

Remember When

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August 2017

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

Aug. 4, 1892

The steamboat excursion on Sunday was delayed returning home on account of barge getting loose and lodging in the fringing bushes.

Aug. 11, 1892

Shakopee Mill has had to put on four teams lately, owing to increase of business.

Aug. 18, 1892

That must be a very substantial building of Hirscher & Sons, as it is very handsome and capacious, because as Mr. August Logenfiel says he ran into it headfirst the other day, while walking home unattended and didn't phase it.

Aug. 25, 1892

Mayor Weiland, Arnold Graffenstadt, Alderman Schmitz and Arny Strunk, tried Cedar Lakes for a day's duck hunt, on the grounds, and got over 50 among them.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

Aug. 4, 1892

The new sales building for F. X. Hirscher is now prinking and putting on a few finishing touches to be ready for its *debut* into the business whirl of the city some time next week. The store is a model of convenience and neatness and gives a very wholesome air of solidity to that part of the town.

Aug. 11, 1892

A neat gravel walk now graces the east side of lower Lewis street. It was a much needed improvement.

Aug. 18, 1892

A Junior Star Kegle Club was recently organized with some sixteen young men as members. Their first contest took place at Nieters' bowling alley last night.

Aug. 25, 1892

A. Scherkenbach & Bros. received a beautifully carved monument direct from Italy yesterday. The freight alone amounted to sixty-four dollars, and the stone is certainly a valuable one of itself. On each of the four sides is a finely carved bunch of roses all of which are marvels of handiwork. It is to be set up in a country cemetery some twenty miles out from town.

100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

Aug. 3, 1917

The Compton-Plumb tent show are showing here this week and are drawing large crowds each evening.

Aug. 10, 1917

The Red Cross Chapter will meet at the city hall this week to arrange work and see about soliciting membership in the rural districts.

Aug. 17, 1917

The T. J. Duffy family of Eagle Creek are enjoying the comforts of a new Cadillac Eight automobile.

Aug. 24, 1917

Messrs. Schesso and Anderson of Jordan have gone into the auto repairing business here and are occupying the building on First street, recently vacated by Durose and Schmidt.

Aug. 31, 1917

The lower floor of my house for rent, furnished. Mrs. M. H. Fitzpatrick.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

Aug. 3, 1917

Ries Bottling Works, Inc., are building a large garage on the site of the one destroyed by fire. John T. Kreuser is the contractor.

Aug. 10, 1917

An important business change of the week was the purchase by Miss Mamie Strunk of Miss Kate Yost's millinery store, the new proprietor assuming possession. Miss Yost had one of the best established stores in the city and Miss Strunk, being well known to her customers in Shakopee and vicinity, takes up the business with every prospect of the success which has attended her predecessor. Her trimmer for the fall

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season will arrive in a few weeks.

Aug. 17, 1917

V. A. Kirkeby Gets Patent

It is not generally known hereabouts that Shakopee has an inventive genius but a perusal of the list of northwest patents granted last week discloses the name of Victor A. Kirkeby, Henry Mergens' efficient foreman. The patent was granted on a combined matchbox and igniter, but with characteristic modesty the inventor declines to exhibit his model or discuss the disposition he will make of the invention upon which the patent rights were obtained, and consequently a description of the article cannot be given in detail. It is said however that the act of opening the box automatically ignites a match, and a windshield is provided to protect the flame. The article is expected to prove a great convenience for smokers and its future development will be watched with interest by Victor's friends who are interested in his success.

Aug. 24, 1917

Excavation has been started on the lots east of Mrs. Rottgart's residence in East Shakopee for the erection of a new home by John Brum who will move into town to live.

Aug. 31, 1917

Passenger train No. 3 frightened Peter Pink's team Wednesday morning which ran from Simons' Lumber yard to the A. T. Dell residence, where the wagon was overturned in the ditch and the horses captured. A load of lumber was scattered over the streets but no damage resulted from the runaway.

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

Aug. 6, 1942

Men Questioned About Industrial Experience

A group of Scott county men who recently returned their occupational questionnaires, reported at the courthouse last Friday in response to a call issued by the United States Employment service.

Men who answered the call said officials questioned them regarding their work experience as set forth in their questionnaires, and indicated the possibility of being assigned to essential wartime jobs.

Another group, it was said, is scheduled to report here Friday morning.

Aug. 13, 1942

Distillery Now In Production

After many months of tedious work in getting the plant in shape to pass rigid government requirements upon which its federal permit is predicated, the Northwest Commercial Alcohol Corporation distillery here is now in operation.

The first batch, it was learned, was run August 3 and since that date 3000 gallons of mash (corn, malt and yeast) have been going daily through the vats, stills and pipes. Each 3000-gallon batch nets 500 gallons of 160-proof alcohol and each 500 gallons of 160-proof ends up as 200 gallons of 190-proof alcohol, H. R. Haller, superintendent and master distiller, explained Monday.

Up to Monday nearly 700 gallons of 190-proof spirits were already in storage in the bonded warehouse awaiting delivery to the federal government who is taking the plant's entire output for war purposes, Haller said...

Aug. 20, 1942

Aubrey Williams Inspects NYA War Training Project Sunday

Aubrey Williams of Washington, D. C., head of the National Youth Administration, was in Shakopee last Sunday on an inspection tour of the NYA resident center located here. Mr. Williams stated that the organization of which he is the national head is training and placing 100,000 vital war industry workers every three months.

The NYA resident center at Shakopee was cited by Mr. Williams as being one of the pioneer project locations, where youth receives employment and training in various lines of mechanical endeavor. In a talk he made to the personnel at the local resident center Sunday morning, he stressed the importance of these fields, and added that thousands of young people must be trained and prepared to take their proper places in both the skilled and semi-skilled fields.

Williams complimented the regional office at St. Paul and the work of the personnel of Shakopee NYA resident center for the efforts put forth in the war training of youth and for its outstanding placement record. He left by plane Sunday night for Seattle, where he will inspect more NYA projects in an effort to integrate the employment of youth and the placement of young people in the various plants of the nation.

Aug. 27, 1942

Shakopee Business House Starts Novel Ad Series

A new and unique series of newspaper advertisements over the signature of the Shakopee Jewelers has been scheduled to appear weekly in the Argus-Tribune. Announcement concerning the advertising is made this week.

The ads will carry sketches of historic characters and each will present a question pertaining to American history. The questions are designed to test the reader's knowledge of his country. Answers to each question will appear in the succeeding advertisement.

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

Aug. 3, 1967

Another razing to make way for the City of Shakopee Im-

provement program to provide for central business district off-street parking facilities was accomplished this week as the building, formerly occupied by Shakopee Floral, just to the south and across the alley from the KSMM building on Lewis Street, was removed, the project being completed this week. Next slated are the Stephens building, the former TV Shop, just to the south of the former Shakopee post office location on Fuller Street and the former Cities Service Station at the northwest corner of Holmes and First. Two residences were the first to be razed on Tuesday, July 18. The former Strunk-Koelzer residence 211 West Second, a two-story brick dwelling over 100 years old. This was acquired in 1866 by the late Herman H. Strunk, founder of the Strunk's Pharmacy on First Avenue. It remained in the Strunk family for 55 years, until 1921 and was then used as a duplex. It was then owned by Frank Koelzer, a partner in the Redman Ice Cream and Creamery Co., for 43 years, until removed by the city as a part of the Municipal off-street parking program. The other residence was the Coller-Lebens residence, 132 Fuller, a one and one-half story frame dwelling, 92 years old, built by the late Mrs. Sophia Coller and her young sons, the late Senator Julius A. Coller and his brother, August, upon their return to Shakopee from St. Louis, Missouri. It was then sold to John T. Theis in 1895, whose only daughter, Theresa M. Lebens, resided in the home for 64 years, until her death in 1959.

Aug. 10, 1967

Worthy community project of the Shakopee Jaycees now nearing completion is the construction of a sandbox at the Children's Home at the Correctional Institution For Women in Shakopee, to give retarded children an added play facility. Expected to be poured yesterday (Wednesday), August 9, was the concrete for the permanent sandbox, with the project to be completed this weekend...

Aug. 17, 1967

Shakopee Royalty To Give Big Event TV Exposure

Shakopee's royalty to further the area's interest in Shakopee's Pow-Wow Days this weekend, as well as the RCA Championship Rodeo, the highlight of the three-day weekend celebration, today (Thursday), August 17, will make two appearances on WTCN-TV, Minneapolis, and two other appearances tomorrow (Friday), August 18.

At 12 noon today (Thursday), August 17, the Shakopee Boosters will be on the "Lunch With Casey Show" and at 4:30 p.m. they are to meet Casey Jones and Roundhouse Rodney on the 4:30 p.m. "Grandma Lumpitt Show."

Tomorrow (Friday), August 18, appearances are on the 2:45 p.m. Mel Jass "Mel's Notebook Show" and on Jim Hutton's "Dialing For Dollars Show" at 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 24, 1967

Trigger Or Bow – The Fast Draw To Count!

Plans are being made for a future match between pistol shooters of the Shakopee Sportsmen's Club and the Minnesota Valley Archer's bow and arrow shooters.

The distance will probably be at 30 yards with the contest to be held at the Sportsmen's Club range, east edge of Shakopee, along Highway 101.

The duel between the ancient and modern forms of weaponry should provide great spectator appeal.

Nearly half of the Shakopee Archery Club are to travel to the Minnesota State Field Archery championships this coming weekend at Austin. Two to three hundred archers are expected to enter the two days of shooting in this state met.

Aug. 31, 1967

Sweeney School Ready For Sept. 5 First Opening

Highlight of the special meeting of the Shakopee Public School District No. 720 board of education special meeting Monday night of this week, August 28, was an inspection tour of the new Edward and Grace Sweeney Elementary School, Tenth Avenue and Marystown Road, with it evident all as in readiness for school opening use on next Tuesday, September 5.

Attending the meeting were representatives of the architectural firm and the contracting firms involved in the construction of Shakopee's new elementary school. They and board members, along with Elementary Principal Virgil Mears and Superintendent John Feda, spent an hour and a half touring the building to inspect aspects of the construction.

It was generally agreed that the building reflects both quality and good taste and proves to be most functional...

25 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

Aug. 6, 1992

The *other* race track in town

Local racing devotees are well aware of Shakopee's two big palaces of speed – Raceway Park and Canterbury Downs. But what many don't know is that the community has a third place where being the first across the finish line is the goal, a place where pedal power is more important than horsepower.

And most the competitors don't even have drivers' licenses.

That place is the Shakopee Bicycle Moto Cross track located on County Road 16, near the village of satellite dishes. Although the track has been in existence since the early 1980s, many local residents don't even know of its existence thanks to the tall grass which hides the track from passers-by.

Bicycle Moto Cross – known as BMX – is a sport where

cyclists ride small bikes over a course featuring bumps, hills, steep drops and sharp corners. The Shakopee dirt track is approximately 1,100 feet long. It has five corner berms and nine jumps...

Aug. 13, 1992

K mart to cut 115 jobs here

The K mart Corp. has informed the city of Shakopee that it intends to terminate about 115 jobs at its Shakopee Distribution Center – about 25 percent of the workforce – by Nov. 27, and shift some operations to a new center near Chicago.

The Shakopee distribution center employs about 450, according to spokeswoman Shawn McGee at the corporation's headquarters in Michigan.

About 56 warehouse employees, four housekeeping employees, and one clerical worker will lose their jobs as of Oct. 16. About 53 additional workers and one housekeeping employee will lose their jobs as of Nov. 27...

Aug. 20, 1992

Hockey group pulls the plug

Homeless and without a desirable alternative, the Shakopee Prior Lake Youth Hockey Association (SPLYHA) announced this week that it is canceling its coming winter indoor hockey season.

Monday night, Dave Kaufenberg, the SPLYHA's vice-president and a board member of the Valley Ice Arena Commission, said volunteers from the commission as well as the youth hockey organization will not make another attempt to repair the damaged nylon and canvas bubble which covers the hockey rink where the organization conducts league games and tournaments. Kaufenberg also said that all electrical power to the site has been turned off...

Aug. 27, 1992

Track gets limited simulcast approval

The Minnesota Racing Commission on Aug. 19 approved a partial simulcast schedule for Canterbury Downs, telling track part-owner and operator Ladbroke Racing Corp. that the remainder to the schedule would be considered only if it comes forth with a proposal for live racing in 1993.

Ladbroke requested permission to conduct simulcast racing from Oct. 10 through April 30, but on a unanimous vote, racing commissioners agreed to only allow simulcasting until Dec. 31...



Excavating Cameron Marina, circa 1955.