

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
S1224 (18-15)
ELIZABETH "BETSEY" BRUCE PAPERS
1973-2016

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Introduction

The Elizabeth "Betsey" Bruce papers contain television scripts, photographs, newspaper clippings, and reports, documenting her 46-year career as a television broadcaster at KMOV-TV and KTVI-TV, in St. Louis, Missouri. Subjects of interest include Bruce's reporting on school desegregation in St. Louis; Missouri Governor's races, including the death of Governor Mel Carnahan in 2000; the St. Louis County Special School District; and prominent women in Missouri politics, including State Senator Harriet Woods. The papers date from 1971 to 2016.

Elizabeth 'Betsey' Barnette Bruce was St. Louis's longest-serving television journalist, covering politics, education, and general news. She became the first full-time female TV street reporter in St. Louis when KMOV-TV (Channel 4) hired her in January 1971. While working at Channel 4, Bruce was part of the team that pioneered "live" reports with portable video cameras and microwave technology. Later in her career, Bruce hosted KMOV-TV's public affairs programs, where she interviewed local and national figures, including Gloria Steinem and Phyllis Schlafly on the Equal Rights Amendment, as well as David Duke of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1989, Bruce joined KTVI-TV (Channel 2) and covered several major news stories, including the civil unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, prompted by the shooting of teenager Michael Brown; the Mississippi River floods of 1973 and 1993; and Pope John Paul II's visit to St. Louis in 1999. On December 16, 2016, Bruce retired from Channel 2, after covering St. Louis for 46 years.

Donor Information

The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Elizabeth "Betsey" Bruce on July 16, 2018 (Accession No. 18-15)

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Box List

Box 1

Contacts

- Potential contacts, 1982-1984, 1998
- Rolodex contacts, no date
- Three-ring binder, no date (3 folders)

Box 2

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

Briefing Materials

How to Investigate Your Friends and Enemies, by Louis J. Rose, 1981
Journalists Resource Guide: Medicare, Medicaid, Insurance Reform, Abortion,
1996
Media Briefing, City of the St. Louis, Office of the Mayor, 1989
Political coverage, internet sites of value, 1996-2000
St. Louis Women’s Commerce Association Directory, 1984
Show Me the Money and Campaigns for Sale, media guides, 1998-1999
statistics, population, rape, and domestic violence, 1984-1985

Station Standards

CBS Statement on Political Broadcasts, 1980
CBS Television Stations, news standards, 1977-1981
Channel 4 Newsroom Standards, no date
Fox 2 Community Guide and Conflict of Interest Policy, 2005, no date
KMOV-TV Style Book, 1986

Box 3

Crime Reports

Baby Abby kidnapping, 2006-2008
Children abducted, Angie Housman and Cassidy Senter, 1993-1994
Amiel Cueto, investigation and trial, 1997 (2 folders)
Date rape, 2000
Drugs, violence, and gangs, 1993-2001
John Keith Hill murder, 2001
Homicides, missing persons, and rape, 1984-2000
Kirkwood City Council shootings, 1999-2008
Allen Lieberman fraud case, 1996-1997
Mafia, 1980-1983
Nagle body, crime, no date
Research and scripts, 1985, 2008-2013
St. Louis City shootings, 2001-2004
Serial killer, Maury Travis, 2002
Anthony Lamar Smith murder, Jason Stockley charged, 2016
Sumner High School teens killed, 2013

General News Stories

1986 Statue of Liberty Centennial, 1986
East St. Louis, 1983
Gambling, 1992-2000

Box 4

Political Stories

2000 Election, background materials for analysis, 1996, 2000
Governor Mel Carnahan’s death, 2000
Governor Bob Holden inauguration, press packet, 2001
Missouri primaries, research and scripts, 1992
St. Louis City, April election, 1989

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth "Betsey" Bruce Papers

St. Louis City mayoral race, 1997, 2001 (3 folders)
St. Louis City and County November 2000 election fraud, 2000-2002
Fox 2/Schnucks Voter Guide
1992 Missouri governor race, candidate questionnaires, 1992
1996 Voters Guide, survey and stories, 1996
Candidate questionnaires, 1992, 1998 (2 folders)
Voter guides, 1992-1996

Box 5

General News Stories

Admiral Casino boat, river accidents, 1998, 2001
Catholic priests, sex abuse cases, 1988-1999
Claywest Nursing Home, 1999
Coalition Against Public Funding for Stadiums, 2002, 2004
Kirk Collins case, 1990-1991, 2006
Michael Devlin, 2008
Jane Doe, Hope Clinic suit, 2001-2002
Doe Run Company, Herculaneum lead poisoning scandal, 2001-2002
Flood of 1993 (2 folders)
Shawn Horbeck (missing, October 6, 2002), 2004-2008
Kirkwood police officer murdered (William Mcentee), 2005, 2007
Missouri Medicaid cuts, 2005
Missouri Veterans Home, Clarence Curtis leg amputation scandal, 2003-2004
Nursing homes, 1999-2004
Officer Norvelle Brown killed, 2007
Rape, 1990-1992
Roxie Ann Rice, National Football League drug scandal, 1975
St. Louis City Circuit Clerk, 1982-1986
St. Louis Housing Authority, 1997-1999
St. Louis nursing home investigation (Congressman William Lacy Clay), 2001

Box 6

Mental Health Issues, Developmental Disabilities, and Children

Autism, 1998, 2008
Bellefontaine Habilitation Center controversy, 2002, 2006
Child custody, no date
Developmental Disabilities Stories
 Bellefontaine Habitation Center, 2005-2008
 Mental retardation, 2000-2001
 Mental health, 2001
Disability issues, 1993, 2000-2001
Disabled, ADAPT, 1999
Disabled contacts, 1995, 2000, 2005
Fatal fire, Affton, 2004
Foster care story, 2002-2003
Foster care, complaints, 2002-2005

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

Vince Greer, mental health issues, 2003
Homicide, McCluer North High School, 1994-1995, 1998
Long-term care facilities, fire safety, 2006-2007
Thomas Moran lawsuit (St. Louis City police officer), 1998-1999, 2001
St. Charles Habilitation Center, 2003

Box 7

Pope John Paul II visit to St. Louis, 1999 (2 folders)

Political Coverage

1996 elections, 1996
Mel Carnahan, Governor’s inauguration, 1996
Illinois primary, 1996
KMOX-TV voter registration series, 1976
Missouri Governor’s campaign, 1996
Presidential campaign, Missouri and Illinois, 1996
Proposition A, Missouri minimum wage, 1996
Republican National Convention, 1996, 2000, 2004 (4 folders)
Voices and choices 96, FOX 2 and Schnucks Voters Guide, 1996
Washington University presidential debate, 2004

Box 8

Political Coverage

1986 political shot sheets and scripts, 1988
Aero travel, 1995-1997
Senator J. B. “Jet” Banks, 1997-1999
George Herbert Walker Bush and George Walker Bush, 1988-2004
East St. Louis mayoral Race, 1987
Fox 2 governor debate, Jay Nixon vs. Kenny Hulshof, 2008
Hancock II amendment, November 1994
Kinloch/Lambert-St. Louis International Airport lawsuit, 2000
Living wage vote, 2000
Midterm election, 1990
Midterm election, ballot issues, 1990
Midterm election, November 1994
Missouri and Illinois elections, 1988
Missouri governor’s race, Jay Nixon vs. Kenny Hulshof, 2008
Missouri Secretary of State and State Treasurer’s races, 2000
Missouri settlement with big tobacco companies, 1999
Jay Nixon, 1992, 1997
News scripts, 1999-2000
November 1986 election plans, 1986
Politics, 1989
Proposition A and school bond vote, St. Louis City and County, April 3, 1990
Proposition A (cigarette tax), November 2003
Proposition B (concealed carry law), 1999, 2001
Proposition B (education tax), November 1991

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

Proposition O (sport facilities) and Proposition P (Regional Economic Development Board), 1991-1992
St. Louis City Schools (Vashon High School), Proposition 1, April 1998
St. Louis County Executive race, George Westfall vs. H.C. Milford, 1990, 2003
St. Louis Regional Medical Center, 1997
Zoo-Museum District, Proposition A-B-C, November 11, 1989

Box 9

Political Coverage

2nd Missouri Congressional District, 2000
1988 Presidential campaign issues, March-August, 1988
Kit Bond, 1979-2003 (4 folders)
Kit Bond and Joseph Teasdale, Missouri governor campaign, 1980
William Lacy Clay Sr. and Jr., 1 Missouri District, 1991-2000
Democratic convention, 1988
Clarence Harmon, 1995-2001
Illinois governor race, 1994
INSLAW and Attorney General Edwin Meese, 1988
Virvus Jones, 1993, 1995
Claire McCaskill and Jim Talent, United States Senate race, 2006
Missouri governor race, 2008
Missouri Second District, Joan Kelly Horn vs. John Bueckhner, 1988-1992
Missouri State Legislature, 2004
Jay Nixon Senate race, 1998
Political scripts, 1984, 2008 (2 folders)
Politics, Taum Sauk Reservoir, 2006-2007
Polling planning, 1987-1988
Ronald Reagan, 1982, 1984, 1987
George Ryan, Illinois governor, scandal, 2002-2007
St. Louis City Comptroller Race, 1988-1989
St. Louis City Comptroller and mayoral primaries, 1989
Vincent Schoemehl and St. Louis City, 1985-1988, 2008

Box 10

St. Louis Area Education Issues

Bullying, 2000-2003
Corporal punishment, 1995
Desegregation, test scores, and vocational education programs, 1980-1983
Girls fighting, 2005-2006
Homeschooling, 1990-1999
News Stories on charter schools and St. Louis City School Board personality battles, 1993-2004
Riverview Gardens School District, superintendent Dr. Henry P. Williams controversy, 2000-2007 (2 folders)
St. Louis Public School District,
Accreditation, 1999

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

Missouri State Board of Education takeover of St. Louis Public School District, 2006-2007
Ouster of superintendent Creg Williams, 2005-2006
School consolidation plan, 2003-2006
Special Administrative Board, legal issues, 2007
Special Advisory Committee on St. Louis Public Schools, draft report, December 2006
Thurgood Marshall Academy (charter school), 2000-2001
The Vashon Compact with St. Louis Public Schools, Vashon/JeffVanderLou Initiative, 2001-2003
Wellston School District accreditation, 2005
Marlene Terry Bankruptcy Case, 2003

Box 11

Matt Blunt, 2003-2008
Consulting Work and convergence workshop, 1989, 2007
League of Women Voters Education Fund, documentary on the women’s suffrage movement, research materials and script, 1998-1999
St. Louis and Eastern Missouri Environmental Issues
British Petroleum (BP) oil spill, 2010
Chlorine leak at DPC Enterprises facility in Festus, Missouri, 2002-2004
Dioxin contamination in Ellisville, Missouri, Environmental Protection Agency investigation, 1994-1998
Lead contamination in Crawford County, Missouri (Burlington Northern Railroad Company), 1993-1997 (2 folders)
Radioactive Sites Cleanup, Lambert-St. Louis International Airport and Weldon Spring, Missouri, 1986-1997
Times Beach, dioxin stories, 1990-2004
Weldon Spring Ordnance Works, superfund cleanup, 1984-2002
St. Louis Journalism and Media Groups, 1991, 2008
Women in Broadcasting
Gender pay gap, visibility of women in news media, 1976-1992
Women in Communications, Incorporated, agendas, reports, and newsletter, 1992-1995

Box 12

Media Issues
Freedom of the press, TV-anchor pay, and bias in reporting, 1971-1980
Legal issues, 1987-2004
Libel laws, cameras in courtrooms, violent news coverage, 1990-2006
Missouri sunshine law and open meetings, 1989-1998
Lambert-St. Louis International and St. Louis Area Airports
Airport expansion, 1990-1991, 1996-1999 (3 folders)
Expansion program, Runway 11-29, 2006
Flight cutbacks to Lambert-St. Louis International Airport, 2007

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

KMOX-TV series on the future of the St. Louis Area Airport, 1975-1977
Scott Air Force Base, joint use agreement with St. Clair County, Illinois, 1991
Trans World Airlines, Carl Icahn takeover, 1985-1986
Trans World Airlines, sale of air routes to American Airlines and bankruptcy,
1990-2001
St. Louis Arena, closing, renovation proposals, and demolition, 1990-2005

Box 13

St. Louis School Desegregation Information and Stories
Normandy schools, 2014
Normandy schools, desegregation, 2014
Jane Turner, et al., V. School District of Clayton, et al, suburban school tuition
lawsuit, 2010-2013
St. Louis City School District desegregation programs, expense and revenue
ramifications, 1995-1999
St. Louis City School District desegregation settlement, 1995-1999 (2 folders)
Craton, Liddell et al., vs. the Board of Education of the City of St. Louis,
Missouri, 1993-1996
A Report from the Civic Progress Task Force on Desegregation of the St. Louis
Public School System, December 1995-March 1996
The St. Louis Community Monitoring and Support Task Force, Summary and
Annual Report to the Community, 2001
Desegregation Report and Policy Statement, Board of Education of the City of
St. Louis, 1995

Box 14

Northwest Habilitation Center
Michael L. Mayfield, 1999-2000
Statement of deficiencies, 1990
Investigation, 1999
Rosemary Saffo, 1988-2000
Betsey Bruce’s notes, 1999-2000
St. Charles Habitation Center, 1999-2001
Sexual Assault/St. Charles Habilitation Center, 1999
Special School District of St. Louis County
“Broken Promises,” investigative series on Special School District of St. Louis
County, 1993-1994, 1997 (2 folders)
Missouri State audit report, 1996
Request for records, 1995
Special education stories, 2003
Lawsuit and appeals, 1995-1996
Evaluations and reports, 1991-1995 (3 folders)
Requests for information from staff at Special School District of St. Louis
County, June 1993
Merry V. Parkway School District Lawsuit, 1993
Special School District of St. Louis County, issues, 1993-1995

S1224 (18-15)
Elizabeth “Betsey” Bruce Papers

Box 15

Women In News, Day Care, Equal Rights Amendment, Abortion, Politics
Harriet Woods, April 18, 1985-January 11, 1988
Equal Rights Amendment, November 1973-January 1983
Paul Simon, US Senator, presidential candidate, 1988
Missouri Governor’s inaugurations, 2001, 2009
John McCain, 2008
Barack Obama, 2004-2008 (3 folders)
Women’s issues, 1991
Women In work force, 1983
Working Mother Guide (Never Published), 1979
Day care pre-school, 1989
Day care, 1983
Day care parenting, 1982-1990
Day care series contacts, May 1983
Abortion, 1989
Abortion, partial birth, 1997, 1999
Women in politics, 1975-2001 (3 Folders)
Missouri Governor’s race, 2008
Gender gap debate, 1984