

# PastPorts

VOL. 4, No. 4—APRIL 2011

## OF NOTE

### Recent microfilm acquisitions

■ *St. Louis Republic*, Jan. 1880–Dec. 4, 1919 (with gaps 12 Oct. 1891–28 Feb. 1892, 16 Dec. 1894–15 Jan. 1895, and 12–28 Feb. 1911), located on tier 4, drawers 84–87. Founded in 1836, the newspaper merged with the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* in 1919. It was known as the *Daily Missouri Republican*, 1836–1873, as *St. Louis Republican*, 1873–1876; *Missouri Republican* 1876–1888; and *St. Louis Republic* thereafter.

■ *St. Louiské Listy*, 23 Oct. 1902–1 Sept. 1923, located on tier 4, drawer 47. This newspaper served the St. Louis Czech community.

■ St. Louis, Missouri Hospital Records, located on tier 5, drawer 121. The microfilm set includes records from St. Louis City Hospital #1, 1849–1900 and 1927 with indexes for some years, and Female Hospital, 1876–1901 with an index for Jan 1896–March 1898. This is a unique, original record set for St. Louis, especially for those researching ancestors who were poor, rented their homes, or may have otherwise left little or no paper trail here.

### Jewish genealogical workshops continue

The series of Jewish genealogical workshops sponsored by the Special Collections Department, the St. Louis Genealogical Society Jewish Special Interest Group and the Saul Brodsky Jewish Community Library continues with five sessions in April and May. The number of attendees will be limited for some workshop sessions. To register, call the Brodsky Library, (314) 442-3720.

■ **Sunday, 3 April | 1:30 – 3:30 pm**

Topic: Beginning Jewish Genealogy II

Presenter: Ilene Murray

Brodsky Library, Kopolow Building | 12 Millstone Campus Dr.

In the second workshop on Beginning Jewish Genealogy, Ilene Murray will review key concepts and focus on specific records, including birth, death, and marriage records, censuses, city directories, cemetery and funeral home records, and many others. It will conclude with ideas for what to do next.

■ **Tuesday, 12 April | 1:30 – 3:30 pm**

Topic: Jewish Genealogical Resources in the Special Collections Department

Presenter: Joyce Loving

Board Room, Kopolow Building | 12 Millstone Campus Dr.

Joyce Loving will discuss various Jewish genealogical sources available in print and on microfilm available in the Special Collections Department.

## NEWS AND TIPS FROM THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

PastPorts is a monthly publication of the Special Collections Department located on Tier 5 at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters, 1640 S. Lindbergh in St. Louis County, across the street from Plaza Frontenac.

### CONTACT US

To subscribe, unsubscribe, change email addresses, make a comment or ask a question, contact the Department as follows:

#### BY MAIL

1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63131

#### BY PHONE

314-994-3300, ext. 2070

#### BY EMAIL

[scollections@slcl.org](mailto:scollections@slcl.org)

Regularly scheduled tours of the Special Collections Department are conducted on the first Wednesday and third Saturday of the month at 10:30 am. No advance registration is required. Group tours are gladly arranged with advance notice. Please call the Special Collections Department at 314-994-3300, ext. 2070 for scheduling

## WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be held in the Headquarters Computer Lab.

### Was He a Civil War Soldier?

■ Mon., April 4, 6:30–8:30 pm

*Registration is now open.*

Learn about record types and resources in Special Collections which can help you determine if a person served in the Civil War, and if he did, how to find his military records. You are invited to bring information about your potential soldier. Presenter: Ruth Ann Hager.

### Using St. Louis County Library Databases for Civil War Research

Choose one of two dates:

■ Wed., 13 April, 6:30–8:30 pm

*Registration is now open.*

■ Sat., 16 April, 9:30–11:30 am

*Registration is now open.*

This workshop will be an introduction to St. Louis County Library databases that facilitate Civil War military research. Each registrant will have access to a computer. Participants are encouraged to bring basic information about a Civil War soldier. Presenter: Ruth Ann Hager.

#### Pre-registration is required

Each workshop is free and open to the public. **Each workshop is limited to 12 participants per session.** Reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 314-994-3300 to register.

■ Thursday, 21 April | 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Topic: Jewish Genealogy on the Internet

Presenter: Ilene Murray

St. Louis Genealogical Society | 4 Sunnen Drive, Suite 140

Ilene will discuss the wealth of genealogical information on the Internet. Time will be allowed for attendees to use the computers at the office. Attendance is limited to 24 people.

■ Thursday, 5 May | 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Topic: Using the St. Louis Jewish Community Archives and Brodsky Library

Presenter: Diane Everman

Brodsky Library, Kopolow Building |  
12 Millstone Campus Dr.

Diane Everman will discuss the holdings of the St. Louis Jewish Community Archives and Brodsky Library that are of interest to Jewish genealogists.

## FOR THE RECORDS

### Obtaining Missouri death records after 1960

Although Missouri death certificates are now available [online](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/) <<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/>> through 1960, obtaining one after that date is now more challenging. Beginning 1 March 2011, researchers must provide proper identification to local and state health departments in order to obtain both death and birth certificates.

Missouri birth and death records are not public. An applicant for a vital record copy is required to explain his or her relationship to the person named on the record. Those eligible to receive birth certificate copies are immediate family members and in-laws in the direct line of descent up to, but not including, cousins. Death certificates are issued to immediate family members and others with a valid interest in the estate. Written requests must be notarized.

County offices only provide computerized “short form” certificates, which omit valuable genealogical information. Family researchers will want to obtain the original “long form” certificates directly from the [Missouri Office of Health and Senior Services](http://health.mo.gov/data/vitalrecords/index.php) <<http://health.mo.gov/data/vitalrecords/index.php>>.

## Obituaries in St. Louis newspapers: a comparison

Are you looking in the right newspaper for your ancestor's obituary? For most researchers, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* tends to be both the beginning and the end of the search.

A number of factors contribute to the exclusive use of the *Post-Dispatch*. The helpful index created by the staff of the St. Louis Public Library makes searching for obituaries in that paper easy. The *Historical St. Louis Post-Dispatch Database* makes the early years easy to search. The *Post-Dispatch* is the only surviving newspaper in St. Louis, making it more comfortable to research than older, long-defunct newspapers.

This raises the question of whether all—or even most obituaries—were actually published in the *Post-Dispatch*. An analysis of the various St. Louis newspapers by Special Collections Department staff suggests that searching only the *Post-Dispatch* is not the best approach.

### Methodology of the Study

The data was taken from newspapers for the third Wednesday of May in 1876, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. There is no special significance to the day and month chosen. They were selected so that an analysis could be done on a day in the middle of a week without a holiday. The intent was to avoid skewing the data in favor of a morning or an evening paper. The year 1876 was chosen instead of 1875, because the *Globe-Democrat* from the earlier year is missing and unavailable on microfilm.

### Striking Gold in an Obituary

Every once in a while a researcher will find an obituary that makes all of the searching worthwhile. Consider the following, printed in on page 5 column F of the 20 August 1886 issue of the *Missouri Republican*:

FURLONG.—At his residence, No. 11 Morgan Street, on Thursday, the 19th inst., Michael Furlong, a native of **Ballough, County Wexford, Ireland** (emphasis added) in the 54th year of his age. The funeral will take place .....

The process involved listing all of the obituaries from each available newspaper for the day chosen. If a notice did not appear on that date in one or more papers, an effort was made to find it on an earlier or later day. In the case of the *Post-Dispatch*, the St. Louis Public Library's index was used to see if it had been printed in that paper, although this might have possibly skewed the data in favor of that newspaper. The results of the study are as follows:

### 17 May 1875

On 17 May 1875, five individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, and the *Westliche Post* (see Table 1, page 4). Looking at the chart, several observations can be made:

- Obituaries were not very common in 1875.
- Most of the obituaries appeared in two papers.
- Although it is not overwhelmingly obvious from the papers of 17 May, the *Globe-Democrat* of that era tended to have more obituaries than the *Post-Dispatch* or the *Westliche Post*.

### 20 May 1885

On 20 May 1885, 22 individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the *Republic*, and the *Westliche Post* (See Table 2, page 4). The analysis reveals that:

- Only three names appeared in all four papers.
- There were more obituaries printed in the *Globe-Democrat* than any other paper on 20 May 1885.
- Fourteen death notices were in the *Republic*, making it the paper with the second most.
- The *Post-Dispatch* had fewer obituaries than any other paper in the study.
- Five of the eleven listings in the German-language *Westliche Post* appeared only in that paper.
- Six of the eleven listings in the German language *Westliche Post* were also printed in at least one English-language paper.

### 22 May 1895

On 22 May 1895, 15 individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the *Republic*, and the *Westliche Post* (see Table 3, page 5).

**TABLE 1—Obituaries published 17 May 1876**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Westliche Post
Barklage, Geo. D.		17 May 1876	17 May 1876
Hedermann, Fr. Wm.			17 May 1876
Hughes, Wm	17 May 1876		
Mills, Joseph		17 May 1876	
Turner, Mrs. Sarah	17 May 1876	18 May 1876	

**TABLE 2—Obituaries published 20 May 1885**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Republic	Westliche Post
Baune, Mina				20 May 1885
Briell, Francis		20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Christensen, Annie G.	19 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Coleman, John		20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Dolan, Thomas		20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Dunn, Mary	19 May 1885	20 May 1885		
Deterding, Sophia	19 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885 <sup>1</sup>	20 May 1885
Essig, Louisa				20 May 1885
Gardner, Julia Ella	18 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Heffernan, Bridget	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Heyer, Fanny		20 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885
Hoppe, Frank John			20 May 1885	
Hull, Abram C.		20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Jordans, Margaretha				20 May 1885
Koken, Josie Robert	19 May 1885	20 May 1885		20 May 1885
Mohr, William				20 May 1885
Murphy, Mary	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	20 May 1885	
Schierenberg, Lina				20 May 1885
Tamme, Sophy	20 May 1885	20 May 1885 <sup>2</sup>	20 May 1885	20 May 1885
Thomas, Lizzie			20 May 1885	
Vogel, Catherine, Mrs	20 May 1885	20 May 1885 <sup>3</sup>	20 May 1885	20 May 1885
Wagner, Barbara		20 May 1885		20 May 1885

<sup>1</sup>Listed as Sophie Deterding | <sup>2</sup>Listed as Sophia Tamme | <sup>3</sup>Listed as Katherina Vogel

The chart shows that, except for the *Westliche Post*, the patterns from 1885 continued through 1895.

- Only one name appeared in all four papers.
- The *Globe-Democrat* printed eleven obituaries, more than any other newspaper.
- The *Republic* once again placed second with nine.
- Five obituaries appeared simultaneously in both the *Westliche Post* and the *Post-Dispatch*.
- Two of the *Westliche Post* obituaries appeared in no other newspaper.
- Seven of death notices printed in the *Globe-Democrat* and / or the *Republic* show up only on the burial permit notification list in the *Post-Dispatch*.

**17 May 1905**

On 17 May 1905, 22 individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the *Republic*, and the *Westliche Post* (see Table 4, page 6). The 1905 chart demonstrates the beginning of a shift in the number of obituaries printed by the various St. Louis newspapers.

- With seventeen obituaries, the *Globe-Democrat* still printed more than any other paper.
- At thirteen each, The *Post-Dispatch* and the *Republic* tie in second. This is a significant improvement in the *Post-Dispatch*.
- The *Westliche Post* brings up the rear but one of its death notices appears nowhere else.
- Four names listed only under burial permits in the *Post-Dispatch* have actual obituaries in at least one of the other newspapers.

**19 May 1910**

On 19 May 1910, 30 individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the *Republic*, the *Westliche Post*, and the *Star* (the Department’s microfilm of the *Star* begins with issues published in 1910) (see Table 5, page 7). A dramatic change in the publication of obituaries begins in 1910. The chart shows:

- Twenty-five of the 30 notices appear in the *Post-Dispatch*.

**TABLE 3—Obituaries published 22 May 1895**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Republic	Westliche Post
Ansen, Bertha M	22 May 1895	23 May 1895		23 May 1895
Blickhahn, Walter L.	20 May 1895	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	22 May 1895
Dueringer, Louise				22 May 1895
Dunne, Margaret Estelle	22 May 1895	23 May 1895		
Ley, Mary Adele	*		22 May 1895	
Manning, Thomas		22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Mehen, Rosamond C	*		22 May 1895	
Neunreiter, Ida		22 May 1895		22 May 1895
Pfeiffer, Jacob	*			22 May 1895
Price, Susan	*	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Richmond, Rollin	*	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Scollard, Patrick F.	*	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Shine, Margaret	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Taylor, A.C.	24 May 1895	22 May 1895	22 May 1895	
Wittmer, Charles C	*	22 May 1895		

\* Burial permit only

- The *Republic* and *Star* tie for second-most obituaries.
- The *Republic* printed two obituaries that do not show up in the other papers. One of the two, however, is probably a misspelling of Sinclair as St. Clair.
- The *Star* also published two obituaries that do not show up in the other papers.
- The *Westliche Post* only published four obituaries, but two of them appear nowhere else.
- Only six of the obituaries were printed by all four English-language newspapers.
- No single obituary was published in all five papers.

**19 May 1915**

On 19 May 1915, 29 individuals were represented in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the *Republic*, the *Westliche Post*, and the *Star*

(see Table 6 on page 7). The trends that had begun by 1910 continued in 1915, except that the *Republic* suddenly has very few death notices.

- Obituaries for all but two of the 29 people appeared in the *Post-Dispatch*.
- The *Globe-Democrat* published 21, a respectable second place.
- Two of the obituaries in the *Globe-Democrat* did not appear in the *Post-Dispatch*.
- Only three notices appeared in the *Westliche Post*, and all of them also appeared in at least one of the English language newspapers.

**20 May 1925**

On 20 May 1925, 39 individuals appeared in the obituary columns of the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Globe-Democrat*, the

**TABLE 4—Obituaries published 17 My 1905**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Republic	Westliche Post
Boekenkamp, Caroline		17 May 1905		17 May 1905
Cronly, William		17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Embree, Benjamin K	17 May 1905	18 May-1905		
Fenton, Charles L	*		17 May 1905	
Frank, Adolph	17 May 1905			17 May 1905
Guenther, Johann	*			17 May 1905
Gunsollis, George		17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Hassendeubel, Louis	16-May-1905	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	17 May 1905
Hentrich, Robert T	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Le Bourgeois, Joseph Charles	16-May-1905	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Maid, Bessie	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Matter, Margaret <sup>1</sup>	17 May 1905			
Moran, Julia	17 May 1905	17 May 1905		
Morey, Oscar C		17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Parker, Marintha	17 May 1905	18 May-1905	18-May-1905	
Punch, Charles	17 May 1905	17 May-1905	17 May 1905	
Schroeder, Margaretta	*	17 May 1905		17 May 1905
Spraggon, Alfred J	17 May 1905	18 May-1905	18-May-1905	
Squier, Malinda W	*	17 May 1905	17 May 1905	
Tirre, Frederica		17 May 1905		17 May 1905
Wuertele, Mary	17 May 1905			17 May 1905
Zepp, Emilie	17 May 1905	18 May-1905	18 May-1905	18 May-1905

\*Burial permit only

<sup>1</sup> Memorial, she died 17 May 1902.

*Westliche Post*, and the *Star* (see Table 7 on page 8). The trends from 1910 and 1915 continued in 1925:

- The *Post-Dispatch* printed obituaries for all but two of the thirty-nine names.
- The *Globe-Democrat* printed 35, but two of the notices in the *Globe* did not appear in the *Post-Dispatch*.
- The two obituaries printed in the *Globe-Democrat* but not in the *Post-Dispatch* were also in the *Star*.

- The *Westliche Post* printed three obituaries, all of which also appeared in an English language newspaper.

**Summary**

It is important to search all available newspapers for an obituary.

- Over time, newspapers published more obituaries.
- In many instances, a person listed with only a burial

**TABLE 5—Obituaries published 19 May 1910**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Republic	Star	Westliche Post
Adelmann, Margaret Mary	19 May 1910				
Brown, Cornelia Elizabeth	19 May 1910	19 May 1910			
Brueggemann, Bernard	*		19 May 1910		
Clark, Robert, Mrs	19 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Dreher, Sophie	19 May 1910	19 May 1910		18 May 1910	19 May 1910
Fries, Joseph H.	18 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Geiss, Christian	19 May 1910	19 May 1910		19 May 1910	19 May 1910
Helderle, Charles	19 May 1910	19 May 1910		18 May 1910	
Helfrich, Nicholas	19 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Higham, Mary	19 May 1910				
Hogan, Robert L.	19 May 1910				
Hollenbeck, Mary	19 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Hussmann, Anna	19 May 1910				
Jost, Balthasar R.	19 May 1910				
Lang, Casper	19 May 1910	19 May 1910		19 May 1910	
Larkin, Stella	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	18 May 1910	
Long, John Andrew	17 May 1910 <sup>1</sup>	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	18 May 1910	
Ludington, Francis	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	
McNamara, James	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	
Miller, Clara M.	19 May 1910	18 May 1910	18 May 1910	18 May 1910	
Mulderig, Catherine				18 May 1910	
Oats, Lucille	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	19 May 1910	
O'Rourke, Rosie	19 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Pittroff, Mary	19 May 1910		19 May 1910		
Rieger, Sister M. Philomena				18 May 1910	
St. Clair, George T <sup>2</sup>			18 May 1910		
Schmid, Louisa					19 May 1910
Sinclair, George S.	19 May 1910	18 May 1910		18 May 1910	
Steger, Mary A.	19 May 1910	19 May 1910		19 May 1910	
Von Arx, Peter Paul	19 May 1910				19 May 1910

\* Burial Permit Listed in SLPL's Post-Dispatch Obituary Index but no Obituary.

<sup>1</sup> Article. <sup>2</sup> Apparently a misprint of George S. Sinclair.

permit in the *Post-Dispatch* will have an obituary in another paper.

- Prior to 1910, a good strategy would be to search the *Globe-Democrat* first, then the *Republic*, and finally the *Post-Dispatch*. After 1910, the *Post-Dispatch* becomes a better option, but researchers should also search the *Republic* and the *Star*.

### Tips for Finding Obituaries

The Special Collections Department has a great deal of experience helping people locate the obituaries. Here are some tips that will speed up your search.

■ **Finding the Obituary Section**—In the earliest years, newspapers tended to print the death notices on the first few pages. Over time, obituaries moved further back in the paper. By the turn of the 20th century, they generally can be found on the first page of the classified section. In more recent times, they are printed in section A of the *Globe-Democrat* or just after the editorials in the *Post-Dispatch*.

■ **Weekends and Holidays**—A death occurring on a weekend (and also often on a Friday), holiday, or the day before a holiday often delayed publication of a notice. If a funeral parlor was not open, the family would need to wait to make the arrangements. Sometimes, the result of the delay would be the placement of a notice in the morning

**TABLE 6—Obituaries published 19 May 1915**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Republic	Star	Westliche Post
Alter, Jennie	19 May 1915				
Blackwell, Frank	19 May 1915				
Brockman, F. W.	18 May 1915	19 May 1915		18 May 1915	19 May 1915
Burgdorf, Edward F. C.	19 May 1915	19 May 1915			
Busch, Edward Harold	21 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Crane, William J.	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Dale, Angeline	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Dietz, Charles Hy.	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		19 May 1915	19 May 1915
Dooley, James	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Egli, Caroline	19 May 1915				
Eswin, Caroline	18 May 1915	19 May 1915			19 May 1915
Gilbert, Julia Tyler	19 May 1915	19 May 1915	20 May 1915	19 May 1915	
Grimshaw, Alfred	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Hemmler, Nancy F	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Henry, Albert Leon	19 May 1915			19 May 1915	
Kiburz, Francis Anna	19 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Moe, Charles H.	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		18 May 1915	
Morrow, Robert William	19 May 1915				
O'Meara, Mary	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Payne, Fanny Beardslee	19 May 1915			19 May 1915	
Pfaff, George	19 May 1915				
Redmond, Mary	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Reichenberger, Amanda	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Rhea, James H	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Schiele, Harry L.	19 May 1915	19 May 1915		20 May 1915	
Stauder, Eva M.	19 May 1915				
Stein, August	20 May 1915	20 May 1915		19 May 1915	
Stoffel, John G.		19 May 1915			
Toelle, Marie		19 May 1915		19 May 1915	



**TABLE 7—Obituaries published 20 May 1925**

Name	Post-Dispatch	Globe-Democrat	Star	Westliche Post
Allan, Philip Harper	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Baker, Vernon	19 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Barth, Lucille	18 May 1925	20 May 1925	19 May 1925	
Brune, Henry		20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Carnahan, Stella Helen	19 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Chesler, Daniel	18 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Crosby, Peter J.	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Fedders-Ahlers, Caroline	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Fehrenbach, Carolina	20 May 1925			20 May 1925
Fisler, William F.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925
Fox, Clara	18 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Freeville, Ellen		20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Grady, James	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Griesser, Frank J.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Hadderfeld, Edward	18 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Hand, John	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Henry, Cora	19 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Hilbert, Goldburn Roy	20 May 1925			
Isele Joseph	18 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Kessler, John	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Kestlemier, Minnie Taylor	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Knapp, Frank James	20 May 1925			
Leedom, Harry L.	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Laskowitz, Hedweg	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Linthcum, Francis Douglas	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Maher, Virginia	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Muegge, Henry W.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Nessel, Theresa	21 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Rick, Grace Emily	18 May 1925	20 May 1925	19 May 1925	
Roth, Gilbert J.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Rutter, Annie Belle	18 May 1925	20 May 1925	19 May 1925	
Schauer, Gloria H	19 May 1925	20 May 1925		
Schoenbein, Virginia M.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Schuchardt, Julius	20 May 1925			20 May 1925
Smith, Samuel Jenks	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Stalecker, Altamont A.	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	
Voss, Frederick	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Walker, Alexander	20 May 1925	21 May 1925		
Wilmsmeier, Alvina	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	20 May 1925	

paper the day of the funeral. Other times, it would appear only in the evening paper the day before. Consider the unintended effect of holidays in your obituary search.

■ **Is it necessary to find an obituary in every paper?**—Ultimately, this is a personal decision. Experience in the Special Collections Department suggests that there is very little difference in the text of an obituary between newspapers, especially in later years. The most

## Evolution of the Obituary

Anyone who has spent any time researching his or her family has soon discovered the value of obituaries. They can be great sources of information about the living, as well as the dead. An example:

CROSBY—entered into rest on Tuesday, May 19, 1925, at 9:30 p. m. Peter J. Crosby, dearly beloved husband of Stella Crosby (nee Gamache), dear father of Mrs. Corine Gaskill, Octavia, Peggy and Florence, Edward and Michael Crosby, dear brother of Mary McLaughlin, Katherine Crosby, and Norah Gillick, our father-in-law, grandfather, brother-in-law and uncle in his fifty-eighth year. Funeral from residence, 6601 Minnesota avenue, Friday, May 22 at 8:00 a. m., to SS. Mary and Joseph Church, thence to Mt. Olive Cemetery. (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 20 May 1925, p. 32, col. A)

From this alone we can discern his wife's maiden name, the married name of his daughter, and the married names of his sisters. This format is essentially the modern one for a death notice, listing grieving family members by name and providing some relationship information. By the 1920s, this was pretty much the standard.

Earlier obituaries, though informative, often fail to provide much in the way of relationship information.

MILLS—On Tuesday, 16th inst., at his residence, 1716 Olive street, Joseph Mills, aged 50. Funeral services at the house to-day at 2 o'clock p.m. (*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 18 May 1876, p. 5, col. E)

Even this little bit can lead to other clues. Knowing his address and age, it might be possible to find him in the 1870 census and learn more that way.

common difference seems to be an evening paper referring to a funeral “tomorrow,” while the next day the morning paper will say it is “today.”

■ **“Indianapolis, Ind. Papers Please Copy”**—This type of statement was common in death notices up through the 1930s. It was a way to notify family members in another city about the death. For family history researchers, it is a clue where else to look for family connections.

■ **Obituaries in German Language Newspapers**—Many of the obituaries printed in the *Westliche Post* also appear in one or more of the English-language newspapers around the same time they appeared in the German-language paper. If the quality of your German leaves a little to be desired, consider looking for a notice in the English newspapers.

## WEB NEWS

### New on the web

The 1911 census for Scotland will be available online beginning 5 April 2011, according to a recent announcement from the country's Register General. More than 4.7 million Scots took part in the 1911 census. Scottish census records are sealed for 100 years. More information is available on the [Scotland's People website](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/) <<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>>.

### Web finds

■ An index to Cleveland, Ohio public cemeteries with more than 359,000 records is now [online](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com:80/~ohcdrt/clecems/index.html) <<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com:80/~ohcdrt/clecems/index.html>>.

### ■ New on Ancestry LibraryEdition

**British Army WWI Service Records, 1914-1920:** This database includes the surviving service records of non-commissioned officers and other ranks who served in WWI and did not re-enlist in the Army prior to World War II. The type of information in the records includes name of soldier, age, birthplace, occupation, marital status, and regiment number.

*Ancestry LibraryEdition* and *Footnote* databases can be used for free in the Special Collections Department and any St. Louis County Library branch.

## NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

The following is a selection of new items added to the collection. Additional items may have been received which are not listed here. The Department is grateful to the St. Louis Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, Julius K. Hunter and Friends, and our patrons for their donations. **Please note: Due to processing and binding requirements, some donated items may not be available in the library or listed in *PastPorts* until several months after they are received.**

### Print resources

Call numbers follow each title. Complete bibliographic information for each item is available in St. Louis County Library's [online catalog](http://webpac.slcl.org). < <http://webpac.slcl.org>>. Titles are abbreviated unless italicized.

### ■ States and counties

#### ILLINOIS

*God's Grace in a County Place II: A Sesquicentennial History of Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Wartburg... 1841–1991.* 1991. R 977.391 B347G

#### LOUISIANA

*Diocese of Baton Rouge, Catholic Church Records: East and West Baton Rouge and the Felicianas, 1800–1880: Individuals without Surnames.* 2010. R 976.318 C363D

#### MISSOURI

*Bronaugh, the Town, the Man and His Friends: The Early History of the Town of Bronaugh, Missouri and the Man It was Named For.* 2010. R 977.844 I72B

### ■ German genealogy

*Deutsches Geschlechterbuch*, Vols. 145, 147, 148, 154, 155, 165, 169, 171, 172, 174, 177, 178, 182, 185, 188, 191, 192, and 195. R 943 D486

#### Ortsippenbücher

Local family genealogical registers, abbreviated titles

Adenau (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1628–1798. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Alken (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1713–1866. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Arzheim, (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic 1733–1888. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Dorsel (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1654–1899. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Dümpelfeld (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1644–1798. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Heddesheim (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1683–1879. 2011. R 943.462 K18F

Hönningen / Ahr (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1714–1876. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Hümmel (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1697–1899. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Kempnich (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1657–1798. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Lind (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1758–1899. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Ransbach-Baumbach (Rhineland-Palatinate), 1550–1930. 2010. R 943.43 T377O

Schuld (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1702–1798. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Schwandorf, Unterschwandorf, Holzach, Volkertsweiler (Baden Württemberg), 1650–1945. 2010. R 943.462 S918O

Staffort (Baden-Württemberg), 1669–1920. 2010. R 943.464 R247O

Waldböckelheim (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1677–1869. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Wallhausen (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1719–1798. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

Wershofen (Rhineland-Palatinate) Catholic, 1695–1802. 2011. R 943.432 K18F

## NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

### ■ Family histories

*Descendants of John Mills of Stamford, Connecticut.*  
[NGS] 2010. 929.2 M657U

*Frederick Fritsche Family History.* 2010.  
R 929.2 F919G

*Harmon Family History in America.* [NGS] 2010.  
929.2 H288H

*Herndons of the American Revolution Being the  
Herndon Family of Virginia, Vol. 2, parts 11 and  
12.* [NGS] 2004. 929.2 H558H

*In the Shade of Oaks: A Story of American Heritage.*  
[NGS] 2009. 929.2 H315H

*James Beaty and Ann Bennett of Ballycanew, County  
Wexford, Ireland and More Than Two Centuries of  
Their American Descendants.* Vols. 1 and 2. [NGS]  
2010. 929.2 B369B

*One Wise Man: A Genealogy of Frederick Wise of  
Lincoln County, NC, and His Descendants, 2002.*  
[StLGS] 2002. R 929.2 W812E

*William and Mary Ann (Davis) Friedlander Family,  
1814-1930: Illinois Pioneers and Their Exploits in  
Colorado and New Mexico.* [NGS] 2010.  
929.2 F911W

### ■ Other new titles

*Guidebook for Sephardic and Oriental Genealogical  
Sources in Israel.* 2006. R 909.04924 T125G

*Mayflower Families through Five Generations:  
Descendants of the Pilgrims Who Landed at  
Plymouth, Mass., December 1620.* Vol. 23, part 2.  
[NGS] 2010. 973.2 M468

*Records Relating to Railroads in the Cartographic  
Section of the National Archives.* 2010.  
R 385 U58R

*Ultimate Search Book: Worldwide Adoption,  
Genealogy, & Other Search Secrets.* 2011.  
R 362.734 C261U

*World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of the Material Life of  
Slaves in the United States.* 2011. R 306.362 W927

## CALENDAR GENEALOGICAL EVENTS AT THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY

Note: Dates for Special Collections Department classes are indicated by 📞. Please register for classes in advance by calling 314-994-3300.

All events are sponsored by the St. Louis County Library and are free and open to the public.

### APRIL

#### 📞 Mon., 4 April | 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Workshop:  
Topic: Was He a Civil War Soldier?  
Presenter: Ruth Ann Hager  
*Registration is now open.*

#### 📞 Tues., 5 April | 2 – 4 pm

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Department Class  
Topic: History and Genealogy in Newspapers  
Instructor: Larry Franke  
*Registration is now open.*

#### Mon., 11 April | 7 – 9 pm

Headquarters East Room  
Italian Special Interest Group  
Topic: Resources Available at the Family  
History Library for Researching Italian-  
American Genealogy  
Speaker: Scott Biondo

## CALENDAR GENEALOGICAL EVENTS AT THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY

### **Tues., 12 April | 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Topic: History and Genealogy in  
Newspapers  
Instructor: Larry Franke  
*Registration is now open.*

### **Wed., April 13 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Workshop:  
Topic: Using St. Louis County Library  
Databases for Civil War Research  
Presenter: Ruth Ann Hager  
*Registration is now open.*

### **Sat., April 16 | 9:30 – 11:30 am**

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Workshop:  
Topic: Was he a Civil War Soldier?  
Presenter: Ruth Ann Hager  
*Registration is now open.*

### **Mon., Tues., April 26 | 7 – 9 pm**

Headquarters East Room  
Irish Special Interest Group  
Topic: Irish Records at the  
Family History Library  
Speaker: Dan Vornberg

### **Thurs., April 28 | 9:30 – 11:30 am**

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Class  
Topic: Library Skills That Will Enhance Your  
Genealogical Research  
Instructor: Larry Franke  
*Registration is now open.*

## MAY

### **Tues., May 3 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Headquarters Computer Lab  
Special Collections Class  
Topic: Library Skills That Will Enhance Your  
Genealogical Research  
Instructor: Larry Franke  
*Registration opens 5 April.*

### **Tues., May 10 | 7 – 9 pm**

Headquarters Auditorium  
St. Louis Genealogical Society  
Topic: The State Historical Society of Missouri  
Speaker: Gary Kremer

### **Wed., 18 May | 7 – 9 pm**

Headquarters Auditorium  
German Special Interest Group  
Topic: Resources for German Research  
Speaker: Carol Whitton



St. Louis County **Library**