

Remember When

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April 2016

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

April 3, 1891

The Uncle Tom Cabin troupe on Tuesday night didn't show up exceedingly well, and the small audience may have affected their acting. The truth is, this play is "played out" here. Give us something new.

April 10, 1891

The Maennerchor serenaded Mr. Weiland Wednesday night for his election as mayor.

April 17, 1891

It took 30 ballots to decide who should be City Recorder, at the council meeting Tuesday night, and Wm. Witt got it. The new council elected H. C. Koerner president and Herman Schroeder vice-president. The old council voted thanks to their retiring president, Jacob Ries, and Mr. Coller, retiring recorder, was also voted thanks. Both of the officers have long and faithfully performed their duties and in the interest of the city.

April 24, 1891

The little steamer Della arrived from below Tuesday to the Holmes street landing, and the big bot Henrietta came up before daybreak Thursday, making the "woods resound" with her numerous hoarse whistles and awakening the sleepy citizens of Shakopee.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

April 2, 1891

J. Eckert has broken ground for a story and a half brick house diagonally across from Herman Logenfeils. The house will be sixteen by thirty feet with an ell sixteen by twenty.

April 9, 1891

A new chimney has been built on the Lutheran church.

April 16, 1891

Within a few days the Court house square will be beautified by the setting out of a number of trees.

April 23, 1891

Deputy Public examiner West examined the county treasury last Thursday and found all funds accounted for and the books accurately kept.

April 30, 1891

Last Saturday, while fishing in the river, Leo. Goehnen

caught a peculiar species of lizard that was about eighteen inches long, of gray color, and having a blood-red colored growth on each side of the head.

100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

April 7, 1916

The stage of high water in the river has receded about two feet from the highest point reached, and this means a tremendous fall for a surface of over a mile in extent over the bottom lands. There is hope that two weeks more will see traffic resumed over the bottomland roads, now confined to boats, and the H. & D. railway tracks. The Shakopee Sanitarium last week purchased a large motorboat, and has that in commission for its passengers, who now travel by auto to the end of the lane, then by boat to the drawbridge, and thence by hacks to the depots. A section of the new Bloomington road was blown out by dynamite by Engineer Childs when the water first flooded it, and this will save a large amount of damage to the grand new highway, it is hoped. The road was but recently completed at a cost of nearly \$15,000, and gets a rough start in the world.

April 14, 1916

Ground was broken this week for the erection of a seven room bungalow to be built by Henry Zarth on his lot north of Dist. 41 schoolhouse. William Gruett has the contract for the carpenter work.

April 21, 1916

Worthy of especial mention is the window display at the Flaherty & Lies emporium to mark the glad Easter-time. It is the handiwork of Mr. Davy, and again emphasizes his expertness in the art of window-dressing. The floor is in purple and white tiling, and the walls in vertical stripes of purple and white, with a profusion of flowers and greenery in handsome

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ceramics, furnishing lovely setting for a choice display of dress materials, haberdashery, and shoes, the whole ablaze with electric lights in indirect lighting style. The town has reason to be proud of this particular effort, as well as of the firm itself, which has never faltered in keeping the good name of Shakopee on the map in its advertising and its modern methods of merchandising. Hats off to Mr. Davy, and the firm of Flaherty & Lies.

April 28, 1916

An automobile owner would like to call attention to the danger of throwing nails, glass etc. into the street. This is often done unconsciously by people throwing ashes into the street. Twenty-two nails ranging from a shingle nail to a spike were picked up on one crossing a few days ago where some ashes had been dumped. The State Automobile law provides a heavy fine for this, but we should be careful for our own sakes, regardless of the law penalty.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

April 7, 1916

The hotel property recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. M. Huss is being remodeled and renovated as fast as the work can be done and the new owners hope to have the place in readiness to open to the public May first. Peter Paul is doing the painting and papering, Jos. Fischer the cement work, Henry Mergens has the contract for plumbing and the heating plant and Richard Wise completed the wiring for electric lights yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Huss are expending a large sum on the building and intend to give Shakopee a first class hotel which will fill a long felt want in our city.

April 14, 1916

J. H. Moore and family were down from Wells to visit at the H. Hentges home over the weekend while consulting with Architect Peter Linhoff of St. Paul in regard to plans for the new home which Mr. Moore will build this spring on Lewis street.

April 21, 1916

Invitations are out for a Leap Year ball to be given at the opera house, April 28, under the auspices of the Lafalot club. The event is not a public dance and admission is by invitation only. Refreshments will be served in the hall. Balme's orchestra of Minneapolis will furnish music and a very pleasant time is looked forward to.

April 28, 1916

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Huss have moved into their recently purchased hotel building, the former Conter House, which has been undergoing transformation at the hands of paperhangers, plumbers and painters for several weeks past. The hotel

will be known as the Pelham and fills a long-felt want in Shakopee, for Mr. and Mrs. Huss aim to give their best service to patrons and are now so housed as to be able to do so. Modern equipment and its fresh dress of paint and paper throughout have worked wonders in the interior appearance of the hotel and other improvements will follow as soon as the new proprietors can accomplish them. Mrs. Huss' culinary skill is far-famed among the traveling fraternity and with the facilities afforded by the new hostelry for the accommodation of the traveling public the new Pelham is expected to prove a most profitable and prosperous investment by all who have witnessed its rehabilitation.

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

April 3, 1941

Shakopee Acquires Former American Range Property

The people of Shakopee, through the instrumentality of their governing body, have recently acquired all of the right, title and interest in and to the buildings and realty, except the house and two lots bought by Hal Huth, formerly the property of the American Range Corporation.

It will be remembered that this property was purchased from the receiver by Edward J. Turney of Chicago, during the early part of last winter. Subsequent to the purchase he sold the machinery and equipment, retaining the buildings and something over three full blocks of land. The property is well located in West Shakopee. The buildings are all in a good state of repair. Provided with railway siding, water, sewer, electric wiring throughout the entire building and a full and complete heating system with boilers, etc., it is a property of considerable value and will make an ideal manufacturing plant. The floors throughout the structure are all cement laid. This is one item alone which cost a lot of money to install and there are numerous other items which add to the value of the property. It will be occupied by some going concern one of these days.

This entire property was acquired from the owners after more or less negotiations back and forth. The deal was closed last Saturday, and on Sunday night J. A. Collier, II, went to Chicago to have the deed drawn up and properly executed. He returned to Shakopee Tuesday morning with the deed in his possession.

April 10, 1941

Scott County To Have Stamp Plan

R. T. Schumacher, executive secretary of the Scott County Welfare board, has been advised that Scott county has been officially designated for participation in the Food Stamp plan for the distribution of surplus farm products.

George F. Stedman, program organizer for the Surplus

Marketing administration, who will be in charge of setting up the program in Scott county, announced that the plan would be in operation in this county by the middle of May.

Mr. Schumacher disclosed that 523 cases representing about 1592 persons will be eligible to participate in the plan. Eligibles, he said, will be permitted to buy orange food stamps in an amount representing approximately their past expenditures for food; with the orange stamps purchasers will receive blue food stamps free at the value of fifty cents for each dollar's worth of orange stamps purchased. Thus the participants will receive \$1.50 worth of food purchasing power for each \$1.00 invested in stamps.

The orange stamps, it was explained, are good for any food while the blue stamps are good only for foods designated as being in surplus by the secretary of agriculture.

April 17, 1941

Notice to the Public!

People are busy making gardens and do not want dogs running through and digging in them. Please keep all dogs penned up.

Automobile drivers who persist in blowing their horns when not necessary, especially late at night, will be arrested. All driving laws must also be obeyed.

R. L. BROWN,
Chief of Police.

April 24, 1941

Announces Opening of New Apartment House

In an advertisement in the Argus-Tribune C. R. Hickman announces the opening of his newly remodelled apartment building on East First street here.

Completely renovated, redecorated and modernized, the structure, just east of the Presbyterian church, contains four 4-room apartments, each apartment with bath.

A full basement, laundry, and storage space have been provided; new oak floors have been laid and the entire building is heated with a central system with separate temperature controls for each apartment.

Now ready for occupancy the place is open for inspection, Mr. Hickman said.

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

April 7, 1966

To Direct Shakopee Harmonettes Group

Mrs. John Hobday, former member of Robert Mantzke's Choraliers and a teacher of elementary music in the St. Paul schools, has accepted the position as directress of the new Shakopee women's singing group, recently named the Harmonettes.

This singing group meets each Tuesday evening from 8 to

9:30 o'clock in the band room of the new Shakopee Public High School on Tenth Avenue.

About 20 members are participating in this Shakopee "sing for fun" recreation, but more voices are welcome, especially in the second soprano and alto sections, it is announced...

April 14, 1966

Scouts To Stage Home 'Accidents' Tomorrow Evening

Friday night shoppers in Shakopee will become on the scene witnesses in an assortment of "accidents," when members of Boy Scout Troop No. 218 stage Home Safety demonstration in several Shakopee business places tomorrow evening, April 15.

According to Scoutmaster Wallace Kopisca, the demonstrations are designed to show the public some of the more frequent home accidents and how to prevent them, as well as to provide Scouts an opportunity to display some of the skills acquired in this phase of the Boy Scout program.

Accidents such as those frequently occurring in the kitchen, the home workshop, the living room or den are to be staged by each of the Shakopee troop's six patrols.

These demonstrations are to be in the following Shakopee firms, First National Bank of Shakopee, Sears Roebuck, Burshek Hardware, Minnesota Federal Savings & Loan, Montgomery Ward, and the Shakopee Red Owl. Demonstrations are to be from 6:30 to 8:30 o'clock tomorrow evening.

The patrol exhibits will be inspected by a team of four judges who are to determine the best demonstration, based on a predetermined point schedule.

Area residents are encouraged to drop in at the participating Shakopee business firms and see the Shakopee Boy Scouts in action.

April 21, 1966

Archers To Work On Field Range Sunday

The Shakopee Archery Club will work on its field range project in Eagle Creek township near Dean's Lake, east of Shakopee this Sunday, April 25, Lee Martinson, president, announced.

He said those interested are to meet at 1 p.m. in the Shakopee Shops Shopping center parking lot on East First.

The Archery Club is also to have a regular meeting at 8 p.m. this Monday, April 25, in the community room, First National Bank of Shakopee. Featured will be a demonstration on arrow making.

Twenty-one were in attendance at the club's meeting held Monday evening of this week at the Eagle Creek Town Hall at which national Indoor Archery Champion Jim Ploen of Bloomington, and two other noted area archery competitors presented a demonstration on trick shooting.

April 28, 1966

City Approves \$1,500 For Mill Restoration

An appropriation of \$1,500 was approved by the Common Council of the City of Shakopee at an adjourned session Tuesday night of this week to aid in the Scott County Historical Society in its proposed project of restoring the grist mill in Memorial Park at the east edge of the city.

The appropriation was made after a request for approval of the project and possible financial assistance was made in a letter from Edward F. Smith.

City Attorney Julius Collier reported that R. M. Weiler of Shakopee, was heading a committee of the society which plans to restore the grist mill and establish a museum. He added that the projected cost of the restoration would be \$3,100 and it is planned to erase the funds by subscription.

The appropriation from the city was from the City rental fund which gains revenue from the rental of the buildings in the former NYA camp property at the east edge of the city.

Attorney Collier also said the plans were, once the restoration is completed and the museum established, that the historical society would operate the facilities with hours open to the public. The facility will be retained by the city but supervised by the society.

He added that the society will now have two historical sites, the other being the recently acquired Episcopal church and church yard at Belle Plaine.

25 Years Ago: From the Shakopee Valley News

April 4, 1991

Shakopee business park gets new name

Canterbury Business Park, a 2,250-acre commercial/industrial property in Shakopee, has been renamed Valley Green Business Park, it was announced by its owner, North American Life and Casualty Co.

The park, bordered by Highway 101, Country Road 16, Shenandoah Drive and Valley Park Drive, is the largest business park in the Twin Cities area, according to the company...

Welsh Companies Inc., Eden Prairie, will market the park for industrial development, land sales, design/building services, space-for-lease and build-to-suit projects. There are 1,000 acres of land available for sale in the park.

North American Life and Casualty, a Minneapolis-based insurance company owned by the Allianz Group, became sole owner of the property in August. It had been a partner in ownership with Scotland Inc., which filed for bankruptcy.

April 11, 1991

Local Lions member honored

Richard "Ditch" Boys of Shakopee has been designated a Melvin Jones Fellow by Lions Clubs International Foundation, in recognition of his commitment to serving the world community. Named for the founder of Lions Club International, Melvin Jones, the fellowship is the foundation's highest honor. "Ditch" is a member of the Shakopee Lions Club, District 5-M-2. He recently received a plaque and a lapel pin acknowledging his humanitarian service.

April 18, 1991

Senate panel OKs bill that would allow off-track betting

Canterbury Downs jumped a major hurdle to establish off-track betting lounges at sites miles from Shakopee after the state Senate Gaming Regulation Committee approved the bill on a voice vote April 10.

The bill allows two off-track betting parlors (OTBs) to be built by the end of the year, with up to six more next year.

The dinner establishments would permit patrons to bet on races televised from Canterbury and other tracks across the country. The lounges would operate year-round, with 125 days of live racing televised from Canterbury, track officials said.

If the bill is adopted by the Legislature, the first lounge probably will be located just east of St. Paul to compete with the Hudson, Wis. greyhound track that will open in June.

Other sites may include the cities of Rochester, Winona, Duluth, Mankato, Willmar and East Grand Forks...

With only two no votes, the bill appears to have some solid support. Gov. Arne Carlson has said he will support legislation.

The bill was sent to the Finance Committee. A similar bill will receive a hearing in the House this week.

April 25, 1991

Panel to study sports complex

What began as a concern by the Shakopee School District about future land needs for possible expansion of the high school and the need for improved school athletic facilities has blossomed into interest among several local organizations to create a city athletic complex near the school, possibly including a community center.

The Shakopee City Council on April 18 approved a request to authorize Mayor Gary Laurent to appoint a committee to look into whether such plans are feasible...

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