

A Quarterly Publication
of the Hardin County
Historical Society, a
Non-Profit Organization
Originated in 1931

Bits and Pieces

OF HARDIN COUNTY HISTORY

www.hardinkyhistoricalsociety.org

VOL XXVIII NO 1

ISSN 1536-1667

SPRING 2009

Tenants Leave Mark On Area

This issue of *Bits and Pieces* looks at some past tenants of the county to the north, south and in the heart of Elizabethtown.

The dictionary gives the definition of tenant as a person who holds or possesses lands or tenements, by any kind of title; one who occupies lands or houses for which he pays rents; one who has possession of any place, a dweller; an occupant.

It is the many tenants what writes the county's long and colorful history we enjoy reading and hearing about today.

Our first tenant, Mr. Leonard must have suffered a terrible seven-year itch that ended with his finger on a trigger. Leonard had married Miss Josephine Gill on October 13, 1882 in Hardin County and set up housekeeping in the northern part of the county before he

made county history.

Our second tenants, and there have been many, are the shopkeepers of downtown Elizabethtown on the northwest corner of Public Square.

Our final tenants are to be found south of Glendale in the Nolin community area. Now days the wind blows freely over the acres of corn growing beneath the sun. In December of 1862, the ground was muddy; a fine plantation house arose above the soil that was soon to hold a secret about the residents of the area and intruders.

And in the spirit of Kentucky Sports, basketball may be the undeniable king but during this tournament time we look back at when women of the area were Queen of the Court and a familiar old 'den' was brand new and ready for its new tenants.

Reprint from The Elizabethtown News, March 8, 1889

THE DEADLY SHOTGUN

BILL LEONARD SHOOTS DOWN HIS FATHER-IN-LAW WILLIAM GILL

Early Tuesday morning William Gill, an old citizen of this county, was shot down and killed on his own farm near Red Hill, this county by his son-in-law Bill Leonard. The particulars of the killing were brought out at the coroner's inquest held by Squire B.C. Hill, a cold-blooded deliberate murderer.

It seems that Bill Leonard lives on the farm of his father-in-law, and that near Leonard's house Gill was making rails. Tuesday, he went down on his wagon to get a load and as he drove by his son-in-laws house he saw his daughter out at the wood pile chopping up a lot of his new rails. He told her to stop cutting up his rails, whereupon she began to abuse him in a violent manner, he got out of the wagon and had put one of the rails into it when Leonard came out of the door with a single barrel shot gun in his hands and told him if he loaded another one of those rails he would kill him. Gill picked up another rail when Leonard pulled down his gun and fired, the whole load entering Gill's left breast. After he was shot, Gill ran toward his assassin, when within a few feet of him Leonard

stepped forward and dealt the old man a severe blow to the head, knocking him down. Someone was immediately sent to Vine Grove for a physician, but before he arrived on the ground Gill was dead, having expired in about an hour and a half after he was shot. The murdered man was about seventy years old and had a usually good reputation. Leonard is not generally known, although his father, B. Leonard one of the cleverest men in the county. It is a general opinion that there had been a bad feeling between the parties, but that we have been unable to verify. Leonard was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Scott Branch Wednesday morning and brought here and put in jail.

LEONARD'S STORY

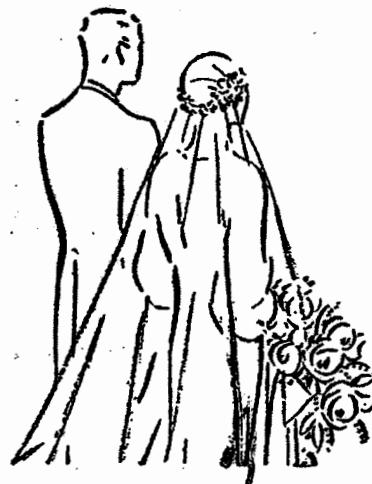
A reporter of the news came in on the train with the prisoner and he gave his side of the case. He claimed that he built a house on Gill's property with the understanding that he was to have a permanent lease on it and that Tuesday Gill and his son came to his house with axes, that he was sick in his bed and Gill told him he must vacate the property at once.

When he declined to do this, both the Gills advanced on him with axes and he shot in self-defense, and that the young Gill pursued him in the woods after the shooting. Leonard is quite sick, but it is thought that he will be well enough to stand his examining trial Saturday.

A & P MENUS



week of JUNE 12



TWO can Live as cheaply as ONE

HERE'S good news for any month, but headline news for June. Don't "hesitate" any longer. For months, food prices have been going down. Perhaps the old saying that two can live as cheaply as one is a little romantic. But it's certainly true that two can eat just about as cheaply as one could a few years ago.

And though the brides of 1933 pay so much less for food, the food is every bit as high in quality as it has ever been. In fact, it's often better, for improvements in food are being made all the time and A & P is always abreast of them.

A & P, at 74, has a grandfatherly interest in brides. We not only make it easy for them to get good food at low prices, but we have these menu sheets that tell how to select, prepare, and serve foods. Don't forget our June tip—Two can eat now about as cheaply as one did a few years ago.

Menus for four—\$11 to \$13 a week

	BREAKFAST	LUNCH OR SUPPER	DINNER
MONDAY JUNE 12	Honeyball Melon Bran Flakes Broiled Bacon Buttered Toast Coffee Milk	Scrambled Eggs with Tomatoes Toasted Whole Wheat Bread Butter Stewed Blackberries Tea Milk	Cold Roast Lamb [1] Cumberland Sauce Mashed Potatoes au Gratin Raw Cabbage and Carrot Salad Bread and Butter Pineapple and Strawberry Cup Lady Fingers Coffee
TUESDAY JUNE 13	Fresh Pineapple Oatmeal Buttered Toast Coffee Milk	Minced Lamb and Olive Sandwiches Celery Radishes Orange and Melon Cup Hot or Iced Cocoa	Broiled Bacon [2] Baked Stuffed Egg Plant New Carrots, Parsley Cream Sauce O'Brien Potatoes Bread and Butter Rhubarb Shortcake Coffee
WEDNESDAY JUNE 14	Stewed Apricots Mello-Wheat Soft-cooked Eggs Buttered Toast Coffee Milk	Cream of Vegetable Soup Lettuce Sandwiches Rhubarb Cheese Crackers Tea Milk	Veal Cutlet Lyonaise Potatoes Fresh Spinach Cucumber and Radish Salad Bread and Butter Chocolate Fudge Cake Coffee
THURSDAY JUNE 15	Orange Juice Shredded Wheat Hot Biscuits, Peach Preserves Coffee Milk	[3] Spinach and Egg Salad Toasted Biscuits Malted Milk Cake Tea Milk	[4] Sauerbraten with Gingersnap Gravy Potato Pancakes Buttered New Cabbage Rye Bread and Butter Stewed Apricots Coffee
FRIDAY JUNE 16	Grapefruit Juice Wheatena Buttered Toast Coffee Milk	Scalloped Tomatoes with Bacon Toasted Rye Bread Butter Cream Cheese Quince Preserves Tea Milk	Baked Halibut Steak au Gratin Riced Potatoes Spiced Beets Corn Muffins Blackberries Coffee
SATURDAY JUNE 17	Sliced Bananas and Blackberries Shirred Eggs Toasted Corn Muffins Butter Coffee Milk	Baked Beans Cabbage Salad Brown Bread and Butter Apple Sauce Ginger snaps Tea Milk	Beef and Vegetable Pie Fried Noodles Tomato Salad Bread and Butter Cup Cakes Coffee
SUNDAY JUNE 18	Tomato Juice Grilled Ham Toasted Brown Bread Butter Marmalade Coffee Milk	Banana and Cherry Salad Bread and Butter Sandwiches Frosted Cup Cakes Iced Tea Milk	Jellied Bouillon Broiled Chicken New Potatoes Green Onions Pineapple Bavarian String Beans Radishes Rolls and Butter Coffee

(1) CUMBERLAND SAUCE

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup red currant jelly
2 tablespoons orange juice
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
1 teaspoon paprika
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ginger
Grated rind of 1 orange

Mix ingredients and heat over a low fire until jelly melts. Serve cold. Two tablespoons of sweetened wine flavoring may be added if desired.

(2) BAKED STUFFED EGGPLANT

1 medium-sized eggplant
1 cup soft bread crumbs
3 tablespoons butter
1 small onion
1 egg
Salt, pepper
Buttered crumbs

Cover the eggplant with boiling salted water and cook for 15 minutes. Drain, cut a slice from the top or cut in halves and remove the pulp. Take care not to break the skin. Chop the pulp and add the soft bread crumbs. Chop the onion and cook it for a few minutes in the butter. Add to the eggplant mixture, add the beaten egg, and season with salt and pepper. If not sufficiently moist, add a little water. Fill the eggplant with the mixture, cover with buttered crumbs and bake in a moderately hot oven (375°F.) for 25 to 30 minutes. This recipe serves 5 or 6 persons.

(3) SPINACH AND EGG SALAD

Chop cold cooked spinach, moisten with highly seasoned French dressing, and put in small molds or custard cups. Pack down well. Chill and unmold. Garnish with lettuce and sliced or quartered hard-cooked eggs. Serve with any preferred salad dressing.

A&P Menu Planner printed by the grocery giant and distributed in stores nationwide. This page from a planner is a part of the collection of the year 1933 collected by Bernice Stickler Payne, wife of the local store manager during the birth year of their daughter, Barbara.



In 1935 the Elizabethtown News announced the opening of the A&P on the Downtown Public Square.

In 1929, on the eve of the Great Depression, Elizabethtown residents were able to grocery shop at the east corner of North Main and Public Square. This Quaker Maid store was managed by Jake Payne and kept open by two other employees who filled grocery orders, taking items down from the shelves with a hook at the end of a long pole as needed. Payne's daughter, Barbara James, remembers watching her father figure the tally on a paper sack by hand before the cash register became popular.

By the mid and later 1930s there was great change in the grocery business in the downtown area. In 1935, the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, more commonly known as the A&P, absorbed Quaker Maid. The storefront showed off a new sign as well as the local grocery becoming a self-service establishment with carts.

Store clerks no longer had to weight and package potatoes, rice, beans, sugar, coffee, lard to order as the biggest change in grocery marketing also took hold; frozen and pre-packaged foods.

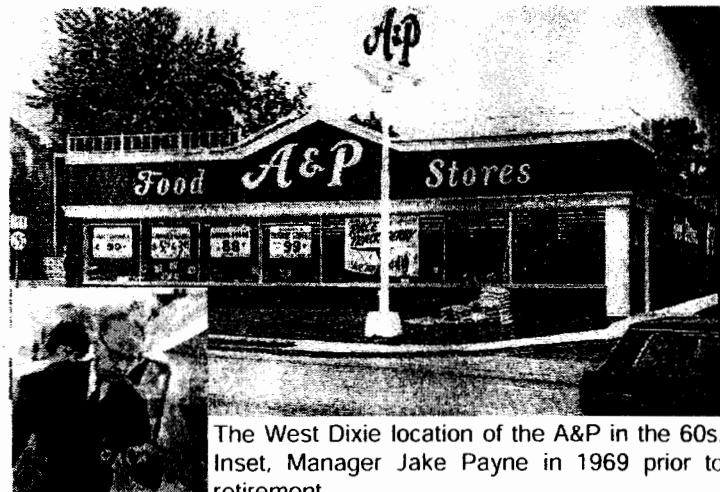
During this time period, the A&P was America's #1 grocery store, operating close to 16,000 stores coast to coast with sales of more than \$1 billion. The company's vast advertising and promotional activities reached so many consumers that A&P became a part of American culture.

James remembers the many weekly advertisements the store distributed packed full of menus and recipes that her mother collected to form a cookbook. A collection of those A&P Menu Sheets from 1933 held together by twine hold a special significance for their current owner as a reminder of her entrance into the world.

The A&P celebrated a birth of its own in 1931. The company developed Woman's Day magazine through a wholly owned subsidiary, The Stores Publishing Company. At the cost of two

A&P Food Store Once A Cornerstone of the Community

History Highlights Change In Grocery Shopping



The West Dixie location of the A&P in the 60s. Inset, Manager Jake Payne in 1969 prior to retirement.

pennies a copy, this magazine featured articles on food preparation, home decoration, needlework and children. By 1944, the magazine sold exclusively in A&P's reached a circulation of 3 million copies.

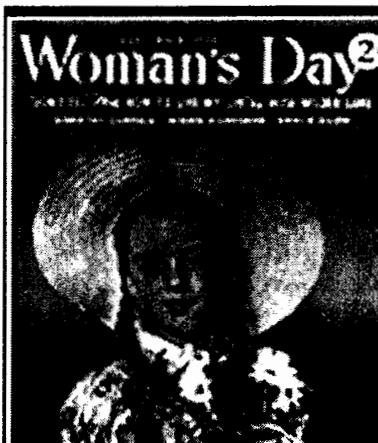
While widely successful, the local A&P was not the only grocery in downtown. Houchens was on the west corner of North Main Street, Kroger on the west corner of South Main Street with Walker Miller, Bob's Market, Vertrees', and Clark's along the Dixie just off the square.

"Saturday was a big day with crowds of people on the square, shopping for groceries, trying on clothes at places like W.R. Bethel and Rhin's, dining at the Food Basket, Silver Moon and White Spot or stopping by Lexus Drugs," tells James.

A&P built a new store on West Dixie Avenue and moved from the Square in 1950. That store was seven times larger than the original one and employed fifteen people. Some of the familiar faces at work at that store included James and her father, Jake Payne, along with Bobby Welch, Chester Kennedy, Coleman Horn, Ann Dye, Louise Medford and Melvin Garner.

In June of 1969, Payne retired as the store manager.

Hardin Countians enjoyed the smell of the freshly ground Eight-O'clock Coffee Beans as they shopped the store until September of 1973 when the local store was closed as part of corporate restructuring of the business.



From 1931 until sold in 1958 to Fawcett Publications, A&P produced the Woman's Day magazine available in its stores. This foodstore giant also had the first national radio program with its 1924 A&P Radio Hour broadcast on major radio stations and advertised in the stores.

**W. R. Bethel Retires
After 40 Years In
Business In Elizabethtown**



W. R. BETHEL

W. R. Bethel, who has been in business on the Public Square for 40 years, today announced his retirement, effective June 1st. He has sold his dry goods and ready-to-wear store to National Stores, Inc., of Nashville, Tenn., effective that date.

Mr. Bethel was born and reared near Elizabethtown. He and his father, the late R. K. Bethel, operated a dry goods and ready-to-wear store here from 1907 to 1913.

In 1913 they sold the business and Mr. Bethel engaged in farming until 1922. In that year he and the late Everett Hart formed the partnership of Hart and Bethel and opened for business in the same location on public square which the store now occupies.

In 1937 Mr. Bethel bought his partner's interest in the firm and since then has been the sole owner and manager.

Mr. Bethel said he had no business plans for the near future, and that he and Mrs. Bethel will take an extended vacation. They have one son, Dr. Millard Bethel, of Charlotte, N. C.

The National Stores has headquarters in Nashville and operates approximately 45 department stores in Kentucky and Tennessee including one at Leitchfield and three at Glasgow.

On the Square... WHAT WAS THERE BEFORE THAT?

By Susan McCrobie, Hardin County History Museum Promotions Chair

I've caught a fever. A burning desire to know what was where along the square. Clues to over 200 years of tenants and their history spread from first one building to the next just like a flame.

I've always known that the A&P was once downtown. My grandmother, Ann Dye, worked in the building I remember as the old Taylor Drugs Store. I think on that most weekday mornings as I enter the building that now houses the county clerk's office were I work.

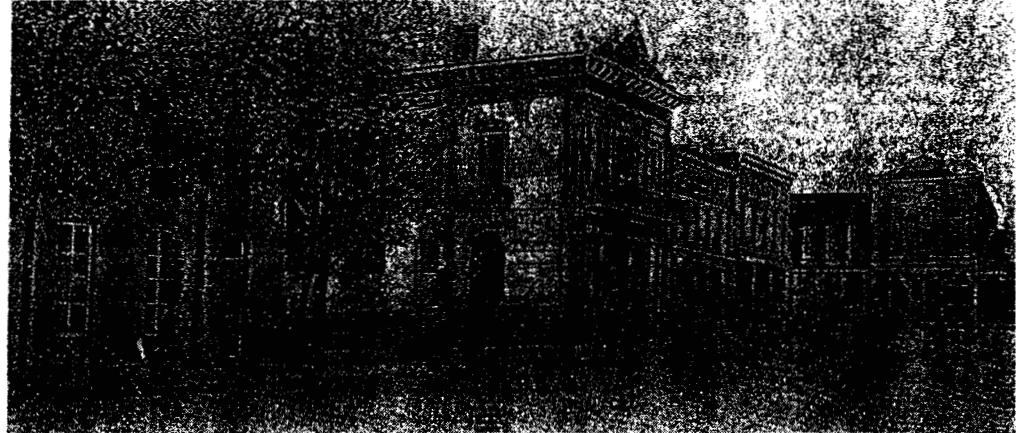
Now I have a little more to reflect on concerning the changing face of the downtown. While working with Barbara James on a story about the E'town A&P, I asked about other businesses on the Square during the 40s and 50s. James told me about shopping at Mr. Bethel's Dry Goods Store on the Square. I remembered a news clipping in Nell Edmondson's scrapbook of 1955 Elizabethtown People about Bethel's retirement from business.

Where was Bethel's store? Who was Bethel?

The Commonwealth Attorney's office is the new tenant at the former Hart and Bethel Store. Since Bethel's retirement in 1955 the location has been home to Turner Department Store and the Dollar General Store.

A old deed indicates that the post office was once found at that site and McClure's History reveals that Miss Mary May operated a millinery shop there as well.

Bethel himself was a descendant of one of E'town's oldest families, Andrew Fairleigh, Sr.



Above: 1909 post card of Public Square shows left to right: Showers House, Gilded Age Building followed by another store front and then the Hart and Bethel Dry Goods Store.

Right: Butcher paper from the Gilded Age found in a copper box lodged in the wall of the David Richards' house when torn down by Bert and Dennis Jolly in the 1980s. The paper was wrapped around a old photo of four little girls and a baby.



Uncovered Treasures Surface At Old Plantation Homestead



Old Plantation Home of David Richards while being demolished by Bert and Dennis Jolly in the 1980s.

Photos Courtesy of Bert Jolly



Bert Jolly recently shared some of his family's treasures and a few stories related to early county history with John Lay, Elvin Smith, Jr. and Henry Morrison worth more than a byline in any news story.

In the 1980s, Bert assisted his father in the demolition of an old plantation style home on their property in the Nolin Community of the county, not far from the Shady Bower Lane. The house, a pretentious two-story, fourteen room and four chimney dwelling complete with nearby log slave quarters was home to David H. Richards in the mid 1800s.

The property was once part of the Captain Jacob VanMeter holdings, however; it is not with the famed Revolutionary War Captain that this story begins but with the infamous John Hunt Morgan and his Raiders during Richard's lifetime.

While still living in the old house in 1962, an elderly man from White Mills, Mr. Perry White, and his son, Glen, traveled to see the old place and speak with the Jollys. White wanted to show his son the place that his father had told him about decades earlier. Bert Jolly was quite taken with White's story about the place. Much of what White told still yet contains an intriguing puzzle for many.

White claimed his father, Martin E. White, had once visited this house, the Richards place, in December of 1862 with other armed men from White Mills and Flint Hill. They came to combat Morgan's Men after they had burned the railroad bridge at Nolin. This small band of Rebels had been unable to continue their travel with the main group after action there at Nolin. The Rebels had taken refuge in the Richards Place to convalesce.

The Rebels and the house were fired upon by the local men. The house was riddled with mini balls and Morgan's Men killed. The story previously told by Martin White and retold by his son to the Jollys called for the burial of five or six men behind the home.

When Dennis and Bert Jolly torn the house down in the 80s they found signs of the home being heavily fired upon and several mini balls still lodged in the exterior walls.

And as fate would have it, before the house was only a

memory, the walls held another treasure and a bit of a mystery. In the interior walls a copper box was discovered. The box looked to be some type of safe. Tucked away inside the box was butcher paper from the Gilded Age Grocery in Elizabethtown [1882] with the name of David Richards written across it in pencil. That paper was wrapped around an old photograph of 4 little girls and a baby.

Bert Jolly recently made a gift of the butcher paper to the Hardin County History Museum. John Lay carried the bequest to the museum along with the interesting oral history account of the home, owners, and one time visitor.

There were no mini balls, seemed that some unwelcome visitor had made off with those years earlier from Jolly's parents home.

The question that loomed in everyone's mind was about the Morgan connection and the gravesite of ill-fated Rebels.

While Henry Morrison used dowsing rods to locate the Rebel remains, Elvin Smith, Jr. ran a metal detector over the site in search of lost buttons or mini balls.

Morrison counted five male graves to the rear of the old home site. They indicated that the bodies might have been buried in one large mound as they were so close in proximity.

Smith was not as lucky in his search.



Old Plantation Home of David Richards in background.



Photos Courtesy of Deedie Enoch Best Layman

Bob Enoch in 1963 with his granddaughter, Deborah K. Best.

He may likely be billed, without a doubt, one of the most influential business personalities in the history of Elizabethtown. Billing was this mogul's life.

Robert Theodore Enoch came to town in 1945 from the Vogue Theater at St. Matthews in Louisville, KY. He had managed that impressive movie house for some time with celebrated success.

During the next 36 years, Elizabethtown would enjoy his success as the manager of Hardin County's Entertainment Empire. Amusing people was Enoch's business and one he took seriously.

"Daddy took a job managing the State, Grand and Ritz Theaters in Elizabethtown," tells his daughter, Deanna 'Deedie' Enoch Best Layman. Layman was only 5 years old when her father came to Elizabethtown.

"The movies were his life," says Layman while adding that he often gave up a social and family life to make the business a success. A typical work day was Monday thru Saturday 10-4 coming home to eat supper before going back at 5:30 and working until after the place closed following the last show of the evening. Sunday's work day was a bit shorter as the movies began at 1 PM.

While showing movies was Enoch's life, then it should come as no surprise to discover that Enoch considered his employees part of his family.

Saluting ROBERT HE WAS THE

Enoch inherited employees when undertaking the management of the Elizabethtown Amusement Company on March 31, 1945. Mildred Dunn, Pauline Johnson Brown and Kenny Perry along with Gene Nash who did show bookings from his Nashville office were a few of Enoch's Movie Family according to his daughter.

As a little girl, Layman recalls her first impression of the then three-year-old State Theater. The theater seated 954 people and she thought it huge, the reasoning that from the perspective of a child.

"The slight incline in the floor seemed like you were walking up a giant hill," recalls Layman.

Enoch's business strategy, as he was a natural at marketing, had an even bigger impact on his daughter, the business and residents of the area than the meager walls of a movie house could hold.

RITZ THEATRE

THEATRE PLEASURES COST NO LITTLE
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.

Grand THEATRE

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.

STATE

AIR-CONDITIONED
E-TOWN
805-4116
ELIZABETHTOWN

STARLITE

3 STARLITE DRIVE-IN
ELIZABETHTOWN
KENTUCKY

MOONLIT

RADCLIFF

KNOX

VINE
GROVE
JUNCTION

CINEMA

ELIZABETHTOWN'S LUXURIOUS
CINEMA

AT THE NEW
GOVERNOR STANOL DRIVING CENTER

ELIZABETHTOWN - PHONE 769-2256

THEATRE IS SOON TO OPEN

400-Car Capacity
At Starlite
Drive-in on Dixie

The Starlite Drive-in theatre, situated three miles from Elizabethtown on the North Dixie will open soon, probably next week. It has a capacity of 400 automobiles, and is on a 12-acre plot of ground bought by Elizabethtown Amusement Co. from Frank Bury.

The screen is 40x 86 feet, and shows will be held "rain or clear," it is announced, beginning each evening at dusk. There will be artificial moonlight, and children under six will be admitted free.

Theatre will be managed by R. T. Enoch, head of Elizabethtown amusement, and Roy Watson will become manager of the State Theatre. Mrs. Watson will be in charge of a large concession stand at the Starlite, which will offer hot dogs, soft drinks, popcorn, ice cream, candy and sandwiches.

Mr. Enoch described it as a "great project," said it was "the result of many years of careful thought and preparation," and "without a shadow of doubt is Kentucky's finest outdoor theatre."

Left: Newspaper advertisement logos for Enoch's movie houses. Right: Tuesday, May 10, 1949 front page Elizabethtown News story featuring Starlite opening.

ENOCH...

STATE THEATER

From the State Theater, Enoch operated at Kiddy Club with theater admission of 15 cents and a chance at drawings for prizes like a bicycle. For adults there was Lucky, a type of chance game instead of your typical Bingo. He even opened a Sweet Shop in the building next to the lobby where you could buy George Washington Candy, Ice Cream Sundaes, and Hot Dogs and Hamburgers.

"Daddy had a replica of the White Castle Hamburger that he sold," recalled Layman.

Elizabethtown Amusement Company flourished under the management of Enoch. He had movies and live performances as well.

In 1949 he added the great outdoors to his business with the construction of a 400 car capacity theater to the north of town. The Starlite Drive-In on the Dixie was followed by the Moonlit in Radcliff and the Knox at the Vine Grove Junction.

"After daddy closed the Moonlite to motion picture he opened it as a Moonlit Go-Kart Speedway," Layman said.

The Starlite touted pony rides in addition to a large playground. After its close, Enoch used it to begin the area's first flea market.

Enoch was a savvy businessman. He had a knack at understanding what people liked doing.

"Mr. Enoch was a people person and a natural business leader," recalls Harrison Evans, Jr. who worked for Enoch from 1951-55 as an usher at the Grand, State and Starlite locations and delivering movie handbills to Fort Knox.

Evans recalls that every Saturday was a big day for movies. The first show, always a Western, began at 10 AM and the projector ran continuously all day with additional movies.

Kenny Tabb remembers those Saturdays too.

"Mr. Enoch would let boys pass out movie flyers to houses in town and pay them in movie passes," said Tabb who made many a business deal with the local entertainment entrepreneur.

Layman remembers other who delivered those hand bills, like Jerry Baker, and of her father writing movie passes out on the back of an envelope when he ran out of the printed ones.

"Daddy would give out passes during his walk to First Hardin National Bank to make the deposit from

\$1.00 **KNOX** VINE GROVE JUNCTION
PER PERSON **Rodellif, Ky. Phone 351-3821** **3** **NIGHTS ONLY !!**

~~Sunday-Monday-Tuesday~~
● Gates Open 7:15 P.M., Show Starts at Dusk ●

● Gates Open 7:15 P.M., Show Starts at Dusk ●



his little bag," says Layman who marvels at the thought of today's businessman walking to the bank with his livelihood so prominently displayed.

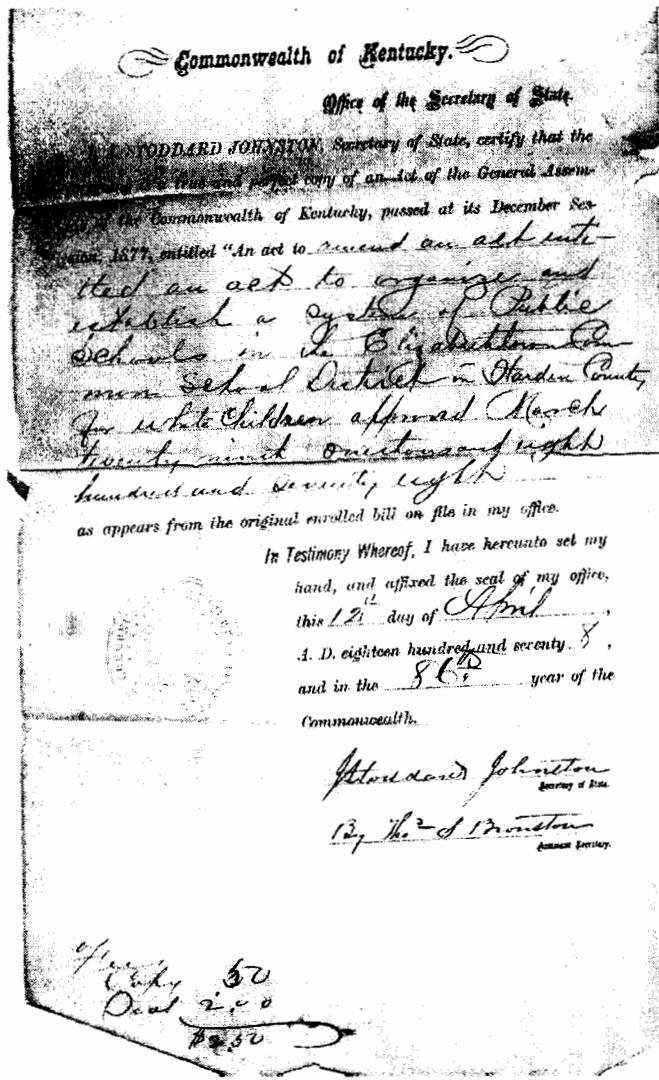
Layman also recalls that her father was usually dressed to the nines on those trips and often wore a hat in the winter.

"Daddy adored clothes," confided Layman of the man she says was the State Theater.

It seems Enoch's love of the place caused him to keep his office there instead of his last venture at the Cinema on North Dixie.

Enoch died at age 69, in 1981, from heart disease. The best years of his life, like the movie mimes, made folks smile and look sad. He literally brought sound to the local silent screen movies and entertainment to the residents who laughed and cried as their families and friends went to war and often returned to enjoy growth in entertainment for future generations.

Old Original Document Foundation For City School System Marks Another Local Connection In History



TRANSCRIPT OF THE ABOVE DOCUMENT STORED AT THE HARDIN COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM AS A PART OF THE HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Office of the Secretary of State

I, J. Stoddard Johnston, Secretary of State, certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect copy of an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, passed at its December Session, 1877, entitled "An act to amend an act entitled an act to organize and establish a system of Public Schools in the Elizabethtown Common School District in Hardin County for white children approved March twenty ninth one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight as appears from the original enrolled bill on file in my office. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of my office, this 12th day of April, A. D. eighteen hundred and seventy 8, and in the 86th year of the Commonwealth.

J. Stoddard Johnston, Secretary of State
By Thos. S. Bronston, Assistant Secretary

Recently, while taking an inventory of the Hardin County Historical Society's holdings, Meranda Caswell came across an interesting document concerning the organization of the Public School System in Elizabethtown based upon the following...

Chapter 811- An act to amend an act entitled an act to organize and establish a system of Public Schools in the Elizabethtown Common School District in Hardin County for white children approved March twenty ninth one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1: That an act, entitled an act to organize and establish a system of Public Schools in the Elizabethtown Common School District in Hardin County for white children, approved March twenty ninth one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight be so amended as to authorize and require the first election of trustees therein directed to be held on the first Monday in April one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight to be held on the first Monday in May in said year.

Section 2: Said election shall be held in all respects, except as to time as in said act directed and after said first election is held, the act to which this is an amendment shall operate in all respects as if an election for trustees had been held on the first Monday in April one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight.

Section 3: This act shall be in force from and after its passage.

Ed. W. Turner, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Jno. C. Underwood, Speaker of the Senate

Approved April 5th 1878

James B. McCreary, Governor

By the Governor

J. Stoddard Johnston

Secretary of the State

The historical provenance of the document upon first reading is that of the history of the local schools however Elizabethtown has another source of origin with the document most readers will not know.

Governor James B. McCreary, the official approving the organization of the Elizabethtown Public School System and supporting the advancement of the Commonwealth's public school system once visited our city prior to enacting this piece of legislation.

McCreary, while a Lieutenant in John Hunt Morgan's command, reported he was lavishly entertained by several very handsome young ladies in a private Elizabethtown home. He had earlier observed a shell bursting in the house; the bodies of three Federal soldiers who were killed were still lying on the floor. Local Historians agree that the house was probably owned by Hugh Mulholland and built by Major James Crutcher years earlier on the hill overlooking the town at what is now 220 North Main Street.

Ten years after the end of the war, McCreary won the 1875 Kentucky Democratic gubernatorial primary over General John Stuart Williams, and defeated Republican John Marshall Harlan in the general election. His primary campaign mantra was the abuses of the Grant administration in administering Reconstruction policy, but his inaugural address urged reconciliation with political enemies. He also made great advancements in the public school system across the entire state.

Did you know that McCreary was the first governor to inhabit the modern Governor's Mansion and his wife was the youngest-ever First Lady of the Commonwealth?

Glendale HS Girls B-Ball Team Make State Tourney in the 20s

By Larry Brawner
Hardin County Historical Society Member

The 1929 Glendale girls' basketball team won the regional tournament in Louisville with a win over Shepherdsville, and earned a spot in the State Tournament. Glendale won the championship game by a score of 26-25. Glendale defeated Campbellsburg 24-9 in the first game, and then defeated Waddy 18-9 in the second game to reach the finals.

A sports writer in Sunday's Courier-Journal placed Dorothy Floyd and Margaret Jeffries on the all-tournament team, while tournament officials placed Dorothy Floyd and Theo Schmidt on their all-star five.

To reach the regional tournament, Glendale girls won the district tournament over Elizabethtown by a score of 22 to 14. In the opening game of the district, Caneyville defeated Vine Grove 10-6, but lost to Elizabethtown 12-8. Clarkson won over Sonora 12-9, but lost in the semi-finals to Glendale 13-3. Both Glendale and Elizabethtown went to the regional tournament in Louisville.

The Glendale team consisted of: Forwards-Margaret Jeffries and Theo Schmidt, Center-Dorothy Floyd. Guards-Frances Lamar Jenkins and Theora Gardner, Substitutes-Elizabeth Stuart, Mary Sue Lyons and Katie Lee Bland.

Professor Leman Tapp coached the team. He later married one of his players, Theora Gardner.

Glendale's season record is not known, but all accounts indicate they lost very few games during the 1928-1929 season.

Glendale was eliminated in the first game of the state by Woodburn 34-22.

Mary Sue Lyons Farley and Theo Schmidt used to talk about their teams in later years, but what both liked to share with people was about their uniforms. They wore black sateen bloomers and white middy blouses (patterned after sailor blouses). During games each player wore a scarf under her collar and tied it in the front, and wore a head band of the same color-the school color.

Another Glendale girls' basketball team made the State Tournament in 1922. In order to qualify for the state, schools had to win their district, since there were no regional tournaments at this time. The year 1922 marked only the second State Tournament to be played.



Photos Courtesy of
Larry Brawner

Front Row: Holding Ball - Frances Lamar Jenkins, L to R, 2nd Row - Margaret Jeffries, Theo Schmidt, 3rd Row - Elizabeth Jenkins, Theora Gardner, Dorothy Floyd, 4th Row - Elizabeth Ann Stuart, Leaman Tapp, Coach, Mary Sue Lyons.

Glendale won the district by defeating Sonora 22-7. Glendale had defeated Shepherdsville in the semi-finals by a score of 6 to 4.

The district in which Glendale won the championship consisted of teams from Hardin, Larue, Hart, Nelson, Bullitt, Meade and Grayson counties.

The coach of the team was Professor Devasier, who was also the school principal.

Glendale players were: Willie Bell,

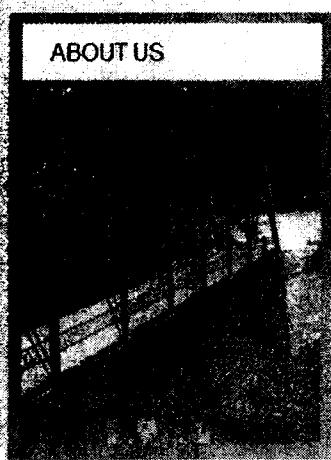
forward; Benice Bell, forward; May Allen, center; Edna Crowe, guard; Annie May Garl, guard; and Maude Osborne. Lucille Marshall and Callie Yokum were the substitutes.

In 1922 Glendale had no gymnasium. A plot of the schoolyard was used as a court. The court was packed dirt, bare of grass. Poles on each end held the backboards and goals. Games had to be played during daylight hours, usually in the afternoon.

HARDIN COUNTY Historical Society

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Membership](#) [Books for Sale](#) [Meetings](#) [Bits & Pieces](#) [Scholarships](#) [Contact Us](#) [Links](#)

ABOUT US



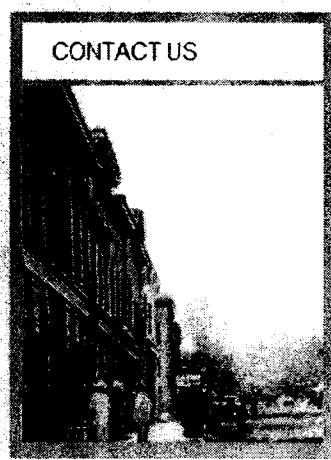
BOOKS FOR SALE



BITS & PIECES



CONTACT US



On behalf of the Hardin County Historical Society, I would like to welcome you to our web site. We are very excited to be using the web as a way of promoting the Society. It is our hope that this exposure will allow more people to learn about and become a part of the Hardin County Historical Society. In addition, the site is intended to share information about the number of historical publications that the Society has for sale.

If you like to study, preserve, and disseminate information about the history of Hardin County, you are encouraged to join the Hardin County Historical Society.

Jeff Lanz,
President

*Photo Courtesy of
The Web Guys*

start

3Scope Web 3.0

AMT Photoshop

Hardin County Histor...

Internet

100%

HCHS New Website Unveiled

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS TO BE ANNOUNCED

By Meranda Caswell, Treasurer

Hardin County Historical Society

Check out the newly updated website for the Hardin County Historical Society at www.hardincountyhistoricalsociety.org. The society now offers scholarships for higher education and the website includes a section dedicated to scholarships.

The goal of the HCHS Annual Scholarship is to promote an interest in the heritage of Hardin County, its individuals of importance, and the significant events in its history.

The scholarship is funded through contributions made by members of the society via annual dues, book sales, and other sources.

Requirements for receipt of the scholarship include:

- High School Seniors (institutional or home-school) who are Hardin County residents
- Applicant must be planning to attend an accredited institution offering post-secondary training/education
- Open to any field of study
- Two scholarships are available for 2009, each worth a non-

renewable amount of \$750.00

- Awards are based on submitted essay - *"Why is a Historical Society important to a Community?"*
- Essay should be no less than one and no more than two single-spaced typed pages
- Essays and attached information sheet need to be returned to the HCHS no later than April 13, 2009
- Essays should be submitted to: Hardin County Historical Society, P.O. Box 381, Elizabethtown, KY 42702
- Award recipients will be expected to read their essay submission at a Quarterly Historical Meeting

The first two scholarships awards will be presented at the April Meeting.

The website will soon have a photo of each of the books that the society offers for sale. With paid membership dues of \$10.00, the society offers a 10% discount of book purchases as well as half price membership of \$5.00 to the Hardin County History Museum. In addition, the contact page includes an email address to contact the society.



Message From The President

What a cruel thing is war: to separate and destroy families and friends, and mar the purest joys and happiness God has granted us in this world; to fill our hearts with hatred instead of love for our neighbors, and to devastate the fair face of this beautiful world.

-- Robert E. Lee, Letter to his wife, 1864

With a March of madness indeed behind us, it is time for us to celebrate Spring and the growth of new things. At this second quarterly meeting of 2009, we are hoping to: hear about a new Historical Society website, recognize the first winners of our new Historical

Society Annual Scholarship, and hear from a new speaker gracing us with his presence.

Dr. Glenn W. LaFantasie currently serves as the Richard Frockt Family Professor of Civil War History at Western Kentucky University. With an educational background of a BA in History from Providence College, MA in American History from the University of Rhode Island and PhD in History from Brown University, Dr. LaFantasie brings years of experience researching and teaching on the Civil War to our group through a discussion of Civil War topics. He has served in numerous educational positions, and in 1991 was named the Deputy Historian of the U.S. Department of State, through which he received a Presidential Commendation for his work for President Clinton. In 2001, Dr. LaFantasie was named the first director of the Aldie Mill Historic Site, a restored nineteenth-century gristmill that was the scene of many skirmishes between Mosby's Rangers and Union cavalry during the Civil War, and has consulted on numerous films and documentaries.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. LaFantasie to our quarterly meeting and invite a guest to join you. I look forward to seeing you all there!

- Jeff Lanz

Book Review...

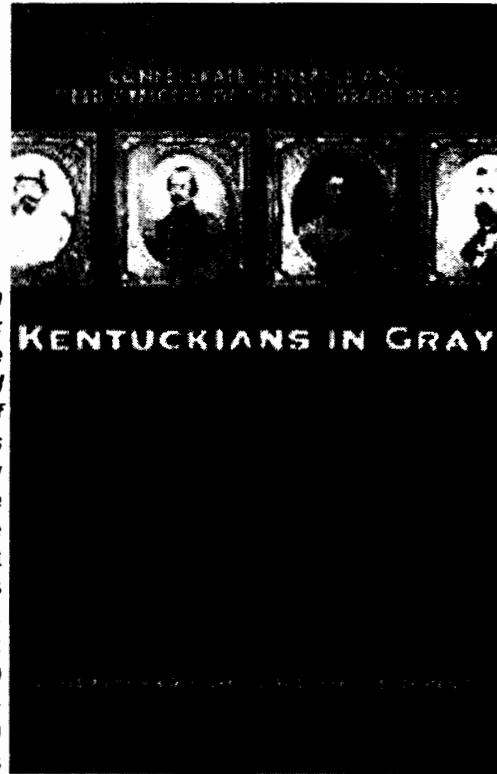
By Matthew Rector, Hardin County History Museum
Civil War Specialist

Editors Bruce S. Allardice and Lawrence Lee Hewitt have assembled a number of respected historians to bring us *Kentuckians in Gray: Confederate Generals and Field Officers of the Bluegrass State*. This book compiles biographical essays about some of the Confederacy's most well known generals from Kentucky, and some obscure ones. As the title suggests, a list of field grade officers who served in Confederate units from Kentucky is also included. Very brief, but adequate, information is included for each one. It is surprising that such a book has not been compiled, and as such, it would be a wonderful addition to any Civil War library.

Each general's biography is roughly five pages long and contains a photograph. These short biographies provide a format that allows readers to easily read a chapter or two in a brief session. The biographies narrate interesting stories behind the men and explain how they achieved the various ranks of general in the army. While their Civil War careers are the focus of this book, their lives before and after the war are also included. A number lived adventurous lives before and after the war. Hardin Countians will no doubt enjoy the chapter on Benjamin Hardin Helm, but may be disappointed in the omission of his time spent in Elizabethtown.

Among the few noticeable errors in the book is an incorrect photograph provided for Brig General Lloyd Tilghman's biography. The photograph used is of Brig General William Nelson Rector Beall and appears in his biography. I believe that this will be corrected in future editions. This reviewer would have liked to have seen a credit line

Kentuckians in Gray: Confederate Generals and Field Officers of the Bluegrass State, Edited by Bruce S. Allardice and Lawrence Lee Hewitt
University Press of Kentucky, 2008. Price: Cloth, \$40.00
ISBN: 978-0-8131-2475-9
344 pages



provided for the photographs printed, yet that exclusion is not enough to diminish the contribution of this work. In all *Kentuckians in Gray: Confederate Generals and Field Officers of the Bluegrass State* is a worthwhile book to read and own.

Historical Society announces next meeting



Glenn LaFantasie

The Hardin County Historical Society will meet Monday evening, April 27, 2009, at the STATE THEATER GALLERY, 209 West Dixie Avenue, in downtown Elizabethtown. The buffet dinner, catered by BACK HOME, will be served at 6:30 PM. The price is \$8.50 per person. Call Regina Lancaster at 765-6700 before Sunday, April 26th, for dinner reservations; later reservations for the meal cannot be guaranteed.

The dinner is followed by a program, *Civil War History*, at 7:00 PM. Special Guest Speaker, historian and author Glenn W. LaFantasie is a Professor of Civil War History at Western Kentucky University and has had a diverse career in the fields of history, publishing and libraries.

Honors bestowed upon LaFantasie include: Nominated for J. Franklin Jameson Prize, 1989; Fellow of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 1989; NEH and NHPRC Grants, 1987-1993; Presidential Citation, 1994; Finalist, Jefferson Davis Award, 2007; Honorable Mention, Peter Seaborg Award, 2007.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42702
POST OFFICE BOX 381
HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY