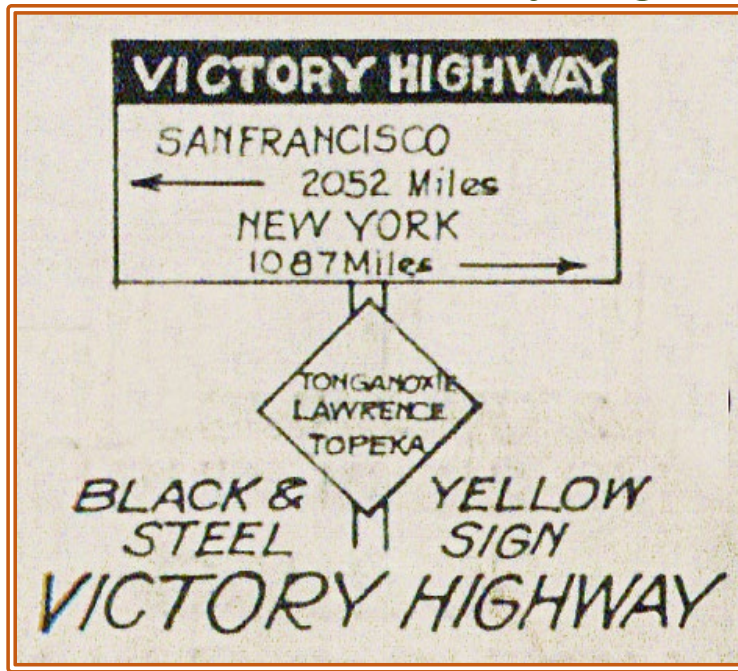


A New Traveling Exhibit

Hitting the Road: 100 Years on the Victory Highway



September 19 through October 14, 2023



On October 3, 1923, a very large picnic celebration was held in Tonganoxie. As many as 10,000 people attended the grand opening of one 60-mile section of Victory Highway. This concrete paved road connected Kansas City, Kansas to Topeka, passing through several communities including Victory Junction, Tonganoxie, and Lawrence. The paved road included a spur from Victory Junction to Leavenworth, also known as the Fort to Fort Highway.

Victory Highway was envisioned to not only traverse the nation coast-to-coast, but also to honor the war dead from WWI. The highway was established by an association of private citizens, headquartered in Topeka, Kansas. Today, Highway 40 follows the route of Victory Highway.

The exhibit tells the story of one stretch of this early paved roadway, Victory Highway, and how it impacted the lives of people along the road.

This exhibit is the result of a partnership between the Watkins Museum of History and the Tonganoxie Community Historical Society, with assistance from the Wyandotte County Museum, the Gallup Map Company, and the Kansas State Historical Society.

The exhibit will premiere on September 16 at Tonganoxie Days in the old city council chambers on Delaware Street. From September 19 through October 14, the exhibit will be at the Tonganoxie Museum. The museum is open: Tuesdays 9am to 4pm; Wednesdays 9am to noon; Saturdays 10am to 2pm.

Tonganoxie Community Historical Society
201 West Washington St. Tonganoxie, KS 66086

