This Month in Missouri History: The "Bandit Queen" Belle Starr

Missouri produced many of the legendary folks of the Wild West, and one of the most infamous is the "Bandit Queen", Belle Starr. She was born on Feb. 5, 1848, in Jasper County to prosperous farmers named John and Elizabeth Shirley.

Her father made sure that she was well educated both in classical studies and the piano. She also became a fine horsewoman and learned to shoot pistols and shotguns from her brother.

Belle got her first taste of the lawless west when her father moved the family to Carthage to open a hotel which catered to a wide range of clientele including outlaws like the Younger brothers. With a taste for adventure and a fiesty personality, Belle left Missouri and started her life in the Wild West.

Here her legend runs wild, telling tales of stealing horses, taking up with gangs, and hiding outlaws from the lawmen. What is known is that she was shot off her horse and died three days shy of her 41st birthday. The assailant was never found.

Belle Starr has spawned numerous songs, movies, television characters, and novels about her numerous adventures. No one can deny that she is truly a legend.

View Belle’s burial site and family tree

Read more about the life and times of Belle Starr
Upcoming Webinars

Accessing State and Federal Publications Webinar
Feb. 28, 2019
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This session will examine several resources that will allow you to easily access the state or federal information you need. We will go over the features and capabilities of the State Publications Access Program database, govinfo.gov, and more!

Register:
https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/7404427256395870210

Navigating the Census Webinar
March 19, 2019
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Need basic tips on navigating the Census website for data? This session provides step-by-step instruction on using the Census website’s American FactFinder tool to retrieve data files from the decennial Census and the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey. Additional data harvesting tools are also introduced.

Register:
https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/9152526500786467842

Legislative Update

January saw the opening of the 100th session of the General Assembly and the State of the State address by Governor Parson. Below are some highlights from the month.

Governor's Office

The proposed 2020 Budget is now available and can be seen online.

View the Budget Summary.
View the Budget and Legislative Priorities.

Executive Orders 19-01, 19-02, and 19-03 were issued to restructure several state agencies.

House of Representatives

HB 111: Changes the law regarding animal abuse.

HB 397: Modifies provisions regarding the protection of children from sex trafficking.

HB 523: Changes penalty provision for violating the no-call list.

View the status of all legislation in the House.

Senate

SB 6: Modifies provisions relating to controlled substances, including the Schedules and criminal provisions involving controlled substances.

SB 44: Authorizes sports wagering, and modifies the definition of "gambling game" to include sports wagering.

SB 148: Requires any person, corporation, association, firm, partnership, proprietorship, or business entity of any kind or character entering into a contract with a public agency to disclose any payments made to a political organization.

View the daily actions of the Senate.

News of Note

Missouri’s Disability Services Among the Nation’s Best.

The Governor has proposed a 3% pay raise for all state employees.
Find Boards and Commissions

With the Missouri Boards and Commissions database, you can find descriptions, members, meeting details, contact information and more about every Missouri state board and commission.

Also included are lists of current vacancies and expired terms, a list of terms that will expire in the next 60 days, and instructions on applying for gubernatorial appointments.

Databases like these are listed on the Missouri State Agency Databases LibGuide, available to state employees at http://godort.libguides.com/missouridbs. As part of the State Agency Database Project, you can find links to public databases from state governments of all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Digitization Requests

The Missouri State Library has many older Missouri government publications and reports accessible in our print collection that are now available for digitization upon request. If you would like to submit a request for a publication from this collection to be digitized, please e-mail statepubs@sos.mo.gov.

Documents approved for digitization will be uploaded to the Missouri State Publications database where users may download digital copies in a variety of formats.

For more information about this service, visit our Missouri Government Publication page.
Gov Doc Talk: Executive Orders

Need to search the Governor’s Executive Orders for a specific keyword or by year?

No problem!

Reference Services hosts the Governor’s Executive Orders from 1980 to the present on our website for easy access, with a precise transcript and scan of the original for each order. You can keyword search (by governor, agency, or division, for example) or browse the full text of orders by year.

Executive orders shape the history of Missouri, especially the make-up of state government as it stands today. Within executive orders, you can find information about boards and commissions, state holidays, departmental reorganizations, personnel matters, emergency declarations, standards of conduct and more.

For example, check out the following orders of interest:

- **89-06**: State agencies must use ethanol-blended fuel in state-owned vehicles.
- **03-25**: Requires state agencies to adopt cyber security policies and procedures.
- **05-06**: Bans the use of video games by inmates in all state correctional facilities.
- **17-04**: Establishes the position of Chief Operating Officer to serve on Governor’s executive team.
- **19-01, 19-02, 19-03**: Reorganization Plans No. 1, 2 and 3.

For assistance with researching Executive Orders, contact Government Documents Librarian, Laura Kromer, at Laura.Kromer@sos.mo.gov or (573) 751-4552.

Training Corner

The Disney Way Series provides comprehensive customer service training and management strategies from Disney expert and best-selling author Bill Capodagli, who has made a career of analyzing the incredible business phenomenon that is Disney. With this five-part program, companies large and small can bring greater vision and innovation to their business operations and achieve success beyond their highest expectations.

These titles come with a video presentation and PDF guides. Check them out!

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