

from past  
issues of

## The Kansas Chief

Researched by  
Mary Winder

### 100 Years Ago June 27, 1924

A barn of the Ham Kent farm southeast of Troy was blown to pieces, Tuesday evening by a young cyclone that struck between 5 and 6 o'clock. The Kent family ran to the cave when they saw the storm coming. A tree nearby was blown across the cave door. They happened to have an ax in the cave and chopped their way out. Mr. Kent had the barn insured for \$800. Right across the road the twister took part of the roof of the Carl Ruhnke house. This is the second cyclone that has hit around Troy in the past month.

Bottoman near the site of old Charleston is rapidly going into the Missouri river. Every day sees a part of that rich farming land disappear. Old timers seem to think that the river is coming over to the Kansas side again. Jack Brandt reports that he is losing part of his land. What was formerly a twenty acre wheat field is being rapidly made smaller each day.

We take pleasure in announcing the formal opening of the Be Square Service Station on N. Main St. in Troy Saturday morning, June 28, 1924. As a feature of the opening morning we will give, with every purchase of 5 gallons or more of gasoline, one-half gallon of Be Square cylinder oil free! M.R. "Mat" Throckmorton, Agent.

In Denton News-In the death of Mr. Geo. Bird Friday morning Denton lost one of her oldest and finest citizens...Mr. Bird was a talented musician during his life, and only a few years ago one would often hear him playing on his violin in the quiet evenings when he happened to be alone. He was 89 years old when he died.

Advertisement-Stick to Beech-Nut chewing tobacco and live to a ripe old age. Insurance statistics show that chewers have better teeth, stronger digestions and sounder nervous systems than any other type of tobacco users. Wherever men are hard at work with head or hand...Beech-Nut chewing tobacco is steady judgment, sustaining energy and arresting fatigue.

Bill Schwarzel, White Cloud editor, has moved his office into a new building. He has arranged everything in the new office to suit him. It is a neat clean office.

Classified ad-Lost: On June 15, lost a crutch between Jim Briggs' residence in West Troy and my residence in East Troy. Finder please leave at my blacksmith shop or Lux barber shop. Isaac Scarborough.

W.N. Van Bebber and his son Roy have been busy setting out 400 iron posts in their vineyard on the farm west of Troy.

The telephone company is complaining about destruction of the cables in town by squirrels. The squirrels are chewing the lead from the cables allowing the water to enter and short the wires.

Rumors afloat to the effect there is an admission charge at Eagle Springs are false. The only admission charge is good behavior. Car parking, use of picnic grounds, tourist camp are free. Ball game each Sunday. Seating capacity 800. Spend your Fourth of July at Eagle Springs-3 day celebration; ball games, swimming contests, fire works, etc.

Sunday evening, W.F. Bauer sent out the first shipment of raspberries. The shipment included about a hundred crates, and the grower received \$3.00 per crate. The price dropped to \$2.50, Monday.

### 40 Years Ago July 5, 1984

Department of the Navy officials revealed that a low-flying jet, a member of the Blue Angels aerial demonstration team, was responsible for slicing a power transmission cable that spanned the Missouri River at White Cloud. The jet reportedly was flying low at approximately 400 miles an hour, down the river on June 23 when it sliced through the three-section electrical line. An investigator learned that the damaged plane had landed, with a damaged tail section, at Rosecrans Memorial Airport.

Jerry Jarrett, manager of the Doniphan County Electric Co-op, termed the thieves who stole a downed power line wire at Blair were "darn fools." He said the 1,833-foot line was mixed with steel, making salvage value low. He said the thieves probably thought the wire, which was not hot, was copper.

Steve and Kimberly Twombly were named to the spring semester honor lists at Graceland College. Steven was named to the honors list. Kimberly was named to the dean's list. They are the son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Saunders of Troy.

Laura Staundenmaier was awarded a \$500 scholarship from Kansas State University, Manhattan. She is the daughter of Joseph and Sharon Staundenmaier of Troy.

Deaths: Elamon Hontz, of Doniphan County, Roy W. Roberts, Denton native, of Portland, Oregon.

Several Doniphan County students participated in commencement exercises for Platt College graduates in St. Joseph. They are: Martha Ellen Miller of Wathena, Lynne Keesling of Wathena, and Diane Lynn Walter of Troy.

Kevin and Carol Kelley, daughter Kiley and sons Joel and Jaylon, made a trip to the southern Missouri Ozarks.

An awareness of the importance of educating young people to Doniphan County history was announced as a goal of the county's Historical Society.

Results were announced for worm races held at the county branch libraries. Winners at Elwood: first Derek Bratcher, second Timmy Sheppard, and third Gary Harris. At Highland, first Josh Fulk, second T.J. Simpson, and third Levi Lucas. At Troy, first Brandon Marriott, second Jeremy Blanton, and third Brian Keller.

The Doniphan County Retired Teachers met at the Fanning Church. Loroff Dittemore was installed as the new president. Other officers are: vice president Florence Stratton, treasurer Marie Corcoran, and secretary Hilda Triplett.

## from past issues of The Highland Vidette

By Eileen  
Gronniger

### 125 Years Ago, June 29, 1899

At the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Thornton, near Eagle Springs at 8 p.m., Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mr. O. D. Moore and Miss Hattie Thornton were united in marriage. Mr. Moore is one of most thrifty farmers, owning several large farms in the vicinity of Highland Station. The bride is a most excellent young lady, being born and raised in the county.

Notice to the Public - Ample provisions has been made for a quiet celebration at Eagle Springs on July 4<sup>th</sup>, and I will pay five dollars for information that will lead to the conviction of anyone for selling intoxicating drinks here on that day. Pryor Plane.

From the number of enlistment in the standing army, quite a number of citizens are willing to risk their lives for thirteen dollars a week and board and clothes.

The news from the Philippines is not the most encouraging. The fact that the last battle was fought close to Manila indicates that the rebels are by no means whipped. There is no evidence of retraction, however, on the part of Uncle Sam and the policy of subduing the island and shooting civilization into the rebels will not be abandoned.

Electric Motor Wagons - The Automobile Club and some electric associations in France are occupied in endeavoring to establish electric charging stations for electric vehicles. The idea is to arrange with electric light and power stations to do the work, so as to make the use of electrically propelled carriages possible all over France.

Mount Zion News - John Gilmore is the first one to begin harvesting in this vicinity. He has a field of rye already in the shock.

### 100 Years Ago, June 26, 1924

B. D. Allen shipped three cars of cattle to St. Joseph this week which averaged 1038 pounds and sold at nine dollars. He also shipped a car of mules to Memphis, Tennessee.

Death - George Bird, 89, of Denton on June 20, 1924. He came to Doniphan County in 1858, locating in Highland. He served in Company C, Seventh Kansas cavalry from 1861-1865. He married in 1867 to Miss Emma Davidson of Highland. The located three miles north of Severance where they lived until 1911 when they moved to Denton. He was born in Connecticut, November 16, 1835. Mr. Bird was prominent in band circles in the area.

C. C. Webb is sick this week. He is troubled with Job's pestilence.

National News - More than twenty-five thousand women have been fined or sentenced to imprisonment for violating the National Prohibition Law.

Will Harness at Iowa Point is another of the heavy losers caused by recent storms. He has planted corn on the bottom ground twice already and will have to replant again on account of the last rain washing it out again.

According to the program outlined by the present Secretary of the Treasury, the nation will have its war debt wiped out in 31 years. That will be some wipe at that. A couple of peevish guys can start a war in four minutes, but it takes a generation to mop it up.

## The Kansas Chief

"Oldest newspaper in Kansas"  
Serving all of Doniphan County

## from past issues of The Wathena Times

By Karla Root

### 75 Years Ago June 16, 1949

Dwayne Kincaid, 20, was killed in a tornado at Belvidere, Nebr., June 8 evening. He was the son of Mr. Mrs. Guy Kincaid of Marysville and a nephew of A. G. Kincaid. Young Kincaid, a student at Kansas state college at Manhattan, had worked in Belvidere two days. He had gone into a restaurant to eat supper when the tornado struck. He was instantly killed.

Wathenians got an excellent view of the Constitution, the largest land plane in existence, Friday. The plane circled north Wathena, flew over St. Joseph, then flew back over the business section of Wathena. The plane has a wing span of 189 feet, the fuselage is 156 feet long and the tail is five stories tall. There are four engines with propellers 16 1/2 feet long. The plane's capacity is 168 passengers and a crew of 12. Master Roger Lakin reports that his dad, Capt. C.A. Lakin of the air national guard of St. Joseph flew one of several planes which escorted the giant over this area.

### 60 Years Ago June 18, 1964

Births - A daughter, June 5, to Mr. and Mrs. Warren Drake, St. Jo.

Marriage licenses - Milton Ruhnke, St. Jo, and Phyllis Burnstein, St. Jo; Walter Arnold, Sr., and Mary Merrill, both of St. Jo.

Deaths - Willard Crane, 49, former Wathena resident; Anna Embreick, 92, Troy; Claude Martin, 60, St. Jo; Hettie Thomas, 73, Troy; Lee Blair, 52, St. Jo.

There were 49 girls and boys that registered for the swimming lessons at Atchison Monday.

A picnic was held Saturday evening at Community Park in honor of Jim Slaughter, who is home on a twenty-day leave from the Air Force.

Lawrence W. Boyer, seaman, son of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Boyer of Wathena, is a crewmember of the Navy attack transport USS Noble, operating out of San Diego, California. At the outset of the Cuban crisis, the Noble was one of the ships from the Pacific Fleet Amphibious Force that loaded Marines and their equipment aboard and sailed for the Caribbean to reinforce the personnel at Guantanamo Bay.

Many people in Doniphan county will remember 1964 as the "year of the locust." Locally heavy populations of the locust, or the periodical cicada as it is known to entomologists, have hatched out recently in this area.

### 50 Years Ago June 13, 1974

Births - A daughter, June 2, to Mr. and Mrs. Dale Vernon, St. Jo.

Marriage licenses - Thomas Schnaiter, St. Jo, and Linda Myers, St. Jo; Paul Elder, Troy, and Deborah Beaty, Troy; Leonard Twombly, Troy, and Marcia Delk, Bendena; Theodore Sinker, Highland, and Cynthia Bailey, Hiawatha; Jonathan Sheppard, Elwood, and Marjorie Monical, St. Jo.

Deaths - Gerald Tracy, 57, White Cloud; John Blanton, 81, Troy; Byron Dishon, 75, St. Jo.

Navy Senior Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate Dale A. Gladden was promoted to his present rank while serving with Antarctic Development Squadron Six at the Naval Air Station in Point Mugu, Calif.

Cpl. R. L. Geissert has returned to duty at Camp LeJeune after a month's leave at home.

George Eisiminger, Doniphan County Zoning administrator, attended the June 2-8 National Rural Development Leaders school at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, with about 110 other community leaders from 12 Midwest States.

### 40 Years Ago June 21, 1984

Births - A daughter, Katie Rae, June 19, to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hrenchir, Wathena.

Marriage licenses - Larry Parker, St. Jo, and Jacqueline Chase, Troy; Ricky Kostman, Troy, and Sandra Schmidt, St. Jo; Melvin Neibling, Highland, and Crystal Moppin, Wathena; Gerald Giles, Atchison, and Patricia Schmidt, Atchison; Charles Barand, Hiawatha, and Joyce Bachman, Wathena; Mathew Young, Wathena, and Sherry Stufflebean, St. Jo.

Specialist fourth class Thomas Thompson, 21, St. Jo, was one of two soldiers killed in a military vehicle accident at Fort Hood, Tex., Wednesday evening, June 13. Also killed was Spec. 5, James T. Pollock, 27, of Wilmington, N.C. Thompson was a passenger in an 18-wheel supply truck which hit an embankment and overturned during training exercises at the post. Both men were reportedly crushed.

A rapidly approaching storm inflicted heavy wind damage on the Wathena area Sunday evening. Around 6:00 threatening clouds began to roll in from the south and by 6:30 residents were amidst a severe storm. Heavy rain and hail fell on the already saturated ground. Reports vary from one-half to one inch in a matter of minutes.

### 25 Years Ago June 17, 1999

Births - A daughter, Erica Lee, June 4, to David and Jodi Colhour, Elwood.

Countryside Animal Clinic, Troy, has announced the addition of a new veterinarian to their staff. Dr. Callie Rost, a 1995 graduate of Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, is specialized in small animal medicine and surgery.

Deaths - Deloris Bruns, 67, Elwood; Clara Evans, 91, formerly of Wathena.

A new business, which offers bulk sales of natural and colored mulch, is now operating in Wathena. "Kansas Composting," as it is called, is owned by Joe Fuemeler and Larry Walker, who also own and operate Mo-Kan Pallet & Lumber (formerly Butts Sawmill) in Wathena.

A new 12'x14' gazebo, octagon shaped, now adds to the beauty of the Elwood City park. The structure was completed last week and a wedding is planned at the gazebo on June 27. Funded through tax dollars collected by the Elwood Parks and Rec Board, building supplies were furnished to Hillyard Vo-Tech School and students built the gazebo. The structure was then transported from the school to the Elwood park by Herzog Contracting, who donated their services.

Wathena USD 406 Board of Education hired Jill Sigrist of Wathena at their regular meeting Monday to serve as school nurse with a pay of \$15 per hour. Sigrist will replace Ruth Karn who retired this year. Also hired was Gerald Bernhardt who will serve as VoAg instructor, replacing Mark Allen who recently resigned. Art Teacher Kayla Hinton submitted her resignation to the board.