

Remember When

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June 2015

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

June 6, 1890

Shakopee still holds the Court House.—The Supreme Court has decided the court house removal came against the petitioners and in favor of the county commissioners in their refusal to entertain the petition, for want of proper notice being given and thereby want of jurisdiction. So the county seat will continue to remain at Shakopee—for the present.

June 13, 1890

The bag game is a new wrinkle for Shakopee, but it was sufficiently successful to filch a few dollars from some of our merchants, by a very “business” kind of fellow, during the past week. The scheme was to get three prominent merchants to have their names printed on the bags they would furnish, free, and to charge others \$2 more or less for an “advertising card” thereon. It took, it was something new, you know, and the Argus office after going to the expense of setting up the job, was left waiting for the 4,000 sacks to come in, and the stamps to cover the price of printing, while several others were so much cash out on this fellow’s false representations before he skipped.

June 20, 1890

John Dean having sold his blacksmith shop on Lewis street to Charles and George Kopp, will probably remove from here ‘ere long. But we hope not far away, as Mr. Dean has always been a good citizen.

June 27, 1890

At the 4th of July celebration in Shakopee, the Fire Department will turn out in procession, also invincibles etc. Major Strait has been selected as marshal of the day, Julius A. Collier as reader and James McHale to deliver the oration. With good weather there should be an immense number here of out of town folks.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

June 6, 1890

F. C. Gellenbeck and Otto Dierberger will run a ‘bus on Sundays during the lake season, between Shakopee and Prior Lake, starting from Shakopee in the morning and returning in the evening.

June 13, 1890

Tom Deveney’s new granary was totally destroyed by fire Monday night, together with grain, machinery, wagons, sleighs and harness. The loss is about \$800 on which there is \$500 insurance in the Fire and Marine placed with B. A. Kohler.

June 20, 1890

Work on B. A. Kohler’s new drug store is being rushed as rapidly as frequent rains will permit. The bricklayers are working on the second story.

June 27, 1890

The Fire Department have about completed their arrangements to give us the greatest Fourth of July celebration we have had for several years. A large sum has been contributed by the citizens to purchase fireworks and that feature of the celebration will be well worth witnessing.

100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

June 4, 1915

Two Narrow Escapes Furnish Thrills

Two of our young ladies had a narrow escape from drowning in the river near the park last Monday afternoon, when a motorboat from St. Paul caused the canoe in which they were riding with two young men from that city to upset. Luckily they were close enough to shore to be dragged to safety by the boys after some strenuous work and beyond a scare and a good ducking they came off unharmed. And again that afternoon Art Tessmer of Eden Prairie on a motorcycle came around a corner and found himself pocketed between a popcorn wagon and Charlie Berens’ big auto, and collided with the auto with such force as to demolish his motorcycle, altho he himself escaped unharmed.

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June 11, 1915

The first base ball game of the season will be held at Riverside Athletic Park next Sunday between Shakopee and Belle Plaine. "Shooty" will pitch for Shakopee and a good game is in sight. Everybody come and root for the home boys.

June 18, 1915

Real Estate man S. B. Ferguson is planning on getting a twin city home building concern to Shakopee to build a number of modern homes for individuals who desire to own their own homes, purchased on the monthly payment plan. The concern will build a home for you, on your own lot, at a cost ranging from one to four or five thousand dollars, as you may elect, and allow payments to be made monthly, all above interest being applied on the payment of the principal sum. Many parties are showing interest in this plan, and if enough can be secured in the near future to make it worth while, the company will come here and begin the work at once. Talk with Mr. Ferguson; it may result in your having a home of your own quite as easily as paying rent from month to month.

June 25, 1915**New Home for Library**

The Public Library, which has been located at Stelten's Confectionery for the past couple of years has been moved to the northeast room of the ground floor of the Union School building, where it will be open to the public Saturday afternoons and evenings. Mrs. Duffy, president of the library board, will act as librarian until the arrival of Miss Schultz, who is taking a course in library training at the state university. The thanks of the library association are extended to Mr. Jos. Stemmer who kindly contributed his team and his own services in transferring the books and cases to their new location and to Mr. and Mrs. Stelten and Miss Anna, who have acted as librarian the past two years. The association and the patrons of the library are greatly indebted for innumerable courtesies and unfailing patience and attention to the many demands made upon their time. A ten volume set of the Junior Classics, Harvard edition, beautifully illustrated and bound, has been added to the library, affording excellent vacation reading for the young people.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus***June 4, 1915****Diplomas Awarded To Twenty-one**

Graduation exercises of Shakopee high school began Sunday evening with the baccalaureate address at the opera house which was listened to by a large audience. Supt. Harrington addressed the class and dwelt on the necessity of efficiency as the keynote to success in the modern walks of life. The students were admonished to seek only that which is

best in life and to set up and maintain a standard of high ideals leading always toward perfection. Mr. Harrington's discourse was earnest and thoughtful and commanded the attention of his hearers.

Musical numbers by Edward Huber and the Glee club of the high school were opening and closing features of the evening.

June 11, 1915

A runaway team on Lewis street Monday struck an automobile standing near Dr. Fischer's office, breaking the mud guard, and then crashed into a cattlerack, tearing a wheel from the latter, and creating considerable excitement before the horses were captured after a wild run. The team is said to belong to a farmer from Bush Lake whose name was not learned.

June 18, 1915**Shakopee Hospital Opened Monday**

Shakopee Hospital, as Dr. P. M. Fischer has named his handsome new private hospital, was opened Monday when three operations were performed upon children for the removal of adenoids and tonsils.

Work on the hospital was begun early last September and it stands today a monument to Dr. Fischer's enterprise and progressiveness, an ornament to the city and an institution that will fill a longfelt need in Shakopee.

By tearing away the west wing of his residence and rebuilding a large addition to his home, Dr. Fischer now not only possesses one of the handsomest residences in the city but a splendidly equipped private hospital that will greatly facilitate his professional work and an institution which his increasing practice has made a necessity in order to meet the demands made upon his time. The building contains sixteen spacious rooms exclusive of three large vestibules, a bath and operating room, all finished throughout in hardwood with birch and maple flooring. There are three wide, airy porches and a full basement of concrete with modern laundry equipment. The main hospital entrance, facing the west, opens into a vestibule that leads into the waiting room, beyond which are the doctor's office, the library and private living rooms—all bright, pleasant rooms with large windows admitting plenty of cheerful, health-giving sunlight. Upstairs are five good-sized hospital rooms, the operating room, bath and sleeping rooms, the latter so arranged that they may easily be utilized for patients in the event of necessity. All are finished attractively in white and are thoroughly modern, the operating room being complete in every detail for surgical cases and emergency work demanding hospital equipment. Wide screened porches furnish out-of-door sleeping room if desired, and the building in every respect has the appearance of

a beautiful and comfortable home where patients who dread or dislike entering a city hospital may receive every care afforded by the latter institution while enjoying the conveniences and comforts of pleasant home surroundings. The building stands in the center of a spacious lawn with handsome shade trees, shrubbery and flowers beautifying the grounds. It is lighted by electricity, heated by hot water and has city water and sewer connections. Shakopee hospital is bound to be a success and Dr. Fischer is deserving of all credit for giving to the city an institution of its kind. His standing in the community as a conscientious and successful physician and surgeon is such as to inspire the utmost confidence in his new venture, and with a modern hospital at his command he is now prepared to carry on his chosen work to the best possible advantage.

The operations performed Monday were upon children brought here from St. Bonifacius and were most successful. Dr. H. A. Dreschler, a well-known physician of St. Paul operated with Dr. Fischer.

June 25, 1915

Mr. and Mrs. John Heinen returned Monday from their wedding trip and are domiciled in the rooms over Mr. Heinen's store. The new Mrs. Heinen, who comes here as a stranger, will be accorded a very cordial welcome to the social circles of the city.

75 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune*

June 6, 1940

Flood Lighted Field In Offing

Through the combined efforts of the Shakopee Athletic Association, the local Softball association and the public school athletic organization, Shakopee is soon to be provided with a flood-lighted field in the new recreation park for softball and football activities.

Those local groups, interested in the development of a broader and more extensive program of outdoor recreation for both the young and the not-so-young folks of this community, have felt for some time the growing need of a flood-lighted field such as Shakopee will have in the very near future. With this thought in mind it was realized that that end could be attained only by enlisting the interest and cooperation of all groups of interested citizens.

Thus a more or less temporary organization was formed with A. C. Pass as president, and W. F. Duffy, as secretary-treasurer. These with other committee members, including E. J. Huber, Donald Childs, Roman Kopp, Supt. Metcalf, Harold Bigot, Frank Strunk and Francis Thompson took up the matter of financing the project. The committee started out and waiting on the various business interests and business con-

cerns of Shakopee found them very responsive and very cooperative with the result that sufficient funds were pledged to warrant the next step which was to obtain proposals from the various companies handling lighting equipment. Proposal were duly received and opened and considered at a meeting of the several interested groups held last Monday evening.

From some half dozen bids two were accepted, that is to say, the lighting projectors were ordered from the Westinghouse Co. and the balance of the equipment from the Sterling Lighting Co. They city council has agreed to furnish the necessary labor for installation, and it is anticipated that the job will be completed on or about July 1.

June 13, 1940

The State Reformatory had two groups of visitors the fore part of this week. On Tuesday evening, about 60 members of the Social Service club of Minneapolis, were guests at the institution and Wednesday, a group of ladies of the All-Go club of Stillwater, motored there and after enjoying a picnic lunch in the park, they were escorted through the buildings.

June 20, 1940

Janet Heinen Received Degree in Music Friday

Mac Phail School of Music conferred the degree, Bachelor of Music, upon Miss Janet Heinen, at graduation exercises held Friday evening at the Woman's Club, in Minneapolis.

Miss Heinen was one of a class of thirty-two graduates to receive a degree. Her performance on the piano has long been recognized as outstanding and her achievement is the result of her constant effort.

Those present at the exercises from this city were Mrs. John Heinen, Miss Marian Heinen and Mrs. Lena Stelten.

June 27, 1940

N.Y.A. Camp to Boost Enrollment to 300 Soon

Proposed expansion of the National Youth Advancement project east of Shakopee is expected to increase the camp enrollment to 300 in the next few months, J. A. Whelan, superintendent, disclosed.

More new residents are said to be reporting each week. Most of the present enrollees as well as the new members are chiefly interested in the aeronautics courses offered at the camp.

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

June 3, 1965

Lions Sponsor Cruise For Parks

Area residents are invited to take a boat cruise on the Tonka Belle Saturday, July 10. The boat will leave from Excelsior Amusement Park at 8:30 p.m. and return at midnight. The excursion is sponsored by the Shakopee Lions Club.

Admission for the evening's entertainment, which includes music and refreshments, is \$10 per couple. Tickets may be purchased from ticket chairman, Gene Brown, or from any Lions Club member.

Proceeds from the event will be used to purchase playground equipment for the Shakopee parks.

June 10, 1965

Name Park To Honor Native, Maurice H. Stans

The Shakopee City park at Tenth Avenue and Fuller Street, adjacent to the site of the new high school, was officially named Maurice H. Stans Park by resolution of the Common Council of the City of Shakopee at its regular meeting Tuesday night of this week.

The resolution, passed unanimously, also provides that a suitable plaque and tablet be located on the grounds memorializing the Shakopee native who recently made possible through the Stans Foundation, \$100,000 in funds through the First National Bank of Shakopee for loans to finance education beyond high school for students of the Shakopee community.

The resolution in part stated that the dedication was to honor one of the nation's outstanding men in finance and government whose birth place and hometown in Shakopee and a man who has taken an interest in the youth of this community.

Stans, who is president of Glore Forgan, Wm. R. Staats & Co., Inc. well known investment bankers, has held other top executive positions in the banking and investment field, was Director of the Bureau of the Budget, under President Eisenhower, and served as Deputy Postmaster General...

June 17, 1965

Riverside Park Diamond In Shape

Riverside park diamond was in shape for the Shakopee Cubs-St. Benedict Dakota-Rice-Scott league baseball contest last evening (Wednesday), June 16, thanks to the program of emergency park cleanup conducted through a federal government aid program.

Supervised by Don Aschenbrener of the high school faculty, 12 Shakopee youths, interviewed and screened by the State Employment Service of Hopkins, are now carrying out the sprucing up after flood damage in Shakopee parks. The boys are working 40 hours a week for a period of 60 days on the project.

Monday of this week, the crew was at work at Riverside park preparing the diamond for Shakopee's baseball activity. They are able to complete work in Huber, Memorial, Marystown Road and Water Tower parks, under this activity in conjunction with President Johnson's Anti-Poverty program.

The Hopkins office reported that some 40 boys between the ages of 16 and 21 were interviewed for the program with 12 selected for the Shakopee project.

June 24, 1965

Shakopee Pow-Wow Days To Feature Rodeo

With the banner going up at First and Holmes this week proclaiming the annual Shakopee Pow-Wow Days and announcing the big parade and rodeo, an RCA sanctioned event, that will attract top competitors, facts concerning the outstanding rodeo organization are presented.

Scene of the activity will be the area in Huber park that was made possible for the first time for Pow-Wow Days last year through outstanding co-operation of Shakopee organizations and citizens. The first event for the Shakopee Pow-Wow Days last year received widespread acclaim.

Rodeos Incorporated, coming to Shakopee, is a young, energetic rodeo production company that envisions a much greater expansion of rodeo activity than has previously been experienced. Rodeo, as in any field of endeavor, must change to keep pace with the rapid growth and progress that is so evident in this age.

And yet, the progressive nature of Rodeos Incorporated does not extinguish those traditional elements of competition, ruggedness and individualism that have always been basic to this original American sport...

25 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

June 7, 1990

Burkhart named state's knight of the year

Jim Burkhart of Shakopee was selected Minnesota Knight of the Year by the Minnesota Knights of Columbus at an annual convention recently in Mankato.

Burkhart, a five-year member of the James F. Campbell Knights of Columbus Council No. 1685 in Shakopee, was selected for the award by the 48,000-member statewide organization. Each year, a state winner is singled out for his work in the organization, his community and church...

June 14, 1990

High school to have deans next year

Concern about the increasing number of students considered to be at risk of failing their classes or dropping out of school will result in the start of the use of deans at Shakopee High School next fall.

Under the system, every high school student will be assigned to one of three deans who will be available to help students plan class schedules and post-secondary options, and provide counseling. They will also work to reinforce students' responsibility for their choices and the consequences of their choices. The dean system will be a more formalized program

than the guidance counselors now in use, according to Principal James Murphy...

June 21, 1990

Woman has raccoons stacked in her stack

Bernice Miller of 836 Sommerville St. said when she first heard noises in her chimney over seven weeks ago, she decided to just pretend she didn't hear them.

When the noises became louder and more regular, she decided it must be birds.

But when they turned into nearly constant thumps and bumps, she decided she had to check it out.

Toward dusk one evening, standing down the street from her house, she saw her problem, or at least part of her problem. There at the top of her chimney stack was an adult raccoon, quietly awaiting darkness so she could go out and forage food.

But the rest of her problem remained, for the raccoon is a mother with a nest of young raccoons apparently housed in Miller's chimney.

"They must be getting awfully big in there," commented Miller, who said she tries to picture the raccoons all stacked up inside as they grow larger.

She said she really didn't mind being a host to raccoons, as long as they stayed in the chimney. She doesn't plan to start a fire under them or anything like that, but she's beginning to think it's time they come out of their nest. And she is getting a bit nervous that somehow they might come down instead of up, even though her damper is apparently closed.

"I'm getting real nervous about going down into the basement. I keep thinking they might show up down there," said Miller.

She called animal control officials, "but not one is going to want to go down and get them," she said. She was told that, typically, the young raccoons will crawl out on their own at about six weeks of age.

Miller is hoping that is true, but as the days go by, she's beginning to wonder about it.

"They (the raccoons) are definitely at the wrestling stage. They're getting louder all of the time," she said.

She's hoping for some peace and quiet soon. When it arrives, she figures she'll have to get her chimney cleaned, and she definitely plans to put a screen around the top of the stack to keep any more critters from crawling into it.

June 28, 1990

Block 50 eliminated as possible city hall site

On a unanimous vote Tuesday night, the Shakopee City Council eliminated Block 50 from consideration as a city hall site.

The council's vote followed a public hearing on sites proposed by the city's Community Development Commission and a commission committee.

The council also agreed to hold a work session at a date to be determined to consider remaining sites and other alternatives.

The council's vote to eliminate Block 50, which is just south of the public library, followed concerns expressed by speakers at the hearing that home owners on the block have lived with uncertainty for six years, since the block was originally proposed as a city hall site. Eight homes would have to be removed under the proposal.

About 40 people attended the hearing, which was held at the Scott County Courthouse.

Most of the speakers seemed to favor a new city hall on land east of County Road 17, between Fourth Avenue and County Road 16.



The American Legion, pictured on the left, and the Shakopee Hospital, pictured on the right. The Shakopee Hospital was a private hospital run by Dr. P. M. Fischer.