

Remember When

Compiled by the Shakopee Heritage Society • shakopeeheritage.org • facebook.com/shakopeeheritage

Volume II, Issue VI

June 2016

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

June 5, 1891

A gun club shoot, sweepstakes and match between Shakopee and members of other clubs has been going on for two days over the river.

June 12, 1891

Paul Fischer's cow was killed last Friday on the H. & D. road, and buried by the section men near the Methodist church, which act, Dr. Dunn, as health officer, getting onto, caused to be removed forthwith to a more retired spot.

June 19, 1891

The Stove Works will not only be of great pecuniary benefit to Shakopee, but will bring the name of our beautiful city prominently before the manufacturing interest of the country. And this is why our people are so "decidedly interested."

June 26, 1891

Next Tuesday is election day, all day, according to the Australian system. There should be a full vote.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

June 4, 1891

John Edert has moved into his brick dwelling.

June 11, 1891

The Shakopee Fire Department will hold a great celebration of the glorious Fourth of July in the grove at the North end of the bridge. Handsome posters have been printed by the *Courier* which announce the usual attractions including dancing all day at the park, to be followed in the evening by a public dance at Weiland Opera House.

June 18, 1891

J. A. Ring has opened a flour and feed store in the old rink building.

June 25, 1891

The Belle Plaine ball players did not come down last Sunday as was expected. The boys here say they believe they are afraid to meet them in a return game.

100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

June 2, 1916

The fire department was called to the home of George Kinsey on Tuesday. Sparks from the chimney ignited the roof

but the fire was extinguished without the assistance of the department. Little damage was done.

June 9, 1916

The John Gentgen barbershop is now occupying the corner room of the Southworth block. The rooms vacated by Gentgen are being occupied by the Jos. Stradcutter saloon.

June 16, 1916

Tomorrow will be a big day for the Milwaukee railroad employees. They will hold their annual picnic at Riverside Park, arriving here about 9 o'clock in the morning. A band will accompany the picnickers here, which will furnish music throughout the day. All are cordially invited to join in the festivities.

June 23, 1916

Despite rain nearly 700 people saw the Birth of a Nation at the opera house yesterday, and all were delighted. Today will put the hall to a test to hold the crowds.

June 30, 1916

A special train of fifteen coaches passed through here on the Omaha Monday, conveying the New Ulm and St. Peter contingents of the Second Regiment Minnesota National Guards to camp at Fort Snelling.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

June 2, 1916

New telephones recently installed are Jansen & Volkert's meat market, 100, and Chas. Plumstead's residence 72C.

June 9, 1916

Vincent Berens arrived home Tuesday from Chicago where he is studying dentistry at the University of Illinois, and will spend the summer here.

Interested in Shakopee's history?

Why not join the

Shakopee Heritage Society

It's all about

Learning * Having fun * Sharing

Shakopee's Heritage

Details at shakopeeheritage.org/volunteers-membership/

June 16, 1916

The steamboat Oronoco, belonging to Drs. Mayo, made a trip up the river Sunday but carried no passengers.

June 23, 1916**Building Operations**

The erection of new residence buildings in Shakopee for the season of 1916 goes merrily and rapidly forward. Dr. F. H. Buck and family are already domiciled in their commodious eight room home of stucco construction located on Third street next to Fitzpatrick's, Wm. Gruett, contractor. Chas. Kaley is putting the finishing touches on his seven room stucco building located on lower Fourth street, Herman and Frank Boehmer contractors; Henry Zarth will soon have his handsome seven room frame bungalow situated on upper Third street in the block west of Col. G. L. Nye's residence, Wm. Gruett contractor, ready for the plasterer; John Adams' six room frame cottage located on Lewis street opposite Judge Weiland's is now under roof, J. T. Kreuser contractor; Thomas Notermans will soon have his four room cottage ready for occupancy, J. T. Kreuser contractor; Frank Boehmer has completed the foundation for his seven room cottage located on Third street next to Mrs. Cargill's; John H. Moore has a force of men under the supervision of J. P. Kreuser at work excavating for his modern six room bungalow and bath located on Lewis street next to Aug. Scherkenbach's residence; and C. T. Buchanan is having plans made for a cottage we understand he expects to erect on his lot between his present home and L. D. Nye's. So that it will be seen that building operations in our little city for 1916 have a very good start. The reason is that Shakopee is a most desirable and advantageous residence location.

June 30, 1916

At a meeting of the Auto club Wednesday evening it was decided the club will entertain the children of the city on a tour some afternoon to be agreed upon by the touring committee of which G. L. Nye is chairman. The idea will be hailed with delight by the youngsters and the thoughtfulness of the club members in providing the entertainment for them is appreciated by everyone. It will be recalled that the Auto club also kindly furnished cars for the use of the G. A. R. veterans in the observance of Memorial Day ceremonials.

75 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune***June 5, 1941****Have Hobby Exhibit**

The pupils of St. Mary's parochial school presented a Hobby exhibit at the school Sunday afternoon. A fine display of hobbies were shown and the youthful group and their teachers, received much favorable comment upon this novel

idea. In connection with the exhibition, the ladies of the parish served a cafeteria supper in the school hall, which was well attended and also was very much enjoyed.

June 12, 1941**Seven Fined for Wild Night of Destruction**

Driving home the wantonness of their escapade Municipal Judge Schwartz not only delivered a forceful lecture to seven young law violators Monday, but fined each of them ten dollars, suspend 15-day workhouse sentences, put them on probation for a year, and topped it off with demanding they make complete restitution.

The sentences followed the arrest of the group by R. L. Brown, police chief. According to the officer, the seven young men, ranging in age from 19 to 22 years, spent a recent Saturday night driving around the county bent on destruction.

A flag pole at Riverside park was extensively damaged as were several large advertising signs in the area. Listed among the objects that "came in for attention" was a government-owned WPA tool box.

Judge Schwartz insists he'll keep the violators on the "straight and narrow" under the suspended sentence. "One bad move from any of them and the workhouse sentence will be imposed," he said.

June 19, 1941**Municipal Recreation Program in Full Swing**

Offering a complete "menu" interesting to all age groups from the toddlers to the adults the municipal recreational program, under the supervision of Maurice Gorham, is now in full swing at Recreation park here.

On the long list of "things to do", are sand boxes, croquet, basketball, kittenball, volleyball, baseball, tennis, archery, golf, horseshoe, ping-pong and most any athletic game any enthusiast can think of.

The playground program is on every day, except Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mr. Gorham said, and it operates on a regular schedule affording everyone an opportunity to participate.

June 26, 1941**New Gamble Agency Store to Open Here Friday, Ad Discloses**

A new Gamble Authorized dealer store, located at 119 Lewis street, is to open here Friday, it is announced in an advertisement in the Argus-Tribune this week. The store, it is said, is independently owned and operated by William Hausladen, who plans to make his permanent home in Shakopee.

Mr. Hausladen, formerly in business in Lester Prairie, comes to Shakopee with the reputation of having been a highly thought of and valued citizen of Lester Prairie, where he

had done much for the community in civic affairs.

His store here will be stocked with merchandise including auto supplies, paint, radios, household goods and light hardware, and will be a part of the Gamble organization, now 16 years old, which includes 1700 outlets, 1400 of which are authorized dealer stores similar to the Shakopee unit.

Everything is in readiness, representatives said, for the opening Friday, when people of the community will have an opportunity to inspect the extensive lines carried. In addition to the regular stock the store is to have a mail order service, making available such items as furniture, rugs, kitchen cabinets, lamps, sewing machines, stoves, ranges, oil burners, cream separators, pumps and kindred items.

As a special attraction Saturday a "little German band" will be heard in two "concerts" at the store; one from 2 to 5 o'clock, and the last from 7 to 8:30.

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

June 2, 1966

Parade Sat. Eve

Highlight event of the Third District American Legion convention to be held in Shakopee this weekend, tomorrow, (Friday), and Saturday, June 3 and 4, will be the Twilight Grand parade.

This event will begin at 7:30 p.m. this Saturday, June 4, with assembly at Maus' Super-Valu on West First, and the procession proceeding east to the Shakopee Post No. 2 American Legion clubrooms on East First at the edge of the city. The annual convention hall is to follow in the Shakopee American Legion hall and clubrooms.

June 9, 1966

Chilean Congressmen At Rotary Ask Shakopee To Be Sister-City

Officials of the City of Shakopee have authorized the Shakopee Rotary Club to carry out plans for Shakopee to have a sister-city – Rio Negro in the province of Orsono in Chile.

The action followed a visit to the Rotary club some six months ago by three congressmen from the South American country and a letter, dated June 6, received from the Minneapolis Office of People To People, Inc.

Mrs. Joan Hickey Polivaka, executive secretary of the Minneapolis office, wrote city officials to state that since the visit of the Congressmen from Chile, Dr. Manuel Bohnrieth, one of these congressmen, would be in the Twin Cities until late June and was desirous of meeting with representatives of the City of Shakopee in order to effect the sister-city program.

She explained that this meeting with Dr. Bohnrieth was at the request of Dr. Montt, another of the Chilean Congressmen, who had written regarding the sister-city program.

Mayor Ray Siebenaler said that the Rotary Club will now make arrangements for this meeting with plans to be carried out to achieve the sister city activity. He added that Shakopee previously was in a similar program with a city in Germany.

June 16, 1966

Proposed Sandlot Park Denied

Unanimously rejected by the Common Council of the City of Shakopee at its regular meeting Tuesday night of this week was the petition for a proposed sandlot park at the corner of Tenth Avenue and Main, with Ordinance No. 253, providing for the sale of this particular parcel in the Southview addition to Shakopee Finance Company for \$1,820.20 having its first reading...

June 23, 1966

Dan Topel has purchased the A & W Root Beer Drive-in in Shakopee from Kenneth Santelman, and took over the operation of the business on Monday, June 6. Topel, who makes his home in St. Louis Park, is married, has two children, and teaches science at Our Lady of Grace Parochial School, Edina. He and his wife are both natives of Minneapolis. Topel is no stranger to the restaurant business, having served in the capacity of food and beverage quality and cost controller at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis for four years prior to receiving his teaching degree from the University of Minnesota. Among future plans for the drive-in he lists upgrading of the menu as foremost.

June 30, 1966

Seek Funds To Replace Century Old St. Mary's

To make it possible to erect a new church in Shakopee of really considerable dimensions, in order to replace the present century-old structure, as well as to meet the greatly increased cost of maintaining a Parochial School, St. Mary's Parish is presently making a concerted effort to organize a system of Sunday contributions based upon the actual needs of the Parish.

The method to be adopted as reported by the pastor, to fulfill such a two-fold purpose is explained in a brochure published and is known as the Generous Giving Plan.

This G.G.P., as it is called, will, if successful, mean the construction of a fairly large Catholic Church in Shakopee in the relatively near future.

The artist's sketch...depicts the proposed style of the church edifice, believed to have the important advantage of having a seating arrangement in which the entire congregation would be quite close to the Altar, as well as incorporating another feature of a very practical nature, namely that of conserving space for the nearby Parochial school and its playground.

25 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

June 6, 1991

Hospital to staff U.S. Open

St. Francis Regional Medical Center in Shakopee will provide emergency medical services during the U.S. Open that starts Monday and runs for seven days at the Hazeltine National Golf Course in Chaska.

St. Francis ambulances and paramedics will be at the site to provide first-aid and emergency transportation.

June 13, 1991

Bid-letting set

Bid-letting for the second phase of the Shakopee Bypass project is scheduled for Friday.

Construction of the first phase of the five-stage project is underway. The second phase will include the construction of two bridges at the far east end of the bypass near County Road 18. One bridge will go over the Chicago and North Western railroad tracks and the second will cross Highway 101. Construction is scheduled to start July 29, with completion on Aug. 27.

June 20, 1991

Chad Rasmussen won a 1984 Pontiac Fiero car during a drawing at Shakopee High school's all-night party for graduates on June 7. The car was donated by Dan Routson's automobile dealership in Shakopee. Chad's parents are Gary and Patricia Rasmussen.

June 27, 1991

Victim of the era and recession, Shakopee House will close

One of Shakopee's most well-known restaurants is closing its doors Sunday.

The Shakopee House, a longtime favorite dining spot for local residents and a watering hole for business people, has been losing money for the past two years.

Its owners do not want to infuse any more money into the attractive dining spot, and a buyer has not appeared, said restaurant manager Alice Busse.

Shakopee House owner Clearance Enright, who is in his 80s, transferred ownership of the restaurant to his son Jack Enright last year, Busse said.

Having no interest in the restaurant business, the younger Enright wanted to sell the 300-seat restaurant.

"He thought he would have it sold long before summer," Busse said. "But then came the recession, and the Gulf War, and nobody is going to buy a fine dining restaurant in a rural area in times like these."

Busse's customers have expressed surprise and shock since hearing the restaurant is closing its doors. Many people have asked Busse where they are going to go now that the restaurant is closing...

The Shakopee House has been in business for more than 30 years. Before then it was a private club, called the Mill Pond. But privately owned restaurants now compete with restaurants owned by corporate giants like General Mills...

Other factors contributing to the Shakopee House's demise are the lottery and pull-tabs gambling, Busse said. "I think women go out grocery shopping and get a few tickets with their change. Their husbands are doing the same thing all week, and by Friday they say, 'Let's go out together and eat and have a bottle of wine,' but there isn't that money available to do that anymore."

Busse also said everyone thinks that Valleyfair, Canterbury Downs and the Little Six Bingo Casino bring people out for dinner but they don't...

Even the fact that the Bloomington Ferry Bridge goes under water almost every year has hurt business, said Busse...

The restaurant's decor is attractive, but dated. It never underwent the hanging fern era of the 1970s, nor had the sparsely decorated, bright rooms of the 1980s. But it is somehow comfortably familiar – like sitting in a parent's living room long after you've moved away.

Belonging to a different era may have contributed to the restaurant's demise. The Shakopee House is still a "steak and potatoes" restaurant, serving meat and gin martinis in an era of wine coolers, stir-fry vegetables and pasta...



St. Mary's Catholic Church is located on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Lewis Street. St. Mary's Catholic School, no longer in existence, was located on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Sommerville Street. The school building closed with the opening of the Shakopee Area Catholic School (SACS) building on 17th Avenue and Independence Drive, and was torn down in 2005.

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

Subscribe to the "newspaper" email list by emailing shswreinke@gmail.com.