

News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, University of Oregon, and Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University.

Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at bisio@uoregon.edu and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Lois at hamilll1@nku.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

ILLINOIS

Chicago Area Archivists

The Travel Fund Award of the Archives and Archivists of Color interest group of Chicago Area Archivists (chicagoarchivists.org) helps archivists of color make professional connections and build bridges toward future employment. This year the award supported the MAC Annual Meeting attendance of Kheir Fakhreldin and Rebekah McFarland. Fakhreldin, an archives assistant at WBEZ Chicago Public Radio, hoped that “by attending MAC, I will be able to meet more archivists of color as well as nonminority archivist allies who are working toward making our historical record reflect American cultural diversity.” Rebekah McFarland, archivist for the Sisters of the Living Word, participated in her first panel while at MAC: “My Comeback Story: Overcoming Imposter Syndrome in the Archival Profession.” McFarland wrote, “I am so happy to have attended MAC this year. I came away feeling like a part of something bigger—a feeling I always welcome, especially as a lone arranger.”



Kheir Fakhreldin and Rebekah McFarland receive the CAA AAC Travel Fund Award from Jerice Barrios (center). Photo courtesy of Hathaway Hester.

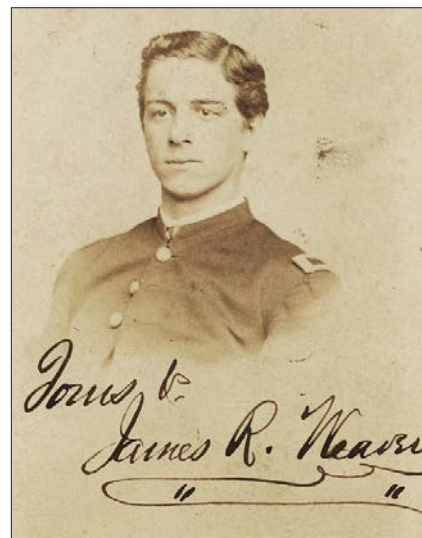
INDIANA

Butler University

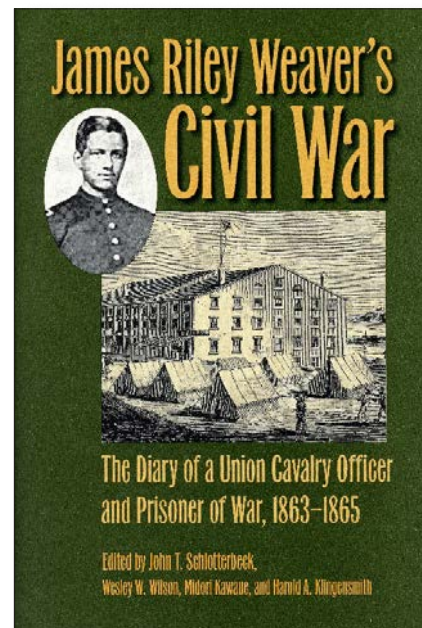
Butler University is pleased to announce it has received a Council of Independent Colleges Humanities Research for the Public Good project grant for the 2019–2020 academic year. The grant centers on the Etheridge Knight Jr. collection held in the Special Collections area of Irwin Library and includes money for two student assistants to make the collection more accessible through finding aids based on themes within the collection (black arts movement, prison poetry, major authors represented in the collection, etc.); digital and physical exhibits; community poetry events hosted in conjunction with the Center for Black Literature and Culture; processing new materials that may come in and transcribing oral histories from friends and family of Knight; and developing outreach tools for teaching Knight’s poetry in the classroom. The grant involves Butler’s library and Center for Citizenship and Community; administrators include archivist Sally Childs-Helton, Center for Citizenship and Community director Donald Braid, and English professor Susan Neville.

DePauw University

After more than seven years of work, the Civil War diary of a DePauw University professor has been published: *James Riley Weaver’s Civil War: The Diary of a Union Cavalry Officer and Prisoner of War, 1863–1865*, edited by Wesley W. Wilson, John T. Schlotterbeck, Midori Kawaue, and Harold A. Klingensmith, Kent



State University Press, 328 pages, March 2019. Co-editor Wesley W. Wilson, is coordinator of Archives and Special Collections at DePauw University. The diary was given to the DePauw University Archives in



Dust jacket of the book, James Riley Weaver’s Civil War (F. S. Keeler, photographer, Philadelphia)

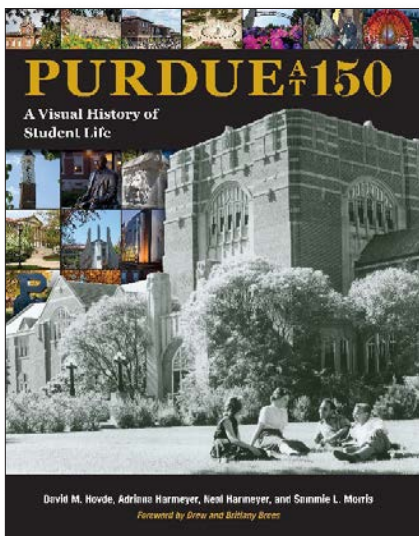
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2011 under the stipulation that it be transcribed. Over 11 months, Wilson scanned all 707 pages and posted them on Flickr as a crowdsourcing project. Klingensmith sent his diary transcription to the archives. DePauw professor John Schlotterbeck joined Wilson and history student Midori Kawau to collaborate on the final editing. Kent State University Press joined the project resulting in its publication.

Purdue University

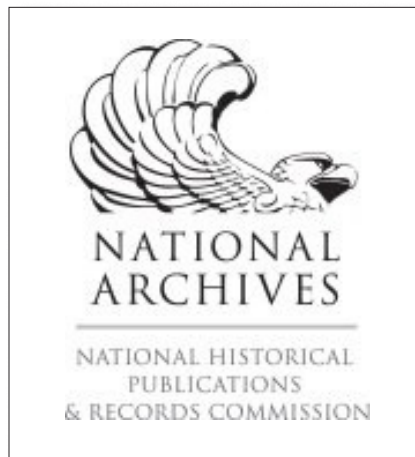
A new book, *Purdue at 150: A Visual History of Student Life*, tells Purdue's story through decades of student papers, scrapbooks, yearbooks, letters, newspapers, historical photographs, and memorabilia preserved by Purdue University Archives and Special Collections. The publication date, May 6, 2019, coincided with the 150th anniversary of the founding of Purdue University. *Purdue at 150* was written by a team of authors from the archives: David M. Hovde, retired associate professor of library science; Adriana Harmeyer, archivist for university history; Neal Harmeyer, digital archivist; and Sammie L. Morris, professor and head of Archives and Special Collections.



IOWA

Iowa State University

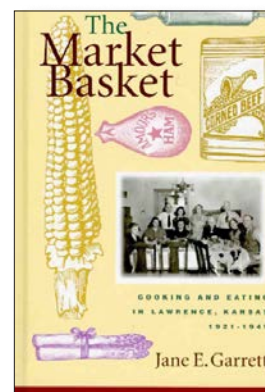
A new exhibition, *We Are ISU: Snapshots of Student Life*, is open now through early September 2019. This exhibition reflects on 150 years of student life at ISU and explores how the student experience has changed. Highlighting a handful of students from different time periods and varying backgrounds gives viewers a sense for how campus life and social norms have evolved to keep up with the ever-changing needs of Iowa State students. The digital exhibit (<https://exhibits.lib.iastate.edu/we-are-isu-snapshots-of-student-life>) is also available. § In 2017, the NHPRC (www.archives.gov/nhprc) awarded Special Collections and University Archives with an \$118,825 grant supporting the two-year project *Modern Tools for Modern Research: Migrating Old Finding Aids to a New Archives Management System*. More than 1,400 finding aids have been added to the new system, EAD finding aids have been generated for all the collections, and over 2,000 MARC records have been updated or created. Check out the blog *Cardinal Tales* (isuspecialcollections.wordpress.com/?s=NHPRC) for more information on the project.



KANSAS

Kansas State University

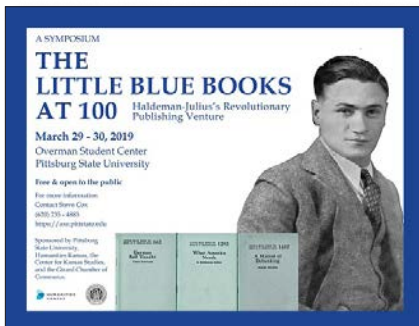
When Kansas State University's Hale Library experienced a devastating fire on May 22, 2018, librarians from around the state reached out to share their concern—and, in one instance, their books. Prompted by a community member, Angela Hyde, the program coordinator for the Friends of Lawrence Public Library, organized a donation of 55 cookbooks from its book sale inventory. The Richard L. D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at Kansas State Libraries contains thousands of cookery collection items dating from 1487 to the present. It also features publications generated by American communities and churches, as well as rare manuscript cookbooks from the seventeenth through twentieth centuries. “No other public library has ever made this kind of gesture, and it's of specific value for our work in amassing cookbooks that document the food history of the state of Kansas,” Roger Adams, Kansas State rare books librarian, said. Hyde says they will send more boxes soon. While Hale Library is undergoing renovation, the collections are in storage, but the donated volumes will be a valued addition when the books return to campus.



The Market Basket: Cooking and Eating in Lawrence, Kansas 1921-1949 was among the donated cookbooks.

Pittsburg State University

On March 29–30, 2019, the Special Collections and Leonard H. Axe Library at Pittsburg State University hosted “The Little Blue Books at 100 : Haldeman-Julius’s Revolutionary Publishing Venture.” This symposium offered 15 papers from Little Blue Book historians, artists, and collectors from across the United States, France, and Australia on the Socialist publishing house in Girard, Kansas, that published and sold over 500,000,000 Little Blue Books between 1919 and 1951. Dr. Jason Barrett-Fox, English professor at Weber State University, gave the keynote address titled “The Haldeman-Julius Legacy, a Century In: Disruption, Digitality, Democracy.” The film documentary, *American Socialist: The Life and Times of Eugene Victor Debs*, was also shown. Debs had an association with the Socialist activity in Girard. Director Yale Strom was present to discuss the film. The symposium concluded with a tour of Girard and the sites related to the Socialist publishing companies once located there.



The Nazarene Archives

The Nazarene Archives received nearly 170 sermon manuscripts written between 1870 and 1915 by Rev. Phineas Bresee, the Church of the Nazarene’s primary founder. Born in New York’s Catskill Mountains in 1838, he entered the Methodist

ministry on Iowa’s prairies in 1857. He moved to Southern California in 1883, organizing an independent congregation in Los Angeles in 1895. This congregation eventually numbered nearly a thousand members. Bresee edited a weekly paper and served as first president of Pasadena College (now Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego). He was the first general superintendent (bishop) elected to lead the denomination. After his death in 1915, this collection remained in family hands until June 2018. It was transferred to the archives in December. The sermon manuscripts provide an inside look at the substance of Wesleyan preaching in Bresee’s era.



Archivist Stan Ingersol with the Bresee sermons on the day the collection was received. Photo credit: David Graves.

KENTUCKY

Filson Historical Society

October 2019 marks the 150th birthday of Louisville sculptor Enid Bland Yandell (1869–1934). To celebrate, the Filson Historical Society, the Speed Art Museum, the Louisville Free Public Library, the Frazier History Museum, Bellarmine University, 21c Museum Hotel, and Olmsted Park Conservancy have teamed up for a community-wide celebration. Enid

Yandell: A Life of Art & Activism will include exhibitions and programming honoring the life and works of Yandell and her enduring legacy in the community. The Filson’s exhibit, *Breaking the Mold: Sculptor Enid Yandell’s Early Life, 1869–1900*, running June 7 through December 27, will focus on the early life and career of Yandell, showing how she broke the molds that society and the art establishment imposed on women in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A comprehensive list of exhibitions and programs for Enid Yandell: A Life of Art & Activism can be found at www.facebook.com/projectenid.



Enid Yandell and Baroness Geysa Hortense de Braunecker, probably in Paris studio, c. 1898. Enid Bland Yandell Photograph Collection, Filson Historical Society, 987PC52X.019.

MICHIGAN

Calvin College

The Willem van de Wall Papers include hundreds of Dutch/American letters and papers from Willem van de Wall (1887–1953), Blanca Crooswijk (1882–1940), and their families. Born

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in Amsterdam, van de Wall immigrated to New York at 22 and served as a harpist in the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and the New York Symphony. He was also a choral director of the Washington Opera Company, a college professor, and a pioneer in the development of music therapy. “Music is a great unseen friend accompanying us from our cradle to our grave, always expressing for us, caressing us with, our dearest emotions of life,” he wrote in a pamphlet entitled “Music as a Means of Discipline.” The letters in the collection are mostly in Dutch and mostly related to family life. The collection also includes some of van de Wall’s writings on music therapy, notably his book, *The Utilization of Music in Prisons and Mental Hospitals* (1924).



Wayne State University

Rise Up Detroit (www.riseupdetroit.org) was launched on May 14. A new online resource for kindergarten

through college students and teachers, Rise Up Detroit uses extensive research and materials from Wayne State’s Reuther Library and other Detroit sources to tell stories of resistance through written, oral, and visual materials from the civil rights movement in Detroit. The website is a part of the Rise Up North project, an educational tool to teach the lessons of African Americans’ struggle for empowerment in the nation’s major urban centers in the North. Rise Up North was founded by civil rights activist Junius Williams. Peter Blackmer, now a research fellow at Wayne State’s Detroit Equity Action Lab, served as the lead researcher for the first two websites created as part of the Rise Up North project, Rise Up Newark and Rise Up Detroit.

MISSOURI

Saint Louis City Recorder of Deeds

The Saint Louis City Recorder of Deeds is revising policies and procedures for preserving and accessing historical materials starting with 1766 land deeds and marriage, birth, and death records. Plans are moving forward on long-needed preservation. A complete revision of the recorder’s website and upgrade of key access links will be finalized by fall 2019. This shift toward efficiency and accessibility includes a large project underway in the archives unfolding, cleaning, flattening, and digitizing two-part marriage licenses. The office is working with state and local agencies to revitalize collaborative efforts to place key records and databases online. Michael Butler,

the city’s first African American millennial recorder, emphasized in his recent campaign that city government must be accessible in the twenty-first century and that citizens deserve the option of ordering copies of historical documents and vital records online.

Southwest Baptist University

The inauguration of Dr. Eric A. Turner as the 25th president of Southwest Baptist University on April 26, 2019, was accompanied by a historic exhibition in the Joyce Sells Heritage Center. The University Archives developed eight displays highlighting major eras in the university’s 141-year history. Documents and artifacts dated as early as 1878 are displayed to provide visitors a visual representation of the university’s past. The exhibit includes Founding of the Baptist College (1878–1910); 1913 Time Capsule; Between the Fires (1911–1962); New Campus—New Growth (1962–1968); Growth & Expansion (1968–1995); Women of SBU (1878–Present); Partners in Excellence (1996–2017); and A Season of Change (2018 to Present). The exhibit opened at the Unveiling of the Presidential Portrait Ceremony on April 22, which was the kickoff event of Inauguration Week. The president’s portrait is on permanent display in the President Portrait Gallery. The exhibit runs through December 2019.





Founding of a Baptist College



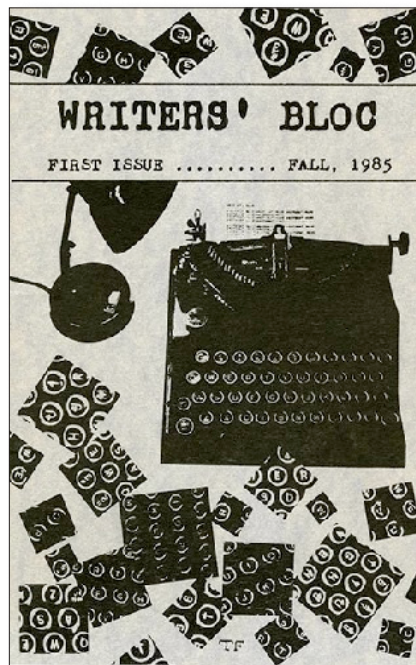
New Campus—New Growth: Between the Fires (1911–1962). Photos courtesy of Southwest Baptist University.

OHIO

Oberlin College

The Oberlin College Archives published a new web access project for its student publications collection, comprising nearly 200 print titles ranging from 1858 to the present. The digital project may be accessed from the archives website at cdm15963.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landing-page/collection/p15963coll54. This stage of the project involved digitizing one cover of each title and content analysis of entire runs of titles by Kira Zimmerman, archives student assistant. Zimmerman wrote in-depth summaries and assigned genre terms and tags of her own devising. Additional metadata, including controlled vocabulary terms, was added by archives staff. Digitization of some

or all of the contents of selected titles may be done at a later time. For now this project provides critical access to an important collection for student life, activism, community, creativity, identity, literature, humor, journalism, politics, environmentalism, and more at Oberlin College.



Kent State University

Kent State University Libraries' May 4, 1970, Collection has been selected by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to benefit from a \$30,561 award through the Recordings at Risk grant program, generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. CLIR's Recordings at Risk program supports the preservation of rare and unique audio and audiovisual content of scholarly value. The May 4 Collection, which includes more than 300 cubic feet of primary sources related to the Kent State shootings and aftermath, is currently supporting over 20 major

projects related to the upcoming 50th anniversary of the shootings and is one of the most heavily used archives in the libraries' Department of Special Collections and Archives. These projects will be coordinated by Virginia Dressler, digital projects librarian, and Haley Antell, digital initiatives and outreach librarian. Visit www.library.kent.edu/May4 to view the digitized May 4 Collection and learn more about the Kent State shootings.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society

The State Archives of the South Dakota State Historical Society recently added searchable indexes to motor vehicle licenses issued from 1905 to 1911 and automobile dealer licenses issued from 1913 to 1919 to its website, history.sd.gov/archives. A link on the Collection Indexes page leads to Automobile Licenses/Dealers. The first auto license was issued to Jason

T. Bigelow of Flandreau in March 1905. The vehicle had a 4.5-horsepower Olds Motor Works engine and featured signals comprising a gas lamp and bell. The secretary of state's office issued motor vehicle licenses from 1905 to 1911. The records include the license number, automobile owner's name, town, make of motor, vehicle horsepower, and available signals on the automobile. The secretary of state also issued auto dealer licenses from 1913 to 1919. Information includes dealer name, license number, town and county, date and year the license was issued, and types of cars sold at the dealership.

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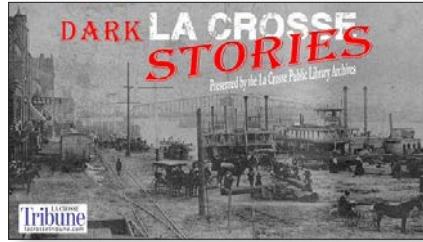


An automobile license with South Dakota plate number 6834 was issued to Konrad Stiffler of Worthing in August of 1910. The car had a 12-horsepower engine and included both a horn and lights. Photo courtesy South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives.

WISCONSIN

La Crosse Public Library

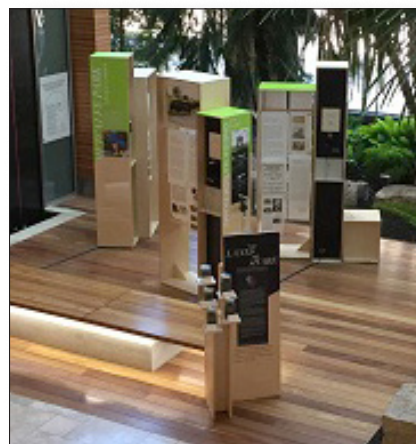
The La Crosse Public Library (LPL) Archives, in partnership with its community newspaper, the *La Crosse Tribune*, recently launched a video series called *Dark La Crosse Stories* highlighting the seedier side of La Crosse's past. Each new episode features a high-quality podcast with enhanced visual content. This project is the newest addition to the Dark La Crosse suite of programs that also includes a downtown walking tour, a trolley tour, and an annual stage production with new content each year. LPL Archives staff find and research the stories and are also featured in the "talkback" section of each episode sharing additional content. A local professional pianist/composer playing an original score accompanies professional and amateur actors. A member of the archives staff narrates the series and grounds listeners in the facts. To view episodes, visit archives.lacrosselibrary.org/local-history, and click on Dark La Crosse Stories.



Dark La Crosse Stories video series title image. Photo courtesy of La Crosse Public Library Archives; graphic design by Lindsay Schmitt and Scott Brouwer.

University of Wisconsin–Madison

The UW–Madison Archives, through its oral history program, has been a part of the Lands We Share (LWS) initiative, a twenty-one-month effort, which wrapped up in May. A collaboration of faculty and students at four UW campuses (UW Oshkosh, UW–Whitewater, UW–Milwaukee, and UW–Madison), LWS has focused on the intersection of farming, land, ethnic culture, and history in Wisconsin. It featured the stories, histories, artifacts, images, and sounds of five culturally and regionally distinct farms and farm sites. The exhibition grew out of the Wisconsin Farms Oral History Project, to which the aforementioned oral history program has contributed since 2012. The exhibit traveled statewide. Six com-



munity engagement events were also held including the final Gala at the Madison Public Library's Central Branch. The exhibit and community events brought hundreds of people together to talk about today's (and yesterday's) farms, as well as the state's ethnic history and culture. Although the initiative has ended, the Wisconsin Farms Oral History Project will remain. For more information, visit landsweshare.org.

University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point

The Nelis R. Kampenga Archives and Area Research Center is excited to announce what has already become a massively popular collection at UWSP. The Historic Video Games Collection encompasses five decades of electronic console entertainment and has already impacted hundreds of students since its curation at the end of 2018. While the archives has a "Gaming Cubby" for students to experience historical gaming at their leisure, the collection has already been well utilized in archival instruction and outreach events. Courses in communications have studied the evolution of gaming technology; history classes have studied historical and cultural representations in video games; education classes have studied the impact of media on education; and the collection has been showcased at the UWSP Library's Exam Cram event where hundreds of students take final exam study breaks to enjoy historical video games and relieve stress. The Historic Video Games Collection has already proven to be valuable for both academic support and archival advocacy.