

ELI Weekly

Take a Historic Journey

Have you heard about Route 66? Sometimes called the "Mother Road" or the "Main Street of America," it is probably the most famous highway in the United States, though today it is only known as a historic route. Since 1985, Route 66 has been "decommissioned" (officially removed from the U.S. Highway System), due to the Interstate Highway System that has overtaken it. In the 1990's, however, many states (including Missouri), started Route 66 associations that were dedicated to the revival and preserving of the old roadway.



Springfield actually had a very important role in the history of Route 66. On April 30, 1926, Springfield hosted a meeting with highway officials from Missouri and Oklahoma to decide on the official number for the highway. During the meeting, they sent a telegram to Washington D.C. to state that they preferred the number 66. Because of this, Springfield is known as the "Birthplace of Route 66."

Originally, Route 66 stretched 2,450 miles from Chicago, Illinois to Los Angeles, California, along the way passing through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. In its day, Route 66 allowed the freedom to travel across the American West. During the 1930's, many people from the mid-west migrated to California, and Route 66 helped them to get there. These migrants saw the "Mother Road" as the "road to opportunity." During World War II, Route 66 was highly used to transport troops, equipment, and products across the country to California, where armed force bases had been established. When the war was over, Route 66 brought the troops back home. During its peak, Route 66 was a huge part of the tourist industry, as many motels, service stations, and diners opened along its path.



Restored 1927 gas station

Though Route 66 served a great purpose years ago and is iconic today, it was not destined to last. By the 1970's, major four-lane highways had bypassed Route 66 and in 1984, one final section in Arizona was taken out of commission. In 1985, poor Route 66 was finally taken off maps and its signs removed.



A piece of Route 66 Today

Today, though, thanks to historical societies, Route 66 is being preserved. Many old and abandoned businesses in its path are being restored. You can still drive on Route 66, if you know where it is. About 85% of the original road is still drivable. It even goes right through Springfield. In fact, it goes down St. Louis Street and passes through the square as it becomes College St. As you travel west of the square, you will come upon Melinda Court, a roadside motel that still exists today.

Route 66 has a very interesting history! For more information, check out: <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/66-Mainpage.html>



Melinda Court, Springfield, MO

Activities This Week

Thursday April 17--Sunday April 20
Springfield Cardinal's Baseball Games

Baseball season is here! Check out our Double-A team play against the Tulsa Drillers. Thurs. and Fri.--7:10 PM; Sat. and Sun.--2:10 PM @ Hammons Field (955 E. Trafficway)
 Ticket prices: \$6.00--\$24.50



For more events and activities, visit: <http://calendar.missouristate.edu/>
Also, ALWAYS check the Student Activities Board across from the 2nd floor

Computer Lab

Announcements

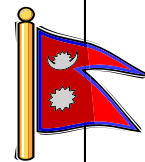


- **If you have not yet turned in your “Intent to Return” form, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!**

- **Pronunciation Class this week:**
Monday: Word stress & [sh] and [ch] sounds
Tuesday: Sentence stress & [s] and [z] sounds
Wednesday: Rhythm & [p] and [b] sounds
Thursday: -s and -es endings & [k] and [g] sounds

Did You Know....

A few interesting facts about Nepal:



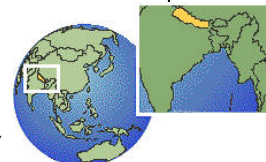
Sagarmatha National Park, on the World Heritage List, is dominated by Mt. Everest, the highest mountain in the world.

Nepal is an official Hindu state. Other religions followed are Buddhism and Islam.



Royal Chitwan National Park, at the foot of the Himalayas, is home to the endangered one-horned Asian rhinoceros.

The official language of Nepal is Nepali, but many Tibetan and Indian languages are spoken, as well as English for business.



What’s Showing at The Moxie?

The Moxie is downtown’s independent cinema located near the corner of Walnut and Campbell.
This week:

- George A. Romero’s *Diary of the Dead*
- *Chicago 10*
- *Snow Angels*
- *Super High Me*



See Schedule on the Student Activities Board

Weather Forecast

Degrees: High/Low

Forecast for April 14-20

	<u>Fahrenheit</u>	<u>Celsius</u>
Monday:	53/29	12/-2
Tuesday:	65/42	18/06
Wednesday:	72/51	22/11
Thursday:	64/48	18/09—chance of rain
Friday:	55/46	13/08—chance of rain
Saturday:	66/50	19/10—chance of rain
Sunday:	70/53	21/12



Weather forecasts are *always* changing, so for the most up-to-date forecast, go to: www.weather.com, or watch the local news or weather channel.