

# Yesteryears

Vol. 1, No. 15

Monday, September 16, 1991

50 Cents

## Free mail delivery started up in 1900s

By Dale E. Shaffer

AT THE BEGINNING OF this century, rural mailboxes were virtually nonexistent. Instead, mail was transported to little fourth-class post offices where farm families traveled for miles to pick up their mail. The trip was made at least once a week.

Then, early in the 1900s, the countryside was suddenly overrun with postal inspectors riding up and down country lanes, drawing maps, asking questions and laying out free delivery mail routes. Rural mailboxes began shooting up like weeds along the roads. This brought on the rural mailman who made daily visits delivering mail to the farmers' front gates.

The U.S. Post Office, in 1863, had begun delivering mail to people in large cities. By 1880 this service had been extended to those in smaller towns having populations of less than 10,000. But farmers felt this was just one more example of the government's discrimination against them. They paid as much in taxes as urbanites, so why shouldn't mail be delivered to them also?

On Oct. 1, 1896 a number of experimental routes were established. Some farmers, however, were a bit suspicious of the new service, wary of entrusting their mail to untended boxes. But, in general, most Ohio farmers like the service.

In 1897 Republicans swarmed into office on the tide of William McKinley's 1896 victory, and they supported rural free delivery. Farmers were urged to petition their congressmen if they wanted the service. The result was an avalanche of petitions that all but swamped the Post Office Department.

By November 1899, Ohio, the president's state, had 49 rural routes. By 1900 over 260 routes operated in 60 different counties. Few congressmen dared oppose the idea, so by 1902 Congress made it a permanent part of the postal service. Rural mail routes then spread across the farmland like prairie wildfire.

Agents interrogated farmers, laid out mail routes and located roads, bridges, streams, houses, churches and country schools on their maps. Never before had rural America been so thoroughly investigated, mapped and described as it was by those agents of the Post Office. Within three years there were 24,000 new rural mail routes established.

In Salem, five rural mail delivery routes from the local post office were established on July 1, 1901. Patrons along the routes were equipped with one



Isaac Culp, Columbiana's first rural mail carrier, poses with his U. S. Mail buggy in 1901. During his 24-year tenure, Culp wore out 14 horses, two motorcycles with sidecars and five automobiles.

of 14 approved rural boxes. Rural carriers were not permitted to deposit mail in any but an approved box, properly labeled.

Patrons were instructed to have mail addressed to their rural route numbers. This was a necessity, because mail coming into the post office had to be separated by a clerk and distributed to the city, to the rural carriers and to the boxes and general delivery at the post office. Unless mail intended for rural districts had its proper route number, it would be laid aside for later processing.

The rural carriers left the Salem office at 9:30 a.m., after the arrival of principal mails from the east, and returned before mail was sent out. They delivered mail every day of the year, except on Sunday, and carried with them a supply of postage

stamps, postal cards, stamped envelopes and money order blanks.

Certain rules regulated rural deliveries. The one-cent rate of postage did not apply within rural free delivery limits; first class was two cents per ounce. Second class remained the same.

Mail collected by rural carriers for delivery on their own routes was not to be brought back to the post office. Its postage was to be cancelled with a rubber stamp or indelible pencil.

Patrons could have carriers serve as their agents for buying money orders by providing addressed and stamped envelopes for that purpose. The money orders were issued to the carriers at the post office, placed in the envelopes, and deposited

Turn to MAIL on page 5

## Coming of the stage coach

By Lois Firestone

The arrival of the pioneer stage coaches carrying mail into New Lisbon out of Pittsburgh, drawn first by four, then by six horses, created a sensation at the Columbiana County seat in 1829.

The stage began running on May 23, 1829 three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The coaches left Pittsburgh at 3 a.m. and arrived in New Lisbon on the same day, 19 hours later, on 7 p.m. The line left the village at 3 a.m. on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays and drove into Wooster at 7 p.m.

A week later another line was inaugurated, carrying the mails from New Lisbon through Wellsville to Steubenville. That stage left M. Seydel's house every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 a.m. and arrived at John Jenkin's stage office in Wellsville at 9 a.m. Leaving Wellsville at 10 a.m., the driver pulled up at Dohrman's Hotel in Steubenville 8 hours later.

However, for several years the mails were carried from New Lisbon north on horseback or on foot. In the later 1820s and early 1830s, James Vaughn carried the mail on foot from New Lisbon, through Salem to Deerfield and Palmyra, making connections with the stage line running from Big Beaver Point to Cleveland. Afterward, mails were carried on horseback; when mailed newspapers created larger loads, a pack horse traveled along.

In 1833, Zadok Street of Salem, George Wells of Wellsville and Orion Brossom of Painesville, among others, established a route from Wellsville to Fairport on Lake Erie, running through New Lisbon, Salem, Newton Falls, Chardon and Painesville. In 1835 still another route was established by people from Pittsburgh, running from Wellsville to Cleveland via New Lisbon, Salem, Ravenna and Hudson. By 1836 nearly all of these were daily routes, and despite bad roads bore a commendable reputation for promptness.

Another highway projected in 1830 from New Lisbon to Pittsburgh via East Liverpool to cross the river, running through the Panhandle of West Virginia and on into Pittsburgh. The route would have shortened existing mail routes to Pittsburgh by several miles. The road was built from New Lisbon to river and through to the Pennsylvania state line, but stopped there.

Postal rates prior to 1845 were: 6 cents, less than 30 miles; 10 cents, more than 30 and less than 100; 12½ cents, 100 to 150; 18¼ cents, 150 to 400; 25 cents, over 400 miles.



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### Yesteryears

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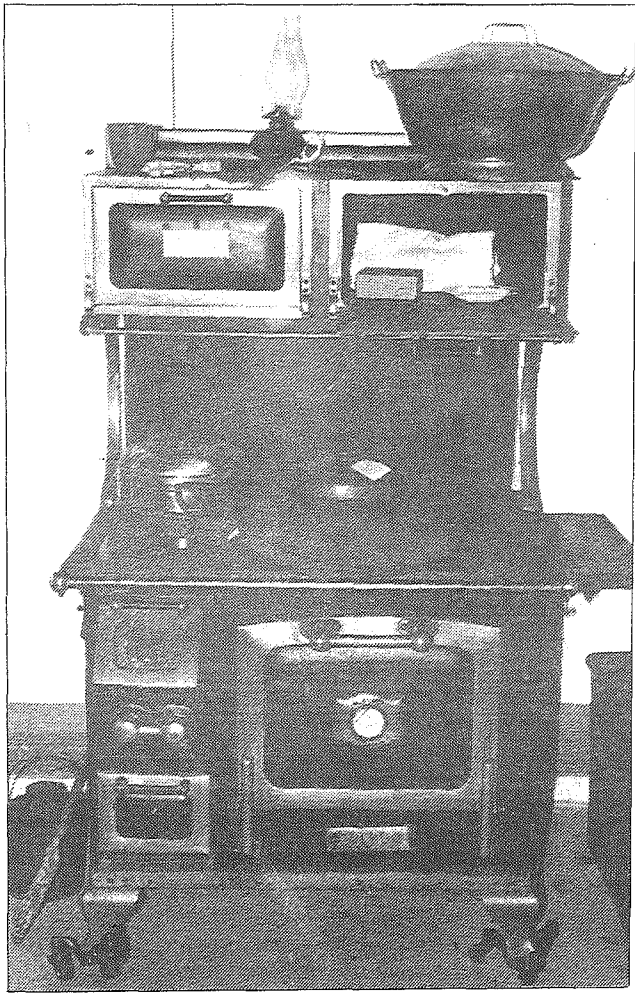
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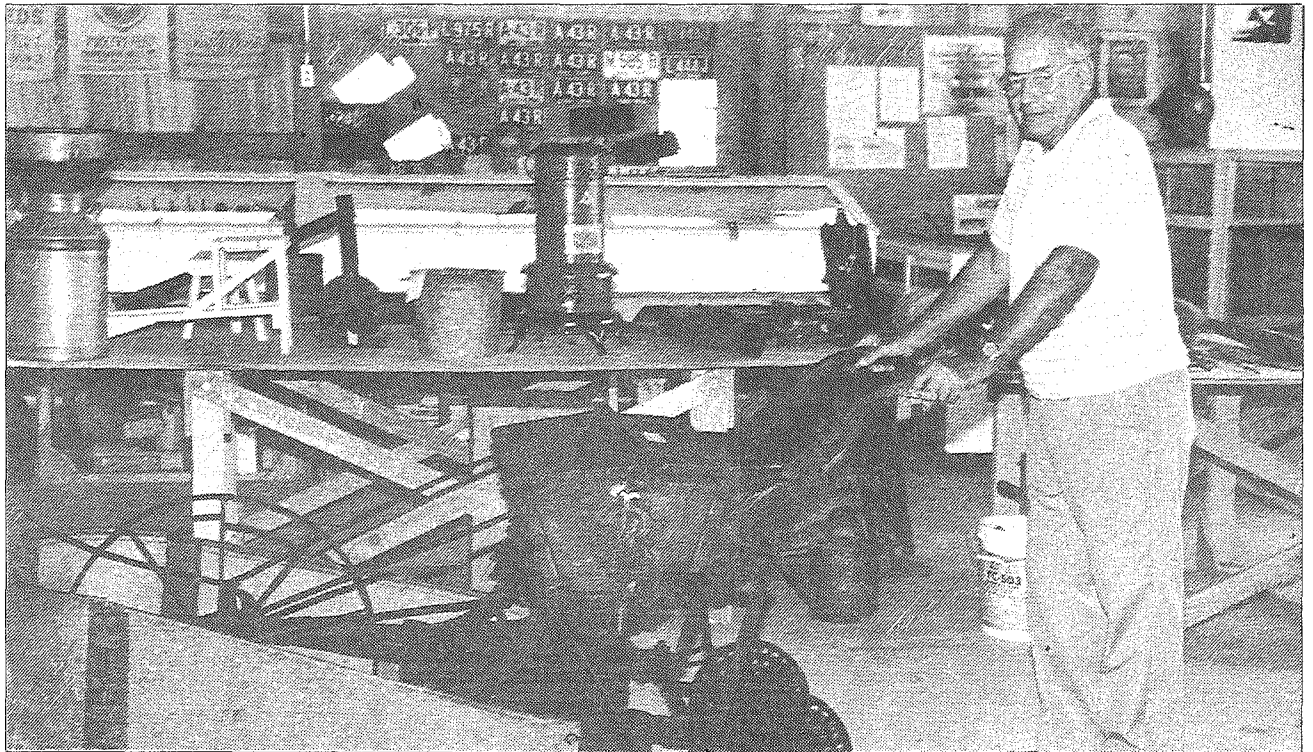
Linda Huffer  
advertising executive

Charles Dana Gibson's Gibson Girl illustrations were all the rage in the late 1800s and several artists of the time adopted his style. Harrison Fisher was one, and this series of postcards depicting courtship and marriage were popular sellers.

# Museum mirrors rural living of years past



Dozens of loaves of homemade bread and tasty fruit pies were doubtless created in the ovens of this 1926 Majestic range stove was donated by Pearl Cope Baker of New Waterford.



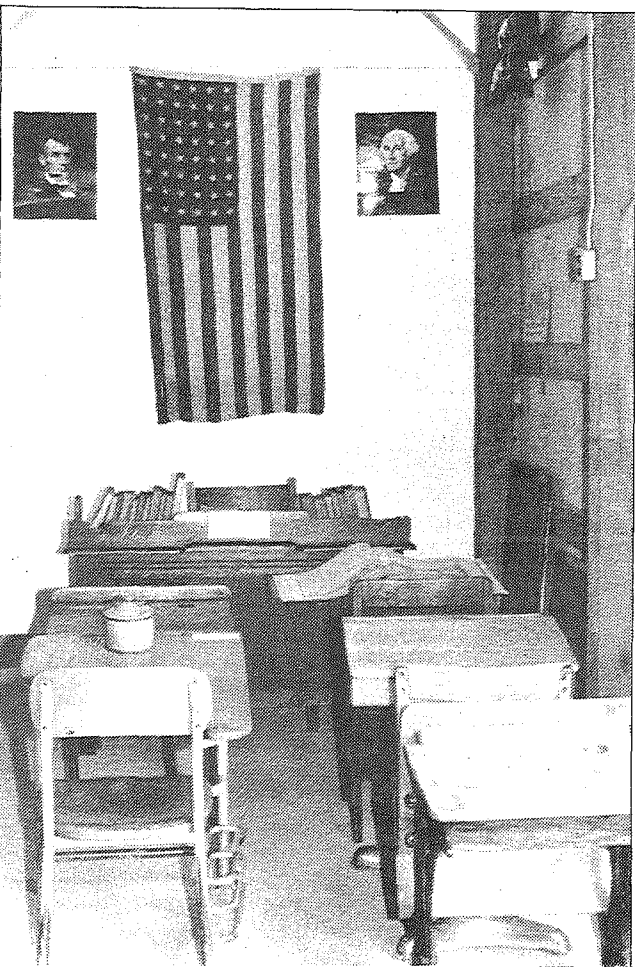
Yesteryears museum co-manager Don Rupert demonstrates a grain planter for 42-inch corn rows donated by George and Helen Wilson of Hanoverton.

Butter churns, separators and milk bottles — and large pieces of farm machinery — are among the hundreds of antique farm items which have been gathered for public display by the Columbiana County Historical Association.

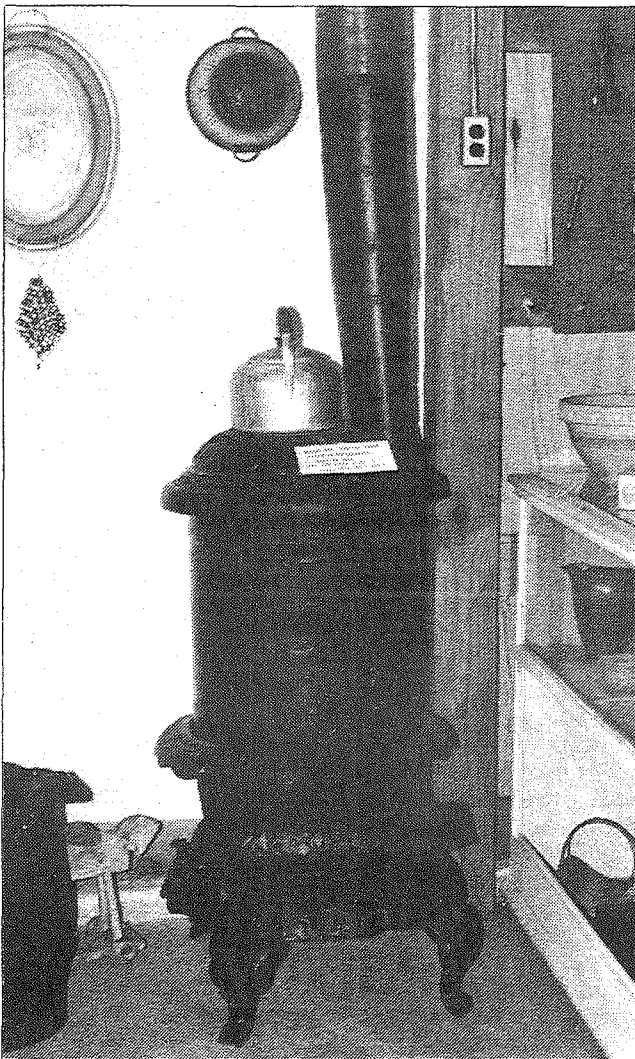
Called "Items of Yesteryear," the collection is housed in a building behind the grandstand at the Columbiana County fairgrounds. The building is

capped with a cupola made by carpenter Clyde Firestone of Columbiana.


Don Rupert and Art Rudebock are co-managers of the museum which is continuing to grow as more and more people offer their donations. The building was open to the public during the annual county fair.



This setting is a replica of the Mt. Vernon School north of Lisbon in 1915. Above the teacher's desk hangs a 48-star flag, while on one of the student's desks lies an opened 130-year-old atlas.



The Round Oak heat stove last used in 1935, in excellent condition, has been loaned to the museum by Art and Eunice Rudebock of Leetonia.

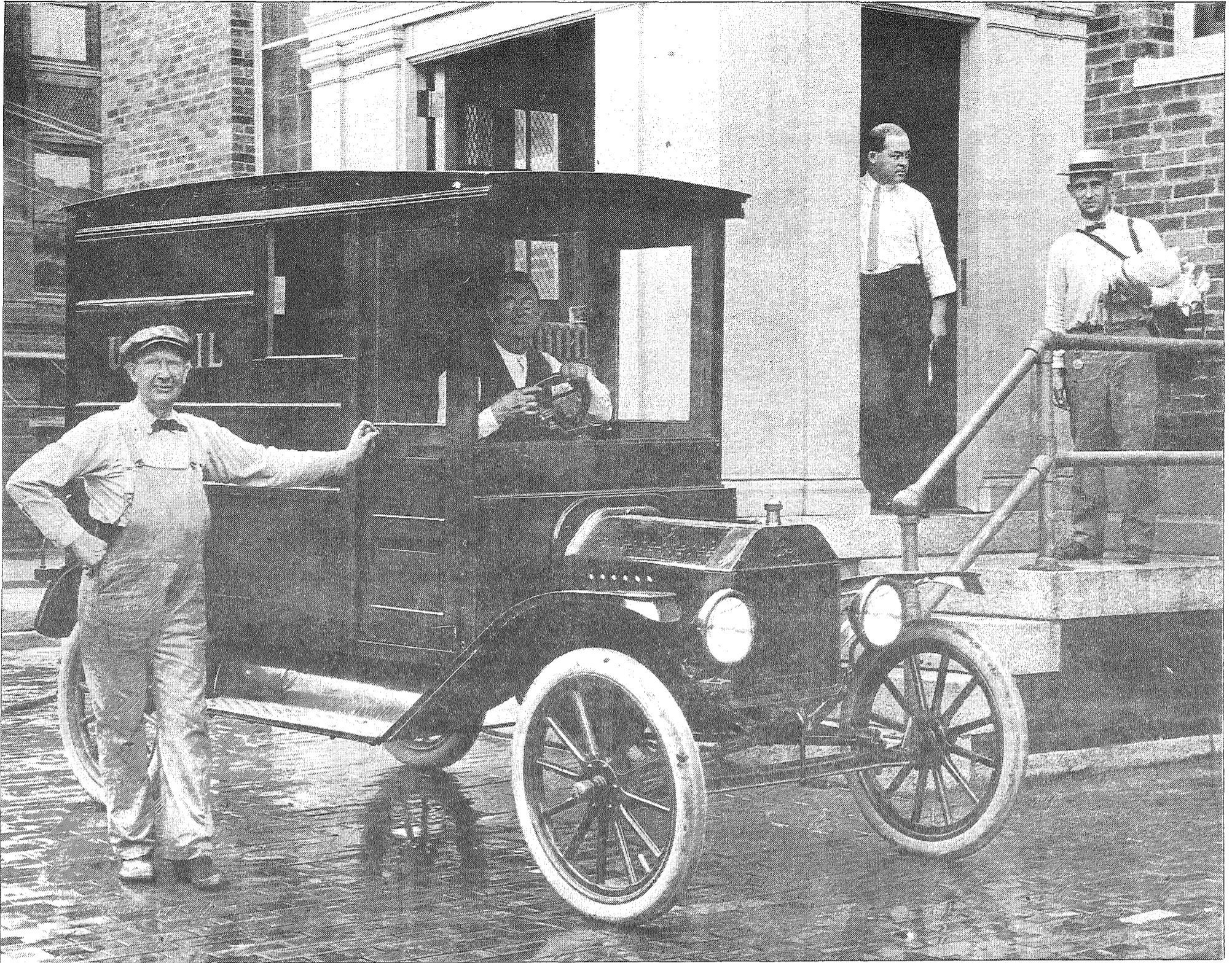


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Jens Peter Jensen, Toby Jensen's grandfather, sits in his new Model T Ford mail truck in this 1915 photo taken behind Salem's just-completed post office on the northeast corner of East State Street and North Lincoln Avenue. Mail carrier George Dressel stands on the steps.

## Horror comics of the 1950s are slowly creeping from the crypt

By Linda Rosenkrantz  
Copley News Service

The horror comics that suddenly lurched onto the scene in the politically conservative early 1950s made their superhero and detective predecessors look as tame as Bugs Bunny or Baby Huey. Where before there were fairly subtle scenes of crime and punishment, now there was gore galore — everything from cannibalism to splattered brains.

Why these comics became so popular is something I don't even care to address, but the fact that they are now a distinct collectibles category is something I do.

There were, of course, tales of terror and dread in the earlier pulp magazines of the 1930s and 1940s, and in the late '40s, there was more and more horror seen in the crime comics. At this time the first all-horror comic book series began to appear, namely *Eerie*, published by Avon in 1947, and *Adventures in to the Unknown* in 1948.

Marvel Comics acknowledged the trend the next year when it changed its superhero comic, *Marvel Mystery Comics*, to a horror book and rechristened

it *Marvel Tales*. The leader in the field, however, was *Entertaining Comics*, run by William Gaines, a big fantasy/science fiction fan who produced such spine-tingling titles as "The Crypt of Terror," "The Vault of Horror" and "The Haunt of Fear."

What followed was a gory explosion of horror comics that spanned the first four years of the '50s, producing several hundred new horror stories coming each month, and about 2,400 books in that four-year period. Not surprisingly, the quality varied considerably — in plot and writing as well as graphics — but the titles give you some idea of the contents: *Adventures into Weird Worlds*, *Out of the Shadows*, *Forbidden Worlds*, *Adventures into Darkness*.

But all this graphic gore was getting parents very upset. Terrified, you might say. In 1954, a book by psychiatrist Fredric Wertham called "Seduction of the Innocent" — the thesis of which was that comics could induce children to commit robbery, rape, take drugs, etc. — was published and caused a great furor.

That same year, the Senate Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency began to hold hearings on the influence of violent comics. While

not conclusive, these hearings led to the majority of comic book manufacturers forming the Comics Magazine Association of America, which created a code of wholesomeness and decency and a CMAA seal of approval and succeeded in considerably vitiating the violence.

The whole horror story is related by articulate comic maven Mike Benton in a new book called "Horror Comics: The Illustrated History" (Taylor Publishing Co., 1550 W. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas Texas 75235, 144 pages, \$21.95), a follow-up to his well-received "The Comic Book in America" and which is the first in a new series called "The Taylor History of Comics."

The profusely, bloodily illustrated volume follows horror comics from the '50s into the atomic '60s, with its gigantic mutant monsters, and '70s, with its disco-dancing zombies, right up to Freddy Krueger and The Swamp Thing. This highly recommended book also presents good advice on collecting horror comics (resources, care, a 45-page checklist), a bibliography and reprints of the various Comics Codes.



The photo on this and the preceding page courtesy of Toby Jensen

Clerks sort out mail in this interior scene of the Salem post office in 1915, shortly after the building was erected along the corner of East State Street and North Lincoln Avenue. Jens Peter Jensen stands at the left, and in the center is Mary Dow. Can any of our readers identify the others?

Mail

Continued from page 1

in the mails. Registered mail and letters containing money were handled by the carriers with the same security as at the post office.

In the early days, the little fourth class post offices were often the center of the communities. When the rural mail routes came through, these tiny communities changed; some even vanished. No longer was there the family-like cohesiveness that once held the people together.

As a result of the five new rural routes in Salem, two regular post offices were discontinued — Patmos and Hickory in Mahoning County. The following people were appointed as the first regular carriers: William T. Sayers, Ralph R. Lora, John J. Groner, Solomon Helsel and J. J. Parker.

To measure the length of their routes, rural carriers used odometers attached to their horse-drawn wagons or buggies. A 25-mile route was a good day's work for horse-and-buggy mailmen.

RFD was a real blessing for farmers. It enabled them to conduct almost all of their business through the mail. Companies such as Sears, Roebuck and Montgomery Ward used catalogs to carry on a thriving commerce through the rural mail service, much to the dismay of local merchants.

Fourth class postmasters had always counted on their post offices to draw trade to their stores, so they were not too happy when their post offices were displaced. Fearing the worst, they tried desperately to make certain that if RFD came, a route would begin at their post office.

There was, however, no stopping the develop-

ment of mail service for farmers. By 1926 there were 45,315 mail routes nationwide. The new system fostered a minor revolution in communication. Massive amounts of letters, catalogs, periodicals and newspapers poured into farm homes. American society and farm life would never again be the same.

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# Columbiana opened post office in 1809

By Lois Firestone

COLUMBIANA HAS HAD 22 postmasters since 1809 when John Dixon opened the first post office in his log building on the northeast corner of the Public Square and Main Street.

Probably the most eccentric, though, was John Hiner, the sixth postmaster, who persisted in making his own rules about how people in the 1850s and 1860s got their mail.

Hiner made one point clear to the village's 350 people from the day he took office on Jan. 19, 1852: the post office in his home was off limits to everyone; people would get their mail when he brought it directly to their houses. And, over the 17 years he was postmaster, he delivered letters and packages — however, always in his own good time.

The late Leila Beard whose family were early settlers in the town, recalled the story her father told about Hiner, who lived directly across the road from the Beards. The youngster often watched for the mail coach to pull up at the Hiner home. When it did, he would race across the road and knock at the post office window for the mail. Invariably, Hiner would tell him, "You run on home, boy; I'll bring your mail to you after while. And don't be bothering me."

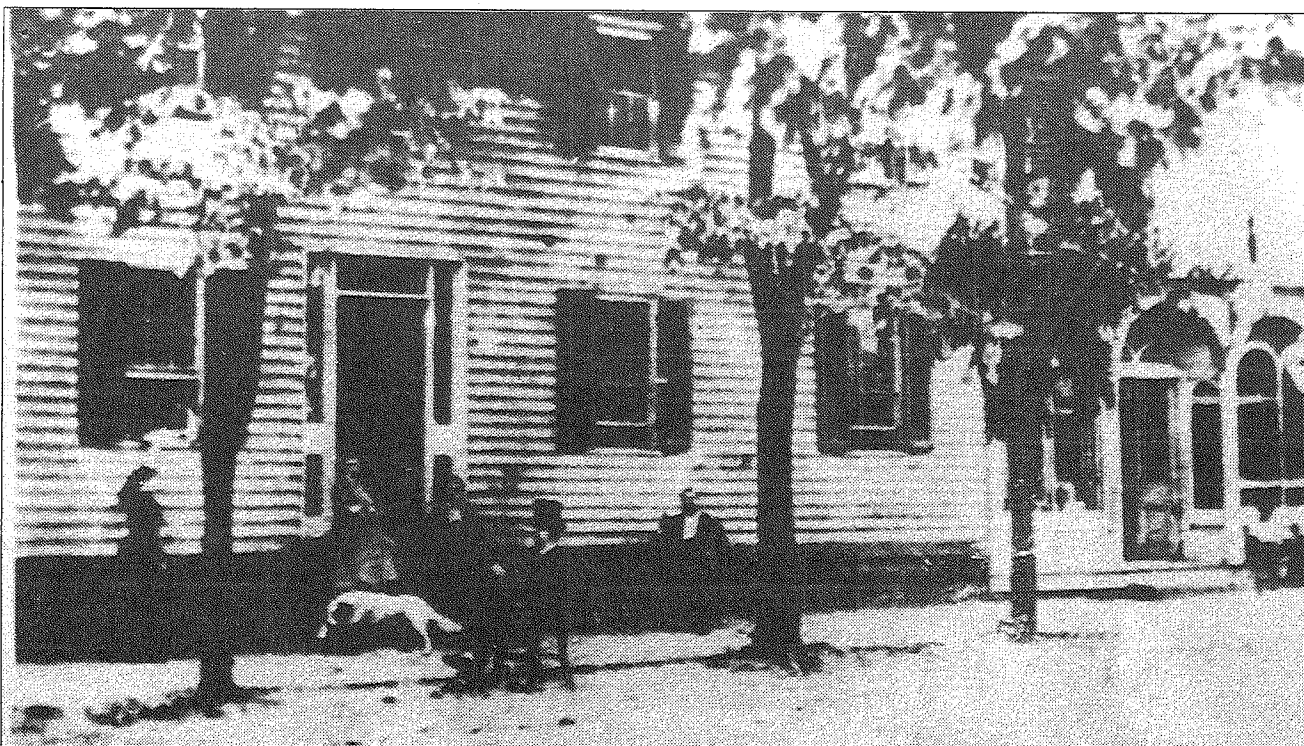
Other postmasters in other towns delivered the mail personally, but only sporadically and when it suited them. Therefore, Columbiana holds the record for establishing free mail delivery in the country, 11 years before it was legislated by the federal government on July 1, 1863.

Hiner was postmaster during the Civil War years — he retired on Jan. 13, 1869 — and saw many changes in the postal system. The railroads began carrying mail during those years; the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad opened up with passenger service through town on Jan. 1, 1852; by 1854, mail was almost totally carried by rail. The stage coach passed into oblivion.

Government mail messengers lifted off the bags of mail at the train depot in Columbiana and carted them on horse-driven wagons to the post office. Local mail messengers of the time were Jonathan Fesler, Jacob Hum, Robert Hoskinson, Nathan Cole, Lee Arnold, William and Ralph Basler, Chauncey E. Wolfgang, Hiner, Ross Flickinger, G. Washington Cole, Edward Shillinger, Noah Orr and Lester McGaffick.

The mail was brought by horseback once a week during the early years when John Dixon ran the post office in his store. East Fairfield had been founded six years earlier, in 1803, and was a center for letters coming from Pittsburgh. Mail was sorted into bundles at East Fairfield for riders to deliver to New Lisbon, Columbiana, Canfield, Warren and Youngstown.

The government riders had the right of way on the primitive roads; as the carriers approached a



Photos courtesy of Columbiana Historical Society

Postmaster William Sturgeon's home along Columbiana's Main Street. Sturgeon held the job from 1848 to 1852.

wagon, they would blow a horn as a signal for the traveler to rein in and stop.

The stage coach had replaced the obsolete horses by 1820, and youngsters gathered every week to watch the stage's coming along Pittsburgh Road to Main Street and on up to the square. By then, Jesse Allen had taken over the postmaster job in his grocery, across the way from Dixon's home, on the northeast corner of the square.

Most of the postmasters were merchants who set aside a section in their shops for the government's postal business. The offices were portable affairs, made mostly of oak with a small door in the center and mailing slot underneath, with letter cubicles on either side.

William Moody had the office in his general store which was adjacent to the present Country Corner Restaurant from 1829 until 1835. Others who followed Moody were John Young, a druggist whose store was on the southwest corner of Main and Friend Streets, from 1835 to 1848; William Sturgeon, from 1848 to 1852 (Sturgeon's parents were innkeepers in the hotel on the later site of the Park House); Hiner, from 1852 until 1869; Capt. James H. Bell, 1869 to 1873 (the office began hand-



Isaac Culp in later years

Turn to next page

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**Columbiana**  
Continued from page 6

ling postal money orders during Bell's tenure).

The town became a separating office for sections of Mahoning County in 1879 when mails were incoming and outgoing four times a day. David Esterly, one of the nine children of Jacob Esterly, was the postmaster then and based the office in the family homestead, a log building on the southeastern corner of Friend and Main Streets.

After Esterly were George Lower, 1885 to 1889; William Halverstadt, 1889 to 1893; Bertram Renkenberger, a harness maker who helped organize the first Columbiana Street Fair in 1885, 1893 to 1897; Edward I. Snyder, who rode horses in races at the Lower Race Track south of Pine Lake, 1897 to 1906.

Isaac Culp signed up 90 percent of the 500 families living outside the town's perimeters to have mail delivered to their homes in 1901. His first delivery over a 24-mile route was on the frigid day of Feb. 1 that year when the snow was 14 inches deep and the thermometer had plummeted to 14 degrees.

During Culp's 24 years as a rural mail carrier, he wore out 14 horses, two motorcycles with sidecars and five automobiles. Two other carriers traveled the rural routes then, S. H. Johnson and James Mather, who was succeeded by Selby Hall.

Shelton S. Stewart, the town's 13th postmaster, opened a drugstore in 1901 at the northeast corner of Main and Friend Streets, but closed the shop when he took the government job in 1906. Crayton V. Calvin was Stewart's successor, from 1914 to 1919. Calvin worked for the New Tire Tread Co. and ran the post office from a building at the corner of Main and Mulberry Alley in the New Waterford Bank building. George B. McMillan had the job only briefly, for a few months in 1919.

The first official city mail carrier was Louis Schlag in 1923 when the post office was moved to the Frederick Block on South Main, its headquarters since. Schlag walked the city's streets with the mail for 18 years; another veteran was Hosea C. Shaffer. William Orin Wallace was the postmaster when the move to the Frederick Block was made. Fred Lodge and Guy Patchen succeeded Wallace.

Samuel Edward Tidd was post master for 16 years. He started on June 1, 1933 and held the job through the long Depression, World War II and the Korean police action. The building was remodeled in 1956. When Tidd retired in April 1959, Elizabeth Louise Gormley took over — she'd been a school teacher, then a secretary for the Central Porcelain Co. before taking the postmaster position.

Lloyd R. Crawford was postmaster for 20 years, the second only to Tidd in length of service. Appointed acting postmaster on Feb. 4, 1961, he was made postmaster on July 10 of that year. During the Crawford years, the new numbered system



Columbiana's post office along South Main Street in 1907, in the Frederick Block, the building where it's located today.

of identifying U. S. post offices, the zip code, was inaugurated by the government. Columbiana's number was 44408. The first number designates the states of Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky and Ohio; the second and third, districts in Ohio; and the 08

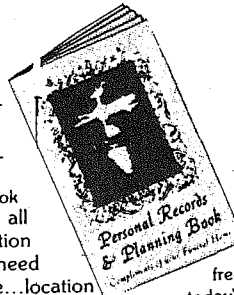
is Columbiana's individual number. In 1964, the post office was enlarged to handle the increased mail coming into and out of Columbiana. Crawford retired in 1981 and Robert Hall took over on Aug. 8 that year.

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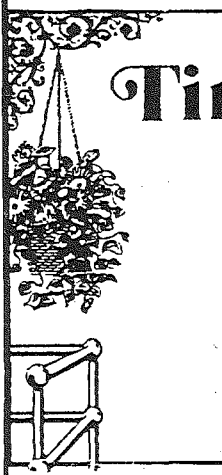
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# Burchfield's 'noble growth of trees' was his monument to his hometown

## Where were they? Just ask Jim Taus

By Dick Wootten

FOR 45 YEARS VISITORS to the Salem Public Library have viewed Charles Burchfield's impressive water color painting titled "The Three Trees."

When people learn that the scene is a Salem scene the first question asked is "Where were they?"

Back in 1962, a 16-year-old Salem High School student named James Taus, now a Salem attorney, was discussing the location of the trees in Helen Thorpe's English class. It was decided to take the direct approach to get an answer. He wrote a letter to the 68-year-old Burchfield, who was then living in West Seneca, New York. Taus got this handwritten reply:

Dear Jim Taus:

The "Three Trees" were located at the junction of what are now the extension of Sixth St. and Hawley Ave. It is doubtful if any one under forty-five years of age in Salem would remember them. Two of the trees were blown down by the tornado of 1924? 1925? and the remaining one cut down, I presume, later when Sixth Street was extended.

In my day Hawley Ave. ended at Fifth St. and Sixth St. (ended) at Vine St. (Now Ave.)

I have not, of course, travelled 'all over the earth' but I have travelled quite a bit, and I never have seen anywhere a more unique, and noble growth of trees — nor have I seen any to equal them on photographs. I count myself fortunate that I lived as a child but a short distance from them. It was a favorite spot for my brothers and sisters and I to visit not only as children, but when we grew up.

In 1915, (my third year at Art School) when I made my first attempts at painting (on my own) outdoor landscapes, I would resort to the "Three Trees" after work, with my sketch book, where I sketched the trees, fields, clouds, storms, sunset, moon-rise etc. etc. I made literally hundreds of drawings.


In my painting, I not only tried to re-create the trees as a Memorial to them (I started the painting seven years after the tornado) but also to put them in a setting that would suggest what I feel about the presence of God in Nature — God is everywhere of course but there are certain places where I feel His presence more keenly than others. The "Three Trees" was such a place.

Thank you and your class for your interest in my paintings.

Sincerely, yours,  
Charles Burchfield

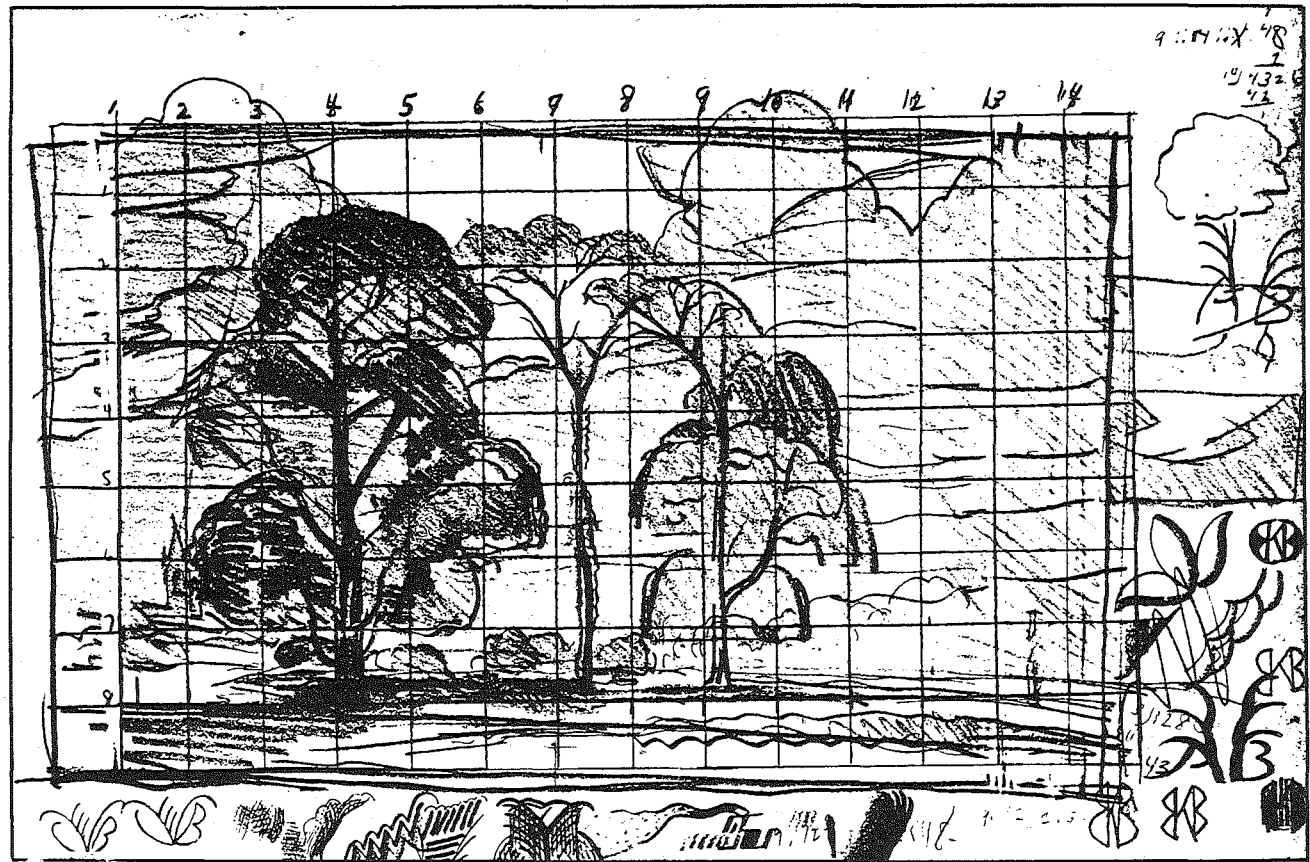
"The Three Trees" was donated to the library by Alice MacMillan in commemoration of Salem's MacMillan book shop, which was founded in 1850 and was still in business on June 9, 1946, when the painting was unveiled at the library.

At the unveiling Mrs. Frank W. Lease, assistant librarian, remarked that the book store had contributed largely to the cultural needs of the community before the library was opened in 1905. Alice MacMillan was the daughter of the store's founder, Joel MacMillan, an active abolitionist before the Civil War.

Turn to next page 



Charles Burchfield's "The Three Trees," a watercolor measuring 42-by-64 inches, has been on view above the fireplace of the Salem Public Library since 1946. The painting is reproduced on postcards and note cards sold by the library.



Burchfield based this 1931 drawing of the trees on sketches he had made before the 1925 tornado that felled two of the trees. The third tree was taken down after World War II to make way for the extension of Sixth Street from Vine to Union Avenue.

**Burchfield**

Continued from page 10

Burchfield attended the unveiling, but being rather taciturn, said just a few words. But a letter he had written January 9, 1945, before finishing the painting, to Miss MacMillan was read by Library Trustee Mrs. W. H. Dunn. Mrs. Dunn had been one of Burchfield's teachers and had started the movement to bring a Burchfield painting to Salem several years earlier.

In the letter, Burchfield wrote, "I can think of no more appropriate place for this picture, which I have painted partly as a monument to my love for Salem, and my life there. (Burchfield (1893-1967) had lived in Salem from 1898 to 1921.) In it I would give the lie to, and squelch forever the mistaken notion of certain critics that I hated the city of my early life.

"They got this notion from viewing certain realistic interpretations of mine of some Ohio river industrial towns, which they took to be Salem. I never could convince them they were not Salem, and that I had nothing but affection for my home town.

"But back to The Three Trees. After a tornado in 1925 had felled the two finest of these trees, I was seized with a desire to re-create them in a picture. I mulled over the idea for many years before making an actual start at the painting.

"Fortunately, I had made several drawings, one or two small water colors, that I could use as material. I started it in 1932, and have worked on it at various times since.

"It is of such a monumental character that it has had to grow slowly. It has now reached the stage where to the average observer, it would seem to be complete. However, there are a number of loose ends to catch up before I can be satisfied as nearly as I ever can be with a picture.

"I expect to do that this June (1945). I always have to wait for the season depicted in a picture to work on it.

"Now as to the picture itself, The Three Trees themselves of course dominate the composition. The point of view is to the east of the trees, looking west-southwest toward Salem. On account of the many trees, with which Salem is so happily blessed, not much of Salem can be seen except on Garfield Ave. (N. Lincoln), and of course the tower of the Fourth Street school building, which used to be such a 'beacon' tower before its removal.

"The main motif is simply the three trees, with the fields immediately around them. I have never seen a more noble growth of trees and in me they epitomize all that Salem meant to me as a boy and young man.

"The season is June, close to the summer solstice. I have chosen one of those cloudy days in June when the sun is felt almost more than seen. Hidden behind the clouds, it breaks through here and there in long rays, lighting up isolated trees and bits of meadow grass.

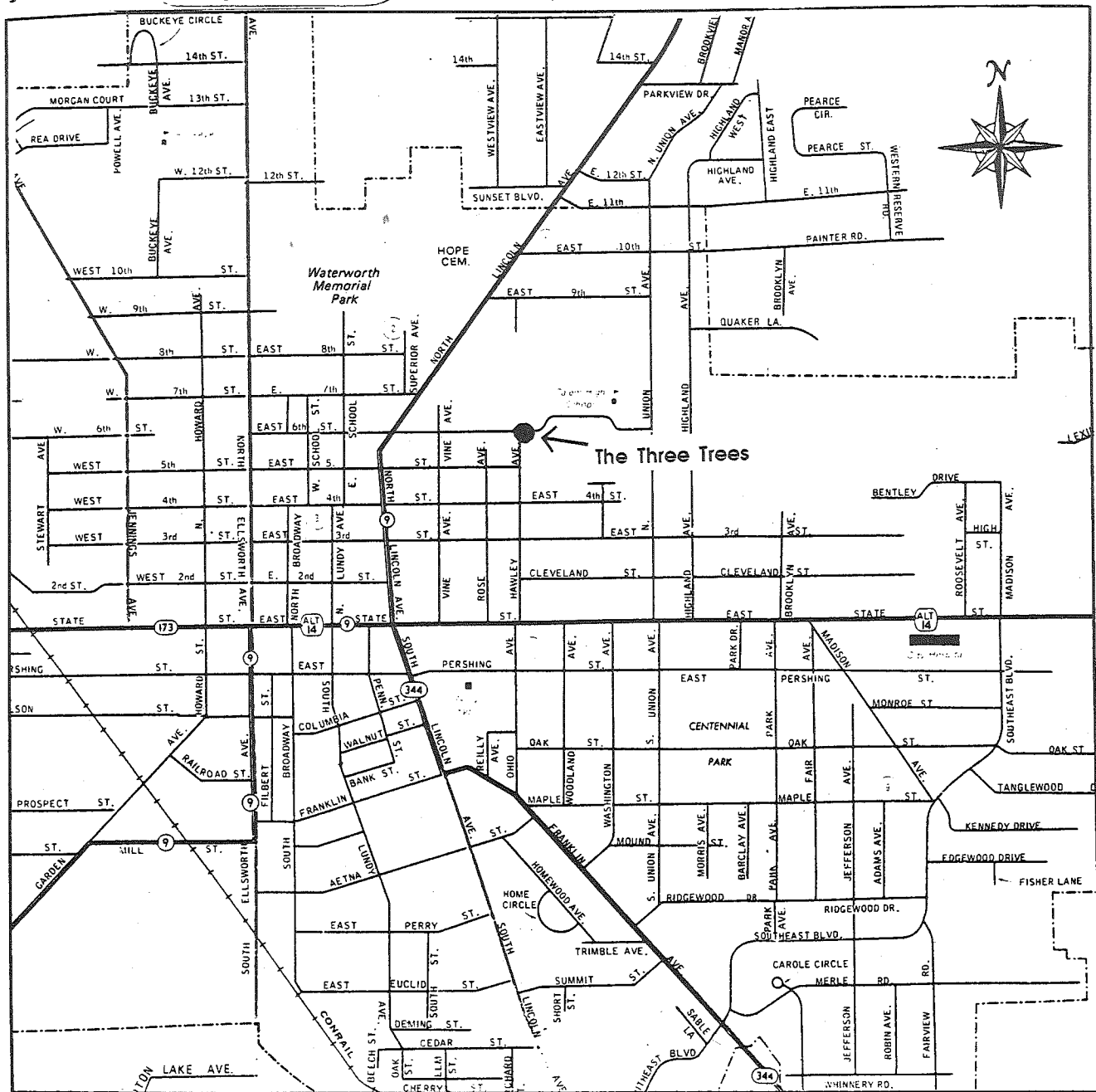
"Against this vast panorama of sky the trees themselves are dark and brooding.

"As an underlying motif, in addition to expressing the mood of childhood when a summer noon seemed endless, I have tried to express the idea of the presence of God, the God-in-nature that Beethoven spoke of often, and wrote one of his best shorter pieces around.

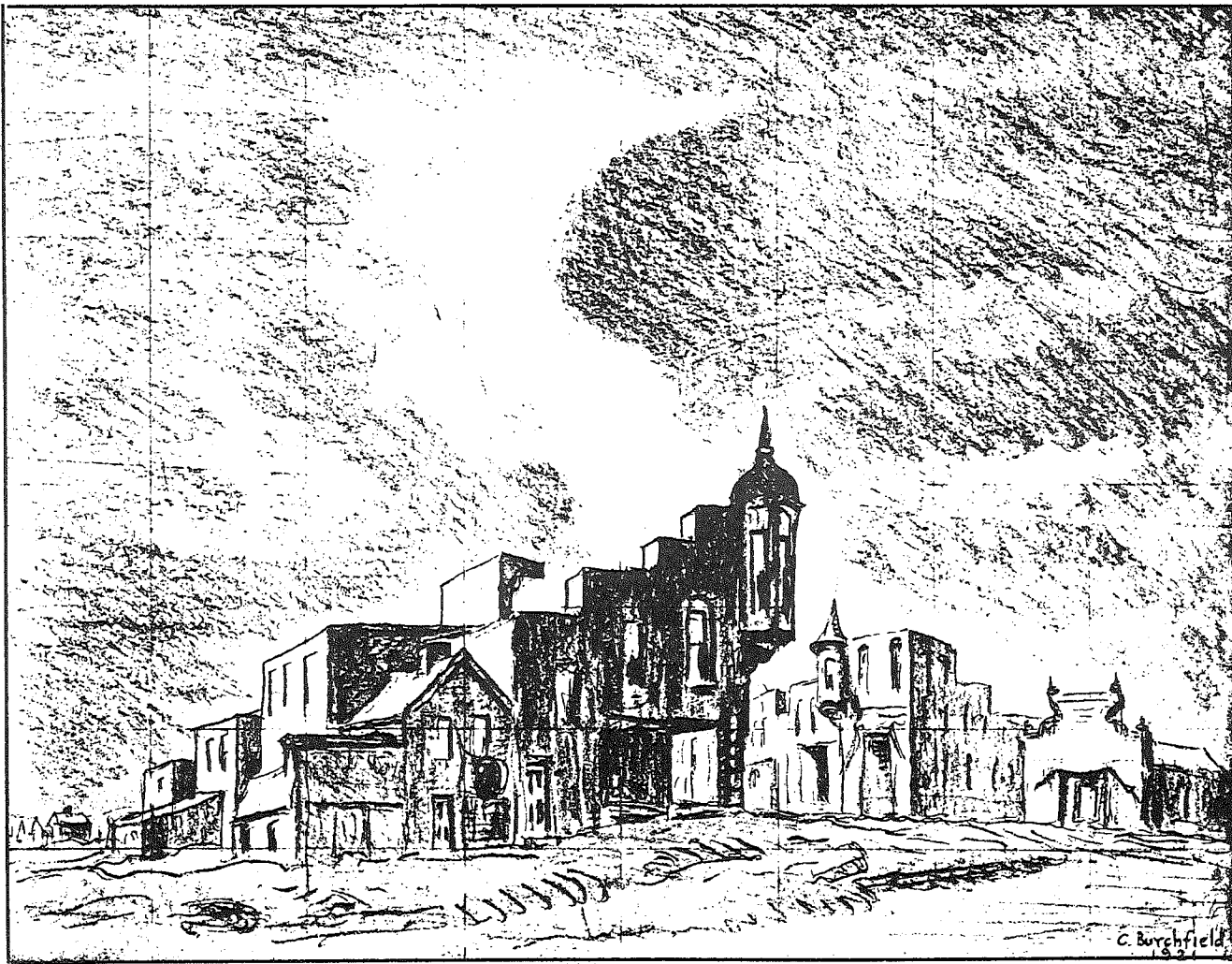
"So now perhaps you can understand why I feel that Salem is the place that this painting should go to and find a permanent home. And I would hope that it is one that the Salem people, too, would love and that many of them, like me, have memories tied up with this noble growth of trees."

The lengthy Salem News story that ran the day after the unveiling stated as a matter of fact that Burchfield "is recognized as the foremost American artist."

Here's another Burchfield mystery. The drawing on the right was done by Burchfield in 1921 and most likely depicts a village somewhere near Salem. Let us know if you can identify the location.




Where were the three trees immortalized by Burchfield? The artist wrote Jim Taus of Salem 29 years ago that they were where Hawley Ave. and Sixth Street now meet.



# The famous were attracted to convention

**CHRISTMAS BALL.**



Your company is respectfully solicited to attend a Christmas Ball, to be given at the

**Farquhar House,**

Salem, Ohio, on Tuesday Evening, Dec., 27th, 1853.

SIMON J. WEHR, Salem, HENRY SHAFER, " E. G. WEIGT, " O. A. THOMAS, " J. W. ROBINSON, " THOS. SHARPBACK, " W. W. ALLEN, " B. B. HIDDLESON, Pittsburg, HENRY BURDLETT, Cleveland,	Arrangements of Committee	GOV. BRIGGS, New Castle, CHARLES FLETCHER, Crestline, JEFFERSON MARTIN, New Lisbon, A. G. MCCOOK, " H. PHILLIPS, Mariaboro, HENRY WILSON, Deerfield, JUDSON CANFIELD, Caulfield, PETER EKES, Hanover, WM. VOGLESONG, Columbiana.
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Hudson Printer, Salem, Ohio.

Formal invitation to Christmas Ball at the Farquhar House on Dec. 27, 1853.

By Dale E. Shaffer

MAY 25, 1892 THROUGH the 27th were special days in the history of Salem. A number of famous people arrived in the city for the eighth annual Ohio Woman's Suffrage Convention. The first such convention was held in Salem on April 19 and 20, 1850 at the Second Baptist Church (later the Salvation Army barracks) on Green (Second) Street and the Hicksite Meeting House. About 200 women were present then, and from that small number the movement grew to many thousands nationwide.

Mrs. Marius (Emily) Robinson, who lived on the northeast corner of Fourth Street and Lincoln Avenue, was the presiding officer at that first convention. By 1892 she was 83 years of age and too ill to attend the eighth convention. She did, however, furnish a written speech that was read by Miss Susan B. Anthony.

There were numerous guests of national prominence. Miss Anthony, a 40-year veteran of the movement, stayed with Mr. and Mrs. John Deming on Lincoln Avenue. Rev. Anna H. Shaw, the renowned lecturer from Boston, stayed at the home of Eli Fawcett located along East State Street atop the Millville Hill. She had been in Salem before. Rev. Shaw had few equals as a speaker in the field of woman's suffrage and temperance work. Most of the other women attending were from Ohio.

Some delegates stayed at the Greiner-Brainard Hotel, but most were the guests of Salem residents who supported the movement. Those providing lodging included Mrs. J. T. Brooks, Mrs. Mary Forehope, Mrs. Mary Tolerton, Mrs. Mary F. Fawcett, Mrs. Elmira Tabor, Mrs. Conway, Mrs. Abel Strawn, Mrs. Cope, Mrs. John Deming, Mrs. Albert Silver, Mrs. Hettie Street, Mrs. M. L. Bates, Mrs. J. W. Northrop, Mrs. Louis Dobbins, Mrs. T. C. Boone, Mrs. Potter, Miss Sallie Bonsall, Mrs. Alonzo Sharp, Mrs. Eliza Whinery, Mrs. Maggie Boyle, Mrs. Bolen and Mrs. J. R. Oliphant.



The Grand Opera House along East State Street in Salem in 1991.

The convention was held at the Grand Opera House (part of which still stands). On the first day, an executive session was held in the afternoon, and in the evening there was a session for reports and addresses. Members of the executive committee and speakers sat on the stage which was decorated with flowering plants and ferns. Three of the women were ministers — Rev. Anna H. Shaw (the only one ordained), Mrs. S. M. Perkins and Miss Jennette Olmstead. Short addresses were given, and Miss Anthony read Mrs. Robinson's speech. Later in the evening there was musical entertainment.

The second day of the convention (May 26) was an all-day affair, with sessions in the morning, afternoon and evening. There were reports, legislative work, discussion and speeches. Two ladies in the audience, who had traveled over 20 miles by carriage to get here, requested that Miss Anthony and Rev. Shaw speak in the afternoon, which they did.

By this time there was considerable newspaper publicity, and interest in the convention was growing on the part of local residents. As a result, the Grand Opera House was packed for the evening session. There was singing of the "Battle Hymn of

the Republic," and speeches by Clara B. Colby, editor of the *Woman's Tribune*, and Susan B. Anthony. Mrs. Colby talked about how Wyoming (the first state to give suffrage to women) had benefited by the vote of women, and Miss Anthony discussed the importance of suffrage.

Three more sessions were held on May 27; reports and resolutions in the morning, addresses in the afternoon, and a speech by Rev. Shaw in the evening. She spoke for over an hour, holding the audience with her personal magnetism. "When women have done so much to establish the church," she said, "and when they are so directly interested in it, as well as in national matters, they should have some say in its government." Her speech included humorous remarks that periodically brought forth laughter from the audience. Following her address she received a great ovation.

To conclude the evening and convention, Miss Eva Deming rendered a soprano solo. Rev. Shaw then dismissed the audience. The struggle for equal rights, however, would go on for another 28 years — until the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed. Freedom Hall in Salem houses many resources pertaining to Salem's historic role in the woman's rights movement.

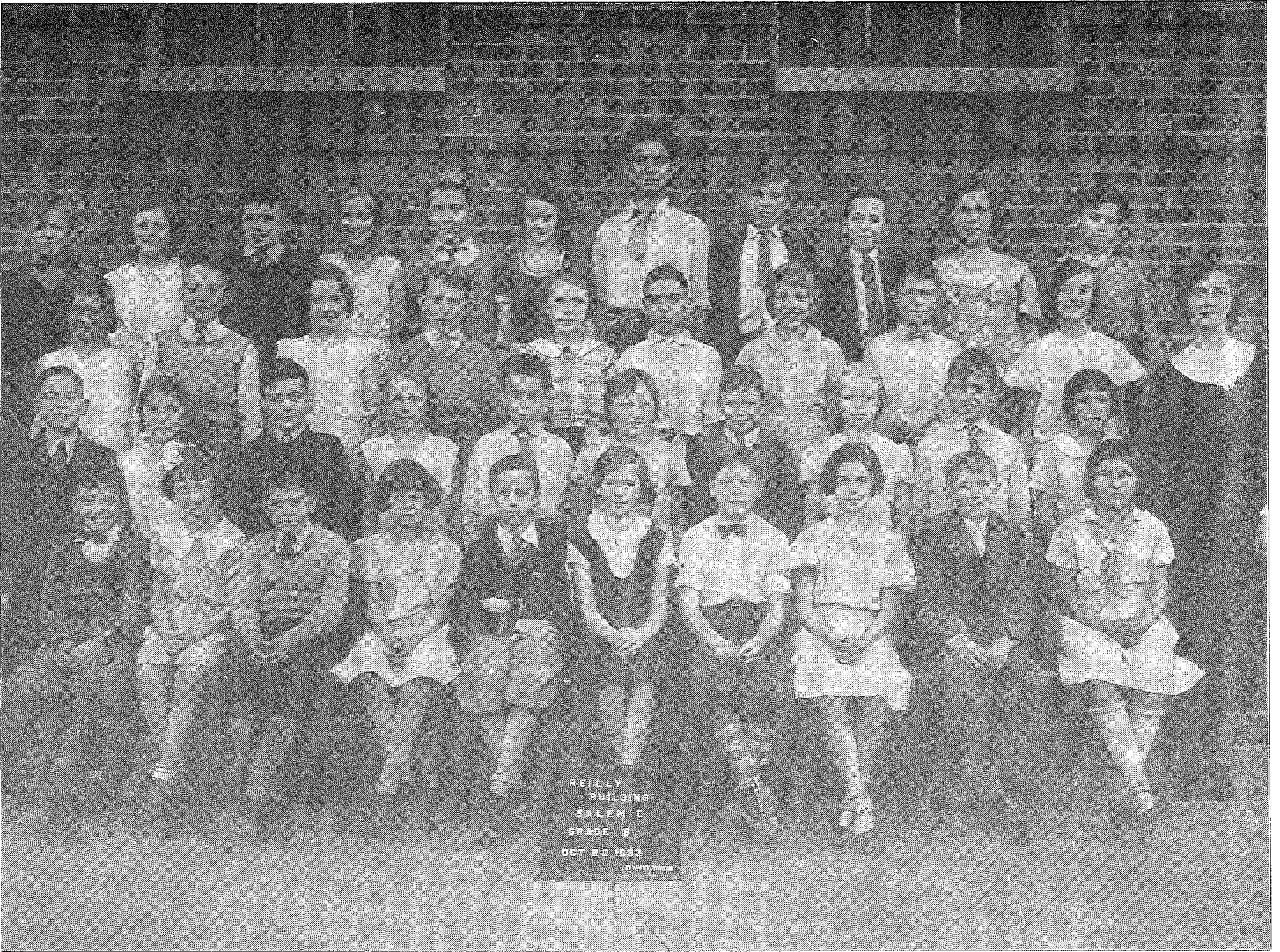


Photo courtesy of Robert Dixon

Junnia Jones, a 1926 graduate of Salem High School, poses with her sixth grade class at Reilly School on Oct. 20, 1933. The youngsters are (first row, from left) John "Sherman" Myers, Betty Abblett, James Shasteen, Evelyn Myers, Paul "Junior" Myers, Ann Skorupski, Richard Peppel, Alta McNabb, Floyd Wilson, Stella Youtz; (second row, left) Frank Davis, Louise Straub, Dix Yates, Virginia Welch, Emmet Sommers, Betty Allison, Eugene Miller, Ruth Tetlow, James Kleon, Jean Stone; (third row, left) Eleanor DeRhodes, Bob Dixon, Edna Howells, Bob Clark, Eva Weingart, Charles Tolp, Ruth West, Fred Conkle, Dorothy Robinson; (fourth row, left) Ralph Blackburn, Theda Greenawalt, Bob Lieder, Dorothy Burson, Richard Beck, Betty Bowker, George Spencer, Delbert Shilling, Sanford Metz, Anna Allison, Irvin Blackburn. Miss Jones was hired in 1930 to teach for the salary of \$935 a year. Her students recall her as one of the most innovative and interesting teachers they encountered. She was given great respect without being a martinet and was described as a friend instead of a taskmaster.

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# Summer of 1942 from pages of the Salem News

By Bekkee Panezott

**D**URING THE SUMMER OF 1942, when the United States was involved in World War II fighting the Germans and Japanese, the following news items appeared on various pages of the *Salem News*.

William Anthony "Gabby" Guappone of 968 E. Third St. was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Calvary Division after successfully completing the course for officer candidates at Fort Riley, Kansas. He was then assigned immediately to the nation's fighting units in England and France and eventually promoted to captain.

When I contacted Mr. Guappone's brother, Michael J. Guappone of Salem, a retired fourth grade teacher from Southeast School, he told me that he, "Gabby" and another brother, Salvadore "Sal" Guappone of Poland, all served together in the European Theatre.

The Guappone brothers are Salem High School graduates. Michael taught fourth grade for 30 years, retiring in 1985 while "Sal" retired as a math teacher from Struthers schools and "Gabby" who currently resides in Cincinnati retired from Equitable Insurance.

Other interesting items in 1942 included the announcement that Charles T. McCloskey, 25, a Salem High School athletic star, had been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He is the son of Catherine M. McCloskey of 238 Rose Avenue.

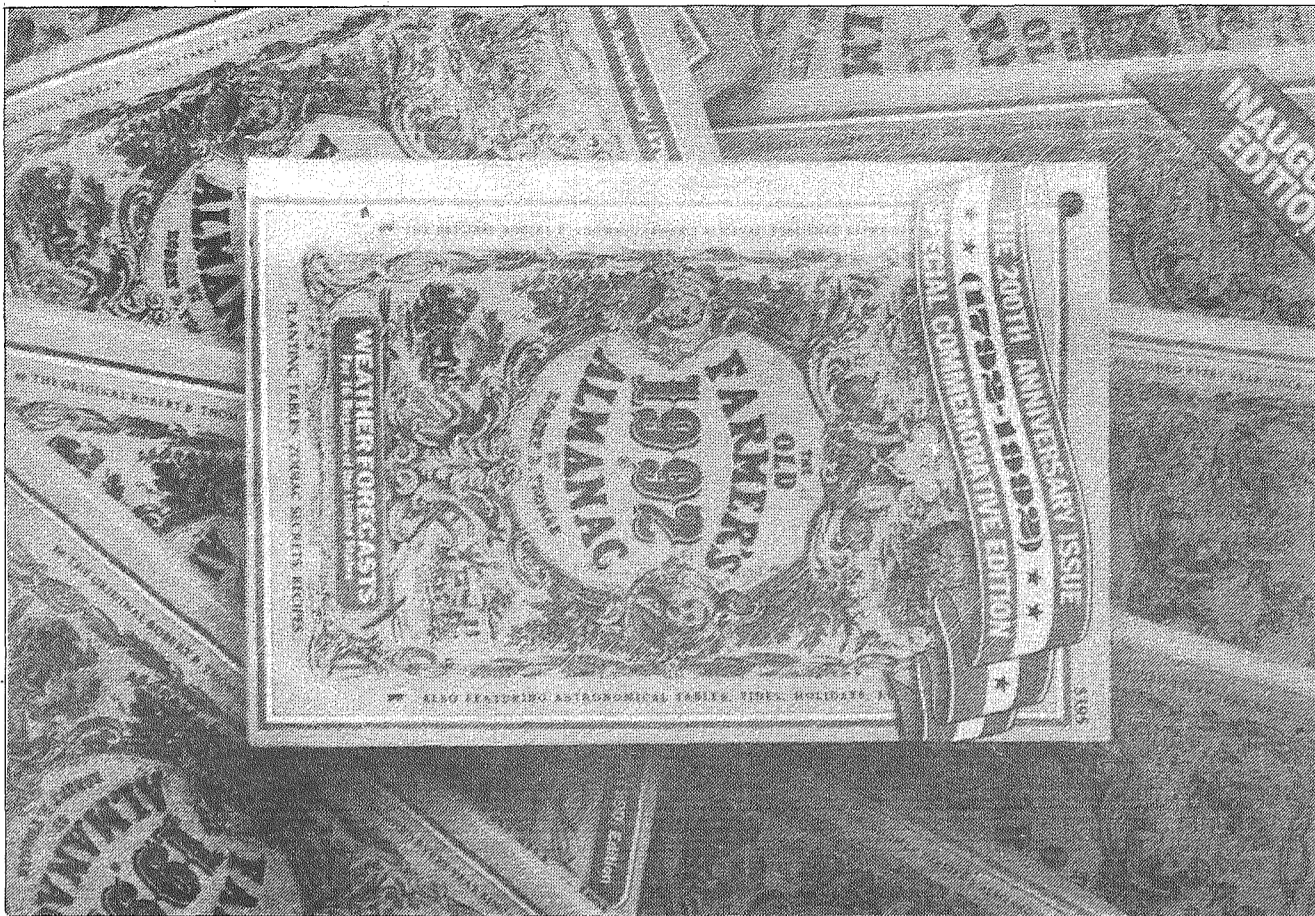
John Herman Jr., who was a Perry Township constable before his induction into the army, had been promoted from the rank of corporal to sergeant at Fort George Wright, Wash. where he was stationed with the 316th Air Base Squadron.

The Salem News reported that the Rev. William C. Snowball had been assigned to the First Methodist Church of Salem along South Broadway Avenue for the ensuing year. Rev. Snowball, who came to Leetonia from Belmont when the Rev. S. J. Shoemaker was transferred to Lodi, currently resides in Salem.

Fine cotton mattresses were advertised by the former Home Furniture Store at the corner of South Ellsworth Avenue and West State Street at \$8.95 each. The store also offered sturdy porch swings at \$1.99 each.

Here's a few items that appeared on the sports pages which no doubt will bring back some memories:

The Salem Country Club handicap tennis tournament was won by Carl Capel who defeated John Mulford in the final matches. Capel advanced to the finals after downing Ansley Mitchell, 6-3. Mul-



The Old Farmer's Almanac is celebrating its 200th anniversary this year with a special anniversary edition. The 1992 edition is a sweep of the last 200 years and a look at the next 200. The Almanac contains, as it has for all 200 issues, recipes, articles, gardening and weather forecasts. (AP LaserPhoto)

ford stopped Bill Hannay with a 6-0 score.

In other activities at the Salem Country Club, the following persons were among the winners in the swimming events for the Fourth of July. George Foltz captured first place in the 15-yard race for girls and boys under 10 years of age with Jimmie Hurlburt coming in second and Patsy Rinehart in third place.

Contestants in the 15-yard mixed relays were Sally Hurlburt, Bobby Campbell, Florence Mawhinney and Buddy Roose who tied for first place with Barbara Luce, Jimmie Hurlburt, Eleanor Tolerton and Jerry Miller coming in second.

In Class B contests, the first of round three, the Book Store and DeRienzo's scored wins at Centennial Park. The Book Store had an easy time with Meissner's as they clouted Pitcher Cain for 14 safetys and 15 runs to win 15-0 as Harry Dyke allowed but four hits in blanking Meissner's.

Twing Seeds copped the 18-hole medal play with full handicap at the Salem Golf Club with an 81-12, net 69. Andy Ulrich and Al Konnerth tied for second, Ulrich with 81-9, net 72 and Konnerth with 84-12, net 72.

The State Theatre was screening "Gone With The Wind" starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh. Cost

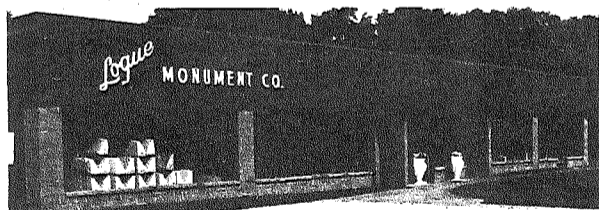
of the matinee was 40 cents, 50 cents for the evening show and only 17 cents for children.

Prior to attending a movie some women in the Salem area made an appointment at the former Jo-Ann Beauty Shop located at 414 E. State St. which offered a 20th Century permanent wave for \$2.50. The perm included a shampoo, finger wave and hair trim.

J. Homer Browne, who was employed in the county auditor's office, was elected for the third time as commander of the John Welsch Post American Legion in Lisbon. Other officers elected were H. C. Leonard who was superintendent of Lisbon schools, vice commander; John Olivers, second vice commander; Peter Opincar, third vice commander; Hugh Ramsey, adjutant; Ross Fox, treasurer; Lynn Riddle, chaplain, Merle Burson and Carl Bowman, color bearers; and Merle Burson, trustee.

And, just in time for back to school shopping, Penney's offered dresses for little girls in sizes three to 14 and school shirts for boys for only 69 cents each.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: What year would you like researched for this column? We would be happy to hear from you.)



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# Quaker Tea House was special place

## Myra Woodruff's restaurant known for home cooking



This building along 890 E. State St. housed the Quaker Tea House in the 1920s. John Burkey's Quaker Corner Flower and Gifts is situated in the building.

These advertisements for the Quaker Tea House appeared in 1925 and 1931 issues of the *Salem News*. Operated by Myra Woodruff, the eating house was located on the northwest corner of East State Street (formerly McKinley Avenue) and Rose Avenue. John Burkey's Quaker Corner Flowers and Gifts is situated there today.

Older people will remember the house at 890 E. State St. as the office of Dr. Guy Buyers. It was built by Henry Ambler for his residence when he arrived in Salem about 1840. He studied law and then became pastor of the Methodist Church. In the 1850s he sold the house and moved to Iowa.

Mrs. Woodruff had her tea house at this location in the 1920s and then moved to a house at 252 Goshen Road (1028 Jennings Ave.), where the Friends Church now stands. The business was known as the Quaker Tea House and Art Shop.

A tea house was not just a place one went to for tea. Neither was it an ordinary restaurant. Every day, a complete home-cooked meal was served, including soup. All customers were served the same tasty meal, just as they would as guests in a home. There were no choices other than the meal of the day. But every diner knew the meal would always be prepared in a special way with the best of ingredients.



The house at 1028 Jennings Ave. where Mrs. J. G. Woodruff had her Quaker Tea House and Art Shop. The Henry Jensen family owned the house after the Woodruffs. The home was later razed to build the First Friends Church.

**1028 Jennings Avenue**  
is the New Location of the  
**Quaker Tea House**  
**CHICKEN DINNER SUNDAY**

We Serve Daily  
Without Appointment

Usual Sunday Dinner  
\$1 to \$1.50

**PARTIES A SPECIALTY**



**Quaker Corner**

Flowers and Gifts  
890 E. STATE STREET  
SALEM, OHIO 44460

**FLOWERS WIRED WORLDWIDE**

Phone: 337-3313 John F. Burkey

This advertisement reminding readers about Mrs. Woodruff's Sunday chicken dinners appeared in the local newspaper on July 11, 1931. An earlier ad, printed on Dec. 17, 1925, invited buyers to purchase inexpensive imported gifts for Christmas. Fresh soft shell nuts from the south were available for 80 cents a pound, and baked goods for the holidays could be ordered.

# ANTIQU OR JUNQUE

## Derby Plate Co. made silverplated cigar box

By James McCollam  
Copley News Service

Q. Enclosed are several pictures of a silver tea caddy including one of the bottom showing the hallmark.

I would appreciate your evaluation.

A. This is a silver-plated cigar box made by the Derby Silver Plate Co. in Derby, Conn. during the late 1800s. The "hallmark," SPWM means silver plated white metal. It would probably sell in the \$165 to \$185 range in good condition.

### WEDGWOOD

This company is so often associated with blue and white jasperware that some people mistakenly believe that is all that Wedgwood made. On the contrary, they made everything from calendar tiles to dinner sets for royalty.

In addition to blue and white jasperware, they made green, violet and red combined with white. Other products included were several luster wares — Fairyland, Moonlight and Dragon. We can add Creamware and Basalt and still not all forms of ceramics made by Wedgewood.

There were other companies whose marks tend to deceive. The one that confuses most frequently is "Wedgwood & Co.," a name used by Podmore,



This silver-plated cigar box was made in Connecticut during the late 1800s.

Walker & Co. in Tunstall, England. In 1965 they changed the name to "Enoch Wedgwood." Other misleading marks are "Wedg Wood," "Wedgewood" (with an extra "e") and "Wedgwood Ware."

Genuine Wedgwood is simply marked "Wedgwood" (with one "e") or "Wedgwood & Bentley" on very early pieces.

The largest, most comprehensive collection of Wedgwood can be found at the Buten Museum in Merion, Penn., just outside Philadelphia.

Prices for Wedgwood china can range from \$15 for an ironstone plate to over \$5,000 for a Basalt urn. Basalt is a matte finish black ironstone. The prices range from about \$100 to several thousand dollars.

Jasperware is a matte finish stoneware produced in combination of white with blue, red or violet. Prices range about \$100 to over \$2400.

Moonlight Luster is splashed or marbled pink or

purple with tinges of yellow and green. Dragon Luster is a Chinese design featuring dragons. Fairyland Luster depicts whimsical creatures in a fairyland setting. The various Wedgwood luster wares sell from the low hundreds to the low thousands.

Wedgwood was first made in Burslem, England, where Josiah Wedgwood started in 1759. Later it was produced in Etruria and since 1940 in Barleston.

Send your questions about antiques with pictures, a detailed description, a stamped, self addressed envelope and \$1 per item (limit one item per request) to James G. McCollam, PO Box 1087, Notre Dame, IN 46556. All questions will be answered but published pictures cannot be returned. McCollam is a member of the Antique Appraisers Association of America.

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**20% OFF** PURCHASES UP TO \$100

**25% OFF** PURCHASES OF \$100.01-\$250

**30% OFF** PURCHASES UP OVER \$250

Worthington® Essentials for misses. Notched collar chiffon blouse. Polyester in assorted prints. \$24. Solid color pants. Polyester/nylon. \$22.

Fall Wardrobe Sale effective through Saturday, September 28, on regular priced merchandise only. Fall Wardrobe savings not applicable on jewelry, partyhats, handbags, shoes or outerwear. All sales exclude JCPenney Smart Values.

**30-60% OFF** 14K GOLD CHAINS, CHARMS & EARRINGS

**25% OFF** NAME BRAND WATCHES BULOVA, SEIKO, CARAVELLE

**25% OFF** ALL LEATHER HANDBAGS

**25% OFF** ALL SMALL LEATHER GOODS FOR WOMEN

**25% OFF** BUGLE BOY CASUAL SLACKS

**2 For \$25** MEN'S SS DRESS SHIRTS (Reg. \$16-\$18)

**25% OFF** MEN'S HAGGAR SLACKS

**20% OFF** ALL MEN'S TIES

**SAVE ON DOCKERS® FOR MEN & WOMEN** Now \$27.99 each. Long-sleeved striped crewneck and solid color twill pants. 100% cotton. Misses' sizes. Now \$26.99. Striped mock turtleneck. 100% cotton jersey knit. Men's sizes. Now \$26.99. 100% cotton twill pants in assorted solids. Men's sizes. Polos® and women's styles also on sale.

**25% OFF** YOUNG MEN'S CITY STREETS DRESS SLACKS

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**Sale \$27.99** DOCKER® TOPS & BOTTOMS FOR MISSES

**Sale \$26.99** MEN'S DOCKER® TWILL PANTS

**SAVE DURING OUR BABY SALE** **25% OFF** INFANTS & TODDLERS' - TOPS - BOTTOMS - SLEEPWEAR - COORDINATES - FLEECE - DRESSES - SWEATERS - UNDERWEAR - HOSIERY - OUTERWEAR

**20% OFF** ALL STAFFORD® NECKWEAR Quality silk ties in traditional neats and paisley prints. Plus contemporary silk florals, abstracts and many more. Percentage off represents savings on regular prices.

**20-30% OFF** ALL MEN'S STAFFORD® DRESS SHIRTS Sale \$14 Reg. \$20. Button-down oxford in classic solids. Cotton/polyester. Sale \$18.99 Reg. \$24. Striped broadcloth point collar shirt. Cotton/polyester.

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday 12-4 p.m.



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