

LIFESTYLE

LITTLE BALKANS CHRONICLES

Alexander McWhirter Howat (1876–1945)

I did a computer search for ‘famous Kansans’ this week. It resulted in 24 names. Among them John Brown, Dwight D. Eisenhower, William Allen White, Amelia Earhart, Phog Allen and Bob Dole. Missing was Alexander Howat, the Pittsburg man who played a major role in not only Kansas history but the labor history



J.T. KNOLL
Morning Sun Columnist

of the entire nation. What follows is a profile of Howat by my wife, Linda, written for the

narrative panel that accompanies the Howat display at Heritage Hall Museum in Frontenac. —J.T.K

Alexander Howat, the colorful and controversial President of District #14 of the United Mine Workers of America, was chiefly responsible for the organization of a powerful and militant la-

bor union in the Cherokee-Crawford coal fields. Howat, a Scottish born American, who began working in the Kansas coal mines at the age of 10 and continued until the age of 22, was elected president of the UMWA Local District #14 three times. Membership in District #14 totaled 12,000 Kansas miners and,

although one of the smallest districts in the union, the coalminers in southeast Kansas earned the reputation of being among the most radical branch of the American labor movement. Notable was Howat’s stewardship in the 1919 strike, which garnered state and national attention, and his defiance of

the 1920 Kansas Court of Industrial Relations Act, which sent him to jail in defense of the right to strike. A revered hero to his men, Howat’s steadfast leadership brought about real progress for workers’ rights and contributed to the national reforms that would follow. —Linda O’Nelio Knoll

From our
HISTORY
Sponsored by



Ottawa employs Pittsburg man to direct a campaign

Compiled by
Joshua Smith
news@morningsun.net

Excerpted stories in
Crawford County news-
paper archives

100 Years Ago
Aug. 28, 1925
Meet P. T. Ellis, civic evangelist. Mr. Ellis, former president of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce and prominent in activities and affairs of the organization for a long time, has been employed by the chamber at Ottawa to direct a civic week there, Sept. 21-28. Mr. Ellis was at Ottawa this week meeting with the chamber officials and directors and will go back there for work within a few days. Mr. Ellis conducted the last membership drive of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce. With slightly more

than a week intervening, the Arma Labor Day committee rapidly in lining up the final details of the big celebration to be held here on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7. At a meeting of the committee last night a checkup showed the plans well shaped, with the possibility of one or two speakers yet to be secured. Speakers for the Labor Day jubilee will provide one of the numerous features, spiced with numerous other events to make a day thoroughly enjoyable for everyone of the thousands expected. Thousands again are thronging the American Legion reunion grounds here today for the fourth day of the union. “Old Settlers’ Day” it is, with a program especially designed to attract and please the folks who can recall the early

days of this community. Dr. C. S. Huffman, head of the state board of administration, is the principal speaker today, being scheduled to address his old neighbors at 3 o’clock this afternoon. Following Dr. Huffman’s address, the reunion committee will distribute badges to persons in the audience who attended the first old settlers’ reunion here.

50 years ago
Aug. 28, 1975
Up in Canada, the maple leaf is a symbol of national sovereignty and pride. Kansas has the sunflower. But Pittsburg, in the “Balkans” of Southeast Kansas has the Busy Bee Symbolizing a bustling community of friendly people and the Centennial medallion with its cluster of hats representing groups that

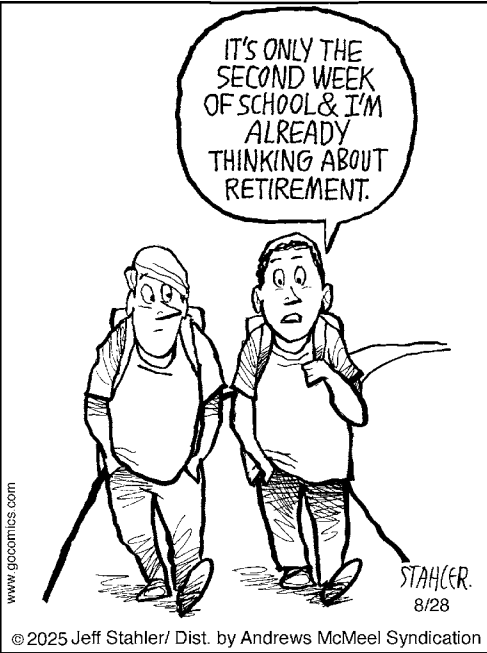
have had major roles in the founding and development of the city. These Pittsburg symbols, marking the city’s 100th birthday in 1975, have gone far, reports Edward T. McNally, Pittsburg’s Centennial general chairman. Former FFA members have united to charter the Fort Scott FFA Alumni Association as a local affiliate of the National FFA Alumni Association. This new organization is aimed at promoting a greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and supporting education in agriculture. It will not only provide past FFA members the opportunity to assist in and keep abreast of current activities, but it will also give them an opportunity to strengthen and boost the current educational program. A group of 10 musi-

cians from the University of Missouri, Kansas, including Janice Schooley of Walnut, has returned from an eight-week USO tour of Germany and the Azore Islands. They performed twice daily for the servicemen for five weeks at bases near Heidelberg, Mannheim, Kaiserslautern, Stuttgart, Warzburg, and Berlin. During their one-week day in Berlin, the group performed for the 15th annual German-American Volksfest. The Volksfest, similar to American carnivals and fairs draws crowds of approximately 5,000 each day.

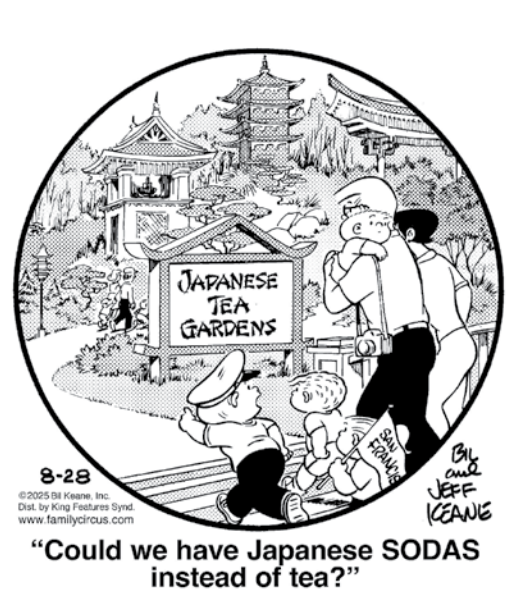
25 years ago
Aug. 28, 2000
A new state plan to help with college savings will make a difference for ordinary people across Kansas, including those in Pittsburg and Southeast Kansas. That’s the message Kansas Treasurer Tim Shallenburger wanted to get across during a recent visit to Pittsburg in which he toured the state’s new Learning Quest Education Savings Program. Shallenburger and Bill Arnall, who coordinates the plan for Shallenburger’s office, visited Pittsburg to talk more about the benefits of a state plan, compared to standard education savings instruments such as the Roth IRA or other IRAs.

Oswego Health Center recently added new services to meet the needs of area residents. Included area after-hours access to a physician or nurse practitioner, expanded clinic hours and transportation to medical appointments. “Our goal is to make health care more accessible to our community,” said Kathy Moyer, OHC administrator. “For some, lack of transportation might be the barrier. For others, especially working parents, finding the time may be the problem. Our new services will make it more convenient for all ages to obtain needed health care.” A few vocal residents of a hidden neighborhood here have surprised the Salina City Commission with their negative responses to a proposed \$1 million in improvements. Under the proposal by Salina city commissioners, the three dead-end dirt streets in the neighborhood would be paved and widened, a new water line would be put in, some buildings would be improved and others razed, and many residents could be connected to the city sewer system. A city-administered survey found that about 78 percent of the people who live in the neighborhood favor the street paving, whereas about 11 percent oppose it.

MODERATELY CONFUSED



FAMILY CIRCUS



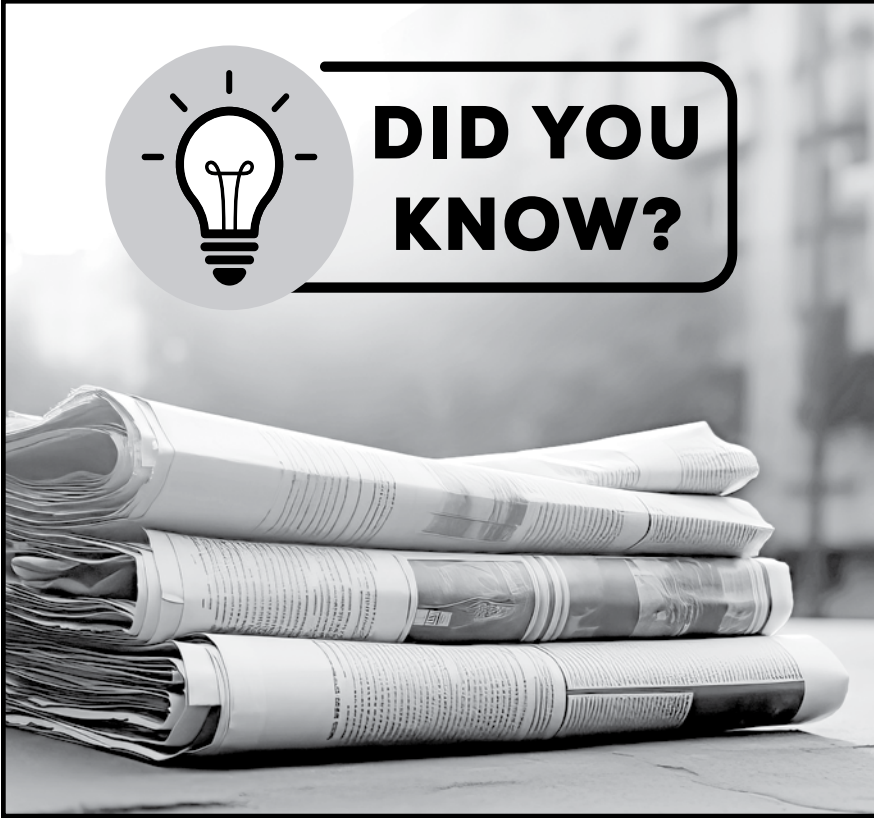
SUDOKU

				9	2			7
		7		4			2	6
	4		3	7	6		8	
5			7				4	
4			2		9			8
	6				4			2
	2		4	1	8		9	
6	1			3		2		
3			6	2				

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS ANSWER

9	8	5	6	1	4	7	3	2
4	1	7	5	3	2	9	6	8
2	6	3	9	8	7	5	1	4
7	2	6	4	5	8	1	9	3
5	4	1	7	9	3	8	2	6
8	3	9	1	2	6	4	5	7
1	7	2	8	6	9	3	4	5
3	9	8	2	4	5	6	7	1
6	5	4	3	7	1	2	8	9



DID YOU KNOW?

Residents with limited access to reliable printed local news tend to be less informed about key community issues in their communities and are less likely to vote.(U.S. News Deserts.com 16-821) Be a part of the Solution and support Local Journalism Project. <http://morningsun.net/donate/>