



The OPHS News

The Newsletter of the Overland Park Historical Society



Volume 32, Issue 1

www.ophistorical.org

Jan./Feb./Mar. 2026

 **HAPPY 2026 NEW YEAR!**

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Meetings:



Details of the upcoming February 21 program can be found on page 9. Other upcoming programs to be announced.

Discover O.P. Holds Grand Opening!

On Wednesday, November 12, members of OPHS gathered to celebrate the official grand opening of Discover O.P. The weather was perfect for this well-attended event, which was also featured on Fox 4 News. See pages 3 thru 6 for more photos of this historic occasion.



Mayor Curt Skoog and OP Chamber President, Tracey Osborne Oltjen, hold the ribbon as OPHS board members look on.

President's Message

Observations for a new year! Let me begin with some milestones:

- 1) **The Depot:** OPHS now occupies its beautiful new home in the Old Strang Depot at 8001 Santa Fe Drive. We front the old Santa Fe Trail. Right on Time Square in Old Downtown OP. If you haven't been in to visit, we invite you to do so. It is the culmination of a lot of work by a lot of volunteers and our Executive Director Brad Moore devoting enormous amounts of their personal time. It looks wonderful.
- 2) **Celebrations:** The Depot has already hosted OP's Sister City Delegation from Germany and the David Wolfe collection of related exhibits for their enjoyment. We've hosted receptions for our members, for the City, for the Chamber from Frisco, Texas and various other functions to show off the facilities.
- 3) **Classroom History:** Brad Moore and Bruce McRoberts have inaugurated our collaboration with the Blue Valley and Shawnee Mission School Districts by presenting exciting historical presentations on local history in the elementary schools.
- 4) **Strategic Planning:** Our Officers and Board are currently engaged in completing a Strategic Plan for 2026 fundraising. We have engaged Vicki Lilly, a noted fundraiser for major organizations in Overland Park, as a consultant to provide guidance in Donor engagement and Grant Applications.
- 5) **Newsletter:** Our newsletter will now go out electronically every quarter. This allows us to greatly expand content, to go to "all color!", to expand from the old 8-page limit to 30+ pages. This allows for more information, history and an easier to read format enlargeable on your screens at home. This also assures prompt delivery, not dependent on the mails.
- 6) **Fundraising:** 501c3 Charitable Corporations survive on raising the funds necessary to support day to day operations and programming. The OPHS is no different. We must raise sufficient operating funds from Donors, Grants and our Membership to maintain operations. We are hitting the trail for Donors and Grantors. Contributions from Members thru dues, donations, estate planning, charitable tax-deductible donations or otherwise, are of great benefit.
- 7) **Programming:** The Board and Officers are considering various programming that the OPHS can offer to the community, it's members and others. This programming will be focused on and devoted to local history, events and development of our City over the decades.

I wish to extend a personal thank you to our Executive Director, Officers, Board of Directors and all our volunteers that have devoted their time, interests and talents to the OPHS this past year. I know the new year will be equally demanding. We have the team willing to tackle the significant opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Here is a toast to a successful 2026 fundraising campaign and our new Depot!!

Rod Richardson
President, OPHS

Grand Opening Celebration at Discover O.P.



Grand Opening Celebration at Discover O.P.



Grand Opening Celebration at Discover O.P.



Events

Fox 4 News reporter, Jacob Sloan, was present for the event. He interviewed attendees and created two different stories which appeared on two different newscasts the evening of November 12.



Executive Director, Brad Moore, explains the importance of the Strang Line for the development of Overland Park and beyond.

Attendees participated in a celebratory champagne toast.



To view one of the stories broadcast on Fox 4 News, click this link below:
[Discover OP brings Overland Park's history to life](#)

We Thank Our 2025 Friends of OPHS:

Strang Friends

APECS Aerospace
Comer, David & Barbara
Conrad, James & Charlene
Coulter, Ed & Sharon

Gilbert, Elaine
Hawk, Mel & Alice
Kauffman, Gordon
Lyons, Paul & Marilyn

Marsh, Gary & Deanna
Moore, Brad
Reichart, Frank
Shipley, Sally
White, David & Beverly

Gold Friends

Adler, Carol
Angerman, Bill
Apex Construction
Collins, Richard

First Interstate Bank
Foitle, Lisa
Griffin, Phil & Mary
Paradise, Richard & Julie

Pleasant Valley Cemetery
District Association
Williams Family Dentistry

Silver Friends

Eilert, Ed & Janice
Gram, Stacie
Hawk, Allison
McRoberts, Bruce & Karen

Oltjen, Tom & Tracey
Potter, Sarah
Pringle, Susan Yendrek
Richardson, Rod & Pam

Simmons, Mike & Lynn
Stower, John
Vardeman, Kenneth & Myrna
Williams, Mary Jo & Pat

Bronze Friends

Adams, Bill & Barbara
Becker, Judith & Howard
Beucher, Jacqueline
Coddington, Erin
Crabtree, Pat
Davis, Chuck & Barbara
Dixon, Deron & Tana
DOPP
Dyer, Dave & Marian
Foster, Sandra
Francis, James

Ginter, Melanie Martin
Grant, William
Gray, Tom
Gulley, Sheryl
Hauser, Lee
Lee, Peggy Ogan
McLain, Mike
Murray, Shirley
Nelson, Dick & Ruby
O.P. Real Estate, LLC

Pintar, Gilbert & Deborah
Single Source US, LLC
Thies, Kathi & Larry
Thornburgh, Jeff
Troop, Ruth Ann
Vohland, Janiece
Walker, John & Kathleen
Weiler, Bill & Calvin, Sharon
Williams, Dick & Gay

Please consider becoming a Friend of the Overland Park Historical Society in 2026! Click the link below to become a Friend online.

[Become a Friend of OPHS for 1 Year -
Choose your level of support!](#)

Upcoming Events – Jan/Feb/Mar 2026

February 2026

February 11, 5 p.m. - OPHS Board Meeting
8001 Santa Fe Dr.

February 21, 10 a.m. - General Meeting
7500 W. 75th St.

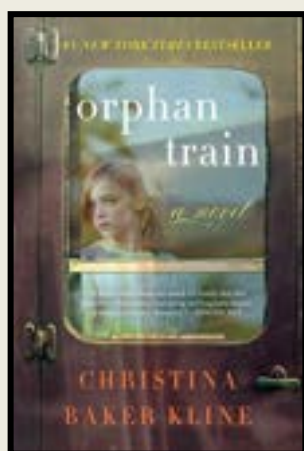
March 2026

March 11, 5 p.m. - OPHS Board Meeting
8001 Santa Fe Dr.

March 24, 7 p.m. - OPHS Book Club
8001 Santa Fe Dr.

Book Club Resumes in March

Spring 2026 Series: *It's a Hard Knock Life*



Tuesday, March 24 – 7 p.m.

Orphan Train

by Christina Baker Kline
Speaker – Marilyn Klaus



Tuesday, April 21 - 7 p.m.

The Chaperone

by Laura Moriarty
Speaker – Rosemary Kolich



Tuesday, May 19 - 7 p.m.

The Light Between the Oceans

by M.L. Stedman
Speaker – Erin Poupirt

Books are now available for check out at Discover O.P. – 8001 Santa Fe Drive.

Join us in celebrating and saving the OPHS Book Club, an extension of our society that has been an annual tradition for years. Under the dedicated guidance of Pat Crabtree, we've been able to receive a generous grant from Humanities Kansas, allowing us to provide a variety of books—many of which grace the New York Times best seller lists—at no charge. Additionally, we've hosted insightful speakers who have deepened our understanding of the themes woven into these books. While our initial funding set a strong foundation, we now find ourselves in need of your financial support to keep this program thriving. Your donations will ensure that we can continue to foster connections through literature and provide invaluable experiences for our community. Let's come together to keep the pages turning and the discussions lively!

If you have any questions about the book club, please contact Pat Crabtree at (913) 523-4784 or by email at vpmtree123@yahoo.com.

All book club meetings are held at Discover O.P. – 8001 Santa Fe Drive.

February 21 General Meeting

Please join us on February 21 for our first general meeting of 2026. This will be an important meeting as it will provide information on our fundraising efforts going forward. Our guest speaker will be Vicki Lilly, whom the Board of Directors recently engaged to provide professional assistance. Vicki has prepared a plan that features 10 tactics for revenue generation. These tactics range from securing corporate partners to expansion of membership and our Friends program. Vicki will go through the plan and answer any questions you may have. Vicki has decades of fundraising experience, and most recently served as the Executive Director of the Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park. (ARFOP). We are grateful to have Vicki's assistance in helping ensure the success of OPHS!

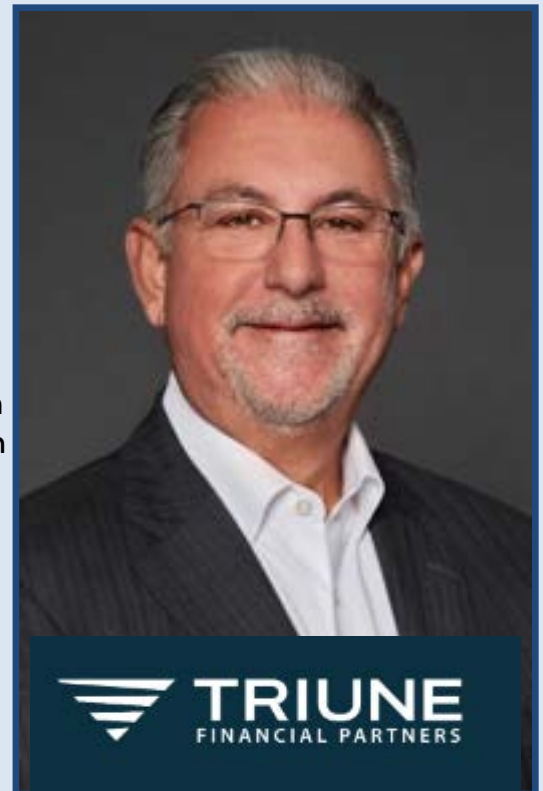
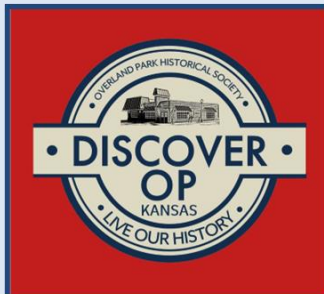


Vicki Lilly

Also present at the meeting will be Robert Sparrow from Triune Financial Planners. Robert will provide insights on how you can support OPHS now and in the future through qualified charitable distributions from IRAs and testamentary bequests in estate planning.

The February 21 General Meeting will be held at 10 a.m. at the American Legion Post, 7500 W. 75th St. Donuts and coffee will be served.

2026
Fundraising Plan
January 14, 2026
GOAL:
\$260,000+



Robert Sparrow

Early Aviation in Overland Park (as reflected in local newspapers)

K.C. Journal - June 15, 1912

Kansas City Star - July 18, 1914

OVERLAND PARK
On Strang Line
Sunday Afternoon
DeLloyd Thompson
America's Greatest Aviator
Admission 50 Cents
Tuesday, July 21, Thompson will attempt to break the altitude record at Overland Park.
Take Strang line cars leaving 7th and Walnut streets or Roanoke or 31st St. cars to Strang Line Depot.

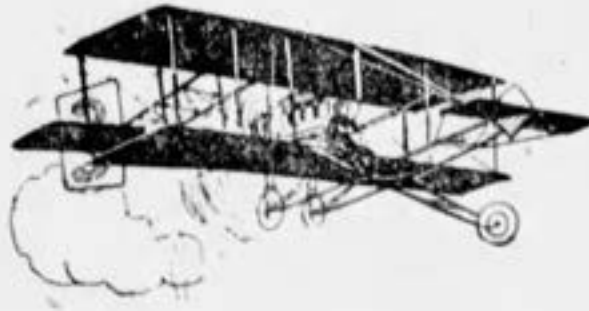
OVERLAND PARK ON THE STRANG LINE
GRAND OPENING OF THE
MARS-FOWLER
SCHOOL OF AVIATION
at Overland Park. Exhibition flying Saturday and Sunday, beginning at 8:00 p. m., sharp, by Andrews, Fowler, Mars and others.
Admission, including round trip, 50 cents.
Special feature—a prominent society belle will fly with Mr. Fowler.
NO DISAPPOINTMENTS.
The Mars-Fowler Flyers Fly.
Ask for aviation tickets at the Strang line ticket offices.
Special service on Strang Electric line to accommodate all.

Kansas City Star - August 17, 1913

GRAND SHAM BATTLE!!
OVERLAND PARK, SUNDAY
BY
THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY
4,000 rounds of ammunition, natural breastworks, high power rifles, a big battle scene.
ROBERT G. FOWLER America's Greatest Aviator
In a Grand Aeroplane Exhibition.
CAPT. H. E. HONEYWELL The International Balloonist Will Make an Ascension in the Balloon Kansas City III.
GRAND BAND CONCERT—OTHER FEATURES
Admission 25 Cents **Autos Free**
Take Strang Line cars leaving 7th and Walnut Streets every 30 minutes; Roanoke cars leaving 10th and Main, or 31st Street cars to Strang Line Depot on 39th Street. Autos take Broadway to Westport, then take 43d Street to Overland Boulevard direct to Park.

AMUSEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.



OVERLAND PARK AVIATION FIELD

Friday ^{Decoration} Day. Saturday Sunday

Benoist Aircraft Company

Starring

TONY JANNUS

the great Benoist Aviator and hero of the great flight down the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans and his return trip two weeks ago, making the longest flight up the Mississippi to St. Louis with a passenger of any aviator in the world.

JOHN WATTS

Kansas City's own balloonist will pilot the Kansas City III in a great cross-country balloon race with

ROY E. DONALDSON

in a Topeka balloon, who is qualifying for a pilot's license for the National Balloon Race to be held in Kansas City on July 4th.

General Admission 25 Cts; Children Free.
Same Price for Autos.

Take Strang Line cars or 31st or Roanoke Line to Strang Line Depot on 39th Street. Special accommodations for autos. Take Wornall Road to 75th Street, then turn west to Overland Park Aviation Field, or take Mission Road direct.

AMUSEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

OVERLAND PARK AVIATION FIELD SUNDAY---All Day

NATIONAL GUARDS OF MISSOURI, COMPANY A SIGNAL CORPS

will give Grand Exhibition of Army Maneuvers and Actual War Demonstrations. Instructive to young and old. This is more than an army maneuver. It is a demonstration of how armies are moved, how the lives of men are guarded, how their secrets are handled and preserved, how their commands are transmitted.

ROBERT G. FOWLER, the World's Greatest Aviator

will make flights in his latest type of aeroplane and take part in the maneuvers. At same time Captain Honeywell will qualify for Aviator's license.

CAPT. H. E. HONEYWELL, America's Premier Balloonist

will make a cross-country flight in the Balloon Kansas City III, with Robert G. Fowler as aide, who will also qualify as a balloonist.

BAND CONCERT

GRAND STREET PARADE Saturday--The signal corps will leave the Armory, 36th and Main sts. at 4 p. m., march down Grand to 7th; west to Walnut, south on Walnut to 14th; east on 14th to Grand; south on Grand to Overland Park, where they will camp for night.

Admission 25 Cents

Take Strang Line cars leaving 7th and Walnut every 30 minutes, or Roanoke or 31st Street lines to Strang line depot on 39th Street. Autos take Wornall Road to 75th Street, then turn west to Overland Park, or take Mission Road direct.

OTHER FEATURES

No Charge for Autos

This bronze marker, situated in the lawn of the Growing Futures Early Education Center at 8155 Santa Fe Drive, recounts William Strang's achievements in bringing aviation to Overland Park. His efforts resulted in several historic "firsts" including the creation of the first airfield west of the Mississippi River, at 79th & Santa Fe Dr., in 1909.



Mayor's Holiday Festival

The Mayor's Annual Holiday Festival was held on November 21, 2025, and Discover O.P. was a major attraction during the event. In addition to being a warm respite from the chilly temperatures, visitors enjoyed Christmas selections performed by the 5-piece German band, The Happy Wanderers. Children enjoyed a balloon artist, who twisted inflated latex rubber into dogs, swords, and princess crowns. Many visitors were given tours of Discover O.P., which was a big hit! It was an enjoyable event, and we look forward to participating again in 2026!



Discover O.P. provided a warm respite for well over 300 visitors



A balloon artist enthralled the children with his creations

Mayor's Holiday Festival



The Happy Wanderers kept our visitors happy with a variety of Christmas tunes



Guests enjoyed the displays and the many happy memories of the past in O.P.

2025 Christmas Lunch

Our annual Christmas Lunch was held on Saturday, December 13, at the American Legion. Nearly seventy guests were in attendance to enjoy a wonderful meal prepared by the Sons of the American Legion, which included roast beef, sliced ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, rolls and desserts. The room was very festive, with ten centerpieces, custom-made by Rose Vanderbeck, adorning the tables. These centerpieces, along with gift cards, were raffled off at the conclusion of the event. The American Legion prepared a surprise for member Peggy Lee. Dan Wilkinson, Commander of the Legion, was present to give a special tribute to Peggy's late husband, Paul Lee, and to present her with a framed certificate honoring Paul for his service to the country and to the American Legion over the years. The holiday spirit was alive and well at this event. We thank all who worked so hard to make this a memorable afternoon!



2025 Christmas Lunch



Pat Crabtree, Debbi Roy and her niece, Paige



Pat Horton and daughter, Jacque Carden

2025 Christmas Lunch



Lynette & Steve Lee



Rick Collins, Paul & Marilyn Lyons

2025 Christmas Lunch



Jim Francis, Charlene & Jim Conrad



(L to R) Rita Thomson, Shirley Murray, Sue Serra and Peggy Lee

2025 Christmas Lunch



Barbara & David Comer



Brad Moore (center) visits with former employers, Dick and Gay Williams

2025 Christmas Lunch

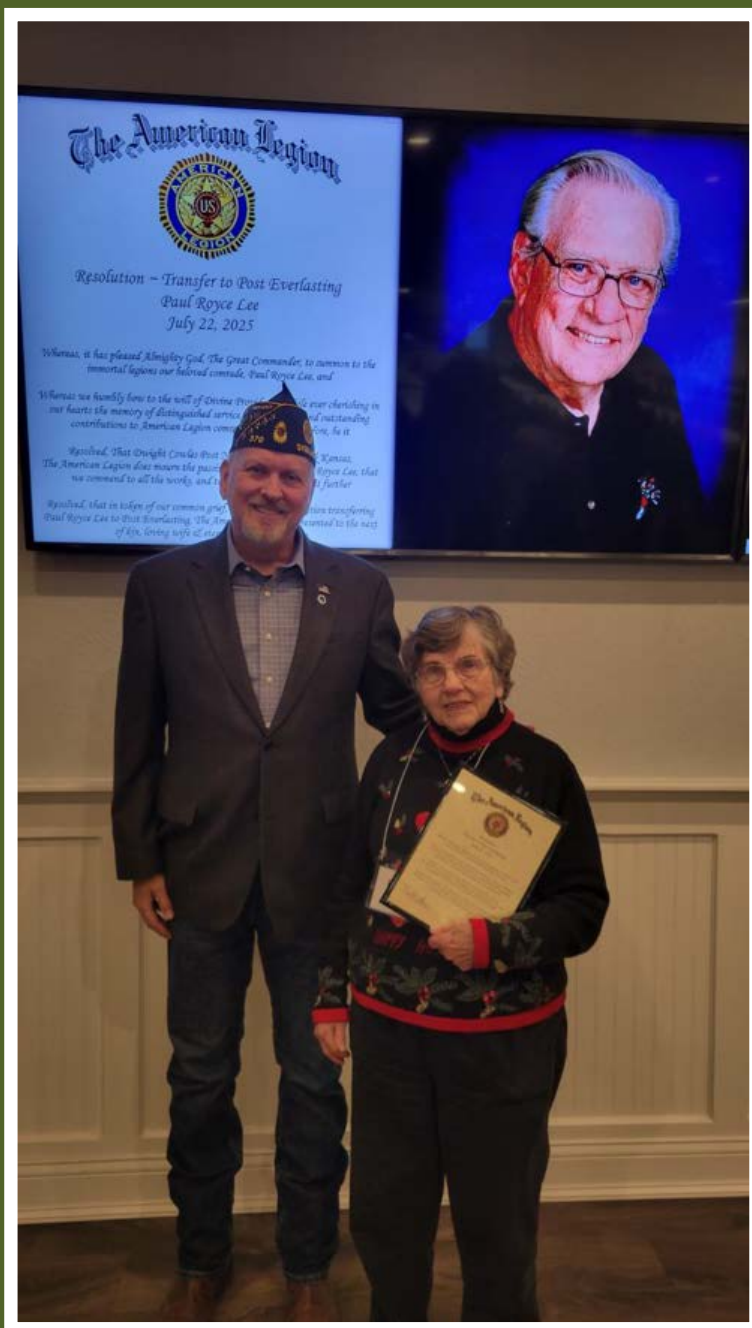


OPHS President, Rod Richardson, welcomes the attendees



Mary Jo Doores gives the blessing before lunch was served

2025 Christmas Lunch



Legion Commander, Dan Wilkinson, present Peggy Lee with a framed certificate honoring her late husband Paul, for his service to the country and to the Legion over the years.



Custom-made table centerpieces, courtesy of Rose Vanderbeck

Sister City Mayors Visit Discover O.P.

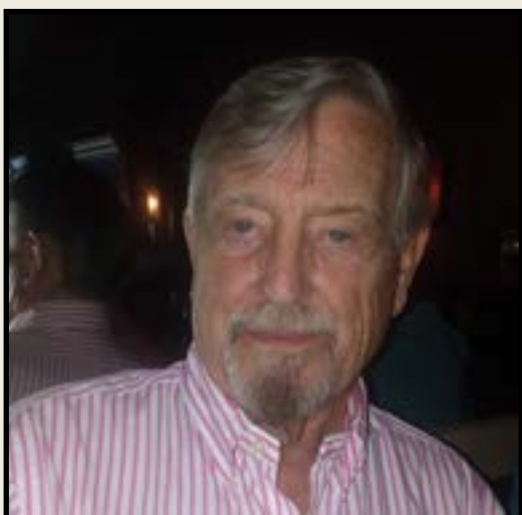
A January 9 celebration of life for David Wolfe at Village Presbyterian Church marked a return to the city of some delegates from Overland Park's sister-city in Germany, Bietigheim-Bissingen. The delegates included current mayor, Jurgen Kessing, and his spouse. Also in attendance was David Wolfe's close friend, Heinz Steidle, a former Bietigheim-Bissingen mayor in the 1970s and 80s. It was David and Heinz who established international partnerships and youth exchanges, beginning in 1979 between Shawnee Mission South and students in Bietigheim-Bissingen. This close relationship eventually led to the City of Overland Park selecting Bietigheim-Bissingen as its only sister-city.

David Wolfe bequeathed to OPHS his sizable collection of artifacts and gifts received by the delegates of Bietigheim-Bissingen over the decades. While Mayor Kessing had seen the artifacts on a previous visit in October, former Mayor Heinz was unable to make that trip. OPHS was happy to display all the items for the delegates to view once more in advance of attending David's Celebration of Life.

Also in attendance was Overland Park Mayor, Curt Skoog, former Mayor Ed Eilert and his wife, Jan, Jill Gerlach, wife of former Mayor Carl Gerlach, as well as city staff. It was a nice gathering, and the artifacts brought back many memories to those viewing them.



Sister City Mayors Visit Discover O.P.



David Wolfe



Jurgen Kessing, speaking at David Wolfe's service

While visiting Discover O.P., mayor Kessing surprised Executive Director, Brad Moore, with some additional gifts to add to the collection. OPHS will continue to foster our relationship with the German delegates, something that David Wolfe had requested.



Then & Now



Santa Fe Drive, looking north from 80th St.

OPHS in the Classroom

Executive Director, Brad Moore, and OPHS Vice-President, Bruce McRoberts, have inaugurated our collaboration with the Blue Valley and Shawnee Mission School Districts by presenting exciting historical presentations on local history in the elementary schools. Beginning with presentations at Belinder and Apache Elementary Schools last November, and most recently at Liberty View and Stilwell Elementary Schools in January, OPHS has now established itself with both school districts through these well-received and interactive presentations. Titled “All Aboard! A Ride on the Strang Line,” this first presentation gave students an opportunity to learn about trolleys as an early form of mass transportation in a very interactive format. Students were chosen to portray motormen, conductors, patrons, crewman and even custodial staff. Gongs were sounded, bells were rung, tickets were punched and electrical switches activated - - all to the delight of very engaged young audiences. OPHS will be using the summer months to create additional presentation topics that will align with the school districts’ curriculum. There is great potential for these presentations to be supported by grants, which will allow the program to reach additional districts in upcoming school years. OPHS is very pleased with our collaborative efforts with the schools to reach younger audiences. “ALL ABOARD!”



Looking Back: 100 Years Ago

Olathe Register - September 3, 1924

FARM IS NOW BEAUTIFUL CITY

Overland Park a Tribute to the Pioneering Work of W. B. Strang

Home Strang Land Company, One of the Largest Tax-payers; Gave Town Water, Gas and Light Service

Overland Park is the home of an institution that has probably been the most active part in recent years in the development of Johnson County, outside of the immediate residential section of Kansas City. Early in 1906 W. B. Strang purchased several large tracts of land in the district where Overland Park is now located. The Strang Land Co. platted and sold large sections of land and, to carry out successfully the development work, W. B. Strang built an electric Railway from Kansas City to Olathe. The line has been known as the Strang Line and the service given by the Railway from the time of its completion has been responsible largely for the rapid development in Johnson County adjacent to this line.

Overland Park which is their central operating point was first placed on the market September 1906. At that time there was but one small farm there, on which today there are hundreds of beautiful homes and business houses. Then followed Mr. Strang's development of the residential section of Overland Park, making it possible to enjoy all of the city conveniences such as city water, electric lights and gas. All of these have been brought to the residents at the minimum price.

When the Strang Line Co. started their development work the property was offered at such prices and at such terms that all could afford to own their own homes. No one was charged an enormous amount for building property and the Strang Land Co. always co-operated with the purchasers in every way possible to make the cost of building a home just as cheaply as possible.

Overland Park stands today as a great tribute to the pioneering work of W. B. Strang. While it is not a City with a mushroom growth it has had a conservative yet a safe development. With the opening of the plat crowds of people did not rush to the

new Kansas town to buy home sites but waited to see what kind of development was going to be carried out and the careful plans which were al-layed by Mr. Strang have made possible the prosperity of Overland Park today. In 18 years time a farm with one small residence has been converted into a beautiful suburban city with hundreds of attractive homes occupied by business men of the city who prefer the quiet of an outside town in preference to the rustle and hurry of the busy city.

Overland Park in its early development built a water system with which to supply its residents. Within the past few months the system has been sold to John H. Oldman of Kansas City who has laid several miles of water main and plans to supply all of the suburban residences along the line from Kansas City, Kansas at a price that is practically the same as that paid by the Kansas City people.

Undoubtedly the greatest factor in the development of Overland Park and the suburban territory between Kansas City and Olathe has been due to the Missouri and Kansas Interurban Railway which is better known as the Strang Line. While this Company with its general office in Overland Park is one of the largest tax payers in Johnson County, yet it has gone through the hardships of the Pioneers. In its early history, soon after it was built and before the day of the automobile it prospered and did a flourishing business. The automobiles of course cut down the revenue but not withstanding this hardship the Strang Line has attempted to give maximum service. The Company has an annual payroll of \$75,000 and 90 per cent of its employees live in Johnson County. This large payroll coming into the county has been a great factor in building up different towns and furnishing employment for men in Olathe and Overland Park and a payroll of that volume is a great asset to the de-

velopment of the town and country.

Thos. E. Riley, General Manager of the Strang Line has been connected with this company for many years. There is probably no one in Johnson County who works as many hours a day on his job as Mr. Riley does. He is doing everything in his power to make the business of the Strang Line a success because he feels very keenly the opportunity for service his Company has by continuing its operations as it has in the past and encouraging the home building along its route. By giving this service Mr. Ripley says he hopes the residents of Johnson County will continue their patronage and by so doing make possible a great future not only for the Strang Line but for Johnson County.



Special Sale

on

Ladies and Childrens Hosiery

Get Ready for School

Ladies Dresses and Aprons, ready made and made to order

School Supplies of all kinds. Come early while they last.

Bargain Prices on Bolt Goods of all kinds. Come and see our new Gingham.

New style of Stationery just arrived.

MORELAND STORE

E. E. Moreland, Prop.
Overland Park, Kansas

Tires, Accessories, Etc.

Ford Parts

Overland Park Garage

J. F. Schepers, Proprietor

Expert Repairing on all Makes of Cars

Authorized Ford Sales and Service

Phone, Overland Park 13

Overland Park

Kansas

Looking Back: 70 Years Ago

January 5, 1956 – JoCo Herald

January 12, 1956 – Johnson County Herald

Crosby Kemper Group To Overland Park Bank

R. C. Kemper of the City National bank in Kansas City, Mo., and a group have purchased a substantial share of stock in the Overland Park State bank, but will retain much the same personnel as now employed. New directors will probably not be announced for thirty days, Mr. Kemper states.

A new building is planned on a tract at 7109 W. 80th, which will include ample parking space to the south, and substantial sized quarters for a trust department. This is expected ready for occupancy September 1. No disposition of the old building has been announced, according to Wood Wornall, president.

The bank, organized in 1910 saw a growth of over \$1,000,000 in 1955.

Accusations and Counter Accusations Fly in Breyfogle-Moses Court Hearing

What has turned out to be rather lengthy is the appeal of Louis H. Moses, Tulsa, Oklahoma, to the Johnson County District Court from adverse decisions on a multi-million dollar shopping center he proposed on 69 highway at the south end of Mission township. The application had first been denied by the Township Zoning Board, which was later upheld by the County Commissioners.

Moses, through his attorney, State Senator John Anderson, Jr., is attempting to prove to District Court Judges Clayton Brenner, Raymond Carr, and Earl O'Connor, sitting en banc, there is collusion on the part of John W. Breyfogle, Sr., and John W. Breyfogle, Jr., who have extensive business holdings in Overland Park, to deny zoning through influence, which the latter deny. The Breyfogle interests are represented by Howard Payne, Olathe attorney. The local zoning body, composed of Edwin C. Riggs, chairman, J. Stanley Stevenson, Hal A. Stonebraker, Earl Clark, Matt S. Ross and Joe S. Davis is appointed by the County Commissioners. Malcolm Steele is the engineer, F. L. Hagaman, the attorney, and Don Magee, the clerk of the Board, with offices at 7331 W. 80th street.

Applications for re-zoning for shopping centers to the South have been denied to Glenn Dickinson and Louis Palmer, although the latter succeeded in getting a small acreage re-zoned for a relatively small business use. One known as the Regnier application in the Meadow-Lake area has been sanctioned.

Those opposed to the Moses Center maintain that the area served is now mostly farm land with insufficient homes to make the venture pay out. They also site possible traffic hazards as well as sewage disposal difficulties. In an earlier hearing it was claimed the Moses group, could not possibly make a success of the venture and that the development would become a "ghost town". In some quarters the hassel is considered political. John W. Breyfogle, jr., is Republican county chairman.

Vote March 7 On New H.S. Building

"Wednesday, March 7 is the date set by the Board of Education for the Shawnee-Mission High School District for an election to authorize the Board to issue bonds in the amount of four million dollars for the purpose of building and equipping a senior high school building at 75th and Mission Road," Mr. Kenneth P. Rankin, president of the Board announced today. The building will be designed to accommodate 1800 pupils.

January 26, 1956 – Johnson County Herald

Looking Back: 60 Years Ago

January 6, 1966 – JoCo Herald


January 6, 1966 – JoCo Herald

KIDS! KIDS! KIDS!
TOREY WILL BE
at McDonald's
SATURDAY, Jan. 8th 3:00 to 4:00 P.M.
7716 Metcalf
Come meet Torey in person
GIFTS FOR ALL!



TOREY SOUTHWICK

McDOUBLE® HAMBURGERS
NEW - 'N - BIG




ONLY 29 CENTS

A double portion of McDonald's famous hamburger—served hot off the grill tender and juicy on a golden brown toasted bun. You're right—twice as big. Naturally, it costs a little more—but this double goodness of McDonald's 100% Pure Beef Hamburger is yours for only 29 cents—that's right—just 29 cents! Try it and you're sure to say, "This McDouble Hamburger is for me."

look for the golden arches™

McDonald's



7716 Metcalf

Luxury Apartments On Former Baseball Diamonds



LOUISBURG SQUARE, the four million dollar luxury apartment project now occupying what was the Segner 3 and 2 baseball field at 87 and Grant, will have its grand opening this weekend. Plans call for a total of 300 apartment units plus recreation facilities including ice skating, swimming and wading pools, tennis and badminton courts, club houses and a children's natural play area. Louisburg Square will also have its own 60,000 square foot shopping center. Developers are Steve and Sam Price of the Price Brothers Development Company whose other projects include the Deauville, Wornall South and Embassy Apartments, Country Lane Estates, Bridlespur and Somerset Manor Homes area.

January 20, 1966 – JoCo Herald

Downtown Boosters Schedule Two Events

At a recent meeting of Downtown Overland Park Unlimited, members of the group finalized plans for two promotions to be held in the near future.

A Valentine's Day promotion will be co-ordinated by Hazel Steffen of Overland Card and Gift Shop and member merchants will be furnished attractive window display cards designating their store as a "Valentine Gift Center."

An Easter style show, tentatively set for the middle of March, will be co-ordinated by Suzie McClure of Suzee's and Melba Keller of Bea's Sample Shop.

Members of Downtown Overland Park Unlimited have also agreed to aid the city in conducting a traffic flow study to establish a traffic pattern in downtown Overland Park.

Looking Back: 50 Years Ago

January 14, 1976 – JoCo Herald

Trailways office opens

Continental Trailways has opened new offices at 8730 Grant, Overland Park, which will provide increased services to its patrons, according to Ronald Williams, agent.

The bus company will offer expanded bus services including new runs to Wichita and small

towns from Olathe to Parsons. The new Overland Park stop will make it possible for Wichita busses to stop here more often, Williams said.

Williams, who will also handle tours and charters for Continental Trailways, may have the only bus sta-

tion in the area with its own ice cream store. "There was one here at this location, so I thought we might as well keep it," said the new owner. The bus station is open from 7:15 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Williams expects to keep the station open longer in the summer to accommodate ice cream lovers.

The old bus office was at 7819 Floyd, Overland Park.

Individual of Christmas



zARDA DAIRY STORES
SINCE 1913

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NEW From SWIFT SIZZLEAN 12 OZ. PACKAGE 50% LEANER THAN BACON AS FEATURED ON T.V. 1.49	SWIFT PREMIUM BOLOGNA 1-LB. SLICED 89¢
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Looking Back: 40 Years Ago

January 21, 1986 – College Boulevard News

BV North High School nearing completion

By SALLY PFEFFER
Staff Writer

Construction crews are promising class bells will ring according to schedule this fall at Blue Valley's newest school. Those bells are almost within earshot of the corridor.

The \$12.4 million Blue Valley North High School at 123rd and Lamar is a mile-and-a-half south of College Boulevard. August 9 is the targeted completion date, about two weeks before the 1986-87 school year gets underway.

Jim Thompson, superintendent of the Blue Valley School District, said the cold weather months haven't and won't hinder construction efforts on the single-story structure.

"Since an October 1984 groundbreaking, work has been progressing steadily," Thompson said. "The only concern we have now is some unfinished brick work on the southwest corner of the building. But nothing is totally completed on the building."

Thompson said about 1,600 high school students living north of 127th Street will attend Blue Valley North. Approximately 900 students from Blue Valley High School will be transferred to the new facility.

"Students will find that each wing of the X-shaped structure houses different educational academics," Thompson said. "For example, one wing is for music, fine arts and an 800-seat auditorium; another leg is where math, science and business class-



Photo by Bill Matthews

Construction crews will soon finish work on Blue Valley North High School, 1½ miles south of College Boulevard.

rooms are located and the third wing is for English, social studies and foreign language."

Thompson said the fourth wing on the northwest section of the school will house two gymnasiums, home economics and shop classrooms.

Dean Lintecum of Lintecum Architects designed the 190,000-square-foot building. Lintecum used face brick in a beige tone as an exterior material on the school.

"I also utilized brick combined with wood to create a natural looking interior," Lintecum said. "Several clearstory windows and skylights were used to bring natural light into the library and commons sections."

The architect said the commons

area is where the four wings of the "X" meet.

"Students will eat their lunch in this commons area," he said. "Student lockers and the administration offices are also located in this area."

He said other features include two solar greenhouses off the biology rooms and a wide array of color patterns trailing throughout the school walls.

"Each area has been designed in different colors," Lintecum said. "One area may be done in the school's colors of navy and silver and another may be in mauve."

The school is accessible from 119th and 123rd streets and Lamar with student and visitor parking on the southwest side of the complex.

January 21, 1986 – College Boulevard News

Tippin's opening set for February in Financial Plaza



TIPPIN'S LOCATION — Landscaping work was underway last week on the south front of the new J.J. Tippin's Restaurant & Pie Pantry. The new restaurant, formerly known under the name Fippin's, is located in the retail center in Financial Plaza at College and Metcalf. The opening is scheduled for early February.

Looking Back: 30 Years Ago

January 4, 1996 – College Boulevard News

Target plans up for approval

Hotel, restaurant, offices also part of development

The Overland Park Planning Commission is scheduled Jan. 22 to consider plans for two major developments proposed near U.S. 169 Highway and 119th.

Plans call for a 176,000-square-foot Target store to be located north of 123rd, between U.S. 169 and Metcalf, south of the Rosana Square shopping center.

The development is just south of the Pinnacle Village Shopping Center. In 1994 the Blue Valley School District opposed rezoning for a portion of that development, citing traffic and safety concerns for students

who attend Tomahawk Ridge Elementary School just west of the center.

Blue Valley district officials could not be contacted Thursday to determine whether they would oppose the Target Store and further development.

Just south of the Target store, a three-story 180-room hotel, a restaurant, and a 30,000-square-foot office building, would be constructed.

Developers also are proposing to rezone a tract east of U.S. 169 for 105,000 square feet of additional retail space in six buildings, ranging in size from 3,500 to 55,000 square feet.

Some road improvements would be required to improve traffic flow in the busy commercial area, including a traffic light on U.S. 169 between 119th and 123rd. The new intersection would connect the parking lot of the Target store with the parking lot of the hotel project to the south and the retail project to the east.

Plans call for a 176,000-square-foot Target store to be located north of 123rd, between U.S. 169 and Metcalf.

If the planning commission recommends approval of plans, the proposal would be forwarded to the city council for final consideration, probably in February.

Steve Baska and Jacqueline Lehatto

January 21, 1996 – College Boulevard News

Largest subdivision in county to open in 1996

Massive LionsGate to offer its first homes in southern Overland Park

By Ana Wilka

Sun Correspondent

In 1996 LionsGate will open.

After several years of conversation, plans and change, the dirt is moving in Overland Park's first master planned community.

Developers expect to see the first building permits pulled by June.

LionsGate is approximately 800 acres of residential property located between Nall and Metcalf avenues and between 137th and 151st streets.

Last spring the land was purchased from the J.C. Nichols Co. by Synergy Development Alliance, a group of established local developers.

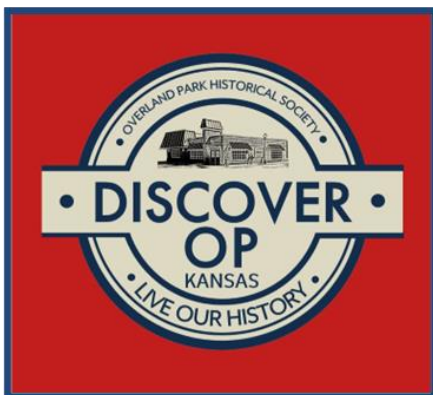
Leo Ashner, Bob and Don Sailors and Saul Ellis are the principals in Synergy.

"The sewers are going into the first phase right now. There is plenty of heavy equipment on site," said Bob Sailors.

Meet the Marvelous Marilyn Maye



We never know who may walk in to Discover O.P. with something special to donate. On January 22, Executive Director Brad Moore had a great surprise when a visitor donated a collection of Marilyn Maye's RCA Victor albums to OPHS, for future display. A longtime resident of Overland Park, Marilyn still holds the record for more performances on The Tonight Show than any other entertainer. OPHS is thrilled to receive this impressive collection of Marilyn's recordings, and we hope she will stop by Discover OP the next time she comes back to Kansas City to perform!



Overland Park Historical Society
8001 Santa Fe Drive
Overland Park, KS 66204

Phone: (913) 381-8867

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