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**Historic Materials and Memorabilia**

While celebrating Millersville's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are actively collecting historic materials and memorabilia from Millersville's history. If you have something you would like to donate to Archives & Special Collections, please contact Marilyn Parrish at (717) 872-3624 or [marilyn.parrish@millersville.edu](mailto:marilyn.parrish@millersville.edu).

<http://sc.millersville.edu/friends/index.cfm>

*Friends Folio*

*A Newsletter from the  
Friends of Ganser Library  
No. 50, Spring 2005*

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This issue of the Folio was designed by UC&M Graphic Intern Darcie Boose, a 2005 graduate of Kutztown University.

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Ganser Library  
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A Newsletter from the  
Friends of Ganser Library

No. 50, Spring 2005  
Editors:  
Marilyn McKinley Parrish  
Priscilla Oppenheimer

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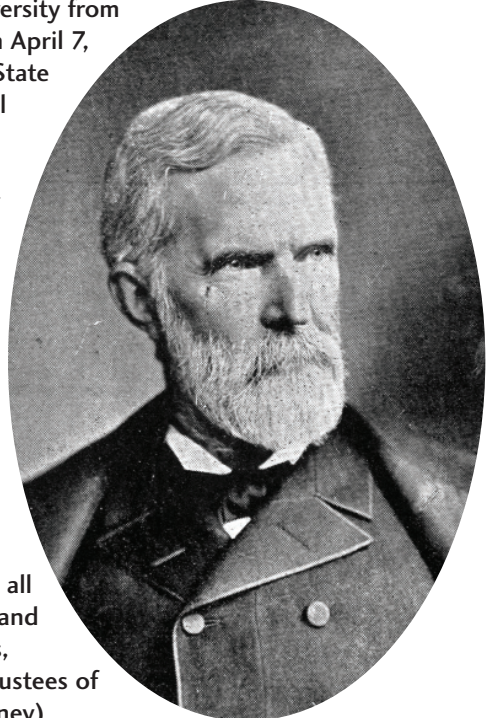
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**The Wickersham Pedagogical  
Collection: Legacy of A Founding  
Educator** by Meaghan Shirk

*"[Wickersham's] legacy at Millersville was a tradition of teacher training, coeducational instruction, strict discipline, high academic standards, and frugal financial management."*

—*We Sing to Thee*, Dr. Dennis Downey(pg 37)

J.P. Wickersham was involved with Millersville University from its inception as the Lancaster County Institute on April 7, 1855 through its designation in 1859 as the first State Normal School, with the title of the State Normal School for the Second Normal District of Pennsylvania. A strong believer in teacher education, Wickersham had founded the initial summer institute as a precursor to a formal year-round teacher training school. "James P. Wickersham served the Normal Institute most vigorously without compensation and regarded the work as part of his position as county superintendent." (pg 25, Graver) The Institute opened its doors to 133 students in the summer of 1855 to 1866, and was such a resounding success that Wickersham and his fellow professors were able to push for the immediate opening of the Lancaster County Normal School in the fall of 1855. Wickersham was principal of the school for all but one year from the school's creation in 1855, and "though he served at the pleasure of the trustees, Wickersham was never bashful in informing the trustees of just what should be their pleasure." (pg 29, Downey) Wickersham left his post as principal of the state school, then fondly known as the Millersville State Normal School, to accept a position as State Superintendent in 1866. His impact on the founding of the University was felt long after his active involvement with the school had ceased.



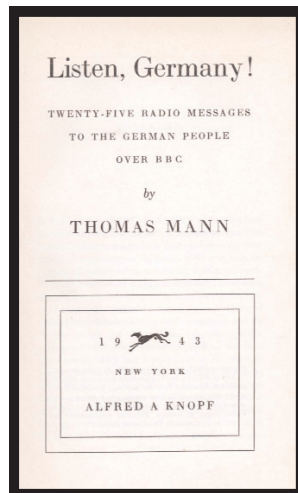
From the Library of the late  
JAMES P. WICKERSHAM, LL. D.,  
Ex-Principal of the First Pennsylvania State  
Normal School, Millersville, and Ex-State Super-  
intendent of Public Instruction, Pennsylvania.  
Presented to the Millersville State Normal  
School by the  
HEIRS OF DR. WICKERSHAM.

Following Wickersham's death in 1891, his children donated his extensive collection of pedagogical books, numbering over 2,000 volumes, to the Millersville State Normal School. The Normal Journal marked the occasion with an article in which it stated that "this donation will be most highly prized both for its intrinsic value and for the reason that it will

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We also recently acquired several books from journalist Dorothy Thompson's personal library. Thompson was a journalist who wrote in opposition to the development of fascism during the 1930s. She was involved in the suffrage movement from 1914 until 1917 and then traveled to Europe where she became a well regarded journalist. She served as the Berlin Bureau chief for the *New York Post* and *Public Ledger* during the 1920s. Her criticism of Nazism caused her to be expelled from Germany in 1934. Titles in our collection now include gift books to Thompson from noted authors who appreciated her political perspectives, copies of Mein Kampf (with Thompson's notes), and copies of titles that Thompson used for book reviews in her publications. Other titles include:

Wallace R. Deuel's *People Under Hitler*, Harcourt Brace, 1942.

Louis Lochner's *What about Germany?*, Dodd Mead, 1942.

Prince Hubertus Zu Loewenstein's *The Germans in History*, Columbia University Press in 1945.

Thomas Mann's *Listen, Germany! Twenty-five Radio Messages to the German People over the BBC*, Alfred A. Knopf, 1943.

Edgar Mowrer's *Germany Puts the Clock Back*, William Morrow, 1933.

### Planned Giving Opportunities

Consider including Millersville University in your estate planning. For more information on planned giving opportunities, including Ganser Library, Friends of the Library, or student scholarships, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.

## Exhibits

Archives & Special Collections students and staff have been quite busy during the 150th Anniversary year, planning, and contributing to exhibits in the Library, on campus, and in the community.



The year began with the Library exhibit celebrating the **150th Anniversary** (created by Friends Board Members Barbara

Hunsberger, and Marie Zubatsky with assistance from library staff member Jennifer Fischer) and was followed by the November reception and dedication of the **Margaret C. Woodbridge Collection of Books by a Woman Witt** (donated by Bruce Kellner, Professor Emeritus, English) with accompanying exhibit created by Janet Dotterer. In January, 2005, Janet Dotterer developed a new exhibit in the Archives & Special Collections Reading Room highlighting the **Ogline Family Papers**, which documents the experiences of four sisters from Somerset County, who attended Millersville: Duetta Fern Ogline

(Class of 1923), Katharyn Elizabeth Ogline (Class of 1924), Alice Bruner Ogline (Class of 1941), and Helen L. Ogline (Class of 1942).

February, 2005, brought the opening of the **Faculty Publications Exhibit—MU in Motion: The Intellectual Energy of Millersville**, a collaborative effort of Ganser Library faculty and staff which highlights the past year of Millersville faculty creative and scholarly work. The exhibit will remain on the first floor of Ganser Library through the summer. The web exhibit was designed by Archives student assistant Mark Gormley (with help from Kevin Heller and Keiera Anderson) and can be viewed on the Special Collections website: <http://sc.library.millersville.edu/faculty2005/index.php>



## A Singing Needles Memory

by Kitty Glass

When I heard the old building known as "Singing Needles" was to be torn down fairly soon, I had a feeling of sadness. As I was growing up, I spent a short time operating a sewing machine in this historic Millersville landmark. My research into the building uncovered an interesting history. There may be other old time residents of Millersville who have more to add about the Singing Needles building. I am hoping that this article will bring forth recollections from others.

The old yellow building, currently located directly behind Brooks Hall, was built around 1910. It was first used as a cigar producing factory. The smell of tobacco was a familiar aroma to the nearby residents. In 1917, the building was turned into a factory for men's shirts, known as the "Standard Garment Company." A photograph taken at the time shows employees standing outside the building during a World War I bond drive.

By 1929, the building was sold to Mr. Horn who changed its name to "Singing Needles." The product line switched to women's lingerie. The Singing Needles name came from the sounds made by the sewing machines. The company's trademark was a group of singing needles.



By the time I became associated with Singing Needles, the construction of women's cotton dresses and aprons was the main product. During the summer of 1947, I sat in front of a sewing machine stitching the seams on pockets that were to go on aprons and dresses. The pockets came in stacks of



hundreds so; needless to say, I became quite proficient by the end of the summer. Because I was a summer employee, I was not given the higher level sewing jobs. The sewing machines lined the whole length of the building and the noise of the machines

became familiar. The hours were long—from 7am to 4pm, as I recall, and not much time for breaks. The building was not air conditioned and the machines added to the heat of the summer. Most of the employees were women but the manager was a man. Being young and restless, I remember I was not too happy at being confined every day in the warm sunny weather. I can't remember if I was paid for the number of pockets I sewed in a day or whether I received an hourly wage. I do remember that the pay was good for a teenager's summer job.

The Singing Needles operation closed in the 1950s and Millersville State Teachers College purchased the building in 1958. It was used to receive and store university and school-related supplies. In 1972, this operation moved to the Palmer Building on campus.

Now the building houses old university records and other materials, as well as furniture and props for theatre productions. Having expressed an interest in the building, I recently had the opportunity to see the current state of the building that had once been a thriving business affording the women of Millersville a means to earn a living. I pictured the busy activities that had taken place over the years and noted the great feeling of sadness which pervaded the atmosphere. The inside of the building, as well as the outside, has now deteriorated to the point that saving the building would be too expensive. The fact that the place is now inundated with old storage cabinets, papers, and "junk" makes it appear as if it had been delegated for demolition before the historical significance of the building surfaced. To see this landmark in such a deplorable state and to know that it may not be here next year makes me more than sad. A part of my development took place in this building. Unfortunately, the demolition of this building will destroy another part of the history of Millersville and of the University.



### Sources

Passek, Dana. "Old Building Full of History." *The Snapper*, October 28, 1987, p.4

Kitty Glass graduated from Millersville in 1953 and was a faculty member in the Library until her retirement in 1996. She serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Friends of Ganser Library Board.

# News

## Annual Book Sale

The Friends of Ganser Library sponsored the 27th annual Used Book Sale, March 13-16, 2005. This year's record-breaking proceeds totaled \$5716.50, creating a total of \$99,785.55 over the past 27 years.

Prof. Leo Shelley, chair of the Library Department, organized a hard working group of Friends and students who set up the tables with an extensive array of books on all topics, managed the cashier table, and assisted people in finding titles of interest. Donations of books for the sale are appreciated throughout the year, particularly juvenile, art, music, and collectible books. Please check your shelves for possible donations. Gifts may be dropped off during the hours the library is open or you may contact Leo Shelley at 872-3610 or Dr. Zubatsky's office at 872-3608 to arrange for them to be picked up.



## Sally Woodward-Miller Writing Awards

The Friends of Ganser Library initiated a writing award in 2003 for students who use primary source materials in English 110 essays. This award was renamed in honor of the late Prof. Sally Wood-Miller (English) in spring, 2004. This year's reviewers include: Phil Bishop, Pat Coulson, Dr. Marjorie Warmkessel, and Marie Zubatsky.

2005 Award Winners:

Caroline Brady, "Discipline Methods in Schools from 1848-1874"

Clare Eaton, "Embedded in the Blades"

Christine Flickinger, "The Mud March: A Significant Cause of the Desertion of Northern Soldiers"

David Hober, "A Self-Guided, Factual, Questioning Search into the Truth of Unitarian Universalism"

## Dr. Francis Bremer Speaks at Spring Banquet

Dr. Francis Bremer, MU History Department Professor and Chair, presented "Religious Wars in America: How the History of Puritan New England Can Help Deal with the Religious Conflicts Today," at the Friends of Ganser Library Spring Banquet on April 19, 2004, at 6:00 pm in the Bolger Conference Center. Dr. Bremer, a specialist the history of Puritanism, serves as Editor of the Winthrop Papers of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Dr. Bremer's recent book, *John Winthrop: America's Forgotten Founding Father*, (Oxford University Press, 2003), was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Biography, featured for the month of June, 2003, for the History Book Club, and won a Book Citation award from the Colonial Dames of America.

The following students received awards from the Friends of Ganser Library at the Spring Banquet:

Kat Garrett, Graduating Senior, Communication & Theatre, for her documentary "Memories of Millersville: Through Women's Eyes."

Meaghan Shirk, graduate student, History, for her work in organizing the Oral History Project materials in the Archives.

## From the President

Dear Friends,

Millersville University is continuing to celebrate the sesquicentennial with concluding events and the Friends of Ganser Library are involved in celebrating the event jointly with both the University and Millersville Borough communities. Ganser Library is hosting *MU in Motion: The Intellectual Energy of Millersville*, an academically rich compilation of faculty publications and creative works. The exhibit opened on February 23 and may be viewed on the first floor of the library through the summer. The Oral History Project exhibit ran from March 15 through April 12 in the Ford Atrium of McComsey Hall. Members of the Friends conducted oral history interviews on April 16 as part of Alumni Weekend and the closing weekend of the 150th Anniversary celebration.

Ms. Barbara Johnson, Vice President, coordinated the spring dinner and lecture held at 6 p.m. on April 19 in the Bolger Conference Center with speaker Dr. Francis J. Bremer, MU professor and editor of the Winthrop Papers.

Board member, Mr. Phil Bishop, and his wife Sue are to be congratulated in planning and implementing the Friends' sponsored bus trip to the National Book Festival in Washington, DC on October 9, 2004. Two buses were filled with excited book lovers. The Friends are considering making this an annual event.

The Friends recently conducted the annual book sale held on March 13-16, 2005. The record breaking proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase items for the Special Collections area. Mr. Leo E. Shelley, Book Sale Chairperson, and many volunteers are to be commended for planning and implementing this event.

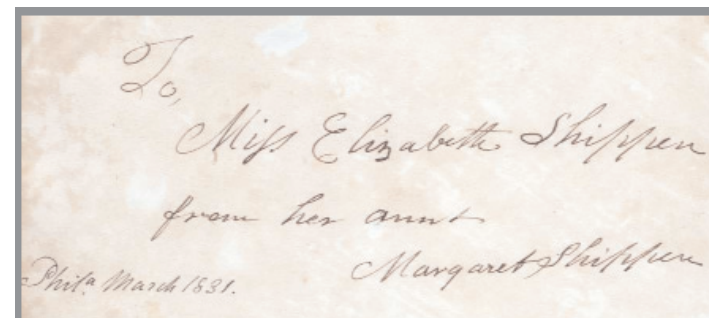
My thanks to all the members for your participation and support as true Friends of Ganser Library With my warm regards,

Michelle M. White, President

## Recent Acquisitions

Each issue of the Folio lists recent acquisitions made possible through funding from the Friends of Ganser Library. This abbreviated list highlights a few of the new resources we have purchased or received through donations this semester.

*The Unexpurgated Case against Woman's Suffrage* by Sir Almoth E. Wright, published in New York by Paul Hoeber in 1913. Wright, a pathologist who created the typhoid vaccine, was outspoken in his opposition to women's suffrage.



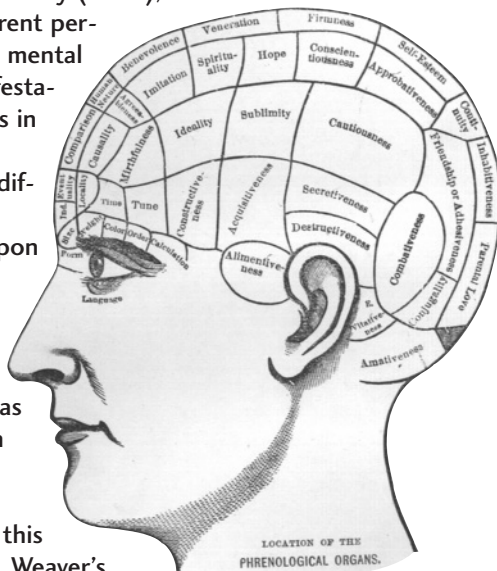
A small "commonwealth book" of transcribed pieces was written by Elizabeth Shippen and her friends and relatives over the period 1831-1842. Two of the items are dated at Chestnut Level (Lancaster County). The book was given to Elizabeth Shippen by her aunt Margaret Shippen in Philadelphia in 1831. Lancaster county family names represented include Housekeeper, Swift, Grubb, Snyder, and Parry.

The *T. Everett Harre Collection* is a recent donation from Kinsey Baker of the Book Haven in Lancaster. T. Everett Harre was a novelist originally from Marietta, NY, who lived for most of his life in New York and came to prominence through his first work, *Behold The Woman!*, which chronicled the dangers of white slavery (prostitution). This collection contains Harre's correspondence, photographs, typescripts of novels, contracts with publishing companies, and copies of his books. Harre maintained friendships and correspondence with actors, writers, and activists across the political spectrum during the first half of the 20th century. Harre died in 1948.



aid in perpetuating the memory of the founder and first Principal of this, the leading Normal School of the State.” (Normal Journal, February 1892) The Board of Trustees marked the occasion with a resolution remarking on the value of the collection and thanking Wickersham’s heirs for the donation. The books were to be housed in a prized location in the new library, and were meant to “serve as an inspiration for thousands of young men and women.” (Normal Journal, Feb 1892) The Wickersham books are now an integral part of the collections that can be found in Archives and Special Collections at Ganser Library. Though a few of the books have been placed in the Rare Books section of the Archives, the majority of the 2,000 plus books have their home in the specially designated Wickersham Pedagogical Collection. While other titles from the period have been added through the years, Wickersham’s books continue to form the cornerstone of the collection. The collection focuses on education, its foundations, new forms of curriculum development, and different theories of instruction. While some of the topics and information contained in the books from Wickersham’s library may seem outdated, or even quaint, they provide an excellent reference for educators and scholars interested in the history of education and its practical application in the 19th century. The collection covers a broad scope of information about education, including books on everything from the teaching of gymnastics, to new ideas about kindergartens, to language, math, and science textbooks, to books on religion and morality in the classroom.

One fascinating book in the collection is titled *Idiocy: and Its Treatment by the Physiological Method*. The book, written by Edward Seguin, M.D. (1866), is the treatise on the causes, symptoms, and treatments of “Idiocy,” as certain forms of mental and physical disabilities were described at the time. *How to Educate the Feelings or Affections and Bring the Dispositions, Aspirations, and Passions into Harmony with Sound Intelligence and Morality*, by Charles Bray (1880), examines the different personality types, the mental and physical manifestations, and the ways in which one should understand these different types. Bray bases his beliefs upon Phrenology, a popular science which focused on the size and shape of the skull as an indication of an individual’s temperament and mentality. Also on this topic was Rev. G.S. Weaver’s *Lectures on Mental Science*



*According to the Philosophy of Phrenology* (1854), which examines the theories and philosophy behind Phrenology.

*School Amusements; or, How to make the School Interesting: Embracing Simple Rules for Military and Gymnastic Exercises, and Hints Upon the General Management of the School Room*, by N.W. Taylor Root (1857), instructs teachers and faculty as to the proper use of exercise in relation to a classroom setting, and includes numerous exercises of a military or athletic nature for male students. *Moral, Intellectual, and Physical Culture; or, the Philosophy of True Living*, by Prof. F.G. Welch (1869), includes instructions on how a professor at the collegiate level can use exercises to improve both mind and body in the classroom, for both sexes, in order to prevent students from being forced to drop their courses due to health reasons.

*Morals for the Young; or, Good Principles Instilling Wisdom*, by Emma Willard (1871), was written with the purpose of instructing teachers on how to inspire morality in their young charges while in the classroom. Also on the topic of morality in the classroom is *A Manual of Morals for Common Schools. Adapted also to the use of Families*, by A. Hall (1850), though this book is intended more for use by the students than by the instructor.

In *The New American First Reader*, by Epes Sargen and Amasa May (1871), the student is given basic lessons that begin with the alphabet, punctuation, and short words such as “cat” and “dog”, and builds up to short passages of only a few sentences. Wickersham owned many such readers for varying age levels and abilities.



The Wickersham Pedagogical Collection is a unique and valuable resource documenting both the content and process of education during the 19th century. Millersville’s reputation as an institution for teacher preparation is based on the strong foundation built by its founders, including J.P. Wickersham. This collection of books continues to instruct current and future teachers, and others interested in the development of the myriad disciplines reflected in the educational history of the United States.

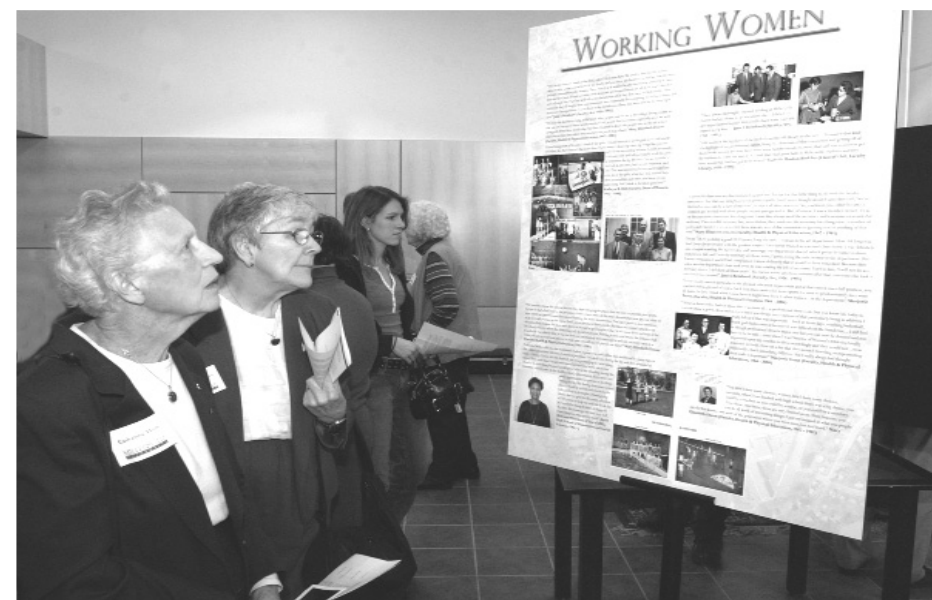
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Graver Lee. *A History of the First Pennsylvania State Normal School Now the State Teachers College at Millersville*, Millersville, PA: State Teachers College, 1955.

*The Normal Journal*, February, 1892

Meaghan Shirk is a current student in History. In addition to serving as a Graduate Assistant for the History Department, Meaghan works as a Student Supervisor in Archives & Special Collections.



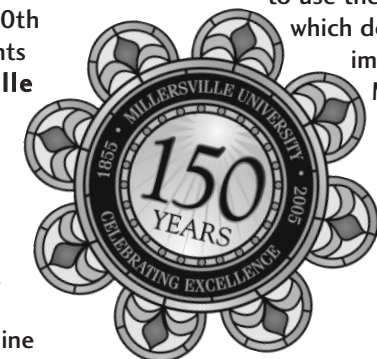
The March 15, 2005, opening of the **Millersville University 150th Anniversary Women’s Oral History Project Exhibit**—*Always Part of Me: Women Remember Millersville* was the culmination of over 2 years of work on the part of the faculty coordinating team (Dr. Marilyn Parrish, Ganser Library; Dr. Carla Rineer, English; Dr. Barb Stengel, Education; Dr. Tracey Weis, History; Dr. Darla Williams, Communications & Theatre and Director of Women’s Studies) and over 100 students. More than 50 oral history interviews were collected, focusing on women who



were at Millersville during the years 1928-1962. Students were involved in all aspects of the project, including interviews, transcriptions, research, theme development, graphic design, and web design. The web exhibit was designed by Ryan Meier and will be a permanent exhibit on the Special Collections website: <http://sc.library.millersville.edu/oral-hist/index.html>. The web exhibit

was partially funded through a Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Local History Grant.

To celebrate Millersville’s 150th Anniversary, Archives students have developed a **Millersville University Timeline** as a new exhibit on the Special Collections website. Ryan Meier developed the initial framework, and Mark Gormley created the exhibit using Flash. Kevin Heller assisted with text. The timeline will be a permanent addition to the Special Collections. [website:http://sc.library.millersville.edu/timeline/index.cfm](http://sc.library.millersville.edu/timeline/index.cfm)



oped by Archives student assistant Laura Kuchmay (a History major) together with Barry Rauhauser, Exhibits Curator at the Lancaster County Historical Society. The exhibit traces the rich connections and contributions of Millersville to Lancaster and the broader community over the past 150 years. The exhibit opening reception followed a presentation by Dr. Dennis Downey, titled: “Intimate Acquaintances: Narrating the Millersville-Lancaster Story.”

The 150th Anniversary has been a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the history of Millersville University and Archives & Special Collections has been involved in many of the year’s celebrations. We welcome the members of the University community and the region to visit us on the 4th floor of Ganser Library (and our website-<http://sc.library.millersville.edu>) to use the many resources which document the important history of Millersville University.

Each year, Archives students and staff assist the Alumni Association in scanning photographs for the **Alumni Weekend Exhibit**, coordinated by Dr. Dominic D’Nunzio. These photographs feature the activities of specific classes--this year 1930, 1955, and 1980. Alumni Weekend coincides with the Closing Celebration of the 150th Anniversary on April 16.

The final exhibit of the 150th Anniversary year opened on April 22 at the Lancaster County Historical Society: **Common Threads: 150 years of Millersville-Lancaster Connections**. This exhibit was devel-

**Becoming a Friend**

People become Friends of Ganser Library when they make a donation to Millersville University and request mailings from the Friends. Encourage your friends to become Friends of the Library through their support of Millersville University. For more information, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.