and the lifelong devotion of a student to his teacher.

The lives of these two notable architects—Arkansas award-winning architect Fay Jones and his mentor Frank Lloyd Wright—intersected for a ten-year time period, beginning in 1949 when Jones almost literally bumped into Wright at the American Institute of Architects’ convention at which Wright was receiving the AIA’s Gold Award, the highest award in American architecture, given “in recognition of a significant body of work of lasting influence on the theory and practice of architecture.”

Throughout the next ten years, until Wright’s death in 1958, Jones and Wright would interact, first at Wright’s institute and design studio called Taliesin, near Spring Green, Wisconsin, where Jones, with family in tow, spent a summer as an architecture apprentice. Later, in 1958, Jones convinced Wright to travel to northwest Arkansas and present a speech at the University of Arkansas. In 1990 Jones himself received the AIA Gold Medal—the only one of Wright’s disciples to receive this coveted award.

In an essay that accompanies the digital exhibit, Gregory Herman, associate professor in the Fay Jones School of Architecture, explains: “Jones’s architecture shared many of the same sensibilities as Wright’s. Common to both was a belief in the primacy of nature as a provider of materials, form, and experience… Whereas Wright’s designs were usually configured with an emphasis on the horizontal… Jones’s work often embraced a distinctive verticality… While Wright considered nature as an earth-bound expression, Jones found his connection to nature in that which grew up from the earth. Perhaps the distinction came from Wright’s background – prairie bound, in awe of the horizon; Jones, a man of the hills, surrounded by rock ledges and forests.”

Today, their work and influences are closer to home. In 2014 Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, acquired one of Wright’s Usonian-designed homes, the Bachman-Wilson House, that was being destroyed by regular flooding of the Millstone River in Millstone, NJ. The home is now being re-constructed on the Crystal Bridges site. It is the only building in Arkansas designed by Wright. Visitors will be able to walk through a pavilion designed and built by students and faculty of the Fay Jones School of Architecture on their way to the home.

The University Libraries Special Collections, in collaboration with Crystal Bridges Library and Archives, created the digital exhibit of nearly 150 photographs of the two architects’ work, families, and colleagues; correspondence; lectures; musings and writings; and other media. Charming and insightful personal recollections by Fay Jones’s wife, Gus, can be seen on a video interview created by Continued on page 10
Staff Profile: Kasey Kelm
Interviewed by Joshua Youngblood

In October 2014, Kasey Kelm joined the research services unit of Special Collections as the Reading Room Assistant. The department is lucky to have Kasey as she begins a career in libraries. She comes to us with an MLIS from the University of Kentucky.

Kasey has quickly become an integral part of research services, providing reference assistance to patrons and managing students and other staff members in retrieval and maintenance duties. She has also assumed many of the duties for duplication and scanning and serves on the Special Collections Exhibit Committee. Originally from Missouri, Kasey is enjoying her new home in northwest Arkansas. She has great interest in foreign languages and the history of the Middle East, and is continuing her post-graduate studies at the University of Arkansas.

You’re from Missouri originally. Where did you grow up?
I actually grew up only about two hours away from Fayetteville, in Aurora, Missouri. I stayed in that general area for most of my life, until I moved to Kentucky for graduate school.

Where did you work before you came to the University of Arkansas Libraries?
I got my start in libraries in high school, when I volunteered at my local county library. I also worked in my school library for a year as a senior. In college I worked for a private school in Springfield, Missouri, and was there for over 2 ½ years. I worked with Kindergarteners through 6th graders, but I also helped older students, as well as the college students and faculty on campus. It was so fun to work with the kids and see them become excited about reading.

When I moved to Kentucky, I began working in the Special Collections at the university. I was an archival assistant in the photo archives. After returning to Missouri, I worked the circulation/reference desk at a large community college. And now I’ve ended up working here!

How did you become interested in special collections and archives?
History has always fascinated me, but I think I became more interested in archives actually after working as a registrar in an archaeological lab on my undergrad campus. I reprocessed a few thousand ceramic potsherds from Jordan.

It was just so cool to be able to hold a piece of history in your hand. Working with photos and documents in Kentucky really intrigued me, so when a job opened up in Special Collections here I thought it would be an interesting opportunity.

You’re taking some classes at the U of A, right? What are you studying and do you have any research interests you’re pursuing?
I was taking a class called “New Women in the Middle East.” It was about the changes in society in regards to women from the late 19th century to present. I love Middle Eastern history, and particularly the Mamluk era; my interest was sparked by a really great professor I had during my time as an undergrad, Dr. Bethany Walker.

This summer I plan to take some French classes. My roommate is from Jordan and is teaching me some Arabic. I also need to brush up on my German skills, though I will probably do that at home. I love learning about all sorts of things, and if any other class strikes my fancy I will look into it.

Are there any favorite collections you’ve worked with in Special Collections since your arrival?
It’s not really a collection yet, but I love the botanical prints and manuscripts here – so cool! They make me happy whenever I think about them. Plus, the detail in the drawings is just amazing. I do love any collection that contains old Christmas cards. The Berry, Dickinson, Peel Family Papers have a great selection from the 1920s through the 1950s. I also love analyzing handwriting in our Civil War correspondence.
In Memoriam: Thomas B. Goldsby, Jr.

The University of Arkansas Libraries lost a dear friend and supporter when Thomas B. Goldsby, Jr. passed away on March 15, 2015. Born in Lepanto, Arkansas, May 6, 1941, Goldsby was an avid hunter, nature lover, Razorback fan, lifelong member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, and a recipient of the Chancellor’s Medal from his alma mater, the University of Arkansas. Goldsby graduated from the Walton College of Business in 1964 before achieving great success as an investor in land development and agricultural food production. He used his success to become a strong supporter of various causes, from natural resource protection to healthcare. We are especially grateful for his dedication to Arkansas history and education.

In 2005 Goldsby was instrumental in funding an educational research laboratory for archival processing in Special Collections. The room, located in Mullins Library, bears his name. Mr. Goldsby also supported the processing of the papers of Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt, which is the largest collection held by Special Collections.

We are especially grateful for his dedication to Arkansas history and education.

Goldsby’s connection to Special Collections goes back to before the department was even founded; his 1961 folklore class report about the old Chism House outside of Booneville, written for Professor Mary Celestia Parler, is part of the permanent collections.

An accomplished businessman, Goldsby was the former managing partner of Chicago Mill & Lumber Co. and was chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Mid-South Mortgage Co., a land investment company he founded in 1974. He also held controlling interests in the Caruthersville National Bancshares of Missouri and Citizens Bank in Marion, Arkansas.

Beyond his remarkable professional career, Goldsby devoted much of his time to service projects and had a great interest in politics as an active member of the Arkansas and Crittenden County Republican Parties. He helped establish the Arkansas Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, was a former Board member of the Delta Wildlife Foundation, and was past Director of the Crittenden Memorial Hospital Foundation.

He was also a former member of the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, the Crittenden County Election Commission, the Republican Senatorial Trust, and was past chairman of the Crittenden County Republican Committee.

Goldsby was a major supporter of Mid-South Community College in West Memphis.

Goldsby is survived by Sandra (Crabtree) Goldsby, his beloved wife of 50 years, four children, and eight grandchildren. In addition to his family and professional accomplishments, Goldsby has left a truly remarkable legacy of service to his state and to the preservation of its history.

-Fay Jones & Frank Lloyd Wright: Organic Architecture Comes to Arkansas continued

the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Video History. Lists of selected resources for Fay Jones and the Bachman-Wilson House are also included.

Janet Parsch coordinated efforts with Jason Dean, Angela Fritz, Deb Kuleczak, Arthur Morgan, Tim Nutt, Martha Parker, and Cat Wallack, project curator. Gregory Herman advised on the project. Team members from Crystal Bridges included Catherine Petersen and Jennifer De Martino.

A Delightful Pairing: Tusk & Trotter and Special Collections Offer Up “The Homestead Series”

By Kalli Vimr

The University of Arkansas Libraries’ Special Collections has teamed up with the award winning Bentonville restaurant Tusk & Trotter for “The Homestead Series: Celebrating and Preserving the Culinary History of the Natural State.”

The series includes six bi-monthly community events featuring informative presentations on the extensive role food plays in shaping Arkansas culture, followed by themed dinners prepared by Chef Rob Nelson. The events are held at Tusk & Trotter restaurant and part of the proceeds from each event benefits Special Collections’ publication Arkansauce: The Journal of Arkansas Foodways.

Arkansauce is published once a year by Special Collections and each issue features a guest editor. Last year’s issue was edited by Kat Robinson, the communications manager for the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism’s tourism division and one of the upcoming presenters in The Homestead Series. Kane Webb of Little Rock is the guest editor for the Spring 2015 issue.

The first event in the series was held on January 19 and the theme was “Defining Arkansas Cuisine.” The presentation was given by Tom Dillard, creator of Arkansauce, former head of Special Collections, and founding editor-in-chief of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture. Dillard was introduced by Tim Nutt, head of Special Collections, who also introduced attendees to Arkansauce and its mission. “These events provide delicious opportunities to learn more about the state’s food culture,” Nutt said.

Menu items from previous events have featured new takes on old classics, like pimento cheese, face bacon jam, and pepper jelly grilled cheese sandwiches, or local greens with Ozark Beer Company Cream Stout dressing; but also old-fashioned classics like fried catfish and crawfish boil from the Delta, possum pie, or cherry and pecan bread pudding with chocolate Chantilly cream.

At each event, Special Collections also exhibits photographs and other items from their holdings related to the theme of that evening’s dinner. Previous events in the series were held on March 30, featuring “Food Culture of the Ozarks and River Valley” with Susan Young of the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, and May 18, “Food Culture of the Delta” with the President of Arkansas’s Independent Colleges and Universities, and creator of the Southern Fried blog, Rex Nelson.

Upcoming events in the series include July 27, “Exploring Arkansas Orchards and Vineyards,” September 28, “Tracing the Roots of Arkansas’s Restaurant Culture” with food blogger Kat Robinson, and the last event on November 23 titled “Snout to Tail” when Chef Rob Nelson’s housemade charcuterie will likely be the star of the evening.

Tickets to the remaining “The Homestead Series” events are $50 each and $10 from each ticket purchased is donated to Arkansauce. Call Tusk & Trotter at 479-269-4494 for more information or for a reservation. To learn more about Special Collections or Arkansauce, contact Tim Nutt at 479-575-8443.

A group proudly displaying plump tomatoes and canned goods, ca.1912, from the Mabelvale Home Demonstration Club Records (MC 1640). The Araknsas Traveler, an heirloom tomato originating before 1900 in the Ozark Mountains, makes great tomato sandwiches (serve thick slices between griddle cakes).
Quiz: Are You Arkansas-Literate?

Created by Tim Nutt

1. There were four public libraries built in Arkansas using grants from the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, including in the cities of Little Rock, Fort Smith, Eureka Springs, and this Conway County city.
   A) Dewey  B) Colophon  C) Morrilton  D) Literate-ville

2. Actor Billy Bob Thornton was nominated for an Academy Award for his starring role in this 1996 movie set in his native Arkansas.
   A) Taters  B) Big Ole Blade  C) Karl Maudlin  D) Sling Blade

3. Once known as Waters, this small community in Montgomery County was the setting for the comic radio show featuring Lum and Abner, owners of the Jot ‘em Down Store.
   A) Pine Ridge  B) Kallifornia  C) Ragsdaleville  D) Kelm

4. As the human chain passed through Arkansas, Governor Bill Clinton participated in this hand-holding event, held on May 25, 1986, to combat famine in Africa and hunger and homelessness in the U.S.
   A) Hands Across America  B) Hands to Mouths  C) 2 Chainz  D) Purell for Peace

5. The opening guitar riff of the song “Last Train to Clarksville” by The Monkees was conceived and played by this Arkansas native and guitar virtuoso. He has also performed with other music heavyweights such as Barbra Streisand, Seals and Crofts, John Lennon, and the Jackson Five, among others.
   A) Davy Jones  B) Louie Shelton  C) Trundle Bigelow  D) Perry County Pete

6. Southwest Arkansas’s resident Bigfoot—immortalized in the movie The Legend of Boggy Creek—is more widely-known by this moniker.
   A) Texarkana Yeti  B) Ozan Abomination  C) Fouke Monster  D) Clow Chiller

7. The 1986 United States postage stamp commemorating Arkansas’s 150th year as a state featured the Old State House in Little Rock. Missing from the image was the cannon, known by this nickname, which sits on the front lawn of the building.
   A) Lady Baxter  B) Black Thunder  C) Boom Chicka Boom  D) Shryock