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## COLLEGENEWS

## **Wayne College**

As the only regional campus of The University of Akron, Wayne College in Orrville is closely connected to the community it serves. As such, the college wanted to save an historic local structure by renovating the Barnet-Hoover farmhouse located on its campus. Wayne College Dean Jack Kristofco explains the process that led to the first days of construction.

"Since the college was opened in 1972, administrators have talked about what to do with the farmhouse," says Kristofco. "It was built in 1818 and is believed to be the oldest two-story log house in the area.

As an educational institution, we had an interest in preserving that history. The struggle has been how to restore the structure and still have it be a usable part of the campus."

Tim Franklin, president of Akron-based Franklin & Associates, worked with the college to develop an adaptive re-use concept for the farmhouse. Franklin, whose design/build firm specializes in historic renovations, said they used as much of the original materials as were salvageable, keeping in mind that a state institution such as Wayne had certain guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities



Act and other building codes that had to be met.

The renovated Barnet-Hoover farmhouse, which re-opened in November 2005, now serves as a meeting place for college and community groups and for businesses and agencies.

## College of Fine and Applied Arts

 Guzzetta Hall's addition is taking shape. When completed this summer, it will house UA's Dance Program and Dance Institute, currently located in the aging Ballet Center, built as a church in 1884.

The addition will feature seven technology-enhanced dance studios, including an alternative/experimental performance venue; a design and lighting studio; scene and costume shops; trainer and physiotherapy facilities; locker rooms; offices and technology-enhanced classrooms; and more.

The project will bring all of the University's academic programs in the performing arts together under one roof and create an artistic and cultural hub for the campus and community. The music, theatre, and arts administration programs are already in the original portion of Guzzetta Hall, constructed in 1976.

Planning is under way for a second phase that would add a much-needed mid-size theatre for music, dance and theatre performances.

• Retired art professor Earl Ertman is living a "dream come true" as part of an American team of archaeologists that discovered a tomb in Egypt's Valley of the Kings. The single-chamber tomb is believed to be about 3,000 years old, and is the first to be discovered in the Valley of the Kings since King Tutankhamen's in 1922. It holds five mummies, possible members of a pharaoh's court. Ertman and his team discovered the chamber while working on the neighboring tomb of Amenmesses, a late 19th dynasty pharaoh.

## College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering



An important University milestone is approaching its golden anniversary.

In August, the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering and the Department of Chemistry are planning a multi-day celebration in honor of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the polymer chemistry doctoral program in the Department of Chemistry. That doctoral

program was the first ever offered at the University.

The celebration on Wednesday, Aug. 9, through Saturday, Aug. 12 will include two symposia (on emerging technologies in polymers and the impact of globalization on technology policy), a poster session, roundtable discussions, building tours, receptions, a banquet and a picnic.

Dr. Frank Kelley, dean of the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, says the events will give the University and the community the opportunity to share his pride in the renowned polymer program that grew from the events of 1956, when the rubber chemistry lab became the Institute of Rubber Research.

"As I look back, I am most proud of the success of our polymer graduates and the college's involvement in the reinvention of our regional economy," he says. "We encourage all of our polymer graduates as well as friends of the University to attend this special celebration."

To register for the events or for more information, visit www2.uakron.edu/cpspe/polymer50 on the Web, send e-mail to polymer50@uakron.edu or call 330-972-7502.