On the afternoon of Friday, April 30, 1926, while a large Rotary convention was in town, Cyrus Avery and John Page from Oklahoma, along with B. H. Piepmeier and probably John T. Woodruff from Missouri, met in the Colonial Hotel, located in the southwest quadrant of the corner of East St. Louis Street and Jefferson Avenue near the central square in Springfield, Missouri, to try to resolve a months-long disagreement with the federal government and other states concerning what number should be assigned to a proposed federal highway from Chicago, Illinois to Los Angeles, California. They decided to recommend the number 66. At approximately 4:00 p.m., Avery and Piepmeier sent a telegram to Washington DC indicating their new preference.

On Monday afternoon, April 30, 2018, members of the university, community, and region met at the corner of Jefferson and East St. Louis, under the Birthplace of Route 66 sign to celebrate Route 66’s 92nd birthday with cake, postcards, conversation, and selfies. The celebration was co-sponsored by the MSU Libraries and OZARKSALIVE.COM, with encouragement from the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival Planning Committee.

GRANT FOR “WOMEN OF ROUTE 66”

The Special Collections and Archives unit of the MSU Libraries has received a $2,500 grant from the Missouri Humanities Council to assist in “The Women of the Mother Road in Missouri.” Anne Baker, Head of Special Collections and Archives, served as the principal investigator, working with documentarian Katrina Parks, whose web-based project for the National Park Service’s Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, route66women.com, began interest in the topic.

On Thursday evening, September 21, 2017, in the Historic Fox Theater on the Square, Parks showed excerpts from her documentary about Route 66 from female perspectives.
“Trucking Down the Mother Road” was the program topic when the Lebanon-Laclede County Route 66 Society held its annual membership meeting, Monday, Jan. 29, 2018 at the Lebanon-Laclede County Library.

**The Project**

The Missouri State University Libraries, in partnership with Ozarks Alive (OZARKSALIVE.COM), has received a $5,100 grant from the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program of the National Park Service to undertake the “Trucking on Route 66” project. Twenty oral history interviews will be recorded with individuals involved in the trucking industry along the Route 66 Corridor in Missouri from 1926 to 1985.

Tom Peters, Dean of Library Services at Missouri State, noted, “Oral histories have a proven track record of expanding and enriching other aspects of the historical record and documentary evidence about Route 66. The history of trucking along Route 66 in Missouri is legendary, with Campbell 66 Express — including its iconic image of Snortin’ Norton — a prime example. We appreciate the support and participation of the National Park Service and Ozarks Alive to advance our oral history initiatives.”

Kaitlyn McConnell, Founder of Ozarks Alive and Media Relations Coordinator for CoxHealth, observed, “When people think of Route 66, they typically focus on the ‘fun’ aspects, such as vacationers traveling across America. However, the road was integral to our history in many other ways, such as economic expansion. This project is a wonderful opportunity to preserve some of those stories before they’re lost.”

Both audio and video will be recorded and preserved. Metadata and transcriptions will be created for each interview. The audio recordings, the video recordings, the metadata, and the transcriptions will be uploaded to the Internet and made freely available to researchers and members of the general public. This project will complement other oral history collections held by MSU, other Research Route 66 member libraries, and the Route 66 Association of Missouri.
With encouragement and support from President Clif Smart and Provost Frank Einhellig, the Ozarks Studies Institute (OSI), an initiative of the Missouri State University Libraries, has undertaken an ambitious schedule to publish several books and music CDs over the next four years.

The goal of an OSI Publication Series is to raise the public profile of the Ozarks Studies Institute, establishing its leadership role in researching, archiving, interpreting, disseminating, and promoting knowledge of the Ozarks, its rich history, and its resources. The OSI Publications Series kicked off with the release last spring of the anthology, Living Ozarks: The Ecology and Culture of a Natural Place. The tentative publication schedule for the next few years includes the following:

- **August 2019**: TechnOzarks, a book of contributed chapters about the development and diffusion of various technologies in the Ozarks region
- **August 2020**: The Long Sixties, a book about the massive social and cultural changes experienced in the Ozarks from the late Fifties through the early Seventies
- **Fall 2021**: A two-CD set of Art Song in the Ozarks
- **Fall 2022**: Archival Treasures of the Ozarks

Dr. James S. Baumlin, Distinguished Professor of English, will join the OSI editorial team for this series. He has a course reassignment to work with OSI staff and faculty members on these new publishing ventures. This new initiative will complement the ongoing publication of OzarksWatch Magazine, which is published twice each year, in the spring and fall. Susan Croce Kelly is the Managing Editor of OzarksWatch Magazine.

### Exhibit March 16 - May 26, 2019

**Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science.**

Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science. examines how Native communities are using traditional knowledge and Western science to solve modern-day environmental problems.
The Missouri State University Libraries welcomes all members of our communities and is committed to ensure open and equitable access to our library resources, services, and spaces. We are committed to freedom of speech and the open exchange of ideas and opinions, and oppose any words or actions that threaten the safety or dignity of any member of our communities. The Libraries affirms Missouri State University’s vision to be a university of choice and opportunity for all students, and a beacon for diversity locally and nationally. We welcome all forms of diversity, including individual differences such as personality, learning styles and life experiences; group/social differences, such as race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, country of origin and disabilities; and cultural, political, religious or other affiliations, such as veteran and socioeconomic status. We recognize that each of us has more than one identity, and as part of Missouri State University the MSU Libraries will continue to support and advocate for all intersecting identities of our community members.

The Springfield African American Read-In (AARI), a collaborative effort of the Missouri State University Libraries, the Springfield-Greene County Library District, Springfield Public Schools, Drury University, and the Springfield Branch of the NAACP, is entering its ninth year. Under the leadership of library faculty member Grace Jackson-Brown, the MSU Libraries, acting as the lead institution and fiscal agent for the group, received a $1,450 grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks to create an AARI website, a brochure, and other materials to promote AARI efforts in Springfield. The grant will help the local AARI initiative to build toward a strong and successful 10th Anniversary year in 2019.

SpringfieldAARI.org

Cherri Jones, Head of Infant Through Grade 12 Resources, reads to enthusiastic preschoolers from Kaye Clark’s class visiting from MSU’s Child Development Center.
The eighth Rare Wine, Rare Books event, held on the evening of Friday, July 27, 2018, was a big success. This annual summertime event sold out for the second consecutive year. Six flights of wine were served along with a sumptuous six-course dinner. Beth Domann, the featured speaker, regaled attendees with stories about the Landers Theater and Springfield Little Theatre, where Beth serves as the Executive Director. David Dain Smith again presented and described each flight of wine. All of the staff involved in planning the event, led by Anne Marie Baker, Head of Special Collections, did a fantastic job. Chartwells’ chefs and servers prepared and presented a wonderful meal. All of the supporters of the event helped make it all possible. Proceeds from the event support the Fraley Family Rare Book Endowment. Next year’s RWRB event will be held on Friday evening, July 26, 2019.

Fore-edge Book

The Poetical Works of Eliza Cook was published around 1869 and has a Moroccan leather cover with gilt edging. A later addition of a double fore-edge painting enhances its value to the rare books collection, helping illustrate the history of the book and publishing. Thanks to Mark McQueary for underwriting this acquisition.
Don and Ruth Martin gave a gift for the new furnishings in room 115 on the First Level of Duane G. Meyer Library. The area was renovated and repurposed this past summer, from a staff work area for Circulation Services to a homey, inviting, and comfortable “living room” for use by students, faculty, and staff of MSU, as well as by members of the general public. The Martins chose this means to advance their ongoing support for higher education in Springfield because they wanted to do something that would directly benefit students in their efforts to become educated adults, now and into the future. We are very grateful to the Martins for their generous support, which will help position the MSU Libraries for continued success.
Library Space: The Final Frontier

Newly renovated level 1 lobby entrance. This area is now open all the time including weekends and holidays for students to have a place to study.

Newly renovated second level with various styles of furniture to accommodate varying student study styles.

Art in the library by Dwaine Crigger, Professor Emeritus
Renovation Goals

Spaces
- Level 3 quiet space
- ASPIRE—a collaborative interdisciplinary lab
- Ozarks Studies Institute reading room
- Special Collections & Archives reading room
- Infant Through Grade 12 Resources
- Additional group study rooms
- Restrooms

Principles
- Monitoring and fulfilling campus community needs
- Furniture durability
- Sustainability
- Cost

The view from the newly renovated faculty lounge. It is open to all faculty to relax and collaborate.

Room 120 was renovated into an instructional classroom.

Room 107 was renovated to be used as exhibit space, small author talks, presentations, and quiet study space.
Employee Notes

Retirements

Sheila Ponder
44 YEARS

Joyce Stefka
26 YEARS

Tammy Stewart
28 YEARS
New

**Anne Baker**
Head of Special Collections and Archives

**Melissa Eiken**
Executive Assistant
Library Administrative Services

**Tracie Giesel-Man-Holthaus**
Archivist

**Lindsey Taggart**
Director of Resource Management and Discovery
Duane G. Meyer Library
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