

# Remember When

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## 125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

April 7, 1892

There has been quite a rumpus kicked up this week at the Union school, on account of dissatisfaction regarding promotion, or rather non-promotion, of scholars, some parents thinking there was partiality shown.

April 14, 1892

The mill owners having decided to sell no more bran here, guess our bran and shorts consumers will have to "bear" some other market. Mayor Weiland informs us that Mr. Christian didn't want to retail bran from the first, but he prevailed upon by Mr. Buchanan to let it be done, for the interest of Shakopee, so he concluded to depart from his usual custom.

April 21, 1892

Mr. Strehlof bought Dr. Smith's frame building and will move it to lower First street next to Mr. Chewning's corner lots, now owned by George Kinsey.

April 28, 1892

Mr. Withey's daughter Annie who has been for the past 12 years troubled with night epilepsy, was treated last Monday in Minneapolis and an operation performed on her head, 13 pieces of skull bone being removed, so that everything is favorable for entire recovery, but cannot tell yet.

## 125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

April 7, 1892

On Wednesday of this week J. A. Wilder put in place a new wheel for his windmill. The old one was blown down during the terrific blizzard of last month. Residents of this section were more fortunate than were their neighbors west of here, where scarcely a mill was left standing. But two or three were injured in this vicinity.

April 14, 1892

E. J. Gellenbeck has put in a few bicycles to supply the "growing" demand for such vehicles.

April 21, 1892

Nine residences and a double brick store are being erected in Shakopee. Pretty good for early in the season.

April 28, 1892

Mr. Wm. Beggs is erecting a roomy carpenter shop on the lot adjoining his home on Spring street.

## 100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

April 6, 1917

### High School Notes

State inspector Barnes inspected us last Friday, and introspectively stated that in all the schools he had inspected he had never seen so many pretty girls. We suspect he expects us to believe the soft impeachment, so we make it a matter of permanent record here.

April 13, 1917

Fred Wessel of Lyons, Neb., and E. Freese of Alliance, Neb., bought out the Carl Exner shoe repair shop last Friday and took possession at once. Mr. Wessel moved his household effects here, the family occupying the rooms behind the shop in the Busse block.

April 20, 1917

### Cash Prizes For Gardeners

Mayor Joseph Lenertz informs us that he will offer three prizes this year for the most productive gardens, amounting in the aggregate to thirty five dollars. The judges will be appointed later from the aldermen of the city, and the three best gardens will receive some handsome cash prizes. Mayor Lenertz will pay the prizes from his own pocket, in the interests of the widespread movement now on foot to cut the high cost of living by raising more and better gardens this year than ever before. Every rod of ground available ought to be made to produce something for food this year, and it would seem as if all in this vicinity appreciate this fact and are getting busy. Mayor Lenertz aims to help the good work along by personally awarding the three cash prizes

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**Shakopee's Heritage**

Details at [shakopeeheritage.org/volunteers-membership/](http://shakopeeheritage.org/volunteers-membership/)

mentioned above. A good move. Get busy. Win a wad.

**April 27, 1917**

### **Fire Destroys Local Elevator**

The fire alarm was sounded shortly after one o'clock Thursday morning and hundreds of people answered the call, as the night was one of the worst, in point of wind, the spring has yet brought. The apparatus was hauled down to the Farmers' elevator in east Shakopee, the building being a solid wall of fire. The heat was so intense that the firemen were unable to get close enough to play a stream on the blaze. Attention was turned to the adjoining residences, sheds and barns and great difficulty was experienced in confining the flames to the elevator property. A northwest wind was blowing and sparks were blown as far as M. T. Regan's home setting fire to one of his hay stacks. A telegraph pole and railroad ties caught fire several times, about six feet of railroad track being raised by the intense heat.

The loss to the elevator company includes the elevator buildings, 1600 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of rye 500 bushels of oats, three tons of coal and a barrel of gasoline. An Omaha box car on the side track, half filled with wheat was totally destroyed. The loss is covered by insurance. It is not known at this time whether the elevator will be rebuilt or not.

### **100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus***

**April 6, 1917**

George D. Smith and Ed Durose who bought the Wm. Camp garage, are making improvements in the building and adding to the equipment of their shop in anticipation of the opening of the automobile season. The new proprietors have adopted the firm name of Smith & Durose Garage and will have an up-to-date repair shop and conduct an agency for cars. Watch for their announcement in the near future.

**April 13, 1917**

### **Accidentally Shot**

H. Hamilton, brakeman on Omaha train No. 12, was the victim of accidental shooting Wednesday evening as the train approached Shakopee, sustaining a bad flesh wound in the thigh.

According to reports a newsboy spied Hamilton's revolver and attempted to pull it from his pocket. The hammer caught and the gun was discharged, the bullet entering Hamilton's leg, taking a downward course for several inches and lodging in the flesh. Arriving here he was taken to the company's physician, Dr. Reiter, who extracted the bullet. Hamilton was cared for at the St. Paul hotel overnight and Dr. Reiter took him to the Swedish hospital in Minneapolis yesterday morning. The wound is not considered dangerous and no serious results are looked for.

**April 20, 1917**

On Friday last C. J. Hartmann closed a deal with T. J. Condon & Son for their butcher shop and took possession Monday. It is Mr. Hartmann's intention to remodel his building on First street, including that part now occupied by Lawrence Nachtsheim, into an up-to-date meat market and also to install a line of canned goods in connection with the meat business. He is now consulting with architects but is not definitely prepared to say just what improvements will be made. Mr. Hartmann's sons, Gregor and Carl will be associated in the business with their father who needs no introduction in this city where he has been one of our most progressive and successful merchants. He re-enters business circles with the goodwill of all former patrons and his well-known square dealing and always courteous treatment of his customers assure him a prosperous trade.

**April 27, 1917**

As we go to press we learn that the home of Herman Breeggemann at Marystown was destroyed by fire late yesterday afternoon, the building being a complete loss. The contents of the home were saved. The cause of the fire has not been learned at this writing.

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

**April 2, 1942**

### **Gone to Milwaukee**

Frank Simones, who for the past few months has successfully operated a shoe repair business here, has accepted a position as leather cutter with the Milwaukee Saddlery company, which holds prime defense contracts. Mr. Simones left here last Friday and began work on his new job the following day. Mrs. Simones will remain in Shakopee for a time until she disposes of the business and other items.

**April 9, 1942**

### **Shakopee High School To Sponsor KSTP Barn Dance Saturday, Apr. 18**

On Saturday night, April 18, the famous KSTP Sunset Valley Barn Dance will appear on the stage of the Shakopee high school auditorium for the big two and one-half hour stage show and radio broadcast. Scores of old-time entertainers, singers, yodlers, fiddlers, accordionists, harmonica players, and comedians will take part in this tuneful, colorful, radio show.

Special equipment is being installed in the high school auditorium in order that the program may be broadcast direct over KSTP's powerful 50,000-watt station in the Twin Cities. Radio engineers will come to Shakopee to place microphones and handle the broadcast...

**April 16, 1942**

### **Scouts In Contest**

Members of the Shakopee Boy Scout troop entered in the competition incident to the Minnetonka district Walle-Ga-Zhu held at the Chaska high school last Friday night. Five troops competed in the various contests. Conflict with the district band contest at LeSueur that night deprived the local troop of several of its main-stays and as a result Shakopee was not represented in all the matches. Failure to compete gave the boys fourth place, although they took a first and second in two of the contests.

**April 23, 1942**

A change in ownership of the Puroil service station is announced in an advertisement in this week's issue of the Argus-Tribune. In a recently-completed business transaction Jerry Hennen sold his interest to Wilmar Radermacher of Jordan. Jerry Hennen, who has operated the station for the past several years, is now employed at the Rahr Malting plant. Mrs. Radermacher is the daughter of Walter Huth of Jordan, a former resident of Shakopee.

**April 30, 1942**

### **Once Popular Garment in Style After 30 Years**

After 30 years, a linen duster, owned all those years by a Shakopee man, has again come into its own. The youngsters are now wearing them and when Lee Gelhaye blossoms out in the one he bought when he was a "young feller," he'll be right in the swim.

It's a fact, related by relatives, that Mrs. Gelhaye this week removed the duster from moth balls. It's fresh and new looking and the material is said to be superior to today's version of the same garment.

### **50 Years Ago: From the Shakopee Valley News**

**April 6, 1967**

#### **Hearing on Third Car Wash Mon.**

A public hearing is to be conducted by the Planning Commission of the City of Shakopee at 7:30 p.m. next Monday, April 10, in the Council Chamber, Shakopee Building, to review the conditional use building permit application of John Kopp and Dorothy Halver for installation of a car wash facility on lots two through five, block seven, East Shakopee on Minnesota Street between First and Second.

Purpose of the hearing is to determine whether a conditional use permit should be granted at this location, and whether this use would be detrimental to the objectives of the City Plan, the public health, safety, welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.

**April 13, 1967**

#### **Levee Drive Project Gets Approval Of City Council**

Approved at the special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shakopee held last Thursday evening, April 6, was the inclusion of the improvement of four blocks of proposed Levee Drive from Atwood to Sommerville Street, to give further impetus to the instituting of the city's project of updating the Central Business district...

**April 20, 1967**

#### **State Agrees To Land Transfer For Swimming Pool**

Mayor Ray Siebenaler announced this week that the State of Minnesota officials have agreed to the transfer of land for the most recent considered site of the proposed municipal swimming pool.

The tract is the present Scott County property south of the Sweeney Elementary School on Adams Street. With the Scott County Board of Commissioners giving up title to this land, it automatically reverts back to the State of Minnesota...

**April 27, 1967**

#### **New Location For Drivers License Exams**

Effective next Tuesday, May 2, the office of the Driver License examinations is to be located at 115 South Fillmore, the former First United Presbyterian Church basement annex, located four blocks east of the traffic signal at First Avenue (Highway 101) and Holmes Street...

### **25 Years Ago: From the Shakopee Valley News**

**April 2, 1992**

#### **Entrepreneurs offer own version of thousand points of light**

One day, about 2 years ago, Doug Calhoon hit on an idea—one he hoped would keep him from hitting joggers and skaters.

Combining his interest in LED (light-emitting diode) technology with the in-line and Rollerblade craze, the Hopkins man designed Skatemates, strap-on blinking LED lights that joggers, skaters and bikers can wear to be seen at night.

Calhoon, president of MTO Design, Inc., along with his partner Paul Ryan of Shakopee, has presented the product to retailers such as Herman's World of Sporting Goods and K mart, and expects Skatemates to be on the market by late May or early June...

**April 9, 1992**

#### **Justice Center plans put on shelf by County Board**

Plans for the construction of a justice center in Scott County have been put on hold due to financial considerations, according to county commissioners.

As a result, the Justice Center Citizens Advisory

Committee that was formed to work with the county's Justice Center Planning Committee, has been put on standby status, with no further meetings scheduled.

**April 16, 1992**

**SPUC plans to spend \$3 million to expand system**

The Shakopee Public Utilities Commission (SPUC) has approved a five-year, capital improvement plan with about \$3 million in expenditures, including \$2.1 million for an electric substation, which will be built in the southern section of the city to upgrade systems and prevent power outages as the service area continues to grow...

**April 23, 1992**

**Teacher gives music lesson at national conference**

Music educators from around the country share many of the same concerns, hopes and expectations.

So says Colette Sherman, general music teacher at Shakopee Junior High School. Sherman was one of only four general music instructors nationwide to make a presentation at the Music Educators National Conference April 8-11 in New Orleans.

"Coping and Surviving in Middle School General Music"

was Sherman's topic...

**April 30, 1992**

**School Board approves district strategic plan**

The Shakopee School Board unanimously approved a strategic plan for the district Monday.

Members of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, the group organized to formulate the plan, presented an outline to the board and briefly discussed their experiences...

The strategic-planning effort began in winter 1990 and included members of the School Board, citizens, staff and parents of district students. Dr. Nelson Otto, president of a Minneapolis-based consulting firm, assisted in the planning process.

Goals of the group included gathering data from the district and community and using it as a blueprint to plan for the future.

The committee then drafted planning assumptions, visions and strategic recommendations in such categories as curriculum, instruction, marketing and public relations, community education, technology, human resources, and funding...



*Students and staff pose outside the former Eagle Creek schoolhouse.*