



### Old Albany Days Bring Nemaha County Farming Community Back To Life

Albany is still alive. Well, at least in a most broad sense of the definition, but certainly Albany, the small once-incorporated community just two miles north of Sabetha in Nemaha County, will be lively with excitement this weekend.

"It's time for the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Old Albany Days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5-6-7, at the Albany Museum, right where the community was a century and a half ago," announced Cindy Alderfer, official of the Albany Historical Society, which coordinates the annual affair.

"Based on past years, Albany will be full of folks from many miles around. Population of Albany for those three days will swell many times the number who ever lived there in its best heyday," Alderfer admitted.

Of special significance, although little exact information has been recorded, Albany, founded in 1857, served as a station on the Underground Railroad. However, in the mid part of the last century, the rural farming community was rapidly becoming a ghost town when a retired school teacher was inspired to develop the Albany Historical Museum. It began with two buildings in the community: the 1867 Albany School and the Wagner house, built in the 1800s.

"In July 1965, the school and grounds were acquired by the then newly formed Albany Historical Society. Members donated most of the labor in restoring the buildings," according to Alderfer.

Over the past 49 years, several other buildings have been built or moved to the site. There are two more school buildings, a log cabin, post office, blacksmith shop, print shop, a train depot and a retired train caboose sets nearby. "We have 15 buildings total," Alderfer said. "There is also a large collection of local artifacts, farm machinery and old automobiles. Many of these items are useful to researchers of Nemaha County history.

"The biggest event of the year is Old Albany Days, and we'll have food, farm equipment demonstrations including some horse drawn equipment powered by horses, a quilt show, antique tractor pull, garden tractor pull, parade, flea market, train rides and musical entertainment among many other activities," Alderfer said.

Kickoff event is the Albany Benefit Tractor Fun Cruise Friday, Sept. 5, beginning at 3 o'clock, and there'll be a carry in supper about 6:30. Of course, museum buildings will be open for Old Albany Days, and among the demonstrations each day are corn shelling and grinding, wheat threshing, apple cider pressing, soap making, operating saw mill and a Dutch oven cooking presentation.

In addition to the quilt show, the Sabetha Fiber Arts Club plans wool spinning, tatting, knitting, crocheting and other unique home tasks of yesteryear. Entries are still open to vendors for the flea market throughout the event. Kenny Alderfer can be called for additional information about Old Albany Days at 785-285-1022.



**AM 580**  
**WIBW**



[www.kansasagnetwork.com](http://www.kansasagnetwork.com)

[Click Here](#)

**94.5**  
**COUNTRY**

team  
**W**

**Frank J. Buchman**

Marketing Consultant

Direct: 785 - 228 - 7259

Cell: 785 - 499 - 3063

[frank.buchman@morris.com](mailto:frank.buchman@morris.com)

PO Box 1818

1210 SW Executive Dr.

Topeka, Ks 66615

***Padre says:***

*"Museums are fine institutions, dedicated to the high values of preservation, education and truth."*