

Remember When

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Volume I, Issue VIII

August 2015

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

Aug. 1, 1890

Church Dedication.—The new Evangelical Lutheran church of Shakopee, being now completed, the dedication services will take place on Sunday, Aug. 3d, the opening services being conducted by Pastor Spindler at the church door at ten o'clock, followed by a sermon by Prof. Woyer of New Ulm. The hymns will be accompanied by our Select Orchestral music, which promises to be a grand treat. In the afternoon at 2:30 services will be held in the English language by Prof. Schaller of New Ulm, and the Episcopal choir with Prof. C. C. Storer at the organ will assist with their fine singing. The public are cordially invited to participate in the ceremonies, regardless of religious denomination.

Aug. 8, 1890

J. Welfrenger of Jackson, says his apple crop is unusually heavy, particularly with the "duchess." Never had such a bearing before.

Aug. 15, 1890

S. Pope received a machine last Wednesday for making brooms, and will be to work at that business about Monday in the old express office stand next door East of John H. Theis.

Aug. 22, 1890

Caspar Schott has recently made a pair of no. 13 ½ shoes. He says it is the largest pair he ever made since he is in the shoe business.

Aug. 29, 1890

The old Nachtsheim house on First street is being repaired inside and outside, and a new fence is being put around it.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

Aug. 1, 1890

Work has commenced on J. A. Dean's brick blacksmith shop which is to be 26x36, one story high.

Aug. 8, 1890

A. J. Cogswell has built an addition to his residence.

Aug. 15, 1890

A. J. Grafenstatt and Linus Vierling opened their saloon, corner Second and Holmes streets yesterday, making in all thirteen saloons for Shakopee.

Aug. 22, 1890

John Simmer and Henry Dieken have built new hunting boats for this fall's duck shooting.

Aug. 29, 1890

Everywhere in the country can be heard the whistle of the steam thresher.

100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

Aug. 6, 1915

Business Changes

The Auto Lunch Parlor, conducted by Ben Gellenbeck the past several years was sold to Fred Stelten on Monday. Ted and Miss Anna Stelten have taken charge and will conduct the business in the future, Mr. Stelten and wife remaining at the old stand, the Eureka Confectionery. Mr. Gellenbeck has not decided as to his future plans and is at present spending some time at Prior Lake.

On Wednesday the Schiller Bar, owned by August Lebens changed hands, Sam Kahn of Blakely being the new proprietor and taking charge at once.

Aug. 13, 1915

The employees of the Minnesota Stove Co. will hold their first annual picnic at Riverside park tomorrow.

Aug. 20, 1915

One More Unfortunate

At 3:30 o'clock this morning as a freight train on the Omaha road pulled out of Merriam Junction for Shakopee, a hold-up artist boarded a boxcar in which two harvest hands were purloining a ride, and at the point of a gun held up one and took away \$14, and then called forth the other and took from him \$38. The second man attempted to knock the gun out of the robber's hand, and was shot twice, one bullet striking the breastbone and around to the right shoulder, outside

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the ribs, the other entering the face at the nose and lodging near the right ear.

The robber got off the train at the gravel pit, and the two victims of the holdup got off here, where the authorities were notified and are now out with a very accurate description of the robber, with good hope of nabbing him. The injured man will recover, it is said, and he is now lodged at the poor house, while his companion will remain in hope of testifying against the felon if he can be found.

Aug. 27, 1915

Shakopee Has Oil Depot

Oil inspector F. E. DuToit came to Shakopee, Wednesday morning to inspect the first tank-car of gasoline ever routed to this city, and before night the gas was pumped from the car into the new steel tank which has been erected inside a high-fenced enclosure west of the freight depot, and A. L. Hurr, who has embarked in the business of wholesaling and retailing gasoline and oils here, began deliveries to his own and other supply tanks about town.

The price is such that it can be retailed at 10 ½ cents a gallon, which is surely some relief from the high prices that prevailed the fore part of the season in the local field. As soon as the manufacturers can fill the order, three more tanks will be installed, carrying kerosene, and other grades of gasoline; and it is expected that local demand will call for about one tank-car each week.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

Aug. 6, 1915

In the interest of the Shakopee-Bloomington road M. J. Carr, one of the county commissioners of Ramsey county, offered a resolution appropriating \$1000 to go toward the construction of the road. Mr. Carr stated that he was actuated solely by his loyalty to Shakopee, his old home and his sentiments and efforts are appreciated by our citizens. Sen. J. B. Ries and Col. G. L. Nye were in St. Paul Monday and were before the Ramsey county board in the interest of the project.

Aug. 13, 1915

More than 100 of our citizens, besides the Cadet band, were in attendance Sunday at the German Catholic Central Verein convention in St. Paul. It is estimated that between 60 and 70 were in the line of march with the band and numerous others motored down to witness the big parade incident to the day's affairs.

Aug. 20, 1915

New Stove Factory Now Assured

The Equity Stove Company, whose articles of incorporation were published in the Argus a few weeks ago has amend-

ed its articles in so far as they refer to the corporate name of the company. In this issue the Argus publishes the amended articles which change the name "Equity" to "Shakopee" and the new company will be known as the Shakopee Stove Company. A five year lease of the Schroeder building in East Shakopee, which, we are told was originally built for foundry purposes, has been entered into and the necessary machinery to equip the same has been ordered and will be installed as soon as the building is ready for occupancy. Herman Schroeder, one of the firm of the Schroeder Brick & Lime Mfg. Co., informed the Argus that they have already begun work to put the large building in such shape and condition as to suit the convenience of the new company and that they have entered into a contract to have it ready for occupancy on or before Oct. 1st, next. In addition to the buildings now on the ground the Schroeder company will erect on the space immediately north of the present building, for the new company's use, a large brick warehouse.

Aug. 27, 1915

Carpenters, plasterers, painters, plumbers, and lastly George DeMers, janitor, having completed and made spick and span the room partitioned off at the High School for the new library, the cases containing the library belonging to the school were placed therein last Friday. On Saturday Mrs. Duffy assisted by Misses Josephine Linhoff, Genevieve Lies, Magdalen Allen, Rose Deutsch and Lucille Schwartz, with Mr. DeMers and Mr. Borst handling the heavy cases, moved the public library books up from the ground floor and all are now neatly arranged and ready to be re-catalogued with the old school library and the new books to be purchased by the school in compliance with the new regulations governing school libraries. The new library is situated on the second floor at the head and just to the right of the east stairway, opening into the main hall on one side and on the other into the class room presided over by Miss Schultz, teacher of English and German, who will also act as librarian. It is easy and convenient of access to the public and it is hoped that not only the books but the room itself, as a reading room, may be used freely by the public and thus serve to help establish the much desired closer relations between parents and patrons and the school. Until the arrival of Miss Schultz, Mrs. Duffy will continue to keep the library open on Saturdays.

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

Aug. 1, 1940

Athletic Park A Beauty Spot

Shakopee's newly developed athletic or recreation field which is hereafter to be known as Shakopee Athletic Park, is beginning to assume proportions that reveal in no uncertain

way the possibilities of the project.

About three years ago, a small group of Shakopee men conceived the idea that the plot of ground along the river bank, consisting of about 10 or more acres including within its bounds several small garden spots, owned and cultivated by local people, other spots with luxurious crops of weeds and still other unsightly corners used as dumping grounds for old cans and the like, where rats seemed to grow and thrive, and at night play "pom-pom pull-away," and a couple of acres of slough land on which was a deep depression filled with stagnant water, a breeder of mosquitoes, met the gaze of those who lived nearby or passed that way.

Well, this small group of men during their leisure hours met frequently to discuss plans and ways and means for improving this small area located on the south bank of the Minnesota river to the end that it might be converted into a park. A lot of planning and work has since been done and a great deal still remains to be done. But with what has thus far been accomplished by way of filling and grading, leveling and clearing, the planting of trees and sowing of grass, the entire area is so much improved as to be almost unrecognizable. As a matter of fact, it is now one of the beauty spots in that section of town, and the folks appreciate this marked improvement in that portion of our city.

While to the group of half dozen men, spurred on by the indefatigable worker, E. J. Huber, must go much of the credit for the showing made, the city council and a considerable number of Shakopee's civic-minded citizens whose generous contributions in the way of both money and labor, and the work of the WPA, must come in for their share of commendation for the progress made.

The latest addition to the park is a splendid flood-lighting system so arranged as to be able to furnish ample and efficient illumination for both softball activities and later on high school football. There is no end of athletic uses and activities this park may be given over to. Many more will doubtless be added as time goes on. Besides many minor additions to the park in the way of games and recreation facilities will be made in due course, the Shakopee Athletic Association's next objectives will be a band shell and swimming pool. When these will have been added Shakopee may have pardonable pride boast of having as fine a small town park system as any town of twice its size in the state.

Aug. 8, 1940

M. J. Berens Store Front Improved, Remodelled

Improvement of the display windows and front of the M. J. Berens & Sons store at the corner of First and Holmes streets was begun this week.

Replacing the wood frame work and base boards, colorful

and bright vitrolite will surround the plate glass on the west face and north face of the corner.

The present double door is to be replaced by a modern entrance and an additional entrance is to be provided on the north side in the east half of the building.

Other remodelling plans for the interior of the store are also under consideration, it was said.

Aug. 15, 1940

Walter Kopp To Pilot Texarkana

Continuing his steady and successful stride to the top of his profession, and gratifying his numerous friends here who were quick to vision his brilliant future when first he made appearance as an amateur on the local diamond, Wally Kopp, one of Shakopee's favorite sons has been named pilot of the Texarkana Liners in the Class C East Texas League.

Kopp, a veteran catcher and captain of the champion Henderson Oilers, was the league's best defensive maskman in 1939 when he established a .983 average. He stood sixth in hitting with a .331 mark. The previous year he batted at .334 when he managed the McAllen Palms in the Class D league. In that year he was selected as all-star catcher.

Before entering the Texas circuit Wally made a name for himself thru his performance on the Benson and Hancock clubs in the Corn Belt and Minnekota leagues.

Aug. 22, 1940

Monroe Kopsisca Sets Dates for Tire Sale

Announced this week nationally by Goodyear dealers in every city and town is an unusual tire merchandising event, centering around the product of a large manufacturer, in the opinion of Monroe Kopsisca, local dealer, who says that for nine days, starting August 22, Goodyear G-3 All-Weather Tread tires are being offered at new, low prices in an out-of-the-ordinary type plan.

"Wet weather," Mr. Kopsisca said, "is just ahead, you know, and slippery roads demand tires that will stop, for safety's sake. Skids are the first cause of a majority of accidents.

"We are interested in putting good tires on cars now, when they can be seasoned well, so in cool weather they will provide up to 20 per cent more mileage than if they had been applied during the extremely hot weather.

"We are ready and willing to make inspections of anyone's tires to be sure they are highway safe. And there is no obligation involved. America's motoring death toll can be cut drastically by adoption of safety measures and good tire equipment is a logical place at which to start."

Aug. 29, 1940

Nick Schudrop Fifty Years a Thresher

Nick Schudrop, who has lived and worked in this section of Scott county for many years, informed an Argus-Tribune reporter the other day that he has rounded out a half century as a thresher. Fifty years is quite a spell for Nick to look back to and contemplate that from year to year, during all of that time, he helped thresh out a great many bushels of grain. It would indeed be interesting to know how many thousands of bushels it would figure up to. It would be a pretty sizable pile of grain, wouldn't it?

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

Aug. 5, 1965

Plan Pow-Wow Button Canvass

Shakopee Jaycees will conduct a house to house canvass beginning next Thursday evening, August 15, for the purpose of selling Pow Wow Days buttons to Shakopee residents.

Friday evening, August 6, the Jaycees will sell Pow Wow buttons in the downtown business district. Anyone wishing to purchase a button who has not been personally contacted may send \$1 to Box 203, Shakopee, and they will receive a button by return mail.

Buttons are still on sale at all Shakopee business places, according to chairmen Jim Ramaker and Ron Mahowald. Purchase of a button entitles the buyer to a chance on an RCA color television set to be given away Sunday evening, August 15, at Riverside Park.

The button also entitles the purchaser to free admission to the fireworks program at Riverside Park Sunday, August 15, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Sale of Pow Wow Days buttons is sponsored by the Shakopee Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Aug. 12, 1965

Given Recognition For Professional Achievement

Mrs. John (Gertrude) Roepke, secretary at the Shakopee public high school since 1941, is among the educational secretaries in the nation this year who have qualified for a Professional Standards certificate, issued by the national Association of Educational Secretaries. Only 34 such certificates have been awarded in Minnesota.

Mrs. Roepke was presented her certificate at the association's annual convention banquet held in Whitewater, Wisconsin, on Saturday, July 24.

Since the inception of the program nine years ago, 986 educational secretaries from 39 states and the District of Columbia have earned such awards.

The Professional Standards Program recognizes the experience, education, and professional activity of office per-

sonnel in education.

Achievement in the program indicates an interest in continuing education and personal achievement to the association's four-fold concept of service, information, fellowship and recognition.

The National Association of Educational Secretaries, sponsor of the Professional Standards program, is a department of the National Education Association.

During the week-long convention in Whitewater, Mrs. Roepke took courses in Data Processing for Schools, English Usage for Secretaries, Psychology and Mental Health in Daily Life, and Everyday Legal Problems.

Mrs. Roepke is also a member of the National Association of Educational Secretaries, and the Minnesota Association of Educational Secretaries.

Aug. 19, 1965

Last day of summer kindergarten at the Shakopee Public school last Friday was observed with treats for the pupils.

Despite the heat, Mrs. Virgil Mears took her class outside to enjoy a picnic atmosphere.

One hundred and fifty children were enrolled in Summer kindergarten this year, the final year that this program will be conducted, now that the Shakopee Public school will have regular kindergarten classes during the school year, beginning next month.

Aug. 26, 1965

To Negotiate Job Cleaning Contract For Post Office

A new job cleaner contract will be negotiated at the Shakopee post office effective Saturday, September 11.

Persons interested should contact Postmaster Cormac Suel prior to September 1.

The job cleaning contract requires about 5 ½ hours of work, six days per week. No set price, on an annual basis, is established, but a minimum of \$1.25 per hour, based upon a 32 hour week, must be paid. The cleaning work must be accomplished during the hours that the post office is open.

25 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

Aug. 2, 1990

Berg has title role in opera

Antonia Berg, daughter of Phyllis Berg of Shakopee, will be performing the title role in Verdi's "Aida" with New York's Amato Opera Company in October. Antonia has also performed with the Pala Opera and the Manhattan Opera Reads Ensemble. She and her husband, Stanford Felix, live in New York City.

Aug. 9, 1990

Leisure Ledger

Families are invited to participate in the Family Fun Night activities scheduled at the pool this Friday evening, featuring various fun games, stunts and music by the local Out of Bounds band. The last day the pool will be open this season is Sunday, Aug. 19. Featured that day is the annual Gold Fish Hunt. Participants should bring their small nets and plastic buckets as they seek the finny creatures...

Aug. 16, 1990

Perpich lauds efforts of local firefighters

Gov. Rudy Perpich recently sent a letter to Shakopee Fire Chief Charlie Ries, commending his department for its efforts in controlling a fuel-oil spill in the Minnesota River near Eden Prairie on June 12.

"The state of Minnesota and federal agencies involved in controlling the recent spill of fuel oil in Eden Prairie have been very complimentary about your agency's response and recovery efforts during and after the emergency," Perpich wrote. "I understand that you and your department did an excellent job of keeping the spill from spreading to a larger area.

"Alaska had a large spill contaminate its waterways, so I am very concerned that a similar spill might contaminate Minnesota's. State agencies are in the process of improving their response capabilities to give you even better assistance in the event of a future spill.

"Please accept my congratulations and...sincere appreciation to the members of your department for a job well done."

The spill from a Williams Pipeline Co. pipe dumped about 76,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the river.

Ries said the fire department in Savage notified Shakopee firefighters that oil was in the river. Shakopee firefighters used a boat and discovered the leak coming from the Eden Prairie side of the river, and then built a dam to halt the spread.

Aug. 23, 1990

Booster group hopes local residents will be seeing red

Members of the newly-formed Shakopee Boosters organization would like to "see red" at school activities this year.

No, they don't want to promote anger - they want to bring out school spirit and community pride.

One way they hope to do that is by selling red sweatshirts with the Shakopee Indians logo on it - and they'd like people to wear those at every school activity, and become part of a 'red wave' of supporters...

Pride and school spirit are two ways communication between the school and community can be improved, according to the members of the organization...

About a year ago, the Citizen Communications Committee expressed concern for more positive interaction between the schools and the community, Anderson said. Parents, school staff, and business people met several times to discuss the matter.

The committee came up with the idea of the boosters club, and brought it before the School Board. After receiving approval, the club was formed by a core group of interested citizens.

The board has come up with a number of goals, including coordination of activities, fair and equal distribution of support for events, promotion of more communications and sportsmanship, and aiming to work on projects that serve many activities...

The Boosters are working to bring activities together. "We're not trying to replace those sports associations already in existence," Anderson said. Rather, the Boosters hope to provide promotional opportunities for activities that may not have received them before...

Aug. 30, 1990

Shooter hits all 50 sporting clays for record

Jon Kruger, the 1989 National Sporting Clays Champion, set a new record for sporting clays at the Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake Friday, August 10.

Kruger shot a perfect score of 50 sporting clay targets on the front part of the course.

"It was the first perfect score ever shot on sporting clays at the club in five years of operation," said the club's manager, Terry Correll. "The previous record set was 49 out of 50 and we had a couple scores of 48."



An aerial photo of the Women's State Reformatory for Women from either the late 1940s or early 1950s.

Find even more Remember When news tidbits on our website, at shakopeeheritage.org/historic-tidbits/remember-when.html.

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