

A 1920s parade down Manhattan's Poyntz Avenue

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Contributing writer



On Saturday, Nov. 19, 1921, the Kansas State Agricultural College (KSAC) Aggies played Oklahoma in their homecoming football game. (Aggies won 14 to 7.) On that day they also dedicated the newly enlarged Engineering Hall (now called Seaton Hall.) KSAC kicked off its homecoming Friday night with an Engineers parade down Poyntz Avenue and a pep rally in the gymnasium on campus, followed by dances and class reunions.

In 1920/1921 Kansas State Agricultural College had an enrollment of 3,395 students. Manhattan had a population of 7,989 and Riley County had 20,650 residents.

This photograph, likely showing the Nov. 18, 1921 parade, gives a view of the south 300 block of Poyntz Avenue. The Poyntz Avenue buildings, shown left to right are listed in order:

- 313: This is the Briggs building, built by Mrs. Frances Briggs in 1904 for her millinery shop, a candy kitchen, and professional offices. Mrs. Briggs and her sister Mrs. Barnes came with their family to Kansas in 1856. On December 25, 1858, the sisters married in a double wedding ceremony, however neither of the sisters knew the other was being married that day. The double wedding was a surprise orchestrated by their mother. The facade of this building was changed in 1937. Gatherings at 3 Thirteen is here now.

- 315 A: Possibly built as early as 1868, this building housed the Gilbert Brothers barbershop just after 1900. Edward and Benjamin Gilbert were African American barbers and businessmen. The building's facade has been remodeled a number of times, most recently in 2006. Star Medical Supply is in the building today.

- 317: Knostman's clothing store (established in 1869) rebuilt the two separate storefronts of this building into one in 1890. The facade was again remodeled in 1906 and the current facade is a 1939 design by architect Floyd Wolfenbarger. Stevenson's Department Store bought Knostman's store in 1922 and stayed at this location until 1979. Today this building houses Finn's Pub and Drapery World.

- 321: Mrs. Cynthia Higinbotham Shortridge built this building in 1879. The current facade probably dates from the 1920's. The building's upper floors housed medical and professional offices and the lower floor held retail businesses. From about 1920 Brewer's Bookstore, which was later Endcott's Bookstore was located here. Today Heartspace Yoga is upstairs and Bling is at street level.

- 323: Edward Wharton, son in law of Cynthia Shortridge, con-



Photo courtesy Riley County Historical Society and Museum

A view of a parade along Poyntz Avenue circa 1921.

structed the facade seen today in 1904. This new facade united into one building two separate store fronts that probably dated to the 1880's. An aluminum slipcover draped the facade in the 1960's but was removed in 1983. This building was home to Wharton's Dry Goods Store from 1892 to 1909, Lantz and Young Department Store 1909 to 1916, and then Cole's Department store until 1963, Woodward's Department store to 1975, and then Browne's Department store until around 1987. Today Downtown Manhattan Inc. and other offices are in this building.

- 327: The Emig

Building was constructed around 1885 and the upper floor housed our YMCA in 1890. Manhattan's first Penney's store opened in this location in 1924. The facade has been remodeled numerous times, most recently in 2001. Today Connected Fair Trade and offices are located in this building.

- 331: The Ulrich Block was constructed by the Ulrich brothers, stonemasons and builders, in 1894. The upper floor housed offices and the lower level retail shops. A drug store was in this building from its construction until around 1985. The Fourth street side of the building has been

home to the Chef Café since 1943. The historic Chef Café sign is on loan from the Riley County Historical Society. Glass Impressions and Fortuity are also here today.

- 401: Union National Bank (today known as Commerce Bank) built this building in 1905. J.C. Holland, the architect of the Riley County Courthouse, designed the building. Union National Bank, founded in 1887, was at this location until they moved west on Poyntz in 1970. Today Celebrations of the Heart and other businesses are in this building.

Also note that visible in the foreground is the

globe street light, installed in 1913, and the trolley car tracks on the brick street. The trolley car line lasted from 1909 until 1928.

All the buildings described above, except 315 and 327 Poyntz are contributing structures in the National Register of Historic Places Downtown Manhattan Historic District established in 2007.

Cheryl Collins is Director of the Riley County Historical Museum. The Riley County Historical Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

4 die in crash in which good Samaritan's vehicle was taken

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — A fourth person has died after a stolen vehicle crashed in Kansas City, Kansas, and a survivor who fled in a good Samaritan's vehicle isn't yet in custody, authorities say.

At least five people were inside the truck when it smashed into a tree shortly before 1 a.m. Sunday. Two victims — Hayden Gottman, 20, of Lenexa, and Joshua Lindsey, 18, of Overland Park — were dead when police arrived. A third person, Cameron Shafer, 20, of Kansas City, Kansas, died at a hospital soon afterward. Police announced Thursday in a news release that 18-year-old Cory Thornburgh of Shawnee also had died.

Police said that when a motorist stopped to help, a surviving passenger in the pickup stole the woman's vehicle. The good Samaritan, who asked not to be identified, told The Kansas City Star she at first thought the man who stole her vehicle was dead.

"I could see the guy's body lying out of the car," said the motorist.

"I walked over and said, 'Hey are you OK, are you OK?'"

The driver reached his hand out of the wreckage and beckoned

the woman to come help him, she said.

"At that point, he just opened the door himself, jumped out of the truck and started walking towards me," the woman said. The woman said she took a step back when she realized the injured man was looking at her vehicle that was parked nearby on the side of the road. The driver grabbed the woman by her arm and began to pull her toward him.

"He kept saying, 'Come,' and I said, 'I can't come with you,'" she said. The injured man then sped away in the woman's vehicle, which was later recovered.

Restored Kansas viaduct along Route 66 to be dedicated

GALENA — A restored viaduct along the historic Route 66 will be dedicated next week near the southeast Kansas town of Galena, marking the latest effort to preserve a landmark from the famed Chicago-to-California "Mother Road."

The bridge serves as a gateway to Galena's historic district and the famous "Cars on the Route" stop — the old Kan-O-Tex Station that's home to the truck "Tow Tater," which served as

the inspiration for Tow Mater in the Pixar movie "Cars." The Joplin Globe reported.

The mayor of 3,000-resident Galena, Dale Oglesby, calls the restoration of the 216-foot-long bridge — scheduled for a public dedication next Saturday, complete with live music and fireworks — "the best project since we did downtown."

"The revitalization of Route 66 is happening, and that's been happening since cars came. It's outstanding and has really helped our economic growth," said Renee Charles, the Kansas Historic Route 66 Association's president.

Kansas has the shortest segment of Route 66 — 13.2 miles (21.24 kilometers) — of any state that the highway crossed.

Built in the early 1920s, the viaduct just a mile west of the Missouri border towers above the former Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Cherokee County received a roughly \$194,000 grant last year to complete the repairs and contributed an additional \$193,000 for the project.

The viaduct was shut down for repairs to its bridge deck and rails in April, with the top of the bridge repaved with a

sand finish to resemble the original color. Waste from the area's lead and zinc mines was used in the original roadbed.

"We had a choice of tearing it down or continuing a part of history," Cherokee County Commissioner Pat Collins said. "We wanted to save this for the people who come along after us."

Man charged in theft of KU lab equipment

LAWRENCE — A Lawrence man has been charged with stealing \$13,000 worth of items from a lab at the University of Kansas.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports that 37-year-old Matthew Reynard was charged Tuesday in Douglas County District Court with one count of burglary and two counts of theft, all felonies. He is jailed on \$30,000 bond. It wasn't immediately clear if he had an attorney.

Reynard is accused of taking a veterinary camera, a camera control unit, syringes and hypodermic needles from Malott Hall. Charges indicate he is also accused of stealing a checkbook and earbuds from a man listed in the university directory as a technician in

the Animal Care Unit.

It's not clear how the suspect accessed the lab or how he was caught.

Report presses staffing reforms by Kansas City police

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A new study finds that the police department in Kansas City, Missouri, is top heavy with managers compared to other similar-sized or bigger cities and should get more officers on the street.

The Kansas City Star says the Matrix Consulting Group's 300-page report also says increasing the city's number of patrol officers by roughly three dozen should be an "urgent priority."

The report's release comes as the city grapples with a surge in homicides.

The study finds that there could be a reduction of 30 sworn personnel and an addition of 88 civilians.

City Councilwoman

Alissia Canady says the department has enough staff but doesn't adequately deploy it. She agreed with adding more patrol officers, four more homicide detectives and six more assault detectives.

Woman convicted of husband's shooting death

ST. JOHN — A south-central Kansas woman has been convicted of fatally shooting her husband last year.

The Kansas Attorney General's Office says that jurors found 36-year-old Misty Salem guilty Friday of one count of second-degree intentional murder in the death in March of last year of 41-year-old Samuel Salem at the couple's Stafford home.

Police who responded to reports of gunfire found Samuel Salem on the living room floor with a gunshot wound. He died at the scene.


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Young Onset Parkinson's Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. / Tuesday, July 18 / First Lutheran Church
Parlor Room, 930 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, Kansas

Join us in sharing techniques and coping strategies for dealing with frustrations & quick emotional responses when living with Young Onset Parkinson's disease

Rock Steady Boxing, Wednesdays at 3 p.m. at Meadowlark Hills & Combative Sports Center (CSC) / Saturdays at 9 a.m. at CSC
Please contact Jeff at 537-4610 for an evaluation prior to beginning workouts.

Parkinson's Partners Luncheon, Friday, July 28, at Noon
Please RSVP at 323-3899 by 7/21

Register today to participate in the 9th annual Speedy PD Race for Parkinson's Saturday, Aug. 26 ~ visit www.runspeedypd.org to learn more

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