

ALBUM

JOHNSON COUNTY MUSEUM

Volume XIV Number 2

Spring 2006



View of the "Katherine Carpenter" tornado, also known as the "white tornado," as it sliced through the new Overland Park subdivision called Woodstock near 96th Street and Knox. *Courtesy Dick and Joan Korek.*

The White Tornado: A Look Back at the 1966 Twister

As a native Kansas, before that day I reacted to reports of violent weather with a certain blasé disdain. Since that time..., when I am told to go to the basement, I go."
— Jim Bannister, local resident

April 19, 2006 marked the forty year anniversary of a severe tornado that brought devastation and havoc to the developing suburbs of Johnson County. The Overland Park neighborhood called Woodstock was hit by the tornado just as school children were being released for the day from school. The tornado glanced off of Katherine Carpenter Elementary School before tearing through approximately 50 homes to east. Known as the "Katherine Carpenter" tornado, it was also called the "white tornado" because of its white color, backlit by the sunny skies. It was described as the more typical "black" tornado by those who saw the tornado from a distance or only saw its destructive "tail". The tornado, later rated a F3 on the Fujita-Pearson scale, was witnessed by many and galvanized the stricken Overland Park community, and later the entire metropolitan area, to better prepare for the severe weather season.

The Storms Begin

On that infamous day, the weather bureau director Allen Pearson was well aware that weather conditions held a high probability for a tornado. A tornado watch had been issued by mid-morning, extending from Iowa to Wichita. Arriving from the Gulf of Mexico, a low-level jet stream was bringing a mass of warm, moist, unstable air and from the north, a higher mass of cold air was descending into the same area. The two weather patterns were predicted to meet in northeast Kansas and northwest Missouri, near Kansas City.

Around 1:00 p.m., the thunderstorms started to form between Lawrence and Topeka. A funnel cloud was later sighted at Mid-Continent International Airport (now Kansas City International Airport.) The next line of thunderstorms formed around 2:45

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Preserving & Sharing the Community's Memory

DONORS TO THE COLLECTION

The Johnson County Museum thanks the many generous people and organizations whose donations have been added to the permanent collection since the last newsletter.

Ramona Allenbrand
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NEW ACQUISITIONS

The Johnson County Museum collects artifacts from all periods of the county's history, from early settlement through the present day. The following items are among the many recent donations to the permanent collection.

STICK 'EM

Advertising one of the many campaigns for sheriff, this bumper sticker was produced for Fred Allenbrand, the Johnson County Sheriff from 1967 to 2001. Donated by Ramona Allenbrand.



PRIZED POSSESSION

We don't often have vintage school objects come to us that also appear in photographs. One recent donation of Hickory Grove school items included several trophies that happened to be in photographs of various sports teams. The 1931 girls' baseball team was awarded this trophy for their championship season. The former elementary school was located at 59th and Lamar in Mission. Donated by Marilyn Webber.



FAMILY TREES

There are a number of family names that have achieved near "famous" status around Johnson County. Rieke is one of them and a new publication records the family's history in considerable detail. By Gregory M. Rieke, the 154-page hardbound book documents the longtime Shawnee-area family. A number of images from the Museum's historic photograph collection serve to illustrate the book, which the author recently donated to the Museum's Library.



WISH LIST


The museum is seeking photographs, documents and artifacts pertaining to the early history of Mission Mall, Metcalf South, Oak Park Mall, and other retail centers in Johnson County. If you have such items and would be willing to donate them, please contact Kathy Daniels, Curator of Collections and Exhibits, at 631-6709.

MUSEUM NOTES

WILD AND WACKY WEATHER

This issue of the ALBUM focuses on the catastrophic events forty years ago on April 19th. The tornado that struck Overland Park was devastating for the over fifty families whose homes were damaged or destroyed. But it also resulted in improvements to the severe weather notification systems and a greater awareness by the citizens of our communities of the dangers of severe weather. The latest special exhibition at the Museum of History, *Wild and Wacky Weather*, delves into the severe and unusual historic weather patterns and events that Johnson Countians have weathered through the years – from floods, tornadoes, blizzards, ice storms, heat and drought. The exhibit, which runs through August 20th, even provides safety tips for children to ensure they know how to respond to the many weather occurrences that impact our region. 2006 has already proven to be a typically wacky weather year. Temperatures were well above normal for the winter season and over twenty tornadoes have been spotted in our region already this spring. Take a trip to visit the Museum's latest exhibit before it's too late!

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Museum staff is busy planning for the 2007 exhibit program and we need your help. We are looking to identify products made by Johnson County companies and inventors for a new exhibit entitled *Made in Johnson County*, which will be on display at the Museum of History from January 20 - July 29, 2007. The exhibit will highlight how technological advances made by Johnson County businessmen and women have impacted human, social and economic life. Information gathered will lead to a greater understanding of Johnson County's entrepreneurial community. If you're familiar with products — past or present — please call the Museum at 913-631-6709. 

HISTORIC OVERLAND PARK BUILDING ENGULFED IN FLAMES

Downtown Overland Park recently suffered the loss of a historic downtown building. The 1924 building, located at 7924 Santa Fe Drive, was once part of the Kansas City Power and Light offices. The building also had a connection to Overland Park's early fire department.

Frank J. Schepers built a garage on Santa Fe Drive in 1921 to house his auto dealership. Schepers also served as secretary and treasurer for Overland Park's newly formed fire department. His garage had a strong association with the fire department. It was the




Gil Rumsey's Gallery in 2004. Above (courtesy of Brylie Oxley) flames engulfed the building and the entirety of the gallery's inventory was destroyed.

construction site and storage place for Overland Park's first fire truck, a modified Model T truck.

In 1924, Kansas City Power and Light moved its Kansas Division from Wyandotte County to Overland Park. Their first building was a small office on the west side of Santa Fe Drive, between 79th and 80th Streets. They eventually expanded, purchasing Frank Schepers' garage in 1929. The Kansas City Power and Light building

stretched from 7920 to 7924 Santa Fe Drive, housing offices, a repair shop, and the garage. In the 1930s, Kansas City Power and Light added a canopy to unite their building storefronts and placed a neon sign on the roof. The sign was visible from as far as 75th Street and State Line. In 1961, Kansas City Power and Light moved their Kansas offices to a larger space at 87th Street and Nieman Road.

By the mid-1980s, downtown Overland Park was a collection of mostly empty storefronts. The city infused \$799,000 toward a major renovation of downtown beginning in 1989. The 60-foot clock tower and plaza were part of that project. Downtown renovation attracted new businesses, including Gil Rumsey's Gallery, which occupied part of the old Kansas City Power and Light offices for 14 years. On March 1, 2006, a three-alarm fire destroyed the building, along with 600 pieces of art. 

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN PARTNERS

Many thanks to the following corporations and foundations who have contributed to the success of the Museum in 2005-06 by making a contribution to the Annual Campaign to fund the educational programming at the Johnson County Museum sites.

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Dear Diary: I HATE Kansas Weather!

The Katherine Carpenter tornado was the start of an especially active severe weather season in 1966. In June of that same year, a devastating F5 tornado ravaged Topeka, KS. Kathleen Ayres was 14 years old at the time and lived in Merriam, KS. She kept a diary which provides a fascinating look at the perceptions of a Kansas teenager as she the weathers the severe storm season of 1966.

May 15, 1966

Whew! It's so hot, and yet there is no sun. In case you haven't guessed, we are in the midst of a tornado watch. On May 9th we had another. It was seventh grade field day, and occurred 15 minutes after they were "herded in" and dismissed (get ready for another terror-filled adventure.)

It was 4:15 and the first busload just left. I was about to pick up my books and get in line when the sirens blasted off again. Before I knew it, Mr. Smith [a teacher] appeared with the megaphone and herded us into the building. I fell in line with my books, coat and umbrella (a terrible nuisance!) behind my friends.

We were herded (that was the word for it, too) into the boiler room, which lay below the receiving room (and never was known to be in existence by many). They had turned off all the lights, the silly fools, and we were having an awful time seeing where we were going. I almost gored my foot on an iron step. And down we went.

The boiler room! Ah, how shall I describe it? Situated in the bowels of the Earth, like Dante's Inferno, full of strange articles, and in the midst of it, the furnace- a gargantuan object much too big for belief.... Everyone was there, packed in like crayons. The teacher had called the people nearby off the street, and also those who were in the parking lot. Bedlam couldn't have been worse...

Later that evening:

FLASH! The radio just said about the warning and I turned on the TV and it said TAKE COVER!!!!!!!!!! The Emergency Broadcast System took over and we are right in the path of a tornado! Now I'm on the move. Standing barefoot in the driveway staring at the clouds. They are boiling and I can see two fronts converging! That means trouble!

May 17, 1966

I HATE Kansas Weather! A few minutes ago I stamped into the house soaking wet with my hair hanging in my face. Yep, you guessed it. Another storm today....Tornadoes are getting awfully tiresome and "taking cover" is an everyday function. Not only that, but those boogers hit the ground and kill, no less.

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continued from page 1

p.m. over the Nike Missile base (now Nike Intermediate School in Gardner, KS) and later fizzled out over the City of Olathe. It was thought the severe weather had ended and one resident of Overland Park, Margaret Dyas, recalled that the National Weather Service issued an all clear at 3:00 p.m. However, a third cell rapidly formed over Olathe and around 3:19 p.m. reports of funnels began pouring in.



View of the debris and destruction in the Woodstock subdivision after the tornado hit. *Courtesy Dick and Joan Korek.*

Descending Destruction

All at once, the windows blew out and the whole roof moved. I could see houses across the street exploding....

—Russ Wismer, student at Katherine Carpenter

Literally thousands of people in Johnson County and downtown Kansas City viewed the slender funnel descend. It eventually touched down on the new Overland Park neighborhood of Woodstock near 96th and Knox Streets. Platted in 1964, the neighborhood was still being developed when the tornado hit.

Reporters described the tornado in the distance as a “black thread dropping gently to earth.”

Ironically, the storm forecast center of the weather bureau, situated on the ninth floor of the Federal Building at 9th and Walnut in Kansas City, Missouri, was not one of them. Although the weather bureau was well aware of the immediate threat from their radar and weather equipment, the forecaster’s view was blocked by The Commerce Bank building in downtown Kansas City. A storm spotter near 105th and State Line spotted the tornado and called in the report to Civil Defense.

Tornado sirens sounded just a few minutes before the tornado descended.

Some students from the neighborhood school, Katherine Carpenter, had just been dismissed when the funnel was spotted. School principal Henry Morse ordered the children back into the school to take cover. Some were directed to the central hallway and others back to their classrooms, since the school did not have a basement. The tornado glanced off the school, causing windows to be blown out and damage to the roof.

Jim Bannister, a carpenter working at the Valley View Bank at 96th and Metcalf Avenue, recalled the tornado looked, “at least as large as an inverted mountain.” It was imposing enough to evoke fear in the many ironworkers, electricians, plumbers and fellow carpenters who all clamored

from scaffolding to seek shelter in the recently completed bank vault. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the vault was still full of three feet of water from recent rains. From the time the sirens wailed until the all clear signal was given, it was also filled with construction workers seeking shelter.

Emory Holland noticed the tornado as he was driving home from work. It destroyed a barn on the outskirts of Overland Park, before descending into the residential neighborhood. He saw sparks fly from snapped power lines and the air was filled with debris. He was not the only one to view the tornado from the road.

Charles Beecher, a Leawood patrolman reported the tornado and drove through the streets between Mission Road and State Line with his red light on and sirens blasting to warn people of the tornado. Instead of taking cover, he noted many people came out of their homes with cameras.

After spotting the tornado, Deborah Doran rushed home from school to warn her mother and six-year old brother. Mrs. Doran phoned her husband to find out if she should attempt to drive away or take cover. After seeing a neighbor’s swing set lift into the air, she and her children hurried to the basement and hid under an oak table. She later stated: “When I came out from under the table, all I saw was sky. I didn’t have a house.”

The Aftermath

....so many houses were destroyed. It looked like someone had set off a bomb.



The Mayfield family home, 9619 W. 96th Street. *Courtesy Dick and Joan Korek.*

—Margaret Dyas, Woodstock resident

Panicked parents of students at the school and stricken residents rushed to the scene by car and later on foot, wading through muddy fields to find their children and families. The trees were littered with insulation, rugs, toilet tissue, boards and other household items. Homes were damaged and in some cases completely destroyed. Bill Doran described himself as one of the frantic husbands “tearing down I-35” to get home from downtown Kansas City. He remembered 95th Street was a “colossal mess of husbands trying to get home.” Gerald Mayfield also rushed home and searched an agonizing thirty minutes before finding his wife and children unharmed. Mrs. Mayfield provided refuge to three women who were trying to pick up

continued from page 4

their children from school. After taking shelter in the basement, no doors had to be opened for the four women to walk outside; the section of the home above them was gone.

Emergency crews were on the scene minutes after the destructive tornado dissipated. Overland Park Chief of Police, John O. Kenyan, Jr., coordinated efforts. He immediately ordered every patrol car to the area, called for all off-duty officers and reserve officers to report and requested ambulances. At the scene, he deputized 10 men to help search the area for injured persons. The Johnson County Sheriff's patrol, Kansas Highway patrolmen and police officers from Mission, Prairie Village, Leawood, Olathe and Kansas City, Kansas, all responded to the call to help. Crewman from the telephone, gas and light companies were also at the site ready to not only return service to the area, but also to prevent further injury due to downed power lines and natural gas leaks.

Katherine Carpenter School was immediately set up as an emergency operations center, focusing first on aiding the shocked residents. The center also issued passes to those people authorized to enter the disaster stricken site. There were some reports of looting attempts, but police agencies metropolitan wide worked through the night protecting the area.

Displaced residents found shelter with other family members, rented apartments or stayed at the Glenwood Motel. The motel manager offered shelter for about 50 people and did not charge for lodging or food, saying that the homeowner's insurance policy and the Red Cross would assist with the cost. The Mayfield family was one family that stayed at the Glenwood Motel, a familiar place for the family. They had lived at the motel for two months while waiting for their home to be built. They certainly did not expect to be back at the hotel after living in their new home for only six



The Newcom family home at 9805 W. 96th Street. Courtesy Dick and Joan Korek.

weeks. They remained in the hotel while their home was rebuilt.

The Day After

Reporters from *The Kansas City Star* described the next day as dismal, as heartbroken homeowners piled through the debris of their former homes. To add insult to injury, the skies produced a gloomy mist of drizzle and rain which slowed down salvage attempts and further destroyed exposed furniture and belongings. Insurance adjusters, movers and other workmen were added to the list of approved persons allowed on the scene as residents struggled to salvage what could be saved from the wreckage.

Phil Casaert, the head custodian of Katherine Carpenter School was cleaning up the school the

day after. A gaping hole in the roof allowed rain to fall in the auditorium and four large wastebaskets were placed in the school library to catch the drips from the leaky roof. School officials worked quickly to arrange for a temporary school – Valley View — for the displaced students of Katherine Carpenter.



The Korek family home, 9615 W. 96th Street. Courtesy Dick and Joan Korek.


Building a Community, again

Offers of assistance from other metropolitan cities, the Governor of the State of Kansas and citizens nationwide flooded the community. The area was declared a federal disaster area, but reactions to the declaration were mixed. Homeowners in the disaster area reacted favorably to the offer of low interest loans, but few thought they would need it. Since the tornado struck an area of relatively new homes, many in the neighborhood were fully insured. Most of the homeowners decided to rebuild their homes. Some, like the Korek family, even choose to make a few changes to their original home.

Tornado Reform

This tornado outbreak, the most severe since the Ruskin Heights (aka Hickman Mills) tornado ravaged the metropolitan area in 1957, became a catalyst for tornado awareness and reform. While many school officials were praised for their quick actions in saving students, the Johnson County Civil Defense office and the Weather Bureau were criticized for the lack of adequate warning. At the time, policy dictated that the 23 sirens in Johnson County could only be activated when a confirmed sighting was reported. The Johnson County Civil Defense Director Greg Merserve stated: "None of the hundreds of persons who saw [the tornado] and shot pictures of it, took the trouble to call the sheriff or the Civil Defense Office." He further pointed out that his office was housed in a basement and had "no periscope ... for reconnaissance." He emphasized, however, that in the future a spotter would be positioned on high ground northeast of Olathe to improve warning capabilities. Thoughts posted in local newspapers ranged from a ban on additional school funding until all schools are equipped with adequate shelters to a personal "thank you" to a civilian in a red car who sounded his horn to warn residents before any TV alert or sirens sounded.

The destruction of the neighborhood was great, and despite the many hardships only five injuries, mostly minor, were reported. The Katherine Carpenter tornado may have brought destruction, but also it also brought the neighborhood together and served to place the entire metropolitan on alert for the extreme severe weather in the Kansas City area.

A special thank you to Dick and Joan Korek for sharing their photographs with the Museum. 

TO LEARN MORE...

Check out these resources to learn more about tornadoes accounts in the Kansas City metropolitan area:

Brewer, Carolyn Glenn. *Caught in the*

Path: the fury of a tornado; the rebirth of a community. Kansas City, MO: Leathers Publishing, 1997.

Grazuli, Thomas P., *Significant Tornadoes 1680-1991.* St. Johnsbury, Vt.: Environmental Films, 1993.

Grazuli, Thomas P., *Significant Tornadoes, 1880-1989, Volume II, Chronology of Events.* St. Johnsbury, Vt.: Environmental Films, 1990.

Online Resources:

www.cantonma.org/myweb/birtwellk/classwebsite/clouds_17.htm

www.tornadoproject.com

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June 12, 1966

Here I am in the cellar again!... A tornado was sighted over KC... I keep begging Mom to let me see the sky, but every time she says, "You stay put!" RATS! ...Oh brother, those sirens. And my hair has flopped because of the humidity... They're telling us how edgy everybody at Overland Park is (no kidding, folks.) But Topeka didn't get hit again, I'm glad to say.

Today Kathleen (Aryes) Bitwell is a science teacher living near Boston, MA. As part of her teaching curriculum, she has created a website for her students detailing her experiences with tornadoes. For more interesting excerpts, view her teacher website at: www.cantonma.org/myweb/birtwellk/classwebsite/clouds_17.htm

FAST FACTS ABOUT TORNADOES

A miniature twister developed in the southwest corner of [Olathe] and lifted large sections of sidewalk twenty feet in the air.

The Olathe Mirror
March 30, 1905

Four persons were killed, thirty-five more were seriously injured, and a property damage aggregating at least \$150,000 was caused by a tornado that swept down on South Park, in the northeastern part of Johnson County, late Saturday afternoon. The property loss includes five store buildings and twenty-five homes in South Park that were destroyed by the cyclone, and at least a hundred homes that were damaged.

Johnson County Democrat
July 27, 1927

The house at the city waterworks reservoir lakes held a brief joust with a young tornado at 9:45 o'clock yesterday morning...Mr. [Ed] Randall was working inside the plant. He heard a terrific roar and looked out just in time to see the front porch of his home go sailing over the roof and out into the lake.

The Olathe Mirror
May 5, 1938

A tornado dropped out of an afternoon stormcloud, brushed by Katherine Carpenter elementary school, then destroyed or damaged at least 28 homes in a three-block area of southwest Overland Park yesterday. Four injuries were reported, none of them believed serious. A metropolitan Civil Defense emergency alert sounded just before the tornado hit. It may have saved hundreds of lives.

The Daily News of Johnson County,
Kansas
April 20, 1966

PEEK INTO THE PAST...

TEST YOUR TORNADO KNOWLEDGE

Are you ready for a tornado warning? Do you know where to go and what to do when a tornado warning is issued for your area. Take this quiz to find out!

1. Tornadoes only occur:
 - A. March – August
 - B. Any time of the year.
 - C. March – May
2. Tornadoes only occur:
 - A. In daytime
 - B. At night
 - C. Any time of day
3. If you are in your car and see a tornado you should:
 - A. Try and outrun the tornado
 - B. Turn and drive at right angles to the tornado
 - C. Leave your car and seek safe shelter
4. Which types of shelter should you seek in a tornado?
 - A. Basement
 - B. Small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor
 - C. All of the above
5. True or False: You should open windows before a tornado approaches to equalize pressure in your house.
6. True or False: Tornadoes have occurred in every state.
7. True or False: Low pressure from tornadoes cause buildings to explode as the storm passes over.



Find the answers on Page 7.

TO LEARN MORE...

To learn more about severe weather, check out these books and websites:

All About Weather by Bruce LaFontaine. Dover Publications, Inc., 2004.

Eyewitness Books: Hurricane & Tornado by Jack Challoner. Dorling Kindersley Publishers, 2000.

The Kids' Book of Weather Forecasting by Mark Breen and Kathleen Friestad. Williamson Books, 2000.


Weather: Mind-Boggling Experiments You Can Turn Into Science Fair Projects by Janice VanCleave. Jossey-Bass Books, 1995.

Wild About Weather by Ed Brotak. Lark Books.

National Weather Service's Kidpage on their website:
<http://nws.noaa.gov/om/reachout/kidspage.shtml>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Education page on their website:
<http://www.education.noaa.gov/students.html>

HISTORY MYSTERY

This 1959 photograph of a group of men at a ground breaking ceremony is unidentified except for the location of the event: 50 Highway and Metcalf in Mission. Text on the photograph names a pharmaceutical business, E. R. Squibb and Sons. The ground breaking may have been for the E. R. Squibb and Sons office at 6800 Squibb Road in Mission. If you have specific information about this photo, please contact the Museum's Collection Manager, Russ Czaplewski, at 913-631-6709. 



ENDOWMENT GIFTS

We thank those who invested in the Museums' future in 2005 with a donation to the Endowment Fund.

- Rick and Emily Boeshaar
- Ginny Fisher in memory of Ruth Hervey
- Paul and Barbara Gorman in memory of Ruth Hervey
- Richard and Gloria Haberkorn
- Margie Lundy
- Monica Moll
- Charlyne Rothman
- Peter and Pamela Steitz


DRIVE ON IN

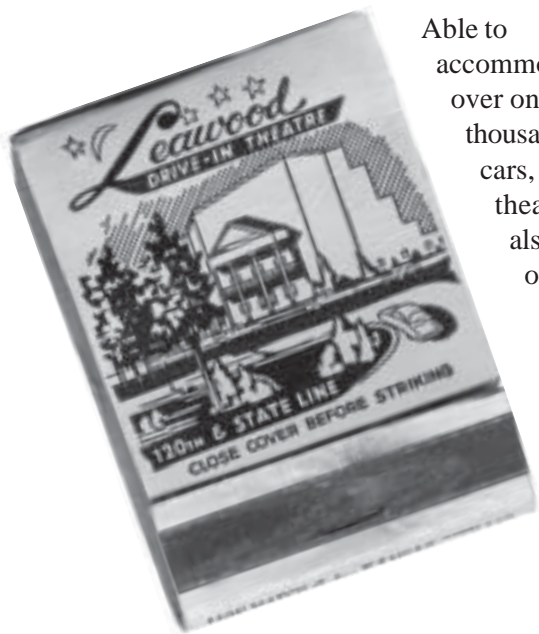
The multi-story screens that popped up with great frequency in the 1950s were the sign that drive-in theaters had become a growing part of the entertainment scene across the nation and here in Johnson County. Two screens debuted in June of 1953. The Leawood Drive-In opened at 120th Street and State Line Road, billed as "the showplace of Kansas City." The \$350,000 theater featured the "largest screen in the midwest" in a facility designed with the appearance of a "Southern Mansion." The six-story-tall screen was designed to give a "third dimensional effect," something the drive-in's owner, Dickinson Theatres, Inc., stressed in its advertising.

a free playground for the children. Opening night featured *Lure of the Wilderness* with Jeffrey Hunter, and *Tembo* with Howard Hill. Donald Duck and Pluto cartoons targeted the younger members of the audience. Customers were entertained between the feature films with a "mammoth" fireworks display. Various prizes were advertised to encourage attendance at the opening: flowers to the ladies, an "Indian war bonnet for each child," and a flashing key ring for the first 500 men. A Westinghouse washing machine was promised to the car that arrived with the most adults inside.

Opening at nearly the same time was the "New 50 Drive-In" theater, three miles west of Overland Park and two miles northeast of Lenexa. Located just off the intersection of US-50 and K 50 highways on 87th Street, this drive-in was on a 30-acre tract ideal "for the thousands seeking momentary escape from the city air."

The New 50 Drive-In also offered a kiddie playground, sizable concession stand, and restrooms patterned on the latest Hollywood type. A special milk dispenser was even installed "for bottle babies."

Eventually, drive-ins fell upon declining fortunes. The Leawood Drive-In closed in 1976 and a further indignity came in June of 1979 when the property was declared legally abandoned by the Leawood City Council. Development in the area had created a situation that prohibited the once popular drive-in from reopening. 



Able to accommodate over one thousand cars, the theatre also offered

JOIN US!

We invite you to be part of the Museum's future by joining the Friends of Johnson County Museum. The Friends support exhibit development, educational programs and special events. Your membership and other contributions are tax deductible.

Your membership brings you the following annual benefits:

- **Free admission to The 1950s All-Electric House**
- **Quarterly newsletter, ALBUM**
- **10% off gift shop purchases & 50% off program fees**
- **Invitations to Members' Only events**
- **Enrollment in national Time Travelers program**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone _____

\$25-49 **Friend**

\$50-99 **Good Friend**

\$100-249 **Really Good Friend**

\$250 and up **Best Friend**

I am making an additional contribution of \$_____ in honor/memory of _____

My company matches charitable donations. The matching form is enclosed.

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Enclosed is my check for \$_____ payable to **Friends of Johnson County Museum.**

Please charge \$_____ to my credit card.
 Mastercard Visa

Acct. Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Return to 6305 Lackman Road, Shawnee, KS 66217.

Answers from page 6:

1. B -- Tornadoes occur most frequently in the spring and summer months, but they can occur any time of the year.
2. D -- Tornadoes are mostly likely to occur between 3 and 9 p.m., but they can happen at any time of day.
3. C -- Do not try to outrun a tornado. Leave your vehicle and seek shelter in a sturdy building or a ditch or depression.
4. C -- In a home or building, go to a basement. If an underground shelter is not available, go to a small interior room or a hallway on the lowest floor.
5. False -- If a tornado warning has been issued, find shelter immediately. Leave the windows alone.
6. True -- Tornadoes are most frequent east of the Rocky Mountains, but tornadoes have occurred in every state.
7. False -- High winds and debris cause most structural damage to buildings.

MUSEUM OF HISTORY

6305 Lackman Road
 Shawnee, KS 66217
 (913) 631-6709
 Fax: (913) 631-6359
 Email: jcmuseum@jocogov.org
 www.jocomuseum.org
 Tues-Sat 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
ADMISSION IS FREE

THE 1950s ALL-ELECTRIC HOUSE

6305 Lackman Road
 Shawnee, KS 66217
 (913) 631-6709
 www.jocomuseum.org
 Tues - Sun 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.,
 guided tours every half hour
ADMISSION: \$2 for adults; \$1 for
 children 12 and under

LANESFIELD SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE

18745 S. Dillie Road
 Edgerton, KS 66021
 (913) 893-6645
 www.jocomuseum.org
 Tues - Sun 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
ADMISSION IS FREE

JOHN BROWN TO BOB DOLE: MOVERS AND SHAKERS IN KANSAS HISTORY



Edited by Virgil W. Dean.
 University of Kansas Press, 2006.

Virgil Dean, the prominent Kansas historian, has gathered a reputable team of writers to craft short but in-depth biographical essays on notable Kansas men and women. This text offers a new and engaging look at many


prominent Kansans and their contributions to important national themes and radical movements: abolitionism, civil rights, national politics, populism, and women's rights, to name a few. Dean's stable of 27 writers (including Dean himself, Craig Miner, Nicole Etcheson, Jonathon Earle, and William Tsutsui among others) successfully capture the spirit of these Kansans and the role they have played in the broader scope of United States' history.

Agitators and motivators, the good and the bad, the famous and the infamous all share the moniker of a mover or shaker of Kansas history. In addition to the ardent abolitionist John Brown, some of the other agitators featured are the anti-Semitic preacher and one-time U. S. Senate candidate Gerald "Jayhawk Hitler" Winrod; Populist attorney Mary Elizabeth Lease who called on farmers to "raise less corn, more hell"; and former Kansas Attorney General

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Vern Miller who gained national notoriety for trying to forbid airlines from serving liquor on flights over Kansas.

Placed into the motivator camp is Senator Dole; former President Dwight D. Eisenhower; and women's rights activist Clarina I. H. Nichols, a territorial and early statehood leader in efforts to make Kansas the first state to allow women to vote. Within the group of innovators you'll find Land Institute founder Wes Jackson; Dr. Samuel J. Crumbine, whose crusades regarding public health led to the fly swatter being invented; and Joseph McCoy, the cattle trader who essentially invented the famed cowtowns of the west.

Add to the assorted mix James H. Lane, Theodore C. Henry, Fred Harvey, Bernhard Warkentin, Mary Ann "Mother" Bickerdyke, Mary Elizabeth Lease, Charles M. Sheldon, William Allen White, Kate Richards O' Hare, Emmanuel and Marcet Haldeman-Julius, Alf Landon, Walter Huxman, John Steuart Curry, R. H. Garvey, Esther Brown and Gordon Parks and you have enough interesting characters to fill a lifetime of John Irving novels. *John Brown to Bob Dole: Movers and Shakers in Kansas History* is an excellent resource to familiarize yourself with some of Kansas' more colorful character and contributors. With its short powerful sketches of individuals, this book is highly readable, completely enthralling, and a must have for your personal library. 



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