

Inform Quarterly

A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library's Reference Section

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Librarian

From the Reference Desk

With summer in full swing, this issue of Inform Quarterly focuses on information about travel, historic Old Route 66, gasoline prices and ways to reach a librarian almost anywhere, any time of day through the State Library's Ask?Away reference service. Check out recent articles on the trend in gas prices, read up on historic places along Old Route 66 in Illinois and across the country, pick up a book on travel in Illinois, or visit one of several Web sites with tips on traveling and places to go in Illinois and beyond. Don't forget to check out the display in July featuring Old Route 66 on the second-floor atrium of the State Library.

To request materials or find answers to your questions, please contact:

Reference phone • 217-782-7596

Reference fax • 217-524-0041

Map Collection • 217-782-5823

Patent & Trademark Division • 217-782-5659

"Ask the State Library"

www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/home.html

Access the State Library database at
<http://library.ilcso.illinois.edu/isl>

Illinois State Library hours:

Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Old Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program

Immortalized in print, song, film and the memories of millions, Old Route 66 represents a cross-cultural segment of American society for the 20th century. Historically, Route 66 stretched along a 2,400-mile corridor from Chicago to the Pacific Coast in California beginning in 1926. The last section of Route 66 was bypassed by interstate highway in 1985, thus ending an era for the "Mother Road."

In the 1990s, Congress authorized the National Park Service to conduct a study of the historic route and begin a program for the preservation of the highway's colorful heritage. As part of the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, the Illinois State Library is the collaborating partner on the project representing the state of Illinois. Each state along the historic ribbon of highway (Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California) has at least one partner institution to develop and coordinate an archive of information about the impact of Route 66 on that state. The Illinois State Library will gather oral histories and print materials about Route 66 in Illinois and work with other institutions, organizations and libraries along the route to help collect and preserve materials.

For more information about the program, or to view maps and read articles about Route 66, visit www.cr.nps.gov/rt66/.

Gasoline rising

With gasoline prices at an all-time high and the summer travel season upon us, the following are a few resources that may be of interest:

Read About It: "Taking Lumps At The Pump," *U.S. News & World Report*, April 30, 2007, 64-65; "Pain at the Pump & Checkout," *Business Week*, No. 4030, April 16, 2007, 26; "Word on Streets, We'll Spend Less in 2007 — Chicago Consumers Say Employment, Gas Prices will Change their Shopping Plans," *Crain's Chicago Business*, May 21, 2007, 2-3, 9. Additional articles are searchable by visiting the State Library's Gateway to Electronic Resources page at www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_have/gateway/home.html. As state employees, enter your last name and State Library card number to search hundreds of journals.

Practical Advice: Find reasons why gas prices keep soaring, tips for coping with the crisis, and ways to save on your short- or long-distance travel at www.fueleconomy.gov/. Track gas prices at www.gaspricewatch.com/new/default_V3.asp.

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Serving Illinois state employees • Summer 2007

Gasoline rising (cont. from front)

Bottom of the Barrel: Want to learn more about gas prices? Looking for statistics on gas sales and prices? What's happening in other states? Contact the Reference Section at 217-782-7596 or www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/.

Ask?Away: Whether on the road, in your home or at the office, you are just a keystroke away from a librarian. The State Library's Ask?Away online reference service provides information via live chats and e-mail any time of day or night at www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/home.html (click ASK?AWAY).



Travel-related reads

- **Assassination Vacation**, by Sarah Vowell. 973.099 VOWE
- **Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising & Cruise Ships**. 910.202 BERL
- **Frequent Traveler's Guide**, by Alexander. 910 ANOL
- **100 Best Art Towns in America: a Guide to Galleries, Museums, Festivals, Lodging, and Dining**, by John Villani. 700 VILL
- **Mark Twain on Travel**, edited by Terry Mort Guilford. 818 TWAI
- **MP, Millennium Park, Chicago**, by the Chicago Office of Tourism. 977.311 MP
- **Road Trip USA: Cross-Country Adventures on America's Two-Lane Highways**, by Jamie Jensen. 917.304931 JENS
- **Travel Demand, 2005**, by Transportation Research Board. 625.7 HIGH2 no. 1921
- **Weird Illinois: Your Travel Guide to Illinois' Local Legends and Best Kept Secrets**, by Troy Taylor. 133.129773 TAYL
- **You Know You're in Illinois When : 101 Quintessential Places, People, Events, Customs, Lingo, and Eats of the Prairie State**, by Pam Henderson and Jan Mathew. 977.3043 HEND

Now On Display

Illinois State Library atrium second-floor bridge

July — Route 66

A display of books, maps and other items highlighting the legendary "Mother Road."

August — Travel

Maps, atlases, gazetteers, guidebooks, and other materials with information on countries around the world.

September — National Hispanic Heritage Month

Information and resources on the important contributions to our country by Hispanic Americans.

New in Reference

Essentials of Medical Geology: Impact of the Natural Environment on Public Health, Burlington, MA: Elsevier, 2005. REF 614.4 / ESSE. Medical geology is the study of health problems related to a geological location, and why people in one area may be more susceptible to disease or health conditions than people in another location. This resource is divided into four sections: Environmental Biology; Pathways and Exposures; Environmental Toxicology, Pathology, and Medical Geology; and Techniques and Tools.

Encyclopedia of the Underground Railroad, by J. Blaine Hudson, Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co. Pub., 2006. REF 973.7 / HUDS. A wealth of information about the Underground Railroad, including a timeline of Slavery and the Underground Railroad; Selected Friends of the Fugitives by last name and state (and Canada); Selected Underground Railroad Sites by site name and state (and Canada); National Park Service Underground Railroad Sites; Bibliography of Slave Autobiographies; and Selected Antislavery and Underground Railroad Songs.

Travel on the Web

www.enjoyillinois.com — The official Web site of the Illinois Bureau of Tourism highlights weekend getaways, tourist attractions, trip planners and information on restaurants, sports and theater. A comprehensive schedule of festivals and events in Illinois is available, as well as downloadable travel guides, maps and in-depth features on popular Illinois attractions. **Featured Getaway: Ride Route 66 Getaway:** Attractions and restaurants include Lou Mitchell's Restaurant and Bakery in Chicago, the Route 66 Welcome Center in Joliet, the Polk-a-Dot Drive-In in Braidwood, the Route 66 Hall of Fame & Museum in Pontiac, and Shea's Gas Station Museum in Springfield.

http://travel.state.gov — Traveling abroad or needing a passport? This site from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs features links to passport applications and forms, access to travel warnings and public announcements, and travel tips and travel document requirements for U.S. citizens. The site also has contact information for overseas citizens services and links to U.S. Embassies and Consulates worldwide.

Library card expired?

If you are an Illinois state employee and your State Library card has been lost or has expired, call the Circulation Desk and the staff can assist you over the phone.

217-782-7573

