Museum Notes by Kristen Parrott, curator for the week of 7/16/2014

Did you attend a rural school in Vernon County? Or teach at one? Many of the country schoolteachers attended the Vernon County Normal School to get their training, and an upcoming reception is going to honor Normal School alumni.

Twenty-five years ago, the first annual reunion of the Vernon County Normal School alumni was held here at the museum building. Our building used to be the Normal School, which closed in 1971. Then in 1989, the Vernon County Historical Society bought the building and hosted a reunion for the Normal School alumni as one of the new museum's first events.

At 2PM on Saturday, July 26, the Historical Society will again host a reception at the museum to honor Normal School alumni. Everyone is welcome to attend this event. Refreshments will be served. (The reception will follow this year's reunion, which will be a luncheon held at the medical clinic building next door to the museum. If you would like to attend the luncheon, contact the museum, and we will connect you with the alumni secretary.)

At the public reception, we will be especially recognizing those who graduated 70 years ago or more – that is, Vernon County Normal School Class of 1944 and earlier. This elite group includes Bernice Schroeder, Class of 1939, and Opal Carter, Class of 1936, and Pearl Swiggum, Class of 1934, and Mildred Unseth, Class of 1934, to name just a few! Be sure to come to the museum on the afternoon of July 26 to help honor all of our Normal School alumni.

Construction continues on the parking lot to the west of the museum. However, the parking spaces directly in front of our building are still available for museum patrons. Just allow a little extra time to manoeuver around the construction when you come to visit the museum.