

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.

Bottomland 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 Bebbler 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 Karol 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 Dittimore was installed as the new president. Other officers are: vice president Florence Stratton, treasurer Marie Corcoran, and secretary Hilda Triplett.

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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. Thorton, near Eagle Springs at 8 p.m., Thursday, June 22nd, Mr. O. D. Moore and Miss Hattie Thorton 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 4th, 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 Manilla 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.

25 Years Ago June 17, 1999

Bernard Walter, of Wathena, and Jack Masters, of Troy, were honored in Highland during the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Soil and Water Conservation. Walter is a retired district supervisor. Masters is the current chairman of the county conservation district.

Doniphan County is to be assessed a monthly service fee of \$1,759.54 by Sprint, Rainbow Telephone and Southwestern Bell for 911. The Board of County Commissioners questioned whether the cities would consider being assessed a portion of the cost. These fees would be: Denton, \$57.58; Elwood, \$192.32; Highland, \$275.91; Leona, \$57.58; Severance, \$57.58; Troy, \$340.68; Wathena, \$362.27, and White Cloud, \$167.96, with the county paying \$247.66.

Deaths: Clara A. Simeon Evans, 93-year-old former Wathena resident, of St. Joseph. Chester Norman Parker, 93-year-old rural White Cloud native, of Hiawatha.

The Northeast Kansas Area Technical School, Atchison, announced students with perfect attendance. They included: Jared Pickerell of Troy, studying networking, and Nathaniel Livingston of Elwood, studying masonry and tile setting.

Nicole Kinsey gave an overview of her first year in college to the SLK members. She was last year's recipient of the SLK scholarship...All SLK officers were re-elected. They are: president Isabel Sparks, vice president Jean Zimmerman, secretary Helen Luedke, treasurer Jackie Linck, and board member at-large Alice Masterson.

15 Years Ago June 25, 2009

The City of Troy will host an information meeting Tuesday, July 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Center, about the possibility of purchasing and installing an emergency storm siren for the community. The city has filed a pre-application with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development for financial assistance. The meeting is open to the public and residents will be given the opportunity to speak.

The E-Waste site is open Saturday, June 27 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the county shop parking lot east of Doniphan West School on old Hwy 36, Highland. Items accepted include: TVs, computers and parts, phones, most audio visual equipment, microwaves, calculators, toner cartridges, ink jet cartridges, and copiers (no large appliances or batteries).

Time is running out for Doniphan County residents to sign up for a meter in the recently-formed Rural Water District No. 6. The initial sign-up cost is \$1,000 per meter. However, within the next 60 days the price will be doubled. Board members are Chairman Preston Harness, Treasurer Shelly Cluck, Secretary Pam Wiedner, along with Randy Parsons and Paul Rush. Sign up by contacting any board member.

Highland residents who enjoy the fireworks display on the 4th of July, please leave a donation at Farmer's State Bank in the special fund or give it to Roger Gornely in Highland. Mayor Marty Allen said they cost \$1,200, and if you saw them last year, you will agree it was as fine a display as one could wish. The fund presently has \$367. If more funds are donated than needed this year, the fund will be kept to pay on next year's entertainment.

County Clerk Peggy Franken reported the county has apparently lost \$1.2 million in state-assessed valuation. She indicated it reportedly is based on construction costs involving the Rockies Express natural gas pipeline. The clerk noted, however, that Nemaha County, with the same Rockies pipeline project, will experience an estimated \$950,000 increase in assessed valuation.

The Wathena swimming pool is having a special midnight swim on Friday, July 3. It will start at 9 p.m. and last until midnight. The swim is open for anyone who will be in the fifth grade next year and up. Besides swimming there will be a belly flop contest with prizes.

Two non-Wathena residents were ticketed recently for dumping unauthorized debris at the city's burn pile, located at the east edge of the community, Chief of Police Brian Walker reported. The two men were issued tickets charging them with littering. The on-going problem with illegal dumping surfaced on Monday, June 15, during a regular Wathena City Council meeting. That discussion led to a "stepped-up enforcement" of the location by officers.

60 Years Ago, June 25, 1964

Tuesday morning David Cluck, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cluck, was rushed to St. Joe to have his stomach pumped. David had eaten a number of aspirins. Dr. Grant assured the Clucks he would be back to normal in a few days.

New Bus Depot — The Gordon Ledbetter Phillips 66 Station is the new Greyhound Bus station. They will be glad to help you with any information you may need. They are also receiving the bus freight. The busses will not stop down town, but at the Phillips 66 Station.

Three Kansas City youths were arrested in North Kansas City on Friday and admitted seven of eight break-ins discovered in Doniphan County Friday morning. The Bendena State Bank, Denton Hardware, Winchester elevator, Mike Rivers liquor store at Severance, the Western Auto store at Troy, and Bill Campbell's Dairy Queen at Fanning were all victims.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hundley of Hiawatha announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Ann, to James Adair Lucas, son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Lucas, of Highland. The wedding date has not been set.

One on Lucille - Thursday morning, June 18, Hap Frakes came in the Vidette office and said he would like to place an ad in the paper, but his information was in the truck. Lucille stepped out to get the information — there was a timber rattler in a five gallon bucket. Everyone on the main drag ran to their doors to see what had caused Lucille's scream. Hap had a good audience, but everyone kept his distance. The snake had been found near the St. Benedict's Church of Bendena. Later it was left at Keller's Service Station in Hiawatha. The rattler continued to attract attention and was photographed by the World office.

Death — Mrs. Julia Blanche Barrow, 75, of Bendena, on June 17, 1964. A daughter of Henry and Letha Seever of Rushville, she married Jesse J. Barrow of Doniphan on August 15, 1907. First 16 years of married life they lived at Sparks; since then having lived on a farm near Bendena.

The John Bolden family of Elwood had to be rescued by post to escape flood waters Sunday morning.

50 Years Ago, June 27, 1974

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Ukena celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary yesterday, June 26.

Ted Collins, pre-law student at KU, achieved a 4.0 average for the spring semester. Births — A son, Brian Lee, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Pottorf of Highland on June 3, 1974; A son, Aaron Dawson, to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Gibson of Highland on June 22, 1974.

Arthur Gaither was dismissed Monday from Methodist Medical Center where he underwent surgery for removal of a little finger injured in an accident two years ago. Miss Debra Jean Farley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Farley of White Cloud, became the bride of Mr. Richard Lynn Waggoner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Waggoner of White Cloud, on Saturday, June 15 at the home of her parents.

Deaths — Miss Laura Overdick, 74, of Hiawatha on June 26, 1974; Mrs. Vestana M. Cadue, 74, at a Hiawatha hospital on June 22, 1974.

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 ½ 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 Bembrick, 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, USN, 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 Barrand, 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 Fuemmeler 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 Vo Ag instructor, replacing Mark Allen who recently resigned. Art Teacher Kayla Hinton submitted her resignation to the board.