Celebrating Missouri’s German Heritage

Along Missouri’s German Highway | From Hermann to the Confluence:
Missouri River Country | A Great America Road Trip: The Way of American Genius
Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors

“Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors” is a creative writing anthology of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, interviews and photography submissions by and about veterans from across the nation and spanning generations – from World War I to Iraq and Afghanistan. It is an annual series first released in November 2012.

American veterans need an outlet for self-expression as they build and enhance their support systems, reconnect with their families, reintegrate into the workforce, and heal the unseen wounds of war.

“Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors” is published by the Southeast Missouri State University Press in cooperation with the Missouri Humanities Council and the Warriors Arts Alliance. The call for submissions recently passed, so check back soon for Volume 4 of the series.

Order your copy of “Proud to Be” online: www.mohumanities.org/shop
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**MHC MISSION STATEMENT**
To create a more thoughtful, informed, and civil society by supporting and presenting humanities-based programs that serve and benefit the people of Missouri.

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The Missouri Humanities Council (MHC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was created in 1971 under authorizing legislation from the U.S. Congress.
Missouri’s Civil War Hero: Ulysses S. Grant

GREG WOLK

Ulysses S. Grant, Civil War hero and Eighteenth President of the United States, was born in Ohio. He died and is buried in the State of New York. He spent about a year in Galena, Illinois, clerking in a leather goods store his father owned. All of these places want to own him, but it was Missouri that formed him. From and after the day in 1843 he arrived at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, 21 years old, fresh out of West Point, Grant’s home was Missouri.

It was an accident of history that Grant roomed with Fred Dent at West Point, and it was Lieutenant Grant’s great good fortune to accept an invitation to visit the Dent plantation, out Gravois Road on the outskirts of St. Louis. There, he met Fred’s sister Julia, beginning a partnership that weathered the Civil War and carried an unlikely man to the White House. Ulysses and Julia Dent Grant married in St. Louis in 1848. Over their lifetimes, they would acquire most of the property that was the Dent family estate. Their home in St. Louis County is magnificently restored and preserved as the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site.

Another accident of history was that Grant resided in Illinois when the Civil War broke out in 1861, and so he entered the service of the Union as a colonel of a regiment of Illinois volunteer infantry. When the war broke out, the hot war of the Midwest was in Missouri. Grant with his regiment, the
21st Illinois Infantry, entered Missouri on July 10, 1861 on the shore of the Mississippi opposite Quincy, Illinois. Here began Grant’s remarkable rise to the pinnacle of his profession.

Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Courthouse, Cold Harbor, Petersburgh, Five Forks, Appomattox. For students of Grant – including military cadets around the world – these words evoke wonderment and awe. Still, few have focused on how this man’s war experiences in Missouri nurtured and tested innate qualities of character that made Grant the man of the hour in wartime and in the troubled period of peace that followed. Missouri now has the U. S. Grant Trail™ to shine light on the history that came before.

After basic training in Springfield, Illinois, the colonel of the 21st Illinois Infantry marched his men cross-country to a place on the Illinois River near Naples, where they waited. They waited for a steamboat that was to take them to Missouri. The steamboat went aground downstream, and then an urgent dispatch reached Colonel Grant: The 16th Illinois Infantry was trapped in Monroe City, Missouri, by soldiers of the Missouri State Guard, which was allied with the Confederate States. The 16th retreated there after marching towards Florida, Missouri, and on the 10th of July were surrounded by the enemy. Grant put his men on trains, arrived in Quincy that afternoon, and by nightfall had established headquarters in Missouri. The crisis at Monroe City abated, and over the next few days Grant and his regiment moved west to guard the site of a railroad bridge on the Salt River. The bridge, near Hunnewell, Missouri, had been a casualty of the fighting on July 10; Grant’s task was to protect the crews that were rebuilding it.

On July 20, 1861, Grant and his regiment arrived in Mexico, Missouri, where he had his headquarters until August 7. At Mexico, Grant took de facto command of two additional regiments, and spent two rather uneventful weeks guarding the railroads in this vicinity. He set up camp west of town and north of the railroad, in an area bounded by Monroe and Jackson Streets, ranging west from Missouri Avenue. While stationed here, Grant visited Graceland, then the home of unionist John P. Clark, now the magnificently restored headquarters of the Audrain County Historical Society. In Mexico, Grant learned that Lincoln had nominated him, and Congress had confirmed a promotion to the rank of brigadier general of volunteers. This would prove significant on a variety of levels, partly in connection with the relative seniority of a crop of Illinois generals who were promoted at the same time, but mostly it brought Grant to the attention of Major General John Fremont, commanding from headquarters in St. Louis.

The several weeks of Grant’s career that followed August 7 are shrouded in mystery. In the days before this, Grant had shuttled back and forth to St. Louis by special train, carrying ciphered messages from his immediate commander in Mexico to headquarters in St. Louis. On August 7, Grant was ordered to bring three regiments to Ironton in southeast Missouri. With the sort of alacrity that would be a hallmark, Grant and his regiments were in Ironton within 48 hours. While passing through St. Louis on the 8th, Grant received additional orders, auspiciously addressed to him as: “Charged with the Command of the Ironton Force.”

Ironton is 80 miles south of St. Louis on Missouri Highway 21. In 1861, it dangled at the end of a railroad, the St. Louis Iron Mountain line, deep in hostile territory. Grant was rushed here because authorities learned that a Confederate army had advanced from Arkansas to within 40 miles...
of the place. His brigadier’s commission caught up with him here, at headquarters camp he established next to a spring two blocks south of the Ironton square. This event was commemorated in 1886 by veterans of the 21st Illinois Infantry, who erected a statue on the spot. The statue and the spring are located on the grounds of the St. Marie du Lac Catholic Church. The legend, supported by a modicum of evidence, is that Grant sat in his tent by the Ironton spring and drew the plan that ultimately led him to victory at Vicksburg.

General Grant was abruptly relieved at Ironton, by Quincy native Brigadier General Benjamin Prentiss (one of the new Illinois generals). Prentiss’s belief, evidently shared by St. Louis headquarters at the time, was that he outranked Grant. During the following week, Grant pressed his claim over Prentiss’s. In nine days in Ironton, though, Grant had organized the regiments under his command, and put them on the roads to confront his adversary to the south. The misunderstanding about rank, if that is what is was, brought this offensive to a halt.

In St. Louis with new orders in hand, on August 21 Grant boarded a train on the Pacific Railroad and headed west 100 miles to the state capital, Jefferson City. As in Ironton, he went immediately to work to organize his new command. Grant made his headquarters at the old City Hotel, at the northwest corner of High and Madison Streets. The old Central Bank Building occupies the site, as it has since the City Hotel was demolished 100 years ago. Then, on August 28, 1861, Grant was again relieved of command, this time when an Indiana colonel, improbably named Jefferson C. Davis, walked into his office with his orders. Grant was to report to St. Louis headquarters for special orders. Grant boarded an eastbound train, and that same day walked into Fremont’s headquarters, uphill from the Pacific terminal in a place we later knew as “Checkerboard Square.”

Controversy surrounds the events of August 28, 1861. One version of events is that Grant reported as ordered, and seated himself in the basement waiting for an audience with General Fremont. There, he was recognized by an old army comrade. Fremont was meeting with senior staff, including the comrade, concerning the appointment of an officer to push down the Mississippi from southeast Missouri. Grant’s old friend exclaimed: “I know just the man, Sam Grant, who is waiting downstairs.” More likely, Fremont had realized that Grant outranked General Prentiss (still in command at Ironton) and summoned Grant from Jefferson City to supersede him. Whatever the case, Grant repaired to the Planters House hotel near St. Louis’s Old Courthouse, where he assembled a staff and prepared to take command.

On August 30, Grant boarded a steamboat on the St. Louis wharf. That same day, he landed in the Mississippi port town of Cape Girardeau. His headquarters for the next four days was, probably, the Common Pleas Courthouse that still stands there. He lodged at the St. Charles Hotel at the southwest corner of Main and Themis Streets. Within days, Grant relocated his
headquarters to Cairo, Illinois, but his stay in Cape was not without incident. On September 2, Prentiss arrived in Cape Girardeau; he had been ordered to join Grant with four regiments of infantry from Ironton. Grant expected Prentiss to remain with his troops outside of town. So, mindful that Prentiss could no longer dispute his authority, Grant ordered Prentiss to rejoin his regiments. When Prentiss requested he be relieved of command, Grant refused. The incident caused Prentiss to place himself under arrest so that he could plead his case for seniority in St. Louis. Meanwhile, an uneasy truce of sorts prevailed in Kentucky. The state legislature had voted to remain neutral in the burgeoning conflict of north versus south, and for a time both sides respected this position. The Confederates coveted two locations in western Kentucky: Paducah, which offered access to the Ohio River, and a commanding bluff above the town of Columbus known as the “Iron Bank.” The Confederates struck first, entering Kentucky on September 3, 1861 to occupy Columbus. Grant, in turn, moved immediately on Paducah. On September 6, just seven days after leaving St. Louis, Grant himself stood on the levee at Paducah to claim that place in the name of the United States. Early in November, 1861, with headquarters still in Cairo, Grant engineered a movement to dislodge the Confederates from their entrenched position atop the Columbus bluff. Moving down the Mississippi in transports, Grant with 3,000 men landed on the Missouri shore just above the town of Belmont (which occupied the low ground opposite Columbus). This was the first engagement of the Civil War in which General Grant commanded troops in the field. Grant was driven back, and his assault is universally considered a failure today. Nevertheless, true to a form that he perfected in future campaigns, the Confederates had to abandon Columbus when Grant’s “end around” produced a stunning victory at Fort Donelson on February 16, 1862, opening the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers as unhindered routes into the heartland of Tennessee.

CIVIL WAR ARCHIVES ALIVE! A FAVORITE FOR STUDENTS

EMILY LUKER

Nearly 6,200 fourth- and fifth-grade students from across the state attended this year’s Civil War Archives Alive! performances, making it once again the most popular annual outreach program supported by the Friends of the Missouri State Archives. The free forty-minute history-based interactive theatrical presentations brought children from 84 schools around the state to the Missouri State Archives to enjoy the comedic, yet educational, antics of local Jefferson City actors Alan Bailey, Laura Morris, Mark Rehagen and Mark Wegman. The cast revisited their roles from the 2011-2014 seasons, wherein contestants on the game show Blast from the Past meet President Abraham Lincoln after he hitches a ride to the present in the Time-0-Matic 5000 time machine.

Through humor and audience participation, students learned about Missouri’s role as a border state, the impact of guerrilla warfare on ordinary citizens, the effect of slavery on the state’s culture and economy, and the significance of Missouri’s battles and political climate on the outcome of the war. Students became aware of how this divisive conflict affected civilian and soldier alike.

Co-sponsoring the 2015 season, along with the Friends of the Missouri State Archives, were the Missouri Humanities Council, the Missouri Arts Council, Hawthorn Bank, and the Eldon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The generosity of these groups made 30 performances possible from March through May.

Since its inception in 2005, the Archives Alive! program has remained a favorite among students, parents and teachers alike, with many schools making return trips each year.
University City Public Library’s Summer 2015 Big Book Challenge is off to a wonderful start! Our title this year is Leo Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*, the 19th century classic of world literature that has something for everyone: passion, adultery, tragedy, love and jam-making, as well as beautiful writing. U City Library rounds out that terrific reading experience by breaking up the text into three easy-to-handle pieces and providing multiple opportunities for discussion with others in the community. We support our participants with a group blog, encouraging tweets, and related cultural events, such as a presentation by SLU Tolstoy scholar Elizabeth Blake and a visit from Russian music and dance ensemble Barynya.

Missouri Humanities Council’s contribution to our program is invaluable! MHC’s generous support made possible a series of radio announcements advertising the reading program and events on KWMU FM 90.7 throughout the month of May. Because U City Library’s Big Book Challenge is unlike other adult summer reading programs in the area, the radio announcements are especially important in attracting patrons who might not hear about our programs otherwise. We’re delighted to report that we have 125 readers signed up, and over 280 visits to one of our discussions or related cultural programs.

In addition to radio spots, MHC has helped us purchase copies of *Anna Karenina* in a variety of formats such as downloadable books, and Russian and Chinese language copies. This way we are better able to serve all of our readers. As Anna would say, “спасибо!” (Thank you!)
MARIANNE KUNKEL

On the evening of April 20, 2015, 250 people gathered on Missouri Western State University’s campus to watch an outstanding poetry performance by the nationally-renowned spoken-word poet Taylor Mali. The event, titled “The Mochila Review presents: In the Shadow of Taylor Mali,” was hosted by the university’s national undergraduate literary journal, The Mochila Review, and offered those in the St. Joseph and larger Kansas City area face-to-face access to a successful creative writer. Especially in the case of high school and college students, meeting a professional poet inspired many of them to pursue their dreams of becoming published authors.

The event would not have been possible without the generous support of a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. That grant allowed not only for an evening event, but also an afternoon session in which Mali performed poetry and took questions from local and regional high school students.

Dr. Marianne Kunkel, an English professor at MWSU and editor-in-chief of Mochila, planned the two-part event along with her staff of nine undergraduate students. The event gave her students invaluable editorial, publicity, and event-planning experience.

Preceding Mali were poetry readings by three MWSU undergraduate poets. When Mali took the stage, he immediately captivated the audience, provoking them to laugh one minute and cry the next. Performances of his most popular poems, “What Teachers Make” and “The Impotence of Proofreading,” featured Mali standing on a seat in the auditorium and giving the crowd an up-close experience. MWSU’s president, Dr. Robert Vartabedian, remarked that the audience response was the most positive he had ever seen on campus. A reception and book signing followed the event. As if it weren’t already clear that the evening was unforgettable, the book vendors reported that the event marked the first time they had sold out of books in thirty years!
KAREN S. KALISH

Too many children enter school not ready to learn because they had little to no daily reading or talking with a parent from birth. Most never catch up. Lack of parent engagement is a key challenge facing schools and our students.

Students in Missouri spend less than 14% of their year in school, yet we make teachers responsible for 100% of students’ education. Children spend approximately 33% of their time sleeping, leaving 53% spent out of school with family and friends.

HOME WORKS! The Teacher Home Visit Program partners families and teachers for children’s success. They do this by training, supporting, and helping pay teachers of low-performing students to make home visits to establish trust, build a relationship with parents, and engage them in their children’s education. Grants like the generous support from the Missouri Humanities Council help pay for teacher training, teacher stipends, academic materials for parents to use at home, data collection, evaluation, interpreters, and staffing.

MORE THAN 1/3 of all children entering kindergarten are unprepared for school.

Furthermore, children who start behind often remain academically behind, resulting in increased rates of remedial attention, school failure, and incarceration.
The HOME WORKS! model requires **two** mandatory teacher trainings, **two** teachers on every visit, **two** visits per student per year, **two** Family Dinners at school which allow families and teachers to “break bread” together, and **two** staff in each school to ensure program fidelity and data collection. Teachers are paid to make the visits.

The purpose of the first home visit is **relationship building.** On the second home visit, teachers and parents discuss the child’s **academic performance.** Teachers provide parents with strategies, support, resources, and tools they must use at home regularly to increase academic achievement. If the family has limited English proficiency, or a parent is deaf, an interpreter accompanies the teachers on the visits.

Training is mandatory for all teachers and other school personnel making visits to acquire additional skills to visit homes that are very different from their own. Training teachers to build positive relationships and communicate effectively with parents is key to achieving our goals.

The data so far is exciting:

- Grades and attendance increased and office referrals decreased.
- 90% of all parents surveyed felt “very comfortable” contacting their child’s teacher.
- Students, parents, and teachers all reported improvements in homework completion.
- State test scores for math and communication arts increased for HOME WORKS! students when compared with students who did not have home visits.
- Average attendance rates for HOME WORKS! students receiving free or reduced lunch, students with poor attendance, and African American students increased, but decreased among non-HOME WORKS! students.

HOME WORKS! was founded in St. Louis in 2007. It began in a handful of schools and has grown to 27 schools in ten urban, suburban, and rural districts. Last school year, 2014-15, 340 teachers made 3,560 home visits.

The HOME WORKS! evaluation is being conducted by an external research firm selected nationally. The evaluation design is testing the efficacy of the teacher home visit intervention model as a strategy to increase parent engagement in student learning and improve academic and behavioral outcomes for students who are at-risk for school failure.

HOME WORKS! is based on the premise that parents and teachers are partners in a child’s education. A long-term outcome, if our objectives are successfully and sustainably implemented, would be consistent improvement in kindergarten readiness, academic achievement, attendance, and classroom behavior as a result of increased parent engagement and behaviors that support learning at home.

HOME WORKS! will continue until all parents and families put an emphasis on education from birth, and encourage their children to attend school every day. This is difficult but important work and will take generations to bring about the changes our community and country need.

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**65%** of Missouri’s **4th graders** are performing below grade level in reading, and **61%** are performing below grade level in math.

**65%** of Missouri’s **8th graders** are performing below grade level in reading, and **67%** are performing below grade level in math.
The Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (ERDCC) in Bonne Terre, Missouri is home to over 2,000 inmates, a few of whom will pay their restitution to society with their lives. Most, however, will find themselves returning to society. For them, an experience with the humanities could prove invaluable. Enter the Missouri Humanities Council and St. Louis University.

With the support of a major grant from MHC, SLU is continuing its Prison Arts and Education Program (PAEP), an effort to open doors to intellectual opportunities for incarcerated persons and prison staff. As part of this initiative, SLU offers a degree program and arts and education programming while also investigating the connections between education and recidivism. The Prison Program is one-of-a-kind as the only on-site program in the U.S. serving both incarcerated people and prison employees.

Delivered in a series of five sessions, workshops are highly focused small group learning environments facilitated by either SLU faculty or community members with expertise in the arts or humanities. Workshops funded by the MHC will focus on drawing, art criticism, creative writing, and literature.

Participants have the opportunity to work side-by-side with expert writers, poets, and artists to learn from their work. “The workshop series at the ERDCC offers intellectual opportunities that are found in few prisons throughout the United States; yet, every prison should have some form of humanities programming, as no human being should be withheld from the arts,” says Devin Johnston, codirector of PAEP and professor at SLU. “A disproportionate amount of the men incarcerated in the Missouri state prison system are St. Louis residents, and because these men will one day be all of our neighbors, it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that they are receiving intellectually stimulating experiences while incarcerated.”

PAEP will help deter the constant negativity that exists in prison, and support incarcerated people’s intellectual curiosity and development before they re-join the community.

Several prisoners have expressed appreciation toward the PAEP workshop and teachers. “There are many times when it seems that people forget about us and do not care what happens to us. SLU goes out of their way to provide positive outlets and education to show us that there is another way and that people are willing to give us another chance. [The program has] allowed a wonderful school to provide us with advanced techniques in the arts that we would not be able to find on our own,” says one participant.

“I know I will have a difficult time finding work when I get out, but having multiple avenues to pursue will give me a huge bonus on succeeding.”

Programming will occur throughout the Fall and Spring semesters of 2015/2016. For more information about the Prison Arts and Education Program, contact Devin Johnston, co-director of PAEP, at johnstdd@slu.edu, or contact the Missouri Humanities Council at (314) 781-9660.
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**Support Your Missouri Humanities Council**

By making a contribution today using the enclosed business reply envelope inside the back cover of this magazine, or going online at [www.mohumanities.org](http://www.mohumanities.org) you will guarantee receiving future MoHumanities publications, frequent e-newsletters, and notifications of future programming.
Kinder Institute Announcements and Events

Now that the 2015-16 school year is officially underway, we wanted to take a moment to send word out about end-of-summer Kinder Institute activities and upcoming events on our fall calendar.

- We recently added a workshop on local politics to our docket of 2015-16 community seminars. Led by PhD candidate Dana Angello, the new program will meet weekly during October and feature City of Columbia officials presenting on their role in civic governance.

- Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 7, 2015, when we’ll host Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David McCullough at the Missouri Theatre in downtown Columbia at 7:00 PM, to deliver a public lecture entitled, “The History You Don’t Know: Lessons from the American Founders.”

Upcoming Events

- **September 11**: Missouri Regional Seminar with CUNY Prof. David Waldstreicher
- **September 17**: Constitution Day Lecture with Boston Univ. Law Professors James Fleming and Linda McClain
- **October 1-30**: Community Seminar on Local Government
- **October 7**: Public Lecture with David McCullough
- **October 16**: History Colloquium with Benedictine College Prof. Chris Childers
- **October 30**: Missouri Regional Seminar Meeting in St. Louis

For more information on future events, please visit democracy.missouri.edu/
Along Missouri’s German Highway

CASSANDRA YACOVAZZI
Breathtaking overlooks that remind one of Germany, quaint towns with streets named Schiller and Mozart, and wineries that comprise the first American Viticultural Area are just a part of the German Heritage Corridor that you will find along the Missouri River Valley. Leave behind the hectic interstate and rediscover the history and beauty that first drew the Germans here. As you venture down back roads and old highways, such as MO-94, slowly the string of billboards and concrete noise walls fade away, replaced by winding rows of verdant hills and valleys, century farms, creeks, glimpses of the Missouri River, and vineyards – lots of vineyards. The passing wineries bear titles such as “Blumenhof” and “Röbller.” And the towns have strange names like Dutzow and Dissen. In landscape and name, it’s easy to see why this area is known as the Missouri Rhineland. But what is the story of the Germans who settled these valleys and what is left to discover of our heritage here?

Of all the ethnic settlers to the state, the Germans were the most numerous and many of the core German settlements have persisted in more than name. Providing perhaps the greatest impetus to German immigration to Missouri was the promotional writing of Gottfried Duden, a German philanthropist and attorney. Arriving in what is now Warren County in 1824, Duden recorded his observations from a hillside perch along Lake Creek. His subsequent Report described the area as a “Garden of Eden” where wild grapevines climbed trees and virgin land promised lives of plenty. To a people facing diminished land availability and few freedoms after the Napoleonic wars, Duden’s Missouri proved irresistible. Although some would later complain of the writer’s exaggerated praise of the area – his idyllic description of farm life hardly captured the toil of the vocation – thousands heeded Duden’s call, as waves of immigrants made new homes in Missouri beginning in the 1830s.

Germans mostly settled along the Missouri River valley, prompting one observer to describe the route as a “veritable German highway.” One stop along the way is the town of Augusta, which still retains much of its early German heritage. Charming rows of B&Bs, wineries, old storefronts, antique shops, and quaint churches line the narrow streets of this small town (pop. 249). Mount Pleasant Winery, whose location over the bluffs lives up to its name, was founded here by two German brothers in 1859. In 1881 the family created cellars with stone and wood that are still used today to age the internationally award-winning Augusta grapes. In the nearby unincorporated and even smaller town of Femme Osage still stands the picturesque Femme Osage Evangelical Church, where the Western Synod of the Evangelical Churches began. Uncluttered by commercial entities or urbanization and bumping up against the Katy nature trail and Missouri River, these old German towns are perfect for exploring.

Moving west along the “German highway” sits the village of Dutzow, one of the first fruits of Duden’s book. The Berlin Society communally purchased the land adjoining Duden’s in 1832, and two years later the “baron” Johann Wilhelm von Bock platted Dutzow naming it after his former estate in Germany. Bock envisioned a “truly German” town, something he tried to enforce by charging non-German residents double for land and naming streets after prominent Germans. While Bock’s dream never fully materialized, German culture flourished here. Blumenhof Vineyards and Winery in historic Dutzow keeps German viticulture and culinary arts alive. Inviting you to “stop and smell the Blumen,” Blumenhof, German
for “Court of Flowers,” offers award-winning wines, live music, and breathtaking views.

Historic remnants in Dutzow can be found off the beaten path. An old stone barn built in 1873 by the Muench family still stands as a testament to German architecture and aspirations. Friedrich Muench and his university friend Paul Follenius set out to create a utopian German colony in Missouri after reading Duden. Their Giessen Emigration Society quickly attracted over 500 Germans, many drawn by the proposed mission of “founding a German state.” While the society proved ill-fated, members of the group still influenced where they settled. Muench adopted the creed of the Freethinkers and went on to become a prolific writer, publishing works in English and German on topics ranging from religion, literature, and politics, to viticulture. In 1860 he served as a delegate from Missouri to the Republican Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency and the following year he was elected to the Missouri State Senate.

With their beer, pipes, and stringed instruments, Germans also left a deep imprint on the town of Washington. On the south banks of the Missouri River twelve German Catholic families and other German immigrants settled the town. A stunning panorama of the cityscape unfolds as you cross the bridge over the Missouri River, with church spires and a clock tower rising majestically above the trees. In 1854, John B. Busch, older brother to the famed Adolphus Busch of St. Louis who founded the Anheuser-Busch brewing company, bottled the first Busch beer. The business flourished but stopped selling beer during Prohibition, manufacturing “near beer” and soda instead. The Washington Historical Society and Museum pay tribute to the Busch dynasty and other town notables, including Henry Tibbe and Franz Schwarzer. Tibbe put Washington on the map as the “Corncob Pipe Capital of the World” with his plaster-filled “Missouri Meerschaum” pipes. Meanwhile Schwarzer brought German music to Washington and beyond with his world-famous zithers. In addition to visiting the redbrick Busch
brewery and mansion and the Corn Cob Pipe factory along Washington’s historic streets, you can also catch a glimpse of early German settlement here at the 1870s Kohmueller farmstead, complete with period furniture, sausage room, and grape trellises.

German heritage sites continue west, crisscrossing the Missouri River, in towns like Marthasville – where you can actually learn the folkways and skills of early German settlers at Deutsch Country Days each October – Warrenton, Peers, and New Haven. Near New Haven, on a hill overlooking a patchwork of fields stands a four-story Hausbarn built by William Pelster from Dissen. An original style of European architecture, the “hausbarn” is house and barn in one. This unique landmark of German architecture features half-timbering in which panels are exposed to contrast with the wood timbers, original wooden floors, and a large front porch, reminding one that this is not just a barn but a home as well.

Following this string of German heritage sites will land you in Hermann, Missouri’s “Little Germany.” Founded by the German Settlement Society of Philadelphia in 1836 whose members were alarmed at the loss of German customs and language among their country folk in America, Hermann was to be a self-supporting haven for German culture. The hills, river, and abundance of wild grapevines likely reminded George Bayer, sent as an agent of the Society to choose the site, of his homeland. While developing the town proved more difficult in practice than in theory and cost Bayer his job, settlers soon planted grapes and hops and established institutions that allowed their city and German heritage to flourish. In 1842 residents planted the first Norton grape on a Hermann hillside. A few years later, Hermann winegrowers established the first farm organization in the United States specifically devoted to viticulture. Missouri led the country in wine production by the 1870s, with Hermann contributing the most.

As with many German settlements throughout the United States, Hermann

was hit hard with the one-two punch of World War I and Prohibition which fostered anti-German sentiment and destruction of the wine and beer industries. Most towns did not begin the long process of restoring underground wine cellars until the 1960s. Hermann’s **Stone Hill Winery** (est. 1847), Missouri’s oldest and most awarded winery, reopened in 1965. Today Stone Hill stretches across 182 acres. Its stately main building built in 1869 is still in use along with its 165-year old arched underground cellars.

**Deutschheim State Historic Site** in Hermann provides a more intimate look into Missouri’s German heritage with two historic homes and a traditional German garden, or “Gemusegarten.” The Pommer-Gentner house, built in 1840 in the German neoclassical design was one of the earliest Hermann homes. Visitors can venture into rooms neatly furnished in the Biedermeyer style, which prioritized utility over ornamentation. Down the street stands the Carl Strehly home from which issued an early German-language newspaper, *Lichte Freund*. The original press, home furnishings, and trellises from the Strehly winery are all on display. Tours of the houses provide insight into the daily lives of middle-class German-Americans in nineteenth-century Missouri.

Deutschheim State Historic Site 

Brimming “in every particular” with all things German, there is much more German heritage in Hermann, from Maifest to Oktoberfest, Historic Hermann’s Museum, Hermannhof, and more. It is the perfect place to enjoy the old world charm of a small German village.

While it may seem Missouri’s German heritage crests and ends with Hermann, it stretches still farther west. The town of **Westphalia** nearly matches Hermann in its distinctly German background and preservation. Considered the oldest German Catholic community west of the Mississippi River, St. Joseph Catholic Church still stands as a focal point in this small town of less than 400. Following St. Joseph’s, a row of historic storefronts and homes neatly hug Main Street. The **continued**
The Missouri Humanities Council is implementing a heritage tourism initiative highlighting Missouri’s German culture and history along the Missouri River. Beginning in the 1830s, thousands of German immigrants moved to Missouri in several large groups. They were inspired in part by a favorable report of the area by Gottfried Duden of Warren County, and by the resemblance of the Missouri River Valley to the Rhineland. By 1860, Germans comprised more than half of Missouri’s foreign-born residents. They brought their distinctive German culture with them, including wine and beer making, agriculture, festivals, language, religion, customs, and architecture, leaving an indelible imprint on Missouri and the nation.

While pockets of German settlement developed throughout Missouri, the majority of immigrants settled along the Missouri River. Thus the German Heritage Corridor will focus on the counties north and south of the Missouri River, from St. Charles and St. Louis, to Chariton and Saline. Along this corridor, distinctly German communities grew up and still exist today, including New Melle, Hermann, Dutzow, and Westphalia, to name only a few. This project will connect these communities along scenic byways, showcasing their specific German heritage and creating a corridor designed to increase tourism in the region.

The German Heritage Corridor project will emphasize the past and present influence of the German heritage in Missouri. We are currently collecting an inventory of sites, past people and institutions, settlements, culinary aspects, conflict (nativism, Civil War, World Wars I and II), scenic byways, transportation (river landings, bridges, trails), religious influence, agriculture, maps, prints, and images, and music, art, and architecture, along with a list of current individuals and organizations with whom to collaborate. Already a substantial number of area organizations, such as the Boone-Duden Historical Society, Magnificent Missouri, and many others, have joined the Missouri Humanities Council in implementing this extensive initiative.

From the information we gather, we will cull out the top attractions and points of interest, putting together a comprehensive tourism package, sure to appeal to a multitude of tourists from across the region, the nation, and overseas. The Missouri Humanities Council is also partnering with Missouri Life to create a “book-a-zine” which will present a vibrant description of the German Heritage Corridor. Using GIS (geographic information system) to chart and connect these sites along the Missouri River, we will also assemble an interactive website and app, allowing tourists easy navigation along the German Heritage Corridor and providing them a gratifying experience celebrating Missouri’s rich German heritage.
Westphalia Historical Society and Museum showcases the town’s history with three-stories of artifacts, including an original 1836 settlement map of the area by Nicolas Hesse. Despite the sleepy-town feel of Westphalia, it’s far from fading into the mists of history. Terry Neuner who started Westphalia Vineyards in 2005 on the ground of the town’s original brewery has won recent acclaim for his reintroduction of Missouri Riesling. He offers wine tastings every weekend at the town’s old Inn, now restaurant, on Main Street.

From here the German heritage corridor continues, in towns such as Frankenstein, Chamois, and the state capital of Jefferson City, all the way to Arrow Rock in Saline County.

So what is left of the German story in Missouri? Quite a lot if you look for it. The thousands of German farmers, craftsmen, wine makers, brewers, artisans, intellectuals, and political activists left an indelible mark on Missouri and beyond. Their barns and churches, commercial buildings and schools, and newspapers and vineyards, lend charm and culture to the areas in which they settled. While not creating a German state in America, these settlers nevertheless helped make Missouri the “heart of German-America,” a place where German heritage still thrives.

Looking for Missouri’s German Heritage

Is there something “German” that you want to make sure we know about? Would you be interested in sharing it with MHC? Please use the questions below to guide your response, or simply include your story.

• Do you have relatives who moved from Germany to Missouri? Could you share their names and a story or two that you recall?
• Do you have personal stories of emigrating from Germany?
• Do you have memories of any German-related festivals or customs celebrated by you, your family, or your town?
• Do you have any German heritage-related images and/or documents to share?

Please email your story to cassie@mohumanities.org.

Thank you!
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www.deutschcountrydays.org
DAN BURKHARDT
Founder, Katy Land Trust and Co-founder, Magnificent Missouri

What if – by virtue of good luck and good planning – a compact geographic corridor had a list of natural and historic assets like the following?

• America’s longest hiking and biking trail
• The first American Viticultural Area (AVA) designation
• The homeplace of one of our nation’s greatest frontiersmen
• Missouri’s largest conservation area
• A nature reserve managed by one of the world’s leading botanical gardens
• The confluence of the country’s two greatest rivers

Oh! We shouldn’t fail to mention that all of this is a short drive from one of the most widely-recognized monuments in the world, the Gateway Arch.

The navigable threads that connect these attractions today – the Missouri River and Highway 94 – are laden with history, culture and agricultural roots so deep that no one is surprised to learn that we have Spanish, French and ultimately German settlers to thank for so much of this. And what do natural assets like this deserve? Appreciation. Attention. Conservation. Education. Creativity. Visitors!

In July 2015, the Katy Land Trust and Magnificent Missouri hosted a conference to jump-start a discussion on the economic opportunities presented by the natural resources of this region. “Commerce and Conservation Along the Missouri River” united the river towns from Hermann to St. Louis to think about the unique draw of the Katy Trail, historic Missouri wine country, Daniel Boone’s 1820’s home, Busch Conservation Area, Shaw Nature Reserve and Confluence Point State Park – all within an hour of the newly re-imagined National Park’s Gateway Arch.

We sponsored Commerce and Conservation to convene an eclectic mix of representatives from business, government, agriculture, tourism and conservation to share ideas and to hear from local and national speakers. Missouri is fortunate to have this unique collection of natural assets at the back door of one of our great cities. How can we blend conservation and entrepreneurship to create world-class experiences in the Missouri River Valley?

We described the meeting as a fast-paced, “one-day think tank”, designed to focus on what makes this corridor unique and how a collaborative approach among the river communities may create future economic opportunity. More than 125 participants brought their expertise, energy and best ideas to benefit the region.
Location, Location, Location

With the history and future of the Missouri River Valley as the focal point of the conference, we knew that the venue needed to be special – the Missouri had to make its presence known. Jesuit Hall in downtown Washington, with its expansive windows overlooking the river, was the perfect choice. Since the 1860s, St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church has enjoyed a spectacular view of the riverfront; Jesuit Hall is adjacent to the church.

As it often does, the Missouri brought some of its own drama to the meeting. After weeks of rain in June, the river was near floodstage. Fortunately, it fell enough to allow the Missouri Department of Conservation to take our participants out for boat rides on the evening of July 28th. Just as the boats pulled away, a rarely-spotted concrete barge took center stage. Our participants truly experienced the Missouri River and learned about water quality, fishing in the river, trotlines and channel markers. The river tried to seize the limelight the next day too. As our meeting kicked off, hundreds of canoes and kayaks had departed from Kansas City as part of the Missouri American Water MR340, a globally-recognized endurance race. All competitors strive to arrive in St. Charles within 88 hours, through heat, bugs, wind, rain and fatigue. Late in the afternoon, the race leaders cruised past our conference room windows!

Guest List Determined by the Big Muddy

Speaking of brave souls on the Missouri, it’s important to think of the river’s impact on the ten generations of Missourians who have grown up along the river since Lewis and Clark traversed the route in 1806. The Missouri River Valley west of St. Louis has a thrilling history as a corridor for commerce for Native Americans, fur traders, steamboats and railroads. Its bottomland fields have long been prolific producers of corn and soybeans. The hilltop vineyards above the valley have produced grapes for more than 150 years. Farmsteads in the region have raised tens of thousands of mules, horses, cows, hogs and chickens. While the crop mix has changed over time, our fertile soils and abundant supply of water continue to make farmers elsewhere envious.

It also goes without saying that the river hasn’t always been the best neighbor. Missouri’s river towns have dealt with floods and have adjusted to the river literally changing course in the early 20th century. And while cities like Washington and New Haven now have beautiful and bustling riverfronts with parks, restaurants, condos, river walks and other amenities, this wasn’t always the case. Years ago, Washington ignored the riverfront and actually used it as a convenient place to dump the town’s trash so it could be swept down river with high water. After major efforts to clear brush and debris and to emphasize views of the river, it is once again a major civic asset.

Many of the small towns on the last 100 miles of the river were established as a result of river commerce or the building of railroads, along both the north and south banks of the river, in the mid-to-late 1800s. Remnants of this era can be seen along the Katy Trail in old grain elevators and coal towers in Treloar and McKittrick, the wine cellars of Hermann and Augusta, and the riverfronts of New Haven and Washington. For Commerce and Conservation, we had entrepreneurs and leaders from these communities as well as St. Charles, St. Louis, Defiance and Marthasville.

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Once in a Lifetime

Long before the enrollment process began, we began to outline the agenda and to recruit and interview prospective speakers. The mission was to reframe the questions that many of the communities had asked themselves for decades. Instead of being limited by city and county boundaries, the focus would be on the region. Given the bountiful natural, scenic and cultural assets in the area, how could we imagine and optimize a new visitor experience? How could the conservation of land, water and wildlife lead to economic benefits for the region? How could the communities work together to be recast as a regional asset for St. Louis and other parts of the state?

Early on, we committed to a pace and framework that would set this meeting apart. We slated 20 speakers on a host of topics, with most limited to 15-minute presentations. There was no Q&A to bog down the speakers and there were no pauses to distribute materials or to set up slides and graphics.

Two short videos launched the day. The first was a welcome by Senator Kit Bond who was out of the country and unable to attend the meeting. Nevertheless, he kicked off the meeting in his signature style – smart, funny, and knowing the area like only a former Governor could! After some introductory remarks, a 3-minute video of the area totally captured the energy of the region and the audience was smiling and nodding and tapping to the music. Then it was back to business, in 15-minute intervals.

Seating was assigned to foster introductions and to hopefully facilitate new working relationships. The meeting included a discussion group in the morning and one in the afternoon. Ideas to be discussed had been submitted by the participants during the registration process so we were able to distribute thought-provoking opportunities for the region to every participant. This “brainstorm in a box” generated dozens more ideas as the discussions erupted.

You May THINK You Know Missouri River Country…

For Commerce and Conservation, the format was unconventional…the guest list was not the “usual suspects”…this group of speakers had never been assembled…and it was only appropriate to think about the challenge and opportunity for the region a bit differently. We had promoted the conference as a “one-day think tank” so we all needed to think big.

We encouraged attendees to view our region through the eyes of those who don’t live here. We drew comparisons to two highly regarded tourist destinations – San Francisco and the Napa Valley, and Miami and the Everglades. This is truly how I see the Missouri River Valley and St. Louis.

San Francisco is the only major U.S. metropolitan area – other than St. Louis – with a 150-year-old wine-producing area in its backyard. And who was the FIRST to receive an AVA (American Viticultural Area)? Augusta, Missouri! Napa received the second AVA, six months after Augusta. Not only did we earn the first AVA, we are not contending with drought, wildfires and earthquakes in a tourist area!

The Everglades, like the Missouri River, provides the source of drinking water for Miami and all of south Florida. And while our remarkable water resource, the Missouri River, provides copious amounts of water, we don’t have the mosquitoes, hurricanes, rising sea level and pythons of the swampy Everglades. As we all know, it is difficult to imagine a more inhospitable, inaccessible tourist area than the Everglades but Florida has figured it out and millions of us visit the swamp every year.

The Gateway Arch symbolizes the epic westward expansion that began on the Missouri River but often this area – the first 100 miles of that journey – is overlooked for points farther west. Missourians are fortunate to have an area of such great historic and natural richness close at hand. We CAN re-imagine the region and draw visitors from around the world but we need to think and act collaboratively.

Throughout the day at Commerce and Conservation, twenty speakers built on this theme of opportunity and possibility including; the Mayor of Washington, Sandy Lucy; Senator Kit Bond; Tom Daniels, a national farmland preservation expert from the University of Pennsylvania; Bert Vescolani, CEO of the St. Louis Science Center; Frank Kartmann, CEO...
of Missouri American Water; Jason Hall, VP of Entrepreneurship at the St. Louis Regional Chamber; and Steve Belko, Director of the Missouri Humanities Council. Our speakers shared a variety of perspectives on what the Missouri River Valley is and what it might become. They talked about the many ways the region could present our unique collection of natural, historic and cultural assets to both further economic growth and conserve the attributes that comprise our singularity.

A Vision for Conservation in Our State DNA
Fortunately for those who attended our discussion, all of us are the beneficiaries of many far-sighted and generous Missourians who have not only preserved the culture and history of the area but have taken significant steps to conserve the land. Just a few miles from Washington is Shaw Nature Reserve which was purchased by the Missouri Botanical Garden in the 1920s and is now a 2000-acre oasis at the edge of urban development. In the 1940s, the August Busch family purchased thousands of acres on the north bank of the Missouri River that has become the largest Missouri Department of Conservation area in the state, offering outdoor activities to generations of St. Louisans. More recently, Ted and Pat Jones made possible the Katy Trail with what is surely one of the longest and narrowest land purchases – the 220-mile long, roughly about 50-feet wide former KATY Railroad right-of-way. These far-sighted gifts have created ways for us to experience the countryside that would not have been possible otherwise.

The generosity of these benefactors has given us a legacy of preserving land for the use of future generations of Missourians. Throughout Missouri River Country, we have bed and breakfasts, wineries, bikes to rent, distilleries, antique shops and riverfront restaurants, and historic markers pertaining to Lewis and Clark and Daniel Boone. We have educational trailheads along the Katy Trail, public art on grain elevators, and the New Haven River Walk. Recently, my wife and I refurbished the Peers Store, a general store built in the 1890s when railroads and steamboats stopped in Peers, Missouri. Today it is a gallery featuring the artwork of five Missouri artists who live, and find inspiration, in the Missouri River valley. On many weekends, musicians play on the front porch as cyclists pedal through on the Katy Trail.

The scenic, cultural and historic assets of this region are unparalleled and even more Missourians are ready to take on the challenge of spreading the word! Make plans now to spend more time in the countryside of the Missouri River valley.

In the meantime, see Missouri River Country in an entirely new way. Watch the 3-minute video at MagnificentMissouri.org.
A GREAT AMERICAN ROAD TRIP:
The Way of American Genius

BETH CARMICHAEL
There’s something about the road that makes us want to pack up the family and take a trip. Traveling across Missouri on Route 36, also known as the VFW Memorial Highway, you discover some of the Show-Me State’s iconic stories and renowned geniuses and uncover memorable personalities from America’s history. The four-lane highway stretches 195 miles across northern Missouri, between St. Joseph and Hannibal.

A Bit of Transportation History First
At the beginning of the 20th century, automobiles were a novelty enjoyed by the very rich. Most Americans either used the horse and buggy or took trains when they needed to travel long distances for leisure or business trips. Large cities were well equipped for moving people, as most had a comprehensive network of streetcars and subways. At the time, it was thought that cars would never catch on. In short, in the early part of 20th century, there was simply no need for a good system of roads.

Initially, most early roads were developed from old wagon trails. In fact, many of the major “highways” were vestiges of old trails, such as the Oregon Trail or Santa Fe Trail. There were paved roads, but most were cobblestone and almost all were in major cities.

At the time, there were no national or state-level highway organizations. This led to the establishment of automobile clubs, which then developed and promoted their own area routes. By 1925 there were more than 250 named highways in the United States, each with its own colored signs. These signs were often placed haphazardly, and with no consistency; a fact that created great confusion to the driver of the day.

The first road to make it all the way across the United States was The Lincoln Highway. The second route to cross the United States was the Pikes Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway, now known as U.S. Highway 36. The route traversed the country, beginning in New York and ending in San Francisco, and measured 3,564 miles.

Like many things in the Midwest, Missouri’s U.S. Highway 36 is not flashy or trendy, but it is a great regional road that spans the northern part of Missouri. The Show-Me-State’s portion of Highway 36 runs between Hannibal on the east side of the state and St. Joseph on the west.

The stagecoach route preceding the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad was called the “Hound Dog Trail.” The end point of this railroad was in St. Joseph and this was the reason St. Joseph was selected as the eastern terminus of the Pony Express. Also, St. Joseph and Hannibal were the second and third largest cities in Missouri during this time prior to the Civil War.

Over the years, many famous Americans have been born, raised, and otherwise had their lives touched by this section of Missouri.

Visiting Hannibal and Mark Twain
Hannibal is best known as the boyhood home of author Mark Twain and as the inspiration for the fictional city of St. Petersburg featured in his books, “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” and “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.” But did you know the city was Missouri’s third largest city during the Civil War?

Twain (born Samuel Clemens) lived in Hannibal from ages 4-17. During his lifetime, he wrote 28 books and collections of short stories. The Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum marked its 100th anniversary in 2012. Also in Hannibal, you can learn about the life and times of “Unsinkable” Molly Brown in her restored home, which focuses on her connection to the Titanic.

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Hannibal Side Trip – Not to be Missed

Make sure you check out some of these other sites in the area:

- **Heartland Communities:** Includes Missouri’s largest working dairy farm, and the Ozarks Lodge and Steakhouse.
- **The Historic Bethel German Colony:** Considered the most successful communal colony in Missouri, Bethel was developed in 1844, and today hosts annually a variety of Labor Day weekend festivities, including a fiber arts exhibit.
- **Mark Twain Lake:** Northern Missouri’s largest lake has a reputation as a great crappie and bass fishing lake.

Andrew Taylor Still

Heading north and west within the Highway 36 Corridor, you find the towns of Macon and Kirksville, where our next American Genius resided.

Dr. Andrew Taylor Still lived in this area for more than 40 years, and in Kirksville in 1892 he founded the first school of osteopathic medicine, currently known as the ATSU/Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. This was a new profession facing stiff opposition from the medical establishment. Throughout the first half of the 20th century, the American Medical Association labeled osteopathic medicine a cult. Some in the medical profession maintain that osteopathic philosophy is akin to the tenets of holistic medicine, one that promotes a more patient-centered holistic approach to medicine and emphasizes the primary care physician within the health care system. Today, one in five doctors is a doctor of osteopathy, and Still is widely considered the father of osteopathic medicine.

Exploring the Area:

**Macon and Kirksville**

While in the area make sure you check out some of these sites:

- **Moberly:** Hometown of Omar Bradley, who during World War II, commanded 43 divisions and 1.3 million men, the largest body of American soldiers ever to serve under a U.S. field commander. A memorial at Rothwell Park was dedicated in his honor. In the park, you can take a ride on the miniature railroad, play disc golf, and splash around at the Aquatic Center.
- **One of the local geniuses from Macon is Theodore Gary.** You will find an exhibit on his life at the Macon Historical Museum. Gary held a patent for the rotary dial telephone and was the chairman of the first Official Missouri Highway Commission. At his expense, he placed a telephone in every household in Macon to test his product, making Macon one of the first towns in the state to have phone service.

Jump Starting Walt Disney’s Imagination

Moving south along the route, a 4-year-old Walt Disney arrived by train in Marceline, Missouri, from Chicago in April 1906. In spite of the short time the Disney family lived in Marceline, Walt felt that Marceline was his hometown.

The four years Walt and his family spent here, from 1906 to 1911, left an indelible imprint on his imagination. The time spent in Marceline shaped this American
icon’s vision of the future in many ways. He started his artistic adventure here, and you can see Marceline as a backdrop in his early illustrations. He also discovered the importance of Midwest values like hard work, the importance of family, and a strong character that he would share with generations through his movies and at Disney theme parks.

**World War I Hero**

In the small town of Laclede, you find General John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site and Prairie Mound School. An American military genius, John Joseph “Black Jack” Pershing was the most accomplished and celebrated American soldier of the early 20th century. Pershing was promoted to the highest rank ever held in the United States Army – General of the Armies, a Six Star General. American generals who led the U.S. Army in the European theater during World War II, including Omar Bradley, George S. Patton, George Marshall and Dwight D. Eisenhower, actively sought his military advice.

One of his greatest accomplishments occurred as a result of the U.S. declaring war on Germany in 1917. Pershing, a general at the time, was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Force. At the time, the regular army comprised 25,000 men at most and had no effective reserves. Pershing’s challenge was to recruit an organized army and get it into the field quickly. Eventually the national Army grew - over the period of a year and a half - to nearly 3 million men. He retired from active duty in 1924 at the age of 64.

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Check out the Side Trips in North Central Missouri

- Rothville: Site of the Laura Ingalls Wilder childhood home.
- Keytesville: The General Sterling Price Museum recognizes this hometown son’s political and military undertakings statewide and nationally.
- Sumner: Home to the world’s largest Canadian goose, Maxie the Goose. This fiberglass sculpture is 40 feet tall!
- Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge: A great location for wildlife viewing and environmental education and interpretation.

**The Home of Sliced Bread**

“The greatest thing since sliced bread” is commonly defined as the gold standard of innovation of the past, present, and future. And it all began right here in Missouri.

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On July 7, 1928, a Chillicothe baker put the first loaves of sliced bread ever made on the shelves of Chillicothe grocery stores. And from that moment on, sliced bread and Chillicothe became a part of history. Today a visit to the Grand River Historical Society Museum gives you the opportunity to see one of the original bread slicing machines, on loan from the Smithsonian.

**Retail Innovator**

With more than 1,000 locations nationwide, it’s unusual to find a family who has not shopped at a J.C. Penney store. In his day, James Cash Penney, the person, was as well known as his stores. He revolutionized the retail industry in the United States during continued
the early and mid-1900s and developed trends that still lead the industry today. Among other retail practices, Penney was the first person in the business to refer to employees as “associates” and he pioneered progressive business practices based on profit sharing and employee ownership. His cult of personality has thinned considerably, and while he made his name and fortune elsewhere, a faint glimmer of it remains here in Hamilton, preserved by his boyhood hometown.

Check out these other sites in the area

- Granny’s Country Cottage: Spend the night in a grain bin (remodeled into a cozy bed and breakfast room).
- Missouri Star Quilting Company: This Hamilton business is the focus of local buzz as one of the fastest-growing businesses in the area and was recently awarded the U.S. Small Business of the Year award by President Obama.
- Jamesport is the largest Amish community in Missouri and is full of antique stores, gift shops, Amish bakeries, restaurants, and variety stores.

500 Horses was All it Took

The westernmost city on the Way of American Genius is St. Joseph. A list of notable geniuses who have been touched by this town include newsman Walter Cronkite, jazz saxophonist Coleman Hawkins, and writer Eugene Field, to name a few. It’s also known to many as the place where the notorious Jesse James was killed. But the one story that continues to fascinate people both here in the United States and abroad is the story of the Pony Express. During its 19 months in operation, daring Pony Express riders and their horses carried mail 1,966 miles across eight states. The mail relay system was put together in about two months with a series of home stations and relay stations. The relay stations were posted about every 10-15 miles and were where the horses would be changed out. The home stations were spaced between 75-100 miles apart and were where the riders would be replaced with fresh riders. A mochila would be loaded with mail and locked in either St. Joseph or Sacramento. When the rider would change horses, the mochila would be transferred to the saddle of the new horse. The Pony Express ran day and night, winter, spring, summer, and fall. Riders often were chased by Indians, rode alongside herds of buffalo, and endured tough weather conditions while crisscrossing the Oregon Trail.

Interesting sites around Northwest Missouri

- Osborn: Enjoy a great working farm experience and maybe a little chocolate or root beer flavored milk at Shatto Dairy.
- King City: See the wind farms in and around the city, and for more information on the industry visit the Tri-County Alternative Energy Museum.
- Plattsburg: Stop by the Clinton County Courthouse to see a statue honoring David Rice Atchison. Depending on how you interpret history, Atchison could have been president… for a day. Atchison himself never claimed that he was technically President of the United States for one day, Sunday, March 4, 1849, but outgoing President James Polk’s term ended at noon on Sunday March 4, and Zachary Taylor refused to be sworn into office on a Sunday. As President pro tempore at the time, Atchison was therefore acting vice president, and under the presidential succession law, Atchison was believed by some to be acting president.

In an interview, Atchison revealed that he slept through most of the day of his alleged presidency. He is buried in Plattsburg, where his grave marker reads “President of the United States for One Day.”

Create Your Road Trip

There is a corridor full of sights that you will discover during your travels along the Missouri Highway 36 corridor, which runs 36 miles to the north and 36 miles to the south of the actual highway itself. You can mix adventures of innovation and entrepreneurship with stories of our military heroes, railroad history, agriculture and regional foods, nature, arts, and architecture. We invite you to take the time and explore your own backyard. What you find just might surprise you!
CAPITOL SCENE

SEAN GROVE

The 2015 legislative session came to a close in unusual fashion. The Senate minority party had all but shut down the upper chamber in protest over a procedural move by Republicans that has gone largely unused throughout Missouri’s statehood. On the other side of the building, in the House of Representatives, members were selecting a new Speaker of the House in the final days after the abrupt resignation of former Speaker John Diehl (R - Town & Country). This to wrap up what had already been an overwhelmingly dreary session scarred by the passing of the State Auditor and one of his chief aides.

Despite the turmoil, the legislature did finalize and submit to the Governor a budget well in advance of the mid-May deadline. The Governor opted to accept the budget in its entirety, absent any vetoes and withholds. This worked both for and against the Missouri Humanities Council as the legislature kept our funding whole at last year’s level, but, over our objection, used nearly all of the remaining balance of the Humanities Council Trust Fund for other special interest projects.

What you can do to help.

Each year, we travel to Jefferson City to help raise awareness about the significant impact of the humanities and a humanities-based education.

This year, we’re looking at a date in early March. If you would like to attend or to learn more, please contact us at (314) 781-9660.

Traveling to the State Capitol isn’t an option for everyone, so we also encourage you to contact your legislators to let them know you support the humanities. We’re happy to help you connect with your elected leaders (just give us a call) or you can look them up on www.senate.mo.gov and www.house.mo.gov.

ARCHIVES ALIVE

DIANTHA SCHULL

I am delighted to announce that Archives Alive: Expanding Engagement with Public Library Archives and Special Collection, the first ever survey of emerging practices in archival programming in public libraries, has just been published by ALA Editions.

The book showcases over 100 programs, projects and special collections departments that are in the forefront of change, ranging from photovoice projects and crowdsourcing initiatives to participatory exhibitions, experiential tours and social archives. The book offers analysis of trends in public programming, community documentation and digital communications and offers ideas and examples that can be adapted for every public library.

Archives Alive includes the voices and stories of archivists and librarians across the country who are experimenting with new approaches to developing and sharing archival collections. It is a testament to their leadership, their creativity and their commitment to public participation. I am honored to bring their accomplishments to the attention of library and archival leaders as well as other professionals concerned with public engagement in cultural heritage institutions.

I hope that you may be willing to help circulate information on Archives Alive to colleagues — librarians, archivists, curators, digital humanities scholars or public historians — in order to help raise awareness of the exciting archival programming that is re-shaping public perceptions and use of special collections.

Please visit www.archivesalive.net to learn more about Archives Alive, read what the experts say about the book, and find out how to order a copy.
The Missouri Humanities Council is heading into a busy season with several events that are convening humanities scholars and institutions both locally and nationally. Here are just a few of our upcoming events.

GREATER ST. LOUIS HUMANITIES FESTIVAL
September 28 - October 4
Each year, the Missouri Humanities Council partners with St. Louis area organizations – museums, universities and colleges, libraries, and others – that are rooted in a commitment to the humanities to present the annual Greater St. Louis Humanities Festival. This week-long festival opens the doors of our local institutions to new audiences while informing our community of important, humanities related issues. This year’s theme, Community Viability and Vitality, will be explored by partners on both sides of the river and from multiple perspectives. For more information on the complete schedule of events, please visit the Festival’s dedicated webpage at www.stlhumanities.org.

FEDERATION OF STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS ANNUAL CONFERENCE
November 5-8
Each year, the Federation of State Humanities Councils convenes its annual conference showcasing the latest in Humanities scholarship and work from the several Humanities Councils across the country. This year, they will convene in St. Louis – the Gateway to the West. Participants will explore the Missouri History Museum during the Opening Reception on Thursday evening and have an opportunity to visit the St. Louis Art Museum on a docent led tour on Friday. Registrants will also choose among a variety of other optional tours, including those featuring historic St. Louis architectural sites, Anheuser-Busch’s facilities, and even trips to historic Hannibal and Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. For more information or to RSVP, please visit the Federation’s website at www.statehumanities.org.

ANNUAL HUMANITIES AWARDS
May 2016
We know the event is a ways off, but the deadline for nominations is fast approaching. Here at MHC, we endeavor to honor teachers, authors, and community leaders who greatly influence the humanities of their town, region, or our state as a whole. Nominees must either be Missouri residents or those whose work in the humanities that is being considered for recognition is Missouri-centric. We accept nominations for the following categories: Excellence in Education, Exemplary Community Achievement, Distinguished Literary Achievement. This year, we are calling for submissions by September 21 for consideration in the 2016 cycle. For a complete listing of application materials and guidelines, please visit our website at www.mohumanities.org or call us at (314) 781-9660.

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES ANNUAL MEETING
October 23-24, 2015
MAMA will hold its annual meeting in Columbia, Missouri, Oct. 23-24, 2015, with the theme, “Cultural Recovery: Roles of Museums and Archives.” This conference brings together archives, heritage, and museum professionals, as well as museum and archive supporters from a wide range of institutions. Register at missourimuseums.org/events
MISSOURI PRESERVATION CONFERENCE
October 23-24, 2015
The Preservation Conference will be in Cape Girardeau at the University Center at Southeast Missouri State University. This year’s theme, ‘The Past and Future of Preservation,’ kicks off with a keynote address by the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Executive Vice President and Chief Preservation Officer, David Brown. Many exciting educational sessions, tours and networking opportunities will be offered this year, as well as an expanded local Legacy Awards celebration. Students in the Historic Preservation Program at Southeast Missouri State are invited to enjoy the three days of educational opportunities. Visit www.preservemo.wordpress.com for more information.

TWO-TIME PULITZER PRIZE WINNING HISTORIAN DAVID McCULLOUGH
October 7, 2015
The Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy is extremely pleased to present two-time Pulitzer Prize winning historian David McCullough in Columbia on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, to give a talk on the American founders. Mr. McCullough’s lecture is free and open to the public, and will be held at 7:00 PM at the Missouri Theatre. Please direct any questions about this or other Forum-sponsored events to Thomas Kane at kanetc@missouri.edu.

Nominate Someone You Know for the Annual Humanities Awards
Know someone who has made an exceptional contribution to our understanding of Missouri, her people, and their stories? Nominate them for an award in any of these three categories:
• Excellence in Education
• Exemplary Community Achievement
• Distinguished Literary Achievement
Go to www.mohumanities.org/together/humanities-awards/ for the form.

SPEAKER’S BUREAU SCHEDULE
October 2 - Dan Viets
Sedalia Heritage Foundation
Sedalia, Pettis County

October 10 - Kenneth Winn
Webb City Public Library
Webb City, Jasper County

October 20 - Mary C. Barile
Federal Reserve Bank
St. Louis, St. Louis

October 22 - Mary C. Barile
Warren County Historical Society
Warrenton, Warren County

October 22 - Gary Kremer
Missouri Public Service Commission
Jefferson City, Cole County

October 24 - Steve Otto
Booniebrook Historical Society
Walnut Shad, Taney County

November 6 - Jeffrey Smith
Sedalia Heritage Foundation
Sedalia, Pettis County

November 7 - Dianne Moran
Scenic Regional Library
Owensville Branch
Owensville, Gasconade County

November 9 - Alicia Lee Scott
The Monday Club
Marshall, Saline County

November 9 - Mary Barile
Moniteau County Historical Society
California, Moniteau County

November 17 - Diane Eickhoff
Warren County Historical Museum
Warrenton, Warren County

November 21 - Connie Grisler
Caldwell County Historical Society
Caldwell, Caldwell County

December 4 - Delia Gillis
Sedalia Heritage Foundation
Sedalia, Pettis County
READ from the START Offers Flexibility

READ from the START (RFTS) is a reading program that teaches parents and caregivers the joy and benefits of reading to children from birth to five years old. Local organizations sponsor RFTS in areas throughout Missouri.

Traditionally, organizations host two 90-minute session workshops with seven free books for parents and caregivers. For some program participants, committing to two sessions can be a challenge. For this reason, RFTS is now offering a single 2-hour workshop with five free books.

All workshops are facilitated through certified Discussion Leaders and filled with fun learning opportunities for parents and caregivers. RFTS is free to all attendees.

The program has already distributed nearly four thousand high-quality children’s books to over a thousand caregivers this year. For some participants, RFTS books become their families’ first books. To learn how you can host or attend an RFTS program visit us online at www.readfromthestart.org.

MHC Expands Veterans Programming

A staple of the Missouri Humanities Council’s (MHC) ongoing programming has been writing workshops for veterans and military personnel. In collaboration with the VA St. Louis Medical System at Jefferson Barracks-Occupational Therapy, our military men and women have been finding solace in putting their thoughts on paper.

To expand the project beyond its original scope and reach more veterans, last year MHC held its first writing workshops outside of a clinical setting with preliminary support from the Warriors Arts Alliance (WAA) and the Saint Louis Public Library (SLPL). Now in their second year of hosting workshops, SLPL recently announced they have had a larger than expected turnout. Thus far, they have had a total of five workshops and have served 56 veterans.

As interest continues to grow, MHC has expanded its veterans programming to Southwest Missouri in partnership with the Springfield-Greene County Library District. MHC will continue to seek more opportunities to grow this program.

In addition to these workshops, MHC has, in collaboration with the WAA and Southeast Missouri State University Press, released 3 Volumes of Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors, a creative writing anthology of essays, fiction, poetry, interviews, and photography by American Warriors. These books are giving the people at the heart of the action – American veterans, military-service personnel and their families – a way to tell their stories. The call for submissions for Volume 4 just passed and Dr. Susan Swartwout, publisher of the anthologies, reported receiving 257 submissions.

For more information on our veterans programming, to learn how you can provide support, and/or to purchase the first three published volumes, please visit our website at www.mohumanities.org or call our Family and Community Programs Director, Lisa Carrico, at 314.781.9660.
It is a great honor to be charged with starting the Kansas City Office for the Missouri Humanities Council. With the vision and foresight of our Executive Director, Dr. Steve Belko, creating a Kansas City Office has been a primary initiative to further our mission of creating a more thoughtful, informed, and civil society.

Since its inception in April, the Kansas City Office has made great strides. With Kansas City being cited in national publications such as Travel + Leisure as “The 4th Most Cultural City in America” and the Huffington Post as “The Coolest City in America,” it is no surprise we have been welcomed with open arms from area organizations and businesses. Establishing new partnerships throughout the city, expanding our programs to serve a larger audience, and continuing to find new ways to bring resources to the Kansas City community is our priority. Providing programs and events accessible to everyone is a vital component to our success as an organization and a community. As Bill Gates said, “The goal should be that everybody gets a chance to read great books and participate in the richness that humanities brings us.”

The MHC was awarded a national grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association, titled Latino Americans: 500 Years of Latino History. This grant will engage communities throughout the state by telling the story of local Latino culture and the immigrant experience. With the support of the Kansas City Public Library, we are hosting ten programs and events at the nationally acclaimed and “Most Beautiful Library in the Nation,” Kansas City Public Library. Our programs and events will feature Kansas City’s rich Latino history and culture. Other partners include The Guadalupe Center and The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

The MHC is a proud funder of The Writers Place, where we help facilitate writing workshops that can ease the unseen wounds of war and prepare veterans to integrate back into the workforce. The Kansas City Office is happy to announce that we will be supporting the first ever national conference on moral injury, Pathways to Hope: Moral Injury and Other Invisible Wounds, which will be held at Unity Temple on the Plaza October 28-31. This conference, created by the Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University, helps community members, active duty soldiers, veterans, and their families understand moral injury and related trauma. The conference will feature a wide variety of speakers, from licensed neurologists to experts in art therapy.

Our progress to-date in the Kansas City Office is just a glimpse of what is to come. With an increasing number of new partnerships, and a city rich in history and culture, we are confident we will continue to bring new opportunities to the Greater Kansas City area. This is no small undertaking, but with the right amount of support and enthusiasm, we believe the Kansas City Office will serve as a resource, connector, and promoter of the humanities in the region. But we can’t do this alone. We need your support. Whether you decide to provide a donation or volunteer there is an opportunity for you. Interested in getting involved? Contact the Kansas City Office at kathleen@mohumanities.org.
In Play Me Something Quick and Devilish: Old-Time Fiddlers in Missouri, Howard Wight Marshall considers the place of homemade music in people’s lives across social and ethnic communities from the late 1700s to the World War I years and into the early 1920s. This exceptionally important and complex period provided the foundations in history and settlement for the evolution of today’s old-time fiddling. With 39 tunes, the enclosed Voyager Records companion CD includes a historic sampler of Missouri fiddlers and styles from 1955 to 2012.

The Great Heart of the Republic: St. Louis and the Cultural Civil War is about the clash of cultures between leaders in the North, South, and West, who sought to shape Manifest Destiny and slavery politics. No site embodied this struggle more completely than St. Louis, the largest city along the border of slavery and freedom. In this sweeping history, Adam Arenson reveals a city at the heart of the cultural civil war. St. Louisans heralded a new future, erasing old patterns as the United States stretched across the continent. John C. Calhoun, Frederick Douglass, Walt Whitman, and John Brown tracked the progress of the cultural contest by monitoring events in St. Louis, observing how the city’s leaders tried yet ultimately failed to control the national destiny. The interplay of local ambitions and national meanings reveals the wider cultural transformation brought about by westward expansion, political strife, and emancipation in the era of the Civil War and Reconstruction. This vibrant and beautifully written story enriches our understanding of America at a crossroads.

No one has written more about the African American experience in Missouri over the past four decades than Gary Kremer, and now for the first time fourteen of his best articles on the subject are available in one place with the publication of Race and Meaning: The African American Experience in Missouri. Kremer combines his essays to create a detailed account that addresses issues such as the transition from slavery to freedom for African Americans in Missouri, all-black rural communities, and the lives of African Americans seeking new opportunities in Missouri’s cities.

Few American artists have incited more controversy than Thomas Hart Benton. Argumentative, brilliant, and enormously influential, Thomas Hart Benton painted for nearly seventy years, inspiring both acclaim and loathing among students, friends, fellow artists, and outraged critics. Thomas Hart Benton: Discoveries and Interpretations is series of provocative essays written by premier Benton scholar Henry Adams. In this masterful work, Adams examines Benton as artist and reviews the pitched battles of his long career, including his tumultuous, 36-year-long love-hate relationship with the student with whom he worked most closely, another iconic artist of the 20th century, Jackson Pollock.
The Ozarks in Missouri
History: Discoveries in an American Region
Edited by Lynn Morrow
Respected historians trace the evolution of the Ozarks, examine the conflicting influences exerted by St. Louis and Kansas City, and consider the highly charged struggle by federal, state, and local governments to define conservation and the future of the Current River.

regular price $25.00 discounted price $20.00

Faces Like Devils: The Bald Knobber Vigilantes in the Ozarks
Matthew J. Hernando
This history of the rise and fall of Missouri’s most famous vigilantes details the differences between the modernizing Bald Knobbers of Taney County and the anti-progressive Bald Knobbers of Christian County.

Hardcover | ISBN: 978-0-8262-2041-7
regular price $60.00 discounted price $45.00

Seasons in the Sun: The Story of Big League Baseball in Missouri
Roger D. Launius
An excellent overview of the teams, pennant races, trials, and triumphs of the different major-league teams that have resided in the state over the years.

Hardcover | ISBN: 978-0-8262-1392-1
regular price $40.00 discounted price $30.00

The Unknown Travels and Dubious Pursuits of William Clark
Jo Ann Trogdon
Delving into the details of Clark’s diary and ledger entries, Trogdon investigates evidence linking Clark to a series of plots – often called the Spanish Conspiracy – in which corrupt officials sought to line their pockets with Spanish money and to separate Kentucky from the United States.

Hardcover | ISBN: 978-0-8262-2049-1
regular price $36.95 discounted price $30.00

Working the Mississippi: Two Centuries of Life on the Mississippi
Bonnie Stepenoff
Each chapter of this fast-moving narrative focuses on representative workers: captains and pilots, gamblers and musicians, cooks and craftsmen. Readers will find workers who are themselves part of the country’s mythology from Mark Twain and anti-slavery crusader William Wells Brown to musicians Fate Marable and Louis Armstrong.

Hardcover | ISBN: 978-0-8262-2053-0
regular price $60.00 discounted price $30.00

The Civil War in Missouri: A Military History
Louis S. Gerteis
Though traditionally cast in a peripheral role, the conventional warfare of Missouri was integral in the Civil War’s development and ultimate conclusion. The strategic battles fought by organized armies are often lost amidst the stories of guerrilla tactics and bloody combat, but detailed history explores the state’s conventional warfare and its effects on the unfolding of national history.

regular price $24.95 discounted price $20.00

The Collapse of Price’s Raid: The Beginning of the End in Civil War Missouri
Mark A. Lause
Former Missouri governor Sterling Price led his army on one last desperate campaign to retake his home state for the Confederacy, part of a broader effort to tilt the 1864 Union elections against Abraham Lincoln and the Republicans. Examines the complex political and social context of the final significant Southern operation west of the Mississippi River.

regular price $32.95 discounted price $30.00

The Press is pleased to offer readers of MoHumanities a discount on these important books for purchase made at our web site, www. upress.missouri.edu, or by calling 800-621-2736. Use discount code UMPMHC at checkout. Prices good through October 31, 2015.
On November 4, 1940, Missouri’s voters passed a proposition to amend the state’s Constitution to require that certain judges be selected on merit rather than by partisan election. Now known as The Missouri Plan, this model serves as the standard for judicial selection in more than thirty states.

To understand completely the context in which the voters of the day opted for such a transformational shift, one must understand the forces at play in the judicial system, and on a larger scale, the political system as a whole.

The American political system has a history that is plagued with corruption. Sadly, Missouri stands out as a case study on the issue. On the heels of his older brother Jim’s successful and lengthy political career in local Kansas City Democratic politics, Tom Pendergast took the reins of what is now widely known as the “Pendergast Machine,” an organization comprised of elected officials in Kansas City’s legislative body, the police department, the City’s bureaucracy at-large, and the local democratic party which bought votes, cut deals, and otherwise corrupted the democratic process – including judicial elections.

Light began to shine on the corruption as journalists and the newspapers they worked for began to cry foul. Ultimately, the Pendergast Machine spectacularly collapsed and Tom found himself behind bars on tax evasion charges in 1939. Rising from the ashes of the collapse, the Missouri Non-Partisan Judicial Selection Plan proposed to subject judicial nominees to merit-based scrutiny. This first-in-the-nation judicial reform package mandates that all Missouri Supreme Court justices, the state’s Appellate Court justices, judges of Jackson County, St. Louis City, and any other court that opts-in must apply for a vacant seat on the bench, be approved by their fellow peers to appear as one of three nominated for selection to that position, and finally receive the approval of the governor before being selected as a judge. Depending on the jurisdiction of the judge, the state or the county’s voters then cast the final say in what is known as a “retention vote,” which has the effect of either approving or casting out each judge in question.

Look for our commemorative exhibit in your local county courthouse or library starting this November. We’ll also be traveling a larger exhibit throughout the state’s courthouses and libraries. For a complete schedule, contact our Executive Director, Steve Belko, at (314) 781-9660. For more details on the Missouri Plan and how it impacts you, please visit www.missouriplan.com.
JUSTIN B. DYER

The Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy at the University of Missouri is a new initiative to promote excellence in the teaching and scholarship of American political thought and history. In August 2014, the Forum officially began programming with a three-day residential conference at the Tiger Hotel in Columbia, for its recently inaugurated Society of Fellows, a group of twenty University of Missouri undergraduates whose shared interest in the U.S.’s political traditions had led them to the new program. With MU faculty from across all fields of study coming together to lead the fellows in discussions of American political thought and history, the conference provided a near-perfect snapshot of the year to come at the Forum. Not only was the event true to the objective at the core of the Forum’s mission statement – to promote excellence in research and teaching in the field of American constitutional democracy – but the interdisciplinary nature of the conference also revealed the spirit of innovation that manifested itself throughout the Forum’s first year in existence. As the conference and the year’s worth of events followed it made clear, the Forum’s aim is to distinguish itself by seeking out new and more inclusive ways to engage everyone from political science majors to local history buffs in active dialogue about the theory and practice of American democracy.

Started by MU professors Justin Dyer (Political Science) and Jeffrey L. Pasley (History), and supported by a generous grant from the Kinder Foundation, the Forum was built around the goal of developing programs that would serve three key constituent groups – undergraduates, graduate students and faculty, and the local community. After year one, it is safe to say that this goal was reached. In addition to the Society of Fellows, the Forum introduced a wide array of undergraduate-focused initiatives during 2014-15, including a minor in American Constitutional Democracy, a summer seminar and internship program in Washington, D.C., and an undergraduate-run scholarly journal, which published its first issue in June. On the graduate student and faculty side of the ledger, the Forum rolled out a series of research and travel and course development grants, along with a postdoctoral fellowship program, in order to promote the work of the current and future generations of history and political science scholars. Finally, the Forum was particularly active in its hometown over the past year, forging new environments for continued learning through its public lecture series and community seminar offerings.

Looking toward next year, the Forum will “break ground” on the Kinder Summer Teachers Academy, a new program that the Forum has been developing in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council. Set to debut in June 2016, the Academy will bring high school American History and Government teachers from around Missouri to the MU campus for three days of lectures and discussions that take a thematic approach to examining the underlying principles and historical evolution of democracy in America.

For more news about last year’s programs and for details about upcoming Forum-sponsored events, please visit democracy.missouri.edu.
CHRIS PANZA AND RICHARD SCHUR

What do Walt Disney, Rose O’Neill, Scott Joplin, Laura Ingalls Wilder and T.S. Eliot have in common? We know that they are famous residents of this state, but more importantly they were Missourian humanists, all coming into prominence in the first half of the twentieth century. As these examples and others show us, it is clear that from Branson and Mansfield to St. Louis and beyond, Missourians have long engaged in exploring humanistic questions in films, music, art, children’s novels, or poetry. Their work not only helps us better understand our state’s history and culture but also to connect Missouri to larger social, cultural, and political movements. As effective translators of the human experience, they inspire Missourians to imagine new possibilities, while at the same time their work showcases the rich human experiences of Missourians to others in more distant parts of the world.

In recognition of the essential role of the humanist to inspire and to help others to reengage with the complexity of human experience, over the past five years, faculty at Drury University have come together to create the Humanities and Ethics Center. The Center’s founding principles include that the humanities are essential for the well-being of citizenry as they pursue the public good and that scholars should work to share their research and knowledge with the public. Through generous grants from the Missouri Humanities Council and the Missouri Arts Council, we have been able to present lectures and films, offer reading discussion groups, and host other events on campus and for the Springfield region. In the spirit of the early 20th century Missourian humanists, we labor to inspire, working to connect our students and the surrounding community to the rich tradition and panorama inherent in Missouri humanities and within the broader humanities tradition as well.

We also believe that investment in the humanities, both financially and spiritually, are needed today more than ever. While modern American society seems disposed to view the world in overly technical or monetary ways, the humanities teach us that true success involves a deep reflection on our identity as Americans, Missourians, and individuals. These reflections inspire and generate creative possibility. Disney and O’Neill created new industries. Ingalls Wilder helped to shape young adult fiction, one of the few categories of literature that is currently booming today. Joplin and Eliot shepherded new genres of poetry and music.

Looking forward, our state and our country face many seemingly intractable challenges. If Missouri is to flourish economically, environmentally, and socially, it will need a strong humanities culture. Thanks to the Missouri Humanities Council, the state of Missouri supports a wide range of activities that allow Missourians to reflect on our experiences in order to explore the bonds that hold people and countries together, examine critically our history, and celebrate the wonderful diversity of ideas, institutions, and art works Missourians have created. Due to the leadership of the Missouri Humanities Council, Missouri will continue to build on the humanities legacy we have inherited from Walt Disney, Scott Joplin, and others and create a humanities renaissance in Missouri for the 21st Century.
WAYNE ZADE

Although she was born, raised, and educated in Iowa, Mona Van Duyn (1921-2004) spent most of her professional career as a poet and a woman of letters in St. Louis, Missouri. Her literary life spanned a little more than the second half of the last century and fostered her development as an important and influential American poet, as an editor, and as a teacher of and library consultant in poetry at Washington University. Van Duyn published ten major collections of poetry from 1959 onward, with her final volume, Selected Poems, published just before her death. Her honors include winning the Bollingen Prize, the National Book Award in poetry, and the Pulitzer Prize in poetry, and she was the first woman to serve as Poet Laureate of the United States (in 1992).

Van Duyn’s poem “A Small Excursion,” published first in the distinguished Poetry magazine in May, 1972, at first seems atypical in the canon of her works. I had the pleasure of hearing her read the poem during her visit to Westminster College in Fulton Missouri, where I teach in the English Department. While the wit and wisdom of most of the poems she read brought many subtle insights, the humor and sheer fortitude of “A Small Excursion” brought chuckles and guffaws. Of course we were in Missouri! But the primeval poetic purposes and principles of naming and of artful deployment of sounds run deep through this poem. I have to think that she read the poem in other states around the country with corresponding satisfaction for all.

Writing in The Nation, Elizabeth Frank described Van Duyn as “a poet who usually tries harder than any of her contemporaries to coax affirmation out of the waste and exhaustion of modern life.” The poet and critic William Logan described her “investment in the ‘minor joys and partial surrenders’ of middle-class suburban life.” And Edward Hirsch wrote that she “has a gift for making the ordinary appear strange and for turning a common situation into a metaphysical exploration.” I see “A Small Excursion” as an affirmation not only of what Mona’s colleague and friend at Washington University, the novelist William Gass, called one of his novels, In the Heart of the Heart of the Country; but an affirmation also of the trials and triumphs of writing, the joyful musical noise of finding “the best words in the best order,” as Coleridge defined poetry.

It’s hard to resist the modest invitation of the opening lines of “Excursion”: “Take a trip with me / through the towns in Missouri.” These lines rhyme in a friendly enough way, and the sly and surprising rhymes that continue in the poem’s first stanza and throughout its eight stanzas make it hard for a reader to stay home. Van Duyn continues to address her reader in the stanzas that follow in the “instant intimacy” her apparent knowledge of the towns creates. She suggests possibilities, she asks questions to involve her reader. Traveling isn’t always easy; it might involve making a “difficult choice,” not being candid, or being somebody’s fool. There are dark, less civilized states that lie outside this poem, but the “lover[s] of men,” the namers, are real American heroes we seldom find in history books.

In reading this poem, it’s not hard to think of Huck and Jim, fellow travelers, making things up, telling stories, just hearing each other talk, as they float down the Mississippi River in Mark Twain’s famous novel, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Huck stopping into many tiny towns to see what’s up while the runaway continued
slave Jim has to hide. As readers in Van Duyn’s company, we’re mostly safe in “A Small Excursion” as we pass through its 73 towns.

The state map I happened to pick up to find the towns in this poem was issued in 2000. Mona wrote the poem sometime in the early 1970s. Already by 2000, by my count, 18 of the towns she named had “vanished.” More have followed, surely. Mona died in 2004, just a few years after the age of Google had begun. There was no website called Ghosttowns.com when she wrote “A Small Excursion,” although it helps a reader in any state in the union in 2015 trace the routes her imagination followed in Missouri.

Perhaps this poem – like most poems, paintings, musical compositions, photographs; maybe even tweets – is about Time, the mother and father of love and death, and therefore perhaps the poem is more like Van Duyn’s many masterful creations. “Letters from a Father,” “Late Loving,” “Near Changes,” “The Marriage Sculptor,” and “Endings” are only a few of them. I hope you as readers enjoy them and live with them, as I do. Mona wrote about Missouri in other poems too, such as “Earth Tremors Felt in Missouri,” “In the Missouri Ozarks,” and “The Insight Lady of St. Louis on Zoos.”

So my answer to something like the question Mona Van Duyn raises in “A Small Excursion” is, “Yes, there [IS] something infinitely appealing /in the candor” of a poet such as she was. I encourage you to take your time and “Feel naming in all its joy.”

A Small Excursion

Take a trip with me through the towns in Missouri.

Feel naming in all its joy as we go through Braggadoccio, Barks, Kidder, Fair Play,
Bourbon, Bean Lake, and Loose Creek.

If we should get lost we could spend the night at Lutesville, Brinktown, Excello, Nodaway, Humansville, or Kinderpost.

If we liked Bachelor we could bypass with only slight compunction another interesting place, Conception Junction.

I think you would feel instant intimacy with all the little flaws

of an Elmer, Esther, Ethel, Oscar, or Archie, all the quirky ways
of a Eunice or a Bernice, at home in a Hattie or even an Amazonia.

I’d enjoy, wouldn’t you, saying that I came from Choride, or Map or Boss or Turtle or Arab or Chamois or Huzzah or Drum.

Surely the whole world loves the lover of men who calls a tiny gathering in Midwest America Paris, Carthage, or Alexandria, Odesa, Cairo, Arcadia, or Milan, as well as the one who calls his clump of folk Postoak.

the literalist who aims low
and calls it Shortbend or Old Mines or Windyville or Iron or Nobby or Gumbo.

Riding along together, we could think of all we’d had at both Blooming Rose and Evening Shade. Heading into the setting sun, the gravel roads might get long and rough, but we could make the difficult choice between Minimum and Enough, between Protem and Longrun.

And if it got very late we could stay at Stet.

Isn’t there something infinitely appealing in the candor of calling a collection of human beings Liberal, Clever, Bland, or Rich, Fertile, and Fairdealing? People who named these towns were nobody’s fools.

Passing through Peculiar, we could follow a real school bus labelled Peculiar Public Schools.

O to be physically and aesthetically footloose, travelling always, going through pure sound that stands for a place, like Cabool, Canalou, Plad, Auxvasse, Koshkonong, Weaubleau, Roubidoux, Hahn Dongola, Knob Noster, and Foose!

MONA VAN DUYN

Poem from Selected Poems, c. 2002 by Mona Van Duyn, reprinted by gracious permission of the Knopf Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House, Inc.

Wayne Zade joined the Westminster College faculty in 1976 as “poet in residence” and is now a Professor of English. He resides in Fulton with his wife, Cathy, and has two adult children.
DEBORAH DEPEW, DO

In early July, I returned home to the log cabin nestled in the woods abutting Meramec State Forest where I live with my husband and five rescued dogs, having travelled with our niece to Italy, home to many remnants of Roman civilization, whose Classical ancient texts formed the basis of the Humanism movement in late fourteenth century Florence, studying grammar, rhetoric, history, poetry, and philosophy - the subjects we call the Humanities today. Being surrounded by so many paintings, sculptures, duomos, and architectural ruins led to pondering the significance of “The Humanities” in today’s tech-crazed tumultuous world, often filled with thoughts of angst, concern, and trepidation. For me, it is the works of a man written over four centuries ago that provide solace, inspiration and guidance, with words expressing the shared human experiences of love and lust, grief and greed, pain and pleasure, rage and resentment. Although William Shakespeare never travelled from his sceptered isle of England, he successfully transported his audiences far and wide, from fair Verona to lanquid Egypt to the windswept stormy heaths of Scotland to the bloody battlefields of Agincourt. With minimal stage direction or set description, his words alone convey our minds to other countries and cultures. Although meant to be performed before an audience - particularly the groundlings - it is in reading the Bard’s plays that the humanities are best experienced. Whilst tortuous in high school English class, reading Romeo and Juliet is beautiful poetry portraying true love, but also the violence of gangs. Wading through seemingly endless footnotes brings expanded vocabulary, often revealing the bawdiness of not only the comedies, but scenes in the tragedies as well. Reading the history plays requires learning the genealogies of the Plantagenets, Yorks, Lancasters, and Tudors, yet realizing that Shakespeare’s version is just one of many various interpretations of actual historical events, reflecting the vagaries of affairs of state, not so different from our current political climate.

As a family practice physician, I work every day in science, applying lessons learned in medical school, continuously updated by reading technical journals filled with statistics and scientific jargon, and attending conferences composed of didactic sessions with slide after slide of studies of new pharmaceuticals and procedures. And I attempt to pass some of this knowledge along to the medical students and residents whom we train in our clinic. But it is my education and experience in the humanities that get me through the day, listening to patients discuss emotions and problems not so very different from those so eloquently considered by Shakespeare. As I sit at my lap-top, integrating STEM and the Humanities, I wonder what Will would do with a smartphone. How many followers would he have on Twitter?

Dr. Depew resides in Sullivan and began practicing at Cedar Hill Primary Care in 1996. That same year, she was appointed by Governor Mel Carnahan to the State Board of Registration of the Healing Arts, where she served as Licensure Chairman and subsequently Disciplinary Chairman, liaison to the Collaborative Practice Committee, and representative to the Physicians’ Assistants Committee until 2003. Her other interests are theatre, opera, ballet, good food and nice wine, and spending time with her family, friends, and her beloved dogs.

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About 45,000 years ago, homo sapiens – modern man – first encountered an entirely separate species of human beings, the Neanderthal. Both species shared a common ancestor estimated to have inhabited the planet nearly half a million years before the two met somewhere on the continent of Europe. But over that great expanse of time, evolution produced two distinct human species existing at the same time. A tough Ice Age world, however, allowed room for only one of them. Once modern man had encountered Neanderthal man, it took a little over 5,000 years for the former – that is, us – to wipe out the other. Modern man quickly overran his fellow humans with better weapons, better social organization, greater numbers.

While Neanderthal man was roaming Europe over a period of about 100,000 years, homo sapiens were evolving in Africa. There, the culture of modern man developed quicker than our counterparts in Europe. Our social groups increased and became more complex, and, driven by population growth and climate change, we soon migrated northward. Over time, our appearance changed to current physical attributes, and that was when homo sapiens came into contact with Neanderthal man. Results were catastrophic. Modern man swiftly exterminated, through a variety of means, direct and indirect, another human species, and for the first time in our evolutionary history, we were totally alone, the last living hominid on earth. Over the ensuing 40,000 years, homo sapiens colonized the entire world, free of any competition – save for ourselves. We were fully human in physique as well as in our mind, and it may have been that latter facet that provided us with the critical edge to conquer – but this very same mind could not only destroy, it could create. While Neanderthal man did not (could not?) express himself in any aesthetic sense, modern man possessed the richness of communication in all its manifestations. We could, and did, express our artistic and intellectual capacity.

In 1994, cavers in France discovered extensive and vivid drawings made by prehistoric man, six chambers in all, reaching 1,300 feet in length. Hidden by a 29,000 year old rock slide and considered the world’s best storehouse of Upper Paleolithic art, Chauvet Cave revealed wall after wall of magnificent illustrations in charcoal and red ocher of mammals that went extinct.
during the Pleistocene Era, some 10,000 years ago – woolly mammoths and rhinos, aurochs, lions, bison, owls, wild horses, and over 400 other animals that roamed the earth thousands of years ago. One of the cavers, obviously reflecting the awe shared by all in the cavern that day, captured the moment: “We crouched on our heels, gazing at the cave wall, mute with stupefaction.”

The prehistoric artists even had used the irregular, uneven features of the limestone to convey movement to the creatures, providing a three-dimensional aspect of running and leaping. Much of the art work dates back to 36,000 years ago, but other Paleolithic artists added more scenes about 5,000 years later. The point is that while modern man brutally destroyed another species, he simultaneously spewed creative energy; modern man could both destroy and create, and do so in magnificent manner. That has been our story from our first appearance on this planet.

While it took only a split second on the evolutionary clock to obliterate another species of man – to commit genocide, the most inhumane of our actions – we could also reveal astounding creative energy to express our humanity. While it may have been in our nature to eliminate competitors, to kill off those unlike us, we could not help but admire the beauty of the world of which we – and the Neanderthal – were a part. Our ancestors revealed our humanity on those cave walls in the French countryside; they displayed our sense of beauty, our emotions, our appreciation for and awareness of our world around us and our place in it. Our ability, even willingness, to commit horrors obviously continues, but what makes us truly human has never left us either, and this facet of our humanity still remains our only hope for mitigating the tragic actions we take.

From day one, modern man has constantly achieved incredible acts of progress in science, technology, and engineering, on the one hand, and in the arts and humanities, on the other – and done so simultaneously. From the very beginning, tools for subsistence and shelter, survival and superiority – that is, engineering and technological advances – coexisted with tools for aesthetic appreciation and intellectual stimulation – that is, advances in the arts and humanities. While modern man eliminated Neanderthal man with better weapons and more advanced hunting techniques, he also made brushes from horse hair and color palettes from nature’s ingredients. With these, modern man revealed the humanity in us on those walls of Chauvet Cave. That our ancestors painted the lions differently than the other animals, depicting them anthropomorphically with a human nose and profile, speaks volumes about the capacity of our minds to reflect, to inquire, to appreciate, and to value.

How ironic, then, that the same mind that exterminated rivals in brutal fashion and with tragic consequences, could simultaneously produce beautiful reflections on who we are, make us question where we came from, and inspire us to expand the limits of our minds. Humanity is indeed capable of so much good, and capable of so much horror; it is, then, the pursuit of the humanities that keeps the humanity in us. Without it, the destructive aspects of our nature would not simply debase us, but certainly wipe us out as well. What the Neanderthal mind could not do, actually may be what keeps us alive and, more importantly, keeps us human. After all, we are the last ones here; better we create and not destroy. The humanities stand as the singular source for best securing this evolutionary feat.
Dr. Joan Caulfield and Dr. Alan Warne

Drs. Joan Caulfield and Alan Warne have spent their careers in education and devoted their time outside of the classroom to outreach efforts throughout Missouri. Their chief focus in this area has been in support of community non-profits advancing education as well as high ideals in social and cultural inclusion. Joan and Alan have been married for nearly 20 years. Joan is retired from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri, where she was chair of the Education Department. Joan brought with her to Rockhurst 26 years of experience as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and associate superintendent. She has devoted her life to the field of brain-compatible education and accepted her position in Rockhurst to create The Center for the Advancement of Reform in Education. Alan is retired from the University of Kansas, where he was the Senior Program Manager in the Continuing Education Division. Prior to that he held director-level positions at the University of Kentucky and Temple University. He also led the Philadelphia Council for International Visitors and was Executive Director for the National Council for International Visitors in Washington, D.C.

Joan and Alan became involved with the Missouri Humanities Council in 2008 and have been steadfast donors to its mission and advocates on its behalf ever since.

Particularly in their hometown of Kansas City, Missouri, Joan and Alan have been integral to MHC’s recent programmatic and office expansions in the area. In recognition for their support of and service to MHC, we are proud to feature them in the first profile of the new MoHumanities magazine.

• Joan has served two, three-year terms on the Board of Directors at the Missouri Humanities Council from 2009 to 2014; during this time she was a member of the development, finance, and program committees.
• Alan has served one three-year term on the Board of Directors from 2011-2014 and recently renewed for a second term. He is a member of the development and finance committees. He is also the current chair of the membership committee.

When did you first learn of the Missouri Humanities Council?

We learned about MHC around 2008. While a professor at Rockhurst University, Joan was invited to join the board. Since we support each other’s activities, I [Alan] got involved soon after and was later invited to become a board member as well.

What attracted you to the organization?

As educators in different arenas, we were both more aware of and involved with science and math support programs, but we also have personal attachments to community and cultural awareness programming around Kansas City. MHC had great focus in this area, which was very appealing to us.

What has given you the most satisfaction as a Board member?

We have both served on various educational and community organization boards and welcomed the opportunity to join a statewide
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continued on page 50
effort to help and/or encourage local groups around the state in showcasing their historical and cultural treasures. Missouri has a great deal to offer and to take pride in. We want to help bring these treasures and this cultural history to a wider audience.

**What current program offered by MHC excites you the most and why?**

That is a difficult question. MHC’s programs to support literacy at various levels; its writing program to help veterans share their stories and experiences (often kept buried for decades); and its new initiatives in historical tourism bring great pride to many. We are pleased to be part of all of these great programs.

**A major focus of yours has been fundraising and introducing MHC to people and organizations in Kansas City. What is the source of that interest? – Most people do not like to fundraise.**

Very few people actually enjoy asking others for money. Believing in the organization’s cause or mission and having an opportunity to share that vision with others who will be equally pleased to support it gives us much satisfaction. The first step is for us to be completely supportive to the organization before reaching out to others. For this reason, we are really pleased that MHC has opened a Kansas City Office to facilitate even greater statewide programming.

**Where do you see MHC in five years? What are its biggest challenges and biggest assets in getting there?**

Our expectation is that MHC will continue to grow and maintain a secure financial base. We have great faith in the MHC staff and board to work evermore in that direction.

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Joan and Alan currently reside at the Kingswood Senior Living Community in Kansas City, Missouri, where Joan teaches Spanish alongside her education and curriculum consulting work. Alan is active on the community’s board and serves as its treasurer. The two were recently awarded the “Kingswood Pioneer Award” for their many contributions to the community.

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It is an exciting time to be a part of the Missouri Humanities Council. Under new leadership, our existing programs are expanding, new programs are being developed, new partnerships are being formed, and more people in our state are being reached than ever before. NOW is the time to be a part of the excitement! Use the enclosed envelope to demonstrate your support or go online at www.mohumanities.org.

Please take time to look at the donor page in this publication listing the individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations that have supported the Council during the past year. If your name is on that list, we thank you for your generous support and respectfully request your continued support as the Council enters a new fiscal year.

If your name is not on this list, please make your contribution today using the enclosed envelope, or, if you prefer, go online at www.mohumanities.org and click the donate button.

Since the inception of the Missouri Humanities Council in 1971, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Missouri have been the major sources of revenue enabling the Council to present humanities programs throughout our state. In recent years these sources have remained stagnant and there exists a real threat that they could decrease significantly in the future.

The Council has been proactive in strengthening its fundraising resources in order to maintain and grow the valuable programs that it provides our citizens throughout our state. It is only through contributions from people like you that the programs presented in this publication will continue to grow.

MHC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and NOT a state agency. Your contributions are therefore tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. As you read about all the programs in this publication, one of them may stand out to your particular interests. In addition to general operating support, sponsorships are a great way to support specific MHC programming – READ from the START, Veterans Programs, Heritage Tourism, Speakers Bureau, the Missouri Humanities Awards, Traveling Exhibitions, and the Grants Program. Your sponsorship can be restricted to a specific location, a region, or the entire state. This is a great opportunity for you, your foundation, or the organization for which you work to gain awareness while supporting the humanities.

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Better Business Bureau

For the third year in a row, the Council has earned the Better Business Bureau’s (BBB) highest certification for non-profits – the A+ Charity Certification.

This approval follows an intense process of meeting 20 standards for charity accountability, developed to assist donors in making sound giving decisions and to foster public confidence in charitable organizations. The standards seek to encourage fair and honest solicitation practices, promote ethical conduct, and advance support of philanthropy.

Greater Kansas City Community Foundation

For the past two years, the Council has earned similar endorsement from the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation (GKCCF).

Financial Information

MHC’s website – www.mohumanities.org – includes links to our latest Annual Report and 990, providing detailed information on our programming and our finances.
LET'S STAY IN TOUCH

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