S0867 Corrigan, Patricia, Collection, 1965-2008
5 Boxes

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This collection is stored off site. Please allow 3-5 business days for retrieval.

Patricia Corrigan, a native St. Louisan, donated a collection of scrapbooks and copies of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that contain articles and columns she wrote during her journalistic career to the State Historical Society of Missouri-St. Louis in June 2009.

Patricia Corrigan began her career in journalism while a student at Webster Groves High School in the mid-1960s, writing articles on school events for the now defunct St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In addition, she wrote occasional pieces for national teen magazines, such as Ingénue, and submitted feature articles to numerous St. Louis area publications, beginning with twenty-three pieces for the Webster Advertiser in 1965-1966. Following graduation from Webster Groves, Corrigan enrolled in the School of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia, but left when she got married. While her husband was in the Army and stationed near Lawton, Oklahoma, she wrote for the local paper, the Lawton Constitution.

When she and her family returned to St. Louis she took jobs in public relations and advertising, and earned a B.S. degree in health education. At the same time, Corrigan pursued the challenging role of a free lance writer. During the next fifteen years, she wrote feature stories for the Webster Groves/Kirkwood Times, The St. Louisan, Profile St. Louis, The Citizen (a West County Publication), St. Louis Mirror, and most significantly for The Globe-Democrat and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Occasional pieces by Corrigan also appeared in magazines published in St. Louis (see items in Box 1.)

In 1982, she took a permanent job with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, working as a general assignment reporter but increasingly focused on feature stories. From 1986 onward, she was assigned permanently to the features desk. Corrigan covered a variety of subjects. As she notes, during her 23 years at the Post-Dispatch, she worked “as a news reporter, food writer, restaurant critic, theater critic, night city editor, feature columnist, travel writer, health and fitness writer, and fashion writer.” Her work appeared in the Post’s life/style section, the Everyday section, and the Business section. In the early 1990s until she left the newspaper, Corrigan wrote a weekly column for the Saturday edition, covering a multitude of subjects. (She published a collection of these columns in Convertible Dreams: Saturday Morning Musings on Life, Lunch, and Matters of the Heart in 2001.)

In 2005, Corrigan took a retirement buyout from the Post-Dispatch. However, she has not “retired” and continues to work as a freelance writer and editor, and to write feature articles for a variety of publications. (For a current source of Corrigan’s activities, see http://particiacorrigan.com)

The collection is composed chiefly of cuttings of many of the articles Corrigan wrote, with the largest number coming from the Post-Dispatch, for whom she worked from 1982 through
2005. Her articles provide an interesting insight to the social life of St. Louis, frequently focusing on the changing values and styles in American life.

In addition to her journalistic work, Corrigan has authored a number of books, chiefly on animals, with a particular interest in whales. Some of these books included in her donation and are available from the stacks at State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis.

**Box 1, Folders 1-21**

1. Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings, 1965-1966 (while a student at Webster Groves High School, then University of Missouri).
17. Feature Articles in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, July 26-December 6, 2004.
18. Feature Articles in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, January 5-July 20, 2005.
19. Feature Articles in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, August 21-November 9, 2005.
20. Feature Articles in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, September 3, October 2, November 27, 2006; September 3-October 8, 2007.

**Box 2, Folders 22-28**

25. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 20, 1982-March 6, 1983.
27. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, April 11, 1984-July 31, 1984.
28. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, September 2-December 31, 1984.

Box 3, Folders 29-39

30. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 18, 1985-February 17, 1986
33. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, February 14-July 8, 1987.
35. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, December 6, 1987-June 12, 1988
37. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 27, 1988-May 9, 1989.

Box 4, Folders 40-51

40. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, June 17-October 28, 1990.
42. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, July 11, 1991-April 12, 1992.
43. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, April 14, 1992-March 21, 1993.
44. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, April 3-September 16, 1993.
47. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, January 8, 1995-September 24, 1995.
50. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, June 1-September 25, 1997.

Box 5, Folders 52-61

52. Scrapbook of Feature Articles, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, January 5-April 30, 1998.
The Corrigan Collection includes a number of books on St. Louis life and history. Patricia Corrigan is the author of several of these works. Patrons will find the books on the shelves in the research room, according to the catalog references noted below.


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